

# Private Ed' Clifton Brown

An 'Other Rank' of

St Leonards Road

Horsham



Photo by Author: Mike Dancy.

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### Summary:

This case study looks around at what is known of the life of Private Edward (Ed) Clifton BROWN, G/25455 who served with the Royal Sussex Regiment and was a casualty of the Great War.

The study looks at the Town of Horsham and St Leonards Road in which Ed lived, the people in it then and the road today. It contains a brief family history from his parents to the present day and looks at his short part in the Great War at that time.

### Introduction:

I have undertaken this study as part of the Great War Project because I feel some emotional attachment to the horrors of that War and to the family of the subject. My late father was adopted by Ed's mother when little older than one year as his mother had died. I know little about my father's early years but as a young boy remember his father's house, also in this road, and the trench art within.

I live in the same road that they all lived, just a few doors away from their house, and have know this road most of my life. I have therefore pieced together what I can from what little I had, it is such a shame I never enquired/listened of these things while I was young but I guess that's how it goes?

### Background:

Ed lived in St Leonards Road, Horsham, West Sussex. In 1918 Horsham was still largely a Market Town, although the railway was in service as an important junction by 1892. It was connected by main carriageways to London and the Coast and East/West to Crawley, Chichester and Guildford. Since 1918 the Town has grown significantly mainly due to improved commuter links, Gatwick Airport expansions and the influence of large Pharmaceutical (CIBA) and Insurance Company (Sun Alliance) once making Horsham their home.

St Leonards Road is an old road (pre-1813) leading off from the main Horsham to Brighton Road. It has grown from not much more than a cart track through the nearby St Leonards Forest to be the main route around the South East side of the Town. In 1918 the road's tarmac surface stopped 500m east of the main Brighton Road (A281) where it turned into a track leading to Mannings Heath/Slaugham via Doomsday Green. Essentially it was just a residential road with a few shops and a pub.

Ed's family worked on the Hernbrook Estate where his father Thomas, Ed at sometime also worked in the gardens. Thomas and his wife Agnes came from 'Agricultural Labourer' background, Thomas from Ifield and Agnes from Cuckfield.

The house in which they eventually lived still stands as a single dwelling known as 'Well Cottage', now No 16 (renumbered since 1918 when it was No 4). It was then a pair of tied cottages and was part of the Hernbrook Estate. The Estate was owned and managed by the SANDEMAN family and since the demise of the Estate from the 1930's the subsequent developed local roads bear the name of 'Hernbrook' and 'Sandeman' (see Map p6).

'Ed' was the second child of Thomas BROWN and Agnes (nee DANCY). Agnes was the sister of my grandfather Percival W DANCY and was therefore my father's 1st cousin. Ed had an elder sister Ivy May and a younger sister Dora (see family tree p8). Following enlistment for services at home Ed finally saw action in Palestine before being moved to the European front line where he was killed by the retreating German Army on 1 August 1918.

#### Detail:

Horsham:

West Sussex is bordered by Hampshire to the West, Surrey to the North, East Sussex and the English Channel to the South, the County Town is Chichester. The town of Horsham is located at the North of the county and is about mid-way East to West, located geographically within the Sussex Weald between the North and South Downs. The river Arun, who's source is a few miles East at Pease Pottage, runs through the centre of the town before making its way, via Arundel, to the sea at Littlehampton.

Little is known about its early beginnings, perhaps as an agricultural hamlet. However, Roman remains have been found locally indicating a possible link to the earlier civilisation. The Roman road of 'Stane Steet' runs North/South about six miles to the West. More recently Iron Age remains have been unearthed at Broadbridge Heath. The present day Town has its roots in Saxon times but was mainly developed by the Normans (De-Braose family) as a part of the Rape of Bramber. It had a chequered history politically and was known as a 'Rotten Borough' in the eighteenth century due to the malpractices of the landed gentry. Horsham once played a large part facilitating the iron industry when much of this part of Sussex was producing iron in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Once the iron industry moved North to it's new source of fuel (coal, instead of charcoal) it resorted to agriculture and marketing. More recently, in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, following a decline after the Napoleonic wars the town developed significantly into a thriving market town. Much is written about Horsham and it has an excellent library and museum both worthy of future study.

