Trooper Laurence Gerald Finn (XC 1905)

AWM ~ Roll of Honour
Laurence Gerald Finn

Service Number: 212
Rank: Trooper
Unit: 8th Australian Light Horse Regiment, B Squadron
Date of death: 7 August 1915
Place of death: Walker’s Ridge, Gallipoli
Cause of death: Killed in action
Age at death: 24
Place of residence: “Dura,” Port Fairy, Victoria
Commemoration details: Lone Pine Memorial (Panel 6), Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey

From “The Xaverian” 1914, p. 29
Laurence Finn was, when last we heard, still on the land at “Dura”, Port Fairy, and to his chagrin found that the country boys were too late in volunteering for the Public School Company for the front. P.S. - Since writing we hear that he is in camp with the Second Force.

From “The Xaverian” 1915, p. 30
Laurie Finn was mentioned in the last year’s “Xaverian” as being on the land at “Dura,” Port Fairy, and as having volunteered too late to join the Public School company. Since then he joined the 8th Light Horse, and was killed in action. From a clipping in one of the dailies we find it recorded that he was the first volunteer from Port Fairy. He was very popular among all classes in the district, where he had lived all his life. He was in his 24th year. We offer our sincere sympathy to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Finn

From “The Xaverian” 1916, p. 48
Laurie Finn. – Though his death was recorded in the last issue of the “Xaverian,” we here insert a brief notice to accompany his photograph, which has just come to hand. First in the field from Port Fairy, he enlisted in the Light Horse at the outbreak of war, and fell at Gallipoli. Popular at school, and no less among those who knew him in the home district, may he, with other fallen comrades, rest in peace.

This cemetery derives its name from the single pine tree observed to be growing here when the Australian soldiers came up here from the landing on 25 April 1915. From that date through to August there was much heavy fighting at Lone Pine, the rear of the cemetery today marking where the Anzac lines were during those months and the wall and pylon of the Lone Pine Memorial to the Missing marking the region of the Turkish trenches.

The Argus Newspaper: Death Notice, Tuesday 8 August 1916

FINN. – To the memory of Trooper Laurence Gerald Finn (Laurie), of the 8th Light Horse, killed in action at Anzac, 7th August, 1915, in his 24th year.
May he rest in peace.

“No time is lost that's nobly spent,
No hero's death is premature.”