



# Private George Gray

1888 - 1915

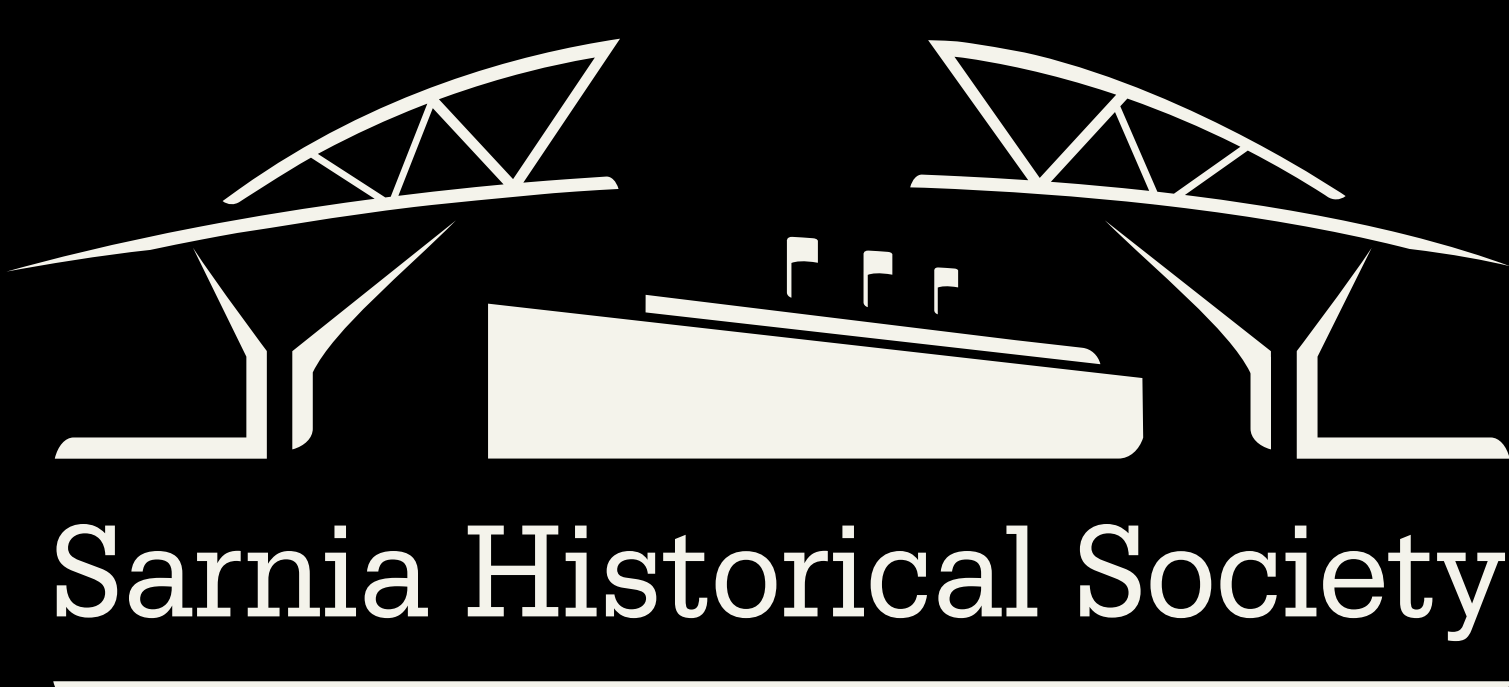
FIRST WORLD WAR

Army: Canadian Infantry, 2nd Battalion

George was born in Sarnia in 1888, the youngest son of Donald and Mary Gray. The Grays had five children together. George was raised and schooled here and sadly when he was thirteen years old, he lost his mother. After his schooling, George moved to the Canadian Northwest. He was 26 years old, single and a farmer when he enlisted in Winnipeg in December 1914. He arrived in England in February 1915 and in France in May 1915, where he took part in the final weeks of the Second Battle of Ypres.

In late May 1915 at Ypres, he took part in Canada's second major engagement of the war, the Battle of Festubert. It was here on May 30, 1915 that Private George Gray of the 2nd Battalion, No. 12 Platoon, #3 Company, was killed in action. He was with a party of men from his platoon completing a communication trench when it was struck by an enemy shell. His platoon Lieutenant reported that "pieces of the shell had struck him in the back and his death was painless and virtually instantaneous."

George Gray, 26, left behind family in Sarnia and Camlachie. He has no known grave and is memorialized on the Vimy Memorial, Pas de Calais, France.



**THE SARNIA  
WAR REMEMBRANCE  
PROJECT**

by Tom Slater and Editor Tom St. Amand