

John Francis Atkinson MM

Military History



Sergeant J F Atkinson MM - Royal Flying Corp

WORLD WAR 1

World War 1 started in 1914. John Francis Atkinson was part of it and this is his story. Hopefully, it will be passed down to future generations so he will be remembered.

Author: Geoffrey Atkinson
Grandson

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Preface

This document is a result of research I have been going to do for many years. I have always wanted to know where Sgt. John Francis Atkinson served during World War 1 and the detail of how he was awarded the Military Medal. John Atkinson told his son, Geoffrey Clifford Atkinson (my father), what he did on the 26-27 September 1916, for which he was awarded the Military Medal. This story of course was passed down to me. But I had no other information of where this occurred and during what battle.

I have been astounded at the information that is available on various web sites. I am especially grateful for the detail on the 4th Battalion, Yorkshire Regiment web site. This detail, together with my grandfather's cigarette case, which I have, confirming the dates when he rescued Lieutenant Geoffrey Arnold Tugwell have been invaluable (see photo on page 6). Due to this information, I have been able to pin point the location, the battle and even the trench his company was in at the time.

Acknowledgements

My thanks go to my friend, Gavin Cohen, who started me on this journey. Gavin is an avid military medal collector, and showed great interest in my grandfather's Military Medal. After he showed me the results of his preliminary research my enthusiasm grew dramatically. The result is this document.

My thanks to Bill Danby who created, and keeps the 4th Battalion Yorkshire Regiment Web Site up to date. After I sent him my first edition of this document, he added extracts from it to the web site (see Appendix D) as well as a link to my document. When Bill eventually stops paying his subs to his website server, the site will be archived by the British Library Web Archive, so his work and mine will hopefully be preserved.

GEOFFREY ATKINSON
Grandson

John Francis Atkinson MM

4th Battalion, Yorkshire Regiment Territorial Force - British Army (and Royal Flying Corp - Royal Air Force)



Introduction

John Francis Atkinson commenced his military career in the 4th Battalion, Yorkshire Regiment, and finished it in the RAF at the end of The Great War. He saw further service as an Air Raid Warden during WW2.

In England on 1 April 1908 by an Act of Parliament, the Secretary for War, re-organised the local British army volunteers nation-wide into the Territorial Force (TF). Henceforth they would be attached to their local Regular Army Regiment and use similar equipment and training methods.

John Francis Atkinson joined the TF on 6 April 1908 at the age of 22. He was in the 4th Battalion, of Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own Yorkshire Regiment, or simply the 4th Yorks. Prior to WW1, two Companies paraded at Middlesbrough where John lived, and at that time they were known as A and B Companies. The 4th York's headquarters was in Northfleet. The unit's name was changed in 1919 and became officially known as the "Green Howards".

The Regiment raised 25 Battalions and was awarded 52 Battle Honours and 10 Victoria Crosses during the War. At the beginning of WW1, the 4th York's became part of the 150th (York & Durham) brigade, of the 50th (Northumbrian) Division. The 5th Yorks were also part of this division as well as other units.



*Cpl. J F Atkinson
4th Yorkshire Regiment
(probably before WW1)*

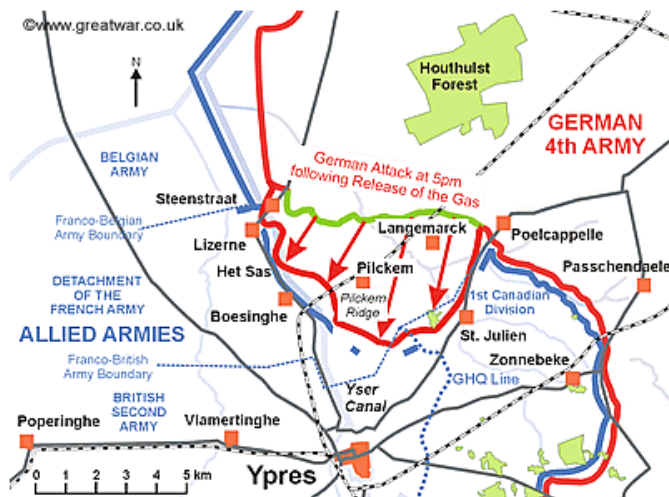
John's Territorial number was 243. Up to 1916 men in each TF unit (infantry battalion, artillery brigade, field ambulance, etc.) were numbered using a system unique to that unit - often by allocating the number 1 to the first man to join the unit on its formation in 1908 and continuing from there. Therefore, John was the 243rd man to join his unit. Men from different units could have the same number. On 1st March 1916, a comprehensive numbering system to cover all of the army as a whole was introduced. The numbers allocated to The Yorkshire Regiment started at 200000 and John's number became 200,011.

On 1 August 1914 Germany declared war on Russia and the next day on her ally France. Britain declared war on Germany on 4 August and on 9 August, the British Expeditionary Force began embarking for France.

On 5 August 1914, all TF units received the order to mobilise. Over the next few months the 4th Yorks were stationed at various locations including Northallerton, Newcastle and Darlington. The first part of 1915 was spent training in the Newcastle area and on 16 April 1915 the order was received for the whole of the Northumbrian Division to proceed to the Continent.

The 4th York's first action of WW1

On 17 April 1915, the battalion left Newcastle and on the morning of the 18th arrived at Boulogne, France. Within a week of landing in France and without proper familiarisation with the situation, the Infantry Battalions of the 50th Division were thrown straight into battle on 22 April to assist the Canadians at the



The Second Battle of Ypres

Second Battle of Ypres (Belgium). The 4th Yorks were part of the Battle of St Julien.

This was the first time the Germans used gas as a weapon. On the first day of the battle this was in the North-East edge of the Ypres Salient which was being defended by French Colonial troops.

The Second Battle of Ypres officially ended on 25 May 1915. During the battle, the 4th Yorks were in and out of the line at various locations. They stayed in the Ypres area defending the line until they moved to Armentieres, France in mid-August 1915. The Battalion saw action in and around Armentieres and Ypres for the next 12 months before moving from Kemmel, near

Ypres, to the Somme in August 1916.

The Somme 1916

A large-scale Allied offensive was launched on 1 July 1916 against the German Front Line astride the Somme River; the British Army attacked north of the river, the French Army attacked south of the river. The battles lasted for a grueling four and a half months and were carried out in several phases with many thousands of casualties on both sides of the wire. The Battle of the Somme officially ended on 18 November 1916 as the weather worsened.

The Battle of Flers -Courcellettes 15-22 September 1916



Progress of the Battle of the Somme between 1 July 1916 and 18 November 1916

This battle was fought during the Battle of the Somme by the French Sixth Army and the British Fourth Army and Reserve Army, against the German 1st Army. Tanks were used in battle for the first time in history and the Canadian Corps and the New Zealand Division fought for the first time on the Somme.

The attack of 15 September began the third period of the Battle of the Somme but by its conclusion on 22 September, the strategic objectives of the villages of Morval, Gueudecourt and Lesbœufs held by the Germans had not been achieved. However, the taking of the villages of Courcellette, Martinpuich and Flers had been a considerable tactical victory.

