All Saints Cemetery, Nunhead, Greater London, England War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



187 PRIVATE

C. MUNDAY

26TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

29TH JANUARY, 1919 Age 31

Eternal Rest

Grant Him O Lord

And Let Perpetual Light

Shine Upon Him

Charles MUNDAY

Charles Munday was born at Newington, Walworth, London, England in 1886 to parents Joseph & Louisa Munday (nee Herbert).

The 1891 England Census recorded Charles Munday as a 4 year old living with his family at 3 Bagshot Street, Newington, London, England. His parents were listed as Joseph Munday (Light Wheel maker, aged 58, born Bermondsey, London) & Louisa Munday (aged 31, born St. George's, London). Charles was one of five children listed on this Census (all born Newington, London) – Maria Munday (aged 10), Joseph Munday (aged 9), Louisa Munday (aged 6) then Charles & Robert Munday (aged 2).

According to information provided by his wife for the Roll of Honour – Charles Munday attended Mine School, Walworth, London, England.

Louisa Munday, mother of Charles Munday, died in 1892 in the district of St. Saviour Southwark, London, England.

The 1901 England Census recorded Charles Munday as a 14 year old Errand Boy living with his family at 3 Bagshot Street, Newington, London, England. His father was listed as Joseph Munday (widower, Wheelwright, aged 68). Charles was one of five children listed on this Census – Maria Harriet Munday (aged 20), Joseph Henry Munday (Railway Porter, aged 19), Louisa Munday (Collar Button Hole Machinist,, aged 16), then Charles & Robert Munday (aged 12).

Charles Munday married Rosina Lawrence on 21st August, 1910 at St. Augustine's Church, Bermondsey, London, England. Charles was recorded as a 25 year old Waiter from 293 Lynton Road & Rosina was recorded as a 24 year old from the same address.

The 1911 England Census recorded Charles Munday as a 24 year old, married, Waiter in a Restaurant living at 274 Lynton Road, Bermondsey, London, England in a 2 roomed dwelling with his wife Rosina, aged 24, & their 5 week old daughter Rosina May Munday. Rosina May Munday had been baptised on 12th March, 1911 at St. Augustine's Church, South Bermondsey, London, England.

Background information courtesy of Paul Farthing:

My maternal great grandfather lived with his wife and daughter in London when at some date before 1910 (I believe) he was injured while working as a waiter in an up market hotel accident (a skylight fell in on him while serving some important person, which killed said person). His health was such that his doctor advised he go to recover in a warmer climate my grandmother told me, sounded like chest issues or TB but looking at one of his photos he didn't stop smoking. She said that when WW1 broke out he joined the Australian army (25th Battalion) as that would be the only way to get back home, well he ended up in Gallipoli then became ill and was in hospital in Egypt, after this he went to fight with his unit in France. My grandmother told me that she only saw him twice as a little girl and the last time was on his death bed at Fovant army camp in Salisbury. His army records show service from May 1915 to the end of the war so he must have been lucky as his regiment had a high casualty rate or was he not in the front line all the time for some reason? He is buried at Nunhead cemetery London. I have only one of his medals which is the 14/15 Star and I have been looking for the other two on line without luck so far. I have not managed to trace his accident so far or the war memorial (photo supplied), it is likely the memorial was lost in the blitz as probably in a pub or meeting house as Charles was a Oddfellow member.

According to information provided by his wife for the Roll of Honour – Charles Munday came to Australia when he was 25 years old.

Charles Munday was a 28 year old, married, Station Hand from care of Mr Smithson, Pennack Road, Summer Road, Peckham, London, England when he enlisted at Brisbane, Queensland on 25th January, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 187 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs Rosina Munday, 22 Aulay Street, Ossory Street, Old Kent Road, London, England.

Private Charles Munday embarked from Brisbane, Queensland on HMAT *Aeneas (A60)* on 29th June, 1915 with the 7th Infantry Brigade, 25th Infantry Battalion "A" Company.

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Private Charles Munday embarked from Alexandria on 4th September, 1915 to join M.E.F. (Mediterranean Expeditionary Force) at Gallipoli Peninsula.

Private Charles Munday was admitted to 1st Australian Casualty Clearing Station at Anzac on 6th December, 1915 with a Cold. He was transferred & admitted to Hospital Ship *Grantully Castle* from 1st Australian Casualty Clearing Station on 10th December, 1915 with Bronchitis. Private Munday was admitted sick to 15th General Hospital at Alexandria on 14th December, 1915. He was reported to be dangerously ill with Enteric on 26th December, 1915.

