Lawnswood Cemetery, Leeds, West Yorkshire, England War Graves



World War 1



3648 PRIVATE

S. WEST

20TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF. 9TH AUGUST, 1916 Age 24

Samuel WEST

Samuel West was born at Hull, Yorkshire, England in 1892 to parents William & Mary West.

The 1901 England Census recorded Samuel West as a 9 year old, living with his family at 168 Emden Street, Hulme, South Manchester, Lancashire, England. His parents were listed as William West (Railway Porter, aged 53, born Hull, Yorkshire) & Mary West (aged 44, born Hull, Yorkshire). Samuel was one of seven children listed on this Census (all born Hull, Yorkshire) – Alice West (Machinist – Blouse, aged 22), Annie West (____Assist, aged 20), Florence West (Dress Machinist – Blouse, aged 18), William West (Cabinet Apprentice, aged 15), Frederic West (aged 13), then Samuel & Harry West (aged 6). Also listed in the Household were 2 boarders – Thomas Wainwright (Brewer, aged 26) & James Plunkett (widower, Labourer, aged 39).

The 1911 England Census recorded Samuel West as a 19 year old, Ostler, living with his family in a 6 roomed dwelling at 48 Wellington St, Moss Side, Hulme, South Manchester, Lancashire, England. His parents were listed as William West (Butcher, aged 63) & Mary West (House wife, aged 54). William & Mary West had been married for 32 years & had 8 children – one who had since died). Samuel was one of three children listed on this Census - Florence Mary West (Blouse Maker, aged 27) then Samuel & Harry West (Brass Finisher Apprentice, aged 16). Also listed in the Household – Alice Maud Rigby, Daughter of William & Mary West (Housewife, aged 30) & her husband William Crighton Rigby (Electrician, aged 27).

Samuel West married Irene Pearl Ingram at St. Leonards, New South Wales on 10th October, 1915.

Samuel West was a 23 year old, married, Tramway employee from 25 Hume Street, North Sydney, New South Wales when he enlisted on 6th September, 1915 at Agricultural Ground, NSW with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Methodist & his next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs I. P. West, 80 Chandos Street, North Sydney, New South Wales. Samuel West stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served with "Territorials 3 years "Lancashire" & had resigned.

Private Samuel West was posted to Special Tramway Reinforcements on 6th September, 1915 but this has been crossed out & replaced with "8th/17th"

Private Samuel West, Service number 3648, embarked from Sydney, New South Wales on HMAT *Aeneas (A60)* on 20th December, 1915 with the 17th Infantry Battalion, 8th Reinforcements.

Private Samuel West was taken on strength of 17th Battalion on 12th February, 1916 at Ghezireh. He was admitted to 1st Auxiliary General Hospital at Heliopolis on 15th February, 1916 with Tonsilitis. (The Purport form in the Service Record file for Private Samuel West recorded he was admitted to A.G.H. on 1/3/16. Enlarged Tonsils. Transferred to Helouan on 9/3/16 Enlarged Tonsils). Private West was transferred to Helouan Convalescent Camp at Heliopolis on 8th March, 1916 & discharged to Overseas Base on 12th March, 1916. Private West was transferred to his Unit ex O.S.B. at Ghezireh on 17th March, 1916.

Base Records sent a telegram to Mrs I. P. West, 80 Chandos Street, North Sydney, NSW on 24th February, 1916 that her husband Private Samuel West had been admitted to 1st Auxiliary Hospital Cairo on 15th February with Tonsilitis – mild.

The Postmaster General's Department advised Base Records on 24th February, 1916 the following message regarding their telegram to Mrs I. P. West "message is undelivered addressee away on holidays."

Mr Robert C. Ingram, "Woodlawn", 80 Chandos St, North Sydney, wrote to Base Records on 6th March, 1916 with the following: "I notice in List 149 published in Saturdays Herald of the 4th in. the name of S. West 8th Rein 17th Bat in Heliopolis Hospital. I would be much obliged if you would be good enough to let me know if that person is my son in law Mr Samuel West No 3648 7th Rein 17th Bat. His private address was Samuel West Woodlawn 80 Chandos St North Sydney."

