

**Highgate Cemetery,
Highgate, Greater London, England**

War Grave



Lest We Forget

World War 1



8136 PRIVATE

C. N. BEAMISH

AUSTRALIAN ARMY SERVICE CORPS

26TH JANUARY, 1917

Claude Neville BEAMISH

Claude Neville Beamish was born at Islington, London, England in 1886 to parents Sidney & Priscilla Anne Beamish (nee Barrett).

The 1891 England Census recorded "Claud M. Beamish" as a 5 year old, living with his family at 207 Junction Rd, Islington, London, England. His parents were listed as Sidney Beamish (Accountant, aged 42, born Dulwich, Surrey) & Priscilla A. Beamish (aged 40, born Islington, Middlesex). Claude was one of five children listed on this Census – Sidney E. Beamish (Scholar, aged 13, born St. Pancras, Middlesex), Herbert L. Beamish (Scholar, aged 11, born St. Pancras, Middlesex), Priscilla V. Beamish (Scholar, aged 10, born Islington, Middlesex), Thomas R. Beamish (Scholar, aged 7, born St. Pancras, Middlesex) & Claud (born St. Pancras, Middlesex). Also listed – Priscilla M. Barratt (widowed mother-in-law of Sidney Beamish) (Living on Own Means, aged 71, born Cheapside, Middlesex) & a servant – Rhoda G. Johnson (aged 21).

Claude Neville Beamish attended Highgate School, London, England.

Sidney Beamish, father of Claude Neville Beamish, died on 25th July, 1913 in London, England.

According to information provided by his brother (Thomas Renney Beamish – Lieutenant 42nd Battalion, A.I.F.) for the Roll of Honour – Claude came to Australia when he was 29 years. He had served with "A" Battery, Honourable Artillery Company, London for 1 year & 107 days before coming to Australia.

Mr C. N. Beamish, Insurance Clerk, aged 27, was a passenger on *Carpentaria* which departed on 26th November, 1913 from London, England bound for Australia.

The 1915 & 1917 Australian Electoral Rolls for the division of Oxley, subdivision of Brisbane South recorded Claude Melville Beamish, Insurance Clerk from Ernest Street, Ellerslie, Queensland.

Claude Neville Beamish was a 29 year old, single, Clerk from Yerongpilly, Brisbane, Queensland when he enlisted on 7th August, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Church of England & his next of kin was listed as his brother – T. R. Beamish, Yerongpilly, Brisbane, Queensland.

Claude Neville Beamish was posted to No. 1 Depot Platoon A.A.S.C. (Australian Army Service Corps) on 7th August, 1915 as Driver. He was transferred to 1st Light Horse Brigade Train, 12th Reinforcements, 5th A.S.C. (Army Service Corps) on 1st November, 1915.

Driver Claude Neville Beamish, Service number 8136, embarked from Sydney, New South Wales on HMAT *Barambah* (A37) on 4th December, 1915 with the 1st Light Horse Brigade Train, 5th Army Service Corps, 12th Reinforcements.

Driver Claude Neville Beamish was taken on strength of 1st Light Horse Brigade Train, 12th Reinforcements on 22nd January, 1916.

Driver Claude Neville Beamish transferred from Heliopolis to Minia on 18th February, 1916. He was taken on strength of A.M.D. at Kantara on 1st May, 1916.

Driver Claude Neville Beamish was struck of strength (permanent) to Headquarters, A.S.C. AM. D at Romani on 2nd August, 1916.

Driver Claude Neville Beamish was struck off strength from 1st Light Horse Brigade Supply Section & posted to A.S.C. Details at Romani on 25th August, 1916.

Driver Claude Neville Beamish reported sick on 12th September, 1916 & was admitted to 3rd Field Ambulance on 12th September, 1916 with Diarrhoea. He was transferred to 26th Casualty Clearing Station on 13th September, 1916. Driver Beamish was admitted to 31st General Hospital at Port Said on 15th September, 1916 then transferred to Hospital Train for Cairo on 2nd October, 1916. He was admitted to 14th Australian General Hospital at Abbassia on 2nd October, 1916 with Dysentery. Driver Beamish was discharged to Montazah Convalescent Hospital on 10th October, 1916 & was admitted to British Red Cross Convalescent Hospital at Montazah on the same day. Driver Beamish was discharged on 18th October, 1916 from British Red Cross Convalescent Hospital.

Driver Claude Neville Beamish was taken on strength of 1st Light Horse Training Regiment at Moascar on 18th October, 1916. He was marched out to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force) on 21st October, 1916 & embarked from Alexandria on 22nd October, 1916 on *Minnetonka*.

