

**Arnos Vale Cemetery,  
Bristol, England  
War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**2235 PRIVATE**

**F. G. ROBINSON**

**48TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**27TH AUGUST, 1917 Age 41**

## Frederick George ROBINSON

Frederick George Robinson was born at Mount Gambier, South Australia on 14th September, 1876 to parents James and Elise Louise Robinson (nee Lewis).

Frederick George Robinson attended school at Worrolong, near Mount Gambier, South Australia.

James Robinson, father of Frederick George Robinson, died 24th December, 1901 at Mount Gambier, South Australia.

Frederick George Robinson married Martha Douglas on 14th January, 1904 at The Manse, Mount Gambier, South Australia. They had the following children John Douglas Robinson (born 4th May, 1904), Walter James Robinson (born 11th March, 1906), Martha Jean Robinson (born 11th March, 1908) & William Mervin Robinson (born 19th November, 1910 – died 7th December, 1910).

Frederick George Robinson was a 39 year old, married, Labourer (listed as Farmer by his wife for the Roll of Honour) from Mil-Lel, Mount Gambier, South Australia when he enlisted on 10th April, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 2235 & his religion was Presbyterian. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs Martha Robinson, Mil-Lel, Mount Gambier, South Australia.

Private Frederick George Robinson was posted to "B" Company, 2nd Depot Battalion on 9th May, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to 4th Reinforcements of 48th Battalion at Mitcham on 1st June, 1916.

Private Frederick George Robinson embarked from Adelaide, South Australia on HMAT *Ballarat (A70)* on 12th August, 1916 with the 48th Infantry Battalion, 4th Reinforcements & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 30th September, 1916.

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 Frederick George Robinson was sent sick to Hospital on 20th October, 1916 from 12th Training Battalion, No. 14 Camp at Codford, Wiltshire, England.

Private Frederick George Robinson was admitted to 2nd Auxiliary Hospital, Southall, England on 28th October, 1916 with Pneumonia. He was discharged to Weymouth on 7th November, 1916.

Private Frederick George Robinson was marched in to No. 2 Australian Command Depot at Weymouth, Dorset from Southall on 7th November, 1916.

Private Frederick George Robinson was marched out from No. 2 Australian Command Depot at Weymouth, Dorset on 14th December, 1916 & marched in to No. 4 Command Depot at Wareham, Dorset, England.

Private Frederick George Robinson was marched out from No. 4 Command Depot at Wareham on 6th February, 1917 to 12th Training Battalion at Codford, Wiltshire on 7th February, 1917.

Private Frederick George Robinson proceeded overseas via Folkestone on 13th March, 1917 from 12th Training Battalion at Codford, Wiltshire. He joined 4th A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Etaples, France on 14th March, 1917. Private Robinson was marched out to his Unit on 4th April, 1917 & was taken on strength of 48th Battalion in France on 6th April, 1917.

Private Frederick George Robinson was wounded in action in France on 11th April, 1917. He was admitted to 56th Casualty Clearing Station on 11th April, 1917 with G.S.W. (gunshot wound/s) to leg then transferred & admitted to 1st General Hospital at Etretat, France on 13th April, 1917. Private Robinson embarked for England from Havre, France on 25th April, 1917 on Hospital Ship *Grantully*.

From information provided by his wife for the Roll of Honour, Mrs Martha Robinson stated her husband had been wounded at Bullecourt.

## 48th Battalion

The 48th Battalion was raised in Egypt on 16 March 1916 as part of the "doubling" of the AIF. Roughly half of its new recruits were Gallipoli veterans from the 16th Battalion, and the other half, fresh reinforcements from Australia. Reflecting the composition of the 16th, the men of the new battalion hailed mainly from regional South Australia and Western Australia. The new battalion formed part of the 12th Brigade of the 4th Australian Division. It became known as the "Joan of Arc" (the Maid of Orleans) battalion because it was "made of all Leanes" - it was commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Ray Leane, his brother was the adjutant, and several other relatives were scattered throughout the battalion.....

1917 was also a trying year for the 48th Battalion. In two of the major battles in which it fought - the first battle of Bullecourt, in France, and the battle of Passchendaele, in Belgium - it was forced to withdraw with heavy casualties as result of poor planning and inadequate support. On neither occasion did the battalion fail for want of courage or skill amongst its own troops.

