# **Arnos Vale Cemetery,**

# **Bristol, England**

## **War Graves**



Lest We Forget

### World War 1



3511A PRIVATE

## C. McCULLY

**1ST BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.** 

27TH MAY, 1917 Age 24

### Colin McCULLY

Colin McCully was born at Binnaway, near Coonabarabran, NSW in 1893 to parents Samuel and Catherine McCully.

Colin McCully attended Public School at Merrygoen, New South Wales.

From the New South Wales Police Gazette - 26 August, 1914:

#### **PROBATIONARY CONSTABLES**

McCully, Colin, No. 9912, August 4

From the New South Wales Police Gazette - 9 June, 1915:

#### ROLL OF HONOR

The following is a list of members of the New South Wales Police who, since the outbreak of the present war, have volunteered and entered upon active service; together with lists of those who have been wounded, died, or killed in action:-....

McCULLY, Colin, Probationary Constable (Wagga Wagga)

Colin McCully was a 22 year old, single, Policeman from Goonoo Goonoo Road, Tamworth, NSW when he enlisted at Holsworthy, Sydney, NSW on 14th December, 1914 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 3511 & his religion was Presbyterian. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr S. McCully, of Goonoo Goonoo Road, Tamworth, NSW.

Colin McCully was posted to 1st F.A.B. (Field Artillery Brigade) on 14th December, 1914 with the rank of Gunner for recruit training.

Gunner Colin McCully embarked from Australia in February, 1915 with the 1st Field Artillery, 2nd Reinforcements. The Embarkation Roll listed the 2nd & 3rd Reinforcements on the one list but denoted them as either \* for 2nd Reinforcements or + for 3rd Reinforcements. The following information was listed: "34 Other Ranks embarked at Sydney, New South Wales, on H.M.A.T, A54, "Runic", 19th February, 1915; 1 Officer and 17 Other Ranks embarked at Sydney, New South Wales, on H.M.A.T, A1 "Hymettus", 8th February, 1915; 1 Officer and 17 Other Ranks embarked at Sydney, New South Wales, on H.M.A.T, A45 "Hessen", 2nd February, 1915."

Gunner Colin McCully was transferred to Supernumerary List of 1st F.A.B. on 11th March, 1915. He was transferred from D.A.C. and attached to Supernumerary List of F.A.B. on 20th March, 1915.

Gunner Colin McCully joined M.E.F. (Mediterranean Expeditionary Force) on 4th April, 1915.

Gunner Colin McCully was declared a Deserter by a Court of Enquiry at Alexandria on 21st September, 1915.

Gunner Colin McCully was awarded 2 days Field Punishment No. 2 on 13th October, 1915 while at Gallipoli Peninsula for disobedience of orders.

Gunner Colin McCully was written up on 3rd November, 1915 while at Gallipoli Peninsula for 1. Breaking Camp & 2. Absent without leave from 30th August, 1915 to 7th September, 1915. He was awarded 14 days Field Punishment No. 2 & forfeited 8 days' pay.

Gunner Colin McCully was attached to 3rd Battery at Gallipoli Peninsula on 3rd November, 1915.

Gunner Colin McCully's service number was changed from 3511 to 3511A on 20th November, 1915 while posted at Gallipoli Peninsula due to duplication at service numbers at D.A. H.Q.

Gunner Colin McCully was taken on strength of 3rd Battery at Gallipoli Peninsula on 27th November, 1915.

Gunner Colin McCully disembarked from *Tunisian* at Alexandria on 3rd January, 1916 (after the evacuation of Troops from Gallipoli Peninsula).

Gunner Colin McCully was transferred to 4th Divisional Artillery at Tel-el-Kebir on 21st February, 1916.

Gunner Colin McCully was taken on strength of 21st Howitzer Brigade & posted to 101st Battery on 6th March, 1916 at Tel-el-Kebir.

Gunner Colin McCully proceeded to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force from Alexandria on 25th March, 1916 & disembarked at Marseilles, France on 1st April, 1916.

Gunner Colin McCully was transferred to 1st F.A.B. (Field Artillery Brigade) & taken on strength on 16th June, 1916.

