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Title: STAPLETON William John : Service Number - 3623 : Place of Birth - Wollongong NSW : Place of Enlistment - Sydney NSW : Next of Kin - (Father) STAPLETON John

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*Copy of 1915
A9 1915*

211D

AUSTRALIAN



MILITARY FORCES.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

No. 3623

Name William John Stapleton
Unit 8th of 1st Bn
Joined on 28 Sept 1915

Stapleton

Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

1. What is your Name? 1. William John Stapleton
2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born? 2. In the Parish of Mandurah in or near the Town of Wollongong in the County of Canberra
3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.) 3. no
4. What is your age? 4. 23
5. What is your trade or calling? 5. Post Office
6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period? 6. no
7. Are you married? 7. no
8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) 8. Father: John Stapleton 4/-
9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power? 9. no
10. Have you ever been discharged from any part of His Majesty's Forces, with Ignominy, or as Incurable and Worthless, or on account of Conviction of Felony, or of a Sentence of Penal Servitude, or have you been dismissed with Disgrace from the Navy? 10. no
11. Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in, His Majesty's Army, the Marines, the Militia, the Militia Reserve, the Territorial Force, Royal Navy, or Colonial Forces? If so, state which, and if not now serving, state cause of discharge 11. no
12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service? 12. yes
13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds? 13. no
14. Do you understand that no Separation Allowance will be issued in respect of your service beyond an amount which together with Pay would reach eight shillings per day. 14. yes
15. Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against smallpox and enteric fever? 15. yes

Father

*John Stapleton 4/-
Wollongong
Staff Street
Wollongong
N.S.W.*

I, William John Stapleton do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and I am willing and hereby voluntarily agree to serve in the Military Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia within or beyond the limits of the Commonwealth.

* And I further agree to allot not less than two-fifths of the pay payable to me from time to time during my service for the support of my wife three-fifths wife and children

Date 27-9-15

W J Stapleton
Signature of person enlisted.

* This clause to be amended where necessary and should be struck out in the case of unmarried men or widowers without children under 18 years of age.

CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTING OFFICER.

The foregoing questions were read to the person enlisted in my presence.

I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replied to by him.

I have examined his naturalization papers, and am of opinion that they are correct.

(This to be struck out except in the case of persons who are naturalized British Subjects.)

Date. 29-9-15

John Ladd I.P.
Signature of Attesting Officer.

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY PERSON BEING ENLISTED.*

I, William John Stapleton, swear that I will well and truly serve our Sovereign Lord the King in the Australian Imperial Force from until the end of the War, and a farther period of four months thereafter unless sooner lawfully discharged, dismissed, or removed therefrom; and that I will resist His Majesty's enemies and cause His Majesty's peace to be kept and maintained; and that I will in all matters appertaining to my service, faithfully discharge my duty according to law.

SO HELP ME, GOD.

W J Stapleton
Signature of Person Enlisted.

Taken and subscribed at Wellington in the State of New Zealand this 27th day of September 1915 before me—

John Ladd I.P.
Signature of Attesting Officer.

*A person enlisting who objects to taking an oath may make an affirmation in accordance with the Third Schedule of the Act, and the above form must be amended accordingly. All amendments must be initialed by the Attesting Officer.

Description of William John Stapleton on Enlistment.

Age 23 years 9 months
 Height 5 feet 8 inches
 Weight 151 lbs.
 Chest Measurement 33 ^{min 32} _{max 35 1/2} inches.
 Complexion Rather Dark
 Eyes Gray
 Hair Dark Brown
 Religious Denomination P.C.

DISTINCTIVE MARKS.
nil

CERTIFICATE OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

I have examined the above-named person, and find that he does not present any of the following conditions, viz.:

Scrofula; phthisis; syphilis; impaired constitution; defective intelligence; defects of vision, voice, or hearing; hernia; hemorrhoids; varicose veins, beyond a limited extent; marked varicocele with unusually pendent testicle; inveterate cutaneous disease; chronic ulcers; traces of corporal punishment, or evidence of having been marked with the letters D. or B.C.; contracted or deformed chest; abnormal curvature of spine; or any other disease or physical defect calculated to unfit him for the duties of a soldier.

He can see the required distance with either eye; his heart and lungs are healthy; he has the free use of his joints and limbs; and he declares he is not subject to fits of any description.

I consider him fit for active service.

Date 24 Sep^r 1915
 Place Wollongong

John Kerr Major
 Signature of Examining Medical Officer.
A.C.M.C.

CERTIFICATE OF COMMANDING OFFICER.

I CERTIFY that this Attestation of the above-named person is correct, and that the required forms have been complied with. I accordingly approve, and appoint him to

8th of 17th Batt.
 Date 15/11/15
 Place Sydney

A. S. Haas Lt.
 Commanding 8th of 17th Batt.

Statement of Service of No. 3623 Name Stapleton William John

Unit in which served.	Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c.	Period of service in each rank.		Remarks.
		From—	To—	
<i>spcl. tramway reinforcement 8th of 17th Batt</i>		<i>as pte 27-9-18</i>		

I have examined the above details and find them correct in every respect.

