182

Lickfold, Edward

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



Memorial at Railway Workshops Midland (D.Graham/panoramio)

Rail employment information

Employer:	Western Australian Government Railways & Tramways
Branch:	Way and Works
Designation:	Repairer

Rail employment notes: Repairer, based at Elabbin.

Elabbin was a small siding on the railway line between Nungarin and Merredin.

("Repairer" was a track maintenance worker in a gang responsible for upkeep of an allocated section of railway line. A typical gang might include between 3 and 6 Repairers with one Leading Hand Repairer and a Ganger in charge. The WAGR Annual report for 1914/15 showed they employed 882 Repairers at 8 shillings per day, with many at very small settlements or in tent camps. It would not have been an attractive life.)

11th Battalion AIF (Service No.2160). Killed in action at Gallipoli 6/8/1915.

Military service information:

Conflict:	First World War 1914-1918
Service:	Australian Imperial Force (AIF)
Military unit:	11th Australian Infantry Battalion
Service number:	2160
Date of death:	6 August 1915
Place of death:	Gallipoli, Turkey
Age:	37
Rank:	Private

Burial/memorialisation: Lone Pine Memorial, Gallipoli Peninsula, Canakkale Province, Turkey

Edward Lickfold enlisted at Northam on 7 April 1915. He nominated his father (resident in the UK) as his Next of Kin. He had been born in Southampton and migrated to Australia aged 27 years. Previous military experience was 2 years' service in the Berkshire Yeomanry. He had basic military training at Blackboy Hill Camp following which he was allocated to 6th Reinforcements to 11 Battalion and departed Fremantle aboard A2 HMAT *Geelong* on 6 June 1915.

On arrival in Egypt he soon crossed to Gallipoli where he arrived on 31 July 1915 and was taken on strength of 11 Battalion on 4 August 1915. Two days later the Allied force made one last assault to try and break the Turkish lines. In that attempt Private Lickfold was Killed In Action on 6 August 1915 and buried at Shell Green with the Rev T H Robertson officiating.

After the War his grave could not be identified and so he has no known grave. Private Lickfold is remembered on the Lone Pine Memorial.

© Rail Heritage WA

The Lone Pine Australian Memorial on the Gallipoli Peninsula in Turkey. In the foreground are individual graves for servicemen buried here. The walls running across the front of the memorial in the background are engraved with the names of Australian servicemen whose remains have not been located. Photo A.Tilley	

Additional/personal information:

Edward Lickfold had been born in Southampton in England and migrated to Australia aged 27 years. He was a son of Mr John Lickfold of Billingshurst, Sussex in England.

For his service he was entitled to the 1914-1915 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal which were issued together with other memorabilia to his father direct from Australia House, London.

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). DVA=Department of Veterans' Affairs (including website)

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

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

 © Rail Heritage WA