

JAMES EDWARD LAWLESS

WX6001 Pte. James Edward Lawless was born on the 11th of December 1907, at, or near, the town of Blackburn, England.

It is believed that he migrated to Australia circa 1926 arriving in Nannup in the same year. He had made his home with Mr. and Mrs. G Dean. Since arriving in Nannup, James had taken a keen interest in community, especially sport and horticulture. He was, at the time of his reenlistment, secretary of the Nannup Bowling Club and much of the success of that club was due to his interest. He was also a member of the Nannup Horticultural Society and in its early years was instrumental in assisting to put that society on a sound financial footing. Even after he resigned as secretary, James continued to take an interest in the annual show of the society and had officiated as a judge in the chrysanthemum section.

At the time of his enlistment James gave his address as C/o G Dean Nannup, his occupation that of carpenter's assistant, marital status single, next of kin T Lawless, Sabden Lancs, England. James was 33 years old when he entered Western Command Training Depot at Northam on the 29th of June 1940. Some short time after entering the Training Depot, James was admitted to the Casualty Clearing Station with what was reported to be a common cold, this later developed into Pneumonia and James passed away at Northam on the 6th of August 1940.

His remains were initially interred at the Northam Cemetery but later exhumed and reburied at Karrakatta War Cemetery.

At the time of his burial in Northam, a large number of Nannup people travelled to that town to attend the funeral. Mrs. G Dean, Messrs. J Knowles and D Dunnet, (representing the Nannup Road Board), Mel Dunnet (Nannup Bowling Club).

James was one of four brothers serving in the forces, one of whom is in India, another in China and the other is a member of the Royal Air Force.

James was obviously held in high esteem by many Nannup residents.