

PRIVATE GERALD STANLEY MORGAN - ANGASTON

First World War

Gerald Stanley Morgan was born in Keyneton on 12 December 1892. Gerald attended Angaston Public School.

Gerald enlisted at Angaston in the Army Medical Corps on 5 February 1917, his records state that he was married to Mrs P V Morgan, living in Angaston and working as a labourer/teamster.

Gerald embarked on the RMS Orontes out of Sydney on 5 June 1918, disembarking at Liverpool, England on 11 August 1918. Gerald and the rest of the general reinforcements of the Army Medical Corps (A.M.C) were marched into the A.M.C. Training Depot located at Fovant on the Salisbury Plains on 12 August 1918 and commenced training immediately.

On 4 October 1918, after finishing a fast-tracked training program, the reinforcements were sent to France and once on French soil they were marched into an Australian General Base Depot located at Rouelles on 5 October 1918, where they waited to be allocated to a unit.

On 16 October 1918, Gerald was admitted to Number 40 Stationary Hospital at Le Havre with influenza. This may have been the Spanish Flu pandemic which was running rampant throughout Europe in 1918-19. Private Gerald Stanley Morgan died whilst at Number 40 Stationary Hospital of broncho-pneumonia on 25 October 1918, aged 25 years. He is buried in Division 62 of Ste. Marie Cemetery, LeHavre, France.

The Leader 7 November 1918 – The Great Sacrifice

On Monday last the flags were put to half-mast in honour of yet another hero- Pte. Gerald S. Morgan, who died of bronchial pneumonia on October 25th.

Pastor Vawser had a more than distressing task to break the sad news to the wife and parents of the brave lad, for troubles have been heavy. A little time prior to enlistment, the late Pte. Morgan was united in the holy bond with Miss P. V. Blenkiron, and shortly after his departure illness overtook her.

As time passed an heir was born, and on more than one occasion the little innocent's life hung in the balance. Now when the maze of woe has gone comes the greatest blow of all. Mr. and Mrs. Morgan had only two sons, and both responded to the call of Justice.

Clarrie, who enlisted in September of 1916, and sailed in February, 1917, was with the R.F.A., and celebrated his 21st birthday in France. On one occasion his horse was shot from under him and he went out of action with a dislocated shoulder. He spent a month or so ill in England, and there met his brother. He is now returning to France.

Gerald enlisted in February, 1917, and left Australia with the Army Medical Corps in May this year. He arrived in England on August 13th, and the cold grim hand laid hold of him before he reached the scene of battle. He was a quiet unassuming lad of 25, and spent his spare time with his books. He was born at Keyneton, and educated at the local school.

The whole district joins in sympathising with the bereaved relatives.

Lest We Forget.



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