

**Lodge Hill Cemetery,
Birmingham, West Midlands**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



1137 CORPORAL

R. A. FERREIRA

AUSTRALIAN FLYING CORPS

No. 71 SQUADRON

15TH OCTOBER, 1917 Age 28

Raymond Augustus FERREIRA

Raymond Augustus Ferreira was born at Brunswick, Victoria in 1889 to parents Francisco & Catherine Ferreira.

Raymond Augustus Ferreira attended school at Dorcas Street, South Melbourne, Camberwell State School & Melbourne High School, Victoria.

The 1913 & 1914 Australian Electoral Rolls for the division of Wannon, subdivision of Hamilton, Victoria recorded Raymond Augustus Ferreira, Mechanic from Hamilton.

Raymond Augustus Ferreira was a 26 year old, single, Engineer's Fitter & Tester from 472 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria when he enlisted on 8th May, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 1034 & his religion was Presbyterian. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr Frank Ferreira, 472 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria. (Francisco/Frank Ferreira was born in Portugal – as listed on Attestation Papers)

[Note: Service Number 1034 was listed on Embarkation Roll & on one copy of the Attestation Papers, however, Service Number 1137 also used on another copy of the Attestation Papers, on Casualty Form – Active Service, Field Service form & other forms. Some forms quoted both service numbers – 1034 & 1137]

Private Raymond Augustus Ferreira was posted to A.M.C. Motor Depot at Geelong & Victoria Barracks on 8th May, 1916 for recruit training.

Private Raymond Augustus Ferreira was transferred on 11th January, 1917 to Australian Flying Corps at Laverton, Victoria.

The Australian Flying Corps

In 1914 Australia's only military aviation base, the Central Flying School, newly established at Point Cook, was equipped with two flying instructors and five flimsy training aircraft. From this modest beginning Australia became the only British dominion to set up a flying corps for service during the First World War. Known as the Australian Flying Corps (AFC) and organised as a corps of the Australian Imperial Force (AIF), its four-line squadrons usually served separately under the orders of Britain's Royal Flying Corps. The AFC's first complete flying unit, No. 1 Squadron, left Australia for the Middle East in March 1916. By late 1917 three more squadrons, Nos 2, 3, and 4, had been formed to fight in France. A further four training squadrons based in England formed an Australian Training Wing to provide pilots for the Western Front.

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It was different for AFC members who served in the Western Front squadrons. Arriving in England between December 1916 and March 1917 and doing eight-months' training before being sent to the front, Nos 2, 3, and 4 Squadrons began their active service at a time when the use of aircraft in war was far more developed. The days when enemy airmen waved to each other on reconnaissance flights were long gone. Aircraft now carried machine-guns as standard equipment, and interrupter gears, developed in 1915, enabled pilots in single-seat fighters to fire straight ahead through their propellers. By 1918 aircraft were being used in a variety of roles: some as fighters, others for reconnaissance or artillery spotting, and others for bombing operations inside enemy territory.

(Information from Australian War Memorial)

Air Mechanic 2nd Class Raymond Augustus Ferreira embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Omrah* (A5) on 17th January, 1917 with the Australian Flying Corps – No. 4 Squadron "B" Flight & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 27th March, 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.

Air Mechanic 2nd Class Raymond Augustus Ferreira was marched in to A.F.C. (Australian Flying Corps) Depot at Perham Downs, Wiltshire, England on 27th March, 1917 from Australia.

Air Mechanic 2nd Class Raymond Augustus Ferreira was transferred to No. 71 Squadron, Australian Flying Corps at Castle Bromwich, Birmingham on 2nd April, 1917.

No. 71 Squadron, Australian Flying Corps

No. 71 Squadron was a Royal Air Force aircraft squadron. The number has been used three times: once by the Royal Flying Corps for an Australian Flying Corps squadron; in the Second World War as the first of three Eagle Squadrons; and post-war as a fighter-bomber unit under the command of Royal Air Force Germany.

