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Basil James MINCHIN

Regimental number 358

Place of birth Middle Swan, Western Australia

Religion Church of England

Occupation Farmer
Marital status Single
Age at embarkation 20

Next of kin Father, J H Minchin, Balkaling, York, Western Australia

Enlistment date 21 September 1914

Rank on enlistment Private

Unit name <u>16th Battalion, A Company</u>

AWM Embarkation Roll number 23/33/1

Embarkation details Unit embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board Troopship A40 Ceramic on 22 December 1914

Rank from Nominal Roll

Lieutenant

Unit from Nominal Roll 16th Battalion

Recommendations (Medals and Awards) Mention in Despatches

Awarded, and promulgated, 'London Gazette', second Supplement, No. 29890 (2 January 1917);

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'Commonwealth Gazette' No. 103 (29 June 1917).

Recommendation date: 27 September 1916

Military Cross

Recommendation date: 1 October 1917

Bar to Military Cross

Recommendation date: 5 July 1918"

Mention in Despatches

Awarded, and promulgated, 'London Gazette' No. 31089 (31 December 1918); 'Commonwealth Gazette' No.

61 (23 May 1919).

Fate Returned to Australia 28 March 1919

Miscellaneous information from Parents: James and Charlotte MINCHIN cemetery records

Medals Distinguished Service Order

'For conspicuously gallant conduct during an attack. He led his platoon on the first enemy positions and personally killed one officer and several other men capturing in all one officer, twenty other ranks, one machine gun, and one heavy minesweeper. In his advance he next rushed a machine gun nest, killing six of the enemy (two of whom he accounted for personally) and capturing the balance of the crews and the guns. Then, discovering his company commander had been killed, he assumed command and brilliantly completed the task assigned to the company.'

Source: 'Commonwealth Gazette' No. 23

Date: 12 February 1919

Military Cross

'For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Before the attack he led a carrying party to the front line over most difficult ground, through a very heavy enemy barrage, and by his coolness and good leadership and courage, and did valuable work in consolidating the captured ground under heavy fire.'

Source: 'Commonwealth Gazette' No. 120

Date: 7 August 1918

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Family/military connections Cousin: 2687 Pte Samuel Sydney MARTIN, 51st Bn, killed in action, 11 April 1917.

Other details Medals: Military Cross and Bar, Distinguished Service Order, 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory

Medal

Date of death 1 November 1936

Age at death 42

Place of burial Beverley Cemetery, Western Australia

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