

**Tottenham Cemetery,
Greater London, Middlesex, England**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



2778 PRIVATE

H. L. BEAUMONT

16TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

25TH SEPTEMBER, 1916 Age 21

Harold Lionel BEAUMONT

Harold Lionel Hansen was born on 5th August, 1894 at Skovby, Aeroskobing, Denmark to parents Josef Madgen & Karen Hansen (parents listed by CWGC).

According to information provided by his uncle for the Roll of Honour Harold Lionel Hansen was a Sailor & came to Australia when he was 19 years old.

Harold Lionel Hansen enlisted under the name of "Harold Lionel Beaumont". He stated he was a 21 year old, single, Labourer when he enlisted at Keswick, South Australia on 2nd June, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Methodist & his next of kin was listed as his uncle – Christian Jenson, Skovby, Aro, Denmark.

(Note: One copy of Attestation Papers was filled out as "*Harold Lionel Beaumont*" & the other as "*Harold Lionel Beaumont*")

Private Harold Lionel Beaumont was posted to "G" Group Base Infantry on 2nd June, 1915 for recruit training. He was written up for An Offence on 12th June, 1915 while posted at Mitcham Camp – Absent from Tattoo 9.30 PM on 12th June, 1915 & at 6.30 am on 13th June, 1915. Private Beaumont was confined to Barracks for 3 days & forfeited 1 days pay. He was transferred to 9th Reinforcements of 16th Infantry Battalion on 1st July, 1915. Private Beaumont was written up for an Offence on 22nd August, 1915 while posted at Mitcham Camp – Absent without Leave from 9 am on 20th August, 1915 until 2 9m on 21st August, 1915. He was awarded a forfeiture of 1 days' pay.

Private Harold Lionel Beaumont (name as per Embarkation Roll), Service number 2778, embarked from Adelaide, South Australia on HMAT *Star of England (A15)* on 21st September, 1915 with the 16th Infantry Battalion, 9th Reinforcements. He was admitted to Troopship Hospital on 26th September, 1915 with Gonorrhoea & was discharged from Ship's Hospital on 9th October, 1915.

Private Harold Lionel Beaumont embarked from Alexandria on 4th November, 1915 on *Minnewaska* to join M.E.F. (Mediterranean Expeditionary Force). He was taken on strength of 16th Battalion from 9th Reinforcements at Gallipoli on 13th November, 1915.

Private Harold Lionel Beaumont disembarked at Alexandria on 30th December, 1915 from Mudros ex H.M.T. *Ascanius*. (after the evacuation of Gallipoli).

Private Harold Lionel Beaumont reported sick on 10th January, 1916 while posted at Ismailia. He was taken to 4th Australian Field Ambulance on 9th January, 1916 – cause N.Y.D. (not yet determined) then transferred to 2nd Australian Casualty Station. Private Beaumont was admitted to No. 1 Australian Stationary Hospital on 16th January, 1916 & discharged on 21st January, 1916. He rejoined his Unit from Hospital on 21st January, 1916.

Private Harold Lionel Beaumont reported sick on 26th January, 1916 while posted at Ismailia. He was admitted to 4th Field Ambulance with Scabies then transferred on 26th January, 1916 to No. 1 Australian Stationary Hospital at Ismailia. Private Beaumont was transferred to No. 2 General Hospital at Cairo on 28th January, 1916 with Scabies. He was transferred on 23rd February, 1916 to No. 1 Auxiliary Hospital at Heliopolis then transferred & admitted to No. 4 Auxiliary Hospital at Abbassia on the same day. Private Beaumont was discharged on 18th March, 1916.

Private Harold Lionel Beaumont was transferred from overseas base at Gherzireh to Zeitoun on 25th March, 1916. He rejoined his Unit on 2nd April, 1916.

Private Harold Lionel Beaumont proceeded to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force) on H.M.T. *Canada* from Alexandria on 1st June, 1916. He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 9th June, 1916.

Private Harold Lionel Beaumont forfeited 1 days pay on 17th May, 1916 while posted at Serapeum for 1. Improper conduct in Ranks when marching at attention. 2. Talking in Ranks.

