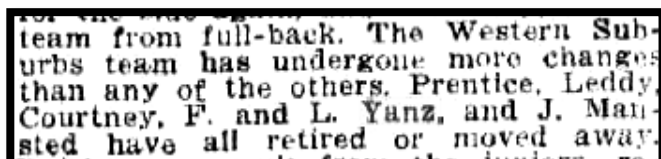


Lou Yanz

..... in 1921, showed promise in his first year of Grade rugby league. While he spent most of the year in Third Grade, he was promoted to Reserve Grade for one game which set the scene for a break out year in 1922.

Lou made an immediate impact in the trials in 1922 and was selected to make his First Grade debut in round one of the competition. His form was so good that he played all sixteen competition games in First Grade, a feat only matched by Clarrie Prentice and Wally Collins that year. It was a similar story for Lou Yanz in 1923. Once again he played all sixteen competition games in First Grade as well as appearing in the City Cup match that Wests contested

1924 was the last season that Lou played with Wests. He again started the season in First Grade but missed a number of games mid year before appearing in three City Cup matches at the back end of the season. A note in the Daily Telegraph in May 1925 noted a number of changes in Wests line up in the coming year with prominent players either retiring or moving on. Lou and Fred Yanz were two of these players. However Fred Yanz did come back for another season in 1926.



Daily Telegraph 2 May 1925

Lou Yanz played thirty five First Grade, one Reserve Grade and an unknown number of Third Grade games for Wests between 1921 and 1924. He also played six City Cup matches.

A biography has been written for Lou Yanz on Family History Search. It notes;

"Louis Yanz was the eldest son of Bridget and John Yanz. He was born in 1898 in the northern Sydney suburb of St Leonards. He was commonly known as 'Lou'. In 1934, Louis married Florence the daughter of Patrick and Florence Toohey. She was also related to Bishop Toohey of Maitland.

Louis was a builder and also inherited several houses in the district of Auburn, where they lived. Sadly, none of their children lived. Lou and Flo lived at 103 Station St Auburn, NSW, where Louis died on 3 June 1977, and Florence had died 4 years earlier.

When the nephews went to sort his estate following his demise, they found boxes with letters of gratitude from Barnardo's Home for Boys. The nephews soon discovered that their uncle Lou had paid his own bills and then the money left over went to the Boys Home. The letters showed Lou had bought and donated, beds, linen, crockery and a number of other items, all his working life."

Kevin Brassil was one of the nephews that related this good deed.