150 Brigade's involvement

Division order was 47th Div. Right, 50th Div. centre and 15th Div. left



The orange area was the sector to be attacked by 150 Brigade with the 4th Yorks Battalion in the Centre. The Blue lines for British held and Red for German.

The 4th Yorks Btn in Eye Trench had 3 objectives as shown and reached the third, but at great expense.

The assault on 15 September took place at 6.22am. The 150 Bde advanced in good order and quickly gained the first objective, Hook Trench. By 7.58 they were in the second. High Wood and Martinpuich were still in the hands of the Germans.

By 9.57 the 150th Brigade had taken the final objective with men in Prue trench. But the 4th Yorks right flank was "up in the air" [Open to German fire from the side.] at the junction of Prue Trench and Martin Alley. This position was held despite terrific shelling which caused heavy casualties. By 10 a.m. the 15th Div. had taken Martinpuich and by 1 p.m. 47 Div. had taken High Wood.

For the next ten days 150th Bde held on with short

periods of relief from other units. Time also spent in getting companies together as much as possible and receiving reinforcements to replace the heavy losses. At least 47 joined the 4th Yorks.

Arrangements were also being made to follow up the tactical success of the taking of villages Courcellette, Martinpuich and Flers which, after supply and weather delays, began on 25 September as the Battle of Morval.

John's Military Medal at The Battle of Morval

John was awarded The Military Medal for his brave action on 26th and 27th September 1916 during the Battle of Morval.

The Battle of Morval, 25–28 September 1916, was an attack on the villages of Morval, Gueudecourt and Lesbœufs held by the Germans, which had been the final objectives of the Battle of Flers–Courcellette (15–22 September). This new offensive required an advance of up to 1,500 yards on a line from Martinpuich to Combles.

On the 26th September, the 4th Yorks were in Prue Trench and the Starfish line. At 11 p.m. the 4th and 5th Yorks were ordered to attack trenches in conjunction with 1st Div. and 5th Durham Light Infantry and to work up Crescent Alley to junction of Trench. The attack took place but not with 1 Div., who "lost themselves". The 5th Yorks lost direction and got into Crescent Alley which they held. The 4th Yorks got into the German trench with both wings "up in the air" and were driven out by a strong counter attack. The casualties were heavy with 2 Officers killed and 5 wounded and 8 other ranks killed and about 90 wounded. The 4th Yorks were ordered to Starfish Trench to reform. On reforming John discovered that his Officer, Lieutenant Geoffrey Arnold Tugwell was missing. John returned to no man's land on his own, before dawn, and found his officer in a shell hole close to enemy's lines. He was badly wounded in the leg. John stayed with him all that day and managed to drag him back to the British line that night. For this act of bravery in the field, John was awarded The Military Medal. Lieutenant Tugwell recovered from his wound in England and returned to the front in early 1917. He was promoted to Captain and while leading

his Company in an attack on 23 April 1917, he was killed.



For saving his life, Capt. Geoffrey Arnold Tugwell (GAT) had this cigarette case made for Sergeant Atkinson.



The Military Medal.

The third highest award to NCO's and men of the Army after the Victoria Cross and the Distinguished Conduct Medal.

It was instituted by King George V on the 25th March 1916.

The number, rank and name of the recipient was inscribed around the edge.

Royal Flying Corp

John was wounded on 19 July 1917 and again on 26 July 1917 while in the line at Arras. His second wound was far more serious with a gun-shot wound to the right side of his skull. He was evacuated to the army's Number 6 General Hospital in Rouen, France and then later admitted on 5 August 1917 to the General Hospital in Glasgow, Scotland.

He was wounded twice in combat and therefore received two wound stripes to be worn on his uniform.



Sgt J F Atkinson's wound stripes

John's wounds left him with disabilities that prevented him for further service in the 4th York's. He transferred to the Royal Flying Corp on 25 January 1918 with the rank of Sergeant, service number 407214. This Corp was part of the British Army. John wore a double-bladed propeller above his Sergeants stripes which was used as the badge of rank for a RFC Air Mechanic and was introduced as the trade classification badge for Leading Aircraftsman. John did not have such a trade, so his RFC trade classification was recorded as "Misc. (Discip)" (i.e. Miscellaneous, Discipline). This role would have covered a range of duties.



On 1 April 1918, the Royal Naval Air Service (RNAS) and the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) were amalgamated together to make better use of resources and to make better use of the RNAS. The two became known as the Royal Air Force (RAF). John remained at the rank of Sergeant with his trade classification changed to "Disciplinarian". The RAF removed the double-bladed propeller from the rank of sergeant. John saw out the rest of the war as a member of the RAF.

The war ended on 11 November 1918. John was honourably discharged on 26 March 1919. On his discharge certificate, it states "Having served with honour and was disabled in the Great War".

He also received the Silver War Badge. This badge was worn on civilian clothes to show that the person had served in the war and had been wounded.



Sgt. J. F. Atkinson's Silver War Badge.

Discharge Certificate and Medals

Discharge Certificate



Ribbon Bar



Medals



Sgt. J F Atkinson's Medals (from left to right):

Military Medal

1914-15 Star

British War Medal 1914-20

Victory Medal 1914-18

Efficiency Medal

Unfortunately, John split up his medals and gave one to each of his children. The above medals are copies taken from his ribbon bar. (Geoffrey Atkinson has the original 1914-15 Star).

Further Service

During World War 2 (1939 to 1945), John served his country as an Air Raid Warden. John died on 31 January 1946, 7 months after the Victory in Europe (VE Day). He served his country well, and died a true soldier.



*John Francis Atkinson
Air Raid Warden – WW2*

Addendum

John named his son, born 12 April 1920, Geoffrey Clifford Atkinson (known as Cliff), after Capt. Geoffrey Arnold Tugwell. Cliff named his son (born 25 October 1945) Geoffrey Denis Atkinson (known as Geoff) after the same officer also.

Cliff served with the British Army during WW2 and later in the Australia Army with the Citizen Military Forces (CMF) rising to the rank of Lt. Colonel with the Royal Australian Engineers. Geoff also served in the Australian Army with the CMF rising to the rank of 2 Lt with the Papua New Guinea Volunteer Rifles. This unit was part of the Australian Army before the country gained independence in 1975.

