

ALSTONEFIELD REMEMBRANCE BOOK



**In memory of the men of this parish who fell in the
Two World Wars**

William Astle	1885 – 1918
Alfred Austin	1917 – 1942
Alfred Bailey	1890 – 1916
John Bennington	1895 – 1916
Thomas Brindley	1896 – 1918
Ernest Edward Brown	1894 – 1916
Wilfred Brown	1892 – 1916
Frederic Ralph Percival Burgess	1920 – 1941
Charles Featherstone	1888 – 1918
Sydney Gilman	1895 – 1918
Ernest Harrison	1896 – 1918
John Lomas	1872 – 1917
Herbert Spencer Trafford	1897 – 1916
Edward Purchase Hall White	1901 – 1942
Alfred Edward Wint	1894 – 1918
Thomas Edward Wooddisse	1894 – 1918

Their name liveth forever more



This folder has been developed to allow us to learn more about the men of Alstonefield who died whilst serving in the Two World Wars.

All of these men were either born in, grew up in or worked in Alstonefield or had some family connection here. We wanted to know more about them and the family that they came from.

Information has been obtained from the internet, local newspaper archives and local records, but it would be nice to add more information to allow us to learn more about these brave men.

If you are able to provide any more information then either contact us via the village website, where a copy of this folder can be found.

admin@alstonefield.org

Susan Wilding – 01335 310025

In Memory of

Gunner

William Astle

44666, "D" Bty. 83rd Bde., Royal Field Artillery who died on 21 March 1918 Age 20

Son of George Astle, of 9, Bank Terrace, Silver St., Uttoxeter, Staffordshire.

Remembered with Honour

Pozieres Memorial



**Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission**

Gunner William Astle

Little is known about William Astle and his connection to Alstonefield.

He was born in late 1897/early 1898 possibly in the Uttoxeter area and his father was George. No information has been found in respect of his mother.

In 1911, he appears to be working as a farm servant at Barn Close Farm, Wetton.

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in ink.

The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Entries will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as in connection with old age pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP TO HEAD OF FAMILY	SEX	AGE	MARRIAGE	EDUCATION OR OCCUPATION		BIRTHPLACE	NATURALIZATION	SUFFRAGE
					EDUCATION	OCCUPATION			
1. <i>George Astle</i>	Head	M	41	Married	616	Employer	Staffordshire		
2. <i>May Ann Astle</i>	Daughter	F	1				Staffordshire		
3. <i>Charles Herbert Astle</i>	Son	M	7				Staffordshire		
4. <i>John George Astle</i>	Son	M	5				Staffordshire		
5. <i>Elizabeth Ann</i>	Daughter	F	3				Staffordshire		
6. <i>William Astle</i>	Son	M	1.8				Staffordshire		

(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

(To be filled up by an official of the Board of Trade or other person in connection with the Census of this Schedule)

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: *George Astle*

Printed Address: *Barn Close Farm, Wetton, Staffordshire*

William enlists in about August 1915 into the Royal Field Artillery and was deployed to France on 24 August that year.

Campaign: — **1914-15**

(A) Where decoration was earned.

(B) Present situation.

Name	Corps	Rank	Reg. No.	Medals which included (if any)
(A) <i>ASTLE</i>	<i>R.F.A.</i>	<i>Private</i>	<i>44666</i>	<i>1914-15</i>
(B) <i>William</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>

Action taken: *Dead*

THEATRE OF WAR: *(1) France*

QUALIFYING DATE: *24.8.15*

(0 04 10) W231—HP5590 500,000 4/19 HWV(P240) K609

He was killed in action on 21 March 1918, this being the first day of the German Spring Offensives. On this day the Allies suffered 6000 losses.

William is remembered at the Pozieres Memorial, France.

William was awarded 15 Star, British War medal and Victory Medal

At the time of his death, his father, George, was living at 9 Bank Terrace, Silver Street, Uttoxeter. Only his father is referred to on the Commonwealth War Grave Commission register.

One year after his death a memorial notice was placed in the Uttoxeter Advertiser:

In Loving Memory of our dear Son, Gunner W Astle, 44666, RFA., killed in action March 21 1918.

He left his home in perfect health
He looked so young and brave;
We little thought how soon he'd be
Laid in a soldier's grave.
No one knows the parting,
Of what the parting cost,
But God in His great mercy
Has gained what we have lost.

Sadly missed by Father, Mother, Brothers and Sisters, 9 Bank Terrace,
Silver Street, Uttoxeter.

Source of information

1. 1911 census © Ancestry.co.uk
2. Medal card © Ancestry.co.uk

In Memory of

Trooper

Alfred Austin

7894906, 1st Derbyshire Yeomanry, Royal Armoured Corps who died on 08 December 1942 Age 25

Remembered with Honour

Enfidaville War Cemetery



**Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission**

Trooper Alfred Austin

Alfred Austin was born the third son of Arthur Austin and Lucy Webster. He was born in Alstonefield in 1917 and was the third of their 5 children.

Arthur and Lucy were married in 1907 and in 1911 they were living in Hope, Alstonefield where Arthur was a farmer. Arthur died in 1959 and Lucy in 1925. Alfred's siblings were Arthur (born 1909), Frank T (born 1917), Ester (born 1921) and Hubert (born 1923).

Little is known about Alfred's life or that of his family, although his father's brother Frank operated a cobblers shop in Narrowdale, Alstonefield.



Alfred was a trooper in 1st Derbyshire Yeomanry, Royal Armoured Corp and was a member of the Ashbourne contingent when war broke out.

Alfred was killed 8 December 1942 in Tunisia. An eyewitness account, as reported in the Ashbourne News, states that an armoured car, in which Alfred was acting as gunner, met three German armoured cars. Alfred immediately opened fire, killing three Germans and seriously wounding a fourth. The Germans retaliated, with a burst of fire which killed Alfred and another person in his vehicle.

Trooper Austin was buried at Ponts de Fahs but subsequently moved to Enfidaville War cemetery in Tunisia.

He was awarded the 1939-45 War medal and 1939-45 Star, both for campaign service.



ILAM SOLDIER KILLED

We regret to record that Mrs. Austin, Stanhope Grange, Ilam, has received notification that her son, Trooper Alfred Austin, of the Derbyshire Yeomanry has been killed in North Africa. He was a member of the Ashbourne contingent when the war broke out, and had a great admiration for his regiment, and the

News of his death was report in the Ashbourne News dated July 9 1946. This is some three and a half years after his death. It is reported that the notification was received by his mother, however, in researching Alfred Austin, record has been found of his mother, Lucy Austin, dying in 1925.



last time he was home on leave he said "Our chaps are a grand lot, officers and men alike." He died as he probably would have chosen to die, serving with the regiment he loved, with guns blazing, and fighting for the right. He was 25 years of age, and single.

Col. Sir Ian Walker, Bart., his commanding officer has written to Mrs. Austin, enclosing Trooper Austin's identity disc and a pocket compass he always carried with him. Sir Ian Walker found their graves and has had small wooden crosses fixed on them.

An eye witness's account states that an armoured car was being driven by Trooper Peter Wardle (son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Wardle, Market Place, Ashbourne), with Lieut. Taylor, and Trooper Austin acting as gunner. They met three German armoured cars, and Trooper Austin immediately opened fire, killing three Germans and seriously wounding a fourth. The Germans retaliated with a burst of fire which killed Lieut. Taylor and Trooper Austin and slightly wounding Trooper Peter Wardle. The Germans, after unloading their own dead, took Trooper Wardle away, and dragged Lieut. Taylor and Trooper Austin out of their car which burnt out. They then went away. A French priest had Lieut. Taylor and Trooper Austin taken to Pont de Fahs where he buried them.

Much sympathy is felt with Mr. and Mrs. Austin and members of the family in their bereavement.

Sources of Information

1. Photograph © www.twgpp.org
2. Newspaper Extract © Ashbourne News 9 July 1946

In Memory of
Private
A Bailey

3562, 6th Bn., Sherwood Foresters (Notts and Derby Regiment) who died on 10 April 1916 Age 26

Son of the late James and Hannah Bailey, of Hanson Grange, Tissington, Ashbourne.

Remembered with Honour
Ecoivres Military Cemetery, Mont-St. Eloi



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Private Alfred Bailey

Alfred Bailey, the son of James Bailey and Hannah Knight, was born about September 1890 in Hanson Grange, near Alstonefield.

His father, James (1833-1913) married Hannah Knight (1851-1893) in 1872 and they had 15 children, Alfred being the youngest, who survived through infancy.



Alfred's siblings were William (1873-1920), Mary Emily (1874-1945), Sarah (1876-1905), James (1877-1885), Joseph (1880-1931), Eliza (1881-1883), Alice (1882-1920), Martha Jane (1885-1968), Francis Clifford (1887-1956) & Ruth (1889-1969). A further 4 siblings, Samuel, Annie, Herbert & Harry all died in infancy.

Prior to his marriage to Hannah, James was married to Mary Moss, with whom he had 5 children.

Census records for 1891, finds the family living and farming at Upper Hanson, Drury Lane, Newton Grange.

Administrative County of <u>Wales</u>			The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the										Page <u>5</u>	
Civil Parish			Municipal Borough		Municipal Ward		Urban Sanitary District		Rural Sanitary District		Parliamentary Borough or Election District		Ecclesiastical Parish or District	
<u>Newton Grange</u>							<u>Newton Grange</u>		<u>Drury Lane</u>		<u>Newton Grange</u>		<u>Drury Lane</u>	
Col. 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
No. of Schedule	ROAD, STREET, &c., and No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSE No. or NAME	NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	CON- DITION as to Marriages	AGE last Birthday of	PROFESSION or OCCUPATION	EMPLOYED	EMPLOYED	WEEKS WORK	(1) Total and (2) Part (3) Female, (4) Male			
17	<u>Upper Hanson</u>	1	<u>James Barclay</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>Farmer</u>			<u>Supervisor Newton</u>				
			<u>James Barclay</u>	<u>Wife</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>58</u>				<u>do Newton</u>				
			<u>Hugh Barclay</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>16</u>				<u>do Drury Lane</u>				
			<u>William Barclay</u>	<u>do</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>14</u>				<u>do do</u>				
			<u>Henry J. Barclay</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>12</u>				<u>do do</u>				
			<u>Isabel Barclay</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>10</u>				<u>do do</u>				
			<u>Alice Barclay</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>9</u>				<u>do Newton</u>				
			<u>Martha J. Barclay</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>8</u>				<u>Widow's Newton Grange</u>				
			<u>Thomas C. Barclay</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>7</u>				<u>do do</u>				
			<u>Ruth Barclay</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>6</u>				<u>do do</u>				
			<u>Alfred Barclay</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>5</u>				<u>do do</u>				

(1)

(1)

In 1901, the address is recorded at Hanson Grange. By this stage James is a widower, with his eldest son, William recorded as working the farm with him. Alfred at aged 10 is assumed to be at school but no details are recorded.

Hanson Grange	1		James Barclay	Head	M	68	~~Farmer~~	Employed	Staffs (Newton)	
			William Do	Son	M	28	~~Farmer's son~~	Worker	Do (Endon)	
			Alice Do	Daughter	S	19			Do (Rushmore)	
			Martha Do	Do	S	16			Do (Hanson Grange)	
			Francis C. Do	Son	S	14			Do (Do)	
			Ruth Barclay	Daughter	S	12			Do (Do)	
			Alfred Do	Son	S	10			Do (Do)	

(2)

Moving forward another 10 years to 1911, the family, albeit reduced in number as the children have married and moved from the home, are still at Hanson Grange. At this stage, Alfred, aged 20, is recorded as working on the farm.

1	James Bailey	Head	79	Widower		Farmer (Farm)	100	Employer	at	Norton	
2	Alice Bailey	Daughter	29	Single		Sperry Norton	100	at	at	Brandy sea	
3	Edmond Bailey	Son	24	Single		Working on Farm	100	at	at	Hanson Grange	
4	Alfred Bailey	Son	20	Single		Working on Farm	100	at	at	Hanson Grange	
5	John Bailey	Servant	16	Single		Farm Labourer	100	at	at	Alstonefield	870
6											
7											
8											
9											
10											
11											
12											
13											
14											
15											

(To be filled up by the Enumerator.)

Total	
Males	Females
4	5

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling.)

Write below the Number of Houses in this Dwelling (House, Tenement, or Apartment). Count the children as a year but do not count military, lodging, labour, clerk, barbers, or waitresses, shop, shop.

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: James Bailey

Printed Address: Hanson Grange Tissington

(3)

Just over 3 years after this census was taken the 1st World War broke out. Alfred, who had been living with his sisters at Clay Pool, Alstonefield, enlisted on 13 November 1914 in Buxton, joining the Sherwood Foresters. He was in training in Buxton, Luton, Epping and Dunstable.

He joined up with his good friend Leonard Twigge, along with a group of other farm labourers from the Ashbourne-Tissington-Parwich area of the South West Derbyshire Dales. Both men arrived in France on 29th June 1915 with the 11 Reinforcement and were placed with the No. 2 Entrenching Battalion on the 23rd July 1915. Leonard joined the 1/6th Battalion 'in the field' on the 17th August, whilst Alfred joined two months later on 16th October 1915. Here he was under the command of Captain E.M.B. Taylor.

Over the next 6 months, Alfred can be traced as follows:

21/10/15	billeted at La Pugnoy
28/10/15	billeted at Bethune
06/11/15	billeted at La Couture
13/11-14/11	in the trenches at Neuve Chapelle – right sector, right sub-section
17/11-20/11	in the trenches a Neuve Chapelle – left sector
23/11-27/11	in the trenches at Neuve Chapelle – right sector, right sub-section
27/11-30/11	billeted at Yves Chapelle
30/11-03/12	in the trenches at Neuve Chapelle – right sector, right sub-section
04/12/15	billeted at Richeburg
06/12/15	billeted at Robecq
24/12/15	billeted at Boeseghem
26/12/15	billeted at Isbergues
06/01/16	Taken by train to Marseille – the Sherwood Foresters were due to be sent to Egypt to fight, this did not happen so they were posted back to the Western Front
03/02 – 10/02	billeted at Coulouvillers
10/02 – 20/02	billeted at Beaumetz (during this time he may have been working on the construction of the Candas to Acheux railway line)
20/02 – 29/02	billeted at Puchervillers
29/02 – 06/03	billeted at Beauval
06/03 – 09/03	billeted at Ivergny
09/03 – 10/03	billeted at Maizieres
10/03 – 25/03	in the trenches at Mont St Eloi – right sector opposite LaFolie Farm
25/03 – 27/03	billeted at Acq
27/03 – 03/04	in the trenches at Mont St Eloi – right sector
03/04 – 09/04	billeted at Acq
09/04 – 10/04	in the trenches at Mont St Eloi

Alfred's medal card shows that he was awarded the 15 Star, Victory Medal and British War medal, all for campaign services.

