

**All Saints Churchyard,  
Ecclesall, Yorkshire  
War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**LIEUTENANT**

**J. A. SORBY**

**AUST. FIELD ARTILLERY**

**4TH APRIL, 1918**

## Joseph Austin SORBY

Joseph Austin Sorby was born in late 1895 at Newcastle, NSW to parents Charles Edward & Helen Sorby (nee Law).

Joseph Austin Sorby attended Camberwell Grammar School, Melbourne, Victoria.

Joseph Austin Sorby was a 21 year old, single, Clerk from 13 Hildebrandt Crescent, Grace Park, Hawthorn, Victoria when he enlisted on 13th December, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 19823 & his religion was Presbyterian. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr C. E. Sorby, of 13 Hildebrandt Crescent, Grace Park, Hawthorn, Victoria. Joseph Sorby stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served for 4 years with Citizen Forces Australian Field Artillery, 25th Battery, Albert Park, Victoria.

Joseph Austin Sorby was posted to Field Artillery Reinforcements as Gunner on 17th January, 1916. He was transferred to 30th Battery, 8th F.A.B. (Field Artillery Brigade) on 1st April, 1916.

Gunner Joseph Austin Sorby embarked from Melbourne, Victoria on HMAT *Medic (A7)* on 20th May, 1916 with the 8th Field Artillery Brigade, 30th Battery & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 18th July, 1916.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. Some of these were located in the Salisbury Plain & surrounding areas in the county of Wiltshire.

Gunner Joseph Austin Sorby was promoted to P (Provisional)/Bombardier in England on 19th August, 1916. He was then promoted to Bombardier on the same day.

Bombardier Joseph Austin Sorby was sent to Hospital on 13th December, 1916 with Influenza & rejoined his Brigade from Hospital on 14th December, 1916.

Bombardier Joseph Austin Sorby proceeded overseas to France on 30th December, 1916.

Bombardier Joseph Austin Sorby was transferred from 30th Battery to 31st Battery on 6th January, 1917. He was also promoted to Temporary Corporal to complete establishment at re-organization of 3rd Divisional Artillery on 6th January, 1917 then promoted to Corporal to complete establishment the same day.

Corporal Joseph Austin Sorby was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant on 8th October, 1917.

Commonwealth of Australia Gazette – 7 February, 1918:

### **AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, ETC**

#### **ARTILLERY**

##### **4th AUSTRALIAN DIVISION**

*To be 2nd Lieutenants-*

*Corporal JOSEPH AUSTIN SORBY, 3rd Divisional Artillery, 8th October, 1917.*

2nd Lieutenant Joseph Austin Sorby was posted to 30th Battery, 8th Field Artillery Brigade on 8th October, 1917. He was transferred to 29th Battery on 28th October, 1917.

2nd Lieutenant Joseph Austin Sorby was sent to Hospital sick on 31st December, 1917. He was admitted to New Zealand Station Hospital then transferred to 59th General Hospital at Wisques on 31st December, 1917 with Appendicitis. 2nd Lieutenant Sorby was transferred to 7th General Hospital at St. Omer, France on 31st December, 1917. He was invalided to England on Hospital Ship *St. Patrick* on 13th January, 1918.

2nd Lieutenant Joseph Austin Sorby was promoted to Lieutenant on 8th January, 1918 – A.I.F. List 296.

Lieutenant Joseph Austin Sorby was admitted to 3rd London General Hospital, Wandsworth, England on 14th January, 1918 & his appendix was removed that day. He was discharged to Sutton Veny, Wiltshire on 12th March, 1918.

A Medical Report was completed on Lieutenant J. A. Sorby on 25th February, 1918 after his Appendectomy. Lieut Sorby stated that in 1914 "he sprained himself rowing and had pain in left epigastric region and was under treatment a fortnight, Since then he has had occasional attacks of pain in that region, more frequent the last 4 months. The pain last 2 hours and is of a dragging character. He has had the pain ever since he got up from the operation." The Medical Board found that Lieutenant Joseph Austin Sorby was not fit for General Service for 2 months & not fit for Home Service for 1 month. He was fit for light duty at Home.

