

**St. George's Churchyard,  
Fovant, Wiltshire  
War Graves**



*Lest We Forget*

**World War 1**



**54772 PRIVATE**

**P. J. TRENEAR**

**35TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.**

**12TH OCTOBER, 1918 Age 19**

*The Lord Gave  
And The Lord Hath Taken Away  
The Lord Be With Him*

## Percival John TRENEAR

Percival John Trenear was born at Marrickville, Sydney, NSW on 1st February, 1899 to parents Joseph and Clara Elizabeth Trenear (nee Moore).

Percival John Trenear attended Public School at Newtown, NSW. He had been an apprentice for 2 years with Watson & Crane.

Percival John Trenear was a 19 year old, single, Brass Finisher from Camperdown, NSW when he enlisted on 15th May, 1918 with the 8th (N.) Reinforcements of the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 54772 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his father – Mr J. Trenear, of 170 Australia Street, Camperdown, NSW. Percival Trenear stated on his Attestation Papers that he had served with Citizen Forces for 4 years.

Private Percival John Trenear was posted to Recruits Depot on 15th May, 1918. He was transferred to 1st Infantry Depot Battalion at Liverpool, NSW with "A" Company on 16th June, 1918. Pte Trenear was transferred to 8th N (NSW) Reinforcements for embarkation on 19th June, 1918.

Private Percival John Trenear embarked from Sydney, NSW on SS *Field Marshal* on 19th June, 1918 & disembarked at London, England on 26th August, 1918.

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 Percival John Trenear was marched in to 9th Training Battalion at Fovant, Wiltshire on 26th August, 1918 and was allotted to Reinforcements of 35th Battalion whilst at 9th Training Battalion.

Private Percival John Trenear was sent sick with Influenza to No. 2 Group Clearing Hospital at Hurdcott, Wiltshire on 5th October, 1918. He was transferred to Military Hospital, Fovant on 10th October, 1918 as Pneumonia.

Private Percival John Trenear died at 12.30 pm on 12th October, 1918 at Military Hospital, Fovant, Wiltshire, England from Pneumonia.

A death for Percival Trenear, aged 19, was registered in the December quarter, 1918 in the district of Wilton, Wiltshire, England.

Private Percival John Trenear was buried on 16th October, 1918 in St George's Churchyard, Fovant, Wiltshire, England, – Plot number I. A. 2. and has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone. From the burial report of Pte P. J. Trenear - *Coffin was polished Elm with brass mounts. Deceased was buried with full Military honours, the coffin being draped with the Australian flag and was borne to the graveside on a Gun-Carriage preceded by a Firing Party and Band. Six of deceased's comrades acted as Pall-Bearers. Three Officers and about a hundred N.C.O.'s and men attended as mourner; a beautiful floral wreath from the Officers, N.C.O.'s and men of deceased Company was placed on the grave. Headquarters A.I.F. Depots in United Kingdom were represented.*

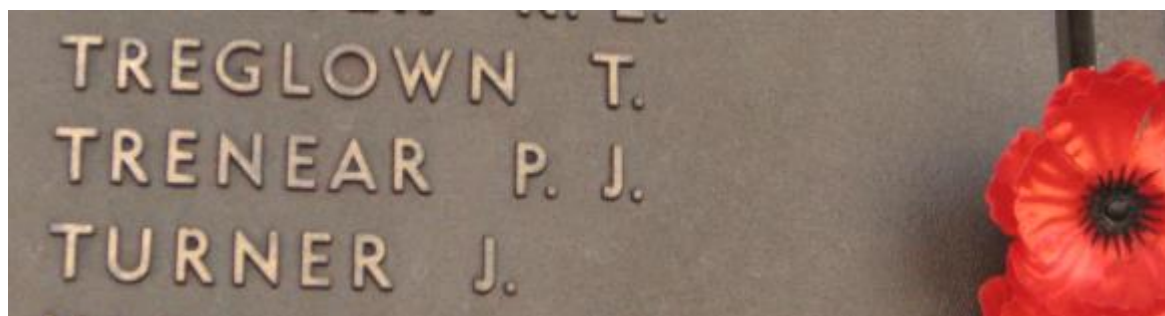
The Red Cross Wounded & Missing file for Private Percival John Trenear contains a request from the Red Cross on behalf of the relatives to obtain the fullest details possible into the death and burial of Pte Trenear. A reply was received from the O.C. Military Hospital, Fovant, Wiltshire which reads: "*Pte P. J. Trenear, 54772, 35th Battalion, A.I.F. Re the above named soldier was admitted to this Hospital from 9th Trg. Batt. on the 10th October, 1918, suffering from Pneumonia from which he died at 12.30 pm on the 12th October, 1918. A Military Funeral was carried out from Hospital and the interment took place at St. George's Churchyard, Fovant.*"

Private Percival John Trenear requested in his Will, dated 15th June, 1918 that in the event of his death, all his property and effects to be given to his mother – Clara Elizabeth Trenear.

