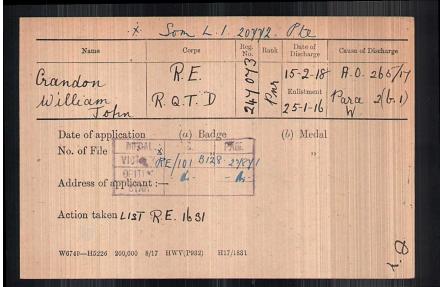
# WILLIAM JOHN CRANDON - Private 20772, 9th Btn Somerset Light Infantry, Pioneer 247073 Royal Engineers

William was the oldest of the four children born to Levi and Ellen Crandon. He started school in Bishopswood, moving to Buckland where he was a pupil from 1897 to December 1900. He's listed in the Buckland School Register as the son of Levi, of Lodge, Buckland St Mary.

By 1911 he was working as an Assistant Gardener; Levi was a Road Contractor. There's then a gap with no source of information about his life until he enters the Army – or, more accurately, until he leaves it, when information about his service career emerges on the papers written up as it ended.

The 9<sup>th</sup> SLI didn't serve abroad, but the Royal Engineers that William served with as a Pioneer did. He belonged to the Road & Quarry Troops Detachment (R.Q.T.D.). He enlisted originally on January 25 1916, and was discharged on February 15 1918 with a Silver War Badge, showing that he was 'Unfit for service due to wounds received'.



Medal Roll Index Card

Without William's Service Records (destroyed in WW2) is it is difficult to trace his army career in any detail, but it would seem, by piecing together various Casualty listings (quoted online by War Forces Records) that he was reported wounded on August 14 1917; the probability is that this was on the Western Front.



The Cause of Discharge noted above on his MRIC refers to Army Order 265 of 1917, Para 2 (b1):

"Discharged after service overseas in the Armed Forces of the Crown, on account of disablement or illhealth caused otherwise than by misconduct."

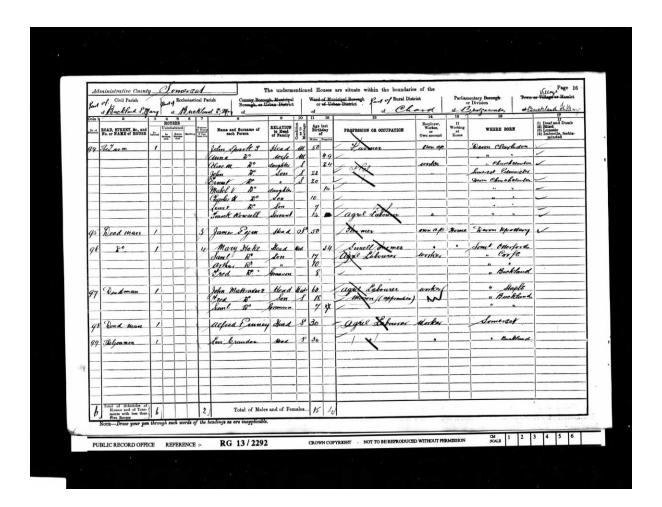
Silver War Badge

William is also listed on Buckland St Mary School's Roll of Honour.

Late in 1920 he was married to Florence Underhay, at St Thomas, Exeter. They had 5 children: Leonard, Dorothy, Violet, Stanley and Joan the youngest, who was born in the summer of 1927 – a few months after William had died of TB on February 18, aged only 34.

Florence re-married in Exeter in 1931, to Ernest Saunders.

