

**Bournemouth East Cemetery,  
Bournemouth, Dorset  
War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**5575 PRIVATE**

**J. L. DELLEY**

**26TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**11TH NOVEMBER, 1918 Age 22**

## Joseph Louis DELLEY

Joseph Louis Delley was born at Bundaberg, Queensland on 3rd November, 1895 to parents Louis & Mary Ann Delley (nee Absalom). (Listed on Queensland BDM's as Joseph Louis Delby).

Joseph Louis Delley attended school at Bundaberg & Mt. Perry, Queensland.

Joseph Louis Delley was a 21 year old, single, Farmer from Brisbane, Queensland when he enlisted on 16th March, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 5575 & his religion was Presbyterian. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Mary Ann Delley, Tawah, Dallarnil Line via Maryborough, Queensland.

According to information provided by his father for the Roll of Honour – Joseph Delley was rejected 9 times. He underwent 2 operations & was then approved to enlist. He stated on his Attestation Papers that he had been rejected 9 times due to Filaria.

Private Joseph Louis Delley was posted to 11th Depot Battalion on 5th April, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to 15th Reinforcements of 26th Battalion on 7th June, 1916.

Private Joseph Louis Delley embarked from Brisbane, Queensland on HMAT *Clan McGillivray (A46)* on 7th September, 1916 with the 7th Infantry Brigade, 26th Infantry Battalion, 15th Reinforcements & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 2nd November, 1916.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. Some of these were located in the Salisbury Plain & surrounding areas in the county of Wiltshire.

Private Joseph Louis Delley was marched in to 7th Training Battalion at Rollestone, Wiltshire, England on 21st November, 1916.

Private Joseph Louis Delley proceeded overseas to France via Folkestone on 13th December, 1916 on S.S. *Victoria* from 7th Training Battalion. He was marched in to 2nd Divisional Base Depot at Etaples, France on 14th December, 1916. Private Delley proceeded to join his Unit on 17th December, 1916 from 2nd Divisional Base Depot & was taken on strength of 26th Battalion in France on 19th December, 1916 from Reinforcements.

Private Joseph Louis Delley was sent to 1st Australian Field Ambulance then transferred to 1st Anzac R. R. Station on 7th January, 1917 – cause N.Y.D. (not yet determined). He was transferred & admitted to 36th Casualty Clearing Station on 8th January, 1917 then transferred to Ambulance Train on 9th January, 1917. Private Delley was admitted to No. 6 General Hospital at Rouen, France on 9th January, 1917 – N.Y.D. He was marked for transfer to England on 20th January, 1917. Private Delley embarked from Havre, France on 21st November, 1917 on Hospital Ship *Dunluce Castle* with Filaria Sarguinis Hominis.

Private Joseph Louis Delley was admitted to Northamptonshire War Hospital, England on 22nd January, 1917. He was transferred to 1st Auxiliary Hospital on 14th February, 1917.

Private Joseph Louis Delley was granted furlo from 23rd March, 1917 & was then to report to Perham Downs on 7th April, 1917.

Private Joseph Louis Delley was marched in from furlo to No. 1 Command Depot at Perham Downs, Wiltshire, England on 9th April, 1917.

Private Joseph Louis Delley was transferred to 69th Battalion on 24th April, 1917 from 26th Battalion. He was taken on strength of 69th Battalion at Wareham on 24th April, 1917.

Private Joseph Louis Delley was transferred back to 26th Battalion on 19th September, 1917. He was marched out to Hurdcott, Wiltshire on 19th September, 1917 to join 69th Draft Battalion.

Private Joseph Louis Delley proceeded overseas to France via Southampton on 14th October, 1917 from Hurdcott. He was marched in to 2nd Australian Divisional Base Depot at Havre, France on 15th October, 1917. Private Delley was marched out to join his Unit on 18th October, 1917 & was taken on strength of 26th Battalion in Belgium on 20th October, 1917.

Private Joseph Louis Delley was on leave to Paris from 13th March, 1918. He rejoined his Battalion in Belgium on 20th March, 1918 from Leave in Paris.

