

**St. Mary's New Churchyard,
Codford, Wiltshire, England**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



3367 PRIVATE

O. CAMERON

59TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

24TH JANUARY, 1918 Age 37

Oscar CAMERON

Oscar Cameron was born at Shelburne, Nova Scotia, Canada on 21st August, 1873 to parents Christopher and Agnes Cameron (nee Bower). Oscar's father was a Ship's carpenter.

Oscar Cameron attended Shelburne Academy & Navigation Schools at Halifax & Victoria.

[**In information supplied for the Roll of Honour details by Mr C. Cameron – father of Oscar of Nova Scotia, Canada - Oscar Cameron had previously been a Master Mariner, Deep Water, for ten years. Oscar had come to Australia when he was 42 years old in Ship Hawau which was drydocked in Adelaide in April, 1918. His father had also listed Oscar's death as December 24, 1918 & that he enlisted in June 1918.]

(The discrepancies have been underlined)

Oscar Cameron stated he was a 36 year old, single, Ship's officer when he enlisted on 20th February, 1917 in Melbourne, Victoria with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Presbyterian & his next of kin was listed as his father – Christopher Cameron, Shelborne, Nova Scotia, Canada.

Private Oscar Cameron was posted to Recruit Battalion at Royal Park, Victoria from 24th February, 1917. He was admitted to Clearing Hospital at Broadmeadows on 2nd March, 1917 & discharged the same day. Private Cameron was transferred to 19 Reinforcements of 22nd Battalion at Royal Park from 15th March, 1917. He was admitted to No. 5 Australian General Hospital on 3rd April with Syphilis then transferred to Langwarrin from 4th April to 18th June, 1917. He was transferred to 9th Reinforcements of 59th Battalion – 2nd Depot Battalion at Broadmeadows from 18th June, 1917.

Private Oscar Cameron, Service number 3367, embarked from Sydney, New South Wales on HMAT *Port Melbourne (A16)* on 16th July, 1917 with the 59th Infantry Battalion, 9th Reinforcements & disembarked at Liverpool, England on 16th September, 1917. Whilst at Capetown, on the journey from Australia to England, Private Cameron was absent without leave for 2 days from 16th August to 18th August, 1917. He forfeited 4 days pay.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. These were located in the Salisbury Plain & surrounding areas in the county of Wiltshire.

Private Oscar Cameron was marched in to 15th Training Battalion at Hurdcott, Wiltshire on 17th September, 1917. He was admitted to 1st Australian Dermatological Hospital at Bulford, Wiltshire on 18th September, 1917 with V.D. Private Cameron was discharged on 22nd September, 1917 to Convalescent Training Depot at Parkhouse, Wiltshire on the same day.

Private Oscar Cameron was marched out from Convalescent Training Depot at Parkhouse, Wiltshire on 6th November, 1917 & marched in to No. 3 Command Depot at Hurdcott, Wiltshire on the same day. He was medically classified as B1 A3 (fit for overseas Training Camp in 2 – 3 weeks) on 7th November, 1917. Private Cameron was medically classified as A3 (Medically & dentally fit) on 13th November, 1917.

Private Oscar Cameron was marched in to 15th Training Battalion at Codford, Wiltshire on 27th November, 1917.

Private Oscar Cameron was admitted to New Zealand Military Hospital at Codford, Wiltshire on 24th December, 1917 & was reported to be seriously ill.

Private Oscar Cameron died at 4.45 pm on 24th January, 1918 at No. 3 New Zealand General Hospital, Codford, Wiltshire, England. A Post Mortem was completed on 25th January, 1918 with the cause of death listed as "*Heart failure, due to chronic Bright's Disease.*" The Morning State of Sick (army form A27) & other forms in Private Cameron's service file recorded he died of Chronic Nephritis (*Inflammation of kidneys*).

A death for Oscar Cameron, aged 38, was registered in the March quarter, 1918 in the district of Warminster, Wiltshire.

Private Oscar Cameron was buried on 26th January, 1918 in St. Mary's New Churchyard, Codford, Wiltshire, England - Grave no. 98.

