

# World War 1

## Birmingham City Police

### PC B233 Thomas GRINNALL

**Lance Corporal P/8137**  
**Military Mounted Police**  
**Died in France 9<sup>th</sup> November 1918**

Thomas was born 1893 in Dumbleton, Gloucestershire, son of William and Mary Ann (nee Gregg), he had four brothers and two sisters.

Thomas's father William was a farm labourer but died in 1904 aged 52 years of age, Thomas's mother died in March 1917 aged 55.

On 7<sup>th</sup> December 1914, Thomas joined Birmingham City Police as a 21-year-old railway porter, he served on the B Division with warrant number 8557 and collar number PC B233. He resided at Selly Oak Police Station. On some records Thomas's surname is referred to as Grinnell.

Thomas was a member of the police gymnastic team 1915, as pictured in his photograph.

In 1915, Thomas attested at the recruiting office in Suffolk Street, Birmingham.

On 27<sup>th</sup> February 1917, Thomas resigned from the police and joined the Military Mounted Police, he was mobilised and appointed to Lance Corporal.

On 14<sup>th</sup> April 1917, Thomas left from Southampton and arrived at Le Havre the following day, and he arrived in Rouen the day after.

On 12<sup>th</sup> September 1917, Thomas was admitted to a French hospital with a gunshot wound to the chest and a fractured clavicle.

Nearly two weeks later, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September, Thomas returned to England from Etaples in France where he was admitted to Northampton General Hospital with a chest wound.

Thomas remained there until May 1918, when he was transferred to Abington Avenue VAD auxiliary Hospital for a decision as to his medical discharge which was confirmed on 14<sup>th</sup> May, Thomas was discharged as no longer physically for war service on 4<sup>th</sup> June 1918, aged 24 years and ten months.

Thomas died on 9<sup>th</sup> November 1918, and is buried in Brandwood End Cemetery, Kings Heath, Birmingham C 1 C 786.

His cause of death is unknown.

