

EDWARD ELI KEITCH, Private12235 7th Battalion, Somerset Light Infantry

12 November 1897 – 25 April 1974

Edward was the fourth son of William and Amanda Keitch. He was born on 1 November 1897, and christened in BSM on 12 December. The family lived at Betham, Combe St Nicholas; William was a general labourer, and Edward, by 1911 the oldest son at home, was working as a labourer too. His older brother Charles had emigrated to the US in 1913 – it must have seemed a way out into a more challenging life. By 1920 Charles was married and farming in Wisconsin, where he remained for the rest of his life.

We know nothing further of Edward's life till he appears in the 7th Battalion of the SLI in 1915. He must have enlisted before conscription, as he's in France by 24 July 1915. The 7th's path is traced briefly in The Forces War Record (online):

“1915

Trench familiarisation and training in Fleurbaix area.

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.

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.

1918

The Battle of St Quentin, The actions at the Somme crossings, The Battle of Rosieres.

11.11.1918 Ended the war at Feignies north of Maubeuge, France.”

Edward was wounded in September 1916 in the battles that followed the Somme attack of 1 July. The records of the 31st Ambulance Train are very brief. He was wounded, with a gunshot wound to his left leg, on 28 September 1916, taken by train from Abbeville to Le Havre, but then ‘discharged back to duty’ on September 29. (MH106/2068, National Archives).

By the end of his service he was an Acting Corporal, and was demobbed into the Z Reserve on 12 March 1919. It would seem from the 7th Battalion records that he was in the trenches in France for that whole period.

He married Gertrude Winspur in 1919; they had three children, Thelma, Brian and Roy. By 1920 they had moved to the Midlands (Thelma was born in Tamworth), and in the 1939 Reg they were living at Reddicap Hill, Sutton Coldfield. Edward was working as a self-employed window cleaner. When he died on 25 April 1974, living at Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield, he left £5264, a respectable sum for the time.

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS

1901 CENSUS

Administrative County <u>Leicester</u>				The undermentioned Houses are situate within the boundaries of the										Page 15			
Civil Parish <u>St. Nicholas</u>				County Borough Municipal Borough or Urban District				Parliamentary Borough or Division				Town or Village or Hamlet					
Road, Street, &c. and No. or Name of House				Name and Surname of each Person				PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION				WHEEL BORN					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
87	Combe Head	1		James Beate	Head	Wid	69					Employer	Le.	Combe St Nicholas			
				Thomas J. Wilce	Son	M.	42						Do.				
				Helen Wilce	Daughter	M.	42						Do.				
88	Bl. Rue	1		William Lenn	Head	M.	52					Worker	Do.	Combe St Nicholas			
				John H. Lenn	Son	M.	19					Worker	Do.				
				Robert L. Lenn	Son	M.	15					Worker	Do.				
89	Buttomb	1		John North	Head	M.	53					Worker	Do.	Combe St Nicholas			
				Mary J. North	Wife	M.	53						Do.				
				Mary A. North	Daughter	M.	19					Worker	Do.				
				Charles North	Son	M.	13					Worker	Do.				
90		1		Mary H. North	Head	M.	40					Worker	Do.	Combe St Nicholas			
				Edith M. North	Wife	M.	40						Do.				
				Edith M. North	Son	M.	17					Worker	Do.				
				Edith M. North	Son	M.	12					Worker	Do.				
91		1		William North	Head	M.	37					Worker	Do.	Combe St Nicholas			
				Annandale North	Wife	M.	34						Do.				
				Edmund North	Son	M.	9						Do.				
				Charles North	Son	M.	6						Do.				
				Edward North	Son	M.	3						Do.				
				William North	Son	M.	3						Do.				
92	St. Nicholas	1	1	John Gardner	Head	M.	64					Worker	Do.	Combe St Nicholas			
93		1	1														
Total of Males and of Females.				19				10									

NOTE—Draw your pen through such words of the headings as are inapplicable.

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1901 CENSUS

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Before writing on this Schedule please read 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 Persons aged ten years and upwards.	BIRTHPLACE of every person.	NATIONALITY of every person born in a Foreign Country.	INFIRMITY.
				Married	Single				
William Keith	Head	47	M	Married	21 13 12 1	General labourer	350	North	Stanton
Annandale Keith	Wife	42	F	Married		General labourer	350	North	Stanton
Edward Keith	Son	13	M			School	390	North	Stanton
Annandale Keith	Daughter	10	F			School		North	Stanton
Robert Keith	Son	9	M					North	Stanton
Agnes Keith	Son	5	F					North	Stanton
Arthur Keith	Son	4	M					North	Stanton
Bessie Keith	Daughter	4	F					North	Stanton
Henry Keith	Son	3	M					North	Stanton
John Keith	Son	2	M					North	Stanton

(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: William Keith

Postal Address: Stanton Combe St Nicholas

CHARLES KEITCH'S ARRIVAL IN THE US

BROTHER CHARLES KEITCH 1920 CENSUS IN THE US

BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of Buckland Henry in the
County of Somerset in the year One thousand
eight hundred and twenty seven

When Baptized.	Child's Christian Name.	Parents' Names.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
		Christian.	Surname.			
1897 Sept- 14 No. 217	Emily daughter of	William and Lucy	Spiller	Buckland Henry	Labourer	William H. Lawrence
1897 Sept- 14 No. 218	William son of	Joseph and Grace	Graham	Buckland Henry	Carpenter	William H. Lawrence
1897 Oct- 3 No. 219	Beatrice daughter of	Arthur and Isaac	Graham	Buckland Henry	Marine Business	William H. Lawrence
1897 Oct- 4 No. 220	Alfred son of	Levi and Ellen	Grandon	Buckland Henry	Labourer	William H. Lawrence
1897 Sept- 18 No. 221	Ellen daughter of	Henry and Jemima	Gard	Buckland Henry	Labourer	William H. Lawrence
1897 Nov- 14 No. 222	Eliza daughter of	Robert and Sophia	Gear	Buckland Henry	Labourer	William H. Lawrence
1897 Nov- 18 No. 223	Beatrice daughter of	William and Jemima	Harding	The Rectory Buckland	Minister	William H. Lawrence
1897 Nov- 12 No. 224	Edward son of	William and Ann	Hesche	Buckland Henry	Army Reserve	William H. Lawrence

(1898) London: Ward & Son, Stationers.

BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of Buckland Henry in the
County of Somerset in the year One thousand
eight hundred and twenty eight

When Baptized.	Child's Christian Name.	Parents' Names.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
		Christian.	Surname.			
1898 Jan- 1st No. 225	Alie daughter of	Robert and Emma	Hart	Buckland Henry	Labourer	William H. Lawrence
1898 Feb- 6 No. 226	Francis son of	Arthur and Jane	Boyd	Buckland Henry	Labourer	William H. Lawrence
1898 March 8 No. 227	Edwin son of	Richard and Sarah	Hooper	Buckland Henry	Labourer	William H. Lawrence
1898 April 3 No. 228	Oliver son of	William and Elizabeth	Walter	Buckland Henry	Labourer	William H. Lawrence
1898 April 10 No. 229	Mary daughter of	Robert and Mary	Knights	Buckland Henry	Labourer	William H. Lawrence
1898 April 14 No. 230	Eliza daughter of	James and Elizabeth	Peacy	Buckland Henry	Labourer	William H. Lawrence
1898 April 24 No. 231	Alie daughter of	William and Emily	Forster	Buckland Henry	Labourer	William H. Lawrence
1898 May 3 No. 232	Mabel daughter of	John and Lucy	North	Buckland Henry	Labourer	William H. Lawrence

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Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
KEITCH	Bomb. L.	P/O.	12285.
	7/—1—	*A/Cpl	—1—
Edward.			
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY *	C/2/102 B10	1258	cl. 2.123.19
BRITISH	—d—	—d—	
15 STAR	C/2/1B2	158.	
Theatre of War first served in		1/1 France.	
Date of entry therein		24.7.15.	

K 1380.

Correspondence.

Address.

