

4 Victor Lord Ramsay d 9 Feb 1919: flu victim



11 Jan 2013



9 Feb 2014



Barrow News 15 Feb 1919

Where is the grave?

Walk north past the northern lodge, and bend left. Bend left again, past the Fisher family memorial and it is 10 yds further on the left, opposite Corporal Gilbert Fell's cross.

The flu epidemic of 1918/19 was especially virulent, and attacked seemingly healthy young people. It killed more people than the 'Great War', and particularly those aged 20-40 (<http://virus.stanford.edu/uda/>).

The Barrow News of 15 February 1919 reported:

DEATH OF MR. V. L. RAMSAY

BARROW LAD DIES SOON AFTER DEMOBILISATION

Returning home about ten days ago, apparently full of vigour and high spirits on his demobilisation, Private Victor Lord Ramsay, youngest son of Mr. Wm. Ramsay, of Oak Royde¹, Abbey-road, Barrow, was seized with influenza, followed by septic pneumonia, which proved fatal. Thus a young and promising life ended on Sunday morning. Prior to joining the Forces, Pte. Ramsay was a student at Holmes Chapel Agricultural College, and showed every prospect of a successful career. He had served for two years in France in the Transport Service, and latterly as a despatch-rider. That he should have passed away so soon after such a recent and joyous homecoming renders the blow doubly severe and every sympathy will go out to his father and other members of the family in their heavy loss. The deceased was 22 years of age.

The funeral took place at Barrow on Wednesday afternoon. The cortege left the house at three o'clock and proceeded to St. Paul's Church, where the service was conducted by Rev. W. Berry, vicar, who also performed the last rites at the grave side. The chief mourners were: - Mr. William Ramsay (father), Miss. Simpson (aunt), Mr. and Mrs. L.B. Whiteley (brother-in-law and sister), Mr. George Machin (brother-in-law), Mrs. Albert Ramsay (sister-in-law), and Mrs. William Ramsay (sister-in-law). Other members of the family were unable to attend owing to indisposition. Many friends were present to pay their last respects to the young man who had just returned from serving his King and country, and also to manifest their sympathy for the sorrowing family. There were also a great many floral tributes.

The family memorial is especially impressive, matching the nearby Fisher family memorial.

¹ Oak Royde is 181 Abbey Road, Barrow