

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

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



3961 CORPORAL

CHARLES ZIESLER

51ST BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

26TH JUNE, 1918 Age 46

*IN LOVING MEMORY
OF MY DEAR HUSBAND
AND OUR DEAR FATHER*

Charles ZIESLER

Charles Frederick Wilhelm Ziesler was born on 12th February, 1877 at Timaru, New Zealand to parents William (Johan Wilhelm) & Lucy Ziesler (nee Wright). (Note: According to information provided by his wife for the Roll of Honour – she states Charles was born in England & went to New Zealand when he was very young.)

Charles Ziesler married Martha M. Grimwood in Perth, Western Australia in 1909.

A daughter – Margaret Mary Ziesler was born in 1911 at Subiaco, Western Australia to parents Charles & Martha Mary Ziesler.

The 1912 Electoral Roll for the Division of Perth, Subdivision of Subiaco records Charles Ziesler, married, Fire Adjuster living at 97 Park Street, Subiaco with his wife Martha Mary Ziesler.

A son – Edward Charles Ziesler was born on 13th January, 1913 at East Perth, Western Australia to parents Charles & Martha Mary Ziesler.

Charles Ziesler was a 43 year old, married, Clerk (Insurance Agent) from Perth, Western Australia when he enlisted on 12th November, 1915 at Blackboy Hill, Western Australia with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Church of England & his next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs Martha Mary Ziesler of 68 Outram Street, Perth, Western Australia. Information from his Attestation Papers stated that Charles' grandfather was Russian.

Private Charles Ziesler was posted to 35 Depot on 12th November, 1915 for recruit training. He was transferred to NCO School from 14th January, 1916 then transferred to 9th Reinforcements of 28th Battalion (no date recorded).

Private Charles Ziesler, Service number 3961, embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia on HMAT *Miltiades* (A28) on 12th February, 1916 with the 7th Infantry Brigade, 28th Infantry Battalion, 9th Reinforcements & disembarked Suez on 11th March, 1916.

Private Charles Ziesler was taken on strength of 51st Battalion from 28th Battalion on 2nd April, 1916 from 7th Training Battalion. From there he was transferred to 13th Training Battalion at Tel-el-Kebir on 14th May, 1916.

On 6th June, 1916 Private Charles Ziesler embarked from Alexandria, Egypt on H.M.T.S. *Franconia* & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 16th June, 1916.

Private Charles Ziesler was promoted to Acting Corporal (with extra duty pay) from 16th August, 1916 at Rollestone, Wiltshire then from 1st September, 1916 Acting Corporal (without pay). Acting Corporal Ziesler was appointed (Extra Duty Pay) Company Quarter Master Sergeant from 1st December, 1916 at Codford, Wiltshire. He reverted to the rank of Private on 31st December, 1916 then was appointed (Temporary) Company Quarter Master Sergeant at Tidworth, Wiltshire from 1st January, 1917 until 23rd January, 1917.

(Temporary) Company Quarter Master Sergeant Charles Ziesler was transferred to permanent Cadre of 13th Training Battalion at Tidworth, Wiltshire on 1st January, 1917 & then promoted to Corporal on 24th January, 1917.

On 22nd October, 1917 Corporal Charles Ziesler was On Command at School of Instruction Candahar Barracks, Tidworth, Wiltshire. He was marched in to 13th Training Battalion, Codford on 7th November, 1917 from Bombing School at Lyndhurst.

Corporal Charles Ziesler was appointed Acting Sergeant while posted at 13th Training Battalion, Codford from 14th November, 1917.

A Medical Report was completed on Q.M.S. Charles Ziesler on 17th December, 1917 while posted at 13th Training Battalion, Codford, Wiltshire. His aged was listed as 45 & his former occupation was listed as Pearling Trader. Acting Sergeant Charles Ziesler was recorded with the disability of Senility which had originated in Australia prior to enlistment. "*Has been employed as Q.M.S. for several month, his C.O. & his O.C. being satisfied that he is too old & obese for ordinary drill purposes or for active service. Says he has had Malaria several times & also suffers from Gout.*" His condition was "*caused by the usual pathological changes due to senile decay & not cased or*

aggravated by active service." The Officer in charge of the Medical Case recommended that Q.M.S. Charles Ziesler be classified as C1 – permanently unfit for General Service but fit for Home Service. The Medical Board agreed & on 21st December, 1917 found Q.M.S. Charles Ziesler to be permanently unfit for General Service but fit for Home Service.

