458

Townsend, Charles Richard

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



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

Rail employment information

Employer: Western Australian Government Railways

Branch: Traffic

Designation: Night Station Master

Rail employment notes: Born 15/7/1918. Joined WAGR 3/1/1935 aged 16 as Junior Clerk, Traffic Branch, Midland Junction. Transferred to Narrogin 18/10/1937 and CTMO Perth 9/2/1938. Appointed Clerk 15/4/1939 and transferred to Swanbourne 25/5/1939 and CTMO Perth 24/7/1939. Promoted to Night Station Master, Goomalling 19/4/1941. (When stations were busy enough to warrant more than one officer, the Station Master normally worked day shift 8am–4pm and had overall responsibility, the Assistant Station Master worked 4pm-midnight and the Night Station master worked midnight-8am.)

Enlisted in RAAF 19/5/1941. Killed in action 13/3/1943.

Military service information

Conflict: Second World War 1939-1945

Service: Royal Australian Air Force

Military unit: No.199 Squadron (RAF)

Service number: 406964

Date of death: 13 March 1943

Place of death: North Sea

Rank at time of death: Sergeant

Age: 24

Buried/commemorated: Runnymede Memorial, Surrey, England

Enlisted in RAAF 19/5/1941. Killed in action 13/3/1943.

Additional/personal information:

Born 15/7/1918.

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. Family information and collation by G.Higham.

DRAFT

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

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