

Frank Stanley CLARKE (1894-c. 1972)

Frank Stanley Clarke's connection to North and South Lopham is by family residence.

Frank's brothers, Wallace Jesse, Friday Leonard and Bertie Vincent, all served in the Great War and thankfully survived.

Frank Stanley CLARKE, son of Frederick George CLARKE (1864-1912) and Barbara Constance MUSK (1866-1940), was born on 8 February 1894 in Blo Norton, Norfolk.¹ He was baptised on 11 June 1894 in Blo Norton - parents Frederick George and Barbara Constance.²

He was educated at Blo Norton National School starting on 5 April 1897

The 1901 Census (held on 31 Mar 1901) shows Frank at Park Farm in Shottesham St. Mary, Norfolk - 7, living with parents Frederick G (37, teamster on farm) and Barbara C (35), and siblings Allan S (13, labourer on farm), Friday L (11), Bertie V (9), Ivy S (5) and Frederick G (6m).³

On 27 July 1910 Frank joined the Royal Navy as a boy, service number J9211. A summary of his naval service is:

Establishment /Vessel	Description	Rank	From	To
HMS Ganges	-	Boy 2 (signals)	27 Jul 1910	
- :-	promoted to	Boy 1	11 Mar 1911	18 Aug 1911
HMS Pembroke I	-	- :-	19 Aug 1911	29 Aug 1911
HMS London	Pre-dreadnought battleship	- :-	30 Aug 1911	
- :-	promoted to	Ord. Sig.	8 Feb 1912	13 May 1912
HMS Hibernia	Pre-dreadnought battleship	- :-	14 May 1912	30 Jul 1913
HMS Dominion	Battleship	- :-	31 Jul 1913	19 Aug 1915
- :-	promoted to	Signalman	24 Oct 1913	16 Apr 1914
HMS Pembroke	-	- :-	17 Apr 1914	14 Aug 1914
HMS Dido (Lucifer)	-	- :-	15 Aug 1914	9 Oct 1914
HMS Ganges	-	- :-	14 Oct 1914	15 Jun 1915

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HMS Dido (Lance)	-	- : -	16 Jun 1915	4 Feb 1916
HMS Pembroke	-	- : -	5 Feb 1916	6 Mar 1916
HMS Clio	Cadmus-class sloop	- : -	7 Mar 1916	
- : -	promoted to	Signalman (1)	3 May 1917	14 Jul 1918
HMS Pembroke I	-	- : -	15 Jul 1918	9 Dec 1918
HMS Diligence	Depot ship	- : -	10 Dec 1918	21 Feb 1919
HMS Pembroke I	-	- : -	22 Feb 1919	11 Jun 1919

The last know service date is 11 June 1919, presumably when Frank left the Navy.

At the time of the 1911 Census, Frank was living at Royal Naval Training Establishment in Shotley, Suffolk - 17, naval boy under training.⁴

Frank married **Ethel May KEEBLE** on 11 September 1918 in North Lopham, Norfolk - both single and from North Lopham; groom a signalman in the Royal Navy; married by licence.. The marriage was witnessed by Frederick KEEBLE and Reginald CLARKE.^{5 6}

In the 1921 Census (19 Jun 1921) he appeared in North Lopham - 27y 4m, carpenter and joiner employed by the Government Instructional Factory Norwich, living with wife Ethel May (26y 9m, home duties) and children Alan Edward (1y 11m) and Dorothy Cecilia (3m).⁷

Frank was recorded on the 1939 Register living at No 4 Council House in North Lopham - b. 08.02.1894, carpenter and joiner, living with wife Ethel MK (b. 15.09.1894, unpaid domestic duties), and 4 officially closed records.⁸

On 10 September 1943 there was a newspaper report in the Diss Express:

Silver Wedding

***CLARKE - KEEBLE. - On September 11th, 1918, at St. Nicholas Church, North Lopham, Frank S. Clarke, R.N., to Ethel M. Keeble.
Present address: 4 Council Houses, North Lopham.***

Frank died circa 1972⁹

Spouse and known children:

Ethel May KEEBLE was born circa 1894. She died circa 1983. She and Frank Stanley CLARKE had the following children:

Alan Edward CLARKE (c. 1919-c. 1992)
Dorothy Cecilia CLARKE (c. 1921-c. 1995)
Lilian Maud CLARKE (c. 1924-c. 2013)
Hazel Doreen CLARKE (c. 1925-c. 2014)
Myrtle Irene CLARKE (c. 1929-c. 1999)
Stanley Arnold CLARKE (c. 1930-c. 2017)
Raymond Leslie CLARKE (c. 1932-c. 2018)
Frederick George CLARKE (c. 1934-c. 1934)
Olive Gladys CLARKE (c. 1936-c. 1938)
Daisy Margaret CLARKE (c. 1937-c. 2016)
Cynthia Astrid CLARKE (c. 1942-c. 2007)

Sources

1. *CR Birth*. 1894 Q1 Guiltcross Norfolk Vol 4B Page 263. Cit. Date: Q1 1894.
2. *PR - Baptism*. Blo Norton, Norfolk. Cit. Date: 11 June 1894.
3. *1901 Census*. RG13 Piece 1853 Folio0 28 Page 15 Schedule 106. Cit. Date: 31 March 1901.
4. *1911 Census*. RG14 PN10797 RD212 SD1 ED20 SN9999. Cit. Date: 2 April 1911.
5. *PR - Marriage*. North Lopham, Norfolk. Cit. Date: 11 September 1918.
6. *CR Marriage*. 1918 Q3 Thetford Norfolk Vol 4B Page 809. Cit. Date: Q3 1918.
7. *1921 Census*. RG15 Piece 09901 Schedule 69 RD 239 RS 2 ED 18. Cit. Date: 19 June 1921.
8. *1939 Registration*. RG101/6588I/014/30 Letter Code: TSDI. Cit. Date: 30 September 1939.
9. *CR Death*. 1974 Q3 Bury St Edmunds Suffolk Vol 4B Page 2593. Cit. Date: Q3 1972.