

Lance Corporal Wilfrid Ratcliffe Knight 45254

Wilfrid was born on the 10th April 1897 in Lowdham. He was Baptised on the 21st August 1898 at the Church of St Thomas in Radcliffe , Manchester. In the 1911 Census he was living at School House, Gunthorpe aged 13 with his Father Martin, Mother Jane, Brother Hubert and Sister Elsie.

He was serving with the 1st Battalion Sherwood Foresters, Notts. and Derby Regiment when he died of war wounds in Flanders on the 27th June 1917 aged 20. He is buried in the Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Poperinge, West Flanders, Belgium in plot XV.D.20

His mother was the Administrator of his will and he left assets £131.5s.9d.

In the "Views Of Gunthorpe" publication Julie O`Neill writes:

"The Headteacher, Mrs Knight was personally touched by the war. In October 1915 she went to a hospital in Sheffield to see her son Hubert who had been wounded during the battle of Loos. Then in 1917she received news that her son Wilfrid had been wounded in the head in France. Lance Corporal Knight died later as a result of wounds received, Mrs Knight retired on 31st May 1929 after 42 years of service to to Gunthorpe School. The children presented her with a silver hot water jug on that day despite her having a reputation for liberal use of the cane. Former pupils remember she had two canes: a long swishy one and a yellow board pointer which really hurt."