

ROBERT CHARLES JUDGE

1885 – 1915

Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment) 1st Btn.



Surname/Christian name: Judge. Robert Charles

Rank/Service No: 7700

Regiment/Unit: Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment) 1st Btn.



Date of Death: 23rd February 1915 (* see Footnote 2)

Age: 30 years

Type of Casualty: Died in Prisoner of War Camp Hospital

Theatre of War: Western Front.

Born/Year/Location: Born in Staplehurst, Kent in 1885

Enlisted/Attestation: London, 5th January 1903

Buried/Commemorated/Memorial: Hamburg Cemetery, Germany.

Private Judge is Commemorated on the Horsmonden and Brenchley War Memorials and is recorded in 'The Book of Life' at Holy Trinity Church Guildford, Surrey.

Son of/Address: John Care Judge of Rolvenden, Kent and Charlotte Judge (Sears) born in Bangalore, Madras, India on 9th March 1853, a British subject.

Husband of/Address: Ellen Kathleen Roberts. Ellen was sister of Pte 9740 Sidney Roberts, 8th Battalion, Royal Scots Fusiliers, who died of wounds in Salonika on 19th September, 1918 and also is commemorated on the Horsmonden War Memorial.

Family History: John and Charlotte married on 23rd April 1872 in Rolvenden Parish Church. John was a farm labourer and worked on farms in Rolvenden, Ulcombe, Lenham, Staplehurst, Frittenden and Headcorn before eventually settling in Horsmonden in the 1890's. Their movements can be traced from the birth places of their children.

In 1901 John and Charlotte lived in Tabors Cottages in Horsmonden and were still there in the 1911 census. In 1911, the census stated that John and Charlotte had been married for 40 full years and that Charlotte had given birth to 19 children of which 6 had died before the 1911 census was taken. The same census states they also had an adopted daughter, Lily Denman, aged 8, born in Horsmonden.

Siblings, Name/Birth Year: Robert Charles (1885) had 18 brothers and sisters. Research has shown there were 19 births. There are records for the following 16 and since there are no additional records it is suggested the others may have been stillborn in which case records were not completed.

Mary Ann 1873, Charles Frederick 1874, John Care, 1875, Thomas Stephen 1877, Charlotte 1878, Rose 1880, Albert 1881, Lilly 1882, Alma Helen 1883, Jane 1884, Sarah Parker 1886, Daisy 1887, Grace 1889, James 1891, Frank 1892, Walter Percy 1893. Lilly was adopted.

Walter Percy was baptised in 1896, Horsmonden, but born in Headcorn, 1893. Other baptisms took place at Rolvenden, Staplehurst, Ulcombe, Headcorn and Horsmonden Parish Churches.

Robert Charles Judge and Ellen Kathleen Roberts were married at St Margarets Church, Horsmonden, on 22nd Oct 1910, by the Rev. H C Smith-Marriott.

181910. Marriage solemnized at <u>Horsmonden</u> in the Church of <u>S. Margaret</u> in the County of <u>Kent</u>								
Columns	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
No.	When Married,	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
161	<u>October 22nd 1910.</u>	<u>Robert Charles Judge</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>Bachelor</u>	<u>Labourer</u>	<u>Horsmonden</u>	<u>John Judge</u>	<u>Labourer</u>
		<u>Ellen Kathleen Roberts</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>Spinster</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>Horsmonden</u>	<u>Charles Roberts</u>	<u>Platelayer</u>
Married in the <u>Parish Church</u> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the <u>Church of England</u> by <u>H. C. Smith-Marriott</u> or after <u>Banns</u> by me,								
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<u>Robert Charles Judge</u>		in the Presence of us,		<u>Sarah Agnes Kate Wheatley</u>		
		<u>Ellen Kathleen Roberts</u>				<u>H. C. Smith-Marriott</u> <u>Assist Curate</u>		

The couple moved in with Ellen's parents Charles and Harriet Roberts, at 5 Station Cottages, Horsmonden, later moving to Wrangling Green, Furnace Lane, just outside of Horsmonden in the Parish of Brenchley. Robert's wife was living at Wrangling Green at the time of his death. They had no children.

