

**Hollybrook Cemetery,
Southampton, Hampshire, England**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



15085 SAPPER

R. H. TANNEBRING

AUSTRALIAN ENGINEERS

21ST APRIL, 1918 Age 20

Reginald Harry (Reg) TANNEBRING

Reginald Harry Tannebring was born at Hope Valley, South Australia on 14th August, 1897 to parents Henry Charles & Edith Eleanor Tannebring (nee Rule).

Reginald Harry Tannebring attended school at Northfield, South Australia.

Reginald Harry Tannebring was a 19 year old, single, Cabinetmaker from Northfield, South Australia when he enlisted at Adelaide, South Australia on 10th April, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 15085 & his religion was Methodist. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Edith Eleanor Tannebring, Northfield, South Australia. Reginald Tannebring stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served 4 years with Senior Cadets then had transferred to 28th Engineers & was still serving.

Private Reginald Harry Tannebring was posted to “D” Company, 2nd Depot from 10th April, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to Signal School on 26th April, 1916 then transferred to 5/5th Divisional Signal Company from 16th July, 1916 as Acting Corporal.

Acting Corporal Reginald Harry Tannebring embarked from Adelaide, South Australia on HMAT *Commonwealth* (A73) on 21st September, 1916 with the 5th Divisional Signal Company, 5th Reinforcements & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 14th November, 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.

Acting Corporal Reginald Harry Tannebring was marched in to No. 3 Camp, Parkhouse, Wiltshire, England on 15th November, 1916 from Australia.

Acting Corporal (Voyage Only) Reginald Harry Tannebring was marched out from No. 3 Camp at Parkhouse & marched in the Engineers Training Depot – Signal Section at Hitchen on 27th November, 1916. He reverted to the rank of Sapper on 27th November, 1916.

Australian Engineers in the First World War

Engineers, also known as sappers, were essential to the running of the war. Without them, other branches of the Allied Forces would have found it difficult to cross the muddy and shell-ravaged ground of the Western Front. Their responsibilities included constructing the lines of defence, temporary bridges, tunnels and trenches, observation posts, roads, railways, communication lines, buildings of all kinds, showers and bathing facilities, and other material and mechanical solutions to the problems associated with fighting in all theatres.

(Description of Engineers Information from The Australian War Memorial)

Sapper Reginald Harry Tannebring proceeded overseas to France via Folkestone from Shefford on 8th September, 1917. He was marched in to R.E. Depot at Abbeville, France on 11th September, 1917. Sapper Tannebring was marched out from R.E. Depot on 12th September, 1917 & was taken on strength of 5th Divisional Signalling Company in the Field on 15th September, 1917.

Sapper Reginald Harry Tannebring was wounded in action – Gassed on 17th April, 1918 in France. He was admitted to 55th Field Ambulance on 17th April, 1918 then transferred to Casualty Clearing Station. From there he was transferred & admitted to 1st Australian General Hospital at Rouen, France on 18th April, 1918. Sapper Tannebring was transferred to England on Hospital Ship *Panama* on 20th April, 1918.

Sapper Reginald Harry Tannebring was admitted to University War Hospital, Southampton, England on 21st April, 1918 with Shell Gas Poisoning. The Hospital Admissions form recorded: “*Onset 17.4.18. Burnt – both wrists – scrotum, Penis, sides of Thighs & front of legs. Lungs filled with mucous – cyanosed Inhalations . Severe copnjectivitis....*”

Sapper Reginald Harry Tannebring died at 4.55 pm on 21st April, 1918 at University War Hospital, Southampton, England from wounds received in action – Shell Gas & Bronchitis.



A death for R. Tannebring, aged 21, was registered in the June quarter, 1918 in the district of Southampton, Hampshire, England.

Sapper Reginald Harry Tannebring was buried on 25th April, 1918 in Hollybrook Cemetery, Southampton, Hampshire, England – Grave No. 1 Section B 01. This is now recorded by Commonwealth War Graves Commission as Plot number B. 01.57 and he now has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

From the burial report of Sapper Reginald Harry Tannebring - Coffin was good, polished Elm. The deceased soldier was accorded a Military funeral. The coffin was draped with the Union Jack Flag. Firing Party and Bugler and Pallbearers were supplied by the Royal Warwick Regt. The grave will be turfed and an oak cross erected by the A.I.F. London. Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London were represented at the funeral.

Names of Relatives & Friends present at the Funeral – Cousin – Mrs Goodmin, Anley Avenue, Alperton, Middlesex.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Sapper Reginald Harry Tannebring contains a letter from Lt. Colonel, R.A.M.C., University Hospital, Southampton which reads: *"In reply to your letter with reference to the death of the above-named soldier, I beg to say that he was admitted to this Hospital 21-4-18 suffering from the effect of Gas Shell and Bronchitis. He was in a semi-conscious condition on admission and was treated with the usual methods for such cases, together with oxygen, but died, without leaving any message at 4.30 pm the same afternoon. The Funeral took place at Holybrook Cemetery, Southampton 25-4-18 and was conducted by Mr Kitching, Minister. The Grave is No. 57, Section B01. I trust this will give the relatives all the information they desire."*

Sapper Reginald Harry Tannebring requested in his Will dated 18th July, 1917 that all his person estate be bequeathed to Mrs Edith Eleanor Maud Tannebring, Northfield, South Australia.

Sapper Reginald Harry Tannebring was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Sapper Tannebring's father – Mr H. C. Tannebring, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent August, 1921 & Plaque sent October, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Sapper Reginald Harry Tannebring – service number 15085, aged 20, of 5th Div. Signal Coy., Australian Engineers. He was the son of Henry Charles & Edith Eleanor Tannebring, of Lansdowne Terrace, North Walkerville, South Australia.

