



## Bryan Woolston

Bryan Gladstone Dennis Woolston was born in 1898 in Corby. His father was Abel John Woolston of Great Oakley and Elizabeth Ellen Woolston (nee Mitchelson) of Peterborough. Abel and Elizabeth were married in 1897.

### Family

In the 1901 Census the family were living in Corby; Abel, Elizabeth, Bryan and daughter Margaret. Mary Sturges a domestic servant originally from Brigstock was also registered. Abel's occupation was listed as "Secretary to Agents & Bookkeeper".

By 1911 the family was living in St Peter's Avenue, Kettering. There was now a second daughter, Jessie, and a new domestic servant Olive Barrett. Abel's occupation was listed as "Accountant".

### Military Service

Bryan Woolston was to serve as a Private (50037) in 1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, The King's (Liverpool Regiment). Records state that he was initially in the Royal Army Service Corps M.T. (M/225703). He enlisted in Northampton and some records show he was resident in the county town at that time.

The 1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Territorial Force was mobilised and landed in France on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 1915. The battalion was originally in the 6<sup>th</sup> Brigade of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division, before being transferred to the 99<sup>th</sup> Brigade on 15<sup>th</sup> December 1915. In January 1916 it transferred to the 165<sup>th</sup> Brigade of the 55<sup>th</sup> Division. The battalion fought on the Western Front for the duration of the War.

Private Woolston is recorded as being killed in action on 25<sup>th</sup> June 1918. The battalion was located in the Festubert locality at the time.

He is buried at the Houchin British Cemetery.

The cemetery was opened in March 1918 when the 6th Casualty Clearing Station came to Houchin. From April to September the German advance made Houchin unsafe for hospitals, and the cemetery was used by the 55th (West Lancashire) Division.

In September 1918, the 6th Casualty Clearing Station returned to Houchin and was joined by the 15th CCS in October.



Houchin British Cemetery contains 700 Commonwealth burials of the First World War and two from the Second World War. There are also 39 German and one Belgian war graves.

The cemetery was designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens.

### Reference

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

***Lest We Forget***

**Bryan Woolston**  
of The King's (Liverpool Regiment)

d. 25<sup>th</sup> June 1918

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