

Henry Shea



Henry, named O'Shea on the Isleworth and St Bridget's Memorials, was born on 30th September 1887 in Gibraltar, the son of Philip John Shea (born in 1858, Poona, Bombay) and Mary nee Kelly born in Halifax, Nova Scotia in 1870 and married on 21st September 1885 in Halifax Nova Scotia. His father served overseas in the army in countries including South Africa, Canada, Bermuda, Gibraltar and Malta. He enlisted as a boy private at 14 and was discharged with a pension in 1895, having reached Lance Sergeant. Philip's father, Philip, was also a professional soldier, born in Kilkenny, Ireland in 1830 and serving abroad with the Royal Irish Rifles 83rd and 86th Foot, including in the period of the Indian Uprising 1857-58.

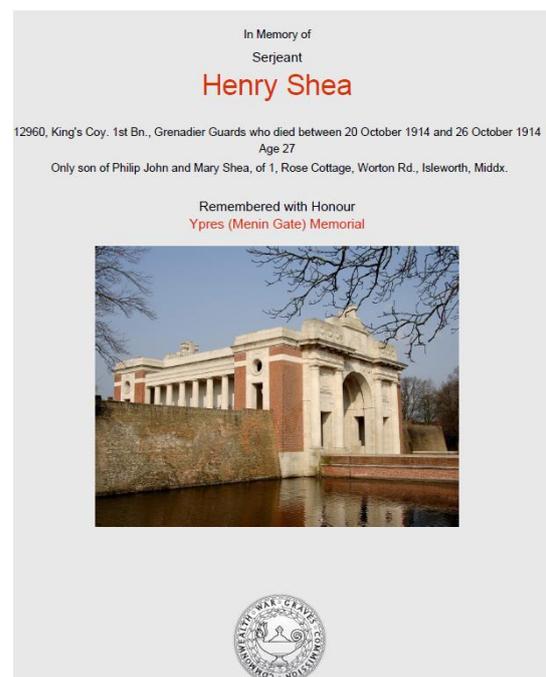
Henry was living with his mother in 1901 in Ormeau, County Down, Ireland. In 1911, his parents were living in 25 Worple Road, Isleworth (*below right in 2016*), on the corner of Byfield Road, Isleworth, where Henry's grandparents, Philip (by now an Army pensioner) and Ann (born in Ireland) were living at 4 Byfield Road in 1891 (*below left in 2016*), with their daughter

Frances who was a dyer and born in Hampshire.



Henry served in the Grenadier Guards, First Battalion,

enlisting in Gibraltar when he was shop assistant on 8th November 1905. He reached Lance Sergeant and was killed in action late October/ early November 1914, having disembarked on 6th October 1914. His effects were passed to his father, Philip, and amounted to payments of: £12, 5 shillings and 9 pence, £6 and also 3 shillings and 6 pence. He is remembered on St Bridget's Church Memorial and on the Menin Gate. Inside St Bridget's there is also a candle stand dedicated to his memory (*below left*).



Certificate included with the permission of the CWGC