

**Hartshill Cemetery,
Stoke-On-Trent, Staffordshire**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



3063 PRIVATE

A. C. MOWBRAY

59TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

31ST JULY, 1916 Age 23

Ever Remembered

By His Loving Parents

Brother & Sisters

Arthur Charles MOWBRAY

Arthur Charles Mowbray was born at Port Melbourne, Victoria in 1893 to parents Frederick John & Annie Elizabeth Mowbray (nee Gott).

Arthur Charles Mowbray attended State School at Port Melbourne, Victoria.

The 1914, 1915 & 1916 Australian Electoral Rolls for the division of Melbourne Ports, subdivision of Port Melbourne, Victoria recorded Arthur Charles Mowbray, Driver, of 117 Pickles St., Port Melbourne. His parents Frederick Mowbray, Labourer & Annie Elizabeth were also listed at 117 Pickles St., Port Melbourne.

Arthur Charles Mowbray was a 22 year old, single, Driver from 117 Pickle Street, Port Melbourne, Victoria when he enlisted on 12th July, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 3063 & his religion was Presbyterian. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr F. Mowbray, 117 Pickle Street, Port Melbourne, Victoria.

Private Arthur Charles Mowbray was posted to 52nd Company Depot on 19th July, 1915 for recruit training. He was transferred to 10th Reinforcements of 7th Battalion on 2nd August, 1915.

Private Arthur Charles Mowbray was written up on 12th September, 1915 at Broadmeadows Camp for “*Talking in ranks on Parade.*” He was fined 5/-. Private Mowbray was written up on 19th September, 1915 for A.W.L. (Absent without Leave). He was fine 5 & forfeited 1 days’ pay.

Private Arthur Charles Mowbray embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on RMS *Osterley* on 29th September, 1915 with the 7th Infantry Battalion, 10th Reinforcements.

Private Arthur Charles Mowbray was taken on strength of 7th Battalion at Tel el Kebir on 7th January, 1916.

Private Arthur Charles Mowbray was transferred from 7th Battalion at Serapeum on 24th February, 1916 to 59th Battalion. He was taken on strength of 59th Battalion at Tel-el-Kebir on 24th February, 1916.

Private Arthur Charles Mowbray embarked from Alexandria on 18th June, 1916 on *Kinfauns Castle* to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force). He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 29th June, 1916.

Private Arthur Charles Mowbray was wounded in action in France on 19th July, 1916. He was admitted to 15th Field Ambulance on 20th July, 1916 with G.S.W. (gunshot wounds) to arm & back then transferred to Casualty Clearing Station. Private Mowbray was admitted to 13th General Hospital at Boulogne, France on 21st July, 1916 with multiple G.S.W. He embarked for England on 28th July, 1916 on Hospital Ship *St. David* with G.S.W. to Back & Leg.

59th Battalion

The 59th Battalion was raised in Egypt on 21 February 1916 as part of the expansion of the AIF. Approximately half of its recruits came from the veteran 7th Battalion, and the other half were fresh reinforcements from Australia. Reflecting the composition of the 7th, the 59th was predominantly composed of men from rural Victoria. The battalion became part of the 15th Brigade of the 5th Australian Division.

On 19 July 1916, the 59th became embroiled in its first major battle on the Western Front, less than a month after it arrived in France. The battle of Fromelles was a disaster for the 59th. Attacking in the first wave, the 59th suffered heavy casualties at the hands of German machine-gunners, and its advance faltered far short of its objective. Despite grievous losses, the units of the 5th Division manned the front line around Fromelles for a further two months....

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

War Diary – 59th Battalion

19th July, 1916:

12 Noon – Heavy bombardment of enemy lines. 60th Battn relieved half our front from PINNEY AVENUE inclusive.

7 pm – 9th Battn attacked enemy position in four waves. First wave going over parapet at 6.45 pm other three waves following at five minute intervals. Attack did not penetrate enemy trenches being held up by intense rifle and machine gun fire approximately 100 yards from enemy front line.

.....

Casualties sustained in action of 19th/20th July, 1916.

	Officers	Other Ranks
Killed	0	13
Wounded	13	381
Missing	5	269
Died of wounds	2	11
Totals	20	674

(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Arthur Charles Mowbray was admitted to Stoke on Trent War Hospital, Newcastle, Staffordshire, England on 29th July, 1916 with G.S.W. to right Arm, back & leg.

Private Arthur Charles Mowbray died at 2.15 am on 31st July, 1916 at Stoke on Trent War Hospital, Newcastle, Staffordshire, England from wounds received in action in France – G.S.W. Back, Right Arm & Leg & Gas Gangrene. (Some forms have the hospital listed as “Newcastle War Hospital”).

A death for A. C. Mowbray, aged 24, was registered in the September quarter, 1916 in the district of Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, England.

