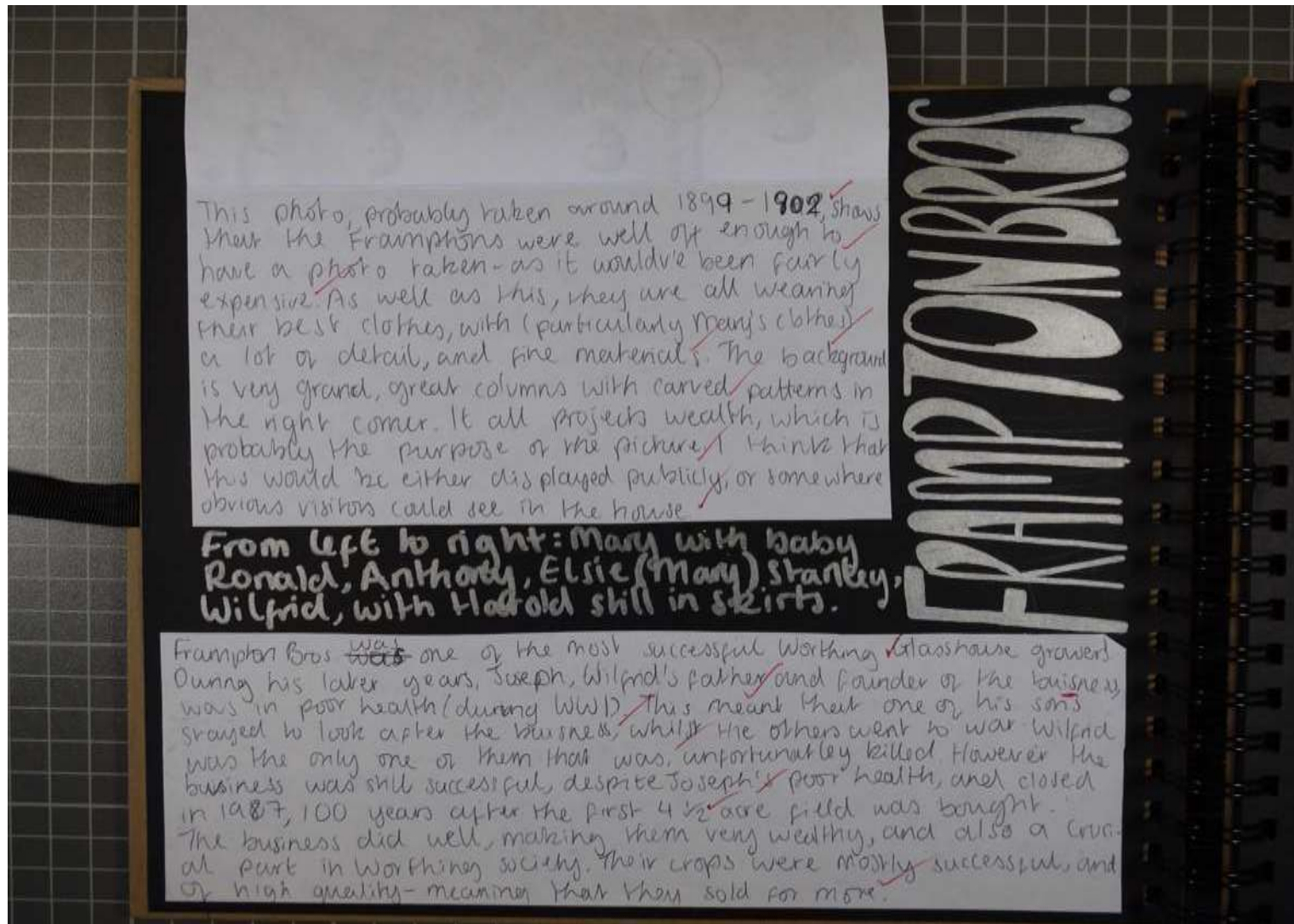




From left to right: Mary with baby  
Ronald, Anthony, Elsie (Mary) Stanley,  
Wilfrid, with Harold still in skirts.

FRAMPTON BROS.

Frampton Bros ~~was~~ one of the most successful Worthing Glasshouse growers.  
During his later years, Joseph, Wilfrid's father and founder of the business  
was in poor health/during WWI. This meant that one of his sons  
stepped in to look after the business, while the others went to war. Wilfrid  
was the only one of them that was unfortunately killed. However the  
business was still successful, despite Joseph's poor health, and closed  
in 1987, 100 years after the first 4 1/2 acre field was bought.  
The business did well, making them very wealthy, and also a crucial  
part in Worthing society. Their crops were mostly successful, and  
of high quality - meaning that they sold for more.



