

George James Golding Michael



William John Michael, a police officer (1846 -1926 born in Bermondsey), and Elizabeth Mewes (1845-1915, born in Laleham) were married in January 1871 in Chertsey, Surrey and lived in Battersea. By 1881 they had three children, including George James Golding, born in 1881 and had moved to 19 Percy Gardens, Isleworth. Later, the family moved to 2, Belle Vue, Algar Road and, later still, to 12 Church Street and then 48 Talbot Road (see left for a 2018 photo of the property), all in Isleworth. By 1911, William was a retired policeman, their only daughter, Elizabeth Grace (1871-1963) was an elementary school teacher and married to James Langdon, a boot salesman, with their child Marjorie Winifred- aged 5. Percival Louis (1888-1916) was a Coal Office Clerk, (to die in service in France in 1916, serving with The Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry). William Robert (1873-1922) was a carpenter, and living with his family in 1901, and by 1911, John Charles (1879-1964), was also a carpenter, living at 34 Napier Road, Isleworth, with his wife, Margaret Pain, whom he had married in 1901, and his growing family. In 1901, at 12 Church Street, George was a commercial clerk. By 1911, he was living at 40 Lindfield road, West Ealing with his wife, Frances Ethel Buswell (1880-1965), whom he had married in Fulwell in 1905, and his children: Eileen Patricia (1908-1967) and William Herbert born in 1911. Two other children were born later: Dorothy Ethel in 1914 and Robert Percival in 1916, who died shortly after his birth.



George enlisted in Acton, originally as a horsekeeper for the Royal Army Veterinary Corps (S/E/17333) and later became a gunner in

the Royal Horse Artillery and Royal Field Artillery (198522). The horse-drawn RFA was responsible for the medium calibre guns and howitzers deployed close to the front line and was reasonably mobile. George was attached to the 122nd Brigade (Howitzer, 38th Divisional Artillery) and involved in the First Battles of the Somme in 1918. The 10th and 44th Clearing Stations were sited at Arneke in April 1918, where George died of wounds on April 23rd 1918. CCS's were mobile and usually located on or near railway lines to expedite the movement of casualties from the battlefield and on to the hospital. George was buried at Arneke British Cemetery and is also commemorated at All Souls Church in Haliburton Road, St Margarets. His widow, Frances, received his effects and his Victory and British War medals

Frances remarried to Walter Reeves (1877-1936) in 1921. By 1939, she was a joint proprietor of a hotel and living at 135 Perryn Road, Acton with her daughters Eileen, a tailoress, and Dorothy, a dressmaking stock room assistant. George's father and his siblings, Elizabeth and William Robert, continued to live locally in the Talbot Road area and their family would have been well known because of William's role in the police force. See above for a 2018 photo of the Old Police Station in Worple Road, where he would have worked and a plaque, giving the date of the building constructed in 1872-3, for Isleworth Police Station.

