



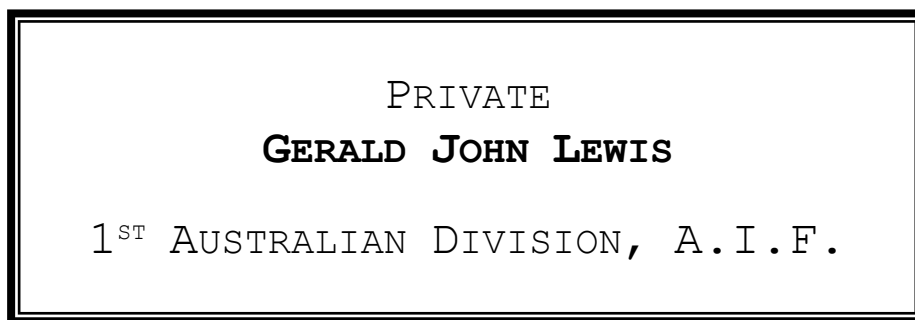
In Memory of  
**Private**  
**GERALD JOHN LEWIS**

**34**, 1<sup>st</sup> Australian Division, Australian Infantry A.I.F.  
who died age 24  
on 1 November 1918

Son of George James and Catherine Maria Lewis,  
of Palmer St., Windsor, Brisbane, Queensland.

Remembered with honour  
PLYMOUTH (EFFORD) CEMETERY, ENGLAND





**Gerald John Lewis** was the son of George and Catherine Lewis of Brisbane. He graduated from Toowoomba Grammar School in 1910 and was in the year group for 1912.

Gerald John Lewis was born on 22 July 1895 in Gympie, Queensland. He was 5'7 ½" tall, medium build and fair complexion with brown eyes and brown hair. Before he enlisted, he was a bank clerk in Gympie, Queensland. He enlisted as a Private on 21 August 1914 with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Australian Light Horse and stated that his next of kin was his father George Lewis of Gympie. His service no was 34. He was appointed as a driver in September 1914 with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Australian Light Horse. The 2nd Light Horse Regiment deployed to Gallipoli without its horses and landed there on 12 May 1915, joining the New Zealand and Australian Division. It played a defensive role for most of the campaign but did attack the Turkish trenches opposite Quinn's Post, one of the most contested positions along the ANZAC Line. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Light Horse was evacuated from Gallipoli on 25 December 1915. In January the 2<sup>nd</sup> Light Horse was sent to Warden, Egypt.

He was transferred from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Light Horse to the 13<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade Head Quarters on 23 February 1916 whilst still serving in Egypt. The Brigade was then posted to France and he disembarked in Marseilles on 12 June 1916. The 4th Division spent time in the trenches near Fromelles where it sustained its first casualties, but its first major engagement was to be in the second phase of the Pozieres / Moquet Farm campaign.

Whilst still in France, he was admitted to hospital and later was transferred to the 1<sup>st</sup> Division Head Quarters on 28 June 1918. On 13 October 1918 he was returning to Australia as part of the contingent of '1914 special leave forces' from Le Havre, France via England. He disembarked on 14 October 1918 in Southampton and was taken to the military hospital in Devonport. He died of influenza and pneumonia on 1 November 1918 and was buried with full military honours, bugler, firing party and pallbearers. The coffin was draped with the Union Jack and he was buried with the 'Last Post' at Efford Cemetery in Plymouth, England. He was entitled to the 1914-15 Star, Victory Medal and British War Medal for his services. His family back in Australia received his effects and medals. His effects included: 1 YMCA wallet; 1 pipe; 1 wrist disc; letters; cards and photos; 1 case Gillette razor; 1 ring (green stone); 2 badges and 1 paybook, which were all sent to his father in Gympie, Queensland.

Toowoomba Grammar School Archives state that he started school on 1 February 1910 and left on 1 June 1910. The School Magazine of May 1910 states that he was a boarder at the school. He swam in the swimming carnival on 10 March 1910 and was placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the under 16, 50 yard sprint and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 75 yards handicap. The School Magazine of November 1910 states that he played with the 1<sup>st</sup> XI Cricket team in 1910, was a Valette for the EA Woodward (Junior and Greek Medalist 1910). It is interesting to note that his name is mentioned in the

The School Magazine November 1914 and is stated as enlisting, but no further mention in later issues.

He is commemorated on the Australian War Memorial Roll of Honour, Gympie and Widgee War Memorial Gates`

### **External Links**

[Australian War Memorial Military Records](#)

[CWGC](#)

[National Archives of Australia](#)

[The AIF Project](#)



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

E02947

*The 13th Australian Infantry Brigade moving through Warfusee-Abancourt, in France, on August 17th, 1918, to take over a new sector in the zone of operations. Australian War Memorial -Accession Number E02947 Place made France: Picardie, Somme, Warfusee-Abancourt Date made 17 August 1918 Conflict First World War, 1914-1918 - AWM*



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

E04802

*Unidentified officers and soldiers of the 13th Australian Infantry Brigade resting on railway tracks at the brigade's Advanced Headquarters, located in a railway cutting. Note shelters on the left and a bridge in the background. Australian War Memorial - Accession Number E04802 Place made France: Picardie, Somme, Amiens Harbonnieres Area, Villers-Bretonneux Area, Villers-Bretonneux Date made 7 May 1918 - AWM*