Prior Occupation: Robert was employed as a Railway Porter at Paddock Wood Station.

Relevant Military Record/Service details: On 5th Jan 1903 at the age of 18, Robert joined the Queen's Regiment (Royal West Surrey) in London, for 3 years short service and a further 9 years with the Reserves. He was passed medically 'Fit' on the same day as his attestment. His service number L/7700 was retained throughout his military service.

Robert was trained and based at the Regimental Depot, Stoughton Barracks in Guildford also at Shorncliffe and Dover until the end of March 1903 when he was posted overseas.

He had 14 months of service in Kroonstad South Africa before returning to Shorncliffe in June 1904. The P&O troopship "Syria" transported his Battalion to South Africa. HMT "Soudan" transported them back to Southampton before returning to Shorncliffe.

Robert transferred to the 2nd Btn. Reserves on the 26th Jan 1905, underwent another medical, passing 'fit' and remained in the Reserves until he was mobilised with the 1st Battalion Queen's Regt. 'C' company, on the 5th August 1914, the day after Great Britain's declaration of war. On the 12th August, the Battalion, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Dawson Warren embarked on the 'Braemar Castle' from Southampton for unknown destination in France.

Other Military Notes of Interest/ Diary of Events: The following are the daily events leading up to Robert's entry into the theatre of war. This account is from a war diary of The Queen's Regiment, A, B, C, and D Companies of the 1st Battalion for August and September 1914.

1914. – Borden, Hampshire.

4th Aug. 5.30 pm - Received order to mobilise. **4th Aug.** 9.15 pm - Conference of all officers of the Btn. to ascertain extent of readiness. Previous to this an order had been issued for an Emergency Mobilisation so that a good deal of the preparation had already been completed.

5th Aug. First day of mobilisation. 9.00 pm - Conference of all officers as above - 450 Reservists joined from Depot at 11.30 pm

6th Aug. - Second day of mobilisation - 130 Reservists joined from Depot about 4 pm

7th Aug. 5.00 pm - Third day of mobilisation which was completed and same reported to 3rd Brigade H.Q.

8th Aug. - Reveille at 4.45 am. Half Btn. at a time proceeded to Range where the following practises were fired by every man: - 100 yards (grouping) and 300 yards slow and rapid.

9th Aug. - Btn. exercised under the Commanding Officer in different formations around Oxney Farm.

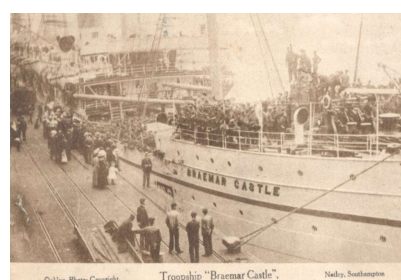
10th Aug. - Musketry on Range at 500 yards, and practised Fire Control, Judging Distance etc. under Company arrangements in the intervals of firing. During the afternoon carried out an attack on WEAVERS DOWNS under the Commanding Officer.

11th Aug. - Btn. parade, strong as possible at 9.00 am. and went for short route march and practised formations for the preliminary stages of an attack.

ON THE MOVE

12th Aug. - Btn. paraded and march to Borden Station. Right half at 9.30 am. left half at 10.30 am. Destination unknown. Arrived at Southampton at 2 pm. and embarked on S.S. BRAEMAR CASTLE. The WELSH REGT. shared this transport with the Btn.

8.15 pm left wharf, proceeded out of harbour, escorted at first by a Destroyer. Destination still unknown.



Troopship 'Braemar Castle'

13th Aug. - Arrived at Le Havre, France. Unloading of baggage, horses etc. proceeded until 5.30 pm. Marched 8 miles to CAMP NUMERO 6. Transport was obliged to go round by another road as the way the Btn. marched was too steep.

