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Sturtridge, Guy

A West Australian railway employee
killed while on military service for their country



Memorial at Railway Workshops Midland (D.Graham/panoramio)

Rail employment information

Employer: Western Australian Government Railways & Tramways

Branch: Way and Works

Designation: Repairer

Rail employment notes: Born 18/6/1892. Joined WAGR 8/7/1913 aged 21 as Repairer, Maryvale. ("Repairer" was a track maintenance worker in a gang responsible for upkeep of an allocated section of railway line. A typical gang might include between 3 and 6 Repairers with one Leading Hand Repairer and a Ganger in charge. The WAGR Annual report for 1914/15 showed they employed 882 Repairers at 8 shillings per day, with many at very small settlements or tent camps.)

Transferred to Boyanup 9/6/1914 and Glenlynn (between Donnybrook and Bridgetown) 7/12/1944.

Granted leave to join AIF 10/9/1915 (Service No.4004). Killed in action 14/8/1916.

Military service information:

Conflict:	First World War 1914-1918
Service:	Australian Imperial Force (AIF)
Military unit:	44th Australian Infantry Battalion
Service number:	4004
Date of death:	14 August 1916
Place of death:	Pozieres, France
Age:	24
Rank:	Private

Burial/memorialisation: Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, Villers-Bretonneux, Picardie, France

Enlisted 8 September 1915, next of kin was father T.Sturtbridge of Hester siding. 12th Reinforcements to 16th Infantry Battalion, service number 4004.

Embarked 22 December 1915 on HMAT Ajana from Fremantle.

Tbc

Body not found. Remembered on Villers-Brettoneux Australian Memorial.

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The Australian War memorial at Villers-Bretonneux, France.

Australian soldiers killed in France, whose bodies could be found for relocation, are buried and marked by the rows of gravestones seen to left and right.

The wing walls to both sides of the central watch tower record, carved in stone, the names of Australian soldiers killed in France but with no known grave – tragically, more than 11 000 men. The largest number recorded from one unit is from 28th Battalion – some 365 West Australians.



Additional/personal information:

tbc

> STURTRIDGE.—Killed in action, in France, on August 14, 1916, Private Guy Sturtridge, second dearly beloved son of Mr. and Mrs. Sturtridge, and brother of Harry, Mrs. M. Dillon, Connie, Willie, Alfie, Ettie, Aggie, and Ada, late of Hester Siding, via Bridgetown, aged 24 years. His duty nobly done. —Inserted by his sorrowing parents, sisters, and brothers, and little nieces and nephew, Nellie, Tessie, and Ronnie. *The West Australian* 22/9/1916p1
>
> STURTRIDGE.-In loving memory of our darling brother, Private Guy Sturtridge, B Company, 48th Battalion, who was killed in action on August 14, 1916, at Poziers.. - Inserted by his loving sister and br0ther-in-law, Connie and George Wilson, Collie. *The West Australian* 14/8/1917p1

A brother, Henry Sturtridge, also enlisted on 24/11/1914 in 10th Light Horse Regiment, service number 746 but returned safely.

Further information and/or photos may be added as available. Information may also be found on the Australian War Memorial website: *https://www.awm.gov.au/advanced-search/people*

Abbreviations: WAGR= Western Australian Government Railways (& Tramways at some periods); MRWA= Midland Railway of Western Australia; BDM=Western Australian Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages website; AWM=Australian War Memorial (Canberra and website); CWGC= Commonwealth War Graves Commission (including website). DVA=Department of Veterans' Affairs (including website)

Acknowledgements: Rail employment notes from WAGR Honour Roll and WAGR records held by State Records Office, Perth, transcribed by J.Austin 2019. Military information researched by Dr G.M.Galvin. Family information and collation by G.Higham.

----------Lest we forget----------

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