

**Melcombe Regis Cemetery,
Weymouth, Dorset, England**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



2081 PRIVATE

F. P. FRASER

AUST. ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

14TH NOVEMBER, 1918 Age 23

Frank Percival FRASER

Frank Percival Fraser was born at Albert Park, Melbourne, Victoria in 1894 to parents George Alfred & Mary Emma Fraser (nee Webster). His birth was registered in 1895 (Reg. No. 14/1895)

Frank Percival Fraser attended State School at Elsternwick, Victoria.

Frank Percival Fraser was a 20 year old, single, Salesman (according to information provided by his father for the Roll of Honour – George was a Clerk with British Tobacco Co. (Australia) Ltd) from Elsternwick, Victoria when he enlisted on 3rd February, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Presbyterian & his next of kin was listed as his father – Mr G. A. Fraser, “Selwyn” Downshire Road, Elsternwick, Victoria. Frank Fraser stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served with Senior Cadets.

Private Frank Percival Fraser was posted to 6th Field Ambulance on 3rd February, 1915. He was transferred to 1st Australian General Hospital on 31st March, 1915.

Private Frank Percival Fraser, Service number 2081, embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Kyarra (A55)* on 13th April, 1915 (the Statement of Service form recorded he embarked from Australia on 10th April, 1915) with the First Australian General Hospital – Special Reinforcements.

(Note: There is another entry on the Embarkation Roll for Private Frank Percy Fraser, 2081. He is listed under the 1st Australian General Hospital, Army Medical Corps, Reinforcements with the same details except the father's address is recorded as “Telwyn” Downshire Road, Elsternwick, Victoria.)

Private Frank Percival Fraser reported for duty with 1st Australian General Hospital on 31st May, 1915.

Private Frank Percival Fraser was transferred & taken on strength of 2nd Field Ambulance at Serapeum on 18th March, 1916 from Reinforcements.

Private Frank Percival Fraser proceeded from Alexandria on 23rd March, 1916 on *Briton* to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force). He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 30th March, 1916.

Private Frank Percival Fraser was awarded 2 days confined to Barracks with 1 hour pack drill daily on 16th April, 1916 while posted in France as a result of “*conduct prejudicial to good order & military discipline in that he fell off Parade without permission.*”

Private Frank Percival Fraser was admitted to No. 2 Field Ambulance, as a patient, on 8th May, 1916 with a sprained Ankle. He was discharged on 12th May, 1916. (Note: another entry on the Casualty Form – Active Service recorded Private Fraser was admitted to 2nd Field Ambulance on 8th May, 1916 with Sprained ankle & Tonsillitis.)

Private Frank Percival Fraser reported sick on 18th November, 1916*. He was admitted to 36th Casualty Clearing Station on 17th November, 1916* with Influenza. (* dates as per Casualty Form – Active Service). Private Fraser was transferred to 29th Ambulance Train on 18th November, 1916 & admitted to 1st Australian General Hospital at Rouen on 19th November, 1916. Private Fraser was transferred to England on 25th November, 1916 on Hospital Ship *St. George*.

Private Frank Percival Fraser was admitted to 3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford, England on 29th December, 1916 (possibly should be November but date as per Casualty Form – Active Service) with Influenza & Laryngitis. He was discharged to furlo from 5th January to 20th January, 1917 & was then to report to Perham Downs.

Private Frank Percival Fraser was marched in to No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs, Wiltshire on 22nd January, 1917 from Furlo & was medical classified as B1A.

Private Frank Percival Fraser was admitted to 1st Australian Dermatological Hospital, Bulford, Wiltshire on 23rd January, 1917 with V.D. He was discharged to Depot on 24th March, 1917 – total VD period – 61 days. Private Fraser was marched in to No. 1 Command Depot on 27th March, 1917.

Private Frank Percival Fraser was marched out from No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs on 30th March, 1917 to Wareham.