*A G ... Lt
oc of my*

D

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D10315

AUSTRALIAN



MILITARY FORCES.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

30 Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

No. 3623

Name

STAPLETON William John

Unit

Special Draughtway Rep Co

Joined on

23/9/15 8/11/15

17th Battalion 14th Batten

8th Rein^ts
17th Battalion.

Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

II 10315

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. What is your Name? | 1. William John Stapleton |
| 2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born? | 2. In the Parish of Unanderra in or near the Town of Wollongong in the County of Camden |
| 3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.) | 3. No British Subject |
| 4. What is your age? | 4. 23 Years |
| 5. What is your trade or calling? | 5. Postal Assistant |
| 6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period? | 6. No |
| 7. Are you married? | 7. No |
| 8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) | 8. (Father) John Stapleton Unanderra N.S. Wales Wollongong |
| 9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power? | 9. No |
| 10. Have you ever been discharged from any part of His Majesty's Forces, with Ignominy, or as Incorrigible and Worthless, or on account of Conviction of Felony, or of a Sentence of Penal Servitude, or have you been dismissed with Disgrace from the Navy? | 10. No |
| 11. Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in, His Majesty's Army, the Marines, the Militia, the Militia Reserve, the Territorial Force, Royal Navy, or Colonial Forces? If so, state which, and if not now serving, state cause of discharge | 11. No |
| 12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service? | 12. Yes |
| 13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds? | 13. Yes No |
| 14. Do you understand that no Separation Allowance will be issued in respect of your service beyond an amount which together with Pay, would reach eight shillings per day. | 14. Yes |
| 15. Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against smallpox and enteric fever? | 15. Yes |

I, William John Stapleton do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and I am willing and hereby voluntarily agree to serve in the Military Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia within or beyond the limits of the Commonwealth.

* And I further agree to allot not less than two-fifths of the pay payable to me from time to time during my service for the support of my wife and children ~~three-fifths~~

Date Oct 19 1915

Signature of person enlisted.

*This clause to be amended where necessary and should be struck out in the case of unmarried men or widowers without children under 16 years of age.

Original sent to Headquarters

Casualty Form—Active Service.

Regiment or Corps 17th. BATTALION A.I.F.
 Regimental No. 3623 Rank Pte. Name STAPLETON, W.J.
 Enlisted (a) 28.9.15 Terms of Service (a) _____ Service reckons from (a) _____
 Date of promotion to present rank } Date of appointment to lance rank } Numerical position on roll of N.C.Os. }
 Extended _____ Re-engaged _____ Qualification (b) _____

D/10315

Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents.
Date	From whom received				
17.3.16	C.O.	Taken on strength ex 8th. Reinforcements	Alexandria	15.3.16	B.213, Q25, 0.20/2208
		Embarked to join B.E.F. Disembarked	" Marseilles	17.3.16 23.3.16	L.R.5079
10.6.16	C.O.	Killed in action	France	6.6.16	B.213, AQ.562, 0.31/3065 Cable, CIBL 81 dated 20.6.16
	Grave Site Return	Buried at Brewery Orchard Cemetery, Bois Grenier, 4000 yards South of Armentieres, France, Reported by Rev. K.C. Single, 20th. Bn. A.I.F.	"	7.6.16	AT.1410 0.31/3143.

W. J. Stapleton
 Lieut.
 Officer i/c. 2nd. Aust. Div'l. Records,
 3rd. Echelon, G.H.Q., B.E.F.

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered.
 (b) e.g., Signaller, Shoemaker, etc., etc., also special qualifications in technical Corps duties. I.P.T.O.

W. J. Stapleton
 Signature of Person Enlisted.

Taken and subscribed at R.A.S. Grounds Sydney
 the State of N.S. Wales
 this nineteenth day October of
this year 1915, before me—

W. J. Allan Lieut.
 Signature of Attesting Officer.

*A person enlisting who objects to taking an oath may make an affirmation in accordance with the Third Schedule of the Act, and the above form must be amended accordingly. All amendments must be initialed by the Attesting Officer.

ICE.

at W. G. with the least possible

Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents.

Stapleton
Signature of Person Enlisted.

Grey

Allen
Signature of Attesting Officer.

in accordance with the Third
Elements must be initialed by the

the front or hospital, as well as the Pay
l be at once forwarded to the War Office.
s by a deceased soldier of his wishes as to
office as soon as possible.

he Fixed Centre Paymaster at Home,
sbursing Officer, as the case may require,
al of any will from the latter). If the
led to the War Office with this Report.

H. W. Owen Lieut.

icer i/c. 2nd. Aust. Div¹. Records,
3rd. Echelon, G.H.Q., B.E.F.

CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTING OFFICER.

Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.

The foregoing questions were read to the person enlisted in my presence.

I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer entered as replied to by him.

I have examined his naturalization papers, and am of opinion that they are
(This to be struck out except in the case of persons who are naturalized)

Date... Oct 19th 15.

Signature of Attesting Officer

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY PERSON BEING ENLISTED

I, William John Stapleton ...
serve our Sovereign Lord the King in the Australian Imperial Force from ...
until the end of the War, and a further period of four months thereafter unless
dismissed, or removed therefrom; and that I will resist His Majesty's enemies
be kept and maintained; and that I will in all matters appertaining to my service
duty according to law.