*(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)*

### War Diary – 48th Battalion

*11th April, 1917:*

*The attack on BULLECOURT was carried out this morning assisted by TANKS. The attack was timed to commence at 4.30 am. The TANKS were late getting away and slow in moving forward the consequence was that the attack was delayed and it was not until 6.19 (?) that any men were able to penetrate the 2nd Position, as the \_\_\_lifted off the East edge of BULLECOURT at 5 am it meant that my men were exposed all this time to Rifle and Machine gun fire. We suffered heavy casualties before reaching trenches.*

*Casualties 14 Officers 421 OR.*

*A full report is attached herewith. Both Officers and OR did splendid service.*

*Moved back to BAPAUME on night of 11th inst being relieved by 45th Bn.*

*(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)*

Private Frederick George Robinson was admitted to 2nd Southern General Hospital, England on 26th April, 1917 with G.S.W. to left leg - slight.

Private Frederick George Robinson died at 6.45 am on 27th August, 1917 at Bishop's Knoll Auxiliary Hospital (2nd Southern General Hospital), Bristol, England from wounds received in action in France – G.S.W. Thigh, Septicaemia & Pneumonia.

A death for Frederick G. Robinson, aged 40, was registered in the September quarter, 1917 in the district of Bristol, Gloucestershire, England.

Private Frederick George Robinson was buried at 3 pm on 29th August, 1917 in Arnos Vale Cemetery, Bristol, Gloucestershire, England. His name is remembered on the CWGC Screen Wall & he has a flat Memorial Stone. Cemetery/Memorial reference Screen Wall AA. 8. 708. From the burial report of Private Frederick George Robinson - *Coffin was good, polished Elm. The deceased soldier was accorded a Military Funeral, Gun Carriage, party of Pall Bearers and bugler of the Gloucester Regiment were in attendance. The coffin was draped with the "Union Jack", and surmounted with several lovely floral tributes. Prior to the interment a service was held in the Church by the Rev. F. R. H. Crews. The service at the graveside was conducted by the Rev. John Conway. The "Last Post" was sounded at the graveside. A party of Australian soldiers (Patients) and Nursing Staff of the Bishop's Knoll Hospital were present at the funeral. Mr R. E Bush, Commandant of the Hospital was also present. No relatives were present.*

Private Frederick George Robinson requested in his Will, dated 11th July, 1916 that all his real and personal estate be bequeathed to his wife – Martha Robinson.

Base Records forwarded on to Mrs M. Robinson, Mil-Lel, Mount Gambier, South Australia, widow of the late Private Frederick George Robinson, on 17th June, 1931, a copy of the "*Western Daily Press*" containing an article referring to the Anzac Day Pilgrimage and Memorial Service held at Arnos Vale Cemetery, where the remains of her late husband were interred. The Newspaper items had been sent from Mr Robert Bush, Bishop's Knoll, Stoke Bishop, Bristol, England.

Base Records forwarded on to Mrs M. Robinson, Mil-Lel, Mount Gambier, South Australia, widow of the late Private Frederick George Robinson, on 17th June, 1932 & 15th June, 1933 copies of the "*Western Daily Press*" and "*Evening World*" containing articles referring to the Anzac Day Pilgrimage and Memorial Service held at Arnos Vale Cemetery, where the remains of her late husband were interred. The Newspaper items had been sent from Mr Robert Bush, Bishop's Knoll, Stoke Bishop, Bristol, England.

Base Records forwarded on to Mrs M. Robinson, Mil-Lel, Mount Gambier, South Australia, widow of the late Private Frederick George Robinson, on 28th June, 1935, 22nd June, 1936 & 12th August, 1937 copies of the "*Western Daily Press and Bristol Mirror*" featuring the year's Anzac Day Pilgrimage and Memorial Service held at Arnos Vale Cemetery, where the remains of her late husband were interred. The Newspaper items had been sent from Mr Robert Bush, Bishop's Knoll, Stoke Bishop, Bristol, England.

