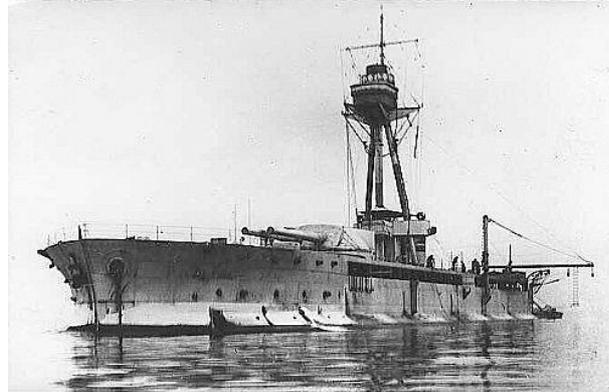




Private George Rosenbloom (alias Lewis)



Royal Marine Light Infantry (Plymouth Division)

Died 20 January 1918

Age 31

George Rosenbloom (alias Lewis) was killed in action aboard *HMS Raglan*, an Abercrombie class monitor ship, when it was sunk by German and Turkish battlecruisers at the Battle of Imbros on 20th January 1918 with the loss of 127 lives. He is commemorated on a list of war dead at All Saints', Putney Common.

HMS Raglan sailed for the Dardanelles in June 1915. She remained in the Eastern Mediterranean, based at Imbros, the largest island of Turkey, renamed as Gökçeada in 1970. On 20 January 1918, while the battleships *Agamemnon* and *Lord Nelson* were absent, *HMS Raglan* was attacked at anchor by the German/Turkish battlecruiser *Goeben* and her consort cruiser *Breslau* as they attempted to break out into the Mediterranean from the Black Sea. After taking a number of direct hits the order was given to abandon ship. Unfortunately, 127 men from *HMS Raglan* were killed while 93 survived.

George Rosenbloom (Lewis) joined the Royal Marine Light Infantry (Plymouth Division) in October 1904. It has not been possible to trace how long he had served on *HMS Raglan* but given the distance from Putney it is possible he was with the ship when it sailed to the Dardanelles in 1915 and remained there without home leave until he was killed almost three years later.

George is buried in the Lancashire Landing Cemetery (Grave L52) located on the Gallipoli peninsula in Turkey which has been laid out between the Gallipoli landings in April 1915 and the evacuation in January 1916. Originally George has been buried in the Kusu Bay Cemetery on Imbros along with 44 other casualties of the *HMS Raglan* sinking but was later moved after the Armistice.

His war record lists George as the husband of Florence Rachael Lewis, of 111 Dover House Road, Putney. As Dover House Road was not in fact built until after the end of the war when in 1919 Florence may have moved to Dover House Road after the war as a widow.

George served under the name Rosenbloom and Rachael is listed as living with her parents in Southfields in the 1911 census, with a married name of Rosenbloom (maiden name Nash). George is not to be found on the 1911 census under either Lewis or Rosenbloom and was likely to have been on active service overseas with the Royal Marines at that point, which may explain why Florence was living with her parents.

Service number: PLY/13094