Acting Sergeant Ziesler was appointed Temporary Sergeant & was transferred to 12th Training Battalion at Codford, Wiltshire from 13th Training Battalion on 11th April, 1918. He was attached for duty with permanent Cadre of 12th Training Battalion at Tidworth.

Temporary Sergeant Charles Ziesler was admitted to Brigade Clearing Hospital with influenza on 23rd June, 1918 where his rank reverted to Corporal on admission to hospital. He was then transferred to No. 3 New Zealand General Hospital, Codford on 25th June, 1918 with Broncho pneumonia.

Corporal Charles Ziesler died at 9.20 p.m. (The time of death of 8.40 pm was recorded on some forms in Corporal Ziesler's file) on 26th June, 1918 at No. 3 New Zealand General Hospital. A Post Mortem was conducted on 27th June, 1918 with cause of death acute bronchitis. Other paperwork in Corporal Ziesler's file state the cause of death as Broncho pneumonia.

A death for a Charles Ziesler, aged 45, was registered in the June quarter, 1918 in the district of Warminster, Wiltshire.

Corporal Charles Ziesler was buried on 29th June, 1918 in St. Mary's New Churchyard, Codford, Wiltshire, England - Grave No. 92, Australian Section.

From the burial report - The late Sergeant Ziesler was accorded a full Military funeral, the body being conveyed to the graveside on a Gun Carriage which was preceded by a Firing Party and Band. The coffin was of polished elm, with brass mountings. Six N.C.O.'s and men of deceased's Unit acted as Pallbearers.

The Officers, N.C.O.'s and men of deceased's Unit attended as mourners. A large artificial wreath from the members of the Sergeants Mess and floral wreaths from Quarter-master and Staff, 12th Training Battalion, Mr & Mrs Weston and Mrs Vane of Codford were placed on the grave after the "Last Post" had been sounded. The late Sergeant Ziesler was held in very high esteem by all ranks in the Unit, and always proved himself a keen soldier, a true and sympathetic comrade and a friend in need and deed. His loss to the Unit is very keenly felt.

Charles Ziesler requested in his Will, dated 1st February, 1916, that his real or personal estate be left to his wife – Martha Mary Ziesler & whom he appointed Executrix.

A memo between the Pay & Accounts Branch of the Military – District Paymaster & the Officer in Charge of Base Records, Melbourne questions the last rank held by Charles Ziesler – 3961. Base Records replied "*.....shows his rank as T/Sgt. This has not yet been confirmed.*"

Corporal Charles Ziesler was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal as he had entered a theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Corporal Ziesler's widow – Mrs Martha Mary Ziesler (December, 1921 & November, 1922)

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Corporal Charles Ziesler – service number 3961, aged 46, of 51st Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of William & Lucy Ziesler; husband of M. M. Ziesler, of 68 Outram St., Perth.

Corporal C. Ziesler is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 154.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



