

**All Souls Cemetery,
Kensal Green, London, England
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



C. C. STONE

AUSTRALIAN MUNITION WORKER

10TH FEBRUARY, 1919

Claude Charles STONE

Claude Charles Stone was born in 1897 at Brighton, Victoria to parents Alfred Robert & Ada Louise Stone (nee Weber).

The Victorian Petty Sessions Registers for 1913 record the Prosecutor John Gordon Theo Hanty, Area Officer, against the Accused Claude Charles Stone who was summonsed on 24th October, 1913. The charge being "Defendant on the 20th day of September 1913 at Brighton being a person liable to training under Part XII of the Defence Act 1903-1912, did fail without lawful excuse to attend a compulsory drill contrary to the said Act." The decision resulted in being "Struck out."

Claude Charles Stone was an 18 year old, single, Driver from Brighton, Victoria when he enlisted at Broadmeadows, Victoria on 12th June, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Methodist & his next of kin was listed as his father – Mr Alfred R. Stone, of "Brooklyn" Hawthorn Road, Brighton, Victoria.

A Medical Report was completed on Private Claude Charles Stone on 24th September, 1915 at Broadmeadows. His disability was recorded as "pain in ball of both big toes" which had originated 3 weeks ago. The Cause was described as "relaxation of ligaments. Man in young & overgrown for his years." Pte Stone stated that his disability was aggravated by marching. The Medical Board decided that the disability was not permanent & 1 month rest was suggested as minimum duration. The Medical Board did not concur on their opinion & were of the "opinion that marching will be injurious to this man's foot. Recommend that he be put upon some duty where long marches are not required."

Private Claude Charles Stone was discharged from Australian Imperial Force at Broadmeadows on 7th October, 1915.

Claude Charles Stone enlisted as an Australian Munitions Worker. His Worker number was 2605.

*** Note – The Service Record file for Claude Charles Stone, Australian Munition Worker No. 2605, had not been purchased at the time of researching from National Archives, Australia. Once the file is purchased it is then open for all to view on-line.*

Australian Munition Worker Claude Charles Stone died on 10th February, 1919 at Cricklewood, London, England from Pneumonia.

A death for Claude C. Stone, aged 20, was registered in the March quarter, 1919 in the district of Hendon, Middlesex, England.

Australian Munition Worker Claude Charles Stone was buried in All Souls Cemetery, Kensal Green, London, England, – Plot details 198. 18 46923 (Screen Wall). A screen wall in the First World War plot (Sect. 213) records the names of casualties of both wars whose graves could not be individually marked. Also recorded on the wall are the names of five servicemen whose remains were cremated in Kensal Green Crematorium.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists C. C. Stone – service number 2605, Australian Munition Worker. No family details are listed.

Australian Munitions Worker Claude Charles Stone 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 Area of the Australian War Memorial (*Capital Photographer*)

C. Stone is remembered in the Brighton Roll of Honour, located in Brighton Town Hall, Carpenter & Wilson Streets, Brighton, Victoria.



Brighton Roll of Honour (*Photos from Monument Australia – Chris McLaughlin*)



C. Stone is remembered in the Brighton State School Honour Roll, located in Brighton Primary School, Wilson Street, Brighton Victoria.



Brighton State School Honour Roll (Photos from Monument Australia – Chris McLaughlin)



Australian Munitions Workers

Men enlisted under a joint Australian Commonwealth - Imperial Government scheme for providing skilled Australian workers to British war industries during the First World War. Under this scheme the volunteers would receive free passage to Great Britain, an allowance for travel time, a special allowance for the duration of service, and eventual repatriation to Australia. Married men also received a separation allowance, but were required to allot a portion of all their earnings to dependants. The men were expected to work in whatever industries they were directed to by the British Board of Trade, and under the prevailing conditions and wages for the duration of hostilities.

Government newspaper adverts appeared in August, 1916, and the first party of 76 workers departed Australia in September. Groups continued to be recruited and sent at intervals, with the eventual number of workers under the scheme totalling just over 5,000. Almost 1,000 of these had already been working in Britain under private agreements with large firms such as Vickers, and were brought under the conditions of the scheme. An additional 200 former AIF soldiers were also recruited in Britain. Initially only skilled workers were sought, however at the request of the British Government later groups included large numbers of navvies for general labouring.

These men were not members of the Australian Imperial Forces and did not serve in combat units, but were recruited to meet the shortfall in skilled labour that threatened many of Britain's key wartime industries including munitions. *(Source: Australian War Memorial)*



(19 pages of Private Claude Charles Stone's Australian Imperial Force Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).



Newspaper Notices

The newspapers at the time were encouraged not to report munition explosions or deaths through TNT poisoning as it would affect the morale of the civilian population and so reports in newspapers are virtually non existant. When the war ended the Australians returned home and life moved on.

MUNITION WORKERS

AUSTRALIANS IN GREAT BRITAIN

Melbourne, Thursday.

