**Durrington War Graves** 



## World War I



2348 PRIVATE

# S. J. LANE

### 41ST BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

11TH FEBRUARY, 1917 Age 22

Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Pte S. J. Lane is located in Grave Plot # 193 of Durrington War Graves Cemetery

## **Solomon James LANE**

Solomon James Lane was born at Pinkenba, Queensland to parents James Hellier Lane & Elizabeth Helen Lane (nee Williams). His birth was registered in 1895. He was a 21 year old, single Musterer from Canungra, Queensland when he enlisted on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 1916 with the 41<sup>st</sup> Infantry Battalion, 4<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements of the Australian Army (A.I.F.). His service number was 2348 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr James Lane, Canungra, via Logan Village, Queensland. Solomon's younger brother – Alfred John Lane, aged 19, enlisted the same day & had a service number of 2344. Solomon's older brother – Henry William Lane, aged 24 also enlisted the same day & had a service number of 3429.

Pte Solomon James Lane was admitted to No. 13 A. G. Hospital for 8 days with Influenza from 7<sup>th</sup> August to 14<sup>th</sup> August, 1916.

Pte Solomon James Lane embarked from Brisbane on HMAT *Boonah (A48)* on 21<sup>st</sup> October, 1916 & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 10<sup>th</sup> January, 1917.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. Some of these were located in the Salisbury Plain & surrounding areas in the county of Wiltshire.

Pte Solomon James Lane was marched in to 11<sup>th</sup> Training Battalion at Durrington, Wiltshire from Australia on 10<sup>th</sup> January, 1917.

Pte Solomon James Lane was sent sick to Fargo Military Hospital on 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 1917 & reported as serious with Capillary Bronchitis.

Private Solomon James Lane died on 11<sup>th</sup> February, 1917 at Fargo Military Hospital from Broncho Pneumonia (listed as Capillary Bronchitis in some reports).

A death for Solomon J. Lane, aged 22, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Amesbury, Wiltshire.

Private Solomon James Lane was buried on 16<sup>th</sup> February, 1917 at Durrington Cemetery, Wiltshire – Plot number 193 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Private S. J. Lane is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 134.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Pte Solomon James Lane was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte Lane's father – Mr J. Lane (Sent December, 1921 & July, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Solomon James Lane – service number 2348 as being 22 years old & served with 41st Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of James Hellier Lane and Elizabeth Lane, of Benobble Post Office, Queensland. Born at Pinkenba.

A War Pension was applied for by Gladys Eva Lane, sister of late Pte Solomon James Lane, but was rejected on the grounds that it was "not considered that claimant was dependent upon her brother during the period of twelve months prior to his enlistment".

(46 pages of Pte Solomon James Lane'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

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#### Connected with Pte Solomon James Lane:

\*\* Pte Alfred John Lane, 2344, 41<sup>st</sup> Battalion – younger brother to Solomon & who enlisted the same day
– was wounded in action on 24<sup>th</sup> August, 1918 & invalided back to England from France on 28<sup>th</sup> August, 1918. He returned to Australia on 30<sup>th</sup> October, 1919.

\*\* Pte Henry William Lane, 3429, 49<sup>th</sup> Battalion – older brother to Solomon & who enlisted the same day – was wounded in action in France on 5<sup>th</sup> April, 1918 & invalided back to England on 11<sup>th</sup> April, 1918. He was returned back to Australia on 17<sup>th</sup> June, 1918 & was discharged on 24<sup>th</sup> September, 1918.

## Newspaper Reports

### AUSTRALIAN CASUALTIES - LIST NO. 275

DIED OF ILLNESS

S. J. Lane (Canungra)

(Morning Bulletin, Rockhampton, Qld – Tuesday 27 February, 1917)

#### **ROLL OF HONOUR**

LANE – In Loving memory of our dear brother, Private T. J. Lane, died of illness in England, on 11<sup>th</sup> February, 1917.

Inserted by his loving father, sisters and brothers, also brothers Alfred & Henry, on active service

LANE – A token of respect to our friend, Private Solomon (Sol) Lane, died in England, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 1917.

Sad and oft our thought do wander To a grave far, far away, Where they laid our true friend Just one year ago to-day.

Inserted by the Mahony brothers.

(The Brisbane Courier, Qld – Monday 11 February, 1918)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Defence Department, in 1920/21, contacted the next of kin of the deceased World War 1 soldiers to see if they wanted to include a personal inscription on the permanent headstone at Durrington War Graves Cemetery. Space was reserved for 66 letters only (with the space between any two words to be counted as an additional letter) & the rate per letter was around 3 ½ d (subject to fluctuation).

The expense in connection for the erection of permanent headstones over the graves of fallen soldiers was borne by the Australian Government.

(Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921)

A letter from Base Records, dated 20<sup>th</sup> July, 1921, to Mr J. Lane advises that a letter from the Defence Dept. concerning an inscription on the headstone of the late Pte S. J. Lane had not been answered & non-receipt of a reply within 21 days would have to be accepted as indicating that no further action was to be taken.

Pte S. J. Lane does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Photo of Pte S. J. Lane's Headstone at Durrington War Graves Cemetery, Wiltshire.



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