

WRIGHT Ralph ✓

Private Ralph Wright (10905) enlisted on 10th September 1914 just after his 28th birthday and served in the 3rd Battalion Scots Guards. He was sent to France on 17th March 1915 where he served for 57 days up to 12th May 1915. In April, while near Bethune, his medical condition was causing concern and on 15th June that year he was discharged from active service due to Phthisis - tuberculosis. He spent 39 days in The London General Hospital. The Report of the Medical Board on 15th June 1915 states that he was permanently and totally incapacitated. His condition was not caused by, but rendered active by, active service. "This man's present condition may be regarded as due to services since the declaration of war". He was awarded the 1914/15 Star campaign medal of the British Empire on 17th March 1915 for his service in France. He died on 28th April 1918 aged 31 and is buried in Willaston Churchyard.

Ralph had been baptised in Willaston Church in August 1886. In 1914 he is recorded as being a butcher and was the fourth son of Ralph and Jane Wright. His father was a farmer. The family consisted of:

Charles born 1875

Alice born in 1879 who was a certificated teacher for a board school

James A. born in 1881

John Harold born in 1883

Elizabeth born in 1884 who was a pupil teacher

Ralph born 1886

His father died in 1907 and is buried in Willaston Churchyard having originally come from Lodge Lane, Liverpool.

When Ralph died he was unmarried. His cousin, William Henry Wood is also commemorated on Willaston War Memorial.



914/15 Star Medal Era: ww1

The 1914 – 15 Star was a campaign medal of the British Empire, for service in World War one.

This Star is identical with the 1914 Star in every respect except that the centre scroll bears the dates "1914- 15" and the two small scrolls bearing "Aug" and "Nov" are omitted.

The 1914-15 Star was approved in 1918, for issue to officers and men of British Imperial Forces who saw service in any theatre of war against the Central Powers between 5th August, 1914, and 31st December, 1915, except those eligible for the 1914 Star.

Recipients of this medal also received the British War Medal and Victory Medal - it was never awarded singly. These three medals were sometimes irreverently referred to as Pip, Squeak and Wilfred, with Pip representing either this medal or the 1914 Star, only one of which could be awarded to a soldier; Squeak represented the British War Medal and Wilfred represented the Victory Medal