

MELLING SCHOOL WORLD WAR 1 MEMORIAL SCROLL

This is the lower half of the Melling School War Memorial Scroll. The middle section lists those pupils that were killed in the war.



- Eric Appleyard
- John Shaw
- Wilfred Shires
- William Jennings
- Herbert Shires
- John William Vockins

John Shaw and John William Vockins also appear on the Melling Parish Church Memorial Plaque and have therefore been researched already (sic).

As the centenary of the end of the War (November 1918) passed in November 2018, it is appropriate to remember the other four men, and place their story on record.

HERBERT SHIRES was born in Wennington 20th September 1893. His father was Robert Shires, and his mother was Mary Ann Shires (Nee Wearing) and Herbert was one of 5 brothers. They were farmers by profession. His brother Wilfred was also killed in The War.

He went to Melling School in 1897, and was Admission Number 128 in the School Admission Register.

He joined the Army and enlisted in 2/5th Battallion, The Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment. He was Private 307567 Herbert Shires.

After leaving Melling School he subsequently moved to Barnoldswick, living at 30 Lower North Avenue. He was employed, aged 18 by Farmer Robert Metcalf.

He appears on the War Memorial in Barnoldswick. He was killed during the Battle of Cambrai, the first battle where tanks were used. His name appears on the memorial tablet (Panel 6/7) of the Louverval Cemetery.

This is Herbert Shires's Medal Index Card. Strangely, it doesn't show that he was killed in action.

These cards are usually marked KoA or 'Killed in Action' or DoW 'Died of Wounds'. " W Rid R" at the top means 'West Riding Regiment' of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment.



Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
SHIRES	W R I D R	Pt	307567
Herbert			
Serial	Enl.	Exp.	Remarks
Victims	02/10/18 B25	6024	
Rank	Pt	18	
Sex			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry theatre			
Correspondence.			
Address.			

E. 1200

H.M.S. 1000 W.L. WARD—CL. 1000 LONDON. 10/10/18. E. 4000.

At that time Yorkshire was divided into "Ridings" or areas (North or South etc). The middle left of the card shows he was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

This is a copy of the 1901 Census page for The Shires Family. It is very indistinct, From the top it shows: William Father (age 38), Mary Ann, mother (age 32), Sons Richard (8), Herbert (7), John (5), Wilfred (3), and Thomas (1). Their Grandmother Margaret (age 64), also lived with them.

