

**Arnos Vale Cemetery,
Bristol, England
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



1969 DRIVER

S. JACKA

2ND WESSEX FIELD AMBULANCE

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

6TH NOVEMBER, 1914 Age 21

Sydney JACKA

Sydney Jacka was born in Sydney, NSW, Australia in 1893 to parents John Martin Jacka and Ellen Jacka (nee Letton). His birth was registered, according to NSW Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages website as Sydney. E. Jacka.

The 1901 England Census recorded Sydney Jacka as a 7 year old, living with his family at 6 Belmont Place, Newquay, Cornwall, England. His parents were listed as John Jacka (Carpenter & Joiner in Building Trade, aged 47, born Newquay, Cornwall) & Ellen Jacka (aged 42, born Newquay, Cornwall). Sydney was one of five children listed on this Census – Mabel Jacka (aged 12, born Sydney, Australia), Elsie Jacka (aged 9, born Sydney, Australia) then Sydney, Alice Jacka (aged 4, born Stoke Newington, London) & Ernest Jacka (aged 2, born Stoke Newington, London).

The 1911 England Census recorded Sydney Jacka as a 17 year old, Caddie on Golf Links, living with his family at 2 Belmont Place, Newquay, Cornwall, England. His parents were listed as John Jacka (Carpenter, aged 57) & Ellen Jacka (aged 51). John & Ellen had been married for 23 years & had a total of 6 children, 2 having since died. Sydney was one of three children listed on this Census – Mabel Jacka (Dressmaker, aged 22) then Sydney & Alice Jacka (Help at Home, aged 15).

Sydney Jacka enlisted on 3rd September, 1914 & was posted to 2nd Wessex Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps.

Field Ambulance

The Field Ambulance was a mobile front line medical unit (it was not a vehicle), manned by troops of the Royal Army Medical Corps. Most Field Ambulances came under command of a Division, and each had special responsibility for the care of casualties of one of the Brigades of the Division. The theoretical capacity of the Field Ambulance was 150 casualties, but in battle many would need to deal with very much greater numbers. The Field Ambulance was responsible for establishing and operating a number of points along the casualty evacuation chain, from the Bearer Relay Posts which were up to 600 yards behind the Regimental Aid Posts in the front line, taking casualties rearwards through an Advanced Dressing Station (ADS) to the Main Dressing Station (MDS). It also provided a Walking Wounded Collecting Station, as well as various rest areas and local sick rooms. The Field Ambulances would usually establish 1 ADS per Brigade, and 1 MDS for the Division.

(extract of information from The Long, Long Trail)

[Note: Driver Sydney Jacka does not appear to have a Service Record file – about 60% of British WW1 Service Records were damaged or lost as a result of enemy bombing in 1940, during the Second World War. Driver Sydney Jacka does not appear to have a Medal Index Card (M.I.C) – this could be due to the fact that he did not leave England & therefore did not enter a Theatre of War.]

Driver Sydney Jacka died on 6th November, 1914 at 2nd Southern General Hospital Bristol, England.

(Note: the UK Soldiers Died in the Great War 1914 – 1919 records Sydney James Jacka, 1969 of Royal Army Medical Corps, born Australia having died on 16th December, 1914)

A death for Sydney Jacka, aged 21, was registered in the December quarter, 1914 in the district of Bristol, Gloucestershire, England.

Driver Sydney Jacka was buried in Arnos Vale Cemetery, Bristol, Gloucestershire, England. His name is remembered on the CWGC Screen Wall & he has a flat Memorial Stone. Cemetery/Memorial reference Screen Wall 4.655.