Private Frank Percival Fraser was written up for an Offence at Wareham – A.W.L. (Absent without Leave) from 4 pm on 29th March, 1917 till 2 pm on 30th March, 1917. He was awarded 5 days Field Punishment No. 2 by Colonel Martin & a total forfeiture of 6 days pay.

Base Records wrote to Mrs M. Fraser , “Selwyn” Downshire Road, Elsternwick, Victoria, on 10th May, 1917 advising “No. 2081 Private Frank Percival Fraser, 2nd Field Ambulance, Australian Imperial Force, was admitted to Australian & New Zealand Convalescent Hospital, Helouan, on 10th December, 1915, suffering with Debility; no further record available.”

Base Records wrote to The General Secretary, Australian Natives’ Association, Melbourne on 12th July, 1917 advising them of details of when No. 2081 Private Frank Percival Fraser, 2nd Field Ambulance, Australian Imperial Force had been in Hospital.

D.L.R. AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.
2nd F.A./2081

BASE RECORDS OFFICE,
VICTORIA BARRACKS,
MELBOURNE. 12th July, 1917.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that, according to the records, No. 2081, Private Frank Percival Fraser, 2nd Field Ambulance, Australian Imperial Force, was admitted to Australian & New Zealand Convalescent Hospital, Helouan, on 10th December, 1915, suffering with Debility; date of return to duty not yet available; admitted to 3rd Auxiliary Hospital on 29th December, 1916, suffering with Influenza and Laryngitis; no further record available.

Private Frank Percival Fraser was transferred from 16th Field Ambulance Hospital, Tidworth to Fovant Military Hospital, Wiltshire on 6th August, 1917 with an injury to his Ankle & was discharged to Duty on 16th August, 1917.

Base Records wrote to The General Secretary, Australian Natives’ Association, Melbourne on 6th September, 1917 advising them of details of when No. 2081 Private Frank Percival Fraser, 2nd Field Ambulance, Australian Imperial Force had been in Hospital.

2nd F.A./2081

BASE RECORDS OFFICE,
VICTORIA BARRACKS,
MELBOURNE. 6th September, 1917.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that, according to the records, No. 2081, Private Frank Percival Fraser, 2nd Field Ambulance, Australian Imperial Force, was admitted to Australian & New Zealand Convalescent Hospital, Helouan, on 10th December, 1915, suffering with Debility - date of return to duty not yet available; admitted to Hospital, France, sick, on 18th November, 1916; transferred to England on 25th November, 1916, and admitted to Hospital suffering with Influenza; transferred to 3rd Auxiliary Hospital on 29th December, 1916, suffering with Influenza and Laryngitis; no further record available.

Private Frank Percival Fraser was marched out from Fovant on 22nd September, 1917 & was marched in to A.A.M.C. (Australian Army Medical Corps) Training Depot at Parkhouse, Wiltshire on 23rd September, 1917.

Private Frank Percival Fraser proceeded overseas to France via Southampton on 12th October, 1917 from A.M.C. T.D. (Army Medical Corps Training Depot). He was marched in to A.G.B.D. (Australian General Base Depot) at Rouelles, France on 13th October, 1917. Private Fraser was marched out from A.G.B.D. on 16th October, 1917 & rejoined his Unit (2nd Field Ambulance) in the Field on 18th October, 1917.

Private Frank Percival Fraser was wounded in action - Gassed (shell) on 7th November, 1917 in Belgium. He was admitted to 3rd Field Ambulance on 7th November, 1917 then transferred & admitted to 24th General Hospital at Etaples, France on 8th November, 1917. Private Fraser embarked for England on 11th November, 1917 on Hospital Ship *Stad Antwerpen*.

Private Frank Percival Fraser was admitted to the Horton (County of London) War Hospital, Epsom, England on 11th November, 1917 with Shell Gas poisoning – slight. He was transferred to 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield on 24th December, 1917. Private Fraser was discharged on 28th December, 1917 to No. 3 Command Depot at Hurdcott, Wiltshire.

