

Francis Thomas Croxford

Birth:

16 August 1885 in Hurley, Berkshire

Died:

28 November 1962

Married:

- 1929-30 Electoral registers imply he married "Clara" although this could be another family member, whilst Probate states that his widow was Annie.
- Q2 1942 Wycombe, Buckinghamshire 3A 4121 (Annie Brogden)

Census:

1891 – 1911 living at Greyhound Pub, Burchett Green, Maidenhead

Education:

07/09/1895 – 29/06/1898: Knowl Hill School Church of England Primary School

Occupation:

1911 Builder's labourer

Electoral register:

- 1919: The Crown, Burchett Green, Maidenhead, Berkshire
- 1920 – 26: Greyhound Pub, Burchett Green, Maidenhead, Berkshire
- 1929: 7 Chapel Street, Marlow, Buckinghamshire
- 1930: 63 Glade Road, Marlow, Buckinghamshire

Regiments

- Royal Berkshire Regiment: (20320)
- 12th (Labour) Battalion Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry: Sergeant (26628)
- 156th Labour Corps: (93118)
- 175th Labour Corps: (93118)

Service History

- Attests 11/12/1915 in Maidenhead | Approved 01/03/1916 in Reading | "Duration of War"
 - Still living at the Greyhound Pub
 - Occupation ("trade or calling") recorded as Roadmaker
 - 30 Years 4 months (d.o.b therefore about August 1885 – matches Q3 1885 mmn Webb Cookham, Berkshire 2C 405)
 - Height 5ft 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ | Chest 36" range of expansion 2" | Weight 150lbs (10st 10lb) | Physical development Good | 2 thumbs and four fingers on right hand | slight hernia left side

- “Fit for home service only”, “Ineligible for infantry”.
 - Next of kin: Father – Thomas Croxford (Greyhound Pub, Burchett Green)
- 11/12/1915 – 01/03/1916: Royal Berkshire Regiment (England – Army Reserve)
- 01/03/1916: Mobilised
- 02/03/1916 – 27/03/1916 What is he doing in this period?
- 27/03/1916 – 07/05/1916: Allocated to Duke of Cornwall’s Light Infantry, then attached to 3rd Battalion Somerset Light Infantry (a training unit in Taunton) as a Private.
 - 28/04/1916 appointed unpaid Lance Corporal
- 07/05/1916 – 09/05/1917: In France as part of British Expeditionary Force with 12th Battalion, Duke of Cornwall’s Light Infantry
 - 07/05/16 Embarked Southampton | 08/05/16 Disembarked Havre
 - 07/05/1916 appointed paid Lance Corporal (“in the field”)
 - 08/08/1916 appointed paid acting Corporal (“in the field”)
 - 14/08/1916 promoted to Corporal (“in the field”)
- 09/05/1917: Still in France, transferred (possibly compulsorily) to Labour Corps 156 Company (12th Battalion DCLI became 156th and 157th Labour Corps and so ceased to exist from May 1917. 156th Labour Corps was formed in January 1917).
 - 14/05/1917 promoted to Sergeant
- 16/09/1918 – 30/09/18 Leave to go to Boulogne (14 days)
- 12/1918: 156th Labour Corps moved from 4th Army to 3rd Army (WO 95/384/13)
- 28/12/1918: Awarded Meritorious Service Medal for “valuable services” (Page 68, Supplement to the London Gazette, 01/01/1918 – 93118 Sjt F T Croxford, Labour Corps (Maidenhead, Berks))
 - On file is a letter from Francis informing that he had not yet received the medal.
- 15/03/1919: Still in France, transferred (possibly compulsorily) to Labour Corps 175 Company
- 01/04/1919 – 15/04/1919 Leave via Calais
- 12/08/1919 – 26/08/19 Leave to ???
- 07/09/1919 Discharged (Mauberge, France?)
- 12/09/1919: Dispersal Unit Crystal Palace | Place of re-joining in case of emergency Park Royal | Medical category B2 (what does this mean?)
- 30/09/1919: Awarded British War Medal
- 12/09/1921: Awarded Victory Medal