

**Lodge Hill Cemetery,
Birmingham, West Midlands**

War Graves



Lest We Forget

World War 1



612 PRIVATE

H. J. MULLEN

14TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

19TH MAY, 1915 Age 23

Hugh James MULLEN

Hugh James Mullen was born at Terrick Terrick East, near Mitiamo, Victoria in 1892 to parents Hugh and Mary Ann Mullen (nee Hopper).

Hugh James Mullen attended State School at Terrick South, Victoria.

Hugh James Mullen was a 22 year old, single, Farmer from Terrick South, Mitiamo, Victoria when he enlisted at Tatura, Victoria on 12th September, 1914 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 612 & his religion was Methodist. His next of kin was listed as his father – Hugh Mullen, Mitiamo, Victoria.

Private Hugh James Mullen was posted to 14th Battalion, A.I.F. on 12th September, 1914 for recruit training.

Private Hugh James Mullen embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Ulysses* (A38) on 22nd December, 1914 with the 14th Infantry Battalion, "E" Company.

Private Hugh James Mullen was wounded in action at the Dardanelles with a G.S.W. (gunshot wound/s) to left thigh - serious. He was transferred to *Galeka* originally then transferred to *Gookhra sailing* for England on 3rd May, 1918. (Note: The Statement of Service form recorded "G.S.W. Lt Thigh (severe) ret on "Mashobra" 3/5/15.)

14th Battalion

The Headquarters of the 14th Battalion opened at an office at 178 Collins Street, Melbourne in the last week of September 1914. On 1 October it relocated to Broadmeadows Camp where the battalion's recruits, principally from Melbourne and its suburbs, were taken on strength and trained. With the 13th, 15th and 16th Battalions, the 14th formed the 4th Brigade commanded by Colonel John Monash. It embarked for overseas on 22 December and, after a brief stop in Albany, Western Australia, arrived in Egypt on 31 January 1915. In Egypt, the 4th Brigade became part of the New Zealand and Australian Division with which it would serve at Gallipoli.

The 4th Brigade landed at ANZAC Cove on the afternoon of 25 April 1915. On 19 May the Turks launched a massive counter-attack. During this fighting Lance Corporal Albert Jacka of the 14th was awarded the AIF's first Victoria Cross. Jacka's leadership and courage became legendary within the AIF and he was eventually commissioned in the 14th Battalion, which came to be widely known as "Jacka's Mob".....

(Extract of Battalion information from the Australian War Memorial)

From the War Diary – 14th Battalion

The 14th Battalion were posted at "Courtney's Post", Monash Valley on 1st May, 1915

Casualties:

1st May, 1915: Killed – 4 other ranks Wounded – 2 Officers, 7 other ranks

2nd May, 1915: Killed – 1 Officer, 12 other ranks Wounded - 2 Officers, 10 other ranks Sick – 2 other ranks

3rd May, 1915: Killed – 12 other ranks Wounded 1 Officer, 30 other ranks.

(Information from the Australian War Memorial)

Private Hugh James Mullen was admitted to No. 1 General Hospital, Birmingham, England on 16th May, 1915.

Mr Hugh Mullen, Mitiamo, Victoria was advised by Secretary of Defence on 17th May, 1915 that his son Private H. J. Mullen was wounded.

[A Telegram was sent by Mr H. Mullen on 21st May, 1915 to Secretary Defence Department, Melbourne "Any particulars private mullen if not please cable will pay. Reply paid."

A reply was sent on 22nd May, 1915 "Private Mullen not serious can only cable serious cases."]

Private Hugh James Mullen died on 19th May, 1915 at 1st Southern General Hospital, Edgbaston, Birmingham, England from wounds received in action – severe bullet wound of hip followed by Septicaemia. (as per Army Form 2090 – Report of Death of a Soldier, however the Field Service form recorded that Private Mullen had died in No. 1 General Hospital, Birmingham.)

A death for Hugh J. Mullen, aged 23, was registered in the June quarter, 1915 in the district of King's Norton, Warwickshire, England.

