

Reginald Alexander Honour, M.M.

Born Holcombe, 26 June, 1894
Lance Corporal No. 18320

Died France, 17 October 1918, aged 24
Coldstream Guards, 1st Battalion

Reginald Alexander and Bertram Charles Honour (q.v.) were the only children of Thomas Alexander Honour and Emily Drusilla Jarman of Holcombe. Both sons died in the Great War, after the death of Drusilla, leaving Thomas a grieving widower, alone. The Jarman family of Holcombe connects seven men who died in WW1, including two sets of brothers.

Reginald Alexander Honour was a grandson of Henry Honour (1794-1888), born in St Albans, who married Mary Spiers(1820-1888), born in Scotland, and they came to live in Holcombe village, near Dawlish.

They had six children:

Robert Henry Honour	(1846-1916)	born in Plymouth
Agnes Ann "	(1848-1910)	"
Thomas Alexander "	(1850-1929)	"
Charles Foxwell "	(1854-1929)	born in Holcombe
Charlotte "	(1856-)	married Frederick Discombe, R.N.
Caroline Emma/Amy "	(1860-)	married James Jarman (1854-1926)

We are interested in Thomas Alexander Honour who was born in Plymouth in 1850 (GRO ref 1850, Oct/Dec, Plymouth, vol 9, p 363). His parents, Henry and Mary, were living then at the rear of 19 Lower Batter Street, St Andrew's, Plymouth.

They moved to Holcombe village ca 1852, to judge by the places of birth of the last three children. They were living there for the 1861 census with their six children.

In the 1871 census return Henry states that he was a pensioner of the 53rd Regiment in Chelsea, that his wife was a needlework seamstress and that the sons Thomas and Charles were sailors.

Thomas Honour appears in various documents as Thomas Alexander, Thomas Charles and Thomas H Honour, but these may be transcription errors, or that Charles was also Thomas Charles.

By 1881 only two children were still living at home, Charles, 26, a 'mariner' and Charlotte, 24, unmarried.

Henry and Mary Honour's cottage was close to that of their eldest daughter, Agnes Ann (Honour) who had married Charles Abraham Ware Jarman. Charles and Agnes had a large family of eleven children, one of whom, Charlotte Jarman (1875-), married Frederick Bright. By this marriage, the large local Jarman family cemented relationships between the Honour, Kerswell and Bright families.

Thomas Alexander Honour married Emily Drusilla Jarman (1847-1916) in Holcombe in 1883 (GRO ref 1883, July/Sept, Newton Abbot, vol 5b, p210) and they had their first child, Bertram Charles Honour in 1890.

Henry Honour died in 1888, aged 93 (GRO ref, 1888, Jan/Mar, N.A., Vol 5b, p 97) and his wife Mary died later in the same year, aged 69 (GRO ref 1888, Apr/June, vol 5b, p 80).

In 1891 Thomas, Emily and Bertram Honour were at home at Holcombe village cottages, and close by, on the same census sheet, were Sarah Ann Jarman (nee Kerswell) and six of her children. Sarah was the aunt of James Edwin Kerswell (1879-1918, q.v.) and Sidney Kerswell (1894-1915, q.v.) also killed in the War. Agnes Ann Jarman and seven of her children were direct neighbours of the Kerswells and Agnes was the mother of Thomas Frederick Jarman (1868-1915, q.v.) and grandmother to Hubert John Bright (1897-1917, q.v.) and Reginald Charles Bright (1897-1918, q.v.).

Reginald Alexander Honour was the younger son of Thomas and Emily, being born in Holcombe on 26 June 1894. (GRO ref 1894, July/Sept, Newton Abbot, vol 5b, p 99).

Thomas was still shown as a sailor in the 1901 census at the age of 49 while the boys were scholars.

In 1911 the rural life of Holcombe has attracted Thomas to become a 'farm labourer' and both the boys are 'gardeners'. The *Dawlish Gazette* reported that he was 'gardener at Derncleugh, Holcombe.'

