

**Hatfield Road Cemetery,
St. Albans, Hertfordshire, England**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



2904 PRIVATE

L. W. WHITTINGHAM

40TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

14TH MAY, 1917 Age 39

Leonard William WHITTINGHAM

Leonard William Whittingham was born on 12th May, 1878 to parents Thomas Blackburn Whittingham and Margaret Louisa Whittingham (nee Reading). His birth was registered in June quarter, 1878 in the district of Hackney, London, England. (According to information provided by his mother for the Roll of Honour – Leonard was born at Clapton, England. According to his Attestation Papers Leonard stated he was born near Norwood, England).

The 1881 England Census recorded Leonard Whittingham as a 2 year old, living with his family at St. Margaret's, Auckland Hill, Norwood, Lambeth, London, England. His mother was listed as Margaret Whittingham (Mariner's wife, aged 33, born Launceston, Tasmania). Leonard was one of seven children listed on this Census – Alice (Scholar, aged 13, born Poplar), Clara (Scholar, aged 9, born Lower Clapton), Henry (Scholar, aged 7, born Lower Clapton), Minnie (aged 4, born Lower Clapton) then Leonard, Annie (aged 2, born Lower Clapton) & Lillian (aged 1, born Lower Clapton). Also listed were 2 servants – Agness Tyrell (Governess, aged 28) & Annie Snelling (aged 21).

Thomas Blackburn Whittingham, father of Leonard William Whittingham, died on 9th March, 1888.

DEATH NOTICE – London Evening Standard – 19 March, 1888:

WHITTINHGAM – March 9, in Chesil West Bay, Thomas Blackburn Whittingham, by the foundering of the Lanoma, aged 54. Australian papers, please copy.

The 1891 England Census recorded Leonard W. Whittingham as a 12 year old, living with his family at St. Margaret's, Auckland Hill, Norwood, Lambeth, London, England. His mother was listed as Margaret Whittingham (Widow, aged 45, Living on her own means). Leonard was one of nine children listed on this Census - Alice M. (aged 23), Ethel L. (aged 21), Clara (aged 19), Henry (aged 17), Annie E. (aged 13), then Leonard, Lillian M. (aged 10, born Norwood, London) Leslie E. (aged 9, born Norwood, London) & Irene M. (aged 4, born Norwood, London).

Leonard William Whittingham was baptised on 19th January, 1893 at St. Luke's Church, West Norwood, Lambeth, England, along with his siblings – Irene Margaret Whittingham (b. 1887) Edwin Leslie Whittingham (b. 1882) & Annie Eleanor Whittingham (b. 1877). The family lived at St. Margaret's, Auckland Hill, Lambeth & their father – Thomas Blackburn Whittingham was listed as a Master Mariner (deceased).

Leonard William Whittingham attended a Private School at Westhorwood, England.

According to information provided by his mother for the Roll of Honour – Leonard Whittingham came to Australia when he was 19 years old.

The 1914 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Darwin, subdivision of Circular Head, Tasmania recorded Leonard William Whittingham of Detention River.

Leonard William Whittingham was a 39 year old, single, Farmer, from Wynyard, Tasmania when he enlisted at Claremont, Tasmania on 17th October, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 2904 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Margaret Whittingham, Kingsbury, Overbury Road, Parkston, Dorset, England. Leonard Whittingham had defective teeth requiring dental aid & his eyesight was slightly defective.

Private Leonard William Whittingham was posted to 6th Reinforcements of 40th Battalion for recruit training

Private Leonard William Whittingham embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT Orsova (A67) on 6th December, 1916 with the 40th Infantry Battalion, 6th Reinforcements & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 17th February, 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 Leonard William Whittingham was marched in to Camp Details at Sutton Mandeville, Wiltshire from 14th Training Battalion on 7th March, 1917.

Private Leonard William Whittingham was admitted to Military Hospital, Fovant, Wiltshire on 13th March, 1917 – cause N.Y.D. (not yet determined). The Hospital Admissions form recorded "*Mental Stupor*". He was transferred to Tidworth Military Hospital, Wiltshire on 17th March, 1917 from Fovant Military Hospital. The Hospital Admissions form recorded "*General Paralysis*".

