

Compton Chamberlayne
War Graves Cemetery,
Wiltshire, England



Lest We Forget

World War 1



1723 CORPORAL

J. H. TRENGOVE

39TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

27TH APRIL, 1918 Age 38

John Henry (Harry) TRENGOVE

John Henry Trengove was born at Chute, Victoria on 13th December, 1880 to parents James & Ellen Louisa Trengove (nee Paull).

John Henry Trengove was educated at Chute, Victoria.

The 1903 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Grampians, subdivision of Waterloo, Victoria listed John Henry Trenove, Labourer from Chute.

The 1909 Australian Electoral Roll for the division of Grampians, subdivision of Beaufort, Victoria listed John Henry Trenove, Labourer from Chute.

James Trengove, father of John Henry Trengove, died on 15th October, 1913 at Waterloo, Victoria.

The 1914, 1916 & 1917 Australian Electoral Rolls for the division of Corangamite, subdivision of Beaufort, Victoria listed John Henry Trenove, Farmer from Chute.

John Henry Trengove was a 36 year old, single, Farmer from Beaufort, Victoria when he enlisted at Beaufort on 3rd March, 1916 with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 1723 & his religion was Church of England. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Ellen Trengove of *Roseville*, Beaufort, Victoria.

Private John Henry Trengove was posted to 14th Depot Battalion at Ballarat, Victoria on 25th April, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to 1st Reinforcements of 39th Battalion at Ballarat on 10th May, 1916.

Private John Henry Trengove embarked from Melbourne on HMAT *Ascanius (A11)* on 27th May, 1916 with the 39th Infantry Battalion, 1st Reinforcements & disembarked at Devonport, England on 18th July, 1916.

Reinforcements were only given basic training in Australia. Training was completed in training units in England. These were located in the Salisbury Plain area in the county of Wiltshire.

Private John Henry Trengove embarked for overseas service in France via Southampton on 23rd November, 1916.

Private John Henry Trengove was promoted to Temporary Corporal on 16th June, 1917 – vice Corporal Davies evacuated on 7th June, 1917.

Temporary Corporal John Henry Trengove was promoted to Corporal on 16th September, 1917.

39th Battalion

The 39th Battalion was formed on 21 February 1916 at the Ballarat Showgrounds in Victoria and drew most of its recruits from the state's Western District. It became part of the 10th Brigade of the 3rd Australian Division. Sailing from Melbourne on 27 May, the battalion arrived in Britain on 18 July and commenced four months of training. It crossed to France in late November and moved into the trenches of the Western Front for the first time on 9 December, just in time for the onset of the terrible winter of 1916-17.

The 39th fought in its first major battle at Messines, in Belgium, between 7-9 June 1917. During its march to the start-line for this operation the battalion suffered heavily from a German gas bombardment and less than a third of the troops earmarked to attack actually did so. The battalion, however, captured all of its objectives. The 39th fought in another two major attacks in this sector - the carefully planned and executed battle of Broodseinde on 4 October, and the disastrous battle of Passchendaele on 12 October.

(Battalion information from The Australian War Memorial)

Corporal John Henry Trengove was transferred on 1st October, 1917 to 10th Training Battalion in England. He was attached for duty on 3rd October, 1917 as Permanent Cadre of 10th Training Battalion at Durrington, Wiltshire, England.

Corporal John Henry Trengove was on command at School of Instruction No. 3 Group Headquarters from 22nd October, 1917.

Corporal John Henry Trengove attended a course of Instruction at Gas School, Chiseldon from 1st to 8th December, 1917 & qualified as Assistant Instructor.

Corporal John Henry Trengove was sent sick to Fovant Hospital from Sutton Mandeville, on 14th February, 1918. He was admitted the same day to Military Hospital at Fovant, Wiltshire with acute abdominal pains - Ascites (fluid in Abdomen). He remained in hospital for 72 days & was operated on during that time until his death.

Newspaper item – *The Ballarat Courier*, Victoria – 22 April, 1918:

CORPORAL H. TRENGOVE

Corpl Harry Trengove, of Chute, had recently to undergo an operation in an English hospital. He enlisted as a member of Beaufort's second unit, and has been on active service for two years.

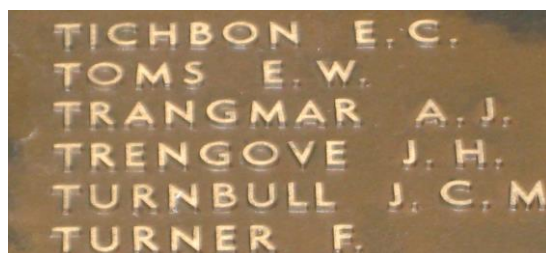
Corporal John Henry Trengove died at 5.15 p.m. on 27th April, 1918 at the Military Hospital at Fovant, Wiltshire, England from Dropsy Peritoneum.

