

Hindon
Men Who Served & Survived
Connected to Hindon



Lest we Forget

World War 1



145755 GUNNER

C. G. HOWELL

ROYAL GARRISON ARTILLERY

Charles George HOWELL

George Charles Howell was born at Hindon in 1895 to parents Joseph & Lucy Howell (nee Jukes). His birth was registered in the district of Tisbury, Wiltshire in the June quarter of 1895. George Charles Howell's parents had married at St. John the Baptist Church, Hindon, Wiltshire in 1890.

The 1901 Census recorded George C. Howell as a 6 year old, living with his family at Down View, Fonthill Gifford, Wiltshire. His parents were recorded as Joseph Howell (Mason, aged 48, born Hindon) & Lucy Howell (aged 46, born West Tisbury). There were 4 children listed in this Census, all stated to have been born at Fonthill Gifford – Herbert W. (aged 9), Arthur J. (aged 8), then George & Ernest J. (aged 2).

The 1911 Census recorded Charlie Howell as a 16 year old Grocer's Apprentice living with his family in a 4 roomed dwelling at The Down, Hindon. His parents were listed as Joseph Howell (Mason on Estate, aged 57) & Lucy Howell (aged 54). Joseph & Lucy Howell had been married for 20 years & had 4 children. The 4 children were still living at home but on this census they were all listed as having been born at Hindon - Herbert (Bricklayer on Estate, aged 19), Arthur (Cabinet Maker Apprentice, aged 18), then Charlie & Ernest (At School, aged 12).

Charles George Howell enlisted with the Royal Garrison Artillery in March 1917. He was a 22 year old Plumber living at Down View, Hindon, Salisbury. The next-of-kin was listed as his father – Joseph Howell of Down View, Hindon. Charles Howell stated on his Enrolment Paper that he had a preference for R.E. (Royal Engineers). His paper stated that he had previously been rejected. He was given the rank of Gunner & a service number of 145755.

Gunner Charles Howell was called up for Service on 28th March, 1917 at Warminster & was posted to Royal Garrison Artillery No. 3 Depot at Plymouth.

Gunner Charles Howell was posted to Reinforcing Depot at Stowlangtoft, Sussex on 16th April, 1917 & transferred to 330th Siege Battery on 26th April, 1917.

Gunner Charles Howell embarked from Southampton on 24th May, 1917 & disembarked at Havre, France on 25th May, 1917.

Gunner Charles Howell was granted leave to UK via Boulogne with 14 days from 2nd August, 1918. He was written up for being Absent without Leave from 7.40 am on 16th August, 1918 to 7.40 am on 17th August, 1918 – absent for 24 hours. Gunner Howell forfeited 1 days' pay as punishment.

Gunner Charles Howell was posted to 488th Siege on 11th April, 1919.

Gunner Charles Howell was granted leave to UK via Calais for 14 days on 22nd April, 1919 & rejoined his Battalion from leave on 9th May, 1919.

Gunner Charles Howell was granted leave to UK via Calais for 14 days on 19th August, 1919 & rejoined his Battalion on 2nd September, 1919.

Gunner Charles Howell was posted to "B" Battery 133 C. on 16th October, 1919

Gunner Charles Howell was demobilised on 5th December, 1919.

Gunner Charles G. Howell, 145755, R.G.A., was entitled to British War Medal & Victory Medal.



British War Medal & Victory Medal



The Siege Batteries of the Royal Garrison Artillery

Siege Batteries of Royal Garrison Artillery (R.G.A.) were equipped with heavy howitzers, sending large calibre high explosive shells in high trajectory, plunging fire. The usual armaments were 6 inch, 8 inch and 9.2 inch howitzers, although some had huge railway- or road-mounted 12 inch howitzers. As British artillery tactics developed, the Siege Batteries were most often employed in destroying or neutralising the enemy artillery, as well as putting destructive fire down on strongpoints, dumps, store, roads and railways behind enemy lines.