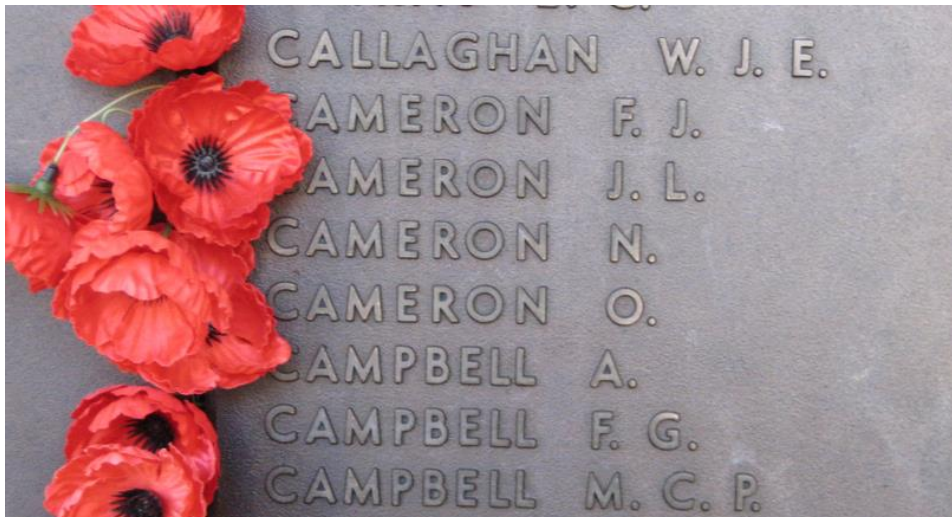
From the burial report - He was "*accorded a Military Funeral. Private Cameron was a keen soldier and his conduct was exemplary. He was very popular and his loss is very keenly felt.*"

Private Oscar Cameron requested in his Will, dated 5th July, 1917 that the whole of his property & effects be given to Miss Mildred Cameron of "*Strelburne*" Nova Scotia, Canada.

Private O. Cameron was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. The Medal, Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were sent to Private Cameron's father – Christopher Cameron, as the next of kin, of Shelburne, Nova Scotia in 1922.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Oscar Cameron – service number 3367, aged 37, of 59th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Christopher & Agnes Cameron, of Shelburne, Nova Scotia, Canada.

Private O. Cameron is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 167.

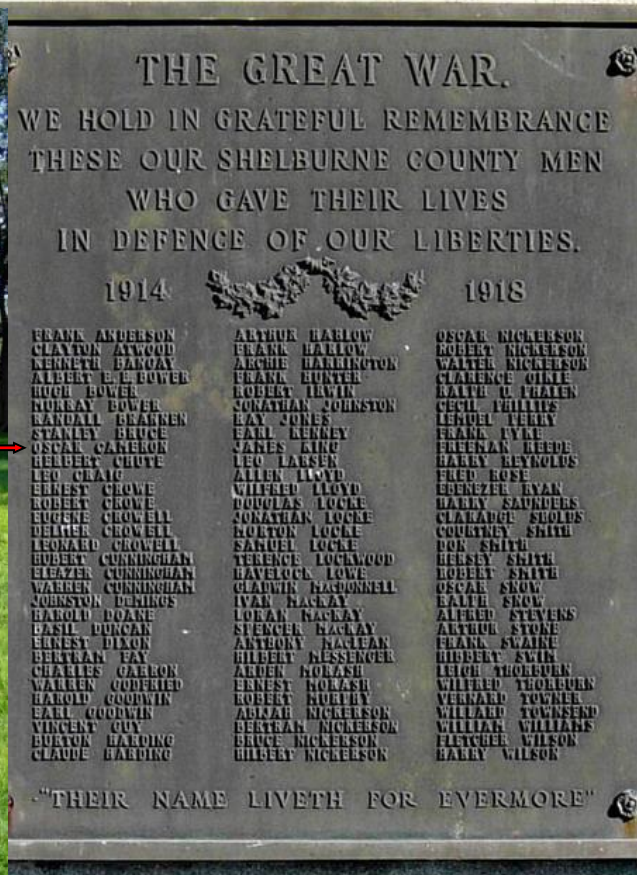


(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Oscar Cameron is also remembered on the Shelburne County War Memorial, Shelburne, Nova Scotia, Canada.

