

# Bulford War Graves



*Lest We Forget*

## World War 1



**1836 PRIVATE**

**F. WADDINGTON**

**10TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**12TH OCTOBER, 1917**

## Frank WADDINGTON

Frank Waddington was born at Leicester, England around 1868.

A marriage was registered in the March quarter, 1896 in the district of Nottingham between Frank Waddington & Jessie Mills.

The 1911 England Census listed a "Frank Waddington" as head of the house of a 4 roomed dwelling at 2 Marcus St, Nottingham. He was a married, Lace Warehouseman. Also listed was Mrs J. J. Birks, a 39 year old, married, Housekeeper & her 3 year old daughter Mary Jane.

Frank Waddington, Labourer, aged 47 was a passenger on the *Orvieto* which departed from the port of London on 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 1914 bound for Australia. He contracted to land at the port of Adelaide & his country of intended future permanent residence was Australia.

Frank Waddington stated he was a 45 year old, married, Warehouseman (Lace) from (Care of) Young Men's Christian Association, Gawler Place, Adelaide, Sth Australia when he enlisted on 14<sup>th</sup> December, 1914 with the 10<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion, 4<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements of the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 1836 & his religion was Methodist. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs Jessie Waddington of Mapperley Asylum, Nottingham, England.

Pte Frank Waddington embarked from Adelaide on HMAT *Port Lincoln (A17)* on 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1915 & disembarked at Egypt.

Pte Frank Waddington was taken on strength with the Battalion on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 1915 at Gallipoli.

Pte Frank Waddington was admitted to 1<sup>st</sup> Field Ambulance Anzac at Gallipoli on 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 1915 with debility. He was discharged to duty on 4<sup>th</sup> September, 1915 & rejoined his Unit on the 5<sup>th</sup> September, 1915.

Pte Frank Waddington was again admitted to Hospital (1st Australian Casualty Clearing Station) on 10<sup>th</sup> September, 1915 while on Gallipoli Peninsula. He was transferred to Lemnos on 16<sup>th</sup> September, 1915 & transferred on 21<sup>st</sup> September, 1915 to Hospital Ship *Orsova* at Mudros with Dysentery.

Pte Frank Waddington was admitted to No. 2 Australian General Hospital at Cairo on 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 1915 with diarrhoea & diagnosed with Rheumatism the next day. He was admitted to Convalescent Hospital at Montasah on 1st October, 1915. Pte Waddington was classified "B Class" & sent to Mustapha on 27<sup>th</sup> October, 1915.

Pte Frank Waddington was taken on strength with Postal Corps at Cairo on 6<sup>th</sup> March, 1916.

Pte Frank Waddington embarked from Alexandria on 13<sup>th</sup> June, 1916 on H. T. *Aragon* & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 1916.

Pte Frank Waddington proceeded Overseas to France for duty on 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 1916. He was marched in to Australian General Base Depot (A.G.B.D.) at Etaples on 24<sup>th</sup> November, 1916.

Pte Frank Waddington was taken on strength with Australian Army P. O. C. (Post Office Corps) from Australian General Base Depot on 25<sup>th</sup> November, 1916.

Pte Frank Waddington was sent to Hospital sick, while in France on 12<sup>th</sup> March, 1917. He was admitted to 45th Casualty Clearing Station on 13th March, 1917 – cause NYD (not yet determined). Pte Waddington was transferred to 11st Stationary Hospital at Rouen on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 1917 & discharged to Base Details on 19<sup>th</sup> March, 1917. He rejoined his Unit from Hospital and was posted to A. P. O. at Etaples on 30<sup>th</sup> March, 1917.

Pte Frank Waddington proceeded to Rouen as Surplus on 7<sup>th</sup> April, 1917 & was transferred to England. He was marched in to No. 2 Command Depot at Weymouth, England on 10<sup>th</sup> April, 1917.

A Medical Report was completed in April, 1917, on Pte Frank Waddington, 1836, aged 49 years, previous occupation – Lace Merchant. The report listed as a disability – Over age & Debility. The origin of the disability was listed as prior to enlistment in South Australia. Pte Waddington's history was record as "saw 6 months service in

*Gallipoli, 9 months in Egypt, 4 months in France. Was evacuated from P.O. in France on account of general debility."* The disability had been aggravated by Active Service & the strain of being on Active Service. Pte Waddington's present condition was described as "*over military age, eyesight & memory failing. Has become very weak.*" The recommendation of the Officer in charge of the case was for Pte Waddington not to be discharge as permanently unfit but recommended a change to Australia. The Board found that Pte Waddington was unfit permanently for general service or home service on account of age and cardio vascular changes.

Pte Frank Waddington was detached for duty with Postal Corps & 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion on 18<sup>th</sup> April, 1917. He was taken on strength on rejoining from France at No. 2 Command Depot, Weymouth on 27<sup>th</sup> April, 1917.

Pte Waddington was struck off strength on 31<sup>st</sup> May, 1917 and marched out to Perham Downs.

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.

Pte Waddington was admitted to Hospital at Perham Downs with a septic foot on 4<sup>th</sup> June, 1917. He was marched in from Hospital to No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs on 12<sup>th</sup> June, 1917. He was medically classified as Class: C3 (Permanently unfit for Service.)

Pte Waddington was marched in to No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs on 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 1917 then marched out to No. 2 Command Depot at Weymouth on 25<sup>th</sup> June, 1917.

Pte Frank Waddington was admitted to 1<sup>st</sup> Australian Dermatological Hospital, Bulford, Wiltshire on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 1917 with Balanitis. He was reported seriously ill on 7<sup>th</sup> October, 1917. Pte Waddington was suffering from Pneumonia on 11<sup>th</sup> October, 1917.

Private Frank Waddington died at 1.30 a.m. on 12<sup>th</sup> October, 1917 at 1<sup>st</sup> Australian Dermatological Hospital, Bulford, Wiltshire from Pneumonia.

A death for Frank Waddington, aged 50, was registered in the December quarter, 1917 in the district of Amesbury, Wiltshire.

Private Frank Waddington was buried on 15<sup>th</sup> October, 1917 in Bulford Church Cemetery, Wiltshire - Grave No. 9 Australian Reserve Section (CWGC Plot number 3. I. 9.) and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Pte Waddington - *Coffin was stained wood, in good condition. Pte Waddington was given every care both by the N.C.O.'s and the Nursing Orderlies. The Chaplain saw him at frequent intervals. He was bright and cheerful right up to the time of his death. Military Funeral.*

Private F. Waddington is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 61.



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

F. Waddington 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.



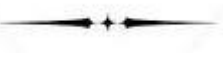
**National War Memorial – Adelaide** (Photos by Bilby)

Pte Frank Waddington was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal and the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte Waddington's widow – Mrs Waddington in England (Scroll & Plaque sent September, 1922)

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private F. Waddington – service number 1836, as having served with 10th Battalion Australian Infantry. No family details are listed.

(52 pages of Pte Frank Waddington'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*



## **Newspaper Notices**

### **AUSTRALIANS IN ACTION**

349<sup>th</sup> CASUALTY LIST

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

DIED CAUSE NOT STATED

Private F. Waddington, England, October 12

(*Barrier Miner*, NSW – Sunday 4 November, 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 in Bulford Church 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)*

Pte F. Waddington does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.



**Bulford Church Cemetery** *(Photo courtesy of Andrea Charlesworth 2012)*

Photo of Private F. Waddington's Headstone at Bulford Church Cemetery, Wiltshire.



*(Photo courtesy of Andrea Charlesworth 2012)*