

**Kingston-Upon-Thames Cemetery,
Surrey, England
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



E. BEGLEY

AUSTRALIAN MUNITION WORKER

6TH AUGUST, 1917

Edwin (Ted) BEGLEY

Edwin Begley was born on 21st April, 1870 at Lutterworth, Leicestershire, England along with his twin brother Edward Begley to parents William & Eliza Begley (nee Holyoak). Their births were registered in the June quarter, 1870 in the registration district of Lutterworth.

The 1871 England Census recorded Edwin & Edward Begley as 11 month old twin brothers, living with their parents at Beast Market, Lutterworth, Leicestershire, England. Their parents were listed as William Begley (Chimney Sweeper, aged 47, born Lutterworth, Leicestershire) & Eliza Begley (aged 40, Lutterworth, Leicestershire). Eight children were listed on this Census (all born Lutterworth, Leicestershire) – Louisa (Servant, aged 17), Susan E. (Scholar, aged 13), William (Scholar, aged 10), Arthur (Scholar, aged 7), Annie (Scholar, aged 5) Frank (aged 3) & twins Edward & Edwin. Also listed was George Fennel (Servant – Chimney Sweeper, aged 16).

The 1881 England Census recorded Edwin Begley as a 10 year old Scholar, living with his family at Beast Market, Lutterworth, Leicestershire, England. His parents were listed as William Begley (Chimney Cleaner, aged 55) & Eliza Begley (aged 48). Edwin was one of six children listed on this Census – William Begley (Shepherd, aged 20), Arthur Begley (Chimney Cleaner, aged 17), Annie E. Begley (Domestic Servant (Housemaid), aged 15), Frank Begley (Errand Boy, aged 13) & Edwin's twin brother Edward Begley (Scholar, aged 10).

William Begley, father of Edwin & Edward Begley, died on 21st May, 1888 at Lutterworth, Leicestershire.

The 1891 England Census recorded Edwin Begley as a 20 year old Carpenter & Joiner boarding at 31 Dunderdale Street. Head of the household was John Cooke (Carpenter & Joiner, aged 38, born Stepney, London) & his wife Elizabeth A. Cooke (aged 36, born Lutterworth, Leicestershire). Also listed was Emma Begley – listed as a visitor (General Servant, aged 33, born Lutterworth, Leicestershire).

Edwin Begley married Susannah Sawley on 12th July, 1894 in St Peter's Church, Burnley, Lancashire, England. Edwin was recorded as a 24 year old Joiner from 22 Burton Street & Susannah as a 22 year old Weaver from 22 Burton Street.

Arthur Begley, son of Edwin & Susannah Begley, was born on 3rd August, 1896 at Preston, Lancashire, England.

Frank Begley, son of Edwin & Susannah Begley, was born on 16th September, 1898 at Preston, Lancashire, England.

Edwin Begley, son of Edwin & Susannah Begley, was born in June quarter, 1900 at Preston, Lancashire, England.

The 1901 England Census recorded Edwin Begley as a 30 year old, married Joiner (Carpenter), living with his wife – Susannah Begley (aged 29, born Worsthorpe, Lancashire) at 6 St. Martin's Road, Preston, Lancashire, England. Also listed were Edwin & Susannah's three children (all born Preston, Lancashire) – Arthur (aged 4), Frank (aged 2) & Edwin (aged 11 months).

John Begley, son of Edwin & Susannah Begley, was born on 11th June, 1902 at Preston, Lancashire, England.

William Begley, son of Edwin & Susannah Begley, was born on 17th April, 1906 at Preston, Lancashire, England.

Eliza Begley, mother of Edwin & Edward Begley, died in 1908 at Horsham, Sussex, England.

An "*Edwin Begley*", machinist, was listed as a passenger on *Otway* which had departed from the port of London, England on 24th June, 1910 bound for Australia. All passengers listed on the page had contracted to land at Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.

The 1911 England Census recorded Sussannah Begley as a 39 year old married woman living at 24 Russell Street, Burnley, Lancashire, England in a 4 roomed dwelling. She had been married for 16 years & had 6 children – 1 who had since died. Five children were listed on this Census – Arthur (Apprentice Reedmaker, aged 14), Frank (School part-time, Milk Lad, aged 12), Edwin (At School, aged 10), John (At School, aged 8) & William Begley (aged 4).

