Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War
1DRL/0428

2689 Private
Ernest William Lewis

29th Battalion



1591001H

29th Batt. A. I. F. No Enquiry LEWIS F. W. 2689
"A" Coy. No.2.Platoon.

K 2-11-16

"On the above-date; our battalion was in the reserve trench in front of Fleurs. We were having tea, when a shell exploded, killing Lewis and four others,(Lennox, Swanton, Burton, and McKean). They were all killed instantly, but Lennox and Swanton were the only ones badly disfigured. The pioneers collected the pay-books and discs, and we buried the bodies in a shell hole behind the trench. No Padre officiated, and it was impossible to hold a burial service. A wooden cross was erected over the grave, bearing soldiers' names, numbers, and battalions. I knew Lewis well, and came from Australia with him, on the "S.S. Anchises", leaving Melbourne on March 14th'16. We joined our battalion at Fromelles, about September 1st'17. The address of his next of kin is Miss E. A. Lewis, Werribee Post Office, Victoria."

Description. Hgt.5ft9. Dark complexion. Age. 23.

Witness. Kroger H.H. 2678.
29th Batt. "A" Coy. now "C" Coy.
65th Batt.

Worgret Camp,
WAREHAM.

April 30th.,'17.