(4)

Name	Corps	Regt. No.
BAILEY	Wotts's Dragoon	3562
Alfred		

Medal	Roll	Page	Remarks
VICTORY	2/103. B2.	174	Killed 10/4/16
BRITISH	do.	do.	
15 STAR	F/131	15	

Theatre of War first served in 1. France
 Date of entry therein 28.6.15

K. 1380.

Alfred was killed by a shell explosion on 10 April 1916, by the explosion of a shell. He is buried at Ecoivres Military Cemetery, Mont-St Eloi.



His friend and comrade Leonard Twigge was killed alongside him and they are buried next to each other.

A memorial service for Alfred was held in the Wesleyan Chapel Alstonefield, details of which were reported in the Ashbourne News on 12 May 1916.

ALSTONEFIELD.

Memorial Service.—On Sunday evening a memorial service for the late Private Alfred Bailey was held in the Wesleyan Chapel, Alstonefield. The service was taken by the Rev. J. Pickles (circuit minister), who preached a helpful sermon from the text, "He is not here: but is risen" (St. Luke, 24-6). Suitable hymns were sung by a large congregation, who had gathered together for the service to show their respect for the late Private Bailey and their sympathy with his relatives. At the conclusion of the service the "Dead March" was played by the organist (Miss Annie Riley). Private Alfred Bailey was the youngest son of the late Mr. Jas. Bailey, of New Hanson Grange, and, in company with several other young men, joined the Sherwood Foresters in the autumn of 1914. He was trained at Buxton, and later at Luton, which place he left for France last summer. Since then he has seen active service, and it was while doing his duty in the fighting line, on April 10th, that he was killed by the explosion of a shell. The greatest sympathy is felt with his relatives and friends, to whom the news of his death is a great shock. The sympathy of the village is also extended to Private Frank Lowndes, who on the same occasion was severely injured. It is hoped that Private Lowndes may soon be as fully restored to health as possible.

(5)

He is also remembered on his parent's headstone in Alstonefield churchyard.



(6)



Alfred's three campaign medals, the 1914-15 Star, British War Medal and the ribbon from his Victory medal (location of his medal unknown). The three medals are affectionately known as Pip, Squeak and Wilfred.

Source of information

1. Photograph © Ashbourne News 19 May 1916
2. Census 1891 © Ancestry.co.uk
3. Census 1901 © Ancestry.co.uk
4. Census 1911 © Ancestry.co.uk
5. Medal Record © Ancestry.co.uk
6. Newspaper Extract © Ashbourne News 12 May 1916

If any alteration is required on this page of the Attestation, a Justice of the Peace should be requested to make it and initial the alteration under Section 8 (d), Army Act.

Signature of the Justice
1914
on this 13 day of April
The above-named Man was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act.
The above questions were then read to the Man in my presence.
I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been only entered as replied to, and the said man has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me.

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE OR ATTESTING OFFICER
The above-named Man was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act.
The above questions were then read to the Man in my presence.
I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been only entered as replied to, and the said man has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me.

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY MAN ON ATTESTATION
I, the above-named Man, do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements made.

Signature of Witness
SIGNATURE OF MAN

do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements made.

1. Are you willing to serve in the United Kingdom upon the following conditions:
For a term of one year, unless the embodiment of the Territorial Force lasts longer than one year, in which case you will be retained until the Force is disbanded. If, however, the Force is disbanded before the expiration of one year you may be discharged at once, or at your option be re-engaged in the Force for 1, 2, 3 or 4 years under ordinary peace conditions.

14. Did you receive a Notice, and do you understand its meaning, and who gave it to you?

13. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated?

12. Have you ever been rejected or discharged as unfit for the Military or Naval Forces of the Crown? If so, on what grounds?

11. Have you ever stated the whole of your previous Service and, cause of discharge?

10. Have you ever served in the Royal Navy, the Royal Army, the Royal Air Force, the Special Reserve, the Territorial Force, the Imperial Yeomanry, the Volunteer Force, or any other unit?

9. Do you now belong to the Royal Navy, the Royal Army, the Royal Air Force, the Special Reserve, the Territorial Force, the Imperial Yeomanry, the Volunteer Force, or any other unit?

8. Have you ever been sentenced to imprisonment by the Court?

7. Are you married?

You are hereby warned that if after enlistment it is found that you have given a willfully false answer to any of the following seven questions, you will be liable to a punishment of two years imprisonment with hard labour.

6. Have you ever lived out of your Father's house for three years?

5. What is your Trade or Calling?

4. What is your Age?

3. Are you a British Subject?

2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born?

1. What is your Name?

Questions to be put to the Man before Enlistment.

Name of Man: *John Barker*
Corps: *Cheshire Tunnies*

ATTESTATION OF
(One year's Embodied Service at Home.)
TERRITORIAL FORCE

Original to be sent to the Registrar of the Territorial Force, and to produce, if possible, his Certificate of Discharge, and Certificate of Completion of Training, in the (Date) in red ink, as follows, viz—(Name)

8/27

I hereby acknowledge the receipt of the
Victory Medal
granted in respect of the service of No 2562
Pte. H. Brown
NOTTS. & DERBYSHIRE P.M.T.
Date Sept 1, 1921
Signature F. B. Brown

NOTES & DERBYSHIRE FOOT

174

I hereby acknowledge the receipt of the
British War Medal
granted in respect of the service of 25th
Lt. J. B. ...
Date Recd. 24th 1929
Signature ...

Name.

Corps.

Rank.

Regtl. No.

BAILEY

Hott's Dubuq Co

3562

Alfred.

Medal.

Roll.

Page.

Remarks.

VICTORY

7/103. B2.

174

BRITISH

do.

do

STAR

F/131

25

Kin A 19/4/16

Theatre of War first served in

Date of entry therein

1. France
18.6.15

K. 1380.



In Memory of

Private

J Bennington

14009, 1st Bn., Sherwood Foresters (Notts and Derby Regiment) who died on 11 August 1916

Nephew of Annie Bennington, of Mill Dale, Alstonefield, Ashbourne, Derbyshire.

Remembered with Honour

Etaples Military Cemetery



**Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission**

Private John Bennington

John Bennington was born in 1895 in Milldale. He was baptised in St Peter's church Alstonefield on 4 August 1895, the only child of Alice Bennington. As no father is recorded on the baptism record it is assumed that his father was unknown. He was raised by his grandparents, John and Hannah Bennington.



John Bennington with his grandfather, John Murrell Bennington, 1900 (1)

In 1901, John was living with his widowed grandfather, John Bennington and his Aunt, Annie Bennington.

3	John Bennington	Had	Male	72	Benjamin Bennington	Dr	218	Millfield
	Annie	Dr	Female	32	John Bennington			Widow
	John	Dr	Male	5				Mill Dale

(2)

After his grandfather died in 1901, John went to live with his mother at Woolley Moor, near Alfreton, where she had been occupied as a servant in the census of that year.

In 1911, John had moved back to the Alstonefield area, where he was recorded in the census as a servant on a farm on Wetton. He was living with William and Hannah Highton (his mother's sister)

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.									
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NAME AND SURNAMES	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	AGE Sex Marital Status	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE	PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Person aged ten years and upwards	EDUCATION of every person	PLACE OF BIRTH of every person	NATURALITY of every person born in a Foreign Country	INFLUENCE	
William Highton	Head	44	Married 12	Farmer & Grain	10-11	Staffordshire	English		
Hannah Highton	Wife	47	Married 12	Farmer & Grain	10-11	Staffordshire	English		
John Highton	Son	15	Single	Farmer & Grain	10-11	Staffordshire	English		

(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

Write below the Number of Houses in this Dwelling (House, Warehouse, or Apartment).	Write below the Number of Families in this Dwelling (House, Warehouse, or Apartment).
4	4

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: *William Highton*
 Printed Address: *Wetton, Albion*

(3)

Shortly after the outbreak of the War, John enlisted, in Derby to the 1st Battalion of the Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment) No 14009.

Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
BENNINGTON	Nottingham & Derby	Pte	14009

Medal	Ref.	Page	Remarks
VICTORY	F/103 05	807	
BRITISH	15	809	
Theatre of War first served in (1)			
Date of entry therein		27-12-14	
Date of entry therein		27-12-14	

His medal card confirms that John was awarded the 15 Star, Victory Medal and British War medal, all for campaign services.

(4)

John was involved in the attack on Contalmaison village which started on 8 July 1916. Unfortunately, he was severely wounded and taken to the military hospital in Etaples, but died there of his wounds on 11 August 1916. He is buried at the Etaples Military Cemetery, France.

A memorial service was held at St Peter's church, Alstonefield, which was reported in the Ashbourne News on 15 September 1915.

(5)

Memorial Service.—On Sunday last, a memorial service for the late Private John Bennington was held during the evening service at the parish church, Alstonefield. Portions from the burial service were taken instead of the usual prayers, and the hymns "Peace, perfect peace," "Fight the good fight," and "On the Resurrection morning" were sung. The Rev. A. E. Brown (vicar) conducted the service, and preached a most comforting and helpful sermon. A large congregation assembled to do honour to the memory of the fallen soldier, and joined feelingly in the service. Private John Bennington was a native of Mill Dale, and he enlisted in the Sherwood Foresters amongst the first recruits after the outbreak of war. He was severely wounded early this summer, and succumbed to his injuries at the beginning of August, being in his twenty-first year. The greatest sympathy is felt with his relatives and friends.

In Memoriam.

BENNINGTON—In loving memory of Private John Bennington, of Mill Dale, 1st Notts. and Derby Regiment, who died from wounds August 11th, 1916.

A loved one gone, but not forgotten,
As it dawns another year;
In our lonely hours of thinking
Thoughts of him are always near.
To freedom's cause his life he gave,
And dared the battle, purpose sure;
A hero, write upon his grave:
"He died that England might endure."
—Mill Dale, Alstonefield, Ashbourne.
Sadly missed by his Aunt Annie and Frances.

John was remembered by his family via The Ashbourne News in August 1918, 2 years after his death.

(6)

Source of information

1. Photograph ©natgould.org
2. Census 1901 © Ancestry.co.uk
3. Census 1911 © Ancestry.co.uk
4. Medal Record Card ©Ancestry.co.uk
5. Newspaper extract © Ashbourne News 5 September 1915
6. Newspaper extract © Ashbourne News 14 August 1918

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
<i>BENNINGTON</i>	<i>Notts & Derby</i>	<i>Pte</i>	<i>14009</i>
<i>John</i>			

Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	<i>F/103 B5</i>	<i>807</i>	
BRITISH	<i>— do —</i>		
<i>15</i> STAR	<i>F/11 B2</i>	<i>809</i>	
Theatre of War first served in	<i>(1)</i>		
Date of entry therein	<i>27-12-14</i>		

K. 1380.

Correspondence.

Address.

In Memory of
Private
Thomas Brindley

43314, 2nd Bn., South Lancashire Regiment who died on 10 April 1918 Age 22

Son of William and Hannah Brindley, of Milldale, Alstonfield, Ashbourne, Derbyshire.

Remembered with Honour
Ploegsteert Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Private Thomas Brindley

Thomas Brindley was born in early 1896 in Sheen, Staffordshire. He was the second child and eldest son of William and Hannah (nee Harrison).

His siblings were Elizabeth (born 1894), Maria (born 1898), William Harrison (born 1900), Hannah (born 1902), Jane Ann (born 1905), Hilda (born 1909) and Frank (born 1914).

The first census record for Charles is in 1901, where he was living with his family in Milldale

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

In 1911, at the age of 15, he was working as a cowboy on farm at Broad Close farm Tissington.

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in Ink.

The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of pedigree in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

Number of Schedules 2

(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP TO HEAD OF FAMILY	AGE (Date of Birth and Sex)	PARTICULARS OF MARRIAGE		EDUCATION OR OCCUPATION		BIRTHPLACE OF EACH PARENT	NATURALITY OF EACH PARENT	INFORMANT
			Married	Single	For each Married Woman stated on the preceding Schedule	For each Single Person stated on the preceding Schedule			
William Brindley	Head	44	Married	44	Farmer	100	England	England	100
Hannah Brindley	Wife	46	Married	46	Farmer	100	England	England	100
Elizabeth Brindley	Daughter	18	Single	18	Farmer	100	England	England	100
Thomas Brindley	Son	15	Single	15	Farmer	100	England	England	100
Maria Brindley	Daughter	13	Single	13	Farmer	100	England	England	100
William Harrison	Son	11	Single	11	Farmer	100	England	England	100
Hannah Brindley	Daughter	9	Single	9	Farmer	100	England	England	100
Jane Ann Brindley	Daughter	6	Single	6	Farmer	100	England	England	100
Hilda Brindley	Daughter	2	Single	2	Farmer	100	England	England	100
Frank Brindley	Son	0	Single	0	Farmer	100	England	England	100

(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

Write below the Number of Schedules in this District (House, Town, or Apartment). Count the Schedules as a unit but do not count subsidiary, leading, blank, or other Schedules.

Signature: William Henry Brindley

Printed Address: Broad Close, Tissington, Leicestershire

His medal record confirms that Thomas was awarded the Victory Medal and the British Medal, both of which were awarded for campaign service.

Name.	Rank.	Date.	Depth No.
BRINDLEY	Lan Fus. Gte Lan 4R		24188. 43314.
Thomas			
No. del.	Regd.	Trans.	Remarks.
Vault 87	J103 B81592		
Built 18	" do do		
1874			
Theatre of War. See column			
Date of entry therein			

K. 1380

Thomas was killed in action on 10 April 1918. He is remembered at the Ploegsteert Memorial, Hainaut, Belgium and on the headstone of his sister Elizabeth in the church yard in Alstonefield



(4)

Source of information:

1. Census 1901 © Ancestry.co.uk
2. Census 1911 © Ancestry.co.uk
3. Medal Record Card ©Ancestry.co.uk
4. Headstone © Alstonefield PCC

Private Thomas Brindley



In Memory of

Lieutenant

Ernest Edward Brown

1st Bn., Wiltshire Regiment who died on 08 May 1916 Age 22

Son of the Rev. Albert Edward and Lucy Jane Brown, of The Vicarage, Alstonfield, Ashbourne. Born at Longnor, Buxton.

