

World War 1

Birmingham City Police

PC 'E' Edgar STOKES



Private 7514
1st battalion Northamptonshire Regiment
Died in Belgium 31st October 1914

Edgar was born June 1887 in Drayton, Leicester to George Thomas and Elizabeth (nee Wilson). His father was a baker

In July 1904, Edgar enlisted in the East Yorkshire Regiment and was stationed at Beverley

In late 1904, Edgar transferred to the 1st battalion of Northamptonshire Regiment at Colchester where he was declared fit for service in India

On 11th October 1911, Edgar joined Birmingham City Police as a 24-year-old groom. He served on the E Division with warrant number 7909

Edgar was killed in action and a local newspaper reported he had been shot in the chest

It also reported that Edgar's brother Arthur had also lost his life in WW1

Able seaman SS/1320 Arthur Edward Stokes was killed on the sinking of HMS Good Hope on November 1st 1914. He is commemorated on Portsmouth Naval Memorial

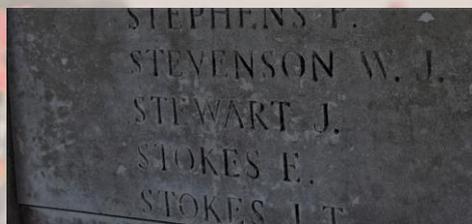
The Grantham Journal dated 21st November 1914 reported

Uppingham and the war
Brothers killed in battles on land and sea

The little village of Drayton, Uppingham, which has seen its quota to defend our country mourns the loss of two brave men, and is experiencing the heaviest blow which has fallen on any Parish in the immediate district as a result of the war. But the saddest part of the tragic news is that the slain warriors are brothers, sons of Mr and Mrs G T Stokes who are very respected inhabitants.

Arthur Stokes was on HMS Good Hope, sunk in action off Chilli; and Edgar Stokes, who belonged to the 1st Northampton's was killed near Ypres, by a bullet wound through the chest. The upmost sympathy has been extended to the bereaved parents in their great trouble, and they have the gratification of knowing that their sons died in a noble cause fighting for their native land.

Edgar is commemorated on Menin Gate memorial, Ypres, Belgium panels 43 45



Photographs of Menin gate and memorial courtesy of Su and Paul Handford taken May 2014

CWGC

Sincere thanks to Edgar's great niece Val Westwood for her correspondence with regards to Edgar, and also, at that time, to her great uncle, also named Edgar



MILITARY HISTORY SOCIETY
OF THE WEST MIDLANDS POLICE

