



WWI Casualty

Corporal 1870, Albert James Button, Codford St. Mary

Surname	Given Names	Rank	Number	Regiment	Attachment	Date of Death		Age at Death	
						Year	Date		
Button	Albert James	Corporal	1870	3rd/51st Infantry Battalion	3rd Reinforcements, Australian Army	1916	23-Nov	23	
Date of Birth		Place of Birth	Father		Mother		Baptised		
Year	Date		Surname	Given Names	Maiden Name	Given Names	Year	Date	Place
1892		Melbourne, Victoria, Australia	Button	Albert					
Census Information									
Year	Surname	Given Names	Status	Age	Occupation	Place of Birth	Relationship to Head		

Military Service Record											
Enlistment Details											
Year	Date	Place	Age			Trade	Religion				
			Years	Months	Days						
1916	03-Jan	Perth	23	1		Hotel Clerk	C of E				
Physical Description											
Height		Complexion	Eye Colour	Hair Colour	Distinguishing Marks						
Feet	Inches										
5	8	Fresh	Blue	Fair	2 Vaccination marks on left arm, Mole on right neck						
According to his attestation papers, Albert Button had previously served for a total of 4 years with the Army in Victoria.											
From details in his Service Record, Albert was promoted to Sergeant in 44th Battalion on 28th March 1916 then recorded as Sergeant of 3/51st on 16th April 1916. His rank reverted back to Private on 9th September 1916. At this time Albert was undergoing training in Australia.											
Private Albert James Button embarked from Fremantle aboard HMAT Seang Bee (A48) on 18th July 1916 and disembarked at Plymouth, England on 9th September 1916. Albert would have then been sent to a training camp on Salisbury Plain											
Albert was promoted to Acting Corporal of 51st Battalion on 11th September 1916											
Corporal Albert James Button was injured in a grenade training accident at No. 4 Camp Codford on 23rd November 1916 and was admitted, deceased, to No. 3 New Zealand Hospital.											
Next of Kin											
Surname	Given Names	Status	Relationship	Abode							
Button	Gladys M.	Married	Wife	58 Stirling Street, Freemantle, Western Australia							
Details of Death											
Date of Death		Cause of Death	Theatre of War	Ships Name	War Gratuity Paid						
Year	Date				Year	Date	£	s.	d.	Recipient	
1916	23-Nov	Accidental - Bomb Explosion	UK Training Camp								
Grave Location											
Cemetery							Plot Number				
St. Mary New Churchyard, Codford St. Mary							47				
War Memorials and Commemorations											

Memorial Name and Location	Panel Number
Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia.	Panel 152
Corporal A. J. Button was only entitled to the British War Medal as he had not entered a Theatre of War.	
A Memorial Plaque, Scroll and King's letter were also sent to Corporal Button's wife, Mrs. G. M. Button at Summer Hill, New South Wales but were returned unclaimed "Not at Address" in July 1922. A letter was sent, in 1923, to the Post Office where Corporal Button's widow was collecting her pension and they advised the Base Records Office that the widow of Corporal Button had remarried and her details were now Mrs. Bell of 6 Canza Flats, East Crescent Street, McMahon's Point, New South Wales. Corporal Button's medal, Memorial Scroll and Plaque were received by his widow, now remarried Mrs. G. Bell, in 1923.	
The Inscription on the headstone at Codford St. Mary Reads: In Loving Memory of MY COMRADE. Thy Will Be Done.	
Other Significant Information	
Albert married Gladys M. Crowle in Fremantle in 1913.	
A daughter Inez was born in 1913	
Corporal Button was buried at Codford St. Mary on the 27th November 1916	
The following list was issued by the Supreme Court yesterday: Probates: Albert James Button, late of Fremantle, to Gladys May Button, £285 10s. 8d. West Australian, Perth, Saturday, 23 March 1918	

Newspaper Reports

DIED, CAUSE NOT STATED

A.-Cpl. A.J. BUTTON, Fremantle

Daily News, Perth, Western Australia, Saturday, 9 December 1916

DEATHS

BUTTON - Sergeant A. J. Button, dearly beloved husband of Gladys, and father of Inez, met his death, by a bomb accident in England, on November 23, aged 32 years.

Though death divides two loving hearts,

'Tis only till the breaking of the day;

Then I shall see my loved one's dear face, never to part again.

- Inserted by his loving wife. Melbourne papers please copy.

BUTTON – In loving memory of our dearly beloved eldest son, Sergeant A. J. (Bert) Button, who was killed in England, on November 23, brother to Ben, Violet, Lily, Edith, Ella, Ernest and Charlie, aged 32 years.
So dearly loved and deeply mourned.
- Inserted by his sorrowing parents, sisters and brothers.

BUTTON – Sergeant A. J. Button, died the result of a bombing accident, dearly beloved son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. N. Cowle, and loved brother-in-law of Ida, Irene, Amy, Ethel, Edward and Gordon.
We little thought his end so near,
God called him home,
It was His will,
But in our hearts he liveth still.
- Inserted by his father-in-law and mother-in-law and family.

West Australian, Perth, Saturday 16 December 1916

Following is a copy of a letter which has been received from Major Herbert by Mrs. A. J. Button, of Fremantle, widow of the late Sergeant A. J. Button, who was killed at a training camp in England on November 23, as a result of a bombing accident:

“Dear Mrs Button, - I regret to have to write and sympathise with you in your recent sad loss. Your husband’s demise came as a shock to one and all in this training battalion. His company officers report to me that he was a soldier and a man. He was popular with all ranks, and he was a first-class non-commissioned officer – a lad who would have done well at the front. You have, one consolation, my dear Mrs. Button, and that is, that he died in harness and although not at the front, he died for his country. I hope you look at his death in this light. Yours sincerely, (signed) M. J. Herbert, major, commanding 13th Training Battalion.”

West Australian, Perth, Thursday, 1 February 1917

In Memoriam

Anzac Heroes

BUTTON - In loving memory of my dearly beloved husband, Albert James (Bert), late of the 3rd/51st Battalion who was killed through a bombing accident in England.

Three years ago, so sad to recall,

‘Tis a day of remembrance to all.

Sudden on us or sorrow fell,

To part with one we loved so well.

Inserted by his sorrowing wife and little daughter Inez.

BUTTON - In loving memory of Sergeant A. J. (Bert), late of the 3rd/51st Battalion, A.I.F., who was accidently killed at Codford, England, on November 23, 1916; dearly beloved eldest son of Mr and Mrs A. Button, and brother of Ben, Violet, Lily, Edith, Ella, Ernest and Charlie, Spring Park Hotel, Midland Junction. His cheerful face, his loving smile, Are pleasant to recall. He had a kindly word for each And died beloved by all.
West Australian, Perth, Saturday, 22 November 1919



Photo by David Milborrow



Australian National Memorial by Peter Weekes