

H Illingworth
Remembered with Honour
Redoubt Cemetery, Helles

In Memory of
Sergeant
469, 1st/9th Bn., Manchester Regiment who died on 05 June 1915

Henry Illingworth

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SERGEANT ILLINGWORTH KILLED.

According to a letter which has been received by Mr. James Crowther, of Woodleigh, Oldham Road, Ashton, from Sergeant HARRY STRINGER who was in Mr. J.B. Pownall's office his brother-in-law, Sergeant 469 HARRY ILLINGWORTH, of the Ashton Territorials, was killed in the Dardanelles on June

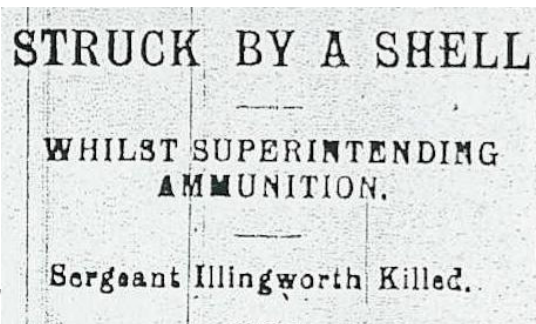


SERGEANT HARRY ILLINGWORTH.

5th, The letter says - "I am on a

sorry mission in writing to you this journey. The last letter was congratulations, but this is to say that HARRY had the misfortune to be hit by a shrapnel shell whilst superintending the taking of ammunition on Saturday, the 5th inst. The shell struck him in the back of the head, killing him instantly. JOE HARROP was near him at the time, and we got him out of the trench, and did the only thing left for us to do, namely, give him a decent resting place, and got the minister to bury him. I need hardly say with what regret we laid him in his last rest. He was a friend of everybody, and particularly of the lads under his command. He was the first casualty in our Company, and also the first of our school lads. I need not say to you Jim, old lad, what the loss to us all means, but I ask you to accept not only the sympathy of his personal friends, but of the whole Company. Captain HAMER and Lieut. STRINGER were both going to write, but, alas, we had a task last night which took both away, and also NOEL BRAITHWAITE, and some 20 of the Company. Such is war, and both HARRY and NOEL have given their lives for the dear old country and for freedom, and have added names to the already too long list of the roll of honour. HARRY was dear to me, but JOE HARROP has lost both chums, and is not in a fit state to write to you yet. Perhaps

he will drop a line to you. Write me from time to time, so that I can keep in touch with Ashton. HARRY was my chief source of information now that our family have left". Sergeant ILLINGWORTH was the son of Mr & Mrs J.B. Illingworth, of Woodleigh, Oldham Road, Ashton, and was 23 years old. He was employed in the mechanical department of Messrs. Summers and Sons Forge, Stalybridge, under his father, who was foreman of the department. He was educated at the Ashton Parish Church School, and the Ashton Secondary School. (HARRY ILLINGWORTH is buried in the Redoubt Cemetery, Helles).



Historical Information of Redoubt Cemetery:

The eight month campaign in Gallipoli was fought by Commonwealth and French forces in an attempt to force Turkey out of the war, to relieve the deadlock of the Western Front in France and Belgium, and to open a supply route to Russia through the Dardanelles and the Black Sea.

The Allies landed on the peninsula on 25-26 April 1915; the 29th Division at Cape Helles in the south and the Australian and New Zealand Corps north of Gaba Tepe on the west coast, an area soon known as Anzac.

On 28 April, following the landings at Helles, the first attack was mounted towards Achi Baba,

the ridge which dominates the southern part of the peninsula. Fatigue, however, brought the assault to a halt some kilometres short of the objective, near the village of Krithia. Turkish counter attacks followed but were repulsed and during the period 6-8 May, the 29th and French Divisions, reinforced by the 2nd Australian and New Zealand Infantry Brigades, carried out a renewed attack on Krithia, making some gains but suffering heavy casualties.

Between 1 May and the beginning of June, the 29th Indian Infantry Brigade and 42nd (East Lancashire) Division landed on the peninsula. With these reinforcements, the Allied force at Helles pushed forward once more on 4 June, but again to little effect. A further attack between 28 June and 5 July at Gully Ravine inflicted heavy casualties on the Turks, but despite local gains - at one point the line was pushed forward more than a kilometre - there was no breakthrough. By 13 July the advance at Helles was effectively over and the position remained unchanged until the evacuation in January 1916.

Redoubt Cemetery takes its name from the chain of forts made by the Turks across the southern end of the peninsula in the fighting for Krithia and the Redoubt Line on which the advance halted in May.

The cemetery was begun by the 2nd Australian Infantry Brigade in May 1915 and continued in use until the evacuation. It was greatly increased after the Armistice when the battlefields were cleared and graves were brought in from the following smaller cemeteries:- Krithia Nullah Nos. 1 and 2, West Krithia Nullah, Brown House, White House and Clapham Junction.

There are now 2,027 servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery. 1,393 of the burials are unidentified but special memorials commemorate 349 casualties known or believed to be buried among them.

Background:

This doesn't seem quite right, but the only candidate I could find was a Harry Illingworth the nephew of John Barraclough Illingworth a widower living at 11 Crawford Terrace, Ashton-under-Lyne in 1911. He is a foreman mechanic at a cut nail manufacturers. The family originally came from Leeds to Ashton, but John B Illingworth was born in Halifax around 1850. Harry Illingworth is an apprentice fitter at the same firm. This would need further research.