

**Warrington Cemetery,
Warrington, Cheshire, England
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



1425 PRIVATE

J. A. VINCENT

11TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

2ND NOVEMBER, 1918 Age 36

His Duty Done

James Ambrose VINCENT

James Ambrose Vincent was born at Paddington, London, England on 7th October, 1883 to parents Charles Dennis & Charlotte Catherine Vincent (nee Taylor). His birth was registered in the December quarter, 1883 in the district of Hendon, Middlesex. James Ambrose Vincent was baptised on 31st October, 1883 at St. Augustine's Church, Kilburn, Middlesex, England. The family lived at 10 Cambridge Place & James' father was listed as a Bricklayer in the Baptism Records.

The 1891 England Census recorded James Vincent as an 8 year old Scholar, living with his family at 49 Treverton Street, Kensington Town, London, England. His parents were listed as Dennis Vincent (Bricklayer, aged 51, born Cambridge) & Charlotte Vincent (aged 45, born Brixton, Surrey). James was one of six children listed on this Census (all born Kilburn, London) – Esther Vincent (aged 14), George Vincent (Labourer, aged 16), Percy Vincent (Scholar, aged 10), then James, Kate (Scholar, aged 6) & John Vincent (aged 1).

A death was registered in the March quarter, 1901 for Charles Dennis Vincent, aged 66, father of James Ambrose Vincent. He died 4th March, 1901 in the district of Paddington, London.

According to information supplied by his widow – James Ambrose Vincent served in the Boer War.

The 1911 England Census recorded James Vincent as a 27 year old Railway Porter, living with his widowed mother at 26 Clarendon Street, Paddington, London. James' mother was listed as Charlotte Vincent (aged 66). She had been married for 47 years & had a total of twelve children, two of whom had since died. Also listed was James Vincent, grandson of Charlotte Vincent (Brewer's Bottle Washer, aged 17, born Paddington, London).

The 1914, 1916 & 1917 Australian Electoral Rolls for the division of Swan, subdivision of Forrest, Western Australia recorded James Ambrose Vincent, Groom, of East Mornington.

James Ambrose Vincent was a 32 year old, single, Groom when he enlisted at Black Boy Hill, Western Australia on 12th September, 1914 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Church of England & his next of kin was listed as his brother – John Vincent, of 26 Clarendon Street, Harrow Road, Paddington, London, England. James Ambrose Vincent stated he had previously served with Royal West Kent Regiment for 8 years, 4 years on Reserves.

Private James Ambrose Vincent, Service number 958, was posted to 11th Infantry Battalion on 12th September, 1914 for recruit training. He was reported absent without leave on 29th September, 1914 & fined 19/-. Pte Vincent was again reported absent without leave on 1st October, 1914 & fined £1.

James Ambrose Vincent was a 32 year old, single, Groom when he re-enlisted at Helena Vale, Western Australia on 16th November, 1914 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His religion was Church of England & his next of kin was listed as his brother – John Vincent, of 26 Clarendon Street, Harrow Road, Paddington, London, England. James Ambrose Vincent stated he had previously served with Royal West Kent Regiment for 12 years.

Private James Ambrose Vincent was posted to Depot Company on 16th November, 1914 for recruit training.

Private James Ambrose Vincent, Service number 1425, embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia on HMAT *Itonus* (A50) on 22nd February, 1915 with the 11th Infantry Battalion, 2nd Reinforcements.

Private James Ambrose Vincent was wounded in action at Gallipoli Peninsula (no date recorded). He embarked from Gallipoli Peninsula on 27th April, 1915 on Hospital Ship *Galeka* with gunshot wounds to right knee. He disembarked at Alexandria on 6th May, 1915 & was admitted to 17th General Hospital. Private Vincent was discharged to duty on 27th May, 1915.

Private James Ambrose Vincent was taken on strength at Overseas Base at Mustapha on 27th May, 1915.

Private James Ambrose Vincent was admitted to Reception Hospital at Mustapha on 1st July, 1915 with Dysentery. He was transferred & admitted to Convalescent Camp the same day. Private Vincent was transferred & admitted to 17th General Hospital at Alexandria on 1st July, 1915 with Dysentery (severe). He was admitted to Hospital at

Mustapha on 8th August, 1915 then transferred & admitted to 1st Australian General Hospital at Heliopolis on 13th August, 1915.

A Medical Report was completed on Private James Ambrose Vincent on 24th August, 1915 at the 1st Australian General Hospital. His disability was listed as "*Injury to knee and chronic enteritis*". The disability had originally occurred in May, 1915 at Gallipoli with a "*blow on knee caused by shrapnel, synovitis in hospital 6 weeks while there dysentery developed.*" The shrapnel & infection was caused due to active service. Private Vincent's present condition as recorded as: - "*Lost two stone weight, has some diarrhoea occasionally, slight swelling left knee which swells and gives pain when he walks on it.*" The Medical Board recommended that Private James Ambrose Vincent be discharged as permanently unfit.

Private James Ambrose Vincent embarked from Suez on H.M.T. *Ulysses* on 3rd September, 1915 for the purpose of being invalided home to Australia to be discharged. Private James Ambrose Vincent returned to Australia on 23rd September, 1915.

11th Battalion

The 11th Battalion was among the first infantry units raised for the AIF during the First World War. It was the first battalion recruited in Western Australia, and with the 9th, 10th and 12th Battalions it formed the 3rd Brigade.

The battalion was raised within weeks of the declaration of war in August 1914 and embarked for overseas after just two weeks of preliminary training. It arrived in Egypt to continue its training in early December. The 3rd Brigade was the covering force for the ANZAC landing on 25 April 1915 and so was the first ashore at around 4:30 am. Ten days after the landing, a company from the 11th Battalion mounted the AIF's first raid of the war against Turkish positions at Gaba Tepe. Subsequently, the battalion was heavily involved in defending the front line of the ANZAC beachhead. In August, it made preparatory attacks at the southern end of the ANZAC position before the battle of Lone Pine. The 11th Battalion continued to serve at ANZAC until the evacuation in December.

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private James Ambrose Vincent was admitted to No. 8 Australian General Hospital, Fremantle, Western Australia on 23rd September, 1915 due to an injury to his knee.

A Medical Report was completed on Private James Ambrose Vincent on 23rd December, 1915 at No. 8 Australian General Hospital, Fremantle, Western Australia. The report stated his present condition was :- "*Knee quite well. States he is still 2 stone under normal weight. Any hot drinks causes Diarrhoea 3 motion immediately after rising. Weight (clothed) 8 stone 13 lbs. Normal before enlisting 10 stone 2 lbs.*" The Medical Board recommended further treatment.

James Ambrose Vincent married Rose Laura Fitch in 1916 in the district of Perth, Western Australia.

A Medical Report was completed on Private James Ambrose Vincent on 27th April, 1916 at No. 8 Australian General Hospital, Fremantle, Western Australia. The report stated "*Dysentery. Still has occasional attacks of diarrhoea. Injury to knee, now quite normal. Recommend further treatment. Re-board in six weeks.*"

A Medical Report was completed on Private James Ambrose Vincent on 8th June, 1916 at No. 8 Australian General Hospital, Fremantle, Western Australia. The report stated "*Dysentery. Bowels move now twice daily. Injury to knee from shrapnel. No disability now. General condition good. Recommend return to duty. Fit for active Service.*"

Private James Ambrose Vincent was discharged from No. 8 Australian General Hospital, Fremantle, Western Australia on 27th June, 1916.

Private James Ambrose Vincent returned to duty with the Australian Imperial Force. His service number was 1425 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs Rose Vincent, 94 Stirling Street, Perth, Western Australia.

Private James Ambrose Vincent was posted to 6th Reinforcements of 51st Battalion. He was reported absent from Parade from 7 am on 19th September, 1916 until 10 pm on 21st September, 1916 while posted at Black Boy Hill, Western Australia & as a result forfeited two days' pay. Private Vincent was transferred to 23rd Reinforcements of 11th Battalion on 12th October, 1916. He was transferred to 22nd Depot on 18th December, 1916 then transferred to 24th Reinforcements of 11th Battalion on 30th December, 1916.

Private James Ambrose Vincent embarked from Fremantle, Western Australia on HMAT *Miltiades (A28)* on 29th January, 1917 with the 11th Infantry Battalion, 24th Reinforcements. He was to be Acting Lance Corporal (attached to Military Police for duty) while at Sea from 31st January, 1917 & disembarked at Devonport, England on 27th March, 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.

Acting Lance Corporal James Ambrose Vincent was marched in to 3rd Training Battalion at Durrington, Wiltshire on 28th March, 1917. His rank reverted to that of Private on marching in to 3rd Training Battalion.

Private James Ambrose Vincent was sent to Fargo Military Hospital on 20th April, 1917. He was admitted with a sprained ankle the same day then discharged to duty on 2nd June, 1917. A Certificate by the Medical Officer was completed on 23rd June, 1917 stating that Private Vincent had been admitted to hospital on 20th April, 1917 suffering from "*POTTS Fracture of right foot. The disability is of a serious nature, and in all probability will interfere with his future efficiency as a soldier.*" Private Vincent was marched in to 3rd Training Battalion at Durrington on 2nd June, 1917.

