

## Samuel Turner



Samuel, born in 1897 in Epsom, was the second son of Samuel Turner (1868-1953), a grocer and shop keeper, and originally from Eltham; and Mary Charman (1866-1961), from Ingatestone in Essex. His parents had married in the Brentford area in 1892. By 1901, the family was living at 92, Devonshire Road, Chiswick. They were still there in 1911, but then moved to 26, St John's Road in Isleworth (see below left for a 2018 photo of that property). In the 1930s and for the rest of their lives, they lived at 13 Riverside Walk, Isleworth, and later with Leonard's brother, William Alfred, and his wife, Annie D Morgan, whom he had married in 1923.

Samuel's siblings were: Winifred May (1894-1982), in 1911, she was a clerk at the General Omnibus Company, and after her marriage in 1923 to Sydney Thomas, a furniture representative, moved to Wimbledon. Leonard (1895-1918) sadly also died in WW1 a few months before his brother, having served in the Middlesex Regiment and is commemorated in the Jerusalem Memorial. William Alfred (1902-1985) was also a green grocer, as was the youngest member of the family, David (1907-1985) who married Mabel Bryanton in 1930 and was living on the Twickenham Road in 1939, continuing the family tradition as a shop keeper, grocer and fruiterer.

Samuel's service records have survived. As a clerk, he joined the Royal Naval Air Force in May 1916; this then became the RAF from April 1<sup>st</sup> 1918. He was 5'7", with a chest measurement of 34", was pale and had brown hair and blue/ grey eyes. At that time, Samuel (213962) was an Air Mechanic (First Class) in the Repair Base. He was posted to the Eastern Mediterranean on 14<sup>th</sup> September 1917 and served on the depot ships, the President 11 and the Daedalus as an aerial gunner. He

was reported missing and presumed drowned on August 22<sup>nd</sup> 1918, and his body later recovered in the Aegean. His father, Samuel, received his effects: £50 8s 7d and his awards: the British and Victory medals. He was buried and commemorated on the Doiran Memorial in Greece. Samuel, and his brother, Leonard, are both named on the memorial in St John's Church, Isleworth (see above right), across the road from their house, and also close to their parents' next house in Riverside Walk.