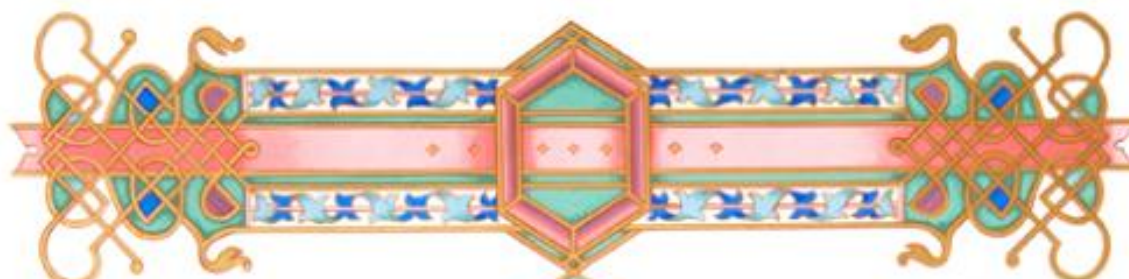


Shelburne County War Memorial

(Photos from newscotland1398.net)



Pte Oscar Cameron is also remembered on the Canadian Virtual War Memorial on page 604 of the First World War Book of Remembrance.



1918

Pte. Adler, Marie Joseph Ulysses	1 st Flt Amb.	A/M3/C Percy, Joseph Stanley	R.A.F.
Maj. Bedford-Fiber, Hubert Piers	R.F.A.	Sgt. Pinson, Grant Murray M.M.	R.A.F.
Pte. Bowie, Hugh	190 th Bn.	2/Lt. Plauer, Frank	R.A.F.
Capt. Brooksmith, John Douglas	R.F.A.	Lieut. Playne, Leslie	R.F.C.
Capt. Bruce, George B.	C.L.H.	Pvt. Pottevin, Henri Gedeon.	R.E.
Pte. Cameron, Oscar	Aust. Inf.	2/Lt. Pollins, Jay	R.A.F.
Capt. Dixon, Elijah Marsh	CAVC.	Sgt. Pont, John Brown	R.A.F.
Pte. DeGosse, Arthur Charles	22 nd Bn.	2/Lt. Porter, George Anthony Gordon	R.F.C.
Pte. Delisle, Leopold	22 nd Bn.	Cadet Porter, Richard Morgan	R.F.C.
L/Cpl. Drew, Charles	4 th Bn.	2/Lt. Porter, William	R.F.A. (R.F.C.)
Lt. Ellis, Douglas Quirk	R.F.C.	2/Lt. Potts, William Edgar	5 th WYERS B (D)
Pte. Fairburn, Edward	18 th Bn.	Capt. Poulton, Roy Roswell	Leind. R.
Lt. Ferguson, John Ferris	R.A.F.	2/Lt. Powell, Almond Frank Allnut	9 th V.L.I.
Lt. Fisher, Sidney John	R.A.F.	2/Lt. Prescott, Lewis William	R.A.F.
Pte. Fowles, Stephen McDermott	44 th Bn.	2/Lt. Press, Harry Wilfred	R.A.F.
Pte. Gagné, John Hubert	C.M.R.	2/Lt. Preston, Harry Dennis	R.A.F.
Pte. Grégoire, Rosario	16 th Bn.	2/Lt. Price, Charles Leslie	1 st R.I.R.
Sgt. Grounswater, George	43 rd Bn.	Capt. Priestley, Frederick	Wilt. R.
Pte. Habgood, John Wesley	75 th Bn.	Lt. Primrose, Walk, James Bowen	4 th Seaf. R.
Pte. Henderson, Edward John	29 th Bn.	2/Lt. Proudfoot, Thomas John Anderson	R.F.C.
Pte. Herring, George	F.G.H.	A/M2/C Pugsley, John	R.F.C.
Pte. Joy, William Monroe	210 th Bn.	F/Lt. Purdy, Claude Chester William	R.N.A.S.
Pte. Landry, Alexandre	U.S. Army	2/Lt. Quail, Henry Charles	R.E.
Pte. Ling, Wilson Norman	2 nd Bn.	Lt. Querric, Harry Walker	R.A.F.
Pte. Lodge, Harold Edward James	19 th Bn.	Capt. Quigley, Frank Gnanor	DSOMC R.A.F.
Brig Gen MacInnes, Duncan Saxe	CMG, DSO	Pte. Rigby, Jeffrey Fred	B.C.R.M.
Pte. Martin, Robert	100 th Bn.	N/S Roberts, Jean O.	C.A.M.C.
Sgt. Matthew, Gilbert Raymond	CAVC.	Pte. Roy, Alphonse	22 nd Bn.
Lt. Munro, John William	R.A.F.	Pte. Rutherford, Matthew	15 th Bn.
Lt. Perry, Cullen Hay	R.F.C.	Spr. Shepperson, Thomas	C.E.
L/Cpl. Peters, Edward	5 th L. pool R.	Ft. Cadet Smith, Joseph Lawrence	R.A.F.
Cadet Phair, Terrence Hugh Osmond	R.F.C.	Lt. Tunstall, George Stanley	R.A.F.
A/M2/C Philip, Walter Devere	R.A.F.	Pte. Welsh, Charles	8 th Bn.
2/Lt. Picard, Cecil Gerald Verity	R.A.F.	N/S Williston, Isabelle	U.S. Army
2/Lt. Pickup, William Heys	R.F.C.		