### St Leonards Road:

The road is about one mile South East of the town centre and branches due East from the main Brighton Road (A281). In 1911, on the North side, there were about 50 properties, mostly semi-detached Victorian designs. Behind these houses were open fields belonging to Bennetts Farm. Near it's Eastern end it joined up with Comptons Lane which led, via Smith's Barn to Roffey, continuing East it turned into a cart track. On the Southern side there were four properties of an earlier period up to a point opposite Comptons Lane where there was a row of 19 semi-detached Victorian cottages. Amongst these cottages there is one much older cottage and at the Eastern end was the Manor house (Heron's Ghyll). Behind these properties to the South were the Hernbrook estate and the grounds of Heron's Ghyll.



St Leonards Road – c.1900 Postcard from Authors collection



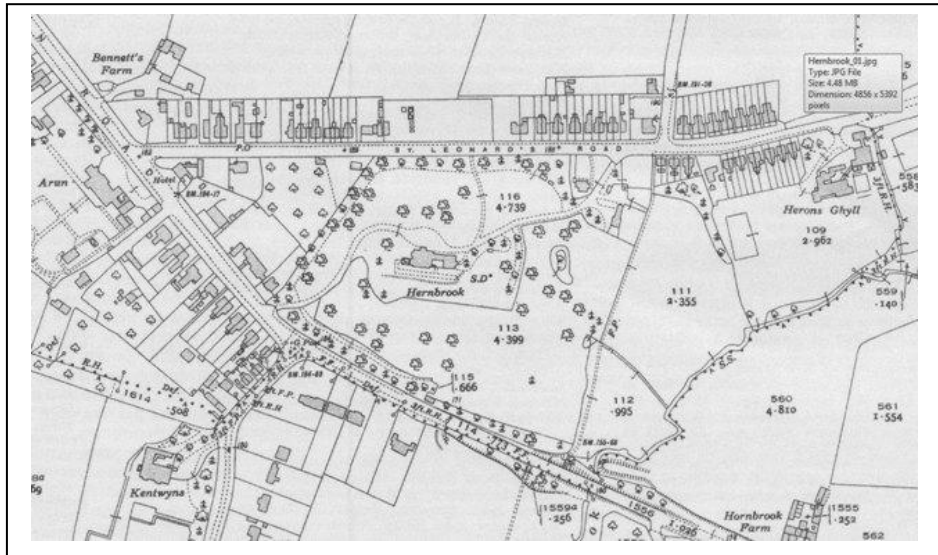
St Leonards Road – 2010 Authors Photo

About 1960 much expansion took place around the South East of the town and a link road was constructed connecting Roffey directly to St Leonards in effect by-passing the town. The demise of the Hernbrook estate made possible 4 additional properties on the South side and another 5 on the North side in what was the kitchen garden of the estate. The new road extending to Roffey included a whole new estate that I shall not describe here (see Map p6)

