

**Hollybrook Memorial,  
Southampton, Hampshire, England  
War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**395 PRIVATE**

**F. G. TRALAGGAN**

**43RD BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**28TH JUNE, 1916**

## Frederick George (Fred) TRALAGGAN

Frederick George Tralaggan was born at Burra, South Australia on 28th September, 1895 to parents Frederick Sampson Tralaggan & Sarah Janet Tralaggan (nee Bryden).

Frederick George Tralaggan attended school at Mount Bryan East, South Australia.

Frederick George Tralaggan was a 20 year old, single, Labourer from Mount Bryan East, South Australia when he enlisted on 24th January, 1916 in Adelaide, South Australia with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Methodist & his next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Sarah J. Tralaggan, Mount Byran East, South Australia.

Private Frederick George Tralaggan was posted to “C” Company, 2nd Depot on 24th January, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to “B” Company, 1st Depot Battalion on 1st February, 1916 then on 7th March, 1916 he was transferred to “B” Company, 43rd Battalion.

Private Frederick George Tralaggan, Service number 395, embarked from Outer Harbour, Adelaide, South Australia on HMAT *Afric (A19)* on 9th June, 1916 with the 11th Infantry Brigade, 43rd Infantry Battalion “B” Company.

### 43rd Battalion

The 3rd Division was raised in Australia early in 1916. The 43rd Battalion was South Australia's contribution to the strength of the division. Along with the 41st, 42nd, and 44th Battalions, plus support troops, it formed the 11th Brigade.

The battalion embarked in June 1916 and, after landing briefly in Egypt, went on to Britain for further training.....

*(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)*

Private Frederick George Tralaggan was admitted sick to Ship's Hospital on 23rd June, 1916 while at Sea.

Private Frederick George Tralaggan died at 5 pm on 28th June, 1916 at Sea on board HMAT *Afric (A19)* from Measles.

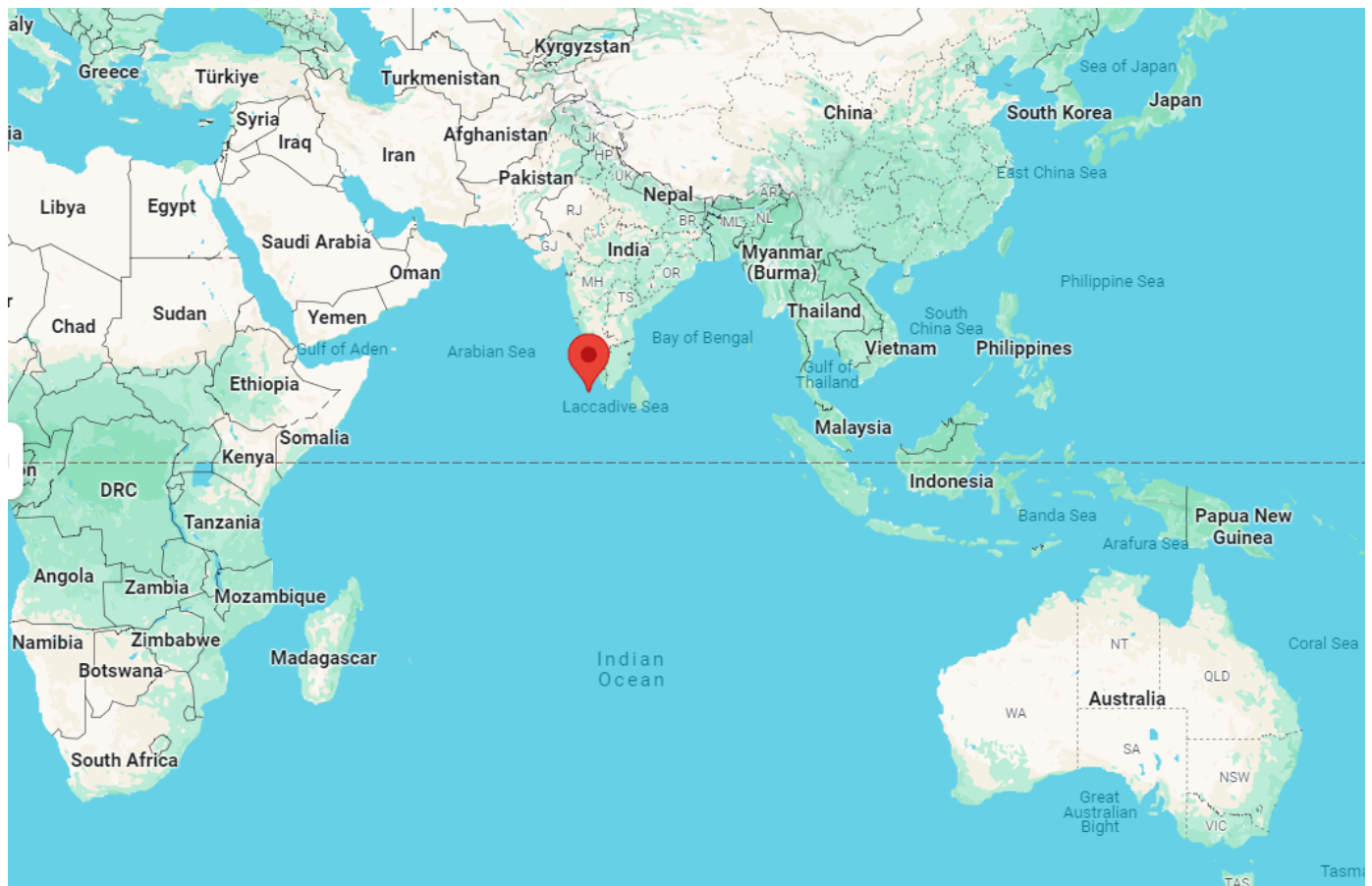
Captain Love, S.M.O. (Senior Medical Officer), Ship's Hospital, wrote to the Officer Commanding (*Afric*), advising “*I have to report that Pte F. G. Tralagan of 43rd Btn was admitted to this Hospital on 23/6/16, suffering from Measles. Death took place at 5 pm on 28/6/16.*”

