

WFA SUFFOLK BRANCH

Branch Briefing

September 2024

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Tonight's talk

Andrea Hetherington : Deserters of the First World War - The Home Front

FROM THE NEWSPAPER ARCHIVES Kelvin Dakin

Evening Star - Friday 16 October 1914

MISSING SUFFOLKS. TIDINGS OF PRISONERS IN GERMANY.

Prvt. G. H. Webb, of the 2nd Suffolks, writing from Doeberitz, reports himself a prisoner of war, with an expression of hope that he may find himself at liberty to rejoin his relatives, who reside at 13, Fore Hamlet, Ipswich, in time for Christmas greetings. Pvt. H. Lawes (of Redlingfield), 2nd Battalion Suffolk Regiment, who was wounded at Mons, is reported a prisoner in Germany. It has been officially intimated that Prvt. A. Dakin, of Stowmarket, belonging to the Suffolks, is a prisoner in Germany, and it is understood that Prvt. Wilden, also of the Suffolks, is a prisoner. Footballers will remember both because of their connection with the Stowmarket eleven.

Intimation has been received by Mrs. Steggles, of 7, St. Mary's Row, Thetford, of the death of her husband, Prvt. Albert Edward Steggles, who was a Reservist of the 2nd Suffolks. He is stated to have been killed in action on 23rd September at Missey,

Notes:

6931, Pte George Henry Webb born Ipswich 19/12/1884 enlisted c1905.

6320 Pte Herbert Lawes born 1884 Redlingfield, enlisted 1903.

6864 Pte Albert Henry Dakin Born 6/8/1887 Glemsford, enlisted c1905

7132 Pte Walter Wilden born 1888 Stowmarket, enlisted 1905.

6998, Pte Albert Edward Steggles is commemorated on the La Ferte-Sous-Jouarre Memorial, on the Thetford War Memorial and St Mary's church roll of honour (now in Thetford British Legion Club - pictured)



Picture: www.warmemorialsonline.org.uk/memorial/130738

AN UNUSUAL PRIVATE HEADSTONE Colin Woods

Garson Ralph Chapman

Garson was born in 1898 at Monks Soham, Suffolk, of Walter and Mary Louise Chapman.

He has an unusual private headstone, as he was not entitled to a CWMG headstone as he died on 30 May 1921 in Thanet Hospital, Kent, of wounds received on 8 November 1918 in France after being blown off his horse into a crater.



Copy for reference only. Not to be removed from doct. Army Form 103-2 Part II. 4810692

(SERVICE AND CASUALTY FORM Part II)

Regiment or Corps M. G. Co. Regimental Number 119543.

*Substantive Rank _____ Surname Chapman Christian Names G. R.

*Acting Rank _____

(*To be entered in pencil to facilitate alteration.)

M.F.J. 15624

(A) Report.		(B) Authority of Part II. of Orders.	(C) Record of promotions, appointments, reductions, casualties, transfers, postings, &c. All acting as well as substantive promotions to be shown, for method of entry of which see A.C.I. 1816 of 1917. Corps and unit to which transferred and posted to be invariably named.	(D) Place of casualty.	(E) Date of promotion, reduction, reversion, casualty, &c.	(F) Remarks, and initials and rank of an officer.
Date.	From whom received.					
	<u>4. R. 24 Bn.</u>	<u>you Reg 23rd</u>	<u>Deemed to have enlisted called up for service</u>	<u>Pvt.</u>	<u>21-11-16</u>	<u>Lieut. Colonel</u> <u>W. D. Doble</u> <u>1/c Records, M. G. Corps.</u>
	<u>O.B. 2 Bn</u>	<u>M.G.C.</u>	<u>Transferred</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>4.4.17</u>	
	<u>1-7-18</u>	<u>O.B. Bn. Memo.</u>	<u>Proceeded to B.E.F. with 267 Coy.</u>	<u>Field</u>	<u>4.4.17</u>	
	<u>26-5-18</u>	<u>2/7. A. 6R. 368.</u>	<u>Wounded in action.</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>7-6-17</u>	
	<u>20-7-18</u>	<u>39. 44 Hosp</u>	<u>Adm. G.S.W. term 7r.</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>25-9-17</u>	
	<u>9-11-18</u>	<u>O.B. 61 Bn. B213.</u>	<u>Rejoined</u>	<u>Field</u>	<u>12-1-18</u>	
	<u>0 1/2 A.</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>to Hosp.</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>15-4-18</u>	
	<u>29-6-18</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>Adm T. B. Tarsus</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>14-4-18</u>	
	<u>22-8-18</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>"</u>	<u>14-7-18</u>	
	<u>"</u>	<u>3583</u>	<u>to U.K. (T.B. Tarsus) per</u>	<u>baniers</u>	<u>6-11-18</u>	
			<u>Abbe de Liege</u>	<u>baniers</u>	<u>7-11-18</u>	
					<u>9-11-18</u>	
					<u>3-12-18</u>	

Nothing to be written in this margin.

