



3413 Private Charles Forbes Moor

Charles Forbes Moor was born at Rugby, Warwickshire, England in 1885 to parents James Maitland Hoare Moor & Anne Emily Moor (nee Jenkins). His birth was registered in the June quarter, 1885 in the district of Rugby, Warwickshire, England.

The 1891 England Census lists Charles F. Moor as a 6 year old living with his family at 14 Pennington Street, Rugby, Warwickshire. His parents were listed as James M. H. Moor (railway clerk, aged 46) & Annie E. Moor (aged 37). Charles was one of 8 children listed on this census – Frances E. E. (aged 15), James C. H. (aged 14), Peter R. (aged 13), Henry M. (aged 10), Katherine L. (aged 7), then Charles, Gilbert R. (aged 4) & Richard T. (aged 3). Also listed was Charlotte H. Maitland, aunt of James M. H. Moor (living on own means, aged 75).

The 1901 Census lists Charles as a 16 year old Clerk, living with his family at 15 Paignton Road, Birmingham, Warwickshire. His parents were listed as James M. H. Moore (Living on Own Means, aged 56) & Ann E. Moor (aged 49). Charles was one of 6 children listed on this Census – Henry M. (Hardman Traveller, aged 20), Kitty (Clerk/ Lamp Trade, aged 18), then Charles, Gilbert (aged 14), Richard (aged 13) & John (aged 9).

Charles F. Moor, aged 29, was listed as a passenger on the Geelong, which departed from London, England on 2 July, 1914, destined for Sydney, Australia.

Charles Forbes Moor was a 32 year old, single, dairy hand when he enlisted at Brisbane, Queensland, on 20th December, 1915 with the 8th Infantry Brigade, 31st Infantry Battalion, 7th Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 3413 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his brother – Gilbert Moor of 4 and 6 Mally Ramphla, Montevideo, Uruguay, South America. According to information supplied by his brother – Gilbert Rathbone Moor – Charles, he “believes”, came to Australia when he was around 29 years of age. Charles had previously been rejected from enlisting due to a hernia.

He embarked from Brisbane on H.M.A.T. Seang Choon (A49) on 4th May, 1916 & disembarked at Suez on 15th June, 1916.

Charles was taken on strength at Tel El Kebir on 9th July, 1916. He was absent without leave from 05.00 hrs parade on 26th July, 1916 at Tel el Kebir & was awarded 2 days confined to barracks. Private Moor was taken on strength from overseas on 22nd August, 1916 & marched in to Larkhill, Wiltshire. 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.

He was admitted to Military Hospital, Fargo, Wiltshire on 12th September, 1916. He was marched into 8th Training Battalion, Camp No. 15 at Codford, Wiltshire from Fargo Hospital on 23rd September, 1916. Pte. Moor was transferred from Bulford to Park House from 23rd December, 1916 to 4th January, 1917. Private Moor was admitted sick to Fovant Hospital from 8th Training Battalion, Hurdcott, Wiltshire on 29th March, 1917 until 8th April, 1917 with scabies. He was then transferred to Military Hospital, Bulford, Wiltshire & discharged on 30th May, 1917. Pte. Moor was admitted sick to camp 10 Hospital on 31st May, 1917. Private Charles Moor was admitted to Military Hospital, Fovant, Wiltshire on 8th August, 1917 from 8th Training Battalion.

Charles died at 5.50 p.m. on 10th August, 1917 from acute pancreatitis at Military Hospital, Fovant, Wiltshire, an hour after being operated on. A death for Charles Moor, aged 34, was registered in the September quarter, 1917 in the district of Wilton, Wiltshire. He was buried in the churchyard of St. Edith's at Baverstock, Wiltshire on 15th August, 1917 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Headstone. From the burial report of Pte. Charles Moor:- Coffin was good oak; Military Funeral; A wreath from his comrades was put on the grave also a cross of fresh English flowers from one of his mates.

Pte. Charles Moor requested in his Will, dated 27th June, 1917, extracted from his Pay Book that “in case of death everything to Lancelot Richard James Moor of 91 Swinderby Road, Wembley. Witnessed by Emmeline Clare Moor.”

Private C. F. Moor is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 119.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Pte. Moor's personal effects were handed over to Mr. E. M. Moor of 140 Leadenhall Street, London, England. However, due to communications being returned unanswered in 1922 to Mr. E. Moor & Ms. E. C. Moor, the British War Medal, it was decided, would be awarded to Mr. G. R. Moor of Uruguay, South America. Mr Gilbert Moor had also written a letter to A.I.F., dated 4th April, 1922 from Montevideo, South America, regarding the intended recipient of Medals – "both Father and Mother are deceased. There are four brothers older than myself and I have no knowledge of their whereabouts. My brother Charles Moor and myself were very closely attached and as often happens in large families most of the brothers on arriving at manhood separate each on their own way, but Charles Moor and myself were either together or in close communication until he left Montevideo for Australia. I trust that your committee will consider that I am entitled to an exception from the usual procedure as outlined in the second paragraph of your memo."

Pte. C. Moor was entitled to British War Medal only. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte. Moor's brother, who was listed as his next-of-kin – Gilbert Moor of Uruguay, South America. (Both sent September, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Charles Forbes Moor – service number 3413, as being 33 years old & served with 31st Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of James Maitland Hoare Moor and Emily Ann Moor. Born at Rugby, Warwickshire, England.

An enquiry was received from Mrs. W. C. Luff from Los Angeles, California, dated 25th August, 1927, enquiring into the possible death of her brother – Charles Forbes Moor. The only information she had was that he had died in France in the latter part of 1917. A reply was sent dated 15th October, 1927 advising Mrs. W. C. Luff of the description, next-of-kin & enlistment details of Pte. Charles Forbes Moor, 3413 of 31st Battalion. Information was also given on when & where Pte. Charles Forbes Moor had died & where he was buried.

62 pages of Pte. Charles Forbes Moor's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website.

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

Newspaper Reports

THE ROLL OF HONOUR
CASUALTY LISTS Nos. 336 AND 337
DIED OF ILLNESS
Chas. Moor, South America 10th August 1917

The Brisbane Courier, Queensland, Tuesday, 11 September 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 St. Edith's Churchyard, Baverstock. 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. C. F. Moor has a personal inscription on his headstone.

God Understands

Photo of Pte. C. F. Moor's CWGC Headstone
at St. Edith's Churchyard, Baverstock, Wiltshire.
(Photo courtesy of Andrew Stacey 2012)