Private Harold Lionel Beaumont was wounded in action in France on 30th August, 1916. He was admitted to 3rd Casualty Clearing Station with multiple Gunshot wounds & was transferred to Ambulance Train on 31st August, 1916. Private Beaumont was admitted to 13th Stationary Hospital at Boulogne, France on 1st September, 1916 with multiple shrapnel wounds to legs & arms as well as retention of urine. He embarked for England on 4th September, 1916 on Hospital Ship *St. David*.

Private Harvey Lionel Beaumont, 2778, 16th Battalion, (name as listed on Army Recommendation for W. 3121 & the Australian War Memorial) was recommended for the Military Medal on 2nd September, 1916: "*When D. Company was withdrawn from the attack on point 54 to the north of POZIERES, on the night of 29/30th August, this man who had gone out with an attacking party in charge of a Lewis Gun, successively and without orders, occupied positions covering this retirement of his Company. When the Company retired in the first instance they were hotly pressed by the enemy, and this man's cool deliberation in establishing himself without assistance with his Lewis Gun, in the manner indicated, was greatly instrumental in checking the counter attack by the enemy.*"

16th Battalion

The 16th Battalion AIF was raised from 16 September 1914, six weeks after the outbreak of the First World War. Three-quarters of the battalion were recruited in Western Australia, and the rest in South Australia. With the 13th, 14th and 15th Battalions it formed the 4th Brigade commanded by Colonel John Monash....

The battalion served at ANZAC until the evacuation in December.

After the withdrawal from Gallipoli, the battalion returned to Egypt. While there the AIF expanded and was reorganised. The 16th Battalion was split and provided experienced soldiers for the 48th Battalion. The 4th Brigade was combined with the 12th and 13th Brigades to form the 4th Australian Division.

In June 1916 they sailed for France and the Western Front. From then until 1918, the battalion took part in bloody trench warfare. Its first major action in France was at Pozieres in the Somme valley, where Private Martin O'Meara won the battalion's first Victoria Cross.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

War Diary – 16th Battalion

30/31st August, 1916:

16th Battalion relieved by 47th Battalion (12th Australian Infantry Brigade) during the night. The relief was very slow owing to the sloppy nature of trenches. Relief was however completed by 5 am 31st August. Moved to BRICKFIELDS. Our casualties for second phase of operations were: - Officers, Killed 3, Wounded 6, Missing Nil. Other Ranks, Killed 27, Wounded 144, Missing 51.

(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Harold Lionel Beaumont was admitted to Edmonton Military Hospital, England on 4th September, 1916 with shrapnel wounds to leg, arm & face (severe). The Hospital Admissions form recorded "*Shell wound face, R. leg comp. comm fracture of femur left leg.*" He was reported to be seriously ill on 23rd September, 1916 with G.S.W. (gunshot wound/s) to face, both legs, left arm & abdomen. "*G.S.W. in face, both legs, arm & abdomen. Very severe, Septicaemia followed. The right thigh had been amputated in France.*"

Private Harold Lionel Beaumont died on 25th September, 1916 at Edmonton Military Hospital, London, England from wounds received in action in France - G.S.W. (gunshot wound/s) to face, both legs, left arm & abdomen.

A death for Harold L. Beaumont, aged 22, was registered in the September quarter, 1916 in the district of Edmonton, Middlesex, England.

Private Harold Lionel Beaumont was buried in Tottenham Cemetery, Greater London, Middlesex, England – Heroes Corner - Grave No. 7338.

He is now remembered on CWGC Screen Wall - Gen. 7322 as he has no headstone. His death is still acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Private Harold Lionel Beaumont was awarded the Military Medal vide A.I.F. Orders 1st Anzac para 347 of 25th October, 1916. (*London Gazette* – 9 December, 1916 page 12054 & *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette* – 19 April, 1917 page 927)

Military Medal

The Military Medal (MM) was a military decoration awarded to personnel of the British Army and other arms of the armed forces, and to personnel of other Commonwealth countries, below commissioned rank, for bravery in battle on land. The award was established in 1916, with retrospective application to 1914, and was awarded to other ranks for "acts of gallantry and devotion to duty under fire". (*Wikipedia*)

