

**Linlithgow Cemetery,
West Lothian, Scotland**

War Grave



Lest We Forget

World War 1



924 PRIVATE

W. D. LUMSDEN

11TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

30TH JULY, 1916 Age 22

William Deas LUMSDEN

William Deas Lumsden was born at Linlithgow, West Lothian, Scotland in 1892 to parents James & Margaret Lumsden (nee Nicol).

William Deas Lumsden attended Linlithgow School, Scotland.

The 1901 Scotland Census recorded William D. Lumsden as an 8 year old Scholar, living with his family at 15 High Street, Linlithgow, West Lothian, Scotland. His parents were listed as James Lumsden (Aerated Water Works Manufacturer, aged 40, born Edinburgh, Midlothian) & Margaret Lumsden (aged 39, born Edinburgh, Midlothian). William was one of eight children listed on this Census – James Lumsden (Scholar, aged 13, born Edinburgh, Midlothian), Margaret N. Lumsden (Scholar, aged 12, born Edinburgh, Midlothian), Alexander N. Lumsden (Scholar, aged 11, born Edinburgh, Midlothian), Thomas C. Lumsden (Scholar, aged 9, born Leith, Midlothian), then William, Walter Lumsden (Scholar, aged 6, born Linlithgow, Midlothian), Euphemia C. Lumsden (aged 4, born Linlithgow, Midlothian) & Adam Lumsden (aged 1, born Linlithgow, Midlothian).

Margaret Lumsden, mother of William Deas Lumsden, died on 17th February, 1906 at Linlithgow, Scotland.

According to information provided by his father for the Roll of Honour – William Deas Lumsden came to Australia when he was 19 years old. William Lumsden, Farm Hand, aged 19, was a passenger on Armadale which had departed from port of London, England on 18th May, 1912 & arrived at Fremantle, Western Australia on 1st July, 1912.

William Deas Lumsden was a 20 year old, single, Lumper from “Kent House”, Brunswick Road, Albany, Western Australia when he enlisted on 7th September, 1914 at Helena Vale, Western Australia with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 924 & his religion was Presbyterian. His next of kin was listed as James Lumsden, St Magdalene’s, Linlithgow, Scotland. William Lumsden stated on his Attestation Papers that he had previously served with Imperial Territorials but had left for Australia. According to information provided by his father for the Roll of Honour – William Lumsden had previously served with “*Territorial Forces 10 Cyls Royal Scots.*”

Private William Deas Lumsden was posted to “H” Company, 11th Battalion on 7th September, 1914 for recruit training. He was Absent without Leave on 19th October, 1914 & was Fined 5/-.



The “Albany Boys” Black Boy Hill Camp W. Aus 2-9-14. “Scotty” Lumsden (front row – second from right)

Private William Deas Lumsden embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia on 31st October, 1914 with 11th Infantry Battalion "H" Company on HMT *Ascanius* (A11) & anchored for two days before sailing on 2nd November, 1914.

Private William Deas Lumsden embarked from Alexandria on 2nd March, 1915 on HMT *Suffolk* to join M.E.F. (Mediterranean Expeditionary Force) – (Gallipoli Peninsula).

Private William Deas Lumsden was wounded in action at the Dardanelles on 30th April, 1915. He was admitted to Clearing Hospital on 30th April, 1915 then transferred to Hospital Ship A36. Private Lumsden arrived at Alexandria on 3rd May, 1915 ex HMT *Mashoubra* A36. He was admitted to No. 2 General Hospital at Ghezireh with Bullet wound to Breast (Casualty form – Active Service has date recorded as 29/5/15.) Private Lumsden was admitted to Convalescent Hospital at Helouan on 12th May, 1915 & discharged to duty at Zeitoun on 25th May, 1915.

11th Battalion

The 11th Battalion was among the first infantry units raised for the AIF during the First World War. It was the first battalion recruited in Western Australia, and with the 9th, 10th and 12th Battalions it formed the 3rd Brigade.

