

William Thomas Berry

William was born in 1886 in Wellesbourne and was the son of Joseph and Catherine Berry. Joseph who was employed as “Carrier” was born in Burford, Oxfordshire and Catherine in Wellesbourne. The 1901 Census shows William employed as a page boy/servant working and resident at the home of Mr George Edward Smith on the Warwick Road Wellesbourne. Mr Smith is described as “living on own means”.

In 1911 according to the Census he is 24 years of age and is employed as a gardener. He is boarding at the home of Francis and Amy Gertrude Dee. Francis is also a gardener. Where he was working in the village is a matter of conjecture but when he left the army in 1919 he went to live at Moreton Paddox so it may be he was working for Robert Emmet before the war and afterwards.

He joined the Royal Field Artillery as a gunner, army number 11125, and his Medal Index Card shows he went to France in July 1915. From his army records it appears he signed up for three years as a regular on 4th September 1914 and was demobbed in March 1919. Whilst in the army, he was also transferred from France to Italy returning in 1918 to France.

No further information is available about him after he left the army and went to live at Moreton Paddox.

Prepared by tony_whiteley@hotmail.com