

In Memory of

Private

Walter Hunt

G/52510, 4th Bn., Royal Fusiliers who died on 03 May 1917

Remembered with Honour

Arras Memorial



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Self: Private Walter William HUNT

Frederick was born 1892 in Occold, the son of George HUNT and Mary CHAPMAN. Siblings were Clara and Anna Maria (who married Fredrick ELLIOTT, also KIA 1916).

He lived at Church St, Occold in 1901 and in 1911 was working as a stockman on farm. He married Florence Rose HAMMOND in 1913 and they had children an infant boy, born and died in 1914 followed by Albert G (1915) and Gladys R (1917).

He joined the 4th Bat, Royal Fusiliers, serial no G/52510, saw service in France & Flanders but was KIA, 3 May 1917. He is commemorated at Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France,

Wife: Florence Rose HAMMOND

Florence was born 1890 in Occold to parents William HAMMOND and Julie CANHAM. She was living in Dublin Rd, Rishangles before moving to The Causeway, Occold in 1901. In 1911, she was employed as a Work at Home. At this time, her mother lived on her own whilst her father was a dock quay labourer at Parkeston Quay.

She had siblings Frederick, Charles, Arthur and Ernest and also a brother George who was KIA 1917 – so she lost both a husband and a brother.

And it is even more poignant to realise that she must have been expecting her daughter Gladys before Walter went to France as Gladys was born Apr-Jun 1917 – a matter of weeks before or after Walter was killed!

She married Arthur PLOWMAN (17 years her senior) in 1927 in Occold and they had one daughter Ena A in 1930. Florence died in 1968 and Arthur in 1969, both buried in Occold but grave unknown.

Parents: George HUNT and Mary CHAPMAN

His father George was born 1857 in Occold to single mother Mary Ann HUNT. Up until he married in 1880, he lived at Mill St, Occold with his grandfather Benjamin HUNT and started working as an ag lab at age 13.

He married Mary Ann CHAPMAN in 1880 in Occold and they had children Clara, Anna Maria (who married Frderick ELLIOTT, KIA 1916) and Walter William (KIA 1917). Thus, they lost both a son and a son-in-law.

He continued to work as an ag lab in Occold until his death in 1928, buried in Occold, grave unknown.

His mother Mary was born 1859 in Monk Soham to parents William CHAPMAN and Sophia WARD. She only had one sister Maria since her father died in 1860, just 4 years after getting married.

She died in 1937 and buried in Occold, grave unknown.

Paternal grandparents: Unknown FATHER and Mary Ann HUNT

Mary Ann was born 1838 in Occold to parents Benjamin HUNT and Mary LOVET – no further information on his grandfather is available except that base born boys were often named after the father – but not conclusive and not much to go on!

She lived in Occold with her father Benjamin and her son George but in 1861 married James HAMMOND (born 1842 in Bedingfield) and thereafter lived in Bedingfield. They had children Edward, Clara, Walter, Matilda and Edgar.

She died in 1894, probably in Bedingfield.

Maternal grandparents: William CHAPMAN and Sophia WARD

We cannot pin down a birth for William as we have no clue to his age and he died in 1860 – just 4 years after marrying Sophia – thus we could not find them on an 1861 census which would have revealed his date of birth and where he was born. The only clue is in 1861 with Sophia living in Monk Soham and being described as ‘previously ag lab’s wife’. Looking at 1841 and 1851 census for an unmarried William revealed no certain identity as the name is far too common.

Sophia was born 1833 in Bedingfield to parents Henry WARD and Mary FAIRWEATHER and seems to have lived a rather chequered life. She married William CHAPMAN in 1856 and had two children Mary and Maria but William died in 1860 after 4 years of marriage. She then married Charles PENDLE in 1863 and had another 4 years of marriage before he died 1867. She finally married William BANHAM in 1883 and had 11 years of marriage but with no children until he died in 1894 and she died in 1897, both in Occold but grave unknown.

Son: Male HUNT

Walter had a son (not named) who was born Jun 1914 but died within a few days. There is no record of his burial in Occold.

Son: Albert George HUNT

Albert George was born Jun 1915. He was an epileptic and never married. He lived with his mother in The Causeway, Occold. After his mother died in Feb 1968, he died soon after in Oct 1968. He is buried in Occold – grave unknown.

Daughter: Gladys R HUNT

Gladys was born Jun 1917, probably in Occold, and married Harold in 1935. They had 4 children Cyril, Margaret, Victor and Christine who would be grandchildren of Walter. From these 4, Walter had:

Great-grandchildren: Tracy, Neill, Karen, Jeremy Mark and Elma Maria, Jonathan Peter and Joseph Christopher

Great-great-grandchildren: Sarah Louise and Samuel James

All these descendants have been identified and we are hoping to include photos and other memorabilia in the near future.