The battalion was raised within weeks of the declaration of war in August 1914 and embarked for overseas after just two weeks of preliminary training. It arrived in Egypt to continue its training in early December. The 3rd Brigade was the covering force for the ANZAC landing on 25 April 1915 and so was the first ashore at around 4:30 am. Ten days after the landing, a company from the 11th Battalion mounted the AIF's first raid of the war against Turkish positions at Gaba Tepe. Subsequently, the battalion was heavily involved in defending the front line of the ANZAC beachhead. In August, it made preparatory attacks at the southern end of the ANZAC position before the battle of Lone Pine. The 11th Battalion continued to serve at ANZAC until the evacuation in December.....

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

War Diary – 11th Battalion

28th April, 1915:

The engagement has continued without cessation the enemy showing considerable activity on the left flank.

On this afternoon Capt C. A. Barnes was killed in the trenches. Col McLaurin C.O. 1st Brigade was killed.

During this evening portions of the battalion were withdrawn from the firing line and assembled at the beach.

30th April, 1915:

About three hundred and fifty of the Battalion assembled on the beach today and were marched into bivouac in reserve.

(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)

Private William Deas Lumsden's letter to his father:

7.5.15 2nd General Hospital, AIF, Cairo

Dear Father Just a few lines to let you know how I have been getting on since I wrote last in Egypt. Well we left Mena nine weeks ago on a Sunday and went to Lemnos. There we lay in the harbour for about eight weeks going ashore nearby everyday which proved to be a great part of our training for every man was a sailor and knew exactly what to do in the landing of troops.

So, on the 24th of April we left Lemnos and went to Tenedos. There we disembarked into destroyers then we left for Turkey land towing enough of small boats to take us ashore, well we got there at day break and we were welcomed with a shower of shrapnel and the machine gun fire was something terrible, although in our boat no one was hit but the bullets was dropping all round us and two boats of our company was riddled and not a single man got ashore.

When we got stuck on the beach we got up to the neck in it and paddled on as well as we could and when we had a good footing we fixed bayonets and charged up the hill something of this / grade covered with scrub but the Turks

didn't wait for us, they bolted leaving everything but their rifles and where the Division had got three days to advance too, our Brigade got there by ten o'clock and passed it, but we soon found we had gone too far and had to retreat back to the top of the ridge which we held till the rest of the Division came up in the afternoon.

Monday and Tuesday they gave us hell with shrapnel and counter attacks but were all repulsed and on Wednesday it was like a Sunday nothing doing at all. Thursday was much the same, but on Friday they were preparing for a final flutter, they had worked round on our right in the night time and concealed machine guns which enfiladed our trench and by six at night nearly every man had been killed or wounded, me included, and they took possession of it and held it for five minutes and then our supports chased them out of it and I believe we have been holding them easily since.

Now for what life is like in the trenches, well I went in on the Sunday and never got out again till the bullet relieved on the Friday. We were pretty hard hit for the want of water and tucker. The first water that was sent in was on Wednesday morning. We never had a sleep for the Turks kept at us all night and creeping up to the trenches and throwing hand bombs and the German officers used to come right into our lines and give orders. The snipers are good shots. They are hidden in the scrub and also dug in.

I think this is all hoping this to find you all well as it leaves me in the pink and the time I will be amongst it.

Your affectionate son

Willie

I was shot through the armpit.

Private William Deas Lumsden rejoined 11th Battalion at Gallipoli Peninsula on 16th June, 1915.

Private William Deas Lumsden disembarked at Alexandria on 7th January, 1916 from HMT Empress of *Britain* ex Lemnos (after the evacuation of Gallipoli).

Private William Deas Lumsden embarked from Alexandria on 29th March, 1916 on HMT *Corsican* to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force). He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 5th April, 1916.

