



Walter Pope Scott (18 July 1885-18 September 1917)

Walter was the son of Edward and Sarah Scott (nee Goodall). He was born in Morley in Yorkshire. At the age of 12 Walter came to Isleworth to live with his step sister Mary Dickinson, wife of Police Constable Robert Dickinson. In 1901, when Walter was aged 15, they lived in the Police Station in Worple Road, Isleworth. After attending the Blue School, Walter worked as a Van Boy at a Soap Manufacturers.



Old Police Station in Worple Road, Isleworth

He enlisted in the Royal Navy at Devonport in 1908 at the age of 22. He was on board ship at Devonport along with 29 other crew members when the 1911 Census took place.

Walter married Jessie Elizabeth Beadle in Brentford early in 1913. She had been born in Isleworth and in 1911, aged 24, she was living with her father, who was a widower, at 17 Percy Gardens, North Street, Isleworth. Walter and Jessie had one son, Walter Thomas born in 1913.

Walter served as an Able Seaman in the Royal Navy. Among other ships, he served on HMS Argyll, a Devonshire class cruiser. HMS Argyll was one of four cruisers that escorted King George V and Queen Mary in the Royal Yacht Medina to India in 1911. In December 1911 the great Indian Durbar was held in Delhi to mark the coronation of George V and his proclamation as Emperor of India. As a result of being part of the escort crew, Walter received a Delhi Durbar medal.

During his time on HMS Argyll he was promoted to the rank of Leading Seaman. He was still on this ship when it struck and foundered on the Bell Rock, near Dundee at night in a storm in October 1915. Happily all hands were saved.

He joined the crew of the Acasta class destroyer, HMS Contest in August 1917. In September that year HMS Contest was escorting a 24 ship convoy from Plymouth to the USA. In the western approaches of the English Channel, one of the ships, the steamer City of Lincoln, was hit by a torpedo from an enemy submarine. HMS Contest went to assist but then she was also hit by a torpedo from the submarine U-106. Sixty survivors were picked up by the damaged City of Lincoln but 35 of the crew lost their lives, including Walter.



HMS Contest 1913

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Walter's body was not recovered but he is commemorated on the Plymouth Naval Memorial as well as at All Saints Church in Isleworth.