

Ronald was the only son of Richard Bull (Deddington Vet) and Annie Page. The family lived in [The Stile House](#) which had no name at the time

Extract from the website *Returned from the Front*

<http://thereturned.co.uk/crosses/deddington-st-peter-and-st-paul/>



RONALD PAGE BULL

Details on cross:

G.R.U.
2/LIEUT R. P. BULL
1-NORTHANTS
1-11-18

Text type: Four GRU tags only.

Cross dimensions

Shaft Height: 1118mm

Cross beam width: 410mm

Width of wood: 65mm

Thickness or depth: 21mm

Other information

Mounting : Hanging on wall. Wire loop attached (to attach wreath).

Detailing: Rough sawn edges to timber. Tapered shaft base. Nailed half lap joint not flush.

Evidence of use in field : Light staining of base from ground.

Surface insertion depth : Staining suggests 370mm

Finish : Black stained. Possibly a preservative finish added later. Some staining to GRU tags.

Condition : Slight splitting. Trace of woodworm.

A grey and white marble memorial plaque, give by the Bull family, is mounted on the wall above the cross.

P. Bull is commemorated on the stained glass window in the Cloisters at Worcester Cathedral's Choir School memorial. His name there is given as R. Page-Bull, which is not seen elsewhere. Page seems to be a given name, also of father and his three sisters.

Biography, notes and observations:

In 1901

Living at New Street, Deddington with parents Richard and Annie and sisters Frances, Maria and Vera. Father's occupation is Veterinary Surgeon.

In 1911

A border at Worcester Cathedral Choir School, age 12.

From CWGC

Ronald Page Bull. Second Lieutenant, 4th Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment. Age 19. Buried at Highland Cemetery, Le Cateau, grave number XII.A. 9. Exhumed from map reference R.33.c.1.2. in 1920. Date of death given as 30th October 1918 (battlefield cross records the date 1/11/18, the 1st Northants. war diary reports killed in action 29/30th October, while the battalion were in action). Only son of Richard Page Bull and Annie Bull, of Deddington, Oxford.

From Service Record (WO 374/10666)

Born 13th March 1899 at Deddington. Attended Boys High School, Oxford and Worcester Choir School. Enlisted 9th February 1917 as 30416 Pte., Age 18 yrs. 6 months, height 5 ft 11 1/4, weight 142lbs. Occupation Veterinary Student. Mobilised and attached to OBLI 4th October 1917. Trained at Durham University OTC, cadet No 2390. Discharged to Commission as 2/Lt. With 4th Northamptonshire Regiment, 26th February 1918.

From 1st Northampton Regiment War Diary (WO 95/1271/3)**28/x/1918**

Disposition of the battalion: A coy left coy. B coy centre coy. C coy. right coy. D coy support. During the day the battalion endeavoured to reach the line of the CANAL DE LA SAMBER A L'OISE by peaceful penetration. The right company reached the canal without opposition but the centre company met with strong opposition from machine guns and snipers. At 8.00 the centre coy attacked under a barrage and gained all its objectives except a strong point on the right flank by 8.25. 15 prisoners + several M.Gs were captured in this attack. Prisoners were of the 78. R. I. R.

29/x/1918

at 14.15 the centre coy. again attacked. and gained all its objectives by 14.30.

at 16.55. the Boche counter attacked in strength and pushed the right of the left company and also the left of the centre company.

30/x/1918

at 5.03. the Boche again counter attacked in force and pushed back the right flank slightly. The enemy attacked in two parties, one party attacked the left coy. from the direction of CATILLON. and the other crossed the canal by a bridge by the barge and attacked the right of the centre company. at 12.00 the left and centre companies again attacked under a creeping barrage (100 yds in 4 minutes) but were again held up by M.G. fire from the strong point on the right flank. all objectives were gained by 16.20 and at 19.00 the battalion was relieved by the 1st Bn, the Gloucestershire Rgt on the line of the canal. The left company had formed a defensive flank SOUTH of CATILLON.

31/x/1918 VAUX ANDIGNY

The battalion marched out to VAUX ANDIGNY through MAZINGHIEN, L'ARBRE de GUISE and MOLAIN.

Casualties for 29/30th

2/Lt R.P. BULL	KILLED IN ACTION
15 O.R.	do
39 O.R	Wounded
13 O.R	Missing