

Inverurie, Aberdeenshire, Scotland

War Memorial



Lest We Forget

World War 1



4364 LANCE CORPORAL

A. G. YOUNG

48TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

8TH AUGUST, 1918

Alexander Greig YOUNG

Alexander Greig Young was born at Inverurie, Aberdeenshire, Scotland on 1st May, 1893 to parents William & Helen Young (nee Cocker).

The 1901 Scotland Census recorded Alexander Young as an 8 year old living with his family at Nether Davah Farm, Inverurie, Aberdeenshire, Scotland. His parents were listed as William Young (Farmer, aged 44, born Culsalmond, Aberdeenshire) & Hellen Young (aged 42, born Fergie, Aberdeenshire). Alexander was one of seven children listed on this Census – William Young (Farmer's son, aged 15, born Keith Hall, Aberdeenshire), Mary Jane Young (Farmer's daughter, aged 17, born Inverurie, Aberdeenshire), John Young (Scholar, aged 14, born Inverurie, Aberdeenshire), Ella Young (Scholar, aged 11, born Inverurie, Aberdeenshire), George Young (Scholar, aged 10, born Inverurie, Aberdeenshire) then Alexander & Charles Young (Scholar, aged 5, born Inverurie, Aberdeenshire).

Alexander Greig Young was a 22 year old, single, Farm Hand from Goomalling, Western Australia when he enlisted on 7th October, 1915 with the 16th Infantry Battalion, 13th Reinforcements of the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 4364 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs C. Young, of Lower Davah, Inverurie, Aberdeen, Scotland.

Private Alexander Greig Young was posted to 32nd Depot on 7th October, 1915. He was transferred to 13th Reinforcements, 16th Battalion on 29th November, 1915.

Private Alexander Greig Young embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia on HMAT *Runic (A54)* on 29th January, 1916 & disembarked at Alexandria, Egypt on 26th February, 1916.

Private Alexander Greig Young was marched in at Zeitoun on 26th February, 1916.

Private Alexander Greig Young was taken on strength 48th Battalion from 16th Battalion at Serapeum on 2nd April, 1916.

Private Alexander Greig Young proceeded to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force) on 2nd June, 1916 from Alexandria & disembarked at Marseilles, France on 3rd June, 1916.

Private Alexander Greig Young was sent sick to Hospital on 12th June, 1916. He was admitted to 2nd Casualty Clearing Station on 12th June, 1916 with Influenza then transferred to No. 3 Ambulance Train on 13th June, 1916. Pte Young was admitted to 25th General Hospital at Etaples, France on 13th June, 1916. He was transferred to 1st Convalescent Depot at Boulogne, France on 20th June, 1916. Pte Young was discharged to Base Details on 21st June, 1916.

Private Alexander Greig Young was marched in to 4th A.D.B. D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Etaples, France on 23rd June, 1916.

Private Alexander Greig Young rejoined 48th Battalion in France on 13th August, 1916.

Private Alexander Greig Young was absent without leave while on active service from 1 pm on 8th September, 1916 to 1.30 pm on 8th September, 1916 whilst in the field. He was awarded 7 days Field Punishment No. 2.

Private Alexander Greig Young was sent to 4th Australian Field Ambulance on 25th January, 1917 & admitted with Pleurisy. He was transferred to Casualty Clearing Station on 26th January, 1917 & transferred to 1st Australian General Hospital at Rouen, France. Pte Young was embarked for England on Hospital Ship *Dunluce Castle* from Havre on 4th February, 1917.

Private Alexander Greig Young was admitted to 3rd Australian General Hospital at Brighton, England on 5th February, 1917 with severe Pleurisy & Pneumonia. He was discharged from Hospital on 12th March, 1917 to 3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford. Pte Young was discharged from Kitcheners War Hospital at Dartford on 16th March, 1917 & granted furlough & then to report to Perham Downs.

Private Alexander Greig Young was marched in to No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs, Wiltshire from furlough on 2nd April, 1917. He was medically classified as B 1 A 4.

Private Alexander Greig Young was marched out to 16th Brigade at Wareham on 24th April, 1917. He was transferred to 70th Battalion while at Wareham & taken on strength with 70th Battalion from 48th Battalion on 24th April, 1917.

