

**Hatfield Road Cemetery,
St. Albans, Hertfordshire, England**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



7357 PRIVATE

J. A. STRICKLAND

51ST BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

2ND OCTOBER, 1918 Age 35

James Alexander STRICKLAND

James Alexander Strickland was born on 20th May, 1884 at South Yarra, Melbourne, Victoria to parents Reverend Frederick Philip & Ann Alexander Strickland (nee Barry).

The 1910 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Swan, subdivision of Nelson, Western Australia recorded James Alexander Strickland, Bank Clerk, from Greenbushes.

The 1912 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Coolgardie, subdivision of Gascoyne, Western Australia recorded James Alexander Strickland, Clerk, from Carnarvon.

James Alexander Strickland married Constance Beatrice Hickson 16th July, 1913 at St. Barnabas Church, Greenbushes, Blackwood, Western Australia. A birth for Phillip Kitchener Alexander Strickland was registered in 1914 at Katanning, Western Australia.

The 1915, 1916 & 1917 Australian Electoral Rolls for the division of Swan, subdivision of Katanning, Western Australia recorded James Alexander Strickland, Bank Officer, of Katanning. His wife – Constance Beatrice Strickland, housewife, was listed at Clyde Street, Katanning.

James Alexander Strickland was a 33 year old, married, Accountant (listed by his wife on the Roll of Honour information as Banker with West Australian Bank) from Katanning, Western Australia when he enlisted on 18th April, 1917 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Church of England & his next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs C. B. Strickland, of Union Bank, Perth, Western Australia.

Private James Alexander Strickland was posted to D 3 Depot on 1st August, 1917 for recruit training. He was transferred to 22 Depot on 1st October, 1917 then transferred to D 3 Depot on 30th November, 1917. Private Strickland was transferred to 22nd Reinforcements of 28th Battalion on 12th February, 1918.

Private James Alexander Strickland, Service number 7357, embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia on SS *Ormonde* on 13th March, 1918 with the 28th Infantry Battalion, 22nd Reinforcements & was appointed Acting Lance Corporal on *Ormonde* on 13th March, 1918. He disembarked at Suez on 4th April, 1918.

28th Battalion

The 28th Battalion was raised at Blackboy Camp in Western Australia on 16 April 1915 from recruits previously earmarked for the 24th Battalion, which was instead being raised in Victoria.....

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Acting Lance Corporal James Alexander Strickland was taken on strength at Australian Camp at Suez on 4th April, 1918. He was evacuated to Government Hospital at Suez on 9th April, 1918 & was admitted the same day with Measles. Acting Lance Corporal Strickland was discharged to duty to Australian Camp at Suez on 30th April, 1918.

Acting Lance Corporal James Alexander Strickland embarked from Alexandria on H.M.T. *Manitou* on 3rd May, 1918 & disembarked at Marseilles, France on 11th May, 1918.

Acting Lance Corporal James Alexander Strickland disembarked at Southampton, England on 15th May, 1918 & was marched in to 5th Training Battalion at Fovant, Wiltshire, England the same day. He reverted to the rank of Private on 15th May, 1918.

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 Alexander Strickland was transferred to 51st Battalion Details (12th Training Battalion) at Codford, Wiltshire on 4th June, 1918 from 28th Battalion (5th Training Battalion).

Private James Alexander Strickland was appointed Acting Corporal on 12th June, 1918 while posted with 12th Training Battalion. He was On Command at Gas School at Chiseldon from 17th June, 1918.

Acting Corporal James Alexander Strickland proceeded overseas to France via Folkestone on 15th August, 1918 from 12th Training Battalion at Codford. He reverted to the rank of Private on proceeding overseas. Private Strickland was marched in to A.I.B.D. (Australian Infantry Base Depot) at Havre, France on 17th August, 1918. He was marched out from A.I.B.D. on 18th August, 1918 to join his Unit & was taken on strength of 51st Battalion in the Field on 20th August, 1918.

Private James Alexander Strickland was wounded in action on 13th September, 1918. He was admitted to 4th Australian Field Ambulance with bullet wound/s to Leg & Thigh. Private Strickland was transferred to Ambulance Train 22 on 13th September, 1918 & was admitted to 12th General Hospital at Rouen, France on 16th September, 1918. He embarked for England on Hospital Ship Carisbrook Castle on 18th September, 1918.

51st Battalion

The 51st Battalion was raised in Egypt in the first week of March 1916, as part of the "doubling" of the AIF. Approximately half of its recruits were Gallipoli veterans from the 11th Battalion, and the other half, fresh reinforcements from Australia. Reflecting the composition of the 11th, the 51st was predominantly composed of men from Western Australia. The battalion became part of the 13th Brigade of the newly-formed 4th Australian Division.....