Private James Ambrose Vincent was written up for an Offence at Durrington – Absent without leave from midnight on 15th June, 1917 till 6.30 am on 20th June, 1917. He was awarded 120 hours detention & forfeited 10 days' pay.

Private James Ambrose Vincent was marched out to 2nd Training Battalion at Sutton Veny, Wiltshire on 7th November, 1917 from 3rd Training Battalion at Durrington. (Date as per Service and Casualty Form)

Private James Ambrose Vincent was written up for an Offence at Sutton Veny - Absent without leave from midnight on 6th November, 1917 till apprehended by Military Police at Warminster Railway Station at 8 pm on 14th November, 1917. He was awarded 12 days F.P. No. 2 (Field Punishment) & was in custody from 16th November, 1917 awaiting trial.

Private James Ambrose Vincent was Absent without leave from Sutton Veny (No. 2 Camp, 2nd Training Battalion) on 23rd January, 1918. He was declared Illegally absent by a Court of Inquiry at Sutton Veny on 14th February, 1918.

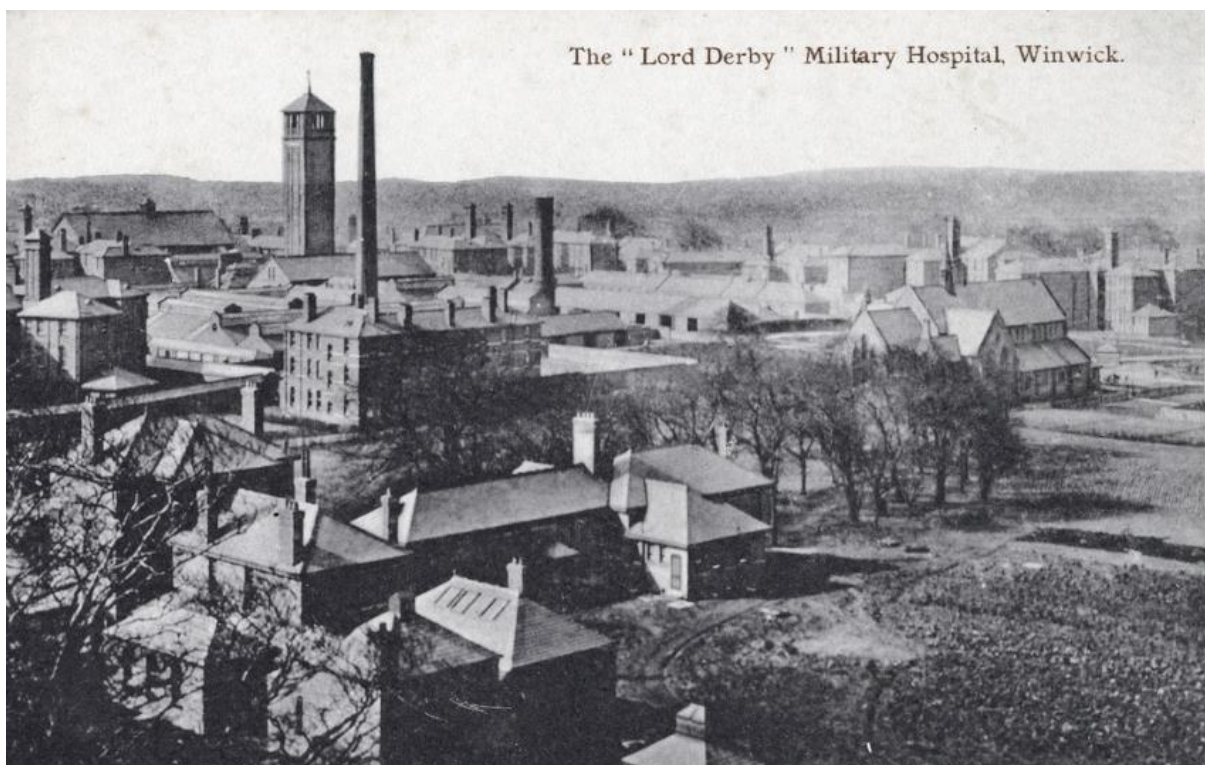
A District Court Martial was held at Sutton Veny on 16th May, 1918 where Private James Ambrose Vincent was charged with being absent without leave from 23rd January, 1918 till apprehended & arrested at London on 5th May, 1918. Private Vincent pled guilty & was found guilty. He was sentenced to 9 months detention – 3 months remitted by Major General the Hon. Sir J. W. McCay K.C.M.G., C.B., V.D., G.O.C. Private Vincent forfeited a total of 297 days' pay.

