

Ernest Edwin Wilson
1885 – 1918, age at death 23
Student of the Society of the Sacred Mission

Family history

Ernest was born 14th September 1885 in Nottingham and was baptised at St Andrew's Church on 2nd December 1885.

According to the 1891 Census they lived at 30 Huntingdon Street, Nottingham. His father, Edwin Wilson, who was born in Ossington, is listed as a School Dancing Master.* His mother was Pheobe Wilson (née Smith). She was born in Bollingbroke, Lincs;

At that time they had four Children

- Ernest (age 5)
- Leonard (age 4)
- Percy (age 2)
- Mabel (age 1)

And they had two lodgers: Charles Elstone, who is listed as a Professor of Music and his wife.

*Huntingdon Street is close to both Nottingham High School and the original site of the Bluecoat School, so it is likely that both Edwin Wilson and Charles Elstone worked at one of these schools.

By 1901 Ernest and his brother Leonard (now aged 15 and 14 respectively) are listed as Clerks and there are three more children:

- Beatrice (age 8)
- Albert (age 7)
- Dorothy (age 2)

By 1911 only five children were living with their parents and four were now working in the lace and hosiery industry.

- Percy and Mabel are clerks in a Lace Manufactory
- Beatrice is a Pattern Girl, also working in a Lace Manufactory
- Albert is an apprentice in a Hosiery factory
- Dorothy (age 12) is still at school

Both Ernest (now age 25) and his brother Leonard had left home. According to his Obituary in the Society's quarterly newsletter Ernest had worked with the Church Army in Worcester so it is possible that this is where he is living.

Two years later, Ernest entered the Society of the Sacred Mission. Aged 27 he was older than most other students, though his Obituary says that he fitted in well with the younger men.

Military Record

He enlisted in the Sherwood Foresters in November 1915 and served in France as a private. He was sent home to train as an officer Cadet. His promotion in May 1917 to 2nd Lieutenant (Temp) was announced in *The London Gazette* on 28 June 1917. He was an infantryman and served in 3rd, 10th and 16th Battalion of The Sherwood Foresters

According to his military record held by the Sherwood Foresters, he served in the British Expeditionary Force in France between

- September and December 1916
- October and December 1917
- July 1918 to his death

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Enl. In The Sherwood Foresters.
Ernest Edwin Wilson.
2nd Lieut.
2 July 1917

Statement of service in detail including Probationary train					
Period of the service	Rank	From	To	Years	Months
Infantry	2 nd Lieut.	May 30/17			
<i>(from June 17)</i>					
Reg. from France		24/5/18			

Dates of proceeding to & returning from Expeditionary Force			
No. of Force	Date of proceeding	Date of return	Theatre of War
1	20 Sept 1916	25 Dec 1916	France
"	19. 10. 1917	1918	"
"	July 2. 1918		"

Date & place of birth. 10th Sept 1886. Nottingham

If passed through O.C.B. 5th O.C.B. Cambridge

If passed through School of instruction

If passed for promotion.

Foreign languages

All other certificates in possession

If married to

Name & address of next of kin: Phoebe Wilson (Wife) 25 Dalville Terrace Nottingham

Date of joining July 2. 1917

He was killed in action on 4 November 1918, probably in second the Battle of the Sambre (to defend the Sambre River), which took place on that day. It was part of the Second Battle of the Somme and the final British offensive of the War. He was 33 years old.

He is buried at Englefontaine British Cemetery, Nord, France: Commonwealth Grave No: 263389, Row B. Grave 1

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT.

Army Form W. 3372.

GRAVES REGISTRATION REPORT FORM.

Commune. **Englefontaine.** REPORT No. **1.** SCHEDULE No. **3/c.**
 Third Area Serial No. **E.1624.**

PLACE OF BURIAL **Englefontaine British Cemetery.**
51.S.26.a.2.4. All documents certified complete and correct.

Map Reference

The following are buried here:—

L. to R.

Regiment	No.	Name	Rank and Initials	Date of Death	Cross Erected or G. R. U'd.	Plot, Row and Grave
PLOT 1. ROW "A" Contd.						
14th R.W.F.	241137	Williams.	Pte. S.G.	13.11.18.	All	34.
do.	235537	Ward	Pte. A.E.	do	crosses	35.
17th do.	94266	Masen.	Pte. F.	do	erected.	36.
17th do.	202304	Cox.	Sig.B.G.	do.		37.
PLOT 1. ROW "B".						
10th Sher. Foresters.	238025	Wilson.	2/Lt.E.E.	17.11.18.	All	1.
		HOLT	Pte E	4-11-18.	3/16007	

Sources:

Find my past: <https://www.findmypast.co.uk/>

Nottinghamshire County Council Great War Roll of Honour:

<https://secure.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/rollofhonour/>

Forces War Records: <https://www.forces-war-records.co.uk/>

Commonwealth War Graves Commission: <https://www.cwgc.org/>

The London Gazette: <https://www.thegazette.co.uk/all-notices>