

**Ashburton Roman Catholic Cemetery,
Gosforth, Tyne & Wear
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



184 PRIVATE

J. MOLLOY

25TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

11TH JANUARY, 1917 Age 26

John MOLLOY

Walter John Molloy was born at Birr, King's Co., Ireland in 1890 to parents Joseph and Mary J. Molloy.

The 1901 Ireland Census recorded Walter J. Molloy as a 9 year old living with his family at Moorpark Street, Birr, King's Co., Ireland. His parents were listed as Joseph Molloy (Retired ___ Constabulary, aged 54, born Co. Donegal) & Mary J. Molloy (aged 43, born Co. Fermanagh). Walter was one of eleven children listed on this Census – James J. Molloy (No occupation, aged 19, born Co. Fermanagh), Mary C. Molloy (Scholar, aged 17, born Co. Fermanagh), Hugh C. Molloy (Shop Assistant, aged 16, born Co. Roscommon), Richard S. Molloy (Scholar, aged 14, born Co. Clare), Vincent Molloy (Scholar, aged 12, born Co. Clare), then Walter J., Josh P. Molloy (Scholar, aged 8, born King's Co.), Agnes J. Molloy (Scholar, aged 6, born Co. Limerick), Randall B. Molloy (Scholar, aged 4, born King's Co.), Kathleen (aged 2, born King's Co.) & Albert (aged 1 month, born King's Co.).

According to information provided by his father for the Roll of Honour - John Molloy came to Australia when he was 17 years old.

John Molloy was a 24 year old, single, Labourer from Innisfail, North Queensland when he enlisted on 18th February, 1915 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 184 & his religion was Roman Catholic. His next of kin was listed as his father – Joseph Molloy, More Park Street, King's County, Ireland.

Private John Molloy was written up while at Enoggera Camp for being absent without leave from 9.30 pm on 6th March, 1915 until 4 pm on 7th March, 1915. He was fined 5/-.

Private John Molloy was written up while at Enoggera Camp for being absent without leave from midnight 17/18th March till 6.30 am on 21st March, 1915. He was fined £1.

Private John Molloy was written up on 12th May, 1915 while at Greenhills Camp for using obscene & insulting language to a N.C.O. He was given 8 days detention.

Private John Molloy was written up while at Greenhills Camp for being absent without leave from 10 pm on 6th June, 1915 till 4 pm on 9th June, 1915. This was later admonished with no punishment or loss of pay.

Private John Molloy embarked from Brisbane, Queensland on HMAT *Aeneas* (A60) on 29th June, 1915 with the 7th Infantry Brigade, 25th Infantry Battalion "A" Company.

Private John Molloy embarked from Alexandria on 4th September, 1915 to join M.E.F. (Mediterranean Expeditionary Force) at Gallipoli Peninsula.

Private John Molloy was sent sick to 7th Field Ambulance at Gallipoli on 16th October, 1915. He was transferred to 16th Casualty Clearing Station at Anzac then transferred to Mudros on Hospital Ship *Delta* with influenza. Private Molloy was admitted to 21st General Hospital at Alexandria on 20th October, 1915 with Enteric. He was reported as "dangerously ill" with Enteric at Alexandria on 22nd October, 1915. Private Molloy was taken off the "dangerously ill" list on 18 November, 1915 at 25th General Hospital, Alexandria.

Private John Molloy was transferred to 1st Australian General Hospital at Cairo on 20th December, 1915 with Pneumonia. He was transferred to Australian & New Zealand Convalescent Depot at Helouan on 23rd December, 1915 then transferred to Helouan Convalescent Depot on 25th December, 1915. Private Molloy was discharged to Overseas Base at Cairo on 1st January, 1916.

Private John Molloy was admitted to No. 4 Auxiliary Hospital at Abbassia on 15th May, 1916 with Sunstroke & discharged to duty on 18th May, 1916.

Private John Molloy was admitted to No. 4 Auxiliary Hospital on 25th May, 1916 - cause N.Y.D. (not yet determined). He was reported as suffering from Enteric on 25th May, 1916 & transferred to Ras-el-tin. Private Molloy was admitted to B.R.C. Hospital at Montazah on 26th June, 1916. He was discharged on 12th July, 1916 & was taken on strength of 2nd Div. Base Details at Tel-el Kebir on 13th July, 1916.

