

Edmond Ernest Charles Wellesley (born 25th April 1858)

Edmond Ernest Charles Wellesley was born on 25th April 1858 the son of Jane Malet Hayden and Colonel William Henry Charles Wellesley who was the nephew of Arthur Wellesley, the Duke of Wellington.

He married Florence Sarah Louisa Platt on the 29th November 1882 in Oldham. She was the daughter of John Platt MP and Alice Radcliffe.

He was a captain in the Hampshire yeomanry Cavalry and died aged 28 on 11th August 1886 at Kitcombe near Chawton leaving £1,654 17s 3d.



Stained Glass window in Chawton Parish Church. The inscription reads:
*In memory of our beloved husband and father Edmond Ernest Charles Wellesley
who departed this life August 11th 1886. Erected by his wife and children.*

They had three children:

1. Muriel Alice Wellesley born on 11 Sep 1883
2. 2nd Lt. Gerald Valentine Wellesley born on 25th May 1885
3. Captain Edmond Ernest Charles Wellesley born on 9th July 1886

His widow Florence married the Reverend Arthur John Burr on 28th January 1890.

They had the following children:

1. Florence Madeline Burr b: 2 NOV 1890
2. Georgiana Phillis Burr b: 27 NOV 1891
3. Evelyn Noel Burr b: 22 DEC 1892
4. Doris Eileen Burr b: 24 JUN 1895 in Uphill, Axbridge, Somerset, England
5. Vera Winifred Burr b: 16 FEB 1897
6. Enid Ursula Burr b: 11 MAR 1900



Vicarage Tea Party

Turn of the century 1899 tea time group photograph including the whole family of Rev Arthur and Florence Burr (nee Platt and widow of E Wellesley) in the Rectory garden at Uphill, Somerset. St Nicholas church is behind the trees.



Grave of Edmond Wellesley & Florence Burr at Chawton church

In Loving Memory
of
Edmond Ernest
Charles Wellesley
Born April 25th 1858
Died Aug 11th 1886
He is not dead but sleepeth

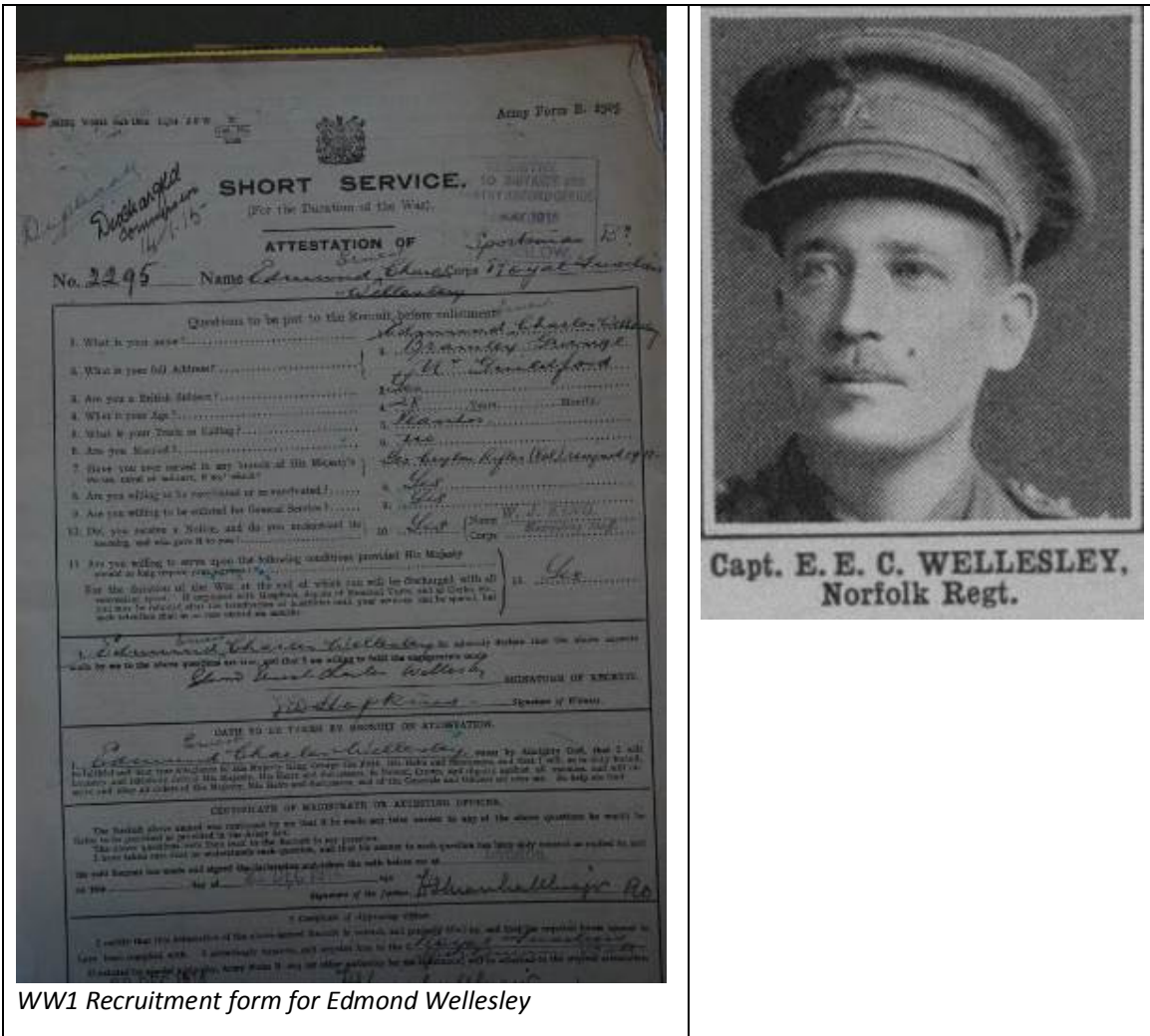
Also of his widow
Florence Sarah Louise Burr
Born March 11th 1860
Died Feb 7th 1937

