

STEWART GORDON RIDLEY was the second son of Mr. T. W. Ridley and the late Mrs. Ridley of Willimoteswick, Redcar, where he was born on July 6, 1896.

He came to Oundle from Mr. Roscoe's School at Harrogate in May 1910, entering Grafton House. Ridley played several times for the XV in 1913. Leaving in April 1914, he was preparing for a business career when the war came. With his brother he enlisted (September 1914) in the 4th Yorkshire Regiment, and in February 1915 he received a commission in the 12th Yorkshire Regiment.

In July he transferred to the Flying Corps, and went to France in August 1915, as an observer. Returning to England in December, he took his Pilot's Certificate.

He died in the Libyan Desert. Ridley and another officer, with a mechanic, lost their way in the desert, and Ridley's machine being damaged, the other officer flew back in an effort to find H.Q. Ridley and the mechanic were not found until it was too late, and it seems clear that in order to give his companion a chance of surviving (their water supply failing), he shot himself.



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