Gunner Colin McCully was wounded (premature explosion) in France on 29th June, 1916. He was admitted to 3rd Australian Field Ambulance on 29th June, 1916 with shrapnel wounds to right arm then transferred to 1st Australian Casualty Clearing Station (states 28/6/16). Gunner McCully was transferred & admitted to 3rd General Hospital at Boulogne, France on 30th June, 1916. He embarked for England on Hospital Ship *Jan Breydel* on 3rd July, 1916.

Gunner Colin McCully was admitted to Graylingwell War Hospital, Chichester, England on 3rd July, 1916 with shrapnel wounds to right arm. The Hospital Admissions form recorded the following: "*No pain or disability – bone not injured. Developed Scarlet Fever – normal course – no complications.*"

Mrs C. McCully, Goonoo Goonoo Road, Tamworth, NSW, mother of Gunner Colin McCully, was advised on 10th July, 1916 that Gunner C. McCully had been reported wounded accidentally/ Mrs McCully was advised again on 21st July, 1916 that Gunner C. McCully was in Graylingwell War Hospital from 3rd July, 1916 suffering from a gunshot wound to arm – mild. Mrs McCulley replied to Base Records on 13th July, 1916 advising them that she had received the letter of notification regarding her son being wounded. She continued on in the letter: "Only the day before I received a letter from him, dated 1st June (somewhere in France) telling me how comfortable he was & his splendid health, weighing 14 stone as when leaving Gallipoli, his weight was 9 stone; that the Australians were feeling France a Pic nic after Gallipoli, but he has been one of the fortunate ones until now, but trusting all will be for the best in his case now."

Gunner Colin McCully reported from Furlough to No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs, Wiltshire on 22nd September, 1916 & was transferred to Park House Camp, Wiltshire the next day.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. Some of these were located in the Salisbury Plain & surrounding areas in the county of Wiltshire. Convalescing was also completed in counties such as Wiltshire & Dorset.

Gunner Colin McCully was transferred to 21st F.A.B. (Field Artillery Brigade) at Boyton, Wiltshire on 26th October, 1916 from A.A.T.D. (Australian Artillery Training Depot) as Driver.

Driver Colin McCully was sent sick to Hospital from Boyton Camp on 26th November, 1916. He returned to 21st F.A.B. (Field Artillery Brigade) at Boyton Camp, Wiltshire on 8th December, 1916.

Driver Colin McCully was written up for an Offence on 22nd January, 1917 while posted at Boyton, Wiltshire – Overstaying leave from midnight on 22nd January, 1917 till apprehended by Military Police in London at 7.45pm on 23rd January, 1917. He was awarded 7 days detention by Major D. R. Harris on 28th January, 1917 & in custody awaiting trial for 4 days. He was given a total forfeiture of 12 days' pay.

Gunner Colin McCully was transferred to 1st Battalion on 5th February, 1917. He proceeded overseas to France via Folkestone on S.S. Victoria on 15th February, 1917 to reinforce 1st Battalion. Private McCulley joined 1st A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Etaples, France from England on 17th February, 1917. He proceeded to join his Unit from 1st A.D.B.D. on 12th March, 1917 & was taken on strength of 1st Battalion from Reinforcements on 14th March, 1917.

Private Colin McCully was wounded in action between 5th – 8th May, 1917. He was admitted to 6th Field Ambulance on 6th May, 197 with GSW (gunshot wound/s) to leg & thigh then transferred & admitted to 3rd Casualty Clearing Station the same day. Private McCully was transferred to No. 9 Ambulance Train on 7th May, 1917 & admitted to 47th General Hospital at Le Treport, France on 8th May, 191 with GSW to Leg, thigh & chest. He was marked for

transfer to England on 10th May, 1917 & was invalided to England from Boulogne on 12th May, 1917 on Hospital Ship *St. Andrew*.

#### **1st Battalion**

The 1st Battalion was the first infantry unit recruited for the A.I.F. in New South Wales during the First World War.....