Administrative County		The undermentioned Houses are situate within the boundaries of the										Page 9					
Civil Parish		Ecclesiastical Parish		County Borough, Municipal Borough, or Urban Sanitary District		Ward of Municipal Borough or of Urban District		Rural District		Parliamentary Borough or Division		Town or Village or Hamlet					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
ROAD, STREET, &c. and No. of HOUSES	ROOFS	Name and Surname of each Person		RELATION to Head of Family	Age last Birthday	PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION	Employed, Worked, or Occupied	Working Hours	WEEKS BORN	Qual and Death							
12	1	William Shires	38	Head	38	Farmer			1840								
		Mary Ann Shires	32	Wife	32	Wife			1840								
		Richard Shires	8	Son	8				1893								
		Herbert Shires	7	Son	7				1894								
		John Shires	5	Son	5				1896								
		Wilfred Shires	3	Son	3				1898								
		Thomas Shires	1	Son	1				1900								
		Margaret Shires	64	Grandmother	64				1836								
13	1	William Shires	31	Head	31	Farmer			1870								
		Mary Ann Shires	26	Wife	26	Wife			1875								
14	1	William Shires	52	Head	52	Farmer			1849								
		Mary Ann Shires	48	Wife	48	Wife			1853								
		Richard Shires	22	Son	22	Farmer			1879								
		Herbert Shires	20	Son	20	Farmer			1881								
		John Shires	18	Son	18	Farmer			1883								
		Wilfred Shires	16	Son	16	Farmer			1885								
		Thomas Shires	14	Son	14	Farmer			1887								
15	1	William Shires	72	Head	72	Farmer			1828								
		Mary Ann Shires	68	Wife	68	Wife			1832								
		Richard Shires	48	Son	48	Farmer			1853								
		Herbert Shires	46	Son	46	Farmer			1855								
		John Shires	44	Son	44	Farmer			1857								
		Wilfred Shires	42	Son	42	Farmer			1859								
		Thomas Shires	40	Son	40	Farmer			1861								
16	1	William Shires	28	Head	28	Farmer			1873								
		Mary Ann Shires	24	Wife	24	Wife			1877								
		Richard Shires	22	Son	22	Farmer			1879								
		Herbert Shires	20	Son	20	Farmer			1881								
		John Shires	18	Son	18	Farmer			1883								
		Wilfred Shires	16	Son	16	Farmer			1885								
		Thomas Shires	14	Son	14	Farmer			1887								
17	1	William Shires	11	Head	11	Farmer			1890								
		Mary Ann Shires	7	Wife	7	Wife			1894								
		Richard Shires	5	Son	5	Farmer			1896								
		Herbert Shires	3	Son	3	Farmer			1898								
		John Shires	1	Son	1	Farmer			1900								
18	1	William Shires	10	Head	10	Farmer			1891								
		Mary Ann Shires	6	Wife	6	Wife			1895								
		Richard Shires	4	Son	4	Farmer			1897								
		Herbert Shires	2	Son	2	Farmer			1899								
		John Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1901								
19	1	William Shires	9	Head	9	Farmer			1892								
		Mary Ann Shires	5	Wife	5	Wife			1896								
		Richard Shires	3	Son	3	Farmer			1898								
		Herbert Shires	1	Son	1	Farmer			1900								
		John Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1902								
20	1	William Shires	8	Head	8	Farmer			1893								
		Mary Ann Shires	4	Wife	4	Wife			1899								
		Richard Shires	2	Son	2	Farmer			1901								
		Herbert Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1903								
		John Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1905								
		Wilfred Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1907								
		Thomas Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1909								
21	1	William Shires	7	Head	7	Farmer			1894								
		Mary Ann Shires	3	Wife	3	Wife			1900								
		Richard Shires	1	Son	1	Farmer			1902								
		Herbert Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1904								
		John Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1906								
		Wilfred Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1908								
		Thomas Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1910								
22	1	William Shires	6	Head	6	Farmer			1895								
		Mary Ann Shires	2	Wife	2	Wife			1901								
		Richard Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1903								
		Herbert Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1905								
		John Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1907								
		Wilfred Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1909								
		Thomas Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1911								
23	1	William Shires	5	Head	5	Farmer			1896								
		Mary Ann Shires	1	Wife	1	Wife			1902								
		Richard Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1904								
		Herbert Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1906								
		John Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1908								
		Wilfred Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1910								
		Thomas Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1912								
24	1	William Shires	4	Head	4	Farmer			1897								
		Mary Ann Shires	0	Wife	0	Wife			1903								
		Richard Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1905								
		Herbert Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1907								
		John Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1909								
		Wilfred Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1911								
		Thomas Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1913								
25	1	William Shires	3	Head	3	Farmer			1898								
		Mary Ann Shires	0	Wife	0	Wife			1904								
		Richard Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1906								
		Herbert Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1908								
		John Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1910								
		Wilfred Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1912								
		Thomas Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1914								
26	1	William Shires	2	Head	2	Farmer			1899								
		Mary Ann Shires	0	Wife	0	Wife			1905								
		Richard Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1907								
		Herbert Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1909								
		John Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1911								
		Wilfred Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1913								
		Thomas Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1915								
27	1	William Shires	1	Head	1	Farmer			1900								
		Mary Ann Shires	0	Wife	0	Wife			1906								
		Richard Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1908								
		Herbert Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1910								
		John Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1912								
		Wilfred Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1914								
		Thomas Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1916								
28	1	William Shires	0	Head	0	Farmer			1901								
		Mary Ann Shires	0	Wife	0	Wife			1907								
		Richard Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1909								
		Herbert Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1911								
		John Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1913								
		Wilfred Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1915								
		Thomas Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1917								
29	1	William Shires	0	Head	0	Farmer			1902								
		Mary Ann Shires	0	Wife	0	Wife			1908								
		Richard Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1910								
		Herbert Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1912								
		John Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1914								
		Wilfred Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1916								
		Thomas Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1918								
30	1	William Shires	0	Head	0	Farmer			1903								
		Mary Ann Shires	0	Wife	0	Wife			1909								
		Richard Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1911								
		Herbert Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1913								
		John Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1915								
		Wilfred Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1917								
		Thomas Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1919								
31	1	William Shires	0	Head	0	Farmer			1904								
		Mary Ann Shires	0	Wife	0	Wife			1910								
		Richard Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1912								
		Herbert Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1914								
		John Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1916								
		Wilfred Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1918								
		Thomas Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1920								
32	1	William Shires	0	Head	0	Farmer			1905								
		Mary Ann Shires	0	Wife	0	Wife			1911								
		Richard Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1913								
		Herbert Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1915								
		John Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1917								
		Wilfred Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1919								
		Thomas Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1921								
33	1	William Shires	0	Head	0	Farmer			1906								
		Mary Ann Shires	0	Wife	0	Wife			1912								
		Richard Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1914								
		Herbert Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1916								
		John Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1918								
		Wilfred Shires	0	Son	0	Farmer			1920								
		Thomas Shires	0	Son	0</												

