



*Tournai.*  
Ancien Hôpital Notre-Dame (actuellement l'Académie des Beaux-Arts).





OCT  
2001



████████████████████  
Norden,

████████████████████  
England.

7<sup>th</sup> Nov 2011

Re: Private Robert Fletcher 45668      11<sup>th</sup> Batn. Lancashire Fusiliers

Died 16<sup>th</sup> April 1918 Tournai

Dear Sir,

The above person was my Grandfather who was badly wounded at Mont de Lille ,near Ballieul, on the 14<sup>th</sup> April 1918 during the British retreat. He was left behind with other badly wounded men along with two orderlies to be taken prisoner by the Germans.

He was taken by the Germans to the old Academie des Beaux-Arts in Tournai in the Rue de l'Hopital Notre Dame which I believe had been made into a hospital for Allied soldiers. He died two days later on the 16<sup>th</sup> April 1918 of his wounds. He is buried in the Southern Cemetery on the Ere Rd in the Military section. I have visited both places quite a few times in the last 30 years.

Recently , with the help of the Lancashire Fusiliers and a friend in the Ypres Museum I have traced all his movements from going to France in Sept 1915 to his being wounded in 1918. He fought at the Somme and around Ypres and At Messines Ridge.

I was wondering if any of your records could help me with his last two days at Tournai. Especially the following.



1] What wounds did he die from? I have conflicting reports of a head and a bayonet wound.

2] Was he treated by Belgian Nuns, as I believe some Allied soldiers were.?

I am enclosing some letters from the time including one from yourselves

Any small info from this time would be appreciated so that I can complete my research and I would cover any costs involved.

Apologies for not writing in French but mine is very poor.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Robert Fletcher

E MAIL RFLETCHER5@sky.com





- |                                                                 |                                     |                                          |                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Lakenhalle   Belfort<br>Toerisme<br>In Flanders Fields Museum | 8 Menenpoort                        | 19 Ypres Reservoir Cemetery              | 28 IJskelder                |
| 2 Stadhuis                                                      | 9 Sint-Jacobskerk                   | 20 Ramparts Cemetery                     | 29 Eiland                   |
| 3 Sint Maartenskathedraal                                       | 10 Iers/Keltisch Kruis              | 21 Commonwealth War Graves<br>Commission | 30 Poortwachtershuis        |
| 4 Saint George's Memorial<br>Church                             | 11 Sint-Pieterskerk                 | 22 Sint-Niklaaskerk<br>Onderwijsmuseum   | 31 Saskamer                 |
| 5 Kloosterpoort   Stadsschouw-<br>burg                          | 12 Houten Huis                      | 23 Ramparts War Museum                   | 32 Stedelijk Museum         |
| 6 Oud Kasselrijgebouw                                           | 13 Rijselpoort                      | 24 Gildenhuisen                          | 33 Miniatuur Menenpoort     |
| 7 Gerechtsgebouw                                                | 14 Het Steen                        | 25 Huis Biebuyck                         | 34 Bourgondische torens     |
|                                                                 | 15 Hotel-Museum Merghelync-<br>burg | 26 Miniatuur Lakenhallen                 | 35 Kruitmagazijn            |
|                                                                 | 16 Godshuis Belle Museum            | 27 Souterrains                           | 36 Australische gedenkplaat |
|                                                                 | 17 Vleeshuis                        |                                          | 37 Indiaas Monument         |
|                                                                 | 18 Oude Vismarkt                    |                                          | 38 Iepers Gedenkteken       |



R Fletcher ~~fletcher5@sky.com~~

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**RE: Attn. Frederik Vandewiere**

4 messages

Kenniscentrum ~~Kenniscentrum@ieper.be~~  
To: ~~fletcher5@sky.com~~ ~~fletcher5@sky.com~~

Wed, Sep 12, 2012 at 11:58 AM

Dear Mister Fletcher,

I am Pieter Trog, a colleague of Frederik Vandewiere, with whom you've been corresponding.

Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> September I'm of service in our Knowledge Center, so I'll be happy to meet you and to help you.

I already have a question for you. We had a phone call from a French journalist who's working for ARTE, the French-German speaking broadcasting company. They want to make a documentary about the British Commemoration of the First World War. One of their approaches would be the personal experience of a visitor of a former battlefield, a monument or a museum; and someone who's exploring the history of his grandfather or granduncle.

As you've been doing researches on Robert Fletcher, would you be inclined to help them?

Can you tell us what time you would arrive in Ieper, or what time you are planning to visit the museum?

As Frederik told you, don't forget to hop in in our research center, so we can give you some tickets.