Mrs M. Fraser, "Selwyn" Downshire Rd, Elsternwick, Victoria was advised by Base Records on 1st December, 1917 that Private F. P. Fraser had been admitted to Horton County of London War Hospital Epsom, England on 11th November, 1917 suffering from the effects of gas poisoning.

Private Frank Percival Fraser was attached to No. 2 Group Clearing Hospital at Hurdcott for duty from 28th December, 1917 from 2nd Field Ambulance & medically classified as C1 (permanently unfit for General Service but fit for Home Service).

Private Frank Percival Fraser was medically classified as B1B on 30th December, 1917 while posted at No. 3 Command Depot, Hurdcott.

Base Records wrote to The General Secretary, Australian Natives' Association, Melbourne on 25th February, 1918 advising them of details of when No. 2081 Private Frank Percival Fraser had been in Hospital.

7th January, 1918.

No. 2081, Private Frank Percival Fraser, 16th (late 2nd) Field Ambulance, Australian Imperial Force, was admitted to Australian & New Zealand Convalescent Hospital, Helouan, on 10th December, 1915, suffering with Debility - date of return to duty not yet available; admitted to Hospital, France, sick, on 18th November, 1916; transferred to England on 25th November, 1916, and admitted to Hospital suffering with Influenza; transferred to 3rd Auxiliary Hospital on 29th December, 1916, suffering with Influenza and Laryngitis - date of return to duty not yet available; admitted to Horton County of London War Hospital on 11th November, 1917, suffering with Gas Poisoning; no further record available.

Base Records wrote to The General Secretary, Australian Natives' Association, Melbourne on 25th February, 1918 advising them of details of when No. 2081 Private Frank Percival Fraser had been in Hospital.

25th February, 1918.

No. 2081, Private Frank Percival Fraser, 16th (late 2nd) Field Ambulance, Australian Imperial Force, was admitted to Australian & New Zealand Convalescent Hospital, Helouan, on 10th December, 1915, suffering with Debility - date of return to duty not yet available; admitted to Hospital, France, sick, on 18th November, 1916; transferred to England on 25th November, 1916, and admitted to Hospital suffering with Influenza; transferred to 3rd Auxiliary Hospital on 29th December, 1916, suffering with Influenza and Laryngitis - date of return to duty not yet available; transferred from 16th Field Ambulance Hospital, Tidworth, to Fovant Military Hospital on 6th August, 1917, suffering with Injury to Ankle - date of return to duty not yet available; admitted to Horton County of London War Hospital on 11th November, 1917, suffering with Gas Poisoning; no further record available.-----

Private Frank Percival Fraser was written up for an Offence on 26th April, 1918 while posted at No. 3 Command Depot, Hurdcott– At Salisbury - Neglected to obey R.O. (Routine Order) 719 of 22nd June, 1917 – re Bounds. He was awarded 4 days confined to Camp on 29th April, 1918 by Lieutenant Colonel Flintoff.

Base Records wrote to The General Secretary, Australian Natives' Association, Melbourne on 1st May, 1918 advising them of details of when No. 2081 Private Frank Percival Fraser had been in Hospital.

1st May, 1918.

No. 2081, Private Frank Percival Fraser, 16th (late 2nd) Field Ambulance, Australian Imperial Force, was admitted to Australian & New Zealand Convalescent Hospital, Helouan, on 10th December, 1915, suffering with Debility - date of return to duty not yet available; admitted to Hospital, France, sick, on 18th November, 1916; transferred to England on 25th November, 1916, and admitted to Hospital suffering with Influenza; transferred to 3rd Auxiliary Hospital on 29th December, 1916, suffering with Influenza, and Laryngitis - date of return to duty not yet available; transferred from 16th Field Ambulance Hospital, Tidworth, to Fovant Military Hospital on 6th August, 1917, suffering with Injury to Ankle - date of return to duty not yet available; admitted to Horton County of London War Hospital on 11th November, 1917, suffering with Gas Poisoning; transferred to 1st Auxiliary Hospital on 24th December, 1917; discharged from Hospital on 28th December, 1917.-----

Private Frank Percival Fraser was written up for an Offence on 29th June, 1918 while posted at No. 3 Command Depot, Hurdcott– At Burcombe - Neglected to obey R.O. (Routine Order) 719 of 22nd June, 1917 – re Bounds. He was awarded 4 days confined to Camp on 2nd July, 1918 by Lieutenant Colonel H. Jackson.

