



William Stanley White

Rank: Sapper

Service No.: 26671

Regiment: Royal Engineers, 82nd Field Coy

Residence: 1, Abbot's Fireside Cottages (Keeler's Mansions)

Before Service:

The 1901 Census shows William as a 4 year old, living at North Elham where his father worked on the farm as shepherd/labourer. In 1911 we know that William was living with his sister and brother in law at 6, Broomfields, Cheriton. His occupation was Driver & Salesman.

During Service:

Unfortunately we know little about William's activities during the war as his Service Record cannot be found, sadly a lot of Service Records were destroyed during bombing in the Second World War.

Date of Death: 30-Jul-1917

Age: 21

Grave Location: Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension (Nord), France III. D. 287

Family Story:

William's father was Thomas Edward White, born in Saltwood in 1855 (although the 1891 Census shows Elham) and William's mother was Laura White nee Franks born Elham 1858. Thomas was a farm labourer/shepherd and lived variously in Hunters Moon, North Elham and No.1 Abbot's Fireside Cottages. Thomas and Laura married in 1878 and had 6 sons and 6 daughters.

The Elham Historical Society has found the Service Records for George Frederick White (Service No.2242) and John Robert White (Service No. 2641/270346).

George was a Sergeant Signaller in the Buffs, first enlisting on 2-Aug-1902. After serving with the Buffs he was then in the reserves until Aug- 1914, re-enlisting on 2-Sept-1914 in Elham. He served with the British Expeditionary Forces (BEF) in France between 6-Mar-1915 and 3-Mar-1919, whilst there he was wounded on 17-Oct-1918. After the war he went to live at Pent Farm, Postling.

John enlisted on the 11-May-1915 in Canterbury and served as a Private with the Royal East Kent Mounted Rifles in both the Mediterranean Expeditionary Forces (MEF) (1916 to 1918) and then the BEF (1918 until the end of the war). John was wounded on 31-Oct-1917 and was in hospital in Alexandria in Nov 1917.

Thomas Edward White Jnr. is shown in the 1911 Census as aged 29 and married to Emily Jane Victoria White. His occupation is labourer working on the South East and Chatham Railway Company, living at 6, St. Mary's Cottage, Elham.