The Minister for Defence (Senator Pearce) announces that during the period from the inception of the schemes for the despatch of munition workers and navvies to Great Britain up to June 30 last, 2662 munition workers had been disembarked in England for employment on munition and war work. There had also been enrolled under the munition workers' scheme 124 men who had been discharged from the A.I.F. in England for that purpose, and two discharged

A.I.F. men had enrolled under the navvies' agreement, making the total number of men engaged in work in Great Britain under both these schemes 4,998. Of this number 384 men had returned to Australia – the majority on account of ill-health. There had been 23 deaths. The agreement of 38 men had been cancelled for disciplinary and other reasons. Six of the men had enlisted in the A.I.F., in England, five men had enlisted in the Royal Navy, and nine men had enlisted in the British Army, leaving the total number of men still in England under the Commonwealth agreement as 4,533. In addition these men were registered on the index held in Australia House 674 Australian munition workers who proceeded to Great Britain under private contract prior to the inauguration of the Commonwealth scheme. Of the men still in England on June 30, 1918, 87 were waiting return up to that date, 152 men had proceeded to France to engage in special work, and 107 of them had returned again to England. Australian munition workers were employed at 409 different firms or centres, and navvies at 192, and the value of the output produced by the labour of these men was estimated at £6,000,000.

Provision for the payment of munition workers and navvies who proceeded to Great Britain on war work under the agreement with the Commonwealth Government is made in an amendment to the war financial regulations issued today. Munition workers and navvies are to be provided with a free passage from Australia to Great Britain and back. In the case of munition workers a dependants' allowance of 25s a week, with allowances for children, will be made for the first eight weeks after embarkation. Subsequently the allowance will be 20s. Separation allowances equal to that paid in the case of a private in the A.I.F. will be paid to dependants.

(Examiner, Launceston, Tasmania – 30 August, 1918)

FIGHT OR WORK

Brighton's Answer

A very pleasant social evening was spent on Saturday at the residence of Cr. and Mrs R. Cheeseman, Hawthorn road, the occasion being a send-off, tendered by Miss Vera and Mr Holly Cheeseman to four young men of the district, on the occasion of their enlistment. The guests of the evening were Messrs. Claude Stone, William Harris, Bert. Cheeseman, William Fitch. A large party included a number of their local young friends.

(Brighton Southern Cross, Victoria – 24 July, 1915)

RALLY TO THE FLAG

Though only a small Sunday school, Hawthorn-road (Mill-st.) North Brighton has given freely of its young men. Ted Field is now in France and on July 26th the church and Sunday school gave a social evening to seven young soldiers who had enlisted – Sergt. Lock Fitch (secretary of choir and asst. secretary of Sunday school), Will Fitch, Claud Stone, Will Thomas, Walter Harris, Corp Dave Brigden, Os. Jennings. There were each presented with a nicely bound Testament – Psalms – by Mr John Webb. In addition, wristlet watches were presented to Lock Fitch, on behalf of the choir and Sunday school, and to W. Fitch, C. Stone, W. Thomas, W. Harris as scholars of the school.....

(Spectator and Methodist Chronicle, Melbourne, Victoria – 3 September, 1915)

TOWN TALK

At the St. Kilda Court on Tuesday, before the Mayor (Cr. J. J. Love) and Messrs Rowan, Smithwick and Hartley, J's. P., Henry B. Turnbull was fined 40s., for driving his motor car at 27 miles an hour in High street. Frank Buchanan had to pay 10s. for riding a bike on the footpath, and similar penalties were imposed on Leslie Pearson and Claude C. Stone for having no rear lights on their motor cycles.

(The Prahran Telegraph, Victoria – 11 December, 1915)

GENERAL NEWS

KILLED BY A BREAD CART

While walking across the intersection of St. Kilda and Meek Streets, Brighton, on November 6, William Walker, 74 Elwood Street, Brighton, was knocked down and killed by a bolting horse attached to a baker's cart. At the inquest, Vincent William Wigget, breadcarter, Mackinnon Road, Bentleigh, stated that he left his horse and cart in Hammell Street while he went to serve a customer. Coming back he saw that the horse and cart had gone. Subsequently he found the horse going along Elwood Street and he then stopped it. He was then told of the accident. Before leaving the vehicle he fastened the right front wheel. Claude Charles Stone, driver, Hawthorn Road, Brighton, stated that he saw the horse cantering and dragging the cart with it. One of the wheels was fastened. As the old man was crossing the intersection the cart seemed to swerve, and the shaft struck him. As Walker fell the step also seemed to strike him. A verdict of death by misadventure was returned.

(Donald Times, Victoria – 17 November, 1916)

DIED ON SERVICE

STONE – On the 10th February, of pneumonia, in London, Claude Charles, No. 2605, munition worker, beloved younger son of Alfred R. and Ada Stone, of "Brooklyn," Hawthorn road, Brighton, loving brother of Nellie, Ivy, Clarice, Dulcie, Frank (O.A.S.), aged 21 years.

STONE – A tribute of love for our friend, Claude Stone, No. 2605, munition worker, who died of pneumonia at Cricklewood, London, February 10, aged 21 years 3 months. (M. and K. Jeffery, Brighton).

