

Albert Victor Merrett

Private, Rifle Brigade. Enlisted at Bath, February, 1915. Served in France. Killed in action. Awarded 1915 Star, General Service and Victory Medals.



ALBERT VICTOR MERRETT was born in Gastard in 1889 to William and Sarah (née Wooten). In 1891 William was a farm labourer living with his wife Sarah and children Lucy, Lily and Victor, as he seems to have been called by the family. At the time of the 1901 census the family were still in Gastard, William was now a home carpenter and the family also included Frank, Bertha, George, Norah and Dorothy. Victor, aged only 13, is recorded as being a stone quarryman.

In 1911 the family were living in Lane's End, with William an estate carpenter and Victor, still at home aged 23, working as a quarryman. He had a younger sister Kate, the youngest of nine children born to William and Sarah who were still living in 1911 – two children had died.

Albert Victor (as he was known in the Army) was a Private in the Army Service Corps when he first joined in 1915 but was later a Rifleman in the Rifle Brigade. *War Records of Corsham* says that he served in France and was killed in action. He died on 1st April 1918 and is buried at the Pozières Memorial Cemetery, Somme.

His service record shows that his parents were then living at Yew Tree Cottage in Gastard.