# Warriston Cemetery,

# Edinburgh, Scotland,

## **War Graves**



Lest We Forget

## World War 1



7684 PRIVATE

## **OLIVER ALFRED PAGE**

12TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

27TH NOVEMBER, 1917 AGE 42

### **Oliver Alfred PAGE**

Oliver Alfred Page was born on 12th February, 1877 in Kempton, near Hobart, Tasmania to parents Alfred & Jane Page (nee Wilson). His birth was registered in Green Ponds, Tasmania in 1877.

Oliver Alfred Page attended Kempton School, near Hobart, Tasmania.

Alfred Page, father of Oliver Alfred Page, died in 1911.

Oliver Alfred Page, aged 36, Civil Service, was listed as a passenger on *Osterley* which had departed from London & arrived in Brisbane, Australia on 30th October, 1913.

The 1914 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Denison, subdivision of Hobart South listed Oliver Alfred Page, clerk living at 206 Davey Street. His mother Jane Page was also listed at the same address.

Oliver Alfred Page was a 39 year old, married, Area Officer (also a trained Accountant) from Hobart, Tasmania when he enlisted on 7th August, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Church of England & his next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs L. B. Page of Elboden Street, Hobart, Tasmania. Oliver Page stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served in Cadets for 6 months.

Oliver Alfred Page married Laura Bright MacLeod on 24th January, 1917.

Private Oliver Alfred Page was sent to 1st Depot Battalion (Infantry) at Claremont, Tasmania on 7th August, 1916. He was promoted to Acting Sergeant from 8th August, 1916 until 5th March, 1917.

Oliver Alfred Page passed through O.T.S. (Officer Training School) Duntroon, NSW between 6th October, 1916 & 20th December, 1916.

Private Oliver Alfred Page, Service number 7684, embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Themistocles (A32)* on 4th August, 1917 with the 12th Infantry Battalion, 26th Reinforcements & disembarked at Glasgow, Scotland on 2nd October, 1917. He was promoted to Acting Sergeant for Voyage only.

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.

Acting Sergeant Oliver Alfred Page was marched in from Australia to 3rd Training Battalion at Durrington, Wiltshire on 3rd October, 1917 & his rank reverted back to Private.

Private Oliver Alfred Page was sent sick to Hospital at Sutton Veny, Wiltshire on 20th October, 1917 with Mumps.

Private Oliver Alfred Page was marched in to No. 1 Command Depot, Sutton Veny from Hospital on 11th November, 1917. He was marched out from No. 1 Command Depot, Sutton Veny to 1st Training Brigade Headquarters on 16th November, 1917.

Private Oliver Alfred Page died at 8.15 am on 27th November, 1917 at 10 Atholl Crescent, Edinburgh from multiple neuritis & heart failure. 10 Atholl Crescent was the address of his sister & brother-in-law. His brother-in-law - R. Wardoper was present at the death.

Private Oliver Alfred Page was buried on 28th November, 1917 in Warriston Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland – Plot number A1. 12. He has a private headstone but his death is acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. From the burial report of Private Page – *Coffin was polished oak. The deceased soldier was interred privately. All the arrangements were carried out by his sister, Mrs Wardropoer, 10 Atholl Crescent, Edinburgh. Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London were not represented in this instance, the deceased having died at the residence of his sister, Mrs Wardroper, 10 Atholl Crescent, Edinburgh, while on sick furlough from Hospital, and these Headquarters were not notified of the death until after the funeral had taken place.* 

Private Oliver Alfred Page 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 Page's widow – Mrs L. B. Page, as the closest next-of-kin (Scroll sent July, 1921 & Plaque sent October, 1922).

[\*\*A daughter – Ann Olivia Page was born on 11th January, 1918 at Hobart, Tasmania – daughter of Laura & the late Oliver Alfred Page.]

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Oliver Alfred Page – service number 7684, aged 40, of 12th Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the husband of Laura B. Page, of "Aunscot," Kingston Beach, Tasmania.

Private O. A. Page is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 67.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

O. A. Page is remembered on the All Saints Anglican Church Honour Board located at 339 Macquarie Street, South Hobart, Tasmania.



All Saints Church Roll of Honour, South Hobart (Photo from Monument Australia – Arthur Garland)

O. A. Page is remembered on the Soldiers Walk Memorial & with Tree Number 352. The Soldiers Memorial Avenue forms part of the Queens Domain in Hobart Tasmania. It is an Avenue comprising 513 trees planted in 1918 and 1919 to commemorate soldiers, mainly from Hobart, who died in World War One.



Soldiers Walk Memorial, Hobart

(Photos from Monument Australia – John Huth / Arthur Garland)



O. A. Page is remembered on the Melton Roll of Honour, located in Kempton Memorial on Main Street, Kempton, Tasmania.



Melton Roll of Honour (Photo from Monument Australia - Arthur Garland)

Oliver Alfred Page 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) © Cathy Sedgwick 2016

