

Richard Henry Biddlecombe

Born – Silverton, Devon 1891

Died -14 March 1915

Commemorated on the Menin Gate memorial to the missing in Ypres, indicating his body was never found.

Richard was the first soldier from Queen's Park to die in the First World War. He was one of a number of soldiers from the area who died at the Ypres salient, in Flanders, where some of the fiercest fighting of the war took place.

Ypres was the only major town in Belgium which was not captured by the Germans in the early weeks of the war. It therefore had a huge symbolic significance and could not be allowed to fall. Unfortunately it sat in a salient – it was surrounded on three sides by the German lines, and therefore could be shelled at will.

Richard was born in the Devon village of Silverton, a few miles outside of Exeter, in 1891. His father, Charles, was a gardener. At some point in the 1890s Charles and his wife Emma moved their family to London – in 1901 they were living at Strode Road in Willesden Green.

Henry was already serving in the army when war broke out. He was with the 2nd battalion of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, who embarked for France on 14 December 1914. On 12 January 1915 they arrived at the front line in Flanders, taking over trenches at Dickebusch until they were relieved on 29th January. By this stage Henry had been promoted to Lance Serjeant.

Henry returned to the front line three more times in February and March. On the 3rd occasion he was killed, on 14 March 1915.

The battalion war diary for the day he was killed says:

"The morning and afternoon were particularly quiet. At 5pm a terrific explosion took place under the mound, which collapsed, burying the machine gun team which was placed in it. At the same moment, trenches 17 and 18 were blown up by mines. The Germans at once swarmed out of their positions and proceeded to attack the blown-in trenches. They were headed by men who had no rifles but carried bombs and hand grenades. A and C companies were bombed out of their trenches and forced to retire after suffering very heavy casualties. D company on the right was not so severely attacked and was able to hold its trenches. B company remained in [trenches] 8 and 9. Officers killed [7], wounded [2]. Other ranks killed 42, wounded 59, missing 35."

Henry never married. He was 23 when he died.

Albert Mowbray Nason

Born – 22 Lynton Road in 1893

Died -9 May 1915

Commemorated on the Ploegsteert Memorial to the missing of Ypres, his body was never found.

Albert's father was a printer. After school, Albert worked as a clerk for the Gas, Light and Coke company – what we now call British Gas.

On 11 April 1911, age 17 years and six months, he joined the Territorial Force – forerunner of the Territorial Army. This 'reserve army' was created through the Haldane Act of 1908. Unlike most of the other large European powers, Britain did not have compulsory national service so in comparison to Germany, France or Russia the British army, made up of career soldiers, was very small.

A remarkable number of the soldiers from Queen's Park who died in the war were members of Territorial Force units. Albert chose the 13th Battalion of the newly formed London Regiment, known as the Kensingtons as their HQ was in Iverna Gardens, just off Kensington High Street.

When war broke out on the August Bank Holiday weekend of 1914, Territorial Force volunteers were on their way to that year's summer camps on the south coast. The Territorials were not obliged to enlist in the regular army – conscription did not start until 1916, but Albert signed up, and by 3 November he was on his way to France. He landed at Le Havre on 4 November 1914.

On 9 May 1915 the Kensingtons were in the front line of a British counter-attack at the Second Battle of Ypres, which began the previous month with a major German offensive to take the town. The action started at 5am with heavy British shelling of the German lines. The Kensingtons were ordered to move out into No Man's Land, at this point only 100 to 200 yards across. German bayonets could be seen in the trenches opposite. At 5.40am, following the detonation of two mines under the German trenches, the Kensingtons were ordered to rush forward and occupy the craters. They moved forward and captured ground behind the German lines and formed a defensive perimeter. However, by 8.30 in the morning the rest of the British assault had fallen back and the three forward positions – including the Kensingtons' position – had been cut off from the rest of the front line. For the rest of the day, the British tried to relieve the Kensingtons, but by 6pm it was clear that all their attempts had failed and the effort was abandoned.

Early the next morning the next morning the survivors were ordered to cross No Man's Land back to the British trenches. Albert was not among them.

Albert's body was never recovered. He was 21 when he died.

Charles William Winter

Born – Kensal Rise in 1893

Died -9 May 1915

*Commemorated on the Ploegsteert Memorial
to the missing of Ypres, his body was never found.*

Charles was the son of a carpenter. He lived opposite Albert Nason, at 23 Lynton Road. When Charles left school he got a job as a clerk (for a 'house agent'), just like his neighbour Albert – and like Albert he enlisted in the Kensingtons before the war. Charles had five sisters, two of whom were school teachers.

