

**All Saints Church Cemetery,
Hursley, Hampshire
War Graves**



Lest We Forget

World War 1



4495 PRIVATE

J. R. MOLONEY

22ND BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

15TH DECEMBER, 1916 Age 36

Asleep In Jesus

John Robert MOLONEY

John Robert Moloney was born at Ballarat, Victoria in mid-1879 to parents John Joseph and Mary Jane Moloney (nee Hunter).

John Robert Moloney married Sarah De La Rue (Delarue) in 1906.

A birth was registered for Florence Hazel Moloney in Victoria in 1908, a daughter to parents John Robert Moloney & Sarah Moloney (nee De-La-Rue).

The 1909 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Corangamite, subdivision of Meredith, Victoria listed John Robert Moloney, Manager, and his wife Sarah Moloney, Home Duties, living at Darra.

The 1913 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Corangamite, subdivision of Terang, Victoria listed John Robert Moloney, Labourer, and his wife Sarah Moloney, Home Duties, living at Glenormiston South.

The 1916 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Bourke, subdivision of Northcote, Victoria listed John Robert Moloney, Labourer, and his wife Sarah Moloney, Home Duties, living at Mansfield Street, Fairfield.

John Robert Moloney was a 36 year old, married, Labourer from Mansfield Street, Fairfield, Victoria when he enlisted on 15th January, 1916 with the 6th Infantry Brigade, 22nd Infantry Battalion, 11th Reinforcements of the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 4495 & his religion was Presbyterian. His next of kin was listed as his wife – Mrs Sarah Moloney, of Mansfield Street, Fairfield, Victoria.

Recruit John Robert Moloney was posted "B" Company, 10 Battalion on 1st February, 1916. He was transferred to 11th Reinforcements of 22nd Battalion at Broadmeadows, Victoria on 23rd March, 1916 as Private.

Private John Robert Moloney (Surname as per Nominal/Embarkation Roll) embarked from Melbourne on RMS *Orontes* on 29th March, 1916. No details are given as to where he disembarked or the date.

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 Robert Moloney proceeded overseas from 6th Training Brigade, England to France on 10th September, 1916. (*Note: date as per Active Service form*)

Private John Robert Moloney was taken on strength of 2nd Australian Divisional Base Depot at Etaples, France on 6th September, 1916. (*Note: date as per Active Service form*). He was taken on strength with his Battalion in the field on 5th October, 1916.

Private John Robert Moloney was suffering from Debility at 3rd Stationary Hospital at Rouen, France on 28th November, 1916. He embarked from Havre on Hospital Ship *Gloucester Castle* for England on 3rd December, 1916.

Private John Robert Moloney was admitted to Hursley Camp Military Hospital, near Winchester, Hampshire, England on 3rd December, 1916 sick (Slight). The Hospital Admissions form states the disease as "Tuberculosis" – "General abdominal Tuberculosis". He was reported as seriously ill with Hydatid Disease on 11th December, 1916. Pte Maloney was reported as dangerously and seriously ill on 12th December, 1916.

Private John Robert Moloney died at 6.30 pm on 15th December, 1916 at Hursley Camp Military Hospital, Hampshire, England from Hydatid Disease. The "Field Service" form has the cause of death as "Died of Disease (Hydatid)" whereas the "Morning State of Sick" form has the cause of death as Phthisis.

A death for John R. Maloney, aged 37, was registered in the December quarter, 1916 in the district of Winchester, Hampshire, England.

Private John Robert Moloney was buried on 21st December, 1916 in All Saints Churchyard Extension Cemetery, Hursley, Hampshire, England (Grave No. 13 Grave site – 2nd Row West side) and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone.

