

**St. George's Churchyard,
Portland, Dorset
War Grave**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



334056 CORPORAL

T. A. STONE

ROYAL GARRISON ARTILLERY

14TH OCTOBER, 1918 Age 25

Thomas Alexander STONE

Thomas Alexander Stone was born in 1893 at Footscray, Victoria, Australia to parents William & Ann Rebecca Stone (nee Stone).

The Stone Family were listed as passengers on S.S. *Liguria* which travelled from Sydney, Australia and arrived in London, England on 28th October, 1895. The Stone Family embarked from Melbourne, Australia & consisted of: W. Stone (aged 39), Mrs Stone (aged 37), William Stone (aged 11), Rebecca Stone (aged 10), Joseph Stone (aged 7), Harry Stone (aged 5), Beatrice Stone (aged 3) & Thomas Stone (aged 2).

The 1901 England Census recorded Thomas A. Stone as a 7 year old, living with his family at The Standard Inn, Portland, Dorset, England. His parents were listed as William Stone (Stone Quarryman, aged 43, born Portland, Dorset) & Ann R. Stone (aged 41, born Portland, Dorset). Thomas was one of seven children listed on this Census – William Stone (Stone Labourer, aged 17, born Portland, Dorset), Rebecca Stone (aged 15, born Portland, Dorset), Joseph Stone (aged 13, born Portland, Dorset), Henry Stone (aged 11, born Australia), Elizabeth B. Stone (aged 9, born Australia), then Thomas & Robert S. Stone (aged 3, born Portland, Dorset).



The Royal Standard Inn

The 1911 England Census recorded Thomas Stone as a 17 year old Delver in Stone Quarry, living with his family at The Standard Inn, a 9 roomed dwelling, at 27 Queens Row, Portland, Dorset, England. His parents were listed as William Stone (Innkeeper, aged 53) & Ann Rebecca Stone (aged 51). William & Ann Rebecca Stone had been married for 28 years & had seven children. Thomas was one of six children listed on this Census – William Stone (Delver in Stone Quarry, aged 27), Rebecca Stone (aged 25), Joseph Stone (Delver in Stone Quarry, aged 23), Beatrice Stone (Dressmaker, aged 19) then Thomas & Robert Stone (At School, aged 13).

Thomas Alexander Stone was a Quarryman, aged 17 years & 6 months when he enlisted at Portland for 4 years with the British Army on 1st March, 1910. His address was listed as Standard Inn, Queens Road, Portland, Dorset, England. Thomas Alexander Stone was appointed to Dorset Royal Garrison Artillery Territorial Force with a service number of 612.

Thomas Alexander Stone attended R.G. A.'s (Royal Garrison Artillery) Annual Training Camp from 23rd July, 1910 to 6th August, 1910 with the rank of Gunner.

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Gunner Thomas Alexander Stone attended R.G. A.'s Annual Training Camp from 15th July, 1911 to 29th July, 1911.

Gunner Thomas Alexander Stone attended R.G. A.'s Annual Training Camp from 10th August, 1912 to 24th August, 1912.

Gunner Thomas Alexander Stone was embodied (became a full time soldier due to the War) on 5th August, 1914 with a service number of 334056.

Thomas Alexander Stone qualified as 1st Class Gunner & Gun Layer on 31st October, 1914.

Gunner Thomas Alexander Stone was appointed Temporary Acting Bombardier from 28th November, 1914. He was promoted to Temporary Bombardier from 30th January, 1915.

Temporary Bombardier Thomas Alexander Stone was promoted to Temporary Corporal from 25th September, 1915.

Thomas Alexander Stone married Emma Elizabeth Carter on 23rd December, 1915. Their marriage was registered in the December quarter, 1915 in the district of Weymouth, Dorset, England.

Corporal Thomas Alexander Stone re-engaged with R.G.A., Dorset on 22nd February, 1916. He was posted to 2nd Company on 26th May, 1917.

Corporal Thomas Alexander Stone was posted to No. 445 Siege Battery, R.G.A. at Horsham from 2nd June, 1917.

Corporal Thomas Alexander Stone embarked from Southampton on 24th September, 1917 & disembarked at Le Havre, France on 25th September, 1917. He re-embarked from Taranto on 16th October, 1917 & disembarked at Alexandria on 23rd October, 1917.

Corporal Thomas Alexander Stone was appointed Acting Sergeant on 17th November, 1917 with 445 Siege Battery, R.G.A. He reverted to the permanent rank of Corporal on 12th December, 1917.

Corporal Thomas Alexander Stone was admitted to Hospital on 29th December, 1917 with Bronchitis. He embarked from Alexandria on 21st January, 1918 for UK on Hospital Ship *Kalyan*.

Corporal Thomas Alexander Stone was posted to R.G.A. Clearing Office on 1st February, 1918 & admitted to the Grove Military Hospital, Tooting Grove, London, England on the same day.

A Medical Report was completed on Corporal Thomas Alexander Stone on 16th February, 1918 at Grove Military Hospital, Tooting Grove, London, England. His disability was listed as Tubercle of Lung which had originated in November, 1916 in England when Thomas was on coast defence duties. The Medical Board recommended that Corporal Thomas Alexander Stone should be discharged as permanently unfit. The Board also stated that Thomas Stone's condition had been aggravated by service in the present war due to exposure & hardship. They recommended that he should be assessed for pension purposes as he was 100% disabled by his condition. The Board recommended that Corporal Stone should attend further medical treatment at a Sanatorium for 6 months. He was discharged from Grove Military Hospital, Tooting Grove, London, England on 9th March, 1918.

