

The AIF Project



Walter G SMITH

Regimental number	539
Place of birth	Newcastle New South Wales
Religion	Presbyterian
Occupation	School teacher
Address	74 Parry Street, Cooks Hill, Newcastle, New South Wales
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	23
Next of kin	Father, Duncan Smith, 74 Parry Street, Cooks Hill, Newcastle, New South Wales
Enlistment date	20 July 1915
Rank on enlistment	Corporal
Unit name	30th Battalion, B Company (/showUnit?unitCode=INF30CB)
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/47/1
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A72 <i>Beltana</i> on 9 November 1915
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	30th Battalion
Fate	Returned to Australia 8 May 1919
Miscellaneous details (Nominal Roll)	*Given name Walter George
Medals	Military Medal 'At POLYGON WOOD on 28th September 1917 showed great bravery and initiative. our position at POLYGON WOOD was attacked at 5.0 a.m. The attack failed, but we were worried by a machine still in action from our right flank. Sergeant Smith, accompanied by Private Smith worked forward from shell-hole to shell-hole with their rifles only, succeeded in shooting Nos. 1 and 2 on the gun, when the remainder of the Post, seven men, surrendered with their gun. I consider the exceptional courage displayed by this N.C.O. attacking a machine gun in action deserves special recognition.' Source: 'Commonwealth Gazette' No. 31 Date: 7 March 1918

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