

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harold Dransfield



Rank: Sapper

Died: 29th May 1918 (age 38 after discharge in UK)

Royal Engineers



Summary

Harold Dransfield's family home was Jackroyd Lane, Upper Hopton where he was raised by his parents Fredrick and Sarah and worked as a railway plate layer. Harold married Edith Wadsworth in May 1917.

Harold enlisted in August 1917 as a Sapper in the Royal Engineers.

Whilst serving on the Western Front Harold had a cerebral embolism and was discharged from the army in March 1918. In May 1918 he died from heart failure and was buried in St John's, Upper Hopton.

His brothers Irving and Albert also served in WW1



World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harold Dransfield

Family details

Date of Birth	27th June 1879
Date of Baptism	3rd August 1879
Church Baptised	St John's, Upper Hopton
Father	Frederick (b.1851 buried in St John's Upper Hopton Sept 1896 age 45)
Father's occupation	Stonemason
Mother	Sarah (nee Sheard)
Siblings	Albert, Laura & Irving
Parents residence	Jackroyd Lane, Upper Hopton (Later Moor Top, Kirkheaton)
Soldiers residence	Jackroyd Lane
Soldiers Occupation	Railway plate layer
Married	28th May 1917
Spouse	Edith Wadsworth
Children	
Burial / Memorial	St John's Church, Upper Hopton
Age at death	Age 38 (Heart failure) Date: 29th May 1918 Died at Moor Top, Kirkheaton

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village

Harold Dransfield

Dransfield family Census 1911



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 entries 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 Schedule 117
(To be filled up by the enumerator after completion.)

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	AGE On Census Day and SEX	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE				PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Persons aged ten years and upwards				BIRTHPLACE of every person	NATIONALITY of every Person born in a Foreign Country	INFIRMITY
			Single	Married	Widowed	Divorced	Personal Occupations	Industry or Service with which worker is connected	Whether Employer, Worker, or Working on Own Account	Whether Working at Home			
1. Sarah Dransfield	Head	59	Widow	5-4-1							Kirkheaton, Yorks		
2. Harold Dransfield	Son	31	Single								Mirfield, Yorks		
3. Emily Dransfield	Son	23	Single								Mirfield, Yorks		
4.													
5.													
6.													
7.													
8.													
9.													
10.													
11.													
12.													
13.													
14.													
15.													

(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling)

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

Signature: Sarah Dransfield

Postal Address: Jack-royd Lane Hopton, Yorks

Harold's father does not appear on the 1911 census as he died in 1896. Harold had a younger brother, Irving who was a mill hand. At the time of the census Harold was living with his mother at Jackroyd Lane.

Harold's Attestation papers show that he was living at Moor Top, Kirkheaton in August 1916.

The 1911 census does not show Harold's older brother Albert and younger sister Laura. Albert spent some time in the Memorial hospital in Mirfield and was a coal miner. Unfortunately the military records for Albert were destroyed in the second world war.

In 1901 Laura was a servant for William Hall Marriott at The Grange in Upper Hopton. On the 1911 census Laura had moved to Buxton Derbyshire when she was 29 years old and became a servant for a Henry Lathbury a retired Indian Merchant. Laura met and married Fred Chappell in Buxton. After Fred's death Laura returned to live at Granny Lane, Lower Hopton.

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harold Dransfield

Irving was a private (Reg No. 034900) and served in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps and received the Victory and British War Medals.

