

Frederick James Keen

Leicestershire Fusiliers 3rd Battalion

1894 - 1918



Frederick Keen was born in Swanbourne in the Spring of 1894, the second son of Robert and Emma Keen (nee Harding). He was baptised at St Swithuns on 6th May 1894. He had an older brother, Robert Charles born in 1893. In 1901, the family were living in Smithfield End, probably in one half of what is now 10, Smithfield End. His father's occupation was gardener (not domestic), so he probably worked for the Fremantles.

By 1911, Frederick had left home and was working as a general servant in the home of a farmer, Ezra Parker, Great Dalby, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire.

He enlisted for the army in Bedford, and joined the 3rd (Reserve) Battalion. The Battalion was stationed at Leicester on 4th August 1914 and then moved to Portsmouth. In May 1915 it moved to Hull where it remained for the duration of the war.

Frederick died on 30th October 1918, aged 24 (although the certificate states his age as 25), in St. John VAD Hospital, Cottingham Road, West Sculcoates, Kingston upon Hull, just before the end of the war, apparently not having seen any active service. His death certificate states the cause of death as 'pneumonia, 3 days, 12 hours', 'no post mortem'.

He was buried in Hull Northern Cemetery, East Yorkshire

