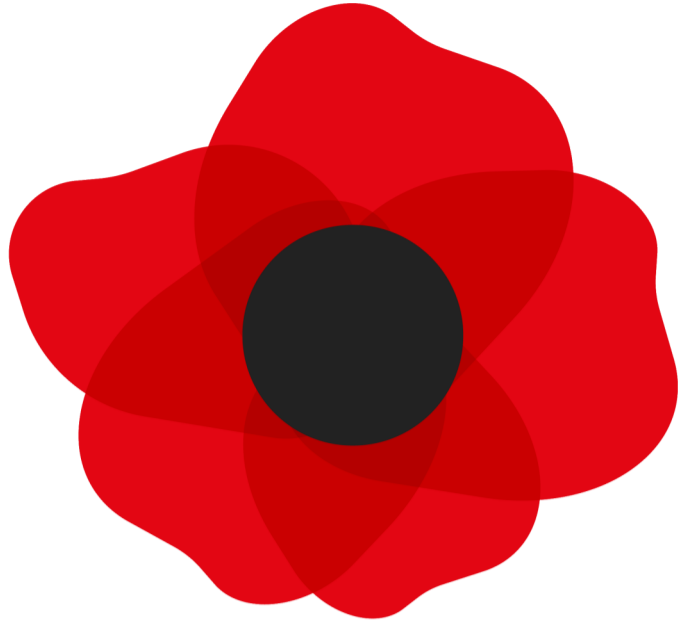


# RALPH NEEDHAM



14134, Private, Randolph Needham, 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Cheshire Regiment.

Born in 1892 at Poynton, (christened Randolph) son of colliery fitter engineer, Albert and Dinah Needham, The Village, Poynton, Cheshire. They had three sons, James, Percy and Randolph. Dinah died in the summer of 1896, and Albert married Mary Oakes in the summer of 1899, and they had three children, May, Harold and Ella.

Randolph attested, 02/09/1914, at Macclesfield, and was working as a butcher's assistant. He entered France, 27/09/1915. The Cheshire's were in the 25<sup>th</sup> Division, 75<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade, in May 1916, and were in trenches at MONT ST. ELOI, here they suffered intense bombardment of unabated violence that occurred during the preparation for the 'big push' at the Somme. Casualties were 33 other ranks killed, 101 wounded and 41 missing. Randolph was killed in action, 21/05/1916, aged 24 years.

**Medals:** 1914/15 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal.

His father, Albert, signed for these on 29/08/1916, he was living at Park Terrace, Poynton.

Private, Randolph Needham is buried at Ecoivres Military Cemetery, Mont-St-Eloi, Pas de Calais, France. C.W.G.C. Ref: - II.C.21.