SO HELP ME, GOD.

W. J. Stapleton
Signature of Person Enlisted.

Taken and subscribed at R.A.S. Grounds Sydney in
the State of N.S. Wales
this nineteenth day October of
this year 1915., before me—

W. T. Allan Lieut
Signature of Attesting Officer.

*A person enlisting who objects to taking an oath may make an affirmation in accordance with the Third Schedule of the Act, and the above form must be amended accordingly. All amendments must be initialed by the Attesting Officer.

FIELD SERVICE.

REPORT of Death of a Soldier to be forwarded to the War Office with the least possible delay after receipt of notification of death on Army Form B. 213 or Army Form A. 36 or from other official documentary sources.

REGIMENT } 17TH. BATTALION A.I.F. Squadron, }
 or } Troop, Battery }
 CORPS } or Company }

9m

Regtl. No. 3623 Rank Private

Name STAPLETON, William John.

Date 6th. June 1916
 Died { Place France,
 Cause of Death* Killed in action.

Nature and Date of Report A.F.B.213, dated 10th. June 1916

By whom made Commanding Officer, 17th. Battalion A.I.F.

* Specially state if killed in action, or died from wounds received in action, or from illness due to field operations or to fatigue, privation or exposure while on military duty, or from injury while on military duty.

Place Brewery Orchard Cemetery, Bois Grenier, 4000 yards
 South of Armentieres, France.
 Burial { Date 7th. June 1916
 By whom reported Rev. K.C. Single, attached 20th. Battalion A.I.F.

State whether he leaves a will or not { (a) in Pay Book (Army Book 64) No.
 (b) in Small Book (if at Base) -
 (c) as a separate document -

All private documents and effects received from the front or hospital, as well as the Pay Book, should be examined, and if any will is found it should be at once forwarded to the War Office.

Any information received as to verbal expressions by a deceased soldier of his wishes as to the disposal of his estate should be reported to the War Office as soon as possible.

A duplicate of this Report is to be sent to the Fixed Centre Paymaster at Home, or to the D.F.A.G., Indian Expeditionary Force, or Field Disbursing Officer, as the case may require, together with the deceased's Pay Book (after withdrawal of any will from the latter). If the deceased's Small Book is at the Base, it should be forwarded to the War Office with this Report.

JA Signature of Officer in charge } *H. W. ...* Lieut.
 of Section Adjutant-General's }
 Office at the Base } Officer i/c. 2nd. Aust. Div'l. Records,
 3rd. Echelon, G.H.Q., B.E.F.

Station and Date France, 1st. July 1916

Wt. 12929/4141 400,000 12/15 JFW

Forms B 2090A 1

of STAPLETON William John ³ on Enlistment.

years 9 months
5 feet 8 inches
146 lbs
ment 32 36 inches
Free
Brown R 5/6 L 4/6
Black
omination R.C.

DISTINCTIVE MARKS.

CERTIFICATE OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

Examined the above-named person, and find that he does not present any of the following conditions.

fever; phthisis; syphilis; impaired constitution; defective intelligence; defects of vision, voice, or hearing; hemorrhoids; varicose veins, beyond a limited extent; marked varicocele with unusually pendent testicle; cutaneous disease; chronic ulcers; traces of corporal punishment, or evidence of having been marked with letters D. or B.C.; contracted or deformed chest, abnormal curvature of spine; or any other disease or defect calculated to unfit him for the duties of a soldier.

He can see the required distance with either eye; his heart and lungs are healthy; he has the free use of his hands and limbs; and he declares he is not subject to fits of any description.

I consider him fit for active service.

28/9/15
OWN HALL.

fit
Drappin
Signature of Examining Medical Officer

CERTIFICATE OF COMMANDING OFFICER.

CERTIFY that this Attestation of the above-named person is correct, and that the required forms have been duly filled in and complied with. I accordingly approve, and appoint him to 8th Reinforcements

17th Batta. A. J. F.
10/11/15
Thos. James
Sydney
A. G. James
Commanding 8/17

CARD CHECKED

4

Statement of Service of No. 3623 Name Stapleton W. J.

Stapleton W. J.

Unit in which served.	Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c.	Period of service in each rank.		Remarks.
		From—	To—	
2nd Batt 8th/12th	TAKEN ON STRENGTH FROM	as the petrol 1915. 15.3.16		P. 2 ²⁰ / ₃₆₂₃ 14.4.16
	Killed in Action France	6.6.16		³¹ / ₃₀₆₃ 20.6.16 B2374.
Buried at Brewery Orchard Cemetery Reis, Grenier, 4000 Yds South of Armentieres France reported by Rev. St. G. Single 20th Bn. A. I. F.		7.6.16		³¹ / ₁₄₃ 20.6.16

I have examined the above details and find them correct in every respect.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

Australian Records Section,
3rd. ECHELON, G. H. Q., BRITISH EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

July 11th 1918

EFFECTS OF OFFICERS AND OTHER RANKS.

LATEST REPORT.

Killed in Action. 6/6/16.

