

**Walton-on-Thames Cemetery,
Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, England**

War Grave



Lest We Forget

World War 1



8/787 PRIVATE

J. L. PORTER

OTAGO REGIMENT

NEW ZEALAND EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

26TH OCTOBER, 1915 Age 24

James Livingstone PORTER

James Livingstone Porter was born on 8th November, 1891 in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia to parents William John and Isabella Porter (nee Cumming).

James Livingstone Porter was a 22 year old Moulder (with Cossens & Black at Dunedin, New Zealand) when he enlisted on 21st September, 1914 at Dunedin with the New Zealand Expeditionary Force (N.Z.E.F.). His service number was 8/787 & his religion was Presbyterian. His next of kin was listed as his father William John Porter, of 7 Bradshaw Road, South Dunedin, New Zealand. James Porter stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served with No. 2 Field Ambulance & had been transferred to 4th Regiment. He had a tattoo of his left forearm.

Private James Livingstone Porter was posted to 4th Otago Infantry Battalion for recruit training.

Private James Livingstone Porter embarked from Port Chalmers, Dunedin, New Zealand on HMNZT 5 - *Ruapehu* on 15th October, 1914 & disembarked at Alexandria on 3rd December, 1914.

Private James Livingstone Porter was wounded at Dardanelles in May, 1915.

Private James Livingstone Porter was admitted to Hospital Ship *Franconia* at Dardanelles on 6th May, 1915 with G.S.W. (gunshot wound/s) to Head. He was transferred & admitted to 17th General Hospital at Alexandria on 11th May, 1915 with G.S.W. to Head – severe. Private Porter was transferred to Hospital Ship *Nevasha* on 15th May, 1915 for England.

Private James Livingstone Porter was admitted to Southern General Hospital, Birmingham, England (no date recorded).

Private James Livingstone Porter was admitted to The New Zealand Military Hospital, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, England (no date recorded). He was reported as dangerously ill on 21st October, 1915.

Private James Livingstone Porter died at 6.45 pm on 26th October, 1915 at The New Zealand Military Hospital, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, England from Meningitis following Gunshot wounds to Head. The Death of a Soldier (Army Form B. 2090) recorded the cause of death as (1) Shrapnel wound to right side of face (2) Septic Meningitis.

A death for James L. Porter, aged 24, was registered in the December quarter, 1915 in the district of Chertsey, Surrey, England.

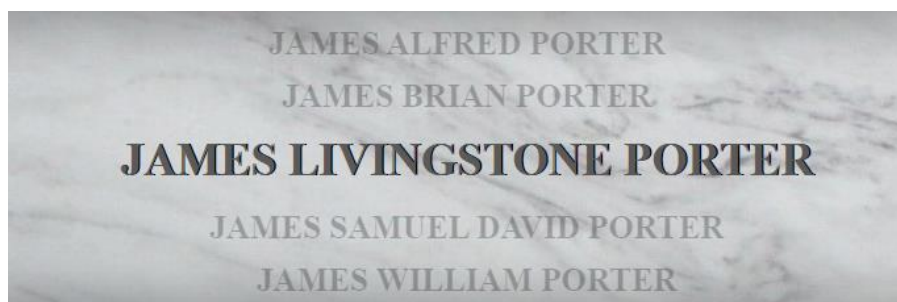
Private James Livingstone Porter was buried on 29th October, 1915 in Walton-On-Thames Cemetery, Walton-On-Thames, Surrey, England – Screen Wall 407. His death is acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Private James Livingstone Porter was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Porter's father – Mr William John Porter, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent June, 1921 & Plaque sent February, 1922).

The Gallipoli Medal was issued on 15th November, 1967 in respect of the service of the late Private James Livingstone Porter.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private James Livingstone Porter – service number 8/787, aged 24, of Otago Regiment, New Zealand Expeditionary Force. He was the son of William John Porter and Isabella Porter, of 1 Lundie St., Roslyn, Dunedin. Served in Egypt and Gallipoli.

