

# Sutton Veny War Graves



*Lest we Forget*

## World War 1



**7018 DRIVER**

**D. M. LAPISH**

**AUST. ARMY SERVICE CORPS**

**16TH FEBRUARY, 1919 AGE 24**

*He Served*

*His King And Country*

*Right Nobly*

*CWGC Headstone for Driver D. M. Lapish is located in  
Grave Plot # 55. C. 22. of St. John the Evangelist Churchyard, Sutton Veny*

## Dudley Massey LAPISH

Dudley Massey Lapish was born at Ashfield, Sydney, NSW in 1895 to parents John George & Ellen Lapish (nee Stringer). He was a 21 year old, Shipping Clerk from Holden Street, Ashfield, Sydney, NSW when he enlisted at Victoria Barracks, Paddington, NSW on 4<sup>th</sup> June, 1915 with the Divisional Train, 8<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 7018 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr John Lapish of Holden Street, Ashfield, Sydney, NSW. Dudley Lapish had served 3 years with Militia prior to enlisting.

Driver Dudley Massey Lapish embarked from Sydney on HMAT *Runic (A54)* on 9<sup>th</sup> August, 1915. He was taken on strength with No. 1 Coy. AASC at Alexandria, Egypt on 16<sup>th</sup> September, 1915.

Driver Lapish proceeded to join West F. Force from Daba on 7<sup>th</sup> December, 1915. He was marched in from W.W.F. at Cide Bishr on 14<sup>th</sup> March, 1916. Driver Lapish embarked from Alexandria for Overseas in 25<sup>th</sup> March, 1916 & disembarked at Marseilles, France on 1<sup>st</sup> April, 1916. Driver Lapish was temporarily detached to 1<sup>st</sup> F.A. B. on 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 1916 & rejoined his Unit on 27<sup>th</sup> August, 1916.

Driver Lapish was temporarily detached again to 1<sup>st</sup> F.A. B. on 15<sup>th</sup> October, 1916 & rejoined his Unit on 17<sup>th</sup> December, 1916.

Driver Lapish was sent sick to Hospital on 17<sup>th</sup> December, 1916 & admitted to 5<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance with Pharyngitis. He was transferred to Casualty Clearing Station on 19<sup>th</sup> December, 1916 & transferred to 36<sup>th</sup> C.C.S. Driver Lapish was transferred to 9<sup>th</sup> General Hospital at Rouen on 20<sup>th</sup> December, 1916. On 24<sup>th</sup> December, 1916 he was marked for transfer to England. Driver Lapish embarked for England on 24<sup>th</sup> December, 1916 on *Glenart Castle*. Driver Lapish was admitted to The Duchess of Connaught, Canadian Red Cross Hospital at Taplow, Bucks on 25<sup>th</sup> December, 1916 with Debility & Laryngitis. He was discharged on 6<sup>th</sup> February, 1917 & transferred to 3<sup>rd</sup> Auxiliary Hospital at Dartford where he was discharged on 9<sup>th</sup> February, 1917.

Driver Lapish was sent on furlo from 9<sup>th</sup> February, 1917 to 24<sup>th</sup> February, 1917.

Driver Lapish was marched in to No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs & medically classified on 26<sup>th</sup> February, 1917 as B. 1. A. – fit for light duty only.

Driver Lapish was marched out to ASC Training Depot at Parkhouse on 12<sup>th</sup> April, 1917 & marched out to Perham Detach. on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 1917.

Driver Lapish was admitted to OC. 1<sup>st</sup> S. General Hospital on 25<sup>th</sup> May, 1917 with Varicocles. He was marched in from Perham ASC Det. on 12<sup>th</sup> June, 1917 & marched out to Perham Downs on 5<sup>th</sup> July, 1917.

Driver Lapish was marched in from Warminster on 14<sup>th</sup> May, 1918. He was written up for an Offence on 16<sup>th</sup> May, 1918 – “Conduct to the prejudice of good order & Military discipline in that he was insolent to a non-commissioned officer.” He was awarded 2 days Field Punishment.

Driver Lapish proceeded overseas to France via Southampton from No. 4 Camp, Parkhouse on 29<sup>th</sup> May, 1918 to rejoin his Unit in France. He was marched in at ASC Base Depot at Havre on 30<sup>th</sup> May, 1918 & marched out to join his Unit on 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 1918. Driver Lapish rejoined his Company in the Field on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 1918. He was detached to 1<sup>st</sup> F.A. Bde on 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 1918 & rejoined from Detachment on 7<sup>th</sup> August, 1918. Driver Lapish was again detached to 1<sup>st</sup> F.A. Bde on 21<sup>st</sup> September, 1918 & rejoined from Detachment on 4<sup>th</sup> October, 1918.

Driver Lapish was attached to 1<sup>st</sup> Sec. 1<sup>st</sup> D.A.C. (temp) on 21<sup>st</sup> November, 1918 & rejoined No. 1 Coy. A.A.S.C. on 18<sup>th</sup> December, 1918.

Driver Lapish was marched out for the return to Australia on 29<sup>th</sup> January, 1919 & marched out for England from Havre on 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 1919. He disembarked on 4<sup>th</sup> February, 1919 & was marched in to Overseas Training Brigade.

Driver Dudley Massey Lapish was admitted to the 1<sup>st</sup> Australian General Hospital at Sutton Veny, Wiltshire on 5<sup>th</sup> February, 1919 with Influenza.