Private Hugh James Mullen was buried on 24th May, 1915 in Lodge Hill Cemetery, Birmingham, West Midlands, England.

Newspaper item - *Spectator and Methodist Chronicle*, Melbourne, Victoria – 13 August, 1915:

In Memoriam

PRIVATE H. J. MULLEN

Private H. J. Mullen was one of nine past and present scholars of the Terrick South Sunday School who have enlisted for the war. He was born of Methodist parents, and broguht up among Methodist surroundings. The atmosphere of the home and Sunday school bore fruit in his life as he matured, and he chose the better part. Wounded on the third day of the attack at Gallipoli, he was invalided to England, where septicaemia set in, and he died, the first of our Australian soldiers to die in the Home Land. He was buried in a part of the Lodge Hill Cemetery, Birmingham, specially set apart for the Australian fallen. The High Commission was represented at the funeral by Lieut.-Col. Tunbridge and Major Sawyer. The following letter was written to the bereaved relatives by the chaplain:-

*“First Southern General Hospital,
Edgbaston, Birmingham.*

“Dear Mr Mullen, - As you have perhaps already been notified, your son passed away two days after I wrote my first letter. He grew rapidly worse, and complications set in. He was conscious right up to the last, and was peacefully prepared for the end. He died in great peace, with prayers and loving messages to his family and friends. I conducted the funeral at Lodge Hill Cemetery on Tuesday last, with full military honours. It will comfort you to know that he died as a soldier should, without fear and with great faith in God. You will always have the honour of having given a son, who made the greatest sacrifice any man cam make – that of his life- for king, country, and the cause of right, for that is what we are fighting for. We are more than proud of our Australian heroes, who have come to the aid of the Mother Country. With deep sympathy and much respect, your faithfully. C. O. R. Wormald, Chaplain.”

Base Records wrote to Mr H. Mullen, Mitiamo, Victoria on 20th April, 1920 to advise that the remains of his son, “*the late No. 612 Private H. J. Mullen, 14th Battalion, had been exhumed from former site , and re-interred in Grave No. 295, Section “B”, 10. Lodge Hill Cemetery, Birmingham, Eng. This work is carried out with every measure of care and reverence in the presence of a Chaplain. The utmost care and attention is being devoted to the graves of our fallen soldiers, and photographs are being taken as soon as possible for transmission to next-of-kin.*”

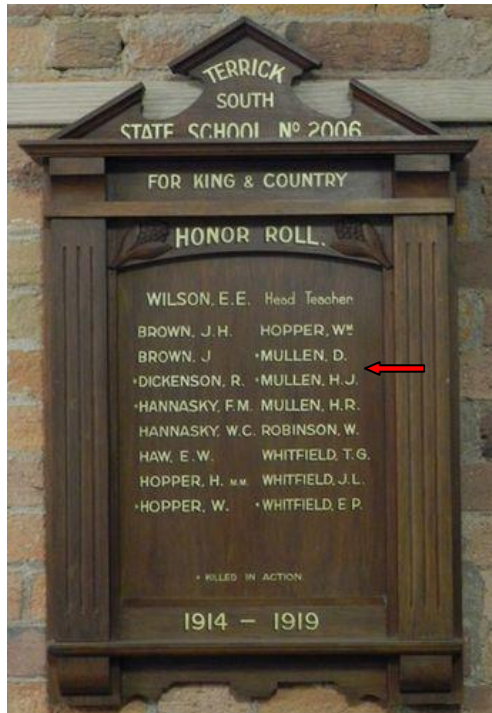
Private Hugh James Mullen is remembered on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Screen Wall B10. 295 as he does not have a headstone.

According to information provided by his father for the Roll of Honour – Hugh James Mullen was the “*First Australian Soldier to die in England.*”

Private Hugh James Mullen was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Mullen's father – Mr H. Mullen, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent July, 1921 & Plaque sent March, 1922).

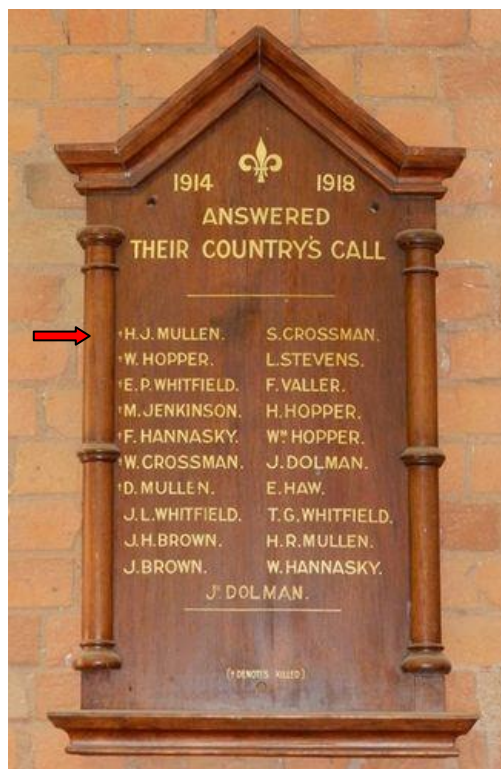
The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Hugh James Mullen – service number 612, aged 23, of 14th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of Hugh and Mary Ann Mullen, of Terrick S., via Mitiamo, Victoria, Australia.

H. J. Mullen & his brother - D. Mullen are both remembered on the Terrick South State School Honour Roll, located in Mitiamo Hall, Haig Street & Francis Lane, Mitiamo, Victoria.



Terrick South State School Honour Roll (Photo from Monument Australia – Tim Fitzgerald)

H. J. Mullen & his brother - D. Mullen are both remembered on the Mitiamo Honour Roll, located in Mitiamo Hall, Haig Street & Francis Lane, Mitiamo, Victoria.



Mitiamo Honour Roll (Photo from Monument Australia – Tim Fitzgerald)

H. J. Mullen & his brother - D. Mullen are both remembered on the Mitiamo War Memorial, located at Echuca - Mitiamo Road & Bendigo – Pyramid Road, Mitiamo, Victoria.



Mitiamo War Memorial (Photos from AWM – Places of Pride – Henry Moulds)



Hugh Mullen is remembered on the East Loddon WW1 Memorial Pillars, located at East Loddon P12 College, Dingee Road, Dingee, Victoria – Pillar 4B.



East Loddon WW1 Memorial Pillars (Photo from AWM – Places of Pride)



East Loddon WW1 Memorial Pillars (Photo courtesy of [East Loddon Anzacs](#))



East Loddon WW1 Memorial Pillars (Photo courtesy of [East Loddon Anzacs](#))

East Loddon WW1 Memorial Pillars

This website contains stories and images that have been compiled by East Loddon P-12 College students in partnership with the East Loddon Historical Society. The aim of this project is to make local history accessible to all. Moreover, we want students to empathise with the service men and women who came before us.

The East Loddon Shire consisted of 9 major towns (Mitiamo, Calivil, Jarklin, Prairie, Dingee, Tandara, Yallock, Serpentine & Pompapier) and is now known as the Loddon Shire. Around 320 men and women either born, living or working within the East Loddon district enlisted in WWI. Sadly over 65 never returned to Australia.

There are 8 pillars in the memorial. Three include a timeline of the local home front during the war. The other five include the honour roll and feature stories about local nurses and soldiers.

(Information from East Loddon Anzacs)

Private H. J. Mullen is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 73.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(47 pages of Private Hugh James Mullen'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



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

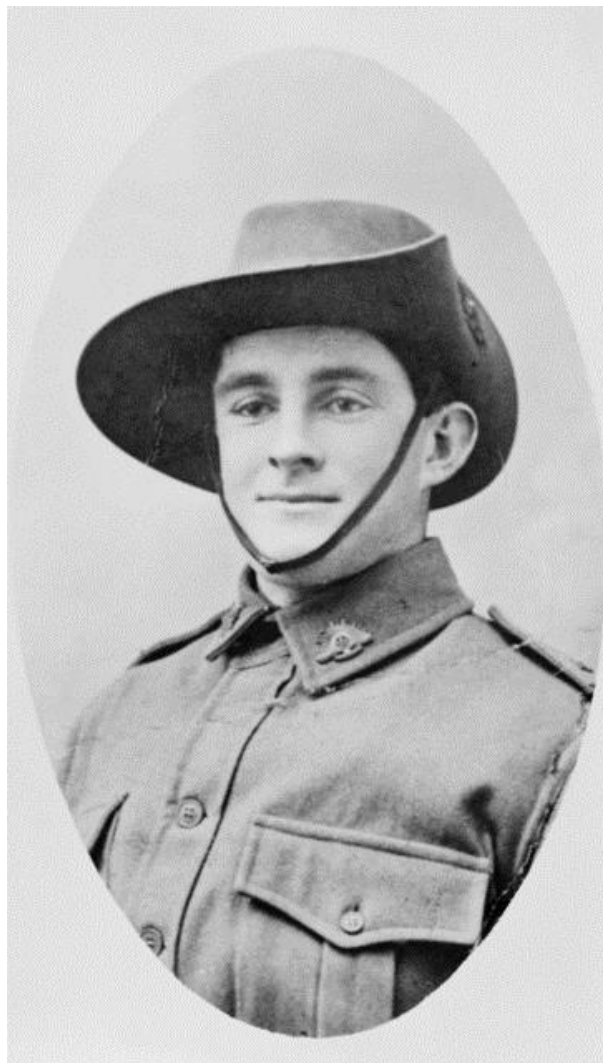
P06372.001

Private Hugh James Mullen

Studio portrait of 612 Private (Pte) Hugh James Mullen, 14th Battalion of Mitiamo, Victoria. A farmer prior to enlistment on 12 September 1914, Pte Mullen embarked from Melbourne aboard HMAT Ulysses (A38) 22 December. He was wounded in action at Gallipoli on 3 May 1917 and transferred to HS Galeka in which he was transported to England. He died on 19 May 1915 at the Number 1 General Hospital, Birmingham, aged 23. He is reputedly the first Australian to die in England following the Gallipoli Campaign. His brother 2678 Pte David Mullen, 2nd Pioneer Battalion enlisted on 18 May 1916 and was killed in action on 13 October 1917, aged 21.

Connected to Private Hugh James Mullen:

Younger brother Private David Mullen - Enlisted 18th May, 1916 as a 20 year old Farmer. Embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on 18th September, 1916 on HMAT Karroo (A10) with 2nd Pioneer Battalion, 5th Reinforcements. Killed in action 13th October, 1917, Buried Aeroplane Cemetery, Ypres, Flanders, Belgium.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

P06372.002

Private David Mullen



Newspaper Notices

Australian Imperial Expeditionary Force

ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEERS

The following enlisted at the shire offices, Tatura, and 7 of them left for camp by Thursday morning train:-

....

Hugh James Mullen, Merrigum

....

(*Kyabram Guardian*, Victoria – 18 September, 1914)

AUSTRALIAN LOSSES



(The Bendigo Independent, Victoria – 20 May, 1915)

NINETEENTH CASUALTY LIST

WOUNDED

VICTORIA

Pte MULLEN, H. J., 14th Batt., Mitiamo, V.

(The Argus, Melbourne, Victoria – 21 May, 1915)

PERSONAL PARTICULARS

PRIVATE H. J. MULLEN

Private Hugh J. Mullen, who died of his wounds at Birmingham, England, was the eldest son of Mr Hugh Mullen, a well-known farmer of Terrick South, Mitiamo. He was wounded at the Dardanelles a few weeks ago, and his death was due to blood-poisoning superceding gunshot wounds in the thigh.

