



Gunner Sydney Raymond Tunncliffe - 841099



Royal Field Artillery

Died of Pneumonia 12th February 1919

Age 28

Burbage War Memorial

Congregational Church Memorial

Sydney was the eldest son of the five children of George and Violetta Tunncliffe. He was born on 27th August 1890 at 102 Charnwood Street, Leicester. Charnwood Street was a crowded residential road near to Humberston Road in the city.



Charnwood Street

George was a Framework knitter and Violetta a glove maker. By the age of two Sydney and the growing family were living in Fleckney, where he started school at the age of three.

George, his Father, was originally from Burbage and by 1897 the family had moved back to the area living at 15 Church Street, Burbage. Perhaps along with his younger sisters Grace and Edith, Sydney may have attended the National School.

After moving to Burbage, two more brothers Jack and George were born.

In December 1902 Violetta, his Mother died, leaving five children under the age of twelve. Perhaps with the help of the extended local Tunncliffe family the children remained together with their Father at 15 Church Street.

By 1911 Sydney would have been of working age but he cannot be traced. His siblings worked in the Hosiery trade and his Father was a domestic gardener.



Church Street, Burbage

Perhaps he moved away to work in Service or Agriculture as his future wife Jane Haddon was employed as a cook in Oakham. They married at the bride's home Parish at Witham on the Hill, Lincolnshire on the first of April 1918

There are no records of when Sydney enlisted, but as he was not awarded the 1915 star, he may have been conscripted after January 1916. He served with Royal Field Artillery as a Gunner. He would be part of a team operating the 18lb guns attached to one of the many regiments serving on the Western Front in France.



Artillery Gun Crew

Sydney survived the War but may have been discharged early through injury.

The Tunncliffe Family, sometime after 1915, moved to 4 Coventry Road where his Father and two Sisters lived until the last, Edith, died in 1977.

Along with his wife, who may have been in service with the Preston Family, the couple lived at Granville House, Hinckley where Sydney was employed as a Cowman.

Perhaps weakened by his life in service Sydney died of Pneumonia during the epidemic of 1918-19.

After his death on the 12th February 1919, his wife left the area and Sydney's name was not included on the Burbage War Memorial which was unveiled two years after his death in 1921.

However, in 1927 his name was added on the Memorial Organ Plaque at the Congregational Church across from his childhood home.

Finally, 99 years after his death, Sydney's name has been included on the Burbage War Memorial and along with three additional names, these will formally be unveiled by members of the Tunncliffe Family on 11th November 2018.

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regt. No.
TUNNICLIFFE	RFA - -	Inv	1574 841099
Sidney R.			
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	RFATE/149	3-9884	} Field (1743 K.R. 1912) 8136/act/2.2.19.
BRITISH	-12-	-12-	
STAR			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

K 1380
5136/act

Medal Card – Sydney Raymond Tunnicliffe



Congregational Church Memorial