Private Frederick George Tralaggan was buried at Sea from HMAT *Afric(A19)* on 28th June, 1916. He is commemorated on the Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, Hampshire, England as he has no grave. His death is acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.



**HMAT Afric (A19)**

According to UK Registers and Indexes of Births, Marriages and Deaths of Passengers and Seamen at Sea 1891 – 1922 – Private Frederick George Tralaggan died at Sea on board *Afric* at 8.15 N 75.35 E from Measles on 28th June, 1916.



Lieutenant Colonel Gordon, O.C. Troopship *Afric* A19 advised the Secretary of Defence on 12th July, 1916 from Port Said: "I wish to report having arrived at Suez on 11/7/16, leaving same afternoon for Port Said and arriving here on 12/7/16. I regret that there has been further cases of measles, resulting in the death of 395 Pte F. G. Tralaggan of "B" Company 43rd Infantry Battalion, as per separate report. Every effort is being made to combat the outbreak. Five men were disembarked at Suez as they were found to be Medically Unfit, and eight men have been landed at Port Said, suffering from Venereal Disease."

Lieutenant Colonel Gordon, O.C. Troopship *Afric* A19 made a further report to the Secretary of Defence on 20th July, 1916:

Troopship A19 (Afric)  
20th July 1916.

DEF  
323/2/460

Secretary for Defence,  
Military Headquarters,  
MELBOURNE,  
Victoria.

I have the honour to report upon the voyage of H. M. A. Troopship A19 (Afric) .

We left the Outer Harbour, South Australia, on June 9th. 1916, and arrived at Albany on 13/6/16. On the morning of the 14th. the troops were marched ashore at Albany and were allowed leave for two hours. The conduct there was excellent.

We left Albany on 14/6/16, and arrived at Colombo on the 26th., on which day half of the troops were ~~marched~~ taken ashore, marched to the Military Barracks, and allowed to break off in Barracks for two hours. On the 2nd. day the balance of the troops were treated likewise. The conduct of the troops on both days was very good.

We sailed from Colombo on the 27th. June and arrived at Suez on 11/7/16, leaving there the same day. Arrived at Port Said on 12th. July and left there on the 13th. No troops were allowed ashore at Suez or Port Said.

We arrived at Marseilles on 20/7/16.

During the whole of the voyage the conduct and discipline of the troops has been very good.

The health of the troops on board was marred by an outbreak of measles, aggregating 91 cases. It is regretted that the outbreak was the cause of the death of No. 395, Private F. G. TRALAGGAN, of "B" Company, 43rd Infantry Battalion which occurred at sea on the 28th. June 1916 between Colombo and Port Said.

Special efforts were made to combat this outbreak, and a satisfactory result was obtained.

Otherwise the health of troops was all that could be desired.

I wish to report that owing to the heavy cargo on board, sufficient room was not left for the satisfactory stowing of baggage.

*D. Gordon*  
Lieut-Col.  
C. O. Troopship A19 ("Afric")

Sarah J. Tralaggan, Mt. Bryan, East, wrote to Base Records on 7th August, 1916 with the following letter: "My son F. G. Tralaggan left Adelaide on the 9 of June with the 43 battalion on SS Africa. I received a wire that my son died on the 28 of June with measles. Please send full particulars how long he was ill & and ware (sic) he is buried. My dear boy he was a strong boy never had a days illness never had a bottle medicine from a Dr in his life oh this cruel war is breaking many a mothers heart & home up. I would so much like to have my boy presents wristlet watch hymn book testament belt knife fore & spoon in leather case & many more things he as presents."



