GILBERT HOARE, Private 1994, Chatham Division, Royal Marine Light Infantry

Gilbert was born in Combe St Nicholas on July 16 1898, the oldest child of David and Harriet Hoare; they had 8 children, David being the only boy. The family lived in Combe and Tatworth, but by 1911 had settled at Lower Blindmoor, Buckland St Mary. At this stage all the children were at, or pre, school in Buckland St Mary.

Gilbert was called up on January 1 1917, at 18 years and 8 months of age. Because RMLI records survive, we have details of his service career. Pre-call up he was working as a stone haulier (horse and cart, remember). He was 5ft 8in, with blue eyes and black hair. He bore the scar of a wound on his right arm..

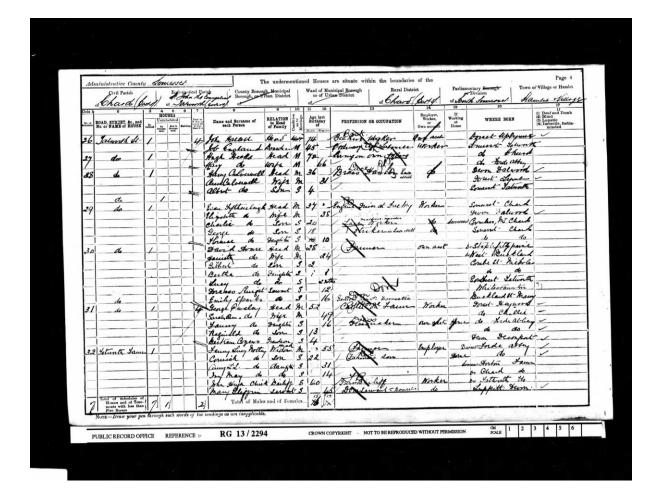
If we're interpreting his records correctly, he seems to have been assigned to the Army at first, but on January 5 was transferred to the RMLI. A note at the bottom of the document says that his original Attestation was sent to the Officer i/c RH & RFA records at Woolwich, and that he was re-enlisted in the Royal Artillery on January 10 1920 – the latter a paper transaction only one imagines.

He did his initial training at the Recruiting Depot Royal Marines Deal, and was assigned to E Company. He was demobilised on Feb 17 1919. It is probable that there are further in-depth details of his RMLI career at Yeovilton; what we have here are the bare bones. These were inaccessible during our researches.

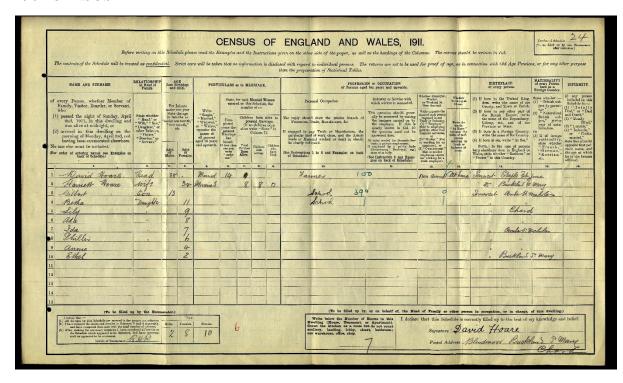
His Ability is assessed as "Very Good" by his Commanding Officers, as is his General Character.

Gilbert was married in 1931 to Florence Budd; in the 1939 General Register of England & Wales he was living with his wife at 61 Outer Circle, Taunton, and working as a Public Works Contractor labourer. He died in Taunton in 1965 aged 66.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



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