Private Frederick George Robinson was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Robinson's widow – Mrs M. Robinson, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent July, 1921 & Plaque sent September, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Frederick George Robinson – service number 2235, aged 41, of 48th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of James and Elis Louisa Robinson, of Mount Gambier, South Australia.

Private F. G. Robinson is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 146.



*Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia*

F. G. Robinson is remembered on the Mount Gambier War Memorial located in Vansittart Park, Commercial Street West & Wehl Street North, Mount Gambier, South Australia.



**Mount Gambier War Memorial** (Photos from AWM – Places of Pride – Henry Moulds)



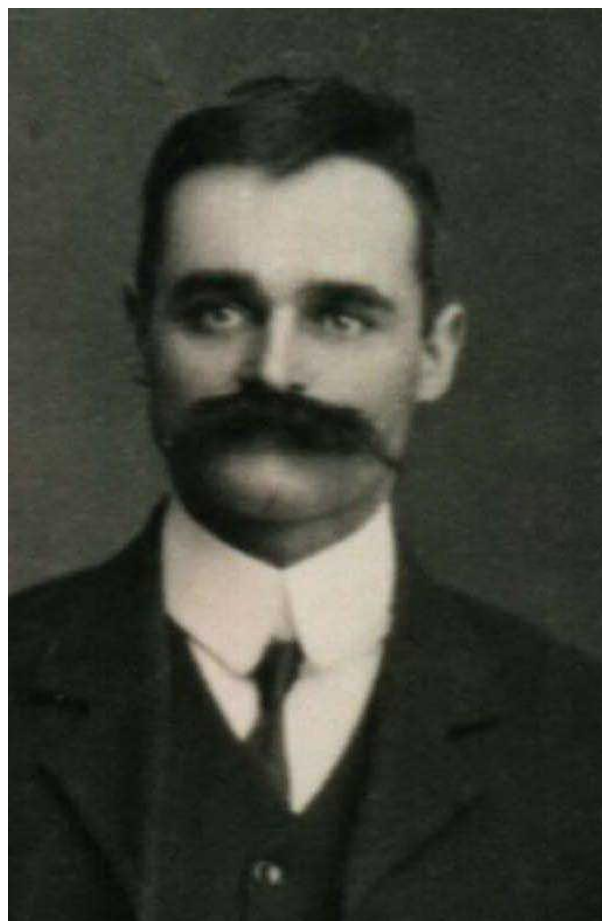
F. G. Robinson is remembered on the National Soldiers Memorial in Adelaide. The Adelaide National War Memorial commemorates those from South Australia that served in the First World War. The names of those that died are listed inside the Memorial, which is located on the corner of North Terrace & Kintore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



**National War Memorial – Adelaide** (Photos by Bilby)

(42 pages of Private Frederick George Robinson'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*



**Frederick George Robinson**



**Private Frederick George Robinson**



## **Newspaper Notices**

### **AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCES**

Mrs F. G. Robinson, of Mil Lel, has been informed that her husband (Priv. Fred G. Robinson) has been wounded in action. Priv. Robinson is a member of the 40th Battalion, and was in France when last heard of. The nature of the wound is not stated.

*(Border Watch, Mount Gambier, South Australia – 9 May, 1917)*

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### **PRIV F. G. ROBINSON DIES FROM WOUNDS**

The friends of Priv. F. G. Robinson, Mil Lel, will regret to learn that he died on August 27, in the Bishop Koll Hospital, England, from wounds received at the French front. Private Robinson, who sailed for the front a little over 12 months ago, was a married man, his wife being a daughter of the late Mr. John and Mrs. Douglas, Mil Lel, and prior to enlisting was engaged in farming in that district. Besides his wife he leaves a family of three, two boys about 11 and 12 years of age respectively, and a girl of 10 years. Priv. Robinson, like a good many more of our married men heard the call, and felt that it was his duty to respond, and in paying the supreme sacrifice he has placed a debt upon the country which cannot be repaid. He was present at the farewell ceremony tendered to six local soldiers of the 18th Battalion at Mount Gambier last year, and took charge of the flag donated by the Mayor for the Battalion. On April 26 he was wounded in the leg, but it was not thought that the wound would prove fatal. The Rev. Jas. Cully conveyed the sad tidings to the family on Friday.

