

Staff Nurse. B2455. Doris Alice Ridgway

Born 13th November 1891. Salter Springs, South Australia
 Died Woodman Point Quarantine Station, 6th January 1919

Certified True Copy
H. D. B. Russell Lieut. Colonel.
 Principal Medical Officer 4th. M.F.
AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES.

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

No. _____ Name { Surname RIDGWAY
 in full { Christian Name Doris Alice

Unit AUSTRALIAN ARMY NURSING SERVICE

Joined on 24/8/18 H. 21/12/18.

Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.
 You are hereby warned that if after enlistment it is found that you have given a wilfully false answer to any question set forth in this Attestation Paper, you will be liable to be tried for the offence.

1. What is your Name? Doris Alice RIDGWAY
2. In or near what Town were you born? Salter's Springs
 In or near the Town of _____
 In the State or Country of South Australia
3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.) Yes
4. What is your Age? (Date of birth to be stated) 26 years.
13/11/1891.
5. What is your Trade or Calling? Nurse
6. Adelaide Hospital 3 years
7. Are you married, single, or widower? Single
8. Who is your next of kin? (Address and relationship to be stated) Mother Mrs. A.J. RIDGWAY
Cookes Plains
South Australia.
 The answer to this question shall not be construed as in the nature of a Will.
9. What is your permanent address in Australia? Cookes Plains
South Australia.
10. 3a. Have you ever been Convicted by the Civil Power? No.
11. Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in, His Majesty's Army, the Marines, the Militia, the Militia Reserve, the Territorial Force, Royal Navy, or Colonial Forces? If so, state which, and if not now serving, state cause of discharge.
12. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds? No.
13. Do you understand that a gratuity allowance will be issued to you on your discharge, and that you are the sole support of widowed mother? Do you understand that a gratuity allowance will be issued to you on your discharge, and that you are the sole support of widowed mother? Do you understand that a gratuity allowance will be issued to you on your discharge, and that you are the sole support of widowed mother?
14. Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against small pox and enteric fever? Yes.

3. Doris Alice RIDGWAY do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and I am willing and I hereby voluntarily agree to serve in the Military Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia within or beyond the limits of the Commonwealth.

And I further agree to allot not less than two fifths of the pay payable to me from time to time during my service for the support of my wife and children.

Date 21/12/17/ (Sgd.) D.A. RIDGWAY
 Signature of Person Enlisted.

* This clause should be struck out in the case of unmarried men or widowers without children under 16 years of age.
 † Two fifths must be allotted to the wife, and if there are children three fifths must be allotted.
 D.562/1.17.—C.2014.—200.

AUSTRALIAN ARMY NURSING SERVICE.

SURNAME.		CHRISTIAN NAME (in full).		DATE of BIRTH.	NEXT of KIN and POSTAL ADDRESS.										
Ridgeway		Loris Alice		26 yrs.	Mother Mrs J. A. Ridgeway Coorua, Cooke Plains S.A.										
A.A.N.S., A.M.F.				A.A.N.S., A.I.F.											
Date of Appointment <u>31-5-18.</u>		Rank <u>Staff Nurse.</u>		Date of Appointment <u>21-12-18</u>		Rank <u>Staff Nurse</u>									
<p><u>PROMOTIONS and APPOINTMENTS (with Dates)—</u></p> <p>Reported for duty at No. 7 A.G. A.M.S. 31-12-18 transferred to 5th M.H. Quarantine Station 21-12-18.</p>				<p align="center"><u>EMBARKED.</u></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <th>Date.</th> <th>Transport.</th> </tr> <tr> <td>31-12-18</td> <td>Great West Train.</td> </tr> </table>		Date.	Transport.	31-12-18	Great West Train.	<p align="center"><u>RETURNED to AUSTRALIA.</u></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <th>Date.</th> <th>Transport.</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		Date.	Transport.		
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DESP
 QUARANTINE STATION,
 WOODMANS POINT.
 6/1/19.

This is to certify that Staff-Nurse Ridgeway, D.A. of 4th M.D. South Australia, died at Quarantine Station, Woodmans Point, at 9 p.m. on January 6th, 1919. The cause of death being Pneumonia Influenza, Next of kin, Mrs Ridgeway, "Toorlara", Cooke-Plains, South Australia.

