

## William Henry Horwill

A/202644 Rifleman in 12<sup>th</sup> Battalion Kings Royal Rifle Corps

Born- Morchard Bishop, Devon 1889

Son of Henry Horwill and wife Sarah.

1881 and 1891 – Family were living in Morchard Bishop near Crediton  
Father was an agricultural labourer. Sisters: Ellen and Alice. Brother Frank. All born there.

1901 – William aged 12, was working as gardener's help and was living with his widowed mother, sister Alice, 19, a house maid and his brother Frank, 10, who was still at school. His mother, Thirza, was a laundress.

1911 William was an engine stoker on the railway boarding at 22 Clifford St, Southampton. The rest were still in Morchard Bishop. Alice and her mother were laundresses and son Frank a mason labourer. (*See alternative family entries for 1901 and 1911 in 'William Henry Horwill, life story'*)

Enlisted Exeter

Died of wounds 21<sup>st</sup> March 1918, Somme, France/Flanders

His effects were passed to his sister Annie Newman £56 6s 4d Winchester May 1919

Buried in Pozieres memorial cemetery, France

1914-1921

France

Fifth and Fourth Army Areas, 21st March to 7th August, 1918, Part Five

Hateley-Kernaghan

### **King's Royal Rifle Corps during World War 1**

The Regiment raised 22 Battalions in total during the course of World War I and saw action on the Western Front, Macedonia and Italy, winning 60 battle honours including 7 Victoria Crosses. The regiment lost 12,840 men who were killed during the course of the war.

12th (Service) Battalion

21.09.1914 Formed in Winchester as part of the Second New Army (K2) then moved to Cowshot, Bisley to join the 60th Brigade of the 20th Division.

Nov 1914 Moved to Blackdown and then to Larkhill, Salisbury Plain.

22.07.1915 Mobilised for war and landed at Boulogne and ended in various actions on the Western Front including;

During 1916

The Battle of Mount Sorrel, The Battle of Delville Wood, The Battle of Guillemont, The Battle of Flers-Courcelette, The Battle of Morval, The Battle of Le Transloy.

During 1917

The German retreat to the Hindenburg Line, The Battle of Langemarck, The Battle of the Menin Road Ridge, The Battle of Polygon Wood, The Cambrai Operations.

During 1918



The Battle of St Quentin, The actions at the Somme crossings, The Battle of Rosieres,  
 The Battle of the Selle,  
 The Battle of Valenciennes,  
 The Battle of the Sambre.  
 11.11.1918 Ended the war in France, Caudry

British medal and Victory medal



### The POZIERES MEMORIAL

relates to the period of crisis in March and April 1918 when the Allied Fifth Army was driven back by overwhelming numbers across the former Somme battlefields, and the months that followed before the Advance to Victory, which began on 8 August 1918.

The Memorial commemorates over 14,000 casualties of the United Kingdom and 300 of the South African Forces who have no known grave and who died on the Somme from 21 March to 7 August 1918. The Corps and Regiments most largely represented are The Rifle Brigade with over 600 names, The Durham Light Infantry with approximately 600 names, the Machine Gun Corps with over 500, The Manchester Regiment with approximately 500 and The Royal Horse and Royal Field Artillery with over 400 names.



POZIERES MEMORIAL.		
STONE No. 63.B.		
Havard F.B.	McGrath H.A.	Rowlands V.
Head F.W.	McIvor J.	Russell S.W.
Hearn J.	McNamara V.	Samuels S.
Heed T.	Maggs W.H.	Sanders H.E.
Heuchan W.	Magnall P.	Saunders H.E.
Hill A.	Mann W.O.	Scholes J.J.
Hill A.E.	Mansfield H.J.	Schratsky P.
Hill T.	Mansfield J.	Scobell A.
Hills R.C.	Marden W.H.	Self E.F.
Hines W.S.	Marsden H.	Shackel T.
Hollyfield A.E.	Marsh F.E.	Sharp E.
Hopkins A.F.	Martin W.G.	Sherbird H.C.
Horton E.C.	Massey W.C.	Shourd E.
Horwill W.H.	May J.A.	Shrewsbury A.C.
Howe G. 204858	Maynard A.	Slinger W.