Remembered with Honour

Ecoivres Military Cemetery, Mont-St. Eloi



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Lieutenant Ernest Edward Brown

Ernest Brown was born in early 1894 in Longnor Staffordshire. He was the fourth of seven children of Rev Albert Edward Brown and Lucy Jane Brown (nee Newman). At the time of his birth, his father was the vicar in Longnor and Ernest was baptised there on 18 February 1894.

His siblings were Albert Northall (born 1890), Wilfred (born 1893), Winifred (born 1893), Elsie Marshall (born 1896), Victoria Maud (born 1898) and Newland Roberts (born 1900)

The first census record for Ernest is in 1901, where he was living in The Vicarage, Longnor

8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
ROAD, STREET, No. and No. of STAIRS or HOUSES	HOUSEHOLD			NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	Age last Birthday	PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION	Employer, Worker, or Own account	If Working at Home	WHERE BORN
	Uninhabited	Inhabited	Married							
The Vicarage	1			Albert Edward Brown	Head	41	Curate (Church of England)			Staffordshire, Longnor
				Lucy Jane	Wife	36				Staffordshire, Longnor
				Albert Northall	Son	11	Scholar			Staffordshire, Longnor
				Wilfred	Son	8				Staffordshire, Longnor
				Winifred	Daughter	8				Staffordshire, Longnor
				Ernest Edward	Son	7				Staffordshire, Longnor
				Elsie Marshall	Daughter	5				Staffordshire, Longnor
				Victoria Maud	Daughter	3				Staffordshire, Longnor
				Newland Roberts	Son	7m				Staffordshire, Longnor
				Harold Robinson	Servant	25	General (General in Charge)			Staffordshire, Longnor
				Harold Robinson	Servant	16	General (General in Charge)			Staffordshire, Longnor
				Elizabeth Robinson	Servant	65	General (General in Charge)			Staffordshire, Longnor

(1)

By the time of the census in 1911, the family have moved to Stretton vicarage, near Stafford, where Rev Brown was the vicar and Ernest was recorded as a scholar.

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Instructions and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in Ink.

The contents of this Schedule will be treated as confidential. Great care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, or in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

NAME AND SEX		RELATIONSHIP TO HEAD OF FAMILY	AGE	DATE OF BIRTH	DATE OF DEATH	DATE OF MARRIAGE	EDUCATION	PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION	INDUSTRIES	REMARKS
1	Mr. Ernest Brown	Head	50	1861				Curate (Stretton Vicarage)		
2	Miss Jane Brown	Wife	48	1863						
3	Miss Edith Brown	Son	18	1893						
4	Miss Edith Brown	Son	15	1896						
5	Miss Edith Brown	Son	12	1899						
6	Miss Edith Brown	Son	10	1901						
7	Miss Edith Brown	Son	8	1903						
8	Miss Edith Brown	Son	7	1904						
9	Miss Edith Brown	Son	6	1905						
10	Miss Edith Brown	Son	5	1906						
11	Miss Edith Brown	Son	4	1907						
12	Miss Edith Brown	Son	3	1908						
13	Miss Edith Brown	Son	2	1909						
14	Miss Edith Brown	Son	1	1910						
15	Miss Edith Brown	Son	0	1911						

(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

(To be filled up by the Head of Family or other person in charge, or in charge of this dwelling)

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: *A. E. Brown* Date: *23.6.11*

(2)

Ernest initialled enlisted to the Army Service Corps as a Lieutenant and subsequently transferred to 1st battalion Duke of Edinburgh's (Wiltshire Regiment). His first theatre of war was in France on 23 June 1915.

He was awarded the Victory Medal, British Medal and 1915 Star Medal, the latter whilst he was serving in the ACS.

Name	Rank	Regtl. No.
BROWN	A.S.C. *Lieut	
Ernest E. Brown	*Lieut	
WILTSHIRE. 15th BATT. A.S.C. 11/11/14. 145 15th BATT. A.S.C. 11/11/14. 145 15th BATT. A.S.C. 11/11/14. 145		
France 23.6.15 22/57		

R. 1380

(3)

Ernest was killed in action on 8 May 1916 in France and Flanders. He is buried at Ecoivres Military Cemetery, Mont-St Eloi, France.

Probate was granted on his estate on 03/02/1917, appointing his father as the executor. Ernest left an estate worth £265 2s 4d.

Probate Register

BROWN Ernest Edward of Alstonfield near Ashbourne
Staffordshire lieutenant 1st battalion Wiltshire regiment
died 9 May 1916 in France on active service Administra-
tion **London** 3 February to the reverend Albert Edward
Brown clerk. Effects £265 2s. 4d.

(4)

Sadly, less than 2 months after his own death, Ernest's older brother, Wilfred, was killed on 3 July 1916 and is remembered at Thiepval Memorial, France.

Source of information

1. Census 1901 © Ancestry.co.uk
2. Census 1911 © Ancestry.co.uk
3. Medal Record Card ©Ancestry.co.uk
4. Probate Register©Ancestry.co.uk

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
BROWN.	A.S.C.	X Lieut	
	<i>transf'd to</i> Wilts R.	* Lieut	
Ernest Edward.			

Medal.	Ref.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORIA * WILTS R.	Off. 113/	74.	} I.V.X/9694-19/22 NW/5/22957.
BRITISH 15 STAR * A.S.C.	Off. 111	145.	
Theatre of War first served in	France		
Date of entry therein	23.6.15		

13.3.22.

NW/5/22957. K. 1380

*Det 8.5.16.
Kin A/*

Correspondence

Address

Rev. A. E. Brown (Father)
The vicarage
Alstonfield
Ashbourne

In Memory of
Corporal
Wilfred Brown

10835, 8th Bn., Gloucestershire Regiment who died on 03 July 1916

Remembered with Honour
Thiepval Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Corporal Wilfred Brown

Wilfred Brown was born in early 1892 in Longnor, Staffordshire. He had a twin sister, Winifred and they were the second and third of seven children of Rev Albert Edward Brown and Lucy Jane Brown (nee Newman). At the time of his birth, his father was the vicar in Longnor and Wilfred was baptised there on 18 December 1892.

His siblings were Albert Northall (born 1890), Winifred (born 1893), Ernest Edward (born 1894), Elsie Marshall (born 1896), Victoria Maud (born 1898) and Newland Roberts (born 1900)

The first census record for Wilfred is in 1901, where he is living in The Vicarage, Longnor

Administrative County of Stafford The undermentioned Houses are situate within the boundaries of the

Civil Parish of Longnor Parliamentary Borough of Longnor

County of Stafford Urban Sanitary District of Longnor Ward of Longnor Rural District of Longnor

Page 1

House No.	ROAD, STREET, ALLEY, OR NO. OF HOUSE	NAME AND BIRTHDAY OF EACH PERSON	RELATION TO HEAD OF FAMILY	Age last Birthday	PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION	Employer, or Own account	Working in House	WHEEL BOOM	(1) Deaf and Dumb (2) Blind (3) Idiots (4) Lunatics (5) Paupers
1	The Vicarage	Albert Edward Brown	Head	10	Curate (Church of England)			Staffordshire Handloom	
		Lucy Jane	Wife	36				Doat. Stockings	
		Albert Northall	Son	11	Scholar			London. Cattleman	
		Winifred	Daughter	9				Staffordshire Handloom	
		Ernest Edward	Son	7				Doat. Stockings	
		Elsie Marshall	Daughter	5				Doat. Stockings	
		Victoria Maud	Daughter	3				Doat. Stockings	
		Newland Roberts	Son	1				Doat. Stockings	
		Robert Robinson	Servant	25	General Domestic			Staffordshire Handloom	
		Henry Robinson	Servant	16	General Domestic			Staffordshire Handloom	

(1)

By the time of the census in 1911, the family have moved to Stretton vicarage, near Stafford, where Rev Brown is the vicar. Wilfred is recorded as an Architect's pupil.

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Before writing on the Schedule please read the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in ink.

The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Do not give any information to individuals or groups. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as an indication of the age of persons, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

NAME AND BIRTHDAY	RELATION TO HEAD OF FAMILY	AGE	SEX	PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION	REMARKS	NATIONALITY	EDUCATION	RELIGION
1. Albert Edward Brown	Head	19	Male	Curate (Church of England)		English		
2. Lucy Jane Brown	Wife	36	Female			English		
3. Albert Northall	Son	18	Male	Scholar		English		
4. Winifred	Daughter	18	Female			English		
5. Ernest Edward Brown	Son	17	Male			English		
6. Elsie Marshall	Daughter	15	Female			English		
7. Victoria Maud	Daughter	13	Female			English		
8. Newland Roberts	Son	19	Male			English		
9. Robert Robinson	Servant	27	Male	General Domestic		English		
10. Henry Robinson	Servant	17	Male	General Domestic		English		

(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

(To be filled up by the Head of Family or other person in possession of the house)

I declare that the above is a true and correct statement of the persons residing in the house on the 2nd day of March 1911.

Signature: Albert Edward Brown

Printed Name: Albert Edward Brown

Wilfred enlisted to the 8th Service Battalion, Gloucester Regiment. His first theatre of war was in the Balkans on 19 June 1915.

He was awarded the Victory Medal, British Medal and 1915 Star Medal, all for campaign services.

Name	Rank	Regt. No.
5824 V Wilfred	Glouce R ² Cpl	1835

Medal	Ref	Date	Remarks
Victory	XX 2/10/1916	1916	R. 100
British	do	1916	
1915 Star	do	1916	

Theatre of War first served in	Date of entry therein
Balkans	19-6

K 1380.

(3)



Wilfred was killed in action on 3 July 1916 in France and Flanders.

He is remembered on the Thiepval Memorial, to the Missing of the Somme.

Sadly, less than 2 months before his own death, Wilfred's younger brother, Ernest, was killed on 8 May 1916 and is buried in Ecoivres Military Cemetery, France.

Source of information

1. Census 1901 © Ancestry.co.uk
2. Census 1911 © Ancestry.co.uk
3. Medal Record Card ©Ancestry.co.uk

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
BROWN	Glouce R	L bpl	10835
Wilfred	---	Cpl	---

Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	xx L/101 B4	671	K in A.
BRITISH	-do-	-do.	
15 STAR	L/2 B 83		
Theatre of War first served in	(2) Balkans		
Date of entry therein	19-6-15		

K. 1380.

Correspondence.

Address.

Thiepval Memorial



CORPORAL
ALDEN T.
BERRY A. E.
BROWN R. P.
BROWN W.
BURDEN J. R.
BURNELL J. C.



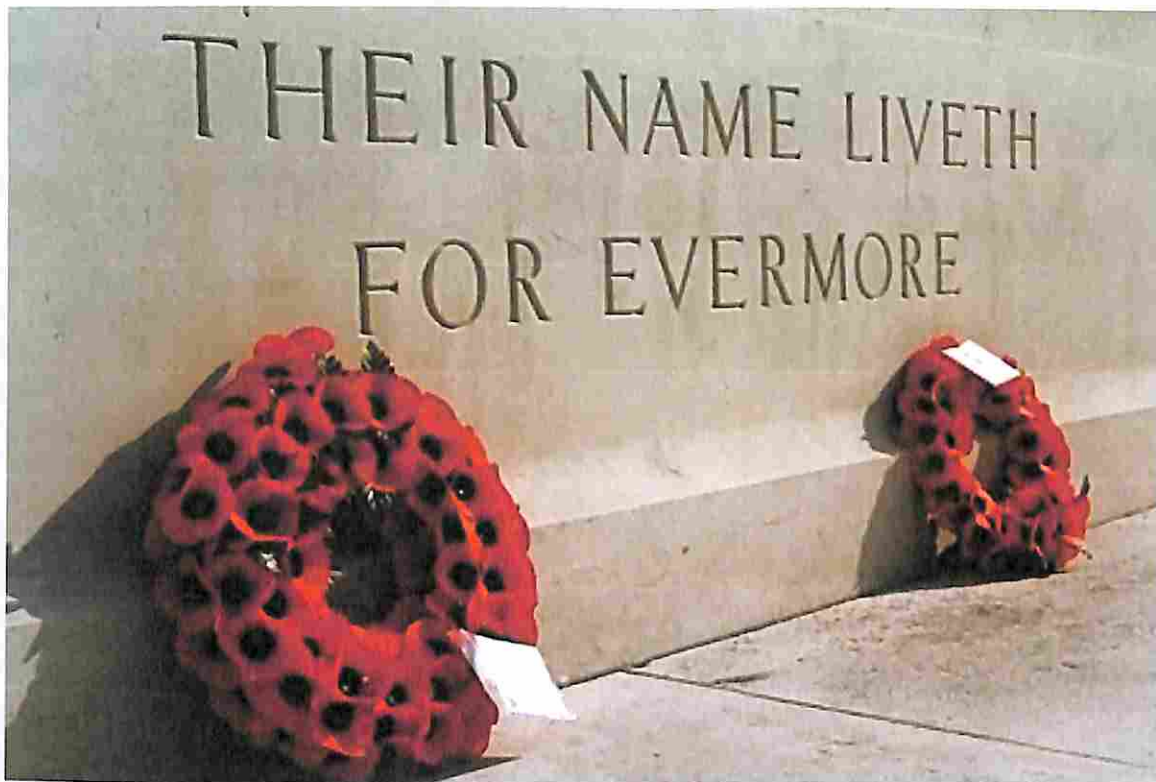
In Memory of
Sergeant Pilot

Frederic Ralph Percival Burgess

1162683, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve who died on 21 March 1941 Age 21

Son of Percy Alfred and Marguerite Helen Burgess, of Alstonfield.

Remembered with Honour
Alstonefield (St. Peter) Churchyard



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Sergeant Pilot Frederic Ralph Percival Burgess

Frederic Burgess was born in Derby on 14 March 1920, the son of Percy Alfred Burgess and Marguerite Burgess. He was known as Val to both family and friends.

Percy (1886–1961) and Marguerite (1888–1996) were married on 26 December 1911 in St Anne's Chapel, Derby. They had twins born 1917, John A C and Marguerite F M, who both sadly died in infancy. They had another son, Christopher B, born in 1924.



(1)

He was a pupil at Bemrose School Derby, an all boys grammar school, from 1931 to 1934. He then attended Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School Ashbourne, 1934 to 1939, before studying at Birmingham University.

Frederic joined the RAF in July 1940 and obtained his 'wings' at the beginning of March 1941.

