

**Netley Military Cemetery,
Hampshire, England
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



919 SERJEANT

W. M. LALOR

5TH AUSTRALIAN BDE. H.Q.

11TH APRIL, 1917 Age 34

For Duty Nobly Done

R.I.P.

William Michael LALOR

William Michael Lalor was born at Clunes, Victoria in 1882 to parents Michael Francis & Catherine Lalor (nee Mulhall).

William Michael Lalor was a 32 year old, single, Bootmaker (as listed on Embarkation Roll) (Bookmaker as per Attestation Papers & Clerk as listed by his mother for the Roll of Honour) from 116 Palmerston Street, East Perth, Western Australia when he enlisted in Melbourne, Victoria on 7th April, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 919 & his religion was Roman Catholic. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs W. Lalor, of 116 Palmerston Street, East Perth, Western Australia.

Private William Michael Lalor embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Ulysses (A38)* on 10th May, 1915 with the 6th Infantry Brigade, 21st Infantry Battalion “D” Company.

Private William Michael Lalor transferred from 21st Battalion to 5th Brigade Headquarters on 30th October, 1915 at Gallipoli Peninsula. He was appointed Corporal on the same date.

Corporal William Michael Lalor was appointed Lance Sergeant on 28th December, 1915.

Lance Sergeant William Michael Lalor disembarked at Alexandria from Mudros on 3rd January, 1916.

Lance Sergeant William Michael Lalor proceeded to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force) from Alexandria on 17th March, 1916. He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 23rd March, 1916.

Lance Sergeant William Michael Lalor was sent to Hospital in Belgium on 12th September, 1916. He was admitted to 50th Casualty Clearing Station on 14th September, 1916 with Scabies then transferred to 10th Casualty Clearing Station the same day. Lance Sergeant Lalor was discharged to duty on 23rd September, 1916.

Lance Sergeant William Michael Lalor was admitted to 50th Casualty Clearing Station on 2nd October, 1916 with Dental ____ & transferred to No. 4 Stationary Hospital the same day. He rejoined his Unit from Hospital on 3rd October, 1916.

Lance Sergeant William Michael Lalor was sent sick to Field Ambulance in France on 29th November, 1916. He was transferred to Casualty Clearing Station the same day. Lance Sergeant Lalor was admitted to 39th Casualty Clearing Station on 1st December, 1916 with Scabies. He was discharged on 10th December, 1916 by a new disease supervening. Lance Sergeant Lalor was discharged from 2nd General Hospital at Havre, France on 14th December, 1916 having suffered from myalgia.

Lance Sergeant William Michael Lalor was marched in to 2nd A.D.B.D. (Australian Divisional Base Depot) at Etaples from Havre on 16th December, 1916.

Lance Sergeant William Michael Lalor was transferred to England from 26th General Hospital at Etaples on 27th December, 1916 with Nephritis.

Lance Sergeant William Michael Lalor was admitted to the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, Hampshire, England on 29th December, 1916 seriously ill with Nephritis & cerebral abscess. His condition was reported as “severe” on 30th December, 1916 and “improving” on 4th January, 1917. Lance Sergeant Lalor’s condition was reported as “improving” on 6th January, 1917 & “again seriously ill” on 12th January, 1917. His condition was reported as “stationary” on 19th January, 1917 & “improved” on 6th February, 1917. Lance Sergeant Lalor’s condition was reported as “seriously ill” on 2nd February, 1917.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Sergeant William Michael Lalor includes a letter from O.C. Netley, dated 2nd February, 1917 which reads: “*He was admitted from France seriously ill and with a temperature of 105° suffering from septic infection – since admittance he has remained in the most critical condition, with occasional brief periods of improvement, and has occasioned considerable anxiety. For the moment he is a little better although still seriously ill. He is receiving the most careful attention.*” An update was received on 10th February, 1917 which reads: “*He is still seriously ill, his condition showing no improvement up to the present.*”

Lance Sergeant William Michael Lalor was placed on the Supernumerary List on 1st March, 1917.

Sergeant William Michael Lalor died on 11th April, 1917 at Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, Hampshire, England from Cardiac failure following acute Nephritis.



Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley

A death for William M. Lalor, aged 34, was registered in the June quarter, 1917 in the district of South Stoneham, Hampshire, England.

Sergeant William Michael Lalor was buried at 3 pm on 13th April, 1917 in Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire, England – Plot number R.C. 899 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Sergeant William Michael Lalor contains a request from the Red Cross on behalf of the relatives in Australia to obtain the nature of the sickness or wounds. Matron H. W. Reid, of the Royal Victoria Hospital wrote the following reply on 21st May, 1917: *“In reply to your inquiry of 19th inst., re 919 Sgt. W. M. Lalor 2nd Aust. and N.Z. Corps who died in this hospital on 11th April, I beg to inform you that particulars of his illness and death were written to his family in Australia, and to a cousin in Ireland, both by the Sister who nursed him and the Chaplain.”*

A War Pension was granted to Catherine Lalor, of 239 William Street, Perth, mother of the late Sergeant William Michael Lalor, in the sum of 53/9 fortnightly, granted from 14th June, 1917.

Sergeant William Michael Lalor was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Sergeant Lalor's widowed mother – Mrs C. Lalor, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent August, 1921 & Plaque sent July, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Sergeant William Michael Lalor – service number 919, aged 34, of H.Q. 5th Australian Brigade. He was the son of Michael F. and Catherine Lalor, of 239 William St., Perth, Western Australia.

Sergeant W. M. Lalor is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 2.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(40 pages of Sergeant William Michael Lalor'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, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives



Newspaper Notices

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

5th MILITARY DISTRICT

ILL

Sergeant W. M. Lalor (E. Perth) seriously

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 16 January, 1917)

DEATHS

LALOR – On April 11, at Roylea Victoria Hospital, Netley, England, of trench fever, Sergeant William Michael, dearly beloved son of Catherine and the late Michael Lalor, Perth.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 21 April, 1917) & (Western Mail, Perth, Western Australia – 27 April, 1917)

289th CASUALTY LIST

5th MILITARY DISTRICT

Died of Illness

Sergeant W. M. Lalor, East Perth, previously reported seriously ill

(*Western Mail*, Perth, Western Australia – 4 May, 1917)

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. 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*)

Serjeant W. M. Lalor does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

For Duty Nobly Done

R.I.P.

Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire, England

Netley Military Cemetery is a permanent military cemetery, the property of the Ministry of Defence. The cemetery was at the back of the Royal Victoria Military Hospital and was used during both wars for burials from the hospital. The cemetery contains 637 First World War burials but only 35 from the Second World War. In addition to the Commonwealth graves, there are a number of war graves of other nationalities including 69 German graves dating from the First World War.

(*Information & photos from CWGC*)





Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire (Photo above - Andrea Charlesworth; below - darealjolo)



Photo of Serjeant W. M. Lalor's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire, England.





Netley Military Cemetery, Hampshire



Original Cross markers – Netley Military Cemetery