

**Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire,
England - War Graves**

World War 1



Lest We Forget



21395 BOMBARDIER

CYRIL A. PHILLIPS

9TH F. A. BDE A.I.F.

6TH NOVEMBER, 1916* Age 22

*Private Headstone for Bdr. Cyril A. Phillips is located in Grave Plot # 119
of Durrington War Graves Cemetery*

*(*Note: the date of death recorded on the Private Headstone is incorrect- shows 11th November, 1916)*

Cyril Alfred Phillips

Cyril Alfred Phillips was born in Brisbane, Queensland on 1st December, 1893 to parents Frederick Louis & Elizabeth Josephine Phillips (nee Bushe). His birth was registered in Queensland in 1894.

Cyril Alfred Phillips attended Brisbane Central State School, Queensland.

Frederick Louis Phillips, father of Cyril Alfred Phillips died on 29th January, 1907 in Queensland.

The 1915 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Lilley, subdivision of Toombul, Queensland recorded Cyril Alfred Phillips, Clerk, of South Dean, Eagle Farm Road.

Cyril Phillips was a 21 year old, single, Clerk (Bookkeeper) from Brisbane, Queensland when he enlisted on 18th October, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Church of England & his next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs E. J. Phillips c/- Dalgety & Co. Brisbane, Queensland. Cyril Phillips stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served 2 ½ years with Australian Field Artillery & 1 ½ years with Senior Cadets.

Gunner Cyril Alfred Phillips, Service number 21395, embarked from Sydney, New South Wales on HMAT *Argyllshire* (A8) on 11th May, 1916 with Brigade Ammunition Column & disembarked at Devonport, England on 10th July, 1916.

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.

Gunner Cyril Alfred Phillips was promoted to Provisional Bombardier on 18th August, 1916.

Bombardier Cyril Alfred Phillips was admitted to Fargo Military Hospital, Wiltshire on 30th October, 1916 with Pleurisy. He was reported ill with Pneumonia (serious) on 31st October, 1916. His mother was advised of his illness.

Bombardier Cyril Alfred Phillips died on 6th November, 1916 at Fargo Military Hospital, Wiltshire, England from Pneumonia.

A death for Cyril Phillips, aged 22, was registered in the December quarter, 1916 in the district of Amesbury, Wiltshire.

Bombardier Cyril Alfred Phillips was buried on 8th November, 1916 at Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire, England– Plot number 119.

He does not have a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone like many of the other Australian Soldiers. He has a private Headstone that was erected by his comrades in 9th Brigade, Australian Field Artillery. However, the date of death on the headstone is incorrect – date of death should be 6th November, 1916

Bombardier Cyril Alfred Phillips was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Bombardier Phillips' mother – Mrs E. J. Phillips (both sent December, 1922)

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Bombardier Cyril Alfred Phillips – service number 21395 as having served with 9th Bde., Australian Field Artillery. He was the son of Elizabeth Josephine and the late Frederick Louis Phillips of Brisbane, Queensland.

Bombardier C. A. Phillips is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 15.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(49 pages of Bombardier Cyril Alfred Phillips' 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





C. A. Phillips (*The Queenslander Pictorial* – 15 April, 1916)



Newspaper Reports

FAMILY NOTICES

ROLL OF HONOUR

PHILLIPS – Bombardier Cyril Alfred Phillips 9th Field Artillery Brigade, aged 22 years 11 months, second son of late Frederick Louis Phillips, of Kilcoy, Hunter River, NSW and E. J. Phillips, of Shorncliffe, Sandgate, died of illness in Military Hospital abroad, on 6th November.

(*The Brisbane Courier*, Queensland – Monday 13 November, 1916 & *The Queenslander*, Brisbane – Saturday 18 November, 1916)

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

243RD CASUALTY LIST - QUEENSLAND

Died of Illness

Bmdr. C. A. Phillips, Brisbane, 6/11/16

(The Queenslander, Brisbane, Queensland – Tuesday 21 November, 1916)

WAR CASUALTIES

DIED OF ILLNESS

BOMBARDIER CYRIL A. PHILLIPS

News has been received from England of the death of Bombardier Cyril A. Phillips from pneumonia. The deceased was the second son of the late Mr Frederick Louis Phillips, formerly of Sydney, and the late manager of the Commercial Bank at Fortitude Valley, Queensland.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – Friday 8 December, 1916)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for cemeteries and memorials in 23,000 locations, in 153 countries. In all 1.7 million men and women from the Commonwealth forces from WWI and WWII have been honoured and commemorated in perpetuity.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, as part of its mandate, is responsible for commemorating all Commonwealth war dead individually and equally. To this end, the war dead are commemorated by name on a headstone, at an identified site of a burial, or on a memorial. War dead are commemorated uniformly and equally, irrespective of military or civil rank, race or creed.

Not all service personnel have a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. In some instances the relative chose to have their own memorial/headstone placed on the deceased's grave. These private headstones are not maintained by the CWGC as they have no jurisdiction to maintain them.

Bombardier Cyril A. Phillips does not have a Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone. His headstone was erected by his comrades in 9th Brigade, Australian Field Artillery. The date of death on the headstone – “Nov 11th, 1916” is incorrect. The date of Bombardier Phillips' death was 6th November, 1916.

Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire, England

Durrington Cemetery contains burials of both wars. The 204 First World War burials were mostly from nearby Larkhill Camp. Many of the graves are of Australian servicemen and there is a separate Australian memorial in the cemetery. The Second World War burials number 22. In addition to the war graves, there are a number of post-war service graves in the cemetery, mostly of the Royal Air Force.

(Information from CWGC)



Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire *(Photo above by Dave Healing 2013)*



Photo of Bombardier Cyril A. Phillips's Private Headstone in Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire, England.



(Photo © Ian King - with permission)