Corporal Thomas Alexander Stone was discharged at Dover from the British Army on 9th March, 1918 in consequence of being no longer physically fit (Tubercle of Lung) for War Service under paragraph 392(xvi) King's Regulations. At the time of discharge Corporal Stone was aged 25 years & 6 months. His intended place of residence was listed as 52 Mallams, Portland, Dorset. Corporal Thomas Alexander Stone's military character was listed as very good & he was "a steady N.C. Officer."

Summary of Service: Thomas Alexander Stone was on Home Service from 1st March, 1910 to 23rd September, 1917. He was engaged in the European Expeditionary Force from 24th September, 1917 to 31st January, 1918 then back on Home Service from 1st February, 1918 to 9th March, 1918.

(Corporal) Thomas Alexander Stone died on 14th October, 1918. In reply to a letter (dated 6th December, 1922) sent from R.G.A. (Royal Garrison Artillery) Records - Mrs E. E. Stone, widow of the late Corporal Thomas Alexander Stone, advised that the cause of her husband's death was "*consumption, caused through the War.*"

A death for Thomas A. Stone, aged 25, was registered in the December quarter, 1918 in the district of Weymouth, Dorset, England.

(Corporal) Thomas Alexander Stone was buried on 17th October, 1918 in St. George's Churchyard, Portland, Dorset, England – Plot number A. 4. 12 and has a Private Headstone. His death is still acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. His address in the Burial Register was listed as 1 King Street, Portland.

The Statement of the Names and Address of all Relatives of the deceased Soldier form listed that Thomas Alexander & his wife Emma Elizabeth Stone had no children. His parents were listed as William & Ann Rebecca Stone, of 147 Fortunes Well, Portland.

Corporal Thomas Alexander Stone was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal & the Territorial Forces War Medal. He had also been awarded the Silver War Badge – issued on 26th March, 1918.

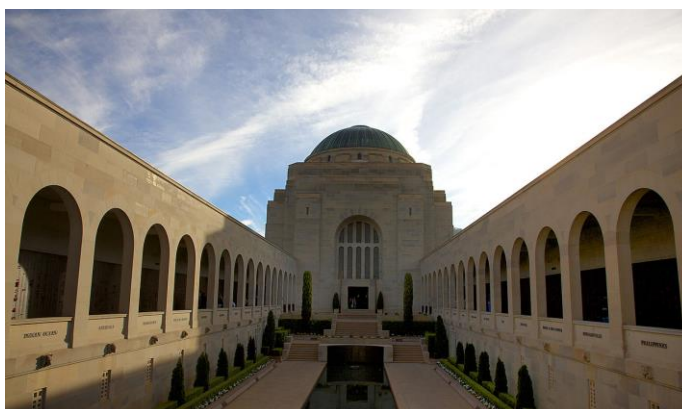
The Silver War Badge was issued in the United Kingdom and the British Empire to service personnel who had been honourably discharged due to wounds or sickness from military service in World War I. The badge, sometimes known as the "Discharge Badge", the "Wound Badge" or "Services Rendered Badge", was first issued in September 1916, along with an official certificate of entitlement. The large sterling silver lapel badge was intended to be worn on civilian clothes.



Silver War Badge

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Corporal T. A. Stone – service number 334056, aged 25, of Royal Garrison Artillery. He was the son of William and Rebecca Stone; husband of Emma Elizabeth Dyer (formerly Stone), of 16 Coronation Rd., Sheerness-on-Sea. Born in Australia. (Emma Elizabeth Stone married William E. B. Dyer at Weymouth, Dorset. Their marriage was registered in the March quarter, 1923).

Corporal T. A. Stone is remembered on the Commemorative Roll Book, located in the Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra. The Commemorative Roll records the names of those Australians who died during or as a result of wars in which Australians served, but who were not serving in the Australian Armed Forces and therefore not eligible for inclusion on the Roll of Honour.



Commemorative Area of the Australian War Memorial (Capital Photographer)

Thomas A. Stone is remembered on the Portland War Memorial, Look Out Point, Yeates Road, Isle of Portland, England.



Portland War Memorial (Photos from War Memorials Online – Sue C.)



(27 pages of Corporal Thomas Alexander Stone's Service & Pension records are available for On Line viewing at Find My Past & Ancestry)

Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial



St. George's Churchyard, Portland, Dorset, England

St. George's Churchyard, Portland contains 24 Commonwealth War Graves – 17 from World War 1 & 7 from World War 2.



St. George's Churchyard, Portland (Photo above by Joe – Find a Grave; below by Carol Pollard)



Photo of Corporal Thomas Alexander Stone's Private Headstone in St. George's Churchyard, Portland, Dorset, England.



(Photo by Carol Pollard)

In
Loving Memory
of
THOMAS A. STONE, CPL, R.G.A.
The Dearly Loved Husband Of
EMMA STONE
Who Died October 14 – 1918.
Aged 25 Years

“His End Was Peace”