

**Private John Grime**  
**Regimental number: 5585**  
**10<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Lancashire Fusiliers**

**born: about 1885 - died: 5 May 1916**

Private John Grime, born in about 1885 in Haslingden, Lancashire, was the son of Joseph and Roseannah Grime.<sup>1</sup> Both his parents were born in Haslingden – his father, Joseph, in about 1849 and his mother, the former Roseannah Spencer, in about 1858. Joseph married Rosanne Spencer near Haslingden in late 1882.<sup>2</sup> They had three children: Sarah A. (born in about 1884), John and Elizabeth Ellen (born in about 1888).<sup>3</sup>

In 1891, John's father, Joseph was a grinder and the family was living at 22 Hutch Bank Road in Haslingden.<sup>4</sup> Unfortunately it appears that Joseph died in 1894,<sup>5</sup> leaving Roseannah with three children, aged ten and under.

In 1901, the family was living at 18 Hutch Bank Road and Roseanna was working as a laundress in her home. John, at the age of 15, was a cotton weaver.<sup>6</sup> By 1911, his sister Elizabeth, had joined him as a cotton weaver, and the family was still living at 18 Hutch Bank.<sup>7</sup>

John enlisted as a Private in the Lancashire Fusiliers in Haslingden and served in 10<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion<sup>8</sup> that was formed in September 1914.<sup>9</sup> The Battalion mobilised for war and landed at Boulogne on 15 July 1915. John was with them that day.<sup>10</sup> But ten months later he died at the 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Casualty Clearing Station near Bailleul, France.<sup>11</sup>

During the last ten days of April 1916, enemy artillery and machine gun fire was very active and the 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion sustained many casualties.<sup>12</sup> Perhaps John was one of these because he died of wounds to his abdomen on 5 May 1916.<sup>13</sup> One soldier died at the 1<sup>st</sup> CCCS that day<sup>14</sup> – perhaps it was John.

John was a member of the Church of England<sup>15</sup> and was buried in the Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension, Nord (Plot II, Row D, Grave 8). Bailleul is in France, close to the Belgian border. It was occupied on 14 October 1914 and became an important railhead, air depot and hospital centre. Several Casualty Clearing Stations, including the 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian, were quartered there for considerable periods. The earliest Commonwealth burials at Bailleul were made in April 1915. An extension was built and burials continued until April 1918, and occurred again in September and after the Armistice, when graves were brought in from the neighbouring battlefields.

A letter was sent to John's mother, who was then living at 7 Springvale Terrace in Haslingden<sup>16</sup> and she received the monies owing to him from the army after his death.<sup>17</sup>

John was awarded the British War Medal (for service overseas between 1914 and 1918), the Victory Medal (for service in an operational theatre) and the 1914-15 Star (for service in the war against Germany between 5 August 1914 and 31 December 1915).<sup>18</sup>

© BIFHSGO, 2015

---

<sup>1</sup> "1891 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 11 September 2015), entry for John Grime, Registration district: Haslingden, ED, institution, or vessel: 1, Piece: 3353, Folio: 20, Page Number: 4. John's mother's name is spelled in different ways in different documents: Roseannah, Rose Hannnah and Roseanna.

- 
- <sup>2</sup> "England & Wales, FreeBMD Marriage Index, 1837-1915," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 11 September 2015), entry for Joseph Grime, Registration district: Haslingden, Inferred County: Lancashire, Volume: 8e, Page: 253
- <sup>3</sup> "1901 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 11 September 2015), entry for John Grime, Registration district: Haslingden, Sub-registration district: Haslingden, ED, institution, or vessel: 11, Piece: 3855, Folio: 81, Page Number: 3, Household schedule number: 16
- <sup>4</sup> "1891 England Census," entry for John Grime
- <sup>5</sup> "1911 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 11 September 2015), entry for John Grime, Registration district: Haslingden, Registration District Number: 471, Sub-registration district: Haslingden, ED, institution, or vessel: 13, Household schedule number: 1378, Piece: 24744
- "England & Wales, FreeBMD Death Index, 1837-1915," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 11 September 2015), entry for Joseph Grime, Registration district: Blackburn, Inferred County: -, Volume: 8e, Page: 280
- <sup>6</sup> "1901 England Census," entry for John Grime
- <sup>7</sup> "1911 England Census," entry for John Grime
- <sup>8</sup> "UK, Soldiers Died in the Great War, 1914-1919," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 11 September 2015), entry for John Grime
- <sup>9</sup> "Unit History: Lancashire Fusiliers," Forces War Records (<https://www.forces-war-records.co.uk/units/267/lancashire-fusiliers/>; accessed 11 September 2015)
- <sup>10</sup> "British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914-1920," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 11 September 2015), entry for John Grime
- <sup>11</sup> "Record of Deaths, 17 February 1916 - 10 February 1919, a record maintained at No. 1 CCCS," *Library and Archives Canada*, (records accessed 2013 & 2015), Record Group 9, series IIC10, volume 4556, Record number 85
- <sup>12</sup> "UK, WWI War Diaries (France, Belgium and Germany), 1914-1920," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 11 September 2015), Regiment or Unit: Lancashire Fusiliers, Sub Unit: 10th Battalion, Division: 17th Division, Diary Dates: 1915 Jul - 1919 Mar Piece Description: Piece 2012/1: 10 Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers (1915 Jul - 1919 Mar), Piece Number: 2012
- <sup>13</sup> "Record of Deaths, 17 February 1916 - 10 February 1919, a record maintained at No. 1 CCCS," Record number 85
- <sup>14</sup> "War Diaries of the First World War: 1<sup>st</sup> 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=FINDD&p=1&u=http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/archivianet/02015202\\_e.html&r=1&f=G](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=FINDD&p=1&u=http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/archivianet/02015202_e.html&r=1&f=G); accessed 17 June 2015)
- <sup>15</sup> "Record of Deaths, 17 February 1916 - 10 February 1919, a record maintained at No. 1 CCCS," Record number 85
- <sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>17</sup> "UK, Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects, 1901-1929," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 10 September 2015), entry for John Grime
- <sup>18</sup> "British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914-1920," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 10 September 2015), entry for John Grime