Lieutenant Joseph Austin Sorby was detached to 2nd Army Artillery School from 9th February, 1918.

Lieutenant Joseph Austin Sorby was admitted to 3rd Northern General Hospital, Sheffield, Yorkshire, England on 12th March, 1918 with a Duodenal ulcer.

Lieutenant Joseph Austin Sorby died on 4th April, 1918 at 3rd Northern General Hospital, Sheffield, Yorkshire, England from Duodenal Ulcer & General Peritonitis.

A death for Joseph A. Sorby, aged 23, was registered in the June quarter, 1918 in the district of Sheffield, Yorkshire, West Riding.

Newspaper article – *Sheffield Daily Telegraph*, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, England – 5 April, 1918:

#### **LOCAL OFFICERS IN LISTS OF CASUALTIES**

*The death took place yesterday at Sheffield Royal Infirmary of Lieut. Joseph Austin Sorby, Australian Field Artillery, a member of a well-known Sheffield family. Lieut. Sorby, who was 23 years of age, was the elder son of Mr C. E. Sorby, of Melbourne, and grandson of the late Mr T. A. Sorby, of Park Grange, Sheffield. Prior to joining the army, he was associated with the Australian branch of the business of Messrs B. K. Moron and Co. steel manufacturers, of Sheffield. He enlisted in the Australian Field Artillery, the same branch of the service as that in which he had trained for home defence, as soon as he attained his 21st birthday. A few months later, in June, 1916, he landed in England, and underwent further training on Salisbury Plain. On the last day of December, 1916, the division crossed to France.*

*Lieut. Sorby went through the summer and autumn campaigns, from the taking of the Messines Ridge to the storming of Passchendaele. During this period he was twice mentioned in dispatches. The first time was for rescuing, single-handed, under heavy shell fire, three men whose wagon section had been knocked out by a direct hit. The second mention was for service on the Menin Road, where he and one other man continued to serve their gun after all the rest of the crew had become casualties, until a shell exploded in the gun pit, killing his companion, Gunner Goodling. For this, he received a commission on the field. It is peculiarly sad that a brave young life like that of Lieut. Sorby should be cut short. He was sent home on sick leave in January, and underwent an operation in the Royal Infirmary, to which he succumbed yesterday. The funeral will take place to-morrow at Ecclesall, starting from Stumperlowe Grange.*

Newspaper article – *Sheffield Telegraph*, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, England – 6 April, 1918:

#### **SORBY Lt Joseph Austin Australian Field Artillery**

*Elder son of Mr & Mrs C. Sorby of Melbourne, Australia. Grandson of the late Thomas Austin Sorby of Park Grange, Sheffield. Nephew of Mr & Mrs Chas. A. Laycock, Stumperlowe Grange. Internment today at Ecclesall 1pm. Leaving Stumperlowe Grange 1.15.*

Lieutenant Joseph Austin Sorby was buried on 6th April, 1918 in All Saints Churchyard, Ecclesall, Yorkshire, England – (North of Church Tower) just behind the Sorby Family Vault, Old Portion of Cemetery and now has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Lieutenant Joseph Austin Sorby – Military Funeral. *Coffin was Pitch Pine Shell pitched inside, richly upholstered cloth covered outside and enclosed in English Oak coffin with raised moulded lid and solid brass fittings.*

Newspaper article – *Sheffield Evening Telegraph*, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, England – 6 April, 1918:

