

William Doyle HOBSON MID



Pre-enlistment:

- William HOBSON was born on 10 January 1890 in Toowoomba, the only son to William Doyle and Emith (Emily) Edith Symes. He had 1 sister, Mary Emma Lucille born in 1886.
- His father died in 1900 in Cairns and his mother in 1920 in Southport.
- He was educated at Toowoomba Grammar School
- He was a farmer by occupation at the time of enlistment

Previous Military Service

- Mobilised for War Service with 2nd A.N. & M.E.F. (Australian Expeditionary Force) to Rabaul (German New Guinea)
- Embarked at Cairns on 8 August 1914 for Thursday Island (War Station) Garrison Duty
- Enlisted 14 August 1914 for service outside Australia
- Re-embarked at Thursday Island on 16 August 1914, on Troopship 'Kanowna' to take part in the capture of German New Guinea
- 'Taken on Strength' of the A.N. & M.E.F on 6 August 1914
- Returned to Townsville on 18 September 1914, on account of the trouble caused by the firemen on troopship
- Discharged 18 September 1914.

Military Records

- Service Number: 1855
- William HOBSON enlisted on 8 January 1915 in Cairns as a Private with 9th Battalion, aged 25 years 11 months
- He embarked with his Unit from Brisbane, on board HMAT A15 Star of England on 8 April 1915 and arrived in Alexandria on 11 September 1915, then landed at Gallipoli on 26 May 1915
- He joined the 1st Training Battalion in Zeitoun on 21 October 1915
- On 1 March 1916 he was promoted Sergeant at Tel-el-Kabir, and then he proceeded on to the School of Instruction on 30 April 1916
- He joined the British Expeditionary Force in Marseilles on 12 June 1916
- He served in Egypt, Gallipoli and on the Western Front
- Sergeant William HOBSON was killed in action at Pozieres, France on 16 August 1916
- **Mentioned in Dispatches:** The gallant conduct of this NCO who throughout the intense enemy bombardment of front lines on night of 15th Aug stuck to the observation Post, the observer whom he sent into safety knowing the tremendous risk and mental strain the post demanded, he was subsequently killed at his post.

Cemetery &/or Memorial

- Villers-Bretonneux Memorial, Villers-Bretonneux, Picardie, France
- Australian War Memorial Roll of Honour
- Cairns Cenotaph
- Kuranda State School
- Toowoomba Grammar School WW1 Honour Board
- Toowoomba Grammar School WW1 In Memoriam Honour Board
- Toowoomba War Memorial (Mothers' Memorial)

Honours & Awards

- MID
- 1914-15 Star
- British War Medal
- Victory Medal

Rifle Shooting

- William Hobson was a member of the Hambledon Rifle Club

ACWM Commemoration Service

Reference Links

- <https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=5265904>
- <https://www.aif.adfa.edu.au/showPerson?pid=139286>
- <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/50254>
- <https://www.awm.gov.au/collection/R1634655>
- <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/42894563>
Cairns Post, Thu 13 Aug 1914, Page 8, Northern Mobilisation. Roll of Riflemen