

Durrington War Graves



Lest we Forget

World War I



6266 PRIVATE

F. T. JOHNSON

1ST BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

12th FEBRUARY, 1917 Age 22

A Young Life Nobly Ended

*Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Pte F. T. Johnson is located in Grave Plot # 196
of Durrington War Graves Cemetery*

Frederick Thomas JOHNSON

Frederick Thomas Johnson was born at Brooklyn, New South Wales according to his Attestation Papers. His birth was registered, however, in the district of Ryde, NSW in 1893 to parents Joseph H. and Sarah E. Johnson. He was a 22 year old, single, Tinsmith from 2 Ewington Street, Balmain, NSW when he enlisted at Liverpool on 17th January, 1916 with the 1st Infantry Battalion, 20th Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 6266 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr J. Johnson of Hawkesbury River, NSW.

Pte Frederick Thomas Johnson embarked from Sydney on HMAT *Euripides (A14)* on 9th September, 1916 & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 26th October, 1916.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. Some of these were located in the Salisbury Plain & surrounding areas in the county of Wiltshire.

Pte Frederick Thomas Johnson was transferred to Fovant, Wiltshire from No. 3 Command Depot, Wool. on 21st November, 1916.

Pte Frederick Thomas Johnson was marched in to 1st Training Battalion at Durrington, Wiltshire on 8th December, 1916.

Pte Frederick Thomas Johnson was admitted to Fargo Military Hospital with Influenza on 31st January, 1917 from 1st Training Battalion, Durrington, Wiltshire.

Private Frederick Thomas Johnson died at 4.50 p.m. on 12th February, 1917 at Fargo Military Hospital from Broncho Pneumonia.

A death for Frederick T. Johnson, aged 23, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Amesbury, Wiltshire.

Private Frederick Thomas Johnson was buried on 17th February, 1917 at Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire – Plot number 196 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Private F. T. Johnson is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 29.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Private F. T. Johnson is also remembered on the Brooklyn World War 1 Roll of Honour located at Hawkesbury River (Brooklyn) Railway Station – Platform 1, Dangar Road, Brooklyn, NSW.



Brooklyn Roll of Honour

(Photos from Register of War Memorial in NSW)

Pte Frederick Thomas Johnson was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte Johnson's father – Mr J. Johnson (sent July, 1921 & October, 1921)

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Frederick Thomas Johnson – service number 6266 as being 22 years old & served with 1st Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of Joseph Henry and Sarah Emily Johnson of Brooklyn, Hawkesbury River, New South Wales.

A War Pension was granted to Joseph Henry Johnson, father of late Pte Frederick Thomas Johnson, in the sum of 10/- per fortnight from 20th April, 1917.

(38 pages of Pte Frederick Thomas Johnson's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll) & National Archives

oooOOOooo

[Connected to Pte Frederick Thomas Johnson](#)

** [Pte Arthur Frederick Johnson, 5596, 25th Battalion A.I.F. – brother of Pte Frederick Thomas Johnson. Died of Wounds 24th April, 1918. Buried in Vignacourt British Cemetery, France.](#)

Newspaper Reports

CASUALTIES – 275TH LIST

NEW SOUTH WALES - Died of Illness

Pte F. T. Johnson, Hawkesbury River

(*The Land*, Sydney – Friday 2 March, 1917)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Defence Department, in 1920/21, contacted the next of kin of the deceased World War 1 soldiers to see if they wanted to include a personal inscription on the permanent headstone at Durrington War Graves Cemetery. Space was reserved for 66 letters only (with the space between any two words to be counted as an additional letter) & the rate per letter was around 3 ½ d (subject to fluctuation).

The expense in connection for the erection of permanent headstones over the graves of fallen soldiers was borne by the Australian Government. (*Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921*)

Pte F. T. Johnson does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

A Young Life Nobly Ended

Photo of Pte F. T. Johnson's Headstone at Durrington War Graves Cemetery, Wiltshire.



(Photo © Ian King - with permission)

Pte F. T. Johnson is also remembered on the Red Granite Obelisk Memorial to Men of 1st Training Battalion A.I.F. which is located in Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire.



(Photo by Dave Healing 2013)



(Photos by Ian King 2010)



Memorial to 1st Training Battalion A.I.F. at Durrington Cemetery