



MILLS George Arthur – Service No. 416



George Arthur Mills was a farmer at St Arnaud in Victoria prior to enlisting in the AIF as a Private at the age of 35 on 26th August 1914.


George embarked from Melbourne aboard HMAT Benalla on 19th October 1914 and was wounded by gunshot at the landing at Gallipoli on 25th April 1915.

George convalesced in Egypt and returned to duty at Gallipoli and was promoted to Corporal in August 2015.

George disembarked at France in March 1916 and was accidentally wounded by a bayonet in July of that year.

He was mentioned in despatches “for participation in a very successful raid on enemy trenches on 30 September 1916”.

Corporal Mills was killed in action near Broodeseinde Ridge in Belgium on 4th October 1917. There is no known grave but is remembered with honour in the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial.

The AIF Project	
 George Arthur MILLS	
Regimental number	416
Religion	Church of England
Occupation	Farmer
Address	Lowe's Loose Bag, St Arnaud, Victoria
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	35
Next of kin	Mother, Mrs H Mills, Lowe's Loose Bag, St Arnaud, Victoria
Enlistment date	26 August 1914
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	8th Battalion, F Company
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/25/1
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board Transport A24 <i>Benalla</i> on 19 October 1914
Rank from Nominal Roll	Corporal
Unit from Nominal Roll	8th Battalion
Fate	Killed in Action 4 October 1917
Place of burial	No known grave
Commemoration details	The Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial (Panel 7), Belgium
<p>The Menin Gate Memorial (so named because the road led to the town of Menin) was constructed on the site of a gateway in the eastern walls of the old Flemish town of Ypres, Belgium, where hundreds of thousands of allied troops passed on their way to the front, the Ypres salient, the site from April 1915 to the end of the war of some of the fiercest fighting of the war.</p> <p>The Memorial was conceived as a monument to the 350,000 men of the British Empire who fought in the campaign. Inside the arch, on tablets of Portland stone, are inscribed the names of 56,000 men, including 6,178 Australians, who served in the Ypres campaign and who have no known grave.</p> <p>The opening of the Menin Gate Memorial on 24 July 1927 so moved the Australian artist Will Longstaff that he painted The Menin Gate at Midnight, which portrays a ghostly army of the dead marching past the Menin Gate. The painting now hangs in the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, at the entrance of which are two medieval stone lions presented to the Memorial by the City of Ypres in 1936.</p> <p>Since the 1930s, with the brief interval of the German occupation in the Second World War, the City of Ypres has conducted a ceremony at the Memorial at dusk each evening to commemorate those who died in the Ypres campaign.</p>	
Panel number, Roll of Honour, Australian War Memorial	53
Family/military connections	Brother: 695 Pte Sydney Gordon MILLS, Australian Provost Corps, returned to Australia, 16 December 1918.
Other details	War service: Egypt, Gallipoli, Western Front
	Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal