



# Woodford Remembers



Pte. John Richard Barritt

1878 – 17 September 1918

## Family

John Barritt was born to Richard and Sarah Barritt nee Muskett, both of Woodford. His father, Richard died in the January prior to John's birth, and was buried in the Baptist Chapel Burial Ground. John and his widowed mother lived with Sarah's parents towards the bottom end of Bakers Lane. By the age of thirteen years John had left school and worked as a baker's assistant, most probably at the nearby Bakers Arms. At the age of 23 years (1901) John still lived with his widowed dressmaker mother but worked as a shoemaker in a factory. John married Dorothy (Dot) Bird (daughter of William and Fanny Bird of High Street) in the spring of 1906 and they moved to Northampton.

In 1911, he lived at 65 Kettering Road in Northampton (St Giles Parish) with his wife Dot, and two children Phyllis and Dorothy. John worked as a fish and chip (potato fryer). The 1911 census reveals they had two children but only one is named). A third child, Winifred was born in 1913.

Following the end of the war, Dot moved back to Woodford, living in Cairo Cottages (Thrapston Road) in April 1919 when youngest daughter Winifred enrolled at the school. Dot lived in Cairo Cottages for the remainder of her life until 1945. Probate was awarded to her daughter Dorothy KM Perrett (wife of Harold Perrett, Mill Road Woodford).

## Army Service

John appears to have been called up in early 1917. He appealed his call up on the grounds that he ran a business of his own, and also ran a separate business for his wife's widowed sister. The appeal was dismissed.

As a member of the Royal Garrison Artillery (Reg No. 177717); He was a member of the 224<sup>th</sup> Siege Battery, whose main armament was a gun which projected 6" calibre shells. These were generally used to destroy enemy gun emplacements.

He was killed in action on 17th September 1918

## Burial / grave

Sunken Road Cemetery, Boisileux-Saint-Marc Grave 11 D 4

## Dependants

Wife Dorothy and children Dorothy, Phyllis, and Winifred

## Commemoration

Northampton, Abington Square



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If you can help with more information please contact

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