St. Mary's New Churchyard, Codford, Wiltshire, England

War Graves

Lest We Forget

World War 1

3861 PRIVATE

FRANK JAMES CATTERMOLE

48TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

14TH JUNE, 1918   Age 19

DEAR BOY YOU HAVE GONE

BUT WE CAN NEVER FORGET

YOUR SMILING FACE

Frank James CATTERMOLE

Frank James Cattermole was born in Jeparit, near Dimboola, Victoria on 5th February, 1899 to parents William James and Amelia Jane Cattermole (nee Martin).

Frank James Cattermole attended State School at Bordertown, South Australia.

Frank Cattermole was aged 18, single & a Baker's assistant from Bordertown, South Australia when he enlisted at Bordertown, on 1st February, 1917 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Methodist & his next of kin was listed as his father- W. J. Cattermole, Bordertown, South Australia.

An urgent telegram was sent to Mrs A. J. Cattermole, Bordertown, from Mitcham Camp "*Did you consent to your son Frank James Enlisting*". A reply was sent "*Yes we gave consent for Frank James Cattermoles enlistment.*"

Private Frank Cattermole was allotted a service number of 3861 & was posted to "B" Company on 8th February, 1917 for recruit training. He was transferred to 24th Reinforcements of 10th Battalion on 16th February, 1917 then transferred again to "A" Company on 1st April, 1917.

Private Frank Cattermole was transferred to Torrens Island V. D. Camp from 12th April, 1917 then returned to "A" Company on 16th May, 1917. He was transferred to "D" Company on 1st June, 1917.

Private Frank Cattermole was admitted to Mitcham Clearing Hospital on 18th July, 1917 with Influenza & discharged on 23rd July, 1917. He was transferred to 11th Reinforcements of 48th Battalion on 13th February, 1918.

Private Frank Cattermole entrained on 19th March, 1918 for Embarkation.

Private Frank Cattermole embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Runic (A54)* on 22nd March, 1918 with the 48th Infantry Battalion, 11th Reinforcements & disembarked at London, England on 24th May, 1918. Private Cattermole was hospitalised from 29th March, 1918 to 17th April, 1918 in Ship's Isolation Hospital with V.D. then hospitalised again from 6th May, 1918 to 20th May, 1918 with Tonsillitis in the Ship's Hospital.

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

Private Frank Cattermole was marched in to 12th Training Battalion at Codford, Wiltshire on 24th May, 1918.

On 30th May, 1918 Private Frank Cattermole was sent sick to Brigade Clearing Hospital at Codford with Laryngitis & for observation. He was transferred to No. 3 New Zealand General Hospital at Codford, Wiltshire on 1st June, 1918 & admitted with bronchitis.

Private Frank James Cattermole died at 1.30 a.m. on 14th June, 1918 at No. 3 New Zealand General Hospital at Codford, Wiltshire. A Post Mortem examination was carried out on 14th June, 1918 & the cause of death was Purulent Bronchitis.

A death for Frank J. Cattermole, aged 19, was registered in the June quarter, 1918 in the district of Warminster, Wiltshire.

Private Frank James Cattermole he was buried on 17th June, 1918 at St. Mary's New Churchyard, Codford, Wiltshire, England in Grave No. 94, Australian Section.

From the burial report - *Coffin was good, Polished Elm with Brass Mountings – The deceased was buried with full Military Honours. The coffin was conveyed to the graveside on a Gun Carriage which was preceded by a Firing Party and Band. The members of the reinforcement Unit to which the deceased belonged were present as mourners. A large wreath from the Officers, N.C.O.'s and men of deceased's late Unit was placed on the grave.*
The late Private Cattermole was very popular and his loss is very keenly felt.

Private Frank James Cattermole requested in his Will, dated 19th March, 1918 that all his belongings be left to his father – William James Cattermole of Bordertown, South Australia.

Private Frank James Cattermole 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 Cattermole's father – Mr W. J. Cattermole (July, 1921 & November, 1922).

Private F. J. Cattermole is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 145.

(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)

Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

F. Cattermole is remembered on the District of Tatiara Roll of Honour, located in the Council Chambers, 58 Woolshed Street, Bordertown, South Australia.

