

**All Saints Cemetery,  
Nunhead, Greater London, England**

**War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**2406 PRIVATE**

**J. H. MORGAN**

**20TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**20TH SEPTEMBER, 1916 Age 26**

## James Harold MORGAN

James Harold Morgan was born at Tenterfield, New South Wales, Australia in 1890 to parents John & Rebecca J. Morgan (nee Folkes).

James Harold Morgan attended Sydney Grammar School, NSW.

James Harold Morgan was a 25 year old, single Clerk from Heber Street, Moree, NSW when he enlisted at Liverpool, Sydney, NSW on 18th July, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 2406 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr J. Morgan, Heber Street, Moree, NSW. James' younger brother Herbert Keith Morgan, Clerk, aged 23 also enlisted the same day. He had a service number of 2407.

Private James Harold Morgan was posted to 20th Battalion "A" Company for recruit training.

Private James Harold Morgan & his brother Private Herbert Keith Morgan both embarked from Sydney, NSW on HMAT *Ballarat* (A70) on 6th September, 1915 with the 20th Infantry Battalion, 5th Reinforcements (Note: The War Gratuity Schedule in the Service Record file for Private Morgan recorded that he embarked from Sydney on 30th September, 1915 on *Argyllshire* A8).

Private James Harold Morgan was taken on strength of 20th Battalion from Reinforcements at Tel-el-Kebir on 19th January, 1916.

Private James Harold Morgan embarked from Alexandria on H.M.T. *Ingoma* on 18th March, 1916 & disembarked at Marseilles, France on 25th March, 1916.

Private James Harold Morgan was wounded in action in France on 5th August, 1916. He was admitted to 44th Casualty Clearing Station on 6th August, 1916 with Shrapnel wounds to skull then transferred & admitted to 13th General Hospital, Boulogne, France on 8th August, 1916 with G.S.W. (gunshot wound/s) to Head. Private Morgan was reported as dangerously ill on 20th August, 1916. He was reported as seriously ill on 27th August, 1916. Private Morgan was invalided to England on 3rd September, 1916 on Hospital Ship *Jan Breydel* with shrapnel wounds to Skull.

### 20th Battalion

The 20th Battalion was raised at Liverpool in New South Wales in March 1915 as part of the 5th Brigade. A sprinkling of the 20th's original recruits had already served with the Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force (AN&MEF) in the operations to capture German New Guinea in 1914. ....

After further training in Egypt, the 20th Battalion proceeded to France. It entered the trenches of the Western Front for the first time in April 1916 and in the following month had the dubious honour of being the first Australian battalion to be raided by the Germans. The 20th took part in its first major offensive around Pozieres between late July and the end of August 1916.....

*(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)*

### War Diary – 20th Battalion

*POZIERES 5th August, 1916:*

*TOR Trench. Supposed to be relieved by company of 45th at 4.30 pm relief not completed till after 3 am on 6th. Intense shelling by enemy blocked saps (?) and delayed relief. It was found that more shovels were required on forward dumps as most if the shovels carried by assaulting parties were lost. It would also be better if more stretchers were taken forward before the action commenced.*

*6th August, 1916:*

*Moved during darkness to TARA HILL.*

*TOTAL CASUALTIES during period 24.7.16 – 6.8.16    17 Officers    493 O. Ranks*

*(Extract of War Diary from the Australian War Memorial)*

© Cathy Sedgwick 2021

Private James Harold Morgan was admitted to King George Hospital, Stamford Street, London, England on 3rd September, 1916 with G.S.W. to Head (severe).

The Hospital Admissions form recorded the following:

*“Notes from No. 13 General, France – Wounded Aug 5/16. Very dirty circular wound size of half-penny 2 ½” above centre of right supra orbital margin. Dull “Mental” marked bruising around both eyes. No paralysis.*

*Operation in France – Medium flap, dirty bone defect under wound.*

*Sept 2/16 Hernia stationary small clean. General improvement.*

*On admission – Trephine flap Rt frontal region almost healed. Small cerebral hernia in centre. Seems fairly large gap in frontal bone. No paralysis.*

