

Sydney and his younger brother, Earl, were both born in Wentworth, NSW, and both worked as farm labourers around the Milang area until they enlisted in the Army.

SA had been in drought conditions for 3 years, and any work was drying up as farm owners could not afford to pay workers' wages. This was most likely the main reason so many young men rushed to enlist in the army, where they were guaranteed a weekly wage. In his early years, Sydney was an enthusiastic footballer and played for Milang around the Lakes area. He also played cricket for Milang.

Thurs 5 Sept 1907 : On Monday last the Milang Football club made their annual trip to Meningie . The steamer "Juniper" left Milang jetty at 9am with a large crowd on board. The match resulted in a 2 pt win to Meningie. Best player for Milang..S Oldfield

MEMORIALS:

10 August, 1918 : There is no death to the love that lives

Or the faith that stands serene

He is waiting for us, the boy we mourn,

And there's just a door between! Inserted by his loving mother and sisters .

Also inserted by E and N Fordham, 11 Aug 1918 (daughter of Mary and Ben Parker, and son of Josephine Oldfield Fordham....cousins)

14 August 1919. Adelaide Advertiser :

In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private Sydney Herbert Oldfield. Killed in Action in France, 10 Aug 1918.

Barrier Miner, Broken Hill, Tuesday 8

October 1918... Private Sydney

Herbert Oldfield, Milang, died 10 Aug.



10th Battalion colours



Sydney Herbert OLDFIELD

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Regimental number	3651
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Labourer
Address	Milang, South Australia
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	32
Next of kin	Mother, Mrs Agnes Clark Oldfield, Milang, South Australia
Enlistment date	16 September 1915
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	<u>27th Battalion, 8th Reinforcement</u>
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/44/2
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Adelaide, South Australia, on board HMAT A30 <i>Borda</i> on 12 January 1916
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	10th Battalion
Fate	Killed in Action 10 August 1918
Age at death from cemetery records	33
Place of burial	Rosieres Communal Cemetery Extension (Plot II, Row E, Grave No. 20), France
Panel number, Roll of Honour, Australian War Memorial	60
Miscellaneous information from cemetery records	Parents: Robert and Mrs A.C. OLDFIELD, Milang, South Australia
Other details	

War service: Egypt, Western Front

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal , 1914-1915 Star

8th REIN 27 BTN

AUSTRALIAN  MILITARY FORCE

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

ATTESTATION PAPER OF PERSONS ENLISTED FOR SERVICE ABROAD

No. 3651
3261

Name OLDFIELD Sydney Herbert
Unit 8th REIN 27 BTN 10 B Co
Joined on 2. DEFOT. BN SEP 10 1915

No. 1000

Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

1. What is your Name? Sydney Herbert Oldfield
2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born? near the Town of Wentworth in the County of New South Wales
3. Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.) N B
4. What is your age? 32 1/2 years
5. What is your trade or calling? Laborer
6. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period? NO
7. Are you married? NO
8. Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) father of Mrs Agnes Clara Oldfield
dylaz
South Australia
9. Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power? NO
10. Have you ever been discharged from any part of His Majesty's Forces, with Ignominy, or as Incapable and Worthless, or on account of Conviction of Felony, or of a Sentence of Penal Servitude, or have you been dishonored with disgrace from the Navy? NO
11. Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in, His Majesty's Army, the Marines, the Militia, the Militia Reserve, the Territorial Force, Royal Navy or Colonial Forces? If so, state which, and if not now serving, state cause of discharge. NO
12. Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service? NO
13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds? NO
14. For mutual use, soldiers with children, and soldiers with no children, sign in the appropriate column. NO
15. Are you prepared to undergo incarceration against smallpox and return fever? Yes

Sydney Herbert Oldfield do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and I am willing and bound voluntarily agree to serve in the Military Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia within or beyond the limits of the Commonwealth.

S Oldfield
Signature of Person Enlisted

on Sept 4th 1915

* This clause should be struck out in the case of unmarried men or widowers without children under 16 years of age.
† This clause must be retained in the case of those who have children under 16 years of age.

Private Sydney Herbert Oldfield

[Australian Infantry, A.I.F.](#)

Died on 10 August 1918 Age 33

ROSIERES COMMUNAL CEMETERY EXTENSION

Somme France

Son of Mrs. A. C. Oldfield, of Milang, South Australia, and the late Robert Oldfield.