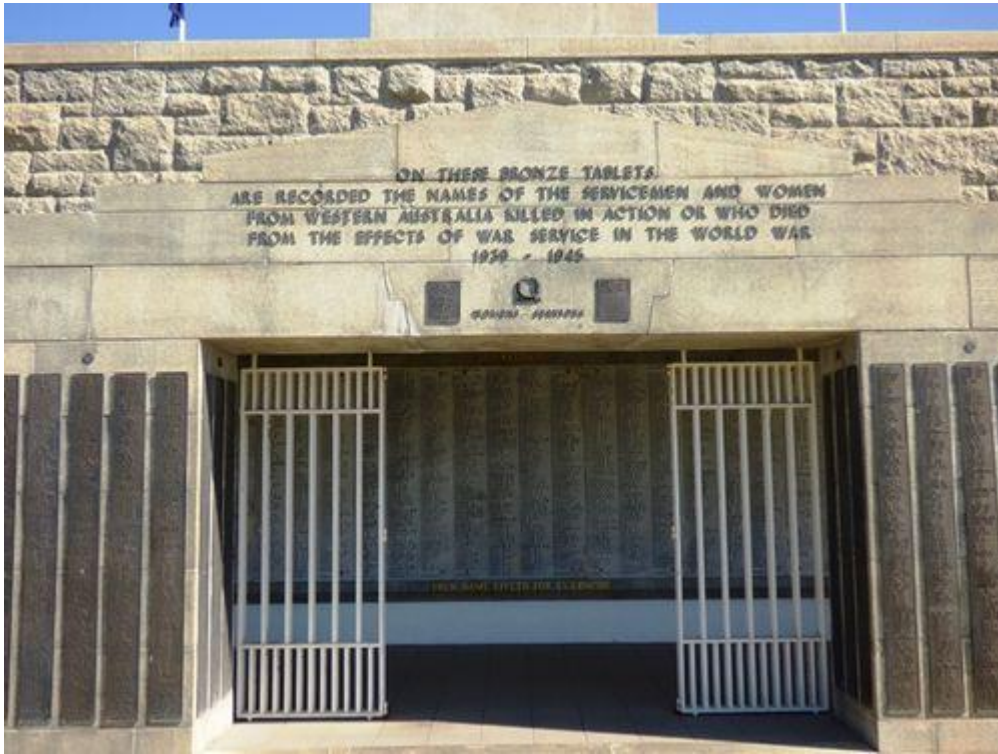
Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

C. Ziesler is remembered on the Western Australia State War Memorial which is located at the top of Kings Park and Botanic Garden escarpment, ANZAC Bluff, Fraser Avenue, Perth, Western Australia. The memorial was developed around an 18 metre tall obelisk as the principal feature, which is almost a replica of the Australian Imperial Force Memorials erected in France and Belgium.

The heavy concrete foundations are supplemented by heavy brick walls which enclose an inner chamber or crypt. The walls surrounding the crypt are covered with The Roll of Honour; marble tablets which list under their units the names of more than 7,000 members of the services killed in action or as a result of World War One.



Western Australia State War Memorial Cenotaph, Kings Park



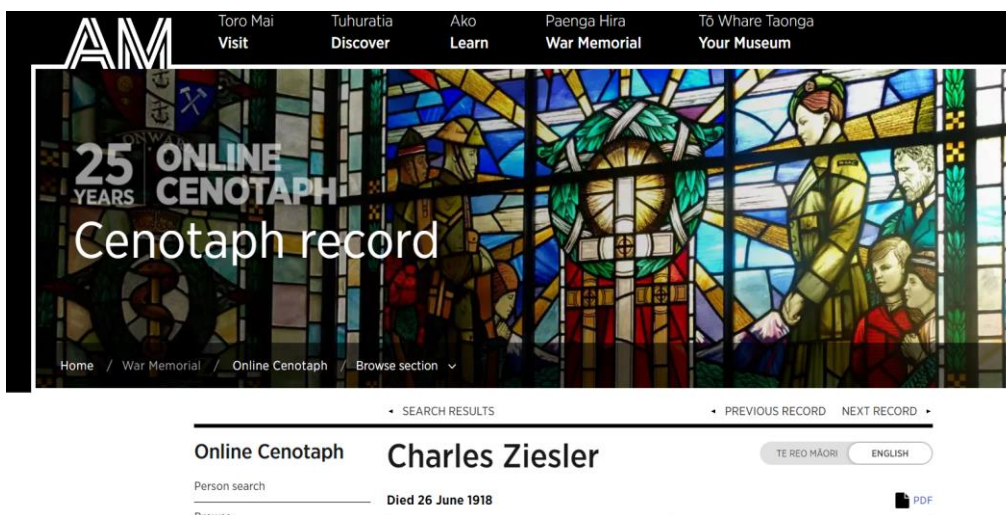
& The Crypt with the Roll of Honour names

