

SOLDAAT 2 KL MATHIEU ALOIS CALLOT

Belgian Army 2 Karabiniers 2/1 (5 Cie)

Died 11 July 1916

Buried at Plot 26 Row A Grave 1B.

Personal Inscription MORT POUR LA BELGIQUE BURIED IN  
LEYTONSTONE (ST. PATRICK'S) R.C. CEMETERY

Brookwood Military Cemetery



## Belgian military casualty record

**Callot, Mathieu**, *Alais*, 132.  
 Solat n: 1946 2: carab. M: 4340  
 + Londres, 11/7/16. (cad)  
 + Londres, St. Patric's Cem. Leyton, n. de la  
 tombe, 25 rue 75 Notlla (Sige Londres).  
 (AD) *Brookwood Mil. Cemetery.*  
*Luxury - Perle 26-ry 4-9/18*  
*E/142034*  
 E/C E 10126/8-6-21 à Miss. S. Allen, O.B.E.  
 London, dem: vivant.  
*Miss S Allen le 27 6 21, m cad (EC)*  
 ECE 12264 du 15-2-21 au Qm 2: carab. copie  
 et p: via Cad.  
*Qm 2: carab. le 22 9 21 cad m. v. m. non mat,*  
*enc. cad mat (EC)*  
 ECE 13418 du 2-8-21 à Mdu cad.  
*L. t. rous. Gallot*  
 n: 1064/E 44024 du 21-1-15 au 2: carab. fiche.  
*Gallot.*  
 L. t. carab. 21-1-15 fiche en rot au nom *Callot.*

From a web site [Education in Abergele | Belgian Refugees in Rhyl](#) about Belgian refugees in South Wales during WW1

A soldier called Mathieu Callot of the 2nd Carabinier Regiment had been wounded and taken care of at a hospital in England. His home address was Vaartstraat, 47, Borgerhout and he had some family connection in Pensarn & Abergele. In the May 28th, 1915, edition of De stem uit België, a Belgian called L. Brüder-Callot was looking for information about Mathieu, stating that he had been in a hospital in Folkestone, and giving their address as Hafod-y-Môr, Pensarn, Abergele. It may be that this L. Brüder-Callot

changed addresses at some point as we also found them living at Min-y-Don, Pensarn in January 1916.

Mathieu Alois Callot was born in Borgerhout on July 11th, 1890. His father was Joseph Alphonse Callot, and his mother was Caroline Jeanne Eulalie Van Mierlo. He enlisted in the Belgian Army in 1910.

There are several listings of him in Belgian newspapers – all saying the same thing – that he was wounded and in Hyland's Hospital in Chelmsford, obviously having passed through a hospital in Folkestone first. This is quite early on in the war: L'Echo Belge, published December 23rd, 1914, places him at Hyland's Hospital in a section entitled "Nos blessés Belges en Angleterre" / "Our wounded Belgians in England".

It's unclear whether Mathieu was so badly injured that he remained in hospital for a very long time, or if he recovered enough to be sent back only to be wounded again. But by 1916 he was being cared for in Saint Olave's Infirmary, a former workhouse in Southwark, London.

Mathieu died in Saint Olave's on July 11th, 1916, on his 26th birthday. He is buried at Brookwood Cemetery, although it appears he was moved to Brookwood from St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Cemetery at Leytonstone.

[The Grave-Digger](#) by Emile Verhaeren 1855 – 1916

– a Belgian refugee in South Wales in 1914. By 1916 he was in France, but died tragically in November when he fell under a train that he was attempting to board.

The centenary of his death was marked by an event at the Belgian Embassy in London in 2016.

(first 3 of 17 verses)

In the garden yonder of yews and death,  
There sojourneth  
A man who toils, and has toiled for aye.  
Digging the dried-up ground all day.

Some willows, surviving their own dead selves.  
Weep there around him as he delves.  
And a few poor flowers, disconsolate  
Because the tempest and wind and wet  
Vex them with ceaseless scourge and fret.

The ground is nothing but pits and cones,  
Deep graves in every corner yawn;  
The frost in the winter cracks the stones,  
And when the summer in June is born  
One hears, 'mid the silence that pants for breath,  
The germinating and life of Death  
Below, among the lifeless bones.