

**Weymouth Cemetery,
Weymouth, Dorset
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



3382 PRIVATE

J. SUTHERS

42ND BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

6TH NOVEMBER, 1917 Age 44

Deeply Mourned

By His Loving Wife

And Family

John SUTHERS

John Suthers was born at Ipswich, Queensland on 21st December, 1872 to parents Martin and Mary Suthers (nee Neil).

John Suthers attended North Ipswich State School, Queensland.

John Suthers married Ellen Mathews on 21st June, 1895 in Queensland.

Births were registered for the following children of John & Ellen Suthers (nee Mathews):

Martin Henry Suthers – 1896; Hilda May Suthers – 1897; John Suthers – 1898 & death 1898; Ellen Suthers – 1899; Mary Suthers – 1901.

Martin Suthers, father of John Suthers died on 15 Oct 1901 at North Ipswich, Queensland.

The 1903 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Moreton, subdivision of Tivoli, Queensland listed John Suthers, Labourer & his wife – Ellen Suthers of Tivoli.

A birth was registered for John Suthers in 1903, son of John & Ellen Suthers (nee Mathews).

The 1905 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Moreton, subdivision of Ipswich, Queensland listed John Suthers, Machinist & his wife – Ellen Suthers of Lennon Lane.

Births were registered for the following children of John & Ellen Suthers (nee Mathews):

William Suthers – 1905 & death in 1909; Emily Jane Suthers – 1907; Dorothy Lealei Suthers – 1910.

Mary Suthers, mother of John Suthers, died on 24th November, 1910 at Ipswich, Queensland.

The 1912, 1913 & 1916 Australian Electoral Rolls for the division of Moreton, subdivision of Ipswich, Queensland listed John Suthers, Wood Machinist & his wife – Ellen Suthers of Smith Street.

A birth was registered for Albert Suthers in 1917, son of John & Ellen Suthers (nee Mathews).

John Suthers was a 44 year old, married, Wood Machinist from North Ipswich, Queensland when he enlisted on 21st May, 1917 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 3382 & his religion was Methodist. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs Ellen Suthers, Pine Street, North Ipswich, Queensland. John Suthers stated on his Attestation Papers that he had been previously apprenticed to Thomas Hancock, Ipswich for 5 years.

John Suthers was posted as Sapper with the Engineers on 29th May, 1917 for recruit training. Sapper John Suthers was *“transferred with consent from another arm of the services to Infantry as a result of an appeal from Australian Defence Department owing to a shortage of Infantry recruits.”* He was transferred to 8th Reinforcements of 42nd Battalion on 10th June, 1917 & his rank became Private.

Private John Suthers embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Hororata (A20)* on 14th June, 1917 with the 42nd Infantry Battalion, 8th Reinforcements & disembarked at Liverpool, England on 26th 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 John Suthers was marched in the 11th Training Battalion at Larkhill, Wiltshire from Australia on 27th August, 1917.

Private John Suthers was admitted to 1st A. D. H. (Australian Dermatological Hospital), Bulford, Wiltshire on 27th August, 1917 & diagnosed with carcinoma of mucus membrane of left angle of jaw. He was transferred to 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield, Middlesex on 6th September, 1917.

A Medical Report was completed on Private John Suthers on 10th September, 1917 at 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield regarding his disability - carcinoma of mucus membrane of left angle of jaw. Pte Suthers had *“enlisted 21 May, 1917. On the way over from Australia he noticed a little sore on mucous membrane of left angle of*

jaw – reported sick and was treated with Mercury Pills. Was sent to Bullford Hospital last month (August) where diagnosis of Carcinoma was made.” His present condition was listed as “He has considerable pain which prevents him from sleeping at night.” The Medical Board recommended that he be discharged as permanently unfit.

Private Suthers was discharged from 1st Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Harefield on 17th September, 1917 & marched in to No. 2 Command Depot at Weymouth, Dorset, England.

Private John Suthers was admitted to Borough Isolation Hospital, Weymouth, Dorset on 1st November, 1917.

Private John Suthers died at 7.20 pm on 6th November, 1917 at Borough Isolation Hospital, Weymouth, Dorset, England from Cerebral Spinal Meningitis.

A death for John Suthers, aged 46, was registered in the December quarter, 1917 in the district of Weymouth, Dorset, England.

Private John Suthers was buried on 8th November, 1917 in Weymouth Cemetery, Weymouth, Dorset, England – Plot number B. “C”. 2277 and now has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Private John Suthers - *Coffin was Elm with brass fittings. The above soldier was known to me. He received every attention whilst in Hospital and was buried with Military Honours. (sgd) Capt. Chaplain A. H. Mitchell, Monte Video Camp, Weymouth.*

A War Pension was granted to Ellen Suthers widow of the late Private John Suthers, in the sum of £2 per fortnight from 12th January, 1918. Pensions were also granted for the following children of the late Private Suthers from 12th January, 1918 – John Suthers - £1 per fortnight; Emily Jane Suthers - 15/- per fortnight; Dorothy Leila Suthers – 10/- per fortnight; Albert Suthers – 10/- per fortnight.

Private John Suthers requested in his Will, dated 13th August, 1917, that the whole of his property & effects be given to his wife – Ellen Suthers.

Private John Suthers 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 Private Suthers’ widow – Mrs E. Suthers, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent June, 1921 & Plaque sent October, 1922).

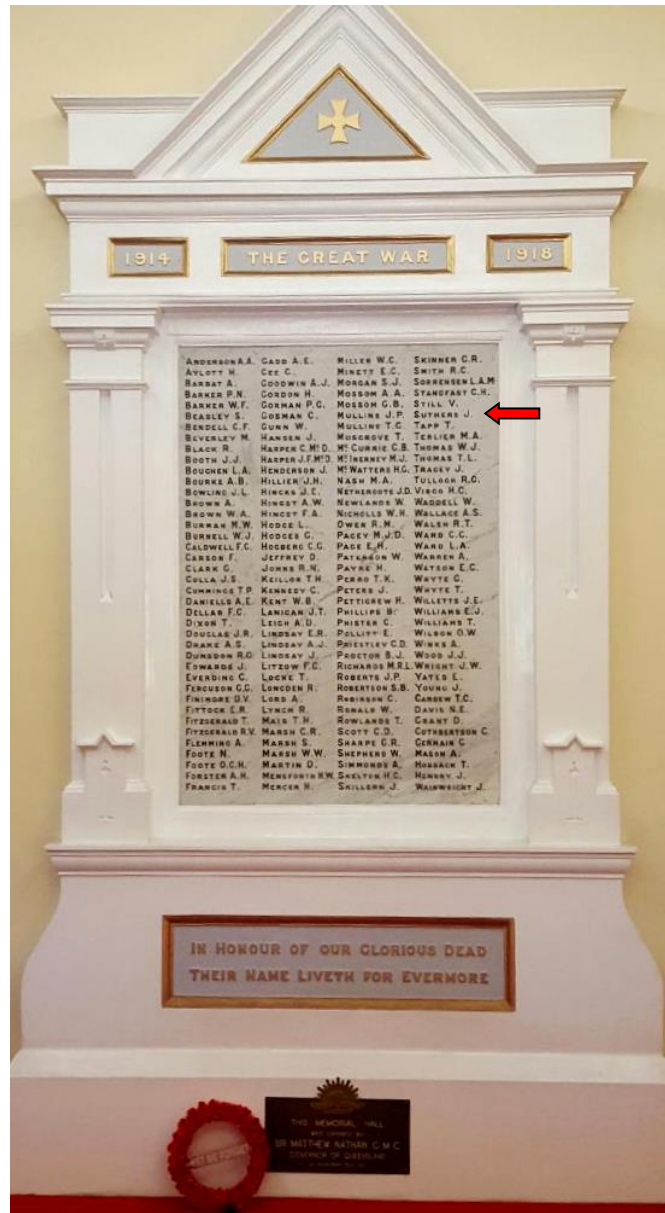
The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private John Suthers – service number 3382, aged 44, of 42nd Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Martin and Mary Suthers; husband of Ellen Suthers, of Foote St., Wilson’s Estate, Booval, Queensland. Born at Ipswich, Queensland.

Private J. Suthers is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 136.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

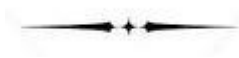
J. Suthers is remembered on the Ipswich Soldiers Memorial Hall Roll of Honour, located on the 2nd Floor, Ipswich Soldiers Memorial Hall, 61 Nicholas Street, Ipswich, Queensland.



Ipswich Soldiers Memorial Hall Roll of Honour (Photo from Qld War Memorials - Daniel W. Bowley)

(58 pages of Private John Suthers' 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



Newspaper Notices

PERSONAL NOTES

Mrs Ellen Suthers, of Bank-street, North Ipswich, was notified yesterday that her husband, Private John Suthers, had died on November 6 from cerebro-spinal meningitis.

(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland – 15 November, 1917) & (The Queenslander, Brisbane, Queensland – 24 November, 1917)

ROLL OF HONOUR

CASUALTY LISTS 371 and 372

DIED OF ILLNESS

Private John Suthers, North Ipswich

(The Northern Miner, Charters Towers, Queensland – 19 December, 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)

Private J. Suthers does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Deeply Mourned

By His Loving Wife

And Family

Weymouth Cemetery, Weymouth, Dorset, England

Weymouth Cemetery contains 78 Commonwealth War Graves – 63 from World War 1 & 15 from World War 2.



Weymouth Cemetery, Weymouth (Photos courtesy of Carol Pollard)



Photo of Private J. Suthers' Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Weymouth Cemetery, Weymouth, Dorset, England.



(Photos courtesy of Carol Pollard)

