

**Brighton City (Bear Road) Cemetery,
East Sussex, England
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



1752 PRIVATE

C. HENDERSON

2ND BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

22ND MAY, 1917 Age 21

Greater Love Hath No Man

Colin HENDERSON

Colin Henderson was born at Lawrence (in the Maclean District), NSW in 1896 to parents Archibald and Annie Henderson (nee McNeile).

Archibald Henderson, father of Colin Henderson, died 9th January, 1905 at Mosman, NSW.

Colin Henderson attended Superior Public School, Mosman, Sydney, NSW.

Colin Henderson was a 20 year old, single, Labourer from Sydney Road, Granville, NSW when he enlisted at Liverpool, Sydney, NSW on 9th January, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 1752 & his religion was Presbyterian. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs A. Henderson, Sheppard Street, Ashfield, NSW. Colin Henderson stated on his Attestation Papers when asked had he ever served in His Majesty's Army, etc that he was a Compulsory Trainee.

As Colin Henderson was under the age of 21 – his parents were required to sign their consent for their son to enlist in the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.) for active service abroad. Annie Henderson signed her consent only as her husband was deceased.

Private Colin Henderson embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Argyllshire (A8)* on 10th April, 1915 with the 2nd Infantry Battalion, 4th Reinforcements.

Private Colin Henderson joined 2nd Battalion at Gallipoli on 26th April, 1915 from Reinforcements.

Private Colin Henderson was admitted to Field Ambulance on 10th June, 1915 then transferred to Hospital Ship *Grantully Castle* on 10th June, 1915 with defective (broken) teeth. He was transferred to No. 2 Australian Stationary Hospital at Mudros & admitted on 15th June, 1915. He was discharged on 24th June, 1915.

Private Colin Henderson was transferred to Alexandria on *Scotian* on 27th June, 1915 with Dysentery. He was admitted to 1st Australian General Hospital at Heliopolis on 27th June, 1915 & discharged to duty on 29th June, 1915.

Private Colin Henderson was admitted to 16th Stationary Hospital at Lemnos on 24th October, 1915 for dental work from *Franconia*. He was discharged on 3rd November, 1915 to Convalescent Depot. He was classed "A" & admitted to Anzac Advance Base on 16th November, 1915 from Rest Camp. Private Henderson was discharged to join his Unit on 6th December, 1915.

Private Colin Henderson was written up for a Crime at Mudros on 31st December, 1915 – 1. Drunk at Greek Pier about 4 pm on 30th December, 1915; 2. Absent from 2.30 pm Roll Call. He was punished by forfeiting 1 days' pay & fined 5/-.

Private Colin Henderson was transferred from Mudros to Overseas Base at Ghezirah & classed "B" on 7th January, 1916. He arrived at Alexandria on 10th January, 1916 on *Ausonias* from Mudros & joined Overseas Base at Ghezirah on 11th January, 1916.

Private Colin Henderson joined 1st Training Battalion at Tel-el-Kebir on 7th May, 1916 from Cairo Town Picquet.

Private Colin Henderson was marched out from No. Command Depot at Perham Downs, Wiltshire to 1st Training Battalion on 27th July, 1916. He proceeded to his Unit overseas from Perham Downs on 31st July, 1916 & was taken on strength of 1st Australian Divisional Base Depot in France on 1st August, 1916.

Private Colin Henderson was written up for a Crime on 4th August, 1916 while posted at Etaples – 1. Drunkenness & 2. Absent without leave from 7 pm to 9 pm on 3rd August, 1916. He was awarded 28 days Field Punishment No. 2.

Private Colin Henderson was taken on strength of 2nd Battalion in France on 26th August, 1916.

Private Colin Henderson was written up for a Crime on 16th September, 1916 while in France – Disobedience of Orders in that he was absent without leave from billet from 13.45 to 22.00 hours on 14th September, 1916. He was awarded 14 days Field Punishment No. 2 & forfeited 1 days' pay.

