

Cheltenham & Gloucester Branch  
of  
The Western Front Association

Remembering one of Gloucestershire's Fallen



Private Albert Henry Hale (722581)  
1/24<sup>th</sup> Battalion The London Regiment

**Albert Henry Hale** was born in 1875 near Ruardean in the Forest of Dean. He was the son of Isaac and Elizabeth Hale. Isaac Hale was a stationary engine driver in one of the local collieries but was later landlord of the Malt Shovel Inn in the village for many years.

Albert Henry did not follow his father into the coal mines or the licensed trade but spent all his adult life in the drapery trade in London, working his way up from assistant to floor walker.

At the age of 40 years and 6 months he attested on 11 December 1915, as Private 5711 in the 3/24<sup>th</sup> Battalion The London Regiment, and was initially placed on the Army Reserve. His service record shows that he was transferred, on 2 June 1916, to 1/24<sup>th</sup> Battalion and sailed from Southampton on 2 August 1916 with a draft of

reinforcements, joining his unit in the field the next day. He was subsequently renumbered as Private 722581. He would have been with his battalion during the Battle of Flers Courcellette in September 1916.

He was killed in action during the Third Battle of Ypres on 26 August 1917, aged 42 years, and was buried at Buttes New British Cemetery, Polygon Wood, Ypres. He was Isaac and Elizabeth's last surviving son.

His platoon commander wrote to his mother expressing his condolences and the admiration and respect of his comrades for the manner in which he had carried out his duties, particularly in view of his comparatively advanced age.

He is also remembered on the war memorial in St John the Baptist Church, Ruardean.