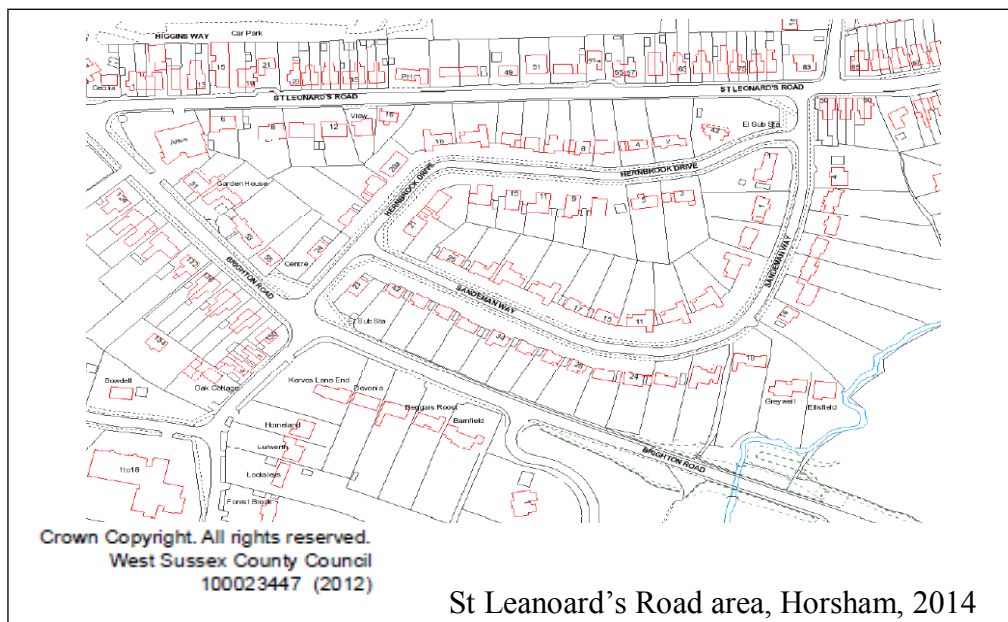
In 1911, on its junction to the Brighton road, there stood 'The St Leonards Hotel', sadly now a convenience store. There is a public house called 'The Foresters Arms' and there were four small stores of which only one is tenuously hanging on, although my fathers butchers shop (No7) remains as a beauty treatment salon.

The Hernbrook estate:

The Hernbrook estate comprised of Hernbrook House, lodge and gardens accessed from either Brighton Road (A281) or St Leonards Road, also a pathway led to a walled kitchen garden located opposite in St Leonards Road. It was owned by the SANDEMAN family comprised of William Barclay SANDEMAN, eldest son of Major General Robert Turnbull SANDEMAN, born 31<sup>st</sup> January 1833, died 15<sup>th</sup> September 1899. William's wife Mary (nee HOLMES) was born 17<sup>th</sup> November 1832 and died, March 22<sup>nd</sup> 1917. The SANDEMANS' are listed in Burkes Peerage and were believed to have been connected to the famous Port business. Following the death of Mary the estate was wound up and sold for development and demolished, except the lodge which is now a small nursing home. There are now two roads that run through the old estate being, Sandeman Way and Hernbrook drive (see below), the main house was demolished. William and Mary are interred at St Johns Church, Coolhurst nearby.



Above is St Leonards Road as it was c.1910, and below as it was 2012<sup>1</sup>



St Leanoard's Road area, Horsham, 2014

### Well Cottage:

The cottage is located on the South side of the road, opposite 'The Foresters Arms' public house. Well Cottage was originally a pair of cottages being tied to the Hernbrook estate and more recently converted to a single dwelling.



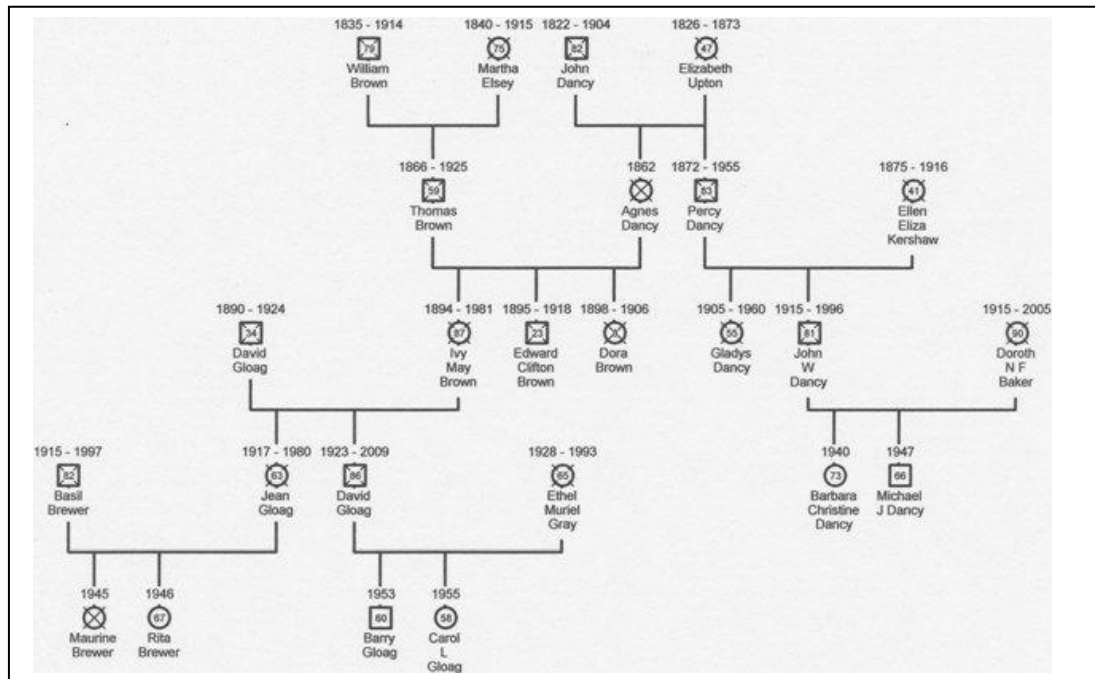
4 St Leonards Road 'Well Cottage' – 2010 Authors photo.

