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Kent War Memorials Transcription Project

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SAMBROOK C.D.J

Maggie's case
Dover War Memorial

Rifleman C/4519 Cecil David John SAMBROOK. 17th Battalion, King's Royal Rifle Corps (KRRC). Died 27 May 1917 aged 32 years. Died from the effects of a severe gassing at Pier Cottage, Stroud Street, Dover, Kent. Born September 1884 (Dover, Kent). Enlisted 6 September 1915 (KRRC). Resided Pier Cottage, Stroud Street, Dover, Kent. Husband of Mrs E.J.E Sambrook of Pier Cottage, Stroud Street, Dover, Kent. Cecil's wife was present at his death (it states this on his death certificate). Believed to be buried locally in the Dover area of Kent (efforts being made to trace his grave).

Before the outbreak of war Cecil was working as a Marine Fireman at Dover Docks.

Cecil's name appears on the Dover Civic War Memorial.

Service History (for Pension Purposes)

2 May 1916	Recovered from the Field to Casualty Clearing Station (CCS).
12 May 1916	Nephritis (Admitted Military General Hospital France)
13 May 1916	32 Casualty Clearing Station, France
13 May 1916	16 General Hospital, Le Treport, France
3 June 1916	Recovered to UK – via Newhaven

Discharged 27 September 1916 medically unfit for further war service. The service papers clearly show that his illness was as a consequence of his war service (1 year total) –

*Service character GOOD (sober, honest and steady soldier). Invalided (Permanently unfit for war service – **Chronic Nephritis due to exposure and infection – The result of active service.***

Awarded a full Disability War Pension by the Ministry of Pensions. Poor Cecil was dead less than a year later!

GRO Death reference - 1917 DOVER 2a 1459.

His death Certificate states clearly that Cecil was an army pensioner. It also gives a cause of death as Septicemia (12 Months). This fully supports our argument that this man is entitled to be commemorated and that he should be approved. If you work your way back 12 months from his date of death you will clearly find that he was a serving soldier when the illness started. That is good evidence.