The business was a good source of income, particularly as during the war, many men had to leave their jobs to join the army, and although they were still paid, there was always an uncertainty of death.

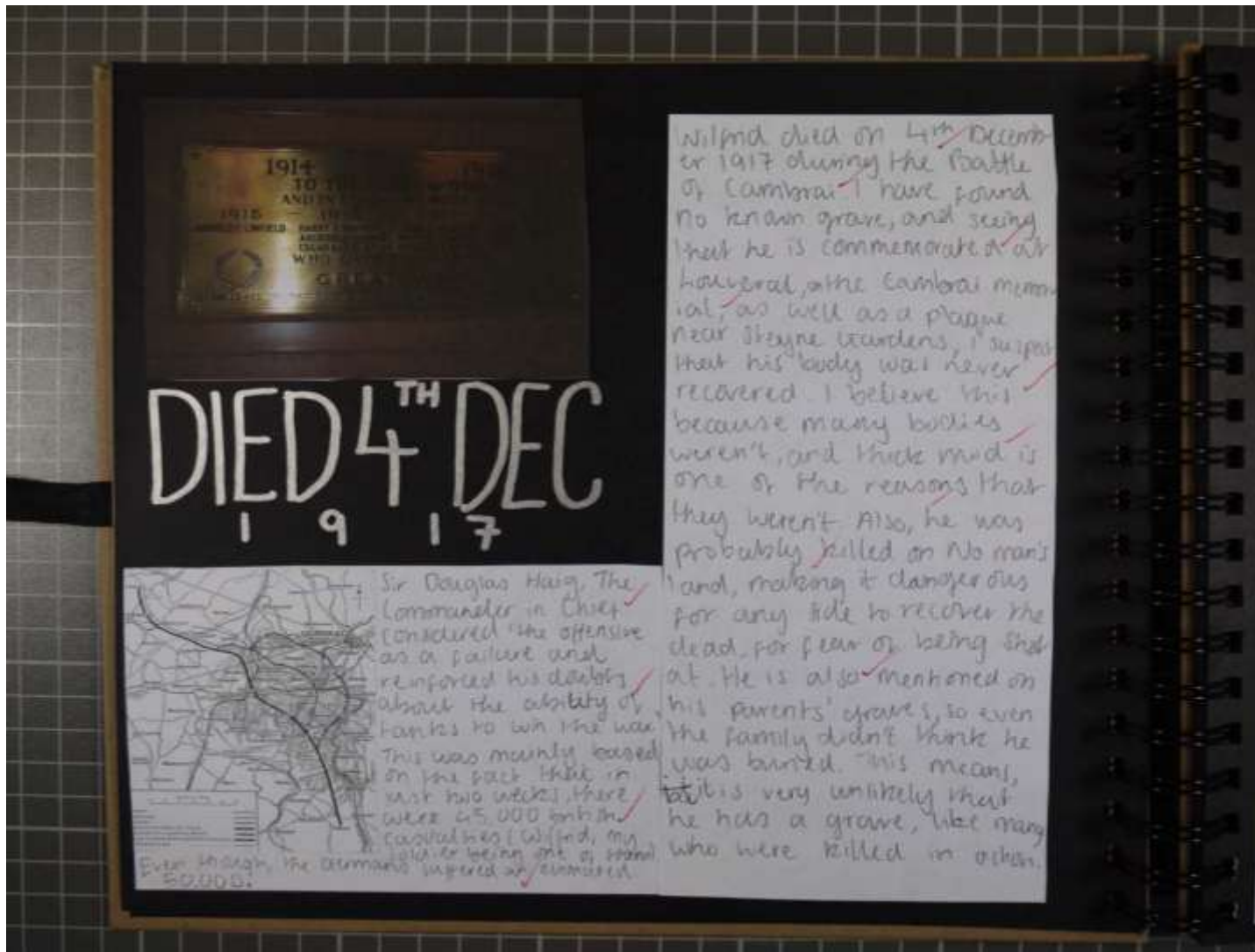
As Wilfrid was fairly young when he joined, he may not have had a job, and due to his father's bad health, most likely just helped out in the glasshouses. As it carried the family name, I suspect it was normal for the children to help whenever they could, particularly in the earlier days of the war.

