



Private Joseph Horace Charles - 10879



2nd Battalion Leicestershire Regiment

Killed in action 6th April 1916

Age 22

Basra Memorial, Iraq

Panel 12

Burbage War Memorial

Congregational Church Memorial

Wesleyan Church Memorial



Joseph Horace, known as Horace was the eldest son of the six surviving children of Rueben and Sarah Charles. Born in Hinckley in 1894, the family lived at 19 Waterloo Square, Hinckley. His Father, known as Dick Charles, was a Veteran Soldier who had served in South Africa. By the time his parents married in 1894, Dick was working as a Shoe Hand in a local factory.

By 1911, the family had moved to Loomes Square, Lutterworth Road, Burbage, (now the Spa Car Park). Horace may have attended the Wesleyan School and previously one of the Hinckley Schools.

On the 1911 census, he is employed along with his siblings as a Hosiery Trade Worker. On the 8th December 1911, at Hinckley, Horace enlisted into the Leicestershire Special Reserve for a term of six years.

The medical examination states he was seventeen years and five months of age, with a height of 5ft 4½ inches and weighing 107lbs. His hair and eyes were brown.

On the 9th November 1914, he embarked with the British Expeditionary Force to France where he sustained a bullet wound to the hand on the 15th May 1915. Returning to England he convalesced at Eastbourne until August 1915. Perhaps he visited Burbage during this time, as his Mother died a week before he was wounded in May 1915.

By the beginning of October 1915, Horace was sufficiently recovered to re-join the Expeditionary Force in France. On the 9th November 1915, he embarked at Marseilles for Egypt then on to Basra, Mesopotamia arriving on the 8th December.

One month after arriving in Basra, Horace was again wounded on the 7th January and admitted to hospital in Aramark. After recovering he joined the 2nd Battalion Leicester Regiment on 30th March 1916.

On Thursday the 6th April 1916, a night march commenced shortly after midnight with the intention of attacking at dawn on the banks of the Tigris River. The massed army fell short of its intended destination by dawn and heavy casualties were sustained. After regrouping and attacking throughout the day, by dusk, they were compelled to halt because of the many casualties.

254 were wounded and 19 were missing. Horace was one of the 45 killed in action that day.

By 1918, the family had moved to 28 Hinckley Road where his Father died in January 1918. He was survived by his brother Cyril and his sisters.

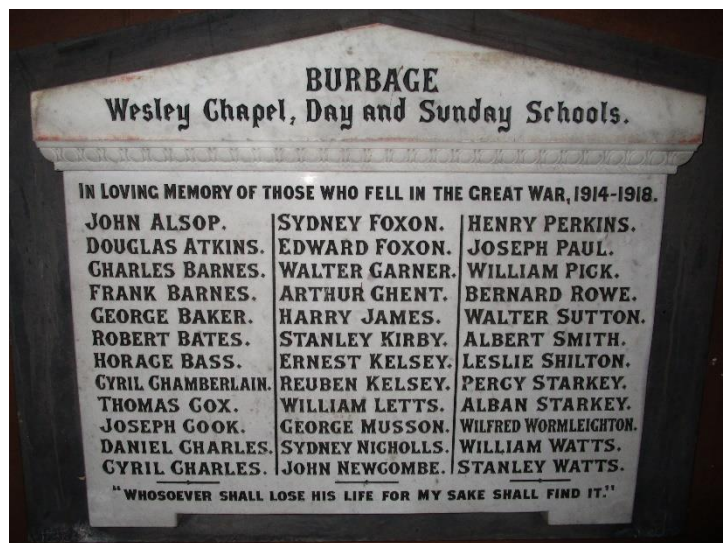
The second brother Fredrick Daniel was killed in action, in France, on 19th September 1918.

Along with Fredrick the brothers' names are on the Burbage War Memorial and the Congregational Memorial as H and D Charles.

However, on the Wesleyan Memorial, there is a Daniel and Cyril Charles. No records can be found of a Cyril falling in WW1 and it is believed that this should be Horace Charles. The brother Cyril survived and died at Hinckley in 1978.



Congregational Church Memorial



Wesleyan Church Memorial



Basra Memorial

Campaign:— B.E.F. 1914. (A) Where decoration was earned.
(B) Present situation.

Name	Corps	Rank	Reg. No.	Roll on which included (if any)												
(A) CHARLES	2nd Bn Leic R	Pte	10879	F/2/2/14.												
(B) Joseph Horace	— " —	— " —	— " —	2nd Bn Leic R K in A. 6. 4. 16.												
Action taken	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>REGAL</td> <td>ROLL</td> <td>PLATE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>VICTORY</td> <td>7/102134 402</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>do</td> <td>do</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>14</td> <td>2429 14</td> </tr> </table>				REGAL	ROLL	PLATE	VICTORY	7/102134 402			do	do		14	2429 14
REGAL					ROLL	PLATE										
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Disembarkation Date	9. 11. 14.															

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Medal Card

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The names should be written in ink. The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

Number of Schedules
(To be filled after enumeration)

57

1. NAME AND SURNAME of every Person, whether Member of Family, Visitor, Boarder, or Servant, (1) passed the night of Sunday, April 2nd, 1911, in this dwelling and was alive at midnight, or (2) arrived in this dwelling on the morning of Monday, April 3rd, not having been enumerated elsewhere. No one else must be included. (For order of entering names see Examples on back of Schedule.)	2. RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family.	3. AGE (Under 15 only) and SEX.		4. MARRIAGE.					5. PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Persons aged ten years and upwards.				12. Whether at Home.	13. BIRTHPLACE of every person.	14. NATIONALITY of every person born in a Foreign Country.	15. INFIRMITY.	
		Male.	Female.	Wife.	Husband.	Single.	Married.	Widow.	Divorced.	Widower.	Widow.	Single.					Married.
1. <i>Bushon Charles</i>	<i>Head</i>																
2. <i>Jacob Charles</i>																	
3. <i>Jos. Horace Charles</i>																	
4. <i>Arthur Charles</i>																	
5. <i>Frank Daniel Charles</i>																	
6. <i>David Charles</i>																	
7. <i>Ernest Charles</i>																	
8.																	
9.																	
10.																	
11.																	
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14.																	
15.																	

(To be filled up by the Enumerator.)

Write below the Number of Rooms in this dwelling, and the number of persons occupying the same, in the column provided for that purpose. Count the kitchen as one room, but do not count the bathroom, scullery, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom, or warehouse, office, shop.

Total:
Males: 4
Females: 3
Persons: 7

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: *Richard Charles*
Postal Address: *No 11 Loomes Square, Lutterworth, Leics.*