Service No. 3651B

Roll of Honour - Sydney Herbert Oldfield

Service Number: 3651B

Rank: Private

Unit: 10th Australian Infantry Battalion

Service: Australian Army

Conflict: First World War, 1914-1918

Date of death: 10 August 1918

Place of death: France

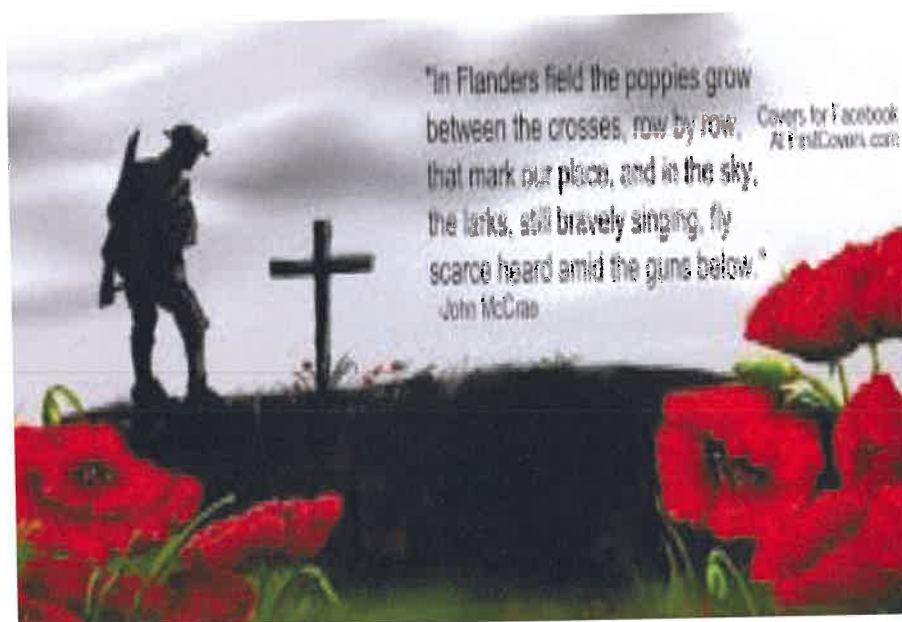
Cause of death: Killed in action

Age at death: 33

Place of association: Milang, Australia

Cemetery or memorial details: Rosieres Communal Cemetery Extension, Rosieres, Picardie, France

Source: AWM145 Roll of Honour cards, 1914-1918 War, Army



Location on the Roll of Honour

Sydney Herbert Oldfield's name is located at **panel 60** in the [Commemorative Area](#) at the Australian War Memorial

Service Number: 3651B

Rank: Private

Unit: 10th Australian Infantry Battalion

Service: Australian Army

Conflict: First World War, 1914-1918

Date of death: 10 August 1918

Place of death: France

Cause of death: Killed in action

Age at death: 33

Place of association: Milang, Australia

Cemetery or memorial details: Rosieres Communal Cemetery Extension, Rosieres, Picardie, France

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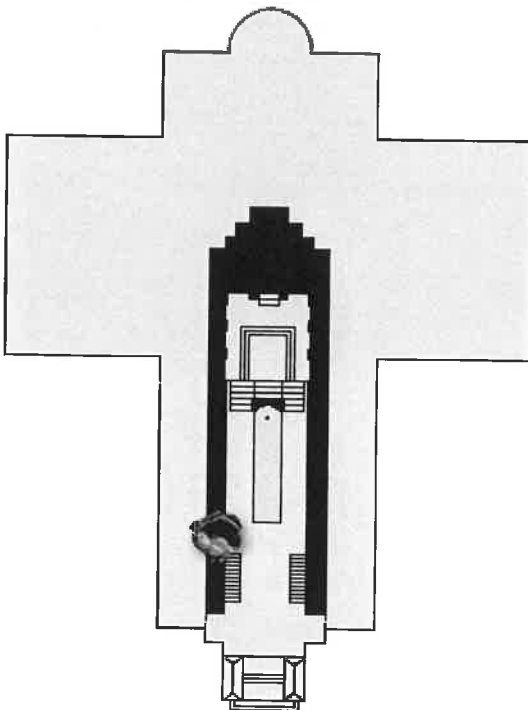
War Grave Register Notes: OLDFIELD, Pte Sydney Herbert , 3651B, 10th Bn, Australian Infantry.

Killed in action 10th August 1918, age 33. Son of Mrs A C Oldfield, of Milang, SA and the late Robert Oldfield. II.E.20



Location on the Roll of Honour

Sydney Herbert Oldfield's name is located at **panel 60** in the Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial (as indicated by the poppy on the plan).