Private Colin Henderson was written up for a Crime on 22nd January, 1917 – Disobedience of Orders in that he was absent from Parade at 13.15 on 19th January, 1917. He was awarded 14 days Field Punishment No. 2.

Private Colin Henderson was on command at Divisional School in France from 5th February, 1917.

Private Colin Henderson was written up for a Crime on 16th February, 1917 while in France – Disobedience of Orders in that he overstayed leave & remained absent from billet from 21.00 hours on 11th February, 1917 until 08.00 hours on 13th February, 1917. He was awarded “14 days pay & forfeited 3 days pay” (as recorded in file – should probably be awarded 14 days punishment & forfeited 3 days pay).

Private Colin Henderson rejoined his Battalion from School in France on 28th February, 1917.

Private Colin Henderson was wounded in action in France on 7th May, 1917. He was admitted to 5th Field Ambulance on 7th May, 1917 with bullet wounds both legs & thigh & fractured right arm. Private Henderson was transferred to 3rd Casualty Clearing Station on 7th May, 1917 with multiple bullet wounds then transferred on 12th May, 1917 to Ambulance Train 4. He was admitted to No. 26 General Hospital at Etaples, France on 13th May, 1917. Private Henderson was transferred to Calais & embarked for England on 17th May, 1917 on Hospital Ship *Princess Elizabeth*.

2nd Battalion

The 2nd Battalion was among the first infantry units raised for the AIF during the First World War. Like the 1st, 3rd and 4th Battalions it was recruited from New South Wales and, together with these battalions, formed the 1st Brigade.

.... The battalion took part in the ANZAC landing on 25 April 1915 as part of the second and third waves, and was led by Lieutenant Colonel G. F. Braund, who was killed in action nine days later. On 6 August, the 1st Brigade led the charge at Lone Pine. Among the dead was the commander of the 2nd Battalion, Lieutenant Colonel R. Scobie, killed during a Turkish counter-attack. The battalion served at ANZAC until the evacuation in December 1915.

After the withdrawal from Gallipoli, 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. The battalion's first major action in France was at Pozieres in the Somme valley in July 1916. Later the battalion fought at Ypres, in Flanders, before returning to the Somme for winter.

In early 1917 the German Army withdrew to the formidable defences of the Hindenburg Line. As the 2nd Battalion advanced towards these defences in April 1917, Private T. J. Kenny attacked several enemy machine gun positions with grenades, earning the 2nd Battalion's only Victoria Cross. The battalion spent much of the rest of 1917 fighting in increasingly horrendous conditions around Ypres.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

War Diary – 2nd Battalion

Front Line – 7th May, 1917:

0345 – C Co 9th Bn commenced movement to West along OG2 and with slight opposition established four posts.

0456- Bde informed that objectives had been gained.

Enemy shelled front line. Capt T.K. Westbrook killed.

Weather up to now fine & clear became overcast and light rain commenced.

Relief by 8th Bn commenced.

(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Colin Henderson was admitted to 2nd Eastern General Hospital, Brighton, Sussex, England on 18th May, 1917 wounded & was dangerously ill.

Private Colin Henderson died on 22nd May, 1917 at 2nd Eastern General Hospital, Brighton, Sussex, England from multiple wounds received in action in France - Shrapnel wounds to head, both hands & legs & exhaustion due to Septic absorption.

A death for Colin Henderson, aged 21, was registered in the June quarter, 1917 in the district of Brighton, Sussex, England.