With the collapse of Russia in October 1917, a major German offensive on the Western Front was expected in early 1918. This occurred in France in late March and the 4th Division moved to defend positions around Dernancourt on the River Ancre. The 51st Battalion assisted in the repulse of a large German attack on 5 April, launching a critical counter-attack late in the day. The German threat remained until late April, and just after 10pm on 24 April 1918, ANZAC Day eve, the 51st began their advance in the now legendary attack to dislodge the enemy from Villers-Bretonneux.....

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

War Diary – 51st Battalion

POEUILLY 11th September, 1918:

Battalion dispositions as at 8AM attached & marked VII. Fine sunny day. At 2.30 pm Front line Coys (B & C) advanced on to line of old PERONNE-ST. QUENTIN Railway which was gained by both Coys at 5.30 pm. 1 wounded prisoner & 2 M. Guns were captured. Opposition was slight & our casualties light. Patrols out on our front during the night. Particulars of operation & information gained by patrols see Intelligence Summary.

POEUILLY 12th September, 1918:

Copy of Battalion dispositions as at 8 am attached & marked VIII. Fine sunny day. At 2 pm B Coy on Right & C Coy on left advanced to a depth of 600 yds B Coy capturing 8 prisoners. Patrols out on our front during night (for operations & information see Intelligence Summary).

POEUILLY 13th September, 1918:

Battalion disposition at 8 am attached & marked IX. Enemy shelled Battalion area with "Blue Cross" Gas. A fighting Patrol from "A" Coy captured 2 Officer & 42 o/Ranks prisoners & 6 machine Guns (see Intelligence Summary attached) Bn Hqrs moved to position in cutting on old PERONNE -ST QUENTIN Railway 1000 yds N.E. of VERMAN.

(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)

Private James Alexander Strickland was admitted to The County of Middlesex War Hospital, Napsbury, England on 19th September, 1918 with multiple G.S.W. (gunshot wounds) – severe. The Medical Case Sheet for Private J. Strickland recorded "Bomb wound both legs. Bomb 11:9:18 Western Front on Duty." His condition on 1st October, 1918 was reported as "Much swelling of R Leg from groin to below knee, red painful. Patient sleepless." An operation was completed on 2nd October, 1918: "Incisions R Thigh – tissues found to be in a condition of Septic gangrene."

Private James Alexander Strickland died at 8.45 pm on 2nd October, 1918 at The County of Middlesex War Hospital, Napsbury, St. Albans, England from wounds received in action - G.S.W. to both Legs & Septic Gangrene right Thigh.

A death for James A. Strickland, aged 34, was registered in the December quarter, 1918 in the district of St. Albans, Hertfordshire, England.

A Telegram was sent to Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F., London on 3rd October, 1918 from "Warspital Napsbury St Albans" regarding Private James Alexander Strickland: "*Sister Mrs Howe desires funeral of No 7357 Pte STRICKLAND to take place on Monday at 3 pm in St Albans Cemetery AAA Presume this in order and that you will send bearers and firing party as usual AAA*"

Private James Alexander Strickland was buried on 7th October, 1918 in Hatfield Road Cemetery, St. Albans, Hertfordshire, England – Plot number Mil. G. 5 and now has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

From the burial report of Private James Alexander Strickland - *Coffin was good. Polished Elm. The deceased soldier was accorded a Military funeral, Firing Party, Bugler and Pallbearers being in attendance. The coffin was draped with the "Union Jack", and conveyed to the graveside on a Gun-Carriage, supplied by the A.S.C. Many beautiful wreaths were placed on the coffin. The burial service conducted at the graveside by the Rev: Howarth W. Jones, and the "Last Post" was sounded. The Father of deceased was in attendance, and several other relatives. The grave will be turfed, and an oak cross erected by the A.I.F. London. Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F. London were represented at the funeral.*

Names of relatives and friends present at the Funeral – (Sister) Mrs Howe. (Brother-in-law) Flight Cadet Howe, R.A.F. (Father) Mr Strickland.

Private James Alexander Strickland was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Strickland's widow – Mrs C. B. Strickland, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent July, 1921 & Plaque sent November, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private James Alexander Strickland – service number 7357, aged 35, of 51st Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of F. P. & A. A. Strickland, of Perth, Western Australia.

Private J. A. Strickland is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 154.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

J. A. Strickland is remembered on the Western Australia Bank First World War Roll of Honour, located in Westpac's Homebush Offices, 6 – 8 Parramatta Road, Homebush, NSW.



