

Robert Cecil Brinton (15 July 1896 - 24 April 1915)

Robert was the eldest son of Robert Henry and Annie Maria Brinton (nee Tebbutt) who married in July 1895. Robert's father was a commercial clerk and later Deputy Manager at the soap manufacturing company, Pears. Robert's father was born in Isleworth and his mother Annie Maria was born in Chelsea. Annie's sister, Lottie, married John Weathers and one of their sons, also called John, Robert's first cousin, died on board HMS Invincible at the Battle of Jutland. He is also remembered on the Isleworth War Memorial.

Robert (senior) and Annie had 8 children so Robert had 4 brothers and 3 sisters. They were Herbert George (1897-1969), Harold William (1898-1922), Florence Annie (1899-1992), Gertrude Victoria (1901-2002), Edgar Joseph (1903-1929), Grace Ethel (1906-1952) and Ernest Charles (1907-1986).



32 College Road, Isleworth

The family were living at 12 Loring Road, Isleworth in 1901 but had moved to 32 College Road, Isleworth by 1911. Robert (junior) attended Isleworth County School.

Before joining up Robert had been an employee of the Midland Bank at the Finsbury Pavement branch since February 1912. On enlistment in August 1914 he held the rank of Private in the 9th County of London Regiment (Queen Victoria Rifles). Robert was killed in action in Belgium on 24 April 1915 at the age of 18. He died when members of his regiment were proceeding to take up a new position on Hill 60 and were crossing under heavy fire of shrapnel in order to reach the firing line. There was a shell burst in the lines and Robert was struck and killed instantly. An old office friend named Burgess was behind him and

stopped to see if he could render any assistance but realised that life was extinct. Robert's body was found later by Pioneer Corporal Johnson of the East Yorkshire Regiment beside a huge shell hole. Corporal Johnson buried him and placed a cross over his grave. His commanding officer Lieutenant G H Woodley wrote a condolence letter to Roberts' parents saying "You may well be proud of him, for he has always served splendidly and had the love of all his comrades."

Robert is buried at Ypres, West Flanders, Belgium and remembered on the Menin Gate. He is also recorded on the Midland Bank Roll of Honour 1914-1920.



Menin Gate, Belgium