Private Charles Munday was pronounced out of danger at 15th General Hospital, Alexandria on 1st January, 1916. He was transferred on 30th January, 1916 & admitted to 1st Australian General Hospital at Cairo on 31st January, 1916 with Enteric. Private Munday was transferred & admitted to No. 2 Auxiliary Hospital at Heliopolis on 14th February, 1916 with Enteric. He was transferred to No. 3 Auxiliary Hospital at Heliopolis on 29th February, 1916 then transferred to Convalescent Depot at Ras-el-Tin on 12th March, 1916.

Private Charles Munday was discharged to duty to Base Depot at Mustapha on 5th April, 1916 from Convalescent Depot at Ras-el-Tin.

Private Charles Munday rejoined his Battalion in France on 24th August, 1916 from Base Details at Etaples, France.

[Note: The Casualty Form – Active Service has recorded that "Private Charles Munday proceeded overseas to France on 9th August, 1916 from 7th Training Battalion at Rollestone, Wiltshire, England." There is no record of Private Munday being sent to England anywhere else in his Service Record file.]

[Nothing was recorded in Private Munday's Service Record file between 24th August, 1916 & 31st August, 1917]

Private Charles Munday was on leave to England from 31st August, 1917 & returned from leave on 14th September, 1917.

Rosina Munday, wife of Private Charles Munday, changed her address to 15 Pennacy Rd, Summer Rd, Peckham, London. The records for Private Munday were changed on 1st December, 1917 to reflect the new address.

Private Charles Munday was reported to be with his Unit with 25th Battalion on 25th July, 1918.

Private Charles Munday was on leave to England from 6th September, 1918 & returned from leave on 4th October, 1918.

25th Battalion

The 25th Battalion was raised at Enoggera in Queensland in March 1915 as part of the 7th Brigade. Although predominantly composed of men recruited in Queensland, the battalion also included a small contingent of men from Darwin. The battalion left Australia in early July, trained in Egypt during August, and by early September was manning trenches at Gallipoli.

At Gallipoli the 7th Brigade reinforced the depleted New Zealand and Australian Division. The 25th Battalion, however, had a relatively quiet time because the last major Allied offensive had been launched, and turned back, in the previous month. It left the peninsular on 18 December 1915.

After further training in Egypt, the 25th Battalion proceeded to France. Landing on 19 March 1916, it was the first AIF battalion to arrive there. Now fighting as part of the 2nd Division, it took part in its first major battle at Pozieres between 25 July and 7 August in the course of which it suffered 785 casualties. After a spell in a quieter sector of the front in Belgium, the 2nd Division came south in October to attack again in the Somme Valley. The 25th Battalion took part in two attacks to the east of Flers, both of which floundered in the mud.

Although it acted in a supporting role at the second battle of Bullecourt, the 25th Battalion did not carry out a major offensive role again until 20 September 1917, when it was part of the 2nd Division's first wave at the battle of Menin Road in Belgium. Victory here was followed up with the capture of Broodseinde Ridge on 4 October. The 25th reprised its role from Menin Road, in what was its last large-scale offensive action for the year.

1918 was an exhausting year for the 25th Battalion. It fought to turn back the German spring offensive in April, and © Cathy Sedgwick 2021

then participated in battles at Morlancourt, Hamel, Amiens and along the Somme Valley as the German Army was pushed ever closer to defeat. These actions sapped the strength of the AIF, already terribly weak due to earlier casualties and lack of reinforcements. In September, the 25th was one of several battalions ordered to disband to reinforce others. Its troops mutinied, winning the Battalion a temporary reprieve.

The battalion went into the line one last time on 3 October 1918 and took part in a successful attack to break through the German defences around Beaurevoir. It was disbanded nine days later.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Charles Munday was transferred to 26th Battalion on 12th October, 1918 & taken on strength of 26th Battalion the same day.

26th Battalion

The 26th Battalion was raised at Enoggera, Queensland, in April 1915 from recruits enlisted in Queensland and Tasmania, and formed part of the 7th Brigade.....

The Battalion's last action of the war was the capture of Lormisset, part of the operation to breach the Beaurevoir Line, on 3 October 1918. The 26th Battalion was disbanded in May 1919.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Charles Munday was marched out from France on 15th January, 1919 for return to Australia. He was marched out from A.I.B.D. (Australian Infantry Base Depot) in France on 20th January, 1919 as part of Personnel for RTA (Return to Australia).

Private Charles Munday was sent sick to No. 2 Group Hospital at Hurdcott, Wiltshire on 22nd January, 1919 with P.U.O. (Pyrexia (fever) of unknown origin). He was transferred & admitted to Military Hospital, Fovant, Wiltshire on 24th January, 1919 with Pneumonia. Private Munday was reported to be seriously ill with Pneumonia on 26th January, 1919.

Private Charles Munday died at 11.30 am on 29th January, 1919 at Military Hospital, Fovant, Wiltshire, England from Broncho Pneumonia. The Hospital Admissions form recorded "Heart Failure, Death."

A Telegram was sent from Military Hospital, Fovant to Administrative Headquarters London on 29th January, 1919 which reads: "No 187 Pte Munday Charles 26th Batt AIF Age 32 years Service 4 years Religion C of E admitted from No. 4 Command Depot Hurdcott died from Broncho Pneumonia at 11 30 am 29/1/19. Wife is staying at YMCA Hostel Fovant and will be consulted regarding funeral arrangements."

A death for Charles Munday, aged 32, was registered in the March quarter, 1919 in the district of Wilton, Wiltshire, England.

Private Charles Munday was buried on 5th February, 1919 in All Saints Cemetery, Nunhead, Great London, England – Plot number 16.33431 A. and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Private Charles Munday - Coffin was Oak. The deceased soldier was accorded a Military funeral, Firing Party, Bugler and Pallbearers being in attendance. The coffin was draped with the Australian Flag, and surmounted by several beautiful wreaths and flowers sent from many relatives and friends of deceased's. The "Last Post" was sounded at the graveside, and the burial service conducted by the Rev. Crotty, C. of E. if the A.I.F. London. Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London were represented at the funeral.

Names of relatives or friends present at the Funeral – Wife – Mrs Munday, Brother-in-law – Mr Lawrence, Mrs Harrison, Mr Green, Mr Walton & Friend, Mr James, Mr Smithson, Mr & Mrs Wilson and Corporal Lawrence.

Mr G. W. Bowen, Neath, Withington St, East Brisbane, wrote to Base Records on 7th March, 1919 "would you kindly favour me with the particulars in connection with the death from illness of Private C. Munday, No. 187 A Company, 25th Battalion, AIF he was reported in the paper as having died on the 29 1/19 ..." Base Records replied on 13th March, 1919 stating that "the only information received here regarding his regrettable loss is that he died on 29/1/19 from broncho pneumonia. It is anticipated however that official confirmatory documents arriving later by mail will contain further particulars which will be available to you on receipt of your further enquiry."

The Public Curator's Office, Brisbane wrote to Base Records on 28th July, 1919 requesting a Certificate of Death of No. 187 C. Munday, 25th Battalion, A.I.F. Base Records replied on 7th August, 1919 sending a certificate of death for No. 187 Private C. Munday, 26th Battalion.

Private Charles Munday was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Munday's widow – Mrs R. Munday, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll & Plaque issued in England in August, 1922).

The Commonwealth Bank, Savings Bank Department, Brisbane, wrote to Base Records on 28th July, 1926 requesting a certificate of Death for Charles Munday No. 187. They also requested a copy of the Will to be forwarded & were also endeavouring to trace the next of kin. Base Records replied on 3rd August, 1926 enclosing a copy of the death certificate. They advised that there was no record of a Will held by their Office & the details of the next of kin were listed as Widow, Mrs Rosina Regan, 4 High Street, Bexley, Kent, England.

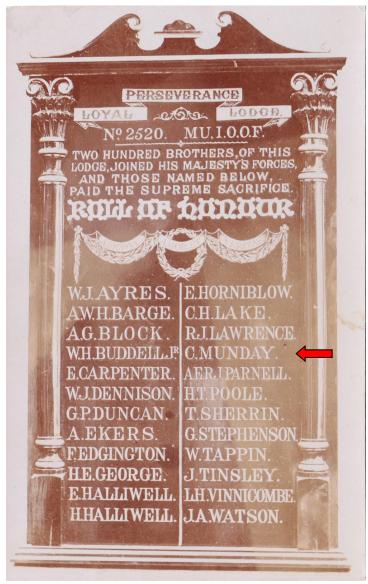
The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Charles Munday – service number 187, aged 31, of 26th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Joseph & Maria Munday, of 50 Paradise St., Rotherhithe; husband of Rosina Munday, of 50 Paradise St., Rotherhithe, London, England.

