



Renmark Paringa Council

Media Release

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Office for Australian War Graves Construct Four War Memorials at Renmark Cemetery

4 veterans at rest in unmarked graves within the Renmark Cemetery have been officially commemorated and their graves marked by the Australian Government.

Members of the South Australian Headstone Project team have worked tirelessly researching and collating evidence to identify those at rest in the four unmarked graves. The result of their work is that an official commemoration, provided by the Office of Australian War Graves (OAWG), has been established on each of the graves. These commemorations will be maintained by the OAWG in perpetuity.

Local contractors Nalty Memorials, on behalf of the OAWG, established the official commemorative markers.

The four war soldiers being commemorated are:

1. Robert Stodden EVANS who served in World War 1 and was later promoted to Sergeant. Following the war, he returned to Renmark to work at Renmin Wines as well as working as a fruit grower before his death on 27.06.1973 aged 86.
2. George Henry HALLETT who served in World War 1 and later became a prisoner of war in Germany. Following the war, he was discharged and returned to Renmark where he died on 14.3.1959 aged 63.
3. Edward LANE who served in World War 1 and was wounded in action. Following the war, he returned to Renmark where he died on 24.7.1928 aged only 38.
4. Wallington STEER who served in both World War 1 and 2 and was only 16 when he first enlisted. He returned to Renmark following the war and ran an electrical business until his death on 8.4.1947 aged 47.

Mayor Peter Hunter said:

“We are very pleased to have learned the identity of these men who have lain unidentified for so long. We are pleased and proud that their service and commitment to our country is now acknowledged. We are grateful to the Headstone Project South Australia; their passionate commitment to the recognition of the service undertaken by Australians in the World Wars has enabled our community and our nation to honour these veterans and ensure their service and sacrifice is never forgotten.

In the near future, our community looks forward to honouring these soldiers further and we look forward to any member of the community joining us for a ceremony at the Renmark Cemetery. This will be the second ceremony in recent times and serves as a reminder to us all of the war service, so freely committed by members of our community – Lest We Forget”

Further information about the Australian Government’s Program of Official Commemoration is available at <https://www.dva.gov.au/wargraves>



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