Driver Dudley Massey Lapish died at 6.30 a.m. on 16<sup>th</sup> February, 1919 at the 1<sup>st</sup> Australian General Hospital, Sutton Veny of Broncho-pneumonia.

A death for D. Lapish, aged 34, was registered in the March quarter, 1919 in the district of Warminster, Wiltshire.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Driver Lapish contains a letter from Registrar for Commanding, First Australian General Hospital, Sutton Veny, which reads:

*“re 7018 Dvr. Lapish D. Aust. ASC. O.T.B. This man was admitted from the Overseas Training Brigade of this area, diagnosed as Influenza. After being in this hospital for 13 days he died on the 16<sup>th</sup> February at 6.30 a.m. from Broncho-pneumonia. Dvr. Lapish was buried on the 18<sup>th</sup> February in St. John the Evangelist Churchyard, Sutton Veny.”*

Driver Dudley Massey Lapish was buried on 18<sup>th</sup> February, 1919 in St. John the Evangelist Churchyard at Sutton Veny – Grave no. 55. From the burial report of Driver Lapish - *Coffin was Elm with Brass Mounts – Deceased was buried with full Military Honours, the coffin draped with the Australian flag being borne to the graveside on a Gun Carriage preceded by a Firing Party from No. 1 Australian Command Depot. Six Australians supported the Pall. The remains were followed by 2 Officers and about 80 N.C.O.'s and Men who were present at the graveside ceremony. Headquarters A.I.F. Depots in United Kingdom were represented at the funeral.*

Driver Dudley Massey Lapish requested in his Will dated 21<sup>st</sup> July, 1917 that all his Estate be left to his mother – Ellen Lapish.

Driver D. M. Lapish is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 181.



*Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia*

Driver Dudley Massey Lapish was entitled to 1915 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Driver Lapish's father – Mr J. Lapish (sent September, 1921 & November, 1922).

D. Lapish is also remembered on the Newington College World War 1 Honour Roll located at 200 Stanmore Road, Stanmore, NSW.



**Newington College World War 1 Honour Roll** (Photos from War Memorials Register NSW – David Roberts)



The CWGC lists Driver Dudley Massey Lapish, 7018, of 1<sup>st</sup> Div. Train. Australian Army Service Corps, A.I.F., as the son of John and Ellen Lapish of 20 Park Avenue, Ashfield, Sydney, NSW.

(52 pages of Driver Dudley Massey Lapish's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

*Information obtained from the Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives.*



## **Newspaper Reports**

### **ROLL OF HONOUR**

LAPISH – Died on active service abroad, of bronchial pneumonia on February 16, 1919, Driver Dudley Massey Lapish, 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Army Service Corps, youngest son of Mr and Mrs John Lapish, Glenara, Holden Street, Ashfield, after nearly four years of active service.

(*The Sydney Morning Herald*, NSW – Friday 28 February, 1919 & Saturday 1 March, 1919)

The friends of Miss Lapish, mistress of the Infants Department of the Hay Public School, will learn with regret of the death of her brother, Driver Dudley Lapish, on the eve of sailing for Australia. The cause of Driver Lapish's death was broncho-pneumonia. The deceased soldier, who was the youngest son of Mr. W. J. Lapish, of Ashfield, was in the First Australian Army Corps. He saw three years and nine month's service, taking part in the operations against the Senussi in Egypt before being sent to France. He was twice wounded, on the last occasion so severely that he had to spend nearly twelve months in hospital. He was one of those sent to the Rhine after the signing of the armistice. His death, just as he was about to leave England for his home, is particularly sad, and has evoked great sympathy for his relatives. At their meeting yesterday the Red Cross Society decided to send, a letter of sympathy to their fellow member, Miss Lapish, on her bereavement.

(*The Riverina Grazier*, Hay, NSW – Friday 28 February, 1919)

\*\*OPC Note – Driver Lapish's Service Record file does not indicate that he was wounded at all.

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## ROLL OF HONOUR

LAPISH – Died on active Service abroad of bronchial pneumonia, on February 16, 1919, Driver Dudley Massey Lapish, 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Army Service Corps, sincere friend of Mr and Mrs W. Westman and family, 118 Frederick Street, Ashfield.

LAPISH – Died on active Service abroad of bronchial pneumonia, on February 16, 1919, Driver Dudley Massey Lapish, 1<sup>st</sup> Aust. Army Service Corps, sincere friend of Florence Kenway, Edward Street, Concord.

(*The Sydney Morning Herald*, NSW – Saturday 1 March, 1919)

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### Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Defence Department, in 1920/21, contacted the next of kin of the deceased World War 1 soldiers to see if they wanted to include a personal inscription on the permanent headstone at St. John the Evangelist Churchyard at Sutton Veny. Space was reserved for 66 letters only (with the space between any two words to be counted as an additional letter) & the rate per letter was around 3 ½ d (subject to fluctuation).

The expense in connection for the erection of permanent headstones over the graves of fallen soldiers was borne by the Australian Government.

(*Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921*)

Driver Dudley Massey Lapish does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

*He Served His King And Country Right Nobly*

Photo of Driver D. M. Lapish's CWGC headstone in St. John the Evangelist's Churchyard, Sutton Veny, Wiltshire.



*(Photo courtesy of David Milborrow)*



**War Graves at Sutton Veny** *(Photos from CWGC)*