Abridged excerpt from The Kensington's War Diary for 9 May says:

2am Wire cut. Battalion ready for action.

5am Bombardment began. It appeared to lack the intensity of the Neuve Chapelle bombardment. A battery of 4.7 howitzers were understood to be bombarding Delange Farm, our chief objective, apparently a strongly fortified position. No shell had struck it as yet.

5.40am Artillery lifted and two mines exploded. The brigade assaulted. The Kensingtons assaulted the enemy's trenches on a frontage 50 yards on either side of the right hand mine.

6.30am by this time, a line had been established 50 yards east of points 878/879 and running back to track 50 yards north of Delangre Farm. Casualties were very heavy.

6.45am This line was extended to the south of Delangre Farm.

8.25am Message to Brigade HQ "Have exhausted every possible reinforcement."

9.05am Message from Brigade HQ. "2nd Scottish Rifles moving to support you. You have done splendidly."

9.10am Casualties continued to be heavy.

10.45am Message to Brigade HQ: "No sign of 2nd Scottish Rifles or ammunition. Please expedite both. Position is unchanged but casualties are increasing. Should Germans attack before support comes, fear I cannot hold on."

11.30am Last grenade used. Ammunition very short.

11.45am Enemy broke through blocked trench and bombed us out of next traverse. Severe enfilade fire brought on our line. Casualties very heavy.

12.45pm Five men of the Royal Berkshire Regiment reached the left of our line with bandoliers. A large concentration of the enemy was observed near point 831.

5.30pm About 55 men reached Cellar Farm. Others dribbled in up to about 8.30pm.

About 30 Germans were captured, four of whom were taken by the Colonel in a dug-out. Hardly 10 reached British lines.

1.45am 2nd Lieutenant Robertson arrived with two more men. The battalion then numbered about 120.

(In total 95 officers and men were killed that day,
another 222 were missing and 109 returned wounded)

Charles body was never recovered. He was 22 when he died.

23 Lynton Road

Frank William Marmaduke Hallett

Born – Paddington 1889

Baptised – 8th May 1889 St Augustine's

Died – 27 May 1915 at Ypres

*Buried at a cemetery called Voormezele Enclosure No3,
4 kilometres south west of Ypres.*

Frank's father was an accounts clerk for a firm of solicitors. Frank had one sibling – a brother called Herbert, who was three years older. The family seem to have been quite well off – until her death in 1900, the family were living in Maida Vale in the home of Frank's grandmother, Sophia, who was a widow with an independent income. They later moved to 122 Salusbury Road (now part of the Igar Hotel).

Frank went to a boarding school in Ealing called Castle Hill, and after school he got a job as an insurance clerk.

In 1909, Frank founded the 13th Hampstead Boy Scout Troop, with six founder members. They had their HQ in Lonsdale Road and were notable for the determined way they approached the start of the war, taking shooting lessons at the Lonsdale Rifle Club across the road and guarding an electricity sub-station in Neasden "day and night" according to an article in Boy's Life magazine. By 1917 all six founder members were serving in the armed forces and one had been killed, as had Frank.

Like Albert Nason and Charles Winter, Frank joined the Territorial Force before the war, enlisting in the 9th Battalion of the London Regiment (the Queen Victoria's Rifles), which had its headquarters in Davies Street, near Berkeley Square. He was also on his way to summer camp when war broke out and his unit were recalled. His unit arrived in France on 5 November 1914 – one of the first territorial units to arrive.

The war diary of the Queen Victoria's Rifles says that from 26 to 31 May three companies of the battalion were holding trenches at Voormezele at any time and the fourth company was resting in support dug-outs. During this period two soldiers were wounded and three were killed, one of whom was Frank Hallett.

It was common for soldiers serving in the trenches to be shot in the head by snipers at this point in the war. Remarkably, steel helmets were not issued to British soldiers until September 1915. Up to then, they wore cloth caps.

He was 26 when he died.

122 Salusbury Road

Clement George le Sueur

Born – 23 March 1893 in Hampstead

Died – 17th July 1915, Laventie

Buried near Laventie in the Royal Irish Fusiliers Graveyard. He is also commemorated on the family gravestone in Jersey (his father came from a well known Jersey family). The family commissioned a stained glass window in his memory in (the old) St Anne's Church; when the church was demolished in 1995 the windows were stored in the Glass Depository run by the Worshipful Company of Glaziers.

Clement was the first soldier from Queen's Park who was killed in France. While born in Hampstead; the family later moved to 155 Chevening Road. He was an only child. His father was a clerk in the War Office.

Clement attended Geneva House School on Shoot-Up Hill, and Kilburn Grammar School. In 1910, age 17, he joined the Metropolitan Water Board as a clerk. His obituary in Jersey says he attended King's College, London. There's no record of Clement enrolling on a full or part-time course there, but there was a series of evening classes for public servants to help them with their career development, so it is most likely he attended these.

Clement joined the Seaforth Highlands on September 1914 at the outbreak of war. He was in the 5th Battalion (Sutherland and Caithness), which was yet another Territorial Force unit, based at Golspie, so he may well have been a 'Terrier' before the war. The unit went to France 1st May 1915. He is the only soldier from Queen's Park that we have photo of.

His commanding officer commented: *"I hear from his comrades in the ranks that he was a fine soldier, and that his never failing good spirits helped others over the many depressing times we have here."*

His Church of England chaplain said: *"It fell to my lot to lay him to rest in the little soldiers' cemetery not far from Laventie. I know how greatly he is missed and mourned."*

A comrade also wrote: *"It should be some consolation to you to know that Clement's high character and good spirits stood the very searching tests that this life out here enforces with flying colours. His loss was keenly felt by all who had been brought into contact with him."*

The magazine 'Aquarius' wrote the following about him: *"Mr Le Sueur entered the service [of the Metropolitan Water Board] in 1910. He possessed marked ability and great business aptitude and a successful future seemed in store for him."*

He was killed while on sentry duty in the trenches near Laventie

155 Chevening Road

He was 24 when he died.

William Davis

Born – Clerkenwell, 1879

Died – 19 April 1916 at the Wharncliffe War Hospital in South Yorkshire

*Listed on the roll of honour naming all the patients who died at Wharncliffe War Hospital.
He is commemorated on the screen wall at Kensal Green Cemetery.*

William was older than most of the soldiers who came from Queen's Park – he was 37 when he died – and also uncharacteristic inasmuch as he was married with children.

William was born in Clerkenwell, the son of a 'brass tuner' called Fred. By the time the war started William was working as a motor driver. His wife Elizabeth was a char woman and they had three children – Lillian, Edith and William Jr. The family were living at 94 Albert Road in 1911 and at 8 Percy Road by 1916.

Qualified drivers were still comparatively rare in 1914 and their skills were in great demand – many ended up in the Royal Flying Corps as the skills require for flying planes were not greatly different from those needed to drive a car. William, though, ended up in the Army Service Corps – the section of the army responsible for logistics and supply. We know he was a driver from his military number and that he landed in France on 1 November 1915.

Unfortunately that's all we know about his war service as his records were destroyed during the Blitz in World War Two along with the majority of his fellow servicemen's records. We do know that he died on 19 April 1916 at the Wharncliffe War Hospital in South Yorkshire, where he is listed on the roll of honour naming all the patients who died there. He is commemorated on the screen wall at Kensal Green Cemetery.

He was 37 when he died.

He was survived by his wife and three children.

8 Percy Road

Melvin Harry Maurice Sims

Born – Harlesden, Spring 1893

Baptised – All Souls' Church Harlesden

Died – Battle of the Somme, 1 July 1916

*Buried in Gommecourt British Cemetery No.2,
at Hebuterne in the Pas de Calais.*

*He is also remembered on a memorial at the
Private Banks Cricket and Athletic Club in Catford.*

Melvin was one of a number of soldiers from Queen's Park who died in the Battle of the Somme in the summer of 1916. The battle was intended to relieve pressure on the French, who were being attacked at Verdun. Nearly 20,000 British soldiers died on the first day of the battle alone, two of them from Queen's Park.

Melvin father was a bank clerk. The family started out in Harlesden, then moved to 19 Honiton Road, 12 Brondesbury Park Mansions, Salusbury Road, and finally to 30 Kingswood. The family were prosperous enough to employ a live-in servant in 1901 – a 14 year old girl called Minnie Plaster. Melvin had two younger brothers, Frank and Eric.

We know Melvin left school by the time he was 15 – he worked as a 'lad clerk' at Paddington Station. He later followed his father into banking.

At 19 Honiton Road his house would have overlooked Albert Nason's home. The two were the same age, although we don't know if they went to school together.

At some point Melvin enlisted in the Territorial Force, joining the 16th Battalion of the London Regiment (Queen's Westminster Rifles), headquartered at Buckingham Gate.

We know nothing about his war service until his death on the first day of the Battle of the Somme, 1 July 1916.

The Queen's Westminsters, as they were known, were engaged in a diversionary attack on the village of Gommecourt intended to prevent the Germans switching troops and guns to face the main assault further south. By the end of the day 28 officers and 475 other ranks were killed, wounded or missing. The commanding officer of that part of the front was later sacked by General Haig because British casualties were not high enough.

He was 23 when he died.

30 Kingswood Road

Harry Leslie Mills

Born – Kilburn 1895

Baptised – Holy Trinity Kilburn, 9 June 1895

Died – Battle of the Somme, 1 July 1916

*Buried in Gommecourt British Cemetery No.2,
at Hebuterne in the Pas de Calais.*

The family initially lived at 5 Donaldson Road and then at 25 Summerfield Avenue. His father was a schoolteacher, and he had one sibling, a younger sister called Winifred.

We know Harry served in the 2nd Battalion of the London Regiment (the Royal Fusiliers) – another Territorial Force unit. However, we don't know whether he enlisted before the start of the war (when he was 18) or during the war itself.

Harry was killed in the same attack on Gommecourt as Melvin Sims, and is buried in the same cemetery. Some men of the 2nd Battalion were attached to the Queen's Westminsters during the battle, so it is possible that Melvin and Harry were fighting in the same place.

The attack on Gommecourt was described by journalist Philip Gibbs in his book *Now it Can be Told*:

"The Londoners of the 56th Division had no luck at all. Theirs was the worst luck because, by a desperate courage in assault, they did break through the German lines at Gommecourt. Their left was held by the London Rifle Brigade. The Rangers and the Queen Victoria Rifles – the old "Vics" – formed their center. Their right was made up by the London Scottish, and behind came the Queen's Westminsters and the Kensingtons, who were to advance through their comrades to a farther objective. Across a wide No Man's Land they suffered from the bursting of heavy crumps [of shell fire], and many fell. But they escaped annihilation by machine-gun fire and stormed through the upheaved earth into Gommecourt Park, killing many Germans and sending back batches of prisoners. They had done what they had been asked to do, and started building up barricades of earth and sand-bags, and then found they were in a death-trap. There were no [British] troops on their right or left. They had thrust out into a salient, which presently the enemy saw. The German gunners, with deadly skill, boxed it round with shell-fire, so that the Londoners were enclosed by explosive walls, and then very slowly and carefully drew a line of bursting shells up and down, up and down that captured ground, ravaging its earth anew and smashing the life that crouched there – London life."

He was 21 when he died.

25 Summerfield Ave

Thomas Henry Pollington Stone

Born – Watford on 9 November 1886

Died – Off the Coast of Ireland, 26 June 1916

*Only commemoration found is on the plaque
here at St Anne's.*

Thomas was the only serviceman from Queen's Park who died at sea during World War One. He was born in Watford ; his father was a plumber, who came originally from Gloucestershire. By the age of 14 Thomas had left school and was working as an ironmonger's apprentice.

Thomas married a women called Louisa, from Dundee; they lived at 34 Carlisle Road.

Thomas was a stoker on a submarine – the D6 – which sank off the coast of Ireland after being hit by a torpedo from a German U-Boat, the UB73. There were two survivors out of the crew of 25.

'Stoker' is a misleading title, as submarines were powered by diesel engines when they were on the surface and electric motors when submerged. The stoker's job on a submarine was to manage the fuel supply to the engines.

The log of the UB73 describes how they spotted the D6 on the surface and fired a torpedo which struck her in front of the conning tower. After the submarine sank, the UB73 rescued her commanding officer and watch officer from the sea.

He was 31 when he died.

He was survived by his wife Louisa.

34 Carlisle Road

Frank Johnston

Born – Hampstead 1897

**Died – Battle of the Somme,
15th September 1916**

*Buried at Delville Wood Cemetery, in Longueval,
one of the largest Commonwealth cemeteries in France.*

Frank was the third soldier from Queen's Park to die in the Battle of the Somme.

He was born in Hampstead. His father was a ticket inspector on the London omnibus service, and Frank had five brothers – William Jr, Alfred, Arthur, Isabella and Ernest. The family initially lived at 121 Glengall Road, later moving to 10 Tennyson Road.

By the time he reached 14 Frank had left school and was working as a stationer's assistant.

We know Frank enlisted in the 19th Battalion of the London Regiment (St Pancras), which had its headquarters in Camden High Street, and that he signed up in Kilburn.

His brother Alfred (younger by a year) joined the same battalion in August 1915 so it's likely that Frank volunteered early in the war rather than belonging to the Territorial Force before the war began as he only turned 17 – the minimum age for joining 'the Terriers' a few months before the war began.

Frank was killed during the Battle of Flers-Courcelette (part of the Battle of the Somme).

This was the day – and the place – where tanks were first used.

He was 19 when he died.

121 Glengall Road

Herbert John Taylor

Born – Paddington 1874
Died – of his wounds at home
13 October 1916

Buried in Paddington Cemetery

Herbert was the oldest serviceman from Queen's Park to die in World War One; he was 42 when he died.

Herbert was born in Paddington, the son of an upholsterer. He had two brothers and two sisters.

By the time he was 16 Herbert had left school and was working as a railway clerk at Paddington Station, a job he was still doing nearly a quarter of a century later when war broke out.

He never married. For most of his life Herbert lived with his parents in St Mary's Square, Paddington, but at some stage the family moved to 110 Salusbury Road (now part of the Igar Hotel), a few doors away from Frank Hallett.

Herbert enlisted in the 9th Battalion of the London Regiment (Queen Victoria's Rifles) – the same Territorial Force unit as Frank. We don't know whether Herbert enlisted in the Territorial Force before the war or joined up when the war started; the age limits for Territorial Force membership were 17-41 before the war so he would certainly have been eligible.

We don't know when he went to France or where he served. We don't even know where he was injured or where he was treated, but we do know that he was home in London when he died of his wounds on 13 October 1916.

The 9th Battalion fought on the Somme, including in the attack at Gommecourt on 1 July when Harry Mills and Melvin Sims were killed, so it is possible he was injured there. We simply do not know.

He was 42 when he died.

110 Salusbury Road

Sydney Bater Gabriel

Born – Brentford 1889

Died – 8 November 1916 at the 1st Western General Hospital in Fazakerley, Liverpool

Buried in Liverpool's Kirkdale Cemetery

Sydney was born in Brentford. His father, Thomas, was a wine merchant. Sydney had two siblings – Horace and Ethel. The family lived at 10 Plympton Road, 27 Carlisle Road and later at 104 Chevening Road.

Sydney attended Kilburn Grammar School, and went on to work as a warehouseman for a wholesale drapers, Stepley and Sons, of 8 London Wall.

He enlisted in the 1st London Brigade of the Royal Field Artillery – yet another Territorial Force unit set up under the Haldane Reforms – on 14 April 1909, age 19 years and 6 months. The brigade was headquartered in Handel Street, Bloomsbury, with batteries based in Brixton and Shepherd's Bush. Stanley re-enlisted on 29 January 1913, at Handel Street.

During the first winter of the war, the 1st Brigade were in Britain, guarding the Northumbrian coast. They finally embarked for France from on 3-4 October 1915, travelling from Southampton to Le Havre. On 26 February 1916 Stanley re-enlisted for a final time, this time for the duration of the war.

On 18 October 1916 Stanley was taken to hospital with a gunshot wound to his right knee, and on 26 October he was sent home to England for treatment. He died of septicaemia on 8 November 1916 at the 1st Western General Hospital in Fazakerley, Liverpool (now called University Hospital Aintree) .

When he died, and had reached the rank of Corporal.

There was intense fighting on the Somme throughout October 1916, so he could have been injured there, although the Royal Field Artillery were in action all over France and Flanders so he could have been hurt anywhere on the British lines. Sydney is therefore the last of the group of soldiers who may have died as a result of the Battle of the Somme.

He was 27 when he died.

104 Chevening Road

Arthur Edington Rodges

Born – Barton Regis, Gloucestershire, in 1885

Died – 2 February 1917 at the New End Hospital in Hampstead.

Buried in Willesden New Cemetery.

Arthur was born in Barton Regis, Gloucestershire. His father was a bootmaker. The family moved to 45 Salusbury Road (opposite Queen's Park station, above today's Ego hairdressers) some time before 1901. Arthur had one sibling, a younger sister called Elsie.

By the time he turned 15 Arthur had left school and was working as an electrical engineer in his father's bootshop, looking after the machines which were essential to their work.

In July 1915 Arthur married Amelia Collins in Paddington. On 5 July 1916 they had a baby son, Ralph Arthur Caradine Rodges, who was christened at the church of St Luke the Evangelist in West Kilburn on 30 July. At the time, according to the baptism certificate, Arthur was working as the manager of the family boot shop.

When Arthur was sent his conscription papers in 1916 his father appealed, on the grounds that he (Mr Rodges) was now an invalid living in the country who was dependant on the income from the bootshop. Since Arthur was the only employee who knew how to maintain the machinery, the business would close if he went away, sending Arthur's father and the three disabled men working at the shop into penury. He further argued that the shop was important to the local community.

The appeal was successful and Arthur instead of going to the front Arthur was able to enlist in London as a mechanic at a training centre of the Royal Flying Corps, forerunner of the Royal Air Force. In light of his engineering skills he was given the rank of Air Mechanic 2nd Class.

Arthur died of pneumonia and meningitis at the New End Hospital in Hampstead.

He was 31 when he died.

45 Salusbury Road

Charles George Penny

Born – Marylebone, July 1898

Baptised – Christ Church Marylebone

20 July 1898

Died – 3 May 1917, Arras

*commemorated on the Arras Memorial,
so his body was never recovered.*

Charles was one of two soldiers from Queen's Park who died in an offensive at Arras in May 1917.

He was born in Marylebone. His father was a lady's tailor, and he had two younger siblings, William and Emily. The family lived at 99 Hartland Road.

Charles enlisted on 11 January 1915 at Pound Lane in the 7th Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment, age 17 years and six months.

He was dispatched to France on 30 November 1916, travelling from Folkestone to Boulogne. He joined the 56th divisional training battalion on 11 December 1916, and then rejoined his own battalion on 23 February 1917.

He was killed in action on 3 May 1917, and his body was not found.

3 May 1917 was the opening day of a fight known as The Third Battle of the Scarpe. Nearly 6,000 British soldiers died that day in an attack which was poorly planned, and faced German defensive positions which had recently been reinforced.

He was 19 when he died.

99 Hartland Road

Arthur Thomas Meech

Born – Marylebone, Summer 1886

Baptised – Christ Church Marylebone

13 June 1886

Died – 13 May 1917, Arras

*Buried at Noreuil Australian Cemetery,
between Arras and Cambrai*

Arthur was born in Marylebone. His parents were living at 9 Lisson Grove, and his father was working for the Post Office. In total there were seven children in the family by 1901, including Arthur and his brothers Charles and Thomas, who are also commemorated on the plaque at St Anne's.

By the age of 14 Arthur had left school and was working as a commercial clerk. A decade later the family had moved to 31 Honiton Road and Arthur was working as a travelling salesman, specialising in hairdressing products.

On 8 July 1911 Arthur married Frances May Richardson, of 67 College Road, at St Anne's. In 1914 they had a daughter, Florence.

Arthur enlisted at Handel Street in the 1st battalion of the London Regiment (Royal Fusiliers) – the same battalion as Harry Mills of Summerfield Avenue. He was promoted to Company Sergeant Major by the time he was killed in May 1917.

The official medals index says he started serving on the Western Front on 21 January 1917. His burial at the Noreuil Australian Cemetery, between Arras and Cambrai, suggests that he was killed during the Second Battle of Bullecourt, part of the Arras offensive of May 1917.

The Australians took the brunt of the fighting in that battle, which only succeeded in taking 400 yards of ground at the cost of over 7,000 lives.

He was 31 when he died.

31 Honiton Road

Harry Walter Turell

Born – Wandsworth, early 1896

Baptised – St Mark's Battersea Rise

22 March 1896

Died – 4 July 1917, Camberwell

Buried at Paddington Cemetery

Harry in Wandsworth and baptised at St Marks, Battersea Rise, on 22 March of that year.

His father was a police inspector, and Harry had two brothers, Ralph and Norman. By 1911 the family had moved to 33 Summerfield Avenue.

Harry enlisted in the Royal Garrison Artillery, which specialised in long range shelling using very large calibre guns. He served with the 31st Heavy Battery.

Harry died on 4 July 1917, at the 1st London General Hospital in Camberwell, presumably after being evacuated home.

He was 21 when he died.

33 Summerfield Road