

**Southern Cemetery,
Manchester, Lancashire
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



3391 LANCE SERJT.

L. W. OUTRAM

53RD BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

4TH AUGUST, 1916 Age 19

*The Motherland Had Called For Men
We Heard The Call And Gave Our Len*

Leonard William OUTRAM

Leonard William Outram was born at Surry Hills, Sydney, NSW in 1897 to parents William John & Louisa Outram (nee Malcolm).

Leonard William Outram attended Petersham Public School. He had served as Lieutenant in Senior Cadets at Ashfield, Sydney, NSW.

Leonard William Outram was an 18 year old, single, Coach Painter from Oak Denem, Gibb Street, Croydon, NSW when he enlisted at Liverpool, Sydney, NSW on 25th July, 1915 with the 3rd Infantry Battalion, 11th Reinforcements of the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 3391 & his religion was Methodist. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr W. J. Outram, of Oak Denem, Gibb Street, Croydon, NSW.

Private Leonard William Outram embarked from Sydney on HMAT *Euripides (A14)* on 2nd November, 1915.

Private Leonard Outram was taken on strength with 53rd Battalion at Tel-el-Kebir, Egypt on 16th February, 1916.

Private Leonard Outram was promoted to Temporary Sergeant at Tel-el-Kebir on 16th March, 1916.

Temporary Sergeant Leonard Outram reverted back to the rank of Private on 8th May, 1916 while at Ismailia.

Private Leonard Outram was "to be Corporal & Acting Lance Sergeant" on 8th May, 1916.

Acting Lance Sergeant Leonard Outram proceeded to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force) with 53rd Battalion from Alexandria on H.M.S. *Royal George* on 19th June, 1916. He disembarked at Marseilles, France on 28th June, 1916.

53rd Australian Infantry Battalion

The 53rd Battalion was raised in Egypt on 14 February 1916 as part of the "doubling" of the AIF. Half of its recruits were Gallipoli veterans from the 1st Battalion, and the other half, fresh reinforcements from Australia. Reflecting the composition of the 1st, the 53rd was predominantly composed of men from the suburbs of Sydney. The battalion became part of the 14th Brigade of the 5th Australian Division.

The battalion arrived in France on 27 June 1916, entered the front line for the first time on 10 July, and became embroiled in its first major battle on the Western Front, at Fromelles, on 19 July. The battle of Fromelles was a disaster. The 53rd was part of the initial assault and suffered grievously, incurring 625 casualties, including its commanding officer, amounting to over three-quarters of its attacking strength. Casualty rates among the rest of the 5th Division were similarly high, but despite these losses it continued to man the front in the Fromelles sector for a further two months.

(Information from the Australian War Memorial)

Acting Lance Sergeant Leonard William Outram was wounded in action in France on 19th July, 1916. He was admitted to 2nd Australian Casualty Clearing Station on 20th July, 1916 with wounds to arm & leg then transferred by Ambulance Train. Acting Lance Sergeant Leonard Outram was admitted to No. 3 Canadian Stationary Hospital at Boulogne on 21st July, 1916. Acting Lance Sergeant Outram was invalided to England on the Hospital Ship *Jan Breydel* on 23rd July, 1916 with bomb wounds to arm & leg.

Acting Lance Sergeant Leonard William Outram was admitted to Military Hospital, Manchester, Lancashire, England on 24th July, 1916 with bomb wounds to right arm, right leg & compound fracture of right humerus – severe.

Lance Sergeant Leonard William Outram died on 4th August, 1916 at 2nd General Hospital, Manchester, Lancashire, England from wounds received in action in France.

A death for Leonard W. Outram, aged 19, was registered in the September quarter, 1916 in the district of Chorlton, Lancashire, England.

Lance Sergeant Leonard William Outram was buried in Southern Cemetery, Manchester, Lancashire, England – Plot number 350.

A letter was sent to Mr W. J. Outram, "Tucckoi", Irrara Street, Croydon, NSW, dated 29th May which reads:

"With reference to the report of the regrettable loss of your son, the late No.3391, Lance Sergeant L. W. Outram, 53rd Battalion, I am now in receipt of advice from Australian Imperial Force Headquarters, London, dated 21st February, 1919, as follows:-

- *"In the Southern Cemetery at Manchester there were buried in common graves nine deceased members of the Australian Imperial Force. The remains of these have now been exhumed from the common graves and in each case have been re-interred in separate single graves in virgin soil in a site specially set aside as an Australian plot. The work was successfully carried out last week under the supervision of a senior Non-commissioned Officer from these Headquarters, and the new graves have since been marked by the provision of the standard oak cross enamelled white with black lettering. Photographs of the new graves will be taken at an early date and sent to you for transmission to the next-of-kin."*

Your son is now buried in Grave No. 214, Section Q."

A War Pension was granted to Louisa Outram, mother of the late Pte Leonard Outram, 3391, 53rd Battalion, in the sum of 10/- per fortnight granted from 14th October, 1918. A War Pension was also granted to William John Outram, father of the late Pte Leonard Outram, 3391, 53rd Battalion, in the sum of 10/- per fortnight granted from 14th October, 1918.

Lance Sergeant Leonard William Outram was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to L/Sgt. Outram's father - Mr W. J. Outram, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent October, 1921 & Plaque sent July, 1922 were both signed for by Mrs L. Outram as Mr W. J. Outram had died in 1921).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Lance Sergeant Leonard William Outram – service number 3391, aged 19, of 53rd Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of William John and Louisa Outram, of Croydon, Sydney, New South Wales.

Lance Sergeant L. W. Outram is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 157.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

L. W. Outram is remembered on the Burwood War Memorial Arch located in Burwood Park, Sydney, NSW.



Burwood War Memorial Arch (Photos courtesy of Peter Miller)



(45 pages of Lance Sergeant Leonard William Outram'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



Sergt. L. W. Outram

(Sydney Mail, NSW – 4 October, 1916)

Newspaper Notices

WAR CASUALTIES

WOUNDED

SERGEANT L. W. OUTRIM

Sergeant L. W. Outram, whose parents reside at Irrara-street, Croydon, is reported to have died of wounds in hospital at Manchester.

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

ROLL OF HONOUR

OUTRAM – Sergt. Leonard William Outram, wounded in France, died Manchester Military Hospital, Aug. 4, 1916, aged 19 years.

The motherland has raised the cry for man

To fight for freedom, so we gave out Len.

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

LATEST CASUALTIES

202nd LIST

NEW SOUTH WALES

Died (Other Causes)

Sgt. L. W. Outram, Croydon

(*The Land*, Sydney, NSW – 8 September, 1916)

IN MEMORIAM

OUTRAM – In loving memory of Sergt. Len. Outram, who gave his life for the Empire, August 4, 1916, aged 19 years. Inserted by his sorrowing parents, sister and brother, Edith and Malcolm (Mick).

OUTRAM – In loving memory of Sergeant Leonard W. Outram, wounded at Pozieres, about July 21, died Manchester Hospital, England, August 4, 1916.

He left these shores a boy,
Just budding into man,
And met his death most nobly,
As only heroes can.

Inserted by his sincere friend, Ethel M. Hardge.

(*The Sydney Morning Herald*, NSW – 4 August, 1917)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

OUTRAM – In loving memory of Sergt. L. W. Outram, wounded Fleurbaix, July 19-20, died Manchester Hospital, August 4, 1916. Inserted by his sorrowing parents, brother and sister.

(*The Sydney Morning Herald*, NSW – 4 August, 1919)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

OUTRAM – In loving memory of Sergt. Len. Outram, died August 4, of wounds received at Fleurbaix, July 19, 1916. Inserted by his sorrowing parents, brother and sister, Malcolm (Mick) and Edith, Lucy-street, Ashfield.

(*The Sydney Morning Herald*, NSW – 4 August, 1920)

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)

Lance Serjt. L. W. Outram does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

The Motherland Had Called For Men

We Heard the Call And Gave Our Len

Southern Cemetery, Manchester, Lancashire, England

During the First World War, Manchester contained between thirty and forty war hospitals, including the 2nd Western General Hospital and the Nell Lane Military Hospital for prisoners of war. Many of those buried in the cemeteries and churchyards of the city died in these hospitals. During the Second World War, there was a Royal Air Force Station at Heaton Park, Manchester.

Manchester Southern Cemetery contains burials of both wars, the majority of them scattered. There are also separate plots for First and Second World War burials, but in neither case are the graves marked individually; instead, each plot has a Screen Wall bearing the names of those buried there. Each plot has a Cross of Sacrifice. In all, 803 Commonwealth casualties of the First World War, including 1 unidentified, and 475 from the Second World War, including 3 unidentified, are now commemorated in the cemetery; there is also 1 non-war service grave.

The Screen Wall in the Second World War plot also bears the names of 177 servicemen and women whose remains were cremated. Further memorials in this plot commemorate 17 Polish servicemen buried there, and a number of casualties of both wars buried in other cemeteries and churchyards in the Manchester area whose graves could no longer be maintained.

Casualties buried in the following cemeteries and churchyards are now alternatively commemorated on Screen Wall Memorials in Manchester Southern Cemetery:

Ashton-under-Lyne (St Michael) Churchyard Extension
Birch-in-Rusholme (St James) Churchyard
Bury (Brunswick) United Methodist Cemetery
Cheetham Hill (St Luke) Churchyard
Eccles (St Mary) Churchyard
Eccleston (St Thomas) Churchyard Extension
Edgeworth Congregational Chapelyard
Hey (or Lees) (St. John the Baptist) Churchyard Extension
Manchester General Cemetery
Newton Heath (All Saints) Church Cemetery
Openshaw (St Barnabas) Churchyard
Swinton Unitarian Chapelyard.

(Information & photos from CWGC)

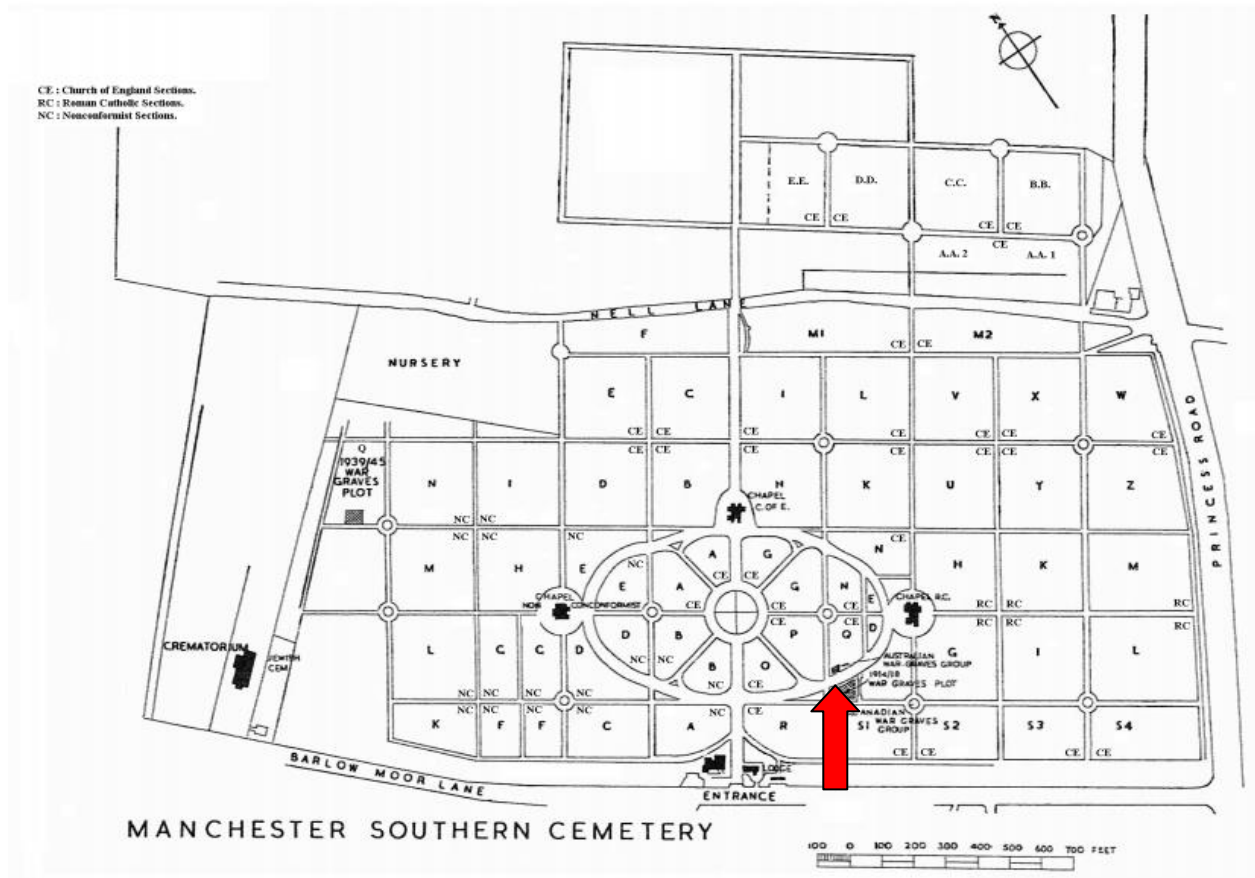


Southern Cemetery, Manchester – showing the 14 Australian War Graves from WW1

Photo of Lance Serjt. L. W. Outram's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Southern Cemetery, Manchester, Lancashire, England.



(Photo courtesy of Mike Berrell)



Southern Cemetery, Manchester (Australian War Graves Group marked with arrow)

