

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

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



6762 PRIVATE

J. R. FLANAGAN

16TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

19TH FEBRUARY, 1917 Age 43

*IN LOVING MEMORY
OF OUR ONLY BROTHER*

John Richard FLANAGAN

John Richard Flanagan was born at Healsville, Victoria in 1871 to parents Luke & Annie Flanagan (nee Boland).

John Richard Flanagan attended the State School at Tatura, Victoria.

Anni Flanagan, mother of John Richard Flanagan, died on 25th February, 1898 at Tatura, Victoria.

Luke Flanagan, father of John Richard Flanagan, died on 13th April, 1905 at Tatura, Victoria.

John Flanagan was a 41 year old, single, Post and Telegraph official from Coolgardie, Western Australia when he enlisted on 20th January, 1916 at Black Boy Hill, Western Australia with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Roman Catholic & his next of kin was listed as his sister – Mary Flanagan, Tower Hotel, Russell Street, Melbourne, Victoria.

Private John Richard Flanagan was posted to 45 Depot on 20th January, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to No. 6 Area Depot Battalion on 1st February, 1916 then transferred on 22nd March, 1916 to 17th Reinforcements of 11th Battalion. Private Flanagan was transferred to 18th Reinforcements of 11th Battalion on 10th April, 1916. On 14th August, 1916 he was transferred to 23rd Reinforcements of 16th Battalion then on 4th September, 1916 he was transferred to 22nd Reinforcements of 16th Battalion.

Private John Richard Flanagan, Service number, 6762, embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia on HMAT *Argyllshire (A8)* on 9th November, 1916 with the 4th Infantry Brigade, 16th Infantry Battalion, 22nd Reinforcements & disembarked at Devonport, England on 10th January, 1917.

16th Battalion

The 16th Battalion AIF was raised from 16 September 1914, six weeks after the outbreak of the First World War. Three-quarters of the battalion were recruited in Western Australia, and the rest in South Australia. With the 13th, 14th and 15th Battalions it formed the 4th Brigade commanded by Colonel John Monash....

(Battalion information from The Australian War Memorial)

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 John Richard Flanagan was marched in to 4th Training Battalion at Codford, Wiltshire on 10th January, 1917.

On 24th January, 1917 Private John Richard Flanagan was written up for an offence - neglecting to obey an order. He was awarded 24 hours detention by Major E. Twynam.

Private John Richard Flanagan reported sick to Group Hospital at Codford on 18th February, 1917 from 4th Training Battalion – 1 & 2 Camps, Codford. He was admitted to Hospital at 9.45 pm on 18th February, 1917. The Medical Case Sheet recorded "*Had cough with very excessive muco-purulent sputum for one week. Extreme Dysnoea on exertion. Fainted on two occasions during week. Sharp stabbing pain in right side of chest. To bed on 16-2-17.....*"

Private John Richard Flanagan died at 2 a.m. on 19th February, 1917 of Pneumonia, at No. 3 New Zealand Hospital, Codford, Wiltshire, England (less than 5 hours after being admitted). The Hospital Admission form recorded "*Right Lobar Pneumonia.*"

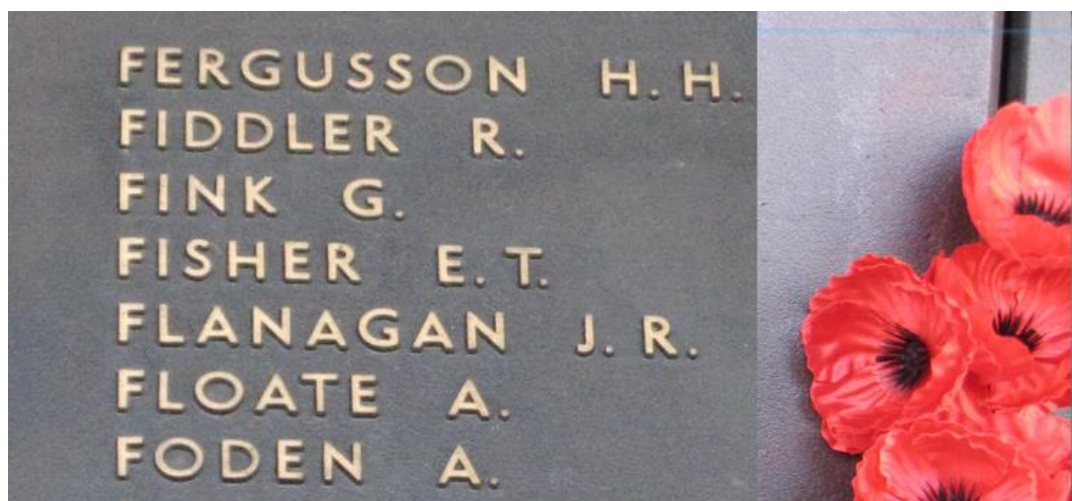
A death for John R Flanagan, aged 41, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Warminster, Wiltshire.