*Sept 10/16 X ray shows No F. B. & no necrosed bone.*

*“ 17/16 Some headache behind eyes.*

*“ 18/16 Somewhat dull & lethargic. Some sickness, no localising signs of pus.*

*“ 19/16 Sick in morning.*

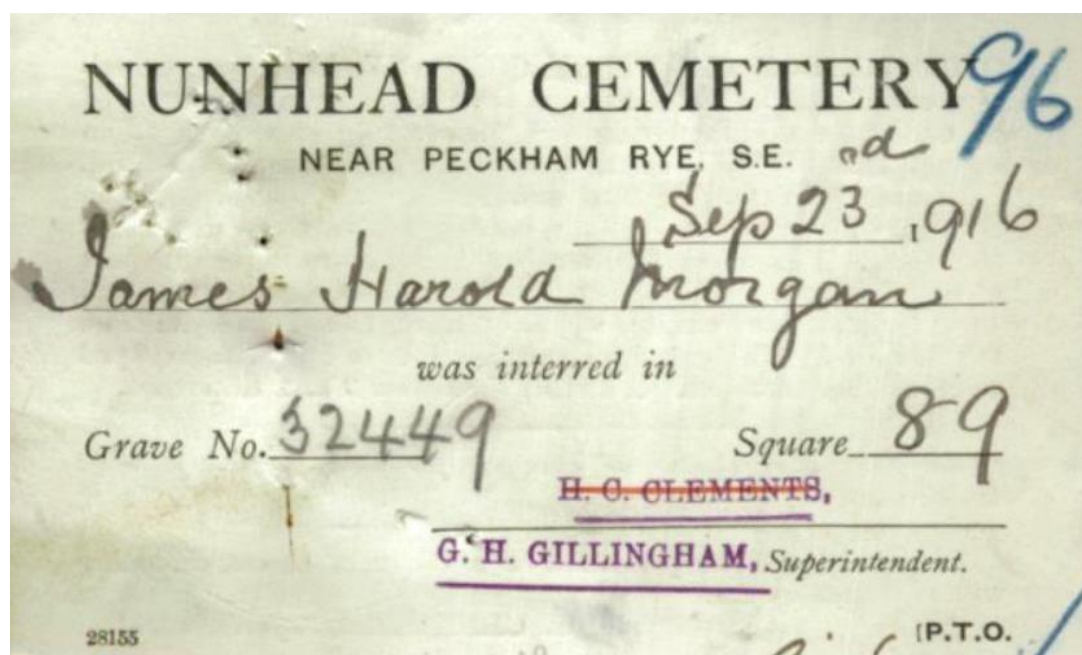
*“ 20/16 Died 6.35 am”*

Private James Harold Morgan died at 6.35 am on 20th September, 1916 at King George Hospital, Stamford Street, London, England from wounds received in action in France – G.S.W. to Head.

A death for James H. Morgan, aged 26, was registered in the December quarter, 1916 in the district of Lambeth, London, England.

Private James Harold Morgan was buried in Nunhead Cemetery, Peckham Rye S.E. Grave No. 32449. Sq 89.

Captain, R.A.M.C., The King George Hospital, Stamford Street, wrote to Base Records on 25th September, 1916 advising that the attached card from the Superintendent of Nunhead Cemetery, giving the number and position of the grave of the late No. 2406, Private J. H. Morgan.



S/Sergeant R. Jamett (att Furlough Dept), Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F., London, wrote to Officer i/c Records, Administrative Headquarters, A.I.F., London on 9th February, 1917 regarding (Late) No. 2406 Private H. J. Morgan,

20th Battalion: *"I have to advise that, with the consent of the Home Office, the remains of the above soldier were transferred from Grave No. 32449. Square 49 to Grave No. 32692, Nunhead Cemetery, London, S.E. on Febry 3rd. 1917. Document re transfer is at present held by me but will be forwarded later to the owner of grave – Mrs Morgan, "Barada" Edward St., Moree, NSW – when all arrangements are completed."*

The Australian Graves Services, London, wrote to Base Records, Melbourne, on 8th April, 1920 stating *"It has recently been ascertained that No. 2406 Private James Harold Morgan, 20th Battalion, died in London on 20/9/16. His grave has been traced to Nunhead where he is buried in a grave purchased and owned by his brother a member of the A.I.F. who has since returned to Australia."* The letter continues on requesting details such as date & place of Attestation & name and address of next of kin so that records held by the High Commissioner may be completed.

Private James Harold Morgan's burial site is now recorded by the Commonwealth War Graves as All Saints Cemetery, Nunhead, Great London, England – Plot number 52. 32692. Private Morgan has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Private James Harold Morgan was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Morgan's father – Mr J. Morgan, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent September, 1921 & Plaque sent April, 1922).