First World War:

The first unit known by the British military as "No. 71 Squadron" was No. 4 Squadron, Australian Flying Corps (AFC), during the First World War. The squadron was formed at Point Cook, Victoria, Australia on 16 October 1916, after which it travelled to England. From 27 March 1917, while based at Castle Bromwich, it was designated "No. 71 Squadron" by the Royal Flying Corps, to avoid confusion with No. 4 Squadron, RFC. This name was never officially adopted by the Australian Imperial Force.

(Information from Wikipedia)

Air Mechanic 2nd Class Raymond Augustus Ferreira was reported sick & was admitted to 1st Southern General Hospital, Edgbaston, Birmingham, England on 19th April, 1917 with Bronchitis. He was discharged on 4th May, 1917 fit for duty.

Air Mechanic 2nd Class Raymond Augustus Ferreira was appointed Air Mechanic 1st Class on 1st July, 1917 while with No. 71 Squadron, Australian Flying Corps.

Air Mechanic 1st Class Raymond Augustus Ferreira was promoted to Corporal (Driver) on 1st August, 1917.

Corporal Raymond Augustus Ferreira was admitted to 1st Southern General Hospital, Edgbaston, Birmingham, England on 3rd August, 1917 with Pyrexia (fever of unknown origin). He was reported to be seriously ill on 15th August, 1917.

Base Records advised Mr F. Ferreira, 472 Collins St, Melbourne, Victoria, father of Corporal R. A. Ferreira, on 28th August, 1917 that Private R. A. Ferreira had been admitted to the 1st Southern General Hospital, Birmingham, England on 15th August, 1917 suffering from a severe illness. Mr Ferreira was advised on 10th September, 1917 that Private R. A. Ferreira was suffering from cellulitis – arm & his condition was stationary on 30th August, 1917. Mr F. Ferreira was advised again on 22nd September, 1917 that Private R. A. Ferreira's condition was slightly improved.

Corporal Raymond Augustus Ferreira died at 6.30 pm on 15th October, 1917 at 1st Southern General Hospital, Edgbaston, Birmingham, England from Septic Finger & (2) Septicaemia.

A death for Raymond A. Ferreira, aged 28, was registered in the December quarter, 1917 in the district of Kings Norton, Worcestershire, England.

Base Records advised Mr F. Ferreira on 18th October, 1917 that Private R. A. Ferreira was reported to be seriously ill.

Corporal Raymond Augustus Ferreira was buried at 3 pm on 19th October, 1917 in Lodge Hill Cemetery, Birmingham, West Midlands, England – Grave No. 352. His name is now remembered on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Screen Wall B10. 352 as he does not have a headstone.

From the burial report of Corporal Raymond Augustus Ferreira - Coffin was Elm. The deceased soldier was accorded a full Military Funeral, Firing Party, Band and Bugler being supplied by the Southern Coldfields Command Depot, under the command of Sgt Gayland. The "Last Post" was sounded at the graveside. A squadron of the A.F.C. attended the funeral. Wreaths were sent from the comrades in the 71st Squadron. A memorial will be erected by the Birmingham Corporation.

Names of Relatives or Friends present at the Funeral – Sgt R. D. Perry. A.I.F. Headquarters (friend) & N. Duckett, 71st Squad, A.F.C. (friend).

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Corporal Raymond Augustus Ferreira contains a request from the Red Cross to ascertain the nature of the sickness or wounds of 1137 Corporal R. A. Ferreira, A.F.C. Sergeant Claude Casson, 1st Southern General Hospital, Birmingham, wrote the following report: *“Re 1137 Cpl Raymond Augustus Ferreira, 71st Sqd, A.F.C. He was admitted to Hpl. On the 3rd August, 1917 suffering from scratch to hand, it developed septic which affected him generally, suffering an illness, he died quietly and suddenly from heart failure. He was buried with full military honours at Lodge-Hill Cemetery, Birmingham, a detachment of the Australian Flying Corps, and a representative from A.I.F. Hqts., London, being present. The remains were conveyed on a gun carriage with the Australian flag and an abundance of floral tributes.”*

