



**George Ernest Fielder (329492)** was born in Isleworth in spring 1891. He was the third child born to John and Harriet Fielder. Sadly George's mother Harriet died when he was about two years. A few years later George's father married Ellen Bailey. John and Ellen lived at 2 Tolson Road Isleworth and together they had three more children, John (Junior), Albert and Dorothea. In 1904, only nine years later, George's father John (a jobbing coachman) also died. George would have been 12 years old. Two years later, George's stepmother married Alfred Rowles, a chimney sweep, and they had two children together – Charles and Harry. It must have been difficult for George having lost both parents at such a young age. In 1911 this family (of Fielders/Rowles ) were now living at 8 Algar Road. George's blood brother Arthur can be found in The Brentford Union Workhouse in Isleworth. He died in 1913 at the age of 30. Amy his blood sister, married in 1912.

There are very few military records available for George. We do know that he enlisted in Dorchester. His regimental number 8288 tells us that George joined the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Cambridgeshire Regiment during Sept. 1916 when George attested or was conscripted. From March 1917 these four figure numbers changed to a six figure series, hence his second regimental number 329492.

Archived material held with the Cambridgeshire Regiment today, records that George was wounded in action in March 1918 during the German Spring Offensive and wounded again later that year on 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> August when attacking the village of Morlancourt ( almost 200 men from his regiment were killed, wounded or missing here). George survived, but his luck was running out.

Further research has uncovered a scrap of 'burnt' paper which records Private Fielder G.E. as having a gunshot wound to his right thigh. This snippet is dated 21<sup>st</sup> Oct. 1918 and is part of a Weekly War Office Casualty List. George was almost certainly one of the



50 Cambridgeshire soldiers who were wounded during the fierce fighting in the village of Auby on 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup>.Oct. Ten men were killed outright. George died from his wound on 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov 1918 – **sadly only a matter of days before the Armistice.** George, who was 28 when he died, left behind his wife Fanny (whom he married in Ticehurst Sussex in 1912) and two little girls – Marjorie (b. 1914) and Gladys (b.1916) both born in Poole in Dorset. The family home was in Parkstone in Dorset. George is buried in Terlincthun British Cemetery in France (Ref VII.B.3.) and is also remembered at St John's Heatherlands Church in Poole and St Bridget's, Isleworth. (With thanks to Felix Jackson

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