Roll of Honour – McPhillamy, Stuart

ASC 1902-8

Service number: 3350 Private

Unit: 4th Battalion

Date of death: 24 July 1916: Died of wounds

Cemetery or memorial details: Warloy-Baillon Communal Cemetery Extension, France

War Grave Register notes: McPhillamy, Pte. Stuart, 3350. 4th Bn. Died of wounds 24th July 1916..

School history has him as Stewart

Particulars required for the Roll of Honour of Australia in the Memorial War Museum.
1. Name (in full) of Fallen Soldier: Stuart McPhillamy
2. Unit and Number (if known): 3350 4th Bn.
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): Bathurst
   District: N.S.W.
   State: N.S.W.
4. What was his Birthplace? Bathurst
5. Date of Death: 24/7/16
6. Place where Wounded: Pozieres

Particulars Required for the Nation's Histories.
1. What was his Calling: Grazier
2. Age at time of Death: 26
3. What was his 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—

Enlisted 4/8/15, and was posted to 7th Rfcs, 19 Bn.
TOS, 4 Bn., 14/2/16. Mortally wounded, 24/7/16.

8. Was he connected with any other Member of the A.I.F. who died or who distinguished himself. (Please state relationship) —

9. Name and Address of the Parent or other person giving the information:
   Name: P.S. McPhillamy
   Relationship to Soldier: father
   Address: Glendower, Bathurst, NSW (1924)
Private Stuart McPhillamy, who has been in Bathurst on final leave, was last night, in the School of' Arts billiard room, made the recipient of a wristlet watch by a number of subscribers to the institution and friends. Mr. Arnold Rigby made the presentation,
his eulogistic remarks being supported by Messrs. E. Slade (secretary), J. Beddie (treasurer), and others.

SAFE HOME

GUNNER SHEPHERD RETURNS ENTHUSIASTIC PUBLIC RECEPTION,
TELLING SPEECHES. 'ARE WE DOING OUR DUTY?'

Gunner A. C. Shepherd, one of the first of the Bathurst boys to enlist for active service, returned to Bathurst yesterday afternoon. The gallant young gunner has been invalided home.

Gunner Shepherd was accorded a most enthusiastic public reception in the Town Hall. The building was filled to overflowing point. —— Alderman Arnold Rigby presided. ———. At a later stage in the proceedings, the chairman expressed the heartiest of good wishes to the two departing soldiers, Privates McPhillamy and Evans. In them they were sending two of the best young men in the town. He felt sure that they would both uphold the honor of the town and of Australia. He wished them God-speed, and hoped that they would return crowned with laurels. (Applause.)

'As soon as I am well again I'll get back to the front — that is, if the doctor will allow me.'(Applause.) The toasts of Private McPhillamy and Private Evans were also honored with much enthusiasm. Private McPhillamy made a hearty response.

FROM EGYPT TO FRANCE.

Mr. Charles Briggs, of William Street, Bathurst, received a letter yesterday from Private Stuart McPhillamy (son of Mr. Percy McPhillamy, of Bathurst), from "Somewhere in France." Stuart was in Egypt for a couple of months, and at the time of writing- (April 25) had been some time in France. Egypt he states was rather a peculiar place, very dirty in most places. There were some fine buildings both in 'Cairo and Heliopolis. During his stay in Egypt thousands of soldiers were about the streets. -----They were glad to get away from that country. France was looking nice and green now. He was not in the trenches yet. But where lie was he was under fire. The roar of the guns and bullets flying made one feel a bit off. He was in good health at of writing.
Stuart originally went overseas with 7th Reinforcements for 19th Bn but on arrival Egypt posted to 4th Bn.

Outdoor group portrait, of unidentified members of the 7th Reinforcements of the 19th Battalion. Taken on a sloping hillside; probably at Liverpool Army Camp. These officers and men departed for overseas service from Sydney aboard HMAT A29 Suevic on 20 December 1915.

AWM P05733.003

4th Battn. A.I.F.  Mo.PHILLAMY
Pte.8. 3350

Died of Wounds 24.7.16.

I knew Mo.Phillamy well. He was originally in the 7th Reinforcements to the 19th Battalion, and transferred at Tel-el-Kabir to 4th Battn. A.I.F., A. Company, No. 2 Platoon. We always called him "Mac". He was tall, dark, and slightly built. He came from Bathurst way. I saw him on 24.7.16 at Pozieres, very badly wounded in the right thigh by a piece of shell. I spoke to him. He was quite conscious at the time and was then carried away to the Dressing Station. I heard in England, later on, when I was convalescent, that he had died of wounds. He was the only Mo.Phillamy in A. Coy

Reference:— S.J.Webb, 3276;
4th Battalion A.I.F., A. Coy., II Platoon.
No. 4 Australian General Hospital, RANDWICK.

