## **FINLAY, Douglas Joseph**

**Reference: Beecroft Church of England Roll of Honour, Beecroft Roll of Honour, Beecroft War Memorial, Tony Cunneen book**

**Resident of “Allerton,” Murray Road, Beecroft, NSW**

**AIF Project details:**

Regimental Number: 2659

Enlistment Date: 17 Apr 1916

Place of Birth: Liverpool, England

Age: 20 years 11 months

School: Liverpool Institute, England

Age on arrival in Australia: 16

Occupation: Clerk

Address: ‘Allerton’, Murray Road, Beecroft, NSW

Marital Status: Single

Age at embarkation: 21

Height: 5’ 5”

Weight: 114lbs

Chest Measurement: 31-33”

Complexion: Fresh

Eyes: Blue

Hair: Brown

Religious Denomination: Church of England

Next of Kin: Sister, Mrs Pierce Crosbie McDonnell, ‘Allerton’, Murray Road, Beecroft, NSW

Previous military service: 19th Infantry, Militia 3 years Cadets 2 years

Date of enlistment from Nominal Roll: 24 Mar 1916

Rank on enlistment: Private

Unit Name: 53rd Battalion, 6th Reinforcement

AWM embarkation Roll number: 23/70/4

Embarkation details: Unit embarked from Sydney, on board HMAT A40 *Ceramic* on 7 Oct 1916

Roll title: 53 Infantry Battalion – 6 to 10 Reinforcements (Oct 1916 – Aug 1917)

Rank from Nominal Roll: Private

Unit from Nominal Roll: 53rd Battalion

Fate: Died of wounds 1 Sep 1918

Place of death or wounding: Peronne, France

Age at death: 23

Place of burial: Peronne Communal Cemetery Extension (Plot III, Row C, Grave No. 6), France

Panel number, Roll of Honour, Australian War Memorial: 157

Misc. information from cemetery records: Parents: Douglas and Mary Elizabeth Finlay

Other details: War service: Western Front

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

**AWM (Australian War Memorial): Roll of Honour**

**Douglas Joseph Finlay**

Service No. 2659

Rank: Private

Unit: 53rd Australian Infantry Battalion

Enlistment Date: 24 March 1915

Fate: Died of wounds

Fate Date: 1 September 1918

Date of Death: 1 September 1918

Place of Death: France

Cause of Death: Died of wounds

Age at Death: 23

Place of Association: Beecroft, N.S.W.

Cemetery or Memorial Details: Peronne Communal Cemetery Extension, Peronne, Picardie, France

**Further references:**

“Beecroft and Cheltenham in WW1” by Tony Cunneen (pages 31-32, 44-45, 79-80, 87)

The Sydney Morning Herald, Sat 5 Oct 1918 (death)