

## James Archibald GAULT OBE Update Details



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## GAULT, James Archibald

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**Service Number:** Chaplain

**Enlisted:** 1 July 1915, Melbourne  
Victoria

**Last Rank:** Captain (Chaplain)

**Last Unit:** Chaplains  
(</explore/units/166>)

**Born:** Manchester, England  
June 1865  
Cheltenham

**Home Town:**(</explore/places/245>):  
Bayside, Victoria

**Schooling:** Gold Street State Sch  
Wesley College

**Occupation:**Methodist Clergyman  
Natural causes, Ment

**Died:**Victoria, 1 February 1  
aged 72 years

Springvale Botanical

**Cemetery:**Cemetery, Melbourne  
(</explore/cemeteries>)

Camberwell Uniting C  
Memorial Window

(</explore/memorials>),  
Chaplains on Active S

**Memorials:**(</explore/memorials>),  
Melbourne Methodis  
Church Memorial Win  
(</explore/memorials>),

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## Biography

Born 26 June 1865 at Manchester,  
England

Husband of Mrs. Edith Ann Maria  
GAULT

Of 'The Inglenook', Sea Parade,  
Cheltenham, Vic.

Aged 50 years

Enlisted 01 July 1915 for

Continuous Service

Embarked 16 July 1915 per 'HMAT  
Demosthenes' from Melbourne,  
Vic

Pay rate of 19s 0d after  
embarkation

Embarked 29 March 1916 per  
'RMS Orontes' from Melbourne,

Vic.

Served in Egypt and on the  
Western Front

Returned to Australia 01  
November 1919

Awarded OBE

### **Death of Rev. J. A. Gault**

The Rev. J. A. Gault, a Methodist minister, who was widely known to Australian soldiers as Padre Gault, died yesterday after a long illness. One of the best-loved padres in the AIF, Mr. Gault served for four years with the Australians, at first in Egypt and later in France and England. After the war, he continued to show great interest in returned soldiers and work in training camps. When he retired in February, 1934, Mr. Gault had been in the ministry for 40 years. Born at Manchester, England on June 10, 1865 he came to Australia when aged three years in the sailing-ship Antiope. He was educated at Gold street State school and later at Wesley College. After his appointment as a minister, he served the church in many circuits in Tasmania and Victoria.

Before the war he was superintendent of the Methodist Mission at Collingwood, and after his return from overseas he occupied important positions, including those of superintendent minister in the Brunswick, Port Melbourne, and Yarra street, Geelong, circuits. His last charge was at Camberwell. After ill-health caused him to retire, he lived at Mentone. He has left a widow, a son, and two daughters. Dr. Edward Gault, of Collins street, is a brother, and there are two sisters in New Zealand. The funeral will leave Mr. Gault's home In Sea parade, Mentone, tomorrow, at 2p.m., for the Methodist Church, Mentone. It will then proceed to the Springvale Crematorium. W. D. Rose and Son, Cheltenham, are making the arrangements.

**R.S.L. Tribute**

*"Returned soldiers will learn of the death of Padre Gault with deep regret," said the president of the Returned Soldiers' League (Mr. G. W. Holland) lastnight. "He was revered by the AIF. for his unfailing sympathy, understanding, and comradeship." - from the Melbourne Argus 02 Feb 1938*

***"REV. J. A. GAULT. BELOVED A.I.F. "PADRE." Death After A Long Illness.***

*After a long illness, the death occurred at his home at Mentone yesterday afternoon, of Rev. James Archibald ("Padre") Gault, one of the best known and beloved Methodist chaplains to the A.I.F. at Gallipoli and in France. Sorrow at the "padre's" demise, at the age of 72 years, will be shared not only by the thousands to whom he rendered, both spiritual and temporal comfort during the war, but, also by a host of friends won during a long and fruitful, ministry at many centres in the State, and as chaplain at military camps after the war. He retired from the ministry three years ago, and had suffered ill-health from that time. Deceased entered the Methodist ministry in 1894, and was ordained four years later. After a successful year as conference evangelist. he was stationed at Mansfield, then at Richmond. Following a ministry at Richmond he was transferred to Tasmania, where for twelve years he exercised his ministry at Mt Lyell Launceston, Penguin and Hobart. Returning to Victoria, Mr. Gault was stationed at St. Kilda, and when the war broke out he was associated with the Collingwood Mission. He left on active service as a chaplain with the first troops, and was ' present ' throughout the Gallipoli campaign. Later he was with the forces in France, and remained on active service until*

*the last of the troops were demobilised to 1920. He was affectionately known as "padre" after the war to the thousands of soldiers who had learned to regard him as guide, philosopher and friend in the trenches. He was noted always for the good cheer he invariably brought to the troops, and his famous "stunts" among the men were subsequently recorded by him in his publication, "The Stunt Book." For services rendered he was made a member of the Order of the British Empire. On his return to Australia in 1920 he was stationed at Brunswick for three years, and then followed ministries at Port Melbourne, Spring-road, Malvern and finally at Camberwell. A deeply spiritual man, he brought a rare devotion to his ministry, and was beloved by his congregations and ministerial brethren alike. He shunned the limelight, and was one of the most retiring men in conference affairs. The deceased is survived by a widow, two daughters and, one, son. Dr. Edward L. Gaul is a brother." - from the Melbourne Age 02 Feb 1938*