

TOWNSEND, J.

Our research indicates that this soldier was possibly William John Townsend, born in 1887 in Fitzroy to Christina Johnson and Leonard John Townsend. He was one of six children. When he enlisted in 1915, he nominated his older sister Alice May, born in Carlton in 1879 and living in Rathdown Street, North Carlton, as his next-of-kin.

Private Townsend was sent to France, where he was wounded and transferred to the Birmingham War Hospital, England, before being repatriated home in 1918.

He married Dorothy May Boxshall (1902-1978) in 1923. The couple had one son, Arthur, and they lived for many years in Caulfield. William Townsend died in 1954.

AIF Project Entry

William John TOWNSEND

Regimental number	2402
Place of birth	Melbourne Victoria
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Tea planter
Address	602 Rathdown Street, North Carlton Melbourne, Victoria.
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	23
Next of kin	Sister, Mrs Alice Mary Edwards, 602 Rathdown Street, North Carlton, Melbourne, Victoria.
Enlistment date	10 July 1915
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	21st Battalion, 5th Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/38/2
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board RMS <i>Osterley</i> on 29 September 1915.
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	21st Battalion
Fate	Returned to Australia 5 April 1918.
Miscellaneous information from cemetery records	Plaque in Victorian Garden of Remembrance
Date of death	28 June 1954

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NAA: B2455, TOWNSEND W J SERN 2402.