References

4 th Battalion Yorkshire Regiment	www.4thyorkshires.com
Forces War Records	www.forces-war-records.co.uk
Findmypast	www.findmypast.co.uk
Royal Flying Corp, Peoples Index	http://www.airhistory.org.uk/rfc/people_index.html
RAF Museum Storyvault	www.rafmuseumstoryvault.org.uk
National Archives	www.nationalarchives.gov.uk

APPENDICES

Appendix A - Airman's Service Record Card

Official No. 407214 CHRISTIAN NAMES John Francis SURNAME Atkinson

1 BIRTH Date 1.12.35 Town Widderborough Parish St. Paul's County Yorkshire

2 RELIGIOUS DENOMINATION C of E

3 CURRENT ENGAGEMENT IN H.M. FORCES:-
 (a) State whether in Army, Navy or R.A.F. Army
 (b) Period:-
 Boy Service Date Current Engagement commenced 6.4.08 Age at that Date 22 1/2 Duration of Period of Engagement 4 yrs 2 1/4
 Man Service
 (c) Date of actual entry into R.F.C. 25.1.18 R.N.A.S. R.A.F. 1.4.18
 (d) Period engagement extended for 44th 5/4/12
 (e) Period re-engaged for

4 PRIOR ENGAGEMENT IN H.M. FORCES:-

Unit	Period		Rank on Discharge
	From	To	
<u>1st Lt. DLI</u>			

5 CIVILIAN OCCUPATION
 (a) Description Bookkeeper
 (b) Name and Address of last Employer
 (c) Period employed there, from to

6 MARRIAGE
 (a) Date 28.8.49 Town Widderborough
 (b) Whether verified from Marriage Certificate Yes
 (c) Whether with permission

7 PERSON TO BE INFORMED OF CASUALTIES
 Name Mr. J. J. Atkinson
 Address 24 Fawcett Street Widderborough
 Relationship Wife

8 DESCRIPTION ON ENGAGEMENT IN H.M. FORCES
 Height 5 feet 3 inches. Chest 32 1/2 inches.
 Colour of Hair Eyes Complexion
 Marks, Wounds or Scars
19-7-17 Wounded.
26-7-17 G.S.W. Head (Skull) R.H.
26-7-17 Promoted to Duty as 1st Gen. M. Brown
5-8-17 Adm. 4 Scottish Gen. Hosp. Strath Glasgow.

9 TRANSFER TO R.A.F. RESERVE Date 26.8.19

10 DISCHARGE Date 26.8.19
 Total service towards current engagement
 Total service towards Pension
 Address on Discharge 24 Fawcett Street Widderborough
North Conestry, Warrington

11 RECALLED FROM R.A.F. RESERVE Date

12 REGISTERED PAPERS No.

MOVEMENTS * Att - Attached

Departure Authority	Unit from which	Unit to which	Date of Effect	Arrival Authority Confirming	Authority	Description	Date of Effect
		<u>S.T.R.</u>				<u>Transferred Sgt</u>	<u>25/1/18</u>
						<u>" R.A.F. Sgt</u>	<u>1.4.18</u>

PROMOTIONS

MEDICAL BOARDS

Authority	EXAMINATION	
	Result	Date
<u>27.11.13</u> <u>Widderborough</u> <u>Widderborough</u>	<u>B II</u>	<u>21.2.18</u>

13 J.L. Staley 2.12.10 Widderborough
 J.L. Staley 23.6.12 Widderborough
 J.L. Staley 26.8.14

From "findmypast" British Royal Air Force, Airman's Service Records 1912-1939

"Prior Engagement in H. M Forces" is shown as DLI (Durham Light Infantry). Probably a mistake, or he may have been attached to them prior to joining the RFC.

See transcription of above card on page 11

British Royal Air Force, Airmen's service records 1912-1939 Transcription

First name(s)	John Francis
Last name	Atkinson
Birth year	1885
Birth date	04 Dec 1885
Birth town	Middlesbrough
Birth county	Yorkshire
Occupation	Bricklayer
Attestation year	1908
Attestation date	06 Apr 1908
Attestation age	22
Service number	407214
Marriage year	1909
Marriage date	28 Aug 1909
Spouse's first name(s)	H P
Child's first name(s)	John Stanley
Child's birth date	02 Dec 1910
Child 2 first name(s)	Charles Arthur
Child 2 birth date	23 Jun 1912
Child 3 first name(s)	Olive Rose
Child 3 birth date	26 Aug 1914
Archive reference	AIR 79/2997
Next of kin first name(s)	H P, John Stanley, Charles Arthur, Olive Rose
Next of kin last name	Atkinson
Record set	British Royal Air Force, Airmen's Service Records 1912-1939
Category	Military, armed forces & conflict
Subcategory	Service Records
Collections from	Great Britain

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URL of this page: <http://search.findmypast.co.uk/record?id=gbm%2fair79%2f387430&fulfillmentTypeKey=6723>

Appendix B - Photos



Officers of the 4th Yorks Battalion, 14th April 1915 at Newcastle.

*Top Row - 2nd Lt H B Blackett, Lt T Rowlandson, 2nd Lts H Hewitt, E Darwin, J K Stead, A Welsh, **G A Tugwell**.
 Second Row - Lts H W Cummins, T H Hutchinson, Lt & Quartermaster W H Colton, E Williams, Capt N W Stead, 2nd Lt H Fawcett, Lts C C Jervelund, L I l'Anson, 2nd Lt P Orde-Powlett, Lt A Beresford-Peirce, 2nd Lt C Sproxton.
 Sitting - Cpts J Maughan, W Constantine, A Graham, Majors H C Mathews, H de Legh [RAMC], Lt Col M L Bell, Capt & Adj G Eykyn [The Royal Scots], Major H Scott, Cpts R A Constantine, G Bowes-Wilson, J Nancarrow.*



*Cpl. Atkinson – sitting right
 Pte. Wright – standing
 Sitting left ? – Cavalry
 (Probable before WW1)*



Sgt. Atkinson - far left. On the original photo 3 stripes for Sgt. can be seen as well as 2 wound stripes on his left sleeve. Therefore, this photo was taken sometime after mid 1917. The others are from different units so this may have been a hospital or convalescent home in England.

Appendix C - Captain G A Tugwell

Remembrance – The Yorkshire Regiment, First World War Captain Geoffrey Arnold TUGWELL

4th Battalion Yorkshire Regiment. Son of Frank and Louisa A. Tugwell, of 40, Esplanade, Scarborough. Previously wounded. Killed 23 April 1917. Aged 24. Commemorated Bay 5, Arras memorial.

From the Roll of Lancing College, where he went to school and where he was in Olds House from 1906 to 1909;-

"Son of F. A. Tugwell of Scarborough. Mentioned in despatches. Twice wounded at Ypres and on the Somme. Killed in action in France on the 23rd of April 1917".

A very full biography of Captain Tugwell is provided by John Lee-Smith, Hon. Secretary of the South West of England Medals Club, and this is given below;-



Geoffrey Arnold Tugwell was born at Scarborough on the 25th of November 1892 the second son of Frank Alfred Tugwell, an architect, and Louisa Annie (nee Backhouse) Tugwell of 40 Esplanade, Scarborough in Yorkshire.

He was educated at Eastman's School at Southsea and at Lancing College where he won an Exhibition and was in Olds House from September 1906 to December 1909. While at school he developed a passion for classics and poetry and was a member of the Officer Training Corps for three years, attending two annual camps at Aldershot. On leaving school he travelled in France and Germany to study languages there He worked as a designer of Scotch tweed.