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATON**



The contents of the			4		е Коатр	les and	he Instr	uctions g	riven on the other	AND AND  r side of the paper, as we to individual persons. It taken of Statistical Tables.	l as the headings of the C	dunus. The es				Number of Schools (To be illed up after a	by the Entire effection)
NAME AND	NAME AND SURNAME RELATIONSHIP to Heat of Family.		AOR Dist Bythd was SEX	AOR Birthdays 4 SEX. PART		ARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE.				PROFESSION OF OCCUPATION of Persons aged but yours and approve.				RIBTHPLACE of every purson.		NATIONALITY of every Person born in a Foreign Country.	
	whether Member of Boarder, or Servant,		For Infact	A CONTRACT	St	stered on t	h Married 1 his Schoold alor of :	Woman le, the	Per	onal Occupation.	Industry or Service with which worker is consected.	Whother Temployer, Worker, or Working on Own Account	Whether Working at Licuse.	(1) If born in the	the United King- the name of the Town or Parish.	State whether: (1) "British sub- jort by parent-	
(2) arrived in the morning of M having been s	th of Sunday, April in this dwelling and midnight, or is dwelling on the conday, April 3rd, not commerciated elsewhere.	"Daughter," or	trader one y state the a in months "under one mo "one mont etc.	"Single, "Married	r. pleo	Chil ed (1 the alive	dren born resent Mar no childre write "N Colume	rriage. in born one " in	li angaged in' a	d show the procise branch of trade, Manufacture, &c.  by Trade or Manufacture, the dot work done, and the Article with worked or dealt is about mated.	This question should generally be answered by stadings the business carried on by the implayer. If this is clearly shown in Col. 10 the question need not be answered here.  No entry needed for Portscale Servants in previous previous previous previous previous previous many previous	engaged in say Teads or Industry, (i) "Employer" that is employing persons other than demosite servants, or (2) "Worker" than	Write the words "At Home" opening the mans of such person tarrying on "State or"	(2) If born in as the British the name of Colony, etc Province or (3) If born in a l write the aux (4) If born at sea,	ry other part of limpire, write the Dependency, , and of the State. Foreign Country, no of the Country.	jeet," giving year of natu- ralisation. Or (5) If of foreign mattematics,	Dust," or said Dusst," (2) "Totally B (3) "Lamst. (4) "Import or "F minder," state the infi
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6 Frank	g Crandon	Son	4						1000 Marie	· ·				80	5	T PER	
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#### **BIRTH/DEATH/MARRIAGE SOURCES**

WILLIAM CRANDON MAR 1893 CHARD 5C 377 WILLIAM JOHN

Levi & Ellen living Blackwater 1939

Marriage??

Dec 1920 St Thomas (Exeter) Florence E Underhay 5b 117

Children – all Underhay mother's name

Leonard W. Taunton 5c 475

Dorothy B. T. 5c 425 Dec 1922

Violet M T. Sep 1924 5c 398

Stanley J. Dec 1925 5c 383

Joan E. Sep 1927 St Thomas 5b 72

**DEATH** 

Crandon , William J age 34 Taunton Mar 1927 5c 413

#### MARRIAGE

Crandon, Florence E. June 1931 Exeter 5b 301 married Ernest Saunders

Saunders, Margaret E born June 1934 Exeter 5b 117. Mother Crandon

## The campaign in Italy

This section of the Long, Long Trail will be helpful for anyone wishing to find out about the fighting in the little-known campaign in Italy. This was a forgotten front indeed: British troops were sent to Italy to stop collapse in late 1917. This movement was a brainchild of David Lloyd George and it was against the wishes of the 'Westerners' in the High Command.

British Order of Battle (units and formations that saw service in Italy)

#### General Staff

Commander-in-Chief: General Sir Herbert Plumer

Major-General, General Staff: Major-General Sir Charles Harington

GSO1: Lieutenant-Colonel C. Mitchell DAG: Major-General W. Western DQMG: Major-General A. Chichester Dg Transportation: Major-General W. Grey

CRA: Major-General C. Buckle

Chief Engineer: Major-General F. Glubb

Commander RFC: Brigadier-General T. Webb-Bowen Liaison Officer with CIGS: Brigadier-General J. Crowe

DAAG: Major M. Webb

Army Troops Field Artillery

XIV Brigade RHA, LXXII, LXXVI and CLXXV Brigades RFA

#### Heavy Artillery

XV, XXIV, LXXX, XCIV and CXL Heavy Artillery Groups RGA 19, 90, 155 and 1/1st Warwickshire Heavy Batteries RGA 105, 137, 171, 172, 176, 181, 197, 229, 240, 247, 289, 293, 302, 307, 315, 316, 317, 390, 391 and 438 Siege Batteries RGA