The Public Trust Office, Sydney, NSW wrote to Base Records on 23rd March, 1931 requesting a Military Certificate of Death for James Harold Morgan, No. 2406, 20th Battalion, A.I.F. They also requested to know if Private Morgan had been married. Base Records replied on 27th March, 1931, enclosing a certificate of death & advised that according to records held Private Morgan was unmarried.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private James Harold Morgan – service number 2406, aged 26, of 20th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of John Morgan, or Moree, New South Wales.

Private J. H. Morgan is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 92.




*Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia*

J. H. Morgan is remembered on the Sydney Grammar School Honour Board, located at Sydney Grammar School, College Street, Darlinghurst, Sydney, NSW.



**Sydney Grammar School Honour Board** (Image courtesy of Sydney Grammar School)

MACE, LIEUT. W. R. ~ MACK, CAPT. B. H. ~ MACKENZIE, PTE. N. D. ~ MACLAURIN, TEMP. BRIG. GEN. H. N.  
MACNAMARA, LIEUT. BRIAN. ~ MACNAMARA, PTE. L. ~ MALLET, PTE. C. P. ~ MARCHANT, PTE. J. C.  
MARSH, Dvr. C. C. ~ MARSHALL, CPL. J. ~ MARSHALL, PTE. R. ~ MATTHEWS, PTE. K. M. D. ~ MCGREGOR, SGT. J. H.  
McKELL, LIEUT. V. C. ~ McLAUGHLIN, Mjr. G. M. C. ~ McLEAN, PTE. H. S. M. M. ~ McPHERSON, Mjr. T. R.  
McSHANE, LIEUT. N. E. ~ MILLER, LIEUT. C. L. ~ MILLNER, LIEUT. J. S. ~ MONIE, LIEUT. R. D. ~ MORGAN, PTE. J. H.   
MUNRO, PTE. J. E. ~ MURRAY, L. CPL. J. ~ MURRAY, LIEUT. R. A. M. M. C. ~ MYERS, LIEUT. A. F.  
NOTT, LIEUT. E. R. M. C. (MARTIN, PTE. E. D.)



J. H. Morgan is remembered on the Moree Superior Public School First World War Roll of Honour, located in Moree Public School, 47 Albert Street, Moree, NSW.



Moree Superior Public School First World War Roll of Honour

(Photo from War Memorials Register NSW – Graham Wilson)



J. H. Morgan is remembered on the All Saints Anglican Church First World War Honor Roll Reredos, 101 Boston Street, Moree, NSW.



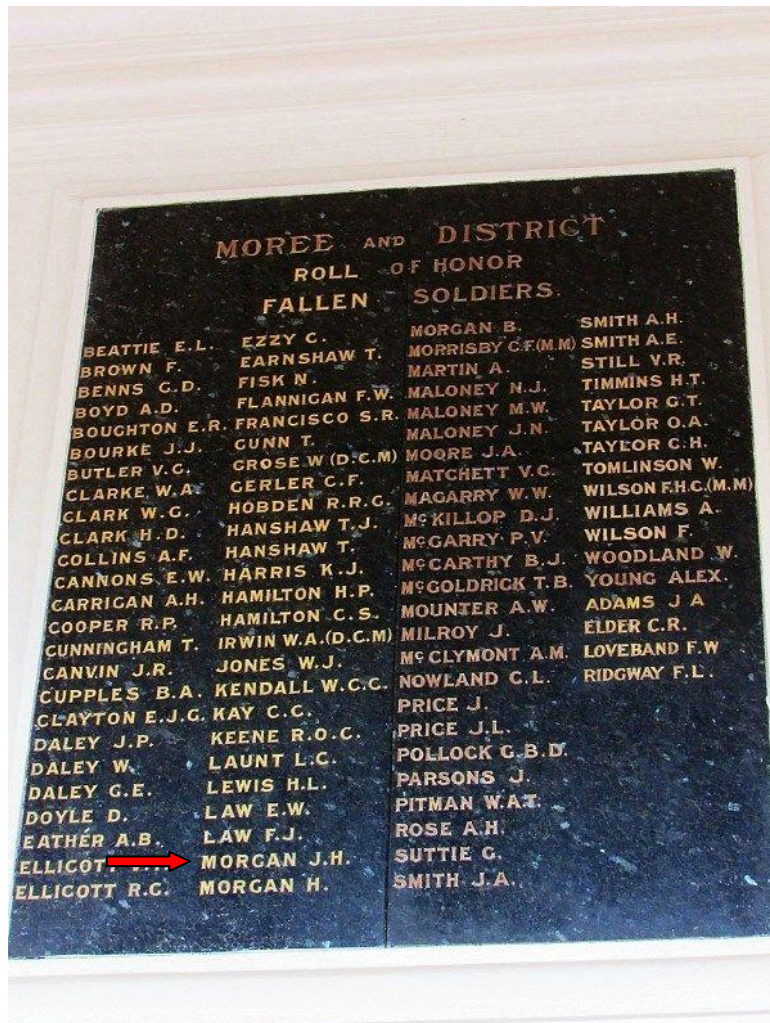
All Saints Anglican Church First World War Honor Roll Reredos, Moree

