

EDWARD WRIGHT

Born: 15th July 1894, Stibbard¹

Enlisted: The Northamptonshire Regiment (Private 18391)²



Medals: 1914-15 Star; British War Medal; Victory Medal³



Demobilised: July/August 1919

Edward Wright was born on the 15th July 1894, and baptised on the 14th October 1894, in Stibbard parish church, the eldest son of William and Jane Wright (see Figure 1).⁴

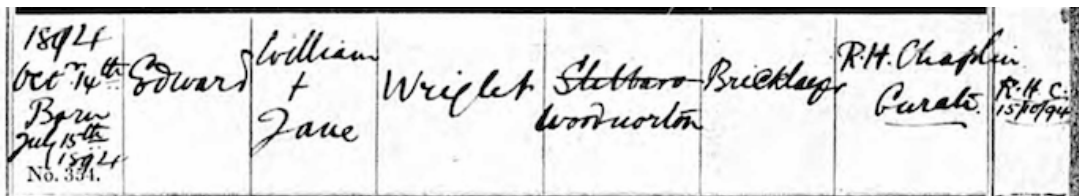


Figure 1: From the Baptisms Register, Stibbard, 1894

Although the British Army WW1 Service Records 1914-1920 do not appear to have survived for Edward, we do have copies of the Medal Roll record and index card, which show that he was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and Victory Medal. The 1914-15 Star was issued to servicemen who served in any theatre of war against Germany between 5th August 1914 and 31st December 1915. The qualifying date given on his Medal Roll index card is the 29th September 1915 (see Figure 2).⁵

¹ Baptism Register, Stibbard, 1894 (www.familysearch.org); FreeBMD, Quarter to September 1894, Aylsham, Vol.4b, p.79 (www.freebmd.org.uk).

² Parliamentary County of Norfolk, Northern Division. Absent Voters List 1918 (www.findmypast.co.uk).

³ British Army WW1 Medal Roll Index Cards, 1914-1920 (www.ancestry.co.uk).

⁴ Baptism Register, Stibbard, 1894 (www.familysearch.org).

⁵ British Army WW1 Medal Roll Index Cards, 1914-1920 (www.ancestry.co.uk).

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Reg't. No.
WRIGHT	North's R	Pl	1891
Edward			
Metal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	16/1/101821	296	
EDITION	15. STAR	2/1/782. 493	
Theatre of War first served in	1.		
Date of entry therein	29-9-15.		

Figure 2: Medal Roll index card for Fred Sadler

From the information contained in the Medal and Award Rolls, it can be ascertained that Edward served with the 1st and 5th Battalions of the Northamptonshire Regiment. He was transferred to 'Class Z' (Army Reserve) on the 14th July 1919 (from December 1918 soldiers were posted to 'Class Z' prior to demobilisation) and most probably returned home in August 1919.

Information provided by the Wright family suggests that Edward was injured in the war, and records indicate that this was indeed the case, with Edward being wounded twice. Notice of his first injury was posted in the War Office Daily List for 17th October 1916; notice of his second injury was posted in the War Office Daily List (No.5601) for 25th June 1918. Edward was entitled to wear a 'Wound Stripe' as the result of his injuries.⁶

Further research into Edward's family reveals that Edward's father, William Wright was baptised on the 22nd May 1864, in Wood Norton parish church, the son of Richard and Alice Wright.⁷ William married Jane Buck in December 1891 in Wood Norton parish church.⁸ Jane was baptised on the 30th July 1865 in Stibbard parish church, the daughter of Robert and Elizabeth Buck.⁹ Jane died in 1950, aged 84, and is buried in Wood Norton.¹⁰ William died in 1954, aged 90, and is buried in Wood Norton.¹¹ In the 1911 census Edward is aged 16, a bricklayer's labourer, and living in Swanton Novers near The Bell, with his parents William (aged 47 and a bricklayer) and Jane (aged 45), and seven siblings:¹²

Name	Born	Died
Alice	Born 1892, baptised 30th October 1892, Wood Norton. ¹³ In the 1911 census, she is aged 18 and a schoolteacher.	1919, aged 26, Watford. She is buried in Wood Norton. ¹⁴

⁶ Forces War Records (forces-war-records.co.uk).

⁷ Baptism Register, Wood Norton, 1864 (www.ancestry.co.uk).

⁸ FreeBMD, Quarter to December 1891, Aylsham Vol.4b, p.269 (www.freebmd.org.uk).

⁹ Baptism Register, Stibbard, 1865 (www.ancestry.co.uk); FreeBMD Quarter to September 1865, Walsingham Vol.4b, p.267 (freebmd.org.uk).