#### Anti Aircraft Artillery

No 4 Groups (Lovat's Scouts) Yeomanry, S Battery RGA, 23, 60, 63, 135 and 136 AA Sections RGA, 80 and 81 Searchlight Sections RE

Motor Machine Guns
12th Motor Battery MGC

#### Royal Engineers

285 and 290 Army Troops Companies RE 6 Field Survey Company RE Detachment, Meteorological Section RE No 5 Pontoon Park RE No 2 Boring Section RE

#### Royal Flying Corps

VII Brigade RFC (14th and 51st Wings, comprising 28, 34, 42, 45 and 66 Squadrons;

7th Aircraft Park; Aeroplane Supply Depot; 7, 22, 24 and 33 Kite Balloon Sections, 4 and 9 Balloon Wings, 20th Balloon Company)

Signal Service

32, 34 and 9 (Motor) Airline Sections RE

N, WS and WT Cable Sections RE

2nd Signal Construction Company RE

5 and 25 Motor Wireless Sections RE

7th Army Wireless Observation Group RE

15, 24, 80, 94 and 104 Heavy Artillery Group Signal Sections RGA

70, 71, 72, 73 and 74 Horse-drawn pigeon lofts

Army Service Corps

360 (MT) Company ASC (4th Pontoon Park)

Army Troops Supply Column (MT) ASC

443rd and 1047th Army Auxiliary (HT) Companies ASC

93 Company ASC (1st Mobile Repair Unit)

654 and 1037 (MT) Companies ASC, attached RGA

369, 370, 374, 375, 377, 380, 383 and 398 (MT) Sections ASC

No 2 Section AA Workshop

Royal Army Medical Corps

26, 36 and 41 Motor Ambulance Convoys

9, 24, 37, 38 and 39 Casualty Clearing Stations

32 and 33 Advanced Depots (Medical Stores)

36, 57, 73, 75 and 84 Sanitary Sections

Royal Army Ordnance Corps

3rd (Light) and 11th (Medium) Mobile Workshops

XI Corps (arrived Italy 1 December 1917)

Commanding Officer: Lieutenant- General Sir Richard Haking

Corps Troops

1/1st King Edward's Horse

**HQ Corps Heavy Artillery RGA** 

11th Cyclist Battalion ACC

Corps Topographical Section RE

Signal Troops RE (L Corps Signal Company; 27 (Motor) Airline Section; R and LC

Cable Sections, Corps Heavy Artillery Signal Section RGA)

Corps Siege Park ASC

Corps Ammunition Park (345 (MT) Company (25 Ammunition Sub-Park) ASC)

491 (MT) Company ASC, attached Corps Heavy Artillery

5th (Light) Mobile Workshop AOC

**Area Employment Company** 

Corps School

XIV Corps (arrived Italy 5 November 1917)

Commanding Officer: Lieutenant- General Earl of Cavan

Corps Troops

1/1st Northamptonshire Yeomanry

14th Cyclist Battalion ACC

Corps Topographical Section RE

Signal Troops RE (J Corps Signal Company; 54 (Motor) Airline Section; AS, M and BU Cable Sections)

Corps Supply Column ASC (391 (MT) Company – Corps Troops; 498 (MT) Company – 17th Divisional; 494 (MT) Company – 41st Divisional)

Corps Ammunition Park (600 and 607 (MT) Companies; 509 and 62 Ammunition Sub-Parks)

7th (Light) and 4th (Medium) Mobile Workshops AOC

273 Area Employment Company

Corps School

#### **Divisions**

**5th Division** 

7th Division

23rd Division

**41st Division** 

#### 48th (South Midland) Division TF

Lines of Communication

Base, two General Base Depots, Large Rest Camp, XI Corps Reinforcement Camp, XIV Reinforcement Camp

#### Royal Engineers

8th (Monmouth) Army Troops Company, half 32 Base Park Company, detachment Special Works Company

#### Signal Service

Detachment Signal Company, detachment LofC Signal Company, No 1 Telegraph Construction Company

