

Codford St. Mary

Roll of Honour



Lest we Forget

World War I



6558 PRIVATE

ARTHUR CHARLES POND

11TH BN AUSTRALIAN INFANTRY A.I.F.

10TH AUGUST, 1918

Arthur Charles POND

Arthur Charles Pond was born in 1890 at Little Sutton Farm, Sutton Parva, near Heytesbury, Wiltshire, to parents William & Maria Pond (nee Arnold). His birth was registered in the district of Warminster, Wiltshire in the September quarter of 1890.

The 1891 Census for England recorded Arthur Pond as an 8 month old living with his family at 9 Sutton Pava, Sutton Veny, Wiltshire. His parents were listed as William Pond (Farmer, aged 41, born Motcombe, Dorset) & Maria Pond (aged 37, born Chilmark, Wilts). There were 6 children listed in this census, Arthur being the youngest – Frank (aged 9, born Shaftesbury, Dorset), Sidney (aged 8, born Shaftesbury, Dorset), Kathleen (aged 6, born Gillingham, Dorset), Maud (aged 4 born Sutton Veny), Lily M (aged 2, born Sutton Veny) & then Arthur. Also included was Winifred Snelgrove (General Servant, aged 15, born Sutton Veny).

The 1901 Census for England recorded Arthur Pond as a 10 year old living with his family at Sutton Parva Farm, Sutton Veny. His parents were listed as William Pond (Farmer, aged 51) & Maria Pond (aged 47). There were 6 children listed on this Census – Mabel A. (aged 21), Sidney (aged 18), Lillie (aged 12, born Sutton Parva), then Arthur (born Sutton Parva), May M. (aged 8, born Sutton Parva) & Dorothy M. (aged 5, born Sutton Parva).

Arthur Charles Pond attended Emwell House Private School in Warminster.

The 1911 Census for England recorded Arthur Charles Pond as a 20 year old, single, Farm Manager living at East Hill, Heytesbury, Warminster in a 5 roomed dwelling. His sister, 18 year old Margaret Mary Pond was also listed with Arthur. Arthur's parents – William Pond (Farmer, aged 61) & Maria Pond (aged 57) were listed as living at Codford St. Mary in a 7 roomed dwelling. Maria & William had been married for 36 years, having had 11 children, 4 whom had died. Also listed was their daughter Dorothy Pond (aged 15).

Arthur Pond, aged 22, was listed as a passenger aboard *Gothic* which departed from the port of London on 20th December, 1912 & was bound for Sydney Australia. Arthur Pond was one of a number of passengers that had contracted to land at Fremantle, Western Australia.

Arthur Pond was a 26 year old, single, Farm Labourer from Perth, Western Australia when he enlisted on 13th June, 1916 with the 11th Infantry Battalion, 21st Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 6558 & his religion was Baptist. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr William Pond of Codford St. Mary, Wiltshire, England. His Attestation Papers show that he had served 3 years with Wiltshire Yeomanry back in England.

Pte Arthur Charles Pond embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia on HMAT *Suffolk (A23)* on 10th October, 1916 & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 2nd December, 1916.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. Pte Arthur Pond was marched in from Australia to 3rd Training Battalion at Folkestone on 17th December, 1916.

On 4th February, 1917 Pte Pond proceeded Overseas from Folkestone aboard SS *Victoria*. He joined the Base Depot at Etaples, France & was struck off strength on 7th February, 1917.

Pte Pond joined the Battalion In the Field on 10th February, 1917. He was admitted to Hospital on 26th March, 1917 with Bronchitis & was transferred through several Clearing stations & Hospitals when on 13th April, 1917 he was sent to Convalescent Depot. Pte Pond joined Base Depot on 18th April, 1917 & rejoined his Battalion on 21st April, 1917.

