



Great War in the Villages Project

JAMES WILLIAM HEMMINGS:

Killed in action during the second Battle of Arras on Sunday, 1st September 1918. Age 21, Lance-corporal, 1st Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment. 10th Brigade, 4th Division.

Born in Idlicote in 1896, James was the fifth of the eight children of George Henry and Elizabeth Hemmings. The family moved from Idlicote to Ettington in about 1900 where George took up a position as a domestic gardener, later becoming a head gardener.

By 1911, when the family were living in or near Kents Lane, James, and his elder brother George junior, had left school and were working as farm labourers. At the outbreak of war he and George were among the first to volunteer for service. He joined the 1st Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment and saw his first action in France in July 1915.

His sister, Ellen Matilda, was married late in 1917 to Algernon Keck who died from battle wounds shortly afterwards.

James is commemorated on the Vis-en-Artois Memorial, Pas de Calais.

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