

**Trealaw Cemetery,  
Rhondda, Wales  
War Grave**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**6869 PRIVATE**

**J. PRITCHARD**

**28TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**2ND APRIL, 1918 Age 18**

*Diogel Y'm Mreichiau'r Iesu*

## James PRITCHARD

James Rhys Pritchard was born at Pontygwaith, Glamorgan in 1900 to parents James Rhys Pritchard and Gwen Pritchard.

The 1901 Wales Census recorded James Pritchard as an 11 month old living with his family at 34 Brewery Street, Ystradyfodwg, Rhondda, Glamorgan, Wales. His parents were listed as James Pritchard (Timberman in below ground Colliery, aged 35, born Aberdare, Glamorgan) & Gwen Pritchard (aged 35, born Aberdare, Glamorgan). James was the youngest of 3 children listed on this Census – Gwladys Pritchard (aged 9, born Ystradyfodwg, Glamorgan), David Pritchard (aged 7, born Ystradyfodwg, Glamorgan) then James (born Ystradyfodwg, Glamorgan).

A death was registered for Gwenllian Pritchard, aged 37, in the district of Pontypridd, Glamorgan, Wales. (Rhondda was a parish in the district of Pontypridd.)

The 1911 Wales Census recorded James R. Pritchard as a 10 year old living with his family at 77 Madelene Street, Pontygwaith, Rhondda, Glamorgan, Wales. His father was listed as James Rees Pritchard (Widower, Coal Repairer in underground Colliery, aged 44, born Aberdare, Glamorgan). James was one of three children listed on this Census – Gwladys Pritchard (aged 18, born Clydach Vale, Glamorgan) then James & Annie Pritchard (aged 8, born Pontygwaith, Glamorgan).

James Pritchard, aged 10, & his family – Father – James Pritchard (aged 41), Gwladys (aged 18) & Anna M. (aged 8) were passengers on the *Runic*. They had embarked at Liverpool, England & disembarked at Albany, Western Australian on 12th May, 1911.

James Pritchard (Snr) married Maria E. McCormack in the district of Wellington, Western Australia in 1914.

James Pritchard stated he was an 18 year old, single, Cleaner from Coombe Street, Collie, Western Australia when he enlisted on 15th January, 1917 with the 28th Infantry Battalion, 20th Reinforcements of the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 6869 & his religion was Congregational. His next of kin was listed as his sister – Miss Gladys Pritchard, of Coombe Street, Collie, Western Australia.

Private James Pritchard was posted to Training Depot on 15th January, 1917. He was transferred to 10th Reinforcements of 51st Battalion on 1st March, 1917 then transferred to 20th Reinforcements of 28th Battalion.

Gladys Pritchard signed her consent on 28th March, 1917, for her brother "Pte Pritchard to leave Australia on active service being his guardian". Those under the age of 21 years of age had to have their parents/guardians sign consent for them to enlist in the A.I.F. for active service abroad.

Private James Pritchard embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia on HMAT *Borda* (A30) on 29th June, 1917 & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 25th August, 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.

Private James Pritchard was marched in to 7th Training Battalion at Rollestone, Wiltshire, England on 26th August, 1917.

Private James Pritchard was marched in to 6th Training Battalion at Fovant, Wiltshire from 7th Training Battalion on 8th November, 1917.

Private James Pritchard was written up for an Offence while posted at Fovant – Absent without leave from midnight 25th January, 1918 until 4.20 pm on 3rd February, 1918. He was awarded 14 days confined to camp with a total forfeiture of 36 days pay.

Private James Pritchard was admitted to 1st Australian Dermatological Hospital at Bulford, Wiltshire on 6th February, 1918. He was discharged to Convalescent Training Depot at Parkhouse, Wiltshire on 8th February, 1918. Total V.D. Period – 3 days.

Private James Pritchard was admitted to 1st Australian Dermatological Hospital at Bulford, Wiltshire on 25th March, 1918 with Dermatitis.

