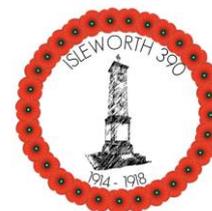


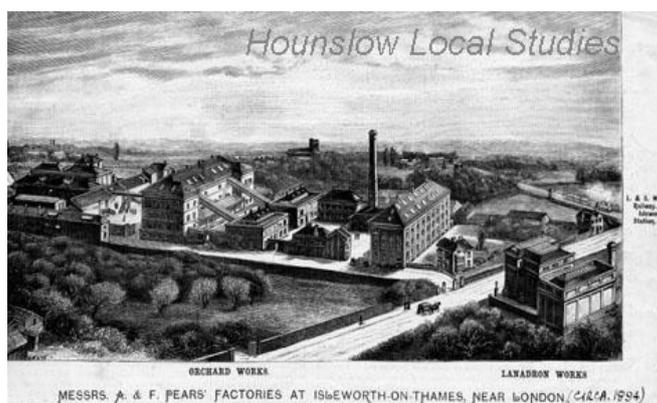
Frederick Happs



Pte. F. HAPPS

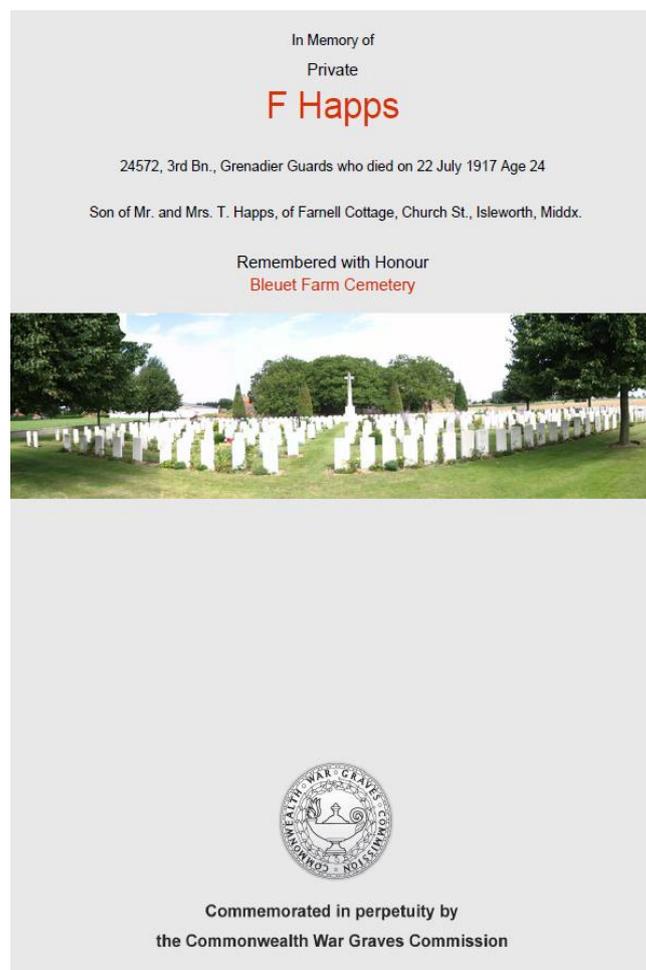
Frederick was the son of Thomas James Happs (born in 1840, baptised at All Saints Church, Isleworth and died in 1923) and Emma Jane Webb, (born in 1853 in Westminster and died in 1935 in Luton.) His parents married at St John's Church in Isleworth in 1886 and Frederick, their third child was born in 1893 and baptised at St John's Church, Isleworth on July 2nd 1893. He had three brothers: William Thomas, born in 1888; James Henry, born in June 1889 and Frank George, born in 1896 and a sister, Jane May, born in 1891. They lived at 6 and then 3, Winkworth Cottages, Linkfield Road, Isleworth and by 1911, when their father was a pensioned maltster from Isleworth Brewery, they were in Farnell Cottage, Brewery Wharf, Church Street. In 1911, William Thomas was a bottlewasher, James

Henry a bran packer, Jane May a domestic servant, Frederick a van boy and Frank George, a newspaper boy. Earlier in his life, Frederick's father, Thomas James, had travelled to New York from Liverpool on the H Fish, arriving in April 1872 with his brother Edward and wife, Lucy nee Jupp, and George and his wife Sarah Elizabeth, nee Muskett. Thomas James returned to England, leaving the other four to build their futures in America. Frederick worked at the Pears factory in Isleworth (see *below*). He enlisted in London, served with the Grenadier Guards, 3rd Battalion, was killed in action in Belgium in July 1917 and is buried in the Bleuet Farm Cemetery, an area used as a dressing station during the Allied offensive in the second half of 1917. The Pears Soap factory Bubbles magazine reported that Private Frederick Happs, a carman, was wounded in the jaw and died on his way to the casualty station. His Chaplain wrote that 'He was a thorough good fellow, fought gallantly, and is greatly missed by his comrades and NCO's'. He was remembered as one of the 'Isleworth Pears Men' in the 'Bubbles' magazine, with the image at the top of this page.



Above: The Pears Soap Factory in Isleworth

Frederick's brother, William Thomas (Grenadier Guards) died in WW1 in the Balkan Theatre in April 1917. On the day before his 55th birthday in June 1944, James Henry was helping women and children to safety in a shelter after a 'Doodlebug' attack, and died when he caught the tail end of the blast. In 1917, his first son was named James William Frederick Happs after his two brothers who were killed in WW1. Another of James Henry's sons, Ronald Ernest born in 1923, served in WW2 in the same regiment his uncle, William Thomas had in WW1. Frederick's other siblings, Frank survived to 1973 in Braintree in Essex and Jane Evans (nee May) died in Luton in 1935. Frederick is also remembered at All Saints Church, Church Street, Isleworth.



The memorial certificate above is included with the permission of the CWGC