Harold's father and mother's marriage certificate (St Johns, Upper Hopton 1875)

1875. Marriage solemnized at <u>St John the Evangelist</u> in the Parish of <u>Upper Hopton</u> in the County of <u>York</u>								
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
29	July 24 1875	Fredrick Dransfield	24	Bachelor	Mason	Lockley Hill	Archibald Dransfield	Weaver
		Sarah Sheard	23	Spinster		Lockley Hill	Joseph Sheard	Miner

Married in the Church of St John the Evangelist according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by W. G. Shear of after James by me,

This Marriage was solemnized between us, Fredrick Dransfield his x mark in the Presence of us, Vincent Newson Sarah Sheard her x mark Alfred Sheard

Harold Dransfield's Marriage Certificate - Parish Church Kirkheaton 28th May 1917

(Harold's father shown as deceased)

Page 176

1917. Marriage solemnized at <u>the Parish Church</u> in the Parish of <u>Kirkheaton</u> in the County of <u>West Yorkshire</u>								
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
351	May 28th 1917	Harold Dransfield	37	Bachelor	Male Layer	Upper Hopton	Fred Dransfield (Deceased)	Stone Mason
		Edith Wadsworth	35	Spinster		Newlands Road Dalton	Edith Wadsworth	Stone Mason

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church by J. Wright Moore or after James by me,

This Marriage was solemnized between us, Harold Dransfield in the Presence of us, Edith Wadsworth A. Dransfield

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harold Dransfield

Family photographs



Dransfield family: Albert on the left with Harold on the right and Father Frederick with Laura on his knee.



Albert Dransfield



Laura Dransfield



Irving Dransfield

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harold Dransfield



Laura Dransfield



Laura Dransfield



Laura Dransfield and Fred Chappell
(Fred was the local postman in Buxton)

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harold Dransfield



Irving Dransfield



Irving Dransfield and Alice Armitage



The Armitage family at Calf Croft Cottages

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harold Dransfield

Cricket

Before and after the war Irving Dransfield was a good cricketer



Photo: October 13th 1905 - Irving is seated on the extreme right (approx age 17)



Photo shows James Armitage (Irving Dransfield's father-in-law) as umpire on the extreme left at Woodbottom.

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harold Dransfield



Irving Dransfield seated with two of his army colleagues
(Watchfield 1918)

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harold Dransfield

Military Details

Attestation / Enlistment	31st August 1916
Deployment	August 1917 Due to his heart problem his length of service is recorded as 220 days
Rank	Sapper
Medals	None found
Regiment number	290902
Regiment	Royal Engineers (Railway Troops Depot)
Regimental Badge	



Discharged	8th March 1918 (due to cerebral embolism)
Cemetery or Memorial	St John's Church, Upper Hopton
Date of death	29th May 1918 (Heart failure) Died at Moor Top, Kirkheaton

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harold Dransfield

Harold's attestation 1916

MSB 4304 13567 1916
Army Form B. 2512

SHORT SERVICE. GENERAL SERVICE
From the duration of the War, with the Colours and in the Army Reserve.)

ATTESTATION OF
No 290902 Name Harold Dransfield Corps RAILWAY TROOPS DEPOT R.E.

Questions to be put to the Recruit before Enlistment.

1. What is your Name?	1. <u>Harold Dransfield</u>
2. What is your full Address?	2. <u>Upper Hopton Village, N. Hants.</u>
3. Are you a British Subject?	3. <u>Yes</u>
4. What is your Age?	4. <u>37</u> Years <u>6</u> Months <u>10</u> Days
5. What is your Trade or Calling?	5. <u>Railway Plate-layer</u>
6. Are you Married?	6. <u>No</u>
7. Have you ever served in any branch of His Majesty's Forces, naval or military, if so, which?	7. <u>No</u>
8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated?	8. <u>Yes</u>
9. Are you willing to be enlisted for General Service?	9. <u>Yes</u>
10. Did you receive a Notice, and do you understand its meaning, and who gave it to you?	10. <u>Yes</u> Name <u>Wearside Pl</u> Corps <u>3rd R.E.</u>
11. Are you willing to serve upon the following conditions, provided His Majesty should so long require your services? For the duration of the War, at the end of which you will be discharged with all convenient speed. You will be required to serve for one day with the Colours, and the remainder of the period in the Army Reserve, in accordance with the provisions of the Royal Warrant dated 20th October, 1915, until such time as you may be called up by order of the Army Council. If employed with Hospitals, depots of Mounted Units, or as a Clerk, &c., you may be retained after the termination of hostilities until your services can be spared, but such retention shall in no case exceed six months?	11. <u>Yes</u>

I, Harold Dransfield, do hereby solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements made.

Harold Dransfield SIGNATURE OF RECRUIT.
Wearside Pl Signature of Witness.

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY RECRUIT ON ATTESTATION.
I, Harold Dransfield, swear by Almighty God that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs, and Successors, and that I will, as in duty bound, honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, in Person, Crown, and Dignity against all enemies, and will observe and obey all orders of His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, and of the Generals and Officers set over me. So help me God.

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE OR ATTESTING OFFICER.
The Recruit above named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act.
The above questions were then read to the Recruit in my presence.
I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as applied to, and the said Recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me as Harold Dransfield on this 15th day of August 1916.

Signature of the Justice Harold Dransfield RECRUITING OFFICER

† Certificate of Approving Officer.
I certify that this Attestation of the above-named Recruit is correct, and properly filled up, and that the required forms appear to have been complied with. I accordingly approve, and appoint him to the RAILWAY TROOPS DEPOT R.E.
If enlisted by special authority, Army Form B. 208, (or other authority for the enlistment) will be attached to the original attestation.
Date 15 AUG 1917 19 Harold Dransfield Capt. for Major R.E.
Place LONGMOOR Wearside Pl Approving Officer.

† The signature of the Approving Officer is to be affixed in the presence of the Recruit.
† Here insert the "Corps" for which the Recruit has been enlisted.

* If so, the Recruit is to be asked the particulars of his former service, and to produce, if possible, his Certificate of Discharge and Certificate of Character, which should be returned to him complementarily contained in red ink, as follows, viz.—(Name) Harold Dransfield re-enlisted in the (Regiment) 3rd R.E. on the (Date) 15th August 1916

Military record -"Statement of Service"

Page 12 of 18

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harold Dransfield

Discharge papers

V.S.2.B. 4304
Serial no 7063 Army Form B. 268.

Proceedings on Discharge.

(When forwarded for confirmation the documents named on page 4 should be enclosed.)

No. 290902 Army Rank Sapper,

Name Harold Dransfield
(The name must agree strictly with that on enlistment, unless changed subsequently by authority.)

Corps Royal Engineers,

Battalion, Battery, Company, Depot, &c. R. 4. B. Longmoor,
(If attached to the Regular Establishment of the Special Reserve or Permanent Staff of the Territorial Force, &c., or to General Staff of the Army, it should be so stated.)

Date of discharge 3. 8. 18.

Place of discharge Chatham

1. Description at the time of discharge.

Age <u>32</u> years <u>8</u> months	Descriptive marks.
Height <u>5</u> feet <u>6</u> inches	
Chest measurement (girth when fully expanded <u>35</u> ins. range of expansion <u>22</u> ins.)	
Complexion <u>Flushed</u>	
Eyes <u>Blue</u>	
Hair <u>Dark Brown</u>	
Trade <u>Platelayer</u>	
Intended place of residence <u>Lackford Lane Upper Hopton nr. Midfield, Yorkshire</u> (To be given as fully as practicable) (The measurements and description should be carefully taken on the day the man leaves his unit, but in the case of men sent home from abroad for discharge, the age and intended place of residence should be left blank to be filled in by the Officer who confirms the discharge at home.)	

2. The above-named man is discharged in consequence of Discharged-no longer physically fit for War Service, para. 592 XVI King's
(The cause of discharge must be worded as prescribed in the King's Regulations and be identical with that on the discharge certificate. If discharged by superior authority, the No. and date of the letter to be quoted.)

3. Military character: Satisfactory

4. Character awarded in accordance with King's Regulations: Satisfactory

To be filled in on the soldier quitting the Colours.

Certified that the above is an accurate copy of the character given by me on Army Form B. 2687* and that the same is correct.
Colonel V.C. R.E. Records.
Initials of Commanding Officer.