Mrs Begley, Housewife, & her 5 children – Arthur, Frank (Arthur & Frank were aged 12 & up), Edwin, John & William (Edwin, John & William were listed as children between 1 & 12) were passengers on the S.S. *Pakeha* which departed from the port of Liverpool, England on 13th April, 1911. The Ship was bound for New Zealand but all passengers listed on the page had contracted to land at Fremantle, Western Australia. The S.S. *Pakeha* arrived at the port of Fremantle, Western Australia on 18th May, 1911.

The 1913 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Perth, subdivision of Balkatta, Western Australia recorded Edwin Begley, Joiner & his wife Susannah Begley, of 14 Harwood Place, Perth.

The 1914 Western Australia Directory recorded Edwin Begley, Ilma Street, Mt. Hawthorn.

The 1915, 1916 & 1917 1919 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Perth, subdivision of Balkatta, Western Australia recorded Edwin Begley, Joiner & his wife Susannah Begley, of Ilma Street, North Perth.

The 1916, 1917 1918 Australian Rate Book – North Perth Ward – recorded Edwin Begley of 20 Fairfield Street.

Edwin Begley applied for enrolment as an Australian Munitions Worker in Great Britain. He was given a Munition Worker number of 2162.

[Unfortunately the Munition Worker's file for Edwin Begley was not opened for free viewing at the time of research so there is limited information available]

Newspaper item – *Westralian Worker*, Perth, Western Australia – 11 May, 1917

Munition Workers

Among those who are going home shortly as munition workers are three well-known residents – Messrs E. Begley, K. Dowie and Fred. James (North Beach-road). Each has one or more sons in the trenches, and consider it their duty to keep the lads supplied with the necessary munitions.

Edwin Begley embarked from Australia on 22nd May, 1917 on Transport *Benalla* & arrived at Plymouth, England on 19th July, 1917.

Australian Munitions Worker Edwin Begley died on 6th August, 1917 at Victoria Hospital, Kingston, Surrey, England. (details from Burial Records from All Saints Church, Kingston Upon Thames) Cause of death – heart failure (from Memorial Notice in newspaper)

A death for Edwin Begley, aged 47, was registered in the September quarter, 1917 in the district of Kingston, Surrey, England.

Australian Munitions Worker Edwin Begley was buried on 10th August, 1917 in Kingston-Upon-Thames Cemetery, Surrey, England – Plot number C. 3671 & has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Newspaper item – *Westralian Worker*, Perth, Western Australia – 7 September, 1917:

Mt. Hawthorn Notes

(By "Advance")

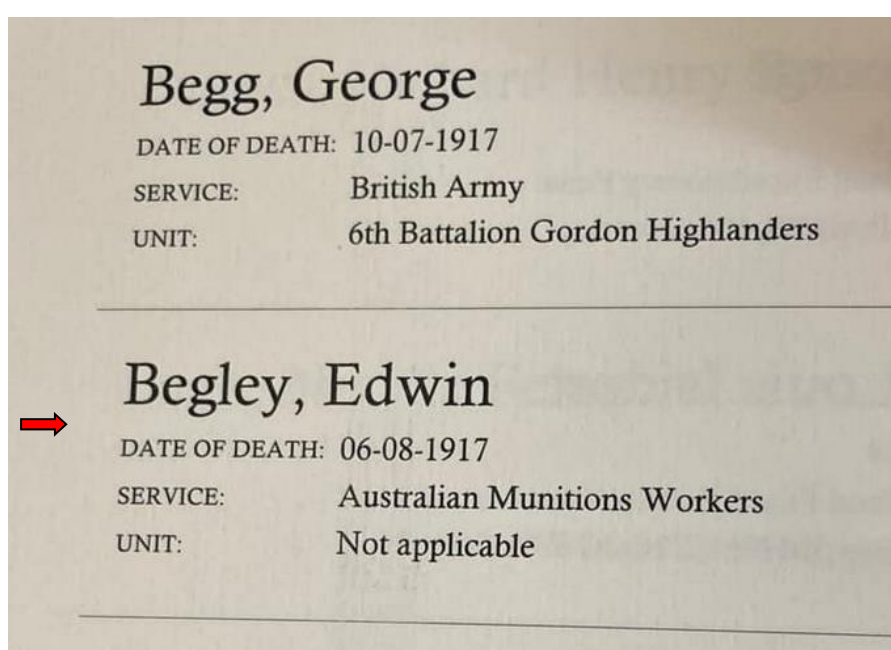
Widespread regret was expressed last week, when it became known that Mr. Edwin Begley, who left with a party of carpenters to take up munition work in England a couple of months ago, had died of heart failure a fortnight after landing in the Old Country. The late Mr. Begley was a sterling unionist, and an enthusiastic worker in the Labor movement, and his untimely death is sincerely regretted by all who knew him. He leaves a widow and five sons, three of whom are on active service—Arthur (wounded) and Frank being in France and Edwin in the Australian Navy. The sincerest sympathy is extended to Mrs Begley in her sad bereavement.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Worker Edwin Begley – service number 2162, Australian Munitions Worker. No family details are listed.

