

## 1. Why are there war graves and memorials at Brookwood?

Brookwood Military Cemetery is owned by the Commonwealth War Graves 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 the United States, who had died of illness and injury in the London's hospitals. This site was further extended to accommodate the Commonwealth casualties of the Second World War. In addition to the Commonwealth plots, the cemetery also contains French, Polish, Czechoslovakian, Belgian and Italian sections, and a number of war graves of other nationalities all cared for by the Commission.

## 2. Where are the war graves and memorials in Brookwood?

Brookwood Military Cemetery is actually made up of more than 10 different cemetery plots and two memorials. As you will see from the plan below they are laid out across a large area.

## 3. Discover where these people came from

Use the flags to discover where some of those who are buried and remembered at Brookwood came from.

### First World War plot

2,155 war graves

From: Australia, Bahamas, Bermuda, Canada, France, Germany, India, Ireland, Italy, Newfoundland, New Zealand, South Africa, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States



### Muslim plot

26 war graves

From: India, Pakistan



### RAF section

480 war graves

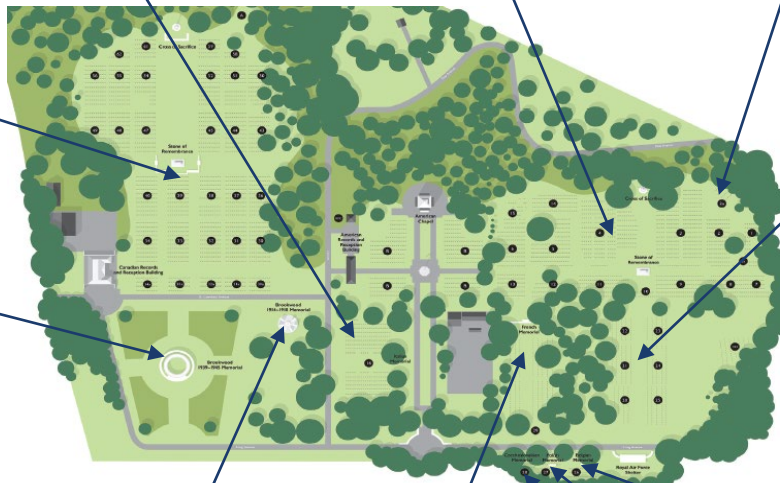
From: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, British Guiana, Canada, Chile, Czechoslovakia, Greece, Ireland, Jamaica, Netherlands, Newfoundland, New Zealand, United Kingdom, United States, Zimbabwe



### Italian plot

339 war graves

From: Italy



### Brookwood 1914-18 Memorial

322 names

From: Australia, Canada, Denmark, Ireland, South Africa, United Kingdom



### French plot

244 war graves

From: France



### Czech plot

45 war graves

From: Czechoslovakia



### Polish plot

67 war graves

From: Poland



### Belgian plot

47 war graves

From: Belgium



### Canadian section

2,400 war graves

From: Bahamas, British Guiana, Canada, Ireland, Monserrat, New Zealand, Poland, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom, United States



### Brookwood 1939-45 Memorial

3,300 names

From: Australia, Belgium, British Guiana, Canada, France, Ireland, Israel, Madagascar, Malta, Poland, Romania, South Africa, Spain, Syria, United Kingdom, United States, Zimbabwe



## 4. Discover more about the service of those buried at Brookwood

**4.1** Each headstone in the cemetery tells a different story.

As you explore the **First World War** plot, see what you can learn from the headstones. See if you can find the following;

1. Who is the **youngest** soldier you can find?
2. Who is the **oldest** soldier you can find?
3. How many **different countries** did they come from, based on the information you can discover on the headstones?

**4.3** As you explore the cemetery, look at the different badges on the headstones. These will give you a clue as to the role the person had and maybe where they came from. As you find each badge, **write down the name of the person who served with that unit in the box** next to the badge.



**4.2** More than 15,000 West Indians served in the war. Can you find this badge in **Plot 13**? Who wore it?



More than 430,000 people enlisted into the Australian forces in the First World War. They fought in the Middle East, in Greece and on the Western Front.



More than 650,000 people served in the Canadian forces in the First World War. They fought in the Middle East, in Greece and on the Western Front.



More than 1.5 million soldiers were recruited from undivided India. Can you find those who served in the Army Hospital Corps of the Indian Army?



More than 100,000 troops, including native Māori's left New Zealand for service overseas in Samoa, Gallipoli, the Middle East, Belgium and France.



Newfoundland was a British colony in 1914. More than 3,000 Newfoundlanders fought in Gallipoli and on the Western Front.



More than 230,000 people from South Africa fought in many campaigns in East and South West Africa and on the Western Front.