

**Hollybrook Memorial,
Southampton, Hampshire, England
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



5395 PRIVATE

G. W. LAWFORD

28TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

7TH SEPTEMBER, 1916

George William **LAWFORD**

(George William **HOAD**)

George William Hoad was born at Cooktown, Queensland on 30th July, 1891 to parents William George & Ada Hoad (nee Bateson).

George William Hoad attended East Perth State School, Western Australia.

Ada Hoad, mother of George William Hoad, married Charles Lawford in 1902 in Perth, Western Australia. (William George Hoad, aged 38, had died in September, 1901 in Western Australia.)

George William Lawford was a 22 year old, single, Cabinetmaker from East Perth, Western Australia when he enlisted on 22nd March, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 5395 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Ada Lawford, 246 Lord Street, East Perth, Western Australia. George Lawford stated on his Attestation Papers that he had been an Apprentice for 5 years with Foy & Gibson Ltd, Perth. One of the copies of Attestation Papers for George William Lawford has the notation on the side “*Evidently Step-father on active service. See file of 1577 C. Lawford 11/Bn.*”

Private George William Lawford was posted to 50th Depot on 22nd March, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to “B” Company, 55th Depot (no date recorded). Private Lawford was transferred to 14th Reinforcements of 28th Battalion on 27th March, 1916.

Private George William Lawford embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia on HMAT *Miltiades* (A28) on 7th August, 1916 (date as per Embarkation Roll on Australian War Memorial website) with the 7th Infantry Brigade, 28th Infantry Battalion, 14th Reinforcements. (The Casualty Form – Active Service for Private George William Lawford recorded that the *Miltiades* embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia on 9th August, 1916).

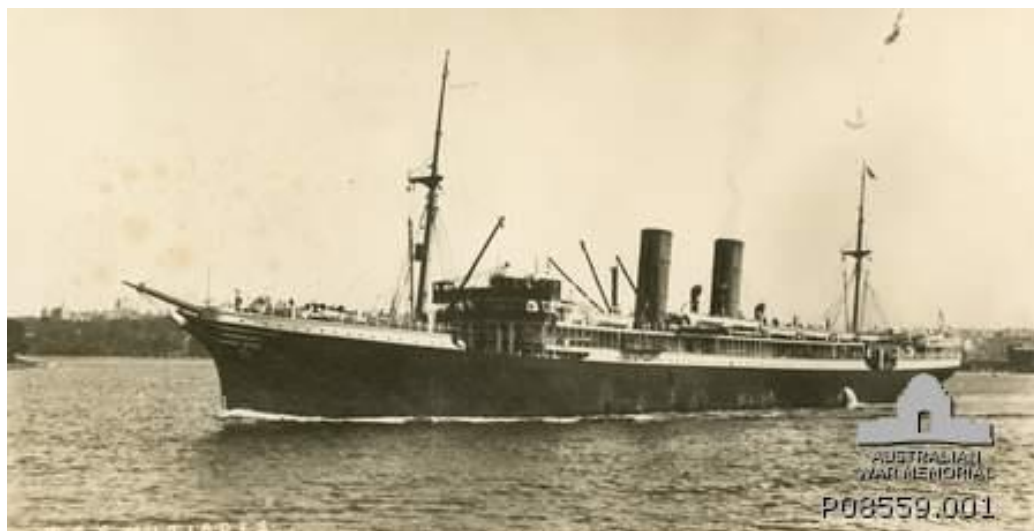
28th Battalion

The 28th Battalion was raised at Blackboy Camp in Western Australia on 16 April 1915 from recruits previously earmarked for the 24th Battalion, which was instead being raised in Victoria.....

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private George William Lawford was admitted to HMAT *Miltiades* (A28) Hospital on 3rd September, 1916 suffering from C.S.M. (Cerebro Spinal Meningitis) – in Isolation Hospital.

Private George William Lawford died on 7th September, 1916 at Sea on board HMAT *Miltiades* (A28) from Meningitis. (The Statement of Service form in the Service Record file for Private George William Lawford recorded he died of “*Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.*”)



HMAT *Miltiades*

Private George William Lawford was buried at Sea on 7th September, 1916.