Private Frank Percival Fraser was written up for an Offence on 16th July, 1918 while posted at No. 3 Command Depot, Hurdcott– At Bristol – A.W.L. (Absent without Leave) from midnight on 15th July, 1918 till 6.50 am on 16th July, 1918. He was awarded 2 days Field Punishment No. 2 on 18th July, 1918 & a total forfeiture of 3 days pay by Lieutenant Colonel A. Jackson.

Private Frank Percival Fraser was attached for duty with No. 2 Group Clearing Hospital & was marched out to No. 2 Command Depot at Weymouth on 18th September, 1918.

Private Frank Percival Fraser was marched in to No. 2 Command depot at Weymouth, Dorset on 18th September, 1918 from No. 3 Command Depot at Hurdcott & was medically classified as C1 (permanently unfit for General Service but fit for Home Service).

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 & also the county of Dorset. Later Training & Convalescing Units were combined under the one Command Depot.

Base Records wrote to The General Secretary, Australian Natives' Association, Melbourne on 7th November, 1918 advising them of details of when No. 2081 Private Frank Percival Fraser, 2nd Field Ambulance, Australian Imperial Force had been in Hospital.

7th November, 1918.

No. 2081 Private Frank Percival Fraser, 16th Field Ambulance, Australian Imperial Force, was:-

10/12/15	Admitted to Australian & New Zealand Convalescent Hospital suffering with debility - date of return to duty not yet available.
17/11/16	Admitted to Hospital, France, sick.
25/11/16	Transferred to England and admitted to hospital - Influenza.
29/12/16	Transferred to 3rd Auxiliary Hospital suffering with Influenza and Laryngitis.
5/1/17	Discharged from hospital.
6/8/17	Admitted to 16th Field Ambulance, Tidworth, suffering with Injury to ankle.
16/8/17	Discharged from hospital.
11/11/17	Admitted to Horton County of London War Hospital suffering with Gas Poisoning.
24/12/17	Transferred to 1st Auxiliary Hospital.
28/12/17	Discharged from hospital.

Private Frank Percival Fraser died on 14th November, 1918 at Monte Video Camp Hospital, Weymouth, Dorset, England from Influenza.

A death for Frank P. Fraser, aged 24, was registered in the December quarter, 1918 in the district of Weymouth, Dorset, England.

Private Frank Percival Fraser was buried on 18th November, 1918 in Melcombe Regis Cemetery, Weymouth, Dorset, England – Grave number 3058 Section C.

From the burial report of Private Frank Percival Fraser - *Coffin was good. Polished Elm. Brass Mounts. Deceased was buried with full Military honours the coffin draped with the Australian flag being borne to the graveside on a Gun-carriage drawn by members of the A.I.F. Six of deceased's late Unit comrades supported the Pall and three Officers and about 150 N.C.O.'s and Men attended the funeral as mourners and were present at the graveside ceremony. Wreaths from "Kate" and Mrs Smith (Weymouth) on behalf of deceased's Mother were placed on the grave. Headquarters, A.I.F. Depots in United Kingdom were represented at the funeral.*

Private Frank Percival Fraser's burial place is now recorded by CWGC as Plot number II. C. 2058 and he now has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Mrs M. Fraser, "Selwyn" Downshire Rd, Elsternwick, Victoria was advised by Base Records on 19th November, 1918 that Private F. P, Fraser had been admitted to Camp Hospital, Weymouth, England on 9th November, 1918 seriously ill suffering from pneumonia.

Private Frank Percival Fraser requested in his Will dated 29th June, 1917 that all his real & personal estate be bequeathed to his mother – Mrs G. A. Fraser, "Selwyn" Downshire Rd, Elsternwick, Melbourne, Victoria.

