

Name	SHEPHERD, OWEN STANLEY
Service	Australian Army
Service Number	NX26861
Date of Birth	31 Jan 1914
Place of Birth	MOLONG, NSW
Date of Enlistment	21 Jun 1940
Locality on Enlistment	BURROWONG, NSW
Place of Enlistment	PADDINGTON, NSW
Next of Kin	SHEPHERD, EDGAR
Date of Discharge	04 Jul 1946
Rank	Private
Posting at Discharge	2/4 Battalion



Brief Biography:

Owen Stanley Shepherd was born on 31 Jan 1914 in Molong to Edgar Stanley and Mary Elizabeth Shepherd. Edgar Shepherd's birth was registered in Adelaide, South Australia in 1881. He married Mary Elizabeth Smith in Newtown in 1913. Their children included Clarence, Owen, Walter, Emily and Phyllis. Edgar worked at "Burrawong" and later at "Bywong."

Owen Shepherd was working as a labourer at Burrawong in 1935 up until he enlisted in the Australian Army on 21 Jun 1940 at Paddington. He was 26 years old, single, 5 feet 8½ inches tall, had dark hair and a dark complexion and was of the Church of England religious denomination.

The Molong Express & Western District Advertiser - 20 Jul 1940, p10, reported:

"Mr Owen Shepherd, son of Mr & Mrs E.S. Shepherd, of Byong, Cumnock, has enlisted in Sydney and is now a member of the AIF. He is at present in the Randwick Military Hospital, in order to have extracted from his leg a bullet that lodged there some years ago."

Pte Shepherd was transferred to the 4th Btn at Tamworth on 13 Sep 1940. He was classified as a Grade 111 Driver Mechanic on 5 Jan 1941. He embarked at Sydney on the Convoy US10 on 9 Apr 1941 and disembarked on 3 May 1941 in the Middle East. On the 18 May he transferred from the 19 Australia Infantry Training Btn to the 6 Australian Infantry Special Group (Transport) at Kilo 89 Camp, Gaza Ridge, Palestine, on the eastern side of the Mediterranean Sea.

Pte Shepherd had a series of hospitalisations from 1 Sep 1941 to 24 Jan 1942, suffering with headaches, Fibrositis of the chest muscles, Tonsillitis and Diphtheria. He rejoined the 4 Btn on 28 Jan and embarked from the Middle East on 19 Feb 1942 to disembark in Australia on 18 March.

The Molong Express & Western District Advertiser - 9 May 1942, p3, reported that Private Owen Shepherd was home on leave from overseas. On 5 June 1942 he travelled by train to Darwin, Northern Territory. He attended a Driver Motor Vehicle Course from 27 Jul - 1 Aug 1942. He notified the army of a change of next of kin on 1 Aug 1942 as he had married Hazel Mary Fulker in Petersham, NSW.

On 5 Dec 1942 he moved to Katherine, NT, for employment with the NT Railways on leave without pay. He rejoined the 4 Btn on 29 May 1943 and left Darwin by ship on 30 May for Queensland, disembarking on 8 June. He was charged and fined for a series of Absence Without Leave offences between July to Aug 1943, until a warrant for his arrest as an absconder was issued on 8 Sep 1943.

Pte Shepherd was apprehended and held in custody at the 6 Aust. Guard Compound, NSW, on 27 Sep 1943 and then transferred to General Details Depot, Queensland, to await trial. A District Court Martial was held on 11 Oct 1943 and Pte shepherd was found guilty, fined £10 and forfeited 34 days pay.

Pte Shepherd again absconded on 8 Nov 1943 in Queensland and a warrant issued for his arrest. A court of Inquiry was held on 30 Nov 1943 and Pte Shepherd was declared illegally absent. No further record of service is documented and he was officially discharged from the AIF on 30 Nov 1946, and forfeited all War Medals.

A brother, Clarence Frederick Shepherd, joined the RAAF on 21 Sep 1941 and served as Leading Aircraftman 61578 until discharged on 9 Nov 1945. He also worked at Burrawong before enlisting.

Owen's father, Edgar Stanley Shepherd, aged 63 years, died on 7 Aug 1944 at the Molong Hospital and is buried in the Cumnock Cemetery. Owen's mother, Mary, continued to live in Cumnock and died, aged 81 years, on 1 Jul 1966 and the death was registered in Wellington.

According to the Australian Electoral Rolls, in 1949 Owen and Hazel were living in Nundle, located in the New England region of NSW, and Owen's occupation was a drover. In 1954 Owen and Hazel were poultry farming at Anna Bay, Raymond Terrace. In 1968 they were living at 16 Windsor Road, Granville West, and Owen's occupation was listed as a foreman. In 1972, as well as Owen and Hazel, their children, Pamela Hazel, Stanley Benjamin and William Edgar, were all living at 16 Windsor Road, Granville. In 1977, a Daniel John and Suzanne Patricia Shepherd are also listed as living with them at 16 Windsor Road, Merrylands. In 1980, a David Glen Shepherd is also listed as living with them at Merrylands, Parramatta.