WILFRED SHIRES. Younger brother of Herbert, Died on 3rd May 1918 age 20. He also served in the West Riding Division of the Duke Of Wellington's Regiment. He was born on 21st September 1897, in Wennington, and was Admission Number 165 in the Admissions Register. This was on the 25th March 1901.

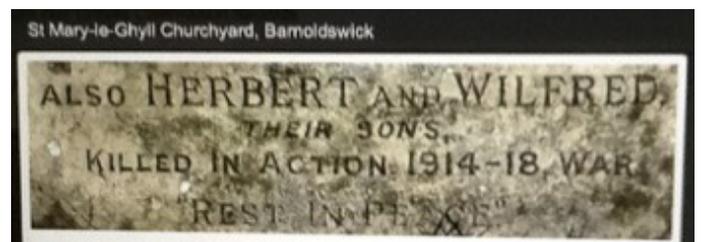
His Regimental Number was Private 265405. He left home at 13 years of age and appears to have lived with his brother Herbert at 30 Lower North Avenue in Barnoldswick. He also appears on the War Memorial in Barnoldswick.

It appears from an article in The Craven Herald that the Shires had two further sons serving in the Army, and another who was a Prisoner of War. It also appears that at this time their father William was dead and their mother, now Mrs. Brown, was living at 30 Lower North Avenue in Barnoldswick.

This family merits much more research, as they obviously did more than their share of providing men to fight The War.

The family had moved to Barnoldswick, and two memorials are in the churchyard of St. Mary-le-Ghyll. The one seen above remembers both Herbert and Wilfred, both killed in the 1914-1918 War. The memorial shown below shows that the boys' father,

William, died age 52 in 1914. He was spared the knowledge of the tragedy that was to befall his family. Amazingly, Mary Ann went on to live until she was 91 years old. Wilfred is buried in Le Clytte Military Cemetary in Belgium.



words 'Assumed dead, 14th April 1918'. He was aged 25. William is buried in a military cemetery called Le Grand Beamart British Cemetery at Steenwick in Belgium. He was killed in what is now known as the Battle of The Ypres Salient.



British Association,
Ypres Salient, Belgium



ERIC APPLEYARD. Eric's case was somewhat different to the others. His real name was **JAMES ERIC APPLEYARD**, and was probably known as Eric because his father's name was also James Eric. He was born on the 2nd February 1895 and was admitted to Melling School on 8 June 1903. He was Admission number 191, Aged 8. His sister Frances was admitted to Melling School at the same time, and was Admission Number 192. Her date of birth was 15th June 1898, which makes her 5 years old on admission. They lived at 'Cringeleber' in Melling. For reasons not clear

Portrait of Captain James Eric Appleyard, Military Cross of 8th West Yorkshire Regiment, killed in action 20 July, 1918, Aged 23.

