

**All Saints Churchyard,  
Hainford, Norfolk, England**

**War Grave**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**2543 PRIVATE**

**J. T. COLEMAN**

**36TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**10TH JANUARY, 1917    Age 26**

*Gone From Us  
But Not Forgotten  
Never Will  
Thy Memory Fade*

## John Thomas COLEMAN

John Thomas Coleman was born at Haynford (Hainford), Norwich, Norfolk, England on 3rd June, 1890 to parents Charles George and Maria Coleman (nee Browne). John Thomas Coleman was baptised on 13th July, 1890 at All Saints Church, Hainford. John's father was listed as a Hawker & the family lived at Haynford.

The 1891 England Census recorded John T. Coleman as a 10 month old, living with his family at Haynford, Norfolk, England. His parents were listed as Charles G. Coleman (Hawker & Grocer, aged 44, born Norwich, Norfolk) & Maria Coleman (aged 36, born Norwich, Norfolk). John Coleman was the youngest of three children listed on this Census – Charles G. Coleman (Scholar, aged 7, born Holton, Suffolk), Nellie L. Coleman (aged 2, born Haynford, Norfolk) then John. Also listed was Nelly Browne, sister-in-law of Charles – Maria's sister (Mother's Help. aged 24, born Norwich, Norfolk). Caroline Larwood, a general Servant (aged 14) & a visitor – John Stanly (Clothiers Clerk Warehouse, aged 24) were also listed.

The 1901 England Census recorded John T. Coleman as a 10 year old scholar, living with his family at the General Shop, Haynford, Norfolk, England. His parents were listed as Charles G. Coleman (General Shopkeeper, aged 53) & Maria Coleman (aged 44). John was one of three children listed on this Census – Charles G. Coleman (General Hawker, aged 17), then John & Stella G. Coleman (Scholar, aged 8, born Hainford, Norfolk). Also listed was a General Servant – Eva Fields (aged 13).

[The 1911 England Census recorded John's parents – Charles Coleman (Dealer, aged 63) & Maria Coleman (Assisting in the Business, aged 55) living at "The Shop", Haynford, Norfolk. Charles & Maria had been married for 28 years & had 4 children, with 1 child deceased. No others were listed as living with Charles & Maria.]

According to information supplied by his wife for the Roll of Honour – John Thomas Coleman came to Australia when he was 18 years old.

John T. Coleman married Martha F. Anterton in 1913. Their marriage was registered in the December quarter, 1913 in the district of Smallburgh, Norfolk.

A birth was registered in 1914 for Thomas Charles Coleman, son of John Thomas & Martha Florence Coleman in the district of Walgett, New South Wales, Australia.

John Thomas Coleman was a 26 year old, Labourer (information provided by his wife for the Roll of Honour states that his calling was Boundary rider at Moramna & also Oil & Hardware Hawker) from Maitland, NSW when he enlisted at Newcastle, NSW on 18th July, 1916 with the 9th Infantry Brigade, 36th Infantry Battalion, 5th Reinforcements of the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 2543 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs Florence Coleman of Combarah Springs, via Walgett, NSW.

Private John Thomas Coleman was posted to "D" Company, Newcastle Depot Battalion on 18th July, 1916. He was transferred to "A" Company, 36th Battalion, 4th Reinforcements on 25th August, 1916 then transferred to "B" Company, 5th Reinforcements, 36th Battalion on 15th September, 1916.

Private John Thomas Coleman embarked from Sydney on HMAT *Benalla* (A24) on 9th November, 1916 & disembarked at Devonport, England on 9th January, 1917. Private Coleman had been admitted to the Ship's Hospital in 22nd December, 1916 with Influenza & discharged for duty. On 3rd January, 1917 he was reported as having Pneumonia. He was transferred ashore for treatment.

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.

Private John Thomas Coleman was transferred from Ship's Hospital of HMAT *Benalla* & admitted to Military Hospital, Devonport, England on 9th January, 1917 for treatment of Pneumonia. His mother was notified.

## 36th Battalion

The 36th Battalion was raised at Broadmeadow Camp, in Newcastle, New South Wales in February 1916. The bulk of the battalion's recruits had been enlisted as a result of a recruiting drive conducted amongst the rifle clubs of New South Wales by the Minister for Public Information in the New South Wales government, Ambrose Carmichael. Thus, the battalion became known as "Carmichael's Thousand". Carmichael led by example and enlisted as well, serving in the battalion as a captain.....

*(Extract of Battalion information from The Australian War Memorial)*

Private John Thomas Coleman died at 11.55 am on 10th January, 1917 at Military Hospital, Devonport, England from Acute Lobar Pneumonia.

A death for John T. Coleman, aged 26, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Devonport, Devon, England.

The body of the late Private John Thomas Coleman was transferred to relatives in Haynford, St. Faiths, Norwich on 13th January, 1917. Private John Thomas Coleman was buried on 16th January, 1917 in All Saints Churchyard, Hainford, Norfolk, England and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

A War Pension was awarded to Martha Florence Coleman, Haynford, near Norwich, Norfolk, widow of the late Pte John Thomas Coleman, in the sum of 40/- per fortnight from 14th April, 1917. A War Pension was awarded to John Arterton, Haynford, near Norwich, Norfolk, step-son of the late Private John Thomas Coleman, in the sum of 20/- per fortnight from 14th April, 1917, expiring on 3rd May, 1928. A War Pension was also granted to Thomas Charles Coleman (same address), son of Thomas Charles Coleman & Martha F. Coleman, in the sum of 15/- per fortnight from 14th April, 1917, expiring on 3rd May, 1928.

Private John Thomas Coleman was entitled to British War Medal only as he had not entered a Theatre of War. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Coleman's widow residing in England - Mrs F. Coleman, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll & Plaque sent July, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private John Thomas Coleman – service number 2543, aged 26, of 36th Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of Charles George and Maria Coleman, husband of Martha Florence Coleman, of Haynford, Norwich, Norfolk, England. Born at Haynford.

Private J. T. Coleman is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 126.



*Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia*



J. Coleman is remembered on the Wickham Volunteers Roll of Honour, located in the Mayfield-Waratah RSL Sub-Branch, 48 Baker Street, Wickham, Newcastle, NSW.



Wickham Volunteers Roll of Honour (photo by Ed Tonks (OAM) – courtesy of Gary Mitchell)



Private John Thomas Coleman is remembered on the Hainford War Memorial, located in the churchyard of All Saints Church, Newton Road, Hainford, Norfolk, England.



**Hainford War Memorial** (Photos from War Memorials Online – Craig Howard)



(57 pages of Private John Thomas Coleman'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

## **Newspaper Notices**

### **LATEST CASUALTIES**

#### **266th AND 267th LISTS**

Died of Illness

J. T. Coleman, Comborah Springs.

(*The Land*, Sydney, NSW – 26 January, 1917)

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### **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*)

Private J. T. Coleman does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

*Gone From Us But Not Forgotten*

*Never Will Thy Memory Fade*

### **All Saints Churchyard, Hainford, Norfolk, England**

All Saints Churchyard, Hainford contains only 2 Commonwealth War Graves – both relating to World War 1.



**All Saints Churchyard, Hainford, Norfolk with old Church Tower ruins** (*Photo by Pete Bromage*)





**All Saints Churchyard, Hainford** (*Photos from Derelict Places – taken in March 2017 by jsp77*)





Photo of Private J. T. Coleman's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in All Saints Churchyard, Hainford, Norfolk, England.



*(Photo courtesy of PRC – Great War Forum)*