14th Aug. - Btn. paraded and the KING'S Speech was read out. Three cheers were given. The Commanding Officer addressed the Btn. and spoke of the probable hardships it would have to face and the manner in which the Btn. was expected to do so, cheerfully and without grumbling etc.

Much difficulty experienced filling the water bottles from the water carts on this, the first occasion in which the carts had been used for a large number of men. By the use of buckets, it was eventually found possible to fill the water bottles of a platoon at war strength in about three quarters of an hour.

ON THE MOVE

15th Aug. - 3 am. The Btn. marched off along the ridge overlooking HAVRE and entrained at HAVRE STATION at 5.30 am. Left HAVRE at 9.30 am. Destination unknown. Passed through RUEN at 1 pm where there was a half-hour halt and teas were made. Arrived at AMIENS at 7 pm., ARRAS at 10 pm. and LE NOUVION at 2.30 am on Aug 16th.

LESCHELLES

16th Aug. - 5.30 am. marched from LE NOUVION to LESCHELLES where the Btn. went into Billets. Brigade H.Q. in CHATEAU. Settled into Billets. Outposts put out and sentries posted over Billets.

On 12th September the Battalion marched via Fere, Loupeigne, Bruys and Bazoches to Vauxcere. The next day going to Longueval, from where it crossed the river Aisne to Bourg and then moved to bivouacs at the northern side of the village.

The diary entry for the 14th Sept 1914 gives a full account of the action that day.

14th Sept. 1914 - NEAR PAISSY

Marched off at 7.10 am. through NOULINS to PAISSY. The Btn. was detached from the remainder of the Brigade to act as escort to our Artillery on the right flank, and next to the French.

Deployed to the N.E. of PAISSY and advanced in extended lines of platoons, B and C Companies in the firing line and A and D Companies in support. No serious opposition was encountered before arriving on the line of the CHEMIN DES DAME Road.

The advance was continued to the front edge of a wood (about 400 - 500 yards north of the road. Here our left, consisting of 'B' and 'C' Companies, encountered serious opposition and came under heavy rifle and machine gun fire. 'A' Company now reinforced this flank while 'D' Company held the front edge of the wood. The Btn. machine guns were at the outset brought up on the right flank, but finding an inadequate field of fire. Lieut. PRINGLE moved them across to the left flank to assist A, B, and C Companies. To our front the enemy were advancing across towards the right flank where the French were, and a considerable number of casualties were caused at a range of 1100 yards.

A wide valley separated our position from the enemy's main line of trenches, D Company, on the N. edge of the wood were well concealed from view and had few casualties. At about 3 pm. the Commanding Officer ordered a counter attack to be made to our right flank against the enemy's flank as they advanced on to the French. Captain MUNTER with 2 platoons of D Company proceeded to this flank, but it was found impossible to carry out this attack, the enemy being by this time in considerable numbers and the French having fallen back to the line of the CHEMIN DES DAME.

On our left a much more serious attack was made against A, B, and C Companies (no officers now remain of these Companies and details cannot be given as to the movements of this flank).

At about 4.30 pm. 14th September, the Commanding Officer directed that a retirement should be carried out to the line of the CHEMIN DES DAME. D Company fell back first, in well extended formation, followed by A and B Companies, with C Company bringing up the rear. Captain LONGBOURNE commanded the latter Company and brought in several of our wounded officers and men. The Btn. lay about 50 yards in front of our own Artillery, and under heavy shell fire from the enemy until darkness came on.

The following were the casualties amongst the officers and men of the Btn. :-
Lieut. RLC HENRIQUES – killed, Major PILLEAU DSC wounded, Sgt Major MATHEW-LANNOWE wounded, Captains HEATH and MACNAMARA wounded, Lieutenants KENNY, DENTON, PRINGLE, HAYES and BUSHELL wounded, 13 NCO's and men killed and 88 wounded, 39 NCO's and men missing.