In 1890 she married the
Rev Arthur John Burr M.A.
All are one in thee for all are thine.



Jane Austen's house. She lived at Chawton for the last eight years of her life where she wrote many of her books.

Captain Edmond Ernest Charles Wellesley (born 9th July 1886)



WW1 Recruitment form for Edmond Wellesley

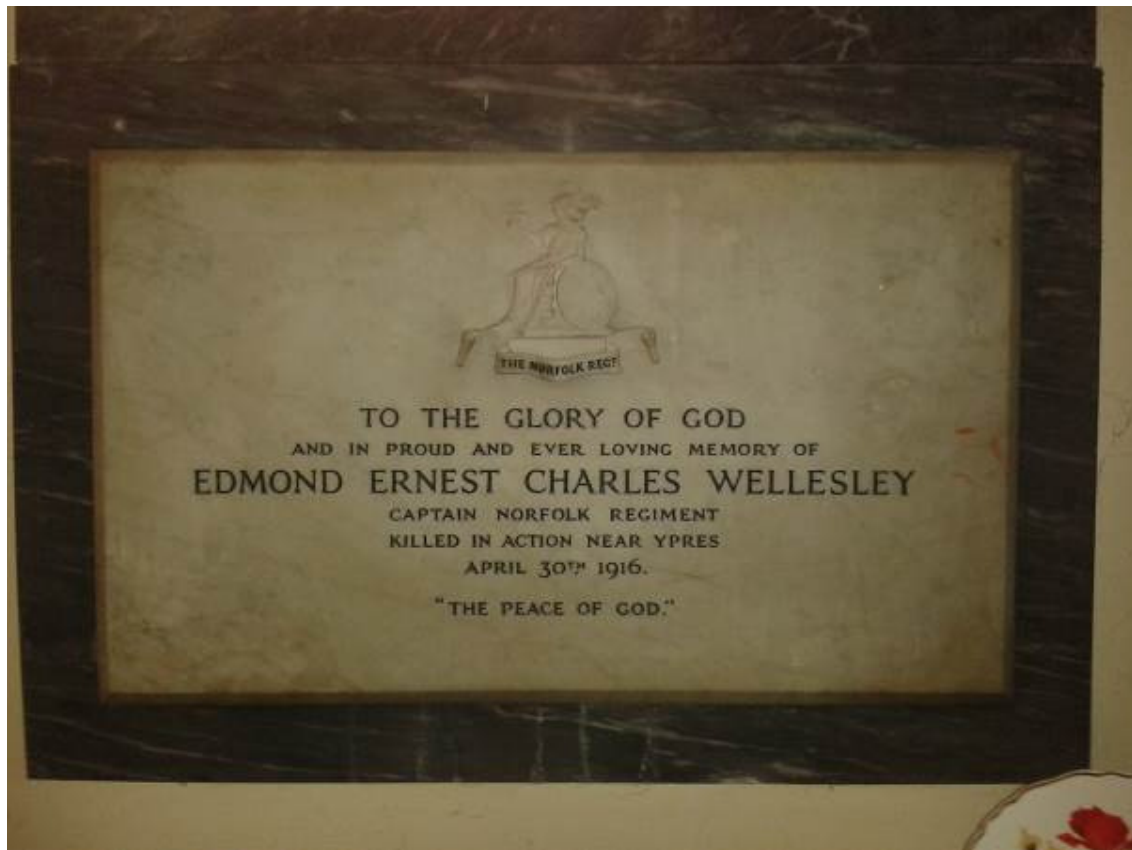
He was 5ft 9 ¾, girth 38 inches, and weight 142 lbs and his trade was as a Planter (in Ceylon). He had previously been in the Ceylon Rifles (Vol) which he resigned from in 1911 and was now living at Bramley Grange near Guildford. He first enlisted in the Royal Fusiliers as a Private in the First World War aged 28 on the 22nd December 1914. He was then in the Royal West Kent from 18/1/1915 to 31/12/1915. He then received a commission as a Captain in the 9th Battalion, Norfolk Regiment on the 5th December 1915.

