

**St. Edith's Churchyard,
Baverstock, Wiltshire, England**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



763 PRIVATE

CYRIL CLAUD MASHFORD

AUSTRALIAN TRENCH MORTAR BATTERY

24TH FEBRUARY, 1917 Age 24

Sometime, Some Day

Our Eyes Shall See

The Face We Hold In Memory

Cyril Claud MASHFORD

Cyril Claud Mashford was born at 38 Sutherland St, Neutral Bay, Sydney, New South Wales in 1893 to parents Thomas & Sarah Mashford (nee Wood).

Cyril Claud Mashford attended Neutral Bay Superior Public School, NSW. He later attended Sydney Technical College for Carpentry.

Thomas Mashford, father of Cyril Claud Mashford, died 14th August, 1908 at St. Leonards, New South Wales.

Cyril Claud Mashford was a 22 year old, single, Plumber (listed as Railway Employee in information provided by his mother for the Roll of Honour) from Sutherland St, Neutral Bay, Sydney, New South Wales when he enlisted at Randwick, Sydney, NSW on 22nd August, 1914 with the Australian Imperial (A.I.F.). His service number was 763 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs T. Mashford of Sutherland St, Neutral Bay, Sydney, New South Wales. Cyril had previously served with Neutral Bay School Cadets as Corporal from 1906 to 1908.

Private Cyril Claud Mashford embarked from Sydney on HMAT *Suffolk (A23)* on 18th October, 1914 with the 2nd Infantry Battalion "G" Company & disembarked at Egypt on 8th December, 1914.

Private Mashford was wounded in action at Dardanelles, Gallipoli. He received a shrapnel wound to back of right leg on 19th May, 1915. Private Mashford was transported to Malta on 24th May, 1915 & admitted to Hospital. On 7th July, 1915 Private Mashford embarked on Hospital Ship "*Rewa*" from Malta for England.

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 was raised within a fortnight of the declaration of war in August 1914 and embarked just two months later. After a brief stop in Albany, Western Australia, the battalion proceeded to Egypt, arriving on 2 December. 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.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Mashford was Absent without Leave for 7 days on 17th September, 1915 & awarded 7 days confined to Barracks & forfeited 7 days pay.

Private Mashford embarked from Devonport, England on "*Andania*" with No. 10 Draft for M.E.F. (Mediterranean Expeditionary Force) bound for active service. He rejoined his Unit on Gallipoli Peninsula on 20th November, 1915. A letter was sent to Mrs Mashford advising her that her son Private C. C. Mashford had returned to duty in Egypt.

Private Mashford disembarked at Alexandria on 28th December, 1915. He embarked for Overseas from Alexandria on 22nd March, 1916 on *Ivernia* & disembarked at Marseille, France on 28th March, 1916.

Private Mashford was sent to Trench Mortar School of Instruction at Reuescure from 5th April, 1916 & rejoined the 2nd Battalion on 12th April, 1916.

Private Mashford was transferred from 2nd Battalion to Light Trench Mortar Battalion on 12th April, 1916 in France.

Private Mashford was wounded in action in France on 25th July, 1916 & reported Missing. Private Mashford was admitted with Shell shock to No. 2 Field Ambulance in France on 27th July, 1916 then transferred to No. 3 Casualty Clearing Station. He was admitted to No. 22 General Hospital at Camiers on 28th July, 1916. On 2nd August, 1916 Private Mashford was transferred to No. 6 Convalescent Depot at Etaples still suffering from Shell Shock. He was discharged to duty on 8th August, 1916 to 1st Australian Division Base Depot.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing File for 763 Private Cyril Claud Mashford – 8th Battalion contains a letter written from Private A. J. Keane (4024) from Boulogne, France dated 22nd August, 1916 regarding 3 soldiers:

Mashford, C. C. 763

Crown, A. 3712

Cashman, C. L. 3726

If you write to Captain F. E. Page, officer Commanding 1st Light TM Bty, you will learn all particulars. It was reported to us that these three men have passed through the Clearing Station. Cashman with shell shock and Crown too. I am almost sure this is true, and he will tell you all particulars. The Battery Clerk told me this only about eight days ago. Pte Turner who is one of our men received a letter from Pte Mashford who is in England, so I am almost positive you will find that none of these three men are missing, and I do not know about the fourth man Parker.

Another letter in the file, dated 25th July, 1916, states:

Mashford, C. C. 763

This man is in Ho I A.D.B.D. and is in good health.

On 2nd September, 1916 Private Mashford rejoined his Unit in Belgium. He was detached for duty with Trench Mortar Battery in the field on 17th October, 1916.

Private Mashford was wounded in action in the field on the 6th November, 1916. He was admitted to 38th Casualty Clearing Station on 6th November, 1916 with a bullet wound to neck then transferred to No. 9 Ambulance Train on 7th November, 1916. Private Mashford transferred & admitted to No. 4 General Hospital at Camiers, France. He was transferred to England on 11th November, 1916.

