


John Allison



John ALLISON

Regimental number	1701
Place of birth	Port Glasgow, Scotland
School	Port Glasgow School, Scotland
Age on arrival in Australia	18
Religion	Presbyterian
Occupation	Farm labourer
Address	c/o Clapp's Bridge, Greene, Thorpe
Marital status	Single
Age at embarkation	23
Next of kin	R. Allison, 8 Montgomery Street, Glasgow, Scotland
Enlistment date	6 January 1915
Date of enlistment from Nominal Roll	6 January 1915
Rank on enlistment	Private
Unit name	4th Battalion, 4th Reinforcement
AWM Embarkation Roll number	23/21/2
Embarkation details	Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board HMAT A9 Shropshire on 17 March 1915
Rank from Nominal Roll	Private
Unit from Nominal Roll	4th Battalion
Fate	Killed in Action 6 September 1915
Date of death	9 August 1915
Age at death	24
Place of burial	Lone Pine Cemetery (Plot III, Row B, Grave No. 51), Gallipoli, Turkey
Panel number, Roll of Honour, Australian War Memorial	39
Other details	War service: Egypt, Gallipoli
	Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Presented by Mark Bryant

John Allison was born in Glasgow Scotland.

He came out to Australia at 18 years of age. He enlisted on 6th January 1915 and embarked on the HMAT A9 "Shropshire" on 17 March 1915 aged 23.

His calling was stated as a Farm labourer with his address on embarking was Clapp's Bridge Greenethorpe. There is another reference to Clapp Bros. landra Greenethorpe, which may mean he was employed by "Clapp Bros" of Clapp's Bridge Greenethorpe. As yet I do not know of any current reference to where Clapp's Bridge is or relatives of the family. There was an Edwin Clapp on our Honour Role Board (killed 1918), who is more than likely linked to John Allison, but I don't know at this stage.

What is known is that John was part of the 4th Battalion, a Battalion that landed on this day 95 years ago. John was listed as missing then killed in action on or between 6-9 August 1915. Through a bit of digging of where the 4th Battalion were in Gallipoli and those dates it is almost certain John was killed during the so-called August offensive in the Lone Pine Area. This was the most successful part of the offensive which had an element of attack all through the ANZAC sector, in particular the famous charge of the light horse at the Nek further north.

Given the Lone Pine part of the offensive was a success in military eyes, with a gain of country from the Turks, this probably led to John being found and buried in the Lone Pine cemetery. The Lone Pine offensive lasted for 3-4 days and cost about 2000 Australian lives.

I was able to find John Allison's grave and lay a poppy there.