

Driver

FRANK KNIGHT

T4/042600, "A" (Supply) Company, Army Service Corps

Died 31 January 1915

Aged 20

Buried Aldershot Military Cemetery

AF.1799

There have been Knights in Buckland St Mary and neighbouring parishes – Otterford, Curland – for at least 2 centuries. His parents, James, 21, and Ellen Collier, 24, were married in the village on 9 February 1888. Frank Knight was born on 8 January 1895, probably at Buggs Moor, Buckland St Mary, and was baptised at Buckland on 23 May.

By 1901 the family were living in a cottage at Underhill Farm, Staple Fitzpaine. His father James was a Carter, probably at Underhill. James started school at Staple Fitzpaine, beginning at Buckland St Mary on October 27 1902; the family were then back at Buggs Moor. He left on December 22 1908, just before his fourteenth birthday. In 1911 both father and son were working as farm labourers, and living at Buggs Moor. Frank was the only son, with 2 sisters, Dorcas and Lucy. His mother Ellen was born in the Channel Islands on Alderney.

We know more than usual about Frank's army career as his Service Records have survived (60% of them were destroyed in the Blitz in 1942, and the remainder are charred and water-stained – known as The Burnt Documents), and they tell a sad story.

When Frank enlisted at Exeter on January 10 1915 he was working as a butcher in Colyton, living in the High Street. At this time enlistment was voluntary, but his Attestation form records that he was served a Notice by Sergeant Tompsett of Colyton. He was 5'3" – not then so unusually short. He volunteered for the Army Service Corps (not yet 'Royal') as a butcher, but is noted on the Attestation Form as 'Driver'.

The *Somerset County Gazette* of February 6 1915 takes up the tale:

"Much sympathy is felt for Mr and Mrs James Knight, of this parish, in the death of their son Frank, who volunteered as a butcher for the forces a month ago, and who was at that time in the best of health. He contracted a cold, pneumonia supervened, and he passed away on Sunday after a very short illness at Cambridge Hospital [Aldershot], aged 20. Deceased was of a very obliging and quiet disposition, and was much respected."



His Service Record implies that his family knew nothing of his illness before he died. His death certificate says he died of pneumonia and heart failure. He was buried in the Military Cemetery at Aldershot.

The Army, as was their custom, were at least merciful enough to award him a Victory Medal and Memorial Scroll despite the sad brevity of his service.

Administrative County of Somerset The undermentioned Houses are situate within the boundaries of the

Civil Parish of Brighthelm Municipal Ward of Brighthelm Urban Sanitary District of Brighthelm Rural Sanitary District of Brighthelm Parliamentary Borough or Division of Brighthelm Ecclesiastical Parish or District of Brighthelm Page 13 16

No. of Schedules	ROAD, STREET, &c., and No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES	NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	CO-EDITION as to Marriage	AGE last Birthday of	PROFESSION or OCCUPATION	WHERE BORN	(1) Deaf-and-Dumb (2) Blind (3) Lunatic, Imbecile or Idiot
88	9. Blackwell St.	1	Mr. Garland	Head	M	22	Labourer	Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Wife	M	22		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
89	10. Do	1	Mr. Smith	Head	M	22	Scholar	Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Wife	M	22		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
90	11. Do	1	Mr. Smith	Head	M	22	Scholar	Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Wife	M	22		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
91	12. Do	1	Mr. Smith	Head	M	22	Scholar	Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Wife	M	22		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
92	13. Do	1	Mr. Smith	Head	M	22	Scholar	Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Wife	M	22		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
93	14. Do	1	Mr. Smith	Head	M	22	Scholar	Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Wife	M	22		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
94	15. Do	1	Mr. Smith	Head	M	22	Scholar	Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Wife	M	22		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
95	16. Do	1	Mr. Smith	Head	M	22	Scholar	Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Wife	M	22		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
96	17. Do	1	Mr. Smith	Head	M	22	Scholar	Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Wife	M	22		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
			Mr. Do	Son	S	24		Brighthelm	
9	Total of Houses and of Tenements with less than Five Houses ...	9	6	Total of Males and Females...	12	19			

NOTE.—Draw the pen through each of the words of the headings as are inappropriate.

