

## Whatever happened to ~~Baby Jane?~~.....I mean Arthur Green

“The Saga of the Western Men”, written by the late Bob Power, details the history of the Western Suburbs RLFC from 1910 to 1966. It is regarded as the major reference source for all things “red and green” for the first 50 years or so of this great club.

On page 46 of the book it reads..... *During the year (1922) Arthur Green was awarded the Club gold medal for the most improved player. A young, fast and elusive footballer, Arthur was one of “nature’s gentlemen”, and a great sport. He passed away in 1923 from injuries received during the 1922 season, and Newcastle Rugby League erected a monument over his grave in Sandgate cemetery (pictured below). The tragic passing of this grand young sportsman cast a gloom over the footballing fraternity throughout the Newcastle district and the Rosellas lost a truly fine footballer.*

**FUNERALS**

GREEN.—Relatives and Friends of Mr. and Mrs. THOMAS W. GREEN are invited to attend the Funeral of their beloved son, ARTHUR R. GREEN: To move from their residence, 19 Ackerson street, Mayfield, THIS AFTERNOON, at 2.15 o'clock, for Church of England Cemetery, Sandgate. JAMES MUIR-RAY, Funeral Director. 7013



**WESTERN SUBURBS RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB.**

GREEN.—Members of the above are requested to attend the Funeral of their late Club Mate, ARTHUR GREEN: To leave his late residence, 19 Ackerson street, Mayfield, THIS AFTERNOON, at 2.15, for Sandgate Cemetery. Kindred Clubs are also invited.  
W. PHILLIPS,  
Hon. Sec.  
6652

I just thought.....what injuries could a player receive during one year (1922), that would cause his death the next year (1923)?

Well the answer can be found by delving into the Newcastle Herald files of the time, and then, coming to a conclusion.

So, what did happen to Arthur Green?

Well...Arthur’s funeral notice was advertised in the Newcastle Herald, and his funeral was held on Friday 11 May 1923.

But what circumstances lead up to the death of Arthur Green?

All the following are also from the Newcastle Herald.

4 May 1923 – A sports article that indicated that Arthur was selected to play for West in Round 1 of the 1923 competition versus North on Sat 5 May

10 May 1923 – An article noting that Arthur was to play on Saturday 5

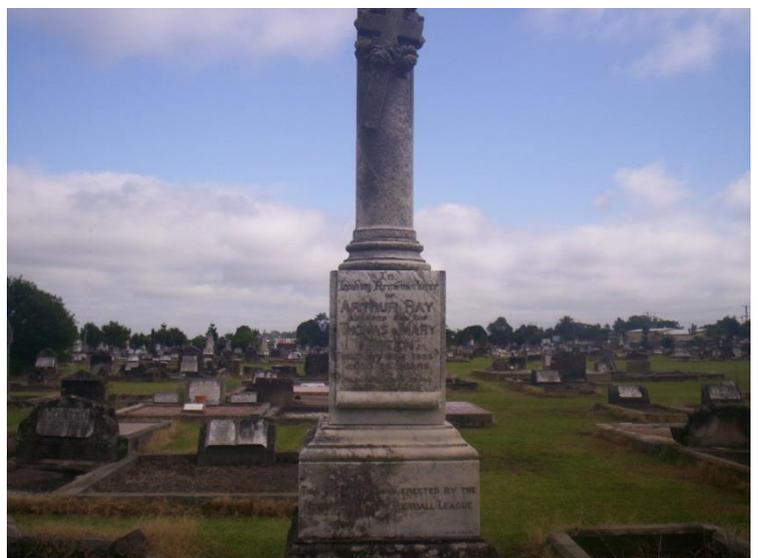
May, but he was taken to hospital on 3 May.

11 May 1923 – Funeral notices (above) appeared in the Newcastle Herald for Arthur’s funeral that very day (it seems as though Arthur died on Wednesday 9 May)

And then....one year later...confirmation

**9 May 1924** – A Memorial Notice in the Newcastle Herald, saying that Arthur had died one year ago (on 9 May 1923) from a typhoid abscess after a 10 day illness.

***Not being knowledgeable in the field, it would seem to me that Arthur Green’s death in 1923 was more likely due to a typhoid abscess than from a football injury received in 1922 .....(unless, of course, a 1922 injury led to the typhoid abscess).***



(Thanks to Rhonda White for her assistance with this article)