

**St. John the Baptist Churchyard,  
Irlam, Manchester, Lancashire**

**War Grave**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**1592**

**C. K. V. RUDD**

**AUSTRALIAN MUNITION WORKER**

**3RD JUNE, 1920 Age 32**

## Cecil Kilbawne Valentine RUDD

Cecil Valentine Killum Rudd was born on 17<sup>th</sup> September, 1887 in Cairns, North Queensland to parents Joseph Dalziel Rudd & Annie Reeves Rudd (nee Birch).

Annie Reeves Rudd died on 25<sup>th</sup> September, 1893 at Croydon, West Queensland, Australia.

Cecil Kilbourne Valentine Rudd of Mt. Gravatt, Queensland was a 30 year old, single Labourer with no dependants when he signed an agreement on 26<sup>th</sup> February, 1917 to volunteer as a Navy or Labourer in Great Britain. He also listed Picture Enterprise as an occupation at Picture Show Enterprise, Warwick and Tannymorel (both occupations listed on different forms).

Munition Worker Cecil Kilbawne Valentine Rudd embarked from Australia on *Commonwealth* on 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 1918 & arrived in England on 13<sup>th</sup> May, 1918.

### Medical History Sheet for C. K. V. Rudd, No. 1592 (located in his record file):

23.4.19 - Letter from: *Owing to a slight injury to my left foot incapacitating me for my regular course of duties from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> April, I shall be glad of a settlement with you in accordance with the terms set out in agreement.*

2.11.19 – Letter from H. Daniels: *stating B is lying in Salford Hospital not able to write. He will be there for a few weeks.*

7.11.19 – Telegram from Hospital: *Patient comfortable. Doing nicely.*

7.11.19 Letter from Hosp: *Patient admitted 16.10.19. He will not be it a fit condition to travel by the 17<sup>th</sup> of this month.*

11.11.19 – Telegram from: *R suffering from hemiplegia, Salford Royal Hospital.*

20.11.19 – Letter from Hosp: *R was discharged from Hospital on 15<sup>th</sup> inst.*

The following is a copy of Cecil Rudd's record from 13<sup>th</sup> May, 1918 to 16<sup>th</sup> July, 1918:

DATE	RUDD C.K.V. Record since Landing.
13. 5.18.	Reported to Officer-in-Charge, Australian Munitions Workers, London.
14. 5.18.	Began work with Messrs. Wilson Lovatt & Sons, Kirtou Lindsey as Labourer.
16. 5.18.	Returned post card with particulars.
22. 5.18.	Called: re balance of woy. allow. Referred to Accts. Branch.
26. 5.18.	Letter to OI/c from R. requesting to have his age altered on his papers from 41 to 31. Asks to be placed in other employment, does not wish to complain, but cannot see he is assisting the Empire. (Ack. 30.5.18. enquires if a mistake made in putting age as 41. A.W.W's placed by M of W. where they are most needed. Work at Kirtou Lindsey urgent.)
Undated.	Letter to OI/c from R. reiterating request re alteration of age and asking for transfer to Munition factory or Flying Corps. Does not object to the class of work, but to the waste of time, considers he is taking money under false pretenses, as wheels one barrow-load of bricks and then has half an hours rest and so on throughout the day. Came to work and not idle. (Ack. 11.6.18. To write to Passport Office Australia House with regard to mistake in age. To apply to Manager Gainsborough E.R. giving reason for requesting transfer to other class of work. Will make enquiries from M of W. with regard to work at Harpawell.)
12. 6.18.	Letter from OI/c to Labour Supply Dept., enclosing R's letter. Does not vouch for accuracy of statement in it but thought Dept. might like to investigate case. (Ack. 27.6.18. Has forwarded correspondence to Sir J. Hunter who is responsible for Aerodrome Construction.)
16. 6.18.	Letter to OI/c from R. Intends to write direct to M of W. states certain A.W.W's took a week's or fortnights holiday before beginning work and now intend claiming sub. allow. (Ack. 19.6.18.)
27. 6.18.	Letter from OI/c to R. Has been informed by employers that his work is broken by unauthorised absence, attention drawn to Sub. section D. of clause 2 of Agreement. (Ack. 6.7.18. Only absent from work at Whitson, when permission given though may have overstayed time granted expresses regret.)
4. 7.18.	Letter to OI/c from Air Ministry Department of Workers & Buildings. Have investigated matters referred to in letter of 12.6.18. Encloses report by Resident Engineer of Harpawell Aerodrome, stating R. an earnest and patriotic spirit but his sweeping statements cannot be justified. Quite true that some men troublesome and loafers and gingers not strict enough but these have been discharged. R. evidently had the experience of being placed with loafers. Considers work done at Aerodrome compares favourably with work done elsewhere, though no one can say men are doing their best. Discipline not so strict as in pre-war days, but if tightened a strike would be inevitable.
6. 7.18.	Letter to OI/c from R. Has had an interview with Resident Engineer about matter of idling at work.
" " "	Letter to OI/c from R. while absent from the village was appointed President of an Association formed for the special benefit of Australians. Thinks association "spells disaster" and that it would be wise for authorities to retard the further progress of this disturbing element.
" " "	Letter to OI/c from R. stating an A.W.W. participated in strike and invited other A.W.W's to do likewise, also that another A.W.W. has applied unnecessarily for light work.
" " "	Letter to OI/c from Messrs. Wilson Lovatt & Sons asking for immediate removal of R. as complaint made by him about the way work is carried out is entirely unjustified though no other fault to find with him, cannot say he exerts himself more than other workers.
14. 7.18.	Letter to OI/c from R. requesting interview regarding certain A.W.W's.
16. 7.18.	Letter to OI/c from R. stating certain A.W.W's are contravening their agreement. (Ack. 16.7.18. cannot grant permission to come to London, must give names and particulars if he wishes to make complaints about the man. This office sending an official to visit works shortly, and