Private Alexander Greig Young proceeded overseas to France via Southampton on 12th September, 1917 from Overseas Draft to reinforce 48th Battalion. He was marched in to 4th A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Havre, France on 13th September, 1917. Pte Young was marched out from 4 A.D.B.D. on 21st September 1917 to join his Unit.

Private Alexander Greig Young was taken on strength of 48th Battalion in the field on 21st September, 1917.

Private Alexander Greig Young was sent to Hospital sick on 23rd October, 1917. He was admitted to 12th Australian Field Ambulance on 23rd October, 1917 & transferred & admitted to 50th Casualty Clearing Station on 24th October, 1917 with Scabies. Pte Young was transferred & admitted to 26th General Hospital at Etaples on 31st October, 1917 with Dermatitis. He was transferred to 25th General Hospital on 6th November, 1917. Pte Young was transferred to No.1 Convalescent Depot at Boulogne on 30th November, 1917. He was discharged to Base Depot on 1st December, 1917.

Private Alexander Greig Young was marched in to 4th A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Havre, France from Hospital on 4th December, 1917. He was marched out to join his Unit on 8th December, 1917 & rejoined his Unit in the field on 10th December, 1917.

Private Alexander Greig Young was appointed Lance Corporal on 17th April, 1918.

Lance Corporal Alexander Greig Young was killed in action in France on 8th August, 1918.

48th Battalion

The 48th Battalion was raised in Egypt on 16 March 1916 as part of the "doubling" of the A.I.F. Roughly half of its new recruits were Gallipoli veterans from the 16th Battalion, and the other half, fresh reinforcements from Australia. Reflecting the composition of the 16th, the men of the new battalion hailed mainly from regional South Australia and Western Australia. The new battalion formed part of the 12th Brigade of the 4th Australian Division.

The 48th's first major battle on the Western Front was Pozieres. Here, it was tasked with defending ground captured in earlier attacks by the 2nd Division and entered the firing line on two separate occasions - 5 to 7 and 12 to 15 August. During the former period the battalion endured what was said to be heaviest artillery barrage ever experienced by Australian troops and suffered 598 casualties. A diorama at the Australian War Memorial depicts the battalion's experience at Pozieres. Before it had recovered from the trials of Pozieres, the 48th was also required to defend ground captured during the battle of Mouquet Farm.

Like most A.I.F. battalions, the 48th rotated in and out of the front line through the winter of 1917-18. In the spring of 1918 it played a crucial role in blocking the main road into Amiens when the Germans launched their last great offensive. When it came time for the Allies to launch their own offensive, the 48th took part in the battle of Amiens between 8 and 10 August, and the battle to seize the Hindenburg "outpost line" between 18 and 20 September. This was the 48th's last battle of the war. It disbanded on 31 March 1919.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Lance Corporal Alexander Greig Young was originally buried at Map Reference Q.24.a.60.10 with 8 other Australians. Their bodies were exhumed from their original burial location and reburied in Heath Cemetery, Harbonnières, Somme, France – Plot number I. I. 19. The concentration of cemeteries allowed otherwise unmaintainable graves to be moved into established war grave cemeteries where the Commission could ensure proper commemoration. Lance Corporal Alexander Greig Young's grave is identified with a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. A memo in the Service Record file for Lance Corporal Alexander Greig Young reads "Letter, dated 10.10.21, (A.G.S.59/7/10) from the Officer in Charge, Australian Graves Services, London, re exhumation. 18.11.21 M.G."

Alexander Greig Young requested in his Will, dated 28th January, 1916, that all his real and personal estate be bequeathed to his mother – Ellen Young, of Lower Davah, Inverurie, Aberdeenshire, Scotland.

Lance Corporal Alexander Greig Young was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to L/Cpl. Young's mother in Scotland - Mrs C. Young, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll & Plaque sent November, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Lance Corporal A. G. Young – service number 4364, of 48th Battalion Australian Infantry. No family details are listed.