Base Records replied to Mr R. C. Ingram on 10th March, 1916 advising "....I beg to state the soldier to whom you refer is identical with your son-in-law, No. 3648 Private Samuel West, 17th Battalion, who is reported as having been admitted to the 1st Auxiliary Hospital, Cairo, on 15th ultimo, suffering from a mild attack of tonsilitis. No report has since been received and in the absence of same favourable progress may be assumed, the usual practice of the

overseas authorities being to notify this department if such cases are likely to develop serious of dangerous symptoms....." The letter continued with advising Mr Ingram that a telegram was despatched to Mrs I. P. West advising of her husband's illness but the Postmaster General's department stated the message was undelivered owing to the addressee being away on holidays.

Private Samuel West embarked for overseas from Alexandria on 21st March, 1916 per H.T. *Oriana* & disembarked at Marseilles, France on 27th March, 1916. He was taken on strength of 2nd Australian Divisional Base Depot at Etaples, France on 29th March, 1916.

17th Battalion

The 17th Battalion was raised at Liverpool in New South Wales in March 1915 as part of the 5th Brigade. It left Australia in early May, trained in Egypt from mid-June until mid-August, and on 20 August landed at ANZAC Cove.... The Battalion was evacuated from Gallipoli in December 1915.

After further training in Egypt, the 17th Battalion proceeded to France. Landing there on 22 March 1916, it took part in its first major battle at Pozieres between 25 July and 5 August.....

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Samuel West was taken on strength of 20th Battalion in France on 16th May, 1916.

Private Samuel West was wounded in action in France on 27th July, 1916. He was admitted to 1st Australian Field Ambulance on 28th July, 1916 with G.S.W. (Gunshot wound/s) to Back – severe then transferred the same day to 3rd Casualty Clearing Station. Private West was transferred & admitted to 30th General Hospital at Camiers, France on 28th July, 1916. He embarked from Calais, France on 4th August, 1916 on Hospital Ship *Dieppe*.

20th Battalion

The 20th Battalion was raised at Liverpool in New South Wales in March 1915 as part of the 5th Brigade. A sprinkling of the 20th's original recruits had already served with the Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force (AN&MEF) in the operations to capture German New Guinea in 1914. The 20th left Australia in late June, trained in Egypt from late July until mid-August, and on 22 August landed at ANZAC Cove.

.

After further training in Egypt, the 20th Battalion proceeded to France. It entered the trenches of the Western Front for the first time in April 1916 and in the following month had the dubious honour of being the first Australian battalion to be raided by the Germans. The 20th took part in its first major offensive around Pozieres between late July and the end of August 1916......

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

War Diary – 20th Battalion

Pozieres – 26/7/16 Remainder of Battalion carrying.

27/7/16 - 2 Coys. Relieved by 6th Brigade

28/7/16 – A & B Coys. detailed to attack O.G.1 O G 1 in conjunction with 6 and 7th brigades on left between TRAMLINE and BAPAUME Road. Attack discovered and barrage of heavy machine gun and shell fire opened up. Men disorganised before properly in position did not get forward at all. Casualties 3 Officers 56 O.R.

(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Samuel West was admitted to 2nd Northern General Hospital, England on 5th August, 1916 with G.S.W. to Spine. (The Purport form in the Service Record file for Private Samuel West recorded he was admitted to 2nd Northern General Hospital on 4th August, 1916)

Base Records advised Mrs I. P. West, 80 Chandos Street, North Sydney, NSW on 9th August, 1916 that her husband Private Samuel West was seriously ill with gunshot wound to Spine.

© Cathy Sedgwick 2023

Private Samuel West died on 9th August, 1916 at 2nd Northern General Hospital, Leeds, England from wounds received in action in France – G.S.W. Spine (Tetanus).

A death for Samuel West, aged 25, was registered in the September quarter, 1916 in the district of Leeds, Yorkshire West Riding, England.

Private Samuel West was buried in Lawnswood Cemetery, West Yorkshire, England – Free Grave Section 449.