Private George William Lawford is commemorated on the Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, Hampshire, England as he has no grave. His death is acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Base Records would have contacted Mrs Ada Lawton in 1922, however there is no copy in the Service Record file of the late Private George William Lawford, but based on previous experience in researching Australia WW1 Soldiers the letter would have contained the following information: making mention that she was registered as the next-of-kin of the late Private George William Lawford but desired to know if there were any nearer blood relatives than herself & would have asked specifically if his father was still alive due to the "Deceased Soldiers Estates Act 1918" which stated that the War Medals & Mementoes of a deceased soldier were to be handed in the following order of relationship – Widow, eldest surviving son, eldest surviving daughter, father, mother, eldest surviving brother, eldest surviving sister etc.

Mrs Ada Lawford replied to Base Records on 22nd April, 1922 stating "*My late son No. 5395 Private G. W. Hoad insisted [word should have been "enlisted"] as G. W. Lawford his father is dead. He was killed on the W. A. Railways twenty years ago.*"

Private George William Lawford was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Lawford's mother – Mrs A. Lawford, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent June, 1922 & Plaque sent August, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private George William Lawford – service number 5395, of 28th Battalion, Australian Infantry. No family details are listed.

Private G. W. Lawford is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 113.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

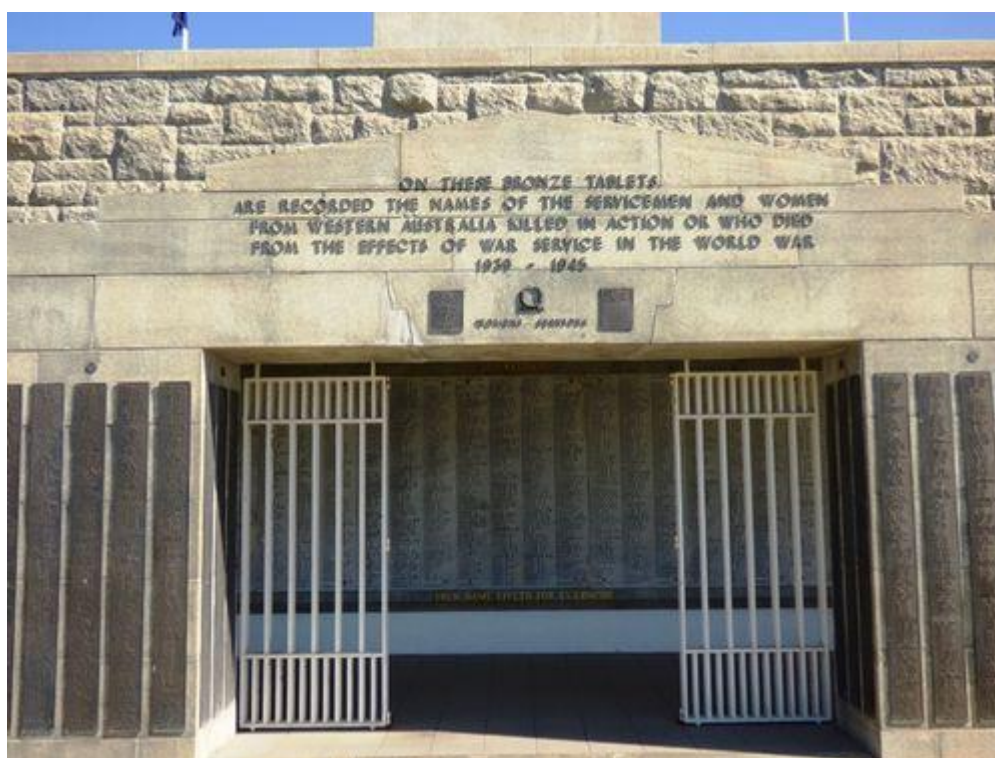
G. W. Lawford is remembered on the Western Australia State War Memorial which is located at the top of Kings Park and Botanic Garden escarpment, ANZAC Bluff, Fraser Avenue, Perth, Western Australia. The memorial was developed around an 18 metre tall obelisk as the principal feature, which is almost a replica of the Australian Imperial Force Memorials erected in France and Belgium.