### The Browns:

Thomas and Agnes were married on 8<sup>th</sup> February 1890 at the Parish Church of Ifield, West Sussex, although Agnes's home town was Cuckfield. A daughter and sister to Ed, Ivy May BROWN, was born to Thomas and Agnes on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1890 which may explain why Agnes didn't marry in Cuckfield. Another daughter 'Dora' was born in 1897 but sadly died at the young age of 8 years in 1905

Between 1891 and 1901 Thomas, Agnes, Ivy and Ed were living at 53 St Leonards Road, Horsham (later renumbered to 63) where Thomas was a general servant/gardener on the Hernbrook estate. By 1911 the BROWN's had moved to 4 St Leonards Road (Well Cottage) until 1925 when Thomas passed away although meanwhile Ivy had married and Ed and Dora passed away. In the 1911 census Ed is noted as being a 'gardener/nurseryman' although later he became a plumber. The BROWN's did however take charge of Agnes's nephew John William DANCY, my father, who's mother died of TB when he was just over a year old. The 1911 census also includes a niece, Winifred Mary DANCY, who was resident at that time whilst her own mother (wife of Agnes's brother Albert) was giving birth to Ivy Margaret DANCY.

Family Tree:



The two sides of the tree remain in touch via myself, Carol (nee Gloag) and Rita (nee Brewer) although contact was only re-established in 2005.

Edward Clifton Brown:

Ed was born in Horsham on 8 October 1895 and baptised at St Mary's Parish Church on 30 October. Ed apprenticed as a plumber and, prior to enlistment, worked for Mssrs H.LINDFIELD & Sons, of Brighton Road, Horsham. He was a Sergeant drummer in the Church Lads Brigade where he was greatly esteemed and on leaving in 1916 received a fountain pen as a farewell gift from his local comrades. His sister Ivy's daughter's husband, Basil BREWER, notes that that he had bad eyesight and was unfit for service. However, due to the 'White Feather' campaign, pushed himself through Army medical tests. He had been twice rejected as unfit before being finally accepted on 30 October 1916 for home service with the 1<sup>st</sup> Garrison Btn Royal Warwickshire Regt, army number 203939. Ed, although initially stationed in England, was to eventually transfer to the 4<sup>th</sup> Btn of the Royal Sussex Regiment (RSR) with a new number G/25455. The West Sussex County Times notes in his obituary that he reached Egypt with the RSR on 1 March 1918.



Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regt. No.
BROWN	R. Suss R	Pte	200971
	R. War R		203939
	R. Suss R		9/25455
Edward C			
Medal.	Clas.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTOR	E/2/01 <sup>B</sup> / <sub>11</sub>	2176	
BURST	do	do	
STAR			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry there in			

K. 1387

EC BROWN - British Army Medal Index Card National Archives Ref WO 372/3

Although the WSCT obituary notes that Ed arrived in Egypt on 1 March 1918 it is not known precisely at what point Ed travelled to Palestine.

