

Walter Henry Field

Private, 12th Battalion Gloucester Regiment. Joined the colours at Llanelly, South Wales, March, 1917. Served in France and Belgium, only one battle, at Ypres, on October 4th, 1917, where he was killed in action. Place of burial unknown. General Service and Victory Medals.



WALTER FIELD was born in Corsham in 1886 – he was the son of William Field and his wife Emily. William had a varied career: he was described as a hawker of books in the 1881 census prior to Walter's birth, as an Evangelist preacher in 1891, when he had moved the family back to Dorking in Surrey, and eventually as a stationer and tobacconist in 1901, living on the High Street in Corsham. Walter would have worked in the High Street shop when he left school. The 1911 census tragically records that William and Emily had had fourteen children, ten of whom had died.

By then Walter, aged 25, had moved to Llanelli in Wales, and was a stone sawyer at a local quarry when he married Gertrude Richards in 1913. They had a daughter, Frances, who did not survive infancy and very soon after this, in early 1917, Walter enlisted for the war. He was a Private in the Gloucester Regiment and served in both France and Belgium before he was killed in action at the Battle of Ypres on 4th October 1917.

Walter is buried at the Tyne Cot Memorial Cemetery.