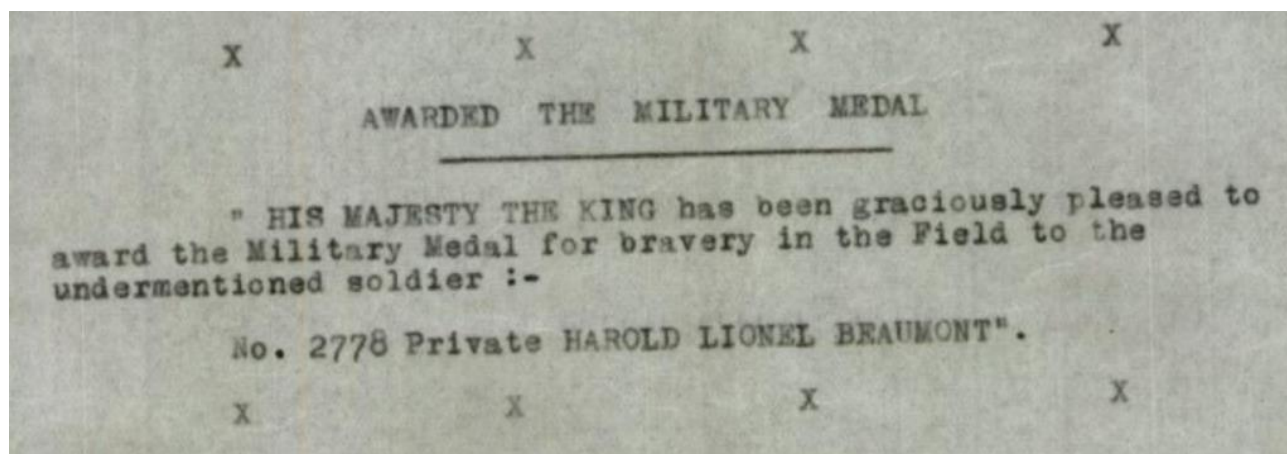


Military Medal (MM)

Private Harold Lionel Beaumont requested in his Will, extracted from his Paybook on 19th April, 1917, that in the event of his death the whole of his property & effects be given to B. Lawson, 2804, 16th Battalion.

The personal effects of the late Private Harold Lionel Beaumont were sent to his uncle – Christian Jensen, Skovby, Aeroskobing, Denmark.

Base Records wrote to Mr C. Jensen, Skooby, Oro, Denmark, on 25th April, 1917 with the following: "*I have much pleasure in forwarding hereunder copy of extract from Supplement No. 29854 to the London Gazette of 8th December, 1916, relating to the conspicuous services rendered by your nephew, the late No. 2778 Private H. L. Beaumont, 16th Battalion.*"



The Public Trustee, Adelaide, South Australia, wrote to Base Records on 10th October, 1919 regarding the Estate of Harold Lionel Beaumont, No. 2778, 16th Battalion, with the following letter: "*I am administering the estate of the above named deceased, and shall be obliged if you will let me have an official intimation of death at your early convenience, in the above estate.*"

Base Records replied to The Public Trustee on 15th October, 1919 enclosing a certificate of report of death of the late No. 2778 Private H. L. Beaumont, 16th Battalion.

Private Harold Lionel Beaumont was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Beaumont's uncle – Mr C. Jensen, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll & Plaque issued in England in April, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Harold Lionel Beaumont - service number 2778, aged 21, of 16th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Josef Madgen & Karen Hansen, of Skovby, Aeroskobling, Denmark.

Private H. L. Hansen is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 79.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

H. L. Beaumont is remembered on the National Soldiers Memorial in Adelaide. The Adelaide National War Memorial commemorates those from South Australia that served in the First World War. The names of those that died are listed inside the Memorial, which is located on the corner of North Terrace & Kintore Avenue, Adelaide.



National War Memorial – Adelaide (Photos by Bilby)

(52 pages of Private Harold Lionel Beaumont's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll) & National Archives



Private Harold Lionel Beaumont

Newspaper Notices

51ST CASUALTY LIST

PROGRESS REPORT

2778 – Pte H. L. BEAUMONT, 16B 9 (Denmark; 4th Aux Hosp., Cairo, prev. rep.

(The Journal, Adelaide, South Australia – 11 March, 1916)

231st CASUALTY LIST

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

WOUNDED

Pte H. L. BEAUMONT, Denmark (sev)

(Observer, Adelaide, South Australia – 14 October, 1916)

235TH CASUALTY LIST

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

DIED OF WOUNDS

Pte H. L. BEAUMONT, Denmark (Sept. 25)

(Observer, Adelaide, South Australia – 14 October, 1916)

THE LATE PRIVATE H. L. BEAUMONT

Private Harold Lionel Beaumont was born at Copenhagen, Denmark, in 1888. He came to Australia in 1913, and was employed at Port Pirie. He saw service on Gallipoli, where he was wounded. Eventually he was transferred to France, where he was again wounded. He died as the result of his wounds on September 25, 1916. In his last letter to Mr. J. Hansen, of St. Peters, he said he hoped it would not be long before he was again in sunny Australia.