Private William Deas Lumsden was wounded in action (2nd occasion) in France between 22 – 25th July, 1916. He was admitted to 1st Australian Field Ambulance on 25th July, 1916 with G.S.W. (gunshot wound/s) to Chest & Groin. Private Lumsden was transferred to 3rd Casualty Clearing Station on 26th July, 1916 then transferred the same day to Ambulance Train. He was admitted to 3rd Stationary Hospital at Rouen, France on 27th July, 1916 & embarked for England on Hospital Ship *St. Andrew* on 29th July, 1916.

11th Battalion

After the withdrawal from Gallipoli, the 11th Battalion returned to Egypt. It was split to help form the 51st Battalion, and then bought up to strength with reinforcements.

In March 1916, the battalion 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 in July. After Pozieres, the battalion manned trenches near Ypres in Flanders before returning to the Somme valley for winter.....

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

War Diary – 11th Battalion

22nd – 25th July, 1916 – Firing Line:

Capt A. H. Macfarlane O/C/ "A" Coy was killed during the early morning.

Copy of Battalion orders for first offensive against POZIERES is attached. Appendix E

Narrative of the operations embracing the whole time Battalion was in the firing line (19th – 25th July) is attached. Appendix F.

Appendix F:

....

Our casualties during the operation were:-

	<i>Killed</i>	<i>Wounded</i>	<i>Missing</i>
<i>Officers</i>	6	11	1
<i>Other Ranks</i>	62	358	91

(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)

Private William Deas Lumsden was admitted to Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, England on 30th July, 1916 with G.S.W. to Chest & hip – severe. The Hospital Admissions form recorded “*In action at Pozieres July 26th/16. G.S.W. of Chest superficial wound of right hip & groin. Imersed (?) 26.7.16 & drainage tube put through. On admission patient was dying. Temp subnormal pulse inperceptable, respirations hurried, persistent vomiting & diarrhoea. Large area if gangrene surrounding wound in groin & extending on to abdomen & down thigh..... Patient died 65 mins after admission to Ward.*”

Private William Deas Lumsden died on 30th July, 1916 at Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, England from wounds received in action in France – G.S.W. (gunshot wound/s) to Chest.

A death for William D. Lumsden, aged 22, was registered in the September quarter, 1916 in the district of South Stoneham, Hampshire, England.

Base Records wrote to Officer Commanding, Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley on 27th October, 1916 to request details regarding the burial place of the late Private W. D. Lumsden.

Major, R.A.M.C., Registrar, Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley advised Base Records that “*the late Pte William Dees Lumsden, 11th Australians, was buried in the Military Cemetery, Netley, on the 31st July, 1916, the Grave number being 364. The remains were subsequently exhumed and sent to the care of deceased’s relatives at Linlithgow for re-interment.....*”

Base Records wrote to Mr James Lumsden, St Magdalene, Edinburgh Rd, Linlithgow, Scotland on 3rd January with the following letter: “*Information has been received from the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, that the body of your late son, No. 924, Private Lumsden, W. D. of the 11th Battalion, was sent to your residence for interment. Could this office be advised, please, as to the Grave Site Number, Cemetery, and date of burial, for Records purposes in this Office.*”

James Lumsden, father of the late Private William Deas Lumsden, replied to Base Records on 7th January, 1917 advising that his son was “*.....interred in Grave site No. 13 in Linlithgow Cemetery the burial took place on 13th Sept 1916.*”

Private William Deas Lumsden was originally buried in Netley Military Cemetery, England on 31st July, 1916 – Grave number 364. His body was removed from Netley Military Cemetery on 11th September, 1916 for reinterment in Linlithgow Cemetery, West Lothian, Scotland – Grave site No. 13 by relatives on 13th September, 1916.

Newspaper item – *Linlithgowshire Gazette*, Scotland – 15 September, 1916;

A SOLDIER’S FUNERAL

On Wednesday last the remains of Private William Deas Lumsden, son of Mr James Lumsden, St Magdalene’s Aerated Water Works, were laid to rest in Linlithgow Cemetery in the presence of a large gathering, which attended as a mark of sympathy with the bereaved family. The late Private Lumsden, who left Linlithgow for Australia some years ago, joined the Australian Contingent, and took part in the operations at the Dardanelles. Later he was sent to France, where he was wounded, and afterwards died in hospital in the south of England. The religious exercises were conducted by the Rev. Robert Wilson, East U.F. Church.