After the withdrawal from Gallipoli in December 1915, the battalion returned to Egypt. In March 1916, it sailed for France and the Western Front. From then until 1918 the battalion took part in operations against the German Army, principally in the Somme Valley in France and around Ypres in Belgium. At Bullecourt in May 1917, Corporal G. J. Howell became the third member of the battalion to be awarded the Victoria Cross. The battalion participated in the battle of Amiens on 8 August 1918...

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

From the War Diary of 1st Battalion -: from 4th May, 1917 to 7th May, 1917 the 1st Battalion were in the vicinity of Bullecourt. They moved to Vaulx – Vraucourt on 8th May, 1917.

Private Colin McCully was admitted to 2nd Southern General Hospital, Bristol, England on 13th May, 1917 with G.S.W. (gunshot wound/s) multiple - right leg & thigh – severe.

Mrs C. McCully, of Goonoo Goonoo Rd, Tamworth, NSW, mother of Private Colin McCully, was advised by Base Records on 30th May, 1917 that Gunner Colin McCully had been admitted to hospital on 13th May with gunshot wound right leg & right thigh – severe.

Private Colin McCully died at 10.30 am on 27th May, 1917 at 2nd Southern General Hospital (Southmead Section), Bristol, England from wounds received in action in France– gunshot wound to right thigh, Shrapnel wounds to right leg & right thigh. The Hospital Admissions Form recorded that he died of tetanus.

A death for Colin McCully, aged 24, was registered in the June quarter, 1917 in the district of Bristol, Gloucestershire, England.

Private Colin McCully was buried on 1st June, 1917 in Arnos Vale Cemetery, Bristol, Gloucestershire, England. His name is remembered on the CWGC Screen Wall & he has a flat Memorial Stone. Cemetery/Memorial reference Screen Wall 7. 707. From the burial report of Private Colin McCully - *Coffin was good, Elm. The deceased soldier was buried with Military Honours, Gun Carriage conveyed the body to the Cemetery. Firing Party (O.T.C.) were in attendance. The "Last Post" was sounded at the graveside. The coffin was draped with the Australian Flag and surmounted with several lovely floral tributes. Prior to interment a service was held in the Presbyterian Church, Bristol by the Rev. T. W. Hodge. A party comprising Australians and Nurses from the Hospital and Imperial Soldiers were present at the funeral. No relatives were present at the funeral. Temporary Oak Memorial to be erected by the Commonwealth Military Authorities.* 

From the New South Wales Police Gazette - 1 August, 1917:

#### DEATHS

\* McCully, Colin, No. 9912, Probationary Constable, 27th May, 1917

\* Died of wounds

From the New South Wales Police Gazette - 8 August, 1917:

NOTICE Police Department, Inspector-General's Office, Sydney, 1st August, 1917 ROLL OF HONOUR © Cathy Sedgwick 2020

McCully, Colin	 	Died of wounds
Malone, Timothy	 	Killed in action

On behalf of the Police Service the deepest sympathy is extended to the relations and friends of the abovenamed.

JAMES MITCHELL

Inspector-General of Police

The Inspector General of Police wrote to Base Records on 19th June, 1917 requesting to know if the above-named soldier - "*Casualty List No. 312. Died of Wounds – Pte Colin M'Cully, Tamworth*" was "*identical with Gunner 3511A C. McCully, 2nd Field Art. Brigade Reinforcement, who was attached to the Police Force of this State. If so will you please state date of death, and whether deceased left a Will with the Military Authorities.*" Base Records replied to The Inspector General, Police Department, Sydney, NSW on 22nd June, 1917 stating the subject of the enquiry was identical with Private Colin McCully, 1st Battalion, was born at Coonabarabran, NSW, aged 22 years 1 month on 15/12/14; by occupation, Policeman, single, next-of-kin being - Mrs C. McCulley, (Mother) Goonoo Goonoo Road, Tamworth, NSW. No record of a Will was held at Base Records to-date.