Roll of Honour name projection

Sydney Herbert Oldfield's name will be projected onto the exterior of the Hall of Memory on:

- Sun 2 November, 2014 at 4:40 am
- Tue 6 January, 2015 at 10:32 pm
- Mon 9 March, 2015 at 1:00 am
- Tue 28 April, 2015 at 5:31 am
- Thu 11 June, 2015 at 3:27 am
- Thu 23 July, 2015 at 5:26 am
- Mon 7 September, 2015 at 7:10 pm



Cemetery: Rosieres Communal Cemetery Extension

Country: Somme, France

Rank : Private

Official number : 3651B

Unit ; 10th Battalion Aust Infantry

Details : Killed in action, 10 August 1918, aged 33. II.E.20.

Son of Mrs A C Oldfield of Milang and the late Mr Robert Oldfield.



Sydney's grave site.

Rosieres Communal Cemetery Extension, France.



Sydney Herbert Oldfield

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Sydney, 5 ft 4 1/2 inches, blue eyes, dark hair, C of E

Number 3651

Joined 10th Batt, Sept 16 1915, Keswich, SA, aged 32 years 5 months.

11-1-16 embarked Adelaide, on H M A T "Borda"

27-2-16 allotted and proceeded to join 10th Batt, Zeitoun, Egypt

28-2-16 taken on strength of 10 Batt to 27th Batt reinforcements, Reins, Serapeum, Egypt

27-5-16 proceeded to join BEF in Alexandria. Disembarked Marseilles 3-4-16

26-8-16 2nd Aust field ambulance, transferred to CCS Shell W Head - in field

1-9-16 wounded in action, France. Admitted to 1st Gen Hosp 2-9-16 Etaples

1-10-16 Told to rejoin 10th Batt, Etaples

6-10-16 joined Batt from hosp-- in field

5-4-17 detached from Aust Infantry Batt and attached to Anzac Light Railway, France, as a fettler

14-6-17 fettlers ceased to be attached to 17 th Anzac Light Rail

30-6 -17 rejoined 10th Batt from detachment

7-7-17 in hospital sick..... Gonorrhoea, Havre

9-7-17 Transferred to Gen Hosp, Boulocue..... in hospital 65 days

7-9-17 joined Batt ex hospital, Havre

14-9-17 to hospital sick...possibly VD 39th Gen Hosp, Havre, in hospital 30 days.

10-8-18 KILLED IN ACTION

12- 8-18 Buried near Railway Bridge, attached to 12 Batt AIF, Harbonnieres. Rev H A Hayden

17-8-18 Announced as killed in action.

6-1-20 Remains exhumed and re-interred at Rosieres Communal Cemetery, Extension, 10 1/2 miles south east of Corbie, in the presence of a Chaplain.

Buried Rosieres Communal Cemetery Extension, Plot 2, Row E 20

Signed a will in favour of his mother, Agnes Clarke Oldfield, in Jun , 1917. Executor of will from Strathalbyn SA...WF Adams.

16-9-18 Letter received Milang....Regret to inform you that your son, Private Sydney Oldfield was wounded. Will advise any other info as available.

Transferred to

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

No. 3651

Rank Pte Name Oldfield S. H.

Unit 10th Battalion late 27th Coy

Casualty Wounded April 29/18 London 1/9/18

WOUNDED

18 SEP 18

20 SEP 18

28 SEP 18

1918

WAR HISTORY TRK

84 2 21

LIST

Transferred to

10th Battalion late 27th Coy

Wounded April 29/18 London 1/9/18

18 SEP 18

20 SEP 18

28 SEP 18




1918

WAR HISTORY TRK

84 2 21

LIST

DATE	REPORT	ORIGINAL REPORT RECEIVED	REF. NO.
18 SEP 18	E. O. K. Added London		
20 SEP 18	& U.K. ADDRESS MISSING 2-6-18		
28 SEP 18	M.S. L. - ADJUTANT GENERAL IN ACTION		
	COPY MADE FOR WAR PENSIONS		
	NO PERSONAL EFFECTS IN KIT - B.M. No. 257/494		
	8004 2796 12416/2226 2/9/18		
	WHY - COPY FROM A.L.S. W.O. FILED 2-6-18		
	Certified copy of Letters of Administration		
	Circular B.M. 46, 1365 & Booklet re Grave despatched 12/12/18		
	PHOTOGRAPH OF GRAVE TRANSMITTED TO NEXT OF KIN. B.M. No. 521/1032		

PHOTOGRAPH OF GRAVE TRANSMITTED TO NEXT OF KIN. B.M. No. 521/1032

BRITISH WAR MEDAL & VICTORY MEDAL

6th January, 1920.

Madam,

the late, No. 3651B Private S.H. Oldfield, 10th Battalion, your son
his remains have been
exhumed and re-interred in the Posters Communal Cemetery Extension,
10 1/2 Miles South East of Corbie.

