

Thomas was born at Gateshead, Durham on 10<sup>th</sup> March 1889, the son of Henry Marquis Dixon and Lucy Anna Dixon, nee Thompson. He spent 5 years with the Durham Light Infantry and 2 years with the 1<sup>st</sup> Newcastle Volunteer Garrison Artillery.

On 11<sup>th</sup> August 1914 he joined the AN&MEF, stating that he was a labourer and single, giving his sister, Margaret Dixon at 22 Bright Terrace, Gateshead-On-Tyne as his next of kin.

He returned from Rabaul and was discharged, term expired, on 4<sup>th</sup> March 1915, having completed 206 days service.

On 20<sup>th</sup> April 1915 he joined the AIF as part of the 6<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements, 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion and left Australia for the Middle East on 17<sup>th</sup> June 1915, joining the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion on Gallipoli on 6<sup>th</sup> August 1915. On 31<sup>st</sup> August 1915 he was evacuated to St Patrick's Hospital, Malta suffering from influenza, and then onto St Georges Hospital, Stamford, England on 9<sup>th</sup> September.

He returned to Egypt aboard the HUNTSPILL, arriving on 5<sup>th</sup> April 1916 and was subsequently transferred to the 15<sup>th</sup> Training Battalion, which was to become reinforcements for the 58<sup>th</sup> Battalion. On 22<sup>nd</sup> May, in France he joined the 58<sup>th</sup> Battalion and on 31<sup>st</sup> December he transferred back to the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion.

He had two further bouts of influenza, the first resulting him being absent from the line from 7<sup>th</sup> May 1917 till the 2<sup>nd</sup> June. The second occurred after the cessation of hostilities, on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 1918.

On 28<sup>th</sup> March 1919 he boarded the CITY OF POONA and arrived back home on 14<sup>h</sup> May and was discharged from the AIF on 15<sup>th</sup> July 1919.

With the outbreak of World War 2, Thomas enlisted on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 1940 and served as a gunner with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Artillery Training Regiment, service number N99225. He was discharged on 9<sup>th</sup> September 1946 at which time he was 57 years of age.