



Pte. E. HAYES

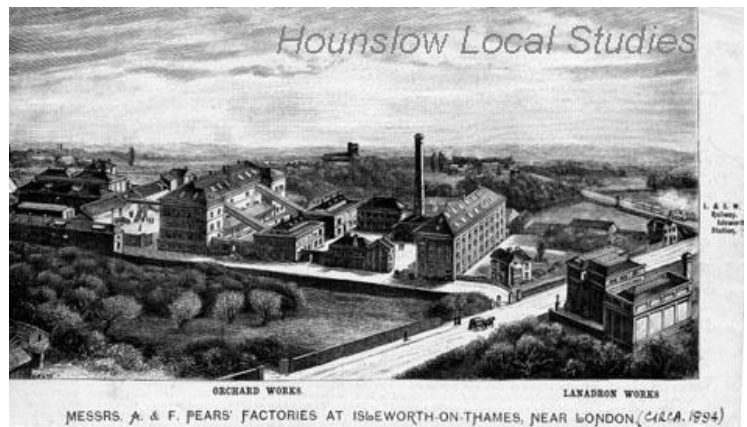
Edward Hayes

Edward was born in Isleworth in June 1892. According to the census taken the year before, in 1891, his family were living at 15 Downton Place, Isleworth. His father, William born 1866 in Brentford was a packer in a factory. His mother, Mary (née Murphy) was born in 1867 in Sunbury and they had a son William, aged 1. Edward's father had been living at 5 Stafford Place,



South Street when the 1881 census was taken and, aged 16, he was working as an assistant draper. Edward's grandparents, William and Bridget, both came from Ireland and worked as general and garden labourers respectively. By 1901 Edward's family had moved to 2 Garfield Road, St Margarets and Edward had two more brothers: John Michael born July 1897 and Thomas Frederick, born December 1900. Edward, aged 9, was at school. His father was working as a ground labourer. The family moved further into Twickenham and by 1911 were living at 73 Heath Gardens. William, now 45, was a green keeper at a golf club. William junior, aged 21 and Edward, aged 19, were working as assistants in the boot trade. John Michael, aged 13 was a messenger boy (telegraph); Thomas Frederick was at school and the family had a little girl, Florence Mary, aged 3.

When Edward enlisted at Putney he was living at 62 Third Cross Road, Twickenham and working for A and F Pears in Isleworth (see right) His photo, above, was published in Pears' Bubbles magazine. Edward joined the City of London Yeomanry as Private 3660 and transferred to the 8th Battalion of the Suffolk Regiment as Private 40381. They landed in France on 25th July, 1915 as part of the 53rd Brigade in the 18th (Eastern) Division, part of Kitchener's New Armies which was eventually disbanded in a France on 7th February, 1918. The 8th



Battalion took over front line trenches at La Boisselle on 29th December, 1915; saw action on the Somme, near Albert in 1916 and were in action on the Ancre in 1917. From 3rd -17th May 1917, they took part in the Battle of Bullecourt. According to the 8th Battalion Suffolk Regiment War Diaries, on 12th May the Battalion relieved the 8th Norfolk Regiment in the line. On 13th May enemy shelling was spasmodic during the day and less at night. The 14th May was completely quiet. A message was received that probable retirement of the enemy had been reported. However this did not prove accurate from information obtained by patrols and defence orders were received. On 15th May a final German counter-attack was made to recapture Bullecourt and the Hindenburg trenches. The attack failed, except at Bullecourt where the west of the village was regained. Both sides were engaged in heavy artillery fire in which Edward was injured by shrapnel and died. He was buried in the Faubourg d'Amiens Cemetery and is remembered on the Arras Memorial, Bay 4. His death was reported in the Middlesex Chronicle on Saturday 9th June, 1917 where it was noted that he had given his life, aged 25, and that two of his brothers were also serving.

Edward's mother was the sole beneficiary of his war medals, the Victory and British. Edward's father had died in March 1915, aged 48. His mother remarried in March 1918 to Charles Earley who died in September 1933 aged 64. Mary was still alive in 1939 and was living with Edward's brothers William and Thomas at 44 St John's Road. William was working as a business manager and Thomas was a fitter engineer. Thomas later died in a June 1944 in Brentford and. Mary died in Ealing in 1948 aged 80. Edward's sister Florence married Daniel Scarlett in 1930 and in 1939 they were living at 45, Wheatley Road, Isleworth. She was working as a saleswoman in boots and shoes; he was a handyman in a tin box factory.