

WALTER ROBERT HOOPER, K.9742 Stoker R.N.

Walter, born July 14 1892 and baptised on September 11 1892 in Buckland St Mary, was one of the 12 children of Richard and Sarah Hooper. Richard was a farm labourer, born in Combe St Nicholas, as were all but two of the children, while Sarah came from Whitestaunton; they lived at Long Lye.

The children went to school in Buckland St Mary; two of them, Sidney and Walter, appear on its Roll of Honour, and three of the brothers – John, Sidney and Walter - are on the Church Memorial Board; thankfully all survived the War. Walter, the School Roll tells us, was wounded, but we have no further detail about that.

Like his brothers John and Sidney, Walter chose not to stay in Buckland. He had worked as a labourer after leaving school, and then signed on with the Navy in December 21 1910 for 12 years as a stoker, Devonport being his Port Division. His papers give a brief description of him: he had black hair and hazel eyes and was 5ft 6^{1/2}in tall. When he signed on again in 1922 he was slightly taller, had lost the first joint of the forefinger of his right hand and had tattoos on both forearms. His Character was 'VG' and his Efficiency mainly 'Sat[isfactory]'. He was still in the Navy at the end of 1941 and must I think have been retired then – he would be 50 in July 1942 – at least to a shore job. The second sheet of his records, from 1929 to 1941 is over stamped with a 'D' – possibly for discharged? The final entry for Character – VG - and Efficiency 'Sat[isfactory]' has 'D/shore' under Date; Possibly 'Discharged to Shore'?

The ships on which he served are all listed in his papers: Pembroke II, Aeolus, Vivid II, Indus, Exmouth, Vivid II, Marlborough, Vivid II, Defiance, Vivid II, Woolwich (Taurus), Woolwich (Sesame), Vivid II, Laburnum, Vivid II, Hood, Tiger, Vivid II, Exeter, Vivid II, Osprey, Drake II, Baldur, Hecla. Vivid II was the Naval Barracks at Devonport. These are all findable on the internet; we picture his first and the Marlborough, mentioned in the Absent Voters List.



harbour vessel

Gunboat HMS Trent, aka HMS Pembroke II,

Walter married Sarah Ann Lee by license at Taunton Register Office on 23 February 1918. They were both living in Pitminster at the time. Between 1919 and 1935 they had seven children: Walter, Bessie, Dorothy, Florence, Ernest, Richard and Stella. All the births were registered in the Chard area, and by the time of the 1939 Register they were living at Stantway in Combe St Nicholas. Walter senior's name is not there – the records appear to show he was at sea.

After that we have no further information. Strangely Walter died many miles away in Knaresborough, North Yorkshire aged 88; he was then a retired council worker.



HMS Marlborough, Iron Duke class battleship

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of Buckland Illing in the
County of Somerset in the year One thousand
eight hundred and ninety two

When Baptized.	Child's Christian Name.	Parents' Names.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
		Christian.	Surname.			
1892 July 2	18 92 Sept. 24 No. 121	John and son of Catherine	Clark	Buckland Illing	Reverend William Dance	
1892 Sept. 11	18 92 Sept. 23 No. 122	Lawrence and daughter Mary	Charles Cottonman	Buckland Illing	Gardener William Dance	
1892 July 14	18 92 Sept. 11 No. 123	Walter Robert and son of Jane	Richard Hooper	Buckland Illing	Servant William Dance	
1892 July 6	18 92 Sept. 23 No. 124	Mary Jane daughter Susan	Page Baxter	Buckland Illing	Labourer William Dance	
1892 Sept. 27	18 92 Nov. 13 No. 125	Federick John and son of Annanda	William Keech	Combe St Nicholas Somerset	Servant William Dance	
1892 Sept. 31	18 92 Nov. 27 No. 126	Helen Berrie daughter Mary Elizabeth	Simon Henry Pavey	Buckland Illing	Labourer William Dance	
1892 May 12	18 92 Nov. 30 No. 127	Ed and son of	Bessie Hake	Buckland Illing	Servant William Dance	
1892 Nov. 19	18 92 Dec. 18 No. 128	Simon and son of Mary	William Gordon Quirk	Buckland Illing	Farmer William Dance	

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(1892) London & West & New, Peter Lane.

BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of Buckland Illing in the
County of Somerset in the year One thousand
eight hundred and ninety two

When Baptized.	Child's Christian Name.	Parents' Names.		Abode.	Quality, Trade, or Profession.	By whom the Ceremony was performed.
		Christian.	Surname.			
1892 Jan. 6	18 93 Jan. 6 No. 129	Charles and daughter of Elizabeth	North	Buckland Illing	Labourer William Dance	
1892 Jan. 29	18 93 Jan. 29 No. 130	Lacy and daughter of	Henry Quirk	Buckland Illing	Servant William Dance	
1892 Feb. 7	18 93 Feb. 7 No. 131	William and son of Elizabeth	John Sutton	Buckland Illing	Servant William Dance	
1892 Feb. 9	18 93 Feb. 9 No. 132	Frank and son of Elizabeth	William Shaw Sutton	Buckland Illing	Servant William Dance	
1892 Feb. 14	18 93 Feb. 14 No. 133	Federick and son of Elizabeth	William John Sutton	Buckland Illing	Servant William Dance	
1892 Feb. 7	18 93 Feb. 7 No. 134	William and son of Elizabeth	Henry John Sutton	Buckland Illing	Servant William Dance	
1892 Feb. 28	18 93 Feb. 16 No. 135	William and son of Mary	Henry Hill	Eastleigh Railway Hampshire Bristol	Labourer William Dance	
1892 Feb. 12	18 93 Feb. 26 No. 136	William and son of Ellen	Levi John Gordon	Buckland Illing	Labourer William Dance	

1901 CENSUS WALTER HOOPER

SURNAME <u>HOOPER</u>		OFFICIAL NUMBER <u>K. 9742</u>	
CHRISTIAN NAMES <u>Walter Robert</u>		Port Division <u>Dev.</u>	
Trade or Occupation <u>Labourer</u>		Date of Birth <u>14 July. 1892</u>	
		Place of Birth <u>Chard. Somerset</u>	



Ship in which Serving	From	Rating and Discharge	NON-SUBSTANTIVE			BADGES		
			Rating	From	To	G. D. or R.	Date	Number Held
Hood	F.B.	Sto. I. (over 6yrs)					F.B.	3
Liger	17 May 29	-						
Vind 2-6.	2 May 31	-						
Exeter	22 July 31	"						
Uvid 2	27 Aug 32	"						
	20 Dec 32	Shore Remained No 23103.						
Osprey	6 Sep. 39	Sto I. 6 yrs. (Cous)						
Osprey	25 Nov 40	"						
Baldor	18 June 41	-						
13/149 Sheela	15 July 41	-						

Character	Efficiency	Date	Character	Efficiency	Date
V.G.	Sat	31.12.29			
V.G.	Sat.	31.12.30.			
V.G.	Sat.	31.12.31			
V.G.	Sat	20.12.32			
V.G.	Sat	31.12.39			
V.G.	Sat	31.12.40			
V.G.	Sat	31.12.41			
V.G.	Sat	Disshore			

TIME FORFEITED AND CLASS FOR CONDUCT				
Offence	Sen- tence	P. D. C., &c.	Served	
			From	To

24374/7091 100m. (5 sort) (D) 3/99 Wt & Sons Ltd 4157/51958/603

NAVAL SERVICE

NAVAL SERVICE

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF MARRIAGE



GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Application Number 14576258-1

1918 Marriage solemnized at <u>The Register Office</u> in the District of <u>Taunton</u> in the County of <u>Somerset</u>							
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.
94	Twenty-third February, 1918	Walter Robert Hooper	25 years	Bachelor	Stoker Royal Navy	White's Farm, Pitminster	Richard Hooper, Farmer
		Sarah Ann Lee	26 years	Spinster	Domestic Housewife	White's Farm, Pitminster	Richard Lee, Farmer

Married in the Register Office according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Church of England by Richard Hooper to me, S. G. Hooper Registrar, in the presence of us, S. A. Lee and J. A. Gale J. R. Chapman Deputy Registrar.

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a register of Marriages in the Registration District of Taunton

