

# **JOHN VICTOR WILLIAMS**

**Second Lieutenant**

**4th Battalion, The King's (Liverpool) Regiment**

**died on**

**Wednesday 26th September 1917**

**aged 30**

**JOHN VICTOR WILLIAMS**  
is commemorated on the  
**TYNE COT MEMORIAL**  
Belgium

The Tyne Cot Memorial is one of four memorials to the missing in Belgian Flanders which cover the area known as the Ypres Salient. The battles of the Ypres Salient claimed many lives on both sides and it quickly became clear that the commemoration of members of the Commonwealth forces with no known grave would have to be divided between several different sites. The site of the Menin Gate was chosen because of the hundreds of thousands of men who passed through it on their way to the battlefields. It commemorates those who died in the Salient, before 16 August 1917. Those United Kingdom and New Zealand servicemen that date are named on the memorial at Tyne Cot, a site which marks the furthest point reached by Commonwealth forces in Belgium until nearly the end of the war. The Tyne Cot Memorial now bears the names of almost 35,000 officers and men whose graves are not known. The memorial forms the north-eastern boundary of Tyne Cot Cemetery, which was established around a captured German blockhouse or pill-box used as an advanced dressing station.

John Victor Williams is commemorated on Panel 31 to 34 and 162 and 162A and 163A.



# MALVERN NEWS

Saturday 13th October 1917

Lieut John Victor Williams, Liverpool Regiment who has been killed in action was at one time employed at Messrs Schweppes at Colwall and later moved to Leamington and Coventry and joined the RAMC at Birmingham soon after the outbreak of war. He saw service at Gallipoli and was invalided home and was subsequently commissioned in the Liverpools. The deceased was a Past Grand Master of the Loyal Wells Lodge of Oddfellows and took a keen interest in the old Colwall Football Club.

The Colonel of the 4th Kings wrote to his father: "Your son died while leading his men to attack during severe fighting last week. His death is a very great loss to the Battalion. He was instantly killed by a bullet through the heart. His leadership and bravery were splendid, and he died like a very brave soldier. I hope you will accept my heartiest sympathy in your great loss."

A fellow officer wrote to his sister: "Allow me to express my deepest sympathy for you in your death, in action, of your brother. Williams was always a quiet chap, but he was one of those few whose minds one feels are strong and good without the assurance of the spoken word. What I thought of him was fully borne out in the brave way in which he met his end. He led the attack on a Boche stronghold which he successfully carried and it was whilst occupying the position that he was sniped. No man could have done more. He died bravely in his own great way."

Three brothers of Williams' served with the Colours, and a sister was working at a Casualty Clearing Station in France at the time of his death. There was a Requiem for him at Little Malvern Church, the Revd C R Fowke officiated on the 5th October 1917; and on Thursday, 12th a memorial was held at St John's Coventry, where he was well known.



Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
WILLIAMS	Lieut. R.	2/15	36532
John Victor	On R. 4th R. P. 1st/1st		
Medal	Roll	Pay	Remarks
✓	L. Post R. OFF 49	196	Form: L. Post R. 28/4/17
BRITISH	do	do	14x/28/4/17 3-5-11 87/4/2380
15	RAMC/16A Bkcd		Relinquish Charge of CRV 106 d 89 to Coll. 12/1/1916
Theatre of War served in	(28) Balkans		
Date of entry therein	11.7.15		
			6.4/4/2382
			87/4/2476

John Victor Williams was one of the six children of John and Mary Ann Williams and he was baptised in Colwall on June 5th 1887. The family lived in Sunny Side, Upper Colwall. John the father was a groom and by 1911 John Victor was a second foreman at the mineral water factory. He enlisted in Birmingham and served with the Royal Army Medical Corps before being commissioned into The King's Liverpool Regiment. He was serving with the 4th Battalion when he was killed in action at Passchendaele. He is commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial. John Bratt and Ernest Suter of Colwall are both commemorated there and Robert Washington is buried in Tyne Cot Cemetery. He is commemorated on a brass plaque in St James the Great Colwall.