A death for John H. Trengove, aged 38, was registered in the June quarter, 1918 in the district of Wilton, Wiltshire.

Corporal John Henry Trengove was buried on 30th April, 1918 in Compton Chamberlayne War Graves Cemetery, Wiltshire, England – Back Row, Grave Plot # 12. From the burial report of Corporal John Henry Trengove – Coffin was good Polished Elm with Brass Fittings. *The deceased was buried with full Military honours. The Band of the 9th Australian Training Battalion preceded the funeral which was attended by a firing party, pallbearers and about 30 Officers, N.C.O.'s and men of the deceased's Unit. Lieut. H. Trengove, 58th Batt (Cousin of the deceased) was chief mourner. Wreaths from the deceased's cousin and Officers, N.C.O.'s and men of the deceased's unit were placed on the grave. The late Cpl Trengove was most popular with both Officers, N.C.O.'s and men of his unit and was held in very high esteem. His loss as a soldier and comrade is very keenly felt by all who knew him.*

Corporal John Henry Trengove was entitled to British War Medal & the Victory Medal. A Memorial Scroll (May, 1922) & Memorial Plaque (November, 1922) were sent to Corporal Trengove's eldest brother as his mother had since died – Mr Richard Trengove of 6 Queen Street South, Ballarat East, Victoria.

Corporal J. H. Trengove is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 132.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



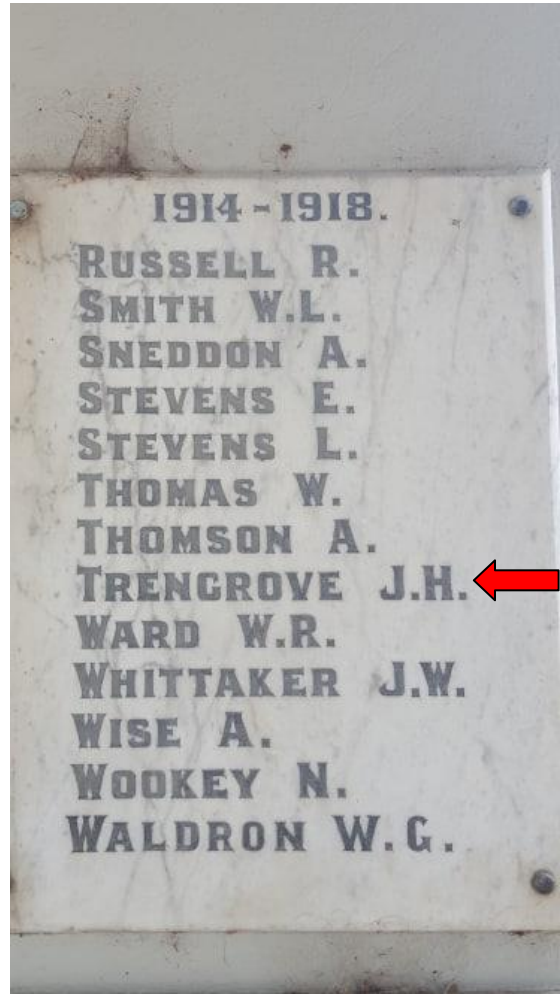
Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

J. H. Trengove is remembered on the Beaufort Roll of Honour, located in Pyrenees Shire Council Municipal Offices, 5 Lawrence Street, Beaufort, Victoria.



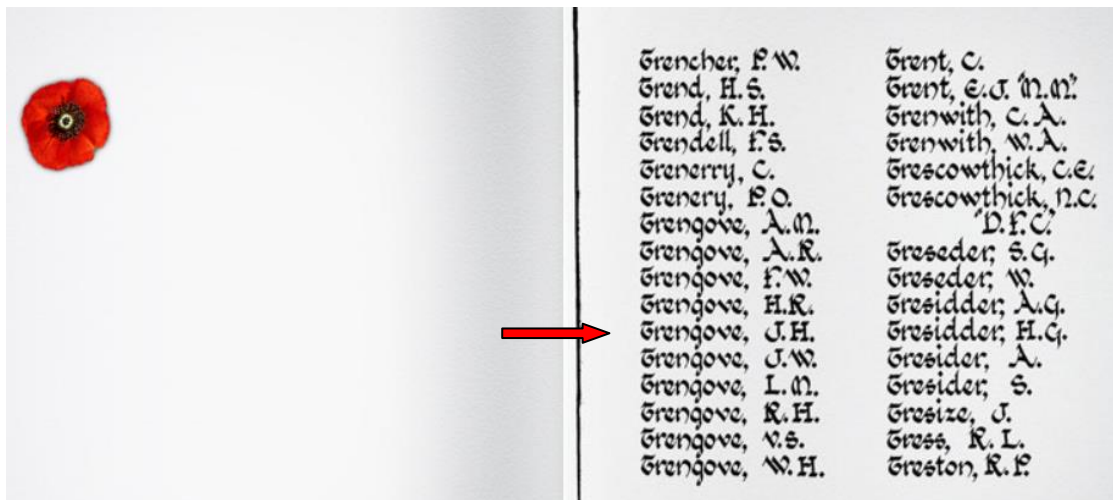
Beaufort Roll of Honour (Photo by Arthur Garland - AWM - Places of Pride)