Private Percival John Trenear 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 Pte P. J. Trenear's father - Mr J. Trenear, as the closest next-of-kin. (Scroll sent July, 1921 & Plaque sent November, 1922).

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Private Percival John Trenear – service number 54772, aged 19, of 35th Battalion Australian Infantry. He was the son of Joseph and Clara Elizabeth Trenear, of 170 Australia Street, Camperdown, New South Wales. Born at Sydney.

Private P. J. Trenear 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.



*(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)*



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

P. J. Trenear is remembered on the Camperdown Park War Memorial, located in Camperdown Park, Australia Street, Camperdown, NSW.



(53 pages of Pte Percival John Trenear'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**

### **TWO CASUALTY LISTS**

**No. 445**

#### **DIED OTHER CAUSES**

P. J. Trenear, Camperdown (illness)

*(The Sun, Sydney, NSW- 25 November, 1918)*

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### **ROLL OF HONOUR**

TRENEAR – Percival John, late of Camperdown, 35th Batt., late 8th N.S.W. General Service Reinforcements, United Kingdom, aged 19 years, died of pneumonia in France, October 13, 1918.

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW- 30 October, 1918)*

## **ROLL OF HONOUR**

TRENEAR – Died of pneumonia in England, prior to embarkation for France, October 13, 1918, Percival John, third son of Mr and Mrs Trenear, Australia street, Camperdown, aged 19 years 8 months.

He sailed away so bravely,  
That brave Australian lad,  
To fight for Britain's honour,  
And to uphold the dear old flag.

Inserted by his loving mother and brothers.

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW- 2 November, 1918)*

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### **On Active Service**

TRENEAR – In loving remembrance of our dear son and brother, Private Percival John Trenear, died of pneumonia, in England, October 12, 1918, aged 19 ½ years.

His cheerful face  
Is pleasant to recall.  
He had a kindly word for each,  
And died beloved by all.

Inserted by his loving father, mother, and brothers, of Camperdown.

TRENEAR - In loving remembrance of my dear brother, Jack, died of influenza in Fovant, England, October 12, 1918.

This day brings back to memory fresh  
My dear brother, who has gone to rest.

Inserted by Jim, Lill and May.

TRENEAR – In loving memory of our dear brother, Private Percival John Trenear, died of pneumonia, in England, October 12, 1918.

One year has passed; no tongue can tell  
How we miss our brother we loved so well.

Inserted by his loving sisters.

TRENEAR – In loving memory of our dear brother, Pte Percival John Trenear, 35th Batt., died on England, October 13, 1918. I loved him – what need for words?

Inserted by sister Olga.

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW- 13 October, 1919)*

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### **On Active Service**

TRENEAR – In loving memory of Pte Percival John Trenear, 35th Batt., died of pneumonia, in England, October 12, 1918, aged 19 years and 8 months.

His heart was good, his spirit brave,  
His resting place a soldier's grave.  
Gone, but not forgotten.

Inserted by his loving mother, father, and brothers, of 170 Australia-street, Camperdown.

TRENEAR – In loving memory of Pte Percival John Trenear, 35th Batt., died of pneumonia in England, October 12, 1918, aged 19 years and 8 months.

To-day brings back sad memories  
Of a loved one gone to rest;  
And those who think of him to-day  
Are those who loved him best.

Inserted by his loving sisters.

TRENEAR – In loving memory of our dear brother, P. J. Trenear, who died in Fovant, October 12, 1918, aged 19 years.

To-day brings back memories  
Of a loved one gone to rest;  
And those who think of him to-day  
Are those who loved him best.

Inserted by his loving brother and sister-in-law, Jim and Lill

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW- 12 October, 1920)*

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#### **On Active Service**

TRENEAR – In loving memory of my dear son and our brother, Private Percival John Trenear, died of pneumonia in England, October 12, 1918, aged 19 ½ years.

