

Harry Willis Young



Private, Somerset Light Infantry. Enlisted September, 1914. Served in India, Mesopotamia and France. Present at the relief of Kut. Poisoned, also malarial fever, August, 1916. Killed in action near Arras, July, 1917. General Service and Victory Medals.



HARRY YOUNG WAS born in 1894 in Corsham; his parents were William, a painter, and Annie (née Grey), a laundress. By 1901 they had had twelve children, with nine still living with their parents in Pound Pill. They clearly had something of a family business by this time, as William and his eldest son Henry were both plumbers, Frederick was a carpenter and John was a house decorator's clerk.

CORSHAM COMMEMORATES

William died in 1902 but with the widowed Annie as head of the household the family were still living in Pound Pill in 1911. Harry, now 16, was the youngest of the family still living at home, and he was recorded in the census as being a carpenter apprenticed to a cabinetmaker.

Harry enlisted for the Army in September 1914 at the age of 19. *War Records of Corsham* and his Commonwealth War Grave citation state that he was with the Somerset Light Infantry and served in Mesopotamia and India before being transferred to the Western Front. His medal card shows that he was in France in August 1915. He is variously reported as killed in action between 21st and 27th July 1917, but the CWGC records it as 24th July 1917. He was 23. He was awarded the British War Medal, the Victory Medal and the 1914-15 Star. He is remembered at the Arras Memorial.