(A typed, similarly but re-worded letter was sent to Red Cross Bureau, Adelaide)

Base Records replied to Mrs S. J. Tralaggan on 11th August, 1916 advising *"...detailed circumstances in connection with the death and burial of your son, No. 395 Private F. G. Tralaggan, 43rd Battalion, have not yet been received at this office, but should such come to hand at a later date you will be promptly communicated with. Any personal effects of a sentimental value he may have had with him at the date of his death would, if recovered, be taken over by Messrs Thomas Cook & Son, Cairo, and transmitted through their Melbourne branch direct to you or any legatee mentioned in a Will or testamentary direction, prescribing otherwise, which may be discovered amongst them. The addressee will be advised direct from Egypt of the despatch of the above."*

Sarah J. Tralaggan, Mt. Bryan, East, wrote to Base Records on 9th October, 1916 with the following letter: *"Having received my late son Pte F. G. Tralaggan personally belonging the wristlet watch that is sent is not my late son watch. I having wrote to the \_\_\_\_\_ in Adelaide ware he bough the watch just about a month before he left Adelaide £3 & watch silver with radium face the watch send is an old watch of no use at all also his present is missing a knife fork & spoon in leather case I hope you will cable to C. Playford of the 43 as it as worried me terrible to think any one on that boat would so such a thing & my son had the watch on the day he left Adelaide hoping you will try & get the watch."*

Base Records replied to Mrs S. J. Tralaggan, Mt Bryan E., South Australia on 16th October, 1916 stating *".....regret that you have found necessary to complain that the effects of your son, the late No. 395 Private F. G. Tralaggan, 43rd Battalion, which were recently returned to you, are not his property. A copy of your communication has, in the circumstances, been forwarded to A.I.F. Headquarters, London, with a view to ascertaining, if in time to catch the 43rd Battalion, before they get into action again, whether anything can be discovered about the missing watch. Upon receipt of reply, you will again be communicated with."*

Administrative Headquarters, London, England replied to The Secretary, Department of Defence, Melbourne, on 29th December, 1916 regarding No. 395 Private F. G. Tralaggan, 43rd Battalion, A.I.F. – Deceased: *"In reply to your letter No. 4110 of the 15th October last regarding the personal belongings of the above-named soldier, searching enquiries have been made in connection herewith, and the following is a report received from Lieutenant Hudd, Officer Commanding "B" Company, 43rd Battalion:-*

*"The only information I can give is that Cpl. Gardner of A.M.C. and myself searched the clothing of the late Pte Tralaggan for the purpose of collecting all his private property. I packed these belongings in a parcel and handed same to the Adjutant for forwardation to the next of Kin. The wristlet watch packed by me in the parcel was the on discovered in the pocket of his uniform. I did not take any particular notice of the watch, so I cannot state whether or not it was of any particular make. As far as I remember there was no knife, fork or spoon among his personal belongings."*

The contents of the above letter was sent to Mrs S. J. Tralaggan from Base Records on 25th February, 1917.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Private Frederick George Tralaggan contains a request from the Red Cross on behalf of his friend in Adelaide for details of his death. The Red Cross wrote to the Officer Commanding of the Troopship *Afric* who advised that the Officer Commanding Troops – Lieutenant Colonel D. D. Gordon, 43rd Battalion, A.I.F. would be the person to contact for information.

A letter was sent to Lieutenant Colonel D. D. Gordon, 43rd Battalion, A.I.F., by the Red Cross on 2nd January, 1917 & the following reply was received: *"Your remarks noted and it cannot be understood why the enquiry in question should come through at this late juncture as Pvt Tralaggan's Coy. Commander wrote to his people at the time and has since had a reply thanking him for writing them. Of course it may be some outside friends and I will let you have the details as far as possible as we have not \_\_\_\_\_ here with us. Pvt Tralaggan was stricken with measles whilst we were in the tropics and although every thing was done, \_\_\_\_\_ attending him, he succumbed to the complaint. I might mention I was with him at the time of his death but he was unconscious and did not make any request of any sort. His private effects were forwarded through the usual channels and we have had a query raised in reference to a watch but no \_\_\_ could be found of same. Although meagre I trust the information will be of value."*

A War Pension was applied for by Sara Jennet Tralaggan, Mt Bryan East, mother (married) of the late Private Frederick George Tralaggan. The claim was rejected on the grounds that *"claimant has failed to attend and give evidence in support of her claim, and moreover, there is no proof of dependence prior to enlistment."*

Base Records contacted Mrs S. J. Tralaggan, Mount Bryan East, South Australia, on 18th January, 1922 stating she was registered on the records of the late No. 395 Private F. G. Tralaggan, 43rd Battalion, as the next-of-kin but desired to know if there were any nearer blood relatives than herself & was specifically asked if his father was alive due to the "Deceased Soldiers Estates Act 1918" which stated that the War Medals & Mementoes of a deceased soldier were to be handed in the following order of relationship – Widow, eldest surviving son, eldest surviving daughter, father, mother, eldest surviving brother, eldest surviving sister etc.