Best wishes,

Pieter Trog

Researcher In Flanders Fields Museum



**Kenniscentrum**

Sint-Maartensplein 3 | BE-8900 Ieper | België

Tel: +32 (0) 57 239 450

[www.ieper.be](http://www.ieper.be) | [www.inflandersfields.be](http://www.inflandersfields.be)

Denk aan het milieu vooraleer je dit bericht of de bijlagen afdrukt. | Disclaimer





~~R Fletcher - rfletcher5@sky.com~~**Attn. Frederik Vandewiere**

4 messages

**R Fletcher** ~~rfletcher5@sky.com~~  
To: ~~Stedelijke.Musea@ieper.be~~

Thu, Sep 6, 2012 at 2:15 PM

1. Hello Frederik
2. This is Bob Fletcher from Rochdale England. We have met before and you have been a great help in tracing my grandads history. This is now almost complete, but I am coming to Ypres next week to complete some last details for myself. I am also looking forward to seeing the new Museum. Would it be possible to meet up with you for a few moments next Friday 14th? Would be glad to see you again. I would not take up any of your time.
3. Regards Bob Fletcher

**Stedelijke.Musea** ~~Stedelijke.Musea@ieper.be~~  
To: ~~rfletcher5@sky.com~~ ~~rfletcher5@sky.com~~  
Cc: ~~Frans Pieter - Pieter.Frans@ieper.be~~

Thu, Sep 6, 2012 at 2:44 PM

Dear Bob,

Yes, I remember you. I have to say that I'm not working next Friday, but you can come anyway. There are colleagues that can help you, maybe even better than me.

Our new research center is now located in the Cloth Hall (Sint-Maartensplein 3). Maybe you can come first to us, then we can give you some tickets to visit the museum.

We are open from 10u.-12u.30 and from 13u.30-17u.

Have a nice visit and maybe we see each other another time.

Kind Regards,

Frederik Vandewiere

Registrar

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Van: R Fletcher [<mailto:rfletcher5@sky.com>]

Verzonden: donderdag 6 september 2012 15:16



R Fletcher ~~rfletcher5@sky.com~~

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**RE: Attn. Frederik Vandewiere**

1 message

Kenniscentrum ~~Kenniscentrum@ieper.be~~  
To: ~~rfletcher5@sky.com~~ ~~rfletcher5@sky.com~~

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As you've been doing researches on Robert Fletcher, would you be inclined to help them?

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As Frederik told you, don't forget to hop in in our research center, so we can give you some tickets.

Best wishes,

Pieter Trogh

Researcher In Flanders Fields Museum



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**Van:** Stedelijke Musea  
**Verzonden:** donderdag 6 september 2012 15:45  
**Aan:** Fletcher5@sky.com  
**CC:** Trogh Pieter  
**Onderwerp:** FW: Attn. Frederik Vandewiere

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Kind Regards,

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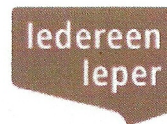
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**Van:** R Fletcher [mailto:fletcher5@sky.com]  
**Verzonden:** donderdag 6 september 2012 15:16  
**Aan:** Stedelijke.Musea  
**Onderwerp:** Attn. Frederik Vandewiere

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3. Regards Bob Fletcher



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R Fletcher <fletcher5@sky.com>

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**Arte television**

5 messages

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Tournier Jérôme <tournierjerome@yahoo.fr>  
Reply-To: Tournier Jérôme <tournierjerome@yahoo.fr>  
To: "fletcher5@sky.com" <fletcher5@sky.com>

Fri, Oct 12, 2012 at 4:53 PM

Dear Bob,

I was very pleased to meet you at Ypres Museum historical department.  
I am very happy with the report and again, I want to thank you for your participation.  
It will go on air on Arte Television, on Sunday the 4th of November at 20.10.  
From that day, I will be able to send you a DVD.

The program is available on line for a week after it goes on air, but only from France,  
Belgium, Germany and Austria, due to restricted rights.

<http://www.arte.tv/fr/le-blogueur/2972238.html>

I hope this mail will find you well.  
Kind regards.  
Jérôme.

Jérôme Tournier

Mobile: 33 (0)6 52 65 25 98

---

R Fletcher <fletcher5@sky.com>  
To: Tournier Jérôme <tournierjerome@yahoo.fr>

Fri, Oct 12, 2012 at 5:06 PM

Hi Jerome

Good to hear from you and thank you. I think I can access the programme here in  
England on Sky, but not sure. Will look forward to the DVD.

Best regards Bob Fletcher

[Quoted text hidden]

---

R Fletcher <fletcher5@sky.com>  
To: Tournier Jérôme <tournierjerome@yahoo.fr>

Mon, Oct 22, 2012 at 4:38 PM

Hi Jerome,

Bob Fletcher here from England re Ypres Documentary. The only programme I can find  
here on Sky is TV5Monde. Will the ARTE programme be on this?

