# St. George's Churchyard, Fovant, Wiltshire War Graves



Lest We Forget

# World War 1



5600 PRIVATE

J. HARTLEY

28TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

2ND DECEMBER, 1916 Age 42

Dearly Beloved Husband
Of Late Isabella
And Father Of Robert & Mary

## John HARTLEY

John Hartley was born at Lostock Hall, Preston, Lancashire, England in mid-1873 to parents James and Mary Hartley.

The 1881 England Census recorded John Hartley as a 6 year old Scholar, living with his family at Eccles Houses, Walton le Dale, Lancashire, England. His parents were listed as James Hartley (Cotton Winder, aged 32, born Walton le Dale, Lancashire) & Mary Hartley (Cotton Winder, aged 33, born Walton le Dale, Lancashire). John was one of three children listed on this Census – Mary E. Hartley (Scholar, aged 7, born Walton le Dale, Lancashire), then John & Edward (aged 2, born Walton le Dale, Lancashire).

John Hartley attended Roman Catholic School at Bamber Bridge, Lancashire, England.

The 1891 England Census recorded John Hartley as a 16 year old Cotton Weaver living with his family at 13 Wards Row F, Farington, Lancashire. His parents were listed as James Hartley (Cotton Weaver, aged 42, born Brindle, Lancashire) & Mary Hartley (aged 43, born Farington, Lancashire). John was one of six children listed on this Census – Mary E. Hartley (Cotton Weaver, aged 17, born Higher Walton, Lancashire), then John (born Cockshall, Lancashire), Edward Hartley (Cotton Weaver, aged 12, born born Cockshall, Lancashire), James Hartley (Scholar, aged 9, born Walton le Dale, Lancashire), Elizabeth Hartley (Scholar, aged 7, born Walton le Dale, Lancashire) & Agnes Hartley (aged 5, born Walton le Dale, Lancashire).

John Hartley married Isabella Sumner in the September quarter, 1897 in the district of Preston, Lancashire, England.

A birth was registered in March quarter, 1898 in the district of Preston, Lancashire for Robert Aloysius Hartley.

The 1901 England Census recorded John Hartley as a 26 year old Cotton Weaver living at 340 Station Road, Walton le Dale, Lancashire with his wife – Isabella (aged 29, born Walton le Dale, Lancashire) & son – Robert (aged 3, born Walton le Dale, Lancashire). Also listed were John Hartley's sisters-in-law – Mary Alice Sumner (Cotton Weaver, aged 25, born Walton le Dale, Lancashire) & Elizabeth Sumner (Cotton Weaver, aged 19, born Walton le Dale, Lancashire).

A birth was registered in September quarter, 1905 in the district of Fylde, Lancashire for Mary Monica Hartley.

According to information provided for the Roll of Honour by The Guardian & Trustee under the Will of Isabella Hartley - John Hartley came to Australia when he was 34 years of age.

Isabella Hartley, Housewife, aged 40 & her 2 children – Robert (aged 14) & Monica (aged 6) were passengers on Gothic which departed from the port of London, England on 20th July, 1912 which was bound for Sydney, Australia but the Hartley's disembarked at Fremantle, Western Australia.

John Hartley was a 43 year old, married, Night Watchman from Wuraming, Western Australia when he enlisted at Perth on 4th April, 1916 with the 7th Infantry Brigade, 28th Infantry Battalion, 15th Reinforcements of the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 5600 & his religion was Roman Catholic. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs Isabella Hartley, of Wuraming, via Holyoake, Western Australia.

Private John Hartley was posted to 61st Depot on 4th April, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to 15th Reinforcements of 28th Battalion on 1st May, 1916.

Private John Hartley embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia on HMAT *Surada (A52)* on 26th September, 1916 & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 20th November, 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.

Private John Hartley was admitted to Military Hospital at Fovant, Wiltshire on 27th November, 1916 – N.Y.D. (Cause not yet determined)

Private John Hartley died at 12.20 pm on 2nd December, 1916 at Military Hospital, Fovant, Wiltshire, England from Colitis.