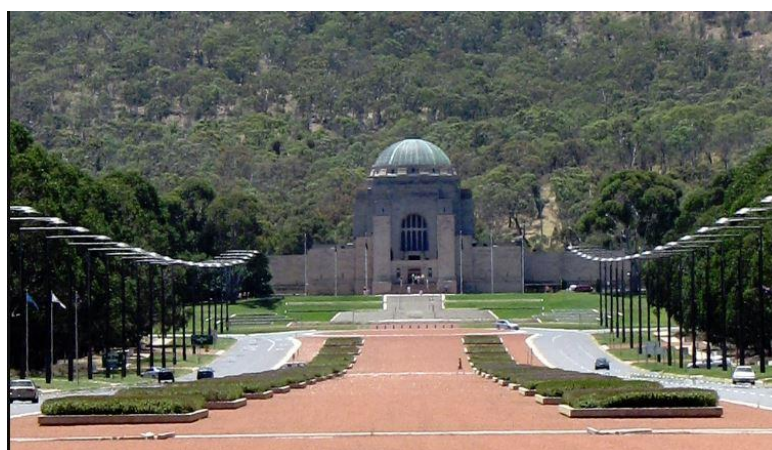
Corporal Raymond Augustus Ferreira was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Corporal Ferreira’s father – Mr F. Ferreira, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll & Plaque sent September, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Corporal Raymond Augustus Ferreira – service number 1137, aged 28, of No. 71 Squadron, Australian Flying Corps. He was the son of Francisco & Catherine Ferreira, of 472 Collins St., Melbourne, Victoria.

Corporal R. A. Ferreira is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 187.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia



R. A. Ferreira is remembered on the Dorcas Street State School Honour Roll, South Melbourne, Victoria.



Dorcas Street State School Honour Roll (Photo from VHG Victoria)

R. A. Ferreira is remembered on the Prahran RSL Honour Roll, located in Prahran RSL, High Street, Prahran, Victoria.



Prahran RSL Honour Roll (Photo from AWM Places of Pride – City of Stonnington)

Corporal Raymond Augustus Ferreira is remembered by the RAAFA Aviation Heritage Museum.



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FERREIRA Raymond Augustus

LEST WE FORGET

Corporal Raymond Augustus FERREIRA

Service No: 1137

Born: Melbourne VIC, September 1889

Enlisted in the Army: 8 May 1916

Unit: No. 4 Squadron, Australian Flying Corps

Died: Illness (Pneumonia), England, 15 October 1917, Aged 28 Years

Buried: Lodge Hill Cemetery, Birmingham, West Midlands

CWGC Additional Information: Son of Franciso and Catherine Ferreira, of 472, Collins St., Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. Born in Victoria

Place of Association: South Melbourne VIC

Remembered: Panel 188, Commemorative Area, Australian War Memorial, Canberra ACT

(67 pages of Corporal Raymond Augustus Ferreira'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, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives



Newspaper Notices

DIED ON SERVICE

FERREIRA – A tribute to the memory of my pal, Corporal R. A. Ferreira (Tim). (Inserted by R. E. Drew)

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 25 October, 1917)

DEATHS

FERREIRA – A tribute to the memory of my dear friend, Corporal Raymond A. Ferreira (Jack), who died in England.

In peace, a friend;

In war, a hero.

At all times a man.

-E. M. Macfarlane

(*Hamilton Spectator*, Victoria – 27 October, 1917)

DIED ON SERVICE

FERREIRA – On the 15th October, at the 1st Southern General Hospital, Birmingham, England, died of cellulitis, Corp, R. A. Ferreira, dearly loved son of F. and C. Ferreira, and brother of Myra and Stanley.

(The Argus, Melbourne, Victoria – 1 November, 1917)

DEATHS

On Active Service

FERREIRA – On the 15th October, at the 1st Southern General Hospital, Birmingham, England, died of cellulitis, Corp, R. A. Ferreira, dearly loved son of F. and C. Ferreira, and brother of Myra and Stanley.

(The Age, Melbourne, Victoria – 1 November, 1917)

DIED ON SERVICE

FERREIRA – A tribute of love to our beloved nephew and cousin, Ray, Ferreira, who died in Birmingham, on October 15, 1917.

Our hero.