On 14th September Pte Judge was wounded by a gunshot in the left buttock, other reports say it was a shrapnel wound. He was treated at the 9th Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps and later transferred to the 2nd General Hospital Le Havre. He was 'Discharged to duty' on 7th October 1914 rejoining his Battalion at Le Havre the following day.

His Company suffered heavy losses that day, losing all officers and NCO's either killed or wounded.

WAR DIARY - 1st Bn. QUEEN'S (ROYAL WEST SURREY) REGT - OCTOBER 1914

OCTOBER 29th - IN TRENCHES E. OF GHELUVELT

Captain Aldworth joined the Battn. with 95 NCO's and men (6th reinforcement).

The 22nd Bde. held a line from about 1.5 kilos E. of GHELUVELT (E.22.b) to KRUISEEKE (S.3a) thence westward towards ZANDVOORD.

News was received that this line had been penetrated and part of the 3rd Bde. was ordered to reinforce this line.

The WELCH (Royal Welsh Regt.) and 24th took the N. of the MENIN ROAD. About 10 a.m. the Battn. arrived at GHELUVELT and proceeded to support the 2nd Bn. Queens about 1 kil S.E. of the village (E.22.a) who held the line out to KRUISEEKE. The Companies were put into trenches approximately as shown on the sketch; there was a German trench in front of "C" Coy. which "A" Coy were ordered to take about 3 p.m.

An advance was made but the Company could not take the trench in spite of assistance on its right flank by some Companies of Scots Guards. The Scots Guards however silenced a maxim, and were withdrawn at dusk. 11 p.m. the 1st Bn. occupied the line as shown on the sketch with 22nd Bde. still in front. Brigade received orders to contact their line & move to our right. Lt. Eastwood killed and 2nd Lt. Buchen wounded this day.

OCTOBER 30th

The morning of the 30th October was occupied in withdrawing the 22nd Bde. chiefly 2nd/Queens, from our front, and besides some shelling there was little change. Two Companies K.R.R. came up to support the Bn. during the evening and entrenched themselves round farm (1).

At 7 p.m. an attack on "C" Coy was repulsed.

GHELUVELT

OCTOBER 31st (*L.B. Note: the day Pte Judge's service records state he was reported as 'missing'*)

Before dawn an attack was made on "C", "B", and the K.R.R.'s (Kings Royal Rifles) but was repulsed.

The enemy dug in within 300m of our lines and occupied the trenches vacated by 2/Bn.

At 7 a.m. our lines were subjected to a very heavy bombardment which our guns were unable to reply to. The enemy worked their way into the orchard at (3), and the platoon of K.R.R. supported by 1 platoon Queens under Lt. Tanqueray were driven out.

Colonel Pell D.S.O. ordered a counter-attack but the attempt by the K.R.R. failed, thus the enemy got the orchard within 150 yds. of our line.

Major Watson went back for assistance but none was available and he returned to find Colonel Pell wounded and he assumed command.

We were holding our own when "B" Coy. about 10 a.m. were driven out of their trenches by machine gun fire from both flanks, and the reserve (2 platoons K.R.R.) were sent for but could not be found. It is believed they moved towards "D" Coy. without orders.

Soon after this, Capt. Creek sent a message to say that he had heard the Welch had evacuated their trenches, but he was quite alright and could hold on.

Major Watson went to "A" Coy to arrange a counter-attack in the event of the enemy coming in from (1), and himself moved up the ridge to see how the left was getting on. When there he met a second messenger from "D" Coy. The situation appeared to be thus, -

Germans about "C" Coys trenches (no report could be got from this Coy.)

"B" Coy's trenches evacuated and men retiring from farm (1) with the Germans entering it.

Orders were sent to "D" Coy to retire, but before the order arrived the Germans were seen in the village behind "D" Coy. This orderly came back and said that the Germans were surrounding them.

Major Watson and Lt. Boyd then reformed what men they could about the houses at (4) and the few men of the K.R.R. went back to rally on their Bn.