Above is a copy of a census in which their names (of the family) are included. It tells us that they lived at 22 Woodoor Road, Worthing. As it is the 1901 census, Wilfrid would've been 7 or 8.

Joseph Frampton m. Mary Anthony  
 1886

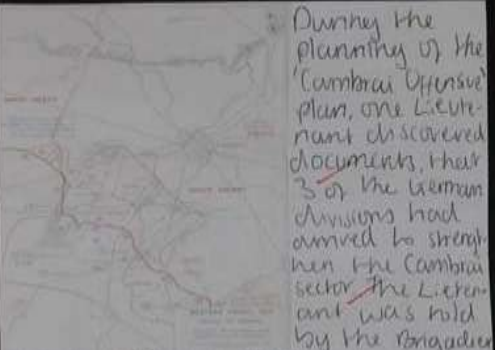
Anthony 1887   Stanley 1888   Elsie 1890   Wilfrid 1893   Harold 1896   Ronald 1898   Dorothy 1903

**THE FRAMPPTONS**



# The Battle of Cambrai, 1917

## MILITARY TACTICS




During the planning of the 'Cambrai Offensive' plan, one Lieutenant discovered documents, that 3 of the German Divisions had arrived to strengthen the Cambrai sector. The Lieutenant was told by the Brigadier general 'This is a bluff put up by the Germans to deceive us. I am sure the units are still on the Russian front. If the Commander in chief were to think that the Germans had reinforced this sector, it might shake his confidence in our success.' The Commander in chief, Haig, was not told this information, then ordered a tank attack at Arras. This was launched on the 20<sup>th</sup> November, and completely surprised the German army. This progress towards Cambrai continued until 10 days after the attack was launched, the Germans launched 29 divisions as a counter offensive. By the time the fighting ended - 7<sup>th</sup> December the ground was almost entirely re-gained by the Germans.


In Memory of  
Private  
**Wilfred John Frampton**

276333, 3rd Bn., London Regiment (Royal Fusiliers) who died on 04 December 1917 Age 24


Son of Joseph and Mary A. E. Frampton, of 22, Windsor Rd., Worthing.

Remembered with Honour  
Cambrai Memorial, Louverval



  
 Commemorated in perpetuity by  
 the Commonwealth War Graves Commission


# LIFE AS A PRIVATE



The same regiment Wilfrid was in, and the exact same division/~~ballot~~ battalion, but he is unfortunately not in the picture.


The rank of a private was the lowest in the hierarchy of the army known as a 'Tommy' or 'Tommy Atkins', by many. They were left to sleep in the trenches, and had a high risk of trench foot. Many wrote about the horrors of the trenches, either through poetry or, just an exact account, or otherwise. The trenches were thought by most as the worst part of the war. This is the sort of thing my soldier, Wilfrid would've experienced. Many didn't expect it to be so hard. One soldier said this of the trenches:

... During the day we were working in, and we would snatch an hour's sleep when we could, on a wet and muddy fire-step, wet through to the skin ourselves.

