

John Lorimer STEPHENS



Pre-enlistment:

- John was born in 1886 in Beaudesert, Qld to parents, Henry and Mary Jane STEPHENS of Mary Street, Greenslopes, Brisbane, Qld
- He attended Beaudesert State School and Booyal Central School
- His home town was Booyal, Bundaberg, Qld
- His occupation at time of enlistment was that of a farmer
- He was a single man
- His next of kin was listed as his mother, Mrs Mary Jane Stephens, Burleigh Heads, South Coast Line, Qld

Military Records

- Service Number: 4783
- John Stephens enlisted on 15 November 1915 in Brisbane, Qld as a Private with 26th Battalion, 12th Reinforcement
- He embarked from Sydney, NSW, on board RMS Mooltan on 12 April 1916, aged 29
- He was with the 26th Infantry Battalion with Lt George French and both were members of Qld Rifle Team They enlisted at different times, and were rather surprised to find themselves in the same company, in Egypt
- On arrival in England he was attached to the 11th Training Battalion then proceeded overseas to Etaples, France on 16 September 1917 where he was taken on strength on 28 September.
- A month later he was admitted to hospital with bronchitis
- He re-joined his Unit on 9 January 1917 but was admitted to hospital with mumps on 12 January 1917. He re-joined his Battalion in France on 21 February 1917
- Corporal John Lorimer Stephens was killed in action on 3 May 1917 at Bullecourt, France, aged 30 years
- His war service was in Egypt and on the Western Front

Cemetery &/or Memorial

- Cemetery: No known grave - "Known Unto God"
- Memorials: Australian National Memorial, Villers-Bretonneux, France
- Australian War Memorial Roll of Honour Panel number 109
- Beaudesert War Memorial,
- Booyal Central School Fallen Heroes,
- Booyal Central School Roll of Honour,
- Booyal Fallen Comrades Honour Roll,
- Booyal Roll of Honour,
- Childers Memorial Hall (Isis District Pictorial War Memorial)

Honours & Awards

- British War Medal,
- Victory Medal

Rifle Shooting

- John Stephens was a prominent member of the Beaudesert Rifle Club
- He and Lt Col George French (of Qld Police Rifle Club) were both members of the 1908 Qld Rifle Team which shot in Adelaide

ACWM Commemoration Service

Reference Links

- recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=1924102
- awm.gov.au/collection/R1660725
- aif.adfa.edu.au/showPerson?pid=287239
- vwma.org.au/explore/people/315414
- trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/175130265?s
- trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/19536359?
- trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/53154822?
- <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/23592890>
- trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/179856077