Following the outbreak of war he applied for a commission in the 4th Battalion Yorkshire Regiment on the 23rd of August 1914 and was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the battalion on the 5th of September 1914. At a medical examination it was recorded that he was five feet seven inches tall.

He embarked with his battalion from Folkestone on the 17th of April 1915 and landed at Boulogne at 2am the following morning. They moved first to Cassel by train and then marched to billets at Godwaersvelde. They arrived at Vlamertinghe near Ypres at 5pm on the 22nd of April. On the 23rd of April they marched out at 10pm and moved to positions on the western bank of the canal at Ypres near St Julien where they were moving up to help prevent a German breakthrough following their gas attack of the 22nd of April. While they were there they came under intermittent shell fire during the morning of the 24th of April which wounded Geoffrey Tugwell in the lower leg and also wounded four or five other men. He was evacuated to the rear and was then loaded on board the Hospital Ship "Valdivia" at Boulogne on the 26th of April and landed at Southampton the following day.

He was taken from Southampton to Highclere Castle Hospital at Newbury where the shrapnel was removed

from his leg. He remained there until the 27th of July 1915. A Medical Board which sat at Edinburgh concluded:- "The Board find that he sustained a gunshot wound of the right leg. The bullet was extracted at Highclere Castle Hospital, Newbury on the 7th May. The wound was septic and failing to heal was opened and scraped two months later. The wound is still unhealed but is looking fairly healthy."

He was sent on sick leave until the 21st of September 1915 and underwent further treatment at York Military Hospital before a Medical Board, held at the same venue on the 6th of January 1916, concluded that he was "fit for general service".

He returned to the front when he took part in the fighting for the "Bluff" at Ypres in February 1916 and in the fighting on the Somme between High Wood and Martinpuich later that year. He was promoted to Lieutenant on the 27th of March 1916 with precedence from the 1st of August 1915.

On the 26th of September 1916 the 1/4th Battalion Yorkshire Regiment was ordered to attack the German trench known as "Crescent Alley" near Martinpuich on the Somme at 11pm and to bomb their way up it. In the event, the Division which was supposed to attack on their flank did not and, although the Yorkshires managed to get into the German trench, they were forced back to "Starfish Trench" to reform having suffered casualties of two officers killed with five wounded and around one hundred other ranks killed wounded or missing. Geoffrey Tugwell was dangerously wounded in the leg during the attack and was evacuated to the rear. He was loaded on board the SS "Western Australia" at Rouen on the 4th of October 1916 and landed at Southampton the following day.

He was mentioned in Sir Douglas Haig's despatches of the 13th of November 1916.

On the 15th of November a Medical Board was convened at Caxton Hall to consider his case: - "He was hit by a bullet, as above, on the outer aspect of the

right thigh about the middle. It passed through causing a compound fracture of the right femur and escaped on the positive aspect. Present state - wounds are healed. He is getting about on crutches. There is slight shortening."

He attended a further Medical Board at the Military Hospital at York on the 1st of February 1917 which noted: - "There is one inch shortening of the right leg - he walks without a limp. He wears a spring in his boot."

He returned to France and was promoted to Captain while in command of a Company on the 11th of March 1917. In April 1917 50th Division, of which the 1/4th Yorkshires were part, was ordered to attack on a front of about nine miles from Croiselles to Gavrelle to the west of Cherisy as part of the ongoing Battle of Arras.

At 4.15am on the morning of the 23rd of April 1917 the 1/4th Battalion Yorkshire Regiment reported that they were in position for the attack and at 4.40am two tanks which had been attached to the Division began to roll slowly forward. At 4.45am 84 eighteen pounder guns and 30 howitzers began firing on the German positions which immediately caused the defenders there to fire flares in the air to signal to their artillery that an attack had begun. 40 seconds later the German counter fire came down on the attackers. About one hundred yards from their own trench the 4th Battalion ran into their own barrage and suffered a few casualties. W Company on the right of the attack came under fierce rifle and machine gun fire and were forced to take cover in shell holes 50 yards from the German front line. When the tank caught up with, and went ahead of them, they managed to rush the trench which was heavily defended but the defenders were overcome in a brief but bloody fight. In the centre of the attack X Company met less opposition and took the enemy trench with about 30 casualties from artillery and machine gun fire. At 5.25 am the surviving men of the two companies then set out for the German support trench which was found to be filled with dead Germans. At 6.05am they began to dig in on a line 100 to 200 yards to the west of their first objective. By this time there was only one officer remaining from the original attack but he was soon wounded and then killed. At 7am the Germans counterattacked and by 8.10am the Yorkshires were back in their own front line where they had started some three and half hours before. Casualties were eleven officers and three hundred and fifty two other ranks killed wounded and missing.

His Colonel, F.F Deakin, wrote:- "I regret to tell you that your son, Captain Tugwell, was killed in action on 23rd April. He was killed instantaneously and did not suffer at all. On behalf of all ranks I beg to send you our most sincere sympathy. He was a gallant and promising officer, I had the very highest opinion of him-and his men would follow him anywhere-at the time of his death he was leading his men most gallantly in a very successful attack. You can be very proud of him--as we all are. Once more I send you our very sincere sympathy, and anything we can do, if you let me know, I will see it is done."

Another officer wrote:- "How much he was loved; how sadly he will be missed--he was one of our finest officers."

Another wrote:- "I need not tell you what we thought of Geoffrey. He was friend to everyone-officers and men alike. His men worshipped him and would follow him anywhere. We all knew his sterling worth on the Somme in September and I don't think his men will ever forget him."

One of his NCOs wrote:- "To know him was to love him."

One of his men who was on sick leave in England wrote:- "We're losing one of our finest young officers today, going back to France, tho' mind you he ought not to go (his broken thigh was not perfectly healed), but he's that keen. When asked which officer he was referring to he said "Oh! we always call him "Our Tuggy"."

His father, having received his son's effects, wrote to the War Office on the 5th of June 1917: -

Dear Sir,

With reference to yours of the 25 May. I have now received my son's kit as well as what was supposed to be in his pocket. There was only a small stamp book, whereas we know that with him were a gold cased watch, a wristlet watch, silver, another with luminous figures, to say nothing of his revolver, prismatic compass etc. I merely raise these points as to me there is something terrible that an Englishman should be found mean enough to rob a dead officer. There is no excuse as the attack was purely local and successful; my son fell just outside his own trench. I am Sir,
Yours Faithfully F.A. Tugwell

His brother applied for his medals in February 1922.



Page 33. 24/30 Sept.1916 Flers Courcettes. Attack repelled.

24th SEPTEMBER. Day passed quietly.

25th SEPTEMBER. 5.15 p.m Wire received from 50th Div ordering preparation to take tomorrow the German trench running from Flers Line.
A "jumping off line" was ordered to be dug by 151 Bde.

26th/27th SEPTEMBER. Owing to working parties getting lost the trenches were not dug.

The Boch trenches were to have been seized at 4 a.m and this was cancelled. The 4th Yorks were in Prue Trench and Starfish line.

