

Sammy's story: a life in the trenches

Sammy was the adopted mascot of the Northumberland Fusiliers during the First World War.

He went to war with the regiment in April 1915, and had to endure the same hardships and dangers that the troops experienced on the battlefield, but all the while he was there in the trenches he helped to keep the soldiers' morale up by keeping them company and cheering them up.

He was wounded and gassed during the Second Battle of Ypres in Belgium a month after arriving. The terrier was even buried by shellfire on several occasions.

Sammy died in action along with many of his companions during the battle of the Somme in 1916. Like many of his comrades, he has no marked grave.