Private Leonard William Whittingham was transferred & admitted to Middlesex War Hospital, Napsbury, St. Albans, England on 5th April, 1917 with Mental issues – seriously ill. The Hospital Admissions form recorded "*General Paralysis of the Insane*". "*On admission he was in an advanced stage of G.P.I. He became more demented & bed-ridden. Physical health failed steadily.*"

Details for the address of the next of kin of Private Leonard William Whittingham were changed on the records on 26th April, 1917 from Mrs Margaret Whittingham, mother, previously of Kingsbury Rd, Parkston, Dorset, England to "Kingsbury", Overbury Road, Parkston, Dorset, England.

Private Leonard William Whittingham died at 7.45 am on 14th May, 1917 at County of Middlesex War Hospital, Napsbury, St. Albans, England from General Paralysis of Insane.

A death for Leonard W. Whittingham, aged 39, was registered in the June quarter, 1917 in the district of St. Albans, Hertfordshire, England.

Private Leonard William Whittingham was buried on 18th May, 1917 in Hatfield Road Cemetery, St. Albans, Hertfordshire, England – Plot number Mil. E. 1. and now has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

From the burial report of Private Leonard William Whittingham - *Coffin was Elm. Polished. The deceased soldier was buried with Military Honours. Gun Carriage and Firing Party (National Volunteers) were in attendance. The coffin was draped with the Union Jack. Prior to interment a service was held in the chapel of St. Albans Cemetery. Chaplain Archdeacon Richard of the A.I.F. was present. The deceased's brother and two sisters were also present and expressed their high appreciation of the manner in which the funeral was conducted; they request that the A.I.F. should deal with the matter of erecting a memorial. The St. Albans Borough Council have a Board of Honour erected and the names of each soldier buried is inscribed thereon.*

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Private Leonard William Whittingham contains a request from the Red Cross on behalf of the relatives to obtain any details concerning his last hours and burial. A reply was received from The County of Middlesex War Hospital, Napsbury, St. Albans which reads: "*Pte Whittingham, L. W. 40th Battn. A.I.F. was admitted to this Hospital on 5/4/17. He was then suffering from a grave form of nervous trouble; he became steadily more enfeebled and died on 14/5.17. He was given a Military Funeral at St. Albans Cemetery, on 18/5/17, and his brother and sister attended this.*"

Private Leonard William Whittingham 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 Whittingham's mother – Mrs M. Whittingham, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll & Plaque issued in England in August, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Leonard William Whittingham – service number 2904, aged 39, of 40th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Thomas Blackburn Whittingham and Margaret Louisa Whittingham, of "Kingsley," Overbury Rd., Parkstone, Dorset, England.

