

Thomas Simpson

Holmes Chapel

Returned

Gun crew of a Royal Field Artillery 18-pounder battery prepare to open fire



His Story

We know nothing about Thomas's life or his links with Holmes Chapel except that he married Henrietta and in 1915 his son — John Henry Cecil was christened at Church Hulme.

His name is recorded on the church Roll of Honour.

His War Record

Thomas joined the Royal Field Artillery in October 1914.

The Royal Field Artillery was the most numerous arm of the artillery, the horse-drawn RFA was responsible for the medium calibre guns and howitzers deployed close to the front line and was reasonably mobile. It was organised into brigades

In January 1917 Thomas was reported in the Parish Magazine to be in hospital at home but by March 1917 he was in Italy and the following month was expecting to go to the front again soon.