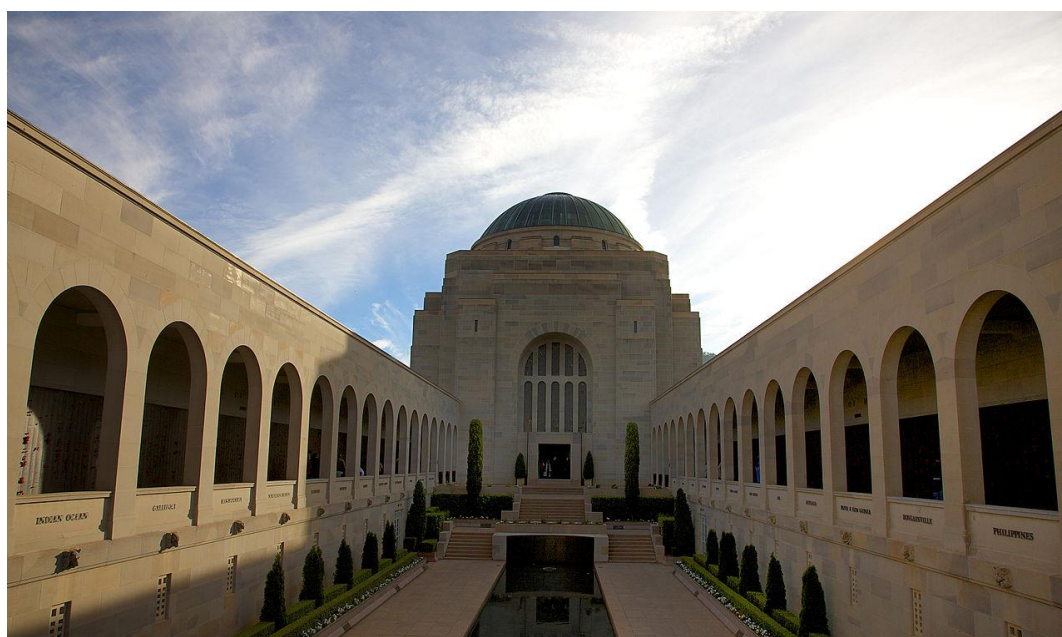
The UK Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects for 1901 -1929 recorded Driver Sydney James Jacka, 1969, of 2nd Wessex Field Ambulance who enlisted on 3rd September, 1914, (Butcher, born Australia) died on 6th November, 1914 at 2nd Southern General Hospital Bristol, England.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Driver Sydney Jacka – service number 1969, aged 21, of 2nd Wessex Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps. He was the son of John and Ellen Jacka, of 2 Belmont Place, Newquay, Cornwall.

Driver Sydney Jacka 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.