Private Joseph Louis Delley was sent sick to Hospital on 20th June, 1918. He was admitted to 6th Australian Field Ambulance on 20th June, 1918 with Gonorrhoea. Private Delley was transferred to 5th Casualty Clearing Station on 20th June, 1918 then transferred to 12th Casualty Clearing Station on 21st June, 1918. He was transferred to Ambulance Train 9 on 30th June, 1918. Private Delley was admitted to 39th General Hospital in France on 5th July, 1918 – NYD (not yet determined). He was discharged to Base Depot on 12th September, 1918 having V.D. for 85 days.

Private Joseph Louis Delley was marched in to A.I.B.D. (Australian Infantry Base Depot) in France on 12th September, 1918. He proceeded from A.I.B.D. on 22nd September, 1918 to join his Unit & rejoined his Battalion on 23rd September, 1918.

Private Joseph Louis Delley proceeded on leave to UK from 12th October, 1918.

## **26th Battalion**

The 26th Battalion was raised at Enoggera, Queensland, in April 1915 from recruits enlisted in Queensland and Tasmania, and formed part of the 7th Brigade. ....

Like most AIF battalions, the 26th fought to turn back the German spring offensive in April 1918, and in the lull that followed mounted "peaceful penetration" operations to snatch portions of the German front line. In one such operation in Monument Wood on 14 July the 26th Battalion captured the first German tank to fall into Allied hands - No. 506 "Mephisto". Later in the year the 26th participated in the great offensive that began on 8 August, its most notable engagement being an attack east of Mont St Quentin on 2 September. The Battalion's last action of the war was the capture of Lormisset, part of the operation to breach the Beaufort Line, on 3 October 1918. The 26th Battalion was disbanded in May 1919.

*(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)*

Private Joseph Louis Delley was admitted to Military Hospital at Boscombe, Hampshire, England on 27th October, 1918 with Pneumonia (severe) whilst on leave from France.

Private Joseph Louis Delley died at 6 pm on 11th November, 1918 at Military Hospital, Boscombe, Hampshire, England from Influenza & Septicaemia.

A death for Joseph L. Delley, aged 23, was registered in the December quarter, 1918 in the district of Christchurch, Hampshire, England.

Private Joseph Louis Delley was buried on 18th November, 1918 in Bournemouth East Cemetery, Bournemouth, Dorset, England – Plot number S.I. 145 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Private Joseph Louis Delley - *Coffin was good polished Elm. The deceased soldier was accorded a full Military funeral, Firing Party, Bugler, Gun Carriage and Pallbearers being in attendance. The coffin was draped with the Union Jack, and surmounted by many beautiful wreaths sent from:- Uncles & Aunts, and Mrs Mackrell also Hospital Staff, Boscombe. The Last Post was sounded at the graveside, and the Rev: W. Ennis officiated at the graveside. The grave will be turfed and an oak cross erected by the A.I.F. London. Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London were represented at the funeral.*

Names of Relatives and Friends present at the Funeral – Uncle & Aunt – Mr & Mrs H. Absalome, 40 Victoria Road, Bournemouth; Uncle & Aunt – Mr & Mrs Delley, 30 Rupert St. Nelson South, Lancashire & Friend – Mrs Mackenzie, 49 Victoria Rd., Bournemouth.

Private Joseph Louis Delley requested in his Will, dated 2nd July, 1917, that all his personal estate be bequeathed to his mother – Mrs L. Delley, Tawah, Dallarnil Line, (via) Maryborough, Queensland, Australia.

Private Joseph Louis Delley was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Delley's father – Mr L. Delley, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent July, 1921 & Plaque sent November, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Joseph Louis Delley – service number 5575, aged 22, of 26th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Louis and Mary Ann Delley, of Dallarnil, Queensland.

Private J. L. Delley is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 107.



*Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia*

D. Delley & his brother C. Delley, are both remembered on the Dallarnil District Roll of Honour, located in Dallarnil Sports Hall, Isis Highway, Dallarnil, Queensland.



**Dallarnil District Roll of Honour** (Photo from Queensland War Memorials Register)

J. L. Delly & his brother C. W. Delly, are both remembered on the Bundaberg War Memorial, located at Bourbong & Barolin Streets, Bundaberg, Queensland.



**Bundaberg War Memorial** (Photos from Monument Australia)



J. L. Delley & his brother C. Delley, are both remembered on the Biggenden War Memorial, located at Victoria & Frederick Streets, Biggenden, Queensland.