J. H. Trengove is remembered on the Beaufort War Memorial located at Ripon Beaufort R.S.L Memorial Garden, Neil and Havelock Streets, Beaufort, Victoria. The memorial is a concrete pavilion. It is a one-third replica of a memorial on Salisbury Plain in England. J. H. Trengove's name is located on the 8th plaque.



Beaufort War Memorial (Photos by Faithe – AWM – Places of Pride)

J. H. Trengove is remembered in the Book of Remembrance at the Shrine of Remembrance, Melbourne, Victoria.





(56 pages of Corporal John Henry Trengove's Service records are available for On Line viewing at National Archives of Australia website).

Information obtained from the Australian War Memorial (Roll of Honour, First World War Embarkation Roll, Red Cross Wounded & Missing) & National Archives



Newspaper Reports

Australians and the War

Corp J. H. TRENGOVE, 37, Beaufort, died of illness in Fovant Military Hospital, England, on 27th April. Corp Trengove had to undergo an operation about two months ago, and his relatives believed that he was getting on well. He left Australia two years ago. He served in France from November, 1916, until early this year.

(The Age, Melbourne, Victoria – 7 May, 1918)

FOR THE EMPIRE

Messrs Trengove Bros, of Chute, and Mrs Ada Martin, of Beaufort, on Friday, 3rd inst., received the sad news, through the Rev. E. H. Coltman, that their brother Corpl. J. H. Trengove, died of illness in Fovant Military Hospital, England, on 27th April. The late Corpl. Trengove had to undergo an operation about two months ago, and from letters received his relatives were under the impression that he was making a good recovery. The tidings of his death therefore came as a great shock to them. The late soldier, who was generally known as Harry, was the second youngest son of the late Mr and Mrs Trengove. He was 37 years of age and one of those industrious, unassuming men of sterling character who gain the highest respect of every one they come in contact with. The deceased was a single man and enlisted as a member of Beaufort's second unit, sailing from Australia in May, 1916. By November of

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that year he was in France, and saw a great deal of strenuous service there until early in the present year, when he returned to England and went into a training school. Much sympathy is felt throughout the district for the bereaved relatives. The Riponshire flag was flown at half-mast at the Shire Hall, Beaufort, on Sunday, as a last tribute of respect to the memory of the deceased.

(Riponshire Advocate, Victoria – 11 May, 1918)

401st CASUALTY LIST

Victorian Names – Died of Other Causes

Corporal J. H. Trengove, Beaufort

(The Mildura Cultivator, Victoria – Wednesday 22nd May, 1918)

RIPONSHIRE HONOR ROLL

.....

J. H. Trengove

.....

(Riponshire Advocate, Victoria – 5 January, 1918)

