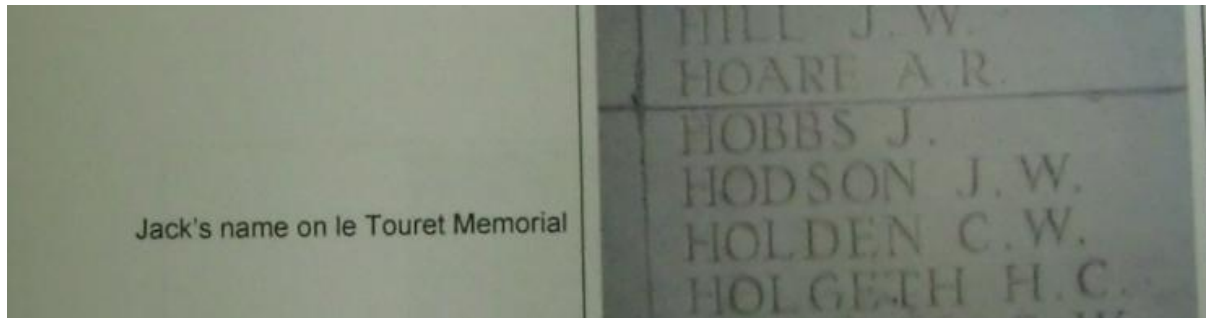


Private John William Hodson 8561 2nd Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment died on 10/03/1915 aged 23. He has no known grave but is commemorated on Le Touret Memorial.

Son of Mr & Mrs Ryves of West Street, Retford



In the Retford Times under the headline

A HERO'S DEATH

How a Retford Lad Died

The following appears

“Mr & Mrs Ryves of West Street, Retford received the following by way of the description of the death of their son Private John William (Jack) Hodson of the Lincolns who died fighting for his country on 10th March 1915.

“One morning his regiment was being relieved. I got into conversation with a sergeant and as luck would have it he was Jack's sergeant and he gave him a good character. He said he died a hero's death. It happened one morning when one of Jack's mates was repairing a parapet and was shot by the Germans. Jack saw him fall and went to help him and got shot himself. The sergeant did praise him and said what a good lad he was and how he died a hero's death.”

Sadly Mr & Mrs Ryves lost another son Private Ted Hodson of the Army Cyclist Corps and like Jack is remembered on Le Touret Memorial. A third son John served as a stoker on the HMS Cherwell and survived the war.

Roy Beadley, a current member of Grove Street Methodist Church, has provided the information that John William Hodson was born in West Street, Retford and was a half-brother to the late Mrs Gwen Bredley, Roy's mother.