
Bertie Fergus PAYNE (1885-)

Bertie Fergus Payne's connection to North and South Lopham is by residence.

Bertie's bother, Gordon Arthur Payne, also served in the Great War and thankfully survived.

Bertie Fergus PAYNE, son of Arthur Williams PAYNE (c. 1862-) and Agnes Elizabeth GREAVES (c. 1865-), was born on 19 October 1885 in Kenninghall, Norfolk.¹ He was baptised on 27 December 1885 in Kenninghall , the ceremony was conducted by Rev. S F JAMES, Rector - parents Arthur William (labourer) and Agnes Elkizabeth. Surname given as PAYNE-COLLINGS.²

The 1901 Census (held on 31 Mar 1901) shows Bertie at Little Common in North Lopham, Norfolk - 15, agricultural labourer, living with parents Arthur (43, agricultural labourer) and Agnes (37), and siblings Osean (17, agricultural labourer), Ethel (12, scholar), Augusta (9, scholar), Hagar (8, scholar), Edna (6, scholar) and Gordon (3).³

At the time of the 1911 Census, Bertie was living in Ambala Punjab. India - a private in A Squadron, 1st King's Dragoon Guards.⁴

Little has been found about Bertie's military service. From the 1911 Census he was in the army in India and in 1915 he was in The Great War with the Norfolk Regiment.

On 5 November 1915 there was a newspaper report in the Diss Express:

SOUTH LOPHAM.

WEDDING - On Monday last the marriage was solemnized at the above church of Bertie Fergus Payne (North Lopham), Private 1st Norfolk Regt., now in France, from which he had obtained short leave, he having been with the regiment from the commencement of

the War, and Dorothy Mary Holden, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Holden, Rectory Road, South Lopham. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. C. J. Eastwood, Rector. The Misses Louisa Halls, of Diss and Edna May Bailey, of North Lopham, acted as bridesmaids, and Private Gordon Payne, 10th Norfolks, brother of the bridegroom, was best man. The bride, who was attired in a dress of white voile, with lace veil and wreath of orange blossoms, was given away by her father. A number of the inhabitants of both parishes were present at the church, and a goodly company assembled for the wedding breakfast which was held at the house of the bride's father.

On 19 Jun 1921, (the 1921 Census), he was living at Rectory Road in South Lopham, Norfolk - 34y 8m, yardman on Lodge Farm, living with wife Dorothy Mary (26y8m, home duties), sons Bertie Henry (4y 1m) and Victor Arthur (2y 9m), and mother-in-law Alice HOLDEN (64y 11m, home duties).⁵

On 15 January 1932 there was a newspaper report in the Diss:

THE LATE MRS. B. PAYNE.

The Rector, the Rev. C. J. Eastwood, officiated at the funeral which took place at South Lopham on Wednesday week, of Mrs. Dorothy Mary Payne, the wife of Mr. Bertie Payne, who died after a long and painful illness at the age of thirty-six years, leaving a husband and two sons and a daughter to mourn their loss.

The family mourners were Mr. Bertie Payne (husband), Miss Elsie Payne (daughter), Bertie Payne (son), Mr. and Mrs. C. Holden (brother and sister-in-law), Mrs. A. Payne (mother-in-law). Also present were Mrs. C. J. Eastwood, Mrs. Hunt, Mr. A. Holden, Mr. J. Bowhill, Mrs. A. Bowhill, Miss M. Bowhill, Mrs. Sparrow, Mrs. C. Keeble, Mrs. Mann, Miss G. Scott, Mr. B. Holden, Mr. I. Porter, Mrs. Prentice and others. Several beautiful floral tributes were sent.

A memorial service was held in the Parish Church on Sunday evening, when the Rev, C. J. Eastwood made touching reference to the deceased during the course of his sermon and the hymn "On the Resurrection Morning" was sung.

Bertie was recorded on the 1939 Register living at 15 St Nicholas Street in Thetford, Norfolk - b. 19.10.1886, maltsters labourer, in the Civil Defence Corps, living alone but given as married.⁶

No record of Bertie's death has so far been found.

Spouse and known children:. Bertie married **Dorothy Mary HOLDEN**.

In some records his surname is given as PAYNE-COLLINS.

Dorothy Mary HOLDEN, daughter of Henry HOLDEN (-), was born circa 1896. She died circa 1932. She and Bertie Fergus PAYNE had the following children:

Bertie Henry PAYNE• (1917-1943)

Victor Arthur PAYNE (c. 1919-)

Elsie PAYNE (-)

Sources

1. *CR Birth*. 1885 Q4 Guiltcross Norfolk Vol 4B Page 259. Cit. Date: Q4 1885.
2. *PR - Baptism*. Kenninghall, Norfolk. Cit. Date: 27 December 1885.
3. *1901 Census*. RG13 Piece 1866 Folio 12 Page 16 Schedule 109. Cit. Date: 31 March 1901.
4. *1911 Census*. RG14 PN34989 RD641 SD14 ED9 SN9999. Cit. Date: 2 April 1911.
5. *1921 Census*. RG15 Piece 09901 Schedule 32 RD 239 RS 2 ED 19. Cit. Date: 19 June 1921.
6. *1939 Registration*. RG101/6532B/005/22 Letter Code: TQKE. Cit. Date: 30 September 1939.