Australian Munitions Worker Edwin Begley is remembered on the Commemorative Roll Book, located in the Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra. The Commemorative Roll records the names of those Australians who died during or as a result of wars in which Australians served, but who were not serving in the Australian Armed Forces and therefore not eligible for inclusion on the Roll of Honour.



Commemorative Roll (Photo from AWM)



Edwin Begley's name in the Commemorative Roll Book (Photo courtesy of Trevor Holdsworth – great grandson)

Edwin Bedgley is remembered on the Western Australian Museum's Welcome Walls at Fremantle – Panel 29. Over 400 panels commemorating the names of migrants who arrived through Fremantle or Albany have been erected at the Western Australian Maritime Museum at Victoria Quay.

Susannah Begley is named on Panel 28; Arthur Begley is named on Panel 34; John Begley is named on Panel 204.



Example of Western Australian Maritime Museum Welcome Walls (Photo by Greg O'Beirne)

Australian Munitions Workers

Men enlisted under a joint Australian Commonwealth - Imperial Government scheme for providing skilled Australian workers to British war industries during the First World War. Under this scheme the volunteers would receive free passage to Great Britain, an allowance for travel time, a special allowance for the duration of service, and eventual repatriation to Australia. Married men also received a separation allowance, but were required to allot a portion of all their earnings to dependants. The men were expected to work in whatever industries they were directed to by the British Board of Trade, and under the prevailing conditions and wages for the duration of hostilities.

Government newspaper adverts appeared in August, 1916, and the first party of 76 workers departed Australia in September. Groups continued to be recruited and sent at intervals, with the eventual number of workers under the scheme totalling just over 5,000. Almost 1,000 of these had already been working in Britain under private agreements with large firms such as Vickers, and were brought under the conditions of the scheme. An additional 200 former AIF soldiers were also recruited in Britain. Initially only skilled workers were sought, however at the request of the British Government later groups included large numbers of navvies for general labouring.

These men were not members of the Australian Imperial Forces and did not serve in combat units, but were recruited to meet the shortfall in skilled labour that threatened many of Britain's key wartime industries including munitions.

(Source: Australian War Memorial)



*** Note – The Service Record file for Edwin Begley, Australian Munition Worker No. 2162, had not been purchased at the time of researching from National Archives, Australia. Once the file is purchased it is then open for all to view on-line.*

Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial & National Archives





MR. E. BEGLEY.
(Father, munition worker.)

(Western Mail, Perth, Western Australia – 27 July, 1917)



MR. E. BEGLEY.
(Father, munition worker.)



PTE. FRANK BEGLEY.
(On active service.)



PTE. ARTHUR BEGLEY.
(Wounded, now in Eastbourne
Hospital, England.)



"BOY" E. BEGLEY.
(Serving with the Australian
Navy.)

HUSBAND AND THREE SONS OF MRS. BEGLEY, OF FAIRFIELD-STREET, MOUNT HAWTHORN

Newspaper Notices

The newspapers at the time were encouraged not to report munition explosions or deaths through TNT poisoning as it would affect the morale of the civilian population and so reports in newspapers are virtually non-existent. When the war ended the Australians returned home and life moved on.

MUNITION WORKERS

AUSTRALIANS IN GREAT BRITAIN

Melbourne, Thursday.

