

Private Thomas Wild  
Killed in action 24/9



PTE. THOMAS WILD,  
115, Ingham Street, Bury.

The parents of Private Thomas Wild, 115, Ingham Street, Bury have been officially notified that their son was killed in action in France on September 24<sup>th</sup>. He was 21 years of age, and previous to enlisting in October 1914, was employed by Mr Thomas Steen, weighing machinist, Bolton Street. The late Pte. T Wild was one of the first pupils at the Bury Secondary School, and a member of the local Y.M.C.A. He was cousin to Lance-Cpl. S Wild 1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> batt. Lancashire Fusiliers of Heap Bridge who recently won the D.C.M. in the Dardanelles. Writing to Mr and Mrs Wild on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, Pte. F Walker says: - 'the late Private Thomas Wild was in charge of a bomb store, as he was a battalion bomber. A 'wizbang' came and caught Pts. T Wild on the head, causing a nasty wound from which he died in about twenty minutes. He (Pte. T Wild) did not speak to any of us after he was hit as I tried to get an answer from him. It occurred on the 24<sup>th</sup> September (Friday morning) at about eight o'clock. You can rest yourself assured that he received all the attention possible for his good, but it was not to be. He is buried at a place called Bellewaarde Lake close to the Hooze Village ..... I express my profound sympathy to you and all your family in your great calamity.' Corporal K Knott, also wrote, 'It is with deepest regret that I write to you offering my sympathy in your bereavement. Your son was one of the section over which I act as Corporal and during recent heavy fighting he gave his life. I cannot express it to you properly here, but I might say he died a brave and true British soldier, a death of which I am sure he would be proud. I must ask your forgiveness in not writing sooner, but I have been unable, owing to ill-health, resulting from a wound received the same day as your son was killed. Again I offer my heartfelt sympathy to you and all his relations.