District of Tatiara Roll of Honour *(Photos from AWM – Places of Pride – Arthur Garland)*

District of Tatiara Roll of Honour

Private F. J. Cattermole is also remembered on the National War Memorial (South Australia) on North Terrace, Adelaide. (Panel 7, column 3).

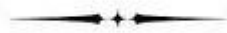**Adelaide's National War Memorial** *(Photos by Bilby)*

(53 pages of Private Frank James Cattermole's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

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

Private Frank James Cattermole

LAST POST CEREMONY

Private Frank James Cattermole was remembered in the Last Post Ceremony held at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on 18th September, 2018.

Commencing at approximately 4.55 pm AEST, the Memorial farewells visitors with its moving Last Post Ceremony in the Commemorative Courtyard. Each night the ceremony shares the story behind one of the names on the Roll of Honour.

The ceremony begins with the Australian national anthem followed by the piper's lament. Visitors are invited to lay wreaths and floral tributes beside the Pool of Reflection. An individual's story is told, and the Ode is recited by Australian Defence Force personnel. The ceremony ends with the sounding of the Last Post.

(Information from The Australian War Memorial)

Speech transcript
3861 Private Frank James Cattermole, 48th Battalion
DOD 14 June 1918
Story delivered 18 September 2018

Today we remember and pay tribute to Private Frank James Cattermole.

Frank Cattermole was born in 1899 in Jeparit, Victoria, one of four sons and four daughters born to William and Amelia Cattermole. His father worked in Jeparit as a brickmaker for some years before moving to Rainbow, Victoria,

where he took up farming. In 1905 the family moved to Tatiara, near Bordertown in South Australia, where Frank's father worked as a brickmaker. Frank attended the local state school in Bordertown, and went on to work as a baker's assistant in the district.

Frank's older brother John had enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force in 1915, at the age of 21. At that time, Frank was only 16 years old. But in February 1917, shortly after his 18th birthday, he enlisted in the AIF with his parents' consent, and began an extended period of training in Australia.

His departure seems to have been delayed because of having to seek treatment at the Mitcham Clearing Venereal Hospital on Torrens Island during his training. He did not leave Australia for active service overseas until March 1918, more than a year after enlisting. He was posted to the 48th Battalion and first went to England to continue his training. Shortly after his arrival he was sent to hospital for several weeks, returning to his battalion on the Salisbury Plain in late May 1918.

A week after returning to training, Private Cattermole was again admitted to hospital, this time suffering from bronchitis. Two weeks later he died in the New Zealand General Hospital in Codford, Wiltshire, never having seen action. He was buried with full military honours in the cemetery at Codford St Mary, with a number of his mates from his reinforcement unit in attendance. Private Cattermole had been very popular with those around him, and it was later reported that "his loss is very keenly felt".

William Cattermole chose the words on his son's grave. They read, "Dear boy, you have gone, but we can never forget your smiling face." Frank James Cattermole was 19 years old.

His name is listed on the Roll of Honour on my right, among almost 62,000 Australians who died while serving in the First World War.

This is but one of the many stories of service and sacrifice told here at the Australian War Memorial. We now remember Private Frank James Cattermole, who gave his life for us, for our freedoms, and in the hope of a better world.

Meleah Hampton
Historian, Military History Section

Newspaper Reports

LATE PTE. F.J. CATTERMOLE

Mr and Mrs W. J. Cattermole, of Bordertown, have been advised that their third son, Pte. Frank J. Cattermole, aged 19 years, has died from illness in England. Pte Cattermole enlisted about 18 months ago from Bordertown. He was born at Jeparit, Victoria, and received his education at Rainbow, in that State, and at Bordertown. Mr and Mrs Cattermole have another son at the front in France.

(*The Register,* Adelaide, South Australia, Saturday 22nd June, 1918)

415th CASUALTY LIST

South Australia

Died from Other Causes

3861 Pte. F. J. CATTERMOLE, Bordertown, 14/6/18, illness, p.r. died C.N.S.

(*The Chronicle,* Adelaide, South Australia, Saturday 13th July, 1918)

POIGNANT MEMORIES IN A WILTSHIRE VILLAGE

The annual ANZAC Day memorial service takes place each year at the special cemetery at Codford St Mary.

Codford's Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemetery in Church Lane contains the highest number of New Zealand war graves (66) in this country, and has the second largest number of ANZAC graves. Australians total 31.