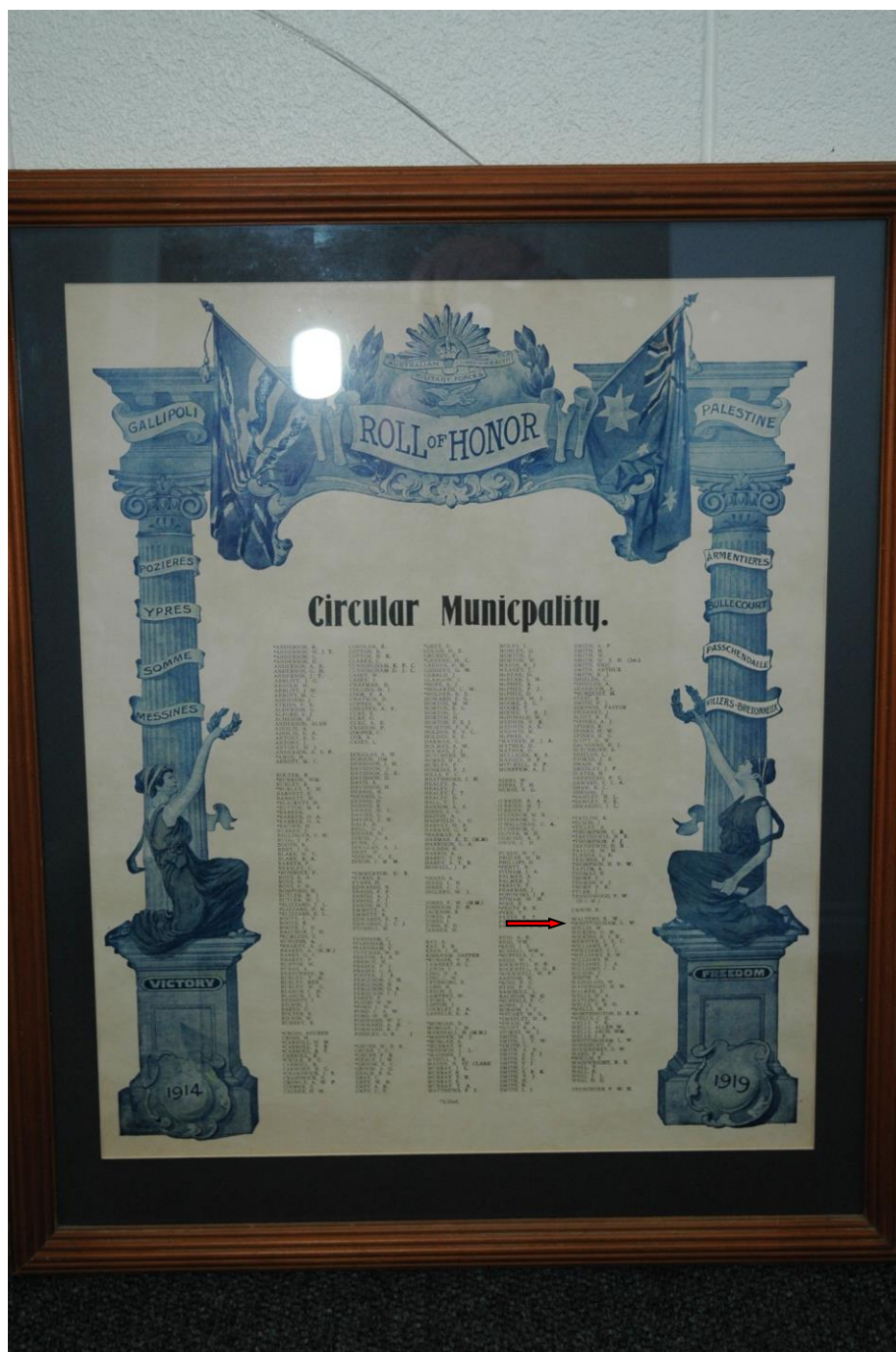
L. W. Whittingham is remembered on the Table Cape Roll of Honour, located in Boat Harbour Primary School, 17386 Bass Highway, Boat Harbour, Tasmania.



Table Cape Roll of Honour (Photo from AWM Places of Pride – Arthur Garland)



L. W. Whittingham is remembered on the Circular Municipality Honour Roll, located in Town Hall, Church Street, Stanley, Tasmania.



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



L. W. Whittingham is remembered on the Municipality of Circular Head Honour Roll 1899 - 1973, located in Anzac Park, King Street, Smithton, Tasmania.



Municipality of Circular Head Honour Roll (Photos from AWM Places of Pride – Henry Moulds)

