

Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing  
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War  
1DRL/0428

**3495 Private  
Sydney George Turner**

**53rd Battalion**



2800308L

A.I.F. 53rd Btn

S.G. TURNER  
3495

"D/W 2-5-18"

Gassed severe - St. John's Hpl Cheltenham 22-4-18 - died 2-5-18  
ert. by Hpl Index

London  
22-5-18

S

53rd Battn.  
A.I.F.

TURNER.  
Pte.S.G. 3495.

"Died of Wounds".

Re 3495 Pte.S.G.Turner 53rd Battn.A.I.F.  
My letters went to Australia by quite different mails, but inasmuch as they were quite different letters I will give you briefly what information I can for your use.

Pte Turner was admitted here April 22nd with 23 other Australians, 18 of whom were gassed. He was very ill and Pneumonia set in. Everything possible was done and though he could not say much he would smile as if he were comfortable and contented. We sent for his Fiancee-Miss Pallister- from Gateshead and at time he was able to talk a little to her. She stayed 2 or 3 days and then had to go back to her work. We wheeled him into a tiny single ward and he had special nurses. The Chaplain visited him and an hour or two before the end, the Chaplain had prayer by his side, and though we had thought him unconscious, he looked up and smiled and quite evidently had been comforted. He passed away quite peacefully on May 2nd in the afternoon.

The funeral was on May 4th and I think the relatives would have been a little comforted if they had seen the respect and sympathy of the crowds. Our St John men turned out as a Guard of Honour to and to act as Bearers and about 40 of the Patients formed part of the Procession; and the local Volunteers formed another part, and they provided the Band and Firing Party. I have sent Photos to Mrs Turner and I am afraid I have not another set to send you.

53rd Battn.  
A.I.F.

TURNER.  
Pte.S.G. 3495.

The Australian Government have bought a piece of ground in the Cemetery here and the Graves will be cared for by the Girl Guides under the supervision of the Rector's Wife.

FLOWERS SENT IN MEMORY OF PTE TURNER.

PRIVATE SYDNEY TURNER.

Died Thursday May 2/18.  
Funeral Saturday May 4/18.

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| 1. SHEAF OF IRISES     | From his Mother in loving remembrance.   |
| 2. WREATH              | " his comrades in St John Hpl.<br>Cheltenham.  |
| 3. CROSS.              | " the Commandant & Staff, St John<br>Hospital with deepest sympathy.   |
| 4. CHAPLET OF FLOWERS. | " the V.A.Nurses of St John Ward<br>with deepest sympathy.   |
| 5. FLOWERS.            | " "A token of Sympathy" -Anon.   |
| 6. WREATH.             | " In grateful memory of Pte Turner<br>From Miss Dororeha de Dobson.<br>Official visitor for the Aust<br>Red Cross. |

53rd Battalion  
A.I.F.

TURNER.  
Pte.S.G. 3495.

7. WREATH. With respect and sympathy. from the Chelt:  
Branch of the Victoria League.
8. CROSS. A token of sympathy. From a fellow Australian.  
Mrs Reginald Waterfield.
9. NARCISSI. From H.Martyn, with kind sympathy.
10. ANCHOR. With heartfelt sympathy from Sorrowing Ethel,  
46 Coburg Street, Gateshead.
11. WREATH. With deepest sympathy. from Ma Pallister and  
Ivy Carleoon and Lorna, Gateshead.
12. WREATH. With deepest sympathy from Mr and Mrs J.L.Pallister  
Gateshead.

London.  
30-5-18.

S

53rd BATTALION, A.I.F.

Private S.G. TURNER 3495.

"DIED. 2.5.18."

Turner's initials were S.G., and his name was 'Sid'. He was short and nuggetty and had been an Engineer; he was in B Company, and left Australia with me as 9th Reinforcements to 53rd Battalion in the "Anchorage" in January 1917.

He was gassed at Villers Bretonneux about the 20-24 April, 1918 and was sent to Birmingham. Private A. Tyson, also a 9th Reinforcement, went to see him at Birmingham and saw him there, and Tyson told me, about the end of May 1918, that Turner had died at Birmingham after Tyson had been to see him. Tyson is, so far as I know, still in England.

INFORMANT; Private C. B. Cooper, 3360,  
C. Coy, 9th Platoon,  
53rd Battalion, A.I.F.

Home Address; Unanderra, SOUTH COAST.

H.S.O.  
No. 4 Australian General  
Hospital, RANDWICK.  
14.3.19.

SYDNEY BUREAU. ✓

O.C. Draft. 23.5.18.

( The Matron  
St. John's Hospital, Chatterham

( 3495. Plt S.G. Turner.

53rd Batta A.I.F.

( D. of gas poisoning.  
2.5.18.

Auxiliary to 2nd Southern General Hospital.

Telephone No. 199.

Telegrams: St. John Hospital, Cheltenham.



# ST. JOHN HOSPITAL.

GLOUCESTER ROAD,  
CHELTENHAM.



May 24

V.A.D. GLOS. 108

Dear Madam.

