

Durrington War Graves



Lest we Forget

World War I



IN MEMORY OF

DRIVER H. W. ELVERY

OF

BUNDABERG AUSTRALIA

WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE

NOV^R 9 1916

AGED 25 YEARS

ERECTED BY HIS COMRADES OF THE 9TH

FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE A.I.F.

*Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Driver H. W. Elvery is located in Grave Plot # 120
of Durrington War Graves Cemetery*

Henry William ELVERY

Henry William Elvery was born at Barolin Road, Bundaberg, Queensland on 12th September, 1891 to parents William & Sarah Jane Elvery (nee Elvery). He was a 24 year old, single, Farmer (Attestation Papers state Fireman) from Maryborough Road, Bundaberg, Queensland when he enlisted on 20th October, 1915 with the 9th Field Artillery Brigade, 34th Battery of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 20942 & his religion was Methodist. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr W Elvery of Maryborough Road, Bundaberg, Queensland.

Gunner Henry William Elvery embarked from Sydney on HMAT *Argyllshire (A8)* on 11th May, 1916 & disembarked at Devonport, England on 10th July, 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.

Gunner Henry William Elvery was appointed Driver with effect from 1st September, 1916 while attached to 9th Field Artillery Brigade at Larkhill, Wiltshire.

Driver Henry William Elvery was admitted to Fargo Military Hospital on 31st October, 1916 with Bronchial Catarrh & then reported with Pneumonia 'severe' on 1st November, 1916.

Driver Henry William Elvery died on 9th November, 1916 at Fargo Military Hospital of pneumonia.

A death for Henry W. Elvery, aged 23, was registered in the December quarter, 1916 in the district of Amesbury, Wiltshire.

The Red Cross Wound & Missing File for Driver Henry William Elvery contains a letter from the Matron of Fargo Military Hospital, dated 26th January, 1917, after an enquiry was made by F. M. Madden from Portadown, Ireland who had been enquiring into Driver Elvery's death. The letter reads:

"Died 9.11.16 – No. 20942 Driver H. W. Elvery 34th Batty. F.A. A.I.F. was only in hospital a few days and was very very ill at the time. Everything was done that could be done, but he was very ill on admission. He died of pneumonia on 9.11.16 and was buried at Durrington, Wilts on 11.11.16 grave number 120. on Right hand side of Cemetery path. The Methodist Chaplain Captain Nye saw him when ill, and also buried him. The Sister who nursed Driver Elvery wrote to his people after his death. Relations who are so far away especially, have our most sincere sympathy."

Driver Henry William Elvery was buried on 11th November, 1916 in Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire – plot number 120

Probate in the Will of Driver Henry William Elvery was granted to his father – Mr William Elvery.

Private H. W. Elvery is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 15.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

H. W. Elvery is also remembered on the Bundaberg War Memorial located on a traffic island on the intersection of Bourbong and Barlin Streets, Bundaberg, Queensland.



Newspaper Reports

AUSTRALIAN CASUALTIES

DIED OF ILLNESS

Driver H. W. Elvery (Bundaberg)

(The Capricornian, Rockhampton, Queensland Saturday 25 November, 1916)

Driver H. W. Elvery does not have a Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone. His headstone was privately erected by "his Comrades of the 9TH Field Artillery Brigade. A.I.F." prior to the CWGC headstones being erected for all soldiers.

Photo of Driver H. W. Elvery's Headstone at Durrington War Graves Cemetery, Wiltshire.



(Photo © Ian King - with permission)