

3rd/5th and 1st/5th Bn. East Surrey Regiment Service No. 201065



Sergeant LANCELOT DAVID HILLIER

Born in Codford, Wiltshire in 1887.

Died in Fulham War Hospital, London, on 1st March 1919. Aged 32.

LANCELOT DAVID HILLIER was born in 1887 in Codford, Wiltshire, son of John Hillier, a police constable, and his wife Mary Jane Pye. He was raised in North Wraxall and Hillmarton, Wiltshire. His father, by the time of the 1911 census, kept 'Ye Old Stream Inn', Longparish and by 1915 The Plough Inn, Barton Stacey.

Younger brother to Reuben, older brother to Albert Edward (who also died in the Great War) and Mary Ann (Queenie, who married Alfred Thomas Truman Doswell (Tom) of Barton Stacey).

In 1915 he married Annie Colee, who returned after the war to her family in Haydock, St Helens, Lancashire. Lancelot was in domestic service, and at the time of the 1901 census a was a 'page' to the family of a surgeon at Combe Down, Bath.

Lancelot joined the East Surrey Territorial Regiment on 14th December 1914. He was posted in mid-1915 to the 3/5th Bn. which was raised in Wimbledon in August 1915, and included transfers from the 2/5th Bn. The battalion, after further recruiting, sent 382 officers and men to join the 1/5th Bn. in India.

Lancelot joined the 1/5th Bn. in India, which was then part of the Nowshere Brigade in the 1st (Pashawar) Division. Whilst in India he qualified as a musket instructor and trained the 75th Carnatic infantry (part of the Indian Madras Regiment) in musketry.

He had several periods of ill health before leaving India for home in January 1919. He was suffering from 'Spanish' flu when he landed on 22nd February and he was sent straight to Fulham War hospital where he died on 1st March.

His headstone can be found in the Churchyard of All Saints' Church, Barton Stacey, Hmapshire.