(The Argus, Melbourne, Victoria – 1 June, 1915)

AUSTRALIAN LOSSES

TWENTY-SEVENTH CASUALTY LIST

DIED OF WOUNDS

Pte MULLEN, H. J., Mitiamo (previously reported wounded)

(*Echuca and Moama Advertiser and Farmers' Gazette*, Victoria – 1 June, 1915)

AUSTRALIANS WHO HAVE FALLEN



(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 2 June, 1915)



THE ROLL OF HONOR

Heroes of Dardanelles

Four District Volunteers Killed

Private Hugh J. Mullen

Private Hugh J. Mullen, who died of his wounds at Birmingham, England, was the eldest son of Mr Hugh Mullen, a well-known farmer of Terrick South, Mitiamo. He was wounded at the Dardanelles a few weeks ago, and his death was due to blood poisoning superceding gunshot wounds in the thigh. Private Mullen enlisted at Tatura, and was 22

years of age. Prior to enlisting, he was employed on channel works at Stanhope. He was the third person to volunteer at the shire hall.

(*Kyabram Guardian*, Victoria – 4 June, 1915)



7. Private H. J. MULLEN (Darge photo)

AUSTRALIAN SOLDIERS KILLED ON THE DARDANELLES

(*The Australasian*, Melbourne, Victoria – 5 June, 1915)

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED FOR FREEDOM'S CAUSE



DIED OF WOUNDS

Private H. J. Mullen, who died of wounds, was the oldest son of My Hugh Mullen, a well known farmer of Terrick South, Mitiamo. He was wounded at the Dardanelles a few weeks ago, and his death was due to blood poisoning, supervening on gunshot wounds in the thigh. He was 23 years of age and 6ft. 3 ½ in. in height. He was a member of the Terrick South Sunday school and Methodist Church, and was never absent from his place there. The death of the noble lad has (says our Terrick South correspondent), cast a gloom over the whole district and much sympathy is felt for the bereaved family.

(*Bendigo Advertiser*, Victoria – 7 June, 1915) & (*Bendigonian*, Victoria – 10 June, 1915 – no photo)

CAREERS SUMMARISED

PRIVATE H. J. MULLEN (died of wounds) was the eldest son of My Hugh Mullen, farmer of Mitiamo. He was wounded at the Dardanelles a few weeks ago, and was one of the men taken to England. Death occurred at Birmingham. He was 23 years of age and 6ft. 3 ½ in. in height. He was a member of the Terrick South Sunday school and Methodist Church.

(*The Herald*, Melbourne, Victoria – 11 June, 1915)

KILLED IN ACTION

MULLEN – Private Hugh J. Mullen, died on the 19th May, in Birmingham Hospital, of wounds received at Dardanelles, beloved eldest son of Mr and Mrs Mullen, aged 23 years.

Safe in the arms of Jesus

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 12 June, 1915)

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED FOR FREEDOM'S CAUSE

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED FOR FREEDOM'S CAUSE.



PRIVATE E. J. BENNETTS,
Of Golden-square.



PRIVATE KEITH AUSTIN,
Of Inglewood.
(Chubb, photo)



Private W. J. STANCOMBE,
Of Bendigo and New Zealand.



Private H. J. MULLEN,
Of Mitiamo.
(Photo by Darge, Melbourne.)



Private A. V. YOUNG,
Of Bendigo and Brunswick.
(Young, Photo)



PRIVATE S. J. CARTER,
Of Guildford.



Private H. J. MULLEN,
Of Mitiamo.
(Photo. by Darge, Melbourne.)

(Bendigonian, Victoria – 17 June, 1915)

IN MEMORIAM

The Anzac Heroes

MULLEN – In loving memory of our darling son and brother, Hugh James, who died in the 19th May, 1915, at Birmingham, from wounds received at the Dardanelles, aged 23 years.

Our darling Hughie.

-Inserted by his loving father and mother and sister Ella, and brothers, Dave, Harold, Willie, Clarence and Cyril.

MULLEN – In loving memory of our darling brother, Hughie, who died on the 19th May, 1915, at Birmingham, England, from wounds received at Dardanelles.

He answered bravely to the call,
He gave his life, his best, his all.