The following is a copy of Cecil Rudd's record from 17<sup>th</sup> July, 1918 to 11<sup>th</sup> September, 1918:

DATE.	Record since Landing (continued)
	RUDD C.K.V. -2-
	make communication to him.)
17. 7.18.	Letter to O/c from Messrs. Wilson Lovatt requesting reply to letter of 8.7.18. R. must be immediately transferred. (Ack. 18.7.18. Is asking E.E. to transfer R.)
18. 7.18.	Letter from O/c to Manager Hemsell E.E. enclosing letter from firm and asking for R's transfer.
21. 7.18.	Letter to O/c from R. giving names and particulars of A.W.W.'s who are not acting rightly. (Ack. 26.7.18. Will make further enquiries into cases mentioned.)
31. 7.18.	Called: re discharge from Messrs. Wilson Lovatt. Reported in extenso troubles existing at Kirton Lindsey. Knew A.W.W. Ellsworth who resigned as Clerk of Works "through being too straight."
Undated.	Sent to Aldwych E.E. with letter to Manager requesting employment.
	Call by A.W.W. Ellsworth as rep. of Air Ministry. (Clerk of Works) Hemsell to give information of A.W.W.'s at Kirton Lindsey. The men a "good bunch of workers" with one or two exceptions R. a conscientious and painstaking man who can be relied upon to give a truthful account of the position. Engineer an "organised disorganiser" exhausts himself trying to upset the A.W.W.'s.
2. 8.18.	Called: re action he was taking in regard to his dismissal from Kirton Lindsey. Told that this Office has communicated with Willesden E.E. recommending him as a man who might be an acquisition to a hustling firm.
Undated.	Letter to O/c from R. On 28.7.18. Messrs. Wilson Lovatt informed him that Australia House, had ordered his transfer to other works, obeying their instructions went to Gainsborough E.E. Manager stated it would be one or two weeks before he could find him employment and that if he desired he could have an interview with Australia House. Took advantage of this and gathered from an official at this Office that Australia House had no power whatever to transfer him. Under the circumstances thinks O/c a party to an act of victimisation, therefore unless compensation for loss of time, and inconvenience caused, and receives satisfactory explanation in writing re dismissal, will reluctantly be compelled to take further action.
9. 8.18.	Called: told transfer asked for by late employers and this Office not a party to his dismissal. All transfers arranged by E.E. and firm told to take usual course, and send him to E.E. To claim compensation for loss of time at 4/2 asked that formal letter be sent confirming statements. Memo: from Aldwych E.E. notifying R's transfer to The Kingsbury Aviation Co., Hendon because of difference of opinion on job at Gainsborough (Ack. 28.8.18.)
10. 8.18.	Called: stated Aldwych E.E. refused payment for time lost since leaving Kirton Lindsey.
13. 8.18.	Letter from O/c to R. in terms as requested by R. on 9.8.18. and reiterating information given him on that date, also states should E.E. refuse payment for time lost, this Office will settle claims. To refrain from making complaints affecting others, unless authorised by them M of Labour competent to control those whom it employes.
13. 8.18.	Called: re sub. allow. Payment authorised from 29.7.18. to 9.8.18. viz. £3. 14s. 3d.
24. 8.18.	Letter to O/c from R. enquiring if he can join a labour battalion bound for France, present work more like "a playground for girls and a benevolent home for men. Thanks Staff at Australia House for kind and courteous treatment. (Ack. 29.8.18. Referred to E.E. for information re labour battalion.)
"	Letter to O/c from R. For past few days has had first taste of work since arrival in England but had to demand it.
11. 9.18.	Letter to O/c from R. Is calling on 14.9.18. to obtain copy of letter sent by him to this Office in the latter part of May. Is determined to institute legal proceedings against Messrs. Wilson Lovatt re dismissal.