Base Records wrote to The General Secretary, Australian Natives' Association, Melbourne on 13th June, 1918 advising them of details of when No. 2081 Private Frank Percival Fraser had been in Hospital.

M44/173. 13th June, 1918

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that according to the records of this Office at this date, No. 2081 Private Frank Percival Fraser, 2nd Australian Field Ambulance, Australian Imperial Force, was:-

10/12/15	Admitted to Australian & New Zealand Convalescent Hospital, Helouan, suffering with Debility. Date of return to duty not yet available.
8/5/16	Admitted to 2nd Field Ambulance, France, suffering with Sprained ankle and tonsillitis.
12/5/16	Discharged from hospital.
17/11/16	Admitted to 36th Casualty Clearing Station, suffering with Influenza.
18/11/16	Transferred to 29th Ambulance Train.
19/11/16	Transferred to 1st Australian General Hospital.
25/11/16	Transferred to England, and admitted to hospital.
29/12/16	Transferred to 3rd Auxiliary Hospital - Influenza.
5/1/17	Discharged from hospital.
6/3/17	Admitted to Povent Military Hospital, Sick.
16/8/17	Discharged to duty.
7/11/17	Wounded in action (Gassed) and admitted to 3rd Field Ambulance.
8/11/17	Transferred to 24th General Hospital.
11/11/17	Transferred to England.
11/11/17	Admitted to Horton County of London War Hospital, suffering with Gas Poisoning.
24/12/17	Transferred to 1st Auxiliary Hospital.
26/12/17	Returned to duty.
9/11/18	Admitted to Camp Hospital, Weymouth, suffering with Pneumonia.
14/11/18	Died at Monte Video Hospital, Weymouth, of Influenza.

J.M. [Signature] Major.
Officer in Charge Base Records.

The General Secretary,
Australian Natives' Association,
Prell's Buildings,
Collins & Queen Streets,

Base Records Melbourne, Victoria wrote to Records Section, A.I.F. Headquarters, Cairo, Egypt on 13th June, 1919 with the following letter regarding the late No. 2081 Private F. P. Fraser, 2nd Australian Field Ambulance: *"Next-of-kin of the abovenamed desiring to collect certain benefit payments from a Lodge, requires the date of return to duty from admission to Australian & New Zealand Convalescent Hospital, Helouan, suffering with debility on 10/12/15."*

The Officer in charge Records, Australian Headquarters, Egypt, replied to Base Records Melbourne, on 4th September, 1919 with the following: *"With reference to your memorandum of 13th June 1919, relative to the late No 2081 Private F. P. Fraser 2nd Australian Field Ambulance. It is advised that this matter was referred to London as the soldier concerned served in A.I.F., B.E.F. Replay as follows has been received from Officer i/c Records, London: "In reply to your 76011 of 28th ultimo, you are advised that no record is held in this office of the above named soldier's admission and discharged from Hospital on 10.12.15."*

Base Records contacted Mrs M. Fraser, "Selwyn" Downshire Road, Elsternwick, Victoria, on 20th August, 1920 stating she was noted as the registered next-of-kin of the late No. 2081 Private F. P. Fraser, 2nd Field Ambulance, but desired to know if there were any nearer blood relatives than herself. A list of relations was listed near the bottom of the form – Father or Mother or Eldest brother or Eldest Sister. (Note: "Deceased Soldiers Estates Act 1918" stated that the War Medals & Mementoes of a deceased soldier were to be handed in the following order of relationship – Widow, eldest surviving son, eldest surviving daughter, father, mother, eldest surviving brother, eldest surviving sister etc.)