ADMISSION AND DISCHARGE BOOK										FIELD SERVICE											
St Ambulance Train										1203244-4											
In the number of soldiers, Transfers are not to be recorded in this column, but should be in the column of admission or removal to and from a separate column.	Regiment, Battalion, or Corps (as the case may be)	Squadron, Battery, or Company	Regt. No.	Rank	Surname	Christian name	Completed years of		DISEASES (Wounds and injuries in action to be entered according to classification on fly leaf)	Date of Admission		Date of Discharge		Date of Transfer				Number of days under treatment	Number of days in hospital or ward in which treated	OBSERVATIONS	
							Age	Service		For original disease	By new disease super-vening	To	By new disease super-vening	By Death	From		To				
															Sick	Other	Sick	Other			
13694	A.H.R.	2651	Com.	Jones, S.					See Adm. Unit (see)	21/1/16					Abbott	See Adm.					
98	S. Stapp	2489	St.	Bursey, J.					Fract. ankle (R)												
99	G.S. Sol.	17004		Thorne, J.					Fract. ankle (R)												
13700	M.S. & M.B. Co.	17004	Jr.	Madam, J.A.					Fract. ankle (R)												
1	M. St.	2577	St.	Chapman, A.					See Butt.												
2	S. St.	1800		Devies, S.					" Spl. (R)												
3	R. St.	571		Macdonald, J.					" Spl. (R)												
4	A.H.R.	25068		Wetmore, A.					" Spl. (R)												
5	Thorn	25793		Lowell, J.					Fract. ankle (R)												
6	James R. St.	25029		Ball, W.					Fract. ankle (R)												
7	A.H.R.	19022		Shaw, S. R.					" Spl. (R)												
8	M. St.	2453		Boyle, J. O.					Aluminium												
9	M. St.	1757		Wells, A.					See Spl. (R)												
10	W. St.	18768		Boyle, J.					" Spl. (R)												
11	W. St.	17771	St.	Boyle, J. J.					" Spl. (R)												
12	S. St.	17931	St.	Sumner, T.					See Spl. (R)												
13	M. St.	2427		Andrews, H.					See Spl. (R)												
14	W. St.	257		Wright, J. C.					Aluminium												
15	J. St.	2069	Jr.	Boyle, J.					" Spl. (R)												
16	W. St.	2253	St.	Smith, E.					" Spl. (R)												
17	C. St.	2277		Harrison, A.					Aluminium												
18	S. St.	17544		Spencer, H. O.					See Spl. (R)												
19	W. St.	1761		Anderson, J.					See Spl. (R)												
20	J. St.	1895		Dawson, E.					See Spl. (R)												
21	W. St.	613	Jr.	Boyle, J.					"												
22	W. St.	256	St.	Lucas, J.					"												
23	W. St.	4499		Harrison, J.					"												
24	W. St.	25079		Boyle, J.					"												
25	W. St.	25079		Boyle, J.					"												
13726	W. St.	25079	Jr.	Boyle, J.					"												

(To be rendered in duplicate)

Army Form W. 1000

BOMBERST LIGHT INFANTRY

REGIMENT OR CORPS.

1298(b)

ROLL OF INDIVIDUALS entitled to the Victory Medal and British War Medal granted under Army Order 1130

of 1915

Held by an individual in the Corps in respect of which the roll is submitted.		NAME	In separate Units and Corps previously served with by each individual and Regt. No. (Name: see below note, whether substantive, acting or temporary, recorded as having been held for any period in the Office of War, being entered against the name of the individual or Corps which is to be inscribed on the medal.)	Threats of war in which served	Clasp awarded (to be left blank)	Record of disposal of decorations	REMARKS
Regt. No.	Rank					(a) Promoted (b) Despatched by Post (c) Taken into Stock	
28842	Pte ✓	KENYON George Henry	7th Som.L.I. Pte 28842.	1(a) ✓			D. of Disease 4.7.18.
29685	Pte ✓	KENYON Edwin Reginald.	1st Som.L.I. Pte 29685.	1(a) ✓			X in A. 17.5.18.
201521	Pte ✓	KENYON Charles	1st Som.L.I. Pte 201521.	1(a) ✓			Disembodied 28.3.19.
30887	Pte ✓	KENYON Ernest Edwin	1st O. & Devon.R. 1st Som.L.I. 5th Dorsetsh. Pte 43209.	4(b) ✓ 4(b) ✓ 1(a) ✓			To & Reserve 5.3.19.
9831	Pte ✓	KENYON William	8th Som.L.I. 1st Som.L.I. Pte 9831.	1(a) ✓ 1(a) ✓			D. of W. 3.5.15.
12335	W/O ✓	KITCHEN Edward	7th Som.L.I. A/Cpl 12335.	1(a) ✓			To & Reserve 13.3.19.
241698	Pte ✓	KITCHEN Wilfred	1st Som.L.I. Pte 241698.	4(b) ✓			Disembodied 28.3.19.

I certify that according to the Official Records the individuals named in this ROLL are entitled to the Medal or Medals as detailed above.

