

## Private Bernard Rowe 34631

15<sup>th</sup> Battalion Durham Light Infantry

Killed in action Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1918

Age 21

Poizieres Memorial Somme France Panel 29 & 30

Born Burbage Leicestershire Enlisted Hinckley living in Burbage

Son of John William and Anna Maria Rowe

21 Balls Lane, Now Britannia Road, Burbage.

Burbage War Memorial

Wesleyan Methodist Memorial

Congregational Memorial

Former Ancient order of Foresters Memorial.

St Catherine's Church War Memorial.

Family Grave St Catherine's Churchyard.

Isaiah Bernard Rowe was born in Burbage on 27<sup>th</sup> April 1897. The eighth child of nine, his parent's John William Rowe and Anna Maria Bird originated from Great Glen. The family moved to Burbage in 1895 firstly living in Crosland's Row before moving to 21 Balls Lane, becoming neighbours of the Bradbury Family whose son Charles was also killed in WW1.



Crosslands Road



Britannia Road (Balls Lane)

The family were all employed in the hosiery and knitwear industries and by the age of 13 Bernard was a frame helper in hosiery work. The Rowe family were related to the Coxs of Hogue Hall and would be aware of the dangers of serving on the front.

In March and April 1918 there was a period of crisis when the allied fifth army was driven back over the hard fought former Somme battlefields and there was bitter fighting in the months before the advance to victory which began in August 1918. There were over 14,000 casualties from the United Kingdom and South Africa. The Durham light Infantry lost over six hundred men including Bernard Rowe during the first month of the offensive.

Bernard was killed in action and has no known grave. His name is remembered on the wall panels at Poziers Memorial near where he fell.



Postcards



Grave St Catherine's Churchyard