Lance Corporal A. G. Young is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 147.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Private A. G. Young is remembered on the Inverurie War Memorial, Scotland located at Inverurie Square, Market Place, Inverurie, Aberdeenshire, Scotland.

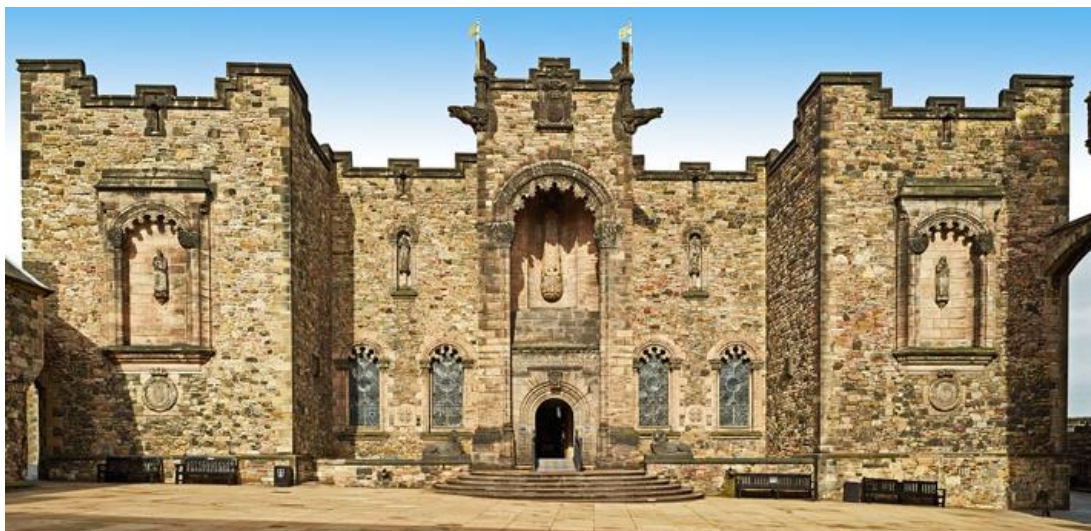


Inverurie War Memorial, Scotland (Photos by Bob Embleton)



Inverurie War Memorial – west face

Lance Corporal Alexander Greg Young 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.



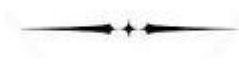
The Scottish National War Memorial & the Hall of Honour & the Roll of Honour Books.

(Photos from The Scottish National War Memorial)



(46 pages of Lance Corporal Alexander Greig Young'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



Newspaper Notices

272nd CASUALTY LIST

5th MILITARY DISTRICT

ILL

A. G. Young (Scotland)

(Western Mail, Perth, Western Australia – 16 February, 1917)

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

430th CASUALTY LIST

KILLED IN ACTION

Young, Alexdr. Greigh (Scotland)

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 26 September, 1918)

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Alexander Young is remembered on the Family Headstone located in Inverurie Bass Cemetery, Inverurie, Aberdeenshire, Scotland.

(Note – Alexander died on 8th August, 1918 not 9th August, 1917)



(Photo by GariochGraver)

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)

Lance Cpl. A. G. Young does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Heath Cemetery, Harbonnieres, Somme, France

Heath Cemetery is situated on the south side of the straight main road (D1029) from Amiens to St Quentin, approximately 13 kilometres from Villers-Bretonneux.

Harbonnieres was captured by French troops in the summer of 1916. It was retaken by the Germans on 27 April 1918, and regained by the Australian Corps on 8 August 1918.

Heath Cemetery, so called from the wide expanse of open country on which it stands, was made after the Armistice, next to a French Military Cemetery, now removed. Graves were brought into it from the battlefields between Bray and Harbonnieres and from other burial grounds in the area, including:-

BAYONVILLERS BRITISH CEMETERY, at the North end of the village, which contained the graves of 37 Australian soldiers, 11 from the United Kingdom, one from Canada, and one French Interpreter, all of whom fell in August, 1918; the FRENCH MILITARY CEMETERY, at the South end of the village, in which one soldier from the United Kingdom was buried in March 1917; and the GERMAN CEMETERY, near the Church, in which 14 Australian soldiers and 11 from the United Kingdom were buried by their comrades in August, 1918.

