

**Stoke Old Cemetery,  
Guildford, Surrey  
War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**2111 PRIVATE**

**C. G. G. SMITH**

**32ND BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**15TH DECEMBER, 1916 Age 22**

## Cyril Gordon George (Sid) SMITH

Cyril Gordon George Smith was born at Gordon Road, Prospect, South Australia on 11th October, 1894 to parents George Frederick and Hannah Smith (nee Savage). He was baptised on 5th March, 1896 at Holy Trinity Church, Adelaide, South Australia,

Cyril Gordon George Smith attended school at North Adelaide, South Australia.

Cyril Gordon George Smith had been an apprentice for 5 years with Black, Unsen & Coy.

Cyril Gordon George Smith was a 21 year old, single, Cabinet Maker from Prospect, South Australia when he enlisted at Adelaide, South Australia on 14th October, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 2111 & his religion was Methodist. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Hannah Smith, of 86 Highbury Street, Prospect, South Australia. Cyril Smith stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served for 12 months with Senior Cadets then transferred to Citizen Forces & was still serving.

Private Cyril Gordon George Smith was posted to "C" Company, 2nd Depot Battalion on 1st November, 1918 for recruit training. He was transferred to 1st Depot Battalion on 16th November, 1915. Pte Smith was transferred to 3rd Reinforcements of 32nd Battalion on 1st December, 1915.

Private Cyril Gordon George Smith embarked from Adelaide, South Australia on HMAT *Miltiades* (A28) on 7th February, 1916 with the 8th Infantry Brigade, 32nd Infantry Battalion, 3rd Reinforcements & disembarked at Suez on 11th March, 1916.

Private Cyril Smith proceeded to join 32nd Battalion from 8th Training Battalion at Zeitoun on 1st April, 1916 & was taken on strength of 32nd Battalion "B" Company at Duntroon Plateau on 1st April, 1916.

Private Cyril Smith embarked from Alexandria on *Transylvania* on 17th June, 1916 to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force). He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 23rd June, 1916.

Private Cyril Gordon George Smith was wounded in action in France on 19th July, 1916. He was admitted to 15th Field Ambulance on 20th July, 1916 then transferred the same day to 5th (or 8th) Casualty Clearing Station with gunshot wounds to thigh & fractured femur. Pte Smith was transferred by Ambulance Train on 21st July, 1916 & admitted to Red Cross Hospital at Calais on 21st July, 1916. He was invalided to England on Hospital Ship *Newhaven* on 11th August, 1916.

### War Diary – 32nd Battalion

#### *Fleurbaix*

*19th July, 1916 – A & C Coys repairing Trenches*

*2 pm - B & D Coys left billets at FLEURBAIX and took up*

*4.15 pm – position in 300 Trench*

*5.30 pm – A & C Coys closed to right to take up positions for attack.*

*5.45 pm – B & D Coys arrived in front line in position for attack*

*5.53 pm – 1st wave went over parapet.*

*20th July, 1916 ..... Casualties Killed 4 Officers, Wounded 8 Officers, Missing 5 Officers. O.R. Killed 67, Wounded 367, Missing 214.*

(Extract of War Diary information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Cyril Smith was admitted to Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford, Surrey, England on 12th August, 1916.

Private Cyril Gordon George Smith died on 15th December, 1916 at Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford, Surrey, England from wounds received in action in France – gunshot wounds to thigh & compound fracture of Femur.

A death for Cyril Smith, aged 21, was registered in the December quarter, 1916 in the district of Guildford, Surrey, England.

Private Cyril Gordon George Smith was buried on 19th December, 1916 in Stoughton Cemetery, (now referred to as Stoke Old Cemetery), Stoughton Road, Guildford, Surrey, England, – Plot number G. 355 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

The “Deceased Soldiers Estates Act 1918” 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. Mr G. F. Smith, Chillagoe, Queensland, father of the late Private Cyril Gordon George Smith, replied to a letter in September, 1922 from Base Records stating that he had “no objections to handing the medals over to his mother”.

Private Cyril Gordon George Smith was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte Smith’s mother - Mrs H. Smith (Scroll sent December, 1922 & Plaque sent November, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Cyril Gordon George Smith – service number 2111, aged 22, of 32nd Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of George Frederick and Hannah Smith. Born at Prospect, South Australia.

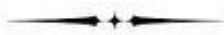
Private C. G. G. Smith is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 121.



*Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia*

(37 pages of Private Cyril Gordon George Smith'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*

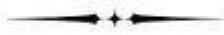


AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

P09291.214



**Private Cyril Gordon George Smith**



### **Newspaper Notices**

#### **GONE INTO CAMP**

The following men went into camp on Thursday:- ...C. G. G. Smith....

*(The Express and Telegraph, Adelaide, South Australia – 15 October, 1915)*

## **ON ACTIVE SERVICE**

### **PRIVATE C. G. G. SMITH**

Mrs G. F. Smith, of Highbury-street, Prospect, received a telegram from the military authorities stating that her son, Private Cyril G. G. Smith, has been wounded and is dangerously ill.

*(The Advertiser, Adelaide, South Australia – 11 August, 1916)*

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## **THE AUSTRALIANS**

### **226TH CASUALTY LIST**

#### **SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

#### **PROGRESS REPORT**

Pte C. G. G. SMITH, Prospect (prog. fav.)

*(The Register, Adelaide, South Australia – 3 October, 1916)*

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## **THE ROLL OF HONOUR**

### **THE LATE PRIVATE C. G. G. SMITH**

Mr and Mrs G. F. Smith, of 39, Highbury-street, Prospect, have been informed that their eldest son, Private Cyril G. G. Smith, died of wounds (received in France) at the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford, England. He was educated at the North Adelaide Public School. Private Smith left for the front on February 7, 1916 with reinforcements of the 32nd Battalion. Private Smith was in Egypt for about three months, and then was transferred to the firing line. He was much respected by a large circle of friends.



**Pte C. G. G. Smith**

*(The Advertiser, Adelaide, South Australia – 23 December, 1916)*

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## **Our Fallen Heroes**

The following deaths of members of the South Australian Forces are reported:- .....C. G. G. Smith, Prospect (Dec. 15)

(*Southern Cross*, Adelaide, South Australia – 5 January, 1917)

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## **DIED ON ACTIVE SERVICE**

SMITH – On the 15th December, 1916, at Hospital, England, Private C. G. G. Smith, Highbury-street, Prospect, died of wounds, received in France on July the 19th, 1916, dearly beloved friend of Gertrude Darmody. Died for King and country.

(*Chronicle*, Adelaide, South Australia – 3 February, 1917)

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## **HEROES OF THE GREAT WAR**

SMITH – In loving memory of our dearly loved nephew, died of wounds, December 15, 1916.

In a soldier's grave he's sleeping,  
One of the bravest and best,  
While the battles were raging around him,  
God called him home to rest

—Inserted by his loving aunt and uncle, E. M. and W. R. Venables, and Cousin Leslie.

SMITH – In loving memory of Cyril, who died of wounds at Guildford Hospital, England, December 15th, 1916. We loved him well, but Jesus loved him best.—Inserted by his loving aunt and uncle, M. and F. Dawes, Prospect.

SMITH – In loving memory of Private C. G. G. Smith, died of wounds, December 15th, 1916.

At the heavenly gates he will meet me,  
With the same sweet, loving smile.  
We are only parted, Cyril dear,  
Just for a little while.

Also, Cyril, I carried out, your wish.—Inserted by his loving sweetheart, Gertrude Darmody.

SMITH – In loving memory of my dear brother, No. 2111, Private Cyril G. G. Smith (Sid), died of wounds in Guildford, England, December 15, 1916, aged 22 years.

His King and country called him,  
The call was not in vain;  
On Australia's roll of honor  
You will find my dear brother Sid's name.

—Inserted by his loving brother, Clarence.

SMITH – In loving memory of our dear son, No. 2111, Private Cyril G. G. Smith, died of wounds in Guildford, England, December 15, 1916, aged 22 years.

How hard it was to part with him  
We held on earth so dear;  
The heart no greater trial knows

No sorrow more severe.  
Days of sadness still come o'er us,  
Hidden, secret tears still flow;  
But memory keeps our loved one near us,  
Friends may think we have forgotten you, dear Cyril,  
When at times they see us smile;  
But they little know what aching hearts  
These smiles hide all the while.

—Inserted by his loving mother and father, Prospect.

SMITH – In loving memory of my dear brother, No. 2111. Private Cyril G. G. Smith (Sid), died of wounds in Guildford, England, December 15, 1916, aged 22 years.

You who have brothers love them while you may,  
For they, like my dear brother Cyril,  
May soon pass away.

—Inserted by his little and only sister, Glen.

SMITH – In loving memory of our dear nephew, Cyril, who died of wounds in England, December 15, 1916.

Too far away your grave to see,  
But not too far to think of thee.

—Inserted by his aunt and uncle, S. A. and G. R. Nettleton.

(*The Advertiser*, Adelaide, South Australia – 15 December, 1917) & (*The Express and Telegraph*, Adelaide, South Australia – 17 December, 1917) & (*Chronicle*, Adelaide, South Australia – 22 December, 1917)

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## HEROES OF THE GREAT WAR

SMITH – In sad but loving memory of our dear son, Private Cyril G. G. Smith, who died in England, December 15, 1916, of wounds received in France, July 19, 1916.

Two sad and lonely years have now gone by  
Since our great sorrow fell;  
Our thought they often wander  
To your grave so far away;  
Your name is often spoken  
In your home you died to save.

-Inserted by his loving mother and father, Mile-end (late of Prospect)

SMITH – In loving memory of my dear brother Cyril (Sid) G. G. Smith, who died of wounds in England, December 15, 1916, received in France, July 19, 1916.

The rolling stream of life flows on,  
And still the vacant chair  
Recalls the love, the smile, the voice  
Of him who once sat there.  
Some day, when shadows deepen,

When the call comes down the line,  
We will meet where you are waiting  
To greet us, dear brother, mine.

-Inserted by his loving brother Spencer (Stan.)

SMITH – In loving memory of my dear brother Cyril (Sid), who died in England, December 15, 1916, of wounds received in France.

We miss you most  
Who loved you best.

-Inserted by his only little sister Glen.

SMITH – In loving memory of my dear brother Cyril (Sid), who died in England, December 15, 1916, of wounds received in France.

He has sailed his last commission  
On a beautiful boat called Rest;  
He was just an Australian hero,  
One of God's bravest and best.

-Inserted by his loving brother Clarence (Cal).

*(The Advertiser, Adelaide, South Australia – 16 December, 1918) & (Chronicle, Adelaide, South Australia – 21 December, 1918)*

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\*\*Notices were placed in 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929 & 1930

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#### 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. G. G. Smith does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.



## **Stoke Old Cemetery, Guildford, Surrey, England**

Stoke Old Cemetery, Guildford, Surrey contains 84 Commonwealth War Graves – 76 from World War 1 & 8 from World War 2.

There are 4 Australians buried in this Cemetery.



**Cross of Sacrifice in Stoke Old Cemetery, Guildford** *(Photo courtesy of Ian Fletcher)*

Photo of Private C. G. G. Smith's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Stoke Old Cemetery, Guildford, Surrey, England.



*(Photo courtesy of Ian Fletcher)*