The Minister for Defence (Senator Pearce) announces that during the period from the inception of the schemes for the despatch of munition workers and navvies to Great Britain up to June 30 last, 2662 munition workers had been disembarked in England for employment on munition and war work. There had also been enrolled under the munition workers' scheme 124 men who had been discharged from the A.I.F. in England for that purpose, and two discharged A.I.F. men had enrolled under the navvies' agreement, making the total number of men engaged in work in Great Britain under both these schemes 4,998. Of this number 384 men had returned to Australia – the majority on account of ill-health. There had been 23 deaths. The agreement of 38 men had been cancelled for disciplinary and other reasons. Six of the men had enlisted in the A.I.F., in England, five men had enlisted in the Royal Navy, and nine men had enlisted in the British Army, leaving the total number of men still in England under the Commonwealth agreement as 4,533. In addition these men were registered on the index held in Australia House 674 Australian munition workers who proceeded to Great Britain under private contract prior to the inauguration of the Commonwealth scheme. Of the men still in England on June 30, 1918, 87 were waiting return up to that date, 152 men had proceeded to France to engage in special work, and 107 of them had returned again to England. Australian munition workers were employed at 409 different firms or centres, and navvies at 192, and the value of the output produced by the labour of these men was estimated at £6,000,000.

Provision for the payment of munition workers and navvies who proceeded to Great Britain on war work under the agreement with the Commonwealth Government is made in an amendment to the war financial regulations issued today. Munition workers and navvies are to be provided with a free passage from Australia to Great Britain and back. In the case of munition workers a dependants' allowance of 25s a week, with allowances for children, will be made for the first eight weeks after embarkation. Subsequently the allowance will be 20s. Separation allowances equal to that paid in the case of a private in the A.I.F. will be paid to dependants.

(Examiner, Launceston, Tasmania – 30 August, 1918)

DEATHS

BEGLEY – On August 11, at Victoria Hospital, Kingston on Thames, England, of heart failure, Edwin Begley, beloved husband of Mrs Begley, father of Arthur (wounded), Frank (on active service), Edwin (of H.M.A.S. Cerberus) and Jack and Willie, of 29 Fairfield-street, Mt. Hawthorn, in his 48th year. At rest.

BEGLEY – On August 11, at Victoria Hospital, Kingston on Thames, England, of heart failure, Edwin Begley, brother-in-law of Ethel Sawley, uncle of Mrs A. McKay, Cottesloe, in his 48th year.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 30 August, 1917)

DECEASED PERSONS' ESTATES

PROBATES AND ADMINISTRATIONS

Perth, April 18.

Amongst the probates, etc., granted by the Supreme Court during the week were the following:-

... Edwin Begley, late of Perth, to Susannah Begley, £320

(Western Argus, Kalgoorlie, Western Australia – 23 April, 1918)

IN MEMORIAM

Anzac Heroes

BEGLEY – In loving memory of my dear husband and our dear father, Edwin (Ted) Begley, who died on August 6, 1917, in the Cottage Hospital, Kingston-on-Thames, England.

Some day we will understand.

Inserted by his loving wife and family, Fairfield-street, Mount Hawthorn.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 6 August, 1918)

IN MEMORIAM

BEGLEY – In loving memory of my dear husband and our dear father, Edwin (Ted) Begley, who died in Kingston-on-Thames Cottage Hospital, August 6, 1917.

Some day we will understand.

Inserted by his loving wife and family, Fairfield-street, Mount Hawthorn.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 6 August, 1919)

IN MEMORIAM

BAGLEY – In loving memory of my dear husband and our dear father, Edwin (Ted) Bagley, who died on August 6, 1917, at Kingston-on-Thames.

Ever remembered.

Inserted by his loving wife, sons, and daughter-in-law.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 6 August, 1920)

IN MEMORIAM

BAGLEY – In loving memory of my dear husband and our dear father, Edwin (Ted) Bagley, who died on August 6, 1917, at Kingston-on-Thames.

Ever remembered.

Inserted by his loving wife, sons, and daughter-in-law.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 6 August, 1921)

IN MEMORIAM

BEGLEY – In loving memory of our dear husband and father, Edwin Begley, who departed this life on August 6, 1917, at Kingston-on-Thames, England.

