

Codford War Graves



Lest we Forget

World War I

8/2901 CORPORAL

R. DUMBLETON

N.Z. OTAGO REGT.

5TH APRIL, 1917 Age 26



Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Corporal R. Dumbleton is located in Front Row (Left Hand Side) Grave Plot # 19 of Codford War Graves Cemetery (Using Map by Brian Marshall)

(CWGC Reference - Grave # 74)

Ronald Dumbleton was born December, 1890 at Pukeuri, Oamaru, New Zealand, the son of William and Lucy Ann Dumbleton. He was a 24 year old, single, Telegraphist from Oamaru, Otago, New Zealand when he enlisted on 12th June, 1915 with the New Zealand Expeditionary Force. His service number was 8/2901 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs L. Dumbleton of Pukeuri Junction, Oamaru, New Zealand. From information on his Attestation Papers, Ronald Dumbleton had previously served in the Military with “Signal Coy. 10th Reg.”

Private Ronald Dumbleton was promoted to L/Cpl. On 8th July, 1915 & again promoted to Corporal on 26th August, 1915.

Corporal Ronald Dumbleton embarked with Otago Infantry Battalion, 7th Reinforcements from Wellington, New Zealand on 9th October, 1915, destination Suez, Egypt on either the transport vessel *Aparima*, *Navua* or *Warrimoo*. He disembarked at Egypt on 22nd November, 1915.

Corporal Ronald Dumbleton reverted back to the rank of Private on being transferred to Otago Infantry Battalion, 10th Coy. on 9th January, 1916. He was appointed L/Cpl. (unpaid) on 1st February, 1916.

As part of Otago Regiment, 1st Battalion Cpl. Dumbleton was promoted to Corporal on 3rd April, 1916.

Cpl. Ronald Dumbleton was transferred to Light Trench Mortar unit on 16th May, 1916.

Cpl. Ronald Dumbleton was transferred to 1st Otago Infantry Battalion on 4th August, 1916.

Cpl. Ronald Dumbleton was wounded in left arm & shoulder in France – date unknown & admitted to Hospital on 27th September, 1916. He embarked from Rouen, France on 2nd October, 1916 back to England & admitted to 1st South General Hospital at Birmingham on 3rd October, 1916 – “wounded left arm & shoulder – severe”. He was then transferred to a Convalescent Hospital.

Cpl. Dumbleton was on leave from 11th January – 26th January, 1917 & was then transferred to Command Depot at Codford, Wiltshire.

Cpl. Dumbleton was admitted to 3rd New Zealand General Hospital on 22nd March, 1917 with jaundice. He was reported dangerously ill on 2nd April, 1917.

Cpl. Ronald Dumbleton died on 5th April, 1917 at No. 3 New Zealand General Hospital at Codford, Wiltshire of Jaundice.

A death for Ronald Dumbleton, aged 29, was registered in the June quarter, 1917 in the district of Warminster, Wiltshire, England.

Cpl. Ronald Dumbleton was buried at St. Mary’s Cemetery, Codford.

Cpl. Ronald Dumbleton, 8/2901 was last attached to Otago Infantry Battalion. He had served in Egypt – 1915-1916 & the Western European War Front - 1916.

Cpl. Ronald Dumbleton was entitled to British War Medal & Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Mr A. Dumbleton (father) of Pukeuri Junction, Oamaru, New Zealand (June, 1921 & February, 1922)

(25 pages of Cpl. Ronald Dumbleton's Service records are available for On Line viewing at Archives New Zealand website).

Information obtained from the Archives New Zealand, Auckland War Memorial Museum, Commonwealth War Graves Commission & PapersPast, National Library of New Zealand.

oooOOOooo

Newspaper Reports

ROLL OF HONOUR

SICK AND WOUNDED

NOT REPORTED AS SEVERE CASES

Dumbleton, R., 8/2901, Cpl., Pukeuri Junction

(Evening Post, Volume XCIII, Issue 83, 7th April, 1917)

DIED OF SICKNESS

Corporal R. Dumbleton

(Colonist, Volume LVIII, Issue 14385, 12th April, 1917)



Corporal Ronald Dumbleton 8/2901

Corporal R. Dumbleton has a Commonwealth War Graves Headstone. None of the New Zealand CWGC headstones at Codford have a personal inscription.

Photo of Corporal R. Dumbleton's Headstone at Codford War Graves Cemetery (below)



(Photo courtesy of Romy Wyeth)