**Biggenden War Memorial** (Photos from Monument Australia)

J. Delley & his brother C. Delley, are both remembered on the Biggenden Honour Board, located in Biggenden Memorial Hall, Victoria Street, Biggenden, Queensland.



**Biggenden Honour Board** (Photo from Queensland War Memorials Register)

(45 pages of Private Joseph Louis Delley'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*



**Connected to Private Joseph Louis Delley:**

Young brother – Charles William Delley – Private 4114, 25th Battalion. Enlisted 20th September, 1915, aged 19. Embarked from Brisbane on 28th March, 1916. Died Cerebro Spinal Meningitis on 28th February, 1917. Buried Tidworth Military Cemetery, Wiltshire, England.



**Private Joseph Louis Delley** (*Queenslander Pictorial* 19 August, 1916)

*\*\*Note: The initials are incorrect, however the 15-26 is correct & relates to 15th Reinforcements of 26th Battalion*



## **Newspaper Notices**

### **A DETERMINED RECRUIT**

Mr Joseph L. Delley, eldest son of Mr L. Delley, a former well-known and widely esteemed resident of Bundaberg, whose home is now in the Dallarnil district, called upon us yesterday to inform us that, having his applications for enlistment rejected nine times, he got through successfully in Brisbane a few days ago on his tenth trial, says the Bundaberg "Daily Mail" of Saturday last. Surely this is as fine an illustration of sustained determination to win an opportunity to do "his bit" for his King and country as could be given. But Mr Delley's enthusiasm and determination carried him substantially further. Ascertaining the physical defect that led to his rejection, he underwent two operations, which entailed no fewer than nine weeks in hospital, in the hope - now finally realised - of being brought up to the necessary standard of fitness. Furthermore, he expended out of his private purse no less a sum than £23 in surgical and hospital fees and travelling. He goes into camp in the course of the next few days, and unquestionably his spirit and grit leave no doubt that he typifies the true material out of which the highest of soldierly qualities may be looked for. His younger brother enlisted for service over six months ago.

*(The Capricornian, Rockhampton, Queensland - 8 April, 1916)*

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### **FAREWELL TO A SOLDIER AT DALLARNIL**

(From a Correspondent)

A soldier of unusual merit was accorded an ovation on the night of 12th instant, exceeding in wealth of good feeling, any previous similar function here. Private J. L. Delley, a member of the district Rifle Club, is a son of Mr Louis Delley, and brother to Private C. Delley, now in France.

Throughout Australia there can be few who have offered themselves ten times prior to being accepted for active service. That alone is a distinction, but Mr Delley cheerfully submitted to two serious operations, entailing seventy-four stitches and many weeks in hospital, before he could attain his objective.

Mr. Jas. Munt presided over a cheerful throng; and Master E. Munt proved a good M.C. Mr. R. Murray kindly responded to a request for a song.

The Chairman spoke at length upon the admirable qualities of our guest, finally calling upon Councillor Minchenton, Chairman of the Degilbo Shire, to present a wristlet watch. This speaker, after a few heartfelt eulogies, called upon Miss Ruth Lawrance, sister of a soldier, to fasten on the watch, which he presented to Mr. Delley as a small token of the high esteem of Dallarnil district. Other speakers were Messrs. Peatling, senr., L. C Dobbie (Captain of Rifle Club); and A. Perske.

With one accord they acclaimed him a soldier of extraordinary grit and determination, far beyond the average of brave fellows who have already left us or any district.

Private Delley very suitably responded and made an appeal to the eligible fighters to do their duty-and join the A. I. F. without delay.

The singing of the National Anthem was followed by "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow," and three rousing cheers for our modest hero.

Supper was then provided by the ladies.

*(Maryborough Chronicle, Wide Bay and Burnett Advertiser, Queensland - 15 June, 1916)*

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### **AUSTRALIAN CASUALTIES**

Australian casualty List No. 453 was issued this morning.

Private J. L. Delley (Tawah - illness)

*(The Capricornian, Rockhampton, Queensland - 4 January, 1919)*

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### Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Defence Department, in 1920/21, contacted the next of kin of the deceased World War 1 soldiers to see if they wanted to include a personal inscription on the permanent headstone. Space was reserved for 66 letters only (with the space between any two words to be counted as an additional letter) & the rate per letter was around 3 ½ d (subject to fluctuation).

The expense in connection for the erection of permanent headstones over the graves of fallen soldiers was borne by the Australian Government.

