

# Codford War Graves



*Lest we Forget*

## World War I



**7795 PRIVATE**

**F. N. PATIENCE**

**16TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**27TH OCTOBER, 1917 Age 19**

*THE LORD GAVE*

*AND HAS TAKEN AWAY*

*Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Pte F. N. Patience is located in Row with Two Graves (Right hand side) Grave Plot # 3 of Codford War Graves Cemetery (Using Map by Brian Marshall)*

*(CWGC Reference - Grave # 21 )*

Frank Nicholas Patience was born 6<sup>th</sup> March, 1898, at Greenough, near Mullewa, Western Australia to parents Joseph John & Elizabeth Patience (nee Barnden). He was a 19 year old, single Farm Labourer from Georgina via Walkaway, Western Australia when he enlisted on 25<sup>th</sup> June, 1917 with the 16<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion, 26<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 7795 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Elizabeth Patience of Georgina via Walkaway, Western Australia. Both of Frank's parents had signed consent for their son to enlist as he was under 21 years of age.

Pte Frank Nicholas Patience embarked from Sydney on HMAT *Medic (A7)* on 1<sup>st</sup> August, 1917 & disembarked at Liverpool, England on 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 1917.

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 Frank Nicholas Patience was marched in to 4<sup>th</sup> Training Battalion at Codford on 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 1917.

Pte Frank Nicholas Patience was admitted to hospital for 5 days from 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> October, 1917 with influenza. He was then admitted to No. 4 Group Clearing Hospital at Codford on 17<sup>th</sup> October, 1917 with pneumonia for 2 days.

Pte Frank Nicholas Patience was transferred to No. 3 New Zealand Military Hospital at Codford on 19<sup>th</sup> October, 1917 – “Pneumonia -dangerously ill.”

Pte Frank Nicholas Patience died at 12.50 p.m. on 27<sup>th</sup> October, 1917 at No. 3 New Zealand Hospital, Codford of pneumonia. A Post Mortem had been conducted.

A death for Frank E. Patience, aged 19, was registered in the December quarter, 1917 in the district of Warminster, Wiltshire.

From the burial report of Pte Frank Nicholas Patience – he was buried on 30<sup>th</sup> October, 1917 at Codford St. Mary's Cemetery, Grave No. 21, Australian Section. *The deceased was accorded a Military Funeral, the coffin being of Polished Elm. Personal friends of Pte Patience from his reinforcement, 26<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> Battalion, were present at his funeral.*

Pte Frank Nicholas Patience requested in his Will, dated 10<sup>th</sup> July, 1917, that the whole of his real and personal estate be given to his mother – Elizabeth Patience.

Private F. N. Patience is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 80.



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



*(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)*

Pte Frank Nicholas Patience 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 Patience's father – Mr J. J. Patience (July, 1921 & October, 1922).

( 64 pages of Pte Frank Nicholas Patience'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

### MAINLY ABOUT PEOPLE

Private Frank Nicholas Patience, the young son of Mr Joseph J. Patience, of Georgina, has died abroad of pneumonia (says a Geraldton exchange). The young fellow had not quite attained his 20<sup>th</sup> year. Much sympathy with his parents is expressed by a very large circle of friends in this district.

*(The Daily News, Perth Western Australia, Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November, 1917)*

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### W.A. CASUALTIES

#### DIED OF ILLNESS

Patience, Frank Nicholas, Georgina.

*(The Daily News, Perth Western Australia, Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 1917)*

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### WESTERN AUSTRALIAN HEROES



PTE F. N. PATIENCE

(Died of pneumonia. Parents reside at Georgina)

*(Western Mail, Perth, Western Australia, Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December, 1917)*

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### 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 F. N. Patience does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Photo of Pte F. N. Patience's Headstone at Codford War Graves Cemetery (below)



*(Photo courtesy of Romy Wyeth)*