

**St. John the Evangelist Churchyard,
Perry Barr, Warwickshire**

War Grave



Lest We Forget

World War 1



WR/317165 SAPPER

W. LANE

ROYAL ENGINEERS

4TH FEBRUARY, 1919 Age 39

*You Will Always
Be Remembered
As The Long Years
Come And Go*

William LANE

William Lane was born at Aston, Warwickshire, England in 1880 to parents William & Catherine Lane (nee Yates).

The 1881 England Census recorded William Lane as a 1 year old, living with his family at 158 Phillips Street, Aston Manor, Warwickshire, England. His parents were listed as William Lane (Bricklayer, aged 32, born Worcester) & Catherine Ann Lane (aged 32, born Birmingham). William was the youngest of three sons listed on this Census – Arthur Lane (Scholar, aged 4, born Birmingham), Albert Lane (aged 2, born Birmingham) & William (born Birmingham). Also listed was William Yates, Father-in-law of William Lane (snr) (Widower, Warehouseman, aged 57, born Birmingham).

The 1891 England Census recorded William Lane as an 11 year old Scholar, living with his family at 61 Burlington Street, Aston Manor, Warwickshire, England. His parents were listed as William Lane (Bricklayer, aged 42) & Catherine Lane (aged 42). William was one of seven children listed on this Census – (all born Birmingham, Warwickshire, England) - Arthur Lane (Errand Boy (Builder), aged 14, Albert Lane (Scholar, aged 12) then William (junr), Catherine A. Lane (Scholar, aged 9), Lizzie Lane (Scholar, aged 4), Rose Lane (Scholar, aged 3) & Lucy Lane (aged 1). Also listed was William Yates, Father-in-law of William Lane (snr) (Single, Labourer, aged 67).

The 1901 England Census recorded William Lane as a 21 year old Upholsterer, living with his family at 61 Burlington Street, Aston Manor, Warwickshire, England. His parents were listed as William Lane (Builder, aged 52) & Catherine A. Lane (aged 52). William (Junr) was the eldest of five children listed on this Census – William then Cather A. Lane (Machinist, aged 19), Elizabeth Lane (Mother's Help, aged 14), Rose Lane (aged 13) & Lucy Lane (aged 11).

William Lane married Lilian Maud Broughton in 1903. Their marriage was registered in June quarter, 1903 in the district of Aston, Warwickshire, England.

The 1911 England Census recorded William Lane as a 31 year old Upholsterer living with his wife – Lillian Maud Lane (aged 30, born Birmingham) & their daughter – Edith Lilly Lane (aged 4, born Birmingham) in a 5 roomed dwelling at 49 Oscott Rd, Perry Barr, Handsworth, Staffordshire. William & Lillian Lane had been married for 8 years & had 2 children, one having since died.

William Lane enlisted with the Royal Engineers. His rank & service number was Sapper - WR/317165 (WR – Waterways & Railway section). The Medal Index Card for Sapper William Lane shows another service number of 201040.

(It appears that the Service Record for William Lane has not survived – therefore there is minimal information on his service in the Royal Engineers)

Royal Engineers

The Royal Engineers built & maintained the railways, roads, water supply, bridges and transport. They maintained telephones, wireless and other signalling equipment. The Royal Engineers designed and built the front-line fortifications. They developed response to chemical and underground warfare & maintained the guns and other weapons.

Sapper William Lane died on 4th February, 1919 of illness (as per The Australian War Memorial – Commemorative Roll). (Note: the UK Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects 1901-1929 records William Lane, Royal Engineers, Sapper WR/317165 was discharged on 11th January, 1919 & died on 22nd January, 1919. No cause of death was listed.)

A death for William Lane, aged 39, was registered in the March quarter, 1919 in the district of Birmingham, Warwickshire, England.

