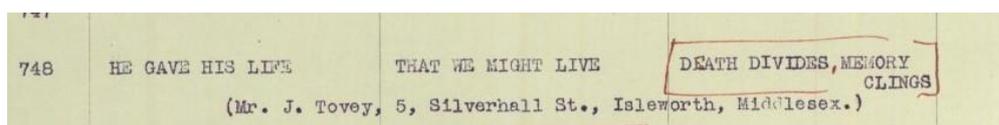


Percy Cecil Tovey

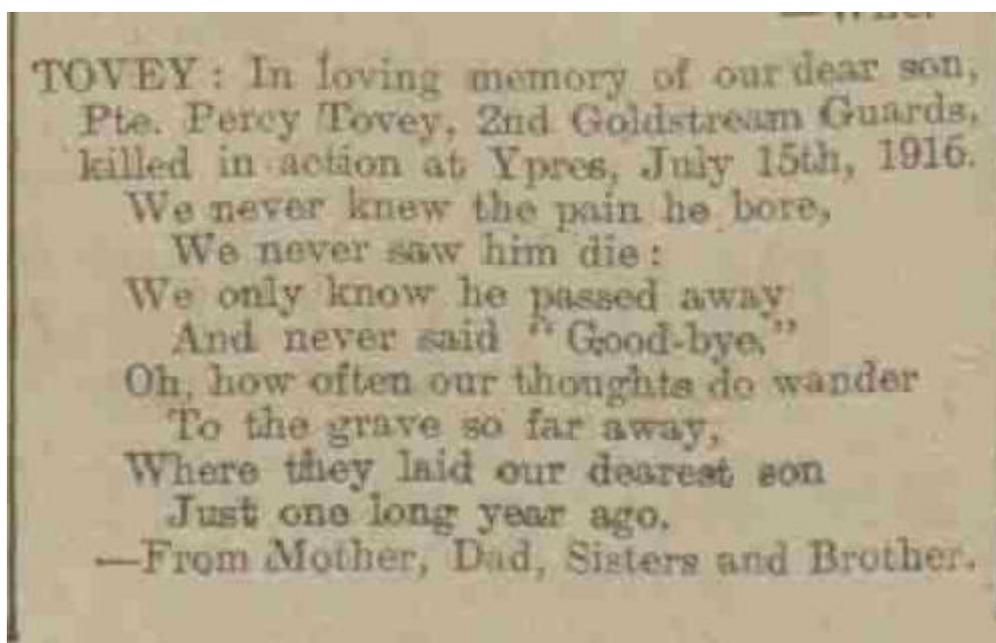


Percy Cecil Tovey (1895-1916) was the son of John Tovey (1860-1938) born in Berkshire and Anna Amelia Trigg (1857-1926) born in Surry. They married in Brentford in 1883 and remained in Isleworth for the rest of their lives living at 2 Swan Street in 1891 and then at 15 Percy Gardens, North Street in 1901 and 1911. John worked as a carman at the flour mill. They had six children still alive in 1911: Jesse John (1883-1959), working as a gardener in 1901 and a millhand at the flourmills in 1911 and a brewer's drayman in 1939 when he was living with his sister Elsie Annie at 5 Silverhall Street, Isleworth. Elsie Annie (1888-1957) married George Lovegrove later in 1939. Nellie Maud born in 1885, married Alfred Henry Tompkins, a waterman, in 1907. Gladys Edith born in 1886, married Robert J Evans, an electrician in 1928. William Albert (1890-1971) married Elsie A Mackrell in Croydon in 1926. He was employed as a laundry carman in 1911 and a lorry driver in 1939.

Percy Cecil worked as a van boy in 1911. With the outset of the war, he enlisted in Hounslow as a private (14430) with the 2nd Coldstream Guards and was killed in action on 15th July 1916. The three battalions of the Coldstream Guards attacked in line together at the Battle of the Somme for the only time in their existence; Percy Tovey was killed in action on the Western Front during these hostilities. He received three medals: the Victory, War and Star 1914-15. He is buried in the Essex Farm Cemetery in Begium (**see below left**) with this inscription on his headstone:



He is also remembered at All Saints Church, Church Street in Isleworth. On the anniversary of his death in 1917 his parents sent in this to the Middlesex Chronicle:-



In 1918, on the second anniversary of this death, the remembrance read: 'We weep with grief that one so dear/Can no more share our smiles or tears/ he proudly answered his country's call/And gave his life for one and all. From his loving mother, dad, sisters and brothers.'