Driver Claude Neville Beamish was taken on strength of A.A.S.C. Training Depot at Parkhouse, Wiltshire, England on 3rd November, 1916.

Australian Army Service Corps (A.A.S.C.)

The service, or combat support, corps enable the arms corps to operate effectively in the field.

Transport, supply and maintenance

Originally the Australian Army had two main service corps: the Ordnance Corps and the Service Corps. Ordnance was generally responsible for machinery and ammunition. It organised the supply and storage of ammunition and the repair and maintenance of machinery, vehicles and weapons. The Army Service Corps was responsible for the transport and provision of supplies and rations other than machinery or ammunition; this included the delivery of mail to the troops. This corps also provided additional transport resources for moving troops.

(Information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Claude Neville Beamish died on 26th January, 1917 at No. 30 St. Albans Road, North St. Pancras, London, England from Pleurisy, Pneumonia & Syncope. Death was advised to Australian Imperial Force via letter on 23rd February, 1917 by the sister of the late C. N. Beamish.

A death for Claude N. Beamish, aged 30, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Pancras, London, England.

Private Claude Neville Beamish was buried on 30th January, 1917 in Highgate Cemetery West – Plot number 51.39156 and has a Private Headstone. His death is still acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

The Public Curator's Office, Brisbane, Queensland, wrote to Base Records on 22nd May, 1917 requesting a Certificate of Death for the late Driver Claude Neville Beamish.

Base Records replied to the Public Curator on 30th May, 1917 enclosing a certificate of report of death of the late No. 8136 Driver C. N. Beamish, 1st Light Horse Brigade Train.

Base Records contacted Mr T. R. Beamish, Yerongpilly, Brisbane, Queensland in January, 1922 stating he was registered as the next of kin of the late No. 8136 Driver C. N. Beamish, Army Service Corps Details, but desired to know if there were any nearer blood relatives than himself & was specifically asked if his father & mother were living & if not were there any brothers older due to the "Deceased Soldiers Estates Act 1918" which stated that the War Medals & Mementoes of a deceased soldier were to be handed in the following order of relationship – Widow, eldest surviving son, eldest surviving daughter, father, mother, eldest surviving brother, eldest surviving sister etc.

Base Records received correspondence from 1st Military District Headquarters, Australian Military Forces, Brisbane, Queensland on 21st April, 1922 which reads: "*With reference to your communication of 6/3/22, relative to the nearest blood relation of the late No. 8136, Driver C. N. Beamish, Army Service Corps Details, it would appear that the next-of-kin of the deceased soldier is his Father, Mr P. A. Beamish, whose address is 30 St. Albans Road, Highgate Road, London. N.W.*"

Private Claude Neville Beamish was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Beamish's father – (listed as Mr P. A. Beamish on the Memorial Plaque stamp & listed as "for issue to NOK" on Memorial Scroll stamp). (Scroll & Plaque issued in London in August, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Claude Neville Beamish – service number 8136, aged 30, of 5th Coy., Australian Army Service Corps. He was the son of Sydney & Priscilla Ann Beamish.

Private C. N. Beamish is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 181.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(27 pages of Private Claude Neville Beamish'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



Newspaper Notices

ROLL OF HONOUR

BEAMISH – On 26th January, 1917, at London, Driver Claude Neville Beamish, Australian Imperial Forces, of pneumonia, youngest son of Mrs Sidney Beamish, St. Albans road, Highgate, London, N.W.

(*The Brisbane Courier*, Queensland – 7 March, 1917) & (*The Queenslander*, Brisbane, Queensland – 17 March, 1917)

CASUALTIES

LIST NO. 277

DIED OF ILLNESS

Dvr C. N. Beamish, Brisbane, 26/1/17

(*The Daily Mail*, Brisbane, Queensland – 9 March, 1917)

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 Claude Neville Beamish has a Private Headstone

Highgate Cemetery, Greater London, England

The cemetery is between Highgate Hill and Highgate West Hill and is divided by Swains Road. The older part being on the Western side and the newer part on the Eastern side. The entrance gates to both sides are opposite one another and there are war burials in both portions.

The cemetery was opened in 1839. There are 259 Commonwealth burials of the 1914-18 war and a further 59 from the 1939-45 war here. Those whose graves could not be marked by headstone are named upon a Screen Wall memorial erected near the Cross of Sacrifice inside the entrance to the older (Western) part of the cemetery.