Owen Stanley Shepherd died on 30 Nov 1992, aged 78 years. His funeral was held in the Castlebrook Memorial Gardens Chapel on 2 Dec 1992. His wife Hazel, aged 89 years, died on 2 Nov 2011.

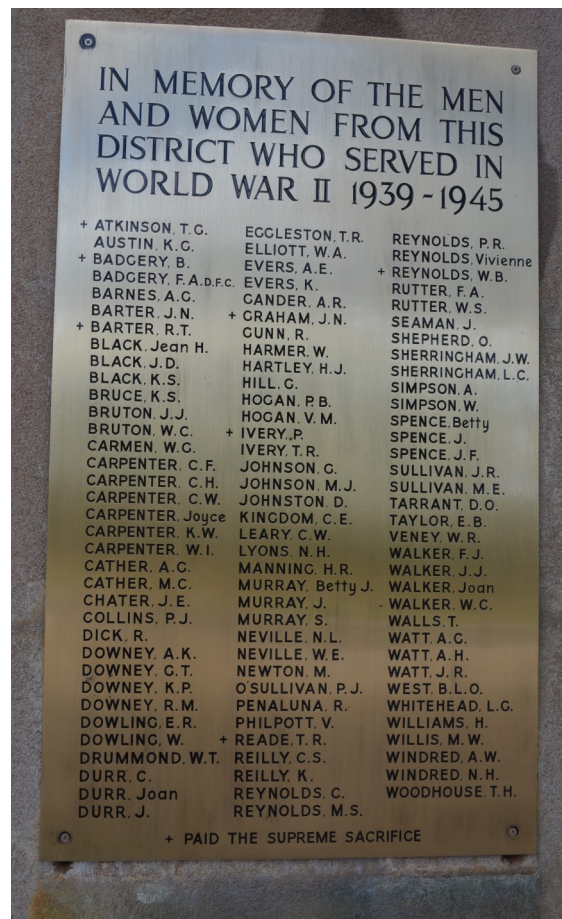
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Cumnock War Memorial Gates

&

WW2 Memorial Plaque



IN MEMORY OF THE MEN
AND WOMEN FROM THIS
DISTRICT WHO SERVED IN
WORLD WAR II 1939-1945

- | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| + ATKINSON, T.C. | EGGLESTON, T.R. | REYNOLDS, P.R. |
| AUSTIN, K.C. | ELLIOTT, W.A. | REYNOLDS, Vivienne |
| + BADGERY, B. | EVERS, A.E. | + REYNOLDS, W.B. |
| BADGERY, F.A.D.F.C. | EVERS, K. | RUTTER, F.A. |
| BARNES, A.C. | CANDER, A.R. | RUTTER, W.S. |
| BARTER, J.N. | + GRAHAM, J.N. | SEAMAN, J. |
| + BARTER, R.T. | CUNN, R. | SHEPHERD, O. |
| BLACK, Jean H. | HARMER, W. | SHERRINGHAM, J.W. |
| BLACK, J.D. | HARTLEY, H.J. | SHERRINGHAM, L.C. |
| BLACK, K.S. | HILL, G. | SIMPSON, A. |
| BRUCE, K.S. | HOGAN, P.B. | SIMPSON, W. |
| BRUTON, J.J. | HOGAN, V.M. | SPENCE, Betty |
| BRUTON, W.C. | + IVERY, P. | SPENCE, J. |
| CARMEN, W.G. | IVERY, T.R. | SPENCE, J.F. |
| CARPENTER, C.F. | JOHNSON, C. | SULLIVAN, J.R. |
| CARPENTER, C.H. | JOHNSON, M.J. | SULLIVAN, M.E. |
| CARPENTER, C.W. | JOHNSTON, D. | TARRANT, D.O. |
| CARPENTER, Joyce | KINGDOM, C.E. | TAYLOR, E.B. |
| CARPENTER, K.W. | LEARY, C.W. | VENEY, W.R. |
| CARPENTER, W.I. | LYONS, N.H. | WALKER, F.J. |
| CATHER, A.C. | MANNING, H.R. | WALKER, J.J. |
| CATHER, M.C. | MURRAY, Betty J. | WALKER, Joan |
| CHATER, J.E. | MURRAY, J. | WALKER, W.C. |
| COLLINS, P.J. | MURRAY, S. | WALLS, T. |
| DICK, R. | NEVILLE, N.L. | WATT, A.C. |
| DOWNEY, A.K. | NEVILLE, W.E. | WATT, A.H. |
| DOWNEY, C.T. | NEWTON, M. | WATT, J.R. |
| DOWNEY, K.P. | OSULLIVAN, P.J. | WEST, B.L.O. |
| DOWNEY, R.M. | PENALUNA, R. | WHITEHEAD, L.G. |
| DOWLING, E.R. | PHILPOTT, V. | WILLIAMS, H. |
| DOWLING, W. | + READE, T.R. | WILLIS, M.W. |
| DRUMMOND, W.T. | REILLY, C.S. | WINDRED, A.W. |
| DURR, C. | REILLY, K. | WINDRED, N.H. |
| DURR, Joan | REYNOLDS, C. | WOODHOUSE, T.H. |
| DURR, J. | REYNOLDS, M.S. | |

+ PAID THE SUPREME SACRIFICE