On 21st March 1941, Frederic took part in a navigation flight in an Avro Anson aircraft, registration K6248. Piloted by Flying Officer Eric Walwyn Padfield, the plane took off from the No2 School of Air Navigation, RAF Cranage in Cheshire. While undertaking a practice landing at Hawkswood Copse, Hawkswood Farm, Rednal near Oswestry, the aircraft's tail struck an oak tree and crashed into a wood killing all on board. There was an inquest into the crash which concluded

that the pilot had failed to open the throttle in time following a practiced forced landing and that he was not authorised to undertake such a manoeuvre. The report concluded that the undercarriage had been deployed and that it was not known why the pilot was apparently attempting to land.

Frederic is buried in Alstonefield Churchyard. His coffin, which was covered with a Union Jack sent from his old school, bore the inscription "Sergt Frederic R P Burgess, died 21st March 1941, aged 21 years".

A full report of his funeral was reported in The Ashbourne News on 3rd April 1941.



(2)

SERGT. PILOT "VAL" BURGESS

FUNERAL SERVICE AT WETTON

The funeral of Sergt.-Pilot Frederic Percival ("Val") Burgess, son of Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Burgess, of Wetton Vicarage, took place last Thursday. He was killed in a flying accident on the previous Friday. Educated at Ashbourne Grammar School and Birmingham University, he joined the R.A.F. last July and obtained his "wings" at the beginning of March.

The funeral service was held in Wetton Church and interment took place in Alstonefield Churchyard. The Rev. S. Beresford, R.D. (Vicar of Alstonefield) officiated, assisted by the Rev. G. E. Raven (Vicar of Osmaston-with-Edlaston).

The family mourners were Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Burgess (parents), Mr. Christopher Burgess (brother), Mr. F. Burgess (Stockport), Miss Burrows (Derby), Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Burrows, Mr. and Mrs. Newbold and Mr. H. C. Burrows (Derby). The large congregation included Mrs. G. E. Raven, Miss Brown, Mrs. Broad, Mrs. Holmes, John Holmes, Peter Holmes, Mrs. Cundy (Wyaston), Mrs. Knaggs, Mrs. Frost, Mr. and Mrs. H. Coward (Ashbourne), Mrs. H. Briddon (Ashbourne), Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Bonsall, and boys from Ashbourne Grammar School.

The coffin, which was covered with a Union Jack sent from his old school, bore the inscription: "Sergt. Frederic R. P. Burgess, died 21st March, 1941, aged 21 years."

The bearers were: Messrs. G. Bonsall, S. Bonsall, A. Mee, J. Stubbs, R. Taylor, and J. Tindall.

In addition to flowers from the relatives, wreaths were sent by Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School; W.V.S., Wetton; Wetton schoolchildren; Osmaston schoolchildren; Edlaston schoolchildren; Parochial Council and members of St. James's Church, Edlaston; Officers and N.C.O.s No. 20 B Course, No. 2 School of Air Navigation; Commanding Officer and Officers and Sergeants' Mess of the late Sergt.-Pilot Burgess's R.A.F. station.

Funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr. R. Riley, Ashbourne.

(3)

In addition to his grave in Alstonefield, he is remembered in St James's church Edlaston, Derbyshire (below), Bemrose School and Queen Elizabeth Grammar School.



(4)

Frederic's brother, Christopher, made and donated the altar table that stands in St Peter's church, Alstonefield. It is inscribed – 'C B BURGESS (Derby) 1957'

Sources of Information

1. Photograph – Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Ashbourne
2. Photograph – Alstonefield PCC
3. Newspaper Extract © Ashbourne News 3 April 1941
4. Photograph – St James's church, Edlaston



The King's School Canterbury

Roll of Honour

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Pilot Officer James Frederick MINETT (62330)

No 2 School of Air Navigation Royal Air Force

Date of birth: **20th of January 1915**

Date of death: **21st of March 1941**

Killed on active service aged 26

Buried at Hackington (St Stephen's) Churchyard, Canterbury



He was born in London on the 20th of January 1915, the son of Frederick Harold Minett, civil servant, of Ashton House, London Road, Slough.

He was educated at Junior King's from May 1925 and at the King's School Canterbury from January 1929 to July 1931, where he was in The Grange and later a dayboy. He gained a Junior Scholarship in 1929 and a Senior Scholarship in June 1930.

After school he went temporarily to a Polytechnic before going on to the London School of Economics.

Prior to the outbreak of war he was editor of the trade paper (Store).

On the 9th of March 1941 he received a commission as a Pilot Officer (Probationary) in the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

On 21st of March he took part in a navigation flight in an Avro Anson aircraft registration K6248 taking off from Cranage in Shropshire. While undertaking a practice landing at a Hawkswood Farm at Rednal near Oswestry the aircraft's tail struck an oak tree and crashed into a wood killing all on board. There was an inquest into the crash which concluded that the pilot had failed to open the throttle in time following a practiced forced landing and that he was not authorised to undertake such a manoeuvre. The report concluded that the undercarriage had been deployed and that it was not known why the pilot was apparently attempting to land.

The crew were:-

Flying Officer Eric Walwyn Padfield (Pilot)

Pilot Officer James Frederick Minett (Pilot)

Sergeant Frederick Ralph Percival Burgess (Pilot)

Sergeant Wilfred Hewish (Wireless Operator)

Sergeant Peter Rowland Hill (Under Training)

The Grange

[Back](#)

Sergeant Frederic Ralph Percival Burgess



In Memory of

Private

Charles Featherstone

27554, 2nd Bn., Sherwood Foresters (Notts and Derby Regiment) who died on 26 April 1918 Age 30

Son of Hannah Featherstone; husband of Mary Grace Featherstone, of Mill Dale, Alstonfield, Ashbourne, Derbyshire. Born Biggin, Derbyshire.

Remembered with Honour

Brandhoek New Military Cemetery No.3



**Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission**

Private Charles Featherstone

Charles Featherstone was born in early 1888 in Biggin, near Hartington. He was the eldest child of Hannah Featherstone, although there is no record of his father on either his baptism or marriage record.



He had a younger sister, Clara (born 1889) and brother, Frank (born 1895)

The first census record for Charles is in 1891, where he was living with his maternal grandparents, Thomas and Mary Featherstone, in Heathcote near Hartington. There is no census record for his mother, whilst his sister was at the home of Joseph and Harriet Webster in Hartington.

Thomas Featherstone	Head	Male	52	General Labourer		X		Do do
Mary Do	Wife	Female	50					Stafford, Shrewsbury
Thomas Do	Son	Male	10	Scholar				Do do
Clara Do	Daughter	Female	3					Do do

(1)

In 1901, at the age of just 12, he is a cattleman at Dam Side, Peak Forest in North Derbyshire. His mother is living in Heathcote, near Hartington, with his younger siblings.

Elizabeth Haggard	Head	Female	70	Do do				Do do
John Do	Son	Male	38	Do do				Do do
Ruth Baldwin	Daughter	Female	11	Do do				Do do
Elizabeth Do	Daughter	Female	10	Do do				Do do
Thomas Packer	Son	Male	20	Do do				Do do
William Packer	Son	Male	12	Do do				Do do

(2)

On 27 May 1907 Charles married Mary Grace Harrison (known as Polly) in Alstonefield. Mary was born in Alstonefield in 1878.

[illegible]

With the outbreak of war the following year, Charles was enlisted to 2nd Btn. Sherwood Foresters (Notts & Derby Regiment) 27554. Records have not been located to ascertain exactly when or where he enlisted or where he served.

He was awarded the Victory medal and British War medal, both for campaign services.

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regt. No.
	Notts + Derby R	Pte	27554
FEATHERSTONE			
Charles			

Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	F/103811	1967	
BURIAL	—	16	
SAR			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

K. 1980

(4)

Charles was killed in action on 26 April 1918 in France and Flanders. He is buried at Brandhoek New Military Cemetery No 3, Belgium.



(5)

An announcement of his death was recorded in the Ashbourne News on 14 June 1918



After Charles' death, Polly lived in Milldale, in the cottage that is now known as Polly's Cottage, until her death in 1953. Their son, after initially attending Alstonefield School was later sent to a special school and only returned home for a holiday once a year. Charlie died in 1990 in Walsall.

Source of information

1. Census 1891 © Ancestry.co.uk
2. Census 1901 © Ancestry.co.uk
3. Census 1911 © Ancestry.co.uk
4. Medal Record Card ©Ancestry.co.uk
5. Headstone © twgpp.org
6. Newspaper extract © Ashbourne News 14 June 1918

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regt. No.
FEATHERSTONE charles	Notts & Derby R	Pte	27554

Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	F/103 B 11	1967	
BRITISH	—	do	
STAR			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

K. 1380

Correspondence.

Address.

In Memory of
Lance Corporal
Sydney Gilman

M M

240594, 2nd/6th Bn., Sherwood Foresters (Notts and Derby Regiment) who died on 21 March 1918 Age 22

Son of John and Harriet Gilman, of The Raikes, Alstonfield, Ashbourne, Staffs.

Remembered with Honour
Arras Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Lance Corporal Sydney Joseph Gilman MM



(1)

Sydney Joseph Gilman was born at the end of 1895 in Wetton, Staffordshire. He was the second son and fifth child of John and Harriet (nee Buckley) Gilman.

Sydney's siblings were also born in Wetton and were Jane Ann (born 1887), John (born 1889), Ellen Elizabeth (born 1892), Lydia Alice (born 1894), Edith Elsie (born 1898), Ada Mary (born 1899), Victor Charles (born 1901), Fred George (born 1903), Albert Leslie (born 1906) and Harold (born 1911).

John T. Gilman	Head	16	39	1	General	Wester	do	Wester
Harriet	Wife	14	36	1			do	Wester
James W.	Daughter	5	14	1			do	Wester
John W.	Son	5	12	1			do	do
Ellen Ely	Daughter		4	1			do	do
Lytton S.	Daughter		7	1			do	do
Sydney S.	Son	5		1			do	do
Edith E.	Daughter		3	1			do	do
Ada M.	Daughter		1	1			do	do

Moving forward 10 years to 1911, and the census describes Sydney, now aged 15, as 'Boy working on farm'. He was working for Thomas White at Castern Hall Farm, near Ilam, Staffordshire.

(3)

Sydney enlisted into the 2nd/6th Battalion Sherwood Foresters (Notts and Derby Regiment). Although the date of his enlistment is unknown, in line with the brief history of the Battalion below, it was probably between November 1914 and February 1915

This Battalion was formed at Chesterfield on 14 September 1914. On 2 November 1914 they moved to Buxton, Derbyshire where they took over the Empire Hotel. On 3 February 1915 they moved to Luton and joined the 178th brigade of the 59th division. In June 1915 they moved to Dunstable and on 9 August 1915 to Watford. In April 1916 they moved to Dublin taking part in the suppression of the Irish Rebellion. In July 1916 they were at the Curragh and in January 1917 returned to Fovant on Salisbury Plain. They landed at Boulogne, France, on 26 February 1917. They were reduced to cadre strength on Lines of Communication on 7 May 1918 and finally disbanded on 31 July 1918.

Sydney was awarded the Military Medal on 31 March 1917. His citation reads;

For gallantry and devotion to duty during operations at Jeancourt on 31st March 1917, when the battalion successfully attacked and captured both the villages of Vendelles and Jeancourt.

In addition he was awarded the British War medal and the Victory medal, for campaign services.

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regt. No.
GILMAN.	Notts & Derby R.	Pte.	240594.
Sydney.			

Medal.	Ref.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	F/103. B. 29	5817.	
BRITISH			
STAR			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

K. 1580

Sydney was killed in action during the German attack on the lines at Mory l'Abbaye, France on 21 March 1918. He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Arras Memorial, France.

The following extracts describe the German attack of 21st March 1918, which was the first German Drive of the Somme Offensive in 1918

The Battalion War Diary for that day states;

‘Very heavy enemy barrage on front line from 5.00am to 9.30am. Enemy attacked at 9.30am. Battalion suffered very heavy casualties.’

A further narrative, written by Lt Col H S Hodgkin (4th Dragoon Guards), commanding 2/6th Sherwood Foresters reads;

‘The enemy after this by bombing eventually captured the trenches on the embankment up to the Regimental Aid posts. He had also penetrated on my left. After collecting signallers, runners and servants, Battalion headquarters fought (with practically no cover from the rear) until all the ammunition was spent, and most of the officers and men were casualties. It was not until we were entirely surrounded that that part of the railway Embankment near Battalion Headquarters was taken by the enemy.

I am proud to state that all the ranks fought splendidly, and it is difficult, where all did so well to single out any individuals for special praise.’

These two narratives give an indication of the battle that Sydney was involved in and resulted in his death.

Source of information

1. Photograph © Sherwood Foresters Museum
2. Census 1901 © Ancestry.co.uk
3. Census 1911 © Ancestry.co.uk
4. Medal record © Ancestry.co.uk

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
GILMAN.	Watts & Desley. R.	Pte.	240594.
Sydney.			

Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	F/103. B. 29	5817.	
BRITISH	— 11 —	— 11 —	
STAR			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

K. 1380

Correspondence

Address

AN EXTRACT FROM THE 2/6th BATTALION WAR DIARY COVERING MARCH 1917

PONT DE METZ

1st 9.30 a.m. Battalion marches via AMIENS to GLISY. Night spent in billets.

GLISY

2nd 8.30 a.m. Battalion marches via VILLERS-BRETONNEAUX to WARFUSEE - ABANCOURT

WARFUSEE

2/9th Battalion in billets.

9th 12.30 p.m. Battalion marched to FOUCAUCOURT

FOUCAUCOURT

9/15th Battalion in billets

15th 4 Platoons attached for instruction to 5th Battalion Leicester Regt.

16th 7.15 p.m. Battalion marches to BERNY, N.32.d.8.2. (map sheet 62c S.W.) and is attached to 176 Inf Brigade and takes up position in Reserve line.

BERNY

16/19th In Reserve line at BERNY

19th 9 a.m. Battalion marches to CIZANCOURT via MAZANCOURT and MISERY. 3 p.m. Two Companies cross River SOMME and take up positions in NOTRE DAME Trench (Map sheet 62c S.W. U.16.c.4.9. to U.16.a.3.9. and Sauterelle Alley U.15.d.2.3. to U.16.c.4.9.

CIZANCOURT

20th 6 p.m. One Company moves to Outpost position in FOURQUES as support to Cavalry.

22nd 9 a.m. Outpost Coy withdrawn. Battalion marches via VILLERS - CARBONNEL to P.C. NANCY on ESTREES - VILLERS - CARBONNRL ROAD.

