John William Gardiner



Private John Gardiner 3rd Battalion Service Number: 4028

Born: July 1894, Penrith, NSW **Died:** 22 August 1916, Albert, France

John William Gardiner was born at Penrith in July 1894, the third child of John and Martha Gardiner. He was educated at the Penrith Superior Public School. In 1913, Gardiner married Alice Constance Harvey and they had three children before his enlistment. At the time of his marriage, Gardiner was employed as a carter and on enlistment in 1915, he was employed as a sawmill sawyer. They were living in Worth Street Penrith.

Gardiner enlisted on 26 September 1915 and was assigned to the 12th Reinforcements, 3rd Battalion. His battalion sailed for the war zone on 30 December 1915 aboard HMAT *Medic* bound for Alexandria. Also on board was another Penrith man, Edward Lance. By February 1916 Gardiner was ill and hospitalised. Both Gardiner and Lance, were sent to France aboard the troopship *Transylvania*, arriving in Marseilles on 4 April 1916.

Gardiner spent some time in hospital in Havre and rejoined his unit on 3 August. His time at the front was short-lived. He was wounded on 18 August and admitted to the 3rd Casualty Clearing Station at Puchevillers with gunshot wounds and compound fractures. He died on 22 August 1916.

In 1920 John's widow Alice, married Kenneth Byrnes and they lived in Victoria Street Werrington. John's younger brother, Albert George Gardiner, died of wounds in France on 10 April 1917.

Memorial Details:

- Puchevillers British Cemetery, France
- Honour Roll, Memory Park, Penrith
- Honour Roll, Victoria Park, St Marys
- Honour Roll, Penrith Superior Public School

Sources:

- <u>National Archives of Australia:</u> B2455, GARDINER J W
- Australian War Memorial First World War Nominal Roll
- Australian War Memorial Roll of Honour
- Penrith City Library Biography files

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• Nepean Times 14 October 1916, p3, Col 2