The Great War in 1918:

Palestine:

At the end of 1917 the Ottoman Empire was in retreat and falling into disarray after Jerusalem was captured by the Allied Forces on 17 December. There followed a period of what has been described 'a period of enforced inactivity' whilst the worst of the winter weather passed and each side consolidated their positions. Both the Allies and the Germans needed troops on the Western Front which left the Turkish Army depleted in force against the Allies who were able to call on Indian and Australian troops with support from the Arabs.

Jericho was captured on 15 February 1918 and was one of a series of Allied offensives in the Judaeian Hills designed to wrong foot the Turks whilst the coastal plain and Megiddo district were the real Allied objective. The Battle of Tel Asure took place in March and Abu Tellul in July gradually forcing the Turkish Armies back across the Jordan River and further north. The RSR was engaged around the North East of Jerusalem from March to the end of June.

## The Western Front:

From mid March 1918 the German Army embarked on a series of five offensive attacks each one showing early gains that later would prove unsustainable. The 'Michael offensive' took place from 21 March across the Somme only to halt at Arras whilst they built up forces for the 'Georgette offensive' along the Lys in Flanders on April 9th.

The 'Blucher-Yorck offensive' to the South across the Aisne launched on 27 May and was hailed as the more successful of the offences. Soissons fell on 29 May and the German Army reached Chateau Thierry just 60 miles from Paris. The Allies finally halted the German Army outside of Reims on 31 May and the offensive ended. By then the Americans had begun to make an impact winning a decisive battle against the Germans at Belleau Wood although casualties on each side were high.

On 9 June the German Army embarked on the 'Gneisenau offensive' West of Soissons which desperately needed to succeed to reinforce earlier gains in May. Again early advantage was lost and the offensive was halted by 14 June. The final 'Marne-Reims offensive' of 15 July using largely exhausted troops and without the advantage of surprise lasted little more than a day and perhaps marked the turning point of the War.

From 18 July the Allies embarked on a series of structured objective counter offensives which resulted in the re-taking of Soissons on 1 August. This was the day that Ed was killed.

## Details of Private Edward Clifton Brown's part in the War:

Some more significant details extracted from the War Diaries of the 1/4<sup>th</sup> RSR, 53<sup>rd</sup> Div from March to September. The War Diaries usually refer to the names of officers but others were 'Other Rank' (ORs)

Generally the RSR Battalion was in reserve in Palestine but did occupy a line at 'Chobham Ridge' on 11 March 1918. Five prisoners and an automatic rifle were captured plus 12 abandoned ammunition wagons and a quantity of shell cases and live shells. The Battalion held the line but being no order to advance were relieved on 13 March. The Diary notes the weather was wet and cold.

From 14 March to the 19 March the Battalion marched via, Beiten, Mount of Olives, Jerusalem, Tellat ed Dumm to Abu Tellul where they took over the line from the 2/22<sup>nd</sup> Londons. Battalion was in the centre of the Brigade line. From 20 March to 21 March a system of 3 posts were defended and held in spite of intermittent shelling during the day.

On 22 March about 300 enemy advanced from the North towards the Musallabeh post which was heavily shelled by 77mm and 4.2 guns from the North West. By 6:00pm the enemy had been driven off suffering heavy casualties (100), our casualties were four ORs killed and 18 wounded.

The company at Musallabeh post was relieved on 23 March. Enemy shelling of the Battalion area continued throughout the 24 and 25 March and although enemy patrols approached within a few hundred yards they were dispersed with rifle grenades.

The Battalion was relieved by the 2/4 R.W. Kents on 27 March and went into reserve.

2 April 1918 saw the Battalion march to Tel es Sultan where they were bombed by enemy planes and four ORs were wounded. The Battalion moved on to Telaat ed Dum, on to Shafat and by the 8 April had nearly reached Tel Asure, scene of the earlier battle. The Battalion relieved the 15<sup>th</sup> Devon (Yeomanry) Battalion and I Company of the Somerset (Yeomanry), again a system of 3 defensive localities was held. The Battalion held the line from 10 to 30 April with little enemy activity other than intermittent shelling.