### **FUNERAL OF LIEUTENANT J. A. SORBY**

*With befitting and impressive ceremonial the funeral took place, to-day, at Ecclesall Church, of Lieutenant Joseph Austin Sorby, of the Australian Field Artillery, elder son of Mr and Mrs C. E. Sorby, of Melbourne, Australia, grandson of the late Mr Thomas Austin Sorby, of Park Grange, Sheffield, and nephew of Mr and Mrs Charles A. Laycock, Stumperlowe Grange, who died on the 4th inst in the Royal Infirmary, Sheffield. The body was removed to Stumperlow Grange, and was conveyed to the church on a gun carriage. The coffin was covered with the Union Jack, and on it lay the deceased officer's sword and hat. The pall bearers were Lieutenants Gasoigne, Leigh, Pickering, Scollok, Eddison, and Van Heel, all of the 51st Queen's. Lieutenant Williams (of the 51st Queen's) was in charge of the firing party, composed of men of the 51st Queen's and Buglers.*

*The mourners were the Rev. A. E. Sorby (Rural Dean of Darfield), (uncle); Mr and Mrs Charles Laycock (uncle and aunt), the Misses Sorby (aunts), Mrs and Miss Oxford (Pontefract) (aunt and cousin); Mr and Mrs Austin Sorby (cousins); Mrs Norman Roberts (cousin), Mrs Trevor Spittle (cousin), and Miss Roberts (Park Grange), Mr C. D. Leng, Mr B. K. Morton, and Miss Wightman.*

*Amongst those who also attended the service at the church were Sir Samuel Roberts, M.P., Captain Harvey, R.A.M.C., 2nd Lieut. Macmurray, Cameron Highlanders, and 2nd Lieut. S. R. Walker, York and Lancaster Regiment.*

*The officiating clergyman was the Rev. Stanley Howard, C.F., 3rd Northern General Hospital. The hymn was "Jesu lover of my soul." Mr C. Richmond, the organist, played "O Rest in the Lord" as the cortege entered the church, and Chopin's "Funeral March" at the conclusion of the service.*

*Three volleys were fired over the grave, and the "Last Post" sounded.*

*There were several lovely floral tributes, including the following:- "In ever affectionate memory of our dear and brave son and brother," from Father, Mother and Douglas; the Rev. A. E. Sorby, Mr and Mrs Charles Laycock, the Misses Sorby, Miss Jane Roberts, Mr and Mrs T. H. and Violet Sorby, Mrs Arthur Sorby and family, Rev. and Mrs Ernest Sorby, Mr B. K. Morton, Lieut. T. W. Robertson, Sir Samuel Roberts, M.P., and Lady Roberts, and the sisters and patients (Ward 27), Third Northern General Hospital.*

*The funeral arrangements were carried out by Messrs Cole Brothers. Ltd.*

Joseph Austin Sorby requested in his Will, dated 23rd August, 1917 that all his real & personal estate be bequeathed to his mother – Helen Robertson Sorby, wife of Charles Edward Sorby, of Hilda Crescent, Grace Park, Hawthorn, Victoria (manufacturer & Importer). Charles Edward Sorby was appointed Executor of the Will.

Lieutenant Joseph Austin Sorby was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Lieutenant Sorby's father – Mr C. E. Sorby, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent February, 1922 & Plaque sent December, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Lieutenant Joseph Austin Sorby, 8th Bde., Australian Field Artillery. He was the son of Charles Edward and Helen R. Sorby, of 16 Moore St., Hawthorn, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.

Lieutenant J. A. Sorby is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 15.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

Lieut. A. Sorby is remembered on the Hawthorn Rowing Club War Memorial, located at Palmer Place, Burwood Road,(near Hawthorn Bridge), Hawthorn, Victoria, Australia.