Private H. L. Beaumont.

Sergeant Norman Watts, of Littlehampton, a brother-in-law of Mr. Hansen, now serving in France, stated in a recent letter that Private Beaumont was a splendid soldier, and a real good comrade. They had been constant companions since Private Beaumont landed on Gallipoli. The parents of Private Beaumont reside in Copenhagen.

(*Chronicle*, Adelaide, South Australia – 28 October, 1916)

Military Honours

The following awards to Australians were gazetted on December 11th:-

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MILITARY MEDAL

The following awards of the Military Medal to members of the Australian Imperial Force were announced in London on December 11:-

.....2778 Pte H. L. Beaumont, Infantry.....

(*The Register*, Adelaide, South Australia – 17 February, 1917)

AUSTRALIAN GRAVES

FLOWERS IN TOTTENHAM CEMETERY

Eight Australian soldiers are lying in Tottenham Cemetery, England. News of the tending of their graves has been received by Miss G. Limmer, of 299 Avoca street, Randwick, in a letter from a friend, Miss Lillian Short whose address is 130A Gladstone Avenue, Wood Green, London N. The letter says:

In Tottenham Cemetery there are eight Australian soldiers buried, and a few friends and myself have under taken to place flowers on the graves once every month, so that they are not forgotten. The graves are beautifully turfed and looked after by the cemetery authorities, but we supply the flowers. We have been wondering whether the relatives of the men would like to know that we are doing this. It seems so dreadful to think that the poor boys are lying here and their friends cannot get to them. I went to the cemetery yesterday and put daffodils, narcissus and marguerites (yellow) there. They looked so nice when they were finished. The men's names and numbers are as follow:

3959 Pte. W. Whitehead, 23rd Battn., died October 2, 1916.

4654 Pte. W. G. Staveley, 58th. Battn.. died November 12, 1916.

651 Pte. E. J. Willis, 29th Battn., died August 2, 1916.

3558 Pte. E. Smith, 6th Battn., died September 9, 1916.

2778 Pte. H. L. Beaumont, 10th Battn., died September 25, 1916.

4146 Pte. F. A. Beard, 59th Battn., died July 30, 1916.

553 Pte. D. Low, 32nd Battn., died August 4, 1916.

2466 Pte. R. V. Feehan, 10th Battn., died September 22, 1916.

(*Advocate*, Burnie, Tasmania – 17 June, 1921)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for cemeteries and memorials in 23,000 locations, in 153 countries. In all 1.7 million men and women from the Commonwealth forces from WWI and WWII have been honoured and commemorated in perpetuity.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, as part of its mandate, is responsible for commemorating all Commonwealth war dead individually and equally. To this end, the war dead are commemorated by name on a headstone, at an identified site of a burial, or on a memorial. War dead are commemorated uniformly and equally, irrespective of military or civil rank, race or creed.

Not all service personnel have a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. In some instances the relative chose to have their own memorial/headstone placed on the deceased's grave. These private headstones are not maintained by the CWGC as they have no jurisdiction to maintain them.

Tottenham Cemetery, Greater London, Middlesex, England

Tottenham Cemetery contains burials of both wars. Most of the 293 First World War graves are in a plot on the western side of the cemetery, backed by a Screen Wall bearing the names of those buried both there and elsewhere in the cemetery, whose graves could not be individually marked.

There are 212 burials of the Second World War, mostly scattered, but 30 graves form a small plot facing the First World War plot. Again, some graves could not be individually marked and these casualties are commemorated on supplementary panels to the Screen Wall.

(Information from CWGC)



Tottenham Cemetery *(Photo from Find a Grave – Mike Ganly)*

Photo of Private H. L. Beaumont's name on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Screen Wall in Tottenham Cemetery, Greater London, Middlesex, England.



(Photo from Find a Grave – Julia&keld)





Tottenham Cemetery (Photo from CWGC)



Tottenham Cemetery Map (Photo from Find a Grave – Justin)