Sapper R. H. Tannebring is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 26.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

R. H. Tannebring 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)

(44 pages of Sapper Reginald Harry Tannebring'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

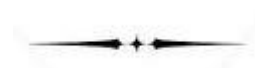




AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

P09657.001

Sapper Reginald Harry Tannebring



Newspaper Notices

HONORING SOLDIERS

On Wednesday the members of the Stockade Quadrille Class gave a send-off to one of its members, Sapper Tannerbring. Vocal and instrumental numbers were rendered by Misses B. Mulverhall, Buder, Marrett, Walker, and George, Messrs Bowley and Magor. Mr T. Holbrook present Sapper Tannerbring with a wristlet watch. Other speakers were : Messrs J. McDonald and W. E. Fenwick.

(The Advertiser, Adelaide, South Australia – 20 May, 1916)

DIED ON ACTIVE SERVICE

TANNEBRING – On the 20th April, somewhere in France, from the effects of gas, Sapper Reg. H. Tannebring, aged 20 years and 8 months, dearly beloved eldest son of H. and E. Tannebring, Brunswick-street, North Walkerville (late of Northfield). "His duty nobly done."

(The Advertiser, Adelaide, South Australia – 29 April, 1918) & (The Express and Telegraph, Adelaide, Sth Aust. – 29 April, 1918)

THE ROLL OF HONOR

DIED FOR THEIR COUNTRY

Sapper REGINALD HARRY TANNEBRING, who died on April 20 from the effects of gas, in France, was the eldest son of Mr and Mrs Harry Tannebring, Walkerville, late of Northfield. He was born at Hope Valley on August 14, 1897. He received his education at the Northfield public school, and was a member of the Methodist Church and Sunday-school. After leaving school he was apprenticed to Messrs James Marshall and Co., to learn cabinetmaking. He was highly respected by his superiors and fellow workmates. He left to enlist on April 10, 1916, and sailed as a signaller on September 21, 1916. Being of bright and genial disposition, and bearing splendid character, he endeared himself to everyone and was held in the highest of esteem.

(*The Advertiser*, Adelaide, South Australia – 2 May, 1918) & (*Daily Herald*, Adelaide, South Australia – 8 May, 1918) &

(*Chronicle*, Adelaide, South Australia – 11 May, 1918)

HEROES OF THE GREAT WAR: THEY GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR KING AND COUNTRY



(*Chronicle*, Adelaide, South Australia – 11 May, 1918)

398th CASUALTY LIST

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Died of Wounds

15085. Spr R. H. TANNEBRING, North Walkerville (gas, 20/4/18)

(Chronicle, Adelaide, South Australia – 11 May, 1918)

401st CASUALTY LIST

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Died of Wounds

15085, Spr. REGLD. HARRY TANNEBRING, 5th Division Sig. Coy., North Walkerville, April 21 (prev. rep. died of wounds)

(The Express and Telegraph, Adelaide, Sth Aust. – 20 May, 1918)

HEROES OF THE GREAT WAR

TANNEBRING – In remembrance of our dear brother Reg, who died on 21st April, 1918 from the effects of gas received in action in France.

-Inserted by his brothers, Roy, Cyril, and George.

TANNEBRING – In loving memory of my dear brother, Sapper Reg. Tannebring, who died whilst on active service on April 21, 1918. Some day we'll understand. -Inserted by his loving sister, Gladys.

TANNEBRING – In loving memory of our dear eldest son, No. 15085, Sapper Reg. H. Tannebring, who made the supreme sacrifice on April 21, 1918, on active service in France, aged 20 years. So dearly loved, so sadly missed. - Inserted by his sorrowing parents.

(The Advertiser, Adelaide, South Australia – 21 April, 1919)

HERO OF THE GREAT WAR

TANNEBRING – A tribute of love to the memory of our beloved son and brother, Reg, who was killed in action, France, April 21st, 1918.

“So dearly loved.” – Inserted by his sorrowing parents, brothers and sister.

(The Advertiser, Adelaide, South Australia – 21 April, 1920)

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)

Sapper R. H. Tannebring has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone but no inscription.

Hollybrook Cemetery, Southampton, Hampshire, England

Southampton was No 1 Port during the First World War and military hospitals were established in the University buildings, in the Highfield Institution and at Shirley Warren. During the Second World War, 4.5 million tons of military equipment passed through Southampton docks and parts of the prefabricated harbours used at Arromanches during the Normandy invasion were made there. For a while, Southampton was also base to the 14th Major Port Transportation Corps of the United States Army.

Southampton (Hollybrook) Cemetery contains burials of both wars and a memorial to the missing.

The cemetery has a First World War plot near the main entrance containing most of the 125 graves from this period. Behind this plot is the Hollybrook Memorial which commemorates by name almost 1,900 servicemen and women of the Commonwealth land and air forces whose graves are not known, many of whom were lost in transports or other vessels torpedoed or mined in home waters. It also bears the names of those who were lost or buried at sea, or who died at home but whose bodies could not be recovered for burial.

Most of the 186 Second World War burials are in a separate war graves plot. 3 of these burials are unidentified seaman of the Merchant Navy.

In addition to the Commonwealth war graves, the cemetery contains 67 war graves of other nationalities, many of them German, of which 2 are unidentified.

(Cemetery information from CWGC)



Chapel at Hollybrook Cemetery *(Photo by Michael Day)*



Sapper Tannebring's Original Cross Marker



Hollybrook Cemetery (Photo below from 2012 – Basher Eyre)



(Photo courtesy of Allan Noble)



Hollybrook Cemetery with Hollybrook Memorial at front *(Photo by Michael Day)*

Photo of Sapper R. H. Tannebring's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Hollybrook Cemetery, Southampton, Hampshire, England.



(Photo – Find a Grave – Charlie)

