# St. Mary's New Churchyard,

# **Codford, Wiltshire, England**

## **War Graves**



Lest We Forget

## World War 1



### 6019 PRIVATE

## T. M. GORMAN

15TH BN. AUSTRALIAN INF.

14TH MARCH, 1917 Age 25

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## Thomas Michael GORMAN

Thomas Michael Gorman was born on 6<sup>th</sup> April, 1887 at 3 Menzies Street. Petrie Terrace, Brisbane, Queensland to parents Patrick John & Mary Gorman (nee Dorris).

(Note: Thomas Michael Gorman stated on his Attestation Papers that he was born at Rawal Pindi, India in 1890)

Thomas Michael Gorman attended Christian Brothers College, Gregory Terrace, Brisbane, Queensland.

Thomas Gorman was a 25 year old, single, Mechanic when he enlisted on 9<sup>th</sup> March, 1916 at Rockhampton, Queensland with the Australian Imperial Force (A.I.F.). His service number was 6019 & his religion was Roman Catholic. His next of kin was listed as his mother – Mrs Mary Gorman, Government House, Brisbane, Queensland.

Private Thomas Michael Gorman was posted to 11<sup>th</sup> Depot Battalion on 11<sup>th</sup> March, 1916 for recruit training. He was transferred to 19<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements of 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion on 13<sup>th</sup> April, 1916.

Private Thomas Michael Gorman embarked from Brisbane on HMAT *Itonus (A50)* on 8<sup>th</sup> August, 1916 with the 19<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements, 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion & disembarked at Plymouth, England on 18<sup>th</sup> October, 1916.

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

Private Gorman was written up for a Crime while posted at Hurdcott, Wiltshire – Absent without Leave from midnight on 30<sup>th</sup> October, 1916 to 10 pm on 1<sup>st</sup> November, 1916. He was awarded 7 days Confine to Barracks & forfeited 2 days' pay.

Private Gorman was admitted to Fovant Military Hospital, Wiltshire on 7<sup>th</sup> November, 1916. With V.D. He was discharged on 30<sup>th</sup> December, 1916.

Private Gorman was admitted to Fovant Miltary Hospital with Jaundice on 31<sup>st</sup> December, 1916.

Private Gorman was marched in from Hospital to 4<sup>th</sup> Training Battalion at Codford, Wiltshire on 29<sup>th</sup> January, 1917. The next line in Private Gorman's Statement of Service form records he was marched in from Fovant Hospital on 12<sup>th</sup> February, 1917.

Private Gorman was charged with several crimes on 12<sup>th</sup> February, 1917, being absent without leave for 4 hours; drunk in Lines & urinating in Lines. He was awarded 14 days detention & was placed in custody awaiting trial for 1 day. He forfeited 15 days pay as a result of his crimes.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 1917 Private Gorman was admitted sick with Jaundice to Group Hospital at Codford. He was then admitted to Military Hospital at Sutton Veny on 24<sup>th</sup> February, 1917.

Private Thomas Michael Gorman died on 14<sup>th</sup> March, 1917 at Sutton Veny Military Hospital at Sutton Veny, Wiltshire, England of Jaundice.

A death for Thomas M Gorman, aged 24, was registered in the March quarter, 1917 in the district of Warminster, Wiltshire.

Private Thomas Michael Gorman was buried at St. Mary's Cemetery Codford in Grave No. 83 on 17<sup>th</sup> March, 1917. From the burial report - *Coffin was satisfactory* & good. *This soldier was buried with full Military Honours. The body was brought by road from Sutton Veny to Codford on a Gun-Carriage. The Band was in attendance. The Officers and men of the Company to which deceased belonged followed the body to the grave.* 

A War Pension was awarded to Mary Gorman, widowed mother of Private Thomas Michael Gorman in the sum of £2 per fortnight from 17/5/1917.

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	RATION DISTRICT			WARMINSTER				
1917 DEATH in the Sub-district of Warminster				in the County of Wilts				
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<ol> <li>When and where died</li> </ol>	Name and surname	Sex Age	Occupation	Cause of death S		When gistered	Signature of registrar	
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### Death Certificate for Private Thomas Michael Gorman

Private Thomas Michael Gorman was entitled to British War Medal only. A Memorial Scroll & Memorial Plaque were also sent to Private Gorman's eldest brother – Patrick Gorman of Wooloowin, Brisbane, as their widowed mother had died on 19th December, 1921. (Scroll sent May, 1922 & Plaque - March, 1922)

Private T. M. Gorman is commemorated in the Hall of Memory Commemorative Area at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, Australia on Panel 76.



(Photos by Cathy Sedgwick)



Roll Of Honour WW1 Australian War Memorial Canberra, Australia

(37 pages of Private Thomas Michael Gorman'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) & National Archives

### Newspaper Reports

#### AUSTRALIAN ROLL OF HONOUR

The Queensland Casualty list was as follows:-

DIED, CAUSE NOT STATED

Private T. M. Gorman, Brisbane, 14/3/17

(The Brisbane Courier, Qld, Tuesday 27th March, 1917 & The Northern Miner, Queensland, Wednesday 28th March, 1917)

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 Codford War Graves 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  $\frac{1}{2}$  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 was sent from Base Records, dated 13<sup>th</sup> July, 1921, to Mrs M. Gorman, Government House, Brisbane, Queensland, advising that a letter from the Defence Dept. concerning an inscription on the headstone of her son, the late No. 6019 Private T. M. Gorman, 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 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.

Private T. M. Gorman does not have a personal inscription on his headstone.

#### St. Mary's New Churchyard (Anzac War Graves Cemetery), Codford, Wiltshire, England

The New Zealand Command Depot was established at Codford in June 1916 and the No 3 New Zealand General Hospital followed in July. The New Churchyard was established by deed of gift as the "Military Burial Ground," with a small part reserved for future burials from the parish. The war graves plot contains 98 burials, mostly of New Zealand and Australian forces. There is only one burial of the Second World War in the New Churchyard.

(Information from CWGC)



(Photo courtesy of Andrew Stacey 2013)



(Photo courtesy of Andrew Stacey 2013)



(Photo courtesy of Romy Wyeth)



(Photo by Romy Wyeth 2013)

Photo of Private T. M. Gorman's Commonwealth War Graves Commission Headstone at St. Mary's New Churchyard (Anzac War Graves Cemetery), Codford, Wiltshire, England.



(Photo courtesy of Romy Wyeth)



(Photo courtesy of Romy Wyeth 2013)

Commonwealth War Graves Headstone for Pte T. M. Gorman is located in Main Front Row Grave Plot #11 of Codford War Graves Cemetery (CWGC Reference - Grave # 83)