Mary Fraser replied to Base Records on 26th August, 1920 advising *"I am the mother of the late No. 2081 Private F. P. Fraser. I know of no nearer blood relation."*

Base Records replied to Mrs M. Fraser in September, 1920 with the following: *"... I shall be much obliged if you will favour me with a definite statement as to whether deceased's father is living, in order that I may be in a position to properly dispose of the 1914/15 Star, and other war medals, etc. when available, due on account of your son's services. Thanking you in anticipation of the favour of an early reply."*

Mary Fraser, 40 Downshire Rd, Elsternwick, replied to Base Records on 6th September, 1920 advising *"... next of kin to No. 2081 Pte F. P. Fraser 2nd Field Ambulance I beg to inform you that his father is living & his address is as above. I am sorry I did not grasp the roper meaning of your first communication, thereby giving you extra trouble."*

Private Frank Percival Fraser was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Fraser's father – Mr G. A. Fraser, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent August, 1921 & Plaque sent February, 1923).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Frank Percival Fraser – service number 2081, aged 23, of 2nd Field Ambulance, Australian Army Medical Corps. He was the son of George Alfred and Mary Fraser.

Private F. P. Fraser is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 182.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

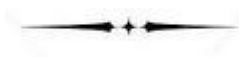
F. Frazer is remembered on the Caulfield RSL Honour Board, located in Caulfield RSL, 4 St George's Road, Elsternwick, Victoria.



Caulfield RSL Honour Board (Photo from AWM Places of Pride – Caulfield RSL)

(93 pages of Private Frank Percival Fraser'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

FRASER On the 14th November, of influenza, at Monte Video Hospital, Weymouth, England, Private Frank P. Fraser, 2nd Field Ambulance, beloved son of George and Mary Fraser, and brother of Elsie and George (on active service), 40 Downshire road, Elsternwick, 3 years and 9 months' service, aged 24 years.

(The Argus, Melbourne, Victoria – 27 November, 1918)

TOLL OF WAR

FINAL CASUALTY LIST

LIST NO. 450

DIED FROM OTHER CAUSES

Pte F. P. Fraser, Elsternwick

(The Evening Echo, Ballarat, Victoria- 7 December, 1918)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

FRASER – In loving memory of Private F. P. Fraser, 2nd Field Ambulance, A.I.F., who died at Weymouth on 14th November, 1918, after 4 years' service, beloved son of G. A. and M. Fraser, brother of Elsie and George (returned).

“Selwyn,” Downshire-road, Elsternwick.

FRASER – In loving memory of our dear friend, Private Frank P. Faser, who died on service 14th November, 1918.

Underneath are the everlasting arms.

-Mr and Mrs Shirley Coulson, “Waroonga,” Elsternwick.

FRASER – In fond memory of our dear pal, Private Frank P. Fraser, who died on service 14th November, 1918.

-G.M., E. H. C. (late A.I.F.)

(The Age, Melbourne, Victoria – 14 November, 1919)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

FRASER – In loving memory of our dear friend, Private Frank P. Faser, who died on service, 14th November, 1918.

Underneath are the everlasting arms.

-(Mr and Mrs Shirley Coulson, Waroonga, Elsternwick).

FRASER – In fond memory of our dear pal, Private Frank P. Fraser, who died on service, November 14, 1918.

-(G.M., E. H. C., late A.I.F.)

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 14 November, 1919)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

FRASER – In fond memory of our dear pal, Frank Fraser, A.A.M.C., who died on the 17th November, 1918, in England, after 4 years' service.

(H.C. and G. M., late A.I.F., Elsternwick)

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 17 November, 1920)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

FRASER – In loving memory of Frank P. Fraser, 2nd Field Ambulance, A.I.F., who died at Weymouth on the 14th November, 1918, after 4 years service, beloved son of George and Mary Fraser, brother of Elsie and George (late A.I.F.). "Selwyn" Downshire-road, Elsternwick.

(*The Age*, Melbourne, Victoria – 14 November, 1921)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

FRASER – In loving memory of Pte Frank P. Fraser, late 2nd Field Ambulance, A.I.F., who died at Weymouth on 14th November, 1918, beloved son of G. and M. Fraser, and brother of Elsie and George, Downshire-road, Elsternwick.

