

**Bilston Cemetery,
Bilston, Wolverhampton
War Grave**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



2545 PRIVATE

E. B. BEDDOW

35TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

28TH JANUARY, 1917 Age 20

Ernest (Ernie) Bazen BEDDOW

Ernest Bazen Beddow was born at Wilson's Downfall, New South Wales in 1896 to parents Edward & Ellen Beddow (nee Hughes).

Ernest Bazen Beddow attended Tenterfield Public School, NSW.

Ernest Bazen Beddow was a 19 year old, single, Labourer from Wilson's Downfall, via Tenterfield, NSW when he enlisted at Armidale, NSW on 3rd October, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 2545 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr Edward Beddow, Beverley, via Stanthorpe, Queensland. As Ernest Beddow was under the age of 21 years, his parents were required to sign their consent for their son to enlist in the Australian Imperial Force for active service abroad. Both parents signed their consent.

Ernest Bazen Beddow was posted to Recruits "C" Coy, 35th Battalion at Rutherford on 4th October, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to 5th Reinforcements of 35th Battalion (not date recorded).

Private Ernest Bazen Beddow embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Ascanius (A11)* on 25th October, 1916 with the 9th Infantry Brigade, 35th Infantry Battalion, 5th Reinforcements & disembarked at Devonport, England on 28th December, 1916.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. Some of these were located in the Salisbury Plain & surrounding areas in the county of Wiltshire.

Private Ernest Bazen Beddow was marched in to 9th Training Battalion from Australia on 29th December, 1916.

Private Ernest Bazen Beddow was written up for an Offence while posted at 9th Training Battalion at Durrington, Wiltshire, England - Absent without leave from midnight on 4th January, 1917 till 8 pm on 5th January, 1917. He was awarded 5 days Field Punishment No. 2 & forfeited a total of 1 days' pay.

35th Battalion

The 35th Battalion was formed in December 1915 in Newcastle, New South Wales. The bulk of the battalion's recruits were drawn from the Newcastle region and thus it was dubbed "Newcastle's Own". Reflecting the demographics of the area, there were a high proportion of miners among the battalion's original members.

The 35th Battalion became part of the 9th Brigade of the 3rd Australian Division. It left Sydney, bound for the United Kingdom in May 1916. Arriving there in early July, the battalion spent the next four months training. It crossed to France in late November, and moved into the trenches of the Western Front for the first time on 26 November, just in time for the onset of the terrible winter of 1916-17.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Ernest Bazen Beddow was admitted to Fargo Military Hospital, Wiltshire, England on 18th January, 1917 with P.U.O. (Pyrexia (fever) of unknown origin). He was reported as seriously ill with Broncho Pneumonia on 19th January, 1917.

Base Records contacted Mrs E. Beddow, Beverely, via Stanthorpe, Queensland on 25th January, 1917 to advise that her son, Private Ernest B. Beddow, was seriously ill with Broncho Pneumonia.

Private Ernest Bazen Beddow died at 5.50 am on 28th January, 1917 at Fargo Military Hospital, Wiltshire, England from Broncho Pneumonia.

A death for Ernest Beddow, aged 20, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Amesbury, Wiltshire, England.

Private Ernest Bazen Beddow was buried by relatives (R. E. Hughes, 12 Lester St, Bilston, Staffs) on 3rd February, 1917 in Bilston Cemetery, Bilston, Wolverhampton, England – Plot number 949 E.1. (Private Grave) and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

A War Pension was granted to Ellen Beddow, Tenterfield, mother of the late Private Ernest Bazen Beddow, in the sum of £1/2/6 from 1st April, 1917.

Private Ernest Bazen Beddow was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Beddow's father – Mr E. Beddow, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent December, 1921 & Plaque sent July, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Ernest Bazen Beddow – service number 2545, aged 20, of 35th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Edward and Ellen Beddow, of Tenterfield, New South Wales.

Private E. B. Beddow is remembered on the Liston/Amosfield War Memorial, located at Mount Lindesay Road, Liston, NSW.



Liston/Amosfield War Memorial (Photos from Monument Australia – John Huth)

Private E. B. Beddow is remembered on the Tenterfield & Districts Infantry Roll of Honour, located in Tenterfield and Districts Soliders Memorial, Molesworth Street, Tenterfield, NSW.



Tenterfield and Districts Soliders Memorial (Photo from Monument Australia)



Tenterfield & Districts Infantry Roll of Honour (Photo from Monument Australia – Russell Byers)

Private E. B. Beddow is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 124.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(51 pages of Private Ernest Bazen Beddow's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll) & National Archives



Private Ernest Bazen Beddow

Newspaper Notices

ROLL OF HONOUR

The 270th Australian casualty list was released.....

OTHER STATES

New South Wales: Pte E. B. Beddow, Beverley, ser. ill;

(The Telegraph, Brisbane, Queensland – 3 February, 1917)

FOR AUSTRALIA

The 271st list of Australian casualties was issued this morning...