Private C. Munday is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 108.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

C. Munday is remembered on the Perseverance Loyal Lodge Roll of Honour – location unknown but in London, England.



(Photo courtesy of Paul Farthing)

(49 pages of Private Charles Munday'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) & National Archives





Private Charles Munday (Photo courtesy of Paul Farthing)



Private Charles Munday (seated on left) (Photo courtesy of Paul Farthing)

Newspaper Notices

ROLL OF HONOUR

Australian Casualties

QUEENSLAND

ILL

187 Pte C. Munday, 25th Btn, England, dangerously, in 15th A.G.H., Alexandria

(The Telegraph, Brisbane, Queensland – 10 January, 1916)

CASUALTIES

134TH LIST

PROGRESS REPORT

Private C. Munday, 25th Battalion, England (pronounced out of danger, previously reported dangerously ill)

(Daily Standard, Brisbane, Queensland – 20 January, 1916)

CASUALTIES

151st LIST

PROGRESS REPORT

Private C. Munday, 25th Battalion, England (convalescent, previously reported dangerously ill)

(Daily Standard, Brisbane, Queensland – 20 January, 1916)

TOLL OF WAR

QUEENSLAND LOSSES

Casualty List No. 458, which was issued last night.....

DIED - OTHER CAUSES

Pte C. Munday, England, 29/1/19 (illness)

(The Daily Mail, Brisbane, Queensland – 18 February, 1919)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Defence Department, in 1920/21, contacted the next of kin of the deceased World War 1 soldiers to see if they wanted to include a personal inscription on the permanent headstone. Space was reserved for 66 letters only (with the space between any two words to be counted as an additional letter) & the rate per letter was around 3 ½ d (subject to fluctuation).

The expense in connection for the erection of permanent headstones over the graves of fallen soldiers was borne by the Australian Government.

(Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921)

Private C. Munday does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Eternal Rest Grant Him O Lord And Let Perpetual Light Shine Upon Him

All Saints Cemetery, Nunhead, Great London, England (also known as Nunhead Cemetery)

Nunhead (All Saints) Cemetery contains 592 Commonwealth burials of the 1914-1918 war. The majority are in three war graves plots; the United Kingdom plot (in Square 89) has 266 graves, the Australian plot (near the main entrance) has 23 and the Canadian plot (in Square 52, also containing New Zealand and South African burials) has 36. The graves in the Australian and Canadian plots are marked with individual headstones. The graves in the United Kingdom plot and the remaining war graves scattered throughout the cemetery could not be marked individually; the casualties buried in these graves are therefore commemorated by name on a Screen Wall inside the main entrance gate to the cemetery.

A second Screen Wall commemorates the 110 burials of the 1939-1945 war in a further war graves plot in Square 5 and elsewhere in the cemetery whose graves could not be marked by headstones.

There is also 1 Belgian burial of the 1914-1918 war and 7 Non-war Service burials, all commemorated on the Screen Wall. (*Information from CWGC*)





All Saints Cemetery, Nunhead



STRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL J00776

The Australian area at Nunhead Cemetery. The grave in the centre front is 27 Lance Corporal Eric Lyndon Lowe, 18th Battalion, from Clarence Town NSW, who died on 10 September 1915 aged 18 years. The grave to the right is 1560 Private (Pte) Leslie Raymond Talbot Gilbert, 14th Battalion, born in England, from Kogarah West NSW, who died on 20 January 1916 aged 19 years. The grave 2nd row right side is 1019 Sergeant (Sgt) Victor Ronald Coombe, 15th Battalion, of Campbelltown, Tas, who died on 29 September 1915 aged 26 years.

From the collection of Mr Alfred Thomas Sharp. Mr Sharp was the Commonwealth Immigration Officer of Victoria and was based in the London Office during the First World War. He and his wife hosted and visited many soldiers, particularly those from Victoria, who were recuperating in London. He also photographed many Australian graves in English cemeteries. His photograph collection relating to this period in London was bequeathed to the Memorial in 1922 after his death. During his time in London he was a member of the British Volunteer Regiment, serving with the Willesden Battalion, Middlesex Volunteer Regiment.



Australian War Graves in All Saints Cemetery, Nunhead (Photos courtesy of Neil Bright)



Photo of Private C. Munday's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in All Saints Cemetery, Nunhead, Greater London, England.



(Photo courtesy of Roberto Lagnado)