Gone from earth, but leaving memories  
Death an never take away;  
*Memories* that will with us linger  
While on earth we stay.

Inserted by his loving mother and brothers

TRENEAR – In loving memory of my dear brother, Percival John, who died of pneumonia in England, October 12, 1918.

Dearer to memory that words can tell  
Are the thought of my brother I loved so well.

Inserted by his loving sister, Emily.

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW- 12 October, 1921)*

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#### **On Active Service**

TRENEAR – In loving memory of Pvte P. J. Trenear. who died of pneumonia, in England, October 12, 1918. Too dearly loved to be forgotten. Inserted by his loving mother, sisters and brothers.

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW- 12 October, 1922)*

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### **On Active Service**

TRENEAR – In loving memory of Private Percival John Trenear, died pneumonia in England, October 12, 1918, aged 19 years.

Too far away thy grave to see.  
But not too far to think of thee.

Inserted by his loving mother, brothers and sisters.

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW- 12 October, 1923)*

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### **IN MEMORIAM**

TRENEAR – In loving memory of Private Percival John Trenear, died pneumonia in England, prior to embarkation for France, October 12, 1918, aged 19 ½ years.

No one knows the silent heartache.  
Friends may think the wound is healed.

Inserted by his loving mother, of Australia-street, Camperdown

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW- 12 October, 1925)*

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### **On Active Service**

TRENEAR – In loving memory of my dear son, Percival John, died October 12, 1918, with pneumonia, at Fovant Military Hospital, England.

My memory often wanders as the evening shadows fall,  
Back to the days of happiness, days beyond recall.  
A vision came before me, so fond, so pure, so sweet,  
Of one I loved so dearly, whose heart has ceased to beat.  
He bade no one a last farewell, he waved his hands to none,  
His spirit flew before I knew that from me he had gone.  
The world may change from year to year,  
Your friends from day to day,  
But never will the son I loved  
From memory fade away.

May the Lord be with him.

Inserted by his loving father, Joseph Trenear.

TRENEAR – In loving memory of our dear son, Private Percival John Trenear, who died pneumonia, in England, October 12, 1918, aged 19.

Oh, for the touch of a vanished hand,  
And the sound of a voice that is still.

Inserted by his loving mother.

TRENEAR – In loving memory of Private Percival John Trenear (Jack), who died pneumonia in England, prior embarking for France, October 12, 1918. Inserted by his brother, Bill.

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW- 12 October, 1926)*

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### **On Active Service**

TRENEAR – In loving memory of Private Percival John Trenear, died pneumonia, in England, October 12, 1918, aged 19 ½ years.

Lost in life, in memory still;  
Forget you, I never will.

Inserted by his mother.

TRENEAR – In loving memory of my dear son, Percival John, died October 12, 1918, pneumonia, at Fovant Military Hospital, England.

May the Lord be with him.

Inserted by his loving father, Joseph Trenear.

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW- 12 October, 1927)*

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### **On Active Service**

TRENEAR – In loving memory of Private Percival John Trenear, 35th Battalion, died of pneumonia, in England, October 12, 1918, aged 19 years 8 months.

The tender grace of a day that is dead  
Will never come back to me.

Inserted by his loving mother, C. Trenear.

*(The Sydney Morning Herald, NSW- 12 October, 1928)*

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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 P. J. Trenear does have a personal inscription on his headstone.

*The Lord Gave And The Lord Hath Taken Away The Lord Be With Him*



## St George's Churchyard, Fovant, Wiltshire, England

There was a 600 bed hutted military hospital at Fovant during the First World War, and the concentration of Australian depots and training camps in the area is reflected in the 63 First World War burials in this churchyard. The war graves form two groups, one west of the church and the other at the east end. There is also one burial of the Second World War. There are 44 War Graves belonging to those who served with the Australian Imperial Force in World War 1.  
*(Information from CWGC)*



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

D00 299

*(Photo c 1919)*







**St George's Churchyard, Fovant – War Graves at front & rear** (*Churchyard photos courtesy of Andrew Stacey*)





Photo of Private P. J. Trenear's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone in St George's Churchyard, Fovant, Wiltshire, England.







**Cross of Sacrifice** (Photo courtesy of Andrew Stacey)