P.C. NANCY

26th 1 p.m. Battalion marches to BRIE and occupies bridgehead defences. Battalion H.Q. at O.28.c.9.5.2.5. (Map sheet 62c S.W.)
BRIE

27th 2 p.m. Battalion marches to VRAIGNES. Battalion H.Q. at Q.19.b.7.3.5. (Map sheet 62c S.E.)

VRAIGNES

28th 7 p.m. Two Coys take up Outpost position and dig in on line covering Q.4.a.6.1. - K.33.d.5.1. - Q.22.b.9.9.

29th 7 p.m. Two Coys out digging support trenches on line to Posts at Q.22.b.9.9. and Q.17.c.4.5.

31st 2.30 a.m. Battalion left for BERNES and occupied quarry Q.4.a.4.2.

BERNES

2 p.m. Battalion launched attack from ridge Q.4. Central and attacked in waves, came under heavy hostile shell fire but carried village of VENDELLES successfully. Line pushed forward and captured JEANCOURT, 10 prisoners captured. Battalion then took up position from R.1.D.85 to R.1.D.25

H.S. HIDGKIN Lt Col
Comdg 2/6 Sherwood Foresters

AN EXTRACT FROM THE 2/6th BATTALION WAR DIARY COVERING MARCH 1918

U.25.b.3.4.

Fighting Strength Officers 53, Other Ranks 883

1st

Battalion constructing Reserve accommodation at U.25.b.3.4.

2nd

Battalion relieved by 23rd Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, and marched to NORTH CAMP< MORY, B.21.b.8.7. (Sheet 57c)

NOTH CAMP MORY B.21.b.8.7.

2/10th

Battalion on Working Parties on Reserve Line NOREUIL C.9.b. (Sheet 57c)

U.14

11/20th

Battalion occupied front line in U.14. (Sheet 57c)

21st

Very heavy enemy barrage on front line from 1 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. Enemy attacked at 9.30 a.m. Battalion suffered very heavy casualties.

AYETTE

22/23

Remainder of Battalion withdrawn to AYETTE F.6.c.3.3. (Sheet 57d)

SENLIS

24th

Battalion proceeded by March route to SENLIS V.10.d.8.4. (Sheet 57d)

ESBLER

25th

Battalion proceeded by March route to ESBLE, Nr BEAUCOURT

FIEFFES

26th Battalion proceeded by March route to FIEFFES Nr CANDAS

CAMBLIGNEUL

28th

Battalion entrained at CANDAS and detrained at LAPUGNOY. D.21.a.9.9. (Sheet 36B) from this point proceeded by bus to CAMBLIGNEUL W.14.d.2.4. (Sheet 36B)

30th

2p.m. H.M. The King visited CAMBLIGNEUL. Inspection of Battalion by G.O.C. 59th Division. Fighting Strength 30 Officers 627 Other Ranks.

K.J. BUNTING Capt and Adjt
for Lt Col Comdg 2/6 Sherwood Foresters

Narrative of the German attack against the 2/6th Battalion Sherwood Foresters
on 21st March 1918.

The Battalion went into the line on the 9th March. From the first all ranks were acquainted with the fact that the Germans contemplated an offensive and that the Battalion front was certain to be attacked if they carried it out, consequently everything possible was done to make the sector strong in defence. I state this to show that there was no question of surprise.

The 7th Battalion Sherwood Foresters, the right Battalion of the Division, linked up with the left Battalion of the 6th Division, and the 2/6th Sherwood Foresters continued the Line northwards, joining the right Battalion of the 176th Brigade just South of BULLECOURT Village.

The Battalion was organised in depth: two Companies in front of the RAILWAY RESERVE - holding advanced posts and the Support line: two Companies and Battalion Headquarters in RAILWAY RESERVE.

During the night 20/21st March my patrols were very vigilant, but they failed to notice anything unusual in No Man's Land. (After my Capture, a German told me that the attacking troops were lying out in front of the trenches, having taken up their positions earlier in the night.

At 5a.m. the enemy opened a terrific bombardment with guns of all calibers on to RAILWAY RESERVE, and the same time commenced shelling the posts in front of that line with trench mortars. The bombardment was continuous until 9a.m. - except for a slight lull at 7a.m. During the lull I was able to get touch with my posts. I found that the Battalion had had few casualties and the situation was well in hand. I informed the Brigade of the state of affairs. The Bombardment commenced more intensely than ever and continued until 9 a.m. Simultaneously with the Artillery lifting, the enemy infantry came forward. This attack was easily stopped, and the enemy was driven back to his own trenches.

For some time things were very quiet and I was able to make reconnaissance, and I found the situation at 9.45a.m. as follows:.. three of my front posts were holding out; the supports on the left formed a protective flank from TANK AVENUE, but the supporting posts in the rear of the right company had apparently been knocked out by trench mortars fired from the apex. A considerable force of infantry was advancing in that direction and they appeared to have taken all the posts of the Battalion on my right. About this time a number of stragglers from the 7th Battalion came to my Headquarters; these I collected and placed in my trenches. They informed that the Germans had already taken their own Battalion Headquarters, and that their Battalion was "Done in". I was then isolated from the rear, and the enemy was working round my right. I reinforced my right, and as the men went along I explained the situation and told them to do their duty and hold on to the RAILWAY RESERVE at all costs as we were certain to be relieved when our counter-attack made itself felt. At 10a.m. my left company in RAILWAY RESERVE reported that the enemy was attacking in strong force from the direction of TANK AVENUE. I was able to reinforce this part of the line, where some extremely bitter fighting took place at close quarters. I was not able to communicate with this company after this, but we could see them holding on and fighting with bombs for some time. At 10.30a.m. a force of the enemy moved round my flank and occupied SIDNEY AVENUE, the whole of the RAILWAY EMBANKMENT was at this time infiltrated from the South by trench mortars and machine guns. I was suffering very heavy losses and it was not possible to collect men to make a bayonet charge which I had ordered to be made.

H.S. HODGKIN Lt Col.
Comdg 2/6 Sherwood Foresters.

Narrative of the German Attack against the 2/6th Battalion Sherwood Foresters
on 21st March 1918

The enemy, after this by bombing, eventually captured the trenches on the embankment up to the Regimental Aid Posts. He had also penetrated on my left. After collecting signallers runners and servants, Battalion Headquarters fought (with practically no cover from the rear) until the ammunition was spent, and most of the officers and men were casualties. It was not until we were entirely surrounded that that part of the RAILWAY EMBANKMENT near Battalion Headquarters was taken by the enemy.

I am proud to state that all ranks fought splendidly, and it is difficult, where all did so well, to single out any individuals for special praise, but I should like to bring to your notice the names of the following Officers and NCO's.

Captain S.A. Rogers who commanded the left company in Railway reserve, was killed after refusing to surrender. He led his Company with great ability, and his personal example was magnificent.

Major A.C. Clarke, although wounded, worked a Lewis gun with much effect and on one occasion used it against a party of enemy who were forming up for attack and inflicted many casualties upon them. He did splendidly all through.

Sec Lieut S.M. Johnson, (being badly wounded), collected reports throughout the action, and his utter disregard of danger kept up the moral of the men. His work was of great importance and he kept going until he became unconscious.

Sec Lieut D. St. Leger, (R.F.A.) died of wounds the following day. This officer, after the lines of his Battery had gone, used a rifle until he was so badly wounded that he was unable to stand. St Leger was several times wounded, and even when his jaw had been shattered, remained cheerful. He was a real hero.

Sec Lieut H. Hickman A/Adjutant, did well throughout the action and his work collecting stragglers was of great value. He personally destroyed all the correspondence and telephone apparatus, so that nothing of importance fell into the hands of the enemy.

Sergt Major Holroyd set a fine example to us all. He voluntarily took up the task of organising ammunition for the last stand, and regardless of personal danger kept up a supply of bandoliers. This NCO's devotion to duty was magnificent.

Sergts Parson and Mitchell, were both killed in the discharge of duties for which they had specially volunteered.

H.S. HODGKIN Lt Col (4th (Dragoon Gds)
Comdg 2/6th Sherwood Foresters

In Memory of

Private

Ernest Harrison

8247, 2nd Bn., Royal Irish Regiment who died on 21 March 1918

Remembered with Honour

Pozieres Memorial



**Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission**

Private Ernest Harrison

Ernest Harrison, the son of Thomas Cope Harrison and Mary Ann Chadwick was born about the end of 1895 in Thorpe, near Ashbourne. His father, Thomas (1869-1946) married Mary Ann Chadwick (1866-1895) on 7 February 1893.

Ernest had 2 older siblings from this marriage: Percy (possible registered as William born 1893) and Hannah (born 1894). Sadly his mother died at the end of 1895 and as Ernest's birth does not appear to have been registered, this may have coincided with his mother's death in child birth. This is not confirmed, but the dates do link this possibility.

Following Mary's death, John went on to marry Emma Chadwick (1871-1927) at the end of 1896. They had 11 children, all half siblings to Ernest; Thomas (born 1897), Arthur (born 1898), Harry (born 1900), Alice (born 1902), Emma (born 1903), George (born 1905), Edith (born 1907), Frank (born 1909), Ada (born 1909), Walter (born 1910) and Fred (born 1910)

Census records for 1901, finds the family living in Thorpe, with John recorded as a general labourer.

Administrative County <i>Derby</i>				The undermentioned Houses are situate within the boundaries of the <i>Division of Thorpe</i>												Page 6
Civil Parish		Ecclesiastical Parish		County Borough Municipal Borough or Urban District		Ward or Metropolitan Borough or Urban District		Rural District		Parliamentary Borough		Sanitary District		Village or Hamlet		
<i>Thorpe</i>		<i>St. Andrew's</i>		<i>Derby</i>		<i>St. Andrew's</i>		<i>Derby</i>		<i>Derby</i>		<i>Derby</i>		<i>Thorpe</i>		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
House No.	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	
33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	
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65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	
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961	962	963	964	965	966	967	968	969	970	971	972	973	974	975	976	
977	978	979	980	981	982	983	984	985	986	987	988	989	990	991	992	
993	994	995	996	997	998	999	1000	1001	1002	1003	1004	1005	1006	1007	1008	
1009	1010	1011	1012	1013	1014	1015	1016	1017	1018	1019	1020	1021	1022	1023	1024	
1025	1026	1027	1028	1029	1030	1031	1032	1033	1034	1035	1036	1037	1038	1039	1040	
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1105	1106	1107	1108	1109	1110	1111	1112	1113	1114	1115	1116	1117	1118	1119	1120	
1121	1122	1123	1124	1125	1126	1127	1128	1129	1130	1131	1132	1133	1134	1135	1136	
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1201	1202	1203	1204	1205	1206	1207	1208	1209	1210	1211	1212	1213	1214	1215	1216	
1217	1218	1219	1220	1221	1222	1223	1224	1225	1226	1227	1228	1229	1230	1231	1232	
1233	1234	1235	1236	1237	1238	1239	1240	1241	1242	1243	1244	1245	1246	1247	1248	
1249	1250	1251	1252	1253	1254	1255	1256	1257	1258	1259	1260	1261	1262	1263	1264	
1265	1266	1267	1268	1269	1270	1271	1272	1273	1274	1275	1276	1277	1278	1279	1280	
1281	1282	1283	1284	1285	1286	1287	1288	1289	1290	1291	1292	1293	1294	1295	1296	
1297	1298	1299	1300	1301	1302	1303	1304	1305	1306	1307	1308	1309	1310	1311	1312	
1313	1314	1315	1316	1317	1318	1319	1320	1321	1322	1323	1324	1325	1326	1327	1328	
1329	1330	1331	1332	1333	1334	1335	1336	1337	1338	1339	1340	1341	1342	1343	1344	
1345	1346	1347	1348	1349	1350	1351	1352	1353	1354	1355	1356	1357	1358	1359	1360	
1361	1362	1363	1364	1365	1366	1367	1368	1369	1370	1371	1372	1373	1374	1375	1376	
1377	1378	1379	1380	1381	1382	1383	1384	1385	1386	1387	1388	1389	1390	1391	1392	
1393	1394	1395	1396	1397	1398	1399	1400	1401	1402	1403	1404	1405	1406	1407	1408	
1409	1410	1411	1412	1413	1414	1415	1416									

(2)

[illegible]

Ernest enlisted into the 2nd Battalion, Royal Irish Regiment. His medal card does not give any detail of when he listed or any theatre of war. He was awarded the Victory medal and the British War medal but not the 1915 Star. This award was made to officers and men who served in any theatre of war between 5 August 1914 and 31 December 1915. This would imply the Ernest may not have enlisted until at least 1916.

(3)

Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
HARRISON	R Ir Regt	Pte	8247
Ernest			
Medal	Roll	Page	Remarks
VICTORY	70136	97	
BRITISH	"	"	
STAR			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

R. 1380

Ernest was killed in action on 21 March 1918. This was the first day of the German Spring Offensive; however, the offensive was a failure and marked the beginning of the end of the War.

Below is an extract from the battalion diary for that day:

In March 1918, the 2nd Battalion served with the 49th Infantry Brigade in the 16th Division. The Division was responsible for defending the northern side of the Cologne Valley north of St. Quentin and was deployed along a ridge centred on Ronssoy. The 2nd Battalion Royal Irish Regiment was in the forward sector of defence, based on the neighbouring village of Lempire. To their front was a network of machine gun emplacements. On the morning of March 21st 1918, when the German offensive began, there was a thick mist and the machine guns were ineffective. A heavy artillery bombardment caused severe losses on the right flank of 49 Brigade, exposing that flank when the enemy infantry advanced at about 9 a.m. Within an hour and a half, the 49th Brigade had been virtually destroyed. The 2nd Battalion Royal Irish Regiment recorded 78 men killed outright and by March 30th 1918, the Battalion had been reduced to 1 officer and 31 other ranks.

On the morning of the 21st March, as the right flank collapsed, the 2nd Battalion was exposed with the enemy surrounding them on three sides. Led by a Major Harrison, they refused to give up and fought from defensive position to defensive position until their ammunition ran out. They fought their way out to safety in the evening when the 6th Battalion Connaught Rangers counter-attacked.