The following is a copy of Cecil Rudd's record from 14<sup>th</sup> September, 1918 to 17<sup>th</sup> April, 1919:

DATE.	Record since Landing (continued)
	-3-
14. 9.18.	Called: Told he could not have a copy of the letter. States he was comfortable at his present work, but had not enough to do on the average.
16. 9.18.	Letter to O/c from R. states Messrs. Wilson Lovatt had made deliberate and malicious accusation against him, which gives Australia House power to return him to Australia as an undesirable. Demands that O/c institutes proceedings for his protection.
17. 9.18.	Letter to O/c from Director W.M.V. administration M of M. recently discharged from Messrs. Wilson Lovatt, for making false accusations to Australia House regarding conditions of work at Kirton Lindsey. Has informed this Department that he intends to proceed against firm for defamation. Request particulars of case. (Ack. 24.9.18. Gives particulars states R. appears to be obsessed by extravagant patriotism hence his complaints and charges.
30. 9.18.	Letter to O/c from R. requesting written reply regarding refusal to produce letters. (Ack. 4.10.18. Refusal to produce letters confirmed in writing.)
7. 10.18.	Letter to O/c from R. requesting reasons for refusing to produce letters. Has a right to demand justice when Australia House has broken the terms of agreement by placing him under the M of M. and issuing instructions for his dismissal. Asks for explanation of unreasonableness in screening others for personal advantages. (Ack. 15.10.18. Declines to give reasons. Has a perfect right to demand justice. Statement incorrect re breaking terms of agreement and instructions re dismissal. No reply to last question which is impertinent. Declines to answer further letters dealing with his removal from Messrs. Wilson Lovatt.)
11.10.18.	Letter from R. to Prime Minister of Australia asking for his assistance in retrieving his character and in checking the squandering of public money in England. Is certain that facts are being withheld from him. Should procure copies of correspondence re his dismissal. (Letter handed to O/c Replied on 12.10.18.)
15.10.18.	Letter to O/c from R. re after-war problems. (Ack. 22.10.18. Instructed not to write except on subjects affecting him as an A.W.W.)
17.10.18.	Letter to O/c from R. re removal from Messrs. Wilson Lovatt. No wish to be discourteous or impertinent.
30.10.18.	Letter from R. to the Prime Minister of Australia re patriotism etc., (Ack. by O/c 13.11.18. Nothing to add to former replies.)
17.12.18.	Letter to O/c from R. re repatriation. (Ack. 23.12.18.)
8. 3.19.	Letter from O/c to R. on examining the Nominal Rolls of S.S. "Commonwealth" finds he left an allotment from voyage and sub. allow. and also from earnings. Allotment being paid in Australia, therefore necessary to recover from him the sum of £15. 8s. 1d. Gives statement of account and enquires how he proposes to clear his indebtedness.
15.4.19	Letter to O/c from M. of M. R. has sent in claims for London rate of pay in respect of his employment with Kingsbury Aviation Co, Hendon, from 16.8.18 to 16.11.18, and with Road Board, Irlam, from 18.11.18 to 12.3.19. Have no trace of R. from time of his discharge from Messrs. Wilson Lovatt & Co, and request observations on his claims. (Ack: 17.4.19)
17.4.19	Letter from O/c to R. Is informed by M. of M. that he is claiming London rate of pay in respect of employment with Kingsbury Aviation Co, Hendon, and Road Board, Irlam. According to records he was transferred from Messrs. Wilson Lovatt & Sons, to Kingsbury Aviation Co, by Aldwych E.E. Enquires how he came to be employed by Road Board, Irlam. (Ack: 21.4.19. Left Kingsbury Aviation Co, owing to retrenchment, heard of job at Road Board, Irlam, and took it without apply for transfer)