604

(83 pages of Private Oscar Cameron's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll) & National Archives

Other information:

* 1906 Sealing Schooner Crews – found in several editions of *The Evening Mail* (Halifax, Nova Scotia)
1st September, 1906 p. 16
The sealing schooner Edith R. Balcom sailed this morning for the South Pacific sealing ground. The following are the officers and crew:
W. E. BAKER, master
Oscar CAMERON, Shelburne, mate
Clement B. CHRISTIAN, second mate

* In December, 1909, Oscar Cameron from Canada, aged 36, was 2nd mate on the *Wellington*.

* In June, 1913, Oscar Cameron from Canada, aged 37, was Captain of the schooner *Markland*.

* The newspaper - *The San Francisco Call* for August 2nd, 1913 had the following article:

Skipper Held for Trial

Oscar Cameron, skipper of the schooner Bilbao, charged with embezzling \$122 worth of copper from his own ship, was held for trial by Judge Shortall yesterday. James Murrigan, first mate of the Bilbao, was exonerated. Fred Link, a water front character, was the star witness.

* In December, 1913, and January, February, March, April & May, 1914, Oscar Cameron from Nova Scotia, Canada, aged 36, was 2nd mate of the Barge *Simla*.

* In the book – *A History of Barrington Township and Vicinity – Shelburne County, Nova Scotia by Edwin Crowell*, the details under Shelburne's County's Fallen Heroes 1914-1918, Military Affairs, for Oscar Cameron states "of Shelburne died of wounds".

(The discrepancies have been underlined)

Newspaper Reports

THE 382ND CASUALTY LIST

DIED OF ILLNESS

Private O. Cameron, Canada

(The Mildura Cultivator, Victoria, Wednesday 13th February, 1918)

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 at Codford War Graves Cemetery. 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 O. Cameron does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

St. Mary's New Churchyard, Codford, Wiltshire, England

The New Zealand Command Depot was established at Codford in June 1916 and the No 3 New Zealand General Hospital followed in July. The New Churchyard was established by deed of gift as the "Military Burial Ground," with a small part reserved for future burials from the parish. The war graves plot contains 98 burials, mostly of New Zealand and Australian forces. There is only one burial of the Second World War in the New Churchyard.