He married Gwendoline Samuels of Eden Field, Llanfairfechan, on the 6th April 1916 at All Saints, Margaret Street, Marylebone. The witnesses were her father John Samuels (Major in the Royal Garrison Artillery who won the Victoria Cross according to Burke’s peerage) and his mother Florence Burr. The clergyman was his step-father Arthur J Burr. He returned to the Front on the 13th April and the same month was killed by a shell at 9.30pm on the Canal bank near Ypres on the 30th April 1916. He is buried in the middle of La Brique cemetery No. 2, near St Jean, 1½ miles North East of Ypres. Grave Ref: I. N. 22.

He made a Will on 20th April 1916 leaving all his effects to his wife except for one brown suit for his brother Gerald Wellesley. His personal effects were: 1 ladies kid glove and contents, 1 wrist watch, 1 small wrist watch, 2 photographs, 1 card case and 1 wool doll.

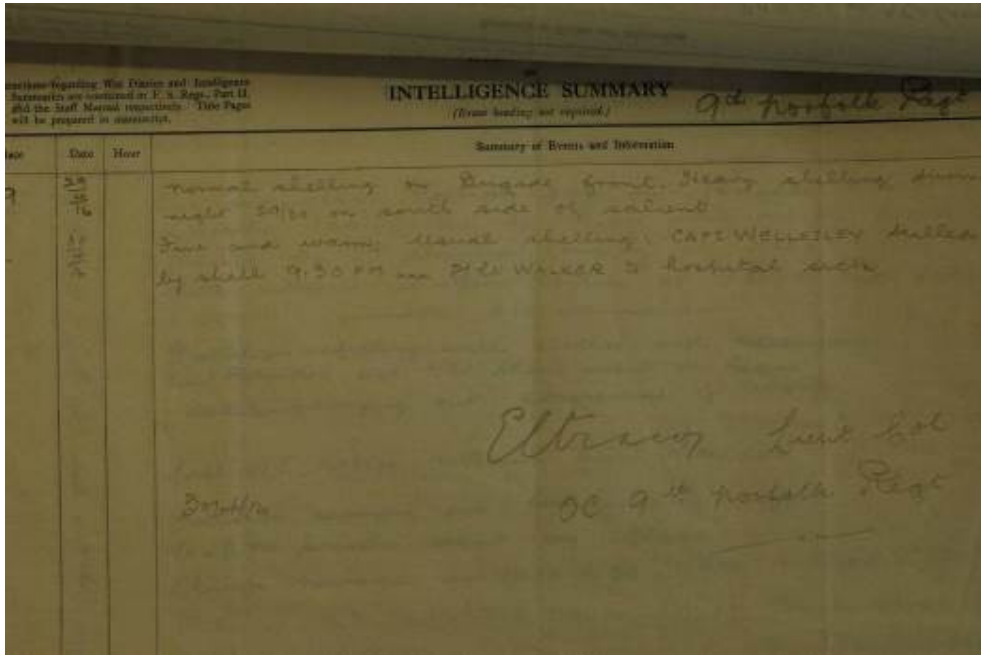


Gravestone at La Brique Cemetery, near Ypres.

