St. Lawrence Churchyard, Stratford-sub-Castle, Wiltshire War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



3628 PRIVATE

V. E. KUBANK

40TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

16TH JANUARY, 1918 Age 23

Greater Love Hath No Man
That He Lay Down His Life
For His Friends

Vernon Ernest KUBANK

Vernon Ernest Kubank was born at Forth, near Ulverstone, Tasmania on 21st August, 1894 to parents Thomas (Tom) Christian Kubank & Emma Kubank (nee Casboult).

Vernon Ernest Kubank married Josephine Agnes Billing at Smithton, Tasmania on 12th August, 1914.

A daughter - Ellen Violet Kubank was born on 13th August, 1914 at Smithton, Tasmania.

Vernon Ernest Kubank was a 23 year old, married (with 1 child), Carpenter from Smithton, Tasmania when he enlisted at Claremont, Tasmania on 18th September, 1917 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 3628 & his religion was Methodist. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs J. Kubank, Smithton, Tasmania.

Private Vernon Ernest Kubank was posted to 1st Depot Battalion on 18th September, 1917 for recruit training. He was transferred to 9th Reinforcements of 40th Battalion on 13th October, 1917.

Private Vernon Ernest Kubank embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Aeneas (A60)* on 30th October, 1917 with the 40th Infantry Battalion, 9th Reinforcements & disembarked at Devonport, England on 27th December, 1917.

40th Battalion

The 3rd Division was raised in Australia early in 1916. The 40th Battalion was Tasmania's contribution to the strength of the division and it joined the Victorian-raised 37th, 38th and 39th Battalions to form the 10th Brigade.....

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

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 Vernon Ernest Kubank was marched in to 10th Training Battalion at Sutton Mandeville, Wiltshire, on 27th December, 1917 from Australia.

Private Vernon Ernest Kubank was marched out to Hurdcott, Wiltshire on 15th January, 1918.

Private Vernon Ernest Kubank was admitted to Group Hospital, No. 3 Command Depot, Wiltshire on 15th January, 1918 with possible Influenza. The Hospital Admissions form recorded – Patient "admitted at midday with temp of 102 & symptoms suggesting a moderate Influenza. Tonight temp is 106. Pt is delirious" He was transferred & admitted to Salisbury Isolation Hospital, Wiltshire on 16th January, 1918. The Hospital Admissions form recorded – "Very ill on admission, headache. Slight stiffness & kernig. Colour & pulse poor. C. Spinal fluid clear....."

Private Vernon Ernest Kubank died at 11.30 am on 16th January, 1918 at Isolation Hospital, Salisbury, Wiltshire, England from Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.

A death for Vernon E. Keebank, aged 23, was registered in the March quarter, 1918 in the district of Salisbury, Wiltshire, England.

Private Vernon Ernest Kubank was buried on 19th January, 1918 in St Lawrence's Churchyard, Stratford-sub-Castle, Wiltshire, England – Plot number 130 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

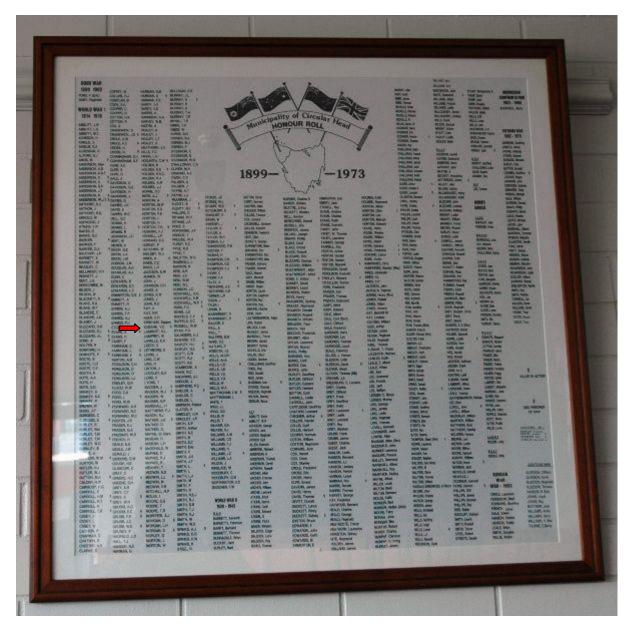
Private Vernon Ernest Kubank requested in his Will date 10th October, 1917 that in the event of his death the whole of his property & effects be given to his wife – Josephine Agnes Kubank, of Smithton, Tasmania. His wife was also appointed as executrix

