



# HAROLD CYRIL LACEY

Army Number 240982/3114

Sergeant, 2<sup>nd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Gloucestershire Regiment

Died of wounds in France on 24 April 1918, aged 26

Address: 6 Blenheim Place, Bath Parade

He is buried in Aire Communal Cemetery, Plot II, Row F, Grave 15. He is named on the War Memorials at Leckhampton and Cheltenham, in St Luke's Church and at Pate's Grammar School.

Photo from *Leaving All that was Dear* by J Devereux and G Sacker

Harold Cyril Lacey was born in Cheltenham, the son of Joseph and Alice Lacey of Carno, 35 Bath Parade. He was educated at St Luke's Primary School (the former National School, in Bath Road) and Cheltenham Grammar School, after which he went to St Paul's Teacher Training College. His first post was in Tewkesbury but he later transferred to Leckhampton Primary School, where he was employed when war broke out. Some roses in the school grounds had been planted by him.

Harold Lacey volunteered for service in Gloucester on 15 September 1914. He was promoted to sergeant in 1915 and went with his battalion to France in May 1916. He fought at Ypres and Cambrai and during the German Spring offensive of 1918. In mid-April the battalion was transferred to defensive positions in the area of the River Lys in Northern France, taking part in the Battle of Béthune on 18 April. It was probably here that Sergeant Lacey was severely wounded and gassed and was taken to the 54<sup>th</sup> Casualty Clearing Station at Aire-sur-Lys, where he died six days later.

Aire Communal Cemetery,  
where Harold Lacey is buried

Photo – Commonwealth War  
Graves Commission

