

No 27 May 2017

1. 120593 Corporal Charles Stephenson Waterhouse No. 4 Battalion Special Grade Royal Engineers. In 1911 18 year old Charles was living at Stanley Lodge, Great Hucklow with his parents Benjamin and Harriet (née Eyre). Father Benjamin was a joiner and a Wesleyan lay preacher. In 1911 Charles was a pupil teacher at the Bradwell Council School but when he enlisted in the Army Service Corps, Aldershot in February 1915 his trade or calling was stated to be 'chemist's assistant'. But later the same year he was transferred to the Royal Engineers in Chatham. There appears to have been no official record of his transfer to Chatham and this later resulted in a blizzard of Army correspondence demanding to know who authorized it. In these later records Charles is referred to as being a 'Pharmaceutical Chemist' working for Hancock & Co. His role in the Royal Engineers was that of a 'Depot Chemist'. In his 1917 visit to Great Hucklow he apparently overstayed his leave, being back at 5.15 pm rather than at 6.15 am for which he was 'reprimanded'. Later in 1917 he was wounded in the back by shrapnel when stationed with the Gas Shell Section of the Royal Engineers near Ypres. On leaving the Army in 1919 with rank of Acting Sergeant he married Mary Oldfield of Chapel-en-le-Frith. They were living in Crewe when he died in 1971.
2. 104347 Air Mechanic 2 Fitter Arthur Daniel Royal Flying Corps. In 1911 Brampton born Arthur was living on Church Street Bradwell with parents James and Elizabeth (née Knowles) as was his brother Joseph who was mentioned in the piece for November 1915. At the time Arthur who was 15 was working as a Grocer's Assistant. The military details of members of the RFC in WWI are generally difficult to come by. Arthur married Millicent Jones in Rotherham in 1921. They were living at 11 Batham Road when Arthur died in 1987.
3. T/293738 Driver Reginald Hall Army Service Corps (Motor Transport). In 1911 Reg who was 24 years old and a Mechanical Engineer was living with his parents John and Hannah Hall. Reg Hall married Hilda Daniel in 1919. Hilda was the sister of Arthur and Joseph Daniel.