

Durrington In The News -from Australia

DURRINGTON CEMETERY

Memorial to Australians

LONDON, July 12.

A memorial to 141 Australians and others who died at Lark Hill camp during the war was unveiled at the Durrington Cemetery, Salisbury Plain (Wiltshire), by General Sir Alexander Godley to-day. The Anglican Bishop of Salisbury (Dr St. Clair Donaldson, formerly Archbishop of Brisbane) dedicated the memorial.

Brigadier-General Dodds said that of 400,000 Australians who enlisted at least 250,000 passed through training camps around Durrington.

The High Commissioner for Australia (Sir Joseph Cook) and the Agents-General for the States attended the ceremony.

(The Argus (Melbourne, Victoria), Tuesday 14th July, 1925)

Memorial to Australian Soldiers

A letter from the Agent-General for Western Australia (Mr H. P. Colebatch) states that he attended the unveiling of a memorial cross erected in the Durrington Cemetery, England, in honour of the men who died in the Mark Hill training camp during the war. The cemetery contains the remains of 200 soldiers, of whom 141 were Australians. The dedication ceremony was performed by the Lord Bishop of Salisbury, who is an Australia by birth and was at one time Archbishop of Brisbane, and the cross was unveiled by Sir Alexander Godley, who was General Officer commanding the Anzacs in Gallipoli and France. Because of the preponderating number of Australians buried there, the cemetery is regarded as peculiarly Australian territory. Its position was unique inasmuch that ten miles to the south was the ancient city of Salisbury, which boasted of a magnificent cathedral having the tallest spire in England, and about a couple of miles to the east lay Stonehenge, the oldest and most famous ruined temple in England, a prehistoric monument which had become very familiar to Australian soldiers who did their training at Lark Hill. The burial ground was in a beautiful situation in a peaceful valley surrounded by trees. The community of the little village of Durrington had not only provided the memorial cross now unveiled, but had throughout tended the graves of the Australian soldiers with loving care.

(The West Australian (Perth, Western Australia), Tuesday 18th August, 1925)