A War Pension was granted to Josephine Agnes Kubank, of Burnie, Tasmania, widow of the late Private Vernon Ernest Kubank, in the sum of 40/- per fortnight from 20th March, 1918. A Pension was also granted to Ellen Violet Kubank, daughter of Josephine & the late Private Vernon Ernest Kubank, in the sum of 20/- per fortnight from 20th March, 1918.

Private Vernon Ernest Kubank 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 Private Kubank's widow – Mrs J. Kubank, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent July, 1921 & Plaque sent September, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Vernon Ernest Kubank – service number 3628, aged 23, of 40th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Thomas Christian Kubank & Emma Kubank; husband of J. A. Kubank, of Smithton, Tasmania.

V. E. Kubank is remembered on the Municipality of Circular Head Honour Roll 1899 – 1973, located at Smithton RSL Club, 123 Nelson Street, Smithton, Tasmania.



Municipality of Circular Head Honour Roll 1899 - 1973 (Photo from Monument Australia - Arthur Garland)

V. E. Kubank is remembered on the Municipality of Circular Head Honour Roll 1899 – 1973, located at ANZAC Park, King Street, Smithton, Tasmania. This Honour Roll is a copy of the framed honour roll at Smithton RSL (see above).



Municipality of Circular Head Honour Roll 1899 – 1973 (Photo from Monument Australia – Arthur Garland)

V. Kubank is remembered on the Stanley War Memorial, located at Church & Victoria Streets, Stanley, Tasmania.





Stanley War Memorial (Photos from AWM Places of Pride – Henry Moulds)

Vernon E. Kubank is remembered on the Anzac Memorial Wall, located at Green Hills Road, Stanley, Tasmania.



Anzac Memorial Wall (Photos from AWM Places of Pride – Arthur Garland)





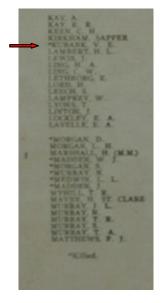
Anzac Memorial Wall



V. E. Kubank is remembered on the Circular Municipality Honour Roll, located in Stanley Town Hall, 10 Church Street, Stanley, Tasmania. A copy is also located at Smithton RSL Club, 123 Nelson Street, Smithton, Tasmania.



Circular Municipality Honour Roll (Photos from AWM Places of Pride – Arthur Garland)



Private Vernon Ernest Kubank is remembered on the Wall of Remembrance, at the War Memorial, Cecilia Street, St. Helens, Tasmania. The Wall of Remembrance commemorates those from Tasmania who died in service or were killed in action in World War One.

Front Inscription

Tasmania's World War One Roll of Honour, 1914 - 1918

The names of 3165 soldiers, sailors and airmen who were Tasmanian by birth or residence and died from their service in WW1 are commemorated on these walls. Their names appear alphabetically, grouped by the year of death. These men served with Australian, New Zealand and British units.

"What these men did nothing can alter now. The good and the bad, the greatness and the smallness of their story will stand. Whatever of glory it contains nothing now can lessen. It rises, as it will always rise, above the mists of ages, a monument to great hearted men; and for their nation, a possession forever."



Wall of Remembrance, St. Helens, Tasmania (Photo from Places of Pride - Henry Moulds)



Private V. E. Kubank is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 132.