Reference—**RG12/1892**

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1891 CENSUS KNIGHT FAMILY

Administrative County of Dorset

The undermentioned Houses are situated within the boundaries of the

Page 10

ROAD STREET, No. and Name of Family	Uninhabited	Name and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	Age last Birthday	PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION	Employer, Worker, or Own account	Where BORN	(1) Deaf and Dumb (2) Blind (3) Lame (4) Paralyzed (5) Feeble-minded
26 Cottage. 1 X		William Bealing	Head	29	Farmer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	
		Emma Bealing	Wife	63	Private Labourer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	
		Charles Bealing	Son	18	Labourer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	
		William Bealing	Son	9	Labourer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	
27 Cottage. 1 X		James Bealing	Head	44	Labourer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	
		James Bealing	Wife	44	Labourer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	
		James Bealing	Son	13	Labourer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	
28 Cottage. 1 X		James Bealing	Head	36	Labourer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	
		James Bealing	Wife	34	Labourer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	
		James Bealing	Son	13	Labourer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	
		James Bealing	Son	12	Labourer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	
		James Bealing	Son	10	Labourer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	
		James Bealing	Son	4	Labourer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	
29 Cottage. 1 X		James Bealing	Head	35	Labourer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	
		James Bealing	Wife	33	Labourer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	
		James Bealing	Son	10	Labourer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	
		James Bealing	Son	8	Labourer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	
		James Bealing	Son	4	Labourer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	
30 Cottage. 1 X		James Bealing	Head	33	Labourer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	
		James Bealing	Wife	33	Labourer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	
		James Bealing	Son	9	Labourer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	
		James Bealing	Son	6	Labourer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	
31 Cottage. 1 X		James Bealing	Head	36	Labourer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	
		James Bealing	Wife	36	Labourer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	
		James Bealing	Son	17	Labourer	Worker	Ashmore Dorset	

Note—Draw your pen through each word of the headings as are inapplicable.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE REFERENCE: RG 13/2273 CROWN COPYRIGHT NOT TO BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT PERMISSION

1901 CENSUS KNIGHT FAMILY

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in ink.

The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, or in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	AGE last Birthday	SEX	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE	PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION of Person aged 16 years and upwards	DATE PLACED in any service	NATIONALITY	INFLUENT
James Knight	Head	65	Male	Married	General Farm Labourer	1900	English	
Ellen Knight	Wife	50	Female	Married			English	
Frank Knight	Son	16	Male	Single			English	

(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling)

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: James Knight

Printed Address: Buckland St Mary, Dorset

1911 CENSUS KNIGHT FAMILY BUGGS MOOR

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF BIRTH



GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Application Number 5821948-1

REGISTRATION DISTRICT			CHARD							
1895 BIRTH in the Sub-district of Combe St Nicholas			in the Counties of Somerset Devon and Dorset							

Columns:-	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
No.	When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother	Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	Name entered after registration

1895	1895	Frank	Boy	James Knight	Ellen Knight	Farm Labourer	James Knight, 7 Alder Backland St Mary	29th	James Knight	Bevis
1895	1895	Frank	Boy	James Knight	Ellen Knight	Farm Labourer	James Knight, 7 Alder Backland St Mary	29th	James Knight	Bevis

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Births in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the

29th July 2014

BXCG 245979

CAUTION: THERE ARE OFFENCES RELATING TO FALSIFYING OR ALTERING A CERTIFICATE AND USING OR POSSESSING A FALSE CERTIFICATE ©CROWN COPYRIGHT
WARNING: A CERTIFICATE IS NOT EVIDENCE OF IDENTITY.

7231132 68844 04/13 3MSSD 03313



SEM

FRANK KNIGHT BIRTH CERTIFICATE

From *Office of R.A.C. Records.*

Woolwich Dockyard

L.S. 18. 3715



O.H.M.S.

To The Officer in Charge of Records

R.A.C.

Woolwich Dockyard

London S.E. 18

To *Mr. F. Knight.*

No. 20 Certificate
see (3)

Ruge Moor, Buckland

St. Mary, Somerset.

WOOLWICH DOCKYARD

22 APR 1919

In order that I may be enabled to dispose of the plaque and scroll in commemoration of the soldier named overleaf in accordance with the wishes of His Majesty the King, I have to request that the requisite information regarding the soldier's relatives now living may be furnished on the form overleaf in strict accordance with the instructions printed thereon.

The declaration thereon should be signed in your own handwriting and the form should be returned to me when certified by a Minister or Magistrate.

Collect
for Officer in Charge of Records.

4 OCT 1919

INSTRUCTIONS.

To return, fold so that flap marked (3) is on top, and then place flap marked (1) inside it.



O.H.M.S.

To *Mr. F. Knight.*

Ruge Moor, Buckland

St. Mary,

Somerset.

Regiment R. A. S. Corps
14/2600. Dr. KNIGHT. Frank deceased

WOOLWICH DEPARTMENT
 R.A.S.C.
 28 APR 1919

Army Form W. 5080.

To be filled in by
 Officer in Charge of
 Records.

STATEMENT of the Names and Addresses of all the Relatives of the above-named deceased Soldier in each of the degrees specified below that are now living.