Private John Richard Flanagan was buried on 22nd February, 1917 in St. Mary's New Churchyard, Codford, Wiltshire, England - Grave no. 87.

Private John Richard Flanagan was entitled to the British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque & Private Flanagan's War Medal were not able to be sent to Private Flanagan's sister that was listed as his next of kin – Miss Mary Flanagan, as he had an older sister – Mrs M. J. Murtoogh & she was the one that was entitled to receive his medal, Scroll & Plaque sent October, 1922 & May, 1923.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private John Richard Flanagan – service number 6762, aged 43, of 16th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Luke & Annie Flanagan.

Private J. R. Flanagan is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 79.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

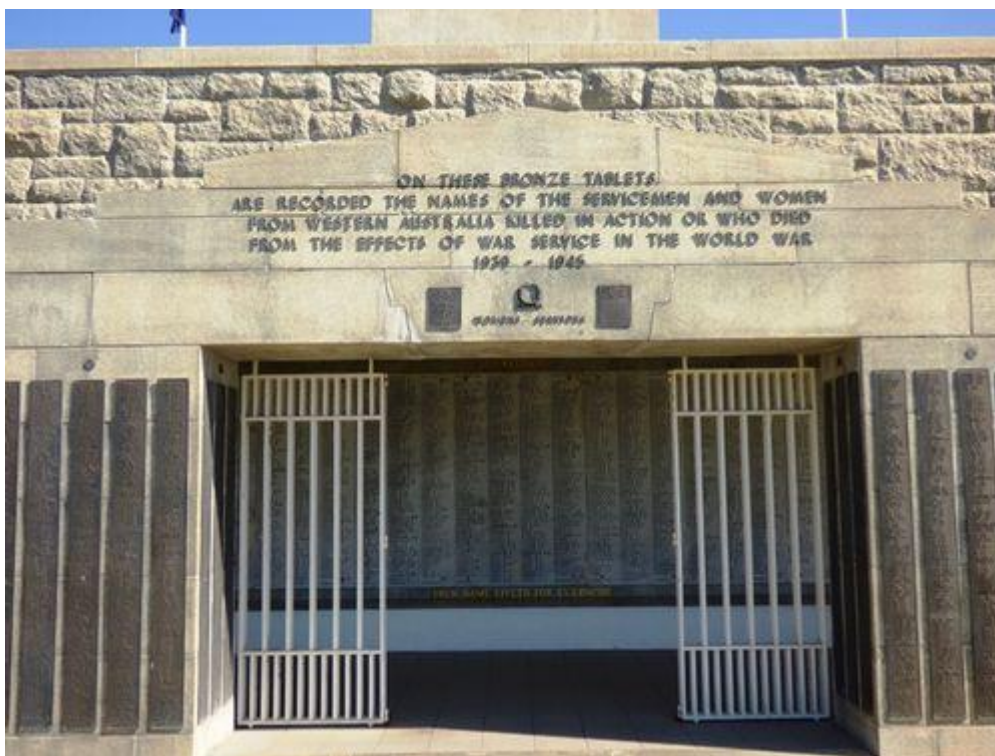
J. R. Flanagan is remembered on the Western Australia State War Memorial which is located at the top of Kings Park and Botanic Garden escarpment, ANZAC Bluff, Fraser Avenue, Perth, Western Australia. The memorial was developed around an 18 metre tall obelisk as the principal feature, which is almost 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)





16th Battalion Panel (Photo courtesy of Gordon Stuart)

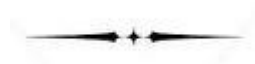
The Coolgardie War Memorial, located at RSL Sub-Branch, Bayley & Ford Streets, Coolgardie, Western Australia does not list individual names.



Coolgardie War Memorial (Photo from Monument Australia – Henry Moulds)

(38 pages of Private John Richard Flanagan'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



Newspaper Reports

ROLL OF HONOUR - 276th CASUALTY LIST

DEATHS

J. R. Flanagan (Melbourne, V.) died of illness

(Western Mail, Perth, Western Australia, Friday 9th March, 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 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 J. R. Flanagan does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

*IN LOVING MEMORY
OF OUR ONLY BROTHER*

St. Mary's New Churchyard, 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)

There are 31 WW1 Australian War Graves & 66 WW1 New Zealand War Graves located here. There is one WW1 British Royal Army Medical Corp Grave & one WW2 Welsh Guards grave located in this Churchyard.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00275



St. Mary's New Churchyard, Codford *(Photos courtesy of Romy Wyeth)*





New Zealand Section of Codford Anzac War Graves Cemetery (Photo by Romy Wyeth 2013)



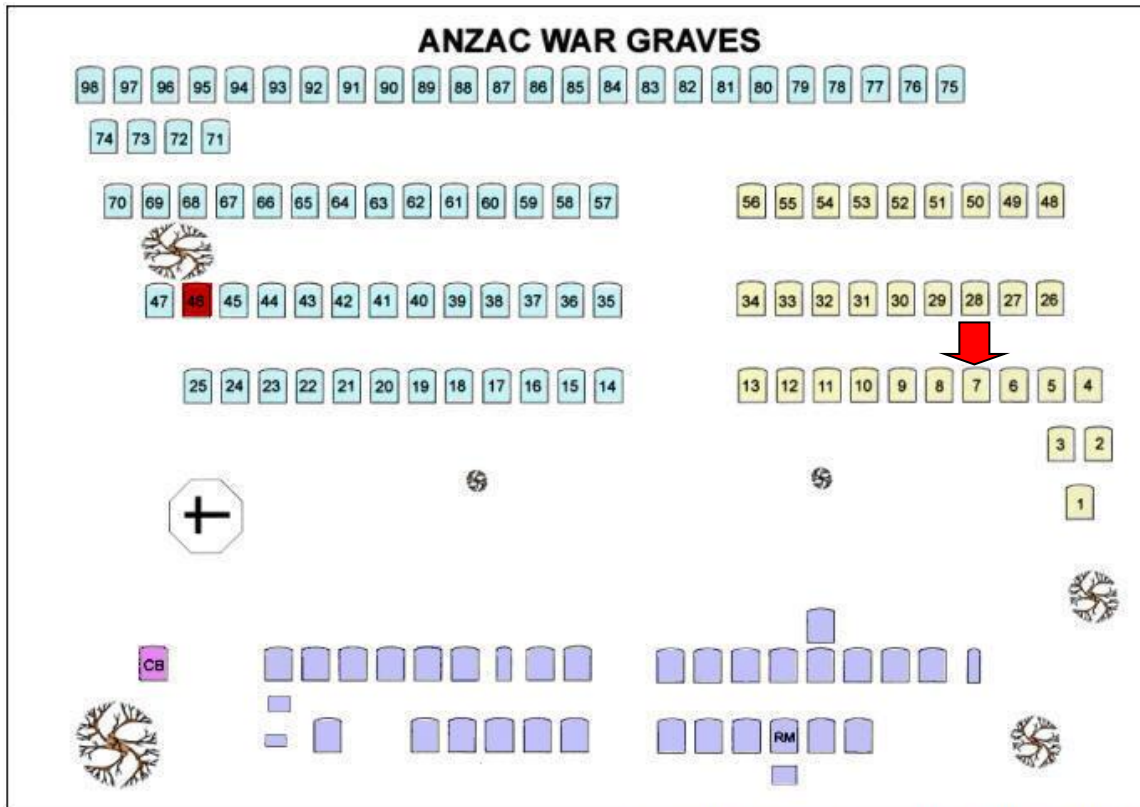
Photo of Private J. R. Flanagan's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in St. Mary's New Churchyard, Codford, Wiltshire, England. Also known as Codford Anzac War Graves Cemetery, Wiltshire.



(Photo courtesy of Romy Wyeth)

Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Private J. R. Flanagan is located in Main Front Row

Grave Plot # 7 of Codford War Graves Cemetery (CWGC Reference - Grave # 87)



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

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