Commemorative Roll Book at The Australian War Memorial *(Photo from AWM)*

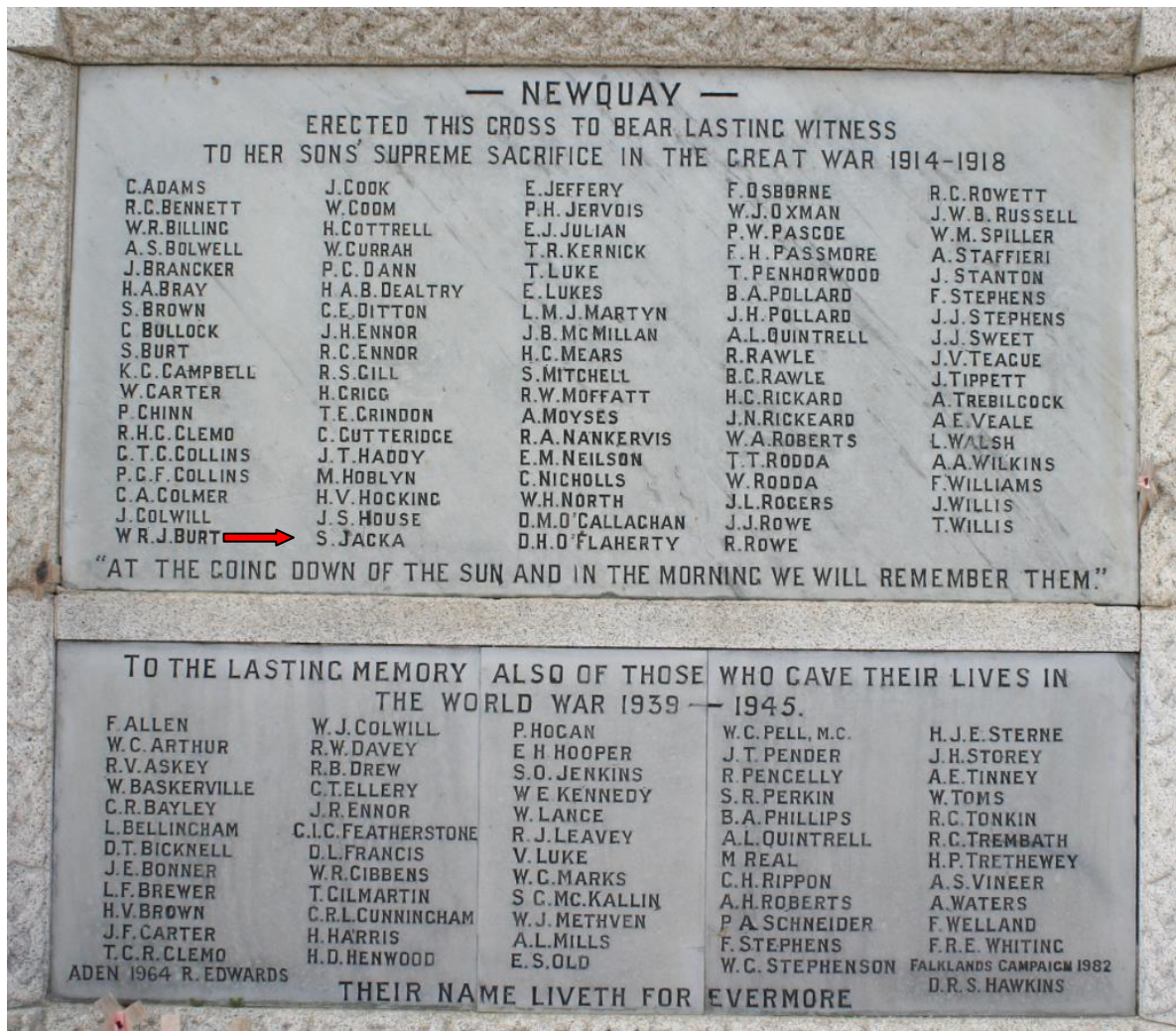


Commemorative Area of the Australian War Memorial *(Capital Photographer)*

S. Jacka is remembered on the Newquay War Memorial, located on Dane Road, Newquay, Cornwall, England.



Newquay War Memorial (Photos by Magicfingers)



Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

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.

Arnos Vale Cemetery, Bristol, Gloucestershire, England

The cemetery was established in 1837. During both wars, there were a number of military hospitals at Bristol and the city was the depot of the Gloucestershire Regiment. During the Second World War there were also a number of Royal Air Force stations and prisoner of war camps in the area. ARNOS VALE CEMETERY contains burials of both wars. Most of the 356 First World War burials were of men who died at the local hospitals, particularly the 2nd Southern General and the Beaufort, many of whom were landed at Avonmouth from hospital ships from the Mediterranean. Their graves can be found in the 'Soldiers Corner', a plot established by the British Red Cross, near the main entrance. The 238 casualties buried here are commemorated on a memorial at the rear of the plot. The rest of the graves are scattered throughout the cemetery. There are also special memorials to one casualty buried in the cemetery whose grave could not be located and another commemorating a casualty buried in Bedminster Church Cemetery whose grave could not be maintained. There are 149 burials from the Second World War, some forming a small plot in an area in the upper part of the cemetery set aside for burials from the Naval Hospital at Barrow Gurney; the rest are scattered. Those whose graves are not marked by headstones are named on a Screen Wall Memorial. BRISTOL (ARNOS VALE) CREMATORIUM stands within the cemetery. A memorial in front of the crematorium commemorates 68 servicemen and women of the Second World War whose remains were cremated there.

