

HOW METAL IDENTIFIED TWO SOLDIERS FROM THE FIRST WORLD WAR

By

Samantha Whitehall



The metal tag , that was used to identified Private John Henry Beer

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.

Number of Inhabitants **504**
(To be filled up by the Enumerator after completion.)

The contents of this 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, or in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	AGE last Birthday and SEX	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE			PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Persons aged ten years and upwards		BIRTHPLACE of every person	NATIONALITY of every Person (as to a Family Group)	INFIRMITY				
			Married	Single	Widow	Profession, Trade, Manufacture, &c.	Industry or Service with which worker is connected							
1 John Beer	Head	54	Married	8	8	0	Cartier	070	Brewery	Worker	Torquay Devon			
2 Maria Beer	Wife	52	Married	3	4		Laundress	070		Worker	Torquay Devon			
3 Letia Beer	Daughter	33	Married				Laundress			Worker	Torquay Devon			
4 Ernest Beer	Son	31	Single				Cellarman	905	Brewery	Worker	Torquay Devon			
5 Letia Beer	Son	27	Married				Painter			Worker	Torquay Devon			
6 Mabel Beer	Daughter	26	Single				Laundress			Worker	Torquay Devon			
7 John Beer	Son	23	Single				Cellarman	905	Brewery	Worker	Torquay Devon			
8 Norman Beer	Son	21	Single				Personnel Conductor			Worker	Torquay Devon			
9 Percy Beer	Son	19	Single				Cellarman	905	Brewery	Worker	Torquay Devon			
10 Stanley Beer	Son	14	Single				Cartier	070	Brewery	Worker	Torquay Devon			

(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: John Beer
Place Address: 51 St. Edmunds Road, St. Mary Church Road, Torquay

Six Rooms

Administrative County **DEVON**

The undermentioned Houses are situate within the boundaries of the

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House No.	ROAD STREET &c. and No. of NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES Uninhabited	HOUSES Inhabited	Name and Surnames of each Person	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	Age last Birthday	PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION	Employer, Worker, or Own account	If Working at Home	WHERE BORN	(1) Dead and (2) Blind (3) Lunatic (4) Inebriate, Feeble-minded
104	104			James Luckey	Head	55	Laundress	Worker		Torquay Devon	
				Louise do	Wife	36	Wife	Worker		do do	
				Edith do	Daughter	16	Wife			do do	
				George Ball	Son	27	General Labourer			Torquay Devon	
				Mary do	Wife	38				Torquay Devon	
				James H. do	Son	13				Torquay Devon	
				Albert W. Stubbly	Son	20	Carpenter	Worker		Torquay Devon	
				Maria I. do	Wife	48				Torquay Devon	
				William J. do	Son	12	Table & Chair Maker	Worker		do do	
				Albert do	Son	20	Labourer	Worker		do do	
				George I. do	Son	11	General Labourer	Worker		do do	
				Carlton W. do	Son	10	Barber	Worker		do do	
				Emma L. do	Daughter	12				do do	
				Maria M. do	Daughter	9				do do	
				Alfred W. do	Son	7				do do	
105	4			Samuel Thomas	Head	45				Chudleigh Devon	
				James do	Wife	61				do do	
				John Beer	Head	45	Wagoner	Worker		Torquay Devon	
				Maria do	Wife	26	Laundress	Worker		do do	
				Ernest do	Son	27	Labourer	Worker		do do	
				John do	Son	12	Labourer	Worker		do do	
				Norman do	Son	11				do do	
				Percy do	Son	10				do do	
				Edith do	Daughter	6				do do	
106	2			Edna Parsons	Head	30	Laundress	Worker		do do	
				John Luckey	Head	40	Plumber	Worker		Blackton Devon	
				James Sedwick	Head	46	Wagoner	Worker		Blackton Devon	
				Maria do	Wife	47	Wagoner	Worker		Blackton Devon	
				Amie do	Daughter	22	Wagoner	Worker		Blackton Devon	
				William do	Son	20	Wagoner	Worker		do do	
				Henry do	Son	16	General Labourer			do do	
6						19	Total of Males and Females		19	12	

(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.)

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Signature: John Beer
Place Address: 51 St. Edmunds Road, St. Mary Church Road, Torquay

Six Rooms

Census showing J Beer and his family where he lived in Devon

First Name:
 J H
Surname:
 Beer
Age:
 29
Index Number of Admission:
 16669
Rank:
 Private
Service Number:
 14044
Years Service:
 2 Years
Months With Field Force:
 1 Year 2 Months
Ailment:
 Shell Wound Spine
Date of Admission for Original Ailment:
 19/11/1916
Date Transferred to Sick Convoy:
 20/11/1916
Number/Designation of Ward:
 E5
Religion:
 Church of England
Regiment:
[Devonshire Regiment](#)
Battalion:
 10th (Service) Battalion (Why is this important?)
Other unit info:
 A Company
Archive Reference:
 MH106/555 MH106/555 can be found at The National Archives in Kew, and contains First World War Representative Medical Records of Servicemen from No. 31 Casualty Clearing Station

First name(s)	John Henry
Last name	Beer
Service number	14044
Rank	Private
Regiment	Devonshire Regiment
Battalion	10th (Service) Battalion
Residence	Torquay
Birth place	Torquay
Enlistment place	Exeter
Death year	1916
Death day	25
Death month	11
Cause of death	Died of wounds
Death place	Salonika
Theatre of war	Balkan Theatre
Supplementary Notes	-
Category	Military, armed forces & conflict
Subcategory	First World War
Collections from	Great Britain, UK None

Two records from the army showing J Beer's medical record and where he is buried

BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of *S. Mary Church*
in the County of *Devon* in the Year 18*87*

1887	Nov	John	John	Beer	Victoria Park	Lambert	C. R. Higgins
	25	Henry	or				
No. 164			Maia				

INDEX No. G. 7 BEER, Pte. J. H., 14044. 10th Bn. Devonshire
SALONIKA Regt. Died of wounds 25th Nov., 1916. Age 29.
ANGLO- Husband of A. F. Beer, of 72, St. Edmund's Rd.,
FRENCH Babbacombe, Torquay. 698.

The baptism and death notice of J Beer



The metal artefacts that helped to identify the soldier from the first world war to the Dorset Regiment



Photos from the Keep museum



The new head stone for the soldier from the Dorset Regiment



Photos from the Keep Museum

The poppy wreath showing the two regiments of Bedfordshire and Dorset which were placed with the remains and new resting place of the soldiers