**Hawthorn Rowing Club War Memorial** (Photos from Monument Australia – Kent Watson)



Newspaper item – *The Herald*, Melbourne, Victoria – 11 October, 1919:

## **ROWING**

### ***Hawthorn Opens Season***

*At Hawthorn this afternoon the opening of the rowing season was marked by the holding of scratch four-oared races and a women's day.*

*A string band was in attendance, and a committee of women served afternoon tea.*

*A vice-president of the club, the father of a young oarsman of great promise, has had erected a hundred yards from the shed an 8ft. granite column, in memory of Hawthorn oarsmen who fell in the great war. The memorial is placed high above the flood mark, on a tier of terraced garden, where two paths diverge, among flowered and shrubs. The Hawthorn Council has undertaken to have rails erected. The inscription is brief – "They fought, they fell." The*

monument bears the names of the following eight Hawthorn oarsmen who made the supreme sacrifice:- Lieut. L. G. Guy, Lieut. A. Sorby, Lieut. L. Patterson, Corp. S. Little, Driver R. Berriman, Private K. Jones, W. O'Shea, T. Davies.

The monument was draped with a flag. The Mayor of Hawthorn (Councillor Sandell) who unveiled it, said the Council felt delight in granting a site for such an object. Lieutenant Hill responded on behalf of the returned soldier members. In an impressive silence, Private Kneebone sounded the last Post.....

The Hawthorn Cenotaph, located in St. James Park, Burwood Road, Hawthorn, Victoria, does not list individual names.



**The Hawthorn Cenotaph** ((Photo from Monument Australia)

Joseph Austin Sorby is remembered as a Hawthorn Victorian Football Association Player.





Hawthorn War Service Cabinet (Photos courtesy of Rachel Bradshaw – Hawks Museum)





**Hawthorn War Service Cabinet** (Photo courtesy of Rachel Bradshaw – Hawks Museum)

(85 pages of Lieutenant Joseph Austin Sorby'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



**Lieutenant Joseph Austin Sorby**

(Photo from Sheffield Daily Telegraph - 24 October 1917)



## **Newspaper Notices**

### **Australians and the War**

#### **Promotions**

Corp. J. A. Sorby, son of Mr C. E. Sorby, Hilda-crescent, Grace Park, Hawthorn, has received his commission on the field. Lieut. Sorby, who is in the 8th Field Artillery Brigade, left Australia in May, 1916, and has been in Flanders for 12 months.

(*The Age*, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia – 26 December, 1917)

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#### **DEATHS**

SORBY – April 4th, at the Royal Infirmary, Sheffield, Lieut. Joseph Austin Sorby, aged 23, Australian Field Artillery, elder son of Mr and Mrs C. E. Corby, of Melbourne, Australia, grandson of the late Thos. Austin Sorby, of Park Grange, Sheffield, and nephew of Mr and Mrs Chas. A. Laycock, Stumperlowe Grange. Interment at Ecclesall, Saturday. Time to be given later.

(*Sheffield Daily Telegraph*, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, England - 5 April, 1918)

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#### **DIED ON SERVICE**

SORBY – On the 4th April, 1918 (private cable), at Hospital, Sheffield, after an operation, Lieutenant Joseph Austin Sorby, eldest son of Mr and Mrs C. E. Sorby, "Lawton," Grace Park, Hawthorn, aged 23 years.

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia – 8 April, 1918)

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#### **DEATHS**

##### **On Active Service**

SORBY (Private Cable) - On the 4th April, at Military Hospital, Sheffield, England, after an operation, Lieutenant Joseph Austin Sorby, 29th Battery, 8th Field Artillery Brigade, beloved son of Mr and Mrs C. E. Sorby, Grace Park, Hawthorn, and loving brother of Douglas, aged 23 years.

He answered his country's call.

SORBY – Died in Sheffield, England, on the 4th April, Lieutenant Joseph Austin Sorby, A.I.F., loved nephew of Mr and Mrs J. A. Law, Mr and Mrs Wm. C. Law, Mr and Mrs H. W. Law and Mr and Mrs C. A. Laycock.

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia – 8 April, 1918) & (*The Age*, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia – 8 April, 1918)

&

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia – 13 April, 1918)

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#### **ROWING NOTES**

Lieut. Austin Sorby, of the Hawthorn club, has died of wounds received in France. He did a fair amount of rowing with his club before enlisting, his last appearance being in the maiden eight-oared crew, which won at Henley in 1914.

(*The Australasian*, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia – 13 April, 1918)

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## **AQUATICS**

### **ROWING NOTES**

The Hawthorn club has lost another of its members on active service, Lieut. A. Sorby, who has died of wounds. Lieut. Sorby competed at a few regattas prior to his enlistment, and rowed No. 8 in the Hawthorn crew which won the Maiden Eight at Henly in 1914.

(*Leader*, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia – 27 April, 1918)

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### **DIED ON SERVICE**

SORBY – A tribute to the memory of my dear loved friend and comrade, Lieut. Austin Sorby, 8th F.A. Brigade, who died April 4, 1918, in Military Hospital, Sheffield, England. (Inserted by Bmbdr. Geoff Browne, 8th F.A. Brigade).

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia – 20 April, 1918) & (*The Australasian*, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia – 27 April, 1918)

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## **WAR OFFICE WEEKLY CASUALTY LIST, APRIL 30th, 1918**

### **PART II**

#### **OFFICERS**

##### **AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE**

###### **DIED**

Sorby, Lt. J. A., Aust. Arty.

(*Weekly Casualty List (War Office & Air Ministry)*, London – 30 April, 1918)

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## **ROLL OF HONOUR**

### **VICTORIAN LIST**

#### **DIED OF ILLNESS**

Lieut. J. A. SORBY, Hawthorn, 4/4/18

(*Weekly Times*, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia – 4 May, 1918)

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## **IN MEMORIAM**

### **On Active Service**

SORBY – In ever affectionate memory of our beloved son and brother, Lieut. Austin Sorby, 8th Field Artillery Brigade, who died in hospital, England, April 4, 1918. (M and C. Sorby, Hilda crescent, Grace Park, Hawthorn).

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia – 4 April, 1919)

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## **IN MEMORIAM**

### **On Active Service**

SORBY – In ever affectionate memory of our beloved son and brother, Lieut. Austin Sorby, 8th Field Artillery Brigade, who died in hospital, England, 4th April 1918.

(*The Age*, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia – 4 April, 1919)

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**IN MEMORIAM**

**On Active Service**

SORBY – In loving memory of Lieut. J. A. Sorby (Aus.), 8th F.A.B., died in the Sheffield Military Hospital on the 4th April, 1918. (Inserted by E. Towns.)

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia – 5 April, 1919)

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**IN MEMORIAM**

**On Active Service**

SORBY – In memory of my dear friend, Austin Sorby, lieutenant, 8th A.F.A., who died in hospital, at Sheffield, 4th April, 1917.

One who was a friend indeed

- (Inserted by Geoffrey H. Bourne, Berri, South Australia)

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia – 5 April, 1920)

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**IN MEMORIAM**

**On Active Service**

SORBY – In fond memory of my dear friend, Austin Sorby, died at Sheffield, England, April 4, 1918. (Inserted by Geoffrey Browne)

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia – 4 April, 1921)

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**IN MEMORIAM**

**On Active Service**

SORBY – In loving memory of my dear friend, Lieutenant Austin J. Sorby, late 8th F.A. Brigade, A.I.F., who died at Sheffield, April 4, 1918. (Inserted by Geoff. Browne, Berri, South Australia.)

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia – 4 April, 1923)

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**IN MEMORIAM**

**On Active Service**

SORBY – In memory of my dear friend, Lieut. Austin Sorby, who died at Sheffield, England, 4th April, 1918. (Inserted by Jeffrey Browne.)

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia – 6 April, 1925)

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**IN MEMORIAM**

**On Active Service**

SORBY – In fond memory of Lieutenant Austin Sorby, A.I.F., who died at Sheffield, England, on April 4, 1918. (Inserted by his friend Geoffrey H. Browne.)