Unit. 17th Battalion.
Number. 3823
Rank. Private.
Name. Stapleton W.J.

EFFECTS :-

Disc,
Note books (2),
Religious book,
Beads,

Package No. 168

Mr John Stapleton,
Unanderra,
Wollongong,
N.S.W.

Sp 749

WJ

H. W. W. W.

Lieut.
for, O. C. Australian Records Section,
3rd. ECHELON, G. H. Q., B. E. F.

B. S. D. R. / 210/15,000/15-4-16.

17TH. BATTALION A.I.F.

3623

Private

STAPLETON, William John.

6th. June 1916

France,

Killed in action.

A.F.E. 213, dated 10th. June 1916

Commanding Officer, 17th. Battalion A.I.F.

Brewery Orchard Cemetery, Bois Grenier, 4000 yards
South of Armentieres, France.

7th. June 1916

Rev. K.C. Single, attached 20th. Battalion A.I.F.

No.

-

-

H. W. Wauer

Lieut.

Officer i/c, 2nd. Aust. Div'l. Records,
3rd. Echelon, G.E.Q., B.E.F.

France, 1st. July 1916

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE

Australian Records Section,
3rd. ECHELON, G. H. Q., BRITISH EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

July 11th 1918

EFFECTS OF OFFICERS AND OTHER RANKS.

LATEST REPORT.

Killed in Action. 6/6/18.

Unit. 17th Battalion.

Number. 3623

Rank. Private,

Name. Stapleton W.J.

Ajana

EFFECTS :-

Disc,
Note books (2),
Religious book,
Beads,

Package No. 168

Mr John Stapleton,
Unanderra,
Wollongong,
N.S.W.

Sp 749

JWS

H. W. Owen

Lieut.
for, O. C. Australian Records Section,
3rd. ECHELON, G. H. Q., B. E. F.

B. S. D. R. 310/11,000/18-4-16.

7th November 6.

11692

Dear Sir,

In reply to your communication of the 25th ultimo, please receive herewith, certificate (in duplicate) of report of death of the late No. 3623, Private W. J. Stapleton, 17th Battalion.

The address of deceased prior to enlistment is recorded as,

Unanderra,
South Coast,
N.S.W.

Yours faithfully,

Major.
Officer i/c Base Records.

The Public Trustee,
The Public Trust Office,
Culwulla Chambers,
Castlereagh Street,
SYDNEY, N.S.W.

No. 3623.

Private William John Stapleton,
17th Battalion,
Australian Imperial Force.

xxxxxxx was killed in action,

xx in France,

6th June

16.

Cable No. C.I.B.L.

81, from the Commandant, A.I.F. Headquarters, dated London,
20th June 1916, confirmed by Mail from the Commandant, A.I.F.
Headquarters, dated London, 26th June 1916.

7th November 16.

Major.

COMMUNICATIONS ARE TO BE ADDRESSED TO
THE PUBLIC TRUSTEE, SYDNEY.
TEL. NO. CITY 8523.
St 4924



The Public Trust Office,

Columbia Chambers, 67, Castlereagh Street,

Sydney, N.S.W., 25/10/1916

The Public Trustee can, if appointed, act as a Trustee, Executor, Administrator, Attorney, or Agent.

IN YOUR REPLY THE NAME OF THE ESTATE SHOULD BE QUOTED.

Sir,

Re No 3623. W.J. Stapleton
8th Row 17th Bath AIF

I shall be obliged if you will furnish me with—

1. Certificate in duplicate relating to the death of the abovenamed deceased soldier.
2. The address of the deceased prior to enlistment.
3. ~~The name and address of the person nominated as his next of kin.~~



Yours obediently,

Therese
Public Trustee.

Mrs Morgan
29/10

Major J. M. LEAN,
Officer in Charge,
Base Records,
Dept. of Defence,
MELBOURNE.

31st August 6

82347

Dear Sir,

With reference to the report of the regrettable loss of your son, the late No. 3623, Private W. J. Stapleton, 17th Battalion, I am now in receipt of advice which shows that he was killed in action in France, on the 6th June 1916, and was buried in Brewery Orchard Cemetery, Bois Grenier, 4000 yards South of Armentieres, the Rev. K. C. Single officiating.

These additional details are furnished by direction, it being the policy of the Department to forward all information received in connexion with deaths of members of the Australian Imperial Force.

Yours faithfully,

Major
Officer i/c Base Records.

Mr. J. Stapleton,
Unanderra,
Wollongong, N. S. W.

FIELD SERVICE.

REPORT of Death of a Soldier to be forwarded to the War Office with the least possible delay after receipt of notification of death on Army Form B. 213 or Army Form A. 36 or from other official documentary sources.

REGIMENT } **17TH. BATTALION A.I.F.** Squadron, }
 or } Troop, Battery }
 CORPS } or Company }

Regtl. No. **3623** Rank **Private**

Name **S T A P L E T O N, William John.**

Died { Date **6th. June 1916**
 Place **France,**
 Cause of Death* **Killed in action.**

Nature and Date of Report **A.F.B.213, dated 10th. June 1916**

By whom made **Commanding Officer, 17th. Battalion A.I.F.**

* Specially state if killed in action, or died from wounds received in action, or from illness due to field operations or to fatigue, privation or exposure while on military duty, or from injury while on military duty.