A death for John Hartley, aged 43, was registered in the December quarter, 1916 in the district of Wilton, Wiltshire, England.

Private John Hartley was buried on 5th December, 1916 in St George's Churchyard, Fovant, Wiltshire, England, – Plot number II. A. 3. and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Advertisements were placed in the local Press in June, 1917, on behalf of Base Records, trying to locate the next-ofkin of the late Private John Hartley. A package containing the personal effects of the late Private John Hartley had been sent to his widow but was returned unclaimed & marked by Post Master of Wuraming - "Mrs Hartley is dead. The son is somewhere in France wounded." Replies were received – one of which reads: "Referring to your advertisement for next of kin of Private J. Hartley, No. 5600, 28th Battalion; Wife, Mrs I. Hartley, Wuraming, via Holyoake, W.A. I beg to inform you that Mrs Hartley is dead and her only daughter Mary Hartley is in the Roman Catholic Orphanage, Subiaco, who is the only next of kin that I know of in Australia - Mrs E. J. Grantham." Another letter received was from I. Crawcour, Hon. Secretary, War patriotic fund for W.A., Barrack St, Perth, W.A. which reads: "Re Mrs Isabella Hartley, deceased. My attention has been drawn to an advertisement appearing in the paper in connection with the above and I hasten to communicate with you as requested. This lady, wife of Private John Hartley, died in the Perth Public Hospital in February last, leaving a will wherein she appointed me Executor and Guardian to her Daughter, Mary, aged eleven. Probate has been granted and immediately same was received, I communicate woth your Paymaster in reference to the defereed pay and also to an allotment in favour of Mrs Hartley from her son's military pay and in view of that communication, naturally assumed that your Department would be aware of the fact of a Trustee having been appointed. I shall be gald if you can make arrangements for the effects of the late Private Hartley and also his deferred pay to be handed over to me as Trustee on behalf of the next of kin."

Isabella Hartley, aged 50, widow of the late Private John Hartley, died on 27th February, 1917 in Perth, Western Australia.

Newspaper Notices – *The Daily News* (Perth, Western Australia) – 27 February, 1917 & 6th March, 1917:

#### **FUNERAL NOTICES**

HARTLEY – The Friends of the late Mrs ISABELLA HARTLEY, relict of the late Private John Hartley, of the 15th Reinforcements of the 28th Battalion, and mother of Private Robert Hartley, of Perth, are respectfully invited to follow her remains to the place of interment, the Roman Catholic Cemetery, Karrakatta......"

#### **OBITUARY**

#### THE LATE MRS ISABELLA HARTLEY

The funeral of the late Mrs Isabella Hartley, of Victoria Park, relict of the late Private John Hartley, of the 15th Reinforcements to the 28th Battalion, and mother of Private Robert Hartley(on active service), took place on Wednesday morning, and was attended by many friends. The deceased lady was born in England, and resided in this State for the past nine years. The cortege moved from Messrs Bowra and O'Dea's private mortuary in Pierstreet, and proceeded to the Roman Catholic portion of the Karrakatta Cemetery, where the remains were interred, the last rites being conducted by the Rev. Father P. Masterton. The chief mourner was Miss Mary Hartley (daughter). Among those present were Mr I, Crawcour (hon. secretary War Patriotic Fund), Mr J. Etheridge, Mr T. W. Hayes, Mesdames A. Williams, T. W. Hayes, M. A. Thornton, J. P. Walsh, F. Colledge, E. Elford, F. A. Gorek, C. Barrincott, E. A. Clarke, and Miss A. Elford. Among the tributes placed on the grave were two very handsome wreaths from the deceased friends of the War Patriotic Fund, Mr and Mars Barton, Mr and Mrs A. Clarke, and Mr and Mrs Barrincott also placed wreaths on the grave. The funeral arrangements were in the hands of Messrs Bowra and O'Dea.