The following is a copy of Cecil Rudd's record from 24<sup>th</sup> April, 1919 to 18<sup>th</sup> September, 1919:

DATE.	RUDD C.K.V.	-4-	Record since Landing (continued).
24.4.19			Letter from O i/c to R: As transfer to Road Board, Irlam not effected through E.E. he is not entitled to London Rate in respect of his employment there. Communication is being addressed to M. of M. regarding claim in respect of former period of employment.
24.4.19			Letter from O i/c to M. of M. R's transfer from Messrs. Wilson Lovatt & Co., of Kingsbury Aviation Co., effected by Aldwyck E.E. but transfer to Road Board Irlam, was not brought about by any E.E.
28.4.19			Memo from O i/c to R: To report at Avonmouth 8.5.19. for embarkation on s.s. "Irishman".
Undated			Memo stating R. failed to embark on s.s. "Irishman".
14.5.19			Letter from O i/c to R: To explain immediately, failing to obey embarkation instructions. No Sub. allow. until receipt of explanation.
5.6.19			Letter to O i/c from Min. of Mun. enclosing £3.19.4. to be forwarded to R. (Ack. 11.6.19.)
16.6.19			Letter to O i/c from Min. of Mun: with regard to claim by R. while employed by the Kingsbury Aviation Co. R. appears to have been in receipt of not less than the London Rate for Labourer in aircraft factory during this period.
16.6.19			Telegram from O i/c to R: to expedite explanation re non-embarkation on s.s. "Irishman".
17.6.19			Letter from O i/c to R: enclosing £3.19.4. difference in rate of wages due while employed by Messrs. Lovatt & Son.
18.6.19			Letter from O i/c to R: confirming telegram. (Ack. 18.6.19. gives no explanation. Accuses this Office of unfair treatment.)
24.6.19			Letter from O i/c to R: letter most unsatisfactory. To reply on or before 12.7.19. if he does, or does not, intend to comply with request of Defence, that he should return to Australia on next boat leaving England about the end of July. If question not answered within the date given will be compelled to recommend Defence to terminate agreement.
30.6.19			Letter from O i/c to R: To send receipt for cheque sent 17th inst.
30.6.19			Letter to O i/c from R: Ack. cheque of £3.19.4. but as cheque is short of actual amount, wishes to be informed when final settlement is made. (Ack. 3.7.19. Enclosing copies of correspondence from Min. of Mun: re difference in rate of wage during employment with last two firms, showing that claim is finalised.)
7.7.19			Letter to O i/c from R: considers he has only had augmentation of wages from Messrs. Wilson Lovatt & Son, and has not received claim from Kingsbury Aviation Co.
11.7.19			Letter from O i/c to R: enclosing statement of allotment due which amount to £23.17.7. To inform by return of post what steps will be taken to liquidate debt and to enclose remittance of at least £3. as a first instalment. The difference in rate of wages. Min. of Mun. is final authority in this matter and states that during period of employment with Kingsbury Aviation Co., London, rate was being paid.
24.7.19			Memo from O i/c to Minister for Defence, Australia House, giving particulars of R's record during stay in England has been a source of continual trouble to this Dept. Has twice failed to embark therefore, is of opinion that he is evading repatriation. R. owed this Dept. sum of £24.18.2. for allot. from earnings, which amount has been paid to dependents in Australia. Recommends Commonwealth Govt. Solicitor be authorised to recover amount of indebtedness due by R. to Commonwealth Government.
18.9.19			Letter from O i/c to R: After sailing of last W.W.'s steamer to Australia this Office will be closed. Full details of any unsatisfied claims which he wishes to have investigated must be sent immediately, as any such claims cannot be re-opened at a later date. (Ack. 8.10.19. Enquires re his claim for difference between London & Local rate of pay whilst employed with Kingsbury Aviation Co.)