The servicemen who are buried in the peaceful rural cemetery died from wounds, or from pneumonia, bronchitis, sickness or other conditions carefully recorded in CWGC documentation.

Among the many poignant headstones is one for 19-year-old Private Frank James Cattermole who died on 14th June 1918.

Private Cattermole served with the 48th Battalion Australian Infantry.

He was the son of William James and Amelia Jane Cattermole of Bordertown, South Australia, and he had been born in the neighbouring state of Victoria.

His family had his headstone inscribed with the words: "Dear Boy you have gone but we can never forget your smiling face."

ANZAC Day is always on 25th April which is the national day of remembrance for fallen service people in Australia, New Zealand and a number of Pacific islands.

The date chosen is the anniversary of the first important military action in which soldiers from Australia and New Zealand took part in World War I.

Codford's service starts early, usually lasts for about 30 minutes and is followed by a special Gunfire Breakfast, which features a tot of rum in tea, in the village hall.

Representatives from both High Commissions usually attend.

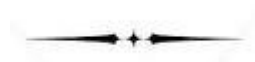(*This is Dorset*, 24th June, 2011)   *Report and pictures by Caroline Rippier*

<u>Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones</u>

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 at Codford War Graves Cemetery. 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.
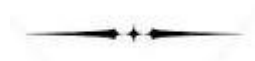*(Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921)*

Private Frank James Cattermole does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

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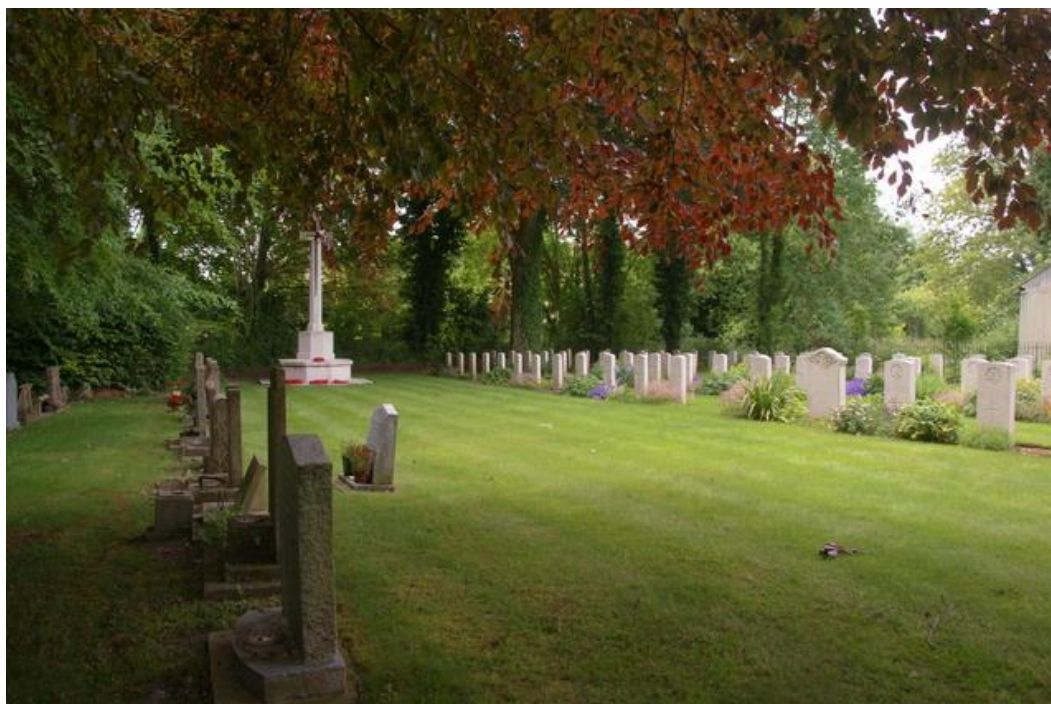** SOLDIERS DIED WITH SAME SERVICE NUMBER – BOTH BURIED AT CODFORD

Private Frank James Cattermole had a service number of 3861 with the 48th Battalion, Australian Infantry. Private Clarence Albert Jennings also had a service number of 3861 but with the 32nd Battalion, Australian Infantry. Both men died of bronchitis & are buried with a grave in between them at Codford ANZAC Cemetery. Jennings died 22nd March, 1918 & Cattermole died 14th June, 1918.

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St. Mary's New Churchyard (Anzac War Graves Cemetery), Codford, Wiltshire, England

The New Zealand Command Depot was established at Codford in June 1916 and the No 3 New Zealand General Hospital followed in July. The New Churchyard was established by deed of gift as the "Military Burial Ground," with a small part reserved for future burials from the parish. The war graves plot contains 98 burials, mostly of New Zealand and Australian forces. There is only one burial of the Second World War in the New Churchyard.

(Information from CWGC)

(Photo courtesy of Andrew Stacey 2013)

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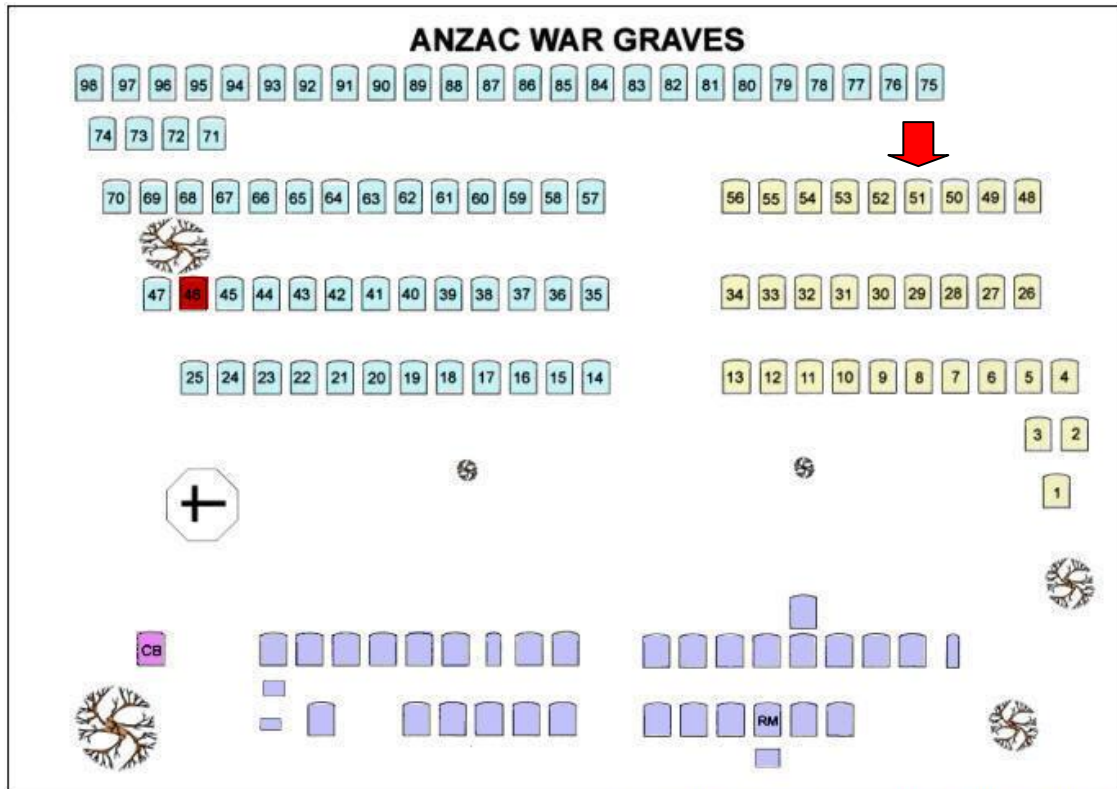

(Photo courtesy of Romy Wyeth)

(Photo courtesy of Romy Wyeth)

Photo of Private Frank James Cattermole's Headstone at St. Mary's New Churchyard (Anzac War Graves Cemetery), Codford, Wiltshire, England.

(Photo courtesy of Romy Wyeth)

Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Private Frank James Cattermole is located in Main Third Row (Right Hand Side)   Grave Plot # 51 of Codford War Graves Cemetery (CWGC Reference - Grave # 94)

ANZAC WAR GRAVES

Codford War Graves map adapted from Brian Marshall courtesy of Romy Wyeth

- Australian Soldiers
- Welsh Soldier
- New Zealand Soldiers
- Local Burials
- UK Soldier

(Photo courtesy of Romy Wyeth 2020)

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