

In Memory of
FRANCIS ALLAN BIGGS

Private
38257

3rd Bn., Canterbury Regiment, N.Z.E.F.
who died on
Monday, 29th October 1917. Age 23.

Additional Information: Son of George and Clara Biggs, of Nelson, New Zealand.

Commemorative Information

Cemetery: BROOKWOOD MILITARY CEMETERY, Surrey, United Kingdom

Grave Reference/ VIII. D. 17.

Panel Number:

Location: Brookwood is 30 miles from London (M3 to Bagshot and then A322). The main entrance to Brookwood Military Cemetery is on the A324 from the village of Pirbright.

Historical Information: During the two world wars, the United Kingdom became an island fortress used for training troops and launching land, sea and air operations around the globe. There are more than 170,000 Commonwealth war graves in the United Kingdom, many being those of servicemen and women killed on active service, or who later succumbed to wounds. Others died in training accidents, or because of sickness or disease. The graves, many of them privately owned and marked by private memorials, will be found in more than 12,000 cemeteries and churchyards. Brookwood Military Cemetery is owned by the Commission and is the largest Commonwealth war cemetery in the United Kingdom, covering approximately 37 acres. In 1917, an area of land in Brookwood Cemetery (The London Necropolis) was set aside for the burial of men and women of the forces of the Commonwealth and Americans, who had died, many of battle wounds, in the London district. This site was further extended to accommodate the Commonwealth casualties of the Second World War, and American, Belgian, Czech, Dutch, French and Polish plots containing the graves of Allied casualties. There are also German and Italian plots where prisoners of war lie buried. Brookwood Military Cemetery now contains 1601 First World War Commonwealth war graves and 3476 from the Second World War. The war graves of other nationalities in the Commission's care number 786. The Commission also maintains as an agency service on behalf of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, a plot of the graves of Chelsea Pensioners, which is situated adjacent to the Military Cemetery. The Brookwood Memorial stands at the southern end of the Canadian section, commemorating 3,500 men and women of the Land Forces of the Commonwealth who died during the Second World War in many lands, or at sea, and have no known grave. The circumstances of their death were such that they could not appropriately be commemorated on any of the campaign memorials in the various theatres of war.