(*The Age*, Melbourne, Victoria – 15 November, 1924)

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 Frank Percival Fraser does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Melcombe Regis Cemetery, Weymouth, Dorset, England

Weymouth became a depot for Australian forces in 1916 and 83 of the 147 First World War burials in Melcombe Regis Cemetery are of Australian servicemen; most of these graves are scattered in the old part. The 36 Second World War burials are in the extension. The cemetery also contains seven war graves of other nationalities and one non-war burial.

(Information from CWGC)





AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00333

Australian graves in the cemetery at Melcombe Regis. March 1919

Identified, front row, left to right: unidentified; Butler; 5917 Private Edgar Allan Thornell, 22nd Battalion (Bn), died 9 August 1918; 1207 Corporal Jesse Adams Davis, 12th Bn, died 15 November 1918.

Back row: 5329 Private Frederick Albert Archer, Anzac Provost Company, died 6 November 1918; 5990 Private Albert Robert Blackmore, 12th Bn, died 2 November 1918; 11099 Driver Matthew Charles Percival Nettle, 6th Australian Field Artillery Brigade, died 22 October 1918; 3942 Private Walter Alick Weckman, 51st Bn, died 9 November 1918.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00332

Some of the Australian graves in the cemetery at Melcombe Regis. March 1919

Identified, left to right: Captain Francis Arthur Deravin, Australian Army Medical Corps, died 8 July 1917 aged 41 years (large headstone); 138 Private Louis Nelson Matthews, 27th Battalion, 4 July 1917; 5082 Private Victor George Smith, 21st Battalion, died 13 November 1918.



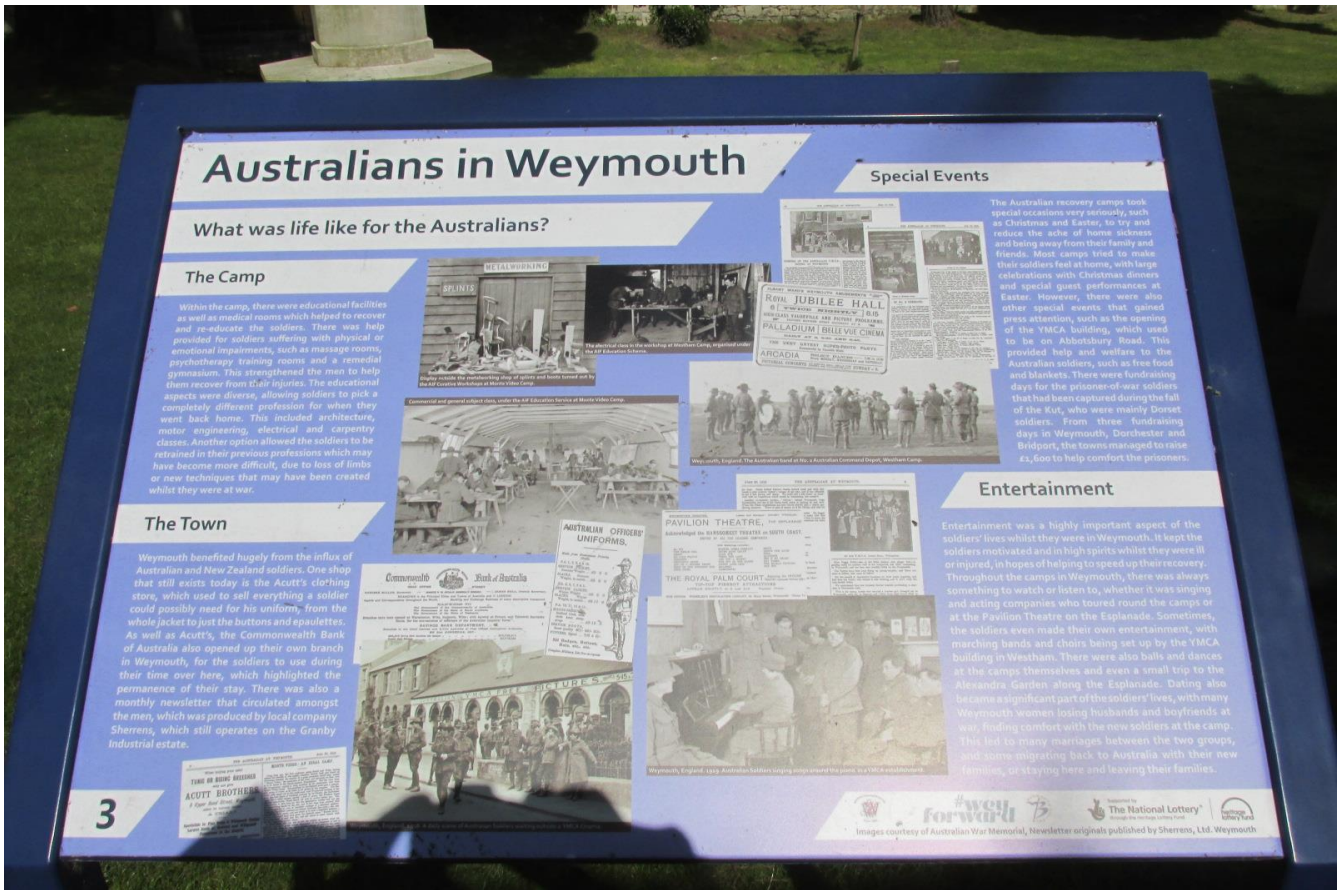
(Photos courtesy of Steve Stewart)