(Photo from War Memorials Register NSW – Graham Wilson)

J. H. Morgan is remembered on the Moree & District Roll of Honour, located at Moree Memorial Hall, 36 Balo Street, Moree, NSW.

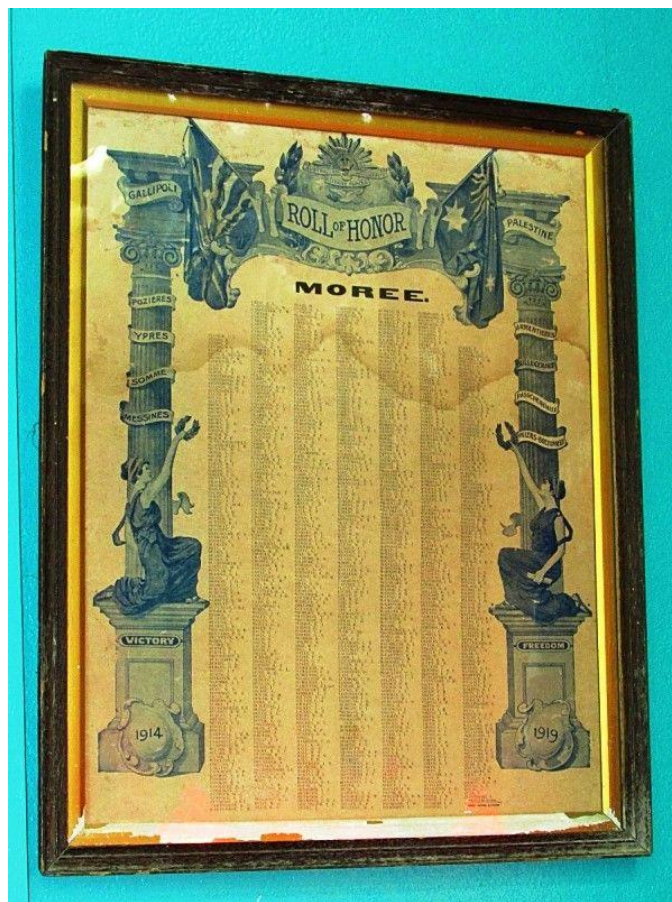


Moree & District Roll of Honour (Photos from Monument Australia – Sandra Brown)





J. H. Morgan is remembered on the Moree Roll of Honour, located in Moree & District War Memorial Education Centre, Albert & Balo Streets, Moree, NSW.



**Moree Roll of Honour** (Photo from Monument Australia – Sandra Brown)

J. H. Morgan is remembered at the Moree Anzac Centenary Memorial, located at Anne & Gosport Streets, Moree, NSW.



**Moree Anzac Centenary Memorial** (Photo from Monument Australia – Sandra Brown)

(46 pages of Private James Harold Morgan's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

*Information obtained from the CWGC, Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll) & National Archives*



### Connected to Private James Harold Morgan:

Younger brother - Herbert Keith Morgan – Enlisted 18th July, 1915. Service No. 2407. Embarked from Sydney, NSW on 6th September, 1915 with 20th Infantry Battalion, 5th Reinforcements. Returned to Australia 28th August, 1919.



## Newspaper Notices

### **LATEST CASUALTY LISTS**

The 216th casualty list.....

Wounded: Pte J. H. Morgan (Moree)

*(The Tamworth Daily Observer, NSW – 21 September, 1916)*

---

### **ROLL OF HONOUR**

#### **PTE HAROLD MORGAN**

We Moree "News" deeply regret to announce that Mr John Morgan, of the Red Flag Stores, has received the sad intelligence that his son, Private Harold Morgan, who had been wounded in France about three weeks ago, has succumbed in an English hospital.