This is now recorded by CWGC as Screen Wall W. 449. He does not have a CWGC headstone but his death is still acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Mr Robert C. Ingram, "Woodlawn", 80 Chandos St, North Sydney, wrote to Base Records on 10th August, 1916 advising that his daughter (Mrs I. P. West) had received a cable stating that her husband was seriously ill from gun shot wound. The letter continued with "Would you be good enough to inform me what hospital he is in as probably Mrs West might wish to forward a Cable. Also would you let me know on what day he was wounded. If you could give me any further particulars I would be much obliged, as I understand the Benefit Lodges causes such a lot of trouble, if everything is not in perfect order. If you could inform me who was the Officer in Charge of his Battn I would be pleased."

Cecil Gladstone Samuel West, son of the late Private Samuel West & Irene West, was born on 21st August, 1916 at North Sydney, NSW.

A copy of a reply from Base Records sent on 14th September, 1916 to Mrs M. West, 83 Renwick Street, Leichhardt, Sydney, NSW is located in the Service Record file for the late Private Samuel West. The letter reads: "In acknowledging receipt of your letter dated 1st instant concerning your son, No. 5782 Private H. West, 18th Reinforcements, 13th Battalion, I cannot inform you whether the cable message you have received is genuine, but should you decide to send the money, it is suggested, as the safest method, that you transmit same through the Commonwealth Bank, at the same time asking that a request for identification be included. The cable message you enclosed is returned herewith. In respect of your other son, No. 3648 Private S. West, 20th Battalion, I regret to advise you this soldier is reported as having died of gunshot wound spine on 9/8/16. Detailed circumstances of his loss will not, it is anticipated, be known here until the receipt at a later date of the final official confirming document from the Front, when all such information as may then come to hand will be available to you upon receipt of your request."

A War Pension was granted to Irene Pearl West, 80 Chandos St, North Sydney, widow of the late Private Samuel West, in the sum of £2 per fortnight from 18th October, 1916. A Pension was also granted to Cecil Gladstone Samuel West, son of Irene & the late Private Samuel West, in the sum of £1 per fortnight from 18th October, 1916.

Mr Robert C. Ingram, "Woodlawn", 60 Chandos St, North Sydney, wrote to Base Records on 10th November, 1916 referring to their letter dated 10th March regarding Private Samuel West, No. 3648, who was reported as having been admitted to the 1st Auxiliary Hospital, Cairo, on 15th February, suffering from a mild attack of tonsilitis. "Will you please send me a statement, covering the date of Private Samuel West being admitted to Hospital and date of discharge from Hospital, and to the effect that he was unable to follow ANY occupation during that period. I should be please d if you would also let me have a further statement, covering date of being admitted to Hospital, and date of death, on the occasion of his being vitally wounded about early August last – also stating that during that period he was unable to follow ANY occupation. These certificates are required by a Friendly Society to which he belonged, which insists on having this information before paying over to his wife the benefits which are due."

Base Records sent the following details to Mr R. C. Ingram, "Woodlawn", 60 Chandos St, North Sydney, NSW on 20th November, 1916: "THIS IS TO CERTIFY that, according to the records, No 3648, Private Samuel West, 20th (late 17th) Battalion, Australian Imperial Force, was admitted, suffering from Tonsilitis, to the 1st Auxiliary Hospital, Cairo, on 15th February, 1916; transferred, on 1st March to the 1st Australian General Hospital; discharged to duty on 14th March 1916; wounded, gunshot-wound, spine, in action on or about 4th August 1916; died at 2nd Australian General Hospital, of wounds, on 9th August 1916."

Irene P. West, "Woodlawn", 80 Chandos St, North Sydney, wife of Private Samuel West, wrote to Lieutenant R. W. Murphy thanking him for the information in his letter dated 16th October, 1916 in reply to her letter of 15th August, 1916. (Note: the letter is dated 20-4-16 but refers to letters of 16th October, 1916 & 15th August, 1916)

COPY.

"Woodlawn", 80, Chandos Street, North Sydney.

20-4-16.

Lieut. R.W. Murphy.

Dear Sir.

Your letter dated the 16th October 1916 in reply to mine of the 15th August 1916 duly received, and I thank you for information. Since I wrote to you my husband, Private S. West, No.3648, has Died of Wounds; in fact he was dead before I wrote to you, but I was not aware of it as he died on the 9th August 1916. Your certificate includes dates from the 15th February to 12th March 1916. This certificate I have forwarded to a Friendly Society that Priavte S. West belonged to, for sick pay, but the Society has turned it down and they state that your certificate does not give required information.

I might also state the Officer i/c Base Records, Melbourne, has given me several certificates and has treated me with every kindness in trying to help me to receive what I am justly entitled to. However, the Society has turned them all down. The last certificate I received from Base Records stated that he had given all available information in his possession. Finally I have again to trouble you for the required information. The Society says that I must produce a certificate definitely stating that my late husband was unable to follow any occupation during his time of sickness.

Copy of letter received from Friendly Society.

"That in the certificate produced dated 20th November 1916 referring to the period 14.2.16 to 14.3.16. There was no evidence that for the period stated the member was totally incapacitated from following any employment. The dates in your certificate does not appear to correspond with dates supplied from Base Records.

with dates supplied from Base Records.

Base Records dates viz. from February 2nd to March 14th 1916. Your dates viz. from February 15th to March 12th 1916. However, I would be much obliged if you would be good enoughto give me the required information per certificate."

As I am a widow with one child I was married on the 10th October 1915. My husband died on the 9th August 1916, and my son arrived on the 21st August 1916., therefore my married life has not been a pleasant one. Without the Society placing all sorts of obstacles in my way, other than paying sick pay, which I am justly entitled to, if I can produce certificate stating that he was unable to follow any occupation during his time of sickness.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) Irene P. West.

Private Samuel West, No.3648, 20th Battalion. Late 17th Battalion. A.I.F. Now deceased.

NAA: B2455, WEST SAMUEL

National Archives of Australia

Base Records replied to Mrs I. P. West, P. West, "Woodlawn", 80 Chandos St, North Sydney, on 19th June, 1917 advising "...it is regretted that no further certificate as to the illness of this soldier can be given than that embodied in this office letter of the 16th October last. The period spent in Hospital is there shown and it follows that the soldier was incapacitated during that time....."

The Protestant Alliance Friendly Society of Australasia, Sydney, NSW, wrote to Base Records on 5th December, 1916 requesting a "Certificate of Death so that Funeral Donation may be paid" in regards to No. 3648 Private Samuel West, 20th (late 17th) Battalion.

Base Records replied to The Grand Secretary, P.A.F.S. of Australasia on 9th December, 1916 enclosing a certificate of report of death of the late No. 3648, Private S. West, 20th Battalion (late 17th) Battalion.

Mr Robert C. Ingram, "Woodlawn", 80 Chandos St, North Sydney, wrote to Base Records on 23rd December, 1916 & part of his letter reads: ".....I am sorry to have to trouble you again on behalf of Mrs West, wife of deceasedas the Friendly Society will not pay to Mrs West the benefits which are due. If you will kindly look up my letter dated the 10th Nov 1916 you will find a sentence viz And to the effect that he was unable to follow any occupation during that period. As you have not definitely stated that he was unable to follow any occupation during that period, the Friendly Society declines to pay Mrs West the benefits due her. Therefore if you will kindly state that the late Prv. S. West was unable to follow any occupation during his time of sickness I would be much obliged, as it will save any further trouble. Personally I think the Friendly Society is only quibbling when they expect soldiers who are sick to be working...."

Base Records replied to Mr R. C. Ingram on 1st January, 1917 regarding his letter of 23rd December & the certificates furnished ".....I have to state the documents forwarded contained all the information available. It is not the practise of the Friendly Societies to ask for a declaration that the member was not able to follow any occupation during the period of his incapacity, since a soldier would not, in any circumstances, be permitted to do so, and would be discharged to duty again as soon as he was passed as medically fit."

Mr Robert C. Ingram, "Woodlawn", 80 Chandos St, North Sydney, wrote to Base Records on 3rd January, 1917 enclosing a receipt for a parcel received of the personal belongings of the late Private S. West, No. 3648. The letter continues with "...Also I am in receipt of your letter dated 1st Jany 1917 in reply to mine of the 23 December 1916. I may mention again that the Protestant Alliance Friendly Society refuses to pay sick pay on you previous Certificates, as they consider they are too indefinite. However I am thankful for other letter, as it might fix the matter up. P.S. You may imagine that I am going to extremes in writing to you so often. However to avoid any misunderstanding I wish to inform you that Mrs West lost her husband on the 10th Aug. 16 & up to the present time she has received no support from any of the Public Funds, or Red Cross, neither has she received any pension for herself & child, nor any deferred pay. Therefore if she did not have my home to come to, I do not know how she would manage."