Regards Bob fletcher

[Quoted text hidden]

---

Tournier Jérôme <tournierjerome@yahoo.fr>  
Reply-To: Tournier Jérôme <tournierjerome@yahoo.fr>  
To: R Fletcher <fletcher5@sky.com>

Tue, Oct 23, 2012 at 8:10 AM

Hi Bob,



What I am sure is The Blogger will not go on air on TV5 Monde on November the 4th, but on Arte only.

Arte channel should be included in some satellite or cable TV pack...

May be TV5 Monde will broadcast the programme afterwards. I will check that for you.

Anyway, you will receive a DVD.

Best regards.

Jérôme.

---

De : R Fletcher [r Fletcher 5@sky.com](mailto:r Fletcher 5@sky.com)

À : Tournier [jérôme\\_tournierjerome@yahoo.fr](mailto:jérôme_tournierjerome@yahoo.fr)

Envoyé le : Lundi 22 octobre 2012 17h38

Objet : Re: Arte television

[Quoted text hidden]

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R Fletcher [r Fletcher 5@sky.com](mailto:r Fletcher 5@sky.com)

Tue, Oct 23, 2012 at 11:36 AM

To: Tournier [jérôme\\_tournierjerome@yahoo.fr](mailto:jérôme_tournierjerome@yahoo.fr)

hi Jerome,

Thanks. Cannot find Arte Channel here.

Regards Bob Fletcher

[Quoted text hidden]



R Fletcher ~~fletcher5@sky.com~~

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**RE: Attn. Frederik Vandewiere**

1 message

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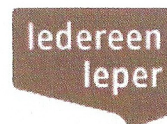
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ledereen  
leper

Van: R Fletcher [~~mailto:rfletcher5@sky.com~~]

