

No. 72056, Pte. FREDERICK G REYNOLDS

Frederick George Reynolds was the son of Enoch George and Emma Reynolds of 31 Emlen Street, Ipswich. His father preferred to be called by his second name, George. He had one brother, Herbert J. (1901 Census), and sometime between 1900 and 1914 had moved to School Villas, Glemsford, Suffolk. Herbert, also served, in the Royal Navy.

Frederick would have been only 16 at the outbreak of The First World War, so he probably enlisted in Sudbury, in about 1916. After his initial training he was posted into the Norfolk Regiment and given the No. 9694, and then posted into the 11th Battalion, Sherwood Foresters (Notts and Derby Regiment), with the new No. 72056. This Battalion was part of the 70th Brigade, 23rd Division.

The War Diary for the 11th Battalion Sherwood Foresters has the following entries for the days around the time that Frederick was killed.

“22/9/1917 – STIRLING CASTLE. The 70th Brigade relived the 69th Brigade in the new front line. The battalion formed the left front line battalion of the brigade, a front of about 500yds, the right of the position being north of the road, the left being 100yds south of REUTELBECK stream. The Australians were on the left, the 9th Yorks and Lincs on the right. The 41st Division having failed to take TOWER HAMLETS, a defensive flank has to be formed by the battalion on our right by the remains of the 69th Brigade which was left in the line, which had run back to DUNBARTON LINKS.

23/9/1917 – In the line. The day was spent consolidating the line taken. The enemy were sniping constantly from TOWER HAMLETS.

24/9/1917 – The 33rd Division relieved the brigade taking up assembly positions for a further attack. The battalion was relieved by the 4th Kings and the 2nd Worcs and a Glasgow Highlanders battalion. The relieve was completed in heavy shelling. The battalion was taken back on relief in lorries to MURRUMBRIDGE CAMP near RENNINGHELST.”

Casualties for the battalion, for the last two weeks of September were 3 Officers wounded, 28 other ranks killed, 165 other ranks wounded and 25 missing.

Frederick was one of the missing and has no known grave. He is remembered on The Tyne Cot Memorial, panel 99 to 102 and 162 to 162A. There are 11,952 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried in the cemetery or commemorated on the memorial, 8,365 of the burials are unidentified.

He was entitled to The British War and Victory Medals.

Frederick's brother, Herbert J., also served in the Royal Navy.