NUMBER	-	SURNAME	CHRISTIAN NAME	000	AGE	UNIT	TOWN	ANZAC
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901 94 5750	Ple .	O'Brien	Basil George H	07.06.1917	19	40th Inf Ba	Mathinna	
	LCpl	O'Brien	James	05.10.1917	19	40th Inf Bn	Zeehan	
180	2	O'Donnell O'Halforan	John William	25.02.1917	22	12th Inl Bn	West Hobart	
930 158 663 588	2	O'Neal	John T Andrew	26.01.1917	22	52nd Inf Bn	North Hobart	
155	22232	O'Rourke	John Douglas	05.04.1917	27	49th Inf Bn	Cygnet	
663	201	O'Rourke	Ernest Frederick	04.10.1917	23	40th Inf Bn	Colebrook	
		O'Shannessy	Ernest	05.10.1917	28	40th Inf Bn	West Pine	
852		A March Annu A March 199	Joseph Samuel	12.04.1917	22	52nd Inf Bn	Campbelliown	
82 84 75		Oakley Ohison	Olaf Ernest	26.02.1917	22	40th Inf Bn	Adventure Bay	
	10	Oldham	Thomas Francis	16.04.1917	24	12th Inf Bn	Queenslown	Sec. 25.6
12	6. C		Ray Fryele	05.05.1917	23	12th Inf Bn	St Patricks River	
86		Olding Oliver	Norman Osker	11.04.1917	25	15th Inf Bn	Jeticho	ANZAC
4		Onions MM	Albert Carl	11.06.1917	21	52nd InI Bn	Forth	ANZAC
		Orchard MM	Arthur William	15.07.1917	21	10th Ed Arty Bde	Launceston	ANZAC
	Indr	Contraction of the second second	Edwin Allen	02.10.1917	20	40th Inf Bn	Kettering	
		Culey	Rowland John	01.11.1917	24	12th Inf Bn	Huonville	
89 F		Page Page	Oliver Alfred	27.11.1917	40	12th Inf Bn	Hobart	

(37 pages of Private Oliver Alfred Page'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, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives



**Oliver Alfred Page** 

#### **Newspaper Notices**

#### **ROLL OF HONOUR**

#### **AUSTRALIAN CASUALTIES**

DIED OF ILLNESS

Private O. A. Page, Hobart, 28/11/17

(Zeehan and Dundas Herald, Tasmania - 29 December, 1917)

#### 100 Days of Heroes: Baby girl never knew her soldier dad Oliver Page

WRITER Margaretta Pos' grandfather Oliver Page left behind a wife and unborn child to serve in World War I.



Margaretta Pos in front of the replacement tree planted for her grandfather Oliver Page on the Soldiers' Memorial Avenue. Picture: ALASTAIR BETT

WRITER Margaretta Pos' grandfather Oliver Page left behind a wife and unborn child to serve in World War I.

"My mother, who was his only child, was born six weeks after his death," Ms Pos said.

When he enlisted in August 1916, Oliver had recently been appointed as a lieutenant in the Commonwealth Military Cadet Corps and was made a sergeant in the Australian Imperial Force after attending training at the Royal Military College (Duntroon) later that year, but he would never set foot on the battlefield.



Oliver Page in uniform before his World War I service.



Margaretta Pos with her grandfather's plaque and tree. Picture: ALASTAIR BETT

Oliver was born in 1877, the youngest of seven children to Jane and Alfred Page, a Legislative Councillor from 1889-1909.

He attended the Kempton State School and was working as a stockbroker when he married Laura Macleod, daughter of Loudoun Macleod, the most recent mayor of Hobart, in January 1917.

He sailed for England that August and arrived in October, sending his wife a gift from Egypt while in transit. Later that month he was hospitalised with the mumps.

Oliver then contracted triple nephritis (kidney inflammation) and succumbed to his illness while staying with his sister, on sick leave, on November 27, 1917.

He died, aged 40, at his sister's house in Edinburgh and was buried at Warriston Cemetery, Scotland, in a polished oak coffin.

Before his death he had posted home a little girl's outfit from England. "My late mother, Ann Olivia Page ... was very touched that shortly before he died he sent gifts to his wife and unborn child," she said. "It's nice to think he wanted a daughter."

Sergeant Oliver Alfred Page is remembered at tree 352 on the Soldiers' Memorial Avenue and on the honour roll at All Saints Anglican Church in South Hobart.

His nephew, Company Sergeant Major Lyndon Forrest Page, was killed in action in November 1916 and is remembered at tree 482 on the Avenue.

Both men were descendants of the colonial entrepreneur Samuel Page — publican, coach proprietor and pastoralist — while Lyndon Page was the grandson of the artist Haughton Forrest.

(Mercury, Tasmania - 1 October, 2018)

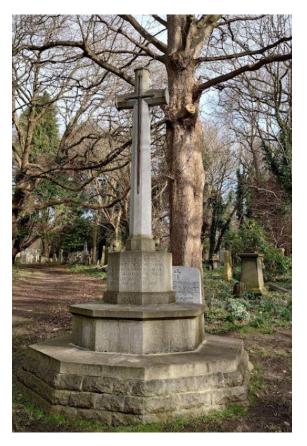
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#### Warriston Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland

Warriston Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland contains 72 scattered burials of the First World War; a screen wall commemorates those whose graves are not individually marked by headstones. Second World War burials number 27, and there is also one Belgian war grave and one non-war service burial within the cemetery. The cemetery is maintained by the City of Edinburgh Council. A number of grave stones are lying flat for safety reasons. *(Information from CWGC)* 



Warriston Cemetery, Edinburgh (Photo from Find a Grave - GariochGraver)



Cross of Sacrifice (Photo by Tom Ellingham)

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Photo of Private Oliver Alfred Page's Private Headstone in Warriston Cemetery, Edinburgh, Scotland.



(Photo from Find a Grave – Colin Campbell 2021)



(Photo from Find a Grave - Glenlivet)