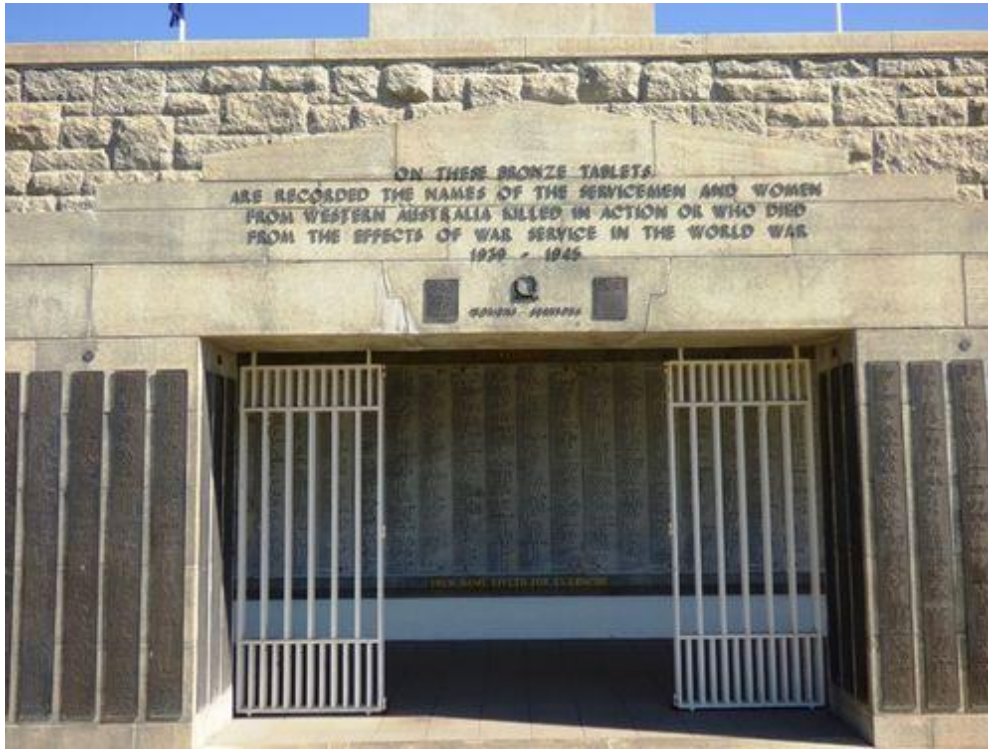
Western Australia Bank First World War Roll of Honour (Photo from War Memorials Register NSW)

J. A. Strickland is remembered on the Western Australia State War Memorial 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



& The Crypt with the Roll of Honour names

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



51st Battalion Panel (Photo courtesy of Gordon Stuart)

J. A. Strickland is remembered with a Memorial Plaque (L 20) on the Kings Park Honour Avenues. At the base of each commemorative tree is a plaque inscribed with details of the deceased: name, age, unit in which they served, nature of death, place of death, and who dedicated the plaque. Honour Avenue memorials commemorate service personnel who are listed at the State War Memorial, Kings Park. These soldiers enlisted in Western Australia, died overseas on active service, and were either buried overseas or have no known graves.



(Photos from Kings Park Botanic Gardens & Parks Authority)

Private James Alexander Strickland is not included on the names on the Katanning War Memorial, Western Australia.



Katanning War Memorial (Photo from AWM Places of Pride)

(62 pages of Private James Alexander Strickland'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

Valedictory

On Saturday evening the residents of Greenbushes tendered Mr. J. A. Strickland (accountant W.A. Bank) a smoke social on the eve of his departure for Perth, he having been transferred to the head office of the Bank. A popular figure closely identified with all classes of sport and practically a champion in every department, needless to say the sporting fraternity attended in large numbers.

The gathering was presided over by Mr. G. A. Bateman, Chairman of the Roads Board, who, after giving the customary toast of the Sovereign proposed the toast of the departing gentleman in felicitous terms. Speaking from a citizens point of view, and as one having frequent transactions with the institution with which Mr Strickland was connected, he viewed with deep regret his removal from the district. Courteous and unassuming in manner, prompt and accurate, obliging and tactful, he gained the esteem of the business community. He trusted wherever his lot was cast his promotion would be rapid and his future happy.

Mr. Walsh, captain of the Tennis Club, supported the toast, and concluded a highly eulogistic speech by presenting the guest with a silver-mounted "Doherty" tennis racquet. Mr. Walsh spoke on behalf of the Central Cricket Club and paid high tribute to Mr. Strickland's sterling qualities as a player and all-round man.

Mr. Wood (Secretary Nelson Football Association) supported the toast evidencing eloquent testimony of the good qualities of the departing gentleman as a footballer and all-round sport. Other speakers were Messrs. Clifford and Keyser. The Central footballers stating that an enlarged photograph of the team, with "something else," would reach him at his Perth address. Mr. Scutt, manager W.A. Bank, spoke feelingly of the loss to his institution and personal regret at his departure.