-Inserted by his sister, Mary, and brother-in-law M. Taggart.

(*The Age*, Melbourne, Victoria – 19 May, 1916)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

MULLEN – In loving memory of our two eldest sons and brothers, Pte H. J. Mullen, 14th Batt., died on 19th May, 1915, of wounds received in Gallipoli, first wounded Australian to die in England, and also our dear son and brother David, killed in action in Belgium on 13th October, 1917.

Just when their lives were brightest,
Just when their hopes were best,
Their country called; they answered;
Now in God's home they rest.
Till we meet to part no more.

-(Inserted by their loving father, mother, sisters and brothers).

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 15 May, 1918)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

MULLEN – In loving memory of Private H. J. (Hughie), 14th Battalion, who died of wounds on 13th May, 1915, wounded in Gallipoli, first Australian to die of wounds in England; also Dave, killed in action 13th October, 1917.

Dear ones in glory looking this way.
Our two darling boys.

-(Inserted by their loving father, mother, sisters, and brothers, Mitiamo.)

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria – 19 May, 1919)

*** Notices were also placed in 1920, 1921, 1922 & 1923

Hugh J. Mullen is remembered on the Family headstone in Pannoo-Bamawm Cemetery, also known as Pine Grove Cemetery, Corner Whinfield & O'Brien Roads, Pine Grove, Victoria.



(Photo by A. O'Brien)



Mullen Family Headstone

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstones

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for cemeteries and memorials in 23,000 locations, in 153 countries. In all 1.7 million men and women from the Commonwealth forces from WWI and WWII have been honoured and commemorated in perpetuity.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, as part of its mandate, is responsible for commemorating all Commonwealth war dead individually and equally. To this end, the war dead are commemorated by name on a headstone, at an identified site of a burial, or on a memorial. War dead are commemorated uniformly and equally, irrespective of military or civil rank, race or creed.

Not all service personnel have a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. In some instances the relative chose to have their own memorial/headstone placed on the deceased's grave. These private headstones are not maintained by the CWGC as they have no jurisdiction to maintain them.

Private Hugh James Mullen does not have CWGC headstone, his name is instead remembered on a CWGC Screen Wall as his grave was one that could not be individually marked with a headstone.

Lodge Hill Cemetery, Birmingham, West Midlands, England

The First World War saw four important hospitals - besides many smaller - posted at Birmingham: the 1st Southern General (3,500 beds) was in the university and other buildings, with a section at Stourbridge; the 2nd/1st Southern General (1,800 beds) in the Dudley Road Infirmary and in billets; the 1st Birmingham War Hospital (1,000 beds) at Rubery Hill Asylum and the 2nd Birmingham War Hospital (900 beds) at Hollymoor Asylum. Military hospitals were at Birmingham again during the Second World War, including No 7 Canadian Hospital at Marston Green. Birmingham and Coventry were among the chief manufacturing areas producing materials for the war effort and were subjected to many devastating air raids during the Blitz of 1940-41.

BIRMINGHAM (LODGE HILL) CEMETERY contains 499 First World War burials, most of them in a war graves plot in Section B10. The names of those buried in the plot, or in graves elsewhere in the cemetery which could not be individually marked, are inscribed on a Screen Wall. Second World War burials number 125, most of them scattered throughout the cemetery, although there is a small plot in Section 2E. Birmingham Municipal Crematorium stands within the cemetery. In the chapel, there is a bronze plaque commemorating 48 servicemen of the Second World War whose remains were cremated there.

