In 2018 Greenhills Primary School in Victoria, Australia embarked on establishment of a commemorative service garden with the assistance of the school community and students.

There were many contributions and from these, an artist in schools teacher encouraged the students to design tiles to be included on this memorial wall (see the photos in the photo section). James Nowlan’s photograph was incorporated into this memorial representing all soldiers who served for their country and features prominently on the main display.

The commemorative memorial was opened at a school assembly on Remembrance Day in 2018.

James would have been proud to hear the words spoken by his great great niece, Joanne Elizabeth Thom who addressed the 600 pupils at the school assembly with her son Joshua Nicholas Thom (who is a student at Greenhills Primary School in grade 2) proudly standing alongside and holding up his photograph and service medal.

She spoke about the early life of James before he in listed for active service in world War One and spoke in terms which the children could understand, telling of what it was like to be a soldier serving at Gallipoli.

The school children sat silently listening and in that room you could have heard a pin drop as they hung on every word about his life. In this small way James’s sacrifice and his memory lives In a way which he could never have imagined.

A great tribute to a man who gave everything for his country.

Colin Greenwood (Great nephew of James Nowlan) 2019.