As the Germans were now in the village, the above rallying party moved towards the K.R.R. who were then actually moving back, owing it is said to a report that hostile machine guns were being brought up to enfilade them.

The L.N. Lancs. also moved back in their turn.

Major Watson and Lt. Boyd then rallied men of different regiments and put them into trenches in E.20.b

The Guards of 2nd Div. recaptured GHELUVELT during the afternoon but the line of trenches was reconstructed on the W. side of the village.

About 20 men only were collected and the remainder were either wounded or missing.

It afterwards appeared that very soon after Maj. Watson left the farm, that the Germans entered it.

1 machine gun, 1 S.A.A. Carts, 2 tool carts captured.

Private Judge was reported missing, captured on the 31st Oct 1914 following heavy fighting at GHELUVELT, South East of YPRES and was taken prisoner when the German advance overran the trenches following a strong counter attack to regain lost ground.

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It was described with good reason by Colonel H. 23 C. Wylly, CB. as being ..."*one of the worst days experienced by the 1st Battalion during the whole war*" ... in his history of the regiment.

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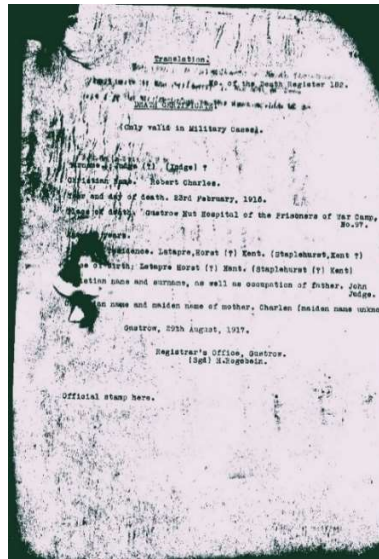
Private Judge was taken to Gustrow POW Camp No 97 in Mecklenburg, Germany and whilst he was receiving treatment for Nephritis, inflammation of the kidney, sadly on the 23rd Feb 1915, he died of the condition.

The image shows a military casualty form for Private R. Judge. The form is filled out with handwritten information in blue and black ink. Key details include: Name: R. Judge; Rank: Private; Regiment: 1st Battalion, King's (Liverpool) Regiment; Date of capture: 31.10.14; Location: GHELUVELT; Status: Missing; Date recorded as POW: 15.1.15. The form also contains a section for medical notes and a signature at the bottom.

Casualty form showing Pte Judge missing 31 October 1914 and recorded as Prisoner of War 15th January 1915.



Photographs above of Gustrow POW Camp.



German notification of Robert's death
 Certificate shows date of death as 23rd February 1915 (** Footnote 2).



This photo above is of Gustrow Camp Cemetery shows Robert's grave marker. The date on the cross says 23rd February 1915 "Pray for Him". This would have been made by the POW's they have named him Charles instead of Robert Charles.

Robert was buried in the 1914-18 section of the CWGC Cemetery in Hamburg, one of four permanent Commonwealth cemeteries in Germany.

During WW1 over 400 allied POW's who died in German captivity were buried here. Robert is located in Plot 3, Row B, Grave 11 (see cemetery plan below)

Private Judge was awarded the 1914 Star and Clasp as well as the British War Medal and Victory Medal.

Robert's wife Ellen Kathleen married William J Underdown, a railway platelayer, on the 13th Dec. 1915 and moved from Wrangling Green to 1 Rose Cottages, Maidstone Road, Paddock Wood. By the time of the 1939 register they had moved to 12 Station Cottages, Station Road, Paddock Wood, Kent.

Other Relevant Documents - War Office Correspondence.

A variety of War Office records that were fire and water damaged when the Army War Records offices were hit by a German bomb in 1949 are shown below. These include correspondence advising of Robert's wife Ellen's new married name and address requesting Robert's medals and items belonging to Robert be sent there, including her pension of 10 shillings a week also Service and Casualty sheet up to the time Robert became a Prisoner of War.

