

World War 1

Birmingham City Police

PC B38 Thomas Henry PARKER

Corporal 36892
2nd battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers
Died in France 6th November 1916

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

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



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 inscribed on Thiepval Memorial, however, Thomas was found in the 1930's and was buried in London Cemetery and Extension, Longueval, France

Thomas is also commemorated on Rugeley War Memorial

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