(4)

Ernest is remembered at the Pozieres Memorial, France



Source of information

1. Census 1901 © Ancestry.co.uk
2. Census 1911 © Ancestry.co.uk
3. Medal card © Ancestry.co.uk
4. Battalion diary © The National Archives

In Memory of

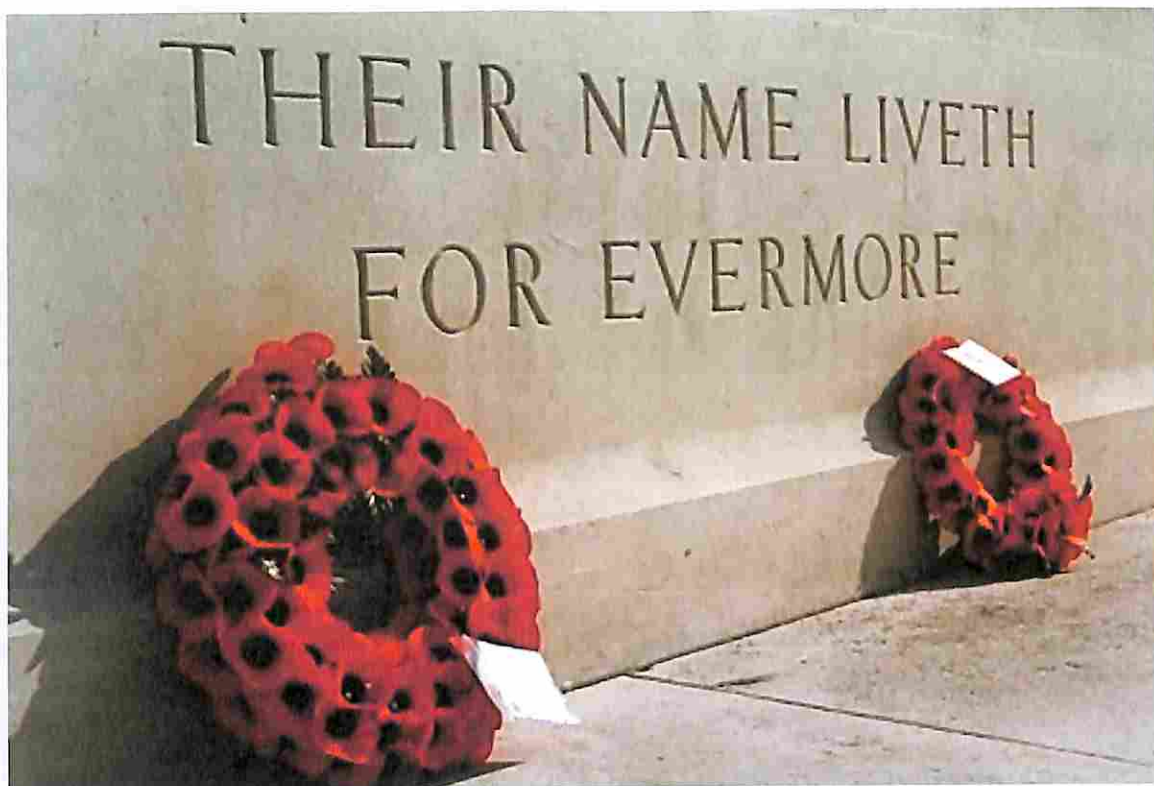
Private

John Lomas

35407, 4th Bn., North Staffordshire Regiment who died on 07 March 1917

Remembered with Honour

Coatham (Christ Church) Churchyard



**Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission**

Private John Lomas

John Lomas was born in the last quarter of 1871 in Fawfieldhead, nr Longnor, Staffordshire. He was the fourth child of Elias (1845-1903) and Elizabeth (nee Beresford 1844-1915) Lomas.

His siblings were Annie (born 1868), Lydia (born 1868), Herbert (born 1870), George (born 1873) and Isaac (born 1878)

In the first census record for John in 1881, he is living at the Cottage, Fawfieldhead, Longnor, with all the family apart from his 2 older sisters. His father was a Farm Labourer.

NAME	AGE	SEX	RELATION	DATE	PLACE	REMARKS
Bohage	1	Male	Son	18	18	Black & white
Bliss Lomas		Male	Head	24	24	Black & white
Elizabeth Lomas		Female	Wife	26	26	Black & white
Herbert "		Male	Son	11	11	Black & white
John "		Male	"	9	9	Black & white
George "		Male	"	7	7	Black & white
Isaac "		Male	"	3	3	Black & white

(1)

In 1891, John has moved from the family home and is boarding at 28 Peace Street, Hanley, Staffordshire. He lists his occupation as a collier and is aged 18.

Administrative County of Nepean

The undenotated Houses are situated within the Boundaries of the

Page 33

Civil Parish	Municipal Borough	Municipal Ward	Urban Sanitary District	Town or Village or Hamlet	Rural Sanitary District	Parliamentary Division or Division	Electoral Parish or District
<u>Littleton Green</u>	<u>Harley</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>Harley</u>	<u>Harley</u>		<u>Harley</u>	<u>Harlow</u>

Col. 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
No. of Cottages	ROAD, STREET, &c., and No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES (No. of Cottages)	NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION Head of Family	AGE last Birthday at Marriage	COE. DITION at Marriage	PERMISSION or OCCUPATION	WHERE BORN	(1) Date and Decade (2) Place (3) Name, Surname or Name						
			<u>John Jones</u>	<u>Wife</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Wife</u>	<u>Harlow</u>	<u>Harlow</u>						
			<u>John Jones</u>	<u>Wife</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Wife</u>	<u>Harlow</u>	<u>Harlow</u>						
			<u>John Jones</u>	<u>Wife</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Wife</u>	<u>Harlow</u>	<u>Harlow</u>						

A further 10 years on in 1901, John is still a miner but is now a boarder at 34 Birch Street, Hanley. His age is now recorded as 26 (only 8 years older than 10 years previously)

86	60		1						Jama Loubin	Mael	Wail	66	E. J. ... ~~S. M. ...~~	new record Warner	d. ...	band ... dengue	stiff 10
----	----	--	---	--	--	--	--	--	-------------	------	------	----	-----------------------------------	----------------------	--------	--------------------	-------------

(3)

In 1911, John is still boarding at 34 Birch Street. His occupation is more specifically described as a Coal Miner Hewer. A Hewer is the actual coal-digger.

[illegible]

(4)

John enlisted on 11 December 1915 in Hanley. At the time he was living at 114 Keeling Lane, Hanley and gave his age as 39. This would have meant he was born about 1876, some 5 years after his actual birth year. It is possible that he fabricated his age to enable him to enlist.

John was assigned to the Army Reserves the next day, although continued to work as a miner at the Deep Pit mine in Hanley.

22

Army Form R. 2412.

HANLEY/STOKES/ON TREK

SHORT SERVICE.

(For the Duration of the War, with the Colours and in the Army Reserve)

ATTESTATION OF

No. Name Corps

Questions to be put to the Recruit before enlistment

1. What is your Name? ... 2. ...

3. What is your full Address? ... 4. ...

5. Are you a British Subject? ... 6. ...

7. What is your Age? ... 8. ...

9. What is your Trade or Calling? ... 10. ...

11. Are you Married? ... 12. ...

13. Have you ever served in any branch of His Majesty's ... 14. ...

15. Have you ever been in the Army Reserve? ... 16. ...

17. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated? ... 18. ...

19. Are you willing to be enlisted for Imperial Service? ... 20. ...

21. Did you receive a Notice, and do you understand its ... 22. ...

23. Are you willing to serve upon the following conditions provided His Majesty should so long ... 24. ...

For the duration of the War, at the end of which you will be discharged with all convenient ... You will be required to serve for one year with the Colours and the remainder of the ... period in the Army Reserve, in accordance with the provisions of the Royal Warrant dated ... 25th Oct. 1915, until such time as you may be called up by order of the Army Council. If employed with His Majesty's depots of Mounted Units, or as a Clerk, etc., you may be retained after the termination of hostilities until your services can be spared, but such retention shall in no case exceed six months.

1. John Stokes ... do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements made.

SIGNATURE OF RECRUIT.

J. W. Wilson Signature of Witness.

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY RECRUIT ON ATTESTATION.

1. John Stokes ... swear by Almighty God, that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs, and Successors, and that I will, as in duty bound, loyally and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, in Person, Crown, and Dignity against all enemies, and will observe and obey all orders of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and of the Generals and Officers set over me. So help me God.

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE OR ATTESTING OFFICER.

The Recruit above named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act.

The above questions were then read to the Recruit in my presence.

I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replied to, and the said Recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me at ... on this day of 1915.

Signature of the Justice.

† Certificate of Approving Officer.

I certify that this Attestation of the above-named Recruit is correct, and properly filled up, and that the required forms appear to have been complied with. I accordingly approve, and appoint him to the ...

It is called by special authority, Army Form R. 2412 (for other authority for the enlistment) will be attached to the original attestation.

Date 18

1915

(5)

On 29 January 1917 he had a medical which records that he was 5' 7½" and weighed 141lbs. He was mobilised on 12 February 1917 into 4th Battalion, Prince of Wales's (North Staffordshire Regiment) and posted on 16 February 1917. He was sent to North Yorkshire for training.

John died on 7 March 1917 in the Military Hospital Redcar, whilst training. According to army records he was 41 years of age. He had only been called up 23 days previously. The cause of death was acute bronchitis.

He is buried at Christ Church Coatham Redcar.



(6)

In addition he is remembered on his parent's headstone in St Peter's Church Alstonefield, where his correct age of 45 is recorded.



(7)

A copy of his short service record is below

STATEMENT of the SERVICES of No. 35407 Name John Thomas

Corps	Battn. or Depot	Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c.	Army Rank	Dates	Service not allowed to reckon for fixing the rate of Pension		Signature of Officers certifying correctness of Entries
					years	days	
General Service		Attested	Pri	11-12-15			
General Service		To Army Reserve		12-12-15			
		Mobilized		2-12-17			
		Posted					
	4.	Posted		16-2-17			
		H.H. Dick - Rank Sergeant at Alders	P.O.	4-3-17			
		Home		4-8-17			

(8)

Source of information

1. Census 1881 © Ancestry.co.uk
2. Census 1891 © Ancestry.co.uk
3. Census 1901 © Ancestry.co.uk
4. Census 1911 © Ancestry.co.uk
5. Attestation © Ancestry.co.uk
6. Headstone © Coatham & Dormanstown PCC
7. Headstone © Alstonefield PCC
8. Service Record © Ancestry.co.uk



HANLEY/STOKE-ON-TRENT.

SHORT SERVICE.

(For the Duration of the War, with the Colours and in the Army Reserve).

Card No.

22

ATTESTATION OFNo. _____ Name John Somas Corps _____

Questions to be put to the Recruit before Enlistment

1. What is your Name? ... 1. John Somas
2. What is your full Address? ... 2. 112 Keeling Lane
Northwood
3. Are you a British Subject? ... 3. Yes
4. What is your Age? ... 4. 39 Years 12 Months
5. What is your Trade or Calling? ... 5. Painter
6. Are you Married? ... 6. No
7. Have you ever served in any branch of His Majesty's Forces, naval or military, if so, which? ... 7. No
8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated? ... 8. Yes
9. Are you willing to be enlisted for General Service? ... 9. Yes
10. Did you receive a Notice, and do you understand its meaning, and who gave it to you? ... 10. Yes { Name J. W. Wilson
Corps 3/1 N.H.Y.
11. Are you willing to serve upon the following conditions provided His Majesty should so long require your services?
For the duration of the War, at the end of which you will be discharged with all convenient speed. You will be required to serve for one day with the Colours and the remainder of the period in the Army Reserve, in accordance with the provisions of the Royal Warrant dated 20th Oct., 1915, until such time as you may be called up by order of the Army Council. If employed with Hospitals, depots of Mounted Units, or as a Clerk, etc., you may be retained after the termination of hostilities until your services can be spared, but such retention shall in no case exceed six months. ... 11. Yes

I, John Somas do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements made.

SIGNATURE OF RECRUIT.

Signature of Witness.

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY RECRUIT ON ATTESTATION.

I, John Somas swear by Almighty God, that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs, and Successors, and that I will, as in duty bound, honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, in Person, Crown, and Dignity against all enemies, and will observe and obey all orders of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and of the Generals and Officers set over me. -So help me God.

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE OR ATTESTING OFFICER.

The Recruit above named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act.

The above questions were then read to the Recruit in my presence.

I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replied to, and the said Recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me at Hanley on this 11 day of July 1915.

Signature of the Justice

† Certificate of Approving Officer.

I certify that this Attestation of the above-named Recruit is correct, and properly filled up, and that the required forms appear to have been complied with. I accordingly approve, and appoint him to the ‡

If enlisted by special authority, Army Form B. 203 (or other authority for the enlistment) will be attached to the original attestation.

Date

In Memory of

Rifleman

Herbert Spencer (Bert) Trafford

C/12262, "D" Coy. 21st Bn., King's Royal Rifle Corps who died on 24 June 1916 Age 19

Son of William and Betsy Trafford, of Spencer House, Newcastle Rd., Leek, Staffs.

Remembered with Honour

Berks Cemetery Extension



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Rifleman Herbert Spencer Trafford

Herbert (Bert) Trafford, the son of James Bailey and Hannah Knight, was born about September 1897 in Leek, Staffordshire.

His father, William (1859-1933) married Betsy Eliza Mears (1859-1933) in 1880 and they had 8 children: William (born 1881), Sarah Annie (born 1883), Percy Mears (born 1884), Jessie (born 1886), Rowland James (born 1888), Hilda Betsy (born 1890), Raymond (born 1894) and Herbert (born 1897)



(1)

Census records for 1901, do not find Bert or his parents, although all his surviving siblings can be found. It is not known why this is the case.

In 1911, the family is recorded at Spencer House, Newcastle Road, Leek. His father is a master tailor as is his older brother Percy. Bert is still at school at this time.

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911

169

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of this paper, and fill in the particulars of the persons who were present on the night of the Census.

The particulars of the Schedule will be required on application.

Printed more fully in Britain than in any other country in the world.

