



Woodford Remembers



Pte. Alfred Charles Jakins

February 1878 – 8 January 1915

Family

Alfred's parents, Jonah and Elizabeth hailed from Huntingdonshire and Alfred was born in Keyston, Huntingdonshire. In 1881 the parents and three children, James (5), Alfred (3), and Frederick (1) were living in Islip. Alfred was christened in St Mary's Church Woodford on 2nd April 1885 indicating the family had most probably moved into the Woodford by this time.

In 1891 the family lived in Bakers Lane, Alfred had a further three younger siblings (Mary Anne, Porthuma, and Edmund.) The head of the household was Elizabeth, Alfred's mother, and Alfred was working as an Agricultural Labourer.

By 1901 Alfred had joined the forces, and is not listed on the census. The head of the household was still Elizabeth, but there are four more children, Zilpah, George, Dorothy and Arthur. Alfred's father was not listed as being part of the household.

Alfred married Ada Shipton at Woodford Parish Church on 7 October 1907.

The 1911 census reveals Alfred and Ada had two children at this time Phyllis and Doris aged 3 and 1 and Alfred worked as a Blast Furnace man at the Islip Works.

He was a community spirited man being on the Temperance Hall Entertainment Committee and where he organised a fundraising dance for Sidney Headland who had been ill for a long time (Northampton Mercury 9 February 1912).

Army Service

Alfred initially joined the Northamptonshire Regiment (No 5444) on 29 March 1898 and served in South Africa (Boer War) between October 1899 and December 1902 transferring to India where he remained until early 1906. He was awarded the Queen's South Africa Medals (with four clasps) and the Kings South Africa Medal (two clasps). He came home in March 1906 where he was treated as a reservist until March 1910.

In November 1914 Alfred signed up again in Kettering alongside several other Woodford men, with service number 16276, including his brother George (See Woodford Remembers)

Records show he entered the theatre of War in December 1914 and died from his wounds in January 1915.

Burial / grave

Bethune Town Cemetery Grave III.B.37

Dependants

Wife, Ada and three children, Doris, Phyllis and Vera. The family lived in Wells Yard (off Club Lane)

Commemoration

Woodford War Memorial Village Green

Woodford St Mary's Church Memorial



South Africa Boer War Medal
(Queen Victoria) Medal
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