(Information from CWGC)



Arnos Vale Cemetery - Main Entrance on Bath Road *(Photo by JohnM – Find a Grave)*



(Photo from CWGC)



(Photo by JohnM – Find a Grave)



Soldiers' Corner – Arnos Vale Cemetery (Photo by JohnM – Find a Grave April, 2017)



New Memorial Stones (Photo by JohnM – Find a Grave November, 2018)

Photo of Driver Sidney Jacka's name on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Screen Wall in Arnos Vale Cemetery, Bristol, Gloucestershire, England & his Memorial Stone in Soldiers' Corner.



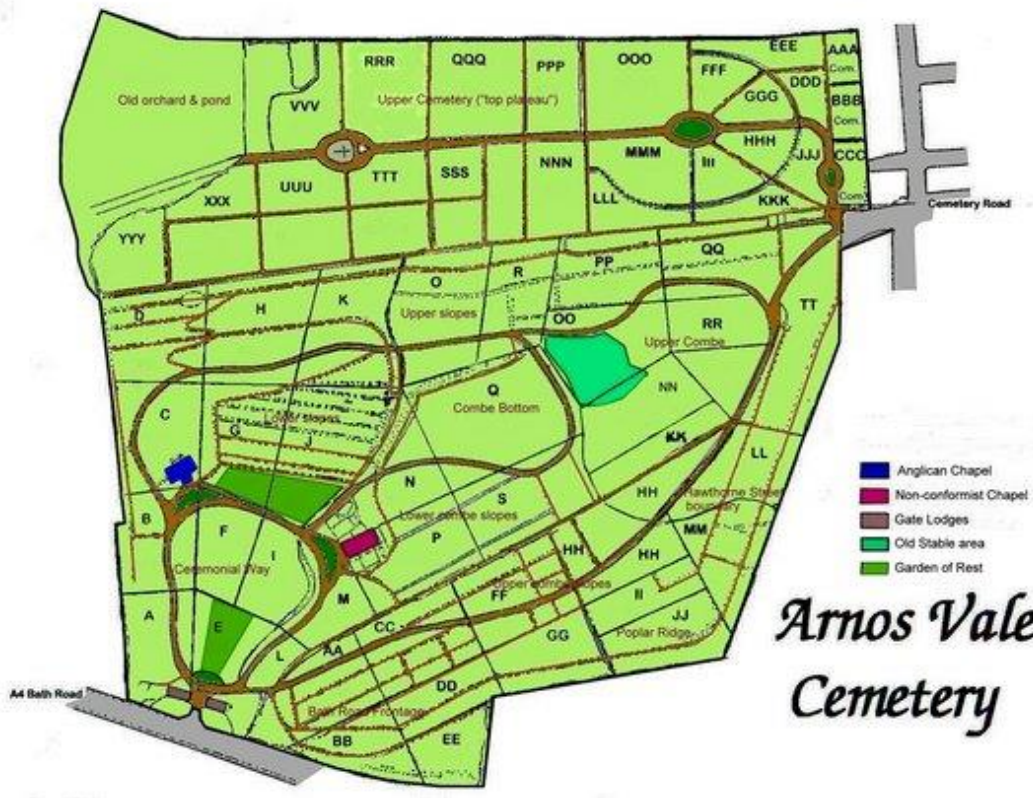
(Photos by JohnM – Find a Grave April, 2019)

PVT. JOHN JONES
BMDR. EDWARD JAMES
PTE. FREDERICK CHARLES ALFRED JEWELL
PTE. SIDNEY JACKA
PTE. ARTHUR JEYNES
L/CPL. PHILIP CHARLES HENRY KING
PTE. ALEXANDER KEMP

R.E.T.W.&D.
R.F.A.
10TH GLOS. RECT.
2ND WES. F. AMB.
GLOS. RECT.
4TH GLOS. RECT.
1ST CORP. HIGH REG.



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Arnos Vale Cemetery

(Photo by Debra Polly – Find a Grave)