This work is carried out with every measure of care and reverence
in the presence of a Chaplain.

Mrs. A.C. Oldfield,
M I L A N O,
S. AUSTRALIA.

MEMORANDUM.

From

W. F. Adams,
Licensed Land Broker,
General Commission Agent, Etc.,

TELEPHONE - NO. 20.

Strathalbyn.

October 10th 1918

To The Officer in Charge
Base Records Office
Melbourne Victoria

Dear Sir,



No. 3651 Private Sydney Herbert Oldfield. A Company
10th Battalion. Killed in action 10th August 1918

shall be glad if you will forward me Certificate
of Death (in duplicate) of the above soldier, as soon as
same is available.

Yours faithfully

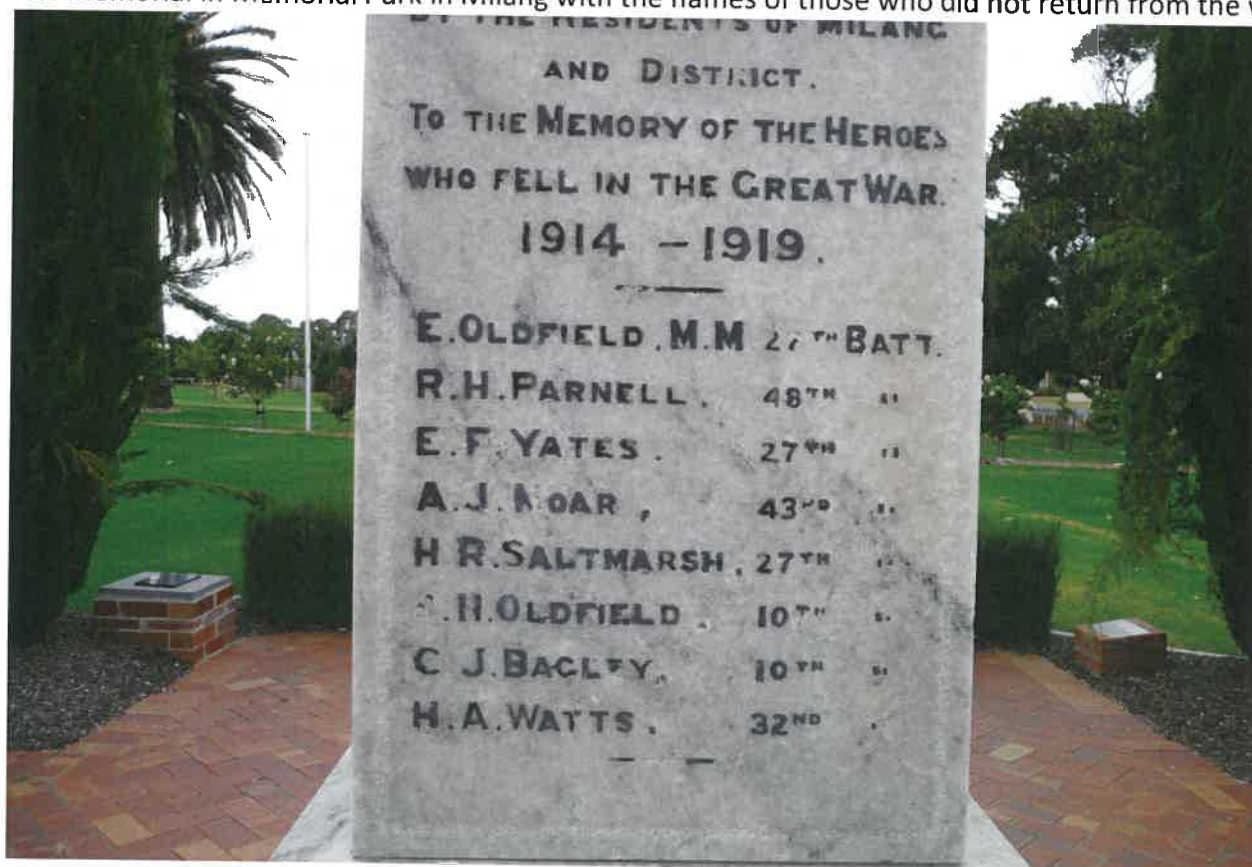
W. F. Adams Per S

W. F. Adams 11/10

DESPATCHED
FORMAL ACK ml.
SENT 11/10/18 M
wfc



WWI Memorial in Memorial Park in Milang with the names of those who did not return from the war.





