



Woodford Remembers

Pte. Reginald John Murdin

27 October 1899 – 2 November 1918



(Based upon information to hand as at November 2018, Reginald Murdin was Woodford's youngest casualty at 19 years, 6 days)

Family

Reginald was born on 27 May 1899 in Burton Latimer to George White (born in Slipton to Jacob and Elizabeth White) and Lily Murdin (born in Woodford to Robert Murdin and Sarah nee Gunn). He was the younger brother of Daisy and elder brother to Evelyn, Sarah, Robert and Bertie. Reginald's full name Reginald John Murdin was registered in the fourth quarter of 1899 in the Kettering area. George White, his father was an Ironstone Labourer. In 1901 and 1911 the family lived in Newtown Woodford, and the 1911 census suggests the correct spelling is Murden rather than Murdin (which is the common spelling on all other documents). The census also suggests that all six children had the middle name of White.

Reginald as a young boy attended the village Infant school (as Reginald White) being admitted on 26 May 1903. He later moved to the Junior School in Church Street. On leaving school he went to work at the Islip Ironstone Company. Reginald's parents George White and Lily Murdin were married in the latter part of 1917.

Army Service

Following the reorganisation of the Reserve Regiments in 1916 Reginald was assigned to the 27 TR Battalion (formerly the Bedfordshire) on his enlistment in 1916 at Northampton (TR9/10072) before transferring to the 24th TR Battalion (previously Middlesex Regiment) (TR10/89200) followed by the 20th TR Battalion (Rifle Brigade) (TR13/58040) (The TR** number refers to the Reserve Regiment in "sector 13" – there were however only 12!). Following time in the reserves he became Private RJ Murdin 45370 of the 2nd Battalion, Kings Royal Rifle Corps. His last period of home leave was in the spring of 1918, he suffered injury and a gas attack and was finally injured by a shell exploding close by him. He was hospitalised, returned to the UK, where he died from his wounds

Burial / grave

Locksbrook Cemetery, Bath. Grave C.D.136

(Nb CWGC incorrectly lists his home town as Woodford, Essex, rather than Woodford, Northamptonshire)

Dependants

None

Commemoration

Woodford Village Memorial

Woodford St Mary's Church Memorial



(c) P T Bird 2018

Thanks are expressed to Andrew and Richard Murdin for additional information