The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Private John Robert Moloney contains an "anxious enquiry from Melbourne" asking for the particulars of the illness, death & burial of No. 4495 Pte J. R. Moloney, 22nd Battalion, A.I.F. who they believe died at the Hursley Camp Hospital. The Red Cross stated that there may possibly have been some confusion with another of the same name. Capt. Rawlence, R.A.M.C., Hursley Park Camp Hospital wrote the following letter in response to the Red Cross enquiry: *"He came in from France Dec. 3rd. He was very emaciated and weak only just able to walk. He had a bad cough and also very severe diarrhoea. Everything possible that we could think of was done for him. Mr Godwin, F.R.C.S. Senior Surgeon to the Hants. County Hospital kindly came and saw him in consultation. Maloney had Consumption of the Bowels of a very acute type. He suffered little pain and by careful feeding the diarrhoea was kept within bounds. He died Dec. 15th 1916 at 6 pm. Next day an examination of the bowels was made, the diagnosis made was confirmed. Pte Maloney was buried by the Hospital staff and his Australian comrades. Service in Hursley Parish Church and he was buried in the local cemetery with Military Honours. An Australian Medical Officer Capt. M. Clarke and the Rector Rev. G. Husband have written to his family giving full particulars and his last messages."*

A War Pension was granted to Sarah Moloney, widow of the late Pte John Robert Moloney, in the sum of £2 per fortnight from 19th February, 1917. A pension was also granted to Florence H. Moloney, daughter of the late Pte John Robert Moloney, in the sum of £1 per fortnight from 19th February, 1917.

Private John Robert Moloney was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Pte Moloney's widow – Mrs S. Moloney, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent December, 1921 & Plaque sent May, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private John Robert Moloney – service number 4495, aged 36, of 22nd Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of John and Mary Moloney; husband of Sarah Moloney, of 36 Martin St., Northcote, Victoria.

Private J. R. Moloney is commemorated on the Roll of Honour, located in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 97.



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

J. Moloney is remembered on the Camperdown Presbyterian Honour Roll for the First World War.



(Photo from VHD Heritage Victoria)

(52 pages of Private John Robert Moloney'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, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives



Newspaper Notices

IN MEMORIAM

MOLONEY – In loving memory of our dear son and brother John Robert Moloney, who passed away at Hurstley Camp Military Hospital on December 15, 1916.

Deeply mourned.

-Inserted by his loving parents and sisters.

(Camperdown Chronicle, Victoria – 15 December, 1917)

IN MEMORIAM

On Active Service

MOLONEY – In fond and loving memory of our dear husband and father, John Robert Moloney, 22nd Battalion, 6th Brigade, A.I.F., who died in hospital, in England, after nine months' active service, in France, on the 15th December, 1916.

- Inserted by his sorrowing wife and daughter, "Larra," Mansfield street, Northcote).

(The Argus, Melbourne, Victoria – 15 December, 1917)

IN MEMORIAM

MOLONEY – In loving memory of our only son and brother John Robert Moloney, who died at Hurstley Military Hospital on December 15, 1916.

Deeply mourned.

-Inserted by his parents and sisters.

(Camperdown Chronicle, Victoria – 16 December, 1919)

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)

A letter from Base Records, dated 22nd July, 1921, to Mrs S. Moloney, Mansfield St, Fairfield, Victoria advised that a letter from the Defence Dept. concerning an inscription on the headstone of her husband, the late Pte J. R. Moloney, had not been answered & non-receipt of a reply within 21 days would have to be accepted as indicating that no further action was to be taken.

A letter from Base Records, dated 1st August, 1921, to Mrs S. Moloney, Mansfield St, Fairfield, Victoria advised that her wish to have the symbol of the Star of David incised on the permanent headstone of her late husband Pte J. R. Moloney was the emblem of the Jewish Faith & as her husband was Christian they thought that the Cross may be a better preference. Mrs Moloney, of Martin St, Northcote, replied that she would like the Cross.

Pte J. R. Moloney does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Asleep In Jesus

All Saints Churchyard Extension Cemetery, Hursley, Hampshire, England

All Saints Churchyard Extension Cemetery was made in 1865 & contains 15 Commonwealth War Graves – all from World War 1.



(Photo by David Key – Great War Forum)



Photo of the 3 Australian Headstones – Pte Moloney in front & 2nd Lieut. Lord (left) & Lieut. George (right)

(Photo by David Key – Great War Forum)

Photo of Pte J. R. Moloney's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in All Saints Churchyard Extension Cemetery, Hursley, Hampshire, England.



(Photo by David Key – Great War Forum)