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia – 6 April, 1926)

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## IN MEMORIAM

### On Active Service

SORBY – In memory of my dear friend, Lieutenant Austin Sorby, who died at Sheffield on April 4, 1918. (Inserted by Geoffrey H. Browne)

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia – 4 April, 1927)

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## IN MEMORIAM

### On Active Service

SORBY – In memory of my dear friend, Lieutenant Austin Sorby, who died at Sheffield on April 4, 1918. (Inserted by Geoffrey H. Browne, Berri, S. A.)

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia – 4 April, 1928)

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## IN MEMORIAM

### On Active Service

SORBY – In memory of Lieutenant Austin Sorby, of the Australian Imperial Force, who died at Sheffield on the 4th April, 1918. (Inserted by Geoffrey H. Browne, Berri, S. A.)

(*The Argus*, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia – 6 April, 1929)

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## Restoring Pennies Brings Peace for Many

by Kim Fawkes



### Dead Man's Penny

Somewhere among the graves and rusting wrought ironwork in Box Hill Cemetery is a memorial grave to Lieutenant Joseph Austin Sorby. He died in April 1918, leaving his parents, Charles Edward and Helen Sorby, to mourn his loss.

When I came across Joseph's memorial in 2016, I saw an indentation at the foot of the grave. Did a vase once stand there or some other monument I thought? I did not know it then, but Joseph's father had placed there something he valued highly – a commemorative war medallion known as a "Dead Man's Penny" as a memorial to his son. Why it was missing I had no idea; whatever the reason, it was no longer where it should be.

Moving along, I came across another grave missing a Penny. With no first or second names, only a birth and death date, I decided to see if I could identify this soldier. Thomas, his father, was born on 14 October 1843 and died on 6 November 1929. Rachael Ann, Thomas's wife, was born on 10 February 1860 and died on 21 January 1956. Using their surname and Box Hill as my keywords, an internet search revealed Thomas had a son whose birth date of 5 February 1891 and death date of 19 April 1917 matched the details on the grave. Albert William Cook joined the Imperial Camel Corps only to be killed in action on 19 July 1917 at Gaza, Palestine.

Near Albert's memorial grave is that of a soldier, killed in action at Fromelles on 19 July 1916. There had once been a Penny on the grave, now gone. With few personal details to go by, I used the same research tools I'd used previously to identify William as this missing soldier. More than 5500 Australians were killed, wounded or captured in

this, the first action for many, on the Western Front. They may simply been written off as a casualty of war, “Known Unto God”, had it not been for the efforts of Lambis Englezos, an Australian school teacher whose efforts to find “the missing” resulted in the discovery of 250 Australian and British soldiers in a mass grave at Pheasant Wood, Fromelles, in 2009. Of these men, 203 were identified as Australians with 75 identified by name through DNA testing. Sadly, no trace was found of William.

Of the more than 40 000 graves and memorials in Box Hill Cemetery, I have identified fourteen Dead Man Pennies on or missing from graves. The then RSL State President, Major-General Sir David McLachlan, said:

*“... it's absolutely despicable for people to desecrate the final resting place of others. Cemeteries are a place for people to express grief and remember. Anything that violates that is out of order”.*

Lost or stolen, I had no idea where the Pennies had gone to, but I vowed there and then to do something about this injustice.

With the support of The White Horse Leader newspaper, I launched a project in May of 2016 to fund the replacement cost of the missing Pennies. Through donations large and small, replica Pennies were obtained, which, when engraved with the soldier's name, will be returned to the graves, completing a story that began more than 100 years ago. Donations are accepted for this worthy project.

*(Burwood Bulletin – 20 May, 2017)*



**Replica Death Penny replaced on Lieutenant J. A. Sorby's headstone in Box Hill Cemetery**

*(Photo & replacement of Death Penny due to Kim Fawkes)*

Lieutenant Joseph Austin Sorby is remembered on his parents' headstone in Box Hill Cemetery, Victoria.