The following is a copy of Cecil Rudd's record from 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 1919 to 20<sup>th</sup> November, 1919:

DATE.	RUDD C.K.V.	-5-	Record since Landing (continued).
23.9.19			Memo stating Minister's instructions in connection with all such cases are not to attempt a prosecution in England but to "cut our expense". If nothing can be done with R. Agreement is to be cancelled.
3.10.19			Letter from O i/c to R: Enquires whether he intends to accept passage on s.s. "Port Macquarie" leaving in November, in event of him declining it will be necessary to determine agreement.
6.10.19			Letter to O i/c from R: stating he declines to return <sup>until</sup> his claim for adjustment of wages with the M. of M. has been settled - moreover he has one other claim to place.
10.10.19			Letter from O i/c to R: Ack. letter dated 6.10.19. re London Rate of Pay. This money is a payment made by M. of M. and does not concern this Office; therefore their decision is final. Arrears of allot. now amount to £22.18.1d. Requests arrangements be made to forward weekly instalments until repatriation. Warns him unless prepared to sail on s.s. "Port Macquarie" will lose all opportunity of receiving free repatriation. Requests him to reply to letter dated 3.10.19.
20.10.19			Memo from O i/c to R: re sailing instructions for "Port Macquarie", encloses receipt for passage to be signed and returned. (23.10.19. Receipt returned not signed.)
30.10.19			Telegram from O i/c to R: stating Port Macquarie sails from Tilbury November 12th. To state if accepting passage.
2.11.19			Letter to O i/c from Mr. H. Daniele, stating R. is lying in Salford Road Hospital and unable to write. Will be there for a few weeks. (Ack. 6.11.19.)
6.11.19			Telegram from O i/c to R: Port Macquarie sailing date postponed until Monday November 17th. All papers and instructions held good.
6.11.19			Letter from O i/c to R: stating information has been received that he is in hospital - Medical Officer is being communicated with for details re his case. Asks for explanation as to why our letters of 10.10.19, 20.10.19. and telegram of 3.11.19. re sailing of "Port Macquarie" were ignored. Action taken in regard to case will depend upon report received from Medical Officer of Hospital and explanation offered by R.
6.11.19			Telegram from O i/c to Medical Supt. Salford Royal Hospital. enquiring re nature and probable duration of R's illness and his present condition.
6.11.19			Letter from O i/c to Med. Supt. Asking for full details re R's case also date on which he was admitted to Hospital. States last boat conveying A.W.W.'s back to Australia is leaving on 12th inst. Wishes to know if R. will be fit to travel by that date.
7.11.19			Telegram to O i/c from Med. Supt. Salford Royal Hosp: stating "patient comfortable, doing nicely".
7.11.19			Letter from Med. Supt. Salford Royal Hosp: R. will not be in a fit condition to travel by 17th Nov. Was admitted to Hospital on 16.10.19. (Ack. 10.11.19. Nature of disease not stated, wire follows.)
10.11.19			Telegram from O i/c to Med. Supt. Royal Salford Hosp. Asking nature of disease from which R. is suffering. Information enquired urgently.
10.11.19			Telegram to O i/c from Med. Supt. Royal Salford Hosp: R. suffering from Hemiplegia.
13.11.19			Cable from O i/c to D. of D. stating just informed R. admitted Royal Salford Hosp. Oct. 16th. Hemiplegia, condition satisfactory.
13.11.19			Departmental Memo to Embarkation Officer, stating R. in hospital suffering from Hemiplegia and will not be medically fit to travel per s.s. "Port Macquarie" and attaching copy of instructions left by Medical Officer, Arsenal Branch re procedure in cases of men medically fit to sail on the Port Macquarie.
19.1.19			Letter to Med. Supt. asking for information re R's progress.
20.11.19			R. discharged from hospital 15th inst., Physician in charge of the case states R. making slow progress towards recovery. (Ack. 25.11.19.)



The following is a copy of Cecil Rudd's record from 25<sup>th</sup> November, 1919 to 13<sup>th</sup> January, 1920:

DATE	RUDD C.K.V. -8-	Record since Landing (continued)
25.11.19		Letter from O 1/c to R: Understands R. is now out of Hospital. Would like to know what his plans are re returning to Australia. Last boat carrying A.W.W's has already sailed.
28.11.19		Cable from O 1/c to D.of D. R. discharged from Hosp. on 15.11.19. asking for early information.
3.12.19		Departmental memo to O 1/c: enquiring up to what date R. is permitted to remain in this country. On receipt of information necessary papers for a deferred passage will be forwarded to R. Also states no authority to stop deferred pay at the end of year and that this should run on until his return. Not entitled to re-settlement allowance. Passport forwarded to D.of D. (Approval given by O 1/c for R. to remain in England up to 31.1.20 on account of illness. Matter to be reviewed at beginning of Jan.and if R. is still sick should be dealt with by A.I.F.
4.12.19		Letter from O 1/c to R: Enclosing certificate with duplicate copy re deferred passage. Original to be signed and returned immediately. Duplicate copy to be signed and forwarded to C.S.R. one month before date up to which permission to remain has been given namely 31.1.20. Instructed to report on arrival in Australia by Commandant of Military District. Passport forwarded to D.of D. Melbourne, where it will be available upon application. Voyage Allowance is payable on arrival in Australia.
4.12.19		Cable from O 1/c to D.of D. stating R. not yet returned to Australia nor listed with those whose agreements have been terminated in England. Cable proposed action.
8.12.19		Letter from O 1/c to D.of D. Including R's name in list of A.W.W's & A.M.W's granted deferred passages by M.of D. Enclosing copy of our letter to R. of 4th December and giving particulars re arrangements made with C.S.R.
8.12.19		Letter from O 1/c to C.S.R. Including R's name in list of A.M.W's and A.W.W's granted deferred passages and asking that passages be arranged as near date agreed upon as possible. Certificate re passage signed by R. to be forwarded at later date. States R's passage to be a charge against the Commonwealth Government.
9.12.19		Cable from O 1/c to D.of D. including R's name in list as above.
13.12.19		Telegram from O 1/c to R: asking that papers re deferred passage be signed and forwarded immediately
Undated		Memo from O 1/c to C.S.R. Forwarding certificate re deferred passage of R. which owing to R's illness re Signed on behalf of R. by S.A. Addison.
14.12.19		Letter to O 1/c from R: Ack.our letter of 4th inst., delay in answering due to being deprived of proper use of hand. Re return to Australia, does not wish to return just now. Expresses thanks for courteous manner in which he has been treated since being in England by O 1/c Staff.
17.12.19		Departmental Memo to O 1/c recommending that R. be informed that his deferred passage as arranged will stand, but if he fails to sail by date given, his agreement will be cancelled, also suggests that arrangements be made to forward to C.S.R. a duplicate certificate in place of the one R. failed to sign and return, possibly due to paralysed hand. A cable to be sent to D.of D. re each man after date up to which they are permitted to remain in England stating whether they have sailed or not in order that D.of D. can determine whether or not their agreements should be terminated. (Amended to the effect that cable only be sent when something definite has been arranged re repatriation.)
17.12.19		Letter from O 1/c to R: Ack.receipt of communication of 14th Dec. States arrangements made where he has free passage to Australia still holds up to 31.1.20, but should R. fail to sail by that date agreement will be cancelled. If intention is to sail, C.S.R. should be communicated with well before that date.
13.1.20		Memo from O 1/c to M.of L. attaching list of A.M.W's & A.W.W's granted deferred passages. Asks that forms E.D. 430 & E.D. 429a. may be endorsed for ultimate presentation when actual date

The following is a copy of Cecil Rudd's record from 9<sup>th</sup> February, 1920 to 12<sup>th</sup> March, 1920:

DATE	RUDD C.K.V. -7-	Record since Landing (continued)
9.2.20		of sailing is fixed. Memo from O 1/c to D.of D. enclosing financial statement as at present time, re A.W.W's who have been granted deferred passages. Payment of voyage allowance will not be made to the men before sailing and/any alteration in financial statements, amended ones will be forwarded. Statements cannot be forwarded with men owing to the closing of this Office and uncertainty re dates of sailing. Nominal Roll of men with deferred passages enclosed. As R. is making an allotment to his dependents in Australia Financial statements cannot be closed till actual date of sailing. Should this not take place before the closing of this Office details will be forwarded as to position of his account at the time of such advice.
12.3.20		Letter from O 1/c to R: Understand he is <del>xx</del> listed to sail per s.s. "Ferrima" on 25.3.20. Asks to be advised as to whether he has made arrangements for returning in order that necessary papers in regard to any payments due to you may be forwarded to Australia.

A letter was written on 21<sup>st</sup> April, 1920 by (Doctor) H. F. Overend (?) MRCS LRCP from Lynton Lodge, Cadishead stating "In reference to your enquiry re Mr C. K. V. Rudd at present residing at 34 Baines Avenue, Irlam, I beg to state that in my opinion he is in a fit state of health to proceed to Australia under medical supervision".

Another letter was written on 21<sup>st</sup> April, 1920 by Rev. Robert Martin, D.D, The Vicarage, Irlam, Manchester stating "This is to certify \_\_\_ C. K. V. Rudd has been out of employment since July, 1919, and is in great need of help."

