

# World War 1 Birmingham City Police PC B38 Thomas Henry PARKER

**Corporal 36892  
2<sup>nd</sup> battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers  
Died in France 6<sup>th</sup> November 1916**

Thomas was born in 1890 in Rugeley, Staffordshire, son of Henry and Frances (Fanny) Elizabeth Parker (nee Upton) of 11 Burnt Hill Lane, Rugeley

Thomas joined Birmingham City Police on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 1912 as a 21-year-old postman, he served on the 'B' Division with warrant number 8151 and collar number PC B38



Thomas was also a territorial soldier with North Staffordshire Regiment No T958

On 15<sup>th</sup> November 1915, Thomas resigned from the police to enlist in the army and joined the 2<sup>nd</sup> battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers. On 16<sup>th</sup> August 1916, Thomas embarked S.S. Archangel at Southampton and disembarked the following day in Rouen



*Photographs of Thomas by kind permission of Thomas' great niece Joanna Legg*

Thomas was killed whilst serving rations to the men in his section in a trench they had captured from the Germans when he was shot through the head, death being instantaneous

Thomas was single and the eldest child of nine

Thomas's company officer stated that Thomas, by his quiet, unassuming manner, his devotion to duty, and his willingness had endeared himself to all

Originally, Thomas's family had received notification that Thomas was missing in action in November 1916, his name was and still, is inscribed on Thiepval Memorial



However, Thomas was found in the 1930's and was re-buried in London Cemetery and Extension, Longueval, France



*Photographs of Thomas's memorial, headstone and cemetery courtesy of Su and Paul Handford taken August 2022*

Thomas is also commemorated on Rugeley War Memorial

