

## *John Francis Bull*

Named on the Corsham War Memorial  
and the Neston Church Memorial plaque.



JOHN BULL WAS BORN in Neston in 1886 to Frederick and Elizabeth Bull. The family seem to have moved away soon afterwards and in 1891 were in Workington, where Fred worked as a steelworker – interestingly there were boarders from Corsham living with them. By 1901 they had moved back to Wiltshire and, with three further children, Thomas, Florence and Jesse, were living in Green Hill in Neston. Fred was a freestone quarryman and John was a horse driver.

In 1909 John married Cleora Lilian Pearce in Plymouth, and in 1911 they were living in Corshamside (Neston). John was a leather grounder at the glove factory, where his father and brothers Thomas and Jesse also worked.

The only reference to John's military career is in his death and burial records, which show that he was a Driver in the 237th Field Company of the Army Service Corps. He was based at the Army Training Base in Prees Heath, Shropshire. He died on 1st February 1917 and is buried in Tilstock Churchyard in Shropshire. His wife remarried at the end of 1917, to Arthur Langton.

Strangely there is no reference to John Francis Bull in the 'soldiers who died' section of *Corsham War Records*, but there is a J. Bull on the War Memorial and a John Bull in the 'soldiers who survived' section of *Corsham War Records*. It cannot be definitively proven that these records match.