*(Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921)*

Private J. L. Delley does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

### **Bournemouth East Cemetery, Bournemouth, Dorset, England**

Some of the 120 First World War burials in this cemetery are those of soldiers who died in Bournemouth's auxiliary and private hospitals. 75 of these graves are in a special plot on the main path and include a Special Memorial to 2 soldiers drowned off Bournemouth in January 1915, whose bodies were not recovered. The plot also contains 7 of the 68 Second World War burials, the rest being scattered throughout the cemetery. One of the First World War burials is unidentified. There are 4 Foreign National war burials here.

The war plot is enclosed by a hedge, and the War Cross is on the West side of it.

*(Information from CWGC)*



**Bournemouth East Cemetery** *(Photo from CWGC)*



**Bournemouth East Cemetery** *(Photos from CWGC)*

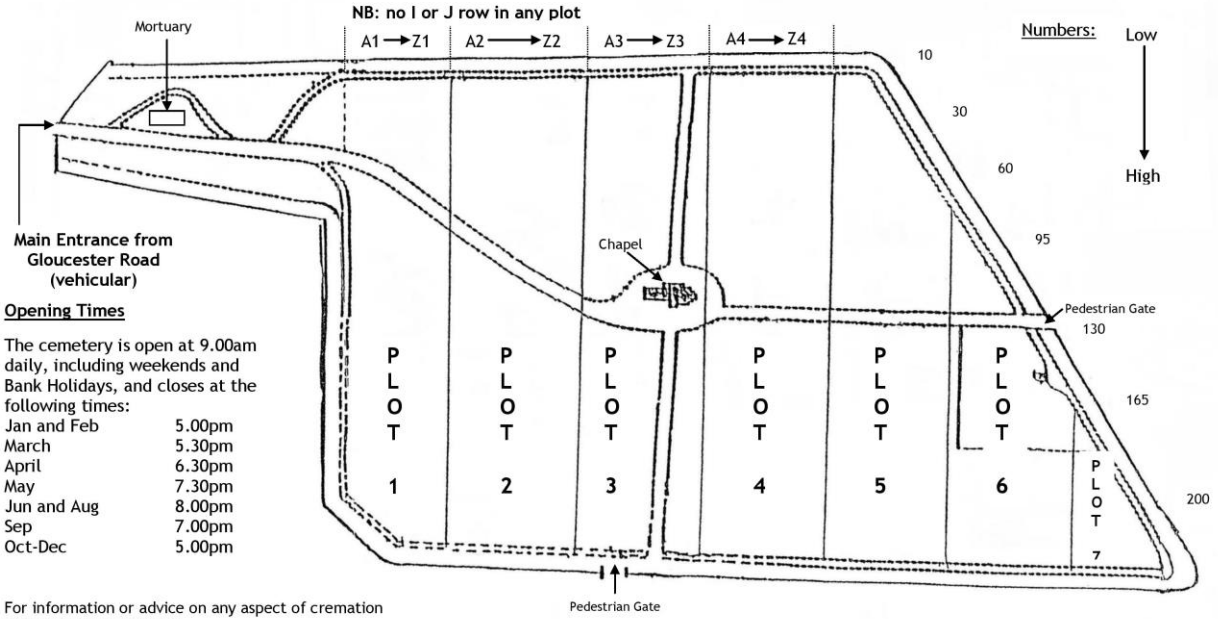


Photo of Private J. L. Delley's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Bournemouth East Cemetery, Bournemouth, Dorset, England



*(Photo by Julia&keld – Find a Grave)*

**East Cemetery, Gloucester Road, Boscombe, Bournemouth, BH7 6JB**



**Opening Times**

The cemetery is open at 9.00am daily, including weekends and Bank Holidays, and closes at the following times:

|             |        |
|-------------|--------|
| Jan and Feb | 5.00pm |
| March       | 5.30pm |
| April       | 6.30pm |
| May         | 7.30pm |
| Jun and Aug | 8.00pm |
| Sep         | 7.00pm |
| Oct-Dec     | 5.00pm |

For information or advice on any aspect of cremation or burial please contact:

Bournemouth Bereavement Services  
 Bournemouth Crematorium  
 Strouden Avenue  
 Bournemouth  
 BH8 9HX

Tel: 01202 526238  
 Email: crematorium@bournemouth.gov.uk

