Ash Chapel's First World War Dead



Ash War Memorial – Ash Magna

Ash First World War Dead

Henry Hollowood

Birth Place: Ash - 1884

Date of Death: 20th September 1918 – France/Flanders (Somme)

Type of Casualty: Killed in action

Enlistment Location: Whitchurch

Rank: Private

Regiment: 10th Battalion King's Shropshire Light Infantry

Service Number: 29788 - Formerly 203591 KSLI & 285191 Welsh Regiment

Medals: Posthumously - Victory and British

Henry was the son of 'ordinary farm labourer' John Hollowood (1844-1916 born in Ash) and Mary Anne Fowlkes (1852-1924 - born at Coton Wood). In 1901 Henry was living with his parents at Wood Lane, Ash Parva, and working as a 'boy on farm' (see Census). At this time, also living in the Hollowood household were Henry's brother (Joseph) Thomas, an 18 year-old blacksmith's apprentice, Henry's sisters Lucy, Edith and Lily (aged 13,10 and 8 respectively), and Henry's brother William, aged 5.

It has not been possible to find Henry in the 1911 Census, but it is recorded that he married Elizabeth Cooke in 1914 at Ash. In 1911 Elizabeth was living with her Uncle, farm labourer Thomas Wilkinson, and his wife Elizabeth, at 34 Ash Parva (the address recorded for Henry when probate for his effects of £116:17/2d was awarded to his wife Elizabeth after his death). Henry and Elizabeth had 3 children, Thomas Henry (born in 1914), Elizabeth (born and died in 1916) and John Henry (born in 1918, 6 months after his father's death).

Resting Place: Plot: I.B.18 Sainte Emilie Valley Cemetery, Villers-Faucon, Picardie. Three large graves of Commonwealth soldiers buried by the Germans form part of Plot I. The remainder of the cemetery is composed mostly of graves brought in from an older cemetery or from the battlefields. Sainte Emilie Valley Cemetery contains 513 burials. 222 of the burials are unidentified but there are special memorials to 21 casualties believed to be buried among them. There are also ten German burials in the cemetery, which was designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens.

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Henry Hollowood: 1901 Census Record



Sainte Emilie Valley Cemetery, Picardie.

Ash First World War Dead

Harry Williams

Birth Place: Wem - 1891

Date of Death: 2nd April 1917 - France/Flanders

Type of Casualty: Killed in action

Enlistment Location: Whitchurch

Rank: Private

Regiment: 7th Battalion King's Shropshire Light Infantry

Service Number: 24018

Medals: Posthumously - Victory and British

Harry was the youngest of the 10 children of farmer 'on own account' Richard Williams (1852-1933 b. in Whixall) and Harriet Ann Parsons (1850-1916 b. in Prees). In the 1911 Census (see picture) Harry was recorded as a 19 year-old waggoner living at Ash House, Ash with his parents, his unmarried sister Harriet Ann, aged 26, who did 'dairy work', his brother Edwin Thomas, aged 24, who worked on the farm, his unmarried 21 yearold sister Sarah Elizabeth, who did 'housework', and his grandfather James Williams, 86, a widower and retired farmer from Prees.

Resting Place: Plot II.N.12 Faubourg D'Amiens Cemetery, Arras

The Commonwealth section of the Faubourg D'Amiens Cemetery was begun in March 1916, behind the French military cemetery established earlier. It continued to be used by field ambulance and fighting units until November 1918. The cemetery was enlarged after the Armistice when graves were brought in from the battlefields and from two smaller cemeteries in the vicinity.

The cemetery contains over 2,650 Commonwealth burials of the First World War, 10 of which are unidentified. The cemetery and memorials were designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, with sculpture by Sir William Reid Dick.

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Harry Williams: 1911 Census Record



Faubourg D'Amiens Cemetery, Arras



The Weslyan Chapel at Ash Parva where Henry and Harry would have attended (now converted to a house).



Men of the 7th Battalion of the King's Shropshire Light Infantry "just out of the trenches" near Arras March 1917. This was the unit in which Harry Williams served and was killed a month after this picture was taken – could Harry be one these men?



Plate from the west side of the Ash War Memorial, showing the names of both Henry Hollowood and Harry Williams amongst the men of the parish killed in World War 1.



Ash War Memorial

"TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN HONOURED MEMORY OF THE LOYALTY AND DEVOTION OF THE MEN OF THIS PARISH WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN THE CAUSE OF JUSTICE AND FREEDOM DURING THE GREAT WAR 1914-1918"