

FELAN, James Roy



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James Roy Felan seems to have preferred being known as Roy. His birth was registered at Morpeth, near Maitland, NSW, in 1885, so when he attended the College as a Trainee Teacher from late January until late September, 1911, he was aged 26. He was a Public School Teacher when he joined the 17th Battalion as a Private at the beginning of April 1915, was soon promoted to Corporal in May but requested to be reverted to Private. He served on Gallipoli from mid-August, where he was again promoted to Corporal, until 9 January 1916 when he returned to Egypt. He went to France with the 17th Battalion in late March 1916. He was killed in the Battle of the Somme on 27 July 1916, aged 31.

His grave was discovered in 1936 near Pozieres along with portions of uniform, buttons, and pieces of a wooden cross bearing his name, and was reburied. He lies today at London Cemetery and Extension, High Wood, Longueval, France. His brother William also served on Gallipoli and died of gas poisoning near Ieper, Belgium, 1918.