Burial { Place **Brewery Orchard Cemetery, Bois Grenier, 4000 yards**
South of Armentieres, France.
 Date **7th. June 1916**
 By whom reported **Rev. K.C. Single, attached 20th. Battalion A.I.F.**

State whether he leaves a will or not { (a) in Pay Book (Army Book 64) **No.**
 (b) in Small Book (if at Base) **-**
 (c) as a separate document **-**

All private documents and effects received from the front or hospital, as well as the Pay Book, should be examined, and if any will is found it should be at once forwarded to the War Office.

Any information received as to verbal expressions by a deceased soldier of his wishes as to the disposal of his estate should be reported to the War Office as soon as possible.

A duplicate of this Report is to be sent to the Fixed Centre Paymaster at Home, or to the D.F.A.G., Indian Expeditionary Force, or Field Disbursing Officer, as the case may require, together with the deceased's Pay Book (after withdrawal of any will from the latter). If the deceased's Small Book is at the Base, it should be forwarded to the War Office with this Report.

Signature of Officer in charge }
 of Section Adjutant-General's }
 Office at the Base }

H. W. ... **Lieut.**
Officer i/c. 2nd. Aust. Div'l. Records,
3rd. Echelon, G.H.Q., B.E.F.

Station and Date **France, 1st. July 1916**

JML/EZ

35709

14th July

6

The Deputy Postmaster-General,
General Post Office,
Sydney, N.S.W.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge receipt of your communication of the 10th inst/, and to state that according to the records No. 3623 Private W. J. Stapleton, 17th Battalion, was killed in action in France on 6.6.16.

He was 23 years of age on 28.9.15, single, postal assistant by calling, and his next-of-kin is recorded as:-

Mr. John Stapleton (father),
Unanderra, N.S.W.

Yours faithfully,

Major.
Officer i/c Base Records.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

D9304
GRB
12/7

POSTMASTER GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT,
GENERAL POST OFFICE,

SYDNEY, 10th July, 1916.

REGISTERED No. _____
In any further correspondence on this subject
the above number should be quoted.

St 1656

NEW SOUTH WALES.

The Officer-in-Charge,
Base Records,

Victoria Barracks,
MELBOURNE.

Sir,

I have to intimate that it was reported in the 183rd Casualty List, appearing in the daily papers of 8th instant, that Private W. J. Stapleton, Wollongong, has been "killed in action". I shall be glad if you will kindly advise me whether this refers to No. 3623 Private William John Stapleton, 8th Reinforcements, 17th Battalion, 5th Brigade, who enlisted in October last, and embarked on active service on 20th December last; also state the date of his death.

BASE RECORDS
12 JUL 16

Yours faithfully,

E. Young

Deputy Postmaster-General.

[Signature]

19
10
15

Original
Duplicate

Application to Enlist in the Australian Imperial Force

To the Recruiting Officer

(OFFICIAL STAMP)

at **TOWN HALL**

I, William John Stapleton
hereby offer myself for Enlistment in the Australian Imperial Force for Active Service
Abroad, and undertake to enlist in the manner prescribed, if I am accepted by the
Military Authorities, within one month from date hereof.

POSTAL ADDRESS <u>Mananderra South Coast N.S. Wales</u>	Signature <u>WJ Stapleton</u>
	Occupation <u>Postal Assistant</u>
	Date <u>28/9/15</u>

(For Identification purposes the above space should be filled in personally by the Applicant.)

CONSENT OF PARENTS OR GUARDIANS (For Persons under 21 years of Age)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I approve of the above application, and consent to the
enlistment of my ^{son} _{ward} for Active Service Abroad.

Statement regarding Death or Absence of either or both Parents.	Father's Signature _____
	Mother's Signature _____
	or Guardian's Signature _____

PERSONAL PARTICULARS

Age— <u>23</u> yrs. <u>9</u> mos.	Height— <u>5</u> ft. <u>8</u> ins	Chest Measurement (fully expanded) <u>32-36</u> inches
Married. <input type="checkbox"/> Widower. <input type="checkbox"/> Single. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Weight <u>146</u>	

PRELIMINARY MEDICAL EXAMINATION

Decision of Medical Authority FIT for Active Service
 UNFIT, for the following reasons:—

R 76 2 9/6
Eyes
Complexion
Hair
Religious Denomination

Place TOWN HALL	Signature <u>Stapleton</u>
Date <u>28/9/15</u>	Signature of Medical Authority
I Concur	

Place _____	Signature of M.O. at Central Recruiting Depot _____
Date _____	

CERTIFICATE OF RECRUITING OFFICER

I CERTIFY that I have this day provisionally Accepted Rejected this applicant for enlistment
in the Australian Imperial Force.

Place TOWN HALL	Signature <u>J.C. Timothy Major</u>
Date <u>28/9/15</u>	Recruiting Officer

[OVER

INSTRUCTIONS.

