

# John Foreman Usher

## (1893 – 1915)



(17)

John Foreman Usher sailed from Liverpool on the Canada in 1909, travelling to Halifax, Nova Scotia and on to the National Children's Home and Orphanage, Hamilton, Ontario.<sup>(40)</sup>

John signed Attestation Papers on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 1915 at the Royal Canadian Regiment Headquarters in Nova Scotia (Service Number: 477946). He was born on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1893 in Northumberland, was a Book Keeper and had previous military experience with the 33<sup>rd</sup> Huron Regiment. He was 5' 8" tall with grey eyes and yellow hair and a Protestant. His next of kin were A Usher or his sister, Miss Ursula Usher of 30 Cleveland Road, North Shields. He also noted his brother Henry Usher of Campden, Ontario. Henry Foreman Usher (born 4.10.1895) had travelled to Canada at the age of 13 on the same ship as his brother.<sup>(40)</sup>

Unfortunately John was killed on 11<sup>th</sup> December 1915 at the age of 22 in Belgium. He died at a Dressing Station due to a gunshot wound in the right eye and was buried in La Clytte Military Cemetery, which is 8 Km west of Ypres. He is also commemorated on the war memorial at the Methodist Church, Bolton Road, Edgworth.

His grave was inscribed with the words "Each before his Saviour stands".<sup>(39, 15)</sup>

### Family History

Albert and Sarah (nee Whitewell) Usher were married in Q3 of 1892 at Newcastle upon Tyne. Their first child John Foreman Usher was born on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1893.<sup>(3,40)</sup>

By 1901 the Census of England and Wales shows that Sarah was a widow aged 30, living in Gateshead and working as a Bar Manager, with three children: John (7), Henry (5) and Ursula (3). John and Henry travelled on the same ship to Canada in 1909.<sup>(1)</sup>

The 1911 Canadian Census shows John Usher as a Domestic in the household of John McLean, Tuckersmith, Huron, Ontario. He was working as a farm labourer.<sup>(41)</sup>

Meanwhile, Henry was also a Domestic in the household of Clare and Charles Knick in Gainsboro, Lincoln, Ontario. He was also a farm labourer.<sup>(41)</sup>

In 1921 Harry (Henry) was a single lodger in the household of Annie and Samuel Culp in Clinton, Lincoln, Ontario (although this record shows a birth date of 1894 and a immigration date "about" 1907).<sup>(16)</sup>

Back in England, Ursula is living with her Uncle, John Usher Metcalf, and family in 1911 at Tynemouth.<sup>(1)</sup> Sarah Ursula Usher marries George F Rhind in 1931 and is found in 1939 living in Winchester.<sup>(36)</sup> The 1939 Register shows two "closed" records, which are probably her children.<sup>(36)</sup>



[www.theirhistory.co.uk](http://www.theirhistory.co.uk) – publisher unknown

**Research:** Linda Spencer, Jennifer Layne, Helena Spencer

**Standard References:** 1, 3, 15, 36, 39, 40, 41

17 [www.findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com) – number 12686731

In Memory of  
Corporal

## John Foreman Usher

477946, Royal Canadian Regiment who died on 11 December 1915 Age 22

Son of Albert and Sarah Usher, of Gateshead, Co. Durham.

Remembered with Honour  
La Clytte Military Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

(15)

Grave Reference: 1. D. 20