

Men in the Murston Cemetery.

Almost every churchyard in this country contain the casualties of both wars, either men who died of wounds, died of disease (esp 1918) or were airmen who died in training or during accidents. In addition to that, references to casualties are often found on the graves of others. The depth of the losses suffered was etched deep into the psyche of post war Britain that parents often had inscriptions to their fallen sons on their own tombstones. Murston is no different



This grave caused me some difficulties. It is not unusual to find an Australian Army headstone in an English Churchyard. Many English born men served in the Australian Army and subsequently died. What was strange was that the stone was made out to a Sapper of the Australian Army, aged 57, dying in 1962. The only war Australia was involved in was in the Pacific islands, the service number was a world war two era one, and he seemed old for a serving soldier. Enquiries into WW2 service revealed that Stewart West was born in England (town unknown) in 1904. He enlisted on the 10th August 1940 in Claremont near Perth in Western Australia. He was discharged on the 31st January 1946. He was listed as being a Prisoner of War, I guess probably in the far east. As to why this bloke has a CWGC headstone 18 years after serving is a mystery and I guess is possibly that his death is linked to his

incarceration. Also what is he doing in Murston???. I am awaiting a copy of this mans service papers which are on the way from Australian which will hopefully answer these questions. This page will be updated then.



Corporal Alfred Clark

Not far from Sapper Wests grave is that of Alfred Clark, Corporal RAF. The grave is well looked after. The circumstances of Alfreds death were relayed to me by Bryan, Alfreds son. Alfred was an RAF dispatch rider.

He was returning from embarkation leave as he was being posted overseas. He crashed his motorcycle as a result of a bomb blast or on hitting a bomb crater and was thrown against a tree. He died of his injuries and was buried back in Murston.