Private James Pritchard died at 9.30 pm on 2nd April, 1918 at 1st Australian Dermatological Hospital, Bulford, Wiltshire, England from Pneumonia (double), aged 17 ½ .

A death for James Pritchard, aged 17, was registered in the June quarter, 1918 in the district of Amesbury, Wiltshire, England.

Private James Pritchard was buried on 9th April, 1918 in Llethyr Ddu Cemetery now known as Trealaw Cemetery, Rhondda, Wales – Plot number Q. 516 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Pte Pritchard - *Coffin was good polished oak with brass fittings. Private Funeral. The funeral was attended by the deceased's brother Mr D. Pritchard, Messrs Morgan & Thomas Davis (Uncles) and Messrs Morgan & John Howell and Evan Pritchard (Cousins). Wreaths and floral tributes from deceased's Brother and friends were placed on the grave, Service was held at deceased's late home prior to the funeral. Welsh Service. Deceased's relatives intend dis-interring the body in about 3 months time and placing same in family grave No. 83 Plot N. Cemetery as above. Names of relatives or friends present at funeral – Brother – Mr D. Pritchard, 20 Francis Street, Clydach Vale, Rhondda Valley, South Wales.*

Pte James Pritchard requested in his Will, dated 19th May, 1917 that he appoints his sister Gladys Pritchard, of Collie, as Executor of his Will & all his real & personal estate to his sister Gwladys Pritchard. A later Will, dated 13th September, 1917, stated that James Pritchard bequeathed his personal estate – half to his sister Gladys Pritchard of 240 Newcastle St., Perth, Western Australia & half to his sister Annie Pritchard of Coombe St, Collie, Western Australia.

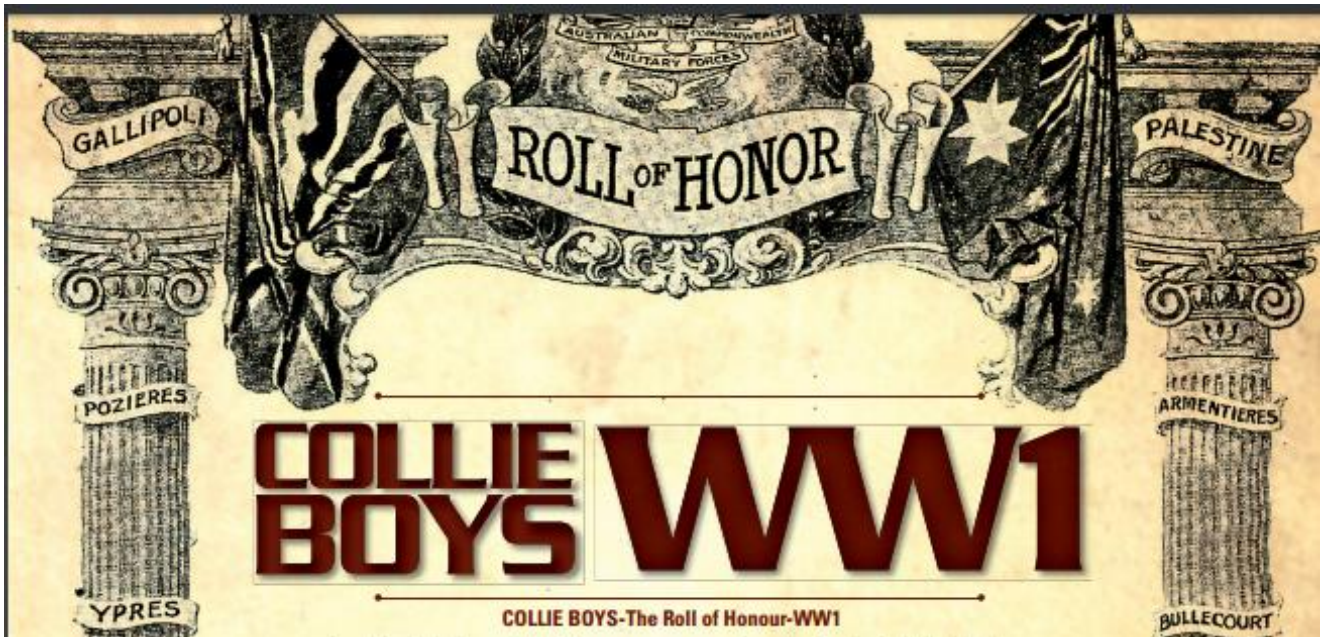
Base Records contacted Mrs C. Symes, Police Station, Yalgoo, Western Australia on 24th May, 1921 as she was the listed next-of-kin – sister of the late Private James Pritchard. Base Records were enquiring if there were any nearer blood relatives than herself due to the "Deceased Soldiers Estates Act 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. Mrs Symes, Police Station, Sandstone, Western Australia, was sent another letter on 24th November, 1922 with the same request & she was advised that the matter would be held open for 30 days & if no reply was received the mementoes would be placed on the untraceables list.