The Battalion remained holding the line in what was called the Kafir Mailk group from much of May with the occasional shelling with 77mm shells. During this period the positions were consolidated, Sangars<sup>2</sup> strengthened and covered ways dug to the front line. Wire entanglements were put round each post and rifle pits added to each locality. Its sounds odd that a Battalion garden was started with seeds from Brigade!

The Battalion were relieved in the line by the 5<sup>th</sup> R.W.F. on 23 May and started to move out handing over all regimental equipment to the 21<sup>st</sup> Punjabis on the 28 May. From 30 May through to 16 June the Battalion moved via Enab, Latrun, Surafend to Kantara where they remain until entraining to Alexandria for embarkation to Taranto, Italy.

On arrival in Taranto on 21 June the Battalion entrained for France and travelled via Genoa, Marseilles, Etaples, to Proven arriving on 29 June. They remained in that area and received training for gas and close order drills. On 13 July the Battalion moved to School Camp at St Jan Ter Biezen and then on to a point West of Parcy Tigny via Chantilly, Vauciennes and Pusieux where the bivouacked in a wood in reserve on 22 July. The bivouack was heavily shelled on the 23 July with two Officers and 14 ORs killed. On the 27 July the Battalion was relieved by the French and marched into bivouack in the Bois de Boeff, West of St Remy Blanzly.

On 28 July the Battalion was called to action and orders were receive to advance.<sup>3</sup>

Whereas the previous paragraphs are a brief record of events I have chosen to include below a full transcript of the War Diary from 28 Jul, Ed's last days and hours.

28 July - Orders were received for the Battalion to proceed to appoint of assembly along the railway S.W of BOIS DU MONTCAEN. The advance from there at 4:10am on the 29 July under a creeping barrage. The advance to be continued to be within 300 yds S. of the GRAND ROZOY – BEUGNEUX Road where a halt was to made until 6:00am. Thence the advance was to continue to the final objective which was approximately the COURDOUX SERVENAY Road, artillery support being called for as required.

28 July 9:30pm - The Battalion marched to a point of assembly lead by a French guide who had completely lost direction.

29 July 2:45am - The Battalion arrived at the point of assembly

3:00am - Captain A.N.H.WEEKS MC was killed and Captain S.K.Reid MC was wounded by enemy shell.

4:10am - Captain R.G.C.MIDDLETON MC took command of the Battalion with Capt J.C.PESKETT MC as second in command and Adjutant. The Battalion advanced from the point of assembly on a two platoon frontage, touch was kept with the QUEENS on the left and the K.S.O.B on the right. The BOIS DU MORTCEAU was cleared with little opposition. The advance continued to within 300 yds of the GRAND ROZOY – BEUGNEUX Road where a halt was made according to programme. Very few casualties had occurred up to this point.

6:00am The advance was continued across the road into the BOIS DU BEUGNEUX where the line was held up by enemy machine guns in the wood. It was found impossible to obtain artillery support owing to lack of communications and the line was withdrawn to the road and re-organised. The wood was then successfully rushed with the bayonet, a number of the enemy being killed and several machine guns captured.

7:00am - The N.E. edge of the wood was reached and severe M/G fire was encountered in enfilade from both flanks. The advance was continued as far as the BEUGNEUX – COURDOUX Road. On reaching this point it was found impossible to advance further without artillery support and the line was withdrawn to the N.E. edge of the wood.

8:00am - Owing to continued enfilade M/G fire and field artillery salvos at point blank range from the N.E it was found necessary to withdraw the line to the GRAND ROZOY – BEUGNEUX Road. This road was enfiladed with machine guns both from GRAND ROZOY and BEUGNEUX owing to the withdrawal of troops from the flanks.

08:45am - The line was withdrawn to the old PARIS line of defence N. of BLOIS DU MORTCEAU and consolidated, the line was held during the day.

Casualties during day:- Killed 3 Offs - 42 ORs, Wounded 4 Offs – 125 ORs, missing 24 ORs, Wounded and missing 5 ORs.