(Information from CWGC)

There are 31 WW1 Australian War Graves & 66 WW1 New Zealand War Graves located here. There is one WW1 British Royal Army Medical Corp Grave & one WW2 Welsh Guards grave located in this Churchyard.



(Photo by Romy Wyeth)



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00275



(Photos by Romy Wyeth 2013)

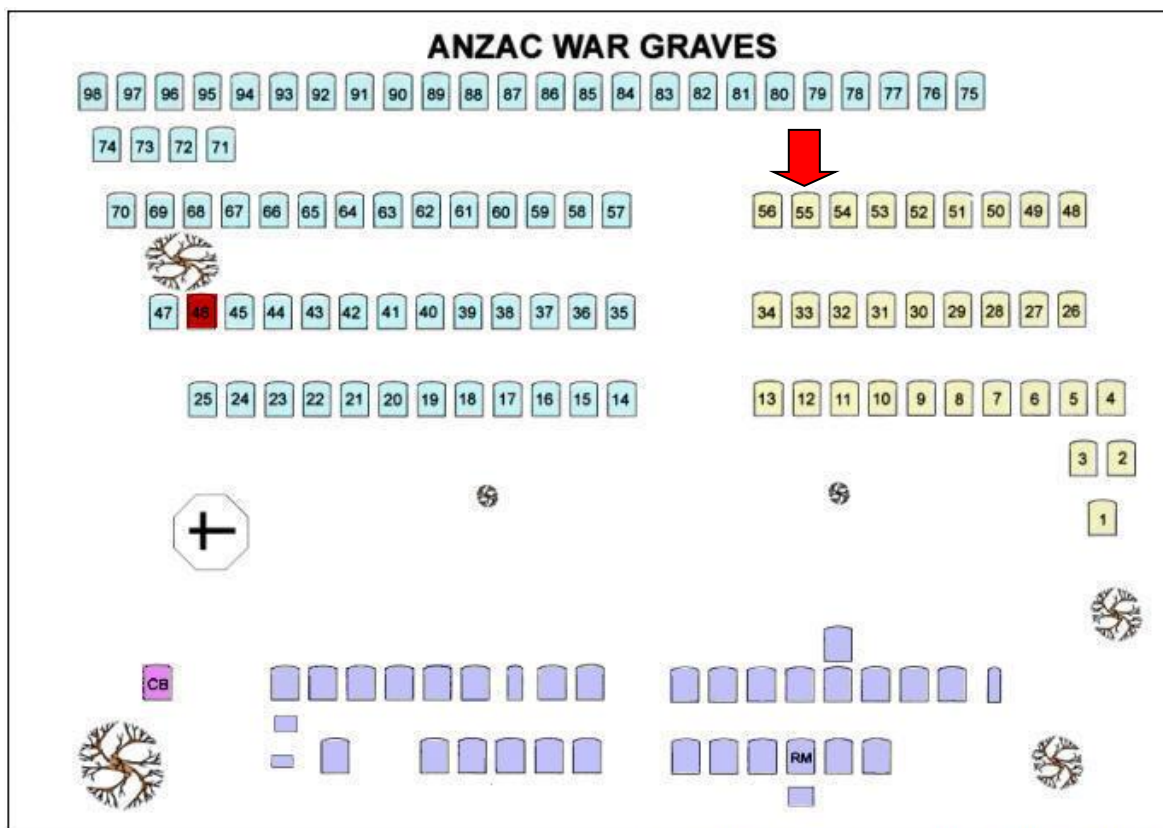
Photo of Private O. Cameron's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in St. Mary's New Churchyard, Codford, Wiltshire, England. Also known as Codford Anzac War Graves Cemetery, Wiltshire.



(Photo courtesy of Romy Wyeth)



Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Pte O. Cameron is located in Main Third Row (Right Hand Side)
Grave Plot # 55 of Codford War Graves Cemetery (CWGC Reference - Grave # 98)



- Australian Soldiers
- New Zealand Soldiers
- UK Soldier
- Welsh Soldier
- Local Burials

Codford War Graves map adapted from Brian Marshall
courtesy of Romy Wyeth