Plaque is in the Milang Institute Hall which was built by Sydney and Earl's father, Robert



Particulars Required for the Roll of Honour of Australia in the Memorial War Museum

- 1. Name (in full) of Fallen Soldier Oldfield Sydney Herbert
- 2. Unit and Number (if known) 3651B Private 10th Battalion
- 3. With what Town or District in Australia was he chiefly connected (under which his name ought to come on the Memorial Town (if any) Milang District Bromer State S. Australia
- 4. What was his Birthplace Wentworth New South Wales
- 5. Date of Death 10th 8. 18
- 6. Place where Killed or Wounded _____

Particulars Required for the Nation's Histories.

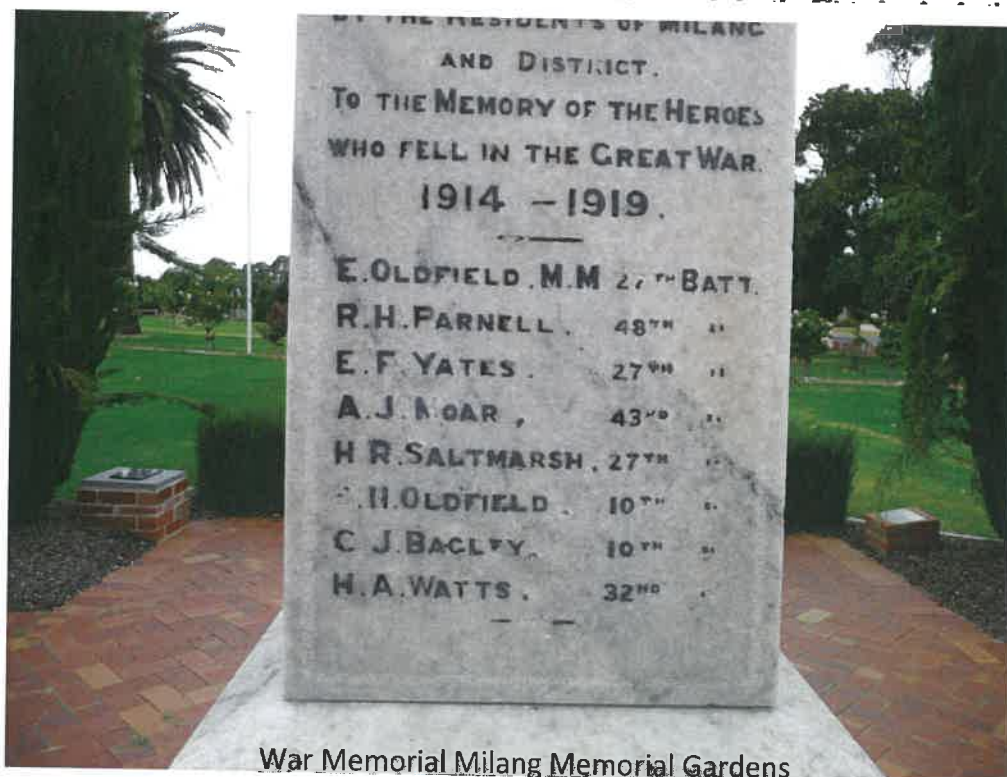
- 1. What was his Calling Labour
- 2. Age at time of Death 33 years
- 3. What was his School Milang Public School
- 4. What was his other Training _____
- 5. If born in Britain or Abroad, at what age did he come to Australia _____
- 6. Had he ever served in any Military or Naval Force before Enlisting in the A.I.F. (Please state particulars) _____
- 7. Any other biographical details likely to be of interest to the Historian of the A.I.F., or of his Regiment— _____

NOTED IN H.R.

- 8. Was he connected with any other Member of the A.I.F. who died or who distinguished himself. (Please Relationship)— His Brother Late Sgt. E. Oldfield. M.M.

- 9. Name and Address of the Parent or other person giving this information—

Name A. E. Oldfield
 Relationship to Soldier Mother
 Address Milang



War Memorial Milang Memorial Gardens



Mary Forster..13 Jan 1885, born Warringer Station, died Henley Beach, 1960

Raymond Earl..15 Jan 1910, Milang, died K I, 1983

Harold George.. 18 Mar 1911, Milang, died Melbourne (Sydney?), 1979

Earl Oldfield.. 1885, Wentworth, NSW, died 5 Nov 1916, somewhere in Flanders.

Joan Evelyn.. 6 May 1912, Milang, died 1988, Goolwa

Eileen Mary.. 30 Nov 1908, Milang, died Henley Beach, 1965

Doris Ethel..4 Aug 1913, Prospect, died Grange, 2000

OLDFIELD family photo, taken shortly before Earl embarked for Gallipoli, May 1915