

Codford St. Mary

Roll of Honour



Lest we Forget

World War I



200495 PRIVATE

WALTER GEORGE PORTINGALE

1/4th BN. WILTSHIRE REGIMENT

19th SEPTEMBER, 1918

Walter George PORTINGALE

Walter George Portingale was born at Monkton Deverill, Wiltshire, one of 9 children born to parents Edmund/Edward & Elizabeth Portingale (nee Tudgay or Tugday). His birth was registered in the district of Mere, Wiltshire in the September quarter of 1884 with the spelling of Portingall – as with all his siblings except for Ernest F. who had the spelling of Portingale. Arthur's father had married using the surname Portingall.

Walter George Portingale was christened on 5th April, 1885 at Monkton Deverill, Wiltshire. His parents were listed as Edward & Elizabeth Portingale.

The 1891 Census records George as a 6 year old living with his family at Monkton Deverill, Wiltshire with his family. His parents were listed as Edmund Portingale (Shepherd, aged 40, born Monkton Deverill) & Elizabeth Portingale (aged 38, born Kingston Deverill). 7 children were recorded – John (Agricultural Labourer, aged 17), Mary J (Domestic Servant, aged 15), Frederick (Agricultural Labourer, aged 13), Arabella (aged 9), then George, Amelia (aged 3) & Emma B. (aged 1). All the children had been born at Monkton Deverill, Wiltshire.

The 1901 Census records Walter G. Portingale as a 15 year old Shepherd Boy, living with his family at 78 Sand St, Longbridge Deverill, Warminster, Wiltshire. His parents were listed as Edward Portingale (Shepherd on a farm, aged 50, born Monkton Deverill) & Elizabeth Portingale (aged 47, born Kingston Deverill). 6 children were listed in the household – Ernest F. (Shepherd on a farm, aged 22), Bertha (aged 12), then Walter G., Emma B. (aged 10), Elise M. (aged 7) & Archie A. (aged 5).

The 1911 Census records George Portingale as a 23 year old Carter on a Farm, living with his family a Cheapside, Codford St. Mary in a 2 roomed dwelling. His parents were listed as Edward Portingale (Labourer on a farm, aged 60) & Elizabeth Portingale (aged 52). Also listed in the household were George's younger siblings – Bertha (General Servant, aged 21), Elsie (aged 17) & Archie (Shepherd on a Farm, aged 15).

A marriage was registered in the March quarter, 1915 for Walter G. Portingale & Ada Hulbert, in the district of Melksham, Wiltshire.

Walter George Portingale enlisted with the Wiltshire Regiment at Warminster, Wiltshire. He was given the rank of Private & a service number of 2031, later to be renumbered to 200495. Private George Portingale's records show that he was attached to 1/4th Territorial Force Battalion. His residence was listed as Trowbridge, Wiltshire. The Medal Index Card for Walter G Portingale only shows the earlier service number of 2031. His younger brother Archie Arthur Portingale had a previous service number of 2030 – so it can be assumed that they enlisted at the same time.

The 1/4th Territorial Force Battalion of the Wiltshire Regiment originated in August, 1914 at Trowbridge. In October, 1914 they sailed from Southampton, landing at Bombay, India on 9th November, 1914. In September, 1917 the Battalion was moved to Egypt. The 1/4th Battalion of

Wiltshire Regiment was involved in action in Palestine from October, 1917 until end of October, 1918. During 19th September – 25th September, the Battalion was involved in Battles of Megiddo, Sharon & Nablus.

Pte George Portingale was killed in action on 19th September, 1918 in Egypt, aged 34 years.

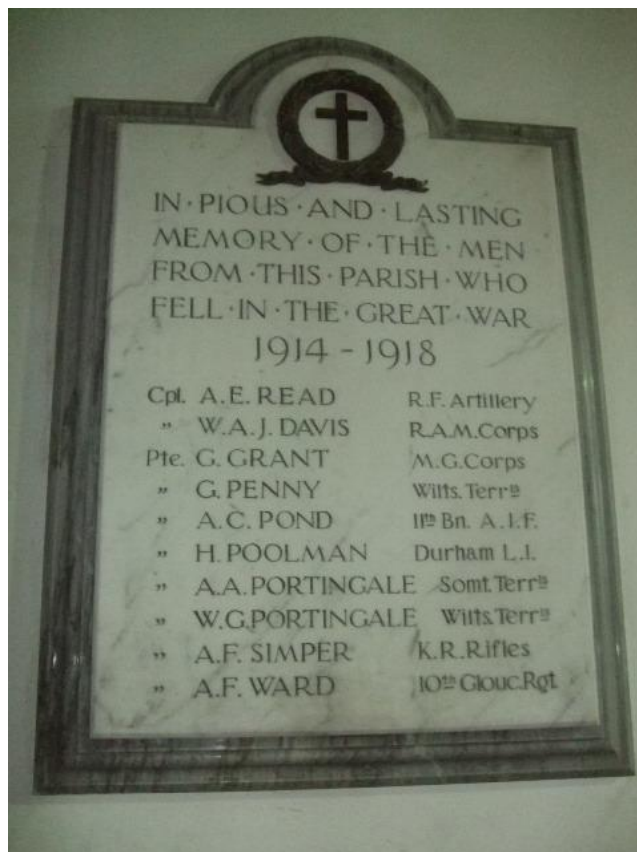
Pte W. G. Portingale is remembered in Ramleh War Cemetery, Israel – position L 29. His death is acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Pte W. G. Portingale as the husband of Mrs Maclean (formerly Portingale) of 4 Carpenters Alms Yard, Trowbridge, Wiltshire. Ada Portingale had remarried with her marriage registered in the June quarter of 1919 in the district of Melksham, Wiltshire. Ada Portingale married George Maclean. Six births were registered between 1920 & 1935 with surname Maclean & mother's maiden name of Hulbert, in the district of Melksham.