*(Border Watch, Mount Gambier, South Australia – 5 September, 1917)*

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### **THE AUSTRALIANS**

#### **BIOGRAPHICAL**

#### **LATE PTE F. G. ROBINSON**

News has been received through the Military Department that Pte Fred G. Robinson, eldest son of the late Mr J. Robinson, of Mount Gambier, died on August 27 in the Bishop Knoll Hospital, England, from wounds received in action on April 2. He leaves a widow and three children. He was engaged in farming at Mil Lel until he enlisted about 18 months ago.

*(The Register, Adelaide, South Australia – 5 September, 1917) & (The Journal, Adelaide, South Australia – 5 September, 1917) & (Observer, Adelaide, South Australia – 15 September, 1917)*

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### **MOUNT GAMBIER**

Another of our gallant defenders in the person of Private F. G. Robinson has made the supreme sacrifice he having died from wounds received in France. The deceased was a married man, and leaves a widow and three young children. He was a fine type of Australian, and the greatest sympathy is felt for his relatives.

*(Hamilton Spectator, Victoria – 10 September, 1917)*

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## **ANZACS IN ACTION**

### **OUR FALLEN HEROES**

Pte F. G. Robinson, Mount Gambier (August 27)

*(Southern Cross, Adelaide, South Australia – 14 September, 1917)*

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### **Local and District War Items**

The following names appear in the 337th casualty list:-

Died of wounds – Pte F. G. Robinson, Mount Gambier (August 27)

*(The Narracoorte Herald, South Australia – 14 September, 1917)*

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### **IN MEMORIAM**

ROBINSON.-In loving memory of our dear brother, Priv. F. G. Robinson, who died of wounds on August 27, 1917.

The hardest part is yet to come,  
When the heroes all return,  
And we miss among the smiling throng  
The face of dear Fred, who has gone.

Inserted by his loving brother and sister-in-law, George and Eva.

ROBINSON.-In loving memory of our dear son and brother, No. 2235, Priv. F. G. Robinson, who died at Bishop's Knoll Hospital, England, on August 27, 1917, from wounds received in France.

The Last Post is sounded,  
    You've laid aside your sword;  
And God has called you from us  
    To your nobly won reward.  
There are griefs that cannot find comfort,  
    And wounds that cannot be healed;  
There are sorrows so deep in a mother's heart,  
    That cannot be half revealed.  
Far from the home of childhood,  
    Away o'er the ocean deep;  
In a foreign land our dear son  
    Is sleeping the last long sleep,  
When the flags are o'er the roadways,  
    And the troops are marching home;  
Oh, God, have pity for the watching ones,  
    Whose lad can never come home.

Inserted by his loving mother, sisters, and brothers, and Driver E. C. Robinson, on active service.

ROBINSON.-In loving memory of our dear husband and father, Priv. Fred. Robinson, 48th Battalion, who died on August 27, 1917, from wounds received in action in France.

We do believe that just the same dear face,

But glorified, is waiting in the place

Where we shall meet.

And God will give a sweet surprise

To tear-dimmed, saddened eyes,

When that dear face we see,

So cherished in our memory,

So loved, so mourned.

Inserted by his loving wife and children.

(*Border Watch*, Mount Gambier, South Australia – 27 August, 1918)

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### 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.

### **Arnos Vale Cemetery, Bristol, Gloucestershire, England**

The cemetery was established in 1837. During both wars, there were a number of military hospitals at Bristol and the city was the depot of the Gloucestershire Regiment. During the Second World War there were also a number of Royal Air Force stations and prisoner of war camps in the area. ARNOS VALE CEMETERY contains burials of both wars. Most of the 356 First World War burials were of men who died at the local hospitals, particularly the 2nd Southern General and the Beaufort, many of whom were landed at Avonmouth from hospital ships from the Mediterranean. Their graves can be found in the 'Soldiers Corner', a plot established by the British Red Cross, near the main entrance. The 238 casualties buried here are commemorated on a memorial at the rear of the plot. The rest of the graves are scattered throughout the cemetery. There are also special memorials to one casualty buried in the cemetery whose grave could not be located and another commemorating a casualty buried in Bedminster Church Cemetery whose grave could not be maintained. There are 149 burials from the Second World War, some forming a small plot in an area in the upper part of the cemetery set aside for burials from the Naval Hospital at Barrow Gurney; the rest are scattered. Those whose graves are not marked by headstones are named on a Screen Wall Memorial. BRISTOL (ARNOS VALE) CREMATORIUM stands within the cemetery. A memorial in front of the crematorium commemorates 68 servicemen and women of the Second World War whose remains were cremated there.

