

SMITH, S.

Sydney Smith was born in western Victoria in 1889, the youngest of seven children of (Edward) Thomas Smith and Lydia Jane Burgess. A policeman, he was working at the Carlton Police Station in Drummond Street in 1914.

Sydney enlisted at the end of August 1914. He was killed in action on 25 April 1915, at Gallipoli. His story was told in the local area newspaper, 28 June 1915.

AIF Project Entry

Sydney SMITH

Regimental number	862
Place of birth	Mumbannar, Victoria
Place of birth	Dartmoor, Victoria
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Police constable
Address	Police Station, Carlton, Victoria.
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	25
Height	5' 10"
Weight	168 lbs
Next of kin	Edward Thomas Smith, Mumbannar PO, Victoria.
Previous military service	Nil
Enlistment date	28 August 1914
Place of enlistment	Broadmeadows, Victoria
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	6th Battalion, G Company
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/23/1
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board Transport A20 <i>Hororata</i> on 19 October 1914.
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	6th Battalion
Fate	Killed in Action 25 April 1915.
Age at death from cemetery records	26
Place of burial	Plugge's Plateau Cemetery (Row A, Grave No. 6), Gallipoli, Turkey
Panel number, Roll of Honour, Australian War Memorial	48
Other details	War service: Egypt, Gallipoli Wounded in action, 25 April 1915; subsequently reported killed in action, 25 April 1915. Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal.

NAA: B2455, SMITH S, SERN 862

BDM VIC

Portland Guardian (Vic. : 1876 - 1953), Monday 28 June 1915, p. 3.

Killed in Action.

On Wednesday morning the Rev. Craig, of Heywood, received an official wire from the Defence department, requesting him to break the sad news to Mr T. Smith, of Mumbannar, of the death, while in action, of his son, Sydney Smith. The Rev. Craig proceeded to Dartmoor by motor cycle, and in his usual kind and sympathetic way conveyed the message to the bereaved family.

Private S, Smith was the son of Mr Thomas Smith, of Mumbannar, and brother of Misses E. and L. Smith, of the Dartmoor store. He was 26 years of age, and was for five years a zealous and much respected member of the Victorian Police Force, being stationed at Carlton when the war broke out. He was among the first to respond to his country's call, and quickly obtained his discharge from the police force, so that he might join the Expeditionary Forces. He was associated with the infancy of the Broadmeadows Camp, and sailed with the first troops that left our shores as a member of the 6th battalion.

"Syd" was of a quiet, unassuming nature, placing stern duty before social position, but was the right stamp of man for a cool, brave and determined soldier. There is little doubt but that he was one of Colonel McKay's gallant followers when that brilliant and never to be forgotten charge was made at the Dardanelles. He was very popular in Dartmoor and Mumbannar districts, and the deepest sympathy is felt for his aged father, and sisters and brothers, in their sad bereavement.

The concert and dance which was to take place on Friday has been postponed for a week, as a mark of respect to our fallen soldier.

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