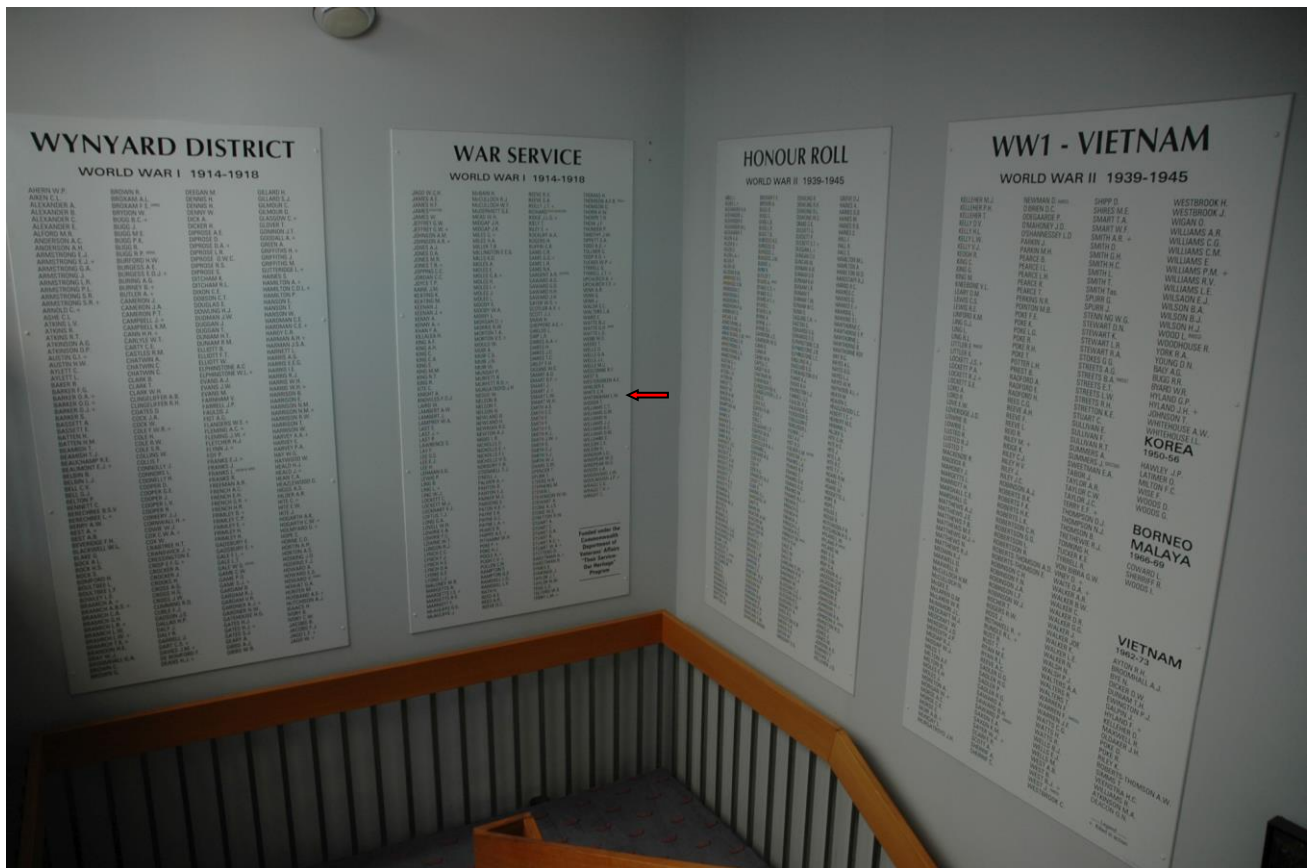
BOYS, H	FINDLEY, G.R	LYONS, T	SHEGOG, J	WELLS, V.K
BOYS, S.D	FLOOD, W.W	MADDEN, J	SHEPHERD, P.C	WELLS, W
BRAKEY, A	FORD, C.A	MADDEN, W.J	SHIELDS, A	WELLS, W.A
BRAKEY, A.C	FORD, L	MADDEN, W	SHIELDS, C	WHITTINGHAM, L.W
BRAKEY, P	FORD, W.W	MADSEN, N.P	SHIELDS, L	WHITTINGHAM, L
BROWN, W	FORWARD, A.H	MARSHALL, H	SIMPSON, Pastor	WHITE, T
BUGG, J.P	FORWARD, R.C	MATTHEWS, F.J	SLAHER, H	WIGG, J.L
BURGESS, C	FORWARD, W.C	MASON, R.J	SMEDLEY, H.R	WIGG, D.G
BURGESS, E	FOSTER, J.R	MATHER, J.A	SMEDLEY, J.P	WILLIS, M
BURLEY, R	FRASER, F.J	MATHER, D	SMITH, A.P	WILLIS, T
BURLEY, Rex	FRASER, G	MATHER, O.	SMITH, Arthur	WILKINS, G.H
BURLEY, T.M	FRENCH, H	McBEAN, D	SMITH, A.E	WILKINS, S.J
BURLEY, W.G	GEALE, E.G	McBEAN, L.H	SMITH, B	WILLIAMS, A.W
BURNS, A	GEALE, J.W	McDONALD, W	SMITH, E.C	WILLIAMS, C.S
BURROW, W.M	GIDDONS, G.W	McPHEE, D	SMITH, Eric	WILLIAMS, F.J
BURTON, W	GOUGH, H.E	McPHEE, P.J	SMITH, H	WILLIAMS, H
BUTLER, H.J	GLASCOW, C	McPHEE, R	SMITH, J.H	WILLIAMS, J.C
BUTLER, W.J	GRAY, C	MEANEY, T	SMITH, J.T	WILLIAMS, L.A
BUTTON, M.E	GREENE, H.C	MEDWIN, A.S	SMITH, L	WILSON, J
CALDER, H.W	GREENE, S.H	MEDWIN, L.L	SMITH, L	WINSLADE, W
CARMODY, H.G	GREY, A.R	MEDWIN, M	SMITH, L.J	WOODBURY, C
CARROLL, E	GREY, C.T	MEDWIN, V.R	SMITH, P	WOODBURY, G.W
CARROLL, H.M	GREY, S	MITCHELL, R.P	SMITH, R	WORTHINGTON, D.E
CARROLL, R.T	GREY, W.N	MOLES, I	SMITH, R.E.J	ZEUSCHER, F.W
CARROLL, R	GROOM, A.G	MOORE, S.G	SMITH, R.J	
		MOORE, T	SMITH, S.B	

