

Surname	Thaanum
Forename(s)	James Conrad
Initials	J C
Age	27
Honours/Awards	
Date died	12/08/1015
Rank	Second Lieutenant
Regiment	Royal Garrison Artillery
Unit/Squadron	16th Siege Bty. 19th Bde.
Service Number	
Cemetery/Memorial	Beauval Communal Cemetery
Grave Reference	A 2.
Further Information	Son of Peter A. and Joanna Mary MacMaster Thaanum, of Maplehurst Dairy Farm, Winthrop, Maine, U.S.A. Native of Scotland.
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News Report

New Brighton Officers In Bombed House

Now in hospital in France recovering from shrapnel wounds in the leg and ankle is Second Lieutenant C.M. Galt. of 'The Poplars', St. James Road, New Brighton.

Lieut. Galt, who belongs to the Royal Garrison Artillery, received his wounds on the 11th inst., only a week after his arrival at the front. At the time he was in the house he had been billeted, in company with two brother officers of the same rank when a shell struck the building and wrecked it. Of the three officers, Lieut. Galt alone survives. One was killed outright, the other - Lieut. Thaanum, who will be remembered by many in New Brighton, where he resided in Hamilton Road - receiving wounds from which he died. Lieut. Galt was thus fortunate in escaping so lightly as he did.

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Chronicle News

Former Wallaseyan Killed

News has been received that Second-Lieutenant James Thaanum, formerly a member of the Liscard Congregational Church and well known to many in Wallasey, had died of wounds received at the front while in the house where he was billeted with two other officers, one of whom – Second-Lieutenant C.M. Galt, R.G.A., of The Poplars, St. James's Road, New Brighton – has been wounded.

The late Lieut. Thaanum only went out to France on July 20th, and it was on August 11th that he received the wounds from which he died, as did also one of the other two officers present in the house, which was struck by a shell and wrecked. Lieutenant Thaanum died on August 13th, whilst Lieutenant Galt was taken to hospital suffering with shrapnel wounds in the leg and ankle.

Gave Up Promising Career

A brilliant career was apparently before Lieutenant Thaanum when the war broke out, but he gave it up to join the Royal Garrison Artillery. He had gained his M.A. degree at Edinburgh University and two gold medals in engineering. He was also proceeding towards his B.Sc. degree, and at the time was engaged in engineering work at Glasgow. Born in Limerick,, he had, however, been about twelve years in this district, and was educated at the Wallasey Grammar School. In the early stages of the war he enlisted in the R.G.A., and obtained a commission as second-lieutenant. Then after nine months' training he went abroad. He was the eldest son of Mr. P.A. Thaanum, now in Canada, but formerly a local Freemason, and he himself was a member of the St. Hilary Lodge.

Sympathetic reference was made to Lieutenant Thaanum's lamented death at the Liscard Congregational Church, on Sunday, by the Rev. Hamilton Watts, M.A.

The Wounded Officer

Lieutenant Galt, who left an appointment with the C.P.R. at Calgary in September last to return to England to join the Army, has a younger brother, Lieutenant R.B. Galt, serving with the 11th Liverpools.

References and Acknowledgments

Commonwealth War Grave Commission
Wallasey Central Library – Reference Library

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