

Durrington War Graves



Lest we Forget

World War I



2346 PRIVATE

G. KIRKPATRICK

38TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

1ST FEBRUARY, 1917 Age 30*

The Righteous

Shall Be Remembered

For Ever With The Lord

*Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Pte G. Kirkpatrick is located in Grave Plot # 172
of Durrington War Graves Cemetery*

**Information supplied by Janet Kirkpatrick(mother) for Roll of Honour states age at time of death as 40 years.*

George KIRKPATRICK

George Kirkpatrick was born at Stockyard Hill, Victoria on 7th November, 1877 to parents George & Janet Kirkpatrick (nee Glendinning). He was a 39 year old, single, Farmer from Beaufort, Victoria when he enlisted on 23rd September, 1916 with the 10th Infantry Brigade, 38th Infantry Battalion, 4th Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 2346 & his religion was Presbyterian. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Janet Kirkpatrick of Beaufort, Victoria (father deceased).

Pte George Kirkpatrick embarked from Melbourne on HMAT *Port Lincoln (A17)* on 20th October, 1916 & transferred to *Willochra* at Sierra Leone on 4th December, 1916. He disembarked at Plymouth, England on 29th December, 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 George Kirkpatrick was marched in from Overseas to 10th Training Battalion at Durrington, Wiltshire on 29th December, 1917.

Pte George Kirkpatrick was sent sick to Fargo Military Hospital on 27th January, 1917 & admitted later that same day with Bronchitis.

Private George Kirkpatrick died on 1st February, 1917 at Fargo Military Hospital, Wiltshire from Broncho Pneumonia. (In Pte Kirkpatrick's Service Record File -some records show date of death as 2nd February, 1917 but a correction was recorded on 16th March, 1917 stating date of death as 1st February, 1917)

A death for George Kirkpatrick, aged 40, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Amesbury, Wiltshire.

Private George Kirkpatrick was buried on 6th February, 1917 at Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire – Plot number 172 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing File for Pte George Kirkpatrick contains a request from the Red Cross, on behalf of his family, enquiring into the last few hours & burial of Pte Kirkpatrick. A reply by the Assistant Matron, Fargo Military Hospital reads:

"Died of Wounds – Died 1.2.17 from Broncho pneumonia buried 6.2.17 at Durrington Wilts; grave number 172 on right hand side of cemetery path."

Pte George Kirkpatrick 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 Kirkpatrick's mother – Mrs J. Kirkpatrick (sent December, 1921 & July, 1922)

Private G. Kirkpatrick is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 130.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Geo. Kirkpatrick is also remembered on the Beaufort-Ripon Shire Honour Roll for World War 1. Its last known location was Beaufort Hall, corner of Lawrence & Willoby Streets, Beaufort, Victoria.

George & his brother Gilbert Andrew Kirkpatrick, both soldiers with A.I.F., are remembered on their parents shared headstone located in Beaufort Cemetery, Victoria.





(Photos courtesy of Carol's Headstone [Photographs](#))

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private George Kirkpatrick – service number 2346 as being 30 years old & served with 38th Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of George and Janet Kirkpatrick, of Stockyard Hill, Beaufort, Victoria.

(44 pages of Pte George Kirkpatrick'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, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives

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[Connected to Pte George Kirkpatrick :](#)

*Corporal Gilbert Andrew Kirkpatrick, 4150, 39th Battalion, - brother -died of wounds 2nd July, 1918, aged 35, & was buried in St. Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, France. Awarded the Military Medal. (London Gazette – 28 January, 1918 & Australian Gazette – 27 June, 1918).

Newspaper Reports

THE ROLL OF HONOR

BALLARAT AND DISTRICT MEN

PRIVATE G. KIRKPATRICK

BEAUFORT, Friday. The news has reached Beaufort that Pte. George Kirkpatrick, of Stockyard Hill, died on 2nd February at Fargo Military Hospital from broncho-pneumonia. He was highly respected and was a member of a well-known district family of farmers. His mother, sister and several brothers reside in the district, and one brother, Cpl. Gilbert Kirkpatrick, is on active service in France.

Deceased was unmarried, and left Australia last October

(The Ballarat Courier, Victoria – Saturday 10 February, 1917)

CASUALTIES ABROAD

Private George Kirkpatrick, of Stockyard Hill, Beaufort, died on February 2, at Fargo Military Hospital, from pneumonia. His mother, sister and several brothers reside in the district, and one brother, Corporal Gilbert Kirkpatrick, is on active service in France.

(The Argus, Melbourne – Thursday 15 February, 1917)

CASUALTIES – 272nd LIST

VICTORIA – DIED OF ILLNESS

Pte G. Kirkpatrick

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – Thursday 15 February, 1917)

IN MEMORIAM

KIRKPATRICK — In loving memory of our dear soldier son and brother, Pte. George Kirkpatrick, who passed away at Fargo Military Hospital, England, on 1st February, 1917.

Under the flag with the five-starred cross.

The pride of the Southern sea,

He laid down his life in the deadly strife,

To keep Australia free.

—Inserted by his loving mother, sisters and brothers, Stockyard Hill.

(Riponshire Advocate, Victoria – Saturday 2 February, 1918)

DIED ON SERVICE

KIRKPATRICK — Officially reported died of gunshot wounds at 5th General Hospital, France, on 2nd July, No. 4150, Corporal Gilbert Andrew (Bert) Kirkpatrick, M.M., loved son of the late George and Janet Kirkpatrick, loving brother of R., J., G., J., B., and A. W. Kirkpatrick, of Stockyard Hill, the late Private George Kirkpatrick (A.I.F.), Mrs Halden (N.S.W.), and Mrs Acton (Ballarat). Aged 35 years 5 months.

Brave soldier brothers re-united.

—Inserted by his sorrowing mother, sister and brothers. Stockyard Hill.

(Riponshire Advocate, Victoria – Saturday 13 July, 1918)

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 G. Kirkpatrick does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

The Righteous Shall Be Remembered For Ever With The Lord

Photo of Pte G. Kirkpatrick's Headstone at Durrington War Graves Cemetery, Wiltshire.



(Photo © Ian King - with permission)