Mrs Sarah J. Tralaggan, Aberdeen, Burra, S.A., replied to Base Records on 18th February, 1922 advising: *"In answer to questions as mother of late Pte F. G. Tralaggan I have made all claims as hi Father is a man that will not apply I gave him this notice he as never wrote a line or dose not claim the never worrie his head over it. My husband name is Frederick Sampson Tralaggan, Aberdeen, Burra, S.A."*

Private Frederick George Tralaggan 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 Private Tralaggan's father – Mr F. S. Tralaggan, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent April, 1922 & Plaque sent July, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Frederick George Tralaggan – service number 395, of 43rd Battalion, Australian Infantry. No family details are listed.

Private F. G. Tralaggan is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 137.



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

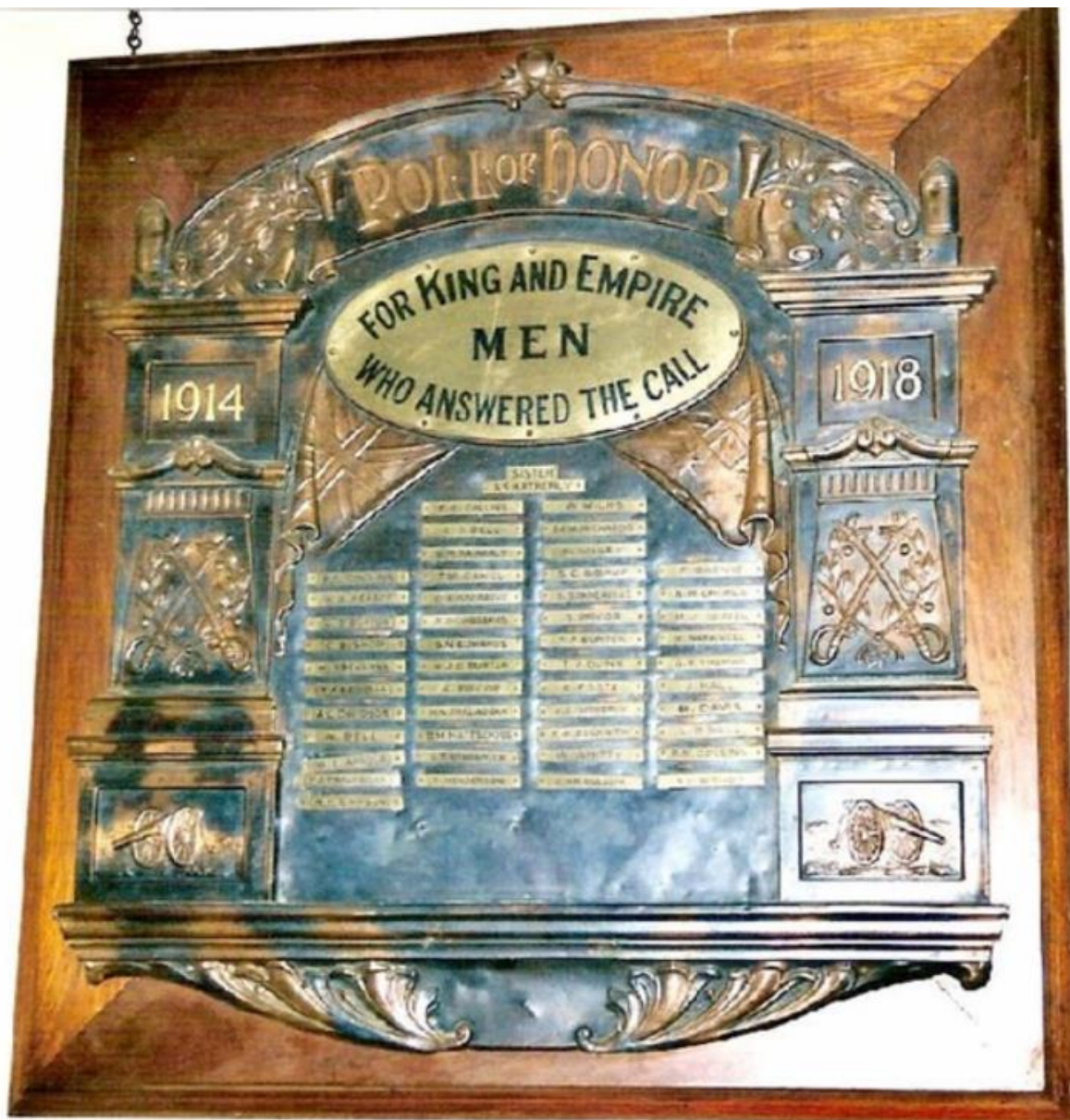




F. G. Tralaggan is remembered on the Mount Bryan Roll of Honour, located inside the Mount Bryan Soldiers' Memorial Hall, located on Barrier Highway, Mount Bryan, South Australia.



Mount Bryan Soldiers' Memorial Hall (Photo from Monument Australia – Stephen Warren)





F. G. Tralaggan is remembered on the Burra District Honour Roll, located in Burra Council Chambers (R.S.L. Meeting Room), Market Square, Burra, South Australia.



