

# Otto Lessing EVERS



## Pre-enlistment:

- Otto was born in Marrickville NSW to parents Frederick and Emily EVERS
- He was educated at Fort Street Model Public School, Sydney
- He later studied for 2 years at Hawkesbury Agricultural College, NSW
- His occupation on enlistment was that of an Auctioneer and Commission Agent in Yungaburra

## • Previous Military Service: 2nd AN&MEG

- Mobilised for War Service in August 1914 and embarked at Cairns on 8/8/14 for Thursday Island (War Station) Garrison Duty. Enlisted on 14/8/14 for service outside Australia, re-embarked at Thursday Island on 16/8/14 on Troopship Kanowna to take part in the capture of German New Guinea
- Taken on Strength of the NA&MEF on 6/9/14, returned to Townsville on 18/9/14 on account of the trouble caused by the firemen on troopship but did not participate in capture of German New Guinea. Discharged on 18/9/14

## Military Record

- Service Number: 1544
- Otto EVERS enlisted in Atherton Qld and joined the 26th Battalion 1st reinforcements on 5 June 1915
- He embarked with his Unit from Brisbane on 29 June 1915 to Alexandria then on to join the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force (Gallipoli), 4 September 1915 where he fought.
- He was admitted to 7th Field Ambulance, Mudros; transferred to 27th General Hospital, Mudros on 5 January 1916 (influenza); to HS 'Asturias' on 11 January 1916; admitted to No 3 Auxiliary Hospital, Heliopolis on 14 January 1916; transferred to Convalescent Camp, Helouan on 17 January 1916; discharged to duty, 29 January 1916.
- He was again admitted to Convalescent Camp, Helouan, 2 February 1916 (influenza); discharged to duty, 29 February 1916. Then admitted to No 3 Australian General Hospital, Abbassia, 3 May 1916 (not yet diagnosed); listed as 'dangerously ill', 5 May 1916; transferred to Government Hospital, Abbassia, 12 May 1916 (smallpox).
- 'While suffering from pneumonia he was invalided from Gallipoli to Cairo where, while convalescent, at the request of General White, he was granted special permission to continue developing his invention,.
- On the recommendation of Brig. General Lothbinithe and Sellheim he was to carry out, in the Egyptian State Railway Workshops at Boulac, Cairo, work on the construction of a model of 2 periscopic sights for 2 machine guns which he was perfecting and which he had invented while on duty as machine gun driver on Gallipoli. Unfortunately, before completing this work he contracted smallpox which proved fatal.' Details from Mother.
- Private Otto EVERS Died Of Disease (smallpox) in No3 Australian General Hospital, Abbassia, Cairo on 16 May 1916 aged 26 years
- His war service was in Egypt and Gallipoli

## Cemetery &/or Memorial

- Cairo War Memorial Cemetery (Row F, Grave No. 62), Egypt
- Australian War Memorial roll of Honour Panel Number 107
- Atherton War Memorial
- Malanda Eacham Memorial Gates
- Richmond University of Western Sydney WW1 Memorial

## Rifle Shooting

- Otto Evers was a member of Yungaburra Rifle Club

## ACWM Commemoration Service

## Reference Links

- <https://recordsearch.naa.gov.au/SearchNRRetrieve/Interface/ViewImage.aspx?B=3545267>
- <https://www.aif.adfa.edu.au/showPerson?pid=93409>
- <https://vwma.org.au/explore/people/178525>
- <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/42894563> Cairns Post, Thu 13 Aug 1914, Page 8, Northern Mobilisation. Roll of Riflemen