Piper Thomas Paterson
Died 5th May 1915

Died 5th May 1915 ~ France
Piper Thomas Paterson Reg No: 1244
Piper Thomas Paterson of the 7th Bn., Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders died of wounds on 05 May 1915 at the age 37 years.   He was the son of Thomas and Betsy Paterson of 16, Primrose St., Alloa.   Piper Thomas was born in 1878 and Thomas was a labourer with Paton & Sons, Alloa prior to enlisting.   He was 31 years of age at enlistment on 12th April 1910 and resided at 16 Primrose Street, Alloa.

Thomas's medical record shows that he was 5 foot 7 inches tall and had a chest size of 37 inches when expanded.   His chest expansion was 2 ½ inches.   His vision was normal and his physical condition good.

Thomas attended camps in July each year from 1910 to and including 1914 when he became a regular soldier.

Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders Cap Badge

Thomas's records show that he was the father of a 4 year old son also called Thomas Paterson and who was residing at 16 East Street, Clackmannan.   Thomas had 4 brothers and 3 sisters at the time of his death.   Thomas's twin sister gave the previous details to the Army at the time of his death.

Thomas's medals etc. were sent to his father, Thomas Paterson who lived at 16 Primrose Street, Alloa.

Thomas is buried in **Boulogne Eastern Cemetery ~ France**

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Boulogne Eastern Cemetery

Boulogne was one of the three base ports most extensively used by the Commonwealth armies on the Western Front throughout the First World War. It was closed and cleared on the 27 August 1914 when the Allies were forced to fall back ahead of the German advance, but was opened again in October and from that month to the end of the war, Boulogne and Wimereux formed one of the chief hospital areas.

Until June 1918, the dead from the hospitals at Boulogne itself were buried in the Cimetiere de L'Est, one of the town cemeteries, the Commonwealth graves forming a long, narrow strip along the right hand edge of the cemetery. In the spring of 1918, it was found that space was running short in the Eastern Cemetery in spite of repeated extensions to the south, and the site of the new cemetery at Terlincthun was chosen.

During the Second World War, hospitals were again posted to Boulogne for a short time in May 1940. The town was taken by the Germans at the end of that month and remained in their hands until recaptured by the Canadians on 22 September 1944.

Boulogne Eastern Cemetery contains 5,577 Commonwealth burials of the First World War and 224 from the Second World War.