

William John Horn

Born Exeter, 19 May 1899 Died 12 April 1921, aged 21
Ordinary Seaman J74457 H.M.S.VIVID

The Horn family has been traced in a family tree (Ancestry) which places them in West Devon. William Horn (1811-1856) and Mary Pike (1812-) were parents of William Horn (1835-1902) and Ann Guest (1836-) who lived in Exbourne, near Okehampton and had eight children, including John Horn (1867-1935) who married Eliza Davey (1867-1948) in October 1886. (GRO ref 1886, Oct-Dec, Okehampton, vol 5b, p 717)

William J Horn/Horne was the younger son of John and Eliza Horn. John Horn was born in Exbourne and married Eliza Davey of similar age from Sampford Courtenay, Devon. They had seven children all of whom survived at the 1911 census. They were:

Maude	dau	1887-	born	Bow, Devon
George	son	1889-1917		Jacobstowe, Cornwall
Mabel	dau	1890-		"
Annie	dau	1892-		"
Alice	dau	1895-		Thorverton
Ada M	dau	1897-		"
William John son		1899-1921		"

John and Eliza Horn lived at Sand Park, Cottage No 1, Jacobstowe in 1891 with the first three children. They moved to Raddon, Thorverton and were there in 1901 with four more children, and to Chiverstone Cottage, Kenton by 1911 where the only children still at home were the youngest, Ada and **William**. Their father was a 'Horseman on farm'.

William John Horn was working as a passenger porter for the GWR when he was called up and joined the Royal Navy for the Duration of Hostilities on 16 July 1917, aged 18.

There is a very brief Service Record sheet. He joined H.M.S.VIVID (The Royal Naval Barracks, Devonport) on 16 July 1917 for training until 12 November.

From 13 November to 20 November he was serving aboard H.M.S.CENTURION, A King George V-class Dreadnought battleship, built in Devonport Dockyard in 1911/12.

William John Horn was returned to barracks on 21 November where he stayed until 23 January 1918 when he was discharged with rheumatic fever.

His parents were clearly proud of his service and the grave in St Mary's Churchyard, Cofton, refers to him 'late of H.M.S.CENTURION'.

He died on 12 April 1921 (GRO ref 1921, Q2, Exeter, vol 5b, p 80). A copy of the death certificate will indicate the cause of death.

THE OTHER SON

The grave at Cofton also refers to 'George, who was killed in action in France, 27th May 1918, aged 30, The only sons of J&E Horn.'

The Memorial to George Horn is at Pontypridd, where he is listed on the Roll of Honour.

Mention is made of him in passing here, but it is not proposed that the prime commemoration is in Dawlish.

George had left home and in 1911 appears in the household of Edwin John, a Colliery Banksman in Pontypridd. George was a boarder and single and shown as a Colliery Assistant timberman. He married Florence Maud Fieldhouse (1896-1952) on 20 January 1914 at Glyntaff Church, Pontypridd (GRO ref 1914, Jan-Mar, Pontypridd, vol 11a, p 727).

Dawlish World War One Project

George enlisted at Pontypridd with the Machine Gun Corps, service no. 102379. His name is spelled Horne in this instance.

George and Florence had three children: Edith Ada Lorraine Horne, born 25 December 1914, Samuel George Fieldhouse Horne, born 27 June 1915 and Donna (?) Horne born 10 January 1919, according to Army records of dependants.

After George's death his widow remarried to William J Lewis (GRO ref 1920, Apr-june, Pontypridd, vol 11a, p 1704).

References:

Naval Service Record – William J Horn

Army Service Records- George Horne

Free BMD refs

Refs via subscription sites:

Other BMD refs

North_Bloodworth family tree- Horn family

Laura-Jane Kitts family tree- Ancestry – Fieldhouse family