

**Airbles Cemetery,
Dalziel, Scotland
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



7258 PRIVATE

J. F. P. GRAHAM

5TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

13TH NOVEMBER, 1918 Age 24

He Did His Duty

Loved By All Who Knew Him

John Frederick Paul GRAHAM

John Frederick Paul Graham was born at Motherwell, near Glasgow, Lanarkshire, Scotland around 1894 to parents Peter and Mary Graham.

The 1901 Scotland Census recorded John F. P. Graham as a 6 year old Scholar, living with his family at 47 Hamilton St, Motherwell, Lanarkshire, Scotland. His parents were listed as Peter Graham (Insurance Agent, aged 32, born Chapelhall, Lanarkshire) & Mary Graham (aged 38, born Airdrie, Lanarkshire). Also listed was John's younger brother – Dougal Graham (Scholar, aged 5, born Motherwell, Lanarkshire).

John Frederick Paul Graham attended Dalziel High School, Motherwell, Lanarkshire, Scotland.

John Frederick Paul Graham came to Australia when he was 18 years of age, according to information supplied by his father for the Roll of Honour.

The 1915 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Kooyong, subdivision of Canterbury, Victoria recorded John Frederick Paul Graham, Ledgerkeeper, of 1 Abercrombie St, Deepdene.

The 1917 & 1918 Australian Electoral Rolls for the division of Flinders, subdivision of Korumburra, Victoria recorded John Frederick Paul Graham, Clerk, c/o Mrs Hedley, Jumbunna.

John Frederick Paul Graham stated he was a 28 year old, single, Accountant from Jumbunna, Victoria when he enlisted on 28th November, 1916 with the 5th Infantry Battalion, 24th Reinforcements of the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 7258 & his religion was Presbyterian. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr P. Graham, of 45 Calder Street, Motherwell, Scotland. John Graham stated on his Attestation Papers that he had previously been rejected as unfit for His Majesty's Service due to his eyesight.

A handwritten note by Lieutenant John Holden, SOAAS Corps dated 28th November, 1916 reads "*If J. Graham is fit for Army Service Corps, though unfit for Infantry, I am prepared to take him.*"

Private John Frederick Paul Graham was posted to Recruit Battalion, "A" Company at Royal Park on 6th December, 1916. He was transferred to 1st (Depot) Battalion, A.I.F. at Royal Park on 19th December, 1916. Pte Graham was transferred to 24th Reinforcements of 5th Infantry Battalion on 19th January, 1917.

Private John Frederick Paul Graham embarked from Melbourne on HMAT *Ballarat (A70)* on 19th February, 1917 & disembarked at Devonport, England on 25th April, 1917.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. Some of these were located in the Salisbury Plain & surrounding areas in the county of Wiltshire.

Private John Frederick Paul Graham was marched in from Australia to 2nd Training Battalion at Durrington, Wiltshire on 26th April, 1917.

Private John Frederick Paul Graham was sent sick to Bulford Hospital, Wiltshire on 20th February, 1918 & admitted to 1st A.D.H. (Australian Dermatological Hospital) section. He was detached to C.T.D. (Convalescent Training Depot) at Parkhouse on 23rd February, 1918.

Private John Frederick Paul Graham was marched out to No. 1 Command Depot at Sutton Veny, Wiltshire on 8th April, 1918.

Private John Frederick Paul Graham was marched out to 1st Training Brigade at Sutton Veny on 11th April, 1918. He was medically classified as A3 – fit for Overseas Training Camp.

Private John Frederick Paul Graham was marched in to 1st Training Battalion from 2nd Training Battalion on 14th April, 1918.

Private John Frederick Paul Graham was marched out to Brigade Headquarters on 5th June, 1918.

Private John Frederick Paul Graham was sent sick to Sutton Veny Hospital from 1st Training Brigade Headquarters on 23rd July, 1918. Private John Graham was admitted to Military Hospital, Sutton Veny on 26th July, 1918 – cause not yet determined. He was transferred to 1st A.D.H. (Australian Dermatological Hospital) at Bulford on 3rd August, 1918 & discharged to duty on 7th August, 1918.

Private John Frederick Paul Graham was marched in to 1st Training Brigade from Sutton Veny Hospital on 7th August, 1918.

Private John Graham was admitted to Military Hospital, Sutton Veny on 6th November, 1918 with Influenza.

Private John Frederick Paul Graham died on 13th November, 1918 at Military Hospital, Sutton Veny, Wiltshire, England from Influenza & Pneumonia.

Private John Frederick Paul Graham was buried on 19th November, 1918 in Airbles Cemetery, Dalziel, Scotland – Plot number A. 75 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Pte Graham - *The deceased soldier was accorded a full Military funeral, Firing Party, Bugler and Pallbearers being in attendance. The coffin was draped with the Australian Flag, and surmounted by several wreaths sent from: Mr & Mrs McLatchie, Mr & Mrs Thom, Mr & Mrs Livingston, Miss Ada Downie, Miss Comrie, Mrs Harris, FATHER – Mr Peter Graham, Mr R. Stuart, Cpl. Leishman A.I.F. Sutton Veny, Wilts, and other chums. The "Last Post" was sounded at the graveside, and the burial service conducted by the Rev. Thos. Marshall. Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London were represented at the funeral. Relatives and Friends present at the funeral – Father, 2 Brothers, 3 Nephews, Uncles Mr Hudson & Mr J. Cooper, 3 Cousins, Mr John Paul & Mr Jas. Paul.*

Pte John Frederick Paul Graham was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte Graham's father in Scotland - Mr P. Graham, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll & Plaque both sent November, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private John Frederick Paul Graham – service number 7258, aged 24, of 5th Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of Peter and Mary Graham, of 45 Calder St., Motherwell, Scotland.

Private J. F. P. Graham is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 43.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Pte John F. P. Graham is remembered on the Motherwell War Memorial, situated in the Duchess of Hamilton Park, Motherwell. He is listed under "Overseas Forces".

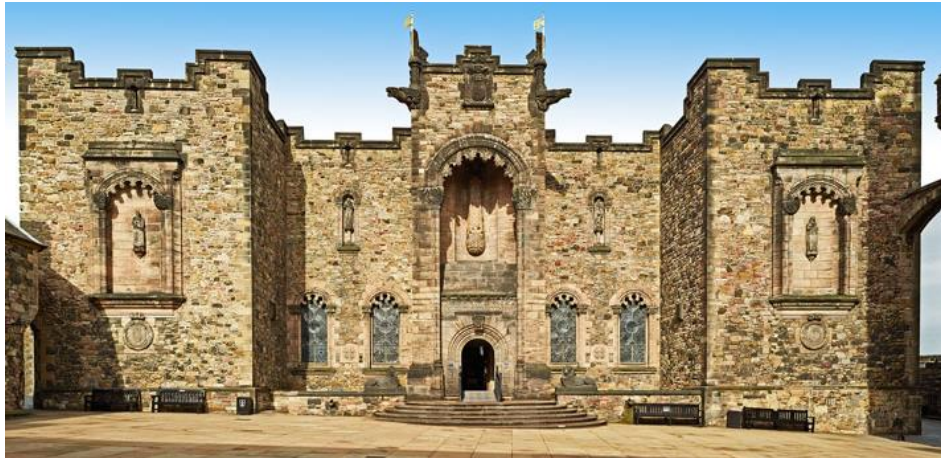


Motherwell War Memorial

(Photos from The Scottish Military Research Group – David McNay & Jamie McGinlay)



Private John Frederick Paul Graham is remembered in the Roll of Honour books held in the Hall of Honour inside The Scottish National War Memorial. The north side of the Hall of Honour is divided by columns into bays, each dedicated to a different regiment and enhanced with battle honours and consecrated colours. On the broad shelf in front of each of the bays, the names of the dead are listed in leather-bound books.



The Scottish National War Memorial & the Hall of Honour & the Roll of Honour books.

(Photos from The Scottish National War Memorial)



(44 pages of Pte John Frederick Paul Graham'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, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives



Newspaper Notices

TOLL OF WAR - Pte John F. P. Graham, Australians, has died of pneumonia in England. The deceased soldier was a son of Mr Peter Graham, J.P., chairman of Dalziel Parish Council, and had seen service in France. He left Motherwell for the Antipodes six years ago, and joined up at the beginning of the war. A younger brother fell in action several months ago.

(Hamilton Advertiser, Lanarkshire, Scotland – 16 November, 1918)

DIED FROM PNEUMONIA

Mr Peter Graham, J.P., chairman of Dalziel Parish Council, received the sad tidings this week that his only surviving son, John F. P. Graham of the Australian Forces has died of influenza and pneumonia in a military camp in England. The young man left Motherwell for Australia six years ago, where he occupied the position of cashier to a colliery company. At the outbreak of war, he joined up with the Australians, and on the voyage to England, the transport on which the "Anzacs" were being conveyed was torpedoed. He was fortunate to be picked up, and after a short period in this country, he was sent to France. Mr Graham's younger son was killed in action some month's ago.

(Motherwell Times, Motherwell, Lanarkshire, Scotland – 15 November, 1918)

DEATHS

GRAHAM – Died at Military Hospital, Sutton Veny, Wilts, on the 13th November, 1918, Private John F. P. Graham, 5th Battalion, Australian Imperial Force, and beloved son of Peter and Mary Graham, 45 Calder Street; sadly missed.

He did his duty.

(Motherwell Times, Motherwell, Lanarkshire, Scotland – 22 November, 1918)

CONDOLENCE

An apology for absence having been intimated from Mr Peter Graham.

The Provost said their sincere sympathy went out to Mr Graham in his great loss. This was the second son Mr Graham had lost and Mr Graham and his wife were now left alone. It was sad to see so many young men cut down in the very flower of their manhood. and their heart-felt sympathy went out to their colleague in his sore bereavement. He moved that they send him a letter and that their sympathy be recorded in the minutes.

(Motherwell Times, Motherwell, Lanarkshire, Scotland – 22 November, 1918)

MILITARY FUNERAL

The funeral of Pte John Graham, Australian Force, who died in an English Hospital last week, took place to Airbles Cemetery on Tuesday afternoon. The deceased soldier who was well-known in Motherwell, was the only surviving son of Mr Peter Graham, J.P., Chairman of Dalziel Parish Council, who has lost both sons in the war, the younger son being killed in action some time ago. There was a large and representative attendance of townspeople, and there were many floral tributes. At the graveside Rev. Thomas Marshall, M.A., conducted a brief funeral sermon. The firing party was provided by the Scottish Rifles, while a bugler from the regiment sounded "The Last Post."

(Hamilton Advertiser, Lanarkshire, Scotland – 23 November, 1918)

ROLL OF HONOUR

VICTORIAN LIST

DIED OTHER CAUSES

Pte J. F. P. GRAHAM, Scotland, 13/11/18

(*Weekly Times*, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia – 14 December, 1918)

ANZAC DAY

At the request of the authorities in London the minister of Dalziel (the Rev. T. B. Stewart Thomson, B.D., M.C.) organised a party to visit the graves of two Australasian soldiers, buried in Motherwell, on "Anzac Day" (April 25), the anniversary of the first landing at Gallipoli. As a result between thirty and forty members of the Parish Church and other friends assembled at 4 pm at Airbles Cemetery. Captain Thomson said a few words on the reason for their presence, and offered a prayer, Thereafter many beautiful flowers were placed on the graves of Pte John Fredrick Paul Graham, 5th Bn. A.I.F., and Pte Charles Gorgenson, A.I.F. The proceeding terminated with the Benediction. Amongst those present was Mrs Graham, 45 Calder Street, mother of Pte Graham.

(*Motherwell Times*, Motherwell, Lanarkshire, Scotland – 2 May, 1919)

ANZAC DAY

Captain the Rev. T. B. Stewart Thomson, M.C., minister of Dalziel, has again been asked by the authorities in London to arrange for the celebration in Motherwell of "Anzac Day," the anniversary of the first landing at Gallipoli, which falls on Sunday, the 25th of the month. Two Anzac soldiers lie buried in Airbles Cemetery – Pte John F. P. Graham, 5th Batt., A.I.F., and Pte Charles Gorgenson, A.I.F. Any who would like to place a few simple flowers on their graves, in grateful remembrance of our Australian and New Zealand soldiers who died for the cause of freedom, are asked to meet at the Cemetery Gates at 3.30 pm on Sunday.

(*Motherwell Times*, Motherwell, Lanarkshire, Scotland - 23 April, 1920)

MOTHERWELL

Anzac Day

Anzac Day (April 25th), the anniversary of the landing on the peninsula of Gallipoli, falls on Monday of next week, and the Rev. T. B. Stewart Thomson, M.C., B.D., minister of Dalziel, had again been asked by the authorities in London to arrange for the annual pilgrimage to the graves of Australian and New Zealand soldiers buried in Motherwell. There are four such in Airbles Cemetery – 2 Australian and 1 New Zealand. Friends and all interested are invited to bring a little tribute in the way if a bunch of flowers, and it is understood that a party of the local company of the Royal Engineers, who took part in the landing, may also be present. Captain Stewart Thomson will meet the company at the gate of the cemetery at 3.30 pm prompt on Monday.

(*Motherwell Times*, Motherwell, Lanarkshire, Scotland - 22 April, 1921)

MOTHERWELL

"Anzac Day"

The Parish minister (Rev. T. B. Stewart Thomson) has again been asked by the Australian authorities to arrange for the observance of "Anzac Day," which falls on Wednesday, 25th April, the anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli. Friends interested are asked to meet at the gate of Airbles Cemetery at 2.45 pm prompt. Thereafter flowers will be placed on the graves of the three Australian and New Zealand soldiers buried there. It is hoped that a detachment of the local Field Company, Royal Engineers (T.A.), who took part in the landing may be on parade.

(*Motherwell Times*, Motherwell, Lanarkshire, Scotland - 20 April, 1923)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Defence Department, in 1920/21, contacted the next of kin of the deceased World War 1 soldiers to see if they wanted to include a personal inscription on the permanent headstone. Space was reserved for 66 letters only (with the space between any two words to be counted as an additional letter) & the rate per letter was around 3 ½ d (subject to fluctuation).

The expense in connection for the erection of permanent headstones over the graves of fallen soldiers was borne by the Australian Government.

(Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921)

Pte J. F. P. Graham does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

He Did His Duty

Loved By All Who Knew Him

Airbles Cemetery, Dalziel, Scotland

Airbles Cemetery, Dalziel contains 79 Commonwealth War Graves – 25 relating to World War 1 & 54 relating to World War 2.



Entrance to Airbles Cemetery, Dalziel *(Photo by Ross Watson)*

Photo of Pte J. F. P. Graham's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Airbles Cemetery, Dalziel, Scotland



(Photo by David McNay - Scottish War Graves Project)



(Photo by David McNay - Scottish War Graves Project)

