

John Thomas Arthurs

Born 1879

Died 1st June 1918 Age 39

Royal Berks Reg 1st Bn Pt 10334

Bagneux Gezaincourt

John Arthurs was born in Lower Swell, Gloucestershire in 1879. By 1881 he and his parents, Charles and Martha Arthurs, his elder brother Frederick and younger sister Gertrude had all moved to the Black Horse, East Hanney. Charles, 29 was a carpenter and licensed victualler. Frederick and John at three and two respectively were already down as scholars.

In 1891 the family was still at the Black Horse with five more children. Frederick and John are both agricultural labourers. He was absent for the 1901 census as the Commonwealth War Graves Commission states he served in the South Africa campaign, though no other army records survive.

In 1905 he married Ellen Nobes daughter of Aaron Nobes, an East Hanney labourer. In 1911 they are living at Lyford and John describes himself as a farmer / labourer. Their eldest son Ernest, 4, was born in North West London. Charles, 2, and William 8 months in Lyford. They had two more sons, Sydney George in 1912 and Ronald James in 1915. Parish records show they moved back to East Hanney.

No record remains of when John enlisted again.