CERISY-GAILLY COMMUNAL CEMETERY FRENCH EXTN., which contained 157 French and 108 German graves, and those of three soldiers from the United Kingdom who fell in July, 1916.

CLUMP TRENCH CEMETERY, ROSIERES-DE-PICARDIE, 300 metres East of the road to Vauvillers, which contained the graves of 20 Australian soldiers and three from the United Kingdom who fell in August, 1918.

COPSE CORNER CEMETERY, VAUVILLERS, by a copse 900 metres North of Clump Trench Cemetery, which contained the graves of 22 men of the 7th Australian Battalion who fell on the 9th August 1918, and one soldier from the United Kingdom.

DAVENESCOURT CHURCHYARD, in which five unidentified soldiers from the United Kingdom were buried.

ETINEHEM (or COTE 77) FRENCH MILITARY CEMETERY, near the crossing of the roads from Etinehem to Meaulte and from Bray to Corbie. Here were buried 290 French soldiers, now reburied in Cote 80 French National Cemetery, and 16 from the United Kingdom and one from Australia.

FRAMERVILLE BRITISH CEMETERY (or QUARRY CEMETERY), near the track leading to Herleville, which contained the graves of 23 soldiers from the United Kingdom and three from Australia who fell in August, 1918; and the FRENCH MILITARY CEMETERY, on the road to Proyart, which contained the graves of two soldiers from the United Kingdom who fell in 1917.

HARBONNIERES COMMUNAL CEMETERY EXTN., in which 44 soldiers from the United Kingdom and 19 from

Australia were buried by their comrades in August 1918.

LONE FARM (or LONE HOUSE) CEMETERY, HARBONNIERES, about 900 metres East of Heath Cemetery. Here were buried 35 soldiers from Australia and nine from the United Kingdom, most of whom fell in August 1918.

LOUVRECHY FRENCH MILITARY CEMETERY, at the West end of Louvrechy village, which contained the graves of two R.A.F. officers who fell in July 1918.

MEMORIAL CEMETERY, VAUVILLERS, a little South-East of the crossing of the Vauvillers-Rosieres and Harbonnieres-Lihons roads, which contained graves of 19 soldiers of the 9th Australian Battalion who fell in August 1918 .

MERICOURT-SUR-SOMME COMMUNAL CEMETERY, in which one R.F.C. officer was buried in September 1916.

MERIGNOLLES BRITISH CEMETERY, PROYART, half-way between Proyart and Chuignolles, which contained the graves of 21 Australian soldiers who fell the 23rd August 1918.

MORCOURT COMMUNAL CEMETERY, in which three soldiers from United Kingdom were buried by the Germans; the EXTENSION, in which Australian soldiers and eight from the United Kingdom were buried by their comrades in August 1918; and the GERMAN CEMETERY "by the Church", which the Germans buried two men of the Rifle Brigade in April 1918.

PROYART COMMUNAL CEMETERY EXTENSION, made by the Germans in April-June, 1918, and used by the British in August and September, 1918, for the burial of 64 soldiers and airmen from the United Kingdom and 3 Australian soldiers.

RIDGEWAY CEMETERY, LIHONS, on the road from Lihons to Rosieres, which contained the graves of 23 Australian soldiers who fell in August 1918.

SAILLY-LAURETTE MILITARY CEMETERY, 800 metres due North of Sailly-Laurette village. Here were buried 38 soldiers from the United Kingdom mainly of the 58th (London) Division and two from Australia, who fell in August 1918.

VERMANDOVILLERS GERMAN CEMETERY, from which the grave of one R.A.F. officer was brought.

The earliest date of death is September 1915, the latest October 1918, but the majority died in March or August 1918.

There are now 1,860 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery. 369 of the burials are unidentified but there are special memorials to 26 casualties known or believed to be buried among them. Other special memorials record the names of 21 casualties buried in other cemeteries, whose graves could not be found.

(Information & photos from CWGC)



Photo of Lance Cpl. A. G. Young's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Heath Cemetery, Harbonnieres, Somme, France.



(Photo from International Wargraves Photography Project)