Private Arthur Charles Mowbray was buried on 3rd August, 1916 in Hartshill Cemetery, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, England – Grave No. 5134.

Newspaper item – Port Melbourne Standard, Victoria – 21 October, 1916:

LATE PRIVATE MOWBRAY

Red Cross Sister's Tribute

From Sister B. Christine Hebbert, Mrs Mowbray has received the following letter:-

Stoke on Trent War Hospital, Newcastle Staff,

August 7, 1916.

Dear Mrs. Mowbray, -I feel that you will want to hear anything I may be able to tell you about your boy, as I was with him when he passed away. I asked him a few hours before he died whether he would like me to write to anyone for him, and he said would I write and tell you that he was all right, and you were not to worry about him. He was badly wounded in the leg and back, and was very ill when he reached us. The doctors did all that was possible for him, and also relieved him of his pain, but we could not save his life. He had done bravely and well the work that God gave him to do, and God called him home. We had a short prayer together, and the All-loving God and Answerer of Prayer

heard that prayer, and your boy is safe in His keeping. You have not lost him; he has only gone on before into the presence of the King of Kings. He was laid to rest with another young Australian in a dear little cemetery just outside Newcastle, as one of Britain's soldier sons. His coffin was taken to the cemetery on a gun carriage, under the flag he had fought and died for, and many were the wounded men who followed to do him honour. I am in hoping to go up to the cemetery one day soon. God bless you and comfort you, and give you His peace.-I remain ever, yours sincerely, (Sister) B. CHRISTONE HEBBERT.

Mr F. Mowbray, 117 Pickles Street, Port Melbourne was advised by Base Records on 19th April, 1920 that the remains of his son had *"been extracted from grave No. 5134, Hartshill Cemetery, and re-interred in Grave No.15407, Block 39 of the same Cemetery. This work is carried out with every measure of care and reverence in the presence of a Chaplain."*

Private Arthur Charles Mowbray's grave is now referred to by Commonwealth War Graves Commission as Aust Plot. 15407 and he has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

A War Pension was granted to Annie E. Mowbray, mother of the late Private Arthur Charles Mowbray, of 117 Pickles St., Port Melbourne, in the sum of 25/- per fortnight from 5th October, 1916.

Mr F. Mowbray, father of the late Private Arthur Charles Mowbray, wrote to Base Records to advise of his change of address to 33 Bridge St, Port Melbourne (previous address 117 Pickles St., Port Melbourne). Base Records noted the change on 14th August, 1922.

Private Arthur Charles Mowbray was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Mowbray's father – Mr F. Mowbray, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent September, 1921 & Plaque sent July, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Arthur Charles Mowbray – service number 3063, aged 23, of 59th Battalion, Australian Infantry. No family details are listed.

Private A. C. Mowbray is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 168.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

The Port Melbourne War Memorial, located on Beach Street, Port Melbourne, Victoria does not list individual names.



Port Melbourne War Memorial (Photo from Monument Australia)

(48 pages of Private Arthur Charles Mowbray'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





Private Arthur Charles Mowbray

Newspaper Notices

DIED ON SERVICE

MOWBRAY – On the 31st July, died of wounds, Newcastle Hospital, England, Pte Arthur Charles Mowbray, dearly beloved youngest son of Frederick and Annie Mowbray, 117 Pickles street, Port Melbourne, beloved brother of Fred., Mrs D. McKerchal, Rose, Ethel, Lily, nephew of Mr K. __, brother-in-law of Lib. M. and Dan McK., and uncle to little Dorothy, aged 23 years 6 months.

He did his duty.

Sadly missed. Loved by all.

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 7 August, 1916)

AUSTRALIANS IN WAR

192nd CASUALTY LIST

DIED OF WOUNDS

Pte A. C. MOWBRAY, Port Melbourne

(*Hamilton Spectator*, Victoria – 15 August, 1916)

ITEMS OF NEWS

Port's Honoured Dead

The 192nd casualty list issued by the Defence Department on Saturday last, reported as died of wounds Corporal A. Hegarty (on July 20) and Private A. C. Mowbray (on July 31), both of Port Melbourne.....

(Port Melbourne Standard, Victoria – 19 August, 1916)

BEREAVEMENT NOTICES

MR and Mrs MOWBRAY and FAMILY desire to express their sincere THANKS to their many kind friends and relations for visits, letters and cards received during their recent sad loss of their son and brother, Pte A. C. Mowbray, especially thanks J. Kitchen and Sons Ltd., J. K. and S. Employees' Benefit Society, Loyal Wildey, I.O.O.F., Railway United C.C., North Ports C.C.