The heavy concrete foundations are supplemented by heavy brick walls which enclose an inner chamber or crypt. The walls surrounding the crypt are covered with The Roll of Honour; marble tablets which list under their units the names of more than 7,000 members of the services killed in action or as a result of World War One.



**Western Australia State War Memorial Cenotaph, Kings Park (above)
& (below) The Crypt with the Roll of Honour names**

(Photos from Monument Australia – Kent Watson/Sandra Tattersall/Graeme Saunders)





28th Battalion Panel (Photo courtesy of Gordon Stuart)

(32 pages of Private George William Lawford's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll) & National Archives

An "In Memoriam" card is part of a collection held by the State Library of Western Australian. The card contains a photograph of Private George William Lawford along with the following brief biographical note:

In Loving Memory of
PTE GEORGE WILLIAM LAWFORD
No. 5395 14th-28th Battalion
Who gave his life for his King and Country was the son of Mr Charles and Mrs Ada Lawford, of 246 Lord Street, Perth. He enlisted at Perth on March 28th, 1916, and sailed on August 6th, 1916. Unfortunately he became ill at sea, and died from the effects of illness on board H.M.T. "Milliades," on September 7th, 1916. A lot can be said about this hero, but "His Duty Nobly Done" sums it up. He was a lad respected by all who came in contact with him.
(Note: Ship name should be Miltiades)



Private George William Lawford



Newspaper Notices

Mainly About People

Mr and Mrs Lawford, of 246 Lord-street, East Perth, have received word from the military authorities that their son, Private G. W. Lawford, has died at sea from meningitis on September 7, 1916.

(The Daily News, Perth, Western Australia – 7 October, 1916)

DEATHS

LAWFORD – Mr and Mrs Lawford, of 246 Lord-street, East Perth, have received word from the military authorities that their son, Private G. W. Lawford, has died at sea from meningitis on September 7, 1916.

(Sunday Times, Perth, Western Australia – 8 October, 1916)

DEATHS

LAWFORD – In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private G. W. Lawford, who was buried at sea on September 7, 1916.

-Inserted by his loving parents, brother, sisters, and brother-in-law.

(*The West Australian*, Perth, Western Australia – 9 October, 1916) & (*Western Mail*, Perth, Western Australia – 13 October, 1916)

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN CASUALTIES

AT THE FIGHTING FRONTS

235th Official List

DIED OF ILLNESS

PRIVATE G. W. LAWFORD, E. Perth

(*The Daily News*, Perth, Western Australia – 16 October, 1916)

W.A. Soldiers Who Have Done Their Bit



(*Sunday Times*, Perth, Western Australia – 21 January, 1917)



PTE. G. W. LAWFORD.
Died at sea from meningitis on
September 7. Son of Mrs. Law-
ford, Lord-street, Perth.

DECEASED PERSONS' ESTATES

The following probates and letters of administration have been granted by the Supreme Court:

....

George William Lawford, East Perth, to Ada Lawford, £139.

(*Western Argus*, Kalgoorlie, Western Australia – 27 February, 1917)

IN MEMORIAM

Anzac Heroes

LAWFORD – In fond and loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private George William, 14-28th Battalion, who died at sea (on active service), September 7, 1916.

He bore his pain, he bore it well,
And what he suffered none could tell,
But God alone, Who thought it best,
Did take him home, and gave him rest.

Deeply mourned.

-Inserted by his loving mother, father, sister Flow, brother Fred.

LAWFORD – In loving memory of our dear brother, Private George William, who was buried at sea on September 7, 1916.

Asleep in the deep.

-Inserted by his loving sister and brother-in-law, Bessie and Leslie Smith.

LAWFORD – In loving memory of Private George W. Lawford, who died at seas on September 7, 1916.

