

Surname	Perkins
Forename(s)	William Henry
Initials	W H
Age	23
Honours/Awards	
Date died	05/12/1916
Rank	Gunner
Regiment	Royal Field Artillery
Unit/Squadron	"B" Bty. 175th (West Lancs.) Bde.
Service Number	2419
Cemetery/Memorial	Vlamertinghe Military Cemetery
Grave Reference	IV. L. 16.
Further Information	Born Liverpool. Son of William Henry and Elizabeth Perkins, of 30, Poole Road, Egremont, Wallasey, Cheshire. Educated At Manor Road School, Liscard, and then employed as a Cinema Operator in Wallasey (Lyceum).
	 <p>www.historyofwallasey.co.uk</p>

News Report

Cinema Operator Killed

The sad intelligence has been received of the death of Gunner William Henry Perkins, R.F.A., who was killed in action on December 5th. He was 22 years of age, and finished his education at Manor Road Schools, and was cinema operator at the Lyceum and afterwards at the Gaiety previous to joining the colours. The gallant young soldier was the second son of Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Perkins, 30, Poole Road, Egremont.

The Rev. J.R. Beresford, chaplain, writes :-

“Dear Mr. and Mrs. Perkins. – It is with real sympathy that I write to tell you of the death of your son, Gunner Perkins. He was killed by an enemy’s shell, while on duty on December 5. We buried him in a military cemetery a few miles behind the guns. An officer from his brigade, and another from his battery came,

and his body was borne by four of his friends to the grave. I have marked the grave, till a cross can be put on, everything has been done to mark his resting place. I am sincerely sorry to have to write such sad news to you, but we must not only mourn, we can thank God that we have been able to give someone in this war; for we can give to His care, and in Him there is peace and pray He will strengthen and comfort you in this sorrow.”

Lieut. J.R. Ritchie writes :-

“Dear Mrs. Perkins. – I am very very sorry to have to write and tell you of the sad death of your death, Gunner Perkins. He was killed by a bursting shell whilst in the performance of his duties. Death was instantaneous, and he suffered no pain at all. My brother officers of the battery and all the men join with me in rendering their deepest sympathy to you. He died doing his duty.”

Another brother, Sergt. G.F. Poole, aged 20, is with the King’s Own Lancaster Regt.

References and Acknowledgments

Commonwealth War Grave Commission
Wallasey Central Library – Reference Library

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