James Livingstone Porter is remembered on the Auckland Museum's Online Cenotaph.

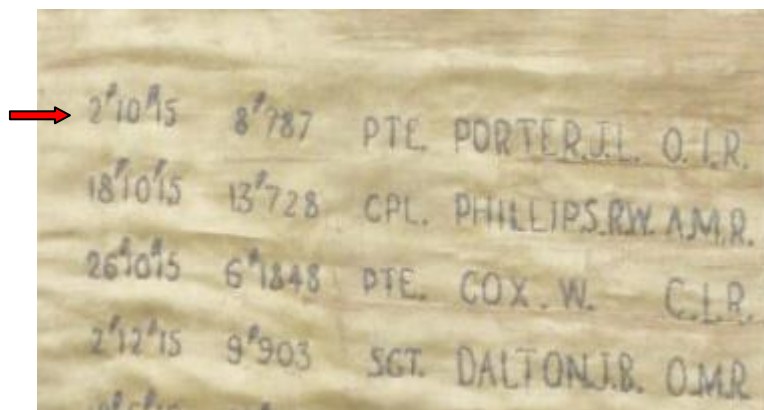


Private J. L. Porter is remembered on the St. Mary's Walton-on-Thames Roll of Honour, Surrey, England which lists the names of all those who are buried in the Churchyard & were treated at the No. 2 New Zealand General Hospital.



St. Mary's Walton-on-Thames Roll of Honour, Surrey, England

Private J. L. Porter is also named on a Memorial Banner honouring the 19 New Zealand Soldiers who died during World War 1 & were buried in the churchyard of St. Mary's Church, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, England.

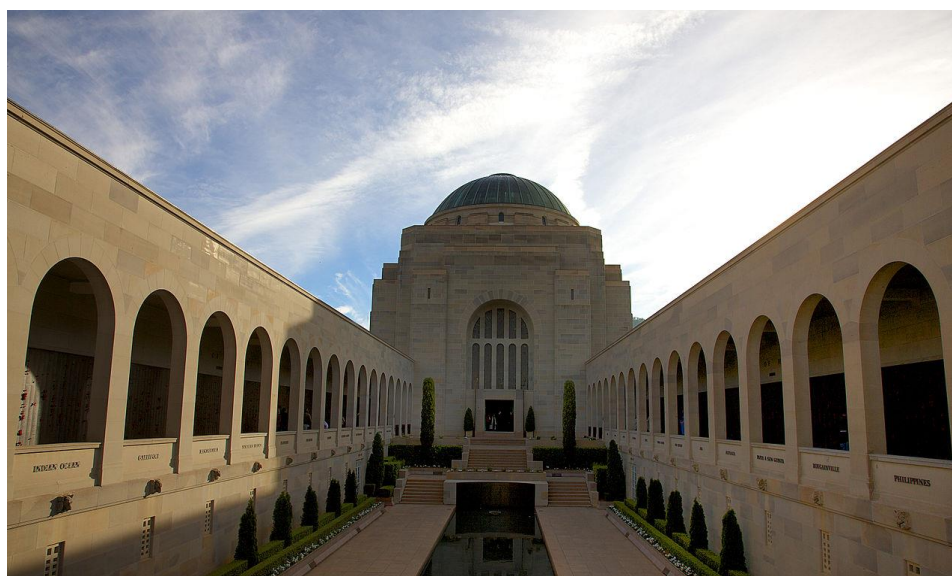


At the time of researching (February, 2021) Private James Livingstone Porter was NOT listed on the Commemorative Roll Book, located in the Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra. The Commemorative Roll records the names of those Australians who died during or as a result of wars in which Australians served, but who were not serving in the Australian Armed Forces and therefore not eligible for inclusion on the Roll of Honour.

Private James Livingstone Porter's name was submitted in February, 2021 for consideration for inclusion on the Australian War Memorial's Commemorative Roll.



Commemorative Roll (Photo from AWM)



Commemorative Area of the Australian War Memorial (Capital Photographer)

(21 pages of Private James Livingstone Porter's Service records are available for On Line viewing at Archives New Zealand online).