Mr Robert C. Ingram, 80 Chandos St, North Sydney, wrote to Base Records on 22nd January, 1917 stating "...I have forwarded your letter on to the Grand Secretary of the Protestant Alliance Friendly Society, who replies that Sick Pay cannot be paid from February 1st to March 14th, unless a certificate is produced stating that Late Private S. West was in Hospital and unable to follow ANY occupation during that period. I would again respectfully ask you to supply me with a Certificate to this effect, so as to enable the wife of the late soldier to receive payment of the money she is entitle to. Thanking you in anticipation..."

Base Records replied to Mr R. C. Ingram on 26th January, 1917 advising "...regarding the certificate furnished in connexion with No. 3648, Private S. West, 20th (late 17th) Battalion, I regret to state it is not possible to amend the certificate as you suggest. At the same time it is noted that no such request has before been made, in connexion with these claims for sick pay."

Private Samuel West was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private West's widow – Mrs I. P. West, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent November, 1921 & Plaque sent April, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Samuel West – service number 3648, aged 24, of 20th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of William & Mary West; husband of Irene Pearl West, of 80 Chandos St, North Sydney, New South Wales.

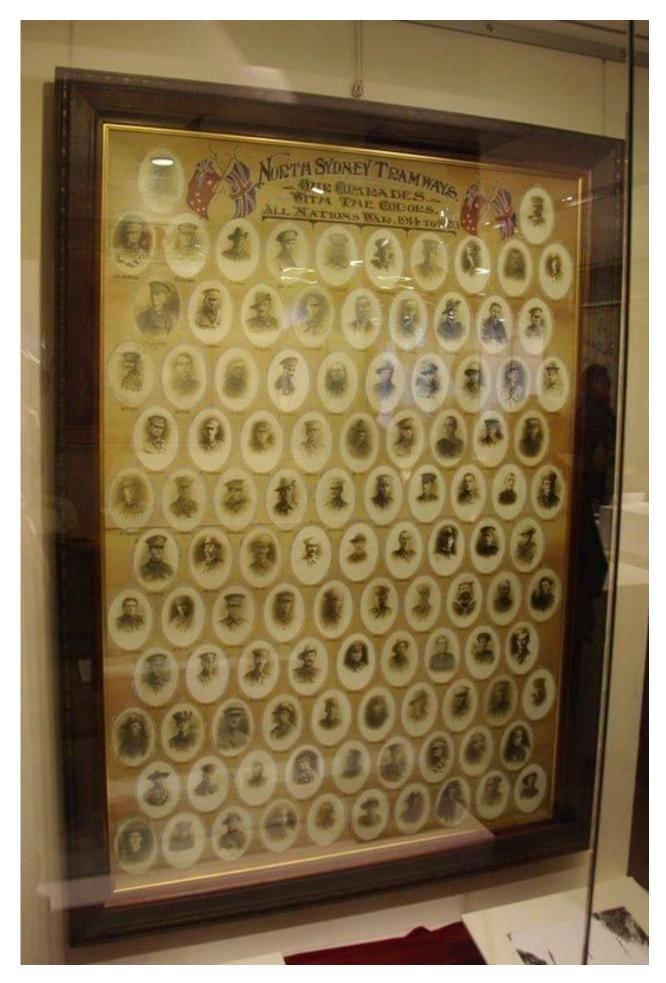
Private S. West is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 92.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