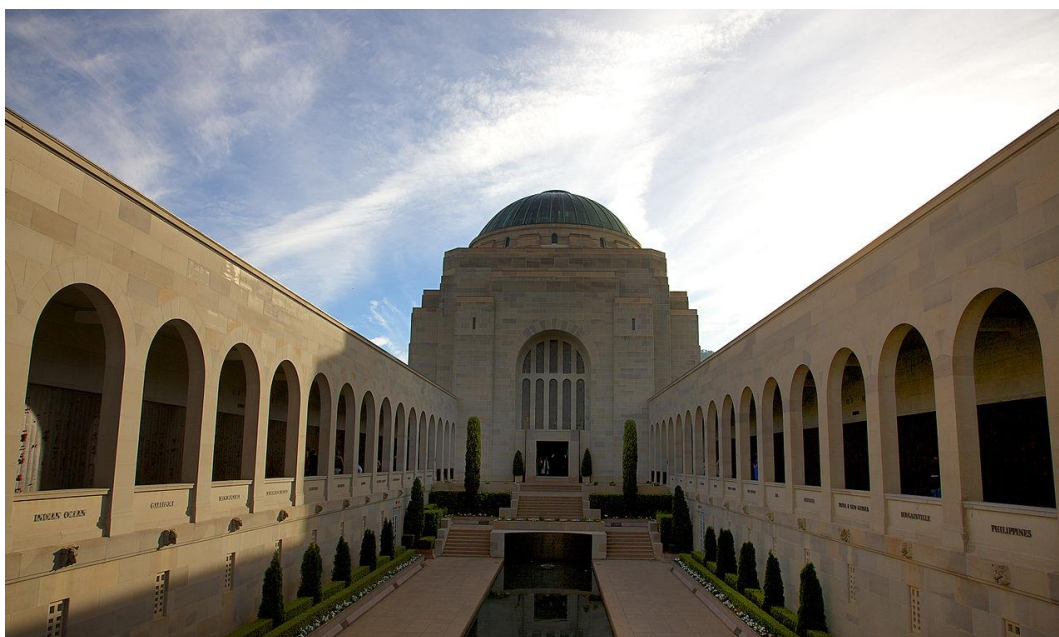
Munition Worker Cecil Kilbawne Valentine Rudd died on 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 1920 at 34 Baines Avenue, Irlam from Cerebral Haemorrhage & Coma.

A death for Cecil K. V. Rudd, aged 32, was registered in the June quarter, 1920 in the district of Barton upon Irwell, Lancashire. His occupation on the death certificate was listed as Road Contractor's Timekeeper & the informant of the death was Harry Daniels, Occupier of 34 Baines Avenue, Irlam.

Munition Worker Cecil Kilbawne Valentine Rudd was buried in St. John the Baptist Churchyard, Irlam, Manchester, Lancashire, England.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Worker C. K. V. Rudd – service number 1592, Australian Munitions Worker. No family details are listed.

Australian Munitions Worker Cecil Kilbawne Valentine Rudd is remembered on the Commemorative Roll Book, located in the Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra. The Commemorative Roll records the names of those Australians who died during or as a result of wars in which Australians served, but who were not serving in the Australian Armed Forces and therefore not eligible for inclusion on the Roll of Honour.



**Commemorative Area of the Australian War Memorial** (*Capital Photographer*)

## **Australian Munitions Workers**

Men enlisted under a joint Australian Commonwealth - Imperial Government scheme for providing skilled Australian workers to British war industries during the First World War. Under this scheme the volunteers would receive free passage to Great Britain, an allowance for travel time, a special allowance for the duration of service, and eventual repatriation to Australia. Married men also received a separation allowance, but were required to allot a portion of all their earnings to dependants. The men were expected to work in whatever industries they were directed to by the British Board of Trade, and under the prevailing conditions and wages for the duration of hostilities.

Government newspaper adverts appeared in August, 1916, and the first party of 76 workers departed Australia in September. Groups continued to be recruited and sent at intervals, with the eventual number of workers under the scheme totalling just over 5,000. Almost 1,000 of these had already been working in Britain under private agreements with large firms such as Vickers, and were brought under the conditions of the scheme. An additional 200 former AIF soldiers were also recruited in Britain. Initially only skilled workers were sought, however at the request of the British Government later groups included large numbers of navvies for general labouring.

These men were not members of the Australian Imperial Forces and did not serve in combat units, but were recruited to meet the shortfall in skilled labour that threatened many of Britain's key wartime industries including munitions.

