

## John Henry Worrell



John Henry William, born in 1891, was the oldest child of John Henry and Agnes Worrell (nee Wilson), who had married in 1890 in the Brentford area. After his parents had married they were boarding in The Manor House, Walpole (Worple) Road, off Magdala Road. John Henry senior was born in Battersea, and in 1901 was employed as a bricklayer's labourer; his wife Agnes Wilson had originated from Paisley in Renfrewshire. In the 1911 census, residing at 21 Mill Platt Avenue (see below right), Agnes was a widow; her husband had died in 1910, and she recorded that she had given birth to 10 children, 8 of whom were still alive. John Henry must have felt a duty of care towards his mother and the young family when his father died and he was still living at home as an assistant pastry cook, aged 20. He had lived in Isleworth all of his life. In 1901, they lived at Winkworth Cottages, 8 Linkfield Road, Isleworth (see photo below left) and from 1903 until 1909, at



180 Linkfield Road, Isleworth. However, in 1913, Agnes remarried James Dowse, whose wife, Mary had died in 1902. John Henry moved to the East Ham area around this same period.

John Henry enlisted in Stratford, joining the Queens Royal Regiment West Surrey, 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion on 12<sup>th</sup> December 1915. His declared age was 24, and his occupation, a baker, pastrycook. He gave his mother Agnes as his next of kin. With a height of 5' 4 1/2" and weight of 117 lbs, he passed his medical but it was noted that he had a slight dorsal curvature and indented chest, which were not thought to have an impact on his service. However, by mid 1916, he was discharged because of these

conditions. Sadly, John Henry died on 5<sup>th</sup> December 1918, following a bout of influenza (10 days) and then pneumonia (5 days). His mother was at his bedside, as recorded on the death certificate. He was buried in West Ham cemetery six days later.

John Henry had seven siblings. Charles George, born in 1893, and by 1911, Charles was working as a live-in manservant at Clyde House, in The Grove, Spring Grove, Isleworth; Willie Ernest (1899-1913), Gertrude born 1901, Margaret born 1902, Frederick born 1904, married and an assistant track lineman, working for Southern Railway in 1939 and living at 120 London Road, Isleworth, Beaty born 1907 and Edward Albert, born in May 1910, living with his wife Annie in Hounslow and working in a brewery in 1939. Charles George was posted to the 35<sup>th</sup> Battery, 22<sup>nd</sup> Brigade of the Royal Field Artillery as a Gunner (122586), and was killed in action on 5<sup>th</sup> October 1917 during the Third Battle of Ypres. . His name is inscribed on the Tyne Cot Memorial in Zonnebeke, Belgium. He received the Victory and British Medals. On the Isleworth Memorial the brothers are named as Worrell.