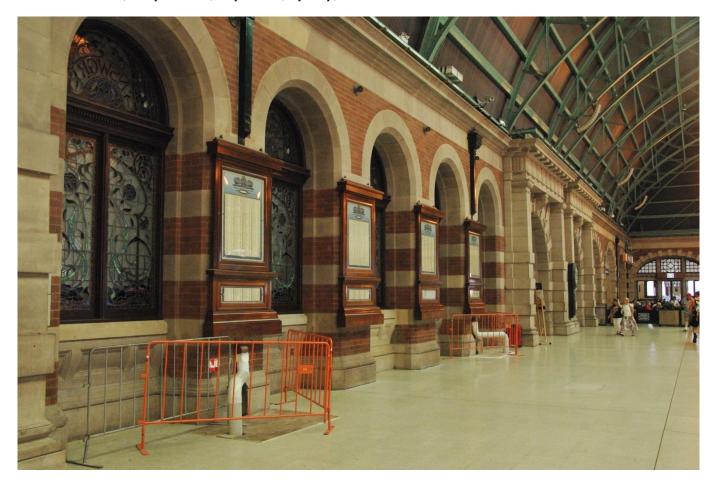
S. West is remembered on the North Sydney Tramways Honour Roll, located in Stanton Library, 234 Miller Street, North Sydney, NSW.





North Sydney Tramways Honour Roll (Photo from Monument Australia – Peter F. Williams)

Samuel West is remembered on the NSW Government Railways & Tramways Roll of Honour, located at Country Trains Concourse, Eddy Avenue, Haymarket, Sydney, NSW.



NSW Government Railways & Tramways Roll of Honour

(Photo from AWM – Places of Pride – Peter F. Williams)





(Panel photo - Jennifer Edmonds)

(71 pages of Private Samuel West's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll) & National Archives Australia



Private Samuel West (Photo from Ancestry)

Newspaper Notices

149TH CASUALTY LIST

ILL

Pte S. WEST, 17th, 8th Refcts, North Sydney (Cairo)

(The Daily Telegraph, Sydney, NSW – 4 March, 1916)





(The Sydney Mail, NSW - 16 August, 1916)

WOUNDED

PRIVATE S. WEST

Private S. West, husband of Mrs S. West, of 80 Chandos-street, North Sydney, has been seriously wounded in France. He was employed in the N.S.W. Tramways Department.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 16 August, 1916)

MORE CASUALTIES

198TH LIST

New South Wales

Wounded

Pte S. WEST (North Sydney), and seriously ill.

(Evening News, Sydney, NSW - 24 August, 1916)

DIED OF WOUNDS

PRIVATE SAMUEL WEST

Private Samuel West has died of wounds, He was the third son of Mr and Mrs West, 83 Renwick-street, Leichhardt. They have four other sons on active service.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 30 September, 1916)

ROLL OF HONOUR

WEST - Private Samuel West, wounded in France and died in Leeds Hospital, Aug 9, 1916, aged 24 years.

Buried in his native land,

The loved one with whom we had to part.

A father and mother's gift to the Empire,

He yet lives in his parents' heart.

Inserted by his loving father and mother, of 83 Renwick-street, Leichhardt, and also his loving brother, Fred, Harry, and Bob (all on active service).

WEST – Private Samuel West, died of wounds, Aug 9, 1916, aged 24 years. A loving brother gone to heaven. Inserted by his brother, Chris. (on active service), Private and Mrs Chris. West, Leichhardt.

WEST – Private Samuel West, wounded in France and died in Leeds Hospital, Aug. 9, 1916, aged 24 years. We shall never forget you, dear Sam. Inserted by his loving sister and brother-in-law, Alice and Will Rigby, of Como.

WEST – Private Samuel West, wounded in France and died in Leeds Hospital, Aug. 9, 1916, aged 24 years.

Sleep on, dear brother,

You have earned your rest.

© Cathy Sedgwick 2023

Inserted by his loving sisters and brothers-in-law, Annie and Walter Dooley, of Wahroonga, and Florrie and Fred Starr, of National-street, Leichhardt.

WEST – Private Samuel West, died August 9, 1916, at Leeds Hospital, England, from shrapnel wounds received in France, aged 24 years. Inserted by his father and mother-in-law, Robert and May Ingham, also brothers-in-law, Robert and Clarence, and sister, Vera Ingham.

WEST – Private Samuel West, died August 9, 1916, at Leeds Hospital, England, from shrapnel wounds received in France, aged 24 years. Inserted by his loving wife, Irene, and infant son, Cecil.

His king and country called him,

The call was not in vain.

