

LANCE CORPORAL ALBERT ARTHUR SMITH

Service Number: 241151

Enlisted: 1st/5th Battalion Leicestershire Regiment

Died: Killed in action Tuesday 24th September 1918, Aged 24

Memorials: Bellicourt British Cemetery, France

Plot 3 Row E Grave 1

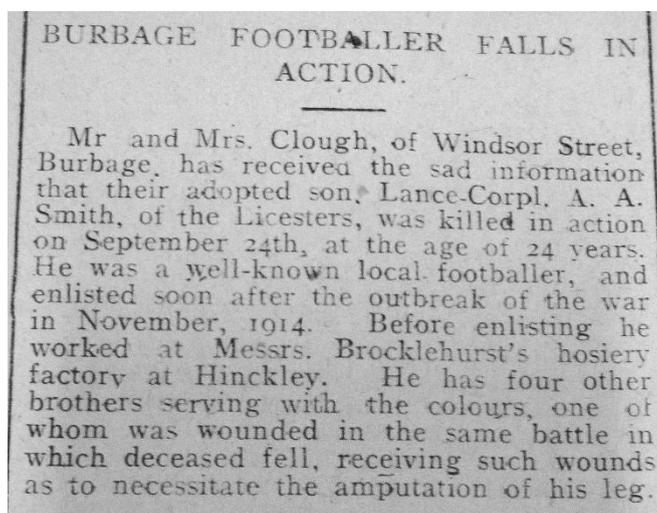
Burbage War Memorial

Wesleyan War Memorial



Albert was born in Hinckley in 1894. A son of four or more children of John and Elizabeth Smith. His early life cannot be traced but by 1901 it appears both his parents had died and the younger children were put in the care of various relatives in the Hinckley and Burbage area. On the 1911 census Albert and his younger Brother Alonza are living with an aunt and uncle William and Rebecca Clough and their four cousins at 49 Windsor St. By the age of sixteen Albert and his younger brother, fourteen-year-old Alonza, were working locally as hosiery hands. Albert was employed at Brocklehurst Hosiery in Hinckley. Albert was a well-known local footballer with some talent. His cousin Percy played for Blackburn Rovers.

Training for Albert was at Bishop Stortford and in February 1915 he would have embarked for Le Havre, France. Having survived four years in combat and rising to the rank of Lance Corporal by September 1918 the Leicester's were heavily involved in the Battle for St Quintin Canal which lasted from 24th – 30th September. Albert was killed in action on the first day of the battle. In his obituary it mentions he had four other brothers serving with the colours one of whom was wounded and necessitated the amputation of his leg, in the same battle as Albert fell. The other brothers and Alonza survived, he died in 1966. Albert Smith was one of the 629 British soldiers interred at Bellicourt Cemetery.



Newspaper cutting

However, when War was declared in 1914 Albert, then aged 20 years, and his 18-year-old brother enlisted. Albert joined the Leicester's and brother Alonza joined the Royal Flying Corps.



Albert Arthur Smith, Bellicourt Cemetery

BURBAGE FALLEN OF WORLD WAR I



Bellicourt Cemetery, Aisne, France

Transcript - Census of England & Wales, 1911						
Address:	<i>49 Windsor Street Burbage Leicestershire</i>					
Name	Relationship	Age	Male/ Female	Marriage Status	Occupation	Birth Location
<i>William Clough</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>46</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Married</i>	<i>Boot & Shoe Finisher</i>	<i>Hinckley, Leicestershire, England</i>
<i>Rebecca Clough</i>	<i>Wife</i>	<i>44</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Married</i>		<i>Burbage, Leicestershire, England</i>
<i>William Clough</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Single</i>	<i>Hosiery Hand</i>	<i>Burbage, Leicestershire, England</i>
<i>Alice Clough</i>	<i>Daughter</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Single</i>	<i>Warehouse Hosiery Trade</i>	<i>Burbage, Leicestershire, England</i>
<i>Walter John Clough</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Single</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>Burbage, Leicestershire, England</i>
<i>Joseph Edward Clough</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Single</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>Burbage, Leicestershire, England</i>
<i>Albert Arthur Smith</i>	<i>Nephew</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Single</i>	<i>Hosiery Hand</i>	<i>Hinckley, Leicestershire, England</i>
<i>Alonga Smith</i>	<i>Nephew</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Single</i>	<i>Hosiery Hand</i>	<i>Hinckley, Leicestershire, England</i>

49 Windsor Street, Burbage