Officer Casualties killed in action:- Captain ANH WEEKS MC RSRs. 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant FJ BLEEZE Ox and Bucks L. Infantry (attached) and 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant F BLAGG Notts and Derby Rgt (attached).

<p>Officers wounded:- Captain SK Reid MC RSR (died of wounds 30 July 1918), 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant HJ LAWSON Cheshire Rgt (attached), 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant AV Brown RSR and 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant SH KNIGHT RSR.          In addition wounded Reverend WH AGLIONBY CFMC</p>
<p>30 July 2:00am - Outposts were pushed out to the line of GRAND ROZOY – BEUGNEUX road. No infantry engagement during day. Enemy artillery active.</p>
<p>31 July - Quiet during day. Orders were received to advance at 4:45am the following morning and occupy the objective assigned for the 29 July. The artillery were to assist with a creeping barrage.          Casualties during the 24 hours were: ORs Killed 2, wounded 9, missing 1.          The undermentioned Officers, all of the RSR, joined the Battalion on 17 July 1918.: - 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant H BURROWS, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant JHJ COLLINS, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant AV BROWN, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant IL RIED.          Strength of Battalion at end of month: Officers 23 – ORs 636.          Casualties left the Battalion: Killed 4 Offs – 58 ORs, Wounded 4 Off – 149 ORs, Died of wounds 1 Off – 4 ORs, Missing 25 ORs, Wounded and missing 5 ORs, Sick admitted to hospital 1 Off – 46 ORs. Total 10 Off – 317 ORs.          Joined the Battalion, from England: 4 Officers. From hospital 12 ORs. Total joined: 4 OFF – 12 ORs.</p>
<p>1 August - Strength of Battalion at commencement of month: Officers 23 – ORs 636.          The Battalion was assembled 100 yds South of the GRAND ROZOY - BEUGNEUX Road. Formation for the attack four lines of companies.</p>
<p>4:45am - The line advanced through the BOIS DU BEUGNEUX. The enemy retired in disorder leaving many machine guns in our hands. A number were killed with the bayonet and prisoners were taken.</p>
<p>6:00am - The BEUGNEUX – COURDOUX Road was crossed and the objective occupied. The Battalion was now in touch with the Queens on the left and the 103<sup>rd</sup> Brigade on the right. The line was consolidated and the Battalion reorganised.</p>
<p>6:45am - Orders were received to advance the line for 600 yards.</p>
<p>7:00am - The Battalion advance with the QUEENS on the left and the 8<sup>th</sup> SCOTTISH RIFLES on the right and occupied the line with little opposition capturing 6 machine guns, the line was consolidated.</p>
<p>9:00am - Our artillery put down an intense barrage but no enemy observed by us.          Casualties during action:- ORs Killed 10 – wounded 28 – missing 3.</p>
<p>The Battalion remained holding the line. The enemy appeared to have retired from our front. French troops passed through our line and advanced in pursuit of the enemy.</p>
<p>The Battalion remained in bivouac.</p>
<p>The Battalion embussed for ROUVILLE and went into billets for the night</p>

During this action two other men from the 1/4<sup>th</sup> Battalion RSR, 101<sup>st</sup> Brigade, 34<sup>th</sup> Division were killed:

George Maurice Steele TF/200459 – Private 'C' Company. Killed in Action 29 July.

Archie Thomas Lillywhite TF/200126 - Lance Corporal 'C' Company. Killed in action 1 August.

Other who served and lived in St Leonards Road:

Information from the 1911 Census shows there to have been 29 men aged between 18 to 29 who could have been eligible to serve. However, I have yet only been able to locate service records of the following:-