Army Form B. 2688 has been issued to*

Wt. W. 13142/58 430,000 2/13 M.A.C. Ltd. Form B. 268 39 "Strike out if not applicable."

[OVER]

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harold Dransfield

Medical Report dated February

Army Form B. 179.

Medical Report on an Invalid.

Station Shancliffe
Date 12.2.18.

1. Unit R.E.
2. Regimental No. 290902.
3. Rank Spr. Dransfield, H.
4. Name
5. Age last birthday 38
6. Enlisted { on 31.8.16.
at Huddersfield.

7. Former Trade or Occupation { Platelayer
7A. If with previous service in Army, state—
(a) Former Unit;
(b) Regimental No.; nil
(c) Date of Discharge;
(d) Cause of Discharge.

8. Disability in respect of which invaliding is Proposed.
(Other disabilities should be reported upon in answer to question No. 19).

V. D. H. (293)

Statement of Case.

ROYAL ENGINEERS RE-RECEIVED 18 FEB 1918

RECORD OFFICE R.E. TRANSPORTATION BRANCH RECEIVED 16 FEB 1918

Note.—The answers to the following questions are to be filled in by the Officer in medical charge of the case. In answering them he will carefully discriminate between the man's unsupported statements and evidence recorded in his military and medical documents. He will also carefully distinguish cases entirely due to venereal disease.

9. Date of origin of disability. Impossible to state.
10. Place of origin of disability. England.
11. Give concisely the essential facts of the history of the disability, noting entries on the Medical History Sheet bearing on the case. was admitted to Bevan Hill Hosp. 12.11.17. with diagnosis of cerebral embolism and initial disease of heart. He was in a semi-conscious condition, unable to give any account of himself. A loud systolic murmur was present. Transferred to 9 Can. Gen. Hosp. 28.1.18.
12. Give your opinion as to the causation of the disability, stating whether in your opinion it is—
(a) attributable to or aggravated by service during the present war, climate, or ordinary military service. (The specific condition to which it is attributed should be stated, see Notes on page 3). no.
(b) constitutional or hereditary, and not aggravated by service during the present war. Constitutional
(c) attributable to or aggravated by want of proper care on the man's part, e.g., intemperance, misconduct, &c. no.

1918

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harold Dransfield

Medical report continued

There is a loud blowing mitral systolic murmur - the heart being enlarged slightly to the left. Pulse at rest - 100

There are now no serious effects of his previous condition.

Weight should be given in all cases when it is likely to afford evidence of the progress of the disability.

Respiratory, G.U., gastro-intestinal apparatus, OK.

General condition - wasted and delicate in appearance - Malow flush apparent. Lack of expression in face. Articulation is slow. Memory poor.

Not an injury.

No.

No.

Not applicable.

Not applicable.

Effects of cerebral embolism. Patient states that eyes were affected - but are improving; that there was partial paralysis of left arm - now nearly recovered; no involvement of sphincters or lower limbs. Memory is poor but improving.

Yes - discharge as P.U.

Stamitchell CAPT. C.A.M.C.
Officer in medical charge of case.

I have satisfied myself of the general accuracy of this report, and concur therewith, except†

Station Thorncliffe

Date 13/2/18.

Officer in charge of Hospital.

*Loss of teeth or/ or immediately after active service, should be attributed thereto, unless there is evidence that it is due to some other cause.

†Delete this word if no exceptions are to be made.

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harold Dransfield

Medical report continued

Opinion of the Medical Board.

Notes.—(i.) Clear and decisive answers to the following questions are to be carefully filled in by the Board, as, in the event of the man being invalided, it is essential that the Minister of Pensions should be in possession of the most reliable information to enable him to decide upon the man's claim to pension.

(ii.) Expressions such as "may," "might," "probably," &c., should be avoided.

