

Surname	Walker
Forename(s)	Alfred Cannon
Initials	A C
Age	24
Honours/Awards	
Date died	25/09/1917
Rank	Lance Corporal
Regiment	Australian Engineers
Unit/Squadron	8 th Field Coy.
Service Number	5688
Cemetery/Memorial	Belgian Battery Corner Cemetery
Grave Reference	I. O. 2.
Further Information	Son of Frederick and Grace Walker, of Thorndale Farm, Wallasey Rd., Wallasey, Cheshire.



News Report

Another Grammar School Boy Killed

The numerous friends of Lance-Corporal Alfred Cannon Walker, who was also Quartermaster to the mounted section of the Australian Engineers, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs Frederick Walker, Thorndale Farm, Wallasey, will hear with regret that he was killed in action Sept. 24th. The captain of his company, writing a letter of condolence to his parents says:- Your son left camp about 1 am on the 24th in charge of three four-horse teams, which he was sending forward to relieve a party that had been working between two of the advanced dumps the early part of the night. About a mile from where he was to meet the first party, he was told by an officer that there was heavy shelling along the road, and that it was advisable for him to turn back. However, knowing the importance of the work he had to do and like the brave man that he proved himself to be, he went on and took over the three waggons from the others. He got them loaded for him and was just about to move off with them again when two shells burst almost simultaneously alongside the leading waggon. Your son and his two drivers were

killed instantaneously, and a driver on the second waggon was wounded. The bodies were brought in the following evening by their comrades, and they were buried the following afternoon by the Rev. Malcomson, chaplain, in a British cemetery near Ypres. The occurrence has caused deep sorrow to all his comrades here.”

The sergeant also has written saying: “He died a brave soldier, doing his duty, and respected by all the company from the Major downwards, as a real clean living Englishman. He was a son you can well be proud of. I expect to be in England shortly, and will bring you a photo of his resting place; we are putting a cross over his grave. All Alf’s comrades in the mounted section have desired me to express their deep sympathy in your sad bereavement. Your son was one of my particular pals.”

Lance-Corpl. Walker was an old pupil of the Wallasey Grammar School, and will be remembered as an all round athlete, being a popular goalkeeper whilst there. He was also a member of the Thorndale Lawn Tennis Club. He went out to Australia five years ago, and was very prosperous as a farmer. He was a member of the church choir, a Sunday school teacher, and frequently helped the Vicar to take the services at the church. Two years ago he responded to his country’s call, being the first few months in Egypt, and later in France. He and an Australian chum, whom he entertained, were home one leave quite recently, in fact he had only returned to his duties 8 days when the call came. Much sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Walker, and his two brothers, the older of whom is on active service as a wireless operator in the Royal Navy.

References and Acknowledgments

Commonwealth War Grave Commission
Wallasey Central Library – Reference Library

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