(Photos from Monument Australia – Kent Watson/Sandra Tattersall/Graeme Saunders)

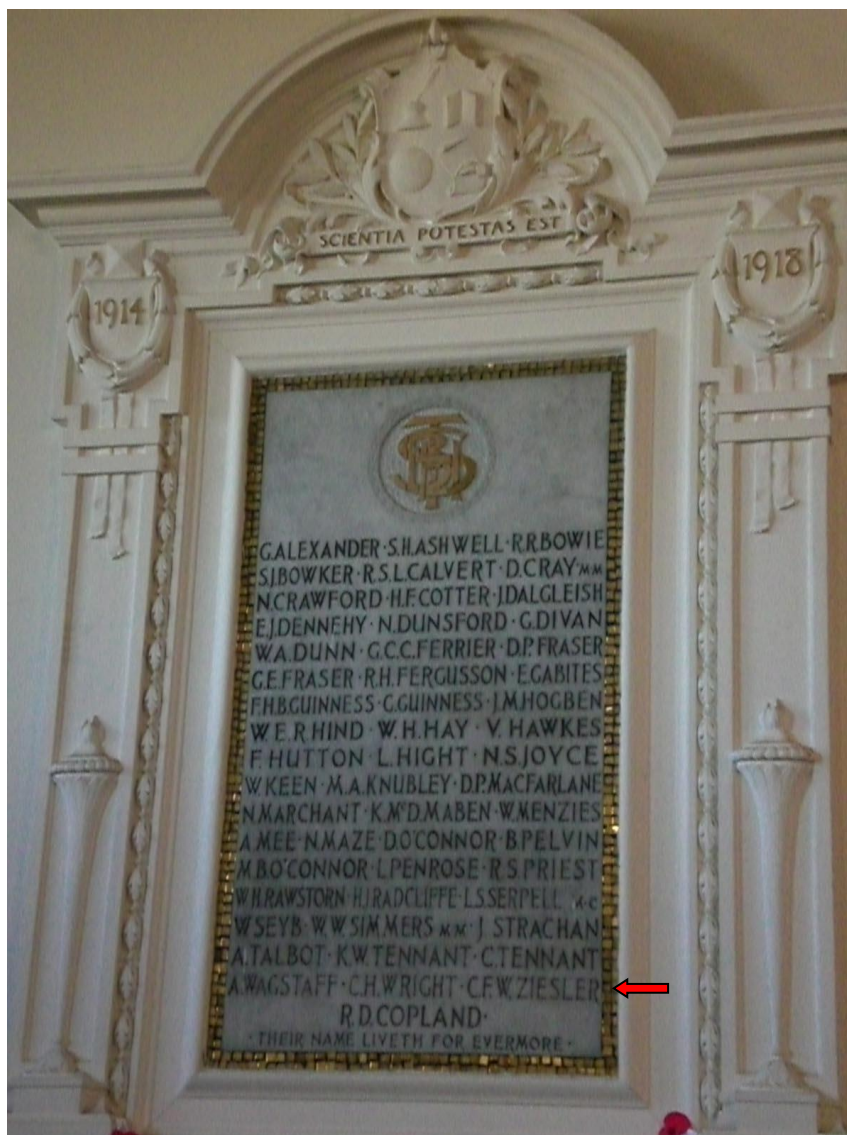


51st Battalion Panel (Photo courtesy of Gordon Stuart)

Charles Ziesler is remembered on the Auckland Museum Online Cenotaph.



C. F. W. Ziesler is remembered on the Timaru Boys High School Memorial plaque, located in Timaru Boys High School, New Zealand.



