



(LEOPOLD) GEORGE HENRY ANDREWS

1884 - 1950

Service Nos: 8102, 120209, 496508

Leopold G H Andrews was born in Henley-on-Thames in 1884. His father Henry was the son of William and Diana Andrews of Somerton. William was an agricultural labourer.

In 1881 Henry, a railway porter was living with his parents in Somerton with Eveline Hadley (3) whose mother Annie Eliza Hadley from Ardley was a domestic servant in Ealing. The following year Henry married Annie and their first child Kathleen Mary was born at Somerton. They appear to have left Somerton as their next child Leopold was born at Henley, and the youngest Frank at Hermitage, Berkshire in 1888.

By 1891 Leopold was in The Railway Servants Orphanage in Derby. His father had died and was buried in Somerton in 1890, presumably after a railway accident, as children at the orphanage at that time were all those of fathers killed in the "railway service". Kathleen Mary (8) was in another orphanage in Bath. Frank and Eveline were living in Somerton with their grandparents.

In the 1901 Census Leopold is back in Somerton with his grandparents, in a cottage in Church Street, aged 17 and working as a general labourer. His brother Frank, now 13, is also there.

In 1909 Leopold (now known as George) married Georgina Reynolds and they lived in The Paddocks, Somerton. They had five children: Violet Mary (1911), Christopher John William (1912), Beatrice (1913), Ruby May (1916) and Freda Margaret (1919). He worked as a carter for a coal merchant until he enlisted with the Army Veterinary Corps at Oxford, aged 34. By May 27th he was in France.

There is no Service Record for him but a certain amount can be gleaned from his Pension Records.

He served in India, South Africa and France and was transferred at some point to the Royal Horse and Royal Field Artillery, and from there to No: 646 Agricultural Company, Oxford, Labour Corps.

He was demobbed in April 1919 to the Reserves and finally discharged in January 1920.

He was awarded the 1914-1915 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

He died in 1950 aged 66 and is buried in Somerton.

