



Woodford Remembers



George William Jakins

4 November 1894 – 13 October 1916

Family

George was part of a large complex family. His mother, Elizabeth Jakins nee Corn hailed from Toseland near St Neots Huntingdonshire and she married Jonah Jakins in 1876. They moved to Keyston, Islip followed by Woodford. Alfred was born in Keyston, Huntingdonshire.

In 1881 they had three children, James (5, born Toseland), Alfred Charles (3, b Keyston), and Frederick (1, b Islip) and were living in Islip. Mary Ann was born in 1882 and Susan Posthuma was born in 1884. Fred, Mary, Alfred and Susan were all christened in St Mary's Church Woodford between 1883 and 1885, and the parents are listed as Jonah and Elizabeth. This is the last reference to be made to Jonah.

In the 1891 census Elizabeth is listed as married head of the family living in Bakers Lane, with children James, Alfred, Frederick, Mary, Posthuma and Edmund Betts Jakins (5 months).

Still living in Bakers Lane just down from Spring Gardens in 1901 Elizabeth had a further four children; Zilpah (b1893), George William (b1894), Horace (1896-1896), Dorothy (1899 - 1908) and Arthur (b1901). Elizabeth had taken in George Tiney Betts as a lodger. Elizabeth had a further child named Horace who was baptised in 1903. The baptism register records the christening of each of these children however only Elizabeth is listed as a parent (no father). The school admission register, however, reveals that George, Arthur and Horace, had a father by the name of George (no surname). George started school in the village on 4 November 1897 whilst living in Bakers Lane

In 1911, Elizabeth lived in Spring Gardens and is listed as single, living with George Tiney Betts. It is recorded that in her current relationship she had seven children, two of whom have died suggesting she formed a new relationship round about the time of the birth of Edmund.

In the same census George William is living with George Gunn near the junior school in Church Street as a boarder and is employed as a domestic gardener.

Army Service

George joined the Northamptonshire Regiment enlisting in Kettering as number 16274 along with many other men from the village.

He was killed in action on 13 October 1916, although a further report in the "Northampton Mercury" in January 1917 reported that he had been accidentally killed.

The newspaper reports that this was the second death from the family (half brother Alfred) and that Frederick had also been severely wounded on 21st July 1916.

Burial / grave

Bernafay Wood British Cemetery, Montauban, Grave F.25

Dependants

None

Commemoration

Woodford War Memorial Village Green

Woodford St Mary's Church Memorial

