

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

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



2465 PRIVATE

RICHARD CHARLES G. RYAN

50TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

16TH DECEMBER, 1916 Age 21

DEARLY BELOVED SECOND SON

OF MARGARET INA

& THE LATE RICHARD RYAN

Richard Charles Gladstone RYAN

Richard Charles Gladstone Ryan was born at Bramfield, near Elliston, South Australia on 31st March, 1895 to parents Richard & Margaret Ina Ryan (nee Brown).

Richard Charles Gladstone Ryan attended State School at Elliston, South Australia.

Richard Ryan was a 21 year old, single, Farm Hand from Talia, West Coast, South Australia when he enlisted at Adelaide on 13th March, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Roman Catholic & his next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Margaret Ryan, Talia, West Coast, South Australia. Richard Ryan was still serving with the Elliston Rifle Club, for a period of 12 months, at the time he enlisted.

Private Richard Charles Gladstone Ryan was posted to 2nd Depot Base, Light Horse from 13th March, 1916. He was transferred to 2/5th Pioneers B Company on 23rd March, 1916 then on 5th April, 1916 he was transferred to "B" Company, Dental. Private Ryan was transferred to 5th Reinforcements of 50th Battalion on 16th August, 1916.

Private Richard Charles Gladstone Ryan, Service number 2465, embarked from Adelaide, South Australia on HMAT *Commonwealth (A73)* on 21st September, 1916 with the 50th Infantry Battalion, 5th Reinforcements & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 14th November, 1916.

50th Battalion

The 50th Battalion was raised in Egypt on 26 February 1916 as part of the "doubling" of the AIF. Approximately half of its recruits were veterans from the 10th Battalion, and the other half, fresh reinforcements from Australia. Reflecting the composition of the 10th, the 50th was predominantly composed of men from South Australia. The battalion became part of the 13th Brigade of the 4th Australian Division.....

(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 Richard Charles Gladstone Ryan was marched in to 13th Training Battalion at Codford, Wiltshire on 15th November, 1916.

Private Richard Charles Gladstone Ryan was admitted to New Zealand Hospital with Broncho-pneumonia on 11th December, 1916.

Private Richard Charles Gladstone Ryan died at 9.30 p.m. on 16th December, 1916 at No. 3 New Zealand General Hospital, Codford, Wiltshire, England from Broncho pneumonia.

A death for Richard C. O. Ryan, aged 21, was registered in the December quarter, 1916 in the district of Warminster, Wiltshire.

Private Richard Charles Gladstone Ryan was buried on 20th December, 1916 was buried in St. Mary's New Churchyard, Codford, Wiltshire, England - Grave No. 44.

A War pension was granted to Margaret Ina Ryan, the widowed mother of the late Privatete Richard Charles Gladstone Ryan, in the sum of £2 fortnightly as from 23rd February, 1917.

Two other claims for a War Pension were made by Catherine May Ryan & Jessie Olive Lilian Ryan, both sisters of the late Private Richard Charles Gladstone Ryan. Both these claims were rejected as the claimants were not dependant on their late brother.

Private Richard Charles Gladstone Ryan 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 Ryan's widowed mother – Mrs Margaret Ryan (August, 1921 & August, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Richard Charles Gladstone Ryan – service number 2465, aged 21, of 50th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Richard & Margaret Ina Ryan, of Streaky Bay, South Australia.

Private R. C. G. Ryan is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 151.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)

