



Albert George Ernest Grace (Q4 1893 – 18 Dec 1917)

Albert was the son of George and Honor Grace (nee Sadd) who married in 1892 in St Stephens Church, East Twickenham. George was born in Reigate, Surrey and his wife Honor, Albert's mother, in Norfolk.

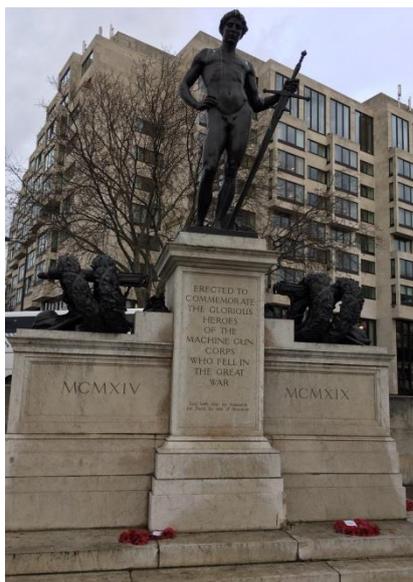
There were just 3 children in the family so Albert grew up with 1 brother and 1 sister. Albert was the eldest and was born in 1893 in Loddon, Norfolk. His younger brother was Wilfred Lawrence Victor born in 1898 in Twickenham as was his sister Dorothy Florence Annie who arrived in 1899. All three children were baptised at St James' Church in Hampton Hill, Middlesex.

Albert's father, John, was listed as a Plumber in both the 1901 and 1911 Censuses when the family were living first at 2 South Western Road and then Gumley Cottage, 227 Twickenham Rd, Isleworth. The site of Gumley Cottage is now occupied by Frederick Paine, the Funeral Director. In 1911 Albert was living with his parents at Gumley Cottage aged 17 and working as a clerk.

Albert enlisted into the Army in Chelsea early in the war. Initially he was in the London Regiment: however he transferred to the 2nd Battalion of the Machine Gun Corp (Infantry) and rose to the rank of Corporal. He fought in the Battle of Loos (Sept-Oct 1915) where he was wounded. He was awarded the Military Medal for acts of gallantry and devotion to duty under fire in the fighting around Ypres in the summer of 1917. Here again he was wounded, this time in the left arm. His commanding officer wrote to his parents at this time saying " On behalf of the



227 Twickenham Rd - Site of Gumley Cottage



Machine Gun Corp 1914-1919 War Memorial, Hyde Park Corner, London

company and myself, may I offer our sincerest congratulations to your son on winning the Military Medal. No one could be more pleased than myself, because I know how consistent his good work has been. He was in my section, and I always found him an excellent, hard working fellow".

Six months later Albert was killed in action on 18 December 1917 at the front in Belgium. He was aged 24. He was reported by the War Office as a casualty on 22 January 1918. He is commemorated at the Hooze Crater Cemetery in Belgium. He is also remembered both at St John's and All Saints Churches.