*(Headstone photo courtesy of Julie N. and Barbara F.)*

*In Loving Memory of*

*My Dear Husband*

**CHARLES EDWARD SORBY**

*Died 1ST June 1929 Aged 66 Years.*

**Also Our Loved Son**

**LIEUT. JOSEPH AUSTIN**

**A.I.F.**

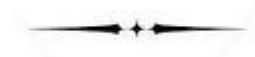
**Who Died On Active Service**

**4TH April, 1918 Aged 23 Years.**

*Also Our Dear Mother*

**HELEN R. SORBY**

*Died 20TH March 1935*



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)*

Lieutenant J. A. Sorby does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

**All Saints Churchyard, Ecclesall, Yorkshire, England**

All Saints Churchyard, Ecclesall contains 32 Commonwealth War Graves – 14 from World War 1 & 18 from World War 2.



**Lych Gate at All Saints Church, Ecclesall** (Photo by Graham Hogg)



**All Saints Church, Ecclesall** (Photo by Mike Berrell)



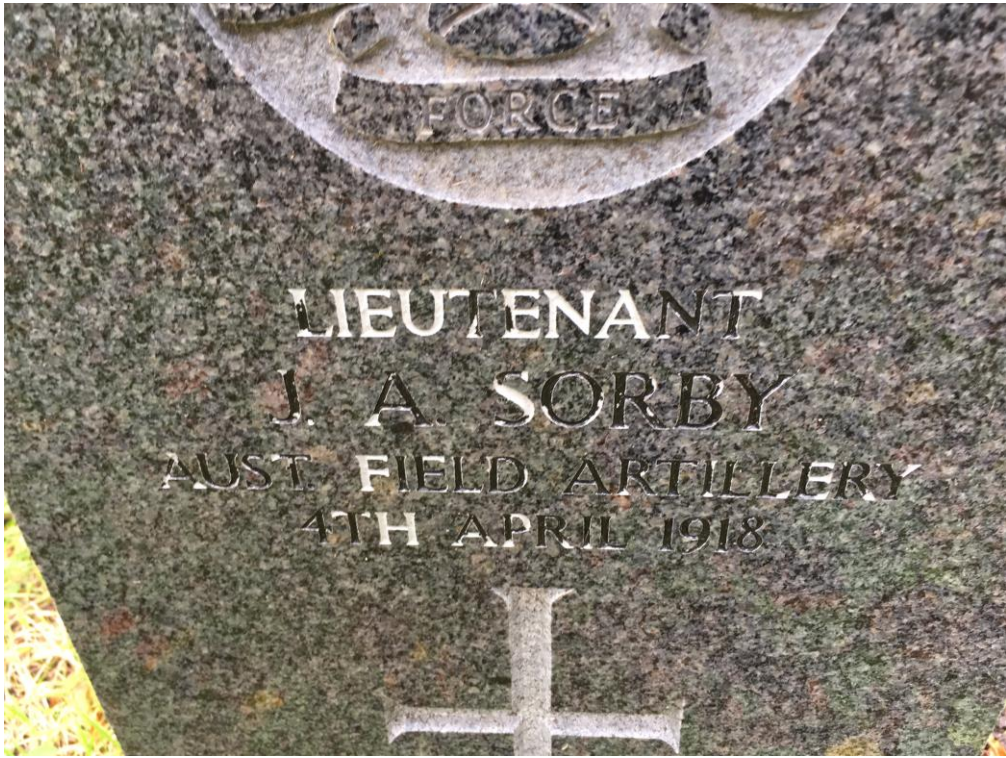
Photo of Lieutenant J. A. Sorby's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in All Saints Churchyard, Ecclesall, Yorkshire, England.



*(Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett)*



**Lieutenant J. A. Sorby's Headstone – May, 2018** *(Photos courtesy of Sally Hunter, All Saints Ecclesall Church)*



All Saints Church, Ecclesall (Photo by Mike Berrell)