-(Aunt, uncle, and cousins, David Arnott, Port Melbourne.)

FERREIRA – A tribute of love to memory of our beloved nephew, Ray, who died in England, 15th October, 1917. (A. Arnott, Western Australia; B. and N. Campbell, Western Australia; J. and A. Morris, Alexandra, Victoria).

FERREIRA – A tribute of love to memory of my nephew, Corporal R. A. Ferreira, who died in England, 15th October, 1917.

Deeply regretted.

-(David Arnott, Port Melbourne)

FERREIRA – On the 15th October, 1917, at 1st Southern General Hospital, Birmingham, England, of cellulitis.

My Tim

-(Ruby Baker, St. Kilda).

(The Argus, Melbourne, Victoria – 3 November, 1917)

DIED ON SERVICE

FERREIRA – On the 15th October, 1917, at 1st Southern General Hospital, Birmingham, England, of cellulitis.

My Tim

-(Ruby Baker, St. Kilda).

(The Australasian, Melbourne, Victoria – 10 November, 1917)

TWO CASUALTY LISTS

Casualty Lists Nos 356 and 357 were released by the Defence Department today...

Died of Wounds

Cpl. R. A. FERREIRA, Melbourne, 15/10/17

(*The Herald*, Melbourne, Victoria – 24 November, 1917)

Died on Active Service

FERREIRA – A tribute to the memory of my dear friend, Corporal R. A. Ferreira, who died at the 1st Southern General Hospital, Birmingham, England, on the 15th October, 1917.

He Died a Hero.

-Inserted by E. Macfarlane.

(*Hamilton Spectator*, Victoria – 15 October, 1918)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for cemeteries and memorials in 23,000 locations, in 153 countries. In all 1.7 million men and women from the Commonwealth forces from WWI and WWII have been honoured and commemorated in perpetuity.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, as part of its mandate, is responsible for commemorating all Commonwealth war dead individually and equally. To this end, the war dead are commemorated by name on a headstone, at an identified site of a burial, or on a memorial. War dead are commemorated uniformly and equally, irrespective of military or civil rank, race or creed.

Not all service personnel have a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. In some instances the relative chose to have their own memorial/headstone placed on the deceased's grave. These private headstones are not maintained by the CWGC as they have no jurisdiction to maintain them.

Corporal R. A. Ferreira does not have CWGC headstone, his name is instead remembered on a CWGC Screen Wall as his grave was one that could not be individually marked with a headstone.

Lodge Hill Cemetery, Birmingham, West Midlands, England

The First World War saw four important hospitals - besides many smaller - posted at Birmingham: the 1st Southern General (3,500 beds) was in the university and other buildings, with a section at Stourbridge; the 2nd/1st Southern General (1,800 beds) in the Dudley Road Infirmary and in billets; the 1st Birmingham War Hospital (1,000 beds) at Rubery Hill Asylum and the 2nd Birmingham War Hospital (900 beds) at Hollymoor Asylum. Military hospitals were at Birmingham again during the Second World War, including No 7 Canadian Hospital at Marston Green. Birmingham and Coventry were among the chief manufacturing areas producing materials for the war effort and were subjected to many devastating air raids during the Blitz of 1940-41.

BIRMINGHAM (LODGE HILL) CEMETERY contains 499 First World War burials, most of them in a war graves plot in Section B10. The names of those buried in the plot, or in graves elsewhere in the cemetery which could not be individually marked, are inscribed on a Screen Wall. Second World War burials number 125, most of them scattered throughout the cemetery, although there is a small plot in Section 2E. Birmingham Municipal Crematorium stands within the cemetery. In the chapel, there is a bronze plaque commemorating 48 servicemen of the Second World War whose remains were cremated there.

(Information from CWGC)



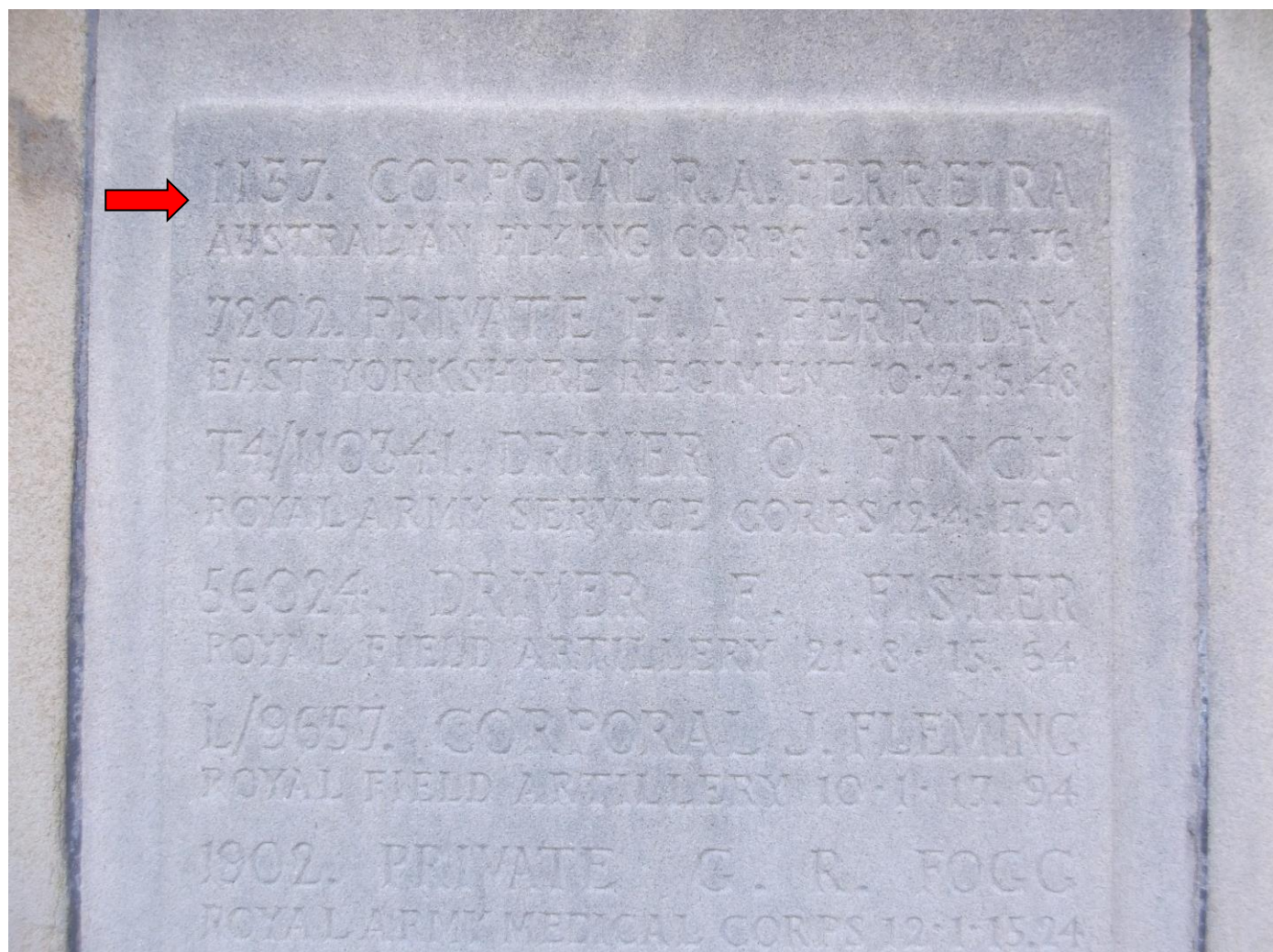
(Photo by Lepidus Magnus)



Lodge Hill Cemetery, Birmingham *(Photos from CWGC)*



Photo of Corporal R. A. Ferreira's name on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission WW1 Screen Wall in Lodge Hill Cemetery, Birmingham, West Midlands, England.



(Photo by Myra Mason – Find a Grave)





WW1 Screen Wall in Garden of Remembrance (Photo by Myra Mason – Find a Grave)



WW2 Garden of Remembrance (Photo by Myra Mason – Find a Grave)

Lodge Hill Cemetery

