

**Private Herbert Stott**<sup>©</sup>  
**Regimental number: 201293**  
**1st/4th Battalion, King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment)**

**born: 1895 - died: 12 May 1918**

Private Herbert Stott, the son of Lily Stott, was born in 1895 in Bolton, Lancashire.<sup>1</sup> Lily was born in about 1874, also in Bolton, to Frederick and Elizabeth Stott.<sup>2</sup> She married John Harbot (born in 1878 in Bolton) in 1897<sup>3</sup> and had 11 children with him:

- Robert (born in 1897),<sup>4</sup>
- John (born in 1899, but died at the age of 18 in the middle of the Great War),<sup>5</sup>
- Alice (born in 1901),<sup>6</sup>
- Nellie (born in 1903),<sup>7</sup>
- Frank (born in 1904),<sup>8</sup>
- James (born in 1906, but died soon after birth),<sup>9</sup>
- James Willie (born in 1907),<sup>10</sup>
- Harry (born in 1909),<sup>11</sup>
- Lily (born in 1916, but died soon after birth),<sup>12</sup>
- Robert (born in 1917)<sup>13</sup> and
- Lily (born in 1919 and certainly named after her sister who died three years earlier).<sup>14</sup>

In 1901, Lily and John were living at 121 Turton Street in Bolton.<sup>15</sup> John was a collier and he and Lily would live in Bolton all their lives. By 1911, they had moved to 26 Pole Street in Tong Moor, Bolton, with eight children.<sup>16</sup> Some of the family lived at this address until at least 1939.<sup>17</sup>

Herbert enlisted in the British Expeditionary Force in Bolton<sup>18</sup> in about April 1915.<sup>19</sup> He served with the King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment). Although he enlisted early in the war, he probably did not go to the Front until 1916, as he was not awarded the 1914–15 Star medal.<sup>20</sup>

He served with the regiment's 4th Battalion. At the end of August 1917, his battalion was in Bonningues-lès-Ardres, about 30 kilometres south-east of Calais, France.<sup>21</sup> It was there, on 27 August, that Herbert learned that he had been awarded the Military Medal as a result of his actions in operations on 31 July. On that day, the battalion was in Weiltje, near Ypres, Belgium.

At 3.50 AM the 165 & 166 Brigade assaulted and captured the enemy Front and Reserve System of trenches and at 8:20 AM the Battalion, in conjunction with the remainder of the Brigade, passed through these Brigades and successfully attacked and captured all strong points and reached the objective . . . The Battalion captured 500 prisoners & 4 Machine Guns. This line was held for three hours and then the Battalion was compelled to withdraw to the BLACK LINE owing to the Divisions on the right and left failing to reach their objectives. Here the Battalion held the line . . . against the counterattack. During these operations the Batt<sup>n</sup> lost 15 Officers and 200 O/Ranks [Other Ranks] Killed and wounded.<sup>22</sup>

Eight months later, the battalion was near Givenchy, in northern France. The morning of 11 May 1918 was quiet. In the afternoon, the battalion engaged with the enemy, firing about 50 rounds. Throughout the night, the enemy artillery was active and a few gas shells were sprinkled over the

area. A low-flying enemy plane, which had attempted to cross the lines, was driven back by Lewis and machine gun fire.

Herbert was probably wounded in the activities of 11 May. Eight Other Ranks in his battalion were killed and 47 wounded in the month of May. Herbert was admitted to No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station on 11 May with gunshot wounds to his right arm (which was fractured), his left arm and left thigh, which was also fractured.<sup>23</sup> He died the following day and was buried on 13 May in Pernes British Military Cemetery (Plot 2, Row B, Grave 44) with the Canadian chaplain J. K. Tibbits presiding.

The Pernes British Military Cemetery was only set up in April 1918 when No. 1 and No. 4 CCCSs came to Pernes, driven back by the German advance.<sup>24</sup> Herbert was one of 26 admissions on 11 May. In total, in May 1918, over 3,900 soldiers were admitted to No. 1 CCCS—115 died.<sup>25</sup>

Notification of his death was sent to his family in Bolton.<sup>26</sup> His mother received the monies owing to him from the army upon his death.<sup>27</sup>

Sadly, Herbert was not the first son that Lily lost in this war. Her son Robert, a collier like his father, enlisted to serve at the very beginning of the war and went to the Western Front on 13 July 1915 as a private in 1st Battalion of the Rifle Brigade (regimental number: 11405). Sadly, he did not survive long at the Front. He died on 14 December 1915. Robert was awarded posthumously 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>28</sup>

Herbert, because he joined the Front later in the war, was awarded two medals—the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.<sup>29</sup>

Herbert's mother Lily died in 1934,<sup>30</sup> after a life in which she had lost five of her 12 children—two in infancy, one in his late teens and two to the Great War. However, Lily's husband John outlived her. In 1939, he was living with two of his children—his youngest son Robert, a joiner, and daughter Alice, a comber tender, at 26 Pole Street.<sup>31</sup> John, at the age of 77, was still a coal miner. He died in 1959 at 81.<sup>32</sup> Most of Herbert's siblings stayed in Bolton:

