

Ronald Frederic Sealy



Frederic Sealy was born in Walworth in South London in 1870. He married Emily Burgess, born in 1867, in her hometown of Brighton. In 1891 they lived in the Old Kent Road but by 1896 they had moved to Newry Road in Isleworth. Ronald Frederic was their first son, born in 1896, followed by Lawrence Edwin in 1898, Frederic Daniel in 1903 and Leslie Jack in 1906. By 1901 the family had settled in Talbot Road in Isleworth where they stayed for more than 40 years. At different times they appear to have lived in number 69, number 67 and number 63. See below for a 1915 map of the surrounding streets to Talbot Road, and also a photo of 69, Talbot Road in 2018

Ronald's father and his uncle were piano tuners and his grandfather was a musician but Ronald chose to work as an "artificial florist" making bouquets and arrangements with artificial flowers.

He enlisted for the army in Battersea, joining the 8th Battalion of the Gloucestershire regiment. Perhaps he chose this regiment because his grandfather Daniel Sealy came from Gloucestershire.

He was posted to France, where he was killed in action on 10th August 1918, probably in the Battle of Amiens. This was the first of a series of successful Allied offensives that prevented the German army from marching on Paris, bringing the war to an end on 11th November 1918. Ronald was buried in the Sandpits British Cemetery in Fouquereuil.

Tragically for the family, his younger brother Laurence was also killed in action three months later. Their father Frederic collected both their effects. They were both awarded the British War medal and the Victory medal. Ronald is honoured in his parish church of All Souls and in the Roll of Honour in the Blue School in Isleworth.