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

10th

day of

January

2024

MXJ 808331

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E.D. Letter Code <i>W/PJ1</i>		Borough, U.D. or R.D. <i>Chard</i>		Registration District and Sub-district <i>308-1</i>							See INSTRUCTIONS.	
ADDRESS.	SCHEDULE.		SURNAME AND OTHER NAMES.	O. V. S. P. or I.	M. or F.	BIRTH.		S. M. W. or D.	PERSONAL OCCUPATION.			
	No.	Sub No.				Day.	Year.					
<i>Louise Betham</i> <i>combe St Nicholas</i>	58	1	<i>Hunt Raymond L</i>	-	M	13 May	1903	M	General Farm Labourer			
"	"	2	<i>Hunt Evelyn</i>	-	F	2 May	1904	M	Unpaid Domestic Duties			
This record is officially closed.												
"	59	1	<i>Jenner George H</i>	-	M	23 Dec	1909	M	Gardener Private Heavy Work	<i>Despatch Rider Motor Co</i>		
"	"	2	<i>Jenner Daisy E</i>	-	F	2 June	1909	M	Unpaid Domestic Duties	<i>Somerset County Council</i>		
This record is officially closed.												
<i>2150 1900</i> <i>Hayes</i> <i>combe St Nicholas</i>	60	1	<i>Jenner Kathleen J</i>	-	F	12 Dec	1931	S.	"			
"	"	2	<i>Gardner Florence M</i>	-	F	21 July	1854	W.	Unpaid Domestic Duties			
"	"	3	<i>Warren William</i>	-	M	4 July	1865	W.	Carpenter (Retired)			
"	"	4	<i>Hooper Sarah A</i>	-	F	12 Sep	1891	M	Unpaid Domestic Duties			
This record is officially closed.												
"	61	1	<i>Hooper Richard F</i>	-	M	13 May	1933	S.	"			
"	"	2	<i>Hooper Stella M</i>	-	F	21 Nov	1935	S.	Under School age			
"	62	1	<i>Gamblin James</i>	-	M	29 April	1893	M	Farm Labourer			
"	"	2	<i>Gamblin Isabella M</i>	-	F	14 May	1896	M	Unpaid Domestic Duties			
"	"	3	<i>Gamblin Donald K</i>	-	M	9 Oct	1932	S.	at School			
This record is officially closed.												
"	63	1	<i>Barley Sarah A</i>	-	F	26 Oct	1882	W.	Unpaid Domestic Duties			
"	"	2	<i>Barley Jack A</i>	-	M	2 April	1908	S.	bowman			
This record is officially closed.												
"	"	3	<i>Barley Roy B</i>	-	M	13 Mar	1906	S.	at School			
This record is officially closed.												
"	64	1	<i>Scriven Ambrose</i>	-	M	19 Mar	1876	M	Post Deliver			
"	"	2	<i>Scriven Mary J</i>	-	F	29 Sep	1894	M	Unpaid Domestic Duties			
<i>Louise Betham</i> <i>combe St Nicholas</i>	65	1	<i>Churchill Samuel J</i>	-	M	5 Mar	1896	S.	Carpenter/Journeyman			
"	"	2	<i>Churchill George H</i>	-	M	21 Jan	1900	S.	Farm Labourer			
"	"	3	<i>Churchill Frederick B</i>	-	M	11 April	1903	S.	Farm Labourer			
"	"	4	<i>Churchill Grace</i>	-	F	19 Jan	1905	S.	Housekeeper			
<i>Belcombe</i> <i>combe St Nicholas</i>	66	1	<i>Fuller Percy L J</i>	-	M	5 July	1884	M	Farmer			
"	"	2	<i>Fuller Laura A</i>	-	F	21 Sep	1884	M	Unpaid Domestic Duties			
"	"	3	<i>Shrewsbury Arthur</i>	-	F	22 Aug	1861	S.	Missionary (Retired)			
This record is officially closed.												
<i>Megner Betham</i> <i>combe St Nicholas</i>	67	1	<i>Hartford Ethel M</i>	-	F	4 June	1882	S.	Independent Means			
"	"	2	<i>Hartford Winifred</i>	-	F	19 July	1890	S.	Housekeeper			
"	"	3	<i>Hartford Tom V</i>	-	M	19 Oct	1891	S.	Farmer			
"	"	4	<i>Hartford Wyndham E</i>	-	M	14 Sep	1898	S.	"			
"	"	5	<i>Hartford Maurice R</i>	-	M	30 Jan	1899	S.	Independent Means			
"	"	6	<i>Cooleman Francis J</i>	-	M	22 July	1911	M	Dairy Farmer			
"	"	7	<i>Cooleman Hilda A</i>	-	F	20 Jan	1910	M	Unpaid Domestic Duties			
This record is officially closed.												
<i>2150 1900</i> <i>Hayes</i> <i>combe St Nicholas</i>	68	1	<i>Howe Emily L</i>	-	F	13 Mar	1913	S.	Black in Ball Bearing Factory			
"	"	2	<i>Howe Thomas</i>	-	M	5 May	1898	M	Farmer			
"	"	3	<i>Howe Grace E</i>	-	F	9 Mar	1890	M	Unpaid Domestic Duties			
"	"	4	<i>Howe Maggie</i>	-	F	26 June	1914	S.	Helping Father			

Application Number 10732269-1



QBDAB 675617

CERTIFIED COPY

OF AN ENTRY

DEATH		Entry No. 278
Registration district CLARO	Administrative area County of North Yorkshire	
Sub-district CLARO		
1. Date and place of death Twenty fifth November 1980 Harrogate General Hospital, Harrogate		
2. Name and surname Walter Robert HOOPER	3. Sex Male	4. Maiden surname of woman who has married -
5. Date and place of birth 14th July 1892 Buckland St. Mary, Somerset		
6. Occupation and usual address Council Worker (retired) 3 Windsor Lane, Knaresborough, North Yorks.		
7 (a) Name and surname of informant Dorothy Mary LINDEN	(b) Qualification causing the body to be cremated	
(c) Usual address 3 Windsor Lane, Knaresborough		
8. Cause of death Ischaemic Heart Disease Certified by J. Miles Coverdale, Coroner for Claro District, after Post Mortem without Inquest.		
9. I certify that the particulars given by me above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief D. M. Linden Signature of informant		
10. Date of registration Twenty seventh November 1980	11. Signature of registrar J. Richardson, Registrar	

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of* a register of Births, Still-births or Deaths in the District above mentioned. Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office on 20th February 2020

*If the Certificate is given from the original Register, the words "the certified copy of" are struck out.

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