

Ronald Laidlaw Mumford

Ronald Mumford was born on the 5th May 1890 and enlisted in the AIF on the 4th June 1915 and was operating as a driver with the 5th Reinforcements 17th Army Service Corps.

Eventually joining the 56th Battalion and transferred overseas to Tel el Kabir on the 15th March 1916 and Alexandrina on the 18th June 1916 before arriving in France on 27th June 1916.

He had an interesting career having been demoted from Corporal to Private for being Absent without leave for 2 days(losing pay and rank) and then reassigned as Corporal at one stage.

He arrived in France on the 27th June 1916 . His Battalion took part in the battle of Fromelle on 19th-20th July 1916 and he was later transferred back to England on or abouts the 19th August 1916 and went to Bulford Hospital for 68 days with illness (Venereal disease)

On the 13th March 1917 he returned to France
He went AWOL on 28th June 1917.

He was sick and returned to England around August 1917 but returned to Active service in France with the 1st Tunnelers (he was a driver so probably carried materials for them..Much of this material came from Ypres and the destroyed Cloth Hall and Cathedral.) Many of the 56th Battalion were assigned to the Tunneling duties.

They also rebuilt roads. He worked with them from 16th September when he returned to his original unit and was involved with his unit in the Battles of Messines Ridge and probably Polygon Wood.

He had shell wounds to the face and knee on or abouts the 26th September and repatriated to Bristol England on the 30th September

He seems to have been in hospital until the 21st January 1918 with severe facial wounds. He was discharged to a Work Depot at Weymouth. He worked there and was married on 14th January 1919 and returned to Australia with his wife and child on the 27th September 1919 on the "Osterley" and finally discharged on the 12th January 1920

The 56th Battalion was originally raised in Egypt on 14 February 1916 as part of the reorganisation and expansion of the AIF following the Gallipoli campaign. This was achieved by transferring cadres of experienced personnel predominately from the 1st Division to the newly formed battalions and combining them with recently recruited personnel who had been dispatched as reinforcements from Australia. The unit's first intake of personnel were drawn from men originating from New South Wales, many of whom had already served with the 4th Battalion.

After arriving in France on 30 June 1916. the battalion was committed to the fighting, taking part in the battle of Fromelles during July, suffering heavy casualties. Following this, it saw service on the Hindenburg Line in early 1917 and in September during the battle of Polygon Wood. In early 1918, it assisted in the repulse of the major German offensive on the Western Front following the collapse of Russia. During late September and early October it took part in the battle of St. Quentin Canal. The 56th Battalion was amalgamated with the 54th Battalion on 11 October forming the 54th/56th Battalion; together they were later also amalgamated with the rest of the 14th Brigade's battalions into one unit, with the 56th Battalion being disbanded on 10 April 1919.

During the fighting, it suffered lost 529 killed in action or died on active service and 1,630 wounded. Members of the battalion received the following decorations: two Distinguished Service Orders (DSO), one Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE), 21 Military Crosses (MCs) with one Bar, 20 Distinguished Conduct Medals (DCMs), 50 Military Medals (MMs), 9 Meritorious Service Medals (MSMs), 25 Mention in Despatches (MIDs) and eight foreign awards.

TRANSFER FROM 56 Battalion

A.212898

56 Bn

56 Bn 37822

AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE.

Attestation Paper of Persons Enlisted for Service Abroad.

74th

Name Ronald Laidlaw Mumford
Unit Army Service Corps 56 Bn
Joined on 14 June 1915

5th. Reinf's
17th, A.S.C.

Questions to be put to the Person Enlisting before Attestation.

- What is your Name? ... Ronald Laidlaw Mumford
- In the Parish of Coopers in or near the Town of Brisbane in the County of Queensland
- Are you a natural born British Subject or a Naturalized British Subject? (N.B.—If the latter, papers to be shown.) ... Natural Born
- What is your age? ... 25 yrs
- What is your trade or calling? ... Carter
- Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, where, to whom, and for what period? ... No
- Are you married? ... No
- Who is your next of kin? (Address to be stated) ... Mr. Edward Mumford (Sons) Father
64th Street
Coopers Brisbane
- Have you ever been convicted by the Civil Power? ... No
- Have you ever been discharged from any part of His Majesty's Forces, with Ignominy, or as Incurable and Worthless, or on account of Conviction of Felony, or of a Sentence of Penal Servitude, or have you been dismissed with Disgrace from the Navy? ... No
- 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
- Have you stated the whole, if any, of your previous service? ... Yes
- Have you ever been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service? If so, on what grounds? ... No
- (For married men, widowers with children, and soldiers who are the sole support of widowed mother)—
Do you understand that no Separation Allowance will be issued to you after embarkation during your term of service? ... Yes
- Are you prepared to undergo inoculation against small pox and enteric fever? ... Yes

5th. Reinf's
17th, A.S.C.

