

Edward George Hancock

Private, Somerset Light Infantry. Enlisted at Bath, February 12th, 1913. Served in France and Belgium. Killed in action at the Battle of Mons, August 25th, 1914 [*sic*]. Mons Medal.



EDWARD GEORGE HANCOCK was born in 1893 in Broughton Gifford, the son of George and Ann (née Chivers). George was a freestone quarryman who had moved with his family from a cottage in Whitley to Norrington Common in Broughton Gifford. Edward had three elder brothers – Joseph, Thomas and Richard John (known as John) – and two sisters, Rosina (Rose) and Frances. Sadly their mother Ann died in 1906 and by 1911 George, as a widower, was living in Corshamside (Neston) with his daughter Rose and her family.

War Records of Corsham records that Edward enlisted in the Army prior to the war in February 1913 but incorrectly states that he was killed in action on 25th August 1914, at the Battle of Mons. He certainly was in theatre at the time of the Battle of Mons but in fact survived until he was killed in action on 25th May 1915. His death is recorded at Ypres on the Menin Gate Memorial.

His brothers Joseph and John served in the Welsh Fusiliers and Wiltshire Regiments respectively. John (see page 197) was killed in action in 1914 – strangely he is not listed in *War Records of Corsham*. His father George Hancock is shown as living in Moor Green, Corsham, at the time of Edward's death.