(Photos courtesy of Steve Stewart)





(Photos courtesy of Steve Stewart)



Photo of Private F. P. Fraser's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Melcombe Regis Cemetery, Weymouth, Dorset, England.



(Photo courtesy of Allan Wood)

Australians in Weymouth

From Weymouth to Auswey - A Soldier's Recovery



During the First World War between 1914 and 1918, many injured soldiers who were mainly from Australia and New Zealand, were brought to Weymouth. They were known as ANZACS (Australian and New Zealand Army Corps). They were placed in Repatriation and Recuperation camps in Westham, Littlehampton, Chichester and Portland. This was in the hope of sending them back to the line of action in France or back home to Australia, due to lack of fitness. Weymouth was picked as the place to set up camp, as it was seen as a relaxing seaside location. This would help to heal the sick and injured Australians who had been fighting in major battles of the war or on the Western Front between France and Belgium.



Although thousands of ANZACS passed through Weymouth during the First World War, there are some soldiers who unfortunately did not make it home. These soldiers are proudly buried in the Melcombe Regis cemetery. This is only 500 metres away from one of the major camps in Westham, with 343 soldiers buried in the cemetery. 83 from Australia and 3 from New Zealand. These graves are similar to some of the war memorials and graves placed around Europe, much like the Somme in France. Unfortunately, there are too many grave names to be displayed on this board, but they can be found on the website link at the bottom of this board.



Past and Present Westham

As you can see on the map of the Westham camp, many of the street names have an Australian connection, highlighting the history of the area. Residents of the housing estates, which are now built where the camp once stood, are still digging up remains of the camp, such as bullets or cooking equipment.



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| Modern Day Street Names | Westham Camp - December 1916 |
| Street Clean | Soldiers Huts |
| Susan Road | Company Officers |
| Diamond Road | Regimental Institute |
| Fitchner Road | Ministry Rifle Range |
| Corporation Road | Officers Mess |
| Short Road | Showers Block |
| Longcroft Road | Vehicle Shed, Mob Stone |
| Wessex Road | Horse Shelter |
| Porth Street | Coal Yard |
| Melbourne Street | Cook House |
| Adelaide Crescent | YMCA |
| Abbotsbury Road | Dung Pit |
| Sydney Street | Fire Hydrant |
| Shirecroft Road | |

#weyforward
www.westhamcommunitygroup.co.uk
The National Lottery
Images courtesy of Australian War Memorial

(Photo courtesy of Steve Stewart)