Re 3495 P<sup>te</sup> G. Turner. 53<sup>rd</sup> A.I.F. Dec<sup>r</sup>

I have written 2 long letters to M<sup>rs</sup> Turner — one immediately after her Son's death & one after the funeral. I have sent her a local paper with pictures of the funeral

in the letter is a circular, that what  
of all the post cards taken of the processions  
in the Cemetery. I believe one  
Italian visitor has also written, & the  
Chaplain intended to do so. I will send  
you all the information you ask for if  
you think it desirable after hearing  
what I have already done, for of course I  
want the relations to have the fullest  
information, & to know of our efforts to do all  
that we possibly could for their son during his  
illness, & to show honors to him after his death. Please reply.



in the list of the flowers sent, & a set  
of excellent postcards taken of the processions  
in the cemetery. I believe one  
of the Italian visitors has also written, & the  
chaplain intended to do so. I will send  
you all the information you ask for if  
you think it desirable after hearing  
what I have already done, for of course I  
want the relations to have the fullest  
information, & to know of our efforts to do all  
that we possibly could for their souls during his  
illness, & to show honors to him after his death. Please reply.

Auxiliary to 2nd Southern General Hospital.

Telephone No. 199.

Telegrams: St. John Hospital, Cheltenham.



# ST. JOHN HOSPITAL.

GLOUCESTER ROAD,  
CHELTENHAM.



May 26. 1918.

V.A.D. GLOS. 108

Dear Madam.

Re 3495 P<sup>te</sup> G. G. Turner. 53<sup>rd</sup> X.D.D.

My letters went to Australia by quite different mails, but inasmuch as they were quite different letters I will give you briefly what information I can for your use.

P<sup>te</sup> Turner was admitted here April 22 with 23 other Australians, 18 of whom were gassed. He was very ill. + Pneumonia set in: Everything possible was done, though he did not say much he would smile as if he were comfortable + contented. We sent

For his fiancée - Miss Pallister - from  
Gateshead, & at times he was able to talk a  
little to her: she stayed 2 or 3 days & then had  
to go back to her work. We wheeled him into  
a tiny single ward, & he had special nursing.  
The Chaplain visited him & an hour or two  
before the end the Chaplain had prayer by  
his side, & though we had thought him un-  
conscious, he looked up & smiled & quite  
evidently had been comforted. He passed  
away quite peacefully on May 2<sup>nd</sup> in the  
afternoon.

The Funeral was on May 4<sup>th</sup>. And I think  
the relatives would have been a little  
comforted if they had seen the respect &  
sympathy of the crowds. Our St John  
men turned out as a Guard of Honour & to  
act as Bearers, & about 40 of the Patients  
formed part of the Procession.

Auxiliary to 2nd Southern General Hospital.

Telephone No. 199.

Telegrams: St. John Hospital, Cheltenham.



# ST. JOHN HOSPITAL.

GLOUCESTER ROAD,  
CHELTENHAM.



V.A.D. GLOS. 108

The local Volunteers formed another part, & they provided the Band, & Firing Party. I have sent photos to Mr Turner & I am afraid I have not another set to send you. Miss Pallister came for the funeral.

I am sorry to say there was another of <sup>our</sup> Patients buried in the next grave to Mr Turner, the same afternoon, & another from another local V.A. Hosp. in the grave beyond, so that the three funerals were simultaneous, taken by the same Rev. E. Chaplain. The Australian Govt has bought a piece of ground in the cemetery

These & the Graves will be cared for by the  
the Girl Guides, under the supervision  
by the Rector's wife.

If there is anything more you want  
to know please don't hesitate to ask  
me.

Yours truly

A. Woodward

Co<sup>st</sup>  
Co<sup>st</sup>

FLOWERS SENT IN MEMORY OF PTE TURNER

P R I V A T E   S I D N E Y   T U R N E R

Died Thursday, May 2/18,  
Funeral Saturday, May 4/18

1. SHEAF OF IRISES \_\_\_\_\_ From his Mother in loving remembrance
2. WREATH \_\_\_\_\_ From his Comrades in St John Hospital, Cheltenham
3. CROSS \_\_\_\_\_ From the Commandant & Staff, St John Hospital,  
With deepest regret
4. CHAPLET OF FLOWERS \_\_\_\_\_ From the V.A. Nurses of St John Ward  
With deepest sympathy
5. FLOWERS \_\_\_\_\_ "A token of sympathy" - Anon.
6. WREATH \_\_\_\_\_ In grateful memory of Pte Turner  
From Miss Dorothea de R. Dobson,  
Official visitor for the Australian Red Cross.
7. WREATH \_\_\_\_\_ With respect & sympathy  
From the Chelt. Branch of the Victoria League
8. CROSS \_\_\_\_\_ A Token of sympathy  
From a fellow Australian, Mrs Reginald Waterfield
9. NARCISSI \_\_\_\_\_ From H. Martyn, with kind sympathy
10. ANCHOR \_\_\_\_\_ With heartfelt sympathy  
From sorrowing Ethel, 46 Gorbarg Street, Gateshead
11. WREATH \_\_\_\_\_ With deepest sympathy  
From Ma Pallister & Ivy Carleon and Lorna, "
12. WREATH \_\_\_\_\_ With deepest sympathy  
From Mr & Mrs J.L. Pallister, Gateshead.

3