



Woodford Remembers



William Walter Crook
8 April 1889 – 6 November 1917

Family

James and Sarah Crook lived in Melksham Wiltshire in 1881, with their son Walter James Crook who was 16 years of age. Both father and son were Agricultural Labourers. By 1891 Walter J, who was now 26 years of age, lived in Eady's Row, Woodford with Ruth his wife, and three children Henry, Rosa (b March 1887) and William Walter (b 8 April 1889) all of whom had been born in Woodford. Walter worked as a Furnace Labourer at the Islip Furnaces.

William was baptised at St Mary's Church on 6 June 1889. The family didn't stay in Woodford long but whilst in the village all attended the village schools. This also gives an idea of the date they left the village. Rosa is recorded as leaving the village in school records on 11 January 1895, but William moved from the infant to junior school on 10 May 1897. July 1897 was the date that Emily May left Woodford School to go to Kettering. The family obviously had a phased move, but it is without doubt that by 1901 they lived in Bath Road Kettering.

By 1911 Walter and Ruth had moved again, to Club Street, Kettering and he worked as a General Dealer. William still lived at home with his parents together with three younger siblings Emily May, Fanny and Freddy. William was a Pressman in the boot trade, May was a machinist, Fanny, a cardboard box maker and Freddy was at school.

William married Flora Lewis in the latter part of 1915.

Army Service

William enlisted in Kettering, joining the Royal Sussex Regiment – 4th Battalion Regimental number TF201752. The Battalion was founded in 1908 but mobilised in 1915 and fought at Gallipoli before moving to North Africa. William's regimental number suggests he signed up in January 1917 (201715 joined up on 22 January 1917). In the autumn of 1917 the battalion was involved in the Second and Third Battles of Gaza, the Capture of Jerusalem, followed by the defence of Jerusalem. William was killed in action following the third Battle of Giza which concluded on 8 November at the Wadi el Hesi. The Northampton Mercury reported that he was initially reported as missing in action on 6 November (NM 4 Dec 1917)

Burial / grave

No known Grave

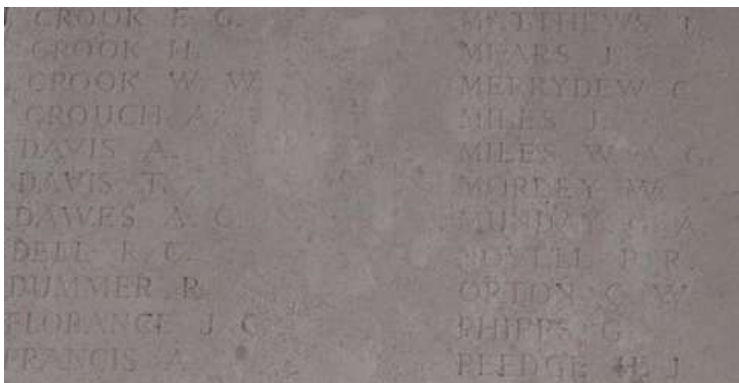
Dependants

Wife Flora

Commemoration

Jerusalem memorial. Panels 25 & 26

Kettering War Memorial



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If you can help with more information please contact clerk@woodfordpc.co.uk