Albury History Society - alburyhistory.org.uk

Matthew Thompson was born on 30th. April 1885 in Froxfield, Hampshire. His father was a shepherd who came to work in Albury. When he enlisted he gave his mother's address as Weston Square, Albury.

Matthew served in the 12th.Battalion,King's Royal Rifle Corps.The Battalion proceeded to France on the 22nd.July 1915,landing at Boulogne.In 1916 they were in action at the Battle of Mount Sorrel.They were then in action on the Somme.In 1917 they were in action during the German retreat to the Hindenburg Line and then at the Battle of Arras.Matthew Thompson was killed on the 25th.April 1917 aged 21.He is buried in Bray Military Cemetery,France.

- 1.Memorial
- 2.1911 Census
- 3. Army Register of Soldiers Effects
- 4. Descriptive Report on Enlistment
- 5.Note on 12th.Battalion,Kings Royal Rifle Corps
- 6.Note

In Memory of Rifleman

Matthew Thompson

R/15739, 12th Bn., King's Royal Rifle Corps who died on 25 April 1917 Age 21

Son of Anthony and Kate Thompson, of North Dalton, Driffield, Yorks.

Remembered with Honour Bray Military Cemetery





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

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The Wartime Memories Project

- 12th Battalion, Kings Royal Rifle Corps during the Great War -

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12th Battalion, Kings Royal Rifle Corps

12th (Service) Battalion, King's Royal Rifle Corps was raised at Winchester on the 21st of September 1914 as part of Kitchener's Second New Army and joined 60th Brigade, 20th (Light) Division. After training close to home they moved to moved to Bisley, then to Blackdown in November 1914 then February 1915 to billets in Hindhead. They moved to Larkhill on the 10th of April 1915 for final training. They proceeded to France on the 22nd of July 1915, landing at Bonlogne and the division concentrating in the Saint-Omer area. They moved to the Fleurbaix area for trench familiarisation. In 1916 they were in action at the The Battle of Mount Sorrel, in which the Division, along with the Canadians, recaptured the heights. They were in action on the Somme in The Battle of Delville Wood, The Battle of Guillemont, The Battle of Flers-Courcelette, The Battle of Morval and The Battle of Le Transloy. In 1917 they were in action during The German retreat to the Hindenburg Line. The Battle of Langemarck, The Battle of the Menin Road Ridge, The Battle of Polygon Wood and The Cambrai Operations. In 1918 they fought in The Battle of St Quentin, The actions at the Somme crossings and The Battle of Rosieres engaging in heavy fighting in each battle, on the 20th of April they were withdrawn to the area south west of Amiensand received many new drafts of men during the summer. They returned to action at The Battle of the Selle and fought in The Battle of Valenciennes. The Battle of the Sambr and the passage of the Grand Honelle. At the Armitice the Division was in the area between Bavay and Maubeuge and later that month the units moved to the Toutencourt-Marieux area. Demobilistion of the Division began in January 1919 and was complete by the end of May.

If you can provide any additional information, please add it here.

Items from the Home Front Archive

Do you have any photos, postcards, documents or memorabilia relating to this unit? Please add to this archive.

Those known to have served with 12th Battalion, Kings Royal Rifle Corps during the Great War 1914-1918.

- Allsop Arthur E., Rfln. (d.15th Jun 1917)
- Broughlon Thomas Robert. Pte. (d.5th Aug 1916)
- Brown Arthur Benjamin, Rfmn.
- Brown Arthur Benjamin, Rfmn.
- Cotton Walter. Pte. (d.27th Oct 1918)
- Cranidge John Johnson, Rflmn. (d.29th March 1918)
- Elliott Thomas, Ptc. (d.19th September 1916)
- Foster Arthur.
- Gledhill Herbert, Pte.
- Green Charles Robert, Rfmn.
- Hawkesworth Ernest Alfred, Cpl. (d.16th August 1917)
- Hey Joe. Pte. (d. 16th Aug 1917)
- Lamb Joseph, Cpl.
- Leek David, Rfn. (d.22nd Sep 1917)
- Millest Edward William John, Rflmn. (d.2nd April 1918)
- Powell Percy. Ptc. (d.16th Aug 1917)
- Rose Samuel, Rilmn. (d.18th Sep 1916)
- Smitheringale Joseph Henry, Rilmn, (d.26th November 1918)
- Sydee Alfred Henry, Rfn. (d.23rd Sept 1918)
- Thomas Henry George, Rfn. (d.14th Dec 1917)
- Titmas Bertie Edmund. L/Cpl. (d.16th Aug 1917) Woodhouse John, Rffran. (d.4th Oct 1917)

The names on this list have been submitted by relatives, friends, neighbours and others who wish to remember them, if you have any names to add or any recollections or photos of those listed, please Add a Name to this List

Years: 1891, 1901



(/person/114525)

Matthew Thompson (/person/114525)

Date Birth: 30/04/1895 — Place Of Birth: Shillinglee Park, Froxfield, Hampshire —

Father: Anthony Thompson — Mother: Kate Thompson — Siblings: Frank Thompson,

Richard Thompson, David Thompson, Florence Thompson, Kate Thompson, Edith

Thompson, Ellen Thompson — Date Marriage: 30/11/2002 — Date Death: 25/04/1917 —

Age Actual: 21 — Cemetery: Bray Military Cemetery, France — Rank: Private — Service Type: Army —

Battalion: 12th Battalion — Regiment: King's Royal Rifle Corps — Service Number: R/15739 — Service Record:

Parents originally from Driffield in Yorkshire. Later lived in Shamley Green, Surrey. He signed up in 1915, when he

was a bricklayer working in Albury. His father was a shepherd. Only 5' 3" tall. — Census Years:

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