Information obtained from the CWGC & Archives New Zealand



A special Thank you to Graham Grist for bring this Soldier to my attention



Private James Livingstone Porter (*Photo from Otago Witness - 17 November, 1915*)

Newspaper Notices

THE LATEST LIST

WOUNDED

OTAGO BATTALION

8-787, Private James Livingstone Porter (William J. Porter, 7 Bradshaw street, South Dunedin, father).

(*Press*, New Zealand – 15 May, 1915)

NEW ZEALAND

1007 OFFICERS AND MEN

WOUNDED

Privates.....James Livingstone Porter.....

(*The Sydney Morning Herald*, NSW – 17 May, 1915)

PROGRESS OF WOUNDED

IN FIRST SOUTHERN GENERAL HOSPITAL, BIRMINGHAM

Porter, Pte James Livingston (No.8/787); Otago Battalion

(*Dominion*, New Zealand – 5 June, 1915)

SICK AND WOUNDED

HOW THEY ARE PROGRESSING

OTAGO BATTALION

(Dangerously Ill, N.Z. Hospital, Eng.)

Porter, James Livingston, 8/787, Pte. (W. J. Porter), 7, Bradshaw-street, Dunedin South, father)

(*Evening Post*, New Zealand – 25 October, 1915)

ROLL OF HONOUR

DIED FROM SICKNESS

OTAGO BATTALION

Porter, Pte James Livingston (No.8/787). Next-of-kin, Mr W. John Porter, 7 Bradshaw Road, South Dunedin (father)
(Died of meningitis, following gunshot wounds, Walton Hospital, October 26)

(*Dominion*, New Zealand – 4 November, 1915)

FOR KING AND COUNTRY

PORTER – On 26th October, at Walton Hospital (England), of meningitis, following gunshot wounds, James Livingstone, eldest son of W. J. Porter, 7 Bradshaw road, Dunedin South; aged 24 years.

“Greater love hath no man than this;
that he lay down his life for his friends.”

(Evening Star, New Zealand – 5 November, 1915) & (Evening Star, New Zealand – 6 November, 1915)

IN MEMORIAM

PORTER – In loving memory of my dear son, James Livingstone, who died on October 26, 1915 at Walton-on-Thames Hospital, as the result of wounds received while in action.

Only the grave of a hero,
Only a mound of earth,
Far from the land of wattle,
The spot that gave him birth.

His king and country called him;
That call was not in vain,
On Britain's roll of honour
You will find our hero's name.

-Inserted by his father and family.

(Otago Daily Times, New Zealand – 26 October, 1916)

FOR THE EMPIRE'S CAUSE

IN MEMORIAM

PORTER – In loving memory of Private James Livingstone, who died on October 26, 1915, at Walton-on-Thames Hospital, from wounds received while in action.

One of the unreturning heroes,
One of the very best;
He gave his life for his King and Country,
And for those he loved the best.

- Inserted by his father and daughter

(Otago Witness, New Zealand – 28 October, 1919)

FOR THE EMPIRE'S CAUSE

IN MEMORIAM

PORTER – In loving memory of Private James Livingstone Porter, who died at Walton-on-Thames Hospital on October 26, 1915, from wounds received in action.

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He heard his country calling
For men to fight the foe;
He felt that he was needed,
So he volunteered to go.
He has sailed on his last commission
On a beautiful ship called Rest,
And his head his safely pillowed
On his great Commander's breast.

-Inserted by his father, brother, and sister.

PORTER – In loving memory of Private James Livingstone Porter, who died at Walton-on-Thames Hospital on October 26, 1915, from wounds received in action. – Inserted by Mr and Mrs William Sharpe and daughter.