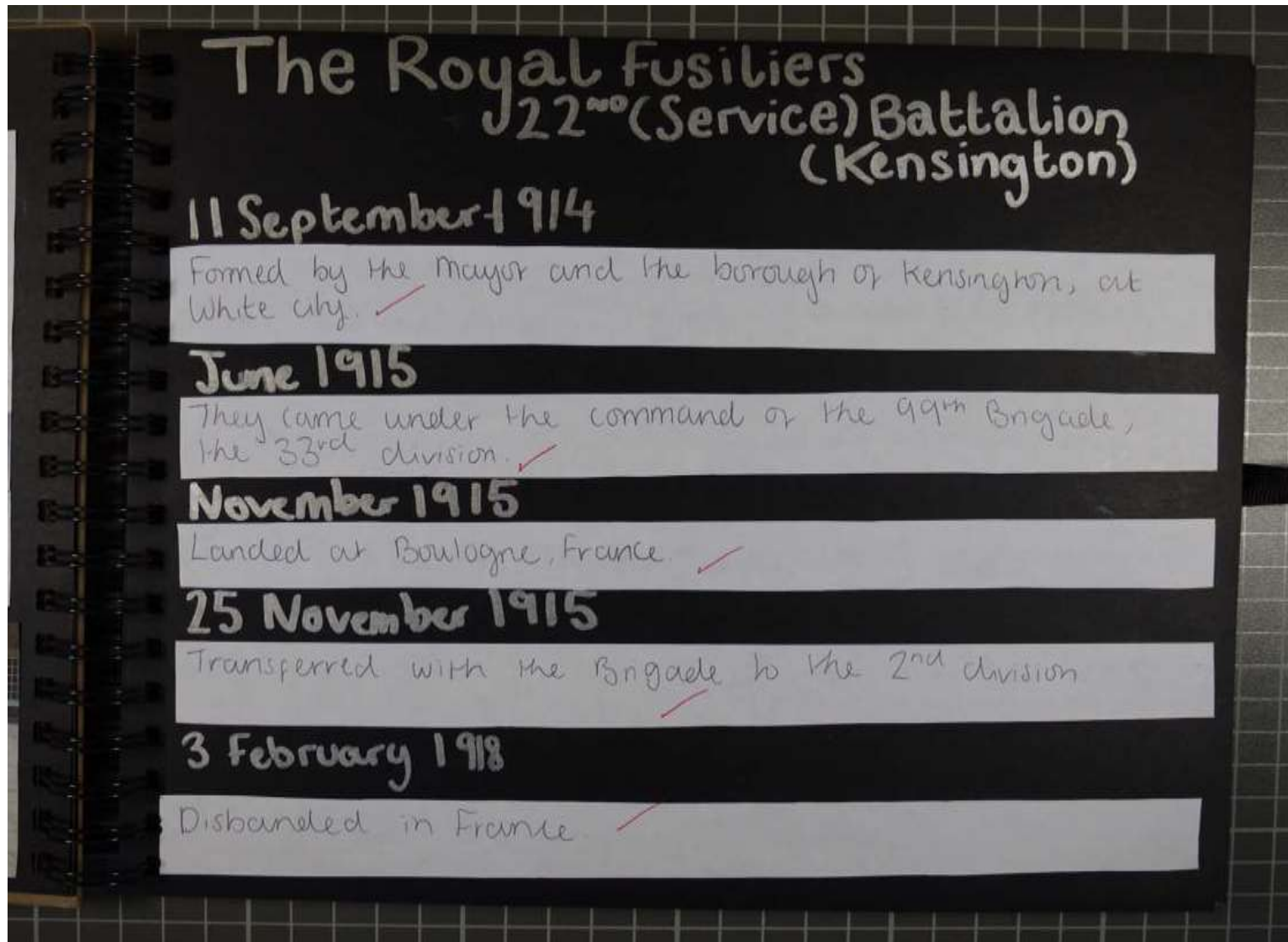


## UNIFORM

A private would've worn khaki trousers, with knee length khaki wool puttees, a khaki garter, and a service dress cap with the regimental badge. Wilfrid would've had the badge on the left on his cap. Most privates would've worn almost the exact same thing, even if not from the same regiment. He also would've carried the pattern mill webbing equipment. The shoulder straps supported ten pouches altogether 2 sets of 5. One set of five either side of a fanny on the wide belt. On the belt are his bayonet, entrenching tool, water bottle, and entrenching tool. A small and large pack were carried as necessity, together with other items and ordnance.













# Weapons

## Machine Guns







He might have used

Machine guns were one of the newer inventions in the war, and one of the main reasons so many died. Men who went over the top of the trenches stood little chance when the enemy started using the guns. As tactics had not changed to fit in with this new weapon, hundreds of rounds of ammunition a minute was shot at the infantry charge. The British machine gun 'Vickers' was fired by 2 men, firing 450 rpm.









## Bayonets






A bayonet is a knife/sword designed to fit in on the muzzle of a rifle or similar weapon. It was, more than anything, a close combat and/or weapon to be used as a last resort. One advantage was that, in close proximity, it was less likely to injure your fellow soldiers compared to using a rifle or otherwise. However, if someone was close enough to use it, then they could use their

## Hand Grenades









An explosive chemical or gas bomb, it was thrown most often by hand, or possibly a grenade launcher. They were fairly primitive during WW1, basically empty cans filled with gun powder and stones, with a very simple fuse. Various different types had to be invented to make them safe for the thrower. However many backfired and exploded too soon.

## Rifles

The main type of rifle used by British soldiers in the trenches was the 'bolt action rifle'. Up to 15 rounds could be fired per minute, and a person 1,400m or 1.4km away could be hit. Success did vary on the skill of the soldier. Although the rifle shot 30 times slower than the machine gun, almost every soldier had one and a rifle only took one person to man it.

I think that he would've used a rifle, and a bayonet regularly, as they were issued to most men, and possibly have had a chance to man a machine gun / use a hand grenade, but may not have as he was only a private.

