

Codford War Graves



Lest we Forget

World War I



3861 PRIVATE

FRANK JAMES CATTERMOLE

48TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

14TH JUNE, 1918 Age 19

DEAR BOY YOU HAVE GONE

BUT WE CAN NEVER FORGET

YOUR SMILING FACE

*Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Pte Frank James Cattermole is located in Main Third Row
(Right Hand Side) Grave Plot # 51 of Codford War Graves Cemetery(Using Map by Brian Marshall)*

(CWGC Reference - Grave # 94)

Frank James Cattermole was born in Jeparit, near Dimboola, Victoria in 1899, to parents William James and Amelia Jane Cattermole. He was aged 18, single & a baker's assistant from Bordertown, South Australia when he enlisted at Bordertown, on 1st February, 1917 with the 48th Infantry Battalion, 11th Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 3861 & his religion was Methodist. His next of kin was listed as his father- W. J. Cattermole, Bordertown, South Australia.

Pte Frank Cattermole embarked from Sydney on HMAT *Runic (A54)* on 22nd March, 1918 & disembarked at London, England on 24th May, 1918. Pte Cattermole was hospitalised for several weeks in the ship's hospital.

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.

Pte Cattermole was marched in to Training Camp at Codford on 24th May, 1918.

On 30th May, 1918 Pte Cattermole was admitted sick to Brigade Clearing Hospital at Codford for observation. On 2nd June, 1918 he was transferred to No. 3 New Zealand General Hospital at Codford, Wiltshire, admitted with bronchitis.

Pte Frank James Cattermole died at 1.30 a.m. on 14th June, 1918 at No. 3 New Zealand General Hospital at Codford, Wiltshire. A Post Mortem examination was carried out on 14th June, 1918 & the cause of death was Purulent Bronchitis.

A death for Frank J Cattermole, aged 19, was registered in the June quarter, 1918 in the district of Warminster, Wiltshire.

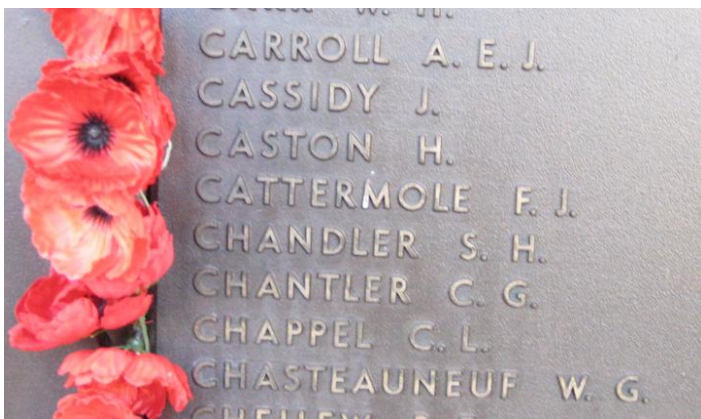
From the burial report of Pte Cattermole - he was buried on 17th June, 1918 at St. Mary's Cemetery Codford in Grave No. 94, Australian Section. Coffin was good, Polished Elm with Brass Mountings – *The deceased was buried with full Military Honours. The coffin was conveyed to the graveside on a Gun Carriage which was preceded by a Firing Party and Band. The members of the reinforcement Unit to which the deceased belonged were present as mourners. A large wreath from the Officers, N.C.O.'s and men of deceased's late Unit was placed on the grave. The late Private Cattermole was very popular and his loss is very keenly felt.*

Pte Frank James Cattermole requested in his Will, dated 19th March, 1918 that he leaves all his belongings to his father – William James Cattermole of Bordertown, South Australia.

Private F. J. Cattermole is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 145.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)

Pte F. J. Cattermole is also remembered on the National War Memorial (South Australia) on North Terrace, Adelaide. (Panel 7, column 3).



(Photos by Bilby)

Pte Frank James Cattermole 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 Pte Cattermole's father – Mr W. J. Cattermole (July, 1921 & November, 1922).

(53 pages of Pte Frank James Cattermole'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

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Newspaper Reports

LATE PTE. F.J. CATTERMOLLE

Mr and Mrs W. J. Cattermole, of Bordertown, have been advised that their third son, Pte. Frank J. Cattermole, aged 19 years, has died from illness in England. Pte Cattermole enlisted about 18 months ago from Bordertown. He was born at Jeparit, Victoria, and received his education at Rainbow, in that State, and at Bordertown. Mr and Mrs Cattermole have another son at the front in France.

(The Register, Adelaide, South Australia, Saturday 22nd June, 1918)

415th CASUALTY LIST

South Australia

Died from Other Causes

3861 Pte. F. J. CATTERMOLLE, Bordertown, 14/6/18, illness, p.r. died C.N.S.

(The Chronicle, Adelaide, South Australia, Saturday 13th July, 1918)

Other

POIGNANT MEMORIES IN A WILTSHIRE VILLAGE

THE annual ANZAC Day memorial service takes place each year at the special cemetery at Codford St Mary.

Codford's Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemetery in Church Lane contains the highest number of New Zealand war graves (66) in this country, and has the second largest number of ANZAC graves. Australians total 31.

The servicemen who are buried in the peaceful rural cemetery died from wounds, or from pneumonia, bronchitis, sickness or other conditions carefully recorded in CWGC documentation.

Among the many poignant headstones is one for 19-year-old Private Frank James Cattermole who died on 14th June 1918.

Private Cattermole served with the 48th Battalion Australian Infantry.

He was the son of William James and Amelia Jane Cattermole of Bordertown, South Australia, and he had been born in the neighbouring state of Victoria.

His family had his headstone inscribed with the words: "Dear Boy you have gone but we can never forget your smiling face."

ANZAC Day is always on 25th April which is the national day of remembrance for fallen service people in Australia, New Zealand and a number of Pacific islands.

The date chosen is the anniversary of the first important military action in which soldiers from Australia and New Zealand took part in World War I.

Codford's service starts early, usually lasts for about 30 minutes and is followed by a special Gunfire Breakfast, which features a tot of rum in tea, in the village hall.

Representatives from both High Commissions usually attend.

Report and pictures by Caroline Rippier

(This is Dorset, 24th June, 2011)

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)

Pte Frank James Cattermole does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

** SOLDIERS DIED WITH SAME SERVICE NUMBER – BOTH BURIED AT CODFORD

Pte Frank James Cattermole had a service number of 3861 with the 48th Battalion, Australian Infantry. Pte Clarence Albert Jennings also had a service number of 3861 but with the 32nd Battalion, Australian Infantry. Both men died of bronchitis & are buried with a grave in between them at Codford ANZAC Cemetery. Jennings died 22nd March, 1918 & Cattermole died 14th June, 1918.

Photo of Pte Frank James Cattermole's Headstone at Codford War Graves Cemetery



(Photo courtesy of Romy Wyeth)