

Sittingbourne Papermakers in 4th Buffs.



Front Row (L to R): Pte A.MacRae, Pte P.Baker, Pte H.Barker, Pte J.Bedford, Pte E.Light and Pte B. Rossiter

Second Row (L to R): Dmr E.Couchman, Pte.P.Richardson, L/Cpl M.T.Denne, Cpl G.Herbert, Sgt W.Watts, Sgt J.E.Davis, Sgt A.Cole, Pte T.Luckhurst, Pte.H.Barter.

Third Row (L to R): Pte H.Dunk, Pte F.Strouts, Pte A.Canning, Pte H.Hobbs, Pte E.Atkinson, Pte. H.Vandeeper, Pte J.Shoveller, Pte G.Norridge, Pte F.Jones and Pte.S.Collins.

Back Row (L to R): Pte A.T.Smith, Pte A.W.Broad, Pte S.Tompkins, Pte L.Allen, Pte J.Kirkman and Pte S.J.Freeman

This photo was taken towards the end of 1914 at the 4th Buffs base on Thanet after call up. The East Kent Gazette says that a large glazed copy of this photo was presented to Lloyds, their employers. I wonder if that picture is still around.

When I see a photo like this, that's named, I often look to see what happened to the men. I did precisely that with this photo. I traced the identity of each of these men, 2 were killed during the war. Where possible service records were found:

My results are below:

Front Row	
Pte A.MacRae	Enlisted Aug 1914 service number 1833. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Served in the Aden field force. Transferred to Iraq to join the 5 th Battalion in 1916 and renumbered 6239. Renumbered 243010. Lived 11 Church Rd, Murston.
Pte P.Baker,	Enlisted Aug 1914 service number 1827. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Served in the Aden Field force 1915. Returned to India late 15 and stayed there until discharge in 1919. Renumbered 200216 in 1917. Lived 3 Staplehurst rd, Milton
Pte H.Barker,	Not Traced.
Pte J.Bedford	Enlisted 1913 service number 1657. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Served in the Aden field force 1915. Returned to the UK sick. His medical category was downgraded and he was transferred to the Royal Defence Corps, a type of home guard. Numbered 75634. Lived 22 New Rd, Sittingbourne.
Pte E.Light	Enlisted Aug 1914 service number 1853. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Served in the Aden field force. Transferred to Iraq to join the 5 th Battalion in 1916 and renumbered 6237. Renumbered 243008.
Pte B. Rossiter	Enlisted Feb 1914 service number 1787. Lived 17 Cockleshell Walk. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Served in the Aden field force 1915. He was returned to the UK as medically unfit. Apparently he had sustained a head injury at work a few years before the war and suffered from dizzy spells, but not many. During the Aden expedition he got sunstroke (which killed 11 men in one day). On recovery these dizzy spells increased to the extent that he was no longer fit for service. He was discharge 1916.
Second Row	
Dmr E.Couchman,	Enlisted 1909 service number 1064. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Served in the Aden Field force 1915. Returned to UK late 15. Posted to India late 1916 and stayed until 1919. Renumbered 200064. Still serving in UK 1920. Lived Teynham.
Pte.P.Richardson	Enlisted Aug 1914 service number 1851. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Served in the Aden Field force 1915. Transferred to the 5 th Battalion in Iraq in 1916, renumbered 6241. In early 1917 renumbered 243012. <u>KILLED IN ACTION</u> 16 th February 1917. Buried Amara War Cemetery. Al Amara
L/Cpl M.T.Denne,	Enlisted Sept 1914 service number 2035. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Served in Aden Field Force 1915. Went to India and stayed until battalion returned. Renumbered 200406 in 1917.
Cpl G.Herbert,	Enlisted 1908 Service number 621. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Transferred to the Army Pay Corps service number 19320 based at Houslow. Lived 20 Milton rd, Sittingbourne.
Sgt W.Watts,	Enlisted 1908 service number 664. Promoted Colour Sergeant on the outbreak of war. Went to India with 4 th Battalion. Served in the Aden field force in 1915. Transferred back to the UK in 1916 and discharged as time expired. He was re enlisted and sent back to India. Renumbered 201813 and promoted Company Quart master Sergeant in 1917 in place of George Hutchens. Lived 31 Eastbourne st, Sittingbourne
Sgt J.E.Davis,	Enlisted 1908 service number 658. Went out to India with the 4 th Battalion. Served in the Aden field force in 1915. He was transferred to the 61 battalion Machine Gun Corps in 1916, promoted to Company Sergeant Major and renumbered 84999. Lived 23 Pembury St, Sittingbourne.

