

IN MEMORY OF FRANK BOILES

DIED IN ACTION 29 SEPTEMBER 1916

Unknown Harbury address

NO PLAQUE

Albert and Ellen Boiles were living in Whichford when she gave birth to Frank in 1894. Seven years later the family had moved to Frankton, Warwickshire, and by 1911 they were in Whitmore Park, Coventry.

Frank, now 17, was a farm labourer, and this sort of mobility was often related to employment.

In September 1914, aged 20, Frank enlisted in the 10th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment, but only three weeks later he was medically discharged due to varicose veins. In May 1916 he tried again, enlisting this time in the 4th Battalion, giving his address as Mill Street, Harbury.

Perhaps his varicose veins were no longer a problem, or perhaps the lasting nature of the war meant the army was more likely to overlook a slight medical problem. Whatever the reason, he was not discharged this time, and on 29 July 1916 he was transferred to the Machine Gun Corps and left Folkestone on the 27 August for the Base Depot of the Corps at Camiers in France.

On 7 September, he joined the 9th Brigade, and entered the battlefield. Eighteen days later, he was wounded in action. The gunshot wounds to his chest and right shoulder would kill him on 29 September 1916, aged only 22.

He is buried in Grove Town cemetery, Meaulte.

His parents, living in Ivy Lane, Harbury, had one son returned to them. Frank's younger brother survived the war.



Harbury World War 1 Memorial Trail

Remembering the men of Harbury parish who fell during the first world war in service of their country.

