

Private Thomas Corless[©]
Regimental number: 30638
13th Battalion, The King's (Liverpool Regiment)

died: 13 May 1916

Private Thomas Corless died at No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station on 13 May 1916,¹ less than a year after enlisting in The Kings (Liverpool Regiment).² He had been wounded in the head, neck and chest³ and was buried in Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension, Nord (Plot II, Row B, Grave 91).⁴

Although he was born in Manchester, he served with a Liverpool regiment. In early May 1916, his battalion was stationed near Bailleul, in northern France. The battalion returned to the trenches on 5 May and remained there for three days until relieved by the West Yorkshire Regiment. It returned to the trenches again the day Thomas died.⁵ On 13 May, No. 1 CCCS was stationed in Bailleul; 186 soldiers were admitted that day and three died⁶—one may have been Thomas.

Bailleul is in France, but near the Belgian border, about 15 kilometres southwest of Ypres.⁷ It was occupied in October 1914 and became an important hospital centre, not just for No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station but also for No. 1 Australian and five British Army casualty clearing stations.⁸

Thomas' next of kin was his sister Alice, who was living at 16 Montagu Street, near Oldham Road in Manchester.⁹ She received the monies owing to him from the army upon his death. Other than his sister, nothing is known about Thomas' family.

Thomas was awarded posthumously the British War Medal (for service overseas between 1914 and 1918) and the Victory Medal (for service in an operational theatre).¹⁰

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¹ "No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station," *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa* (www.bifhsgo.ca: accessed 4 August 2018), entry for Corless, Thos.

² "UK, Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects, 1901–1929," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 4 August 2018), entry for Thomas Corless

³ "No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station," *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa* (www.bifhsgo.ca: accessed 4 August 2018), entry for Corless, Thos.

⁴ *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (www.cwgc.org: accessed 3 December 2018), entry for Corless, T., Service No: 30638

⁵ "UK, WWI War Diaries (France, Belgium and Germany), 1914–1920," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 9 August 2018), Division: 3rd Division, Diary dates: 1914–1915, 1916–1919, 1914–1915, Regiments in diary: King's (Liverpool) Regiment, Lincolnshire Regiment, Piece description: Piece 1429: 9 Infantry Brigade (1914–1919), Piece number: 1429

⁶ "War Diaries of the First World War: 1st Canadian Casualty Clearing Station 1914/08/13-1919/03/31," *Library and Archives Canada* (http://data4.collectionscanada.gc.ca/netacgi/nph-brs?s1=casualty+clearing&s13=&s12=&l=20&s9=RG9&s7=9-52&Sect1=IMAGE&Sect2=THESOFF&Sect4=AND&Sect5=WARDPEN&Sect6=HITOFF&d=FIND&p=1&u=http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/archivianet/02015202_e.html&r=1&f=G)

⁷ "Bailleul Community Cemetery, Nord," *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (www.cwgc.org: accessed 17 January 2017)

⁸ "Bailleul Community Cemetery, Nord," *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (www.cwgc.org: accessed 17 January 2017)

⁹ "No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station," *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa* (www.bifhsgo.ca: accessed 4 August 2018), entry for Corless, Thos.

¹⁰ "British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914–1920," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.co.uk: accessed 4 August 2018), entry for Thomas Corless