¹⁰ Transcript and Index to Wood Norton, Norfolk, Parish Registers, compiled by Keith and Shirley Howell (February 2000), Burials, 1950 (p.132).

¹¹ Transcript and Index to Wood Norton, Norfolk, Parish Registers, compiled by Keith and Shirley Howell (February 2000), Burials, 1954 (p.133).

¹² 1911 census, Swanton Novers (Schedule 12) (www.ancestry.co.uk).

¹³ Baptism Register, Wood Norton, 1892 (www.ancestry.co.uk); Free BMD, Quarter to December 1892, Aylsham Vol.4b, p.70 (www.freebmd.org.uk).

¹⁴ Transcript and Index to Wood Norton, Norfolk, Parish Registers, compiled by Keith and Shirley Howell (February 2000), Burials, 1919 (p.131).

Alfred	Born 1895, Wood Norton ¹⁵ In the 1911 census, he is aged 15, and a general labourer. He enlisted on the 6 th November 1915 and transferred to the 179 th Company, MGC, on the 24 th January 1917. He was posted to Salonika and then Palestine, where he died of wounds.	8 th December 1917, aged 22, Palestine.
Edith	Born 1897, baptised 11 th July 1897, Wood Norton. ¹⁶ In the 1911 census, she is aged 14 and at school.	
Margaret	Born 1898, baptised 21 st August 1898, Wood Norton. ¹⁷ In the 1911 census, she is aged 12 and at school.	
Elsie	Born 1900, baptised 3 rd June 1900, Wood Norton. ¹⁸ In the 1911 census, she is aged 11 and at school.	
Mary	Born 1902, Wood Norton. ¹⁹ In the 1911 census, she is aged 9.	
William	Born 1904, Swanton Novers. ²⁰ In the 1911 census, William is aged 7.	1989, Swanton Novers, aged 85.

Following demobilisation, Edward returned to work and live in Wood Norton. Edward married Dora Watts on the 15th January 1921, in Wood Norton parish church,²¹ and they went on to raise a family. In the 1939 Register, Edward is recorded as living in *The Street*, Wood Norton, with his wife Dora; he is a bricklayer.²² When Edward died on the 28th August 1979, aged 85, he was recorded as living in Rectory Road, Wood Norton.²³ Dora died on the 24th February 1980 aged 86, in Fakenham; they are both buried in Wood Norton.²⁴

The Wood Norton War Memorial includes Edward's younger brother, Alfred, who died in Palestine on the 8th December 1917. Edward's uncle, Arthur Robert Buck (brother to Edward's mother, Jane), is also recorded on the Wood Norton War Memorial; Arthur was killed in action, aged 40, on the 25th May 1918 in France.

¹⁵ FreeBMD, *Quarter to December 1895, Aylsham Vol 4b*, p77 (www.freebmd.org.uk); Baptism Register, Wood Norton, 1895 (www.ancestry.co.uk).

¹⁶ Baptism Register, Wood Norton, 1897 (www.ancestry.co.uk); FreeBMD *Quarter to June 1897, Aylsham Vol.4b*, p.80 (www.freebmd.org.uk).

¹⁷ Baptism Register, Wood Norton, 1898 (www.ancestry.co.uk); FreeBMD *Quarter to September 1898, Aylsham Vol.4b*, p.78 (www.freebmb.org.uk).

¹⁸ Baptism Register, Wood Norton, 1900 (www.ancestry.co.uk); FreeBMD *Quarter to March 1900, Aylsham Vol.4b*, p.88 (www.freebmd.org.uk).

¹⁹ FreeBMD *Quarter to March 1902, Aylsham Vol.44b*, p.82 (www.freebmd.org.uk).

²⁰ FreeBMD *Quarter to June 1904, Walsingham Vol.4b*, p.257 (www.freebmd.org.uk).

²¹ *Transcript and Index to Wood Norton, Norfolk, Parish Registers*, compiled by Keith and Shirley Howell (February 2000), Marriages, 1921 (p.103).

²² 1939 England and Wales Register, Walsingham RDC, Enumeration District TSPD, Schedule 47 (www.ancestry.co.uk).

²³ *Transcript and Index to Wood Norton, Norfolk, Parish Registers*, compiled by Keith and Shirley Howell (February 2000), Burials, 1979 (p.134); England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (index of Wills and Administrations), 1858-1995 (www.ancesry.co.uk).

²⁴ *Transcript and Index to Wood Norton, Norfolk, Parish Registers*, compiled by Keith and Shirley Howell (February 2000), Burials, 1980 (p.13).