

Sutton Veny War Graves



Lest we Forget

World War 1



4158 DRIVER

W. KITCHIN

AUSTRALIAN FIELD ARTILLERY

24TH OCTOBER, 1918

*CWGC Headstone for Driver W. Kitchin is located in
Grave Plot # 11. G. 4. of St. John the Evangelist Churchyard, Sutton Veny*

William KITCHIN

William Kitchin was born in Dalton-in-Furness, near Barrow-in-Furness, Lancashire, England in 1874 to parents Joseph & Sarah Kitchin (nee Turner). A birth was registered in the December quarter of 1874 in the district of Lancaster, Lancashire. Joseph Kitchin had married Sarah Turner on 24th June, 1865 at Dalton-in-Furness, Lancashire, England.

The 1881 England Census recorded William Kitchin as a 7 year old living with his family at 17 Rawlinson Street, Dalton-in-Furness, Lancashire. His parents were listed as Joseph Kitchin (Iron Miner, aged 41) & Sarah Kitchin (aged 36). William was one of four children listed on this Census – John (Grocer, aged 15), Mary (Scholar, aged 10), then William & James (aged 3). All the children & both parents had been born at Dalton-in-Furness.

The 1891 England Census listed Joseph (Iron Miner, aged 51) & Sarah Kitchin (aged 46) still living at 17 Rawlinson Street, Dalton-in-Furness, Lancashire. They had 3 daughters living at home – Mary (aged 20), Sarah (aged 5) & Margt. J. (aged 3). A William Kitchin was listed as a 17 year old Farm servant at Skells Lodge, Urswick, Lancashire with Margaret Lawrence (aged 62, Farmer) as head of the house. William was one of 3 servants listed – 2 Farm & 1 Domestic servant.

The 1901 England Census recorded William Kitchin as a 27 year old General Labourer in Iron Mines, living with his family at 17 Rawlinson Street, Dalton-in-Furness, Lancashire. His parents were listed as Joseph Kitchin (Iron ore Miner, aged 61) & Sarah Kitchin (aged 56). William was the eldest of 3 children listed on this Census – William, then Sarah (aged 14) & Margaret J. (aged 13).

The 1911 Census recorded William's parents Joseph (Iron ore Miner, aged 71) & Sarah Kitchin (aged 66) still living at 17 Rawlinson Street, Dalton-in-Furness, which was a 6 roomed dwelling. They had been married for 45 years & had 9 children in total, 4 of whom had died. Only Margaret Jane Kitchin (aged 23) was living at home for this Census.

William Kitchin was a 40 year old, single, Farmer from Willunga, South Australia (care of Mr R. F. Atkinson) when he enlisted at Adelaide, South Australia on 24th August, 1915 with the 16th Infantry Battalion, 13th Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 4158 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr Joseph Kitchin of 17 Rawlinson Street, Dalton-in-Furness, near Barrow-in-Furness, Lancashire, England.

Private William Kitchin embarked from Adelaide on HMAT *Borda* (A30) on 11th January, 1916.

Private Kitchin was allotted to 48th Battalion on 9th March, 1916 while at Zietoun (Egypt). He was taken on strength at Teled Kebir & transferred to 4th Division Artillery & was the rank of Gunner on 17th March, 1916.

Gunner Kitchin was transferred to the rank of Driver on 17th April, 1916.

Driver Kitchin was transferred to 4th D.A. Column on 19th April, 1916 at Sera & taken on strength then posted to No. 2 section.

Driver Kitchin proceeded to join British Expeditionary Force from Alexandria aboard the HMT *Oriana* on 6th June, 1916 & disembarked at Marseille, France on 13th June, 1916.

Driver Kitchin was transferred to 11 F.A.B on 23rd December, 1916 & posted to 41st Battery.

Driver Kitchin was on leave from 24th July to 3rd August, 1917. He was sick in England while on furlough and admitted to Military Hospital at Barrow in Furness on 7th August, 1917 with jaundice. He was discharged on 17th September, 1917 & instructed to rejoin his Unit.

Driver Kitchin rejoined his Unit in France on 19th September, 1917. He was sent to Hospital sick on 21st September, 1917 & admitted with jaundice to 8th Australian Field Ambulance in France. He was transferred to 4 A.D.R.S. on 23rd September, 1917 & discharged to duty on 7th October, 1917.

Driver Kitchin rejoined his Unit in Belgium on 8th October, 1917.

Driver Kitchin was reported to be with his Unit – 11th F.A.B. in Belgium on 10th June, 1918.

Driver Kitchin was “detached to permanent Cadre at Reserve Brigade Australian Artillery (R.B.A.A.) at Heytesbury, Wiltshire, England for 3 months tour of duty and to be borne supernumerary to establishment” from 31st August, 1918.

Driver Kitchin was marched in from France to R.B.A.A. at Heytesbury, England on 2nd September, 1918.

Driver Kitchin was sent sick to Group Clearing Hospital with Influenza on 18th October, 1918.

Driver William Kitchin was admitted to the Military Hospital at Sutton Veny, Wiltshire on 19th October, 1918 with Influenza & Pneumonia.