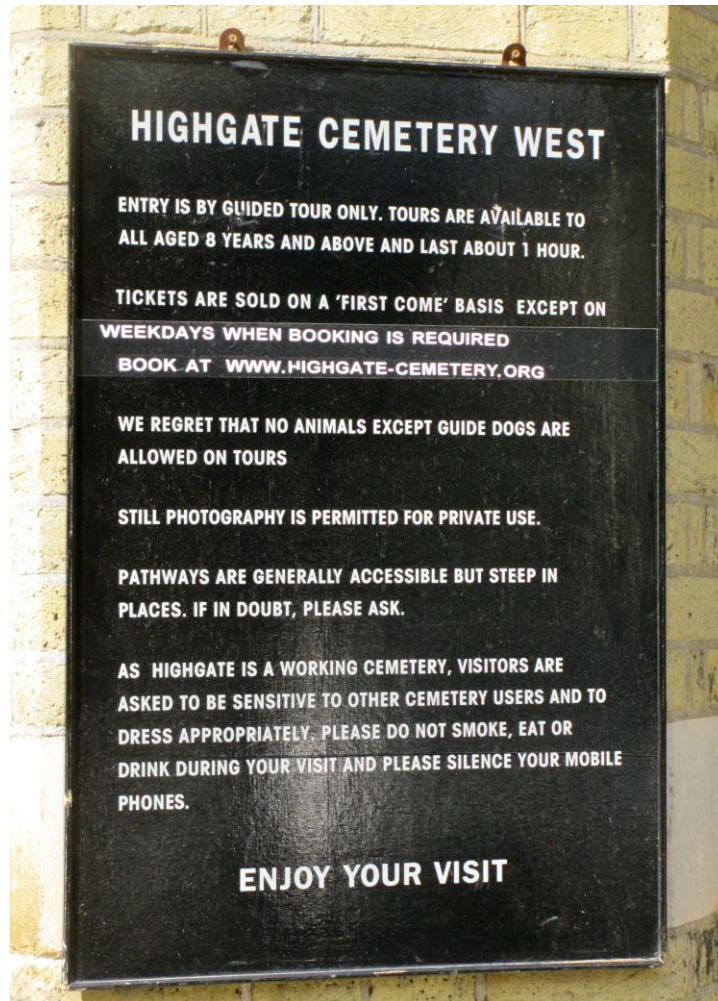
(Information from CWGC)



Highgate Cemetery with sign showing East (to right) & West (to left) (Streetview)



Entrance to Highgate Cemetery West (Photo from Find a Grave – Julia&keld)