Another letter was sent to Mrs Symes, Police Station, Yalgoo, Western Australia on 15th August, 1930 with the same request – whether the parents of the late Pte J. Pritchard were alive & if so their present address. If they were not alive, the name & address of the eldest blood relative was required so that the war medals etc could be forwarded.

Pte James Pritchard 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 Pritchard's closest next-of-kin. Usually a stamp for the Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque are stamped on the last page of the Service Record with a name & date they were sent recorded. In Pte J. Pritchard's case - the Plaque has the word "Pending" noted & there is no record of the Scroll. There are also no signed slips indicating receipt of the mementoes – British War Medal, Scroll & Plaque.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private James Pritchard – service number 6869, aged 18, of 28th Battalion Australian Infantry, A.I.F. He was the son of James Rhys Pritchard and Gwen Pritchard. Born in Wales.

James Rhys Pritchard is remembered as one of the “Collie Boy Soldiers of WW1” who were under the age of 20 years when they enlisted for service in the Great War. James Rhys Pritchard is also remembered on the WW1 Roll of Honour for Collie, Western Australia which lists the soldiers from Collie & surround districts who died whilst on Active Service during WW1.



*The Collie Mail* – Special Edition – Thursday April 23, 2015

2143, Pte, 28th Bn, Frank DUDLEY (Snr).  
 890, Pte, 11th Bn, Robert (George) EDWARDS.  
 4423, L/Cpl, 28th Bn, John Arthur FALLON.  
 3106, Pte, 48th Bn, Osborne FISHER.  
 4272, Pte, 48th Bn, Walter Stanley FISHER.  
 2884, Cpl, 48th Bn, George FLINT.  
 2381, Pte, 28th Bn, Arthur FORTH.  
 2152, Pte, 28th Bn, Leonard Norman FOSTER.  
 1451, Pte, 11th Bn, Henry Pierce FRENZEN.  
 540, Sgt, 11th Bn, George William GANE.  
 5099, Pte, 11th Bn, Francis GHILLOTT.  
 4433, Pte, 28th Bn, Herbert GIBBS.  
 3384, Pte, 51st Bn, Julius Thomas GIBBS.  
 5843, Pte, 27th Bn, Walter GLENISTER.  
 3381A, Pte, 28th Bn, Walter Charles GRIST.  
 5113, L/Cpl, 48th Bn, Andrew Clarkson HAMILL.  
 5107, Pte, 11th Bn, Lorens Hilmar HANSEN.  
 5106, Pte, 11th Bn, William Niels HANSEN.  
 6776, Pte, 32nd Bn, William George HENDRY.  
 4749, Pte, 28th Bn, Albert HERRINGTON.  
 3821, Pte, 4th Pioneer Bn, William Frederick HOINVILLE.  
 555, Pte, 11th Bn, Joseph HORROCKS.  