(Otago Daily Times, New Zealand – 26 October, 1920)

Walton-On-Thames Cemetery, Walton-On-Thames, Surrey, England

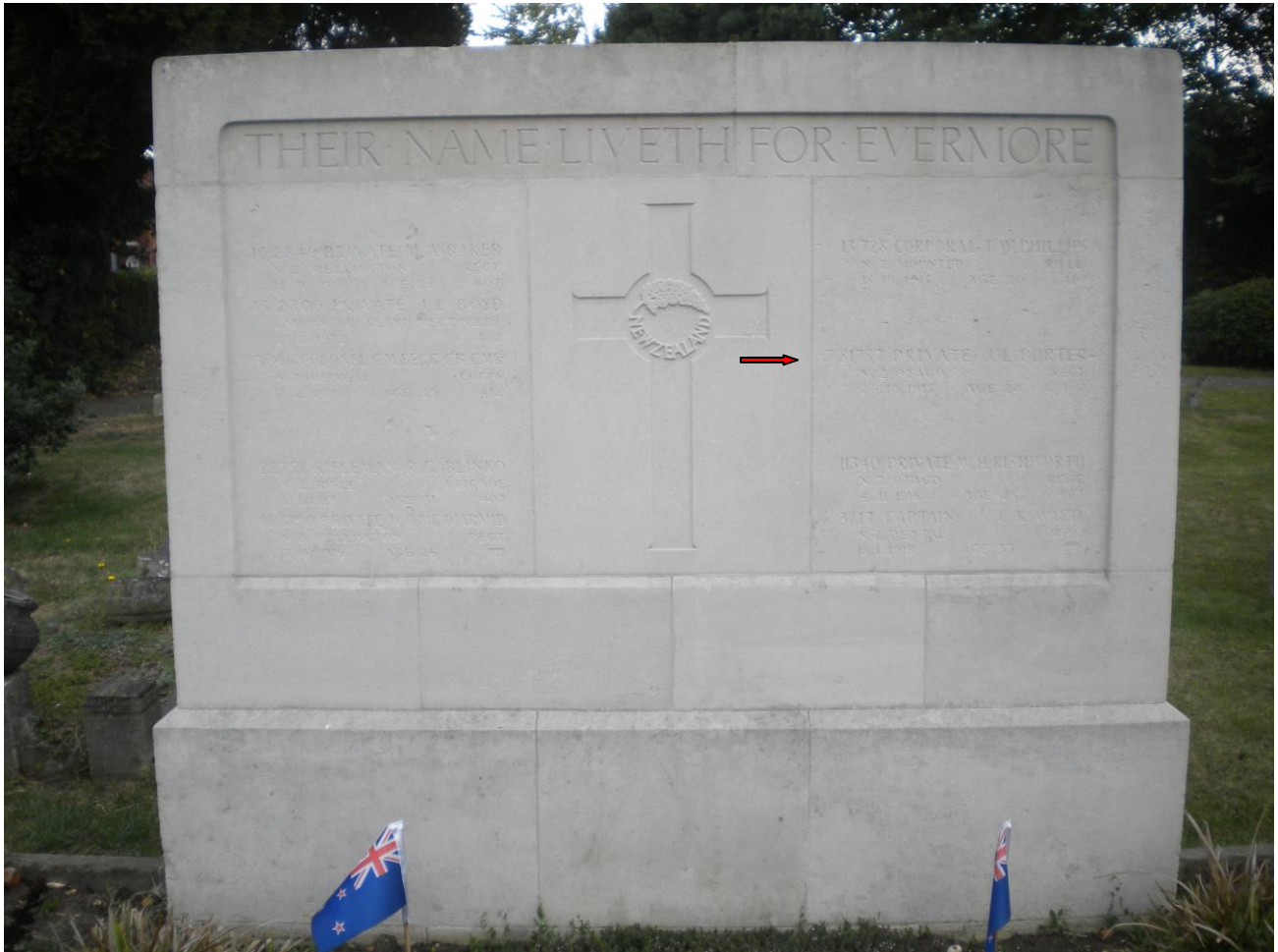
This adjoins St. Mary's Churchyard. There are 30 Commonwealth burials of the 1914-1918 war and 3 of the 1939-1945 war commemorated here. Two of these are commemorations to New Zealand soldiers who were patients at the N.Z. Hospital and whose graves are not known. (McDiarmid and Ward). All the New Zealanders are commemorated on a Screen Wall Memorial near their two plots, at the North entrance. *(Information from CWGC)*

The commemoration of the casualties is on Screen Wall monuments rather than individual headstones as some graves contain more than one burial. Two plots containing eight grave spaces are directly in front of the two Screen Walls and the other plots are elsewhere in the graveyard.