These returns are not to be used for any purpose other than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

NAME AND SEX		RELATIONSHIP	AGE	DATE OF BIRTH	PLACE OF BIRTH	RELIGION	EDUCATION	INDUSTRY OR OCCUPATION	REMARKS
1	William Trafford	Head	42	1869	Leek	Anglican	None	Farmer	
2	Betty Trafford	Wife	36	1875	Leek	Anglican	None	Farmer	
3	John Trafford	Son	14	1897	Leek	Anglican	None	School	
4	Edith Trafford	Daughter	12	1899	Leek	Anglican	None	School	
5	Robert Trafford	Son	10	1901	Leek	Anglican	None	School	
6	William Trafford	Son	8	1903	Leek	Anglican	None	School	
7	Edith Trafford	Daughter	6	1905	Leek	Anglican	None	School	
8	John Trafford	Son	4	1907	Leek	Anglican	None	School	
9	Edith Trafford	Daughter	2	1909	Leek	Anglican	None	School	
10	William Trafford	Son	1	1910	Leek	Anglican	None	School	
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For the 1911 Census of England and Wales, the following information is required:

1. Name and Sex of each person present on the night of the Census.

2. Relationship of each person to the Head of the Family.

3. Age of each person.

4. Date of Birth of each person.

5. Place of Birth of each person.

6. Religion of each person.

7. Education of each person.

8. Industry or Occupation of each person.

9. Remarks.

10. Signature of the Head of the Family.

11. Signature of the Enumerator.

12. Date of the Census.

13. District.

14. County.

15. Country.

The War broke out in 1914 and on 10 November 1915, Bert, who was by then a farmer at Paddock House, Alstonefield, enlisted. He enlisted in Helmsley, Yorkshire into the Yeoman Rifles (King's Royal Rifle Corps). The 21st (Service) Battalion (Yeoman Rifles) were formed in September 1915 from volunteers from the farming communities of Yorkshire, Northumberland and Durham by the Northern Command. They moved to Duncombe Park at Helmsley.

Bert's enlistment papers show that he was 5' 8.5" and weighed 126lbs. He was of fresh complexion, with light brown hair and blue eyes. His next of kin is recorded William Trafford, his father, of 15 Brook Street, Leek.

In October 1915, the Battalion moved to Aldershot. Whilst there, Bert was punished for being absent without a pass from midnight to 07.45 on 21 February 1916. His punishment for this offence was 4 days confined to barracks.

4 May 1916 the Battalion landed in France, subsequently moving to the Ypres sector and billets near the village of Ballieul for three weeks of training to familiarise them with the arts of trench warfare before they moved into the line for the first time as a fighting unit at Ploegsteert.

Bert was killed in action, in the field, on 24 June 1916, little more than 7 weeks after arriving in France.

Shortly before daylight on the morning of 24 June, Bert was looking over the parapet of his trench towards the enemy lines for any sign of activity. This was the dawn 'stand-to' when a sudden attack by the Germans was a possibility. A sniper, his rifle trained for such an opportunity, took aim and fired. Bert Trafford was shot through the head and died instantly.

He is buried in the Berks Cemetery Extension, Belgium.



(3)

In addition he is remembered on the Nicholson War Memorial in Leek.

News of Bert's death was recorded in the Leek Times dated July 1 1916.

The article included a copy of the letter sent to his parents from his platoon officer, T R Hervey 2nd Lieutenant. In it he details how Bert died and also expresses what a good man he was and how well liked he was by everyone.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

RIFLEMAN BERT TRAFFORD KILLED

The sympathy of the town will be extended to Mr. and Mrs. W. Trafford, Newnsile road, Leek, in the loss of their youngest son, Rifleman Herbert Spencer Trafford, of the 21st King's Royal Rifles, who was killed on Saturday last at the Front.

Rifleman Trafford was a fine young fellow and joined the Army 12 months before he need have done. He was a very keen soldier and nothing could persuade him from going although he was not 19 years of age until last week. He joined in October last and went to France seven weeks ago. Previous to joining he was learning farming with Mr. John Gould, The Paddock Farm, Alstonfield, and had about seven months to serve to complete his indentures.

The following letter shows how he was killed:—

21st. K.R.R.

B.E.F. June 24, 1916.

DEAR MR TRAFFORD.—I hope that before you receive my letter you will have heard from other sources the main fact concerning Rifleman Trafford, of my Platoon, who I understand is your son. Rifleman Trafford to our great regret was killed in action in the early hours of this morning it may be some satisfaction to you to know that he was unconscious from the moment he was hit, and that I fully believe that he was spared all suffering during the short time that he lived after receiving the wound. At the time that he was hit he was looking over the parapet shortly before it began to get light, and he was hit through the head by a chance bullet and died before we could have him carried away from the front line trenches.

Rifleman Trafford was one of the very best men I had in the Platoon, and was much liked by everybody. I may say this, I had marked him down for the next lance stripe when a vacancy occurred. I don't think that there is anything else I can tell you. I expect you will also hear from one or two of his friends and I can only offer my very sincere sympathy with you in your loss.—Yours truly,

T. R. HERVEY, 2nd Lieut.

During his service he was awarded the Victory medal and the British War Medal

Name.	Corps.	Rank	Regt. No.
TRAFFORD	K.R. Rif. C	Pt	C/2262
Herbert			
Medal.	Holl.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	M/101 B8	923	
BRITISH	- do -	- do -	
STAR			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

K 1220.

(5)

Source of information

1. Photograph – www.nicholsonmemorial.org.uk
2. Census 1911 © Ancestry.co.uk
3. Photograph ©- www.findagrave.com
4. Article © The Leek Times 1 July 1916
5. Medal Card © Ancestry.co.uk

4545
22

KINGS ROYAL RIFLE CORPS.

Army Form W. 5080.

Regiment 1st Bn. The Buffs
912262 Pte H. Spencer deceased

To be filled in by
 Officer in Charge of
 Records.

STATEMENT of the Names and Addresses of all the Relatives of the above-named deceased Soldier in each of the degrees specified below that are now living.

NOTE.—Against those degrees of relationship in which there is no relative now living the word "none" is to be inserted. If the answers are not filled in, much correspondence and delay may be occasioned by the neglect.

Degree of relationship		NAME IN FULL of every relative now living in each degree enquired for (see note above).	ADDRESS IN FULL of each surviving relative opposite his or her name.
Widow of the Soldier ...		None.	None.
Children of the Soldier and dates of their births...		None.	None.
Father of the Soldier ...		William Trafford.	Spencer House, Newcastle Rd. Leek.
Mother of the Soldier ...		Betsy Eliza Trafford.	Spencer House, Newcastle Rd. Leek.
Brothers of the Soldier	Full Blood ...	William Trafford. 38 Percy Mearns Trafford. 35 Rowland James Trafford. 31 Raymond Trafford. 24	Walside, near Leek. Staffs. Spencer's Buildings, Leek. Leek. Fair View, Whitefield Rd. Norton & Moss. Spencer House, Newcastle Rd. Leek. Staffs.
	Half blood ...	None.	None.
Sisters of the Soldier	Full blood ...	Sarah Annie Reafer. 36 Jessie Shearing. 38	Walsfields, Leek. Staffs. Market Place, Leek. Staffs.
	Half blood ...	None.	None.

If no Relatives in the degrees above are now living the following particulars should be given:—

	Names of those now living.	Addresses in full
Grandparents of the Soldier ...		
Nephews and Nieces of the Soldier ...		
Uncles and Aunts by blood of the Soldier (not Uncles and Aunts by marriage) ...		

DECLARATION.

I hereby declare that the above is a true and complete Statement of all the Relatives of the late Soldier now living in the degrees enquired for.

William Trafford Signature of the Declarant.

Relationship to the Soldier

Address in full Father
Spencer House Newcastle Rd. Leek Staffs

I hereby certify that the above Statement and Declaration made by William Trafford and signed in my presence is complete and correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Dated at Newcastle Rd. this 28th day of June 1919.

Signature of Minister of Minister or Magistrate. Willfred L. Peatfield

Qualification. Primitive Methodist Minister

Address 32, Shilburn Rd.

Leek, Staffs.

In Memory of

Major

Edward Purchase Hall White

AI/106, 4th Bn., 9th Jat Regiment who died on 21 January 1942 Age 41

Son of John and Maude White; husband of Dorothy Joan White, of Angmering, Sussex.

Remembered with Honour

Kranji War Cemetery



**Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission**

Major Edward Purchase Hall White

Edward White was born on 26 June 1901 in the district of St Pancras, London and was baptised in St. Andrews church Fulham on 3 October that year. He was the only son of John Hambleton White and Maude Marion (nee Purchase) and had an older sister Dorothy Hall (born 1899).

1901.	Edward Purchase Hall.	John Hambleton x Maude Marion	White.	175 High St. Camden Town.	Grocer.	Wm & Bate June 26 th 1901.
Oct. 3 rd						
No. 965						

(1)

Edward was recorded on the 1911 census, aged 9, living at Stanshope, Hazelmere Road, Regular, Herne Bay, Kent. His father, at the age of 43, was a retired grocer

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.														
Before writing on this Schedule please read the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, or call to the head of the Census. The return should be written in ink.														
The contents of this Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.														
NAME AND SURNAMES	RELATIONSHIP TO HEAD OF FAMILY	AGE	SEX	PARTICULARS AS TO MARRIAGE	RESIDENCE IN OCCUPATION	EDUCATION	REMARKS	REMARKS	REMARKS	REMARKS	REMARKS	REMARKS	REMARKS	REMARKS
John Hambleton White	Head	43	M	Married	10-2-2	Retired Grocer	320	320	0	0	0	0	0	0
Maude Marion White	Wife	37	F	Married	10-2-2									
Dorothy Jane White	Daughter	12	F				340							
Edward White	Son	9	M											
Ellen Gould	Servant	31	F	Single		General Servant (domestic)								

(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

Write below the Number of Rooms in this Dwelling (Kitchen, Parlor, or Apartment):
 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100. 101. 102. 103. 104. 105. 106. 107. 108. 109. 110. 111. 112. 113. 114. 115. 116. 117. 118. 119. 120. 121. 122. 123. 124. 125. 126. 127. 128. 129. 130. 131. 132. 133. 134. 135. 136. 137. 138. 139. 140. 141. 142. 143. 144. 145. 146. 147. 148. 149. 150. 151. 152. 153. 154. 155. 156. 157. 158. 159. 160. 161. 162. 163. 164. 165. 166. 167. 168. 169. 170. 171. 172. 173. 174. 175. 176. 177. 178. 179. 180. 181. 182. 183. 184. 185. 186. 187. 188. 189. 190. 191. 192. 193. 194. 195. 196. 197. 198. 199. 200. 201. 202. 203. 204. 205. 206. 207. 208. 209. 210. 211. 212. 213. 214. 215. 216. 217. 218. 219. 220. 221. 222. 223. 224. 225. 226. 227. 228. 229. 230. 231. 232. 233. 234. 235. 236. 237. 238. 239. 240. 241. 242. 243. 244. 245. 246. 247. 248. 249. 250. 251. 252. 253. 254. 255. 256. 257. 258. 259. 260. 261. 262. 263. 264. 265. 266. 267. 268. 269. 270. 271. 272. 273. 274. 275. 276. 277. 278. 279. 280. 281. 282. 283. 284. 285. 286. 287. 288. 289. 290. 291. 292. 293. 294. 295. 296. 297. 298. 299. 300. 301. 302. 303. 304. 305. 306. 307. 308. 309. 310. 311. 312. 313. 314. 315. 316. 317. 318. 319. 320. 321. 322. 323. 324. 325. 326. 327. 328. 329. 330. 331. 332. 333. 334. 335. 336. 337. 338. 339. 340. 341. 342. 343. 344. 345. 346. 347. 348. 349. 350. 351. 352. 353. 354. 355. 356. 357. 358. 359. 360. 361. 362. 363. 364. 365. 366. 367. 368. 369. 370. 371. 372. 373. 374. 375. 376. 377. 378. 379. 380. 381. 382. 383. 384. 385. 386. 387. 388. 389. 390. 391. 392. 393. 394. 395. 396. 397. 398. 399. 400. 401. 402. 403. 404. 405. 406. 407. 408. 409. 410. 411. 412. 413. 414. 415. 416. 417. 418. 419. 420. 421. 422. 423. 424. 425. 426. 427. 428. 429. 430. 431. 432. 433. 434. 435. 436. 437. 438. 439. 440. 441. 442. 443. 444. 445. 446. 447. 448. 449. 450. 451. 452. 453. 454. 455. 456. 457. 458. 459. 460. 461. 462. 463. 464. 465. 466. 467. 468. 469. 470. 471. 472. 473. 474. 475. 476. 477. 478. 479. 480. 481. 482. 483. 484. 485. 486. 487. 488. 489. 490. 491. 492. 493. 494. 495. 496. 497. 498. 499. 500. 501. 502. 503. 504. 505. 506. 507. 508. 509. 510. 511. 512. 513. 514. 515. 516. 517. 518. 519. 520. 521. 522. 523. 524. 525. 526. 527. 528. 529. 530. 531. 532. 533. 534. 535. 536. 537. 538. 539. 540. 541. 542. 543. 544. 545. 546. 547. 548. 549. 550. 551. 552. 553. 554. 555. 556. 557. 558. 559. 560. 561. 562. 563. 564. 565. 566. 567. 568. 569. 570. 571. 572. 573. 574. 575. 576. 577. 578. 579. 580. 581. 582. 583. 584. 585. 586. 587. 588. 589. 590. 591. 592. 593. 594. 595. 596. 597. 598. 599. 600. 601. 602. 603. 604. 605. 606. 607. 608. 609. 610. 611. 612. 613. 614. 615. 616. 617. 618. 619. 620. 621. 622. 623. 624. 625. 626. 627. 628. 629. 630. 631. 632. 633. 634. 635. 636. 637. 638. 639. 640. 641. 642. 643. 644. 645. 646. 647. 648. 649. 650. 651. 652. 653. 654. 655. 656. 657. 658. 659. 660. 661. 662. 663. 664. 665. 666. 667. 668. 669. 670. 671. 672. 673. 674. 675. 676. 677. 678. 679. 680. 681. 682. 683. 684. 685. 686. 687. 688. 689. 690. 691. 692. 693. 694. 695. 696. 697. 698. 699. 700. 701. 702. 703. 704. 705. 706. 707. 708. 709. 710. 711. 712. 713. 714. 715. 716. 717. 718. 719. 720. 721. 722. 723. 724. 725. 726. 727. 728. 729. 730. 731. 732. 733. 734. 735. 736. 737. 738. 739. 740. 741. 742. 743. 744. 745. 746. 747. 748. 749. 750. 751. 752. 753. 754. 755. 756. 757. 758. 759. 760. 761. 762. 763. 764. 765. 766. 767. 768. 769. 770. 771. 772. 773. 774. 775. 776. 777. 778. 779. 780. 781. 782. 783. 784. 785. 786. 787. 788. 789. 790. 791. 792. 793. 794. 795. 796. 797. 798. 799. 800. 801. 802. 803. 804. 805. 806. 807. 808. 809. 810. 811. 812. 813. 814. 815. 816. 817. 818. 819. 820. 821. 822. 823. 824. 825. 826. 827. 828. 829. 830. 831. 832. 833. 834. 835. 836. 837. 838. 839. 840. 841. 842. 843. 844. 845. 846. 847. 848. 849. 850. 851. 852. 853. 854. 855. 856. 857. 858. 859. 860. 861. 862. 863. 864. 865. 866. 867. 868. 869. 870. 871. 872. 873. 874. 875. 876. 877. 878. 879. 880. 881. 882. 883. 884. 885. 886. 887. 888. 889. 890. 891. 892. 893. 894. 895. 896. 897. 898. 899. 900. 901. 902. 903. 904. 905. 906. 907. 908. 909. 910. 911. 912. 913. 914. 915. 916. 917. 918. 919. 920. 921. 922. 923. 924. 925. 926. 927. 928. 929. 930. 931. 932. 933. 934. 935. 936. 937. 938. 939. 940. 941. 942. 943. 944. 945. 946. 947. 948. 949. 950. 951. 952. 953. 954. 955. 956. 957. 958. 959. 960. 961. 962. 963. 964. 965. 966. 967. 968. 969. 970. 971. 972. 973. 974. 975. 976. 977. 978. 979. 980. 981. 982. 983. 984. 985. 986. 987. 988. 989. 990. 991. 992. 993. 994. 995. 996. 997. 998. 999. 1000.