(The Argus, Melbourne, Victoria – 20 February, 1919)

DEATHS

On Active Service

STONE – On the 10th February, of pneumonia, in London, Claude Charles, No. 2605, munition worker, beloved younger son of Alfred R. and Ada Stone, of "Brooklyn," Hawthorn road, Brighton, loving brother of Nellie, Ivy, Clarice, Dulcie, Frank (O.A.S.), aged 21 years.

(The Age, Melbourne, Victoria – 20 February, 1919)

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) honours the 1,700,000 men and women of the forces of the Commonwealth who died in the two world wars and ensures that their memory is never forgotten. The applicable periods of consideration are 4 August 1914 to 31 August 1921 for the First World War and 3 September 1939 to 31 December 1947 for the Second World War.

The Commission's principles:

- Each of the dead should be commemorated by name on the headstone or memorial
- Headstones and memorials should be permanent
- Headstones should be uniform
- There should be no distinction made on account of military or civil rank, race or creed

During both WW1 (& WW2) a number of Commonwealth civilian organisations were accepted by the military as qualifying for war grave status.

Members of the Recognised Civilian Organisations had to meet two additional criteria not required by military casualties.

1. Their death had to be caused by war actions or the increased threat caused by war and
2. They had to be on duty at the time of their death - being posted overseas counted as 'being on duty'.

The Australian government deemed that their War and Munitions Workers (men and women) qualified for war grave treatment as they were recruited as a body and were posted overseas for the war effort. Some of their CWGC entries show a 'service number' indicating that they were an organised body. All but one of these casualties are buried in the UK - the other being in France.

All Souls Cemetery, Kensal Green, London, England

All Souls Cemetery, Kensal Green contains burials of both wars - 538. Half of the 482 First World War graves form a plot in the south-west section of the cemetery, the rest form small groups or are scattered throughout the cemetery. All of the 5s Second World War graves are scattered. There are also 2 non war burials here. A screen wall in the First World War plot (Sect. 213) records the names of casualties of both wars whose graves could not be individually marked. Also recorded on the wall are the names of five servicemen whose remains were cremated in Kensal Green Crematorium.

(Information from CWGC)



All Souls Cemetery, Kensal Green *(Photo by Rodney Burton)*

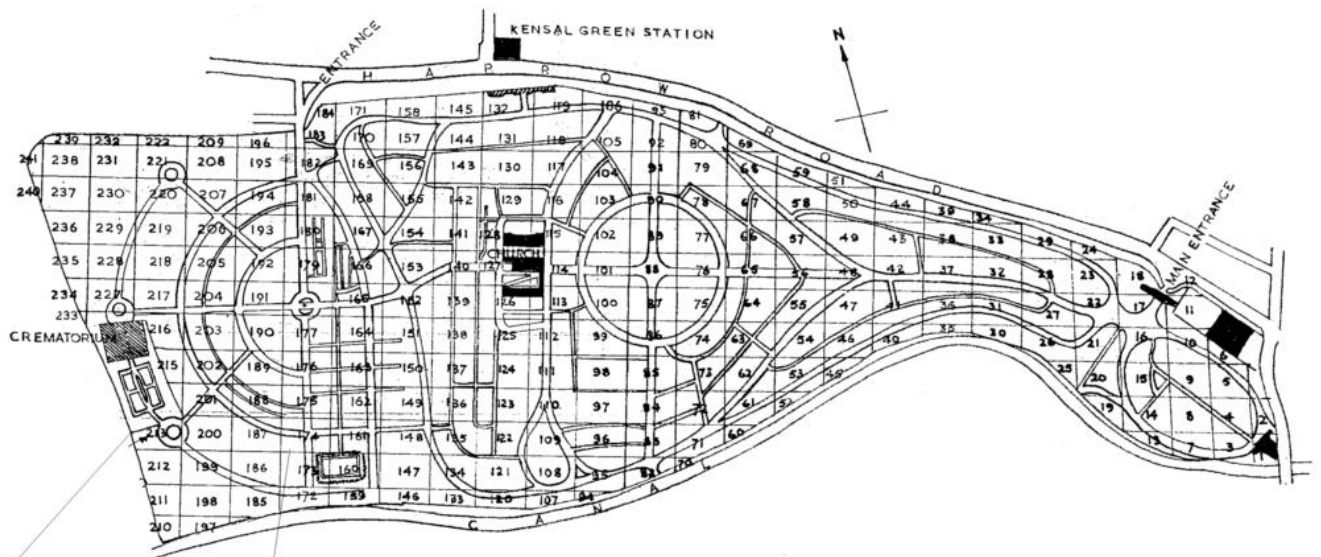
Photo of Australian Munition Worker – C. C. Stone's name on Screen Wall in All Souls Cemetery, Kensal Green, London, England.



Cross of Sacrifice surrounded by Screen Wall - All Souls Cemetery, Kensal Green (Photo by Chris Doran)



All Souls Cemetery, Kensal Green (Photo courtesy of François Greeff)



Sect. 213 : Main U.K. and N.Z. Plot.
 Sect. 173 and 174 : Main Dominion Plot