Mrs C. McCulley, Goonoo Goonoo Road, Tamworth, NSW, wrote to Base Records on 27th August, 1917 asking if they would "please reply if conclusive proof has been received of the death of my son No. 3511A Private Colin McCully, is so when Certificate of his death can be granted me. (I may mention having received letters from the Nurse who attended him in Hospital, & the Chaplain who conducted the Burial Service)."

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Private Colin McCully contains a letter from The Registrar, 2nd Southern General Hospital, Bristol which reads: "*Pte C. McCulley of the 1st Battn. A.I.F. was admitted to this Hospital from the Expeditionary Force, France on the 13.5.17, with G.S.W. Right Leg and Thigh and although everything was done that was humanly possible for him, he died on the 27.5.17. He was buried with Military Honours on the 1.6.17 in the Soldier's Corner of the Arnos Vale Cemetery, Brislington, Bristol."* 

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Private Colin McCully contains another letter by Informant Pte J. Flanagan, 2433, 1st Battalion, "B" Company, A.I.F. from No.4 Australian General Hospital, Randwick, NSW which reads: "*I knew McCully well, we were together in England and France. We called him "Mac". He was a 2nd Reinforcement to 2nd Brigade Ammunition Column, his number was 3511. A, and he was in B. Co. He was wounded on 5-5-17 (the day before I was) at Bullecourt in the Hindenberg Line. I saw him being carried out. He was I think badly hit and was unconscious when I saw him. I had not heard of him since and wondered what became of him, he came from Tamworth.*"

A War Pension was granted to Catherine McCully, of Goonoo Goonoo Rd, Tamworth, NSW, widowed mother of the late Private Colin McCully, in the sum of £2 per fortnight from 2nd August, 1917.

Private Colin McCully was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private McCully's father - Mr <u>C</u>. McCully, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent July, 1921 & Plaque sent August, 1922). (Note: Mr S. McCully died on 8th June, 1915)

Mrs C. McCully, mother of the late Private Colin McCully, advised Base Records on 22nd November, 1922 that she had leased her property at Tamworth & was advising that her future address would be "Howart", Carrington Rd, Charing Cross, Waverley, NSW.

Base Records forwarded on to Mrs C. McCully, "Howart", Carrington Rd, Charing Cross, Waverley, NSW, mother of the late Private Colin McCully, on 21st July, 1923, a Memorial Card and photographs depicting the Cross erected in

the soldiers' corner of the Arnos Vale Cemetery, where her son was interred, together with a representative group taken on the occasion of the Anzac Day Service of Remembrance in Bristol. Sent under separate cover was a copy of the "*Western Daily Press*" describing the recent pilgrimage made to the graves of the Fallen. The items had been sent from Mr Robert Bush, Bishop's Knoll, Stoke Bishop, Bristol, England. (see photos below). Mrs McCully replied to Base Records on 2nd August, 1923 sending her sincere gratitude for the items & for those who attend to the graves & visit them.

Base Records forwarded on to Mrs C. McCully, "Howart", Carrington Rd, Charing Cross, Waverley, NSW, mother of the late Private Colin McCully, on 24th September, 1924, a photograph depicting the Cross erected in the soldiers' corner of the Arnos Vale Cemetery, where her son was interred, along with a Memorial Card & press cutting of the ceremony. The items had been sent from Mr Robert Bush, Bishop's Knoll, Stoke Bishop, Bristol, England. The envelope & contents were returned to Base Records marked "*Removed from this address.*"

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Colin McCully – service number 3511A, aged 24, of 1st Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Samuel and Catherine McCully, of "Lochgyle", Goonoo Goonoo Rd., Tamworth, New South Wales.



C. McCully is remembered on the Victory Memorial Gardens Cenotaph, Baylis Street, Wagga Wagga, NSW.

Victory Memorial Gardens Cenotaph



Victory Memorial Gardens Cenotaph (Photos from AWM - Places of Pride - Henry Moulds)

C. McCully is remembered on the Methodist Church Roll of Honour, located in the Uniting Church, Marius & Bourke Streets, Tamworth, NSW.



