William John Ambrose Evans

Service No. 2169

Rank: Private

Unit: 57th Battalion & 59th Battalion.

William John Ambrose Evans was born in Brunswick in 1890 and grew up in Bundoora. He was the son of William Evans and Mary Maroney. He was working as a painter at the time of his enlistment on 27th March 1916 and was aged 25 years 10 months. He gave his father William Evans of Bundoora as next of kin.

His younger brother Vincent Clarence Evans had enlisted on the 22nd January 1916.

After training he embarked on HMAT Orsova A67 on 1st August 1916 and landed at Plymouth on 14th September 1916.

He commenced service in France on 6th December 1916 with the 57th Battalion and on 16th February 1917 was transferred to the 59th Battalion.

William received the sad news that his mother passed away on 7th July 1917.

On 21st July 1917 he was sent to the 15th Field Ambulance with trench fever and shell shock. On 28th July he was admitted to 1st Australian General Hospital and on 30th July to the Bermondsey Military Hospital.

William never returned to his unit, his illness was serious enough for him to be sent home to Australia on the HMAT Port Lyttleton arriving on 31st October 1917. He received a medical discharge on 21st January 1917.

William Evans received the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

After the war William lived in Wood St Preston. He passed away in 1971 at Preston aged 81.