Private Mashford, of 1st Brigade Australian Trench Mortars, was admitted to Edmonton Military Hospital, London with a Gunshot wound to Neck. He was discharged from Hospital on 24th November, 1916 & given furlough, to report to Perham Downs on 9th December, 1916.

Private Mashford was transferred several times between 14th December, 1916, from No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs, to No. 3 Camp at Parkhouse then Drafting Depot at Perham Downs & finally on 7th February, 1917 was attached to 8th Training Battalion at Hurdcott, Wiltshire. 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.

Private Mashford was admitted to Fovant Military Hospital, seriously ill with Pneumonia on 18th February, 1917 from "B" Company, 8th Training Battalion.

Private Cyril Claud Mashford died at 11.25 a.m. on 24th February, 1917 in Military Hospital, Fovant, Wiltshire from Pneumonia.

A death for Charles Mashford, aged 25, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Wilton, Wiltshire. (Located in Private Mashford's Service Record file includes the Morning State of Sick Form (A. 27) which lists his Christian name as Charles & the age as 25).

Private Cyril Claud Mashford was buried on 27th February, 1917 in the churchyard of St. Edith's at Baverstock, Wiltshire and has a Commonwealth War Graves Headstone.

A War Pension was granted to Sarah Elizabeth Mashford, mother of late Private C.C. Mashford in the sum of £2 per fortnight from 2nd June, 1917.

Private Cyril Claud Mashford was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte Mashford's mother (father was deceased) – Mrs S. E. Mashford (July, 1921 & March, 1923).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Cyril Claud Mashford – service number 763, as being 24 years old & served with 1st Division - Australian Trench Mortar Battery. He was the son of Thomas and Sarah Elizabeth Mashford, of 38 Sutherland St, Neutral Bay, Sydney, New South Wales.

Private C. C. Mashford is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 33.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

C. Mashford is remembered on the Neutral Bay Superior Public School Honour Roll, located in Neutral Bay Public School, 175 Ben Boyd Road, Neutral Bay, NSW.



Neutral Bay Superior Public School Honour Roll (Photo from War Memorial Register NSW – Victor Tan)



Private C. C. Mashford is also remembered on the North Sydney War Memorial, located at the top of Walker St in St. Leonards Park, NSW.



North Sydney War Memorial

(Photos from Register of War Memorials in NSW –David Roden and Andrew Howell)



Cyril Claude Mashford is remembered in the UK De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour 1914-1919 (Volume 4 – page 131)

MASHFORD CYRIL CLAUDE, Private, 2nd Infantry Batt. Australian Imperial Force; enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force in Aug. 1914, and left Australia with the 2nd Battn. the following Oct.; served with the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force in Gallipoli; took part in the landing there 25 April, 1915; was wounded in May, and invalided to England; returned to the Peninsula; took part in the evacuation of Gallipoli; was then transferred to the Expeditionary Force in France, and joined the L.T.M. Battery; after serving there nearly a year, was again wounded, and died of pneumonia at Fovant Military Hospital 24 Feb. 1917; unkm.



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

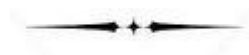
Information obtained from the Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives

****From Roll of Honour information - Brother Lieutenant Rupert Leslie Mashford - Mentioned in Despatches & awarded French Medaille Militaire. Returned to Australia 9th July, 1919.**



PTE. C. C. MASHFORD,
Neutral Bay,
Died of Pneumonia.

(Photo from Discovering Anzacs – uploaded by blacksmith – original source: unknown)



Newspaper Reports

THIRTY-SIXTH CASUALTY LIST

NEW SOUTH WALES

WOUNDED

C. C. Mashford, Neutral Bay.

(The Advertiser, Adelaide, - Saturday 12 June, 1915)

MEN OF THE DARDANELLES

PRIVATE C. C. MASHFORD.

Private Cyril C. Mashford (wounded) is a son of the late Mr. Thomas Mashford of Neutral Bay and Lincolnshire (Eng). Prior to enlisting he was in the employ of Mr. Alex. Stoko, consulting engineer, of Pitt-street, city, but on the outbreak of war he offered his services and left with the 2nd Battalion under the late Lieut-Col. Braund.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – Monday 28 June, 1915)

MORE CASUALTIES

198th LIST

MISSING

Pte C. C. MASHFORD, (Neutral Bay)

(Evening News, Sydney – Thursday 24 August, 1916)

CASUALTIES

DOUBLE LIST ISSUED

NEW SOUTH WALES

WOUNDED

Pte C. C. MASHFORD, Neutral Bay (third occasion).

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – Tuesday 12 December, 1916)

WAR CASUALTIES

DIED OF ILLNESS.

PRIVATE C. C. MASHFORD.