Private William Deas Lumsden's grave is now recorded by the CWGC as Plot number A. 14 & he has a Private Family Headstone. His death is still acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Office of Curator of Intestate Estates, the Supreme Court, Perth, Western Australia, wrote to Base Records on 18th January, 1917 with a list of deceased soldiers & requesting for death certificates in triplicate. Private W. D. Lumsden, 11th Battalion was included in the list.

Base Records replied to Office of Curator of Intestate Estates on 1st February, 1917 enclosing certificates (in triplicate) of reports of death.

Scotland National Probate Index - 1917:

Lumsden, William Deas, St Magdalen's Edinburgh Road, Linlithgow, Pte., Australian Infantry, died 30 July, 1916, in Netley Military Hospital, Portsmouth, intestate. Confirmation granted at Linlithgow, 18 June, to James Lumsden, Joiner, St, Magdalen's, Edinburgh Road aforesaid, Executor dative qua father. Value of Estate, £45.

Private William Deas Lumsden was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Lumsden mother – Mrs J. Lumsden, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll & Plaque issued in England in February, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private William Deas Lumsden – service number 924, aged 22, of 11th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of James & Margaret Nicol Lumsden, of 1 Belleview, Edinburgh Rd, Linlithgow.

Private W. D. Lumsden is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 63.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

W. D. Lumsden is remembered on the Albany War Memorial, located at York Street & Peels Place, Albany, Western Australia.



Albany War Memorial (Photos from AWM Places of Pride – Henry Moulds)



W. D. Lumsden is remembered on the Western Australia State War Memorial which is located at the top of Kings Park and Botanic Garden escarpment, ANZAC Bluff, Fraser Avenue, Perth, Western Australia. The memorial was developed around an 18 metre tall obelisk as the principal feature, which is almost a replica of the Australian Imperial Force Memorials erected in France and Belgium.

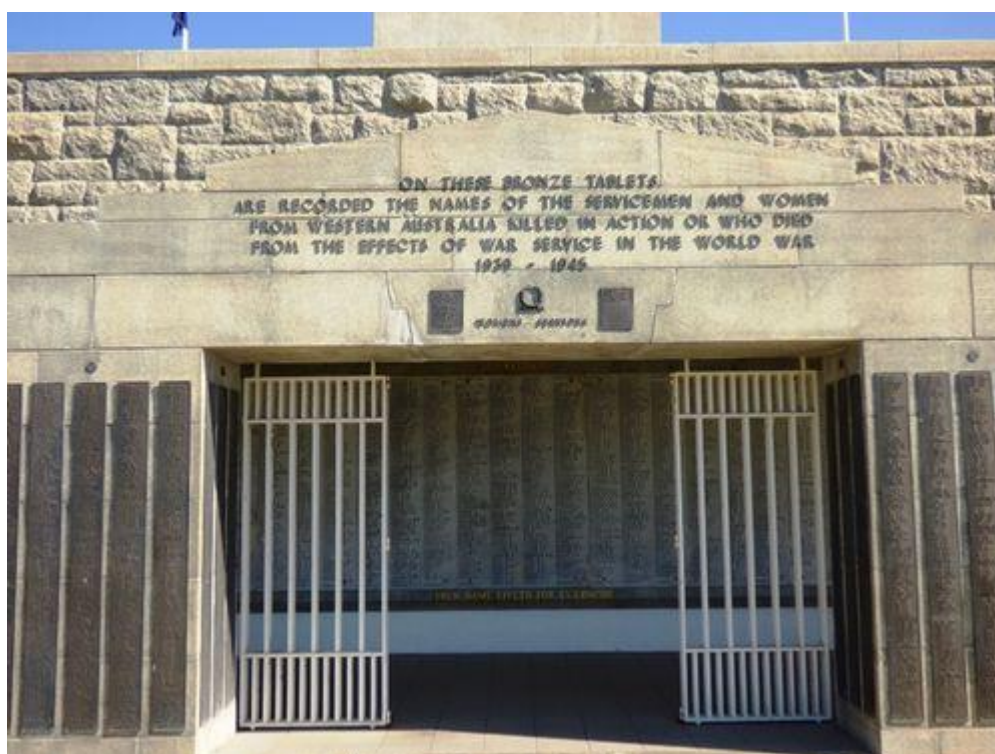
The heavy concrete foundations are supplemented by heavy brick walls which enclose an inner chamber or crypt. The walls surrounding the crypt are covered with The Roll of Honour; marble tablets which list under their units the names of more than 7,000 members of the services killed in action or as a result of World War One.