3. Ronald Laidlaw Mumford do solemnly declare that the above answers made me to the above questions are true, and I am willing and hereby voluntarily agree to serve in the Military Forces of the Commonwealth of Australia within or beyond the limits of the Commonwealth.

And I further agree to allot not less than two-fifths of the pay payable to me from time to time during my service the support of my wife and children.

Date 14 6 15

R. L. Mumford
Signature of person enlisted.

P.B. No. 158928

Statement of Service of No.

Name _____

4.
Name R. L. Mumford

Units in which served.	Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c.	Period of service in each rank.		Remarks.
		From—	To—	
Reinforced 7 th Assoc Battalion	Driver	4. 6. 15		
	TRANSFERRED TO 56 th Battalion Trans to 56 th Bn at 17 th Dec.		15. 3. 16	22 pay 11000 Rile Pte 41611 5. 4. 16
	ADMITTED Sick HOSPITAL France.	19. 8. 16		Pte 26/5070 2/9/16
	Embarked on A.S. "St Denis" at Boulogne for England "Archilles & Hydrococh"	22. 8. 16		Pte 2/5110. 2. 9. 16
	ADMITTED Sick HOSPITAL (Archilles & Hydrococh)	Gravesend.	22/8/16	Pte 29/202E. 9. 10. 16
	ADMITTED 1st Q.R.R. HOSPITAL Grischitis & Hydrococh V.D. 1 st R. 1448	Bulford	16-8-16	Pte 29 7648 20-12-16
	Admitted Bulford V.D.	Bulford	16. 11. 16	Pte 110 955E 9. 2. 17
	Discharged Total Period 68 days V.D.	Bulford	22. 1. 17	
	Marched in to 3 rd 1 st Depot perham from from 1st. 6 th 1 st Depot perham	Stuns	23. 2. 17	Pte 11 1349E 8. 3. 17 (L.R. 209)
	PROCEEDED VYRONDE Ex 3 rd 1 st Depot via Folkestone	Folkestone	13. 3. 17	Pte 11 144E 14. 3. 17 (L.R. 440)
	DRY REJOINED UNIT FROM Sick		9. 4. 17.	Pte 150 3178 23. 4. 17
	DRY Leave A.W.L. from Nottingham to 2. 30 PM.		28. 6. 17.	Pte 31 2811 9. 4. 17
	Approved - 2 days 1 P.M. 12. by C.O. 22 nd		24. 6. 17	
	Total 70 th 3 days pay.		26. 6. 17.	
	P.B. No. 168828/10. 17			
	DRY Reduced to rank of Private		26. 6. 17.	Pte 32 4929 16. 4. 17
	DRY To keep sick		5. 7. 17	Pte 33 4984 25. 7. 17.
	DRY To keep sick from 31 st Aust. Dir 12 th 1 st Depot		19. 7. 17	Pte 34 5028 30. 7. 17.
	DRY Marched into 5 th 1 st Depot Home from 12 th 1 st Depot		16. 7. 17	Pte 35 5060 30. 7. 17.
	Pte Marched in from 12 th to 5 th 1 st Depot. C.O. 12 th 1 st Depot	Have	21. 7. 17	Pte 36/5128 9/8/17
	Pte Rejoined from 12 th 1 st Depot as 5 th Aust. Dir. 12 th 1 st Depot	Have	9. 8. 17	Pte 38/5410. 17. 8. 17
	Pte again 2 nd 1 st Depot. C.O. 12 th 1 st Depot C.O. 12 th 1 st Depot. C.O. 12 th 1 st Depot	Rejoined	1. 11. 17	Pte 39/4320 10/10/17 4484

15-11547-

I have examined the above details, and find them correct in every respect.

Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form A. 36, or other official documents.
Date	From whom received				
23.11.16	C1/Balist 88.	Incus. to 1st A.D. Hq. from Graylingwell Orchids + Hydrocele V.D.	Bulford.	16.11.16	TR 1448 % 29/69E
26.9.16	Not Com Depot	Mached in from Hark	Perham Downs	28.9.16	E.R. 4055
3.11.16	Not Com Depot	Previously repaired M.O to hood now advised still on strength of this Depot	Perham Downs	13.10.16	E.R. 8500
29.10.16	Not Com Depot	Mached out to Wareham	Perham Downs	29.10.16	E.R. 6564
29.9.16	Not Com Depot	Quinted. Furlough	Perham Downs	29.9.16	E.R. 8699
22-1-17	Mail Hark	Adm Bulford V.D. Disch V.D. Total 68 days	Bulford	16-11-16 22-1-16	9/0102 9-2-17
29-1-17	Not Com Depot	M/D & Classified (B/Q)	Perham Dns	23-1-17	E.R. 9378
25-2-17	Drafting Depot	M/D form Not Com: Perham Downs.	Perham Dns	23.2.17	LR 209. 00/1E 8/3/17.
26-2-17	Not Com Depot.	M/out. to Camp. Hq. Gs. Perham Downs.	Perham Dns.	24.2.17	LR 303.
12.3.17	Inf Draft Depot	PROCEEDED OVERSEAS France. via Folkestone ex Southampton		13.3.17	LR 475. 26/19E 14.3.17.
3.4.17	B213	Mached in from England	Etaples	14.3.17	E 57/11
2.4.17	do	M. Out. Submit	do	14.4.17	E 57/14
2.4.17	COSB Ans B213	Reported from SADB D in SIA	France	9.4.17	E 16/18 D10 10/3/173

Army Form B. 103.

Casualty Form - Active Service.

Regimental Number Y.H.H.Y.

Rank Pte Surname MUMFORD Christian Name Ronald Laidlaw
 Religion Age on Enlistment years months
 Enlisted (a) Terms of Service (a) Service reckons from (a)
 Date of promotion to present rank Date of appointment to lance rank
 Extended { } Re-engaged { } Qualification (b)
 or Corps Trade and rate

Occupation Signature of Officer

Report		Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks Taken from Army Form B.213, Army Form A.36, or other official documents.
Date	From whom received			
		Embarked		
		Disembarked		
23.1.18	no 2 Com Dep	Plt M/S from 3 rd A.H. Bedford	23.1.18	1 C. 4/59.
		Ref D.O. 22/4929 showing reversion		
		from Driver to Pte 24/6/18 this reversion		
		was at Soldier's own request		
		reference C.R. 1440/3/2		
19.6.18	B.F. Dept in U.K.	Pte T.O.S. of former cadre no 2	19.6.18	1 C. 5/51
		Comdptt from 56 th Bn 3.6.18	3.6.18	1 C. 7/5
		to complete establishment		
19.6.18	B.F. Dept in U.K.	Pte approved EOP/Cpl. 3.6.18	3.6.18	1 C. 5/51
		on former cadre of no 2 Comdptt		1 C. 7/5

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or validated into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement in column 4 will be entered.

(b) Signaller, Shering-Smith, Ac.

W 8091-10753 20000 9/17 (2001) C. P. A. S. (1.1). Form D. 101 B. 1007.

P.T.O.

Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, &c. during active service, as reported on Army Form B.213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks Taken from Army Form B.213, Army Form A.36, or other official documents.
Date	From whom received				
18.10.18	H.Q. A.I.F. Depot VR	EDP. <i>Cpl. Reverts to Plt</i>	<i>AMEND TO READ</i> Lidworth	8.10.18 25.9.18	<i>510128/411</i> 1918 E. List 92
18.10.18	H.Q. A.I.F. Depot VR	<i>Plt. promoted T/Lpl. on perm. Cadre No. 2 from Depot</i>	Lidworth	26.9.18 <i>AMEND TO READ</i> 9.10.18	<i>510119/348</i> 1918 E. List 92
30.11.19	No 5 Group	<i>Plt. M/L on leave pending R.T.A.</i>	Weymouth	29.11.19	<i>164855</i>
23.5.19	Ad. Q. A.I.F. Depot U.K.	<i>Plt. Detached from Perm. Cadre No 5 Group & returns rank 8 T/L on L/mt for R.T.A.</i>	Lidworth	11.4.19	List 124 26.19
23/7/19	No 5 Group	<i>Plt. M/L to Belgrave Sq. Indefinite Leave</i>	Weymouth	23/7/19	LX 6571
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> RETURN TO AUSTRALIA For "Osterley" 27/9/19 for </div>					

