

Victoria Park Library Facebook Post – Tuesday 12 January 2021

This week on Time-warp Tuesday we meet the man behind the name of Bush Street, St James.

Private James Willie BUSH was born circa 1883 in Horwich, Lancashire, England. He was the son of James and Maria BUSH (nee BOWDEN) and was one of nine children born to the couple. James snr was a labourer by trade. In 1909, James married Alice CHISNELL and a son named George was born to them on 29 January 1911.

At the time of the 1911 England Census, Alice is listed as being a cotton weaver and James an iron worker, most probably for the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Company (as listed on James attestation papers for World War I). The family immigrated to Western Australia in March 1912 aboard the S.S Runic. They lived at three addresses during their time in the Town of Victoria Park – 47 Albany Highway, 307 Albany Highway and finally 20 Mackie Street, Victoria Park.

James enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force on 17 April 1916, and served in the 28th Battalion, 16th Reinforcements. James was killed in action at Bullecourt France on 1 October 1918. He has no known grave. Lest We Forget Private James Willie BUSH.

If you have photographs, posters or other items that tell the story of Victoria Park and suburbs, we would love to see them. Please get in touch on 9373 5500 or email vicparklibrary@vicpark.wa.gov.au #LoveVicPark





Number 1300 steam engine built in Horwich in 1896 for the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway.

(Courtesy of The Caffeinated Engine Driver blog: <http://caffeine-train.blogspot.com/2012/10/liveries-lancashire-yorkshire-railway.html>)

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY PERSON BEING ENLISTED.*

3, James Willie Bush swear that I will well and truly serve our Sovereign Lord the King in the Australian Imperial Force from 30-3-16 until the end of the War, and a further period of four months thereafter unless sooner lawfully discharged, dismissed, or removed therefrom; and that I will resist His Majesty's enemies and cause His Majesty's peace to be kept and maintained; and that I will in all matters appertaining to my service faithfully discharge my duty according to law.

So HELP ME, GOD.

J. W. Bush
Signature of Person Enlisted.

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Oath taken by James upon enlisting in the Australian Imperial Force for service in World War I, note his signature, after "So Help Me, God".

Source: Attestation papers of James Willie BUSH (5815), National Archives of Australia (Barcode: 3175261)

WHITE STAR
LINE.

TWIN-SCREW S.S. "RUSIC,"
12,489 TONS,
LEAVING CAPE TOWN.