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Number of Schedule 246
(To be filled up by the Enumerator after completion)

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 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 Date of Birth and Sex	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE		PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Person aged ten years and upwards			BIRTHPLACE of every person	NATIONALITY of every Person born in a Foreign Country	DEFERMENT
			Married	Single	Personal Occupation	Industry or Service with which worker is connected	Whether Engaged, Working, or Unemployed in this business			
James Appleyard	Head	49	Married		Self, Grease and Soap Manufacturer			Yorkshire, Pudsey		
Annice Appleyard	Wife	42	Married	20				Yorkshire, Pudsey		
Oliver William Appleyard	Son	20	Single		Assistant in the business	Assistant		Yorkshire, Pudsey		
James Eric Appleyard	Son	16	Single		Assistant in the business	Assistant		Yorkshire, Pudsey		
Frances Appleyard	Daughter	12	Single		at school			Yorkshire, Pudsey		
Richard Ellen Thimmonk	Servant	22	Single					Yorkshire, Pudsey		
Elizabeth Ireland	Gov. domest.	17	Single					Yorkshire, Pudsey		

(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

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

Write below the Number of Entries in this dwelling (Men, Women, or Apartments), check the entries so a check has to not exceed capacity, heating, water, etc., etc.

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

James Appleyard
Head of Family, Wild Grove, Tyersal, Bradford

in the school log, they left Melling School after a short time, to go to a private school in Bradford. But they were re-admitted to Melling School on 3rd April 1905. The log does not say why.

The story continues with the family living at 'Wild Grove' Tyersal, Bradford. The copy of the 1911 census shows that Eric, aged 16, is working at his father's business making soap and grease. His brother Oliver William Appleyard, aged 20, also works in the business. Incidentally, close inspection of the form shows that the Appleyards had had seven children, only three of which were still alive in 1911. (Oliver, Eric, and Frances.) The 1901 census shows them living at "Prospect House", Pudsey St. Pauls, a suburb of Leeds/ Bradford.

This is Eric Appleyard's Medal Index Card. It shows that he was serving in France from September 1915, which qualifies him to receive the '1915 Star'. But that later he

Campaign: **1914-15** (A) Where decoration was earned.

(B) Present situation.

Name	Corps	Rank	Reg. No.	Roll on which included (if any)	MEDAL	ROLL	PAGE
(A) APPLEYARD, W. YORKS R.	2 nd Lt				VICTORY	W Yorks	OH 56 34
(B) J. E.	"	A/Capt	CAPT		BRITISH		
James Eric	1914-15 Star				15 STAR		OFFN 56 19
Action taken	Bw sum		19. X/2464 d/ 23.4.21.				87/5/1667
THEATRE OF WAR							
QUALIFYING DATE	21/9/15.						N.W. 9/1021/5.

(6 84 46) W284-HP5590 500,000 4/19 HWV(P240) K808

EF/5/1667

Correspondence.

J. Appleyard Esq. makes application in respect of his late son Capt J. E. Appleyard. 27.9.7.4.21

16-7-19

Address.

Cringlesher
Stanningly
Nr Leeds.

was killed in action 20th July 1918, just four months before the end of the war. He was also awarded the Victory Medal.

This card does not mention his being awarded the Military Cross. But this is probably because he was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant, then to Captain. Promotion was rapid during the war due to high casualties in battle.

On the rear of the Card is a note from Eric's Father, 16th July 1919, ie after the war, asking for his son's medals. His address is shown as 'Cringleber' Stanningly, Near Leeds.

The picture shown below is of The Military Cross. It was awarded for.....



“An act or acts of exemplary gallantry during active operations against the enemy on land to all members, of any rank in Our Armed Forces”.

In the photograph of Captain Appleyard the letters MC are shown after his name. More research is needed to establish the details of his award.

These notes show that the most ordinary of people are called upon in time of war. All schools, like Melling will have their stories of heroism and loss. The Memorial Scroll at the beginning shows all the boys who served.

It shows how five boys from the Shires family served, but only three survived. Another boy, Henry Newton, had emigrated to Canada but came back to serve in the Army. The School Log notes how he paid a visit to school whilst on leave, and considered himself lucky to have survived unscathed.

G.E Kelbrick, March 2018

Acknowledgements:

Melling School Staff for the loan of the Admissions register and Log.

David Nott for locating photographs.

Philip Lowery for the loan of family photographs.