(Signed) J. A. R. MITCHELL, M.D., C.M.M.
 R.M.O. Quarantine Station,
 Woodmans Point.

Certified copy of report of death held at this Office.

MELBOURNE.
 10.3.19

Captain.
 for Officer i/o Base Records.

The West Australian Saturday 18 January 1919

A NURSE'S BURIAL AT WOODMAN'S POINT (By REL.)

They lifted the little pitch-pine coffin covered with the Union Jack out of the wagon reverently and carried it through the white sand to its last resting place. The sun shone very sweetly on the blossoming bush and a bird pausing on its way to the sea beyond, stayed and mourned softly. Somehow, though the nursing sister's friends were weeping, that was the only hopeless note that sounded at the burial of the little sister who had died while doing her simple duty. She who has passed to the Great Beyond must have had a gentle, joyous, lovely soul, happy in her work whilst faithfully carrying it on; patient, and smiling, they said, when sick, and contented now to rest in peace for ever, for in all that still air round her grave there was no discordant vibration, no wandering, restless looks, no sighing with remorseful memory. The firing party who had led the way with reversed bayonets from the quarantine hospital along the winding stone-flagged way to the little God's acre of happy souls, looked down; and, as at a queen's requiem, turned down also, their guns, and, resting their hands quietly on them, stood so while the exquisite words of the service rung out: "Oh death, where is thy sting; oh grave, where is thy victory?" The nursing sisters in gray dresses, white capped and red caped, wept, but there was no hopeless sadness at the funeral of the little sister who had died doing her duty; rather would one wish that might be one's own fate to die nobly, peacefully, gloriously, and be buried in the sunshine by the sea, with these who had worked and suffered with one standing so quietly near. "For blessed are the dead which die for the Lord, for they rest from their labours". For as much as it has pleased Almighty God to take unto himself the soul of our dear sister in sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life. The four stalwart lads who had lifted and lowered the beloved sister's body in its shell, on which the whitecap and scarlet cape now rested, to its last home, stood humbly by, their hands folded, their young faces stern with regret, and the sister's friends bowed their heads sorrow fully weeping. There were others there also, others who had fought the world-wide dread disease through its virulence in this little corner of Australia to which it had crept, with less tragic result to themselves, and though they sighed the stillness was intense. Then one by one the three volleys went the air. The three volleys which tell a soldier that one of his comrades has been laid to rest, and then like a sharp shower of rain on an arid electric day the rifles clattered to the salute, and the men in khaki presented arms to the still body which lay unheeding with feet set towards the dawn, while the bugle rang out with its triumphant note, slowly sounding the Last Post, So do the bodies of some thirty valiant men and maids lie there at peace. Men and maids who have done what they could, whose souls soar and whose lives live on in the memory of those who love them. And the example of work cheerfully done, of suffering nobly borne, at life freely given, will add laurels to Australia's flag forever. Wasted life! Is it waste if the dread disease is kept out of one country in the world? Those who have wrestled with it hand in hand, those who have gone down to the depths with it, those who have battled against fearful odds they know; and the little mounds surrounded by blossoming shrubs, canopied by the blue sky of heaven, in the tiny square along the coast where the birds pause on their way to the sea beyond, give testimony that our land is ready to do or die. Ready to fight, and lose if necessary, for the good of the common cause. Ready as other facts have shown to give its bravest and best for the glory of the nation. Advance Australia, your children are with you forever! And all this because one little nurse was buried today beside the still forms of three other sisters who died while nursing Spanish influenza in Western Australia. "Blessed are they who die in the name of the Lord."



Doris Alice Ridgway, [28 yrs] d 6 Jan 1919 pneumonic influenza. bd. 7 Jan 1919 WPQS: CE 15.
S/Nurse, Army from Salter Springs, South Australia. Re-interred 24 Jun 1958 at PWC: Plot U7
Doris Ridgway was only on duty at Woodman Point for 6 days before she died.



PERTH WAR CEMETERY

Photograph by Earle Seubert



Compiled by *Earle Seubert*