

Baverstock War Graves



Lest we Forget

World War I



4593 PRIVATE

A. PYE

30TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

16th FEBRUARY, 1917 Age 24

Rest In Peace

Alfred PYE

Alfred W. Pye was born at Windsor, NSW in 1891, to parents Adolphus Clement & Susan (Susannah) Pye (nee Ayres). He was a 25 year old, single, Carrier from Eumungerie, via Dubbo, NSW when he enlisted on 1st November, 1916 with the 8th Infantry Brigade, 30th Infantry Battalion, 12th Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 4593 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Susan Pye, P.O. Eumungerie, via Dubbo, NSW.

Pte Alfred Pye embarked from Sydney on HMAT *Beltana* (A72) on 25th November, 1916 & disembarked at Devonport, England on 29th January, 1917.

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.

Private Alfred Pye was admitted to Fovant Hospital on 13th February, 1917 from “B” Company, 8th Training Battalion, Hurdcott, Wiltshire.

Private Alfred Pye died at 2 a.m. on 16th February, 1917 at Military Hospital, Fovant, Wiltshire from Pneumonia.

A death for Alfred Pye, aged 25, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Wilton, Wiltshire.

Private Alfred Pye was buried in the churchyard of St. Edith’s at Baverstock, Wiltshire on 19th February, 1917 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Headstone.

Private A. Pye is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 117.

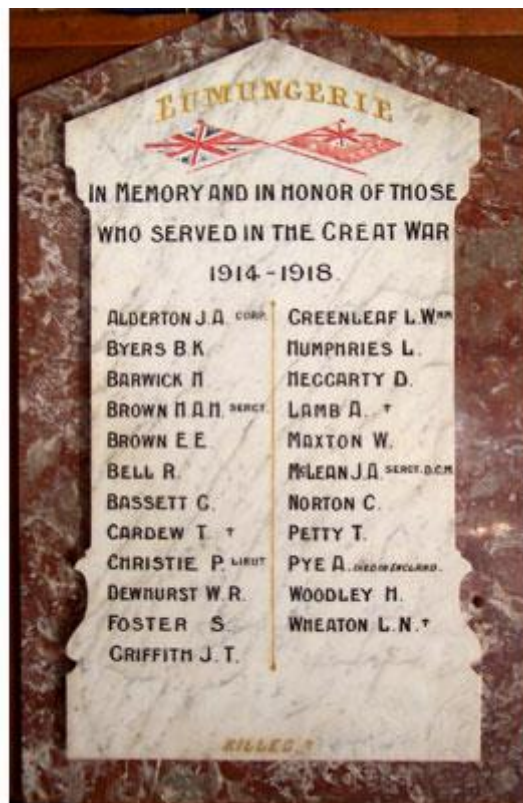


(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Pte A. Pye is also remembered on the Eumungerie WW1 Roll of Honour located at Railway Street, Eumungerie, NSW.



(Photo from Register of War Memorials in NSW – Sandra M. Smith)

Pte Alfred Pye was entitled to British War Medal only as he did not enter a Theatre of War, however his Service Record File shows that he was issued the British War Medal (53989) & the Victory Medal

(53189). A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte Pye's father – Mr A. C. Pye of Eumungerie (January, 1922 & August, 1922)

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Alfred Pye – service number 4593, as being 24 years old & served with 30th Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of Adolphus Clement and Susan Pye of Eumungerie, New South Wales. Born at Windsor, New South Wales.

A War Pension was granted to Mrs Susan Pye, mother of late Pte Alfred Pye, in the sum of £2 per fortnight, granted from 22nd April, 1917.

(42 pages of Pte Alfred Pye'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

oooOOOooo

Newspaper Reports

CASUALTIES – 276th LIST

NEW SOUTH WALES

DIED OF ILLNESS

Pte A. PYE Eumungerie (prev. rep. died, cause not stated)

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – Saturday 3 March, 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 A. Pye does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Rest In Peace

Photo of Pte A. Pye's CWGC Headstone at St. Edith's Churchyard, Baverstock, Wiltshire.



(Photo courtesy of Andrew Stacey 2012)



St. Edith's Churchyard, Baverstock, Wiltshire.

(Photo from CWGC)