

Codford St. Peter

Roll of Honour



Lest we Forget

World War I



33087 DRIVER

HENRY CHARLES WHITE

ROYAL HORSE ARTILLERY

29th MARCH, 1918

Henry Charles WHITE

Henry Charles White was born at Whitsbury, Wiltshire to parents John & Annie Maria White (nee Colborne). His birth was registered in the district of Fordingbridge, Wiltshire in the September quarter of 1887.

The 1891 Census records Henry C. White as a 3 year old, living with his parents as Gussage St. Michael, Dorset in a 4 roomed dwelling. His parents were recorded as John White (Shepherd, aged 30, born Sherrington) & Ann M. White (aged 29, born Brockton). Four children were recorded – Jesse J. (aged 7, born Heytesbury), Ann M. (aged 5, born Warminster), then Henry & Rose L. (aged 1, born Gussage, St. Michael, Dorset).

The 1901 Census records “Charlie” as a 13 year old Shepherd, living with his family at The Mud Cottages, Parsonage Farm in a 4 roomed dwelling at Warminster, Wiltshire. His parents were recorded as John White (Shepherd, aged 40) & Ann M. White (aged 39). Six children were recorded – Jesse J. (Shepherd, aged 17), Ann M. (aged 15), then “Charlie”, Rose L. (aged 11), Alice (aged 7, born Warminster) & Albert G. (aged 1, born Warminster).

The 1911 Census records Henry C. White as a soldier – Driver with U Battery of Royal Horse Artillery serving in Dilkushu, India. Henry’s parents, both aged 50 years, were living at Oxendean Cottages at Warminster with 2 of their children – Rose Lily (aged 21) & Bertie (aged 11). Henry’s parents had been married for 29 years with 6 children, all living.

Henry Charles White had enlisted with the Royal Horse Artillery & Royal Field Artillery at Warminster. He was given the service number of 33087. Driver Henry White’s Medal Index Card shows that he was attached to 7th Brigade of Royal Horse Artillery. CWGC lists Driver Henry White as “H” Bty. His Medal Index Card shows he had entered a Theatre of War on 15th August, 1914.

During the World War One the Royal Horse Artillery was responsible for light, mobile guns that provided firepower in support of the cavalry and supplemented the Royal Field Artillery. In 1914 there was one battery to each Brigade of Cavalry. The original BEF included only one Division of Cavalry, with 4 Brigades, leading to four batteries Royal Horse Artillery, which were organised into two Brigades. As the war progressed further brigades were formed. A battery included 5 officers and 200 men, 228 horses and six 13-pounder field guns. There were 16 Brigades RHA in the Regular Army and a number of Territorial batteries.

The 1/1st Hampshire Battery served in the Middle East in 1916-18 as part of the 263rd Brigade Royal Field Artillery with the Essex and West Riding Batteries & during 1917 it joined the 20th Brigade RHA TF, the artillery support of the 7th Mounted Brigade. The 2/1st Hampshire Battery served in France with the 298th Brigade of Royal Field Artillery

Driver Henry Charles White died of wounds on 29th March, 1918, aged 30 years.

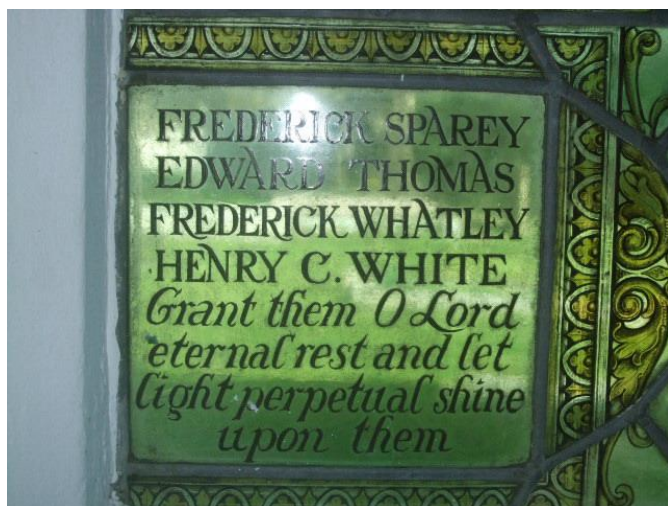
Driver Henry Charles White is buried in Namps-Au-Val British Cemetery, France – position I. B. 7. His death is acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission & therefore he has a CWGC Headstone.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Driver Henry Charles White as the son of Mr J. White of 75 Charlton, Andover, Hants.

Driver Henry C. White was entitled to the 1914 Star, British War & Victory Medals.

H. C. White is remembered as a Casualty of WW1 in the Diocese of Salisbury Memorial Book for Codford St. Peter.

Henry C. White is remembered on the World War 1 Stained Glass Memorial window in St. Peter's Church, Codford, Wiltshire.



(Photo courtesy of Romy Wyeth)



Codford St Peter -North aisle By F C Eden, 1920 - War Memorial window with Saints Michael and George (Photo by Rex Harris 2011)

Namps-Au-Val British Cemetery, France

Namps-au-Val is a village in the Department of the Somme, approximately 16 klms south-west of Amiens. The British Cemetery is located between the village & the railway station.

At the end of March, 1918, when the German offensive in Picardy began, the 41st, 50th & 55th Casualty Clearing Stations came to Namps-au-Val, remaining until the middle of April. Almost all the burials in the cemetery were carried out by them, but nine graves in Plot II, Row D, were brought in after the Armistice from Conty French Military Cemetery.

The cemetery contains 408 Commonwealth burials of the First World War & 1 from the Second World War. There are also 16 French War Graves. (CWGC)

Namps-Au-Val British Cemetery, France



(Photographs from CWGC)





(Photo courtesy of David Milborrow)

