

## TRORY, FREDERICK RUSSELL

Nationality: United Kingdom

Rank: Serjeant

4th (Royal Irish) Dragoon Guards

Age: 36

Killed in Action Date of Death: 22/03/1918

Service No: 20105



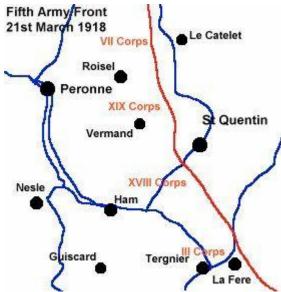
Frederick Russell TRORY was born in Nottingham in 1885, the fifth child of nine children born to Henry TRORY and Ellen Susanna RUSSELL. Three of his siblings died in infancy, his sister Kate died in 1909 at the age of 29 yrs. His father died in 1916 and he was survived by his mother, brothers William and Arthur, sister Eleanor and possibly a sister Rosa. His father

was born in Dilham, Norfolk and was a confectioner, a trade which appears in the family several times. He was from an old and peculiarly Norfolk family, the name TROR(E)Y being a very rare name even today. (There is a street in Norwich called Trory Street named after a councillor from a hitherto unrelated Trory family). At one time father Henry plied his trade north along the east side of England, which explains why Frederick was born in Nottingham, other children being born in Newcastle and Durham, as well as in Norwich. Mother Ellen was born in Buxton, Norfolk. The 1901 Census shows this family under the name of IVORY. This is a common transcription error for the name Trory. Given the flowery writing of the period, a 'T' can look like an 'I' and the first 'r' when badly written can look like a 'v'. The census shows Frederick, aged 15, as a draper's assistant and he is living at 1 Stafford Street, Heigham, Norwich with his parents and siblings. Frederick married Matilda CRICKMAR at St Andrews church, Fingringhoe on 28th April 1914. She was aged 35, a spinster, born in Fingringhoe, and had been a lady's maid in London. She was one of nine children. On their marriage certificate. Frederick states he is an RSPCA Inspector. They lived at Myrtle Villa, Fingringhoe, Colchester. He must have signed up with the 4th Dragoons, gone to France only four months after his marriage (The Mons Star). However, he must have been in England for a while from February 1915 onwards because his only son was born on 28th November 1915 in Newport, Monmouthshire. His name was Frederick Henry TRORY. It is doubtful whether Frederick senior saw his baby son more than a couple of times.

4th (Royal Irish) Dragoon Guards. On the outbreak of war on the 04 Aug 1914 they were at Tidworth in the 2nd Cavalry Brigade. They became part of the 1st Cavalry Division, which was formed in August 1914 and went to France between 15 and 18 August 1914. On 16 September the Cavalry Division became the 1st Cavalry Division. The 4th Dragoon Guards saw action from the outset of the First World War. Frederick was a corporal when he left for France in 1914

Saturday 22 August 1914, Corporal Drummer Thomas of 'C' Squadron 4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards, is the first British soldier to fire a shot in the war for the BEF. On the same day, Captain Hornby lead the first cavalry charge of the war with men of 'C' Squadron of the the above Regiment. They charged a number of German cavalry troops and puts them to flight

## 21st March 1918: Operation Michael commences Overview and summary of this battle



**Morning** Exceptionally heavy German shellfire hits all areas of British front occupied by Fifth Army, most of the front of Third Army, and some of the front of First Army, at 4.40am. The main weight of attack was between Arras and a few miles south of Saint-Quentin.

The weather was damp with thick fog in the early morning. This, combined with smoke from the bombardments of both sets of artillery, made visibility poor throughout the day although the fog itself cleared by late morning.

German infantry began to attack between 7.00am and 9.40am. New infiltration tactics meant that infantry continued to probe forward through gaps regardless of what was happening either side, while follow-up units besieged and engaged British posts and defended villages. Many of these held out, and only fell once entirely surrounded and hopeless.

XIX Division 24thBrigade, 3/Rifle Brigade and 8/Queens continue to hold on at Le Verguier. 9/East Surrey in front of Maissemy is heavily attacked before noon and fights until surrounded at 2pm: only 20 men left, who are captured. HQ of 1/North Staffordshire is captured in a sunken road south of the village. A detachment of reserve of 9/East Surrey and 12/Sherwood Foresters (Pioneers) halt enemy midway between Maissemy and Villecholes. 66th Brigade (2/East Lancs) Severe fighting continues between Grand Priel Woods and Templeux le Guerard. 2/7 Manchester defend Brosse Wood for several hours and 2/6Manchester do same at Fervaque Farm near Villeret until flamethrower attack at 1.30pm. Enemy pushes on but outruns its own artillery cover and is halted on the Jeancourt-Hargicourt road. To the north the German attack reaches Templeux Quarries, which holds on until 5pm. XIX Corps is reinforced by 1st Cavalry Division, which included Frederick.

At times during the war the division served in the trenches as infantry, each Cavalry Brigade once dismounted formed a dismounted regiment under the command of a Brigadier. The 1st Cavalry Division served in France and Flanders until the Armistice. He died during the Battle of St. Quentin. 21 - 23 Mar 1918.

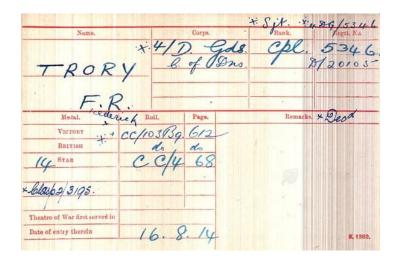


1914" Mons" Star with "15th August - 22 November 1914" clasp, 1914-20 War Medal & Victory Medal 1914-1919



The Memorial plaque issued to the next of kin of the Fallen

TRORY, FREDERICK RUSSELL. Reg. No. 20105. Rank, Sergeant, 4th (Royal Irish) Dragoon Guards; killed in action, France, March 22, 1918; born Nottingham.





Casualty Type: Commonwealth War Dead

Grave/Memorial Reference: Panel 2

Cemetery: 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 Corps and Regiments most largely represented are The Rifle Brigade with over 600 names, The Durham Light Infantry with approximately 600 names, the Machine Gun Corps with over 500, The Manchester Regiment with approximately 500 and The Royal Horse and Royal Field Artillery with over 400 names. The memorial encloses POZIERES BRITISH CEMETERY, Plot II of which contains original burials of 1916, 1917 and 1918, carried out by fighting units and field ambulances. The remaining plots were made after the Armistice when graves were brought in from the battlefields immediately surrounding the cemetery, the majority of them of soldiers who died in the Autumn of 1916 during the latter stages of the Battle of the Somme, but a few represent the fighting in August 1918. There are now 2,755 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery. 1,375 of the burials are unidentified but there are special memorials to 23 casualties known or believed to be buried among them.