(Information from CWGC)



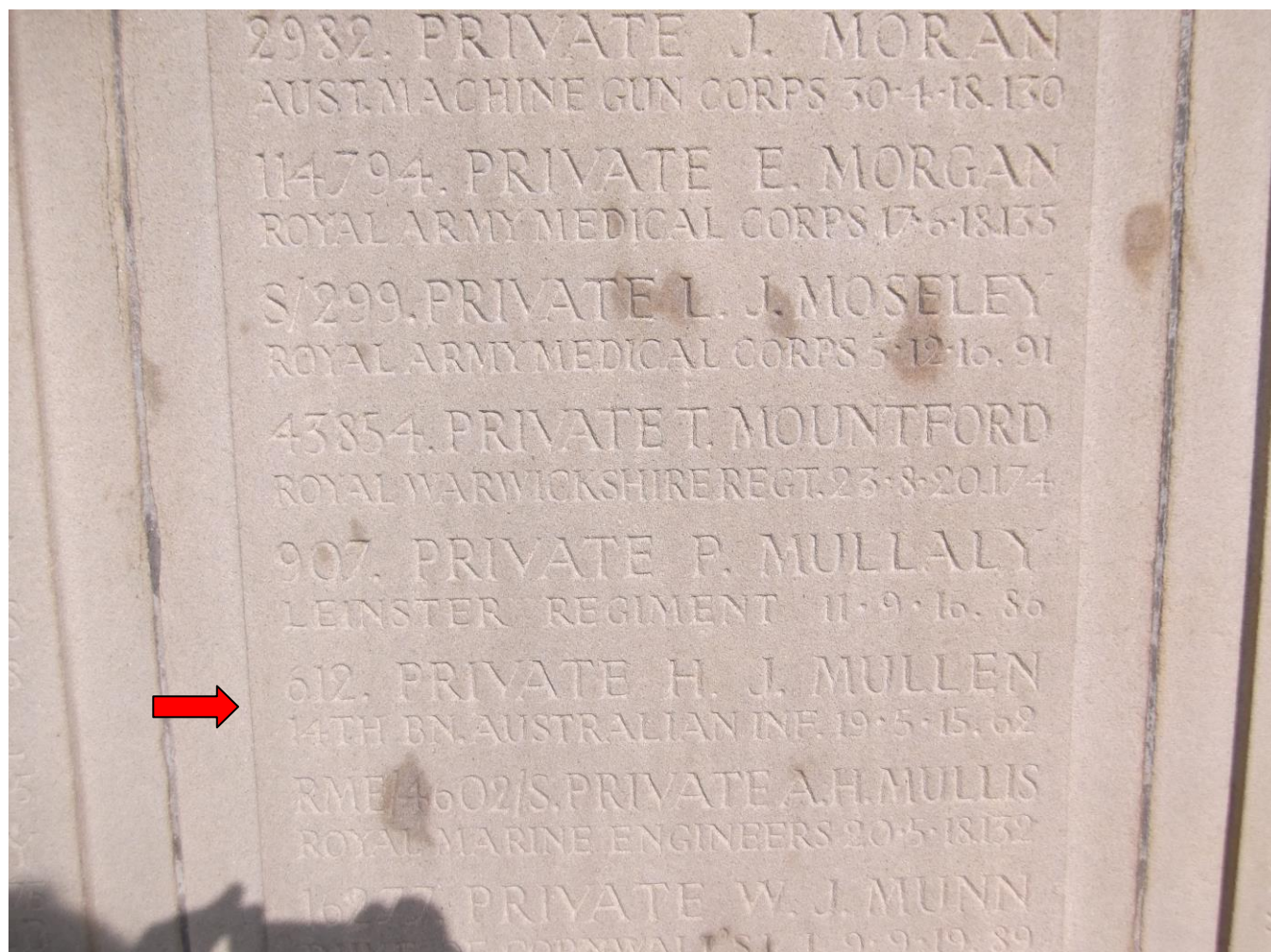
(Photo by Lepidus Magnus)



Lodge Hill Cemetery, Birmingham (*Photos from CWGC*)



Photo of Private H. J. Mullen's name on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission WW1 Screen Wall in Lodge Hill Cemetery, Birmingham, West Midlands, England.



(Photo by Myra Mason – Find a Grave)





WW1 Screen Wall in Garden of Remembrance (Photo by Myra Mason – Find a Grave)



WW2 Garden of Remembrance (Photo by Myra Mason – Find a Grave)

Lodge Hill Cemetery