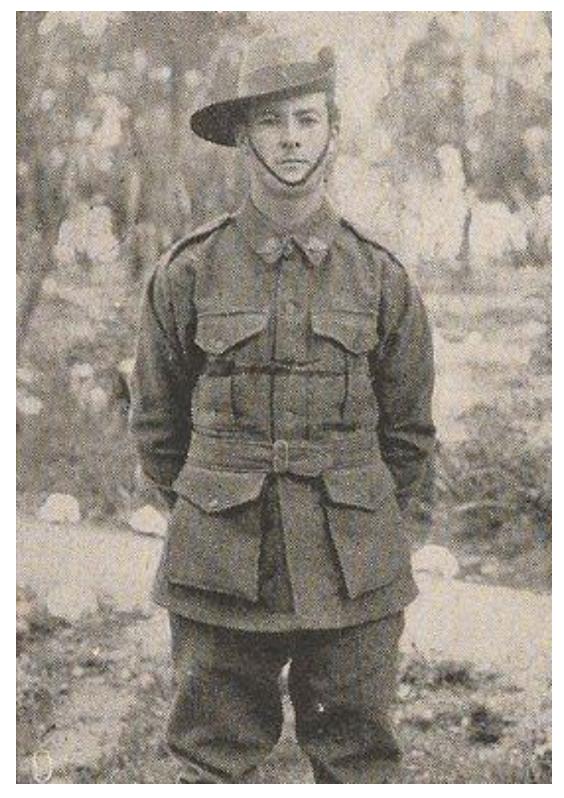


Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(45 pages of Private Vernon Ernest Kubank'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





Private Vernon Ernest Kubank

(Photo from Tasmania Weekly Courier)

Newspaper Notices

SMITHTON AND DISTRICT

Final Leave – Last Wednesday night in the local town hall, a social and dance was given in honor of Private L. H. Morgan and V. E. Kubank, who were home on final leave. A pleasant time was spent in dancing & musical items. In the course of the evening, Mr W. Geale presented each of the soldiers with a wristlet watch as a token of esteem and appreciation of their commendable action from the people of Smithton. Private Kubank was also the recipient of a handsome pendant from the Brethren of the Independent Order of Oddfellows. Miss B. Hill and Miss D, Wensley kindly officiated at the piano.

(Circular Head Chronicle, Stanley, Tasmania - 3 October, 1917)

CASUALTY LIST No. 381

Died of Illness

Pte Vernon Ernest Kubank (Smithton) 16/1/18

(North-Eastern Advertiser, Scottsdale, Tasmania – 1 February, 1918)

Empire Day Celebrations

SMITHTON SCHOOL

"Empire Day" was celebrated at Smithton State School on Friday, 23rd. The school was thrown open to visitors, and after the children had rendered some items everyone adjourned to the playground and saluted the flag, which was hoisted by Ila Boatwright and Sylvia Lovegrove. The honour roll, which was draped with the Union Jack, was then uncovered by Lena Inness and Hettie Ryan, who had both lost brothers in the war. The names were read by the Rev. W. Hooper. The names of those who had fallen were read out by the Rev. M. J. May, and the flag half-masted. After addresses by the head teacher (Mr. H. F. Priestly) and the Revs. W. Hooper and M. J. May, appropriate hymns and the National Anthem and "Our Splendid Men" were sung. Then an Honour Avenue was started, the first three trees being planted by Lena Inness, Hettie Ryan, and Doris Kubank, in honour of their brothers, Headquarters Scout Alex Innes, and Privates P. Ryan and V. Kubank. Sweets were distributed to the children. These were donated by the local storekeepers. There was a good attendance of parents and friends. The ceremony was well carried out and was most impressive.

(Circular Head Chronicle, Stanley, Tasmania – 4 June, 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. 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)

A letter from Base Records, dated 19th July, 1921, to Mrs J. Kubank, of Smithton, Tasmania, advised that a letter from the Defence Dept. concerning an inscription on the headstone of her husband, the late Private V. E. Kubank, had not been answered & non-receipt of a reply within 21 days would have to be accepted as indicating that no further action was to be taken.

Private V. E. Kubank does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Greater Love Hath No Man That He Lay Down His Life For His Friends

St Lawrence's Churchyard, Stratford-sub-Castle, Wiltshire, England

During the two world wars, the United Kingdom became an island fortress used for training troops and launching land, sea and air operations around the globe. There are more than 170,000 Commonwealth war graves in the United Kingdom, many being those of servicemen and women killed on active service, or who later succumbed to wounds. Others died in training accidents, or because of sickness or disease. The graves, many of them privately owned and marked by private memorials, will be found in more than 12,000 cemeteries and churchyards. Most of the 47 First World War burials in Stratford-sub-Castle (St Lawrence) Churchyard were made from the local hospital and more than half of them are of Australian servicemen who were based at the many Australian depots and training camps in the area. There are also two burials of the Second World War in the cemetery. (*Information from CWGC*)