(*Information from CWGC*)



**Arnos Vale Cemetery - Main Entrance on Bath Road** *(Photo by JohnM – Find a Grave)*



*(Photo from CWGC)*



**Soldiers' Corner – Arnos Vale Cemetery** (Photo by JohnM – Find a Grave April, 2017)



**New Memorial Stones** (Photo by JohnM – Find a Grave November, 2018)

Photo of Private Frederick George Robinson's name on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Screen Wall in Arnos Vale Cemetery, Bristol, Gloucestershire, England & his Memorial Stone in Soldiers' Corner.

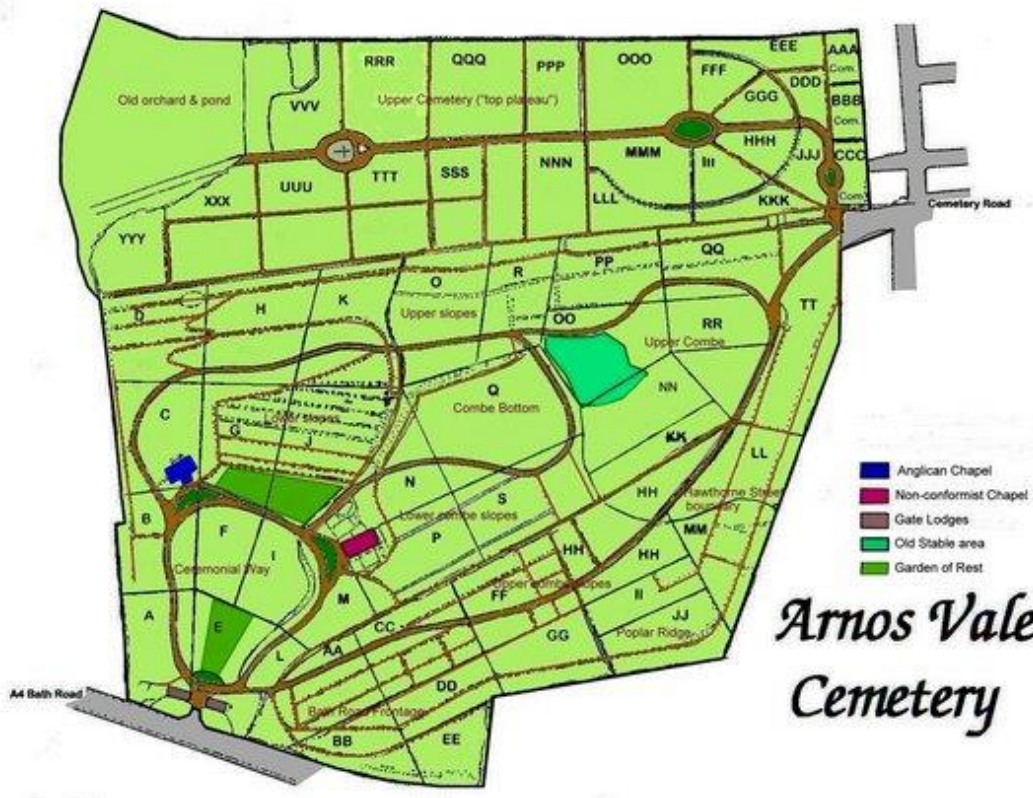


(Photos by JohnM – Find a Grave April, 2019)

→ PTE. THOMAS G. ROWLANDS  
PTE. FREDERICK GEORGE ROBINSON  
PTE. JOHN JAMES SIMPSON  
DRVR. P. CHARLES STEWART  
PTE. WILLIAM WALKER

4 TH M. G. BN.  
48 TH BATTN.  
60 TH BATTN.  
2 ND F. A. B.  
6 TH BATTN.





(Photo by Debra Polly – Find a Grave)