At 11 p.m the 4th and 5th Yorks were ordered to attack trenches in conjunction with 1st Div and 5th D.L.I. and to work up Crescent Alley to junction of Trench.

The attack took place but not with 1 Div, who "lost themselves". The 5th Yorks Bn lost direction and got into Crescent Alley which they held. The 4th Yorks got into the German trench with both wings "up in the air" and were driven out by a strong counter attack. The casualties were heavy with 2 Officers killed and 5 wounded and 8 other ranks killed and about 90 wounded. The Btn was ordered to Starfish Trench to reform.

27th/28th SEPTEMBER.

243 Sgt John Francis ATKINSON, Military Medal. Awarded for the Rescue of Lt Geoffrey A Tugwell.

His Grandson, Geoffrey Atkinson, of Ellenbrook, W Australia has kindly contributed Sgt Atkinson's full story, which can be read [HERE](#).



Sgt Atkinson is on the Right in the first photograph in the 4th Yorks.

The second shows him as a Military Discipline Instructor in the Royal Flying Corps after he was wounded twice at Arras in 1917 with the 4th Yorks and no longer fit for Infantry duties. The third shows this great and brave servant of his Nation as an Air Raid Warden in the Second War.



A Cigarette box which was sent to Sgt Atkinson by Lt Tugwell in memory of his bravery. Sadly Lt Tugwell, by then a Captain. was killed on the 23rd April 1917 at Arras.

29th to 30th SEPTEMBER. The Btn were relieved by the 6th Btn D.L.I. and moved to Clarke's Trench where they were relieved by 6th Btn Northumberland Fusiliers and moved into Divisional reserve trenches.

Day spent in rearranging Companies and allotting drafts. Nothing was done for the comfort of the men coming out and consequently practically every man was physically incapable of further action and the Companies were composed almost entirely of drafts

Appendix E - Silver War Badge and Wound Stripes

Silver War Badge

The Silver War Badge was issued in the United Kingdom and the British Empire to service personnel who had been honorably discharged due to wounds or sickness from military service in World War I. The badge, sometimes known as the "Discharge Badge", the "Wound Badge" or "Services Rendered Badge", was first issued in September 1916, along with an official certificate of entitlement.



The large sterling silver lapel badge was intended to be worn on civilian clothes. The decoration was introduced as an award of "King's silver" for having received wounds or injury during loyal war service to the Crown's authority. A secondary causation for its introduction was that a practice had developed in the early years of the war in the United Kingdom where some women took it upon themselves to confront and publicly embarrass men of fighting age they saw in public places who were not in military uniform, by ostentatiously presenting them with white feathers, as a suggestion of cowardice. As the war had developed substantial numbers of servicemen who had been discharged from His Majesty's Forces with wounds that rendered them unfit for war service, but which were not obvious from their outward appearance, found themselves being harassed in such a manner and the badge, to be worn on the right breast while in civilian dress, was a means of discouraging such incidents being directed at ex-forces' personnel. It was forbidden to wear the badge on a military uniform.

The badge bears the royal cipher of "GRI" (for *Georgius Rex Imperator*; George, King and Emperor) and around the rim "For King and Empire - Services Rendered".

Each badge was uniquely numbered on the reverse. The War Office maintained a register recording which serviceman each one had been issued to in United Kingdom, and the governments of Canada, New Zealand, Australia, South Africa and Rhodesia maintained their own registers of issue (which were copied to the War Office in London to provide it with an Imperial master-record). Silver War Badges issued by the Empire's dominion nations had their identification numbers on the reverse prefixed with the first letter of the issuing nation: Australia with the letter 'A', Canada 'C', etc. In the United Kingdom, the War Office made it known that it would not replace Silver War Badges if they were lost, however if one was handed into a police station then it would be returned to the War Office, which would seek to return it using its records to its recipient.

Wound Stripe

A wound stripe is a distinction of dress bestowed on soldiers wounded in combat. It was typically worn on military uniform jackets.

The British Army began awarding a brass "Wound Stripe" in 1916, with approval by King George V. The badge was worn vertically on the left forearm, fastened through the uniform cloth. Additional badges were granted for subsequent wounds.



Single wound strip



*Two wound stripes worn
on sleeve of left arm*

Appendix F - John Charles Wright

John Charles Wright was John Francis Atkinson's brother in law who also served in the Yorkshire Regiment, number 201016. He was "missing in action".

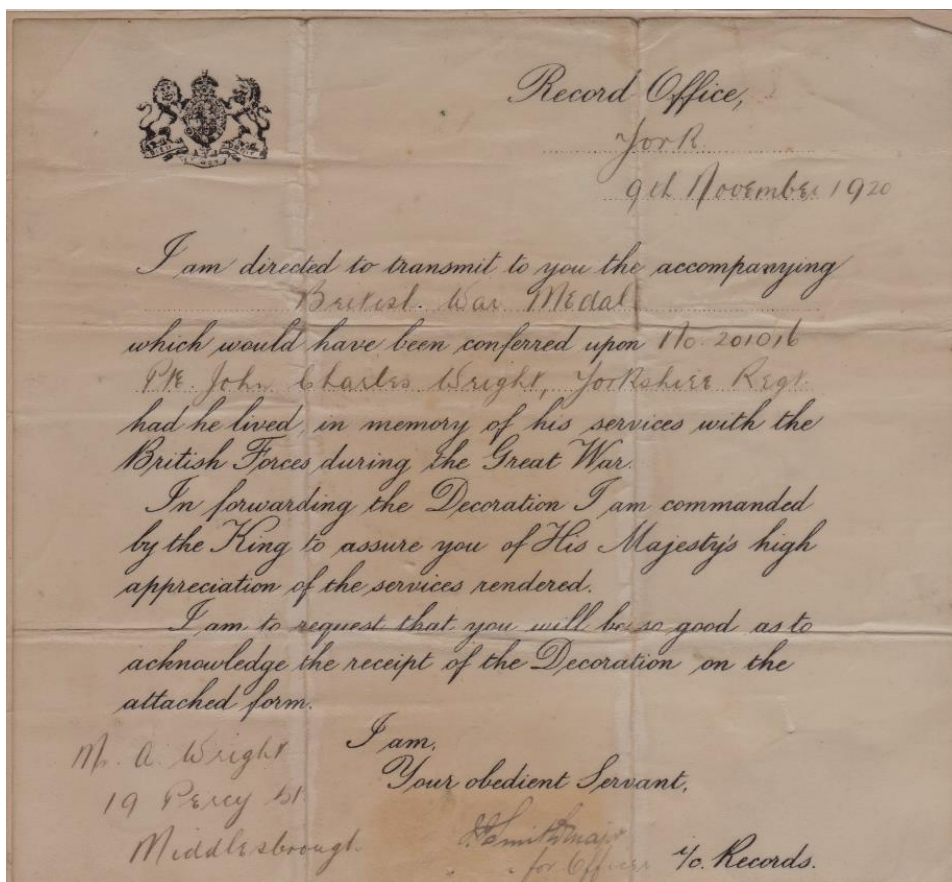
Tyne Cot Cemetery

Tyne Cot Cemetery is located 9 km north east of Ypres. Sgt. Wright's name is on the stone wall which is the Memorial to the Missing. 25 men of the 4th Yorks Battalion are commemorated. This is one of several Commonwealth War Graves Commission Memorials to the Missing along the Western Front. The UK missing lost in the Ypres Salient are commemorated at the Menin Gate and the Tyne Cot Memorial. Upon completion of the Menin Gate memorial to the missing in Ypres, builders discovered it was not large enough to contain all the names as originally planned.^[7] They selected an arbitrary cut-off date of 15 August 1917 and the names of the UK missing after this date were inscribed on the Tyne Cot memorial instead.

