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Private Ernest C Greagsby, age 23

Earnest , born in 1893, was the son of Annie Child of Walters Green, Penshurst, Tonbridge, widow of the late Walter J Greagsby, a gardener living in Saints Hill. He spent his early life with his mother and six brothers and sisters.

Earnest, at that point working as a butcher, enlisted in the 3rd/1st Battalion of the Royal West Kent Regiment for the ‘duration of the War’ in November 1914 aged 21. In May 1915 he was posted to France to join the 1st Battalion. The Battalion fought in the First Battle of Ypres and were based at that time around Ypres and St Julien.

He died on Midsummers Day, 1915, aged 23, and is buried in the Voormezeele Enclosures No.1 & No.2 between Ypres and Armentieres.

The officer who wrote to his mother said,

“He was one of a picked body of Grenadiers, one who could always be relied upon to do his duty.”

His Sergeant wrote,

“I could not have a braver or a more honourable chap under my charge.”