

WOOD William Henry

Private W.H. Wood – 282315 – 2nd/7th Btn Lancashire Fusiliers

William enlisted in Birkenhead in 1914 and served in France. He died on 21st of March 1918 aged 32. He has no known grave but is remembered on the Pozieres Memorial at the Somme together with the names of 14,657 other fallen.



POZIERES MEMORIAL

The POZIERES MEMORIAL relates to the period of crisis in March and April 1918 when the Allied Fifth Army was driven back by overwhelming numbers across the former Somme battlefields, and the months that followed before the Advance to Victory, which began on 8 August 1918.

The Memorial commemorates over 14,000 casualties of the United Kingdom and 300 of the South African Forces who have no known grave and who died on the Somme from 21 March to 7 August 1918. The cemetery and memorial were designed by W.H. Cowlshaw, with sculpture by Laurence A. Turner. The memorial was unveiled by Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien on 4 August 1930.

William Henry was the son of William and Jane Wood, of White House Farm, Willaston. In the 1911 Census his father is listed as a joiner born in Macclesfield. His mother (nee Wright) was born in Willaston. William was the cousin of Ralph Wright, who is also commemorated on the Willaston War Memorial. Both he and his older brother were born at Bagilt, Flintshire. William was employed as a teamsman, a man who is in charge of a team of horses hauling wagons of goods or ploughing the fields.