He would have been killed during the last year and three months of the war somewhere in the Ypres Salient.



The Tyne Cot Memorial to the Missing commemorates 34,887 names of men from the United Kingdom and New Zealand Forces who died from the date of 16th August 1917 and who have no known grave.





Sgt. J C Wright

ATTACHMENTS

Record Details for J F Atkinson (Yorkshire Regiment)

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First Name:	J F
Surname:	Atkinson
Rank:	Serjeant
Service Number:	243
Gallantry Awards:	<p>Military Medal</p> <p>This Level 3 Gallantry Medal was established during the First World War on the 25th March 1916 and introduced in the London Gazette issue 29535, (back dated to 1914) to personnel of the British Army and other services, and personnel of Commonwealth countries, below commissioned rank. It was the other ranks' equivalent to the Military Cross (M.C.), (which was awarded to Commissioned Officers and, rarely, to Warrant Officers, who could also be awarded the M.M.).</p> <p>The military decoration was awarded to J F Atkinson for acts of gallantry and devotion to duty under fire or for individual or associated acts of bravery which were insufficient to merit the Distinguished Conduct Medal.</p> <p>Conferral of the medal was announced in the London Gazette and J F Atkinson earned the right to add the letters M.M. to his name.</p>
Gazette Info:	Gazette No. 29854. Military Medal. His Majesty the KING has been graciously pleased to award the Military Medal for bravery in the Field to this Officer.
Gazette Date:	08/12/1916
Gazette Page:	12041
Campaign Medals:	<p>Victory Medal</p> <p> J F Atkinson was entitled to the Victory medal, also called the Inter Allied Victory Medal. This medal was awarded to all who received the 1914 Star or 1914-15 Star and, with certain exceptions, to those who received the British War Medal. It was never awarded alone. These three medals were sometimes irreverently referred to as Pip, Squeak and Wilfred.</p> <p>Buy Medals</p> <p>British War Medal</p> <p> J F Atkinson was entitled to the British War Medal for service in World War One. This British Empire campaign medal was issued for services between 5th August 1914 and 11th November 1918.</p> <p>Buy Medals</p>
Service:	British Army
Regiment:	Yorkshire Regiment

Britain, Campaign, Gallantry & Long Service Medals & Awards Transcription

First name(s)	J F
Last name	Atkinson
Year	1916
Service number	243
Rank	Serjeant
Regiment	Yorkshire Regiment
Regiment as transcribed	4th Battalion, York R (TF)
Force	British Expeditionary Force
Gazetteer date	09.12.1916
Gazette date	09 Dec 1916
Medal type	Military Medal, 1914-1920
Registration paper	68/GN/2832
Theatre of war	France
Schedule	50963
Archive	The National Archives
Reference	WO 372/23/74710
Record set	Britain, Campaign, Gallantry & Long Service Medals & Awards
Category	Military, armed forces & conflict
Subcategory	Medal rolls and honours
Collections from	Great Britain

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URL of this page: <http://search.findmypast.co.uk/record?id=gbm%2fdcm%2fm%2f0015118>

Index Card

Awarded "The Military Medal" FRANCE	
FRANCE	
Surname	Atkinson
Christian Name	J. F.
Rank	Sgt.
Corps	4 th Bn. York R. (TF)
Regimental Number	243
Date of Gazette	9-12-16
Registered Paper	68/GN/2832 50963
68/Gen. No./2730 (M.S. 3)	GD7570 5000 4/10 HWV(P851/2) G16/478 W3959-5053 20,000(0) 7/16

515 Serjeant Walter Morris Lilley, London Regiment.
 37256 Battery Serjeant-Major Ernest Livingstone, Royal Field Artillery.
 49245 Sapper John Henry Lumsden, Royal Engineers.
 16127 Private Charles Martin, Scottish Rifles.
 6244 Serjeant Albert Matthewman, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry.
 5018 Private Percy James Neale, East Kent Regiment.
 12594 Serjeant Alfred Newton, Royal Field Artillery.
 36859 Sapper Andrew Penman, Royal Engineers.
 3838 Private Joseph James Preece, North Staffordshire Regiment.
 40966 Driver Albert Price, Royal Field Artillery.
 7556 Private John Reid, Scottish Rifles.
 3194 Private Jeffery Rimmer, Liverpool Regiment.
 68 Drummer Walter Ritchie, Seaforth Highlanders.
 18170 Corporal Horace Victor Robinson, Royal Field Artillery.
 3192 Corporal Arthur Winterbottom, late Royal Flying Corps.
 7563 Company Serjeant-Major Edward Benjamin Wootton, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry.
 R/474 Private Thomas William Yates, King's Royal Rifle Corps.

(There are no restrictions as to the occasions on which any of these decorations may be worn.)

His Majesty the KING has been graciously pleased to award the Military Medal for bravery in the Field to the undermentioned Non-Commissioned Officers and Men:—

3284 Pte. C. Abbott, York. R.
 20/163 Cpl. F. Abernethy, Durh. L.I.
 3051 Cpl. J. G. Ablin, Lond. R.
 1168 Gunner T. H. Ackroyd, R.F.A.
 75270 Sapper A. W. Adams, R.E.
 P.S./2659 Pte. H. Adams, Manch. R.
 17953 Pte. W. A. Adams, Bord. R.
 60502 Gunner W. C. Adams, R.F.A.
 41745 Gunner W. R. Adams, R.G.A.
 60763 Gunner H. G. Adamson, R.F.A.
 4628 L./C. E. Addicott, Lond. Regt.
 18604 Pte. J. Aicken, M.G. Corps.
 15981 Pte. J. Ainley, W. Rid. R.
 13015 Pte. J. E. Ainsworth, Norf. R.
 9169 Gunner (Actg. Bombr.) J. W. Aird, R.F.A.
 22129 Pte. J. Aitkin, K. O. Sco. Bord.
 26259 Sgt. Farr. G. A. Albutt, R.F.A.
 46140 Actg. Bombr. H. Alden, R.F.A.
 8186 L./C. G. Alder, Glouc. R.
 3174 Pte. A. E. Alderson, Durh. L.I.
 G/11584 Sgt. A. J. Aldridge, R. W. Kent R.
 C/12980 Pte. C. N. Alexander, K. R. Rif. C.
 2184 L./Sjt. D. W. Alford, Lond. R.
 1997 L./C. S. Allanson, York. R.
 1661 Bombr. H. S. Allcock, R.F.A.
 11187 Sgt. A. Allen, Ches. R.
 74216 Gunner A. A. Allen, R.F.A.
 15225 L./C. T. Allen, S. Staff. R.
 2123 Cpl. W. B. Allen, W. Rid. R.
 2710 Pte. J. Alty, Lan. Fus.
 R.2507 Pte. R. F. Ames, K. R. Rif. C.
 13352 Actg. Cpl. A. B. Amison, S. Staff. R.
 39793 Pte. W. B. Amos, Welsh R.