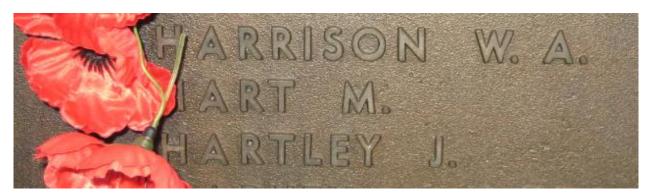
A War Pension claim for Isabella Hartley, of Richmond Road, Victoria Park, widow of the late Private John Hartley, was cancelled due to her death.

A War Pension for Mary Monica Hartley, of Richmond Road, Victoria Park, daughter of the late Private John Hartley, was increased to 25/- fortnightly from 27th February, 1917.

Private John Hartley was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte Hartley's daughter – Miss Mary Hartley, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent July, 1921 & Plaque sent June, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private John Hartley – service number 5600, aged 42, of 28th Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of James and Mary Hartley. Born at Lostock Hall, Preston, Lancs, England.

Private J. Hartley is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 113.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

J. Hartley is remembered on the Western Australia State War Memorial which is located at the top of Kings Park and Botanic Garden escarpment, ANZAC Bluff, Fraser Avenue, Perth, Western Australia. The memorial was developed around an 18 metre tall obelisk as the principal feature, which is almost a replica of the Australian Imperial Force Memorials erected in France and Belgium.

The heavy concrete foundations are supplemented by heavy brick walls which enclose an inner chamber or crypt. The walls surrounding the crypt are covered with The Roll of Honour; marble tablets which list under their units the names of more than 7,000 members of the services killed in action or as a result of World War One.



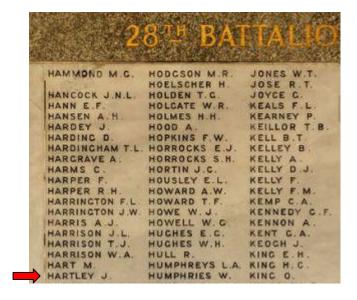
Western Australia State War Memorial Cenotaph, Kings Park (above) & (below) The Crypt with the Roll of Honour names

(Photos from Monument Australia – Kent Watson/Sandra Tattersall/Graeme Saunders)





The Roll of Honour of 28th Battalion, A.I.F. at the State War Memorial, King's Park, Perth, Western Australia (Photo from AWM – April, 1943)



(59 pages of Pte John Hartley's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

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



#### **Connected to Private John Hartley:**

His son – Bombardier Robert Aloysius Hartley, 15110, Field Artillery Brigade. Enlisted 22nd September, 1915, aged 18 & embarked from Melbourne on 4th May, 1916. He served 3 years & 74 days on service abroad & was discharged on 30th August, 1919 for termination of enlistment period. Returned to Australia & disembarked on 18th July, 1919. Entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal.



# **Newspaper Notices**

#### **AUSTRALIANS IN ACTION**

Attached is the 254th list of casualties among West Australian troops with the A.I.F.:-

WEST AUSTRALIA

**DIED OF ILLNESS** 

Pte J. Hartley, Victoria Park

(Western Argus, Kalgoorlie, Western Australia – 26 December, 1916)

### 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. 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)

Private J. Hartley does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Dearly Beloved Husband Of Late Isabella And Father Of Robert & Mary

## St George's Churchyard, Fovant, Wiltshire, England

There was a 600 bed hutted military hospital at Fovant during the First World War, and the concentration of Australian depots and training camps in the area is reflected in the 63 First World War burials in this churchyard. The war graves form two groups, one west of the church and the other at the east end. There is also one burial of the Second World War. There are 44 War Graves belonging to those who served with the Australian Imperial Force in World War 1. (Information from CWGC)



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL D0029





St George's Churchyard, Fovant – War Graves at front & rear (Churchyard photos courtesy of Andrew Stacey)



Photo of Private J. Hartley's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in St George's Churchyard, Fovant, Wiltshire, England.





Cross of Sacrifice (Photo courtesy of Andrew Stacey)