

**Broadwater Cemetery,
Worthing, West Sussex
War Grave**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



3037 PRIVATE

C. G. COMPTON

43RD BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

2ND JULY, 1918 Age 36

*In Loving Memory Of
A Dear Husband & Father
Peace Perfect Peace*

Charles George COMPTON

Charles George Compton was born at Worthing, Sussex, England in 1879 to parent Charles George & Eliza Short Compton (nee Budd). His birth was registered in the December quarter, 1879 in East Preston, Sussex as Charles George S. Compton.

The 1881 England Census recorded Charles as George G. S. Compton as a 1 year old, living with his family at Montague Street, Sharp's Passage, Broadwater, Sussex, England. His parents were listed as Charles G. Compton (Shoemaker, aged 46, born Worthing, Sussex) & Eliza S. Compton (aged 28, born Worthing, Sussex). Charles was one of six children listed on this Census (all born Worthing, Sussex) – Edith M. Compton (Scholar, aged 11), Emily Compton (Scholar, aged 7), James F. Budd (Scholar, aged 4), Agnes M. Compton (Scholar, aged 3) then Charles – listed as George, & Albert E. B. Compton (aged 3 months). Also listed was a Lodger - James Budd (Widower, Bricklayer, aged 68).

The 1891 England Census recorded Charles Compton as an 11 year old Scholar, living with his family at 16 Marine Place, Broadwater, Sussex, England. His parents were listed as Charles E. Compton (Shoemaker, aged 50) & Eliza Compton (Jobing Cook, aged 38). Charles was one of five children listed on this Census (all listed as being born at Broadwater, Sussex) – James Compton (Errand Boy, aged 14), Agnas Compton (Scholar, aged 13) then Charles, Albert Compton (Scholar, aged 12) & Lizzie Compton (Scholar, aged 9).

The 1901 England Census recorded Charles G. Compton as a 22 year old Labourer General, living with his family at 14 Field Row, Worthing, Sussex, England. His parents were listed as Charles G. Compton (Shoemaker (own account), aged 61) & Eliza S. Compton (aged 48). Charles was one of three sons listed on this Census – James F. B. Compton (Labourer General, aged 25) then Charles & Albert Compton (Labourer General, aged 21).

Charles George Compton married Lilian Charlotte Puttick in 1901.

A son, Charles George H. Compton, was born in 1904 at East Preston, Sussex, England. A daughter, Lilian Maud Compton, was born in 1906 at East Preston, Sussex, England.

The 1911 England Census recorded Charles Compton as a 30 year old, married Bricklayer, living with his family in a 5 roomed dwelling at 47 Newland Road, Worthing, Sussex, England. His wife was listed as Lilian Compton (aged 30). Charles & Lilian had been married for 10 years & had two children – both listed on this Census – Charles Compton (School, aged 7) & Lilian Compton (School, aged 5). Also listed on the Census was Lancie Mayall, an 18 month old niece & Annie Latter (?), a Visitor (Housemaid, aged 26).

Eliza Short Compton, mother of Charles George Compton, died in 1913 at East Preston, Sussex, England.

According to information provided by his wife, Lilian Compton for the Roll of Honour, - Charles George Compton came to Australia when he was 33 years old. Charles Compton, Bricklayer, aged 33 was listed as a passenger on *Osterley* which departed from the port of London, England on 31st January, 1913 bound for Adelaide, South Australia. Mrs Lillian Compton, aged 33 & her 2 children Charles Compton, aged 9 & Lilian Compton, aged 7 were passengers on *Beltana* which departed from the port of London, England on 9th October, 1913 bound for Adelaide, South Australia.

Charles George Compton stated he was a 35 year old, married, Bricklayer from Norwood, South Australia when he enlisted on 28th March, 1917 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 3037 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs Lilian Compton, 1 Orange Lane, Norwood, South Australia. Charles George Compton stated on his Attestation Papers that he had previously been rejected from serving in the A.I.F. due to varicose veins. He also stated he had served for 1 year & 2 months (& was still serving) on Home Service at Torrens Island.