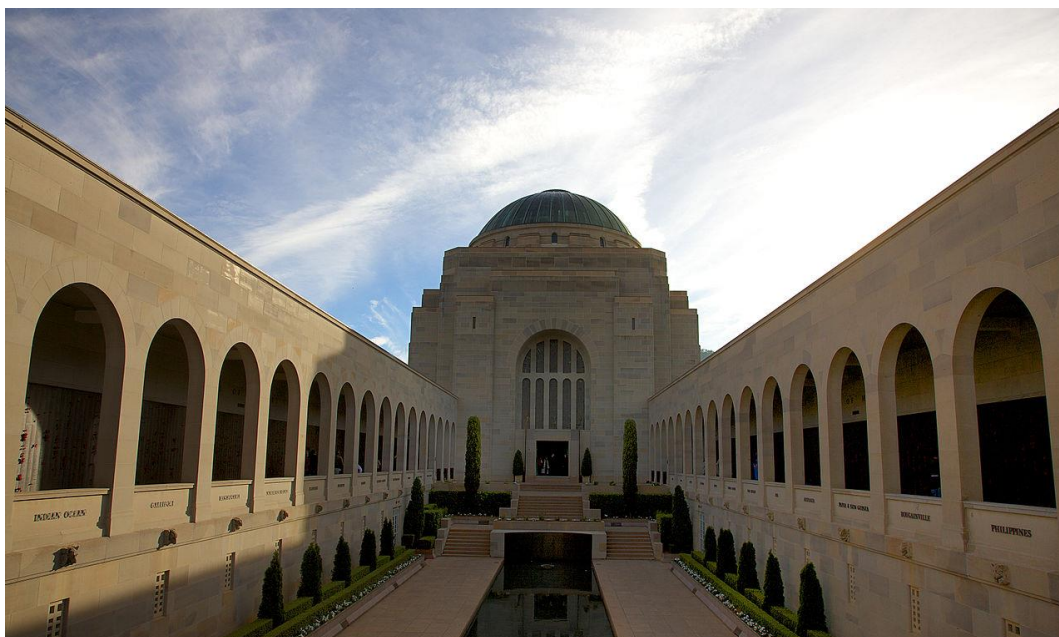
Sapper William Lane was buried in St. John the Evangelist Church, Perry Barr, Warwickshire, England – North of Church and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Sapper William Lane was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. The UK WW1 Service Medal and Award Rolls for 1914-1920 lists Sapper William Lane, of Royal Engineers, WR/317165, sub-unit Inland Water Transport, previous unit – Royal Engineers, 201040.

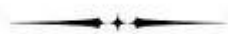
The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Sapper William Lane – service number WR/317165, aged 39, of Royal Engineers. He was the son of William Lane, of 55 Aston Lane, Perry Barr; husband of Lilian M. Keates (formerly Lane), of Pullen Vale Rd., Kenmore, Indooroopilly, Brisbane, Australia. (Lilian Maud Lane married William Edward Keates on 18th September, 1928 in Queensland, Australia).

Sapper William Lane is remembered on the Commemorative Roll Book, located in the Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra. The Commemorative Roll records the names of those Australians who died during or as a result of wars in which Australians served, but who were not serving in the Australian Armed Forces and therefore not eligible for inclusion on the Roll of Honour. *(Note: It appears that Sapper William Lane's name on the Commemorative Roll was based on the information that his next-of-kin's address was listed as Australia & therefore the soldier concerned, it was assumed, would be Australian.)*

Lilian Maude Lane, aged 37, & her daughter Doris L. E. Lane, aged 9 were passengers on *Hobsons Bay* which departed from London, England on 2nd December, 1924 arrived in Queensland, Australia on 21st January, 1925.



Commemorative Area of the Australian War Memorial *(Capital Photographer)*



St. John the Evangelist Church, Perry Barr, Warwickshire, England

St. John the Evangelist Church, Perry Barr contains 15 Commonwealth War Graves – 14 relating to World War 1 & 1 from World War 2.



St. John the Evangelist Church, Perry Barr (Photo above by Joe- Find a Grave; below by Richard Law)



Photo of Sapper W. Lane's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in St. John the Evangelist Church, Perry Barr, Warwickshire, England.



(Photo courtesy of Father Barrie Scott)