NEW SOUTH WALES DIED OF ILLNESS

Pte E. B. BEDDOW, Beverley, Q. (previously reported seriously ill)

(The Sun, Sydney, NSW – 8 February, 1917)

WAR CASUALTIES

DIED OF PNEUMONIA

PRIVATE E. BEDDOW

Private Ernie Beddow, of Tenterfield, has died of pneumonia. He had been in England only a few weeks. He was 20 years of age.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, Sydney, NSW – 8 February, 1917)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Defence Department, in 1920/21, contacted the next of kin of the deceased World War 1 soldiers to see if they wanted to include a personal inscription on the permanent headstone. Space was reserved for 66 letters only (with the space between any two words to be counted as an additional letter) & the rate per letter was around 3 ½ d (subject to fluctuation).

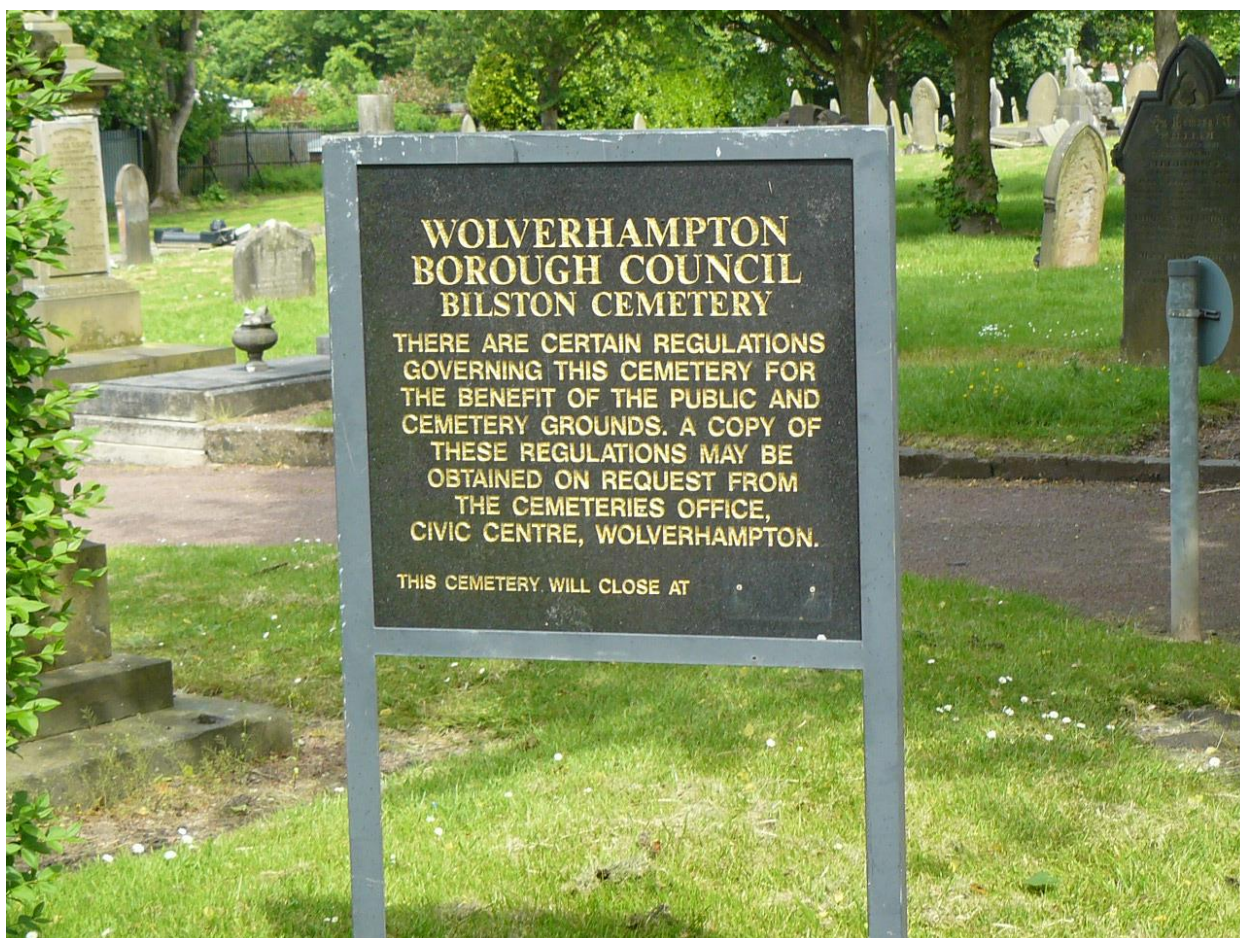
The expense in connection for the erection of permanent headstones over the graves of fallen soldiers was borne by the Australian Government.

(Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921)

Private E. B. Beddow does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Bilston Cemetery, Bilston, Wolverhampton, England

Bilston Cemetery contains 80 scattered burials of the First World War and 31 from the Second World War.



Bilston Cemetery (Photos by Rob Dickens – Find a Grave)



Photo of Private E. B. Beddow's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Bilston Cemetery, Bilston, Wolverhampton, England.



(Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett – Private Collection)



(Photo by John Hale)