John Butler Wood was born in December 1887, in Grenfell, NSW. John attended Sydney Church of England Grammar School and, HAC from July to December 1908 as part of the Practical Class.

After a competitive examination process, John qualified for appointment as a 2\textsuperscript{nd} Lieutenant on 15 March 1915. John embarked on 18 November 1915 aboard the HMAT Persic A34. He was part of 5 Field Artillery Brigade.

On 21 January 1917 he was promoted to Captain.

John was 29 years old when he died 15 March 1917 at Bapaume, and he is buried in Bazentin-Le-Petit Military Cemetery France.