PURPORT.	AUTHORITY.
9/4/17 Rej Rtn from Hosp.	BEFO 20/3/17
1/10/17. Adm to 2nd Stn Gen Hosp Bristol SHELL FACE & RT.LEG.	
SEVERE.	IR 328/60-17
13/2/17 Proc O'seas to France via Folkestone ex Inf Dft. Ep.	LON 19/4-17
CRIME AWL from midnight 23/6/17 to 24/6/17. AWARD 2 dys F.P.	BEFO 31/4/17
No.2. 26/6/17. TOT FORF 3 dys pay.	
26/6/17. Reduced to rank of PRIVATE.	BEFO 32/1/17
5/7/17 To Hosp sick.	BEFO 33/3/17
19/7/17. to Hosp sick. from 5th A.D.B.D.	BEFO 34/1/17
14/7/17 Mchd into 5th A.D.B.D. Havre from Hosp.	BEFO 34/2/17
21/7/17 Mchd in from Hosp to 5th A.D.B.D. Havre.	BEFO 35/3/17
9/8/17 Rej from Hosp ex 5th A.D.B.D. Havre.	BEFO 38/2/17
16/9/17. Det for duty with 1st AUST TUNNING COY.	BEFO 43/5/17
17/1/18. Trans to 3rd Aux Hosp. SW.FACE. & RT.LEG.	IR 402/52-18.
22/1/18 Dis. from Hos. to Wey. GSW FACE & RT.LEG	IR 406/59-18
26/9/17. WOUNDED IN ACTION	LON. 85/3-17
30/9/17 Trans. to Eng. from 2nd Stnt Hosp. S.W.FACE & KNEE.	BEFO 44/1-17
23/9/17 Rej. Rtn. from detachment with 1st Aust. Tunng. Coy.	BEFO 44/4-17

Arm.

Casualty Form—Active Service.

Regiment or Corps

17th Coy. 4th A.S.C.

Regimental No.

7447

Rank

Driver

Name

Mumford, R. Laidlaw

Enlisted (a)

Terms of Service (a)

Service reckons from (a) 4.6.15

Date of promotion to present rank

Date of appointment to lance rank

Numerical position on roll of N.C.Os.

Extended

Re-engaged

Qualification (v)

Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents.
Date	From whom received				
18/3/16	Co 56 th B213	Wid from 17 th A.S.C. taken on strength of 56 th Bn.	2 ^e d. de la	18/3/16	AD 2094 5/0 4/1611
18/6/16	End Roll Entks. H.P. Georgian	to join B.L.T.	cc Alex	18/6/16	AD 9108
6/16	OC Hosp	Disambled. H.P. Georgian	Marseilles	27/4/16	AD 20952
12/16	1 st A.C.C.	Orchitis	Adm France	19/9/16	AD 20918
22/8/16	2 A.C.C.	Orchitis	Adm. Himmens	21.8.16	AD 83
25/9/16	H. 3083	Orchitis Hydrocele - To England per H.P. St Denis	Boulogne	27/9/16	AD 20920. 5/0 261540
27/9/16	OC Hosp B213	To Hosp sick	France	19/9/16	AD 2775 5/0 2615070
22/8/16	OC Hosp B213	Orchitis & Hydrocele.	England.	22.8.16	ER. 1076. 5/0 26152E

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered (b) e.g., Signaller, Shoeing Smith, etc., etc., also special qualifications in technical Corps duties.

(P.T.O.)

Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, &c. during active service, as reported on Army Form B.213, Army Form A.36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks Taken from Army Form B.213, Army Form A.36, or other official documents
Date	From whom received				
14.7.17	55 Inf B.10	Marched out to Harfleur	Normandie	14.7.17	AK1458/10
21.7.17	50 B.D. B.213	Marched in from Hospital	Harfleur	14.7.17	E 57/29
21.7.17	do	Marched out to 40 Lat Hosp.	do	19.7.17	E 57/29
19.7.17	2 Gen. Hq.	Hydrocele adm.	do	19.7.17	AK1458/109
21.7.17	do	Hydrocele La Base Depot	do	21.7.17	AK1458/114
28.7.17	50 B.D. B.213	Mtn from Palais de Regain	do	21.7.17	E 57/30
11.8.17	do	Marched out to Unit	do	5.8.17	E 57/32
16-8-17	56th Bn B.213	Rejoined from Hospital	France	9-8-17	E 16/33 Do 39/2110
21.9.17	do	Detached for duty with 1st Aus Tunnelling Coy	do	16.9.17	E 16/38
28.9.17	do	Rejoined unit	do	22.9.17	E 16/39
5.10.17	50 B.D. B.213	Plt Wounded in Action 16/40	do	26.9.17	LR9688 2/555 E 8/11/4
27.9.17	6 Plt	S.W. Face Knee adm	do	27.9.17	AK1814/13
		Thames Valley			Th 489
28.9.17	20.5th Hosp	S.W. Face Knee adm	Orkney	28.9.17	AK1814/16
30.9.17	do	do 20 England	do	30.9.17	AK1814/25
1.10.17	2nd 5th Gen	Plt. adm Hosp. Shell Face			HR Y
	Hosp	4 Lt. Leg. 500	Bristol	1.10.17	DOY Y E 10/10/17
14.1.18	3rd Aus Hosp	Plt. Trans. to 3rd Aus Hosp.	Cardford	14.1.18	HR 851
22.1.18	3rd Aus Hosp	Plt. Discharged to No 2	Cardford	22.1.18	HR 982
		from Depot Weymouth			