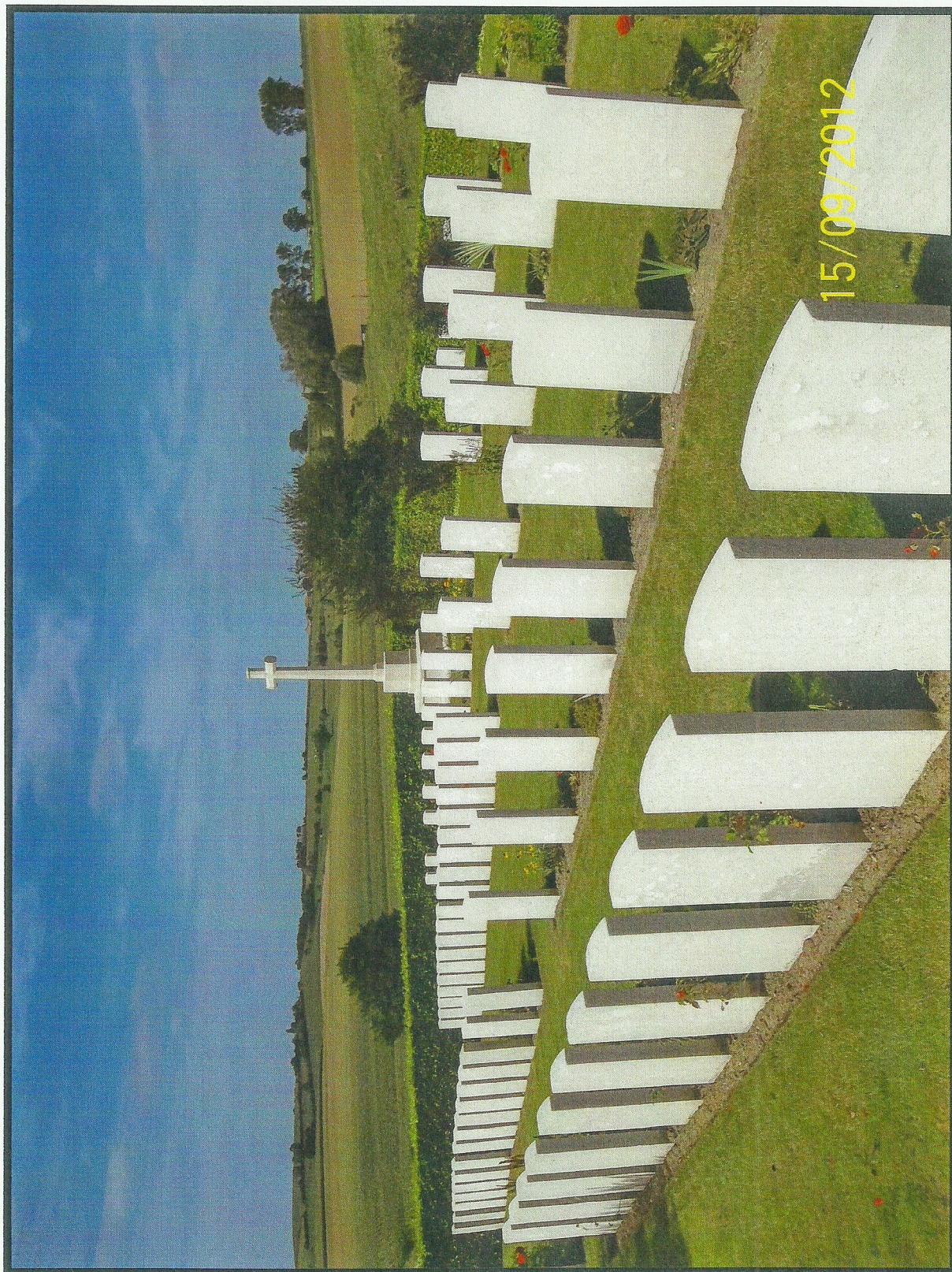
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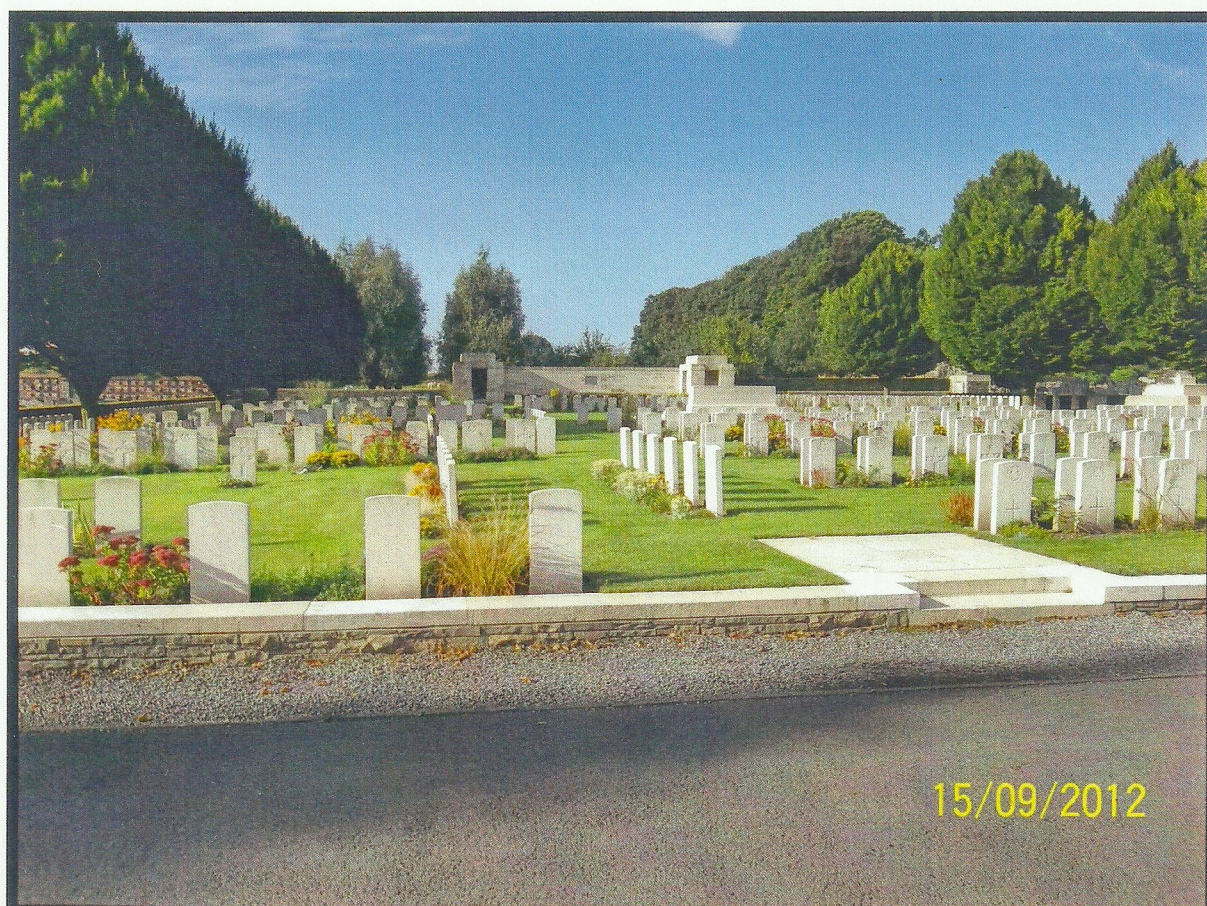


**KORTEPYPE CEMETERY WITH SITE OF CAMP AT BREEMEERSCHEN  
IN VALLEY AND MONTE DE LILLE IN BACKGROUND**





**TOURNAI SEPT 2012**











10--ROBERT FLETCHER  
(Private) 45668  
11th Bn  
Lancs Fusiliers





?



1962.



1967/8



BEFORE LANDSCAPING









2005



