



Woodford Remembers



Pte. Arthur Charles Braines

11 December 1888 – 26 March 1918

Family

Arthur's maternal grandfather John was born in Grafton Underwood in 1843 (Q1) and he married Harriett White (b1842 (Q1) Twywell) on 18 April 1864 at Twywell.

Mary Anne, their first child was born in 1864, and was followed by Charles (1866), Elizabeth (1869) George (1871), James (1873), Naomi (1877), Joseph (1879), William (1875) and Edward (1883). Arthur was born to Mary Anne in 1888 and christened at Woodford Parish Church on Maundy Thursday, 18 April 1889 (As was William Freer, see Woodford Remembers). Arthur is frequently considered to be a child of John and Harriett however, the Baptism record, 1911 census and his own marriage register entry, not to mention the family tree dispel this error.

In 1881 Arthur's grandfather and family lived in the vicinity of Woodford House where John was a horse keeper. Arthur's mother Mary was listed as an unoccupied domestic servant. The following census' suggest Arthur continued to live with his grandparents and aunts and uncles, as by 1891 with the exception of Mary, all had moved to Newtown Woodford, most possibly in the High Street near the Prince of Wales. John was employed at the furnaces as an ironstone labourer and later a slag breaker. In 1911 John was taking life a little easier at the age of 69 as a gardener. Arthur attended the village school from 10 May 1892 (where his guardian was listed as John Braines.) In the 1911 census Arthur still lived with his grandparents and their son James, and Arthur was employed as a clothes presser at the Ideal clothing factory. On 14th June 1913 Arthur married Alice Maud Loveday at St Mary's Church Woodford, and on the marriage register it states Arthur's father as Edward Jarvis. Arthur and Alice's son, Edward Arthur was born on 8th September 1913. The family lived in Rose Terrace at this time.

Arthur's mother, Mary Anne had married – Frederick Starsmore, a widower on 26th December 1899 at Woodford Parish Church.

Arthur's grandfather, John died 13 January 1917, and his grandmother Harriett, on 13 December 1920.

Arthur was a cousin of Cecil Braines (See Woodford Remembers).

Army Service

Arthur was a member of the 7th Suffolk regiment (A feeder regiment to the Cambridgeshire Regiment and had enlisted in Wellingborough) prior to being transferred to the 1/1st Battalion Cambridgeshire regiment, number 331090. He was listed as missing, presumed dead on 26 March 1918 a day described as the hardest day in the regiments history fighting rear-guard action at Herbecourt.

Burial / grave

Not known

Dependants

Wife, Alice Braines; Son, Edward Arthur Braines

Commemoration

Pozieres Memorial (Panels 84/85)

Woodford War Memorial Village Green, Woodford St Mary's Church Memorial



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