Official information has been received by Mrs. T. Mashford, of Neutral Bay, of the death of her second son, Private Cyril Claud Mashford, of pneumonia, in hospital, England. The deceased enlisted on the outbreak of war. He was at the landing at the Dardanelles, was wounded, and invalided to England, and returned and took part in the evacuation. He had been fighting in France since last April, being wounded three times, besides receiving shell-shock, the result of being buried by an explosion. Previous to enlisting he was in the employ of Mr. Alex. Stobo, consulting engineer. Private Mashford's two brothers are serving at the front.

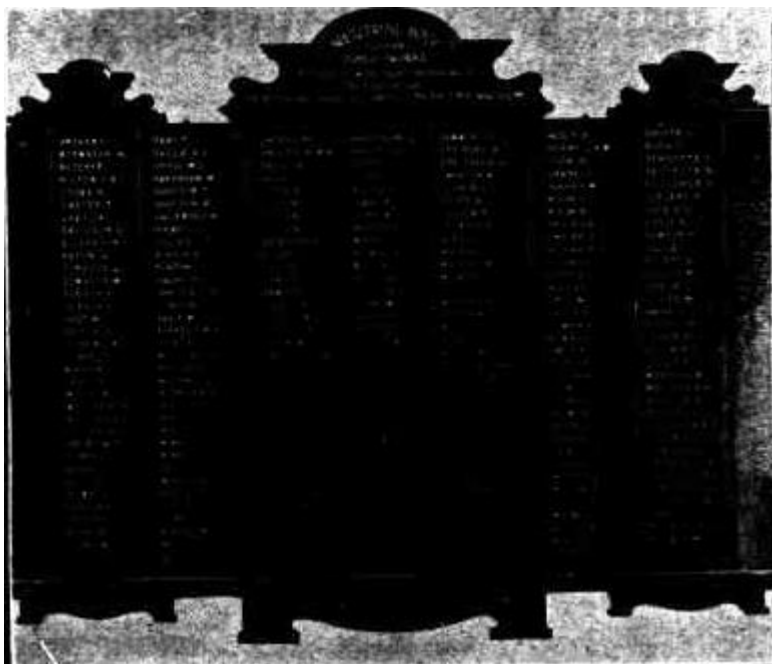
(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – Wednesday 21 March, 1917)

ROLL OF HONOUR

MASHFORD — Died of pneumonia, in Fovant Military Hospital, England, February 24, Private Cyril Claud, second dearly loved son of Mrs T. Mashford, Sutherland-street, Neutral Bay. A young life nobly ended.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – Wednesday 28 March, 1917)

YOUNGEST D.C.M.



HONOUR ROLL OF HIS SCHOOL

The youngest D.C.M. in the whole strength of the British Army is Leonard Jackson (whose story appeared in this paper, with his photo, on February 19). His school (Neutral Bay Public) has sent a big contribution to the front, and the boys have done fine work in the cause of the Empire. Among those who have gained distinction are; D. Marks, M.C., White Eagle of Servia, and promotion to rank of Major; he is 21 years old. C. Christmas has been awarded the M.C. and attained to commissioned rank; L. Grave has won the M.C. and been given his commission; A. Kernaghan, M.C.; L. Maunsell, M. M.; and Leonard Jackson, D.C.M.; and others decorated and promoted. Died for Empire (killed in action): A. L. French, A. E. Meggy, T. Burke, C. Glasgow, E. H. Cheal, E. Leask, A. Maunsell, F. Green, J. Struthers, H. T. Watkins, J. Wyatt, M. Welch, C. Adelb, F. Dickson, E. J. C. Glassford, J. Crane, O. Taylor, S. Mannell, **C. Mashford** and J. Swan.

(The Globe and Sunday Times War Pictorial, Sydney – Monday 2 April, 1917)

Cyril Claud Mashford is remembered on his grandfather - Joseph Mashford's monument headstone located in Holbeach Cemetery, South Holland, Lincolnshire, England.



And CYRIL CLAUD MASHFORD

(Of Australia)

Grandson of the Above

They Gave Their Lives In The Great War

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 St. Edith's Churchyard, Baverstock. 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 Cyril Claud Mashford does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Sometime, Some Day Our Eyes Shall See The Face We Hold In Memory

St. Edith's Churchyard, Baverstock, Wiltshire, England

St. Edith's Churchyard, Baverstock contains 32 World War 1 War Graves – 3 London Regiment Graves in the south-west corner & 29 Australian War Graves.



St. Edith's Churchyard, Baverstock *(Photo courtesy of Helen Roberts)*



St. Edith's Churchyard, Baverstock (Photos courtesy of Helen Roberts)



Photo of Private Cyril Claud Mashford's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone at St. Edith's Churchyard, Baverstock, Wiltshire, England.



(Photo courtesy of Andrew Stacey 2012)