*(Source: Australian War Memorial)*





## **Newspaper Notices**

*The newspapers at the time were encouraged not to report munition explosions or deaths through TNT poisoning as it would affect the morale of the civilian population and so reports in newspapers are virtually non-existent. When the war ended the Australians returned home and life moved on.*

## **MUNITION WORKERS**

### **AUSTRALIANS IN GREAT BRITAIN**

Melbourne, Thursday.

The Minister for Defence (Senator Pearce) announces that during the period from the inception of the schemes for the despatch of munition workers and navvies to Great Britain up to June 30 last, 2662 munition workers had been disembarked in England for employment on munition and war work. There had also been enrolled under the munition workers' scheme 124 men who had been discharged from the A.I.F. in England for that purpose, and two discharged A.I.F. men had enrolled under the navvies' agreement, making the total number of men engaged in work in Great Britain under both these schemes 4,998. Of this number 384 men had returned to Australia – the majority on account of ill-health. There had been 23 deaths. The agreement of 38 men had been cancelled for disciplinary and other reasons. Six of the men had enlisted in the A.I.F., in England, five men had enlisted in the Royal Navy, and nine men had enlisted in the British Army, leaving the total number of men still in England under the Commonwealth agreement as 4,533. In addition these men were registered on the index held in Australia House 674 Australian munition workers who proceeded to Great Britain under private contract prior to the inauguration of the Commonwealth scheme. Of the men still in England on June 30, 1918, 87 were waiting return up to that date, 152 men had proceeded to France to engage in special work, and 107 of them had returned again to England. Australian munition workers were employed at 409 different firms or centres, and navvies at 192, and the value of the output produced by the labour of these men was estimated at £6,000,000.

Provision for the payment of munition workers and navvies who proceeded to Great Britain on war work under the agreement with the Commonwealth Government is made in an amendment to the war financial regulations issued today. Munition workers and navvies are to be provided with a free passage from Australia to Great Britain and back. In the case of munition workers a dependants' allowance of 25s a week, with allowances for children, will be made for the first eight weeks after embarkation. Subsequently the allowance will be 20s. Separation allowances equal to that paid in the case of a private in the A.I.F. will be paid to dependants.

(*Examiner*, Launceston, Tasmania – 30 August, 1918)

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## **PERSONAL**

Mr W.T. Rudd, Warwick, has received, through the Rev. W. P. Glover, the sad news from the military authorities that his brother, Cecil Rudd, died in England on the 3rd June. Cecil Rudd after being rejected twice for active service, was accepted about February 1918, as a war worker and proceeded to England a couple of months later. He continued as a war worker until the time of his death. Cecil Rudd was well known in Musical circles in Warwick, where he lived for about two years.

(*Warwick Daily News*, Queensland - 23 June, 1920)

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### Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) honours the 1,700,000 men and women of the forces of the Commonwealth who died in the two world wars and ensures that their memory is never forgotten. The applicable periods of consideration are 4 August 1914 to 31 August 1921 for the First World War and 3 September 1939 to 31 December 1947 for the Second World War.

The Commission's principles:

- Each of the dead should be commemorated by name on the headstone or memorial
- Headstones and memorials should be permanent
- Headstones should be uniform
- There should be no distinction made on account of military or civil rank, race or creed

During both WW1 (& WW2) a number of Commonwealth civilian organisations were accepted by the military as qualifying for war grave status.

Members of the Recognised Civilian Organisations had to meet two additional criteria not required by military casualties.

1. Their death had to be caused by war actions or the increased threat caused by war and
2. They had to be on duty at the time of their death - being posted overseas counted as 'being on duty'.

The Australian government deemed that their War and Munitions Workers (men and women) qualified for war grave treatment as they were recruited as a body and were posted overseas for the war effort. Some of their CWGC entries show a 'service number' indicating that they were an organised body. All but one of these casualties are buried in the UK - the other being in France.



Photo of Munition Worker C. K. V Rudd's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone located in St. John the Baptist Churchyard, Irlam, Manchester, Lancashire, England.



*(Photo courtesy of Mike Berrell)*



**St. John the Baptist Churchyard, Irlam, Manchester, Lancashire, England**

St. John the Baptist Churchyard, Irlam, Manchester, Lancashire contains 5 Commonwealth War Graves, only 1 from World War 2.



**St. John the Baptist Churchyard, Irlam** *(Photo by cookie – Find a Grave)*