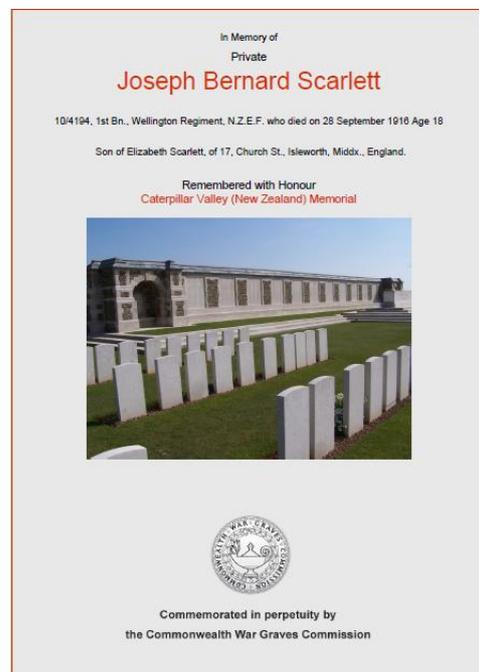


Joseph Bernard Scarlett

This man was complicated to research because there are military records for two men named Joseph Bernard Scarlett, both naming their mother as Elizabeth Scarlett, of 17 Church St, Isleworth. It appears that one was a foster son who took the name after the real son's death, and he lived in Isleworth for many years afterwards.

In 1901 and 1911 the Scarlett family was at 10 Queen's Terrace, and moved to 17 Church Street in about 1913. The father, Edward (also known as Michael) had been in the Army, and was at Hounslow Barracks in 1891, probably in the 14th Hussars. By 1901 he was a bricklayer's labourer.



The J B Scarlett on the war memorial was a Private in the New Zealand army. In 1913 he had seen an advertisement like this [LEFT], and on 8th January 1914, age 16, he embarked at London on 'Suffolk' bound for a new life in NZ, with his older brother Patrick Thomas Scarlett (20). However, when war broke out many thousands came back to fight.

Joseph enlisted in December 1915, declaring his age as 20, though he must only have been 18. He trained in NZ for 3 months, and then embarked for Europe with the New Zealand Expeditionary Force, 1st Battalion, Wellington Infantry Regiment. The voyage was via Suez and the Mediterranean, and he joined his battalion in N France at the end of June 1916. He was sick in hospital with mumps for two weeks, and saw no real action until they

were sent to the Somme and went over the top at Flers-Courcelette in mid- September. He was killed in action at Morval on 28th September 1916, age 18. He is commemorated on the Caterpillar Valley (New Zealand) Memorial, commemorating more than 1,200 officers and men of the New Zealand Division who died in the Battles of the Somme in 1916, and whose graves are not known. He is also on the Isleworth and St Bridget's war memorials, along with his eldest brother Edward Charles (Michael) Scarlett.

The New Zealand brother Patrick also enlisted in 1915, but was not sent to Europe as he was medically unfit.

Their father died in 1918, and their mother Elizabeth remained at 17 Church Street until about 1936, then lived at 8 Kennet Road until her probable death in 1955. Some of the younger Scarlett brothers also lived in Isleworth for many years.