L. W. Whittingham is remembered on the Municipality of Circular Head Honour Roll 1899 - 1973, located in Smithton R.S.L. Club, 123 Nelson Street, Smithton, Tasmania. This is similar to the Honour Roll located in Anzac Park (above)



L. W. Whittingham is remembered on the Wynyard District Council Chambers Honour Roll, located in Waratah - Wynyard Council Chambers, 21 Saunders Street, Wynyard, Tasmania.





Wynyard District Council Chambers Honour Roll (Photos from AWM Places of Pride – Arthur Garland)



Leonard Whittingham is remembered on the Stanley Anzac Memorial Wall, located Green Hills Road, Godfreys Beach, Stanley, Tasmania.



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





L. M. Whittingham is remembered on the Stanley War Memorial, located in Church Street, Stanley, Tasmania.



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



Stanley War Memorial

Private L. W. Whittingham is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 133.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(40 pages of Private Leonard William Whittingham'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



Private Leonard William Whittingham

Newspaper Notices

ROLL OF HONOUR

293RD CASUALTY LIST

ILL

TASMANIA

Whittingham, L.W., England, seriously

(The Mercury, Hobart, Tasmania – 8 May, 1917)

Roll of Honour

Casualty Lists – No. 303

Tasmanian Casualties

DIED OF ILLNESS

WHITTINGHAM, Private L. W., England. 14/5/17

(Examiner, Launceston, Tasmania – 28 May, 1917)

ROCKY CAPE

Another Rocky Cape soldier, Private Len Whittingham, has died of illness sin England.

(The North Western Advocate and the Emu Bay Times, Tasmania – 31 May, 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. 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 L. W. Whittingham has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone but no inscription.

Hatfield Road Cemetery, St. Albans, Hertfordshire, England

During the First World War, the County of Middlesex War Hospital was established in, what was then called, the Middlesex Mental Hospital at Napsbury, near St. Albans, and from 1914 to March 1915 the city of St. Albans was the Headquarters of the 47th London Division.

The Second World War saw the Hill End Hospital, St. Albans, taken over by the Military authorities, and service war burials were carried out from this hospital.

There are 147 First World War burials in Hatfield Road Cemetery, 93 of them forming a war graves plot. Some of the 79 Second World War graves form a separate plot. The rest of the graves are scattered throughout the cemetery.

(Information from CWGC)



Entrance to Hatfield Road Cemetery, St. Albans *(Photo from Find a Grave - julia&keld)*



Cross of Sacrifice *(Photo from CWGC)*



War Graves in Hatfield Road Cemetery, St. Albans *(Photos from CWGC)*



Photo of Private L. W. Whittingham's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Hatfield Road Cemetery, St. Albans, Hertfordshire, England.

(Note: Photo of a new headstone next page)



(Photo from Find a Grave – Julia&keld)

Private L. W. Whittingham's new Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Hatfield Road Cemetery, St. Albans, Hertfordshire, England.



(Photo courtesy of Neil Bright)