



**VICTOR BAILLIE HILL**, Glasgow University, caps 1, cap number 66

Victor Baillie Hill was born in Birmingham in 1887. His father George Baillie Hill was a retired merchant seaman from Forfar.

In 1906 Hill went to Glasgow University. He attended from 1906 to 1909 before leaving to become a mining engineer. Like many of his generation Hill was a multi-talented sportsman. He was a hockey player, played cricket during the summer months, appears in the 1909 University Sports as a sprinter and he also found time to be a regular golfer at Douglas Park Golf Club in Bearsden.

Hill appears to have played hockey for Western H.C. in the 1907-1908 season, usually as an inside left alongside S H Baker, but also played centre forward in Baker's absence. In the Scottish Referee's preview of the 1908 season he is noted as leaving Western to take up rugby. However he then appears playing for Glasgow University at the start of the 1908-1909 hockey season.

Hill received a single cap for Scotland at hockey and is cap No 66 on Scottish Hockey's list. He was picked on the left wing for a game against France played at the Northern Cricket Club Ground in Liverpool on 10th December 1910. The Scots won 5-2 in a game played in unfavourable conditions.

After leaving university in 1909, he joined the university OTC. He was a member of the OTC until the outbreak of war in 1914. On the outbreak of war he volunteered and was gazetted into the 6th Battalion Kings Royal Rifle Corps (KRRC) on 21st August 1914. Although the CWGC have him named as a member of the 6th KRRC, in fact 6th KRRC was a training unit and never left the UK, spending most of the war near Sheerness.

Hill quickly found himself at the front with the 2nd Battalion KRRC and took part in the 1st Battle of Ypres. He was wounded in the left leg on the 14th November 1914 in an action to the East of the village of Zillebeke. This was the first of three wounds that Hill was to receive. The second wound happened while he was serving with either the 3rd or 4th Battalion KRRC near St Eloi in May 1915 during the 2nd Battle of Ypres. This was a more severe injury which resulted in his right wrist being fused.

While recovering from his second wound, Hill organised a regimental sports day for the 6th Battalion KRRC which was well reported in The Guardian and East Kent Advertiser of 16th September 1916.

Despite the pain from his fused wrist, Hill returned to action with 2nd KRRC. He received the wound that would take his life on 22nd December 1917, when a gunshot broke both tibia and fibula in his left leg. He was evacuated to hospital. Sadly he succumbed to septic pneumonia on 15th January 1918 and is buried in the Wimereux Communal Cemetery.

He was posthumously awarded a Military Cross on 31st January 1918.

Victor is commemorated on:

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission

The family grave in Birmingham

Douglas Park Golf Club

Glasgow University Roll of Honour

Sources:

Ancestry

British Newspaper Archive

Douglas Park Golf Club

Glasgow University Roll of Honour

National Archives

Long Long Trail

Commonwealth War Graves Commission