Form titled "SHORT SERVICE" with sections for "Name", "Rank", "Regiment", "Service Number", "Date of Birth", "Date of Enlistment", "Date of Discharge", "Remarks", and "Signature".

Form titled "Description of Robert Charles" with handwritten details including "Rank", "Regiment", "Service Number", "Date of Birth", "Date of Enlistment", "Date of Discharge", "Remarks", and "Signature".

Form titled "Description of Robert Charles" with a table for service details including "Rank", "Regiment", "Service Number", "Date of Birth", "Date of Enlistment", "Date of Discharge", "Remarks", and "Signature".

Form titled "Attestment Oath" with a signature and date.

Form titled "Receipt of the 1914 Star" with a signature and date.

Form titled "Service and Casualty Sheet" with a signature and date.

Damaged War Records – Above documents include; Attestment Oath, Service, Reserves Transfer, Medical Records and Medal Notification and Receipt Forms.

No 1 Rose Cottage
Maudstone Road
Paddock Wood

5088

Sir

I must inform you sent me a Paper to fill up which I did so I should very much like to know what it was for is there any thank for one belonging to my Husband what I have not had if so I should very much like to have it

I am yours obedient
E. Underdown
my Husband name
7700 Pte. R. L. Judge
Queens Royal West Surrey Regt

Q 695 ✓

10
Capt. The Sect
28 Oct
P.C. Records.

6/19
7700

Rose Cottage
Maudstone
Paddock Wood

Dear Sir

Having Remarried you will kindly forward to me the "Decorations" (1914 Star) for my late Husband Pte R. L. Judge 7700 to the above address.

And I have also put my new name & address on your notification so will you kindly send (Decorations) to that name & address.

24th W. Underdown
late R. L. Judge
of Wrangling Green
Barnard C. Kent

No. 1 RECORD OFFICE
25 JUN 1949
H.A.N.W.E.L. Ex.

Letters above from Ellen Underdown to War Office.

Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
JUDGE, Robert. C.	Queens R.	Pte	47700
Medal	Roll	Page	Remark
VICTORY	E/1101	216	2004
BRITISH	14	STAR	E/114 69
14 STAR			
642/2690			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			
12.8.14			

RECORD OFFICE
HOUSLLOW
20 OCT 1921

MEDAL ROLL, No. 710
Army Form B. 5112.

I hereby acknowledge the receipt of the
1914-STAR.
CLASP.

I am directed to forward the accompanying 1914-STAR. CLASP, which has been awarded in respect of services with the B.F.F.

Please complete receipt and return this card. No stamp is required.

Signature: E. Underdown
Unit: R.W.S. REGT.
Date: October 21 1921

W.D. & H.O. WILLS

Medal Roll Index Card and 1914 Star Medal & Clasp receipt.

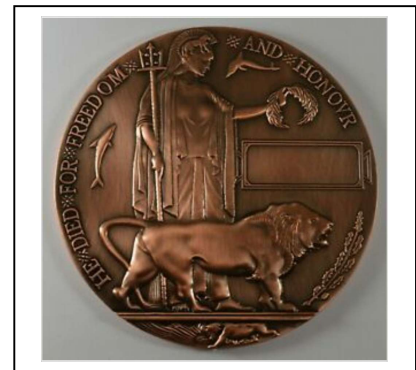
Medals Received: Private Judge was awarded the 1914 Star and Clasp as well as the British War Medal and Victory Medal and Memorial Plaque (Death Penny)



1914 Star and Clasp.



British War and Victory Medals.



Memorial Plaque (Death Penny).


Commonwealth War Graves Commission Entry

CWGC CERTIFICATE

In Memory Of
Private
R C JUDGE
Service Number: L/7700

1st Bn., The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment) who died on 23 August 1915

Remembered with Honour
HAMBURG CEMETERY
III. B. 11.