#### *Infantry*

Two Infantry Base Depots, three Companies of 1st Garrison Bn, the <u>Royal Munster</u> Fusiliers

### Army Service Corps

**Branch Requisition Office** 

1046 Company (2nd Base Depot)

Base Horsed Transport Depot

1034 Company (Base Motor Transport Depot)

1045 Company (6th Advanced Horsed Transport Depot)

6 and 32 LofC Supply Companies

24 and 25 Field Bakeries

11 and 20 Field Butcheries

7, 39, 52, 62, 63 and 64 Railhead Supply Detachments

1035 (82nd Petrol) and 1036 (83rd Petrol) Auxiliary Companies

HQ Remount Depot, and 10, 19 and 33 Remount Squadrons

#### Royal Army Medical Corps

1, 4 and 14 Sanitary Sections

11, 60 and 62 General Hospitals

Base Depot Medical Stores 7 and 14 Bacteriological Laboratories 15 and 23 Hygiene Laboratories 15, 18, 21 and 26 Ambulance Trains

Army Veterinary Corps 1 and 22 Veterinary Hospitals No 6 Base Depot Veterinary Stores

Army Ordnance Corps 4, 68, 79 and 83 Companies Base Provision Office, Medium Mobile Workshop, railhead Ammunition and Ordnance Detachments

Army Pay Corps Base Pay Unit

Labour

4, 6, 7, 8, 10 and 11th Bns, the British West Indies Regiment 16, 172 and 195 Companies, the Labour Corps

Other
Base Post Office, Censor Section
Claims Commission Office
Printing & Stationery Depot
Convalescent Depot
Graves Registration Office

#### **FORCES WAR RECORDS – W J CRANDON**

**First Name:** 

WJ

Surname:

Crandon

**Incident Details:** 

War Office Daily List No.5337

Report Date:

14/08/1917

**More Information:** 

Entitled to wear a "Wound Stripe" as authorised under Army Order 204 of the 6th July 1916.

The terms of this award being named on this list.

Rank:

Pioneer

**Service Number:** 

247073

**Casualty Listed As:** 

Wounded

**Next Of Kin Address:** 

**Buckland St Mary** 

Service:

British Army

**Primary Unit:** 

**Royal Engineers** 

**Archive Reference:** 

NLS 1917\_WList03



**First Name:** 

William John

Surname:

Crandon

**Incident Details:** 

Wounds, Age on Discharge 24.

Information:

Particulars furnished: Chatham, 09/02/1918. Badge and Certificate issued: 22/02/1918.

Rank:

Pioneer

**Service Number:** 

247073

**Service From Date:** 

25/01/1916

**Service To Date:** 

15/02/1918

Silver War Badge Number:

320178

War Office Ref. Number:

**RE1631** 

**Reason for Discharge:** 

Army Order 265 paragraph 2b - those who, having served as soldiers and being still of military age, have been discharged under the conditions set forth at (i) and (ii) in (a): (i) after service overseas in the armed Forces of the Crown, on account of disablement or ill-health caused otherwise than by misconduct or (ii) after service at Home, and have been medically examined and finally discharged from liability to further military service under sub-section (5) of section 1 of the Military Service (Review of Exceptions) Act 1917, as permanently and totally disabled, otherwise than from misconduct. (i) 10/08/1917.

#### Overseas:

Yes

Service:

British Army

**Primary Unit:** 

**Royal Engineers** 

**Secondary Unit:** 

Road and Quarry Troops Depot (Why is this important?)

**Archive Reference:** 

SWB/2996

Name:

William John

Surname:

Crandon

Rank:

Pioneer

**Service Number:** 

247073

Regiment:

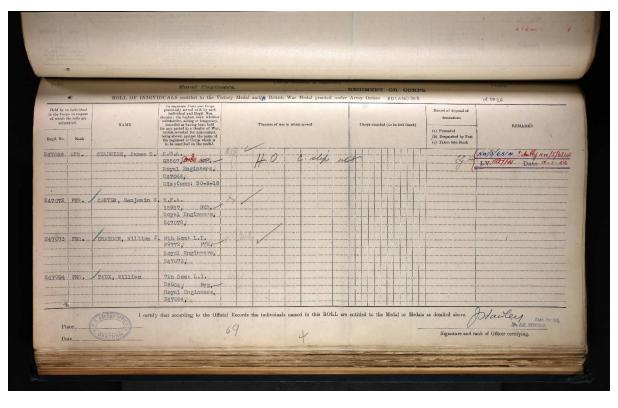
**Royal Engineers** 

**Archive Reference:** 

WO 372/5/74614

(Can be found at The National Archives in Kew, and contains First World War, War Office: Service Medal and Award Rolls Index)

· ×.	Som L.1	20772	r. Ple	
Name	Corps	Reg. No. R	ank Date of Discharge	Cause of Discharge
Crandon William John	R.E. R.Q.T.D	247 073	15-2-18 Enlistment 25-1-16	#-0.265/17 Para 2(b.1)
Date of application No. of File  Address of applican  Action taken L137	t:- 8128	Mai 2yey/	(b) Medal "	
W6749—H5226 200,000 8		7/1831		6



is inserted on		No. R. E. 1631.	OLL OF INI	No, of Badge and	RIGINA	AL-	AR BADGE."	Will the same
Regtl. No.	Rank	Name (In full)	Unit discharged from	No. of Badge and Certificate (To be completed at War Office)	Date Enlistment	of :— Discharge	Cause of Discharge (Wounds or Sickness and para, of K.R.)	Whether served Overseas (Yes or No) Age (
142188	Cpl.	Broadbent, Jno Henry	Dunstable S.D.	320,172	15.11.15	16.2.18	A.O.II of IOth Augist 1 Para. 2 (b)(i)Sickness	917 Discharge Yes 30
91927	Spr.	Brown, Thos.	Tun.Dep.Co	-320.173	24.7.13	14.2.18	" " Wounds	Yes 25
116647	Pnr.	Bryant, Thos.	n _ n	320.174	20.8.15	21,2,18	" 2 (d) Sickness	Yes 51
440623	Spr.	Bywater, Wm. John	20 T.F.Dep.	320.175	23.2.16	23.2.18	n 2 (p)(1) "	Yes 33
118626	Pnr.	Carter, Harry	Tun.Dep.Co	320.176	6.9.15	21.2.18	" 2 (d) "	Yes 48
116891	n	Collier, Albert	n n	320.177	19,8,15	21,2,18	n n n	Yes 47
247073	n*	Grandon, Wm. John	R.Q.T.D.	320.178	25.1.16	15.2.18	" 2 (b)(i) Wounds	Yes 24
220839		Crichton, Wm.	n	320.179	13,12,16	15,2,18	" 2 (d) Sickness	Yes 50
11563	Spr.	Denney, Herman Wm.	"G" Co	= 320,180	17.11.08	19.2.18	" 2 (b)(1) "	Yes 33
446705	11	Gregory, Frank	445 ResFldCo	320.181	8,10,15	22.2.18	n n n	Yes 34
147074	Cpl.	Hewett Cecil John	Spec.Bgde.De	-320,182	13.8.14	18.2.18	n n Wounds	Yes 24
111764	Pnr.	Holman, John	Tun.Dep.Co	320,183	17.8.15	21,2,18	n 2 (a) n	Yes 43
	1000			The state of the				
Place _	Chat	I certify that the particular that m Date_	ulars furnished here			Q:	nature and Rank of Officer certifying Cl	for Colonel .Records.