(1) Application forms received by Recruiting Officers will not be handed back again to applicants but will be passed direct to the Medical Practitioner, who will similarly return them to the Recruiting Officer, who will then forward them by post to the Officer in Charge of the Central Recruiting Depot to which recruits are instructed by them to Report.

(2) If an Applicant who has been rejected desires a copy of this certificate, it must be completed in duplicate at the time of Medical Examination, and the word "original" or "duplicate," as the case may be, will appear on top of the respective forms. Both copies will be forwarded to the Officer in Charge of the Central Recruiting Depot, where the duplicate will be impressed with the official stamp and then returned to the applicant.

(3) Copies will NOT be made of any certificates of acceptance. The word "Duplicate" will be struck out of such certificates, and they will be sent to the Officer in Charge of the Central Recruiting Depot by post.

(4) Names of accepted applicants who do not report at Central Recruiting Depot within the prescribed time will be forwarded to the Local Recruiting Officer for information.

(5) When alternatives are shown on the front of the form such as:—

Fit	Son	Married	Original
Unfit	Ward	Widower	Duplicate
		Single	

 strike out the words which are not applicable.

(6) Only those persons who fulfil the requirements in all other respects will be examined regarding medical fitness. These requirements may be ascertained by reference to daily newspapers and official posters.

(7) The Central Recruiting Depot to which accepted applicants from various places will be sent for final medical examination will be determined by District Commandants. Recruiting Officers at outlying places will require to issue clear instructions to such applicants informing them where and when to report, and will forward the application forms in time to ensure that they will be in the hands of the Officer in Charge of the Central Recruiting Depot when the recruit reports for enlistment.

Spaces for identification by means of hand-writing.

Casualty Form—Active Service.

Regiment or Corps 17th. BATTALION A.I.F.

Regimental No. 3623 Rank Pte. Name STAPLETON, W.J.

Enlisted (a) 28.9.15 Terms of Service (a) _____ Service reckons from (a) _____

Date of promotion } to present rank } Date of appointment } Numerical position on }
to lance rank } to lance rank } roll of N.C.Os. }

Extended _____ Re-engaged _____ Qualification (b) _____

Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents.
Date	From whom received				
17.3.16	C.O.	Taken on strength ex 8th.Reinforcements	Alexandria	15.3.16	B.213, Q25, 0.20/2208
		Embarked to join B.E.F. Disembarked	"	17.3.16 23.3.16	L.R.5079
10.6.16	C.O.	Killed in action	France	6.6.16	B.213, AQ.562, 0.31/3065 Cable, CIBL 81 dated 20.6.16
	Grave Site Return	Buried at Brewery Orchard Cemetery, Bois Grenier, 4000 yards South of Armentieres, France, Reported by Rev.K.C.Single, 20th.Bn. A.I.F.	"	7.6.16	AT.1410 0.31/3143.

W.E. Wannen
Lieut.
Officer i/c. 2nd. Aust. Div'l. Records,
3rd. Echelon, G.H.Q., B.E.F.

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered.
(b) s.d. Signaller, Shooting Smith, etc., etc., also special qualifications in technical Corps duties.

Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A-36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents.
Date	From whom received				

1459-15-6. D10315
Army Form B. 103.
3623

Casualty Form - Active Service.

Regimental No. 3623 Regiment of Corps 8/17 Bn
 Rank SM Name Stapleton W J
 Enlisted (a) 28.9.15 Terms of Service (a) _____
 Date of promotion to present rank _____
 Extended _____
 Re-engaged _____
 Service reckons from (a) _____
 Numerical position on roll of N.C.O's. _____

REPORT		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, &c., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36 or other official documents.
Date	From whom received				
10/6/16	grave site Return	EMBKO ALEXANDRIA TO JOHN B. L. P-17 / 3 / 16 taken on transport from 8th Bn Killed in action Buried at Bismarck Dickard barracks, Port Moresby 1000 yds by Amherst Reported by RA H.B. Suiga	France	23/8/16	DISBKD WAFSELLTS. 23/8/16 L.R. 5079
				15.3.16	AP. CIBL 4/2016
				6.6.16	AP. CIBL 4/2016
				7.6.16	AP. CIBL 4/2016

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D. Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered.
 (b) e.g., Signaller, Shoeing Smith, &c., &c., also special qualifications in technical Corps duties. (P.T.O.)

REPORT		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, &c., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form -B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents.
Date	From whom received				

15 12 6.

BASE RECORDS OFFICE,
VICTORIA BARRACKS,
MELBOURNE, /191 .

Sir,

Deals one

the ~~letter No. 4623~~ ~~printed on~~ ~~staple~~ ~~envelopes~~ ~~listed~~ ~~below~~ . .
package containing ~~received~~ ~~effects~~ "A" ~~of~~ .

as per inventory attached,
the enclosed printed receipt slip,
I shall be much obliged if you will kindly let me
by signing and returning

Mr. J. M. LEAM, Major
Unanderra,
Wollongong, N.S.W. Yours faithfully,

J. M. LEAM, Major
Officer i/c Base Records.

Enclosure.

Registered Packet No. 1088
G. P. O. Melbourne.