Private Colin Henderson was buried on 24th May, 1917 in Brighton City (Bear Road) Cemetery, East Sussex, England – Plot number ZIF. 97 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Private Colin Henderson - *Coffin was polished Elm with brass furniture. 1752 Pte Henderson, C. 2nd Bn, who died in St. Mark's Section, 2nd Eastern General Hospital, Brighton, Sussex, 22/5/17 from wounds received in action. The ceremony was conducted by Rev. Hugh Shearer, Presby: Chaplain to Brighton Garrison, who when rendering same made special reference to the great distance which separated deceased from those who were near and dear to him. The cortege was followed to the Hospital Chapel, where the major portion of the service was held, by Sister Marjorie Brown representing Nursing Staff, and a number of comrades from the Hospital, and from there to the Cemetery by a Bearer Party of the R.A.M.C. and seven comrades who were in his tent in the above mentioned Hospital namely:- Cpl Higgins, 14th Canadian Regt, Cpl Gibbon, 20th Canadian Regt, L/Cpl Nye, Royal Engrs, L/Cpl Owen, Royal Engrs, Pte Ellison, Royal Engrs, Pte Harding, 58th Bn, A.I.F. and Pte Young, Royal Scots. Fus. These lads who have not yet fully recovered from their various wounds and indispositions marched the 3 miles from Hospital to Cemetery, mostly uphill to pay their last respects to a gallant comrade.*

There were two very nice wreaths one from the Nursing Staff of St. Mark's Branch Hospital, Brighton with "Deep Sympathy" and one from Albert Ward and tent mates "In loving memory of a good comrade". The "Last Post" was sounded at the grave side by trumpeters of the R.A.M.C.

In this case the Hospital did not fully carry out the instructions as issued by this office. The plate in this instance showed – 2nd A.I.F. no mention of Battn, Battery or Regt, which is not right. I have spoken to the senior N.C.O. of this Hospital re the matter and have made necessary arrangements for the death certificate and cemetery Registrar to correct accordingly.

Base Records contacted Mrs A. Henderson, Fernhill Street, Hurlstone Park, NSW, mother of the late Private Colin Henderson, in July, 1920 stating she was the registered next-of-kin of the late Private C. Henderson but desired to know if there were any nearer blood relatives than herself & specifically asked if his father was alive due to the "Deceased Soldiers Estates Act 1918" which stated that the War Medals & Mementoes of a deceased soldier were to be handed in the following order of relationship – Widow, eldest surviving son, eldest surviving daughter, father, mother, eldest surviving brother, eldest surviving sister etc.

Mrs A. Henderson replied that her husband had died 15 years ago & she was the next-of-kin of the late Private C. Henderson.

Private Colin Henderson was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Henderson's widowed mother – Mrs A. Henderson, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent July, 1921 & Plaque sent August, 1922).

Mrs A. Henderson, mother of the late Private Colin Henderson & also the late Private L. Henderson, advised Base Records of her change of address in August, 1922 to 108 Prospect Road, Summer Hill, Sydney, NSW.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Colin Henderson – service number 1752, aged 21, of 2nd Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Archibald and Annie Henderson, of Fernhill St., Hurlstone Park, Sydney, NSW.

Private Colin Henderson & his brother Private L. Henderson are remembered on a plaque below the Great War Memorial Stained Glass Window, located in Presbyterian Church, corner Liverpool Road & Knox Street, Ashfield, NSW.



Ashfield Presbyterian Church Great War Memorial Stained Glass Window

(Photos from War Memorials Register NSW – Laurie Parks)



Private C. Henderson is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 32.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

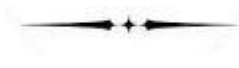
(64 pages of Private Colin Henderson's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

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



[Connected to Private Colin Henderson:](#)

Older brother – Ludovic Henderson – 3563, 20th Battalion. Enlisted 28th October, 1915 as a 24 year old Clerk from Ashfield, Sydney, NSW. Embarked from Sydney, NSW on 17th December, 1915. Died of wounds 20th July, 1916. Buried Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension, France. This cemetery contains a total of 4,344 burials for the 1st & 2nd World Wars.



Newspaper Notices

MEN WHO FELL

Private HENDERSON – News has been received that Private Colin Henderson, fourth son of the late Mr and Mrs Archibald Henderson, of Shepherd Street, Ashfield, died in France on May 22 in his 21st Year, from wounds received in action.