Sgt A.Cole	Enlisted in 1911 service number 1294. Went to India with the 4 th Battalion. Served in the Aden field force. Returned to the UK late 1915, discharged from the Buffs in Jan 1916 as being unfit for foreign service. He had stiff big toes and refused surgery. He was discharged to work back at the mill. Later conscripted into the Labour Corps into the Labour Corps number 378473. Lived 49 Charlotte St, Sittingbourne.
Pte T.Luckhurst,	Enlisted 1910 service number 1266. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Served in Aden Field Force 1915. Went to India and stayed until battalion returned. Renumbered 200088 in 1917. Lived East Street , Sittingbourne.
Pte.H.Barter.	Enlisted Sept 1914 service number 2926. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Seved in Aden Field Force 1915. Went to India and stayed until battalion returned. Renumbered 200565 in 1917. Lived 27 Burley rd, Sittingbourne.
Third Row	
Pte H.Dunk	Enlisted 1912 service number 1517. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Seved in Aden Field Force 1915. Went to India and stayed until battalion returned. Renumbered 200166 in 1917
Pte F.Strouts,	Enlisted Sep 1914 service number 2329. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Served in the Aden Field force 1915. Transferred to the 5 th Battalion in Iraq in 1916, renumbered 6243. In early 1917 renumbered 243014. Lived 28 Connaught rd, Milton
Pte A.Canning	Enlisted 1912 service number 1515. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Served in the Aden field Force in 1915. Renumbered 200164 and transferred to the 5 th Battalion in Iraq. Lived 49 New Road, Sittingbourne.
Pte H.Hobbs	Enlisted 1912 service number 1586. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Served in the Aden Field force 1915. Transferred to the 5 th Battalion in Iraq in 1916, renumbered 6274. In early 1917 renumbered 243045. Lived 7 Spring st, Sittingbourne
Pte E.Atkinson	Enlisted 1912 service number 1503. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Served in Aden Field Force 1915. Went to India and stayed until battalion returned. Renumbered 200158 in 1917
Pte. H.Vandeppeer	Enlisted 1912 service number 1514. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Seved in Aden Field Force 1915. Went to India and stayed until battalion returned. Renumbered 200163 in 1917. Lived Felix Ward House, Short st, Sittingbourne
Pte J.Shoveller,	Enlisted Sept 1914 service number 2024. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Served in the Aden Field force 1915. Transferred to the 5 th Battalion in Iraq in 1916, renumbered 6241. In early 1917 renumbered 243013. <u>KILLED IN ACTION</u> 17 th February 1917. Buried Amara War Cemetery. Al Amara
Pte P.Norridge,	Enlisted Aug 1914 service number 1854. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Served in Aden Field Force 1915. Went to India and stayed until battalion returned. Renumbered 200302 in 1917. Lived 75 William st, Sittingbourne
Pte F.Jones	Enlisted 1910 service number 1362. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Seved in Aden Field Force 1915. Went to India and stayed until battalion returned. Renumbered 200163 in 1917
Pte.S.Collins.	Enlisted 1914. Not much known about the man except that he had multiple transfers!!!. He was transferred to the 5 th Battalion and numbered 6259, transferred to the Devon Regt 241345, transferred to the Royal West Kents numbered 205212 and finally to the 22 nd Londons numbered 684927. Lived 7 Pembury st, Sittingbourne.
Back Row	
Pte A.T.Smith	Enlisted Aug 1914 service number 1836. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Seved in

	Aden Field Force 1915. Went to India and stayed until battalion returned. Renumbered 200304 in 1917. Lived 32 William st, Sittingbourne
Pte A.W.Broad,	Enlisted Sept 1914 service number 2457. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Transferred to the 5 th Battalion and fought in Iraq until the battalion returned in 1919. He was renumbered 240754 in 1917.
Pte S.Tompkins	Enlisted 1912 service number 1592. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Seved in Aden Field Force 1915. Went to India and stayed until battalion returned. Renumbered 200202 in 1917. Finished a Sergeant. Lived 49 Pembury St, Sittingbourne.
Pte L.Allen,	Enlisted 1912 service number 1512. Went to India with the 4 th Battalion. Served in the Aden field force in 1915. Stayed in India, promoted to Corporal and re numbered 200162. Lived 6 Westbourne street, Sittingbourne.
Pte J.Kirkman	Enlisted Aug 1914 service number 1803. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Served in Aden Field Force 1915. Went to India and stayed until battalion returned. Renumbered 200283 in 1917. Finished as a sergeant. Lived 111 Park rd, Milton.
Pte S.J.Freeman	Enlisted Aug 1914 number 2006. Proceeded to India with the 4 th Battalion. Served in Aden Field Force 1915. Went to India and stayed until battalion returned. Renumbered 200390 in 1917. Finished as a corporal. Lived London rd, Bapchild.