



Charles Richard Carswell

Rank: Private

Service No.: 54330

Regiment: 3rd Dragoon Guards/17th Battalion Welsh Reg.

Residence: Manor Cottage, The Row, Elham

Before Service:

Charles was born in Elham in 1891 the son of Richard and Harriett Carswell.

The 1911 Census shows he was working as a butcher, boarding with the Newman family at 5 Rampart Road, Hythe, Kent.

During Service:

Unfortunately we know little about William's activities during the war as his Service Record cannot be found, a lot of Service Records were destroyed during bombing in the Second World War. The Elham Historical Society has traced his Medal Card which shows he was posthumously awarded the Victory and British Medals.

Enlisted in Folkestone Aug-1916

Killed in Action - France and Flanders

Date of Death: 31-Dec-1916

Age: 27

No Known Grave, commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme Pier 7A and Face 10A and the Elham War Memorial

Family Story:

Charles father was Richard Carswell born Elham in 1857, his occupation was a carrier's labourer. Charles mother was Harriett Carswell born in Stelling in 1861. They had five sons; George born 1881 (journeyman butcher), William 1883-1924 (bricklayer's labourer), John 1886-1917 (apprentice shoe maker), Joseph 1888 (builders assistant living in Cheriton), he too joined the 3rd Dragoon Guards in 1914 and Charles 1891-1916. They also had two daughters Nellie 1894-1951 and Pretoria 1900-1952 both are buried in the same grave in Elham cemetery. Prior to living in Manor Cottage Richard and Harriet lived in a cottage that stood on the site of what is now the property named Galampton, The Row, Elham.

