

**Barford St. Martin Church Cemetery,
Wiltshire, England**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



4050 PRIVATE

F. DODD

32ND BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

31ST JANUARY, 1917 Age 24

Gone But Not Forgotten

Franklin DODD

Franklin Dodd was born possibly on 12th June, 1892 near Bullsbrook, Western Australia to parents James May Dodd & Mary Jane Dodd (nee Morley). (A search of birth records in Western Australian cannot find a birth registered for Franklin Dodd in any year.)

Franklin Dodd was a 24 year old, single, Farmer from Watheroo, Western Australia when he enlisted at Belmont, Western Australia on 15th May, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 4050 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – James May Dodd, of Watheroo, Mid. Railway, Western Australia. Franklin's younger brother – William James Dodd enlisted on 12th June, 1916 & was given the service number of 4052.

Private Franklin Dodd & his younger brother Private William James Dodd, embarked from Fremantle on HMAT *Port Melbourne (A16)* on 28th October, 1916 with the 8th Infantry Brigade, 32nd Infantry Battalion, 10th Reinforcements & disembarked at Devonport, England on 28th December, 1916. While at Sea - Private Franklin Dodd was written up for an Offence on 31st November, 1916 (date as recorded) for Insubordination. He was awarded 48 hours detention.

32nd Battalion

The 32nd Battalion was raised as part of the 8th Brigade at Mitcham, on the outskirts of Adelaide, on 9 August 1915. Only two companies were raised from South Australian enlistees - another two were formed in Western Australia and joined the battalion at the end of September. The battalion sailed from Adelaide on 18 November 1915.

(Extract of information from The Australian War Memorial)

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 Franklin Dodd was sent sick to Fovant Hospital, Wiltshire on 20th January, 1917 from 8th Training Battalion, Hurdcott, Wiltshire.

Private Franklin Dodd died at 4.30 am on 31st January, 1917 at Military Hospital, Fovant, Wiltshire from Pneumonia. It had previously been reported that Pte Dodd had died of Bronchitis. He was attached to "D" Coy, 8th Training Battalion.

A death for Franklyn Dodd, aged 24, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Wilton, Wiltshire.

Private Franklin Dodd was buried on 3rd February, 1917 at Barford St. Martin Church Cemetery, Wiltshire – Plot number 6 , Row 54 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

(Note: Some entries in Private Dodd's Service Record file state incorrectly that he was buried in Baverstock Cemetery. The Statement of Service Form – page 12 of his Service record file has the correction noted in red. A letter was sent to Private Dodd's father advising that his son was buried in Baverstock Cemetery.)

Private Franklin Dodd 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 Dodd's father – Mr J. M. Dodd (Scroll signed for January, 1922).

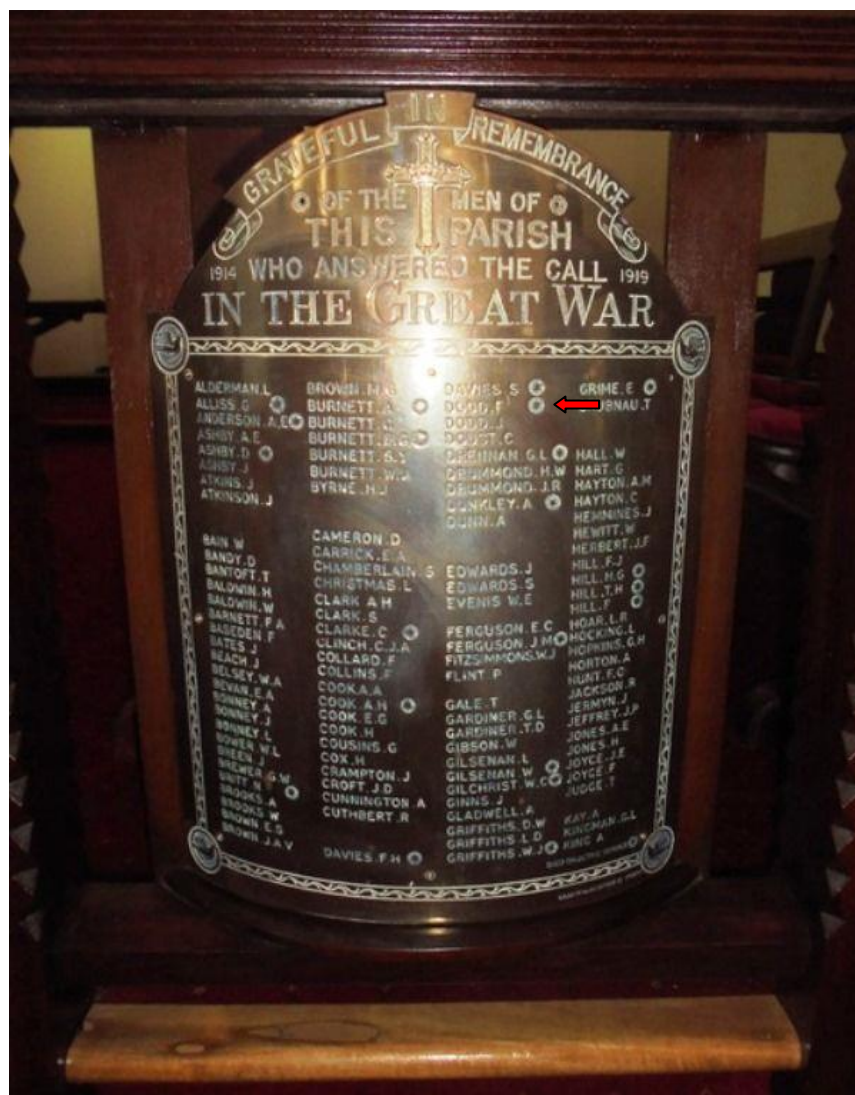
The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Franklin Dodd – service number 4050, aged 24 years, 32nd Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of James May Dodd and Mary Jane Dodd, of Watheroo, Western Australia.

