

Norman William West SANDIFORD

Norman Sandiford was born in April 1885 at Warragul, the son of an Anglican clergyman. He studied at Melbourne Grammar and went to Melbourne University to complete his law degree. He was admitted to practice in 1910 and practiced in the Wycheproof and Sea Lake districts as a solicitor from 1911.

Norman Sandiford enlisted on 31 December 1915 at the Melbourne Town Hall. Originally with the 60th Battalion, he joined the 38th Battalion in England after travelling first to Egypt in 1916. He progressed quickly from corporal to sergeant and was commissioned a 2nd lieutenant in January 1917.

He was wounded in action in late August 1918 during fighting at Curlu on the Somme during the battles for Mont St Quentin. He was awarded the Military Cross for *“conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty...in taking command of the company when his commanding officer became a casualty. He led the company with credit the following three days and when wounded... continued for 15 hours directing and urging his men forward.”*

After recovering from his wounds and rejoining his unit in October 1918 Sandiford was appointed Aide-de-Camp to Major General Sir John Gellibrand, commander of the Australian Third Division.

Sandiford returned to Australia in May 1919 and resumed his legal practice at Wycheproof and Sea Lake. He died on 13 July 1926, aged 39, leaving behind a widow and child.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

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