

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



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**410 PRIVATE**

**J. W. OSBORNE**

**27TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**16TH AUGUST, 1916 Age 21**

## Josiah William OSBORNE

Josiah William Osborne was born at Renmark, South Australia around 1895 to parents William and Hannah Elizabeth Osborne (nee Wade).

Hanna Elizabeth Wade, mother of Josiah William Osborne, died in 1902.

William Osborne, father of Josiah William Osborne, died in 1907.

Josiah William Osborne was a 19 year old, single, Labourer from 56 North Terrace, Hackney, South Australia when he enlisted at Oaklands, South Australia on 25th January, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 410 & his religion was Methodist. His next of kin was listed as his sister – Hilda Isabella McBain, 56 North Terrace, Hackney, South Australia. Josiah Osborne stated on his Attestation Papers that he had previously enlisted in Citizen Forces.

As Josiah Osbourne was under the age of 21 he required his parents' consent to enlist in the Australian Imperial Force for Active Service abroad. Both his parents' were deceased so his sister signed her consent – "*I Hilda Isabella MacBain, give my consent to my brother Josiah William Osborne enlisting for Imperial Forces.*"

Private Josiah William Osborne was posted to "G" Company Infantry Base Depot at Oaklands Camp on 25th January, 1915 for recruit training. He was transferred to "B" Company of 27th Battalion on 16th March, 1915.

[Note: The Embarkation Roll has the surname as Osborn; while the Attestation Papers have the Christian name as Jossiah.]

Private Josiah William Osborn (name as listed on Embarkation Roll) embarked from Adelaide, South Australia on HMAT *Geelong* (A2) on 31st May, 1915 with the 7th Infantry Brigade, 27th Infantry Battalion "B" Company. He was admitted to Ship's Hospital from 15th June, 1915 to 28th June, 1915 with Gonorrhoea.

Private Josiah William Osborne embarked from Alexandria on 4th September, 1915 to join M.E.F. at Gallipoli.

Private Josiah William Osborne was admitted to 13th Casualty Clearing Hospital at Anzac on 24th September, 1915 with severe Pyrrhoea. He was transferred to Mudros & admitted to 1st Australian Stationary Hospital at Lemnos on 26th September, 1915. Private Osborne was transferred to Convalescent Depot on 4th October, 1915 & was admitted to 24th Casualty Clearing Station at Mudros the same day with Pyrrhoea. He was transferred & admitted to Rest Camp at Mudros on 26th November, 1915 & discharged the next day – having been classified as "A". Private Osborne was admitted to Anzac Base on 27th November, 1915 from Rest Camp. He left Anzac Base on 29th December, 1915 & rejoined his Battalion on the same day.

Private Josiah William Osborne disembarked at Alexandria on 10th January 1916 from Mudros.

Private Josiah William Osborne was sent to 5th Field Ambulance at Ismalia on 1st February, 1916 with "Rheum." He was transferred to 7th Field Ambulance on 12th February, 1916 then rejoined his Battalion the same day.

Private Josiah William Osborne proceeded to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force) from Alexandria on 15th March, 1916 & disembarked at Marseilles, France on 21st March, 1916.

Private Josiah William Osborne was wounded in action in France on 5th August, 1916. He was admitted to No. 4 Australian Field Ambulance on 6th August, 1916 with shrapnel wounds to head & buttock then transferred the same day to No. 3 Casualty Clearing Station. Private Osborne was transferred on 7th August, 1916 & admitted to No. 13 General Hospital at Wimereux. He was transferred & embarked from Boulogne, France on 10th August, 1916 for England on Hospital Ship *Cambria* with GSW (gunshot wound/s) to scalp & buttock.

## **27th Battalion**

The 27th Battalion was raised in South Australia in March 1915, from recruits previously earmarked for the 24th Battalion, a large number of whom hailed from the suburbs of Adelaide. The battalion left Australia in June, and, after two months spent training in Egypt, landed at Gallipoli on 12 September.

At Gallipoli, the 7th Brigade, which included the 27th Battalion, reinforced the weary New Zealand and Australian Division. The 27th had a relatively quiet time at Gallipoli and the battalion departed the peninsula in December, having suffered only light casualties.

After another stint in Egypt, the 7th Brigade proceeded to France as part of the 2nd Australian Division. The 27th Battalion entered the front-line trenches for the first time on 7 April 1916 and took part in its first major battle at Pozieres between 28 July and 5 August.

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

### War Diary – 27th Battalion

*Night of August 4/5, 1916:*

*Attached position on left of BAPAUME Rd at 9 pm. Attacked and captured two lines of trenches and strong point at windmill.*

*Casualties Officers [1 named] killed, [2 named] missing, [7 named] wounded.*

*Other Ranks Killed 40, Wounded 289, Missing 67*

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

Private Josiah William Osborne was admitted to 1st Southern General Hospital, Birmingham, England on 10th August, 1916.

Private Josiah William Osborne died on 16th August, 1916 at 1st Southern General Hospital, Birmingham, England from wounds received in action in France – shrapnel wounds to buttocks, left foot & head.

A death for Josiah W. Osborne, aged 21, was registered in the September quarter, 1916 in the district of Birmingham, Warwickshire, England.

Private Josiah William Osborne was buried on 21st August, 1916 in Lodge Hill Cemetery, Birmingham, West Midlands, England – his name is remembered on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Screen Wall B10. 294 as he does not have a headstone.

Private Josiah William Osborne requested in his Will, dated 8th April, 1916, that in the event of his death he gives the whole of his belongings to his sister – Mrs H. I. McBain, 56 North Terrace, Hackney, South Australia.

Private Josiah William Osborne was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte Osborne's sister – Mrs A. J. Mutton, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent August, 1921 & Plaque sent July, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Josiah William Osborne – service number 410, aged 21, of 27th Battalion, Australian Infantry. He was the son of William and Hannah Elizabeth Osborne, of Tongala, South Australia.

Private J. W. Osborne is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 111.



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

J. W. Osborne is remembered on the National Soldiers Memorial in Adelaide. The Adelaide National War Memorial commemorates those from South Australia that served in the First World War. The names of those that died are listed inside the Memorial, which is located on the corner of North Terrace & Kintore Avenue, Adelaide.



**National War Memorial – Adelaide** (Photos by Bilby)



J. W. Osborne is remembered on the Peterborough Cenotaph, located in War Memorial Gardens, Main Street, Peterborough, South Australia.



**Peterborough Cenotaph** (Photos from Monument Australia – Glen Yeomans)



J. W. Osborne is remembered on the Peterborough Public School Honour Board which is located in the Town Hall, Main Street, Peterborough, South Australia.

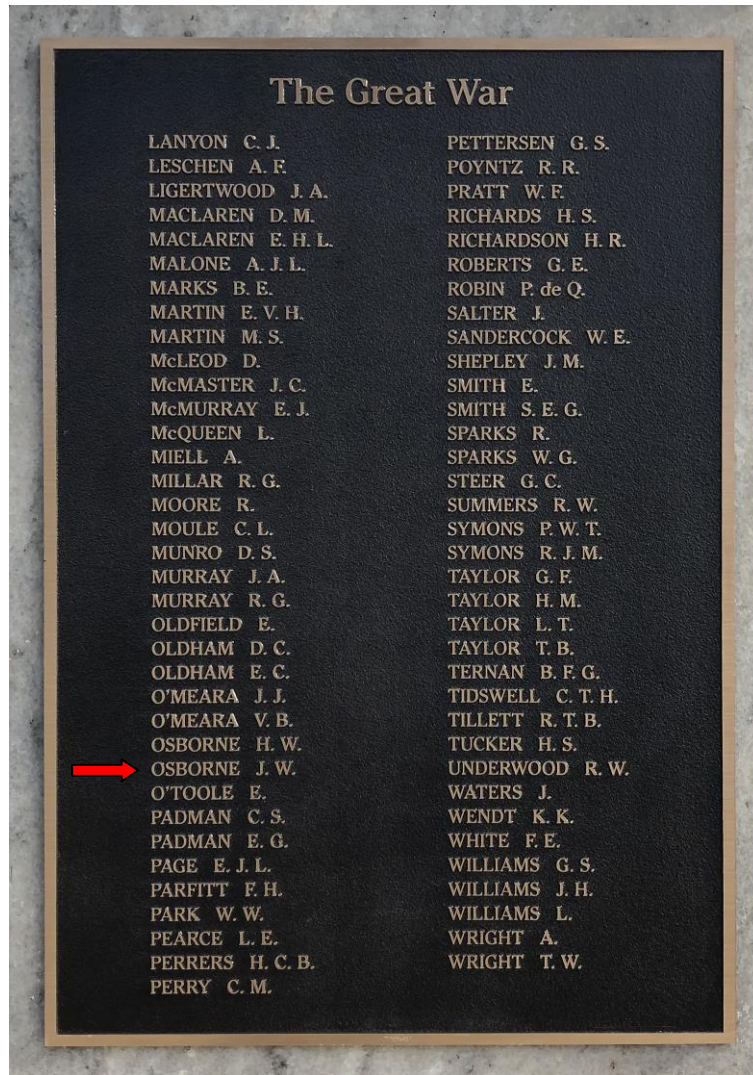


Peterborough Public School Honour Board (Photo from Virtual War Memorial Australia)

J. W. Osborne is remembered on the St. Peter's Heroes Memorial, located in St. Peters Street, St. Peters, South Australia. The memorial which was erected in 1922 was one of the Great War Memorials that did not feature the names of the fallen. A grant was awarded along with other funding & on 24th April, 2019 the memorial was re-dedicated with the names of 145 men from the suburbs of Hackney, College Park, East Adelaide, St. Peters, Stepney, Evandale and Maylands.







**St. Peters Heroes Memorial** (Photo courtesy of St Peters Residents Association Inc.)

(48 pages of Private Josiah William Osborne'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



## Newspaper Notices

### THE ROLL OF HONOUR

#### 206th CASUALTY LIST

#### SOUTH AUSTRALIA

#### Died of Wounds

410 Pte J. W. Osborne, Hackney, died August 16, 1916.

(The Advertiser, Adelaide, South Australia – 7 September, 1916)

## THE LATE PRIVATE J. W. OSBORNE

Private J. W. Osborne, who died of wounds on August 16 in the Birmingham General Hospital was the son of the late Mr William Osborne of Petersburg and Yongala and a brother of Mesdames A. J. Mutton (Port Lincoln) and H. I. MacBain (North-terrace St Peters). He enlisted in January, 1915 and left South Australia for the front on May 31.

*(The Express and Telegraph, Adelaide, South Australia – 20 September, 1916)*

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## THE WAR

Private J. W. Osborne, who died of wounds on August 16 in the Birmingham General Hospital was the son of the late Mr William Osborne of Petersburg and Yongala and a brother of Mesdames A. J. Mutton (Port Lincoln) and H. I. MacBain (North-terrace St Peters). He enlisted in January, 1915 and left South Australia for the front on May 31.



*(The Advertiser, Adelaide, South Australia – 21 September, 1916) & (Chronicle, Adelaide, South Australia – 7 October, 1916)*

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## DIED ON ACTIVE SERVICE

OSBORNE – On the 16th August, at the Birmingham General Hospital, from wounds received in action, Josiah William Osborne, son of the late William Osborne, of Petersburg and Yongala. – Inserted by his sister, H. MacBain.

*(Chronicle, Adelaide, South Australia – 23 September, 1916)*

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## **HEROES OF THE GREAT WAR**

OSBORNE – In loving memory of Private Jesse Osborne, 27th Battalion, who died in Birmingham, August 16, 1916 of wounds received in action at Pozieres, aged 21 years 3 months. “Thy will be done.” – Inserted by his sister, Hilda McBain.

OSBORNE – A tribute to the memory of our friend, Private J. W. (Joss) Osborne, 27th Battalion, who died of wounds received in France, August 16, 1916. – Inserted by his friends, S. and C. E. Parks, Port Pirie.

*(The Advertiser, Adelaide, South Australia – 16 August, 1917)*

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## **HEROES OF THE GREAT WAR**

OSBORNE – A tribute to the memory of our dear friend, Private J. W. Osborne (Joss), who died of wounds in France, August 16, 1916. “Called to a higher service.” – Inserted by Sylv. and C. E. Parks, Port Pirie.

*(The Advertiser, Adelaide, South Australia – 19 August, 1918)*

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## **HEROES OF THE GREAT WAR**

OSBORNE – In sad and loving memory of my dear brother, Private Josiah William Osborne, 27th Battalion, who died of wounds received in action August 16, 1916, in Birmingham, England.

God will clasp the broken chain

Closer when we meet again.

-Inserted by his sister, Hilda I. McBain

*(The Advertiser, Adelaide, South Australia – 19 August, 1919) & (Chronicle, Adelaide, South Australia – 23 August, 1919)*

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## 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 Josiah William Osborne 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)*



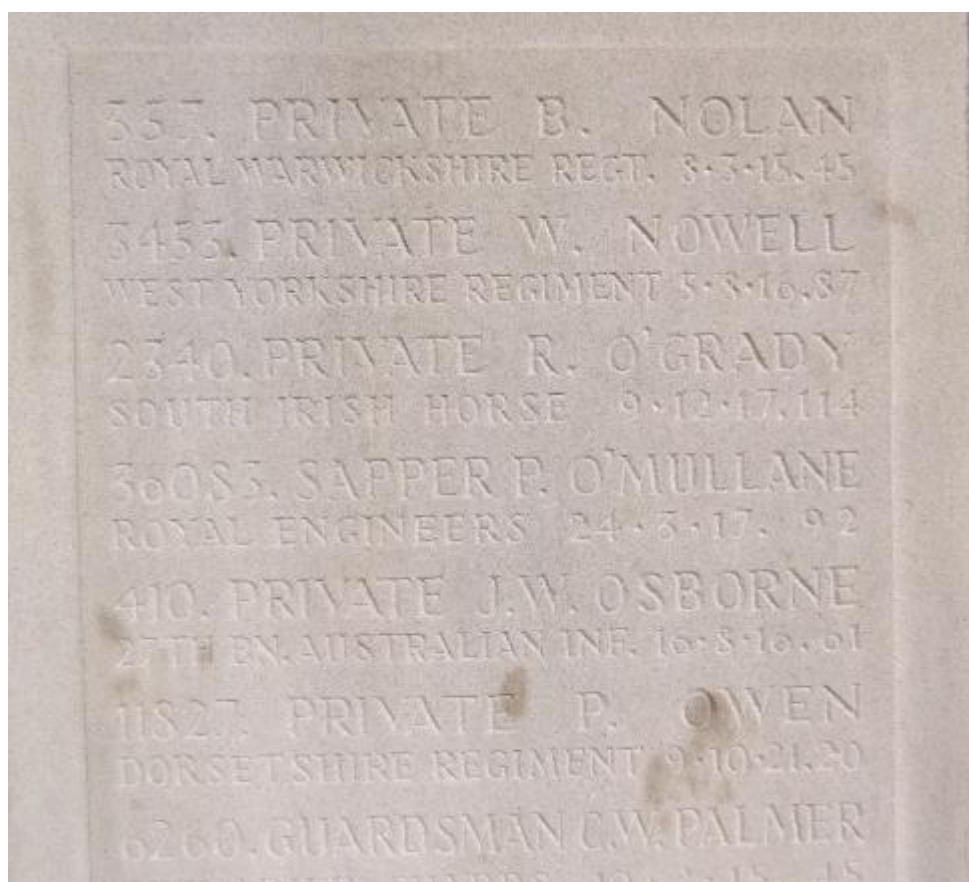


**Lodge Hill Cemetery, Birmingham** (*Photos from CWGC*)





Photo of Private J. W. Osborne'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

