

Codford War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



6607 PRIVATE

G. McILROY

15TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

19TH FEBRUARY, 1917 Age 39

BORN CHARTERS TOWERS

1878

R. I. P.

Gabriel Joseph McILROY

Gabriel Joseph McIlroy was born at Charters Towers, Queensland in 1878, to parents Patrick & Ann Christina McIlroy (nee Sorrensen).

Gabriel McIlroy was a 37 year old, single, Labourer (Roll of Honour information records his occupation as (Gold) Miner) from Charters Towers, Queensland when he enlisted on 3rd January, 1916 with the 4th Infantry Brigade, 15th Infantry Battalion, 21st Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 6607 & his religion was Roman Catholic. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Ann Christina McIlroy, Mexican Street, Charters Towers, Queensland.

Pte Gabriel McIlroy embarked from Brisbane on HMAT *Boonah* (A36) on 21st October, 1916 & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 10th January, 1917.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. These were located in the Salisbury Plain & surrounding areas in the county of Wiltshire.

Pte Gabriel McIlroy was marched in to 4th Training Battalion at Codford, Wiltshire on 10th January, 1917.

Pte Gabriel McIlroy was written up for "Overstaying leave from midnight 2.2.17 till 8 a.m. 4.2.17". He was awarded 48 hours detention, in custody awaiting trial 2 days. He was forfeited 6 days pay.

Pte Gabriel McIlroy was admitted sick to Military Hospital at Sutton Veny, Wiltshire on 17th February, 1917 with mumps.

Pte Gabriel McIlroy died at 3.25 a.m. on 19th February, 1917 at the Military Hospital at Sutton Veny, England of Acute Bronchitis (Cardiac Failure).

A death for Gabriel McIlroy, aged 38, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Warminster, Wiltshire.

Pte Gabriel McIlroy was buried on 22nd February, 1917 at Codford Cemetery, Grave No. 88.

Private G. McIlroy is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 76.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)

*3 Soldiers (Above) - J.C.P. McGrath, D.E. McGregor & G. McIlroy were all from 15th Battalion & are all buried in Anzac Cemetery at Codford St. Mary, Codford, Wiltshire, England. Privates McIlroy & McGregor both embarked on the same ship.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Pte Gabriel Mclroy 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 Mclroy's mother as his father was deceased – Mrs A. C. Mclroy (April, 1923 & May, 1922).

(44 pages of Pte Gabriel Mclroy'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

AUSTRALIAN CASUALTIES – LIST No. 277

DIED (Other Causes)

Queensland – G. Mclroy

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria, Friday 9th 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 Codford War Graves Cemetery. 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 G. McIlroy does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

BORN CHARTERS TOWERS

1878

R. I. P.



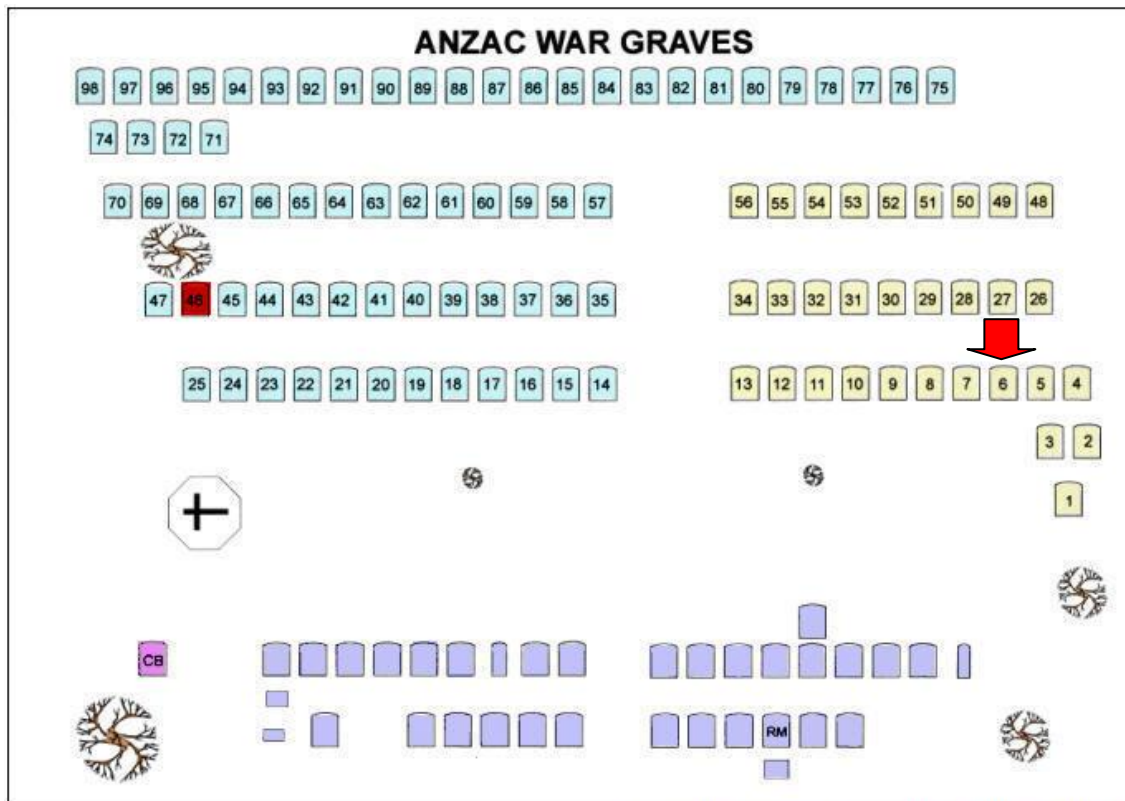
(Photo by Romy Wyeth 2013)

Photo of Pte G. McIlroy's Headstone at Codford Anzac War Graves Cemetery, Wiltshire.



(Photo courtesy of Romy Wyeth)

Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Pte G. Mcllroy is located in Main Front Row (Right hand side)
 Grave Plot # 6 of Codford War Graves Cemetery (CWGC Reference - Grave #88)



- Australian Soldiers
- Welsh Soldier
- New Zealand Soldiers
- Local Burials
- UK Soldier

Codford War Graves map adapted from Brian Marshall
 courtesy of Romy Wyeth



(Photo by Romy Wyeth 2013)