

From: Lieutenant Colonel Neil C. Smith AM Retd

MOSTLY UNSUNG MILITARY HISTORY RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

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RESEARCH NOTES

Name: **John Henry GRAYDON**

Rank: Private

Regimental Number: 2123

Date of Birth: 9th March 1881

Place of Birth: Sydney, New South Wales

Occupation: Labourer, Plate Layer and Caretaker

Marital Status: Married Georgina Kate FORDE in Queensland in 1909

Address:

Circa 1912: Hotel Central,

Goondiwindi, Queensland

Circa 1916: Rosewood,

Ipswich, Queensland

Circa 1918: Prince Street,

Randwick, New South Wales

Religion: Church of England

Service Outline:

Enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force in Sydney 13th December 1916 and to camp Showgrounds.

Embarked Sydney for the Middle East per Transport *Karmala* 3rd February 1917 with reinforcements for the Imperial Camel Corps.

Disembarked Alexandria 11th March 1917 and to Imperial Camel Corps Depot, Moascar, Egypt.

To 11th Company, 3rd Battalion, ANZAC Brigade, Imperial Camel Corps, Abbassia 9th April 1917.

Operations against the Turks including the Gaza attacks mid-April 1917.

Attacks on the Turks at Beersheba late October 1917

Sick with septic sores at 43rd British Military Hospital at Kilo 51, Palestine from 19th November 1917.

To 14th Australian General Hospital 20th November 1917 with fever relapse and septic sores.

Absent Without Leave 25th January 1918 and lost two days pay.

To Rest Camp, Port Said 1st to 6th March 1918.

Sick 14th Australian General Hospital with urine retention problem 7th March to 29th May 1918.

To Abbassia Depot 19th June 1918.

To Light Horse Depot 1st July 1918.

To 3rd Light Horse Training Regiment, Moascar 24th July 1918.

To B Squadron, 8th Light Horse Regiment 10th August 1918 at Musallebeh defences, Jordan Valley.

REQUEST FOR RESEARCH

Sick 3rd Light Horse Field Ambulance 28th to 31st August 1918.
Advance along Jordan Valley commences 19th September 1918 with numerous engagements.
Appointed Driver 9th October 1918.
To Sasa 9th September 1918.
Damascus captured 31st September 1918.
Turks surrendered near Homs 31st October 1918 and to Tripoli.
Sick in Lebanon from 6th November 1918.
Embarked Tripoli for Suez per Hospital Ship *Wandilla* 12th November 1918.
To 31st British General Hospital, Abbassia with jaundice 14th November 1918.
To 14th Australian General Hospital, Port Said 29th December 1918.
To Depot 30th January 1919.
Sick with debility 5th February 1919.
Embarked Kantara per Transport *Euripides* with dysentery 10th March 1919.
Disembarked Sydney 14th April 1919 and to 4th Australian General Hospital.
Discharged Medically Unfit 17th August 1919.

Remarks:

Awarded British War Medal and Victory Medal 1914-1919.
Described as 69.75 inches tall, 156 pounds in weight, chest 35.5 to 37.5 inches, fair complexion, hazel eyes and brown hair.
Died Enngonia, Bourke, New South Wales 6th October 1948.
The subject was the only Australian serviceman named John GRAYDON to serve in World War One.
No other service.
Researched National Archives of Australia and civil records.