(The Daily Telegraph, Sydney, NSW – 30 May, 1917)

WAR CASUALTIES

Pte Colin Henderson, aged 21 years, fourth son of the late Mr and Mrs Henderson, of Shepherd-street, Ashfield, has died of wounds in France.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 30 May, 1917)

FALLEN HEROES

312TH LIST

NEW SOUTH WALES

DIED OF WOUNDS

Pte COLIN HENDERSON, Ashfield

(The Daily Telegraph, Sydney, NSW – 19 June, 1917)

ROLL OF HONOR

HENDERSON – Died of wounds, 22nd May, 1917, Colin, fourth son of the late Archibald and Annie Henderson, Shepherd Street, Ashfield.

(The Daily Telegraph, Sydney, NSW – 30 May, 1917)

On Active Service

HENDERSON – In loving memory of Colin, who died of wounds, May 22, 1917, fourth son of the late Mr A. Henderson and Mrs Henderson, Fernhill-street, Hurlstone Park

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 22 May, 1919)

On Active Service

HENDERSON – In loving memory of Colin, fourth son of the late Archibald and Annie Henderson, of Fernhill-street, Hurlstone Park (Private), died of wounds, May 22, 1917.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 22 May, 1920)

IN MEMORIAM

HENDERSON – In loving memory of Colin, fourth son of the late Archibald and Annie Henderson, of Fernhill-street, Hurlstone Park, died of wounds received at Bullecourt, May 22, 1917.

(The Sun, Sydney, NSW – 22 May, 1921)

On Active Service

HENDERSON – In loving memory of Colin, fourth son of the late Archibald and Annie Henderson, of 108 Prospect-road, Summer Hill, died May 22, 1917, from wounds received at Bullecourt,.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 22 May, 1922)

ROLL OF HONOR

HENDERSON – In loving memory of Colin, fourth son of the late Archibald and Annie Henderson, died May 22nd, from wounds received at Bullecourt,.

(The Daily Telegraph, Sydney, NSW – 22 May, 1923)

ROLL OF HONOR

HENDERSON – In loving memory of Colin, fourth son of the late Archibald and Annie Henderson, of 108 Prospect Road, Summer Hill, died May 22, 1917, from wounds received at Bullecourt,.

(The Daily Telegraph, Sydney, NSW – 22 May, 1924)

ROLL OF HONOR

HENDERSON – In loving memory of Colin, fourth son of the late A. Henderson and Mrs Henderson, Eden Flats, Randwick, died of wounds received at Bullecourt May 22, 1917. An Anzac.

(The Daily Telegraph, Sydney, NSW – 22 May, 1925)

On Active Service

HENDERSON – In loving memory of Colin, fourth son of the late Archibald and Annie Henderson, Randwick, died of wounds received at Bullecourt, May 22, 1917. An Anzac.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 22 May, 1926)

On Active Service

HENDERSON – In loving memory of Colin, fourth son of the late A. Henderson and Mrs Henderson, died of wounds (Bullecourt), May 22, 1917.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 23 May, 1928)

On Active Service

HENDERSON – Colin, fourth son of the late A. and Mrs Henderson, of Teakle-street, Summer Hill, died of wounds May 22, 1917.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 22 May, 1929)

***Notices were also placed in 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935 & 1936.

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. Henderson does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Greater Love Hath No Man

Brighton City (Bear Road) Cemetery, East Sussex, England

The cemetery is on the Lewes road. It was opened in 1857, and now covers 44 acres. It climbs the hill Eastward, crossing a public road. A War Cross stands in the cemetery.

There are 275 Commonwealth burials of the 1914-1918 war and a further 102 of the 1939-1945 war commemorated in this site. The 1939-45 commemorations include 3 unidentified Merchant seamen and 1 unidentified British soldier. There are also 40 Foreign National war burials here and 4 non-war service burials.

(Information from CWGC)



(Photos by julia&keld – Find a Grave)





(Photos from CWGC)



Photo of Private C. Henderson's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Brighton City (Bear Road) Cemetery, East Sussex, England.



(Photo by Terry Denham)