Bois. Grenier
Staff St
Hollongong

Dear Sir

Please find Enclosed the Sum of
one Shilling in Stamps & Kindly Send me
two Copies of my Son's Grave & oblige
Eleanor Stapleton



1/- stamps
mb

3/ Indexed
5/5/22/S

Wollongong

23-11-21

The Officer in charge
Base Records
Victoria Barracks
Melbourne

Sir

Any further correspondence
Please address to: J. Stapleton
Staff St
Wollongong

DECEASED
SECTION

NOV 29 1921

RECEIVED

9/30/11

as I have left Melbourne I
am now living at Wollongong



Handwritten note in red ink:
The note is written in red ink and appears to be a signature or initials, possibly 'G. [unclear]'.

I remain

Yours faithfully
J. Stapleton
Staff St
Wollongong

JML/EH

11th June, 1919.

PERSONAL.

Dear Sir,

I have to acknowledge your letter of the 5th inst., concerning the late No. 3623 Private W.J. Stapleton, 17th Battalion, and have preferred your request for a photograph of deceased's grave to Australian Imperial Force Headquarters, London, for favour of attention at the earliest possible moment.

We have, as you are probably aware, a special section locating and photographing graves as fast as circumstances will admit, and batches are coming to hand by every mail; two copies are being sent to next-of-kin.

I have submitted the above case for early and special treatment.

Yours faithfully,

J.W. Abigail, Esq.,
Solicitor

Stephen Court
77 & 79 Elizabeth Street,
SYDNEY,
N.S.W.

Major,
Officer i/c Base Records.

JAMES W. ABIGAIL,

SOLICITOR.

Telephones:

CITY OFFICE: - - - 550 CITY
BRANCH OFFICE - (NEWTOWN) L 1163
PRIVATE ADDRESS - (MOESMAN) Y 1092

Personal
Stephen Court
77 & 79 Elizabeth Street
(Near King Street),

FIRST FLOOR OVER COMMERCIAL BANK

Sydney, 5th June 1919.

Major Lean,
Officer in charge Base Records,
Victoria Barracks,
Melbourne, Victoria.

Dear Sir,

I would be much obliged if you would inform me whether it is possible to get a photograph of the grave of a friend of mine who is buried in the British cemetery at Bois Grenaires in France. My late friend's name was Private Will J. Stapleton, and his regimental number was 3623 of 17th Battalion, A.I.F. He was killed in action on the 6th June 1916. I am interesting myself really on behalf of his bereaved parents to whom it would be a great comfort if they could have a photo seeing that it is impossible for them to ever have the consolation of personally visiting his graveside. I need hardly assure you of their and my own grateful appreciation if you will be good enough to suggest to me some means by which I can procure a photo.

Yours faithfully,

J. W. Abigail

*True psc
Jmm*



RECEIPT FOR MEMORIAL PLAQUE.

Received from the Officer i/c Base Records, Army Head-quarters,
one Memorial Plaque and King's Message in connexion with the late

3623 Private W.J. STAPLETON,

17th. Battalion. A.I.F.

Signature

John Stapleton

Date

30-4-22

This slip to be returned to the Officer in Charge, Base Records, Victoria Barracks, Melbourne, Victoria,
within seven (7) days.

C.15223.

National Archives of Australia

NAA: B2455, STAPLETON WILLIAM JOHN

AF. RECEIPT SLIP FOR MEMORIAL SCROLL.

Received from the Officer i/c Base Records, Department of Defence, one Memorial Scroll and King's Message, in connexion with the late No. 3623 Private W.J. Stapleton,

17th Battalion,

(Signature)

J. Stapleton

(Date)

26-11-21

to be returned to the Officer in Charge, Base Records, Victoria Barracks, Melbourne, Victoria, within seven (7) days.

DECEASED SECTION
NOV 29 1921
RECEIVED
BASE RECORDS
D.1976/7.21.-C.10202.

National Archives of Australia

NAA: B2455, STAPLETON WILLIAM JOHN

Base Records
Staff St

To the Secretary
Base Records
Walbourne

Dear Sir

I am sorry to relate that I have
lost the Grave Registration Paper
in reference to Private W J Stapleton
would it be possible for me to obtain
another which we will sign & return together
with Postal note for amount named

I am very Sincerely
Eleanor Stapleton



E. W.

M. 54/921

XXXX 4780

9 - OCT 1924

Dear Sir,

At the request of the Imperial War Graves Commission I am forwarding herewith a circular order form relative to the purchase of copies of the register of BREWERY ORCHARD CEMETERY, FRANCE, wherein the remains of your son, the late No. 3623 Pte. W. J. Stapleton, 17th Battalion, are interred.

Should you desire to obtain one or more copies of this register, kindly complete the enclosed application form and return same direct to

The Secretary,
Department of Defence,
Victoria Barracks,
Melbourne.

accompanied by remittance (Postal Note) to the value of 3/- per copy required.

Prompt attention will be given to orders received in this connection, and the registers will be forwarded post free to applicants without delay.

Mr. J. Stapleton,
Staff Street,
WOLLONGONG. N.S.W.

Yours faithfully,

Captain,
Officer i/c Base Records.

