

Joseph ANDERSON

Birth: 9 Feb 1893, Wagga Wagga
Death: 17 Jul 1956, 5 Bimbeen Street, Wagga Wagga
Burial: 19 Jul 1956, Presbyterian Section, Wagga Cemetery
Occupation: Master Plumber

Enlisted as a Private (Regimental no. 2761) in the AIF (Australian Imperial Force) at Albury 8th November 1916 when he was 23, having previously served for 18 months in the Senior Cadets. He joined the 3rd Division, 35th Battalion, 6th Reinforcement and his unit embarked Sydney per HMAT A72 "Beltana" on 25th November 1916, disembarking Devonport, England 29th January 1917. They marched into Details Camp, Fovant 30th January 1917, and then marched into 9th Training Battalion, Durrington 6th March 1917. Proceeded overseas to France via Folkstone 2nd July 1917, and taken on strength 35th Battalion 30th July 1917. He had leave in Paris 21st - 31st January 1918. The 3rd Division was originally formed from reinforcements stationed in England in 1916. Its battle honours include Messines, Windmill, Broodsiende, Passchendaele on the northern front. Bouchavesnes and Bony in the east and Morlancourt, Villers Brettoneux, Hamel, Mericourt, Bray, Proyart and Clery on the Somme. In 1918 the division was led by Major General Sir John Gellibrand. The Division suffered over 31,000 casualties of which 4,500 were killed in action.

Private Joe Anderson was wounded in action 17th April 1918 with a gunshot wound to his left thigh. He was transferred to the 55th Casualty Clearing Station 18th April 1918, and to the 16th General Hospital 20th April 1918. He was transferred to England 28th April 1918 and admitted to the 2nd Southern Hospital, Bristol. He was granted furlough 5th-19th June 1918, to report to No. 1 Command Depot, Sutton Veny, Wiltshire. He returned to duty 4th July 1918.

He was again wounded in action 22nd August 1918 with a bullet wound to his right knee, and admitted to the 55th Casualty Clearing Station. Was transferred to the 3rd Australian General Hospital 23rd August 1918, and then to the 1st Australian Convalescent Depot, Le Havre 1st September 1918. He was discharged to duty 19th September 1918.

When he returned to England from France he undertook a "Course in Sanitary Engineering" at the College of Technology, Manchester from 10th April 1919 to 12th June 1919. Commenced return to Australia on board HT "Plassy" 5th September 1919 and disembarked in Sydney 30th October 1919. He was discharged 14th December 1919, and received the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.