

Walter Burgess

Middlewich Road, Holmes Chapel

Returned

The India General Service Medal



His Story

Walter was the brother to Fred and Harry Burgess. He was born to Samuel (Sergeant of Police) and Harriet in 1889 and in 1901 was living with the family at Gawsworth aged 12.

The family moved to Holmes Chapel in about 1903 and occupied the Old Police House. Sadly Samuel died in 1909 and the family had to move to make way for the next Sergeant of Police.

In 1911 Walter was living in Middlewich Road, Church Hulme aged 22 and was working as a farm labourer.

He was buried on 22nd November 1958 at Church Hulme. He was aged 67 and had been living at 10 Macclesfield Road.

His War Record

The Parish Magazine reported in December 1916 that although Walter had previously been rejected for service he was now joined up in the Royal Garrison Artillery.

His service record shows that he enlisted on 1st November 1916 into the RGA aged 25 yrs 8 months. He was 5ft 11in tall and had been working as a fireman.

He received the British War Medal 1914 -19 and the India General Service Medal and Clasp (Afghanistan North West Frontier) 1919. The latter was a campaign medal relating to the Third Afghan War so it would appear Walter stayed in the services after the end of WW1.

The Third Afghan War broke out on 6th May 1919 when Afghanistan Army troops crossed the border into India. It ended on 8th August 1919 when they were pushed back. Subsequent negotiations confirmed the Durand Line as the border between the two countries.