Name	Number	KIA	Regiment
BARGENT E.B.			Royal Navy (RN)
BARGENT J.R.	J/92233	19/9/1918	H.M.S.Powefull. RN
<b>BROWN E.C.</b>	<b>G/25455</b>	<b>1/8/1918</b>	<b>1/4<sup>th</sup> Bat RSR 101<sup>st</sup> Bgd 34<sup>th</sup> Div</b>
BURCHELL W.			Listed WWI Draft, Enlistment and Services
CHARMAN J.E.		24/9/1917	1/4 <sup>th</sup> Bat RSR 160 Bgd 53 <sup>rd</sup> (Welsh) Div
COOPER E.	TF/200841	26/3/1917	'C' Comp 1/4 <sup>th</sup> Bat RSR 160 <sup>th</sup> Bgd 53 <sup>rd</sup> (Welsh) Div
HILLS A.		1915	
KEFFORD S.W.			Listed WWI Draft, Enlistment and Services
LEE G.E.	13195 Pt	15/9/1916	3 <sup>rd</sup> Bat Coldstream Gds 1 <sup>st</sup> Bgd 1 <sup>st</sup> Gds Div
MILLS E.F			Enlisted 1915
REYNOLDS N.H.	TF/200523	26/3/1917	1/4 <sup>th</sup> Bat RSR 160 Bgd 53 <sup>rd</sup> (Welsh) Div
RICHARDSON V.D.	TF/1278	2/10/1915	1/4 <sup>th</sup> Bat RSR 160 Bgd 53 <sup>rd</sup> (Welsh) Div
STEPHENS H.L.	10832	8/2/1916*	Duke of Cornwall Light Infantry 6 <sup>th</sup> bat

\* Died at home.

## Oulchy-Le-Chateau

Entry contained in the War Graves Cemetery register at Oulchy-Le-Chateau Churchyard: Brown, Private, EDWARD CLIFTON, G/25455. 1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Battalion. Royal Sussex Regiment. 1 August 1918. Age 23. Son of Mrs Agnes Brown, of 184 Henley Road, Ilford, Essex. (this relating to the address of her daughter, perhaps where Agnes was staying at the time.)

The graveyard plot was formed after the Armistice and was used for reburials from surrounding battlefields. It contains the graves of 124 British Soldiers.

Other Royal Sussex Soldiers interned at this site are:

200126 Lance Cpl AT LILLYWHITE died 1 August 1918, Age not given

G/21769 Private JW FISHER died 1 August 1918. Age not given.

G/21650 Private EA EVITT died 29 July 1918. Age 30.

G/25418 Private GS STONER died 29 July 1918. Age 33.



The War Graves Cemetery above at Oulchy-Le-Chateau is set separately to the church graveyard in a most beautiful and serene location. Photo by Author

## **Acknowledgements and References:**

### **Acknowledgement:**

I am indebted to Mr Garry T. Cooper, author of 'Horsham's Heroes of the Great War' for providing my inspiration and whom I have had the pleasure to meet.

### **Books:**

G.T COOPER - *Horsham's Heroes of the Great War 1914-1919* - Friends of Horsham Museum Society.

H.P WILMOTT - *World War I* - Dorling Kindersley (DK) - [www.dk.com](http://www.dk.com)

### **Sources:**

Mr B.R BREWER – Personal Notes.

West Sussex County Times – 31 August 1918

General Register Office (GRO)

War Diaries for RSR 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion

1. 1 March 1918 through to 31 August 1918 1/4<sup>th</sup> Battalion 53 Division (transcribed by the Author from photographs of originals held at the NA)
2. 1 June 1918 through to 31 July 1919 BEF 34 Division, 101 Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion (NA Ref WO 95 2458)

England & Wales Free BMD Birth, Marriage and Death Indexes 1837-1915

National Census Records 1891, 1901 and 1911.

Burkes Peerage

### **Web Sites:**

The National Archives

[www.nationalarchives.gov.uk](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk)

World War I Cemeteries

[www.ww1cemeteries.com](http://www.ww1cemeteries.com)

Ancestry

[www.ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)

### **Endnotes:**

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<sup>1</sup> Ordnance Survey Map TQ 1829-1929 Original Scale 1:2,500.

<sup>2</sup> Sangars were fortifications of stone or sandbags used where trenching was difficult (Wikipedia)

<sup>3</sup> The above is summarised from the full script as noted in the Sources (1) above

<sup>4</sup> The above is the full script of the diary for 28<sup>th</sup> July to 1<sup>st</sup> August as noted in the Sources (2) above