Place

EXETER

Date

30 JUL 1920

Signature and rank of Officer certifying:

W. H

SERVICE MEDALS

D 172

1974

D 17

KEIGHLEY, Nellie of 144 St Andrews Clb Hothfield Hgillfax died 11 February 1974 Probate Leeds 2 April E1037 741303353A

KEIGHLEY, Silvie de Grasse of Lou Gasteau le Tourret Maritimes France died 28 August 1973 Probate Winchester 25 January E1537 in England and Wales 743301217F

KEIGHLY-PERCH, Beatrice Mary see PERCH, Beatrice Mary 740115949E

KEIGHTLEY, sir Charles Frederic of White Kennels Tarrant Gunville Dorset died 17 June 1974 Probate London 20 November E16421 740135550F

KEIGHTLEY, Joseph Leslie of 98 Norton Rd Scourbridge died 9 February 1974 Administration Birmingham 11 March E15477 740303502A

KEIGHTLEY, Robert Alfred of 46 Park Dr Leicester Forest East Leicester died 27 July 1974 Probate Nottingham 13 September E10162 742513568G

KEIGHTLEY, Sarah Ann of 79 Church St Ilkeston Derbyshire died 17 December 1973 Probate Nottingham 15 February E13268 742501045A

KEIGWIN, Clara Matilda of 51 Woodfield Av North Wembley Mids died 18 July 1974 Probate Oxford 20 August E17114 742808963J

KEIL, Charles Leonard of 15 Windmill Ln London E15 died 23 June 1974 Administration London 26 September E1609 740162635L

KEILEY, Charles Ernest of 9 Colebrook Cl Worthing died 14 August 1974 Administration Brighton 8 October E15052 740510818K

KEILIN, Anne of Wandington House Nursing Home Wandington Oxford died 17 February 1974 Probate Ipswich 18 April E19930 741013998B

KEILING, Simon of 14 Fernies Way Carlisle died 10 October 1974 Administration Newcastle-upon-Tyne 25 November E1096 742211152J

KEILLER, William of 69 Rosemont Rd Aigburth Liverpool died 10 September 1974 Administration Liverpool 8 October E820 741609222H

KEILLOR, Nellie of 53 Norton Rd Wembley Middx died 13 February 1974 Probate Ipswich 20 August E15363 741016168L

KEILTY, William of 32 Windermere Terr South Moor Stanley County Durham died 20 July 1974 Administration Newcastle-upon-Tyne 9 December E142 742208443L

KEILY, Nora Lilian of 76 Walliscote Rd Weston-Super-Mare died 16 November 1973 Probate Bristol 24 January E18860 740750472N

KEINGAERT DE GHEUVELT, Leenke Charlotte Françoise of 6 Impasse de La Fontaine Monte Carlo Monaco died 28 February 1966 Administration London 29 August E83149 in England and Wales 740127312F

KEIR, sir David Lindsey of Hillsborough Lismore La Boers Hill Abingdon Berks died 2 October 1973 Probate Ipswich 7 March E4795 741019224K

KEIR, William Edward of South Hill Somerton Somerset died 19 November 1973 Administration Oxford 25 February E22473 742802156B

KEIRMAN, David of 15 Melrose Cres Addiscombe Stockport died 22 June 1974 Administration Manchester 30 July E1730 742110861F

KEITCH, Edward Elia of 221 Hill Village Rd Four Oaks Sutton Coldfield died 25 April 1974 Probate Birmingham 14 June E1264 740308321L

KEITH, Adam Blackthill of 1 Stanley Rd Grays Essex died 28 November 1973 Probate Ipswich 28 January E1460 741000753J

KEITH, Agnes Melville of 47 Chesterton Terr Plaistow London died 24 November 1974 Administration Winchester 18 December E1048 743317292D

KEITH, Cecil Graham of Wayside Rusper Horsham Sx died 3 November 1973 Probate London 19 March E87273 740109030L

KEITH, Edward Ervine of 15 Station Rd London E12 died 27 February 1974 Administration with Will London 9 August E6624 740123818B

KEITH, George Alfred of 68 Shalstone Rd Mortlake London SW14 died 16 January 1974 Probate Oxford 14 March E13322 742802930U

KEITH, Gerard Edward of 8 Brierley Av Whitefield Lancs died 3 September 1974 Administration Manchester 1 October E1772 742112581G

KEITH, Herbert of 143 Pallgrave Rd Great Yarmouth diss died 13 February 1974 Probate Ipswich 2 July E6453 741020529X

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EDWARD'S GRAVESTONE