Western Australia State War Memorial Cenotaph, Kings Park (above)

& (below) The Crypt with the Roll of Honour names

(Photos from Monument Australia – Kent Watson/Sandra Tattersall/Graeme Saunders)





11th Battalion Panel (Photo courtesy of Gordon Stuart)

Private William D. Lumsden is remembered on the St Michael's Church Roll of Honour, The Cross, Linlithgow, Scotland.



William Deas Lumsden 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)



(45 pages of Private William Deas Lumsden'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





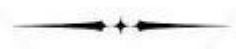
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

P08644.001

Private William Deas Lumsden



Private William Deas Lumsden



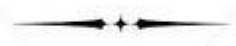
Connected to Private William Deas Lumsden:

Older brother – Thomas Clapperton Lumsden – Enlisted on 13th January, 1915 as a 23 year old Farm Hand from Horse shoe Coffee Palace, Pier Street, Perth, Western Australia. Embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia with 3rd Light Horse Brigade, 10th Light Horse Regiment, 5th Reinforcements on 26th April, 1915 on A20 *Hororata* as Private 957.

Returned to Australia from England on *Anchises* on 28th February, 1919 & disembarked at Albany, Western Australia on 7th April, 1919.

He was discharged from the Australian Imperial Force on 10th June, 1919.

Entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & Victory Medal.



Newspaper Notices

Albany Contingent

DEPARTURE FOR PERTH

Yesterday was a very busy day for Captain G. H. S, Blackburne, A.A.M.C., and the Area Officer, and the Area Officer, Lieut. Everett, and his staff, owing to the examination of the Albany volunteers for the Australian Imperial Expeditionary Force. The number to be taken from Albany was only 30 and as there were just upon 100 who offered themselves the examination was very strict, and anyone that did not reach the regulation height was passed over, while others with defective teeth and other slight ailments were rejected. Among those passed over was a man who saw service in Africa during the Boer War, and a non-commissioned officer in the local Militia Garrison for a number of years who proved himself to be one of the most competent gunners that has ever been at the forts. Several of the number who volunteered by letter did not reach town until this morning, when they were examined. The volunteers accepted for service include all kinds of callings, including bank officials, clerks, drapers, firemen, and laborers.

The contingent were sworn in this morning, and at 5.15 they assembled at the Drill Hall, from where they were marched to the station, headed by the Albany Town Band playing a spirited march. As the parade moved down the street, considerable enthusiasm prevailed among the troops and the large number of onlooker's which lined the street to show their appreciation of the representatives of Albany. Following is a list of names of those who were accepted: — Captain Ayre, Lieuts. R. Hemingway and Riley, Sergt. G. Jorgenson, Corporal T. S. Louch, and Messrs. F. Chapman, J. Sullivan, W. Lamb, F. C. Brown, G. Brown, E. S. Dodds, A. Chapman, F. S. Foster, G. R. Green, **W. D. Lumsden**, J. W. Pittendrich, J. Smith, B. Dixon, W. A. Engley, T. L. Hollings, W. L. Latham, T. Sharp, H. C. M'Glade, H. C. Kidson, L. G. C. Riches, H. Penny, T. Raeburn, G. H. Courtenay, W. W. Goodlet, G. Granderson, V. Bovelle, C. F. Heal.