COMMONWEALTH
WAR GRAVES
COMMEMORATED IN PERPETUITY BY THE COMMONWEALTH
WAR GRAVES COMMISSION

HAMBURG AREA SERIAL NO. 15 Army Form W. 8872.
HAMBURG GERMANY GRAVES REGISTRATION REPORT FORM.
REPORT No. 15 / SCHEDULE No. 15/C

PLACE OF BURIAL HAMBURG CEMETERY OHLSDORF

Map Reference 15. B. 4. This Report Sched. 15 15/C comp
cels previous Report Schlewig-Hol
stein Report No. 12 1/C to 12 4/s
Incls. 28 - 6 - 21
of

The following are buried here:- PLOT III.

Regiment	No.	Name	Rank and Initials	Date of Death	Cross (Roman) or G. R. U. 4	Plot, Row and Grave
R O W B.						
c 1/L.N.L.	2104	MELLOR ✓	Pte. J.	7-3-15	✓	5
c 2/Worsh.	7488	WILSON ✓	Pte. A.	26-11-14	"	6
c 1/Cold. Gds.	8039	CAMP ✓	Pte. G.	28-1-15	"	7
c R.A.N.C.	344398	DEAKIN ✓	Pte. F.	27-7-15	"	8
c 14/Worsh. Fus.	5305	GAUL ✓	L/Opl. W.	24-7-15	"	9
c 1/Cold. Gds.	7204	MCNAA ✓	Pte.	8-12-14	"	10
c 1/R.W.Surrey	7700	JUDGE ✓	Pte. R.C.	23-2-15	"	11
c 1/K.R.R.C.	10324	LEE ✓	Opl. A.	21-12-14	"	12
c 1/L.N.L.	6728	ASHFON ✓	Pte. J.	15-1-15	"	13
c R.A.N.C.	457478	HARVEY ✓	Pte. R.C.	1-10-15	"	14
c 1/L.N.L.	10219	BERRY ✓	Pte. L.	22-1-15	"	15
c 1/K.R.R.C.	4381	BURDST ✓	Rpl. J.	17-11-14	"	16
R O W C.						
c 2/R.S. Fus.	6917	SPRETT ✓	Pte. A.	6-4-15	"	1
c 2/Worsh. Derby's	102136	FRADST ✓	Pte. A.	15-7-15	"	2
c 11/Regd. Rgt.	27760	GOUGH ✓	Pte. R.H.	28-3-17	"	3
c 5/Ox. B.L.I.	201964	LONG ✓	Pte. W.	3-8-17	"	4
c 11/Borden Regt.	27807	FERKINS ✓	Pte. A.O.	28-5-17	"	5
c 6/S. Bants.	13715	SARDERS ✓	Pte. A.W.	18-7-17	"	6
c 1/4 S. Yorks.	201702	KESSE ✓	Pte. W.	6-4-18	"	7
c 15/R. Surrey	11016	WARMAN ✓	Pte. W.	4-12-18	"	8

OFFICIAL
P. A. CHICKER
20211 WINDSOR, Bucks. Tel. 20211



CWGC document shows dod as 23 February 1915*

Gravestone inscribed dod 23rd August*

(See footnote about date of death)

United Kingdom War Memorials:

Horsmonden Memorial Building and St Margaret's Church



1922



Present Day



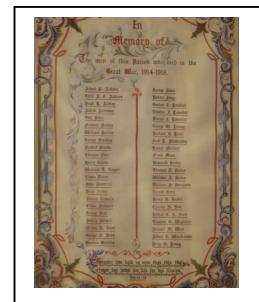
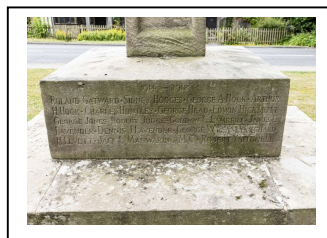
Oak War Memorial Plaque in Memorial Building

(Pt Robert Charles shown right block, row one no 3).