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Date	Report From whom received	Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, &c., during active service, as reported on Army Form B.21, Army Form A. 26, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks Taken from Army Form B.21, Army Form A.26, or other official documents.
			Emd, SOTON, 13, 1.18		
			Disemb. HAVRE 14, 1, 18		
			With 287 CO 0-1810 47/18		
1-8-18.	O.C. 61st 71st. 30	Wounded in action Adm. G.S. W. Com R	Sea	15.4.18 14.4.18.	Wound OK 38x 144 Cea
16/5/18.	29th Hosp	Adm. Edward Com. de Hays	Sea	14.4.18	Sea 23197
20.7.18.	O.C. 61st	Rejoined Ex Hosp.	Sea	14.7.18	301
9.7.18	71st Hosp	Adm T.B. Tarsus	Sea	6.11.18	311
	29. CCS	Adm T.B. Tarsus	Sea	7.11.18	311
	21.5.18.	Adm T.B. Tarsus	at Camer	9.11.18	311
		To UK (T.B. Tarsus) for Vice. de Jeger	Home	3.12.18	3083
	Adm Free Mil Hosp Edmonton	Adm King Edward Meml Hosp Edmonton		20.2.1919	311
	M Works	Discharged	Pte	28.10.20	
	Jungle	being no longer physically fit for War Service			Para 392 (XVI) KR
		Checked & brought up to date			B. In King St. for Colonel. 1/c Machine Gun Records

HUTTED HISTORIES — UPCOMING TALKS

Pinched from Taff's latest Great War Huts newsletter, here is their speaker programme held on the 4th Wednesday of every month at Brook Farm Camp.

25th September: Roy Larkin - London Buses at the Front

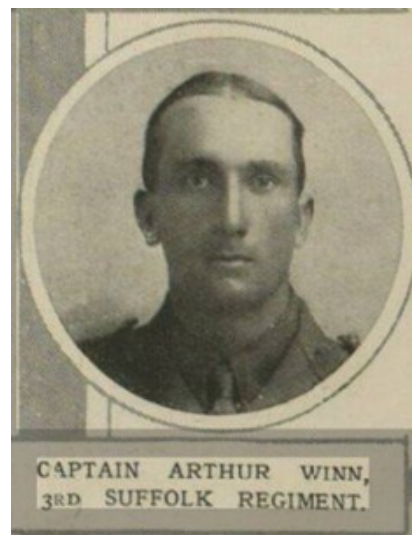
16th October: Tim Godden - Understanding British War Cemeteries

27th November: Helen Frost - Women's Land Army

LEST WE FORGET Kelvin Dakin

Captain Arthur Winn, 2nd Battalion, Suffolk Regiment

Picture from the Illustrated London News 24th October 1914



From the De-Ruvigny Roll of Honour :- *

WINN, ARTHUR, Capt., 3rd (Reserve), attd. 2nd, Suffolk Regt., only s. of Arthur Thomas Winn, of the Uplands, Aldeburgh, Suffolk, Barrister-at-Law, Middle Temple, by his wife, Constance, dau. of Henry Hicks, of Weybridge, Surrey; b. Ewell, co. Surrey, 13 April, 1884; educ. Eton; gazetted 2nd Lieut. to the 3rd Suffolk Territorials, April, 1902, and promoted Lieut., and Capt. 23 Aug. 1913; volunteered on the outbreak of war; went to France, Aug. 1914, attd. to the 2nd Suffolks, and was killed in action near Soissons, 9 Sept. 1914; unrm.

* A five volume book containing information on 25,000 missing soldiers

The first mention of Captain Winn is in the 2nd Battalion War Diary for the 8th August 1914 while at The Curragh: “2nd party of Reservists under Captain Winn, 3rd Suffolk Regt, join - 176.”

Captain Winn was not one of the officers who went to France in early August with 2nd Suffolk, but he is next recorded crossing on the 23rd August with a draft of 90 reinforcements. They joined them at Favieres, on the 6th September where:

“*Captain Winn took over command from Lieut. Oakes, organising it into two companies of two platoons each. On September 7 Major J H T Cornish-Bowden, 1st DCLI, arrived and assumed command of the battalion.*” (*The History of the Suffolk Regiment*)

On Wednesday the 9th September the battalion was engaged during the *Battle of the Marne*.

The History of the Suffolk Regiment continues the story:

“On September 9 the 5th Division recrossed the Marne by the bridge between Saacy and Mery considerably to the eastward of its previous passage. At noon an attack was made by the 14th Brigade from La Limon across the valley toward Montreuil. As soon as the battalion reached the top of the hill the enemy poured heavy rifle fire from a wood on the right, shelling them at the same time from half-left.”

Captain Winn was killed in the fighting and is buried at Montreuil-Aux-Lions British Cemetery. He is commemorated on the Aldeburgh War Memorial.



THEY SHALL GROW NOT OLD

**Talk at the Norwich Branch
Tuesday 1st October**

John Chester - Eight women and a boy - Serbia in the Great War

**Our next month's talk
Wednesday 9th October**

Timothy Bowman : Irish recruitment to the British Armed Forces

Please send any contributions for the **Branch Briefing** to:
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Next Committee meeting: tba
Approach a committee member if you want any issue raised.