(iii.) The rates of pension vary directly according to whether the disability is, (a) caused or aggravated by service in the present war, (b) due to causes not connected with present war, viz. (1) earlier active service, (2) climatic disease in pre-war service, (3) ordinary military service before the war. It is, therefore, essential when assigning the cause of a disability to differentiate between them.

(iv.) In answering question 21 the Board should be careful to discriminate between disease resulting from military conditions and disease to which the soldier would have been equally liable in civil life.

(v.) A disability is to be regarded as due to climate when it is caused by military service abroad in climates where there is a special liability to contract the disease.

1. (a.) State whether the disability is clearly attributable to—

- (i.) Service during the present war; *no*
- (ii.) Climate; *no*
- (iii.) Ordinary military service; *no*
- (iv.) Want of proper care on the man's part, e.g., intemperance, misconduct, &c.; or *no*
- (v.) Whether it is constitutional or hereditary. *constitutional*

(b.) If due to one of the first three of these causes, to what specific conditions do the Board attribute it? *no*

22. Has the disability been aggravated by any of the conditions mentioned in Question 21, and if so, which? *no*

23. Is the disability permanent? *yes*

24. If not permanent, how soon do the Board recommend re-examination? *not applicable*

25. What is the degree of disablement at which, in the Board's opinion, he should be assessed for pension purposes at present? *20% twenty per cent*

Degrees of disablement should be expressed in the following percentages:—100, 80, 70, 60, 50, 40, 30, 20, less than 20, or nil.

26. If an operation was advised and declined, was the refusal unreasonable? *not declined*

27. Do the Board recommend—

- (a) Discharge as permanently unfit, or *yes discharged as P.W. approved*
- (b) Change to England? *no*

28. If discharge is recommended it should be stated whether further medical treatment (including orthopaedic training) is desirable in a—

- (a) Sanatorium;
- (b) Hospital;
- (c) Convalescent home;
- (d) Asylum; or
- (e) Other institution either as an in-patient or an out-patient, and if so the period for which recommended. *no*

29. With reference to Army Council Instruction No. 144 of 1917, is any surgical appliance recommended?

30. Does the man require the constant attendance of another person?

Signatures:—

Station *Thorncliffe* *J. H. Malone Esq. Pres.* President.
Date *1 FEB 1918* *A. W. Brodie Esq. M.C.* Members.

Approved.

Station _____

Date _____

Administrative Medical Officer.

World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village



Harold Dransfield

Harold Dransfield's grave in St John's Churchyard, Upper Hopton



World War 1 - Upper Hopton Village

Harold Dransfield



CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF DEATH

GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Application Number 5366392-1

7231132 68840 04/13 3MSSD 033108

DYD 626203

See note overleaf

CAUTION: THERE ARE OFFENCES RELATING TO FALSIFYING OR ALTERING A CERTIFICATE AND USING OR POSSESSING A FALSE CERTIFICATE ©CROWN COPYRIGHT
WARNING: A CERTIFICATE IS NOT EVIDENCE OF IDENTITY.

REGISTRATION DISTRICT

1918 DEATH in the Sub-district of **Kirkheaton**

HUDDERSFIELD

in the County of Yorks (W.R.)

Columns:-	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar
282	Twenty-ninth May 1918 Upper Hopton W.R.	Harold Dransfield	Male	38 years	Railway Plate-layer	(1) Valvular Disease of Aortic (Mitral) (2) Albuminuria Heart failure Certified by a physician M.D. C.M.	Edith Dransfield Widow of deceased present at the death 100, 104 Kirkheaton	Twenty-ninth May 1918	<i>[Signature]</i> Registrar

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Deaths in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the 9th day of January 2014

DYD 626203

See note overleaf

CAUTION: THERE ARE OFFENCES RELATING TO FALSIFYING OR ALTERING A CERTIFICATE AND USING OR POSSESSING A FALSE CERTIFICATE ©CROWN COPYRIGHT
WARNING: A CERTIFICATE IS NOT EVIDENCE OF IDENTITY.

7231132 68840 04/13 3MSSD 033108