**Burra District Honour Roll** (Photos from Monument Australia – Chris McLaughlin)





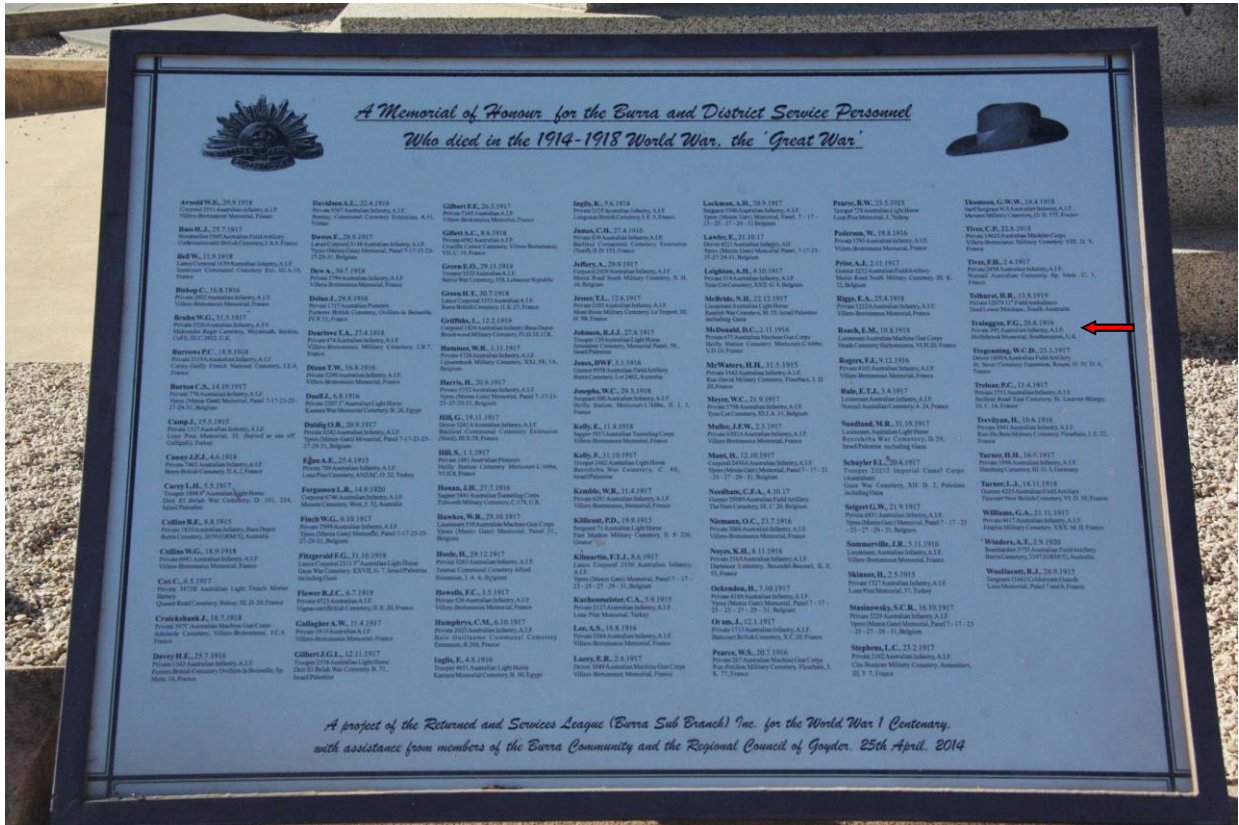
F. G. Tralaggan is remembered on the Burra War Memorial & Memorial Honour Board located at Market & Kingston Streets, Burra, South Australia.



**Burra War Memorial** (Photos from AWM Places of Pride – Peter F. Williams)







Memorial Honour Board at Burra War Memorial (Photos from AWM Places of Pride – Peter F. Williams)

Tralagan, F.G., 28.6.1916  
Private 395 Australian Infantry, A.I.F.  
Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, U.K.

F. G. Tralaggan is remembered on the Burra, Riverton & Saddleworth Districts Roll of Honour, located in Burra Council Chambers (R.S.L. Meeting Room), Market Square, Burra, South Australia.



**Burra, Riverton & Saddleworth Districts Roll of Honour** (Photo from Monument Australia – Chris McLaughlin)

F. G. Tralaggan is remembered on the Hallett War Memorial, located on Barrier Highway & Jessie Street, Hallett, South Australia.



**Hallett War Memorial** (Photos from Monument Australia – Chris McLaughlin)





**Hallett War Memorial**

F. G. Tralaggan 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)

(54 pages of Private Frederick George Tralaggan'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, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives*





AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

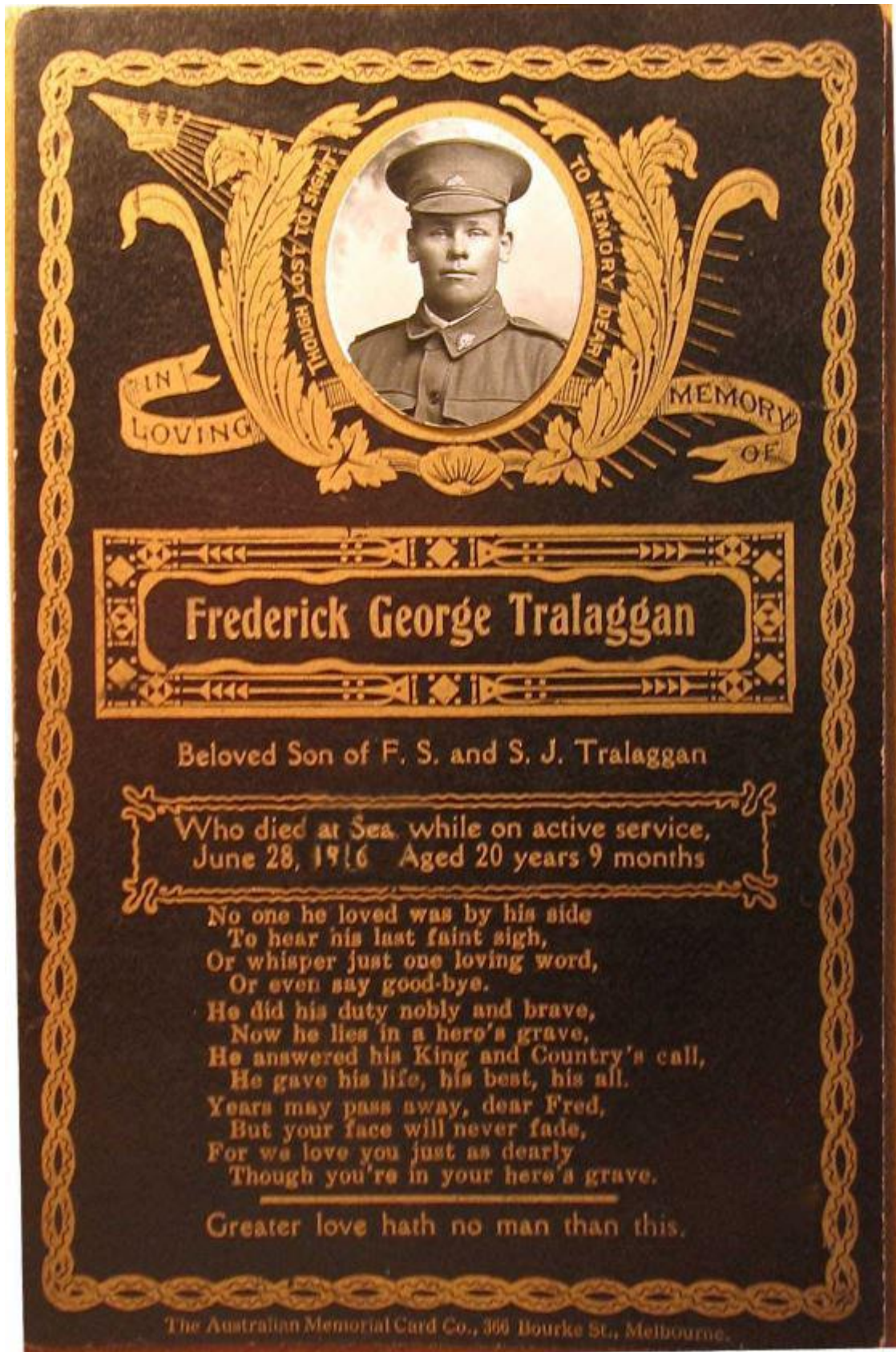
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**Private Frederick George Tralaggan**



**Private Frederick George Tralaggan**





Memorial Card for Private Frederick George Tralaggan

## **Newspaper Notices**

### **District News**

#### **MT BRYAN EAST**

Mr F. Tralaggan has recently gone into camp.....

*(Burra Record, South Australia – 1 March, 1916)*

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### **Death of a District Volunteer**

Our Mt. Bryan East correspondent writes:- The sad news has just come to hand, that Private F. G. Tralaggan, of the 43rd. Battalion, died on the 28th of June, whilst on board the 'Africa.' Death was caused by measles whilst he was on his way to the front to fight for his King and Country. Private Tralaggan was a fine type of a young fellow, and was highly respected by the residents of the district. He was a regular attendant of the Sunday School and of the Methodist Church, also an active member of the Mutual Improvement Society, and Agricultural Bureau. He had a keen sense of humor. The news came as a shock, not only to his relatives, but to all local residents. He gave his all. The deepest sympathy is expressed for his parents, Mr and Mrs F. Tralaggan.

*(Burra Record, South Australia – 26 July, 1916)*

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### **Burra Cheer-up Society**

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As a society, our sympathy is extended to Mr and Mrs Tralaggan and family of Mt Bryan, who have received the sad news of Pte Tralaggan's death.

*(Burra Record, South Australia – 2 August, 1916)*

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## **AUSTRALIAN CASUALTIES**

### **189th LIST**

#### **DIED OF ILLNESS**

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA – Pte F. G. Tralaggan**

*(The Argus, Melbourne, Victoria – 4 August, 1916)*

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### **DIED ON ACTIVE SERVICE**

**TRALAGGAN – Private Frederick George Tralaggan, second beloved son of F. S. and S. J. Tralaggan, who died at sea, of measles, on active service, on June 28, aged 19 years and 9 months.**

As we loved you in life so we love you in death,

Oh Lord, Thy will be done.

A precious one from us is gone,

A voice we loved is stilled,

A place is vacant in our home,  
Which never can be filled.  
Not one he loved was by his side  
To hear his last faint sight,  
Or whisper just one loving word  
Before he closed his eyes.

(*Chronicle*, Adelaide, South Australia – 5 August, 1916)

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## District News

### MOUNT BRYAN EAST

A roll of honor, of the gallant boys who have enlisted from this district, was unveiled on Sunday, December 10th, in the Methodist Church. The Rev. H. A. Miller, preached a suitable sermon for the occasion. The roll was purchased by the Sunday-school instead of book prizes, and is a worthy ornament and contains the following names : — Lce-Cpls. A. Pohlner, B. Collins and N. Tiver, Sgt. T. Quinn. Ptes B. Lilley, C Simmons, F. Pohlner, T. Brady, M. Griffin, **F. Tralaggan**, J. Stalkiner. W. Clarke, W. Wilks. H. Tralaggan, R. Thomas. The roll is incomplete as more names are to be added.

(*Burra Record*, South Australia – 20 December, 1916)

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## For King and Empire

### FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH

*“The path of duty was the way to Glory”*

Percy W. Venning, Arthur Burton Shorney.....Pte F. G. Tralaggan, .....

(*Australian Christian Commonwealth*, South Australia – 22 September, 1916)

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## HEROES OF THE GREAT WAR

TRALAGGAN – In memory of our dear son, Fred, died at sea on active service, June 28, 1916.

In the bloom of life God called him,  
In the prime of his manhood days,  
But we are proud, dear Fred, you were not a shirker,  
But went, as every true man should.

-Inserted by his mother and father, F. S. and S. J. Tralaggan, Mount Bryan East.

TRALAGGAN – In memory of dear Fred, died at sea on active service, June 28, 1916.

A loving brother, one of the best,  
A brave hero, now at rest.  
His duty done.

-Inserted by his sisters and brothers, Vera, Grave, Roy, and Henry (in France).

(*The Advertiser*, Adelaide, South Australia – 28 June, 1917)

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## **HEROES OF THE GREAT WAR**

TRALAGGAN – In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Fred, who died on board transport, June 28, 1916.

Two years have passed, but still we miss him,

Friends may think the wound is healed,

But they little know the sorrow

Deep within our hearts concealed.

-Inserted by his loving father, mother, brothers and sisters.

(*The Advertiser*, Adelaide, South Australia – 28 June, 1918) & (*Chronicle*, Adelaide, South Australia – 29 June, 1918)

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## **HEROES OF THE GREAT WAR**

TRALAGGAN – In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Fred, died at sea on active service, June 28, 1916.

Ever remembered by his mother, father, sisters and brothers.

(*Chronicle*, Adelaide, South Australia – 28 June, 1919)

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## **HEROES OF THE GREAT WAR**

TRALAGGAN – In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private Frederick G. Tralaggan, died at sea on active service, June 28, 1916. - Ever remembered by his loving father, mother, brothers and sisters.

(*The Advertiser*, Adelaide, South Australia – 26 June, 1920)

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## Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for cemeteries and memorials in 23,000 locations, in 153 countries. In all 1.7 million men and women from the Commonwealth forces from WWI and WWII have been honoured and commemorated in perpetuity.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, as part of its mandate, is responsible for commemorating all Commonwealth war dead individually and equally. To this end, the war dead are commemorated by name on a headstone, at an identified site of a burial, or on a memorial. War dead are commemorated uniformly and equally, irrespective of military or civil rank, race or creed.

Not all service personnel have a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. In some instances the relative chose to have their own memorial/headstone placed on the deceased's grave. These private headstones are not maintained by the CWGC as they have no jurisdiction to maintain them.

## Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, Hampshire, England

The Hollybrook Memorial is situated in Southampton (Hollybrook) Cemetery behind the plot of First World War graves near the main entrance.