St. Lawrence Church, Stratford-sub-Castle



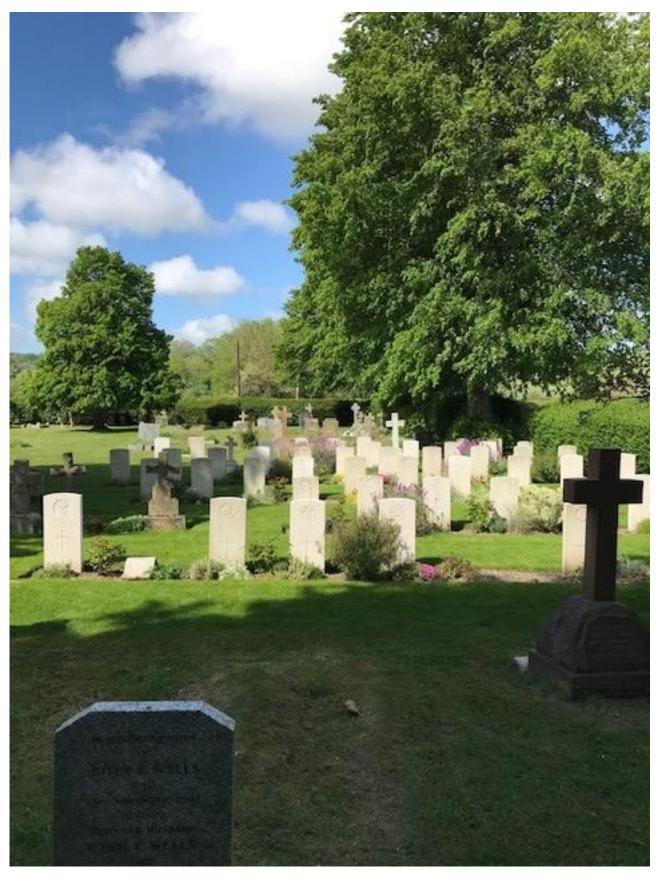
Churchyard of St. Lawrence, Stratford-sub-Castle with CWGC Cross of Sacrifice



Original Grave Markers



(Photo courtesy of The Venerable Alan Jeans, Archdeacon of Sarum – 2020)



(Photo courtesy of The Venerable Alan Jeans, Archdeacon of Sarum – 2020)



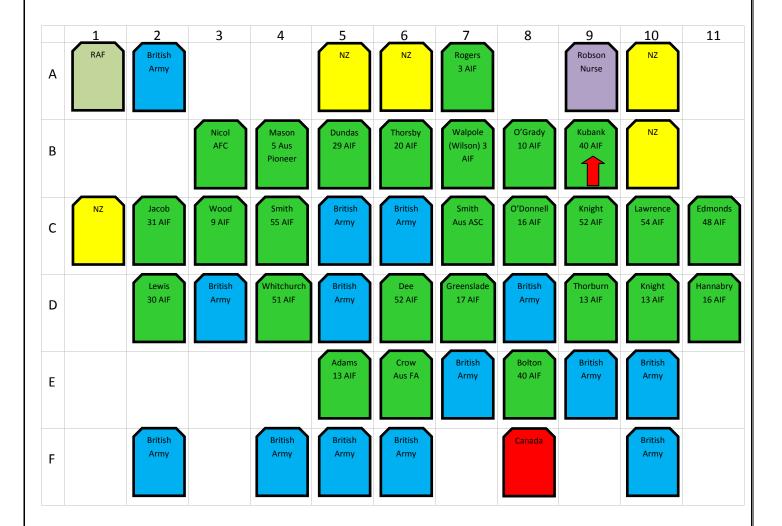
(Photo courtesy of The Venerable Alan Jeans, Archdeacon of Sarum – 2020)

Photo of Private V. E. Kubank's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in St Lawrence's Churchyard, Stratford-sub-Castle, Wiltshire, England.



(Photo courtesy of The Venerable Alan Jeans, Archdeacon of Sarum – 2020)

Stratford-sub-Castle War Graves



(Information for layout of graves – courtesy of The Venerable Alan Jeans, Archdeacon of Sarum – 2020)