Private John Molloy proceeded overseas from Alexandria on 29th July, 1916 on *Arcadian* to join B.E.F. (British Expeditionary Force). He was reported at Rollestone, Wiltshire, England on 15th August, 1916 ready to proceed to France. Private Molloy was marched in to Base at France on 17th August, 1916.

Private John Molloy rejoined his Battalion in France on 14th September, 1916.

Private John Molloy was admitted to 12th Field Ambulance on 5th October, 1916 with Pneumonia. He was transferred to 15th Casualty Clearing Station the same day with Pleurisy. Private Molloy was transferred to 2nd Australian General Hospital on 13th October, 1913 with Pleurisy. He embarked on Hospital Ship *Jan Breydel* from Calais, France on 14th October, 1916 for England.

Private John Molloy was admitted to Northumberland War Hospital, Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne, England on 15th October, 1916 with Pleurisy (improving).

Mr Joseph Molloy, father of Private John Molloy, of Irving Street, Auchenflower, Brisbane, Queensland, wrote to Base Records on 21st December, 1916 having seen Casualty List No 254 published in the newspaper where his son Private John Molloy was listed as dangerously ill (3rd Occasion). Mr Molloy was requesting that his son be sent back to Australia "as soon as his state of health admits". Base Records replied that the Australian Units abroad were under control of the responsible Military Authorities there & that his return to Australia would be authorised should his condition of health justify it.

Private John Molloy died at 3 am on 11th January, 1917 at Northumberland War Hospital, Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne, England from Dysenteric Abscess on liver.

A death for John Molloy, aged 26, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Castle Ward, Northumberland, England.

Private John Molloy was buried on 15th January, 1917 in Ashburton Roman Catholic Cemetery, Gosforth – Plot number C. 383 and now has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

Private John Molloy was entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Molloy's father - Mr Joseph Molloy, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent August, 1921 & Plaque sent March, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private John Molloy – service number 184, aged 26, of 25th Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of Joseph and Mary J. Molloy, of "Wycliff" Irving St., Auchenflower, Brisbane, Queensland. Born at Birr, King's Co., Ireland.

Private J. Molloy is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 105.

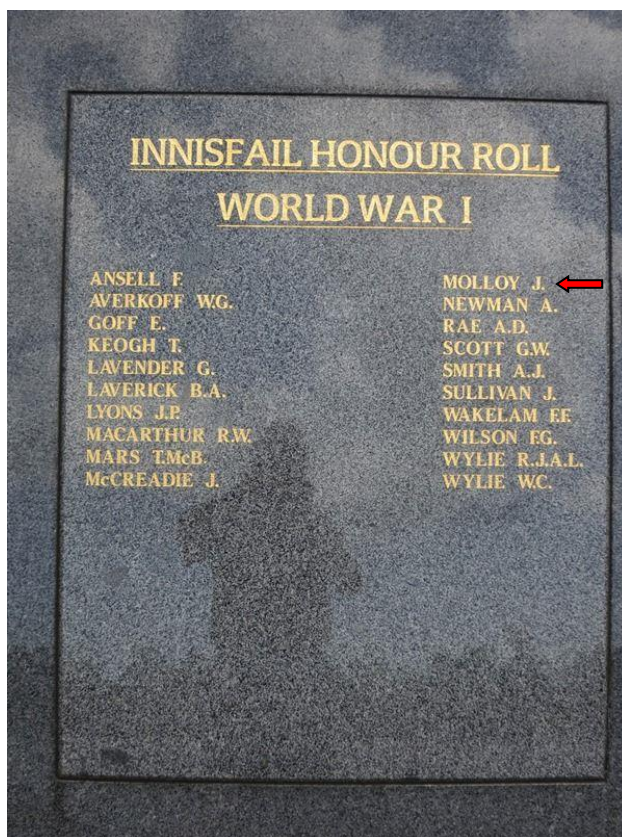


Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

J. Molloy is remembered on the Innisfail Cenotaph, located in Jack Fossey Park, Fitzgerald Esplanade, Innisfail, Queensland.