-Inserted by his loving wife and family.

(Sunday Times, Perth, Western Australia – 6 August, 1922)

IN MEMORIAM

BEGLEY – In loving memory of our dear father, Edwin Begley, who departed this life August 6, 1917, at Kingston on Thames.

Ever remembered

-Inserted by his loving son and daughter-in-law.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 7 August, 1922)

IN MEMORIAM

BEGLEY – In loving memory of my dear husband, and our dear father, Edwin (Ted) Begley, who died August 6, 1917, at Kingston on Thames.

Ever remembered by his loving wife, sons and daughter-in-law.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 6 August, 1923)

IN MEMORIAM

BEGLEY – In loving memory of my dear husband and our dear father, Edwin Begley, who died at the Cottage Hospital Kingston on Thames, on August 6, 1917

Ever remembered by his loving wife, sons, and daughters-in-law.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 6 August, 1924)

IN MEMORIAM

Anzac Heroes

BEGLEY – In loving memory of Edwin (Ted.) Begley, who died on August 6, 1917, at Kingston-on-Thames, England.

Ever remembered by his loving wife, sons, and daughters-in-law.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 6 August, 1926)

DEATHS

BEGLEY – On March 23, at Perth Hospital, Susannah (widow of the late Edwin Begley), of 20 Fairfield-street, Mt. Hawthorn, loving mother of Arthur, Franck, Edwin, John and William and sister of Mrs C. A. Crews (Mt. Hawthorn); aged 55 years.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 24 March, 1927)

IN MEMORIAM

BEGLEY – In loving memory of our dear father, Edwin Begley, who died August 6, 1917, at Kingston-on-Thames, England, also our dear mother, who died March 23, 1927.

Ever remembered by their loving son, daughter and grandchildren, Berna and Edwin.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 6 August, 1927)

IN MEMORIAM

BEGLEY – In loving memory of our dear father, Edwin (Ted) Begley, who departed this life on August 6, 1917, at Kingston-on-Thames, England. Ever remembered.

Inserted by his loving sons and daughters-in-law.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 6 August, 1928)

IN MEMORIAM

Anzac Heroes

BEGLEY – In loving memory of our dear father and grandfather Edwin (Ted) Begley, who died on August 6, 1917, at Kingston-on-Thames, England.

Ever remembered by his loving sons, daughters-in-law and grandchildren.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 6 August, 1929)

Edwin Begley is remembered on the family headstone in Karrakatta Cemetery, Nedlands City, Western Australia – Anglican KA 0344. The grave holds the remains of Arthur Edwin Begley, William Begley & Susannah Begley. The grantee for the grave is Edwin Joseph Begley.

A separate Memorial Plaque is located on the grave for Edwin Begley who died in England on 6th August, 1917. There was no charge for the memorial & no record of who organised it.

Edwin Begley's Memorial Plaque is part of Karrakatta Cemetery's Historical Walk Trail One – Location 18.



(Photos courtesy of Metropolitan Cemeteries Board)



Begley Family Grave – Arthur Edwin, William & Susannah

*(Photos courtesy of Metropolitan Cemeteries Board –
photos from their system – date unknown)*





(Photos courtesy of Metropolitan Cemeteries Board)



Begley Family Grave – Arthur Edwin, William & Susannah

(Photo from Find a Grave – Aussiegenie – July, 2014)



(Photo from Find a Grave – Aussiegenie – July, 2014)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) honours the 1,700,000 men and women of the forces of the Commonwealth who died in the two world wars and ensures that their memory is never forgotten. The applicable periods of consideration are 4 August 1914 to 31 August 1921 for the First World War and 3 September 1939 to 31 December 1947 for the Second World War.

The Commission's principles:

- Each of the dead should be commemorated by name on the headstone or memorial
- Headstones and memorials should be permanent
- Headstones should be uniform
- There should be no distinction made on account of military or civil rank, race or creed

During both WW1 (& WW2) a number of Commonwealth civilian organisations were accepted by the military as qualifying for war grave status.

Members of the Recognised Civilian Organisations had to meet two additional criteria not required by military casualties.

1. Their death had to be caused by war actions or the increased threat caused by war and
2. They had to be on duty at the time of their death - being posted overseas counted as 'being on duty'.