E.D. Letter Code WPJG	SCHED	_	b, U.D. or R.D. Chard, Son SURNAMES		_		_	-		The second second
ADDRESS.	SCHED		AND	S.	M. or	Day.	-	S, M, W.	PERSONAL OCCUPATION.	See INSTRUCTIO
	No.	Sub. No.	OTHER NAMES.	1.			Year.	D.		п
M .	2	3	7 · 10 m	5	6	1	8	M	11	
Mannings	66	2	Togwill, Mary a	-		3 Dec	00	-V	Unpaid domestic duties.	
		3	Togwill William &	-	M	16 May	16	- 5	Farm labourer - assisting father	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		4	Dennett Raymond B.	1 -	M	26 Mpc	21	J	At School	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
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The bastle Inn	68		While Herbert &	-	M	26 Mch	90	M	Inn-keeper & Tmallholder	1
\$ 2.49		2	white Elsie	-	F	21 Feb	98	M	Unpaid domestic dulies	
CR 283 Sm 58			Williams Marjorie M	-	F	28 Aug	30	S	at School	
Penair	69	-/	Collins Martha		F	29 Jan	97	M	Unpaid domestic dulies.	Y
			This	recore	d is	officially	close	d.		
			This	record	d is	officially	close	d.		
Blackwater	70	1	Hill, alfred 9	-	M	24 apt	00	51	Dairy farmer - Smallholder.	
		2							Unpaid domestic dulies.	
Coal Furse M	71	1	Herod Dorcas		F	17 Oct	83	W.	" " "	
Coal Furze Woodside Blackwale	72	1	Crandon Levi						Daving farmer - Smallholder	
- A ROOM STORY OF THE STORY OF	7	2	Crandon Ellen		F	79	74	M	Unpaid domestis duties	j <sup>r</sup>
	1								Foreman bricklayer	
7 . 7 - Blackers lin	72	,								Former Folice 9.
Fair View Blackwaler	13	2	Pointing Charles		F	27 400	00	M	Police Constable - Retired -	
7 ' 25 ' 21 1 1	-	1	Somung aaura	-	-	2///03	190	7.7	Unpaid domestic duties Postman (auxilliary) and odd for gardenery) and	ARP. Warden Bu
Fair View Blackwater	14	-/-	Rooke William C	-	177	22 Mig	00	17	odd job gardener	
		2	Rooke Evelyn m.						Unpaid domestic duties.	
Young NN	3					officially				
shed NN		14	Rooke Tilla m.						at School	
						officially				
						officially				
8 0 04			, ,,			officially				A. A.
Rose bottage, Blackwall	n 75								Unpaid domestic duties	
9.4		2	Willie Stella m.							,
Blackwater	76		mutter, Henry		M	10 Nov	84	M	Smallholder farmer	
		2	mutter ada	-	F	19 Nou	89	M	Unpaid domestic duties.	*
				record	d is	officially	close	d.		
Pennys Farm Blackwall	77	1	Doble Frederick T.		M	4 May	, 00	M	Smallholder and farm worker - helping Uncle	4
<b>y</b>	//		Doble Lily	-	F	25 Feb	00	M	Unpaid domestic duties	B
			Doble Brian I.						at School	8,3
						officially				
Pennys Clackwal	2 78	1	Meade Laurence J		COLF		126		Thatcher	1
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,			Meade Dora E.		F	13 Sept	2 80	M	Unpaid do nestie duties	
	-		Meade nellie		F	22 700	20	1	Unpaid domestic duties	
M	8123		Meal netta J.						Domestie Servant Seeking work	
						officially				
						officially				
						officially				
						officially				
20. , 7				TECOIC	-	1 67	1	March 1		The state of the s
Blindmoor Farm	19		Wyatt Ellen	-	7				Unpaid domestic duties	Burge 1
		2	Wyatt, John	-	M	22 Ma	4 70	7 M	Farmer - relired	Special Corr

1927. DEATHS in the Sub-District of TAUNTON WESTERN in the County of SOMERSET.										
Columns:— 1,	2.	8.		5.	6.	7.	8.	0.		
No. When and Where	Name and Surname.	Sex.	Ago.	Rank or Profession.	Cause of Denth.	Signature, Description, and Residence of Informant.	When Registered.	Signature of Registrar.		
Sighteenth Stowary 1929 45 Addison Grove Taunton us	(/ /	rale	34 Years	Gardener (domestie)	(Palmonary Pakerculoris borosty Pakerculoris of Mut Milary Pakerculoris of the Stamps 16 days. No The Certified by R & WHUSTERS M. B.	B. Underhay mother in law present at The death March Lodge Marchead Sector.	Sighteenth Gebruary 1927	I Nicke Registrar		