The Hollybrook Memorial commemorates by name almost 1,900 servicemen and women of the Commonwealth land and air forces\* whose graves are not known, many of whom were lost in transports or other vessels torpedoed or mined in home waters (\*Officers and men of the Commonwealth's navies who have no grave but the sea are commemorated on memorials elsewhere). The memorial also bears the names of those who were lost or buried at sea, or who died at home but whose bodies could not be recovered for burial. Almost one third of the names on the memorial are those of officers and men of the South African Native Labour Corps, who died when the troop transport Mendi sank in the Channel following a collision on 21 February 1917. Other vessels sunk with significant loss of life were: HS Anglia, a hospital ship sunk by mine off Dover on 17 November 1915. SS Citta Di Palermo, an Italian transport carrying Commonwealth troops, sunk by mine off Brindisi on 8 January 1916. In rescuing survivors, two Royal Naval Otranto drifters were themselves mined and blown up. HMTs Donegal and Warilda, ambulance transports torpedoed and sunk between Le Havre and Southampton on 17 April 1917 and 3 August 1918. HS Glenart Castle, a hospital ship torpedoed and sunk off Lundy on 26 February 1918. SS Galway Castle, torpedoed and sunk in the Atlantic on 12 September 1918. RMS Leinster, the Irish mail boat, torpedoed and sunk in the Irish Sea on 10 October 1918. Among those commemorated on the Hollybrook Memorial is Field Marshall Lord Kitchener, Secretary of State for War, who died when the battle cruiser HMS Hampshire was mined and sunk off Scapa Flow on 5 June 1916.

The memorial was designed by T. Newham and unveiled by Sir William Robertson on 10 December 1930.

There are approximately 162 Australian World War 1 Service Personnel commemorated on the Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, Hampshire, England.

*(Information & photos from CWGC)*







**Cross of Sacrifice**



**Name Panels behind Cross of Sacrifice** *(Photo from CWGC)*

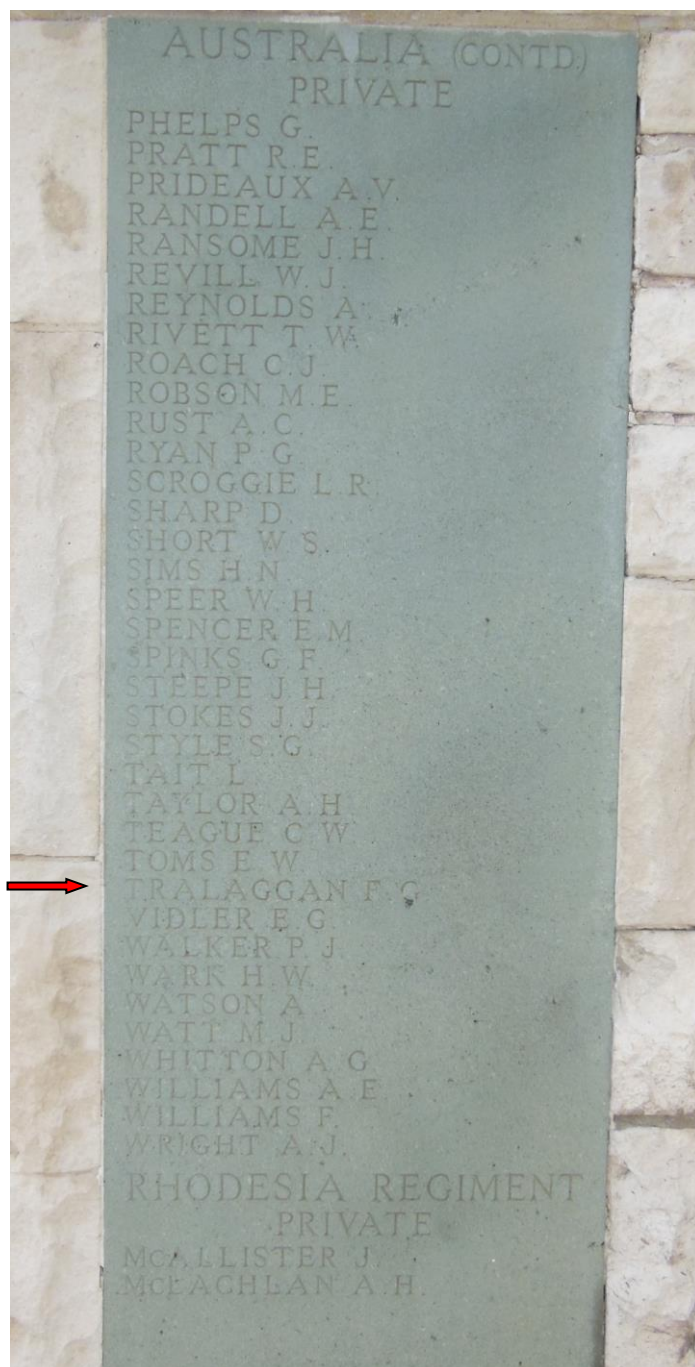




**CWGC Graves in Hollybrook Cemetery with Cross of Sacrifice & Hollybrook Memorial** *(Photo from CWGC)*



Photo of Private F. G. Tralaggan's name on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission's Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, Hampshire, England.



(Photo by julia&keld – Find a Grave)

