

Corporal Tasman ATKIN DCM



Born in Martin on 7 March 1895, Tasman was the youngest son of James William Baker Atkin and Annie Baker Atkin. After leaving the village National School in c1908 he became an apprentice to the baking and confectionary trade under Mr H Feneley of Martin. At the age of only 17 he emigrated to Australia on 31 January 1913 with his only brother (he had six sisters) and lived in Victoria where they worked in farming. At the outbreak of the Great War Tasman enlisted into the 1/8th Battalion (Victoria) Australian Light Horse on 19 September 1914 and left Melbourne

for Egypt aboard HMAT *Star of Victoria* on 25 February 1915. He was engaged in heavy fighting on Gallipoli and later in Palestine and wounded twice. Tasman was awarded the DCM. He was killed instantly by Turkish machine gun fire in Syria on 3 May 1918 and buried in Damascus British War Cemetery. His brother also enlisted, but after being wounded, was discharged from the army in September 1917 and returned to England.



Troopship HMAT *Star of Victoria*