

JOHN TROTTER

SERVICE NUMBER: 7/137

RANK: Trooper

REGIMENT: Canterbury Mounted Rifles

UNIT: Main Body

DATE AND PLACE OF DEATH: 27 November 1918, Fairlie.

AGE: 26

CASUALTY TYPE: Died of influenza.

GRAVE: Fairlie Cemetery, South Canterbury, New Zealand.

John Trotter was the eldest son of John and Margaret Trotter. He was born at Allandale near Fairlie in February 1893 and received his education at the Fairlie School, his first day being 1 February 1898. At enlistment his parents address was P. O. Box 89 Fairlie.

After leaving school John went to the North Island for a few months and on his return settled down at "Punaroa" his father's farm.

When the war broke out he was one of the first in the district to volunteer.

John was single and embarked from Lyttelton on 16 October 1914 aboard either the "Tahiti" or the "Athenic" for Suez. He was badly wounded on Gallipoli in August 1915 and a year later was sent to England. Here he was deemed unfit for active service and returned to New Zealand. He won a ballot for land in the soldiers' settlement on the Clayton Road. John belonged to the local golf club and was also a Mason.

His funeral was a large one considering the cases of influenza in the district. Many of John's trooper mates gathered at the graveside in the Presbyterian section to pay their respects and Trooper Buckman sounded the "Last Post".

John's name is remembered

"The Timaru Herald" has an article 18 December 1918.

Probate was granted at Timaru in 1919.