Private Charles George Compton was posted to "B" Company at Mitcham on 28th March, 1917 for recruit training. He was transferred to 7th Reinforcements of 43rd Battalion on 1st April, 1917.

Private Charles George Compton embarked from Adelaide, South Australia on HMAT *Borda* (A30) on 23rd June, 1917 with the 43rd Infantry Battalion, 7th Reinforcements & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 25th August, 1917.

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 Charles George Compton was marched in to 11th Training Battalion at Larkhill, Wiltshire from Australia on 26th August, 1917.

Private Charles George Compton was marched out from 11th Training Battalion to 10th Training Battalion at Sutton Mandeville, Wiltshire on 5th November, 1917.

Private Charles George Compton was marched in from 10th Training Battalion to 9th Training Battalion at Fovant, Wiltshire on 30th March, 1918.

Private Charles George Compton was sent sick to Hurdcott Hospital on 29th May, 1918. He was admitted to Military Hospital at Fovant, Wiltshire on 11th June, 1918 with seriously ill with Influenza.

Private Charles George Compton died on 2nd July, 1918 at Military Hospital Fovant, Wiltshire, England from Enteritis. (***Note – The Burial Report in the Service Record file has the date of death as 3rd July, 1918. It is the only form that has the date as 3rd. The Casualty Form – Active Service has the date of death as 2nd July, 1918 as well as the Statement of Service form. The Report of death by the Major R.A.M.C. has the date as 1 pm on 2nd July, 1918. A Telegram was sent on 2nd July, 1918 to Administrative Headquarters, London stating that Pte Compton had died “in this Hospital to-day”. CWGC & The Australian War Memorial both had the date of death as 3rd July, 1918 but they have both altered the date to 2nd July, 1918 on being advised of the error*)

A death for Charles G. Compton, aged 38, was registered in the September quarter, 1918 in the district of Wilton, Wiltshire, England.

Private Charles George Compton was buried on 6th July, 1918 in Broadwater Cemetery, Worthing, West Sussex, England – Plot number A10. 4. 54 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Private C. G. Compton - *Coffin was good, polished Elm with brass mountings. The late Private Compton was buried with full Military honours, the body being conveyed to the graveside on a Gun-carriage drawn by Cadets of the Steyne School, Worthing preceded by the Band of the London Command Depot and a Firing Party from the Brigade of Guards, Shoreham. Chief mourners present as the funeral were Miss E. Compton, Mrs West and Mrs Smart (Sisters), Mrs Compton, Mrs Budd and Mrs Dale (Sisters-in-law), Mrs Churcher (great Aunt) and Messrs Albert Compton and James Budd (Brothers). Several wreaths and floral tributes were placed on the grave after the Last Post had been sounded. The late Private Compton always proved himself a keen soldier and a good comrade and was very popular with all ranks of his Unit.*

Private Charles George Compton requested in his Will, dated 11th June, 1917, that in the event of his death the whole of his property and effects be given to his wife Lilian Compton.

Private Charles George Compton 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 Compton's widow - Mrs L. Compton, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent November, 1922 & Plaque sent December, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Charles George Compton – service number 3037, aged 36, of 43rd Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Charles George and Eliza Compton; husband of Lilian Compton, of 1 Orange Lane, Norwood, Adelaide, South Australia. Born at Worthing, Sussex, England.

Private C. Compton is remembered on the Norwood War Memorial, located at Osmond Terrace & The Parade, Norwood, South Australia.



Norwood War Memorial (Photos from Monument Australia – Mary Beaven)



C. G. Compton is remembered on the National Soldiers Memorial in Adelaide. The Adelaide National War Memorial commemorates those from South Australia that served in the First World War. The names of those that died are listed inside the Memorial, which is located on the corner of North Terrace & Kintore Avenue, Adelaide.