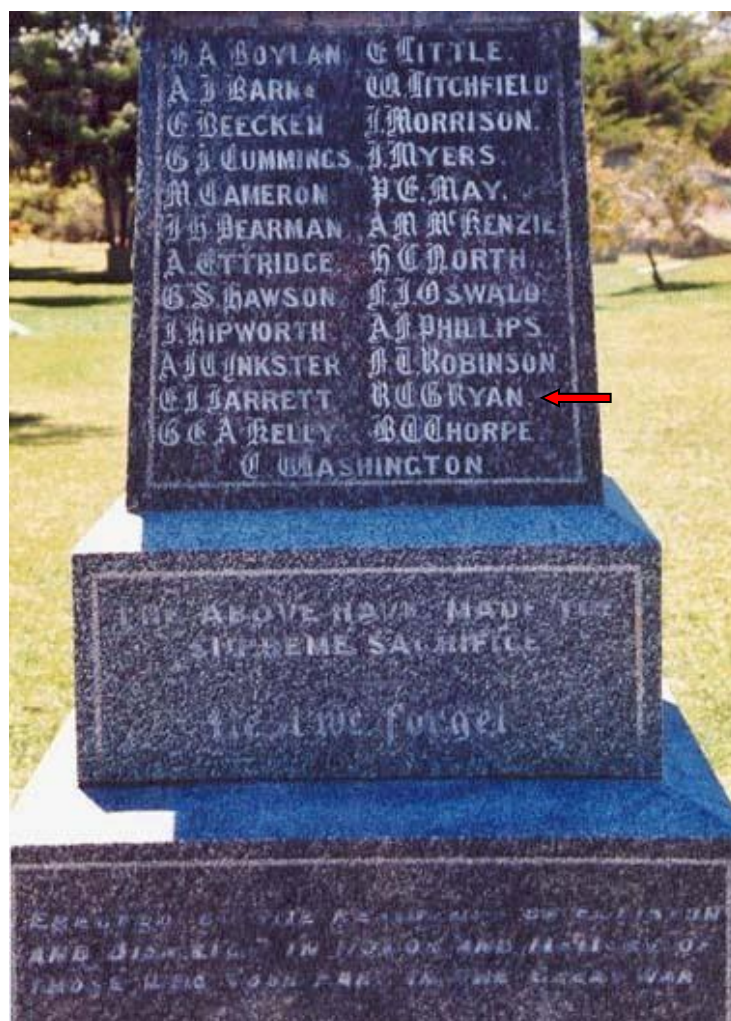


Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Private R. C. G. Ryan is also remembered on the Elliston War Memorial located at the junction of Beach Terrace and Little Bay Road, Elliston, South Australia.



Elliston War Memorial (Photos from VWMA)



Private R. C. G. Ryan is also remembered on the South Australian National War Memorial located on the corner North Terrace and Kintore Avenue, Adelaide. (Panel 9, Column 3)



South Australian National War Memorial (Photo by Bilby)

(55 pages of Private Richard Charles Gladstone Ryan'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

MILITARY FOOTBALL

The soldiers training at Mitcham Camp seldom have an opportunity to display their talent in sporting events, but it is probable that athletic contests will become more numerous. A start was made on Saturday afternoon with a football match between teams representing the N.C.O.'s School and B Company (base infantry). Portion of the camp training area was used as a ground, but owing to the recent rains it was slippery and muddy, and in places under water. The players were as follow:- N.C.O.'s School.....B Company - R. C. G. Ryan,

(The Register, Adelaide, South Australia, Monday 7 August, 1916)

THE AUSTRALIANS – 260th CASUALTY LIST

DIED OF ILLNESS

Pte R. C. G. Ryan, Talia (Dec. 16)

(The Register, Adelaide, South Australia, Tuesday 2 January, 1917)

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

"Faithful Unto Death."

THE LATE PRIVATE R. C. G. RYAN

Mrs Ryan, of Talia, has been notified by the military of the death of her son, Private R. C. G. (Dick) Ryan, which took place in hospital, England from pneumonia. He spent his 21st birthday in camp, and until the time he enlisted was engaged in farming on the West Coast, where he was well liked and respected by a large circle of friends.



(*The Advertiser*, Adelaide, South Australia, Friday 5 January, 1917)

DEATHS

RYAN. – Died of illness, England, December 16, 1916 Private Dick Ryan, of Talia, loving friend of Min, Olive, Mabel Thorne

He sleeps not in his native land,
But under foreign skies,
Far from those who loved him,
In a hero's grave.

(*Chronicle*, Adelaide, South Australia, Saturday 6 January, 1917)

THE AUSTRALIANS – Biographical

THE LATE PRIVATE R. C. G. RYAN

Pte R. C. G. Ryan, who died in a London hospital from pneumonia in December, was the son of the late Mr Richard Ryan, of the Commercial Boarding House, Talia, west coast, and has left a mother, one brother and six sisters. He was only 21 years of age, and his manly character, his attention to his duty, and his cheerful disposition made him a general favourite. Pte Ryan weighed 12st. Just before his illness. He and four intimate friends from the same district enlisted in the same week. Three of them have died from wounds in France and one from illness; and one has been wounded.



(The Register, Adelaide, South Australia, Wednesday 10 January, 1917)

FOR KING AND COUNTRY

RYAN.- On the 16th December, died from pneumonia in England, Pte Dick Ryan, loving son and brother of Mrs Ryan and family, of Talia, and Howard and Ina Ross of Rhynie.

A noble hero, true and brave,
Peacefully sleeps in a soldier's grave.

(The Register, Adelaide, South Australia, Thursday 11 January, 1917)

THE WAR

THE LATE PRIVATE R. C. G. RYAN

Mrs R. Ryan, of Talia, has received letters from Privates A. Penna and J. Anderson, giving particulars of the death in England from bronchial pneumonia of her son, Private R. C. G. Ryan. Both comrades wrote in terms of high appreciation of the manly qualities of Private Ryan.