Methodist Church Roll of Honour, Tamworth (Photo from Monument Australia)

C. McCully is remembered on the Anzac Park Memorial Gates, located at Anzac Park, Brisbane Street, Tamworth, NSW.



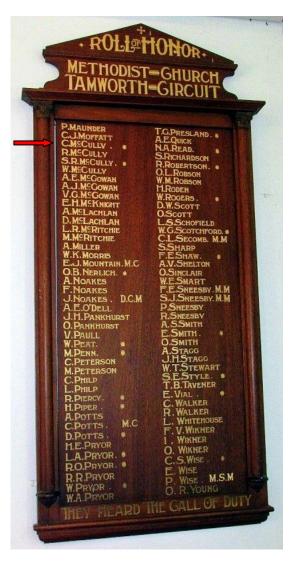
Anzac Park Memorial Gates, Tamworth (Photos from Monument Australia)



C. McCully is remembered on the Methodist Church Tamworth Circuit Roll of Honour, located in the Uniting Church, Marius & Bourke Streets, Tamworth, NSW.



Methodist Church Tamworth Circuit Roll of Honour (Photos from Monument Australia)



C. McCully is remembered on the NSW Police Force Roll of Honour 1914 – 1919, located in the main entrance Foyer of Sydney Police Centre, 151 – 241 Goulburn Street, Surry Hills, NSW.



NSW Police Force Roll of Honour 1914 – 1919 (Photo from NSW War Memorials Register)

Police Officer C. McCully is remembered on the NSW Police Chapel War Memorial, located at NSW Police Academy, NSW Police Chapel, 1 McDermott Drive, Goulburn, NSW.



NSW Police Chapel War Memorial (Photo from NSW War Memorials Register)

Private C. McCully is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 30.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

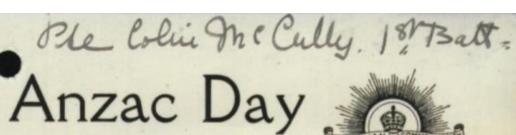
(105 pages of Private Colin McCully's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

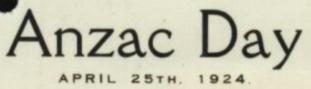
Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives



The following photos, Anzac Day Memorial Cards & Newspaper clippings were located in the Service Record file of the late Private Colin McCully:









### ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE

TO

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' GRAVES THROUGHOUT THE UNITED KINGDOM

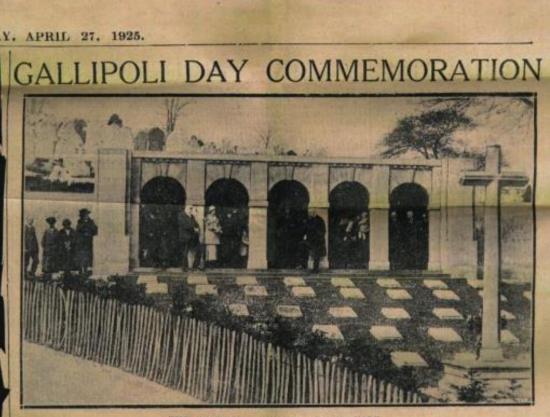
#### In grateful remembrance

of the brave sons of Australia and New Zealand who fought and suffered, died and conquered, on many battlefields.



Yet where the brave man lies, who fell in fight For his dear country, there his country is. And we will mourn them proudly as of right-For meaner deaths be weeping and loud cries: They died pro patria !!! LL.

4 Lee next Allin to Privale Colin me Cully\_ 1st Balt . A. 9.7. Rie C. Mc Cully. Anzac Day APRIL 25TH, 1925. ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' GRAVES THROUGHOUT THE UNITED KINGDOM In grateful remembrance of the brave sons of Australia and New Zealand who fought and suffered, died and conquered, on many battlefields. This is their epitaph. "Traveller south or west Go, say at home we heard the trumpet call, And answered. Now in the 'Old Home' we rest. Our end was happy if our country thrives. Much was demanded. Lo ! our store was small— That which we had use any investore was small— That which we had, we gave-it was our lives." LL.



THE SOLDIERS' CORVER, ARNO'S VALE.