 296, Pte, 28th Bn, Edwin James HORROCKS.  
 2nd Lt, 16th Bn, George HOUGH.  
 1581, Pte, Aust Trench Mortar Battery, Robert Clarence HOUSTON.  
 3673, Sgt, 28th Bn, Athol Wilfred HOWARD.  
 1541, Pte, 16th Bn, Alfred Thomas HUGHES.  
 2668, Pte, 32nd Bn, Thomas HUGHES.  
 2667, Pte, 32nd Bn, David HUNTER.  
 3109A, Pte, 5th Pioneer Bn, Herbert Alfred HUNTER.  
 712, Sgt, 16th Bn, Andrew INGLIS.  
 2308, Gnr, 12th Bde, Aust Field Artillery, David JONES.  
 7008, Pte, 4th Bn, David Henry JONES.  
 2902, L/Cpl, 16th Bn, William JONES.  
 2813, Spr, Aust Railway Ops, Percival James KELLY.  
 449, Pte, 11th Bn, William George Barras KENNING.  
 1307, CSM, 16th Bn, Eugene Charles Arthur OZANNE.  
 1937, Cpl, 44th Bn, Christopher Ryder PALMER.  
 7061, Pte, 16th Bn, Charles James PATTERSON.  
 6372, Pte, 50th Bn, Mitchel PITCHER.  
 7571, Pte, 11th Bn, Clarence POND.  
 6869, Pte, 28th Bn, James Rhys PRITCHARD.  
 2204, L/Cpl, 28th Bn, Clarence Frederick Henry QUARRELL.  
 2381, Pte, 43rd Bn, Alexander Pearson (Percy) QUARRELL.  
 2078, Pte, 16th Bn, Joshua RADWAY.  
 5177, Pte, 16th Bn, Leonard Maurice READ.  
 82, Tpr, 10th Light Horse Regt, George Wallace RICHARDSON.  
 2738, Pte, 48th Bn, James Cooper ROBB.  
 2491, Pte, 11th Bn, John ROGERS.  
 5466, Pte, 11th Bn, William Henry RYLE.  
 4118, L/Cpl, 32nd Bn, Benjamin SAMSON.  
 3548, Pte, 16th Bn, David SAMSON.  
 3217, Pte, 48th Bn, David SHANKS.  
 15054, Gnr, 13th Aust Field Artillery, Walter George SHEPHARD.  
 3130, Pte, 44th Bn, Robert Alfred SMITH.  
 5207, Pte, 11th Bn, Edward STUART-SINCLAIR.  
 Lt, 28th Bn, John Francis STUART-SINCLAIR.  
 3778, Bdc, 3rd Bde Aust Field Artillery, Stanley STUART-SINCLAIR.  
 1772, Tpr, 10th Light Horse Regiment, Patrick Francis SULLAVIN.  
 2833, L/Cpl, 51st Bn, Frederick Walter TAYLOR.  
 2836, Pte, 48th Bn, James Lewis THOMAS.  
 604, Pte, 11th Bn & 1st Pioneer Bn, Evan THOMPSON (Jnr).  
 2537, Pte, 16th Bn, John WALKER.  
 8037, Pte, 16th Bn, John Leonard WATSON.  
 308, Pte, 16th Bn, Francis Russell WEBB.  
 7069, Pte, 11th Bn, Frank WESTON.  
 2042, Pte, 3rd M.G. Coy, Richard Leslie WHITE.  
 181, Pte, 28th Bn, William WHITEAKER.  
 3498, Pte, 51st Bn, William John WILLIAMS.  
 5215, Pte, 51st Bn, John Robert WILLIAMS.  
 4254, Pte, 12th Bn, William Harry WING.

*Lest We Forget*

This Roll of Honour indicates soldiers from Collie & Surrounding Districts who died whilst on Active Service during WW1.

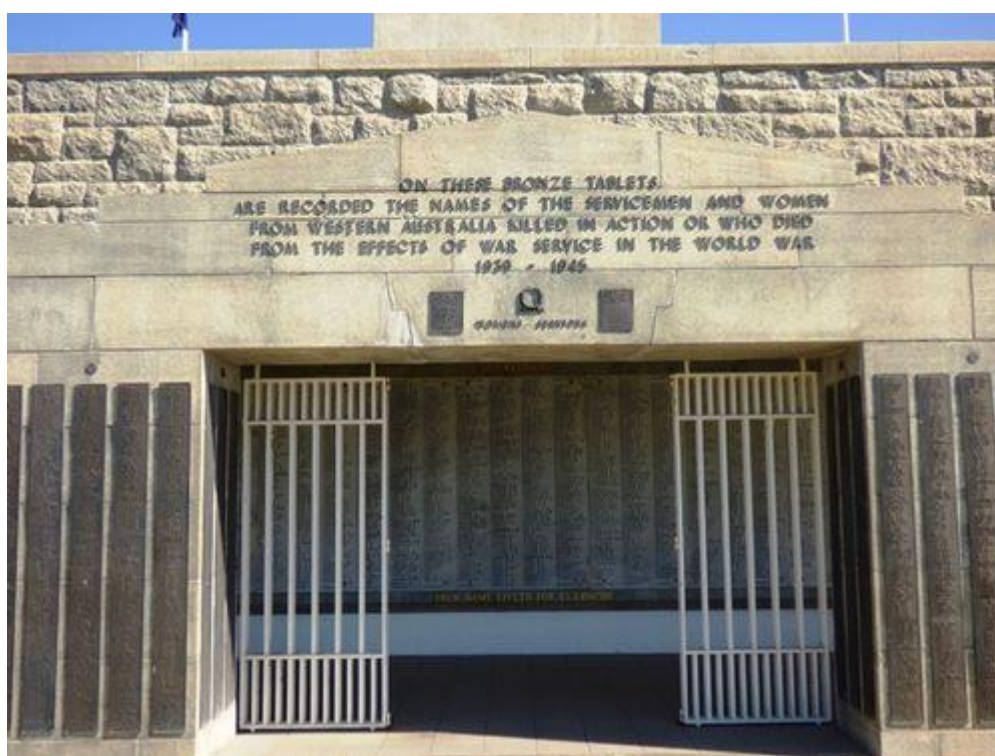
J. Pritchard is remembered on the Western Australia State War Memorial Cenotaph which is located at the top of Kings Park and Botanic Garden escarpment, ANZAC Bluff. Fraser Avenue, Perth, Western Australia. The memorial was developed around an 18 metre tall obelisk as the principal feature, which is almost a replica of the Australian Imperial Force Memorials erected in France and Belgium.

The heavy concrete foundations are supplemented by heavy brick walls which enclose an inner chamber or crypt. The walls surrounding the crypt are covered with The Roll of Honour; marble tablets which list under their units the names of more than 7,000 members of the services killed in action or as a result of World War One.



**Western Australia State War Memorial Cenotaph, Kings Park (above)  
& (below) The Crypt with the Roll of Honour names**

*(Photos from Monument Australia – Kent Watson/Sandra Tattersall/Graeme Saunders)*





The Crypt below State War Memorial Cenotaph, Kings Park – 28th Battalion

(Photo courtesy of Gordon Stuart)

Private J. Pritchard is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 114.



Roll of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(62 pages of Pte James Pritchard'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*



### Connected to Private James Rhys Pritchard:

His father - Sapper James Rhys Pritchard (Snr) – Service No. 5400, Mining Corps, 3rd Tunnelling Company. Enlisted 25th April, 1916 at Blackboy Hill, Western Australia. Returned to Australia on 21st July, 1917– medically discharged on 25th October, 1917.



## **Newspaper Notices**

### **THE ROLL OF HONOUR**

Died of Illness – J. Pritchard (Collie)

*(Sunday Times, Perth, Western Australia – 21 April, 1918)*

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### **IN MEMORIAM**

#### **Anzac Heroes**

PRITCHARD – In loving memory of our dear brother, Private James Pritchard, who died of pneumonia in England, on April 2, 1918.

Though lost to sight to memory ever dear

Inserted by Gladys and Annie

*(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 2 April, 1919)*

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### 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)*

A letter from Base Records, dated 28th July, 1921, to Mrs C. Symes, Police Station, Yalgoo, Western Australia advised that a letter from the Defence Dept. concerning an inscription on the headstone of her brother, the late Pte J. Pritchard, 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 J. Pritchard does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

*Diogel Y'm Mreichiau'r Iesu*

## Trealaw Cemetery, Rhondda, Glamorganshire, Wales

Rhondda, formerly known as Ystradyfodwg, is seven miles north-west of Pontypridd, where the river Rhondda, flowing through the Rhondda Valley, meets the river Taff. It was a coal-mining district in a heavily industrialised area, and during the early part of the 1939-1945 War was heavily raided by enemy aircraft.

Trealaw Cemetery, belonging to the Rhondda Urban District Council, is on the road from Porth to Treherbert. This cemetery was opened in 1881 and contains war graves of both world wars. The burials of the 1914-1918 War are scattered in various parts of this large cemetery, and shortly after the First World War a Cross of Sacrifice was erected at the cemetery entrance. The service men and women who died during the 1939-1945 War and were buried here also lie scattered throughout the cemetery.

There are now 71 World War 1 Graves and 87 World War 2 graves commemorated in this site.



**Cross of Sacrifice – Trealaw Cemetery**

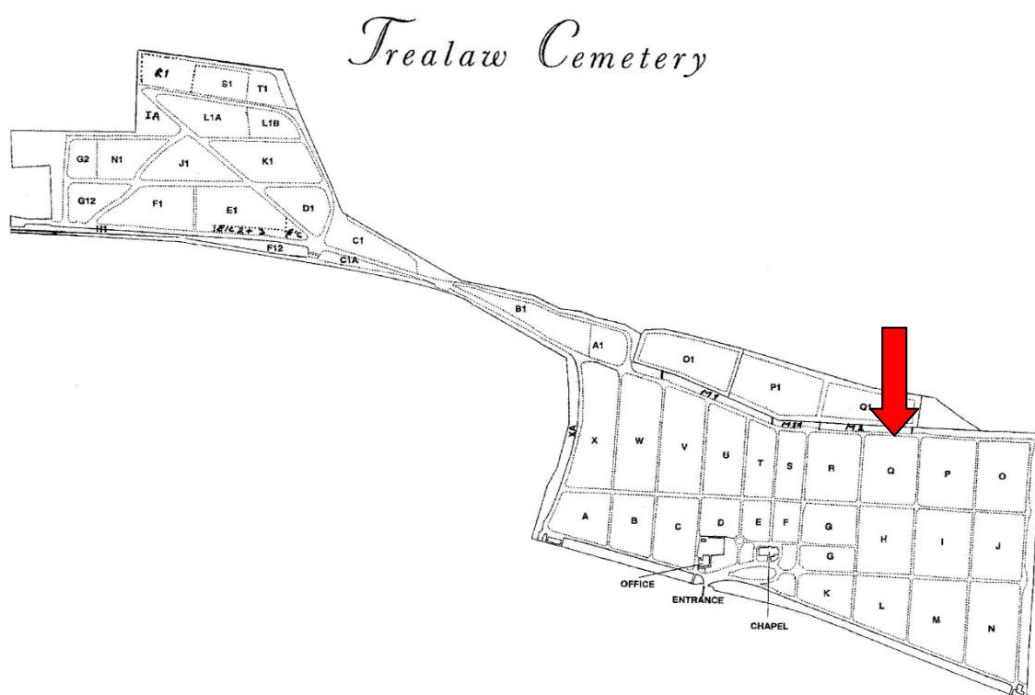




Photo of Pte J. Pritchard's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Trealaw Cemetery, Rhondda, Glamorganshire, Wales.



*(Photos courtesy of Shane Rees)*

