

## *Reginald Eric Marsh*

Private, 1/4th Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment. Enlisted at Lincoln during the first week in November, 1914. Went to France, February, 1915. In action in March. Reported missing at the Hohenzollern Redoubt, Hulluch, October 13th, 1915. Presumed killed. 1915 Star, General Service and Victory Medals.



REGINALD ERIC MARSH was born in 1895 in Corsham. His father Alfred was a stone merchant and his mother, Mary Ann Shewring, was born in Ryde on the Isle of Wight. The Marsh family of Box were quarry owners and at one time the firm of Marsh, Son & Gibbs ran the Copenacre Quarry. The family was wealthy but was struck by tragedy. It appears that Reginald and his brothers Joseph and Henry and sister Kathleen lost both their parents when they were very young: Mary died in 1899 and Alfred in 1900. Alfred's father Richard Marsh, who was a director of the stone company, and his wife Sarah took responsibility for Reginald and his siblings. In 1901 the children were living with their aunt, Amy Sarah Marsh, at Bourton House in Box.

Tragedy struck again in 1903, when Reginald's grandfather Richard died at a crucial time for the quarrying company. By 1911 the young family had moved to Bournemouth, where the children were living with their aunt and their grandmother Sarah Marsh, who was keeping a 14-room apartment house. Now aged 16, Reginald was a merchant's clerk.

## CORSHAM COMMEMORATES

*War Records of Corsham* details that Reginald enlisted for the Army in Lincoln in November 1914, aged 19, and joined the Lincoln Regiment as a Private. He was certainly in France by March 1915 and was subsequently reported missing and presumed dead on 13th October 1915. He is remembered at the Loos Memorial.

Thanks to Alan Payne from Box for information about the Marsh family. There is further reference to Richard Marsh in *Some Notable Wiltshire Quarrymen* by Roger Tucker.