NOTE.—Against those degrees of relationship in which there is no relative now living the word "none" is to be inserted. If the answers are not filled in, much correspondence and delay may be occasioned by the neglect.

Degree of relationship	NAME IN FULL of every relative now living in each degree enquired for (see note above).	ADDRESS IN FULL of each surviving relative opposite his or her name.
Widow of the Soldier ...	None	
Children of the Soldier and dates of their births...	None	
Father of the Soldier ...	James Knight (61)	Buckland & Mary Chard
Mother of the Soldier ...	Ellen Knight (55)	Buckland & Mary Chard
Brothers of the Soldier	Full Blood ...	None
	Half blood ...	None
Sisters of the Soldier	Full blood ...	Dorcas Knight 30 Threeways Bushbridge Lane Godalming
	...	Lily Knight 27 The Lodge Bishopswood Buckland & Mary Chard
	Half blood ...	None

If no Relatives in the degrees above are now living the following particulars should be given:—

	Names of those now living.	Addresses in full.
Grandparents of the Soldier ...	John Knight	Buckland & Mary Chard
Nephews and Nieces of the Soldier ...	None	
Uncles and Aunts by blood of the Soldier (not Uncles and Aunts by marriage) ...	Henry Knight 56 John Knight 55 Lucy Knight 49 Emma Broadhurst 47 Walter Knight 45 Sam Knight 40 Alfred Knight 35	Not known Southport, Bridgewater Widdowbury, Taunton Gable, Bishop's Cleeve Westbury, Wiltshire St. Peter's, Weymouth Buckland & Mary Chard

DECLARATION.

I hereby declare that the above is a true and complete Statement of all the Relatives of the late Soldier now living in the degrees enquired for.

Relationship to the Soldier Father James Knight Signature of the Declarant.
 Address in full Floods Cottage Buckland & Mary Chard
 I hereby certify that the above Statement and Declaration made by James Knight
 and signed in my presence is complete and correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief.
 Dated at Buckland & Mary this 26 day of April 19 19.
 Signature of Minister Arthur P. Launce Qualification Clarken Holy Orders
 or Address Buckland & Mary Chard
 Magistrate.

5527. Wt. W 9538 3P1814. 1,000,000/6. 2/19. S.O.P.Bd.

0401

2060

ARMY 51 CORPS
5 FEB 1915
ALDERSHOT
2615

Death Report

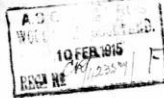
a (Supply) boy A.D.C.

No. 1710

Aldershot.
3. 2. 15.

No.	Rank & Name	Date & Place of Death	Age		Service		Cause of Death and Remarks
			Years	Months	Years	Days	
1st Lt. 62100	Pte Knight. 4.	31/1/15 - Cambridge Hospital. Aldershot.	19	11	—	25.	Pneumonia Certified that the relatives of this man have been informed.

Dismissed
boundary (A.D.C.) boy A.D.C.



-Transmitted

St. James, L. Colonel
A.D.C. Depot A.D.C.
Aldershot.

A.S.C. RECORDS
WOOLWICH DOCKYARD.
10 FEB. 1915
REG. NO. 11235



Officer i/c Records,
Army Service Corps,
Woolwich.

*U
M*

Herewith documents of No. T/4/042600. Pte. F. Knight
Army Service Corps, who died on the 31st January, 1915.

Aldershot.
9th February, 1915.

Shawthorn
Major,
Commanding "A" (Depot) Coy. A.S.C.

Commanding
"A" Coy, A.S.C.
Aldershot.

*Since
Received.*

Will you please forward death report for this man in
accordance with para 152 Corps Standing Orders.

Woolwich Dockyard.
12-2-15.

M. Farley
Major Qr. Mr.
for Colonel,
i/c A.S.C. Records,
4th New Army.

RECEIVED
FEB 1915
A.S.C.

0403

Alc
7/10

Officer i/c Records,
Army Service Corps,
Woolwich.

Herewith documents of No. T/4/042600. Pte. F. Knight
Army Service Corps, who died on the 31st January, 1915.

Aldershot.
9th February, 1915.

J. Matthews
Major,
Commanding "A" (Depot) Coy. A.S.C.

0404

Applicable to all ranks. To correspond with entries on the Medical History sheet.

INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY RECRUIT.

Particulars as to Marriage.

(a) Christian and Surname of Woman to whom married, and whether spinster or widow. (b) Place and date of marriage.
(c) Present address. (d) Initials of Officer verifying entry.

Particulars as to Children.

STATEMENT OF THE SERVICES.

MAJOR Q.

0395



SHORT SERVICE.

(For the Duration of the War.)