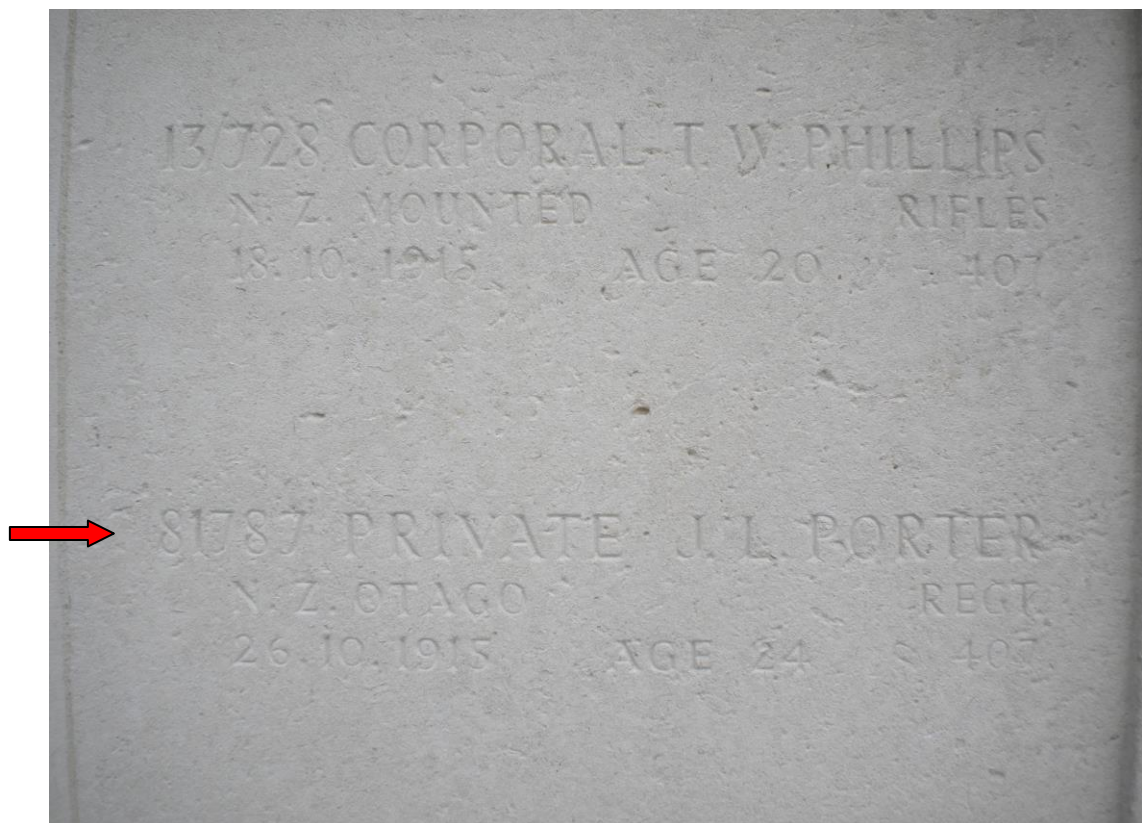


St. Mary's Churchyard Walton-On-Thames *(Photo by Peter Wood)*

Photo of Private J. L. Porter's name on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Screen Wall Memorial in Walton-On-Thames Cemetery, Walton-On-Thames, Surrey, England.



(Photos from Find a Grave – Amanda West)





Screen Wall Memorials in Walton-On-Thames Cemetery *(Photo by Peter Wood)*