The Australian government deemed that their War and Munitions Workers (men and women) qualified for war grave treatment as they were recruited as a body and were posted overseas for the war effort. Some of their CWGC entries show a 'service number' indicating that they were an organised body.

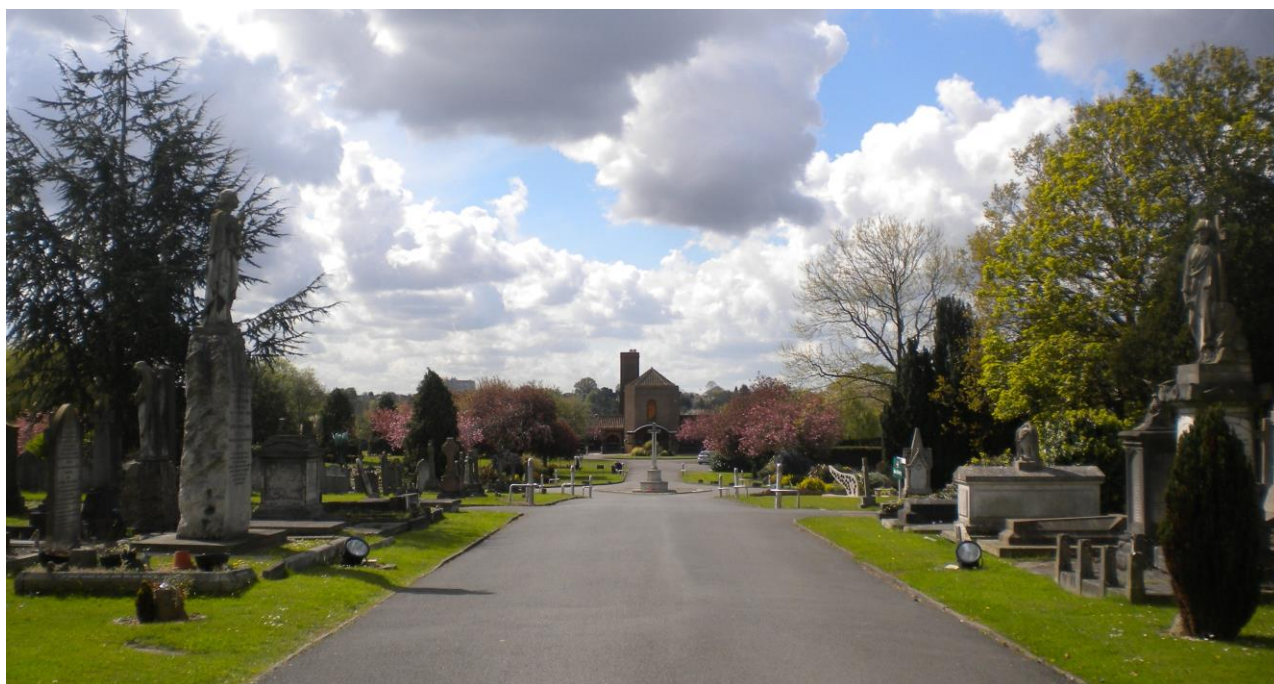
Kingston-Upon-Thames Cemetery, Surrey, England

The cemetery, at Norbiton, was begun in 1854, and now covers 25 acres. It belongs to the Kingston Joint Burial Committee, serving Kingston, New Malden and Coombe. It contains scattered War Graves and a War Cross is erected facing the main entrance.

Kingston-Upon-Thames Cemetery contains 165 Commonwealth War Graves – 106 from World War 1 & 59 from World War 2. *(Information from CWGC)*



Kingston-Upon-Thames Cemetery *(Photo from Find a Grave – julia&keld)*



Kingston-Upon-Thames Cemetery *(Photo from Find a Grave – Amanda West)*



Kingston-Upon-Thames Cemetery (Photo from Find a Grave – Amanda West)

Photo of Australian Munition Worker E. Begley's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Kingston-Upon-Thames Cemetery, Surrey, England.



(Photo courtesy of Roberto Lagnado)



E. BEGLEY
AUSTRALIAN MUNITION WORKER
6TH AUGUST 1917



(Photo courtesy of Neil Bright)



(Photo from Find a Grave – Amanda West -2016)