On Australia's roll of honour

You will find dear Samuel's name.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 14 October, 1916)

ROLL OF HONOUR

WEST – Private Samuel West, died August 9, 1916, at Leeds Hospital, England, from shrapnel wounds received in France, aged 24 years. Inserted by his father and mother-in-law, Robert and Mary Ingram, also brothers-in-law, Robert and Clarence, and sister Vera Ingram.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 19 October, 1916)

IN MEMORIAM

WEST – In loving memory of our dear husband and father, Samuel West, who died August 9, 1916, from wounds received battle Pozieres.

I mourn for you, dear husband,

No eyes may see me weep,

And many a silent tear is shed

When others are asleep.

I have lost my life's companion,

A life linked with my own,

One in love, hope, and feeling,

Death divided, now alone.

Inserted by wife, Irene, and little son Cecil.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 9 August, 1917)

On Active Service

WEST - In loving memory of our darling husband and daddy, Pte Samuel West, died of wounds, August 9, 1916.

Gentle in mind, patient in pain,

My husband left me heaven to gain.

With actions so noble, generous, and kind,

Few in this world his equal could find.

Not gone from memory, not gone from love,

But gone to his Father's home above.

Some day when the shadows deepen

And the call comes down the line,

May your face be there to welcome me,

At the gate, dear daddy mine,

Inserted by loving wife, Irene, and little son, Cecil.

WEST – In loving memory of our dear son and brother-in-law, Samuel West, died of wounds, Pozieres, August 9, 1916.

In the dawn of splendid manhood,

When the tide of life was high,

He died to make others happy,

Oh why did he have to die?

Like a most exquisite Blossom,

Just unfolded to the sky,

Because of its rare beauty

It is plucked and left to die.

Inserted by his father, mother, sister, and brother-in-law, Mr and Mrs Robt. Ingram, Clarence, and Vera.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 9 August, 1918)

On Active Service

WEST – In loving memory of my darling husband and our daddy, Private Samuel West, died of wounds, August 9, 1916.

In the pride of manhood he left us,

Plucked off like a flower in its bloom,

No more will his presence delight us,

For he sleeps in a brave soldier's tomb.

May the heavenly winds blow softly

O'er that sweet and hallowed spot,

May some kind hand in that far off land

Plant some sweet forget me-not.

At the gate of heaven daddy will meet us

With his same sweet smile,

We have only parted daddy dear,

Just for a little while.

Inserted by his loving wife, Irene, and little son, Cecil.

WEST - 'Tis joy for those whose soldiers will come,

But many hearts are sad,

For our loved one will never return

Our brown eyed soldier lad.

Inserted by Mr and Mrs Ingram, Clarence, Vera, and Edna.

WEST – In loving memory of our dear brother, Pte Samuel West, died of wounds received at Pozieres, August 9, 1916. Inserted by his brothers, Chris., Fred., Harry, and R. A. Sewell.

WEST – In loving memory of our son and brother, Pte Samuel West, aged 23, died August 9, 1916, of wounds received at Pozieres. Inserted by his loving mother and father and sisters, Alice, Annie, and Florence.

WEST – In loving remembrance of our dear Sam, who died of wounds, August 9, 1916, beloved brother of Chris. (returned) and Ettie West.

(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW – 9 August, 1919)

**Notices were also placed in 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for cemeteries and memorials in 23,000 locations, in 153 countries. In all 1.7 million men and women from the Commonwealth forces from WWI and WWII have been honoured and commemorated in perpetuity.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, as part of its mandate, is responsible for commemorating all Commonwealth war dead individually and equally. To this end, the war dead are commemorated by name on a headstone, at an identified site of a burial, or on a memorial. War dead are commemorated uniformly and equally, irrespective of military or civil rank, race or creed.

Not all service personnel have a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. In some instances the relative chose to have their own memorial/headstone placed on the deceased's grave. These private headstones are not maintained by the CWGC as they have no jurisdiction to maintain them.

Private Samuel West does not have a Headstone but is instead remembered on the CWGC Screen Wall.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL JO059:

Mr A T Sharp inspecting the grave of 3684 Private (Pte) Samuel West at Lawnswood Cemetery at Lawnswood Cemetery at Leeds, England. Pte West enlisted at Crows Nest, NSW, on 6 September 1915. He died of his wounds on 9 August 1916 aged 24 years. He was born at Hull in England. From the collection of Mr Alfred Thomas Sharp. Mr Sharp was the Commonwealth Immigration Officer of Victoria and was based in the London Office during the First World War. He and his wife hosted and visited many soldiers, particularly those from Victoria, who were recuperating in London. He also photographed many Australian graves in English cemeteries. His photograph collection relating to this period in London was bequeathed to the Memorial in 1922 after his death. During his time in London he was a member of the British Volunteer Regiment, serving with the Willesden Battalion, Middlesex Volunteer Regiment.