- Robert married Minnie England later in 1939 and died in Bolton in 2005,<sup>33</sup>
- Nellie, a cotton room worker, married William E Haynes, a labourer in an iron foundry, in 1927 and probably died in Bolton in 1990,<sup>34</sup>
- Frank, a labourer in a brass foundry, married Hilda Howarth in 1931 and probably died in Bolton in 1990,<sup>35</sup>
- James Willie died in Bolton in 1992,<sup>36</sup>
- Harry, a heavy worker, married Norah Pilkington in 1935 and died in Bolton in 1964,<sup>37</sup>
- Lily married Robert Watson in Bolton in 1936,<sup>38</sup> and
- Alice died in 1943, at the age of 42.<sup>39</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> "GRO online index–birth," *General Register Office* (<http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/>: accessed 19 February 2018) entry for Stott, Herbert, Registration district: Bolton, Volume 08C, Page 51

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- <sup>2</sup> “1881 England Census,” *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 19 February 2018), entry for Lily Stott, Registration district: Elham, Sub-registration district: Wolstanton, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 4, Piece: 2704, Folio: 123, Page: 25. The spelling of her name appears as both Lily and Lilly
- <sup>3</sup> “England & Wales Marriages 1837–2005,” *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 20 February 2018), entry for Lilly Stott, District: Bolton, County: Lancashire, Volume: 8C, Page: 606
- <sup>4</sup> “GRO online index–birth,” *General Register Office* (<http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/>: accessed 19 February 2018) entry for Harbot, Robert, Registration district: Bolton, Volume 08C, Page 470
- <sup>5</sup> “GRO online index–birth,” *General Register Office* (<http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/>: accessed 19 February 2018) entry for Harbot, John, Registration district: Bolton, Volume 08C, Page 455; “England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1837–1915,” *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 20 February 2018), entry for John Harbot, Registration district: Bolton, Inferred county: Greater Manchester, Volume: 8c, Page: 621
- <sup>6</sup> “GRO online index–birth,” *General Register Office* (<http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/>: accessed 19 February 2018) entry for Harbot, Alice, Registration district: Bolton, Volume 08C, Page 474
- <sup>7</sup> “GRO online index–birth,” *General Register Office* (<http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/>: accessed 19 February 2018) entry for Harbot, Nellie, Registration district: Bolton, Volume 08C, Page 529
- <sup>8</sup> “GRO online index–birth,” *General Register Office* (<http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/>: accessed 19 February 2018) entry for Harbot, Frank, Registration district: Bolton, Volume 08C, Page 454
- <sup>9</sup> “GRO online index–birth,” *General Register Office* (<http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/>: accessed 19 February 2018) entry for Harbot, James, Registration district: Bolton, Volume 08C, Page 452; “England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1837–1915,” *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 20 February 2018), entry for James Harbot, Registration district: Bolton, Inferred county: Greater Manchester, Volume: 8c, Page: 298
- <sup>10</sup> “GRO online index–birth,” *General Register Office* (<http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/>: accessed 19 February 2018) entry for Harbot, James Willie, Registration district: Bolton, Volume 08C, Page 437
- <sup>11</sup> “GRO online index–birth,” *General Register Office* (<http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/>: accessed 19 February 2018) entry for Harbot, Harry, Registration district: Bolton, Volume 08C, Page 462
- <sup>12</sup> “GRO online index–birth,” *General Register Office* (<http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/>: accessed 19 February 2018) entry for Harbot, Lily, Registration district: Bolton, Volume 08C, Page 689; “England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1837–1915,” *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 20 February 2018), entry for Lily Harbot, Registration district: Bolton, Inferred county: Lancashire, Volume: 8c, Page: 298
- <sup>13</sup> “GRO online index–birth,” *General Register Office* (<http://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/>: accessed 19 February 2018) entry for Harbot, Robert, Registration district: Bolton, Volume 08C, Page 669
- <sup>14</sup> “England & Wales, Civil Registration Birth Index, 1837–1915,” *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 17 Feb 2018), entry for Lily Harbot, Registration district: Bolton, Inferred county: Lancashire, Volume: 8c, Page: 537
- <sup>15</sup> “1901 England, Wales & Scotland Census,” *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 19 February 2018), entry for Lily Harbot, Registration district: Bolton, Archive reference: RG13, Piece: 3619, Folio: 5, Page: 12
- <sup>16</sup> “1911 England, Wales & Scotland Census,” *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 8 May 2018), entry for Herbert Stott, Registration district: Bolton, Registration district number: 461, Enumeration district: 1, District number: 1, Sub-district: Tonge, Sub-district number: 5, Census reference: RG14PN23350 RG78PN1363 RD461 SD5 ED1 SN195, RG78 code number: 1363, Piece number: 23350
- <sup>17</sup> “1939 Register,” *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 20 February 2018), entry for Robert Harbot, RG101/4286A/030/40, Letter code: NULL
- <sup>18</sup> “UK, Soldiers Died in the Great War, 1914–1919,” *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 19 February 2018), entry for Herbert Stott
- <sup>19</sup> Based on “War Gratuity Calculator” (<https://wargratiuity.wordpress.com/2015/08/16/gratuity-calculator/>: accessed 18 May 2018); “UK, Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects, 1901–1929,” *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 19 February 2018), entry for Herbert Stott

