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Flood, John Hope

A West Australian railway employee killed while on military service for their country



John Flood was recorded by the Stores Branch on their Honour Board. Collection of P.M.Rogers

Rail employment information

Employer:	Western Australian Government Railways & Tramways
Branch:	Stores
Designation:	Clerk

Rail employment notes: Born 12/11/1893. Joined WAGR 24/2/1910 aged 16 as Cadet, Midland Workshops. Promoted to Clerk, Midland Workshops.

Granted leave to join AIF 29/7/1915. Died of wounds 26/2/1917.

Military service information:

Conflict:	First World War 1914-1918
Service:	Australian Imperial Force
Military unit:	12th Australian Infantry Battalion
Service number:	2844
Date of death:	26 February 1917
Place of death:	France
Age:	23
Rank:	Private

Burial/memorialisation: Dernancourt Communal Cemetery Extension, Dernancourt, Picardie, France

John Hope Flood enlisted in the AIF at Perth on 9 July 1915. He nominated his father as his Next of kin and declared that he had no previous military or naval service. Following basic military training at Blackboy Military Camp he was assigned to 9th Reinforcements to 12 Battalion with the regimental number 2844. He departed Australia from the Port of Fremantle on 1 October 1915 aboard A20 HMAT *Hororata*. On arrival in Egypt he was allocated to Base Details before being taken on strength of 12 Battalion on 19 January 1916 for further individual and formation training. He departed Alexandria on 29 March 1916 and disembarked at Marseilles on 5 April 1916 to join the British Expeditionary Force and moved to the Battles of Pozieres and Moquet Farm.

Here he was Wounded in action on 23 July 1916 and evacuated to the UK on 27 July 1916. In the UK he moved through a number of medical facilities before departing the UK on 30 December 1916 aboard *Princess Clementine* through Folkestone and was taken on strength of 12 Battalion again on 8 January 1917. Private Flood was Wounded in action again on 25 February 1917 in the area of Dernancourt. He was carried to 1 Field Ambulance and from there moved to 45 Casualty Clearing Station where he died of wounds the following day. He was buried in the Dernancourt Communal Cemetery Extension.

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Additional/personal information:

John Flood was born in Broken Hill NSW, a son of Constantine and Maria (nee Keely) Flood.

However the family shortly after moved to WA, where he finished his schooling at Christian Brothers High School in Fremantle and where three siblings were born.. (NSW & WA BDM)

It seems the family called him "Jack":

> FLOOD.-In loving remembrance of our dear son and brother, John Hope; killed in action in France, on February 26, 1917. … There lies our darling. Jack, Resting in peace with God.. -Inserted by his loving father, mother, and sisters. Marie and Ann, and brother Con.
>
> FLOOD.-In loving memory of our dear nephew, Private-John Hope Flood; killed in action, somewhere in France, on February 26, 1917. -Inserted by his loving uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. A.Ross, 140 Forrest-street, Fremantle East. R.I.P. Both *The West Australian* 26/2/1918p1

For his service he was entitled to the 1914-1915 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal. The medals and other memorabilia were later issued to his father. His mother (Mrs Maria Flood) was given a pension of 35/- per fortnight with effect from 7 May 1917. Full details of her payments are available in file PP13/1-C7578. Mrs Flood died in 1934 (aged 68) and her husband, Constantine, died in 1935 (aged 77).

Further information and/or photos may be added as available. Information may also be found on the Australian War Memorial website: *https://www.awm.gov.au/advanced-search/people*

Abbreviations: WAGR= Western Australian Government Railways (& Tramways at some periods); MRWA= Midland Railway of Western Australia; BDM=Western Australian Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages website; AWM=Australian War Memorial (Canberra and website); CWGC= Commonwealth War Graves Commission (including website).

Acknowledgements: Rail employment notes from WAGR Roll of Honour in WAGR annual report 1919 and WAGR records held by State Records Office, Perth, transcribed by J.Austin 2019. Military information researched by Dr G.M.Galvin. Family information added by G.Higham.

----------Lest we forget----------