Innisfail Cenotaph (Photos from Monument Australia)



(69 pages of Private John Molloy'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

THE COMMONWEALTH

ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH CASUALTY LIST

Private J. Molloy, Ireland, ill

(Maryborough Chronicle, Wide Bay and Burnett Advertiser, Queensland – 9 November, 1915)

ROLL OF HONOUR

119th CASUALTY LIST

PROGRESS REPORT

Pte J. Molloy, 25th Btn., Ireland (Pronounced out of danger, previously reported dangerously ill)

(Queensland Times, Ipswich, Queensland – 6 December, 1915)

Mr Joseph Molloy, ex-Head-const., Moorpark Street, has two sons serving with the colours. Private John, of the Australian contingent, who was severely wounded at the Dardanelles, and Private Richard, of the South African contingent.

(King's County Chronicle, Ireland - February, 1916)

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

177th LIST OF AUSTRALIAN CASUALTIES

ILL

Pte J. Molloy, Ireland (3rd occasion previously returned to duty)

(The Brisbane Courier, Brisbane, Queensland – 19 June, 1916)

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

TWO FURTHER CASUALTY LISTS

Casualty lists 266 and 267 released.....

QUEENSLAND

DIED (CAUSE NOT STATED)

J. Molloy, Auchenflower, 11/1/17, (prev. rep. dang. ill).

(The Brisbane Courier, Queensland – 23 January, 1917)

A TOUCHING TRIBUTE

From a Newcastle (England) paper we clip the following:-

A touching tribute to the memory of Australian soldiers who have made the supreme sacrifice in the cause of the Mother country was paid in Newcastle, when floral tributes were placed upon the graves of four Australian soldiers who are buried in the district. They are Pte J. Molloy, 184, 25th Australian Imperials Forces, and Pte P. Grandon, 2777, 12th A.I.F., buried at Ashburton Roman Catholic cemetery; Bombardier S. F. Chippendale, 1634, 14th A.F.A., at St. Andrew's cemetery; and Bugler J. Hearne 1451, 4th A.I.F., Byker and Heaton cemetery. To-day was the anniversary of the landing of troops at Gallipoli, and the quiet ceremonies at the local burial ground were in connection with a visitation to 1,200 graves of Australian soldiers in the United Kingdom, suggested by Mr A. T. Sharp, of the London Branch of the Australian Natives' Association, and carried out locally by Miss Alice Smith, of Brinkburn, Gosforth. At Ashburton, a special memorial service was conducted by the Rev. T. Reilly of St. Charles', Gosforth, and the school children walked in procession to the two graves and placed flowers upon them. AT Byler and Heaton, the wreaths were taken by Miss Smith, and at St. Andrew's by Mrs Dashwood. Wreaths were sent by members of the Australian Tyneside League, and were placed on the graves by Mr Ken Symonds and Mr T. Rutland, and flowers and suitable cards from the Tyneside branch of the Australian Natives' Association. The following also sent beautiful floral contributions:- Mrs Dashwood, Mrs T. Taylor, Mrs Ridley, and Miss M. C. Ridley, Mrs Harden, Mrs J. D. Lindsay, Mrs Alexander Leith, Mrs J. Straker, Mrs F. Straker, Miss Middleton, Mrs Stewart, Mrs Gladys, M. Downs, Mrs Steel, Mrs Fletcher, Mrs Ralph Bullock, Miss Nancy Robinson, Mrs Hall, Mrs Collier, Mrs George Bell, Mr S. H. Aitchison, Mr William Henderson, and others.

Miss Smith intends to communicate with each relative of the deceased soldiers in Australia, and also send photographs of the graves.

(Western Champion, Parkes, NSW – 11 July, 1918)

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. Molloy does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Ashburton Roman Catholic Cemetery, Gosforth, Tyne & Wear, England

Ashburton Roman Catholic Cemetery, Gosforth contains 15 Commonwealth War Graves – 13 from World War 1 & 2 from World War 2. There are 2 Australian War Graves from World War 1.



Ashburton Roman Catholic Cemetery, Gosforth (photo below by Graham Robson)



Photo of Private J. Molloy's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in Ashburton Roman Catholic Cemetery, Gosforth, Tyne & Wear, England.



(Photo courtesy of Peter Bennett)