

## **Private James Moore 23625**



10th Battalion Leicestershire Regiment
Died of sickness Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January 1916
Age 16
Burbage, St Catherine's Churchyard
Burbage War Memorial
St Catherine's Church Memorial



James was the sixth child of the eleven children of Fredrick and Ellen Moore. He was born on the 26<sup>th</sup> September 1899 at 22 Hinckley Road.

The growing family later moved to 74 Woodland Terrace, Hinckley Road. By the 1911 census the parents, eleven children, a grandchild and a lodger were living in the small house at Woodland Terrace.



From the age of three along with his elder siblings he attended the nearby Burbage National school on the Hinckley Road.

James left school at the age of thirteen and found employment as a shoe hand at W and C Wills, boot and shoe manufacturers on Trinity Lane, Hinckley. By 1915 two of his elder brothers were serving in the forces. On the 26<sup>th</sup> May 1915 James made the journey to Loughborough to enlist. As he was only 15 years old he lied, stating he was eighteen years and six months. Only Five feet five tall with a thirty-four-inch chest it is hard to believe the recruiting Sergeant did not suspect he was younger.

However, he was physically fit and completed 181 days of service with the 3/5 Leicester Regiment before being discharged as underage for service.

James returned home in November 1915. After remaining at home for about a month he re-enlisted and the last seven weeks of his life were spent training in the Cannock area.

From 1911 all troops had to be routinely vaccinated for tetanus, typhoid and small pox before embarkation abroad. Whilst his regiment was in training at Cannock Chase James was vaccinated and four days later fell unconscious.

He was moved to Whittington Barracks Hospital where he remained unconscious until his death on the 20<sup>th</sup> of January, age just sixteen years and three months.

His body was returned to Burbage and the funeral took place at St Catherine's Church. A party of armed soldiers attended from his Battalion and fired three volleys over the grave followed by the 'last post' from a bugler. A Commonwealth War Grave stone was erected after the end of WW1.

Shortly before James death his eldest married brother Fredrick enlisted in December 1915 but was discharged medically unfit by July 1916. The two other Moore brothers survived the war.



After James death the family then moved to Blockleys Yard in Hinckley where Fredrick the father died in March 1917 just one year after his son.

It is believed James Moore is the youngest Burbage victim of the Great War.

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