

FRANCES WILLIE GOODWIN MC & Bar

Lieutenant

8th Battalion, Australian Infantry

died on

Sunday 15th April 1917

aged 31

FRANCIS WILLIE GOODWIN
is buried in
HOOGE CRATER CEMETERY
Belgium

*. Additional information in the
Commonwealth War Graves Commission Register*

Son of Caroline Goodwin, of The Oaks, Colwall, Herefordshire, England, and the late Edward Goodwin.

Hooge Chateau and its stables were the scene of very fierce fighting throughout the First World War. Hooge Crater Cemetery was begun by the 7th Division Burial Officer early in October 1917. It contained originally 76 graves, but was greatly increased after the Armistice when graves were brought in from the battlefields of Zillebeke, Zantvoorde and Gheluvelt. There are now 5,923 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery.

Francis Willie Goodwin is buried in Plot XV. Row D. Grave 15.



Malvern News
Saturday 1st May 1915
LOCAL WAR ITEMS

Lance Corporal F W Goodwin who formerly lived at Colwall writing to a friend at Hereford states that he joined the Australian Contingent last August. He gives an account of his journey from Australia to Egypt and of his stay and the sights in the latter place. He has now left Egypt for the Dardanelles.

Particulars Required for the Roll of Honour of Australia in the Memorial War Museum.	
1. Name (in full) of Fallen Soldier.	<i>Francis Willie Goodwin Lieutenant</i>
2. Unit and Number (if known).	<i>8th Battalion A.I.F.</i>
3. With what Town or District in Australia was he chiefly connected (under which his name ought to come on the Memorial)—Town (if any)	<i>Geelong</i> District <i>Melbome</i> State <i>Australia</i>
4. What was his Birthplace	<i>Colwall, Herefordshire</i>
5. Date of Death	<i>19.10.15</i>
6. Place where Killed or Wounded	<i>Near Ypres, Estock Ridge</i>
Particulars Required for the Nation's Histories.	
1. What was his Calling	<i>Farmer</i>
2. Age at time of Death	<i>31 years 9 months</i>
3. What was his School	<i>Boys Free School Colwall</i>
4. What was his other Training	<i>Farming</i>
5. If born in Britain or Abroad, at what age did he come to Australia	<i>26 years 4 months</i>
6. Had he ever served in any Military or Naval Force before Enlisting in the A.I.F. (Please state particulars)	<i>No</i>
7. Any other biographical details likely to be of interest to the Historian of the A.I.F., or of his Regiment:—	<i>In his early career he was a great Athlete.</i>
8. Was he connected with any other Member of the A.I.F. who died or who distinguished himself. (Please state Relationship):	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9. Name and Address of the Parent or other persons giving the information—	Name <i>Caroline Goodwin</i> Relation to Soldier <i>Widowed Mother</i> Address <i>The Oaks, Colwall, Herefordshire</i>
10. Names and Addresses of any other persons to whom references could be made by the Historian for further information—	Name <i>Mr. Fred Ballard J.P.</i> Address <i>Broadwood, Colwall, Herefordshire</i>
NOTE.—This Folder is addressed to the O.C. Australian Graves Services, London. Please fold in four, and stick down gummed flap so that the addressed portion is outside. The information is required urgently.	

Francis Willie Goodwin's Australian Army details

THE LONDON GAZETTE 22nd SEPTEMBER 1916

CITATION FOR AWARD OF THE MILITARY CROSS

2nd Lt. FRANCIS WILLIAM GOODWIN Aust Inf.

For gallant conduct during protracted operations. He led a patrol forward gaining valuable information and supervised supplies for the front line and worked without ceasing for three days and nights in the removal of the wounded under heavy fire.

THE LONDON GAZETTE 16th NOVEMBER 1916

CITATION FOR AWARD OF BAR TO THE MILITARY CROSS

2nd Lt. FRANCIS WILLIAM GOODWIN M.C. Aust Inf.

For conspicuous gallantry during operations. While tending a wounded man, a shell burst near, killing the man. Though himself knocked out for half an hour, he brought in two other wounded men as soon as he had recovered consciousness. All this time the enemy kept up constant fire from machine guns and artillery. Next day he assisted another officer in rescuing a man from near the enemy trenches.

Francis Willie Goodwin the son of Edward and Caroline Goodwin was baptised in Colwall on 25th April 1886. He was one of ten children and his father's occupation in the baptismal register is variously described as flyman, haulier and labourer. By 1901 the family were living at Boxhill Farm and Edward was described as haulier and farmer. In 1911 Edward was a farmer at The Oaks and Francis Willie was described as a "working farmer's son". He emigrated to Australia in 1913 and farmed near Geelong. Francis Willie Goodwin enlisted in August 1914 and was wounded in the leg at Gallipoli in April 1915. He was Mentioned in Despatches twice and awarded an MC and Bar. He was killed by a burst of machine gun fire at Estock Ridge near Ypres. He is buried in Hooge Crater Cemetery and he is also commemorated at the Australian National Memorial in Canberra.