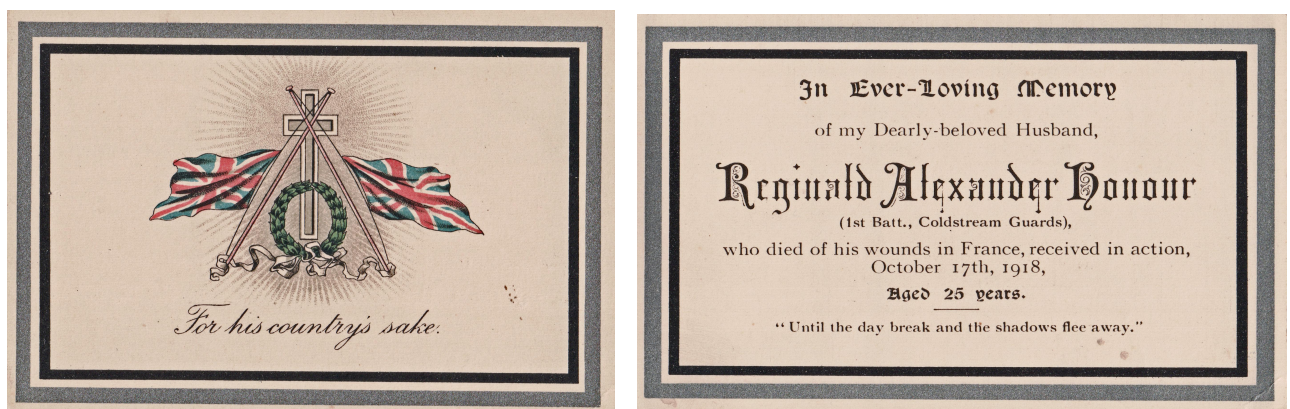
Reginald Alexander Honour married Susie May Hamlin on 1 March 1912 and they had two children, Norman Reginald Honour (1913-1967) and Gwendoline May Honour (1916-1987).

Emily Drusilla Honour died in 1916 (GRO ref 1916, Apr/June, N.A., vol 5b, p 139) leaving Thomas a widower who was soon to lose both of his sons.

A detailed account of **Reginald Alexander Honour's** military career is given in Campbell Brown's document, attached (q.v.). He is included in De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour where it states that he enlisted on 14 April 1916 with the Coldstream Guards, 1st Battalion, No 18320. 'He served with the Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders from 12 December and died at No 29 Casualty Clearing Station on 17 October 1918 of wounds received that day, while in charge of the Battalion Intelligence Section.'

Other reports appeared in the *Dawlish Gazette* (see Documents).

His widow and family issued memorial cards and the cover and inner page are shown here, the reverse side appears among the images in Documents.



Cpl R A Honour is inscribed on the Devon Roll of Honour for Dawlish and on Dawlish Boys' School Roll of Honour

Dawlish World War One Project

Dawlish War memorial inscription: HONOUR R.A. CORPL. COLDM GDS.

Devon Heritage site info: R.HONOUR MM. 18320 Lance Corporal Reginald Alexander Honour MM of the 1st Battalion, the Coldstream Guards. Son of Mr & Mrs T.Honour of Holcombe; husband of May Honour of Holcombe, Dawlish. Born in Dawlish in the September Quarter of 1894. Died 17 October 1918 aged 24. Awarded the Military Medal.

Commonwealth War Graves entry: HONOUR, REGINALD ALEXANDER Lance Corporal 18320 17/10/1918 Age: 25 Coldstream Guards, 1st Bn. Awards: M M
Grave Ref: II. B. 19. [Delsaux Farm Cemetery, Beugny](#), France
Son of Mr. and Mrs. T. Honour, of Holcombe; husband of May Honour, of Holcombe, Dawlish, Devon.

Last known address: Holcombe, Dawlish

Next of kin: Susie May Honour, widow

References:

Profiles related to the Jarman family on this website

Free BMD refs

Personal Family records and photographs opened to us

Contributions by Campbell Brown, Maureen Smale and Sheila Ralls
refs via subscription websites:

- Census data

- De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour

- Perry family tree - Ancestry