One of the best.

-Inserted by his friends, Andrew, Irene, Mr and Mrs McHarrie.

(*The West Australian*, Perth, Western Australia – 7 September, 1917)

IN MEMORIAM

Anzac Heroes

LAWFORD – In loving memory of Private George W. Lawford, 14/28th Battalion, who died at sea on his way to the front, September 7, 1916.

-Inserted by his loving mates, Private H. J. Stanton and Private Fred. Laney, 14/28th Battalion, on active service.

(*The West Australian*, Perth, Western Australia – 8 September, 1917)

IN MEMORIAM

Anzac Heroes

LAWFORD – In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private George William, 14/28th Battalion, who died at sea, September 7, 1916.

It is just two years ago, dear George,
Since you passed away,
But we miss you just as much
As if it were yesterday.

Inserted by his loving mother, father, sister Flo and brother Fred.

LAWFORD – In loving memory of our dear brother, Private George William, 14/28th Battalion, who died at sea, September 7, 1916.

Many brave hearts are asleep in the deep.

-Inserted by his loving sister and brother-in-law, Bessie and Leslie Smith.

LAWFORD – A tribute to the memory of our dear friend, Private George W. Lawford, who died at sea on September 7, 1916.

Inserted by Andy, Rene, Mr and Mrs McHarrie

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 7 September, 1918)

IN MEMORIAM

Anzac Heroes

LAWFORD – In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Private George William, 14/28th Battalion, who died at sea, September 7, 1916.

It is just two years ago, dear George,
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LAWFORD – In loving memory of our dear brother, Private George William, 14/28th Battalion, who died at sea, September 7, 1916.

Asleep in the deep.

-Inserted by his loving sister and brother-in-law, Bessie and Leslie Smith.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 6 September, 1919)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for cemeteries and memorials in 23,000 locations, in 153 countries. In all 1.7 million men and women from the Commonwealth forces from WWI and WWII have been honoured and commemorated in perpetuity.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, as part of its mandate, is responsible for commemorating all Commonwealth war dead individually and equally. To this end, the war dead are commemorated by name on a headstone, at an identified site of a burial, or on a memorial. War dead are commemorated uniformly and equally, irrespective of military or civil rank, race or creed.

Not all service personnel have a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. In some instances the relative chose to have their own memorial/headstone placed on the deceased's grave. These private headstones are not maintained by the CWGC as they have no jurisdiction to maintain them.

Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, Hampshire, England

The Hollybrook Memorial is situated in Southampton (Hollybrook) Cemetery behind the plot of First World War graves near the main entrance.

The Hollybrook Memorial commemorates by name almost 1,900 servicemen and women of the Commonwealth land and air forces* whose graves are not known, many of whom were lost in transports or other vessels torpedoed or mined in home waters (*Officers and men of the Commonwealth's navies who have no grave but the sea are commemorated on memorials elsewhere). The memorial also bears the names of those who were lost or buried at sea, or who died at home but whose bodies could not be recovered for burial. Almost one third of the names on the memorial are those of officers and men of the South African Native Labour Corps, who died when the troop transport Mendi sank in the Channel following a collision on 21 February 1917. Other vessels sunk with significant loss of life were: HS Anglia, a hospital ship sunk by mine off Dover on 17 November 1915. SS Citta Di Palermo, an Italian transport carrying Commonwealth troops, sunk by mine off Brindisi on 8 January 1916. In rescuing survivors, two Royal Naval Otranto drifters were themselves mined and blown up. HMTs Donegal and Warilda, ambulance transports torpedoed and sunk between Le Havre and Southampton on 17 April 1917 and 3 August 1918. HS Glenart Castle, a hospital ship torpedoed and sunk off Lundy on 26 February 1918. SS Galway Castle, torpedoed and sunk in the Atlantic on 12 September 1918. RMS Leinster, the Irish mail boat, torpedoed and sunk in the Irish Sea on 10 October 1918. Among those commemorated on the Hollybrook Memorial is Field Marshall Lord Kitchener, Secretary of State for War, who died when the battle cruiser HMS Hampshire was mined and sunk off Scapa Flow on 5 June 1916.