Lawnswood Cemetery, West Yorkshire, England

During the First World War, the major hospitals in Leeds were the 2nd Northern General with 1,800 beds and the East Leeds War Hospital with 1,900. Leeds was also one of the principal hospital centres in Yorkshire during the Second World War.

Leeds (Lawnswood) Cemetery was opened in 1875 and contains 138 burial of the First World War, 88 of them forming a war graves plot in Section W. As these graves could not be marked individually, the names of the dead are recorded on a screen wall. The rest of the First World War burials and all of the 67 Second World War burials are scattered throughout the cemetery. A further screen wall bears the names of 105 casualties of both wars buried in Leeds General Cemetery, where their graves could no longer be maintained.

In all, there are now 222 First World War casualties and 91 from the Second World War commemorated in the cemetery.

The memorial to 94 Second World War casualties whose remains were cremated at Leeds (Lawnswood) Crematorium is in the central hall of the Columbarium.

(Information from CWGC)



Entrance to Lawnswood Cemetery (Photo from Find a Grave – Photoman81)



CWGC Cross of Sacrifice & Screen Walls (Photo from War Memorials Online – Ynyr Owen)



(Photos from CWGC)



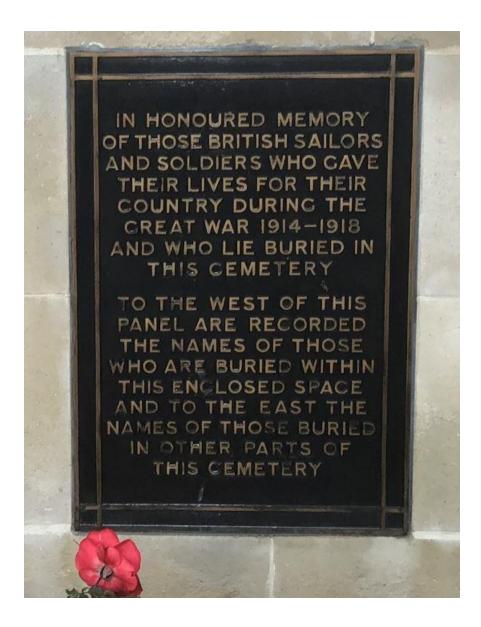


Photo of Private S. West's name on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Screen Wall in Lawnswood Cemetery, West Yorkshire, England.

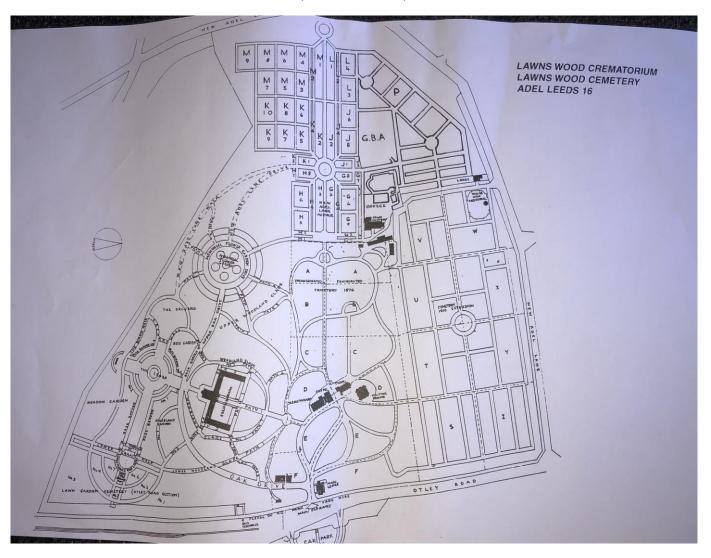




(Photo from War Memorials Online - Ynyr Owen)



(Photo from CWGC)



Map of Lawnswood Cemetery (Photo from Find a Grave – Ben McBean)