*(The Inverell Times, NSW – 13 October, 1916)*

---

### Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Defence Department, in 1920/21, contacted the next of kin of the deceased World War 1 soldiers to see if they wanted to include a personal inscription on the permanent headstone. Space was reserved for 66 letters only (with the space between any two words to be counted as an additional letter) & the rate per letter was around 3 ½ d (subject to fluctuation).

The expense in connection for the erection of permanent headstones over the graves of fallen soldiers was borne by the Australian Government.

*(Information obtained from letters sent to next of kin in 1921)*

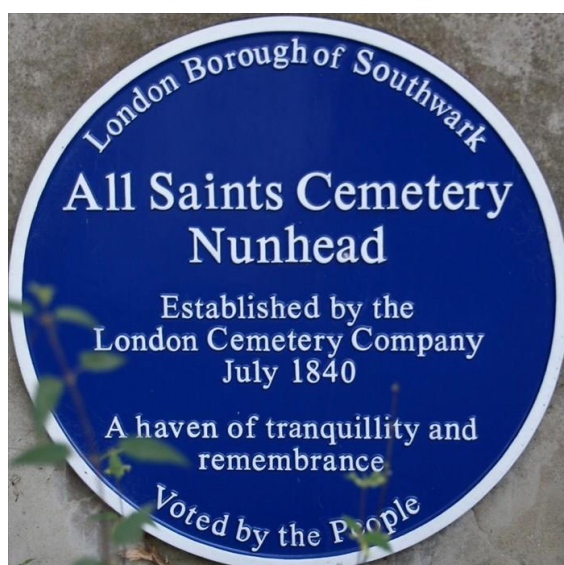
Private J. H. Morgan does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

### **All Saints Cemetery, Nunhead, Great London, England (also known as Nunhead Cemetery)**

Nunhead (All Saints) Cemetery contains 592 Commonwealth burials of the 1914-1918 war. The majority are in three war graves plots; the United Kingdom plot (in Square 89) has 266 graves, the Australian plot (near the main entrance) has 23 and the Canadian plot (in Square 52, also containing New Zealand and South African burials) has 36. The graves in the Australian and Canadian plots are marked with individual headstones. The graves in the United Kingdom plot and the remaining war graves scattered throughout the cemetery could not be marked individually; the casualties buried in these graves are therefore commemorated by name on a Screen Wall inside the main entrance gate to the cemetery.

A second Screen Wall commemorates the 110 burials of the 1939-1945 war in a further war graves plot in Square 5 and elsewhere in the cemetery whose graves could not be marked by headstones.

There is also 1 Belgian burial of the 1914-1918 war and 7 Non-war Service burials, all commemorated on the Screen Wall. *(Information from CWGC)*



**All Saints Cemetery, Nunhead**





AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

J00776

*The Australian area at Nunhead Cemetery. The grave in the centre front is 27 Lance Corporal Eric Lyndon Lowe, 18th Battalion, from Clarence Town NSW, who died on 10 September 1915 aged 18 years. The grave to the right is 1560 Private (Pte) Leslie Raymond Talbot Gilbert, 14th Battalion, born in England, from Kogarah West NSW, who died on 20 January 1916 aged 19 years. The grave 2nd row right side is 1019 Sergeant (Sgt) Victor Ronald Coombe, 15th Battalion, of Campbelltown, Tas, who died on 29 September 1915 aged 26 years. From the collection of Mr Alfred Thomas Sharp. Mr Sharp was the Commonwealth Immigration Officer of Victoria and was based in the London Office during the First World War. He and his wife hosted and visited many soldiers, particularly those from Victoria, who were recuperating in London. He also photographed many Australian graves in English cemeteries. His photograph collection relating to this period in London was bequeathed to the Memorial in 1922 after his death. During his time in London he was a member of the British Volunteer Regiment, serving with the Willesden Battalion, Middlesex Volunteer Regiment.*



**Australian War Graves in All Saints Cemetery, Nunhead** (Photos courtesy of Neil Bright)

Photo of Private J. H. Morgan's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in All Saints Cemetery, Nunhead, Greater London, England.



*(Photo courtesy of Neil Bright)*



*(Photo by js – Find a Grave)*