RIPONSHIRE SOLDIERS' AVENUE OF HONOR

TREE-PLANTING DAY

Saturday was a red-letter day in the history of Beaufort and district, being the occasion of the planting of the Riponshire Soldiers' Avenue of Honor. The avenue, which consists of 500 deciduous trees, is situated on the main Beaufort—Ballarat road. The weather, although threatening, remained fine till late in the afternoon. From about 2 p.m. the road was alive with vehicles of all descriptions, from the motor-car to the unpretentious lorry, and there was a large and representative attendance at the planting site of people from all parts of Riponshire and elsewhere. The avenue commences at the old Beaufort show ground and continues for over a mile to the point where the road traverses timbered country. Here there is a break of about two miles. Near O'Callaghan's farm, where the cleared land is again reached, the avenue is entered once more, and it is continuous for about three miles to the Trawalla school. The majority of the holes had already been dug by means of working-bees, and as the tree-guards were in position, the work of planting the trees was expeditiously done, being completed by 3.30 p.m. Under the supervision of a number of experts (who were each responsible for a section), the relatives and friends of the soldiers placed the trees in the ground. Each tree-guard was decorated with a wreath of wattle-blossom and a small flag, and bore a plate giving the name of the soldier and his unit, and stating any distinctions won. In the case of men who had given their lives for King and country, the plate bore distinctive marks in the shape of a small black Maltese cross and the name of the country in which the soldier died. Nurses' name-plates were distinctively marked by a red cross. At intervals along the avenue flags were strung across the road. In a large marquee on the top of Trawalla hill, the ladies of Beaufort and district conducted an afternoon tea booth, which was under the capable management of Mrs J. R. Hughes. This was well patronised, and the takings (which amounted to £11) go into the avenue fund. The arrangements for the opening function were so complete that everything went off without a hitch. A vast amount of work must have been entailed, and much of the success of the movement is due to the faithful services rendered by the energetic and enthusiastic hon. secretary, Mr J. R. Wotherspoon. As president, Cr. W. H. Halpin was a leader of the right kind, and the committee comprised a loyal and ardent band of workers. Great assistance was rendered by the practical men, and the local forester (Mr T. D. Baines) gave the committee the benefit of his long experience in matters of this kind. A number of people kindly lent motor-cars, lorries, and other vehicles to convey people to the

scene of operations. The task of planting the trees having been completed, about 1000 people gathered on the crest of Trawalla hill to witness the formal opening ceremony and hear the speeches. A metal heap served as a platform for the speakers.

Cr. W. H. Halpin (president of the committee), who presided, said he was delighted to see such a large attendance. He extended a hearty welcome to all. The people had shown their appreciation of what was a duty to the soldiers.....

Appended is the list of soldiers and nurses for whom the trees were planted (the four nurses trees being at the Beaufort end of the avenue, the soldiers' following in alphabetical order)

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J. H. Trengove (dead)

.....

(*Riponshire Advocate*, Victoria – 17 August, 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 at Compton Chamberlayne Cemetery. 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*)

Corporal J. H. Trengove does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

Compton Chamberlayne War Graves Cemetery, Wiltshire, England

Compton Chamberlayne War Graves Cemetery contains 34 Commonwealth War Graves all from World War 1. Of these 28 are of Australian Soldiers.



(*Photo courtesy of Andrew Stacey*)



Compton Chamberlayne War Graves – showing left & right of Plinth

(Photos by Andrew Stacey 2012)



Photo taken from back of Cemetery looking towards the Entrance *(Photo courtesy of Andrew Stacey)*

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Photo of Corporal J. H. Trengove's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone at Compton Chamberlayne War Graves Cemetery, Wiltshire, England.



(Photo courtesy of Andrew Stacey)

Compton Chamberlayne War Grave Locations



British Soldier



Irish Soldier



Australian Soldier

Front Row	Grave		Middle Row	Grave		Back Row	Grave
<i>Public</i>	1		Oliver	1			1
<i>Public</i>	2		Knowles	2		<i>Public</i>	2
	Haywood		Skipper	3		Turner	3
	Gilbert		Wehrmann	4		Evans	4
	Le Tisser		Park	5		Dreckow	5
	Jones		Riley	6		Cass	6
	Cook		Turnbull	7		Arnold	7
	Pairman		White	8		Sillar	8
	9		Howard	9		Ross	9
	Norris		Tull	10		Finn	10
	Lintott		Snell	11		McCarthy	11
	Redman		Ferrow	12		Trengove	12
<i>Public</i>			<i>Public</i>				13
<i>Public</i>			<i>Public</i>				14
<i>Public</i>						Walsh	15
							16
						Hooper	17
							18
						Larkin	19



Compton Chamberlayne War Graves (Photo from CWGC)



(Photo taken c March, 1919)

Graves of Australian soldiers in the cemetery at Compton-Chamberlyne, each marked by a cross.

Back row, left to right: 55821 Private (Pte) Alfred Alwin Dreckow, 32nd Battalion (Bn), died 19 October 1918; 3712 Pte Thomas Cass, 10th Bn, died 17 August 1918; 3764 Pte William Joseph Arnold, 31st Bn, died 2 July 1918; Captain Roy Allan Sillar, Australian Army Medical Corps, died 30 June 1918; 1993A Pte Sydney Ross, 18th Bn, died 31 May 1918.

Front row: 1666 Sergeant Percy Robert Knowles, 9th Australian Light TM Battery, died 30 January 1918; 1995 Pte Thomas James Skipper, 51st Bn, died Fovant Military Hospital 7 January 1918; 687 Pte John Thomas Wehrmann, 32nd Bn, died 3 November 1917; 3462 Pte William Joseph Park, 60th Bn, died 23rd September 1917; 1725 Pte William Ernest Riley, 60th Bn, died 22 May 1917.