

Percy Sankey

Post Office, London Road, Holmes Chapel

Returned

Report in the Parish Magazine September 1917:

Some time ago it was rumoured that this honour had been bestowed on Percy Sankey, but it was not until a few days ago that, writing to his mother, he told her of the distinction awarded him in the following characteristic way: "I may as well say I have been awarded the Military Medal." But though Percy Sankey may himself hide his light under a bushel, the following letter from his Commanding Officer shows that his medal was well won.

B.E.F., 30th July, 1917.

Dear Sergeant Sankey,

I enclose a "Butterfly" card sent for you by the Major-General. This, of course, is for your very stout work at There is no doubt that your courage and determination at a critical moment played a very large part in making your company's attack the great success that it was.

Yours sincerely, C. F. KING.

The "Butterfly" card reads as follows: The General Officer commanding your Brigade and your Commanding Officer have brought your gallant and soldierly conduct on the 17th and 18th July, 1917, to my notice. I have read their report with much pleasure.

H. BRIDGES, Major General.

His Story

Percy was born in 1893 at Holmes Chapel, the son of Ralph and Martha Sankey. Ralph was the Postmaster for Holmes Chapel and the family lived at the Post Office.

He was 8 years old at the 1901 Census when the family were living at the Post Office in Holmes Chapel.

At the 1911 Census he was living with the family at Holmes Chapel, aged 18 and a grocer's assistant.

Percy died in 1972 aged 79.

His War Record

Percy joined the 7th Cheshire Regiment in December 1914.

In July 1916 he was promoted to Sergeant. He was involved in heavy fighting in late July and he wrote home 'only got a bullet scratch on my knee, but nothing to speak of'.

In September 1917 he was awarded the Military Medal for bravery in the field on 17th and 18th July.

In October 1917 he was in hospital in France due to sickness. In July 1918 it was reported that he had been granted a commission in the 51st Manchester Regiment and hopes to be transferred to the RAF.

According to the Absent Voters List of 1919 his registered home address was the Village Holmes Chapel. He was a Second Lieutenant and his Officers Mess was Henning Station, St Olaves.