



John William Potter

John William Potter was born in Corby on 7th August 1895. His father, Samuel Ashby Potter was originally from Geddington, his mother (Frances) Charlotte Potter (nee Frisby) was from Corby. Samuel and Charlotte were married in 1889. John William Potter was baptised in Corby on 8th September 1895; his father's occupation was given as carpenter.

Family

In the 1901 Census, the family were living with Charlotte's father, John Frisby. John Frisby was a retired general labourer, born in Corby in 1821.

With Samuel and Charlotte were their children, Harold, Elsie, John William (also known as Willie) and Frances Nellie. Samuel's occupation was listed as "carpenter".

In 1911, the Potter family were the sole occupants of the property in The Nook, Corby. Samuel was still listed as a "carpenter" but working at the Blast Furnace. Eldest son Harold was also working at the Blast Furnace as a "labourer".

John William Potter was listed as a "shop assistant".

Military Service

John "Willie" Potter served as a Private in the 3rd (Reserve) Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment (59822).

The 3rd (Reserve) Battalion was formed on 4th August 1914 in Northampton. The Battalion was a depot/training unit and never located outside of the United Kingdom. By May 1918 it had moved to Scrapsgate, Sheppey where it remained for the duration of the war.

It is recorded that Private John William Potter died on 14th November 1918 at the Military Hospital, Sheerness. His exact cause of death is currently unknown. He was 23 years of age.

In the Register of Soldier's Effects, it indicates that his war gratuity was calculated from 15th July 1918 – 14th November 1918. Possibly his death related to an accident whilst training, possibly influenza, possibly some long-term health issue.

Private John William Potter is buried in the Rockingham Road Cemetery, Corby. He is the only First World War military fatality buried in Corby. He is commemorated on the Corby War Memorial.



Lest We Forget

John William Potter
of the Northamptonshire Regiment.

d.14th November 1918

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