

World War 1

Birmingham City Police

PC E260 John CONNOR

Guardsman 21916
3rd battalion Coldstream Guards
Died in France 13th April 1918

John was born in Oldham, September 1884, son of Martin and Kate, the third of five children. His father was a spindle maker

John joined Birmingham City Police on 11th December 1914 as a clogger. He served on the E Division with warrant number 8570 and collar number PC E260

John was a member of Birmingham City Police gymnastic class, as he is depicted in his photograph, which was taken in January 1915

Birmingham City Police records dated 28th February 1917, shows John, PC E260 as one of 43 men to join the army and to report themselves to Curzen Street, Birmingham on Monday 5th March at 0930 am

The same records show, John resigned to join the army on 5th March 1917

John went to France and his battalion was north of Melville where he was killed having been sent to counter the German advances

John's body was exhumed from the region of Vieux-Berquin and re-buried on 7th October 1919 at Aval Wood Cemetery, Vieux-Berquin, France Plot 3 Grave D 12. His identity was confirmed by his disc and some effects were returned to base



Photograph courtesy of Su and Paul Handford taken April 2014

The inscription on John's headstone reads

ON WHOSE SOUL
SWEET JESUS HAVE MERCY

John is shown on the Birmingham City Police WW1 memorial as 'M' as missing not 'K' as killed