20/247 Pte. E. Anderson, Durh. L.I.
 8836 Cpl. G. Anderson, M.G. Corps.
 15012 Pte. (L./C.) H. Anderson, R. War. R.
 16096 Pte. G. Andrew, E. York. R.
 11543 Cpl. R. S. Angell, Oxf. & Bucks. L.I.
 12/7997 L./C. E. Ankers, Lan. Fus.
 26593 Pte. J. Annable, Notts. & Derby. R.
 7563 Pte. C. H. Ansell, Lond. R.
 8532 L./C. F. Anthony, York & Lanc. R.
 31930 By. Q.M.Sjt. G. A. Archer, R.F.A.
 2063 Sjt. H. Archer, W. York. R.
 3357 Cpl. J. Archer, London R.
 14322 Pte. R. Archer, Manch. R.
 3338 L./C. R. H. Archer, North'd Fus.
 944 Sgt. C. B. Argent, L'pool R.
 3251 Pte. A. Armitage, W. Rid. R.
 S/10045 Pte. J. Armit, R. Highrs.
 C/6473 Pte. A. E. Armstrong, K. R. Rif. C.
 2580 Pte. J. Armstrong, Durh. L.I.
 22981 Pte. W. Armstrong, R. Innis. Fus.
 19885 Sjt. A. E. Arnsby, R.F.A.
 14507 Pte. W. Arter, R. Berks. R.
 1730 Pte. A. Arthur, North'd Fus.
 20236 Sjt. G. W. Ash, Hamps. R.
 14051 Sjt. J. Ashworth, Manch. R.
 713 Cpl. L. Askew, R.F.A.
 S.7207 Cpl. J. R. Aspden, Rif. Brig.
 2363 L./C. R. W. Aspden, Lond. R.
 10688 Pte. A. H. Astle, Notts. & Derby. R.
 752 Sjt. H. Aston, R.F.A.
 1603 L./C. A. Atkinson, York. R.
 243 Sjt. J. F. Atkinson, York. R.
 2679 Pte. R. Atkinson, Durh. L.I.
 3914 Pte. E. W. Axford, Lond. R.
 3826 L./C. G. T. Bachell, Lond. R.
 11392 Pte. P. Baddaley, N. Staff. R.
 19604 Pte. E. I. Bailey, R.W. Fus.
 56184 Gunner G. Bailey, R.F.A.
 27134 Sjt. H. G. Bailey, R.F.A.
 32764 L./C. J. G. Bailey, R.E.
 18440 L./C. S. Bailey, Notts. & Derby. R.
 1216 Gunner A. Bain, M.M. Gun Corps.
 2287 Sjt. C. Bain, Lond. R.
 9301 Sjt. R. Bain, R. Highrs.
 2357 Pte. O. Bainbridge, Durh. L.I.
 4925 Pte. J. Baines, Bord. R.
 2479 Pte. J. Baines, Manch. R.
 3926 Sjt. W. Baird, R. Highrs.
 2870 L./C. (Actg. Cpl.) E. Baker, Lond. R.
 10932 Pte. J. W. Baker, E. Kent R.
 50090 Gunner V. J. Baker, R.F.A.
 3208 Pte. W. M. Baker, Lond. R.
 13830 Pte. G. F. Baldwin, Sco. Rif.
 11433 Sjt. H. Balmont, D. of Corn. L.I.
 17593 Pte. D. G. Bampton, Hamps. R.
 96623 L./C. H. Bancroft, R.E.
 5577 Cpl. R. Banham, Lan. Fus.
 18600 Sjt. A. Banham, Lan. Fus.
 48167 Sjt. B. L. Bankes, R.E.
 2891 Pte. H. W. B. Banks, Bord. R.
 T.2144 Gunner A. Baptie, R.G.A.
 52538 2nd Cpl. H. Barber, R.E.
 1438 Driver R. Bardey, R.F.A.
 11314 Pte. L. G. Barfoot, M.G. Corps.
 R.6986 Cpl. W. D. Barker, K. R. Rif. C.
 18427 L./C. E. Barlow, North'd Fus.
 1908 Pte. W. A. Barmby, E. York. R.
 27536 Pte. D. A. Barnes, R. W. Fus.
 5453 Pte. F. W. Barnes, Lond. R.
 15186 Sjt. T. Barnes, N. Lan. R.
 11738 Sjt. T. Barnes, Manch. R.
 13337 Sjt. T. Barnes, Sco. Rif.
 657 Pte. P. Baron, Manch. R.
 A2958 Pte. H. G. Barr, K.R. Rif. C.
 18715 Pte. H. Barraclough, W. Rid. R.
 49773 L./C. F. Barratt, R.E.
 66084 Actg. Bombr. C. Barrett, R.G.A.

Medal Index Cards Transcription

First name(s) John F
Last name Atkinson
Year 1914-20
Service number 243, 407214
Second service number 407214
Rank Corporal, Corporal
Second rank Corporal
Regiment 4th Yorkshire Regiment, Royal Flying Corps
Second corps Royal Flying Corps
Service record Soldier Number: 243, Rank: Corporal, Corps: 4th Yorkshire Regiment
Second service record Soldier Number: 407214, Rank: Corporal, Corps: Royal Flying Corps
Image link <http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/SearchUI/Details?uri=D1082482>
Country Great Britain
Medal type British Army Medal Index Cards, 1914-1920
Archive reference WO372/1
Archive reference description Women's Services, Distinguished Conduct Medals and Military Medals
Record set Britain, Campaign, Gallantry & Long Service Medals & Awards
Category Military, armed forces & conflict
Subcategory Medal rolls and honours
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Index Card

Name	Corps	Rank	Length No.
ATKINSON	4th York Rgt. R.F.C.	Cpl	243 407214
J. F.			