ATTESTATION OF

No. 042600 Name Knight Frank Corps Army Service Corps

Questions to be put to the Recruit before enlistment.

1. What is your Name? ... Frank Knight
2. What is your full Address? ... 19, ...
3. Are you a British Subject? ... Yes
4. What is your Age? ... 19 Years ... Months.
5. What is your Trade or Calling? ... Butcher
6. Are you Married? ... No
7. Have you ever served in any branch of His Majesty's Forces, naval or military, if so, * which? ... No
8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated? ... Yes
9. Are you willing to be enlisted for General Service? ... Yes
10. Did you receive a Notice, and do you understand its meaning, and who gave it to you? ... (Name) Col. ... (Corps) ...
11. Are you willing to serve upon the following conditions provided His Majesty should so long require your services?
For the duration of the War, at the end of which you will be discharged with all convenient speed. If employed with Hospitals, depots of Mounted Units, and as Clerks, etc., you may be retained after the termination of hostilities until your services can be spared, but such retention shall in no case exceed six months.

I, Frank Knight do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements made.

Frank Knight SIGNATURE OF RECRUIT.
Henry B. Underhill Signature of Witness.

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY RECRUIT ON ATTESTATION.

I, Frank Knight swear by Almighty God, that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs and Successors, and that I will, as in duty bound, honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, in Person, Crown, and dignity against all enemies, and will observe and obey all orders of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and of the Generals and Officers set over me. So help me God.

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE OR ATTESTING OFFICER.

The Recruit above named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act.

The above questions were then read to the Recruit in my presence. I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replied to, and the said Recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me at Exeter on this 02 day of January 1918.

Signature of Justice

* Certificate of Approving Officer.

I certify that this Attestation of the above-named Recruit is correct, and properly filled up, and that the required forms appear to have been complied with. I accordingly approve, and appoint him to the ...

If enlisted by special authority, Army Form B. 203 (or other authority for the enlistment) will be attached to the original attestation.

Date 23/1/18 1918 Worthington & Co. for Major
Place ... Comdgy. Ad. Depot Approving Officer.

* The signature of the Approving Officer is to be affixed in the presence of the Recruit.
Here insert the "Corps" for which the Recruit has been enlisted.

* If so, the Recruit is to be asked the particulars of his former service, and to produce, if possible, his Certificate of Discharge and Certificate of Character, which should be returned to him conspicuously endorsed in red ink, as follows, viz.-(Name) ... on the (Date) ...

0396

R.A.S.C. RECORD OFFICE,
"J" SECTION,
WOOD LICH DOCKYARD, S.A. 16

Reference No. 18643... 1920

Re the late No. 242600 P.M. J. Knight, R.A.S.C.

Sir or Madam,

I enclose herewith the Memorial Scroll in respect
of the above named deceased Soldier. Will you kindly sign
the receipt at the foot of this form, and return it to this
office immediately.

The envelope enclosed does not require a stamp.

Yours faithfully,

R. Cullick
Captain

for Colonel i/c R.A.S.C. RECORDS.

Mr James Knight...

Floods Cottage...

Buckland to Mary, Chard, Somerset.

RECEIVED THE MEMORIAL SCROLL. (Signature)...

Date... *March 24*... 1920

0397

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF DEATH



GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Application Number 5724209-2

REGISTRATION DISTRICT		FARNHAM	
1915 DEATH in the Sub-district of Aldershot		in the County of Southampton	

Columns:-	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar

1915	Frank Knight	Male	20	Private Army (1st Bn. Buffs.)	Wounded by enemy	Wounded by enemy	Wounded by enemy	Wounded by enemy	Wounded by enemy
1915	Frank Knight	Male	20	Private Army (1st Bn. Buffs.)	Wounded by enemy	Wounded by enemy	Wounded by enemy	Wounded by enemy	Wounded by enemy
1915	Frank Knight	Male	20	Private Army (1st Bn. Buffs.)	Wounded by enemy	Wounded by enemy	Wounded by enemy	Wounded by enemy	Wounded by enemy

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Deaths in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the 13th day of June 2014



See note overleaf

DVD 708727

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WARNING: A CERTIFICATE IS NOT EVIDENCE OF IDENTITY.

7264668 70631 10/13 3MTSSD 034484

GJR

FRANK KNIGHT DEATH CERTIFICATE



In Memory of

Driver

Frank Knight

T4/042600, "A" Coy., Army Service Corps who died on 31 January 1915 Age 20

Son of James and Ellen Knight, of Meanwood, Buckland St. Mary, Chard, Somerset.

Remembered with Honour

Aldershot Military Cemetery



Commemorated in perpetuity by
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission