

George Fordham Mouchemore

Gunner (Gnr) 114 George Fordham Mouchemore enlisted in the Siege Artillery Brigade in Sydney on 5 June 1915.

He embarked overseas on 17 July and travelled via the Suez Canal to England, where he disembarked at Devonport on 23 August. The very same day he was admitted to the Devonport Military Hospital (no details) then discharged on 3 September.

The brigade, initially manned by Garrison Artillery soldiers, was organised into two batteries, the 54th and 55th, each equipped with four 8 inch Howitzers and 9.2 inch Howitzers respectively (increased to six in July 1917).

In early 1916, the brigade designation was changed to 36th Heavy Artillery Group (HAG) and they left England on 26 February 1916 and disembarked at Boulogne, France later the same day. They moved to billets at Beaumetz on 3 March and then into the front line for the first time at Tinques, to the west of Arras and Vimy on 14 March, where they came under the command of the British 17th Corps.

Gnr Mouchemore was evacuated sick with erythema nodosum and admitted to the 1st Australian General Hospital at Rouen between 31 May – 9 June, then transferred to England and admitted to the 3rd London General Hospital from 10 – 28 June. He never rejoined his unit in France and instead reported to Perham Downs Camp after his release from hospital.

Eventually, on 13 March 1917, he was promoted to Corporal (Cpl) and detached for permanent duty on the staff of No. 1 Command Depot, where he served for the remainder of the war, initially at Perham Downs, and then at Sutton Veny from late 1917 onwards.

He was later hospitalised with tonsillitis between 13 – 20 April 1917, then with influenza from 23 June – 2 July 1918.

On 7 February 1919, his attachment was terminated, and he embarked for return to Australia on 2 March.

Corporal 114 George Fordham Mouchemore disembarked in Sydney on 22 April, then made his way to Melbourne where he was medically discharged from the AIF (no details) on 5 July 1919.

Name: Mouchemore, George Fordham	
Service Number	114
Date enlisted	5 June 1915
Place enlisted	Sydney, NSW
Rank on enlistment	Gunner
Initial Unit	Siege Artillery Brigade
Previous military service	Royal Australian Garrison Artillery – 7 years (serving)
Date and ship embarked for overseas	17 July 1915 HMAT A67 <i>Orsova</i>
Stated age/DOB (if known)	26 years
Place of birth	Queenscliff, Victoria
Marital status	Married
Occupation	Professional soldier
Religion	Presbyterian
Next of kin and address	Mouchemore, Mrs Fanny, wife, 19 Symonds Street, Queenscliff, Victoria
Permanent address	Artillery Barracks, Sydney, NSW
Appearance	Sallow complexion, light brown hair, blue eyes, height – 5 feet 8 inches, weight – 10 stone, 4 lbs
Final Rank	Corporal
Final Unit	36 th Heavy Artillery Brigade
Theatres of war served in	France
Fate	Returned to Australia
Date and ship embarked for Australia	2 March 1919 HT <i>Derbyshire</i>
Date discharged	5 July 1919
Nature of discharge	Medically Unfit (illness)
Honours/medals	British War Medal, Victory Medal
Notes	