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- <sup>20</sup> "British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914–1920," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 19 February 2018), entry for Herbert Stott
- <sup>21</sup> "UK, WWI War Diaries (France, Belgium and Germany), 1914–1920," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 19 February 2018), Regiment or unit: King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment, Sub-unit: 4th Battalion, Division: 55th Division, Diary dates: 1916 January 1–1916 May 31, Piece description: Piece 2922/1-4: 164 Infantry Brigade: 4 Battalion King's Own Royal Lancaster Reg (1916 January–1919 April), Piece number: 2922. Unless otherwise noted, all information about the battalion's activities come from this source.
- <sup>22</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>23</sup> "No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station," *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa* ([www.bifhsgo.ca](http://www.bifhsgo.ca): accessed 16 January 2018), entry for Stott, R. [sic]
- <sup>24</sup> "Pernes British Military Cemetery," *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (<http://www.cwgc.org/find-a-cemetery/cemetery/11600/PERNES%20BRITISH%20CEMETERY>: accessed 13 January 2015)
- <sup>25</sup> "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=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 15 December 2014)
- <sup>26</sup> "No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station," *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa* ([www.bifhsgo.ca](http://www.bifhsgo.ca): accessed 16 January 2018), entry for Stott, R. [sic]
- <sup>27</sup> "UK, Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects, 1901–1929," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 19 February 2018), entry for Herbert Stott
- <sup>28</sup> "British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914–1920," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 20 February 2018), entry for Robert Stott
- <sup>29</sup> "British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914–1920," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 19 February 2018), entry for Herbert Stott
- <sup>30</sup> "England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1916–2007," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 20 February 2018), entry for Lily Harbot, Registration district: Bolton, Inferred county: Lancashire, Volume: 8c, Page: 512
- <sup>31</sup> "1939 Register," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 20 February 2018), entry for Robert Harbot, RG101/4286A/030/40, Letter code: NULL
- <sup>32</sup> "England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1916–2007," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 20 February 2018), entry for John Harbot, Registration district: Bolton, Inferred county: Lancashire, Volume: 8c, Page: 512
- <sup>33</sup> "England & Wales, Civil Registration Marriage Index, 1916–2005," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 20 February 2018), entry for Robert Harbot, Registration district: Bolton, Inferred county: Lancashire, Volume: 8c, Page: 861; "England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1916–2007," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 20 February 2018), entry for Robert Harbot, Registration district: Bolton, Inferred county: Lancashire, Lincolnshire, Register number: B85A, District and Subdistrict: 002/1B, Entry number: 183
- <sup>34</sup> "1939 Register," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 20 February 2018), entry for Nellie Haynes, RG101/4286B/009/5, Letter code: —, "England & Wales Marriages 1837–2005," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 20 February 2018), entry for Nellie Harbot, District: Bolton, County: Lancashire, Volume: 8C, Page: 1109; "England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1916–2007," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 20 February 2018), entry for Nellie Haynes, Registration district: Bolton, Inferred county: Greater Manchester, Volume: 8c, Page: 51
- <sup>35</sup> "1939 Register," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 20 February 2018), entry for Frank Harbot, RG101/4286B/009/11, Letter code: —; "England & Wales Marriages 1837–2005," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 20 February 2018), entry for Frank Harbot, District: Bolton, County: Lancashire, Volume: 8C, Page: 1114; "England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1916–2007," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 20 February 2018), entry for Frank Harbot, Registration district: Bolton, Inferred county: Greater Manchester, Volume: 38, Page: 262

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<sup>36</sup> "England & Wales Deaths 1837–2007," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 20 February 2018), entry for James Willie Harbot, District: Bolton, County: Lancashire, Volume: 38, Page 396

<sup>37</sup> "1939 Register," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 20 February 2018), entry for Harry Harbot, RG101/4286A/007/15, Letter code: —, "England & Wales Marriages 1837–2005," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 20 February 2018), entry for Harry Harbot, District: Bolton, County: Lancashire, Volume: 8C, Page: 676; "England & Wales Deaths 1837–2007," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 20 February 2018), entry for Harry Harbot, District: Bolton, County: Lancashire, Volume: 10B, Page: 702

<sup>38</sup> "England & Wales Marriages 1837–2005," *Findmypast* ([www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk): accessed 20 February 2018), entry for Lily Harbot, District: Bolton, County: Lancashire, Volume: 8C, Page: 972

<sup>39</sup> "UK and Ireland, Find A Grave Index, 1300s–Current," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk): accessed 20 February 2018), entry for Alice Harbot