

In December 2009, RAW will publish Phil Vasili's biography of Tull
'All the guns in France couldn't wake me'.



'All the guns in France couldn't wake me'.

Walter Tull, 1888-1918. Officer, Footballer.

**Walter Daniel John Tull was Britain's first Black infantry officer.
A Black Briton in a society where there were few others.**

As a professional footballer for Clapton, Tottenham Hotspur and Northampton Town he was praised, idolised, denigrated and abused; as an infantry officer loved, respected, ridiculed and humiliated. He led White troops into battle on the western and Italian fronts when the Manual of Military Law forbade non-Europeans from becoming combat officers. Recommended for a Military Cross - that was never pinned to his breast - for his bravery and leadership in Italy, he died at the Second Battle of the Somme, March 25th 1918. Two privates risked their lives in attempting to retrieve his body for burial.

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