National War Memorial – Adelaide (Photos by Bilby)

Private C. G. Compton is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 136.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

C. G. Compton is remembered on the Worthing War Memorial, located at Town Hall, Chapel Road, Worthing, Sussex, England.



Worthing War Memorial (Photos by Susan Featherstone – War Memorials Online)

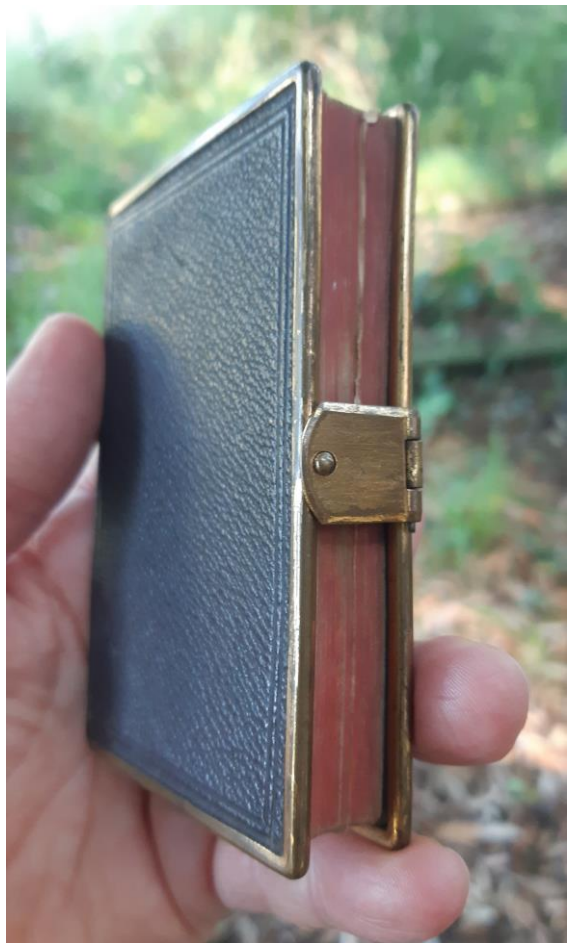
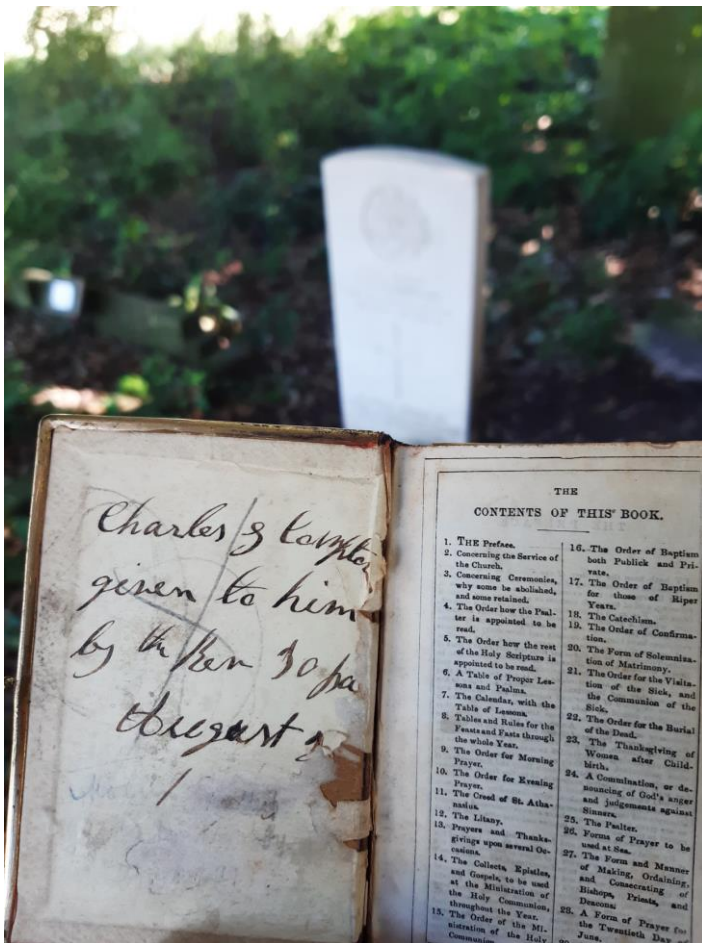