Arriving at the station upward of 1,500 people had assembled to see their comrades off, and wish them every success. The Mayor, on behalf of the citizens, addressed the contingent, and the train drew out amidst rousing cheers.

(The Daily News, Perth, Western Australia – 17 August, 1914)

W. A. CASUALTIES

Twenty-second List

WOUNDED

Private W. D. Lumsden, 20, single, 11th Battalion, H Company; next of kin, J. Lumsden, Linlithgow, Scotland.

(Sunday Times, Perth, Western Australia – 30 May, 1915)

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN CASUALTIES

AT THE FIGHTING FRONT

177th Official List

RETURNED TO DUTY

Previously Reported Wounded

Private W. D. Lumsden (Scotland)

(The Daily News, Perth, Western Australia – 17 June, 1916)

LINLITHGOW WAR ITEMS

PRIVATE WILLIAM LUMSDEN

Early in the week the sad news reached his father that Private William Deas Lumsden, of the Australian Forces, had died in hospital from wounds received in action. A son of Mr Jas. Lumsden, of St Magdalen's Aerated Works, Linlithgow, the late Private Lumsden went to Australia a few years ago, and was engaged in business. Shortly after the outbreak of war, he took his place among those who were resolved to cross the seas to help the Old Country in its hour of trial. The opportunity came for Australia to show its mettle at the Dardanelles, and in the course of this campaign Private Lumsden was wounded, but not seriously. Recently he paid a visit to his native place, and then left for France, where he took part in the hard fighting to gain a position from the enemy. He was severely wounded, and taken to an English hospital, where he has died. He has laid down his life for his country, and will be numbered in the roll of those who have sacrificed all for patriotism. Private Lumsden had only reached his twentieth year.

(Linlithgowshire Gazette, Scotland – 4 August, 1916)

THE TOLL OF WAR

AND ROLL OF HONOR

DIED OF WOUNDS

Private W. D. Lumsden, Scotland

(The Sun, Kalgoorlie, Western Australia – 20 August, 1916)

DEATHS

LUMSDEN – Died from wounds on 30th July, Private WILLIAM DEAS LUMSDEN, Australian, fourth son of James Lumsden, St Magdalene's, Linlithgow, aged 23 years. Funeral from Linlithgow Station to Linlithgow Cemetery on Wednesday, at 3 pm.

(The Scotsman, Scotland – 28 August, 1916)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

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.

Private William Deas Lumsden has a Private Headstone.

Linlithgow Cemetery, West Lothian, Scotland

Linlithgow Cemetery contains 32 Commonwealth War Graves – 21 relating to World War 1 & 11 relating to World War 2.





Linlithgow Cemetery (Photos from CWGC)



Photo of Private William Deas Lumsden is named on the Private Family Headstone in Linlithgow Cemetery, West Lothian, Scotland.



(Photo by Marc Kinleyside – Find a Grave)

Erected

By

JAMES LUMSDEN

In Loving Memory of His Wife

MARGARET J. NICOL,

Died 17th Feb. 1906, Aged 44 Years

Also Of Their Son

ADAM

Died 14th July 1914, aged 15 Years

PTE WILLIAM DEAS, An "ANZAC"

Died In Netley Hosp. From Wounds

Received In Action At Pozieres

July 1916, Aged 24 Years

Also The Above

JAMES LUMSDEN

Died 16th April 1941, Aged 80 Years

Also Their Son

THOMAS CLAPPERTON

Died 12th Jan. 1955, Aged 62 Years

Also Their Daughters

MARGARET NICOL

Died 12th Sep. 1975, Aged 86 Years.

EUPHEMIA CLAPPERTON

Died 17th March 1982, Aged 85 Years

Also His Mother

EUMPHEMIA CLAPPERTON

Died 24th May 1912, Aged 76 Years