

RICKARD, James

William James Rickard, the third child of Richard Rickard and Ellen Purcell, was born in 1897, in Walhalla. Eventually there were eight children in the family, and by 1911 they were living in Carlton. James attended Faraday Street State School, SS 112.

James enlisted in Melbourne on 13 July 1915, ten months after his older brother John, who is also listed on the St Jude's Honour Roll. As he was so young, his parents had to give their written consent (see letter in his NAA file). On 25 October 1916, James was killed in action in France.

The Australian War Memorial Roll of Honour Circular was completed by Ellen at Broken Hill, where her husband Richard had died in 1918. By February 1922, the family were back in North Carlton at 187 Amess Street.

AIF Project Entry

William James RICKARD

Regimental number	5506
Place of birth	Walhalla Victoria
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Porter
Address	375 Rathdown Street, Carlton, Melbourne, Victoria.
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	18
Next of kin	Father, Richard Rickard, 375 Rathdown Street, Carlton, Melbourne, Victoria.
Previous military service	62nd Infantry
Enlistment date	13 July 1915
Rank on enlistment	Sapper
Unit name	6th Field Company Engineers, 2nd Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	14/25/2
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A35 <i>Berrima</i> on 17 December 1915.
Rank from Nominal Roll	Sapper
Unit from Nominal Roll	6th Field Company Engineers
Fate	Killed in Action 25 October 1916.
Place of burial	Caterpillar Valley Cemetery (II, Row A, Grave No. 2), Longueval, France.
Panel number, Roll of Honour, Australian War Memorial	24

Miscellaneous information from
cemetery records

Parents: Richard and Ellen RICKARD,
531 Argent Street, Broken Hill,
New South Wales.

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NAA: B2455, RICKARD W J, SERN 5506
BDM VIC
BDM NSW

Commonwealth War Graves: Personal Inscription

DEAR IS THE MEMORY LEFT BEHIND FROM HIS MOTHER BROTHERS AND SISTERS

Argus (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1957), Friday 25 October 1918, page 1.

RICKARD.—In loving memory of our dear son and
brother, Sapper W. J. Rickard, killed in action
at Pozieres, October 25, 1916.
He died as he lived, thinking of others.
—(Inserted by his loving mother, sisters, and
brothers.)

National Library of Australia <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article140419>

Herald (Melbourne, Vic. : 1861 - 1954), Friday 1 June 1917, page 8

FOR THE GOOD CAUSE

Special praise for meritorious work was given to Sapper W. J. Rickard by his commanding officer on July 19. Sapper Rickard acted as a runner on that occasion. He was subsequently killed in action. Lieutenant H. Why, writing to Sapper Rickard's mother, stated that young Rickard had been killed by a shell.

Sapper Rickard was the son of Mrs Rickard, of 375 Rathdown street, Carlton, who has another son at the front. Private J. J. Rickard was in the landing at Gallipoli, and was wounded after a month's campaigning.



National Library of Australia
<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article242687174>

Australian War Memorial: Roll of Honour Circular

Particulars Required for the Roll of Honour of Australia in the Memorial War Museum.

1. Name (in full) of Fallen Soldier *Rickard, William, James*
2. Unit and Number (if known). *14th Field Comp. Engineers 5506 Sapper*
3. With what Town or District in Australia was he chiefly connected (under which his name ought to come on the Memorial).
Town (if any) *Melbourne* District _____ State *Victoria*.
4. What was his Birthplace *Waltham Victoria*
5. Date of Death *Oct 25th 1918*
6. Place where Killed or Wounded *Between High Wood and Delville Wood*

Particulars Required for the Nation's Histories.

1. What was his Calling *Government Railway Potter*
2. Age at time of Death *19*
3. What was his School *Paradey St. Bartons Melbourne, Victoria*
4. What was his other Training *Commissioned Officer, Cadets*
5. If born in Britain or Abroad, at what age did he come to Australia _____
6. Had he ever served in any Military or Naval Force before Enlisting in the A.I.F. (Please state particulars.)
Yes, 2nd Lieutenant, Government Training
7. Any other biographical details likely to be of interest to the Historian of the A.I.F., or of his Regiment—
mentioned in despatch, as a runner under fire heavy shell
8. Was he connected with any other Member of the A.I.F. who died or who distinguished himself. (Please state Relationship)
Brother. Returned, Wounded.

9. Name and Address of the Parent or other person giving this information—

Name *E. Ellen Rickard*
Relationship to Soldier *Mother*
Address *531 Argent St Broken Hill N. S. W.*

10. Names and Addresses of any other persons to whom reference could be made by the Historian for further information—

Name *John J. Rickard*
Address *531 Argent St Broken Hill N. S. W.*

NOTE.—This Folder is Addressed to the Secretary, Department of Defence, Melbourne. Please fold in four, and stick down gummed flap so that the addressed portion is outside. The information is required urgently.

D. 1683/10.11.—C. 1676