Private F. Dodd is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 120.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

F. Dodd is remembered on the St. James' Honour Roll, located in St. James' Anglican Church, Roberts Street, Moora, Western Australia.



St. James' Honour Roll, Moora (Photo from Monument Australia)

F. Dodd is listed on the Western Australian Highgate RSL Roll of Honour for Moora, Western Australia.



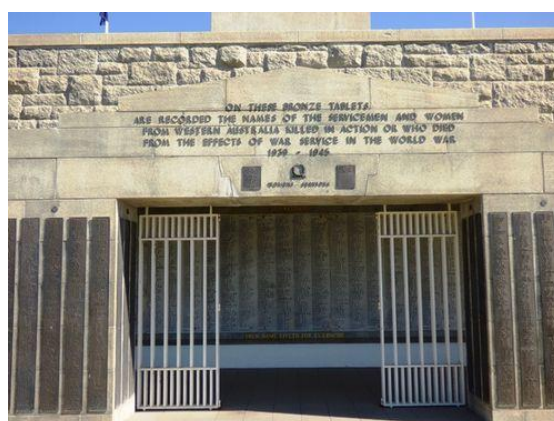
F. Dodd is remembered on the Western Australia State War Memorial which is located at the top of Kings Park and Botanic Garden escarpment, ANZAC Bluff, Fraser Avenue, Perth, Western Australia. The memorial was developed around an 18 metre tall obelisk as the principal feature, which is almost a replica of the Australian Imperial Force Memorials erected in France and Belgium.

The heavy concrete foundations are supplemented by heavy brick walls which enclose an inner chamber or crypt. The walls surrounding the crypt are covered with The Roll of Honour; marble tablets which list under their units the names of more than 7,000 members of the services killed in action or as a result of World War One.



**Western Australia State War Memorial Cenotaph, Kings Park (above)
& (below) The Crypt with the Roll of Honour names**

(Photos from Monument Australia – Kent Watson/Sandra Tattersall/Graeme Saunders)





32nd Battalion Panel (Photo courtesy of Gordon Stuart)

(48 pages of Private Franklin Dodd'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

**** Connected to Private Franklin Dodd:**

Private William James Dodd, 4052. Enlisted 12th June, 1916. Wounded in action in France on 11th May, 1917. He was wounded in action (second occasion) on 28th September, 1917. He was medically discharged & returned to Australia on 10th March, 1918. He was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal.

Newspaper Notices

W. A. CASUALTIES

272 CASUALTY LIST

F. DODD, Watheroo, died of illness.

(The Daily News, Perth, W.A. – Thursday 15 February, 1917)

IN MEMORIAM

Anzac Heroes

DODD - In sad but loving memory of our dear son and brother Franklin, who departed this life on January 31 1917, in Fovant Military Hospital, England.

Sleep on, dear son and brother,
 In a grave we'll never see:
But as long as life and memory last
 We will remember thee.

--Inserted by his loving mother, father, brothers, and sisters.

(The West Australian, Perth, W.A. – Thursday 31 January, 1918)

IN MEMORIAM

Anzac Heroes

DODD - In sad but loving memory of our dear son and brother Franklin, who departed this life on January 31 1917, in Fovant Military Hospital, England.

No one knows the silent heartache,
 Only those can tell
Who have lost their best and dearest
 Without a last farewell.
So dearly loved and sadly missed.

--Inserted by his loving mother, father, brothers, and sisters.

(The West Australian, Perth, W.A. – Friday 31 January, 1919)

Family Notices were also placed in the newspaper in 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1935

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 Barford St. Martin Church 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)

A letter from Base Records, dated 8th July, 1921, to Mr J. M. Dodd, Watheroo, Midland Railway, W.A. advised that a letter from the Defence Dept. concerning an inscription on the headstone of his son, the late Pte F. Dodd, had not been answered & non-receipt of a reply within 21 days would have to be accepted as indicating that no further action was to be taken.

Private F. Dodd does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Gone But Not Forgotten

Barford St. Martin Church Cemetery, Wiltshire, England

This cemetery belongs to the Church, and is on the North side of the village. There are 10 Commonwealth War Graves in this Cemetery – 9 from World War 1 (4 Australian Soldiers) & 1 connected to World War 2.



Barford St. Martin Church *(Photo from CWGC)*



Barford St. Martin Church Cemetery *(Photos from CWGC)*





AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00295

Original Grave Markers – Barford St. Martin Church Cemetery

Graves of Australian soldiers in the cemetery at Barford St. Martin's.

*Left to right, graves marked with crosses: **4050 Private Franklin Dodd**, 32nd Battalion, died of sickness 31 January 1917; **4484 Corporal Walter Anderson**, 8th Field Company Engineers, died of sickness 5 October 1918; **5443 Private John Smith**, 54th Battalion, died Sunday 30 June 1918. Private Smith was the alias of William Greenway.*

Photo of Private F. Dodd's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Barford St. Martin Church Cemetery, Wiltshire, England.



(Headstone photos by Lady Linda – Find a Grave)

