

Henry Wilfred Robert Lucas



Private, Royal Army Medical Corps. Enlisted in January, 1916. Trained at Blackpool. Served in France. Died in hospital at Havre, November 21st, 1918. Buried in St. Marie Cemetery, Havre. General Service and Victory Medals.



HENRY LUCAS WAS born in 1887 in Corsham. His parents were Henry and Sarah (née Cox), who were living in Paul Street. His father was a clerk, probably at the local stone merchants, and also a Wesleyan local preacher. Henry had an elder sister called Florence.

In 1891 the family were still living in Paul Street – in Myrtle Villas – and Henry senior was now described as a stone merchant and lay preacher. By the age of 14, his son Henry was living in Bristol with his mother's sister Eliza, who was a music teacher. As a result of her influence Henry is known

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to have gone on to become an accomplished organist, who played at St John's Church in Bath prior to the war.

Henry married Edith Berry in Bath in 1910 and was living in Bath at the time of the 1911 census. He was described as a hardware merchant and was known to have a hardware shop in Southgate Street and then in Oldfield Park. He later ran a grocery shop in Kensington Gardens in Bath.

War Records of Corsham records that Henry enlisted for the war in 1916 when he would have been 28. He was a Private in the Royal Medical Corps serving in France when he died in hospital in Le Havre on 21st November 1918, after the war had officially ended. It is believed that he contracted Spanish influenza, which swept through the hospital camps at the time. There is reference in his service records to the 52nd Stationary Base Hospital, which was in Le Havre, but it is not known whether he served there or was treated there. He is buried in the Sainte Marie Cemetery in Le Havre.