Pte Arthur Charles Pond was listed as Missing In Action on 6th May, 1917 then reported as Not Missing but Wounded in Action. He had received a bullet wound in his right arm & again was transferred through several Clearing Stations & Hospitals. He was transferred to Base Depot on 8th June, 1917 & marched out to his Unit on 15th June, 1917.

Pte Arthur Pond was admitted to Hospital In the Field with Influenza on 27th May, 1918. He was discharged from Hospital on 5th June, 1918 & rejoined his Unit on 8th June, 1918.

Pte Arthur Charles Pond was Killed In Action on 10th August, 1918 in France.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing File for Pte Arthur Charles Pond contains 2 letters –

- *Wounded 6.5.17. - Buried Memorial Plot Heath Cemetery Plot 7. Row 1. Grave 6. Cert by Captain Speddings List 23.7.19*
- *Missing 6.5.17 – Previously reported missing now reported not missing – Admitted to hospital wounded 6.5.17. Cert by A.I.F. Headquarters 1.6.17*

A Memo from Lieutenant P. Carrington, Adjutant 11th Infantry Battalion A.I.F. for Commanding Officer states –

No. 6558 Pte Pond A.C. Killed in Action 10.8.18. This man was killed by a bullet and was buried by his comrades at Location X 24A Sheet 62D about 2500 yards south of Herleville, France.

Pte Arthur Charles Pond requested in his Will dated 23rd December, 1916, that all his money & possessions be left to Dorothy M. Pond youngest daughter of William Pond – Arthur's sister.

Pte Arthur Charles Pond was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte Pond's father – Mr William Pond (both sent November, 1922).

Private A. C. Pond is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 63.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)

Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, France

The Villers–Bretonneux Australian National Memorial is a World War I memorial, located near the commune of Villers-Bretonneux, in the Somme département of France. The memorial lists 10,773 names of soldiers of the Australian Imperial Force with no known grave who were killed between 1916, when Australian forces arrived in France and Belgium, and the end of the war. The location was chosen to commemorate the role played by Australian soldiers in the Second Battle of Villers-Bretonneux. The memorial also serves as the Australian National Memorial to all the Australian dead during the Western Front of World War I.

The memorial consists of a tower within Villers-Bretonneux Military Cemetery, which also includes a Cross of Sacrifice. The tower is surrounded by walls and panels on which the names of the missing dead are listed. The main inscription is in both French and English, on either side of the entrance to the tower.



(Photograph courtesy of In Memory by Pierre Vandervelden)



(Photo by Marc Roussel – April, 2008)

To the Glory of God and in memory of the Australian Imperial Force in France and Flanders 1916–1918 and of eleven thousand who fell in France and have no known grave.

They rest in peace, while over them all Australia's tower keeps watch and ward.

—King George VI, 22 July 1938

Pte A. C. Pond is also remembered on the Sutton Veny Roll of Honour 1914 – 1918. He is also remembered on his parents Headstone located in the Churchyard of St. John the Evangelist Church, Sutton Veny, Wiltshire.



(Photo by Andrea Charlesworth 2012)

In Loving Memory Of

Maria, Wife of William Pond

Who Passed Away

Sept. 26th 1919, Aged 55.

Also of Their Children,

Frank William,

Died April 1st, 1909, Aged 18.

Kathleen,

Died May 27th, 1904, Aged 19.

Arthur Charles, Fell In Action,

Aug 11th, 1918, Aged 28

_____ *We Are Safe And They*

William Pond

_____ *1937, Aged 86*

Pte A. C. Pond is also remembered on the World War 1 Memorial plaque in St. Mary's Church, Codford, Wiltshire.



(Photo courtesy of Romy Wyeth)

(37 pages of Pte Arthur Charles Pond's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives

Australian Newspaper Reports

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

Wounded

A. C. Pond

(Sunday Times, Perth, Western Australia Sunday 24 June, 1917)

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

Killed in Action

A. C. Pond (England)

(Sunday Times, Perth, Western Australia Sunday 13 October, 1918)