The memorial was designed by T. Newham and unveiled by Sir William Robertson on 10 December 1930.

There are approximately 162 Australian World War 1 Service Personnel commemorated on the Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, Hampshire, England.

(Information & photos from CWGC)



Cross of Sacrifice



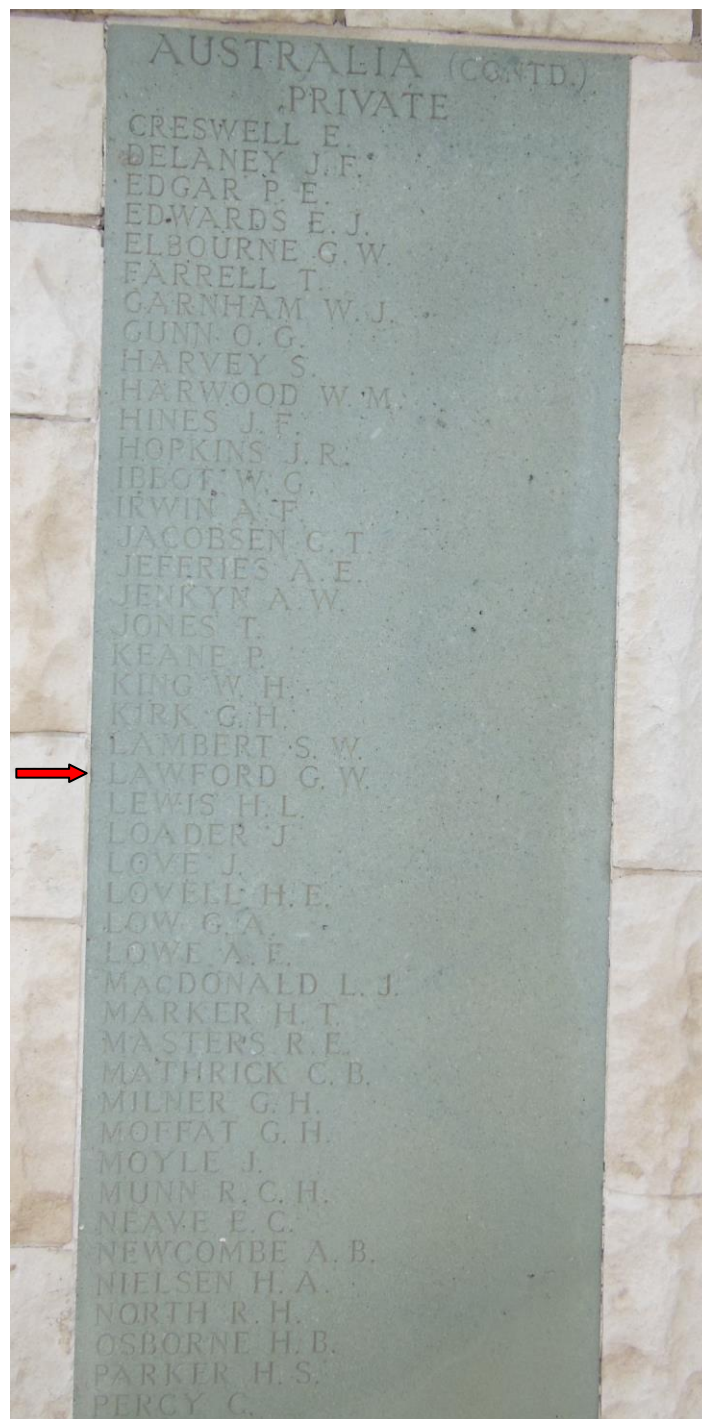
Name Panels behind Cross of Sacrifice



CWGC Graves in Hollybrook Cemetery with Cross of Sacrifice & Hollybrook Memorial

(Photo from CWGC)

Photo of Private G. W. Lawford's name on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission's Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, Hampshire, England.



(Photo by julia&keld – Find a Grave)

