

In Memory of

Private

W R Ross

356550, 21st Bn., Highland Light Infantry who died on 16 June 1918

Remembered with Honour

Timperley (Christ Church) Churchyard



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Private William Robert Ross

21st Battalion, Highland Light Infantry

Died: 16th June 1918 Age: 26

How Died: Died of Wounds

Country of burial: U.K.

Cemetery or Memorial: Christ Church Churchyard, Timperley

Town Memorial: Altrincham

Extra Information:

Born during the June quarter 1892 in the Salford R.D. - ref: 8d/81, the eldest son of Robert & Ellen Amelio Ross (nee Inskip).

1901 Census - Navigation Road, Altrincham. Son - aged: 7 - born: Lower Broughton, Lancashire. Head of household - Robert Ross - Married - aged: 34 - occ: Plumber - born: Knutsford, Cheshire. Also Ellen Ross - Wife - aged: 35 - born: Market Drayton, Shropshire. Plus younger siblings and 1 domestic servant.

Apprenticed to his father as a Plumber.

1911 Census - 9 Navigation Road, Altrincham. Son - aged: 19 - occ: Plumber - born: Lower Broughton, Salford. Head of household - Robert Ross - Married - aged: 43 - occ: Plumber - born: Knutsford, Cheshire. Also Ellen Ross - Wife - aged: 44 - born: Market Drayton, Shropshire. Plus 3 younger siblings.

Educated at the Rigby Memorial School, Broadheath under Mr. J. Child, Headmaster.

Member of St. Vincent's Church, Altrincham, where his widow also helped out.

WO364 - Attested into the 9th Bn, Royal Scots at Manchester on the 12th November 1914. He signed on for 4 years in the Territorial Force. He had not previously served. Residing at 33 Navigation Road, Altrincham. Served At Home (UK) 12/11/1914 to 23/02/1915. France from 24/02/1915 to 23/08/1916. He embarked on the S.S. Inventor at Southampton on 24/02/1915 and landed at Havre on the 26th. Admitted to 1/2 Highland

Division Field Ambulance on the 4th July 1916 with I.C.T. (Inflamed Connective Tissue) to legs - he was discharged on the 12th.

The 9th Bn, Royal Scots served in the 51st (Highland) Division, 154th Brigade. In the Battle of the Somme 1916, the Battalion moved down from the Arras sector and reached Beaumetz on 16/07. They then entrained at Candas for Mericourt-l'Abbé on 20/07. From there they marched to Méalte and moved forward via Fricourt and Mametz to trenches near Bazentine-le-Grand Wood on 21/07. They then attacked at High Wood sustaining 175 casualties, one of whom was William. On the 22nd July 1916 he received a GSW (gun shot wound) to his leg and was admitted to the 1/3 Highland Division Field Ambulance and sent back to No.34 C.C.S. (Casualty Clearing Station) at Daours. From there he was sent back down to No. 1 Stationary Hospital at Rouen on 24/07 and to Etaples on 29/07. He was admitted to the No. 11 Stationary Hospital at Rouen on 18/08 before being transferred back to England on the Hospital Ship - H.S. Panama on 23/08. On his return to England on 24/08/1916, he went straight into the 2nd Western Hospital, Manchester, where he stayed until 12/02/1917 (173 days). On admission he was also found to be suffering from Diarrhoea and Pyrexia (Colitis).

He transferred to the 21st Bn, Highland Light Infantry on the 3rd May 1917. Granted leave from 23/06/1917 to 28/06/1917 (presumably to enable him to get married). Granted an extension to that leave from 29/06/1917 to 02/07/1917. Admitted back into the 2nd Western Hospital, Manchester on 03/07/1917 suffering from Gastro-Enteritis - discharged on 30/07/1917 (28 days). Married Catherine M. Fitz-Patrick during the June quarter 1917 in the Bucklow R.D. - ref: 8a/336. They resided at 103 Moss Lane, Altrincham before moving to 43 Navigation Road.

Home Service from 24/08/1916 to 18/09/1917 when he was discharged from the Army, as being medically unfit for further service. Recorded that his character was "Very Good". It went on to say that he was, "A sober, honest and diligent soldier who has served with the armed forces of the Crown." At the time of his discharge, he was aged: 24 years, 10 months. 5 feet 9 inches in height. Weighed 156 lb. A 36/37½ inch chest measurements. Eyes: brown - hair: black - occupation: plumber.

MIC - states that he originally served in the 9th Bn, Royal Scots - No. 2766, before transferring to the Highland Light Infantry. He was posted to France on the 25th February 1915. He was issued with a Silver War Badge.

Death reported in the 21/06/1918 edition of the Altrincham Guardian which states that he was wounded and gassed in August 1916. Since then he had been in a low state of health, so he decided to go the Llandudno as he thought the fresh air would be beneficial to him.. Unfortunately, he died there. His death was registered in the Conway R.D., Caernarvonshire during the June quarter 1918 - ref: 11b/578 - aged: 26.

Listed as Robert Ross on St. Alban's Vicar's typed list.

Buried on 20/06/1918 in the private family grave in Christchurch Churchyard, Timperley, which states that he was with the 9th Bn Royal Scots - as does the local newspaper.

His mother, Ellen Amelio died 02/02/1951 aged 85 years.

Memorials found on:

Altrincham & District Roll of Honour

Broadheath Congregational Church

St. Alban's Church, Broadheath

St. Alban's - Vicar's List



William's Grave in Christ Church, Timperley Graveyard