117 Pickles-street, Port Melbourne.

(The Age, Melbourne, Victoria – 16 September, 1916)

THE ROLL OF HONOR: VICTORIANS KILLED AND WOUNDED



(Weekly Times, Melbourne, Victoria – 14 October, 1916)

IN MEMORIAM

Died on Active Service

MOWBRAY – In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Pte Arthur Mowbray, who died of wounds, July 31, 1916, at the Newcastle Hospital, England.

We miss you in the morning, dear;

We miss you through the day;

We miss you most, dear Arthur,

At the close of every day.

No matter how we pray, dear Arthur,

No matter how we call,

There's nothing left to answer

But your photo on the wall.

-Inserted by his loving father and mother, brother and sisters.

(Port Melbourne Standard, Victoria – 28 July, 1917)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

MOWBRAY – In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Pte Arthur C. Mowbray, who died at Newcastle Hospital, England, 31st July, 1916, of wounds received in France.

We miss you in the morning, dear;

We miss you through the day;

We miss you most, dear Arthur,

At the close of every day.

No matter how we pray, dear Arthur,

No matter how we call,

There's nothing left to answer

But your photo on the wall.

-Inserted by his loving father and mother and sisters, Ethel and Lily, 117 Pickles-street, Port Melbourne.

MOWBRAY – In loving memory of our dear brother and uncle, Pte Arthur C. Mowbray, who died at the Newcastle Hospital, England, on the 31st July, 1916, of wounds received in France.

No mother was there to soothe his brow,

No brother to say good-bye;

No sisters to take him by the hand

When death was drawing nigh.

From memory's pages we'll never blot

These three little words, Forget me Not.

-Inserted by his loving brother and sister-in-law, Fred, and Lib., and little niece, Dorothy.

MOWBRAY – In loving memory of our dear brother, Pte Arthur Mowbray, who died of wounds 31st July, 1916, at the Newcastle Hospital, England, aged 23 years.

I do not forget him, nor do I intend,

I think of him dearly, and will to the end;
One year has passed, still fresh in my mind,
Is my dear brother Arthur, so true and so kind.

-Inserted by his loving sister and brother-in-law, Ida and Dan, and baby McKerchar.

MOWBRAY – In loving memory of our dear brother, Private Arthur Mowbray, who died of wounds on the 31st July, 1916, at the Newcastle Hospital, England, aged 23 years.

His loving smile and kindly ways
Are pleasant to recall;
He always had a cheery word,
And died beloved by all.

Our dear Arthur

-Inserted by his loving sister and brother-in-law, Rose and Don, and baby McKerchar.

MOWBRAY – In loving remembrance of my dear nephew, Arthur Charles, who died of wounds, 31st July, 1916.

Although the grave divides us,
And your face I cannot see;
But let this little token tell,
I still remember thee.

-Inserted by his aunt, Kate.

MOWBRAY – MAULE – To the memory of my dear mates, Private Arthur (Sooner) Mowbray, died of wounds on the 31st July, 1916, also Private Alick Manis (missing), 59th Battalion, 19th July, 1916, at Pozieres.

Two of the best.

-Ernest Blackmere (returned), Port Melbourne.

(*The Age*, Melbourne, Victoria – 31 July, 1917)

IN MEMORIAM

MOWBRAY – Private A. Mowbray, died of wounds, 31st of July, 1916.

The warfare o'er, the battle fought,
The victory won so dearly bought.
The clean young life could not be saved;
He slumbers in a hero's grave.
The bugle call, and battle call,
Again shall rouse him never;
He fought and fell and served us well,
His furlough lasts for ever.

-Inserted by his mate, S. McMillan.

(*Port Melbourne Standard*, Victoria – 4 August, 1917)

****Family Notices were placed in Newspapers in 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1926, 1927, 1929, 1930, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935

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)

A letter from Base Records, dated 23rd July, 1921, to Mr F. Mowbray, 117 Pickles Street, Port Melbourne, advised that a letter from the Defence Dept. concerning an inscription on the headstone of his son, the late Private Arthur Charles Mowbray, had not been answered & non-receipt of a reply within 21 days would have to be accepted as indicating that no further action was to be taken.

Private A. C. Mowbray does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Ever Remembered By His Loving Parents Brothers & Sisters

Hartshill Cemetery, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, England

Hartshill Cemetery, Stoke-on-Trent contains 151 Commonwealth War Graves Commission War Graves – 91 from World War 1 & 60 from World War 2. There are 8 Australian WW1 Graves in this Cemetery.



8 Australian War Graves in Hartshill Cemetery, Stoke-on-Trent

(Photo above by ken perkins 2017 – Find a Grave)

Photo of Private A. C. Mowbray's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Hartshill Cemetery, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, England.



(Photo by Alf -28th61st)



8 Australian War Graves in Hartshill Cemetery, Stoke-on-Trent

(Photo by Callan Chevin)