

### **Reginald James Prescott**

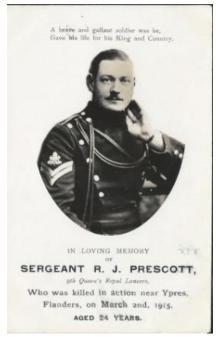
# Sergeant 1142 9<sup>th</sup> Queens Royal Lancers – Household Cavalry and Cavalry of the Line 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division

#### Died 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1915 aged 25

Reginald was born to Thomas Prescott and Mary Patching in Australia in 1891 shortly before his father Thomas died in 1892. Reginald, his mother Mary and sister Theresa embarked from Sydney in September 1893 and arrived in London a month later. Mary

returned to Shipley, where she had grown up as a child, living with her parents and sisters at the Old Poor House (by which time it had ceased to be a poor house and became Whitehart Cottages in Pound Lane). She remarried in 1901 to become Mrs Harding.

The 1901 Census shows Reginald was a boarder at St Saviours Home for Boys, Bishops Hull, Somerset. He was 10 years old. The 1911 Census shows he had joined the Army and held the rank of private soldier, living at Lydd Barracks, Kent. He was aged 22 and single.



The 1911 Census shows his mother Mary living at Church

Gate, Shipley. One of Reginald's letters to his mother, who, according to the Parish magazine was "of the Post Office", was published in the Parish Magazine in January 1915\*. In it Reginald, now promoted to sergeant, writes how he and his troop had successfully held a house which was being besieged. He sent his mother a Prussian Guards Officer's helmet as a souvenir, and the magazine reports this arrived safely. Less than two months later Reginald lost his life. The Reverend Baker remembered him in prayers in Shipley Church and sent condolences to his mother.

Reginald was killed in action in the prelude to the Second Battle of Ypres and has no known grave. He is commemorated on the Menin Gate Memorial, Ypres, Belgium and in Shipley Church.

Reginald was awarded the 1914/15 Star, The British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

\*See Letters Home in Supporting Research

## In Memory Of Serjeant

## **REGINALD JAMES PRESCOTT**

Service Number: 1142

9th (Queen's Royal) Lancers who died on 02 March 1915 Age 24

Son of Mary Harding (formerly Prescott), of Church Gate, Shipley, Horsham, Sussex, and the late Thomas Prescott.

Remembered with Honour

YPRES (MENIN GATE) MEMORIAL

Panel 5.



COMMEMORATED IN PERPETUITY BY THE COMMONWEALTH
WAR GRAVES COMMISSION