(To be filled up by the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling.)

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: J. White
 Printed Address: Stanshope, Regular, Herne Bay, Kent.

(2)

Edward married Dorothy Jane Low in early 1931 in the Ashbourne district, possibly in Alstonefield. Dorothy, like Edward, was also born in London.

During World War 2, Edward served with 4th Battalion, 9th Jat Regiment, Indian Army and reached the rank of Major. Further information about his service history has not been traced.

Edward died on 21 January 1942 whilst on active service in Malaya. He is buried in Kranji War cemetery in Singapore and is remembered on his parent's tomb in the church yard in Alstonefield.



He left an estate
valued at
£4518 12s 8d

WHITE Edward Purchase Hall of Beverley Upper-drive Angmering-on-Sea **Sussex** died 21 January 1942 at Malaya on war service
Probate **London** 30 August to Dorothy Joan White widow.
Effects £4518 12s. 8d.

(3)

Source of information

1. Baptism record © Ancestry.co.uk
2. Census 1911 © Ancestry.co.uk
3. Probate record © Ancestry.co.uk

Major Edward Purchase Hall White



In Memory of

Corporal

Alfred Edward Wint

Mentioned in Despatches

70693, 2nd Bn., Sherwood Foresters (Notts and Derby Regiment) who died on 18 April 1918 Age 23

Son of John and Harriett Elizabeth Wint, of Alstonefield, Ashbourne.

Remembered with Honour

Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Corporal Alfred Edward Wint

Born in November 1894 in Wetton, Staffordshire, Alfred was the eldest of John and Harriet Elizabeth (nee Finney) Wint's seven children. He was baptised on 18 November 1894.



(1)

John and Harriet were married on 15 October 1893 in Wetton and following Alfred's birth had a further 6 children: Ada Edna (born 1897), Annie Elizabeth (born 1900), Harriet Ann Finney (born 1902), Arthur John (born 1904), Frank Herbert (born 1905) and Frederick W (born 1913).

In 1901 the family are living at Standlow, Newton Grange, Thorpe, where John Wint was an agricultural worker.

| | | | | | | | | |
|----------|---|----------------|-------------|---|----|---|--------|--------------------|
| Standlow | 1 | John Wint | Head | M | 33 | ~~Domestic agricultural labourer~~ | Wetton | Staffs: (Wetton) |
| | | Harriet E Wint | Wife | M | 29 | | | Lancs: (Liverpool) |
| | | Alf Edw | Do Son | S | 6 | | | Staffs: (Wetton) |
| | | Ada Edna | Do Daughter | S | 4 | | | Do (Do) |
| | | Annie Eliz | Do Daughter | S | 1 | | | Do (Do) |

(2)

[illegible]

Alfred enlisted in Buxton and joined the 2nd Battalion Sherwood Foresters (Notts & Derby Regiment) and his service number was 70693. However, it is possible that he was originally in the Territorial Battalion of the Sherwood Foresters and was compulsorily transferred to the full battalion in September 1916.

His war time service is not known although at the time of his death he was recorded as serving with the 71st Brigade, 6th Division, British Expeditionary Force

Alfred was awarded the Victory Medal and the British Medal, both of which were awarded for campaign service and was also 'mentioned in dispatches', although further details have not been found.

| Name. | Corps. | Rank. | Regtl. No. |
|--------------------------------|------------------|-------|------------|
| WINT. | Watts & Denby R. | Lpl. | 70493 |
| Alfred.
Edwards. | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Medal. | Roll. | Page. | Remarks. |
| VICTORY | F.103. B.16 | 2420. | |
| BRITISH | -do- | -do- | |
| STAR | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Theatre of War first served in | | | |
| Date of entry therein | | | |

K. 1360

(4)

Alfred died, as a result of his wounds on 18 April 1918. At this time the 71st brigade were involved in The First Battle of Kemmel.

He is buried in Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Belgium.



(5)

**CORPORAL WINT, OF ALSTONFIELD,
DIED OF WOUNDS.**

Mr. and Mrs. Wint, of "The Greve and Harpur Arms," Alstonfield, have received official notice that their eldest son, Corpl. Alfred Wint, died of wounds in France on April 18th. Corporal Wint was in the 2nd Sherwoods, and had been in France for some time, taking part in several engagements. He was very popular among his comrades, while in the village he was always held in the highest esteem, and the news of his death came as a great shock to both his relatives and friends. He was 23 years of age, and the deepest sympathy is extended to the bereaved family.

News of Alfred's death was reported in The Ashbourne News on 14 June 1918

(6)

Source of information

1. Photograph © Ancestry.co.uk
2. Census 1901 © Ancestry.co.uk
3. Census 1911 © Ancestry.co.uk
4. Medal record © Ancestry.co.uk
5. Photograph © lijssenthoek.be
6. Newspaper Extract © Ashbourne News 14 June 1918

| Name. | Corps. | Rank. | Regtl. No. |
|----------------|------------------|-------|------------|
| WINT. | Watts & Derby R. | lpl. | 40693 |
| alfred Edward. | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

| Medal. | Roll. | Page. | Remarks. |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-------|----------|
| VICTORY | F.103. B.16 | 2920. | |
| BRITISH | -do- | -do- | |
| STAR | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Theatre of War first served in | | | |
| Date of entry therein | | | |

K. 1380

Correspondence

Address



Private Thomas Edward Wooddissie

Sergeant Thomas Edward Wooddisse



Thomas Edward Wooddisse was born in Alstonefield in October 1894, the eldest son and second of seven children of Thomas Edward and Edith Rose Taylor. He was baptised as St Peter's Church, Alstonefield on 28 October 1894

Thomas (Senior) and Edith were married on 18 April 1892 at St Peter's church, Alstonefield and in addition to Thomas Edward had six other children, Mary Elizabeth (born 1892), John Burnett (born 1896), Ralph (born 1897), William (born 1898, died 1899), Alice (born 1900) and Margaret (born 1902, died 1906). Prior to his marriage to Edith, Thomas had married Bessie Wint on 7 June 1876 at St Margaret's Church, Wetton. They had a son, Herbert Edmund (born 1877). Bessie died in 1889.

The 1901 census records Thomas living with his family at The Hollow, Alstonefield

[illegible]

(2)

In 1911 the family had moved to Hope Cottage, Alstonefield, where Thomas was an Outdoor Apprentice Joiner.

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---------------------|----------|----|---------|----|---|---|---|-------------------------|--------|-------------------|
| 1 | Thomas Wooddisse | Head | 72 | Married | 49 | 7 | 6 | 2 | Estates Joiner 240 | Worker | Alstonefield Reg. |
| 2 | Elizabeth Wooddisse | Wife | 41 | Married | 19 | 7 | 5 | 2 | at Home | | Alstonefield Reg. |
| 3 | Elizabeth Wooddisse | Daughter | 18 | Single | | | | | out. Own Apprenticeship | Worker | Alstonefield Reg. |
| 4 | Thomas Wooddisse | Son | 16 | | | | | | from servants | | Alstonefield Reg. |
| 5 | John Wooddisse | Son | 14 | | | | | | at Home School | | Alstonefield Reg. |
| 6 | Ralph Wooddisse | Son | 13 | | | | | | at Home School | | Alstonefield Reg. |
| 7 | Alfred Wooddisse | Daughter | 11 | | | | | | at Home School | | Alstonefield Reg. |
| 8 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 13 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15 | | | | | | | | | | | |

(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|------------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Family Name | 2. Date of Enumeration | 3. Date of Birth | 4. Date of Death | 5. Date of Marriage | 6. Date of Divorce | 7. Date of Separation | 8. Date of Remarriage | 9. Date of Death | 10. Date of Birth | 11. Date of Death | 12. Date of Marriage | 13. Date of Divorce | 14. Date of Separation | 15. Date of Remarriage |
| Wooddisse | 1911 | 4 | 3 | 7 | | | | | | | | | | |

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling)

Write below the Number of Rooms in this Dwelling (Kitchens, Bedrooms, or Apartments). Count the kitchen as a room but do not count sanitary, bathing, lobby, closet, bathroom, nor workroom, attic, etc.

5

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: *Thomas Wooddisse*

Postal Address: *Hope Cottage, Alstonefield*

(3)

Thomas's father was a self employed joiner in 1901 and in 1911 had become an estate joiner, presumably for the Harper Crewe estate. Thomas senior died in 1912.

Thomas Edward enlisted in the Sherwood Foresters, 19576, on 12 November 1914 but was soon transferred to the Lincoln Regiment. After training in Plymouth, Halifax and Sunderland he was drafted out to India. Whilst there he rose to the rank of Staff Sergeant and was in the Supply and Transport Corps at Rawalpindi. It was here that his health gave way and after treatment at various hospitals he was eventually discharged from the army on 1 March 1918.

| Name | Corps | Rank | Regtl. No. |
|--------------------------------|---------|------|-----------------------------|
| WOODDISSE | Line R | Pte | 19576 |
| Thomas E. | | | |
| Medal | Roll | Page | Remarks |
| VICTORY | | | |
| BRITISH | 7/105 R | 10 | Retd (1948. H.R.) 8115/Adt. |
| STAR | | | |
| SWB List. F/11/100. | | | |
| Theatre of War first served in | | | |
| Date of entry therein | | | |

8115/Adt.

K. 1350

(4)

Thomas's Medal Index Card records that he was awarded the British Medal and the Silver War Badge.

The latter is awarded was awarded to all those military personnel who were discharged as a result of sickness or wounds contracted or received during the war, either at home or overseas.

Thomas died on 29 May 1918 and is buried in the churchyard at St Peter's Church, Alstonefield.



DEATH OF AN ALSTONFIELD SOLDIER

It is with deep regret, we have to record the death of Sergeant Thos. E. Wooddisse, eldest son of the late Mr. T. E. Wooddisse and Mrs. Wooddisse, of "The Hollow," Alstonefield, which took place on the 30th inst. Sergeant Wooddisse enlisted in the Sherwood Foresters in the early part of the war, but was soon transferred to the Lincolns, and after training at Plymouth, Halifax, and Sunderland, was drafted out to India, and whilst there rose to the rank of Staff Sergeant, and was in the Supply and Transport Corps at Rawalpindi. Here his health gave way, and after treatment at various hospitals he was eventually discharged from the army. He bore his illness with wonderful patience and cheerfulness, everything possible being done, but he passed peacefully away as stated at the early age of 23. The late Sergeant Wooddisse was always of a bright and cheerful nature, gaining many friends, and his death is keenly felt by a wide circle of relatives and friends. The deepest sympathy is extended to the bereaved mother and family.

The funeral took place on Monday in last week, the Rev. A. E. Brown officiating. The mourners were Mrs. Wooddisse (mother), Mr. and Mrs. H. Wooddisse (brother and sister), Mr. and Mrs. Critchlow (brother-in-law and sister), Miss Alice Wooddisse (sister), Mr. Ralph Wooddisse (brother), Mr. and Mrs. Muttitt, Stainsbro' Hall (uncle and aunt), Mrs. Bunting (aunt), Mr. H. Hope (cousin), Miss Critchlow, Mrs. Oliver, Mrs. J. Hope, Miss Bailey, and Miss Benington. The bearers were Mr. W. J. White, Mr. H. Hope, Mr. R. B. Wooddisse, Mr. John Bailey, Mr. Jas. Bailey, Mr. S. Riley, Mr. H. Penny and Mr. S. Bunting. A large number of sympathising friends assembled to show their respect to one who had given 3½ years on war service. Mr. J. Hope had charge of the funeral arrangements.

The wreaths were very beautiful and included the following:—My dearly loved son from mother; in ever loving memory of our dear Tom from his brother and sister, Herbert and Ada; from Betty, George and Kitty; from Alice and Ralph, with fondest love; in ever loving memory from all at Stainsbro'; from Mr. and Mrs. J. Hope, Harry and Jennie, with sympathy; deepest sympathy from Jack and Jim Bailey of Hanson; with deepest sympathy from Alice and Ruth Bailey; in loving memory from all at "The George."

Another brother, Private J. Wooddisse, is also serving in France, having enlisted with Sergeant Wooddisse in October, 1914.

Details of his funeral are recorded in the Ashbourne News on 14 June 1918. He is described as having borne his illness with wonderful patience and cheerfulness. He was always of a bright and cheerful nature, gaining many friends. His death was felt by a wide circle of relatives and friends.

| Name. | Corps. | Rank. | Regtl. No. |
|-----------|--------|-------|------------|
| WOODDISSE | Line R | Pte | 19576 |
| Thomas E. | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

| Medal. | Roll. | Page. | Remarks. |
|--------------------------------|----------|-------|---------------------------|
| VICTORY | | | |
| BRITISH | 7/105 a | 10 | Retd (1943. HR) 8115/act. |
| STAR | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| SWB List. | F/A/100. | | |
| Theatre of War first served in | | | |
| Date of entry therein | | | |

8115/act.

K. 1380

Correspondence

Address

Source of information

1. Photograph ©Ashbourne News 14 June 1918
2. Census 1901 © Ancestry.co.uk
3. Census 1911 © Ancestry.co.uk
4. Medal Index Card © Ancestry.co.uk
5. Newspaper extract © Ashbourne News 14 June 1918

Peter Hickling and Peter Leese

These 2 men are remembered every year, however, we know very little about them.

Mr Leese (father of Peter Leese), was the gardener at Overdale and lived in manifold Cottage.

He and his wife had both been married before, Peter Leese was his son and Peter Hickling was his wife's son.

Neither of the sons lived in the village but their parents did for many years.

Any more information about either of these men would be appreciated