St Margaret's Church Memorial Scroll

Brenchley War Memorial



Pte Judge is also mentioned in the 'Book of Life' at the Holy Trinity Church, Guildford



Holy Trinity Regimental Memorial

IN MEMORY THE QUEEN'S, 1914-1919.

Below the casket is the following inscription:-

TO THE GLORIOUS MEMORY OF 8,000 OFFICERS, WARRANT OFFICERS, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE QUEEN'S WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR THEIR COUNTRY IN FLANDERS, FRANCE, ITALY, GALLIPOLI, SALONIKA, MESOPOTAMIA, PALESTINE, EGYPT, INDIA, AFRICA AND IN GERMANY, 1914-1919 WHOSE NAMES ARE IN THE BOOK OF LIFE. THE MEMORIAL IS ERECTED BY THEIR RELATIVES, COMRADES, AND FRIENDS.

TO THE GLORIOUS MEMORY OF 8,000 OFFICERS, WARRANT OFFICERS, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE QUEEN'S WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR THEIR COUNTRY IN FLANDERS, FRANCE, ITALY, GALLIPOLI, SALONIKA, MESOPOTAMIA, PALESTINE, EGYPT, INDIA, AFRICA AND IN GERMANY, 1914 -1919 WHOSE NAMES ARE IN THE BOOK OF LIFE. THE MEMORIAL IS ERECTED BY THEIR RELATIVES, COMRADES AND FRIENDS

...

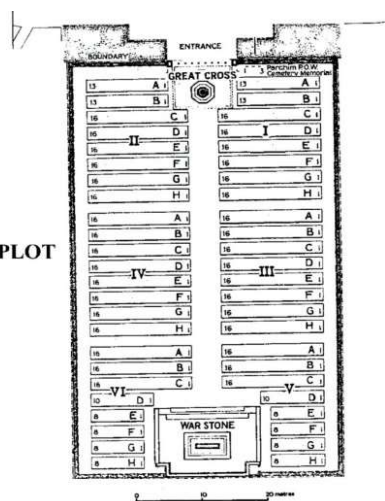
MILITARY CEMETERY

Hamburg Cemetery



CEMETRY PLAN

1914-18 PLOT



Robert is buried in Plot 3, Row B, Grave 11 (PDF CWG Cert.)

Private Robert Charles Judge
1885 – 1915



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Footnotes:

1: Today there are a number of living relatives of Private Robert Judge and in Horsmonden Mrs Dorothy (Judge) Parsons, 'first cousin twice removed' resides in her birthplace at Mount Easy Cottages at Baiden, Horsmonden, Kent.

2: The CWGC website and records show that Private Robert Judge died 23rd August 1915.

However, German notification of Robert's death Certificate shows date of death as 23rd February 1915 (see notification image above **). The German Death Certificate would be treated as Official by the War Office and the service records for Robert state that a copy of that death certificate had been sent to the widow.

This confirms his date of death was 23 Feb. 1915 and the 23 August entry is an error.

How this error came about is not known, but it is possible when the Army received official notification of Robert's death from the German authorities in August, the clerk at the records office perhaps inadvertently entered 23 Aug. instead of 23 March, but that is pure speculation.

However, the mistake has resulted in both Robert's CWGC headstone and unit text having the wrong death date.

The CWGC did show the correct date on one of the 3 forms on Pte 7700 R. Judge's record, shown above *

Perhaps in the future, a descendant of the Judge family may wish to present the facts to the CWGC, who may consider altering or even replacing the headstone in Hamburg.

3: Some of the information shown has been taken from Private Robert Judge's service file, several pages of which were badly fire damaged and subsequently water damaged during the extinguishing of the fire when the Army repository in Wandsworth was hit during a German air raid in 1940 and approximately two thirds of the 6.5 million WW1 documents were destroyed.

4: Robert's wife Ellen was sister of Pte 9740 Sidney Roberts, 8th Battalion, Royal Scots Fusiliers, who died of wounds in Salonika on 19th September, 1918 and also is commemorated on the Horsmonden War Memorial.

Research and compilation

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