

James Horace Wainscoat - Leading Seaman J/4716

Age 23

Royal Navy - H.M.S. Southampton

Seriously wounded during the Battle of Jutland on 31st May 1916
Died on the Hospital Ship PLASSY en-route to Queensferry on 7th June, 1916

Buried - Harthill (All Hallows) Churchyard CWGC Extension.

Commemorated - Chatham Naval Memorial and on Worksop War Memorial.

James was born in Retford, and was the second son of Thomas and Annie Elizabeth Wainscoat, 184 Gateford Road Worksop, formerly of Dishwell Lane, Harthill, and grandson of Mr James Wainscoat of Harthill.



Leading seaman Gunner James Horace Wainscoat, serving on H.M.S Southampton, died from wounds received in the naval engagement on May 31st, 1916. Shortly after the battle his father was notified, by the Admiralty, that his son had been seriously wounded, and on Wednesday morning (7th June) he received a telegram from the Fleet Surgeon announcing his son's death, whilst on board the hospital ship PLASSY for England, and that his son's body had now been removed to the Naval Hospital at Queensferry.

In an account of the Battle of Jutland in a leading pictorial paper to the fight put up by HMS Southampton, reference was made to the late Leading Seaman James Horace Wainscoat, who died as a result of wounds received in the engagement.

“Leading Seaman Wainscoat one of our gun layers, was ordered to find the range. However, Wainscoat laid his gun so accurately that with the first round from it he sent a shell right into one of the German destroyers, cutting her in two. I am sorry to say that later in the action, Wainscoat was mortally injured. The Gunner was heard to say, ‘thank God I did for one of them’ – referring of course to his destroyer he had sunk with his first shot. This remark was made when he was suffering much pain through his injuries.”

James was buried at Harthill at the request of his family.