

## PUGH Horace James



YPRES (MENIN GATE) MEMORIAL

Sergeant Horace James Pugh – 16265 – 18<sup>th</sup> Bn King's Liverpool

Horace, aged 20, enlisted with the Liverpool Pals on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1914 at Liverpool and saw action on the Western Front. On 31<sup>st</sup> July 1917 he died, aged 23, on the first day of the Battle of Passchendaele when the British launched a major offensive near the town of Ypres. Wounded, he was carried back from the front line on a stretcher. He then passed his brother Wilf who was on his way to the front. The brothers spoke briefly before Horace died of his injuries. Wilf survived the war returning to Willaston where he ran the local grocer's shop which was located on Neston Road. It is, at the time of writing, a florist shop. Horace is remembered on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial.

His parents were John Harry Pugh and Alice Bowcock. The 1901 census records that his father was a grocer. Horace had a sister, Elizabeth born in 1900 who died in Australia in 1966.

The 1911 census lists Horace as a clerk in the accounts department at the Lever Brothers Port Sunlight soap works. Consequently, he appears on the Port Sunlight War Memorial and on the Lever Brothers Roll of Honour. His father, mother and brother, Wilfred, were all working in the family grocery shop.



**Panel from Port Sunlight War Memorial**  
*("The Defence of the Home")*

Port Sunlight and its memorial are both unique. Port Sunlight is the model village built from the late Victorian period onwards by William Lever (later Lord Leverhulme) for the employees at his Sunlight Soap Factory. The war memorial was designed and sculpted by his friend Sir William Goscombe John, one of the most important of the New Sculptors. Raised on a circular mound at the heart of the village, the memorial honours those of Lord Leverhulme's employees who fell in the Great War, remembering as well the various services that supported them. Taking as its theme "defence of home and country," it also, unusually, shows a number of women and children.