Medal	Roll	Page	Remarks
VICTORY .X.	RAF/107 B4	142	
BRITISH	do	do	
15 STAR	R4C/10	5	
T. Eff.	A.O. 23 of 1920	X	
Theatre of War first served in	(1) France		
Date of entry therein	17. 4. 15		

K. 1720.

Medal Index Cards Transcription

First name(s)	J F
Last name	Atkinson
Year	1914-20
Service number	243
Rank	Sergeant
Regiment	Yorkshire Regiment
Service record	Soldier Number: 243, Rank: Sergeant, Corps: Yorkshire Regiment
Image link	http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/SearchUI/Details?uri=D6128011
Country	Great Britain
Medal type	British Army Medal Index Cards, 1914-1920
Archive reference	WO372/23
Archive reference description	Women's Services, Distinguished Conduct Medals and Military Medals
Record set	Britain, Campaign, Gallantry & Long Service Medals & Awards
Category	Military, armed forces & conflict
Subcategory	Medal rolls and honours
Collections from	Great Britain

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J F Atkinson's details from RAF Muster Role 1918

Atkinson, J.F.		407214	AIR FORCE No.	ATKINSON J.F.	NAME	KNAS or REC TRADE CLASSIFICATION	DEMUSTEED TO AIR FORCE TRADE CLASSIFICATION	KNAS RATING or REC RANK or APPOINTMENT	NEW RANK IN AIR FORCE	DATE OF JOINING	DATE OF LAST PROMOTION	AIR FORCE PAY	TERM OF ENLISTMENT
Full name	Atkinson, J.F.	ATKINSON J.F.	NAME	KNAS or REC TRADE CLASSIFICATION	DEMUSTEED TO AIR FORCE TRADE CLASSIFICATION	KNAS RATING or REC RANK or APPOINTMENT	NEW RANK IN AIR FORCE	DATE OF JOINING	DATE OF LAST PROMOTION	AIR FORCE PAY	TERM OF ENLISTMENT		
ID	OC0190489												
Object	MR190489												
Collection	Library												
Classification	Air Publication												
Series	Muster Roll												
Initials	J.F.												
First names	Atkinson												
Surname	407214												
Service no													
Rank	Sgt												
Organisation	Royal Air Force												
Trade	Disciplinarian												
Rank (Army / Navy)	Sgt												
Trade (Army / Navy)	Misc. (Discip.)												
Prisoner of war	No												
Accident													
Result of accident													
Remarks													
Join date	April 6th 1908												
Promotion date	January 25th 1918												
Pay shillings	3												
Pay pence	3												
Terms of enlistment	D.W.												
Awards													
Attached from													
Death details													

Hover over the image to enlarge and scroll on mouse to zoom.



J.F. ATKINSON'S ENTRY

DISCHARGED 26/3/1919

From RAF Museum Storyvault

ORIGINAL

Page. 142c.

of 1919.

REGIMENT OR CORPS.

266 & 301

(To be rendered in duplicate.)

ROYAL AIR FORCE.

ROLL OF INDIVIDUALS entitled to the Victory Medal and/or British War Medal granted under Army Orders

R.A.F. No. Regl. No. NUMER?	Rank	NAME	In square Unit and Corps previously served with by each individual and Regl. Nos. awarded, and whether recorded as having been held for any period in a theatre of War, unless reverted for misconduct, being awarded to the individual or Corps which is to be inscribed on the medal.	Theatres of war in which served	Chaps awarded (to be left blank)	Record of disposal of decorations			REMARKS
						(a) Presented	(b) Despatched by Post	(c) Taken into Stock	
402433.	✓	ARMSTRONG, Percy R.	2806. A. & S. H. Pte. X						Trans. "G" Res. 5.3.19.
301199.	✓	ARNOLD, Ernest W.	35403. R. A. M. C. Pte. X						do. 15.10.19.
301245.	✓	ARMSTRONG, James.	124. R. A. M. C. Pte. X						do. 22.2.19.
134294.	✓	ARROWSMITH, Ernest.	18360. East. Lancs. X						do. 16.3.19.
407244.	✓	ATKINSON, John F.	200011. Yorks. Regt. X						Discharged. 26.3.19.
317439.	✓	BUNYARD, H. S.	C. 15087. Yorks. Regt. X						Trans. "G" Res. 27.3.19.
126332.	✓	BURFORD, Fredk. R.	49342. R. A. M. C. Pte. X						do. 9.4.19.
300351.	✓	BRESEFORD, Frank.	129622. R. G. A. Gunner. X						do. 20.3.19.
19890.	✓	BARTON, Walter W.	69390. R. F. A. Driver. X						Discharged. 19.4.19.
147839.	✓	BIRNEY, Robert.	29279. R. Limiskilling Co. X						Trans. "G" Res. 22.3.19.
129497.	✓	CARLTON, Samuel.	3396. Middlesex Regt. X						do. 4.2.19.
336786.	✓	CAPPERY, Richard.	3439. A. & S. H. Pte. X						Still Serving.
143913.	✓	CHESTERTON, John J.	17603. Leicester Regt. X						Trans. "G" Res. 27.3.19.
302402.	✓	DOWDALL, Arthur R.	24002. R. A. M. C. Serget. X						Trans. "G" Res. 25.3.19.

I certify that according to the Official Records the individuals named in this ROLL are entitled to the Medal or Medals as detailed above.

Place RUISLIP.

Date 12th September 1923.

For Officer in Charge Records. R. A. F.

Signature and rank of Officer certifying.

No. 36471

I.V. 884/13

Date 3-1-24

bound in air binding

bound to leather

(To be rendered in duplicate.)

ROYAL AIR FORCE

Regiment or Corps when Decoration was earned.

5c.

ROLL OF INDIVIDUALS entitled to the Decoration granted under Army Order 20 of 1918

Regt or Corps to which served with blank	On date of Disembarkation		NAME	Date of Disembarkation	REMARKS	Record of disposal of decoration			To be left Blank for use in War Office
	Regt. No.	Rank				(a) Presented by Post	(b) Despatched by Post	(c) Taken into Street	
1/13. Ridg. Yorks. Yeo	1395	Pte	Alderridge	27.10.15	M.E.F. 410297				
1/Norfolk	17692	Pte	Andrews	8.4.15	(1) 105746				
5 Oxons & Bucks. L.I.	17302	Pte	Aldridge	1.10.15	(1) 121035				
1/R. Scots	3489	Pte	Anderson	2.2.15	(1) 144674				
5/A. & S.H.	2242	Pte	Allen	1.6.15	(1) 144654				
11/H.L.I.	4041	Pte	Allen	3.6.15	(1) 139638				
7/Manchrsts.	1824	Pte	Adrian	24.2.14	(3)* 407336				* Temp'd Quilty R.C.F.C.
4/Yorks. Rgt.	243	Cpl.	Atkinson	17.4.15	(1) 407214				* Quilty R.C.F.C.
1/Suffolk Yeo	3241	Pte	Allen	23.3.15	M.E.F. 407553				
8/Seaforth Highlds.	2049	Pte	Anderson	8.7.15	(1) 135492				
12/Midx. Rt.	5205	Pte	Adams	13.8.15	(1) 135446				
R.E.	40714	Spr.	Abbiston	13.7.15	M.E.F. 135393				

I certify that according to the Official Records the individuals named in this ROLL are entitled to the Decoration as detailed above.

Place Blandford

Date 7 OCT 1920

Signature and Rank of Officer Certifying.