7.2.17.
Died of Wounds 24-7-16.

I knew Mo. Phllamy -- his name was Stuart and he was with me in A. Company, II Platoon. He, Lance-Corporal Pettigrew Madden, and I were together in a shell hole on Monday morning, 24.7.16, throwing bombs, when he was wounded by a shell, which got the four of us, except Madden.

When I got to Harasfield Hospital, I heard that he and Lance-Corporal Pettigrew had died of their wounds.

He was tall, dark, and of very slight build, and came from Bathurst. I made enquiries at the Dressing Station on my way down, but could not get any information.

Informant: -- H. Mo. Gunn, 3178.
4th Battalion A.I.F., A. Coy.
GEOGE'S HEIGHTS DETAILS CAMP, SYDNEY.

A careful witness.

H.B.O.
8/2/17.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

I knew Pte. S. Mo. Phllamy, who was in my Company, A., 2nd Platoon. We were in the trenches we had just taken at Pozieres about the end of July, 1916. I saw Mo. Phllamy partially buried in the trench, with his thigh shattered, but quite conscious. I dug him out and sent for assistance to have him removed to the dressing station. Sergeant Coates and bearers came up and I left to continue my duties. I heard later that he died.

He was a tall, slightly-built man with dark hair. I knew him well, and he was well liked by all, and went by the name of "Mac". He was a bit of a hero, because he was not a strong man, suffering from his fest, but he always stuck to it, and did his duty with the strongest.

Informant: -- WHEB S.J. 3276.
A. Company, 4th Battalion A.I.F.
No. 4 Australian General Hospital, RANDWICK.

B.M.
14.6.17.

SYDNEY BUREAU.

Note from letter below, the distressing delay in further confirmation of death.
Died July 1916; this letter dated Jan. 1917.
22nd January 1917.

Dear Sir,

With reference to the report of the regrettable loss of your son, the late No. 3350 Private S. McPhillamy, 4th (late 19th Battalion, I am now in receipt of advice which shows that he died at 1st Australian Field Ambulance, France, on the 24th July 1916, of wounds received in action, and was buried in the Military Cemetery, Warloy-Baillon, 5 miles west of Albert, France.

These additional details are furnished by direction, it being the policy of the Department to forward all information received in connection with deaths of members of the Australian Imperial Force.

P.S. McPhillamy,
"Glendower"
Bathurst, N.S.W.

Yours faithfully,

Major.
Office i/c Base Records.

Lieut. Col. Shaw,
Commanding Officer
1st Aust. Field Amb.
B.E.F.,

Dear Sir,

We are deeply indebted to you for the information you sent us about No. 3350 Private Stuart McPhillamy, 4th Battalion A.I.F. We are sending a typed copy of your letter to his people in Sydney and have written to the Director of Graves Registration for a photo of his grave.

With many thanks.

Yours faithfully,
The Chaplain,
1st. Aust. Field Ambulance,
               B. E. F.

Dear Sir,

We have received an inquiry for —

No.3350, Pte. Stuart McPhillamy, 4th Battm. A.I.F.

who died of wounds at your Station on July 24th 1916, and we should be so very glad if you will give us all the information you can about the nature of his wounds and the circumstances of his death and burial.

With apologies for troubling you and thanking you in anticipation,
A view of the cross erected over a trench at Pozieres, in memory of the Australians of the 4th Battalion, AIF, who fell in the fighting on the Pozieres battlefield in August 1916. Added significance is given to the memorial by the fact that its location is above the trench from which the Battalion attacked and overlooks the Copse which was the first objective. AWM

**What a Coincidence!**

During research for these dossiers, I had regular contact with Christopher Morgan of Abercrombie House (near Bathurst.) He was engaged in writing the updated History of A.S.C.

In a phone call to him, I reported that the list of our Fallen had an inaccuracy, as I had found that “Stewart” was actually “Stuart.”

We were both astounded, when he immediately confirmed this there and then! As he happened to be looking straight at the plaque (below) and the text on which confirmed the name!

His father had bought a box of bits and pieces at a church “sale” and hung this interesting piece, as a display.

Christopher was 7 at the time of the purchase. Our conversation was in 2012.

Commemorative bronze gunmetal medallion presented by King George V to the next-of-kin of those lost in W.W.I. (12 cm.)

“Dead Man’s Penny”