JB/TC

xxx 4780

25 OCT 1924

DESPATCHED

Dear Madam,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your recent communication, relative to the loss of the printed order form forwarded in connection with the publication of the register of the Brewery Orchard Cemetery, wherein the remains of your son, the late No. 3623 Private W.J. Stapleton, 17th Battalion, are interred, and in reply to inform you that in the circumstances it will only be necessary for you to submit a written application for the number of copies required and address same direct to -

The Receiver of Public Moneys,
Department of Defence,
Victoria Barracks,
Melbourne.

accompanied by remittance to the value of three shillings (3/-) per copy required, when the matter will receive early attention.

Yours faithfully,

Captain,
Officer i/c Base Records.

Mrs. E. Stapleton,
"Bois Grenier"
Staff St,
WOLLONGONG. N.S.W.

STAPLETON

WILLIAM JOHN (Pte)

8/17th Btn

Surname:

Other Names:

Regimental No.

Unit.

3623

WAR GRATUITY SCHEDULE
PURPORT 2/2/1918

AUTHORITY.

Embarked at Sydney per H.M.A.T. A60 "AENEAS" on 20/12/15.

15/3/16 Taken on strength from Rfts.

6/6/16 Killed in Action France.

7/6/16 Buried at Brewery Orchard Cemetery, Bois Grenier 4000 yards South of Armentieres France. Reported by Rev. K.C. Single, 20th Em. A.I.F.

BEFO 20/1-16

BEFO 31/1-16

BEFO 31/5-16

National Archives of Australia

NAA: B2455, STAPLETON WILLIAM JOHN

AUTHORITY.

PURPORT.

National Archives of Australia

NAA: B2455, STAPLETON WILLIAM JOHN

3623 ✓

Pte Stapleton W. J.

17th. Battalion ✓



183 Reported killed in action 6/6/16 C. I. B. 8/16/324 SA London 20/6/16

CONFIRMATION RECEIVED OF

Cable No. 62192 81 vide 182 60 26.6.16

26/6/16 M. C. 2 Advised killed 6/6/16

6.7.16 COPY MADE FOR WAR PENSIONS

10 7 16 DPMG Sydney asking if above identical with enquiry 127

14.7.16 Reply sent letter 10/7/16

6/6/16 Killed in action in France, & was buried in Brewery Orchard Cem. Bois Genier 4000 yds South of Armentieres, France. on 4/6/16, The Rev. H. b. Single off. A.F. B. 2090A Received.

31 8 16 Non advised re AF B2090A.

25 10 16 Public Trustee asking for details @ address Enlist. 371

18/12/16 PERSONAL EFFECTS EX. "Ajana"

1/5/16 copy made
20/12/16
513

Extract from folder of photo of grave of:

Buried Brewery Orchard British Cem. Bois

() Grenier Plot 4 Row C.9.

W

Transferred to



AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

No. 7623

Rank Pte Name Stapleton W. J.

Unit 17th Battalion

Casualty 183 Reported Killed in Action 6-6-16 CIBL 81/5324^A London 20/6/16
6-6-16 Killed in action in France & Buried in Brewery Orchard Cemetery Bois Fernie 4000 Yds South of Amontevins France on 7-6-16 Pte. H.C. Singh officiating A. F. B. 2090A Received, A. F. B. 103 Received

DATE.	PURPORT.	REF. NO.
26 6 16	MC 3 AD Advise Killad 6.6.16	
6 7 16	COPY MADE FOR WAR PENSIONS CONFIRMATION RECEIVED OF Cable No. <u>CIBL 81 Veda 182 P 76-6-16</u>	
10 7 16	APMA Sydney asking if labor. Identical with enquiry	
14 7 16	Reply sent to 10.7.16	
21 8 16	No K Advise re AF B 2090A.	
25 10 16	Public Trustee asking for D/C's 2 and Priv Ent.	
18 12 16	PERSONAL EFFECTS EX "AJANA"	
7 11 16	D/C's sent to Pub. Trustee 27/10/16	
15 12 16	No K Advise of Effects fwd ^d .	
	Referred to London Re Photo of Grave..... 1919.	
	Circular B.R.M. 46/1968 & Booklet re Graves despatched 14/12/19 in duplicate	
26/3 20	PHOTOGRAPH OF GRAVE TRANSMITTED TO NEXT OF KIN. B. R. M. No. 13/1379 1ms	

WAR HISTORY INDEX



"WHERE THE AUSTRALIANS REST"
Pamphlet sent to W. J. Stapleton on 28/10/21



BRITISH WAR MEDAL to Comdt..... M.D.E.R.M. 58/1448

LIST.

MEMORIAL
PLAQUE
To
Father Duesch
W. J. Stapleton
310314
7/4/22

MEMORIAL
SCROLL
To
Father
W. J. Stapleton
310314
10. 11. 21 1922

Despatched 10/11/21

26.7.22 PHOTOGRAPH OF GRAVE (3) TRANSMITTED TO NEXT OF KIN, B. R. M. No. 48/94 (order No 9) 116

12 FEB 1923

VICTORY MEDAL to Father B. R. P. F. 42
Registered Post No. 1675 & P. O. Melbourne.