Driver William Kitchin died at 15.20 hrs on 24th October, 1918 at the Military Hospital, Sutton Veny of Influenza & Pneumonia.

A death for William Kitchin, aged 44, was registered in the December quarter, 1918 in the district of Warminster, Wiltshire.

Driver William Kitchin was buried at 3 p.m. on 30th October, 1918 in St. John the Evangelist Churchyard at Sutton Veny - Grave no. 11. From the burial report of Driver Kitchin - *Coffin was polished elm with Brass Mounts – Deceased was buried with full Military Honours. The funeral was preceded by a Firing Party and Band from the Reserve Brigade Australian Artillery. Six of deceased's late Unit comrades acted as Pall bearers. 3 Officers and about 80 N.C.O.'s and Men of the deceased's late Unit followed the remains and were present at the graveside ceremony. Headquarters A.I.F. Depots in United Kingdom were represented at the funeral.*

Driver Kitchin in his Will dated 24th April, 1917 bequeathed the whole of his property be left to Miss Emma Lloyd of West Mitcham, Adelaide. Driver Kitchin's personal effects were sent to Miss Emma Lloyd of Clapham Crossing, West Mitcham, Adelaide, South Australia.

Driver W. Kitchin is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 17.



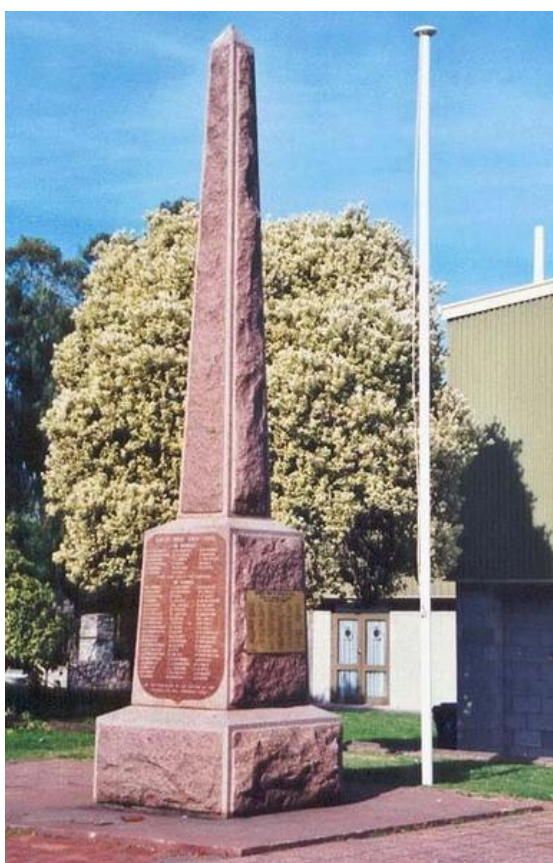
Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

W. Kitchin is remembered on the National War Memorial in Adelaide. The National War Memorial in Adelaide commemorates those from South Australia that served in the First World War. The names of those that died are listed inside the Memorial, which is located on the corner of North Terrace & Kintore Avenue, Adelaide.



National War Memorial – Adelaide (Photos by Bilby)

W. Kitchin is also remembered on the Willunga War Memorial located outside Festival Hall, Main Road, Willunga, South Australia.



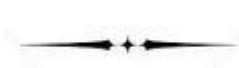
Willunga War Memorial (Photos from RSL Virtual War Memorial)

Driver William Kitchin was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Driver Kitchin's father – Mr J. Kitchin in England (both sent November, 1922).

The CWGC lists Driver William Kitchin, 4158, of 11th Brigade, Australian Field Artillery A.I.F. No family details are listed.

(41 pages of Driver William Kitchin's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

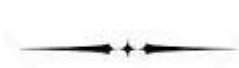
Information obtained from the Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll) & National Archives.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

E02504

**Group portrait of the 41st Battery of Australian Field Artillery
(Driver William Kitchin located between the last & second last rows – see arrow)**



Newspaper Reports

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

448th CASUALTY LIST

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Died Other Causes

4158 Dvr W. Kitchin, England 24/10/18, Illness

(The Advertiser, Adelaide, Sth Australia - Monday 2 December, 1918)

IN MEMORY OF THE BRAVE

KITCHIN – In sad but loving memory of dear Will (late 48th Battalion A.I.F.), who died on October 24, 1918, at Sutton Veny Military Hospital, Wiltshire, of influenza pneumonia.

This day brings memories fresh
Of our dear one called to rest.
I have lost, but heaven has gained
One of the best this earth contained.
Too dearly loved to ever be forgot.

- Inserted by his loving fiancée, Emmie

(The Register, Adelaide, Sth Australia - Friday 24 October, 1919)

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. John the Evangelist Churchyard at Sutton Veny. 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)

Driver William Kitchin does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Photo of Driver W. Kitchin's CWGC headstone in St. John the Evangelist's Churchyard, Sutton Veny, Wiltshire.



(Photo courtesy of David Milborrow)



War Graves at Sutton Veny *(Photos from CWGC)*