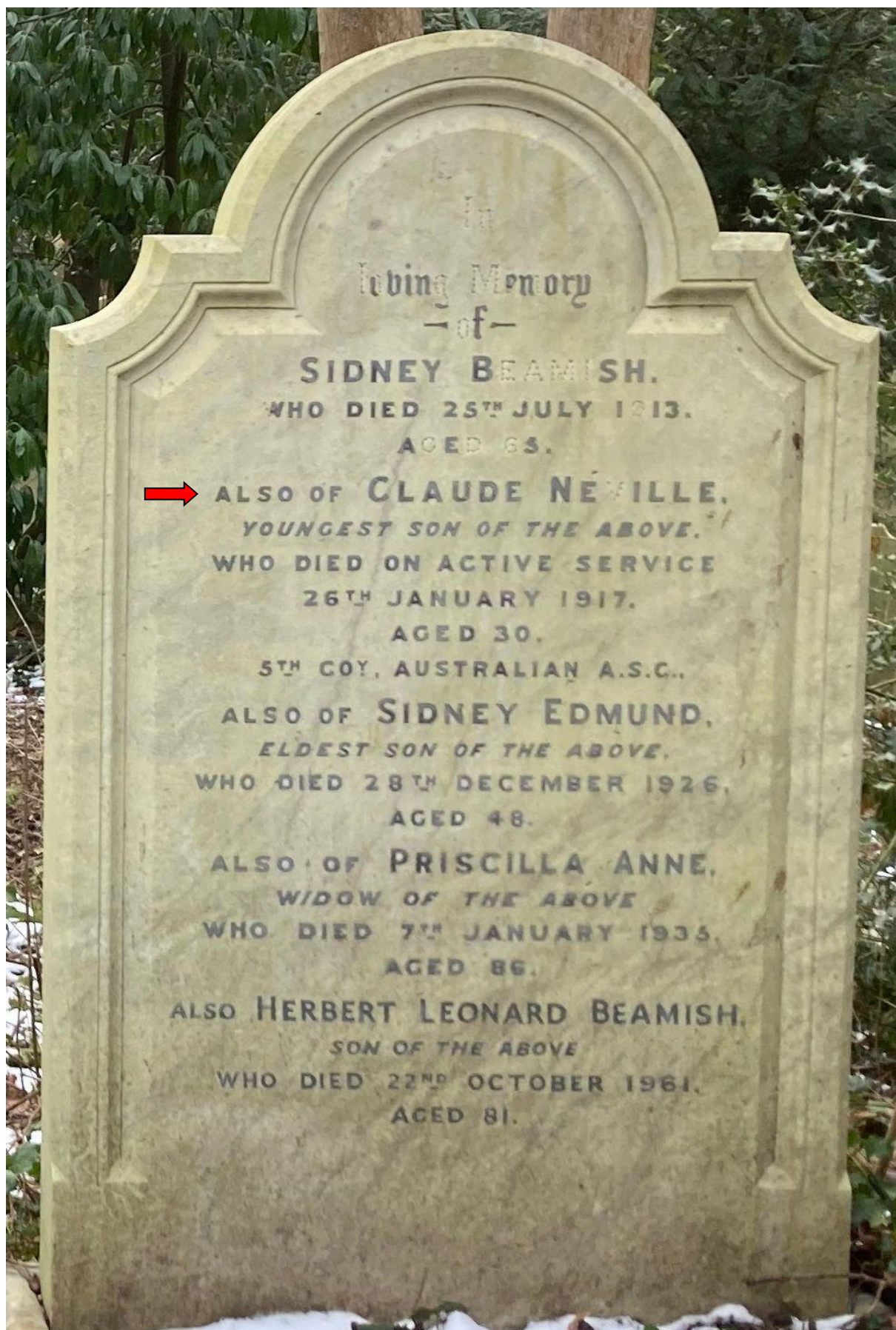


(Photo from Find a Grave – JCameron)

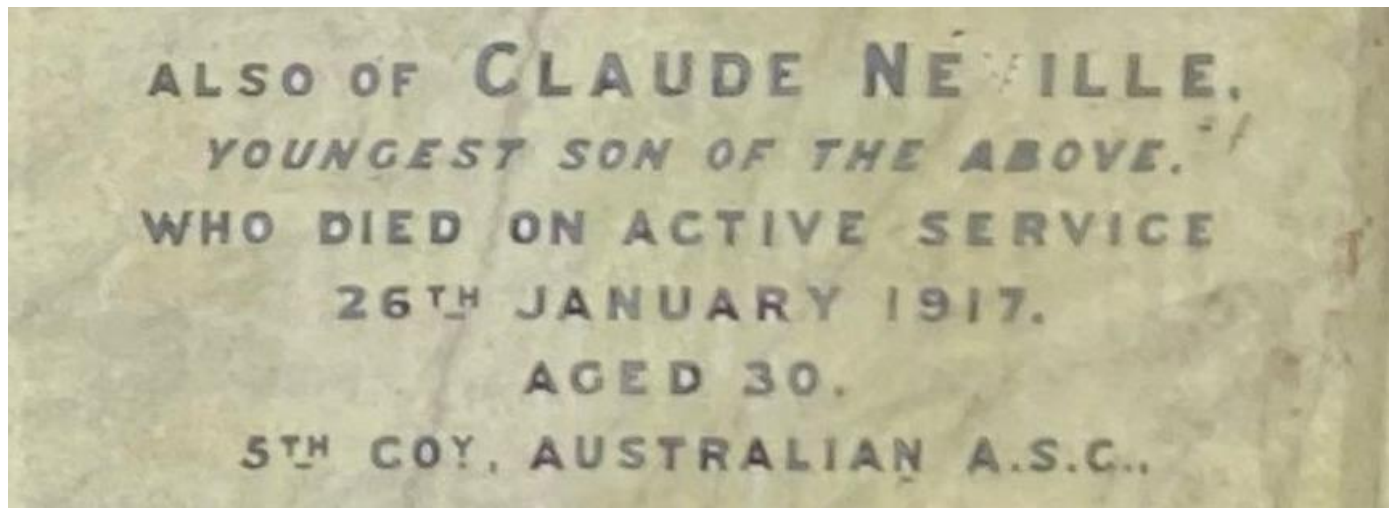


(Photo from CWGC)

Photo of Private Claude Neville Beamish's Private Headstone in Highgate Cemetery West, Highgate, Greater London, England.



(Photo courtesy of Simon Edwards 2021)



*Also Of CLAUDE NEVILLE,
Youngest Son Of The Above,
Who Died On Active Service
26TH January 1917.
Aged 30.
5TH Coy., Australian A.S.C.*