Pte Walter G. Portingale was entitled to the British War & Victory Medals as well as the Territorial Force War Medal. His Medal Index Card does not show a date he had entered a Theatre of War.

W. G. Portingale is remembered as a Casualty of WW1 in the Diocese of Salisbury Memorial Book for Codford St. Mary.

Pte W. G. Portingale of Wiltshire Territorials is remembered on the World War 1 Memorial plaque in St. Mary's Church, Codford, Wiltshire.



(Photo courtesy of Romy Wyeth)

Ramleh War Cemetery

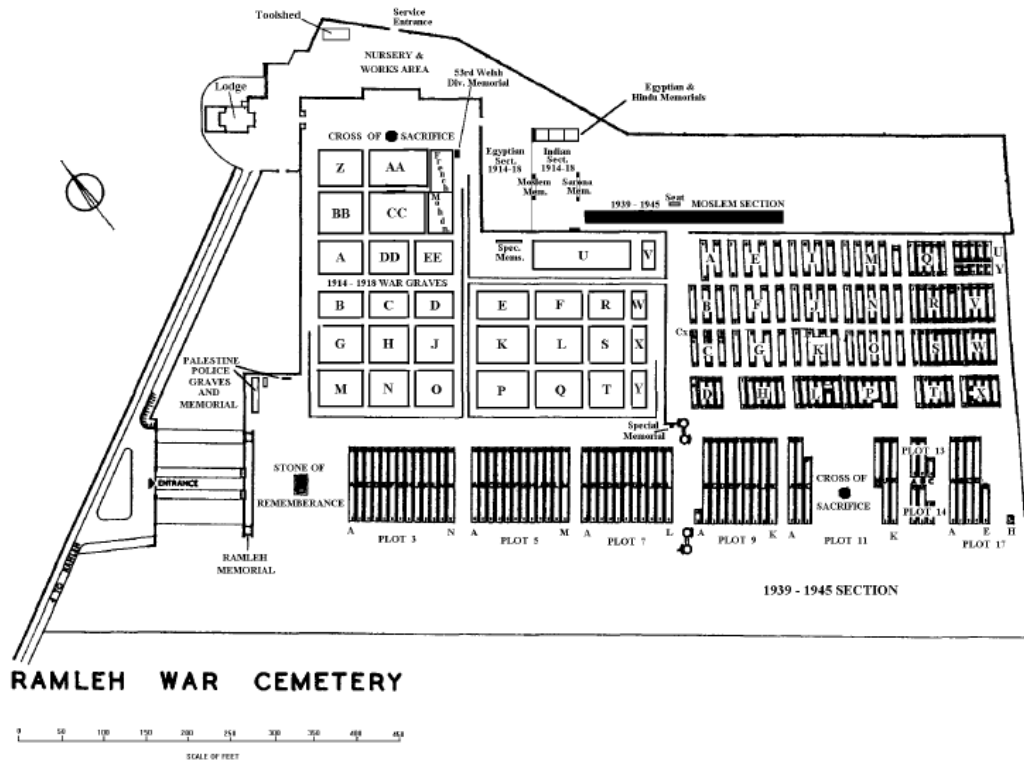
Ramleh Commonwealth War Graves Commission Cemetery & Memorial to the Missing is located in the town of Ramla (Ramleh), Israel. The cemetery grounds were assigned to the United Kingdom in perpetuity by the municipality of Ramla in recognition of the sacrifices made by the British Empire in the defence & liberation of Palestine during the war. It is the largest cemetery for Commonwealth forces in Israel.

The cemetery dates from World War 1, when Ramleh (now Ramla) was occupied by the 1st Australian Light Horse Brigade on 1st November, 1917. Field Ambulances and later Casualty Clearing Stations were posted at Ramleh and Lydda from December, 1917 onwards. The cemetery was begun by the medical units, but some graves were brought in later from the battlefields and other cemeteries.

Ramleh War Cemetery contains 3,300 Commonwealth burials of the First World War, 964 of them unidentified & 1,168 burials from Second World War. There are also 891 war graves of other nationalities from both wars and 525 non-war burials.



(Photo by Acmothompson 2007)



Private Archie Arthur Portingale, 265988, younger brother of Walter George Portingale was killed in action on 16th August, 1917 whilst serving with the Somerset Light Infantry, in the battle of Langemarck. He has no known grave & is remembered on the Tyne Cot Memorial in Belgium – Panel 41 – 42.

Pte Archie Arthur Portingale is also remembered, along with his brother, in the Diocese of Salisbury Memorial Book for Casualties of WW1 & on the WW1 Memorial plaque located inside the Church at Codford St. Mary.