Each year, on the 25th of April, a service of sumembrance is held for these who died Belstol of war wounds, and are buried in Soldiers' Corner, Arno's Vale. On Saturday, in the beautiful sunshine of a typical English spring morning, there assembled many who were associated with hospital work in Hristol for overseas troops, Hisbop's Knoll, which, as most people know, was given over as a war hospital from 1914 to 1919, was represented by Mr R. E. Bush (Commandant), Mr and Miss Philp, Mrs Horapath, the Misses Nora and Doris Burt, Mizs Vers Savile, Miss Goldsmith, Miss Stafford Jones, Miss Ennis, the Missas, Spofforth, Miss Thornleigh, Mr E. C. Philp, and Mr A. G. Powell. Mrs R. E. Bush was] away from Dristol, and Miss Hall-Houghton and others were unavoidably absent. Miss Laing, another devoted worker at Bishen's Laing, another devoted worker at Making's Knull, took a wreath to the mas Australian Soldiar who was buried at Greenbusk Gemelery. Most of those present brought flowers. Mr E. E. Fush placed a very beautiful amblem - the work of one of the Bishep's Knoll

Most of those present brought flowers. Mr E. E. Fush placed a very boostitul ambient the work of one of the Risher's Knoll enterwork at one of the Risher's Knoll enterwork in forst of the errors in the "Corner." and Mr Philp contributed a wreath of daffodils. Spring flowers there were in planty, a partman in uniform contributing a bunch of walfflowers, and other sympathetic folk adding their tender tribute.

sympathetic role adding mell funder tribute. Rishop Clyford, in his short address, snid : We are gatheted here on this 101a anniversary of Gallipol day to reverently and affectionally commensorate our brethren freesvarious garts of the British Esspira who, niter having valuently brought and honourably sufferest in the Great Way, were brought to this oldy, estimated and here breathed their last breath. We laid their bodies in the series of the series and here treathed their last breath. We laid their bodies in the series this sold, and here they rest in hope till the Bay of Resurrection. We cratefally charish flight meinery. We renew it to day, and will never allow it to pass from ease mind and heart. God's merry and peace be with them, we is our affectionate regard, and may that great ichans for which they pretists flyers be over uplied and prosper and test flyers was eaded, and this simple services which will so greatly comfort the relative restrict two.



une 24 = 1926. BISHOP'S KNOLL, STOKE BISHOP, Al Dusks BRISTOL



with the R. E. B. Buch's Complements Bishops Kuon Stoke Bishop Brood.





#### Newspaper Notices

#### **ROLL OF HONOR**

#### Latest Casualty List

#### 179 Deaths

The 312th casualty list shows the totals for all States....

Died of wounds and other causes:

Pte C. McCully (Tamworth).

(Daily Observer, Tamworth, NSW - 19 June, 1917)

#### 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.

#### Arnos Vale Cemetery, Bristol, Gloucestershire, England

The cemetery was established in 1837. During both wars, there were a number of military hospitals at Bristol and the city was the depot of the Gloucestershire Regiment. During the Second World War there were also a number of Royal Air Force stations and prisoner of war camps in the area. ARNOS VALE CEMETERY contains burials of both wars. Most of the 356 First World War burials were of men who died at the local hospitals, particularly the 2nd Southern General and the Beaufort, many of whom were landed at Avonmouth from hospital ships from the Mediterranean. Their graves can be found in the 'Soldiers Corner', a plot established by the British Red Cross, near the main entrance. The 238 casualties buried here are commemorated on a memorial at the rear of the plot. The rest of the graves are scattered throughout the cemetery. There are also special memorials to one casualty buried in the cemetery whose grave could not be located and another commemorating a casualty buried in Bedminster Church Cemetery whose grave could not be maintained. There are 149 burials from the Naval Hospital at Barrow Gurney; the rest are scattered. Those whose graves are not marked by headstones are named on a Screen Wall Memorial. BRISTOL (ARNOS VALE) CREMATORIUM stands within the cemetery. A memorial in front of the crematorium commemorates 68 servicemen and women of the Second World War whose remains were cremated there.