Timaru Boys High School Memorial plaque (Photo from NZ History)

C. Ziesler is remembered on the St. Mary's Church Roll of Honour, Timaru, New Zealand.



St. Mary's Church Roll of Honour, Timaru (Photo from NZ History)

(77 pages of Corporal Charles Ziesler'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



Ziesler Family

L to R: Thyra, Freja, On seat Johan, Erling on lap, Hadelar. At back: Charles, Lucy, Kaja Far right nurse and baby Gyda. Sitting at front: Hulda and Conrad



Charles Ziesler



Newspaper Reports

Social Notes

St. Mary's Church, Colm-street, West Perth, was the scene of a very pretty but quiet wedding on the 12th inst., the contracting parties being Mr Charles Ziesler, of Perth, and Miss Mattie Grimwood, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Grimwood, of Perth.....

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia, Thursday 4th July, 1918)

BIRTHS

ZIESLER.- On January 13, the wife of Charles Ziesler, of Hay-street East - a son. New Zealand papers please copy.

(The Western Mail, Perth, Western Australia, Friday 24th January, 1913)

MAINLY ABOUT PEOPLE

The many friends of Mrs Charles Ziesler, of 68 Outram-street, West Perth, will regret to hear of the death of her husband, Charles Ziesler, well known in assurance circles for many years. He succumbed to bronchial pneumonia at No. 3 New Zealand General Hospital, London, on June 26, 1918.

(The Daily News, Perth, Western Australia, Thursday 4th July, 1918)

DEATHS

ZIESLER.- On June 26, 1918, at No. 3 New Zealand General Hospital London Sergeant Charles Ziesler late 51st Battalion of bronchial pneumonia beloved husband of Martha Mary Ziesler and beloved father of Peggy and Ned aged 46 years. Melbourne and New Zealand papers please copy.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia, Thursday 4th July, 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)

Corporal Charles Ziesler does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

*IN LOVING MEMORY
OF MY DEAR HUSBAND
AND OUR DEAR FATHER*

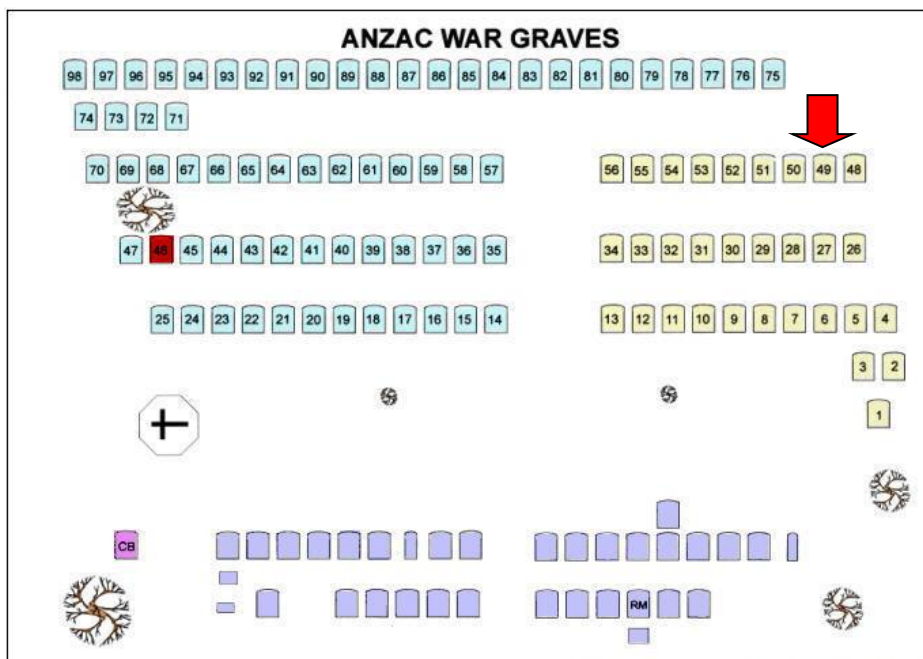
Photo of Corporal Charles Ziesler's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in St. Mary's New Churchyard, Codford, Wiltshire, England. Also known as Codford Anzac War Graves Cemetery, Wiltshire.



(Headstone Photos courtesy of Romy Wyeth)



Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Corporal Charles Ziesler is located in Main Third Row (Right hand side) Grave Plot # 49 of Codford War Graves Cemetery (CWGC Reference - Grave # 92)



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

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