Private James Ambrose Vincent was admitted to Lewes Detention Barracks on 28th May, 1918 from 1st Training Battalion at Sutton Veny. He was discharged from Lewes Detention Barracks on 13th August, 1918.

Private James Ambrose Vincent was marched in to Overseas Training Brigade at Longbridge Deverill, Wiltshire from Lewes Detention Barracks on 14th August, 1918.

Private James Ambrose Vincent proceeded overseas to France via Folkestone on 15th August, 1918. He was marched in to A.I.B.D. (Australian Infantry Base Depot) at Havre, France on 17th August, 1918. Private Vincent proceeded to his Unit from A.I.B.D. on 25th August, 1918. He was sick enroute to his Battalion in France on 27th August, 1918 & admitted to 2nd Field Ambulance with P.U.O. (Pyrexia (fever) of unknown origin). Private Vincent was transferred to Casualty Clearing Station on 31st August, 1918 then admitted to 2nd General Hospital at Havre on 1st September, 1918. He embarked from Havre for England on Hospital Ship *Queen Alexandria* on 5th September, 1918.

Private James Ambrose Vincent was admitted to The Lord Derby War Hospital, Warrington, Lancashire, England on 6th September, 1918 with P.U.O. (*Pyrexia (fever) of unknown origin*).



Private James Ambrose Vincent died at 04.40 hours on 2nd November, 1918 at The Lord Derby War Hospital, Warrington, Lancashire, England from Influenza & Broncho Pneumonia.

A death for James A. Vincent, aged 35, was registered in the December quarter, 1918 in the district of Warrington, Lancashire, England.

Private James Ambrose Vincent was buried on 7th November, 1918 in Warrington Cemetery (Manchester Road), Warrington, Cheshire/Lancashire, England – Plot number C. CE. 785 and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

From the burial report of Private J. A. Vincent - *Coffin was polished Elm. The deceased soldier was accorded a full Military funeral, Firing Party, Bugler and Pallbearers being in attendance. The coffin was draped with the Union Jack, and surmounted by many beautiful wreaths sent from:- Brother Harry, Jack and Sister Bess, Comrades, Mother and Sister Ada, Will and Brother Percy, Sister Kit. and Brother-in-law. The "Last Post" was sounded at the graveside, and the Rev J. H. Hastings officiated at the graveside. 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 – Mr & Mrs Vincent, Mrs C. Marton, Mrs Wickham, Mr Rough, Mrs C. Vincent, Capt. G. Barker representing hospital and 20 Australians and 50 hospital patients.

Private James Ambrose Vincent requested in his Will all his real or personal estate be bequeathed to his wife Rose Laura Vincent, Albany, Western Australia.

Base Records were advised in September, 1920 from District Headquarters, Perth, Western Australia that the widow of the late Private James Ambrose Vincent had remarried & her new name & address were – Mrs R. Faulkner of 15 Sherwood Street, Maylands, Western Australia.

Private James Ambrose Vincent was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Vincent's widow who had remarried – Mrs R. Faulkner, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent July, 1921 & Plaque sent November, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private James Ambrose Vincent – service number 1425, aged 36, of 11th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Mrs Charlotte Vincent; husband of Rose Laura Faulkner (formerly Vincent), of 15 Sherwood St., Maylands, Western Australia. Born at Paddington, London, England.

J. A. Vincent 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 (above)

Private J. A. Vincent is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 64.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(115 pages of Private James Ambrose Vincent'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



Newspaper Notices

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

TWENTY-FIFTH CASUALTY LIST

WOUNDED

11th Battalion

Private J. A. Vincent

(The West Australian, Perth, Western Australia – 29 May, 1915)

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

192nd CASUALTY LIST

RETURNED TO DUTY

J. A. Vincent (England), previously reported wounded.

(*Western Mail*, Perth, Western Australia – 18 August, 1916)

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

Died of Other Causes

J. A. Vincent (Perth)

(*Sunday Times*, Perth, Western Australia – 1 December, 1918)

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 27th June, 1921, to Mrs R. L. Faulkner, remarried widow of the late Private James Ambrose Vincent, of 15 Sherwood Street, Maylands, Western Australia, advised that a letter from the Defence Dept. concerning an inscription on the headstone of the late Pte J. A. Vincent 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.