(Information from CWGC)



Arnos Vale Cemetery - Main Entrance on Bath Road (Photo by JohnM – Find a Grave)



(Photo from CWGC)



Soldiers' Corner – Arnos Vale Cemetery (Photo by JohnM – Find a Grave April, 2017)



**New Memorial Stones** (*Photo by JohnM – Find a Grave November, 2018*)

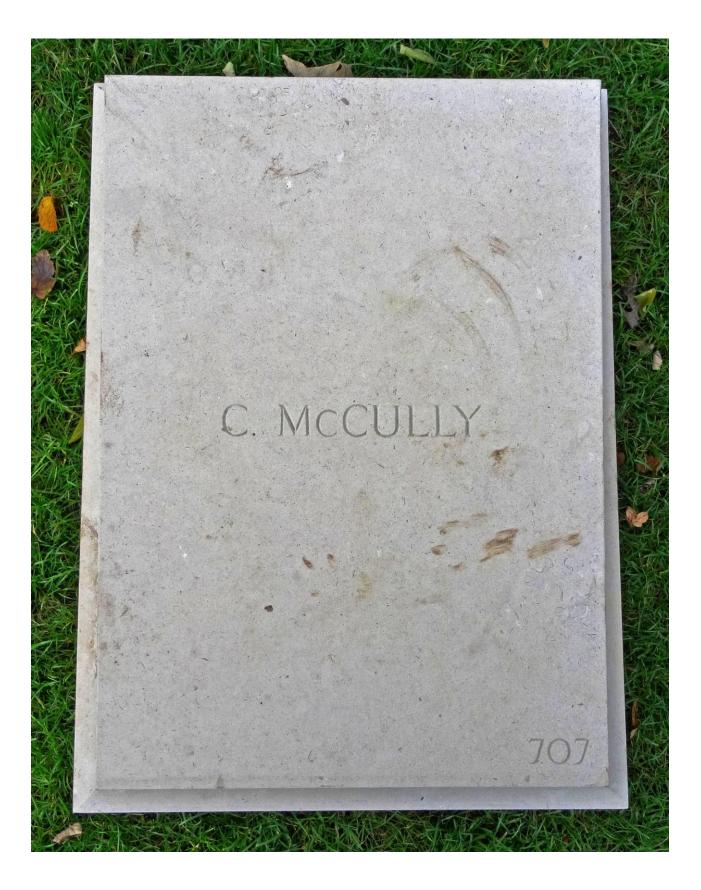
Photo of Private Colin McCully's name on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Screen Wall in Arnos Vale Cemetery, Bristol, Gloucestershire, England & his Memorial Stone in Soldiers' Corner.

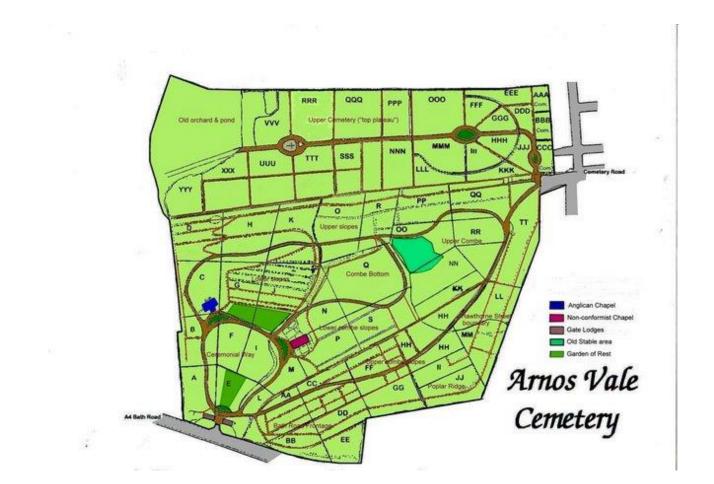


(Photos by JohnM – Find a Grave April, 2019)



54 TH BATTN. IST BATTN. 27 TH BATTN. 5 TH M.G.C. 4 TH M.G.BN.





(Photo by Debra Polly – Find a Grave)