(The Advertiser, Adelaide, South Australia, Tuesday 27 February, 1917)

HEROES OF THE GREAT WAR

RYAN.- In loving memory of our dear son and brother, 2465. Private R. E. G. (Dick) Ryan, died from illness at the New Zealand Hospital, Codford, England, December 16, 1916.

His smile and manly ways
Are pleasant to recall;
He always had a kindly word,
And died beloved by all.

– Inserted by loving mother and sisters, and brother, late of Talia, West Coast.

RYAN. – In loving memory of our dear nephew, Dick, who died on active service, December, 16, 1916

Calm on the bosom of God,
Young spirit, rest thee now.

– Inserted by his loving aunty and uncle, Allan and Minnie Fraser.

(*The Advertiser*, Adelaide, South Australia, Monday 17 December, 1917)

HEROES OF THE GREAT WAR

RYAN.- In loving memory of our dear brother, Private R. C. G. Ryan, died at Codford, England, December 16, 1916. Too dearly loved to be forgotten. – Inserted by his loving sister and brother-in-law, Ina and Howard Ross, Rhynie.

RYAN.- In loving memory of our dear son and brother, R. C. G. (Dick) Ryan, late 50th Battalion, who died from illness in Codford Military Hospital on December 16, 1916.– Inserted by his loving mother and sisters, Talia, West Coast.

(*Chronicle*, Adelaide, South Australia, Saturday 21 December, 1918)

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 Richard Charles G. Ryan does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

DEARLY BELOVED SECOND SON
OF MARGARET INA
& THE LATE RICHARD RYAN

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.



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



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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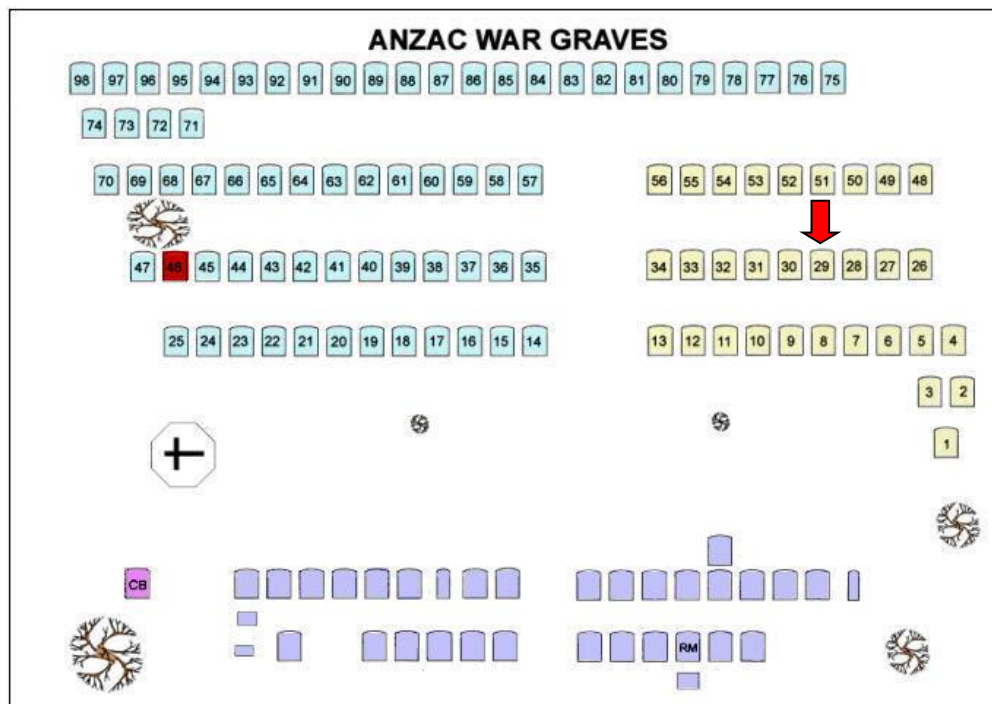
Photo of Private Richard Charles G. Ryan's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in St. Mary's New Churchyard, Codford, Wiltshire, England. Also known as Codford Anzac War Graves Cemetery, Wiltshire.



(Headstone Photos courtesy of Romy Wyeth)



Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Private Richard Charles G. Ryan is located in Main Middle Row (Right hand side) Grave Plot # 29 of Codford War Graves Cemetery (CWGC Reference - Grave # 44)



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

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