Private J. A. Vincent does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

His Duty Done

Warrington Cemetery, Warrington, Cheshire, England

During the two world wars, the United Kingdom became an island fortress used for training troops and launching land, sea and air operations around the globe. There are more than 170,000 Commonwealth war graves in the United Kingdom, many being those of servicemen and women killed on active service, or who later succumbed to wounds. Others died in training accidents, or because of sickness or disease. The graves, many of them privately owned and marked by private memorials, will be found in more than 12,000 cemeteries and churchyards.

Warrington was the depot for the South Lancashire Regiment for both wars and was home to the Lord Derby War Hospital and White Cross Auxiliary Hospital during the First World War. During the Second World War, a shore establishment of the Fleet Air Arm was stationed there. Warrington Cemetery contains 199 First World War burials, 74 of them in a war graves plot with a Cross of Sacrifice. The 102 Second World War burials are scattered. A Polish airman is also buried in the cemetery.

(Information & photo from CWGC)





Cross of Sacrifice & War Graves in Warrington Cemetery (Photo by David Dixon)

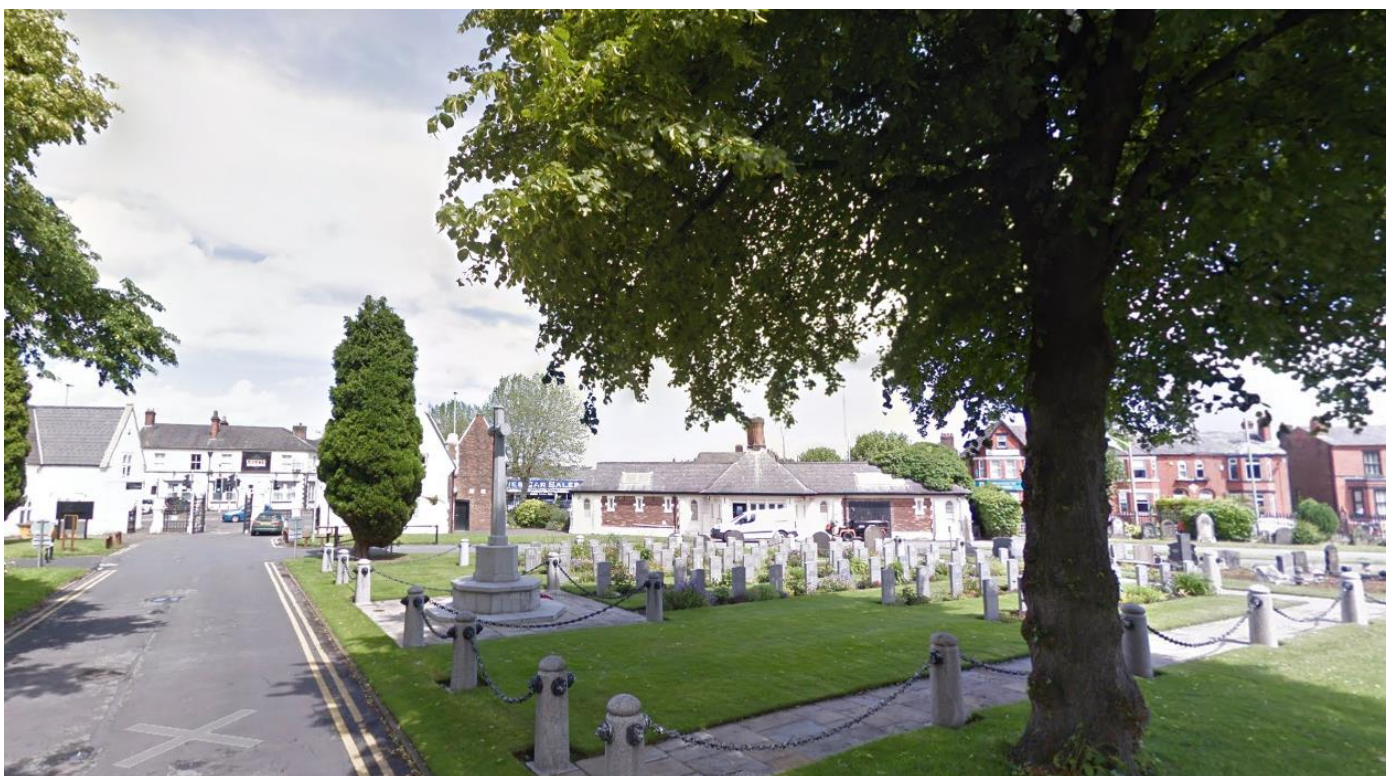


Photo of Private J. A. Vincent's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Warrington Cemetery, Warrington, Cheshire/Lancashire, England.



(Photo courtesy of Len Scott)

