

CLEMENTS, Percy Edmund



Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Lijssenthoek, Flanders, Belgium
Commonwealth War Graves Commission Images

<http://www.cwgc.org/find-a-cemetery/cemetery/14900/LIJSSENTHOEK%20MILITARY%20CEMETERY>

Percy Edmund Clements was born on 29 May 1879, at Eugowra, NSW, the third of five children born to Hanbury and Edith Clements.

Percy's siblings were: Gertrude b.1875, Edgar Hanbury b.1877, Dora May b.1882 and Rupert Blacket b.1884.

Percy commenced the Full Dairy Certificate at HAC in 1906. He was a member of the Ambulance Class (gaining the certificate), and the College Rifle Club. Percy won the Department of Agriculture's Prize for Best Butter-maker in 1906.

By January 1907, Percy was butter-maker at the Robertson Factory. The HAC Journal reported in February 1907 that Clements '...was only recently appointed Buttermaker at Robertson Factory (belonging to the Berrima District Farm and Dairy Co Ltd.). The results in this position have been so satisfactory that, on the resignation of the manager, he was appointed his successor—a chance very few young fellows get so soon. He will be given a free hand in the grading of cream as well as in all other workings of the factory... Clements is to be heartily congratulated upon his success'.

Percy was then appointed Storekeeper at HAC for 18 months 1907-1908. He then went on to become manager of the Blayney Butter Factory in October 1908, from where he enlisted on 24 November 1915 as a Gunner in the 2nd Divisional Ammunition Column.

Percy embarked from Sydney, 15 January 1916, aboard RMS Osterley.

In May 1916 Percy transferred to the 104th Australian (Howitzer) Battery, 4th Field Artillery Brigade. In November he was promoted to Bombardier, then Corporal in January 1917.

Percy wrote to the College numerous times after finishing the Dairy Certificate, and in March 1916 he wrote to the Principal about the Great Pyramids of Giza and Cairo. In 1917, Percy wrote with accounts of dogs churning butter (by means of a sort of treadmill jerking a beater in a tub) in France.

Percy Died of Wounds received in Action, 16 September 1917 in Belgium, aged 38, and is buried in the Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Lijssenthoek, Flanders, Belgium.