(56 pages of Private Charles George Compton's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

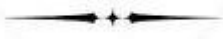
Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll) & National Archives



Private Charles George Compton



Prayer Book belonging to Private Charles George Compton (Photos courtesy of Sarah Nathaniel – CWGC)



Newspaper Notices

ANSWERED THE CALL

The following men enlisted on Wednesday:- C. G. Compton, bricklayer, Orange-lane, Norwood;

(*Chronicle*, Adelaide, South Australia – 31 March, 1917)

DIED ON ACTIVE SERVICE

COMPTON – On the 2nd July, at Fovant Military Hospital, England, of enteritis, Private C. G. Compton, 43rd Battalion, A.I.F., dearly beloved husband of L. Compton, Orange-lane, Norwood, aged 37 years.

(*The Express and Telegraph*, Adelaide, South Australia – 8 July, 1918)

LATE PRIVATE C. G. COMPTON

Mrs C. G. Compton, of Orange lane, Norwood, has been advised by military authorities of the death from enteritis at Fovant Military Hospital, England, of her husband, Private C. G. Compton, of 43rd Battalion, A.I.F. Private Compton, a bricklayer by trade, was born at Worthing, England and he arrived in South Australia in 1913. He enlisted for home service on January 3, 1916, acting as guard on Torrens Island. He transferred for service abroad on March 20, 1916 and left South Australia on June 23, 1917, with the 7th reinforcements of 43rd Battalion.

(*The Advertiser*, Adelaide, South Australia – 9 July, 1918) & (*Daily Herald*, Adelaide, South Australia – 16 July, 1918) & (*Chronicle*, Adelaide, South Australia – 27 July, 1918)

Similar articles appeared in:

(*The Register*, Adelaide, South Australia – 9 July, 1918) & (*Observer*, Adelaide, South Australia – 13 July, 1918)

417th CASUALTY LIST

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Died from Other Causes

3037 Pte C. G. COMPTON, Norwood, illness, 2/7/18

(*Chronicle*, Adelaide, South Australia – 27 July, 1918)

HEROES OF THE GREAT WAR

COMPTON – In loving memory of our dear husband and father, 3037, Private Charles George Compton, 43rd Battalion, died July 2, 1918, at Fovant Hospital, England.

Now the day of the battle is ended,

And the cruel suspense is passed;

And the hours of anguished waiting

Are over for all at last.
And those who are reunited
Will offer their praise to God;
But the father we waited and longed for
Lies voiceless under the sod.
When the boys are marching home,
When wives lean to bless them,
May God give strength to the watching ones
husband and father will never come,
Inserted by his loving wife and children.

COMPTON – In loving memory of Private C. G. Compton, 3037, 43rd Battalion, died July 2, 1918. Fovant Hospital, England. – Inserted by Mr P. G. Antill and family, 5 Olive-road, St. Peters.

(The Advertiser, Adelaide, South Australia – 2 July, 1919)

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 C. G. Compton does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

In Loving Memory Of A Dear Husband & Father

Peace Perfect Peace

Broadwater Cemetery, Worthing, West Sussex, England

Broadwater Cemetery, Worthing contains 81 Commonwealth War Graves – 78 from World War 1 & 3 from World War 2.



Broadwater Cemetery, Worthing (Photo by *jpiper8712* - Find a Grave)



Cross of Sacrifice, Broadwater Cemetery, Worthing (Photo by *jpiper8712* - Find a Grave)

Photo of Private C. G. Compton's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Broadwater Cemetery, Worthing, West Sussex, England.

(**Note – the date of death engraved on the Headstone in the photo is incorrect – should be 2nd July, 1918. CWGC were advised in April, 2018. See updated photo below)



(Photo courtesy of Heidii – Great War forum)

UPDATE: Private C. G. Compton's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Broadwater Cemetery, Worthing, West Sussex, England has been replaced with correct date of death.



(Photo from Find a Grave – Peter H – June 2019)