Songs and recitations by Messrs. T. Nague, H. Watson, A. Harvev, J. Butler, H. G. Keyser, W. A. Brown, and others helped to fill in a most enjoyable evening.

(The Blackwood Times, Greenbushes, Western Australia – 30 August, 1910)

MARRIAGE

STRICKLAND – HICKS – ON July 16, 1913, at ST. Barnabas' Church, Greenbushes, by the Rev J. Williams, James Alexander Strickland, son of Mr and Mrs F. P. Strickland, to Constance Beatrice, youngest daughter of Mrs and the late Clarence Hicks, Fairfield Park, Victoria.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 18 August, 1913)

Mainly About People

"Franziska"

The friends of Private J. A. Strickland, who left here several weeks ago with the 22nd Reinforcements, 28th Battalion, will regret to learn that he now lies in hospital at Suez dangerously ill with pneumonia.

(The Daily News, Perth, Western Australia – 20 April, 1918)

NEWS and NOTES

Private J. A. Strickland – The friends of Private J. A. Strickland, who enlisted from Katanning and left Australia some time ago with the 22nd Reinforcements, 28th Battalion, will regret to learn that he now lies in hospital at Suez dangerously ill with pneumonia.

(Tambellup Times, Western Australia – 24 April, 1918) & (Great Southern Herald, Katanning, Western Aust – 24 April, 1918)

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ROLL OF HONOUR

395th AND 396th CASUALTY LISTS

ILL

J. A. Strickland, Perth (dangerously)

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 6 May, 1918)

WAR CASUALTIES

Mrs J. A. Strickland, of Gosnells, has received word that her husband has been admitted to hospital in England, suffering from severe gunshot wounds.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 8 October, 1918)

KILLED IN ACTION

STRICKLAND – On October 2, 1918, Corporal J. A. Strickland, late of W.A. Bank, Katanning, died of wounds in hospital, London.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 15 October, 1918)

THE ROLL OF HONOR

Died of Wounds - J. A. Strickland (Perth)

(Sunday Times, Perth, Western Australia – 17 November, 1918)

DECEASED PERSONS' ESTATES

PROBATES AND ADMINISTRATIONS

Perth, Feb 13.

Among the probates and letters of administration granted during the week by the Supreme Court were the following:-

Probates -James Alexander Strickland, late of Katanning, to Constance Beatrice Strickland, £702;

(Kalgoorlie Miner, Western Australia – 14 February, 1919)

IN MEMORIAM

Anzac Heroes

STRICKLAND – In proud and loving memory of Private J. A. Strickland, who died on October 2, 1918, at Napsbury War Hospital, St. Albans, England, of wounds received whilst fighting in France.

Inserted by his wife and little son.

STRICKLAND – In loving memory of my late brother, Jim, died of wounds October 2, 1918.

Thy will be done.

Inserted by his loving brother, D. M. Strickland.

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

IN MEMORIAM

Anzac Heroes

STRICKLAND – In ever loving memory of our daddy and husband, James Alexander Strickland, 51st (late 28th) Battalion, who died of wounds, Napsbury War Hospital, England, October 2, 1918.

Inserted by his wife and little son.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 2 October, 1920)

IN MEMORIAM

Anzac Heroes

STRICKLAND – In proud and loving memory of Private J. A. Strickland, who died of wounds, Napsbury War Hospital, St. Albans, England, on October 2, 1918.

Inserted by his wife and little son.

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 3 October, 1921)

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)

Private J. A. Strickland has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone but no inscription.

Hatfield Road Cemetery, St. Albans, Hertfordshire, England

During the First World War, the County of Middlesex War Hospital was established in, what was then called, the Middlesex Mental Hospital at Napsbury, near St. Albans, and from 1914 to March 1915 the city of St. Albans was the Headquarters of the 47th London Division.

The Second World War saw the Hill End Hospital, St. Albans, taken over by the Military authorities, and service war burials were carried out from this hospital.

There are 147 First World War burials in Hatfield Road Cemetery, 93 of them forming a war graves plot. Some of the 79 Second World War graves form a separate plot. The rest of the graves are scattered throughout the cemetery.

(Information from CWGC)



Entrance to Hatfield Road Cemetery, St. Albans *(Photo from Find a Grave - julia&keld)*



Cross of Sacrifice *(Photo from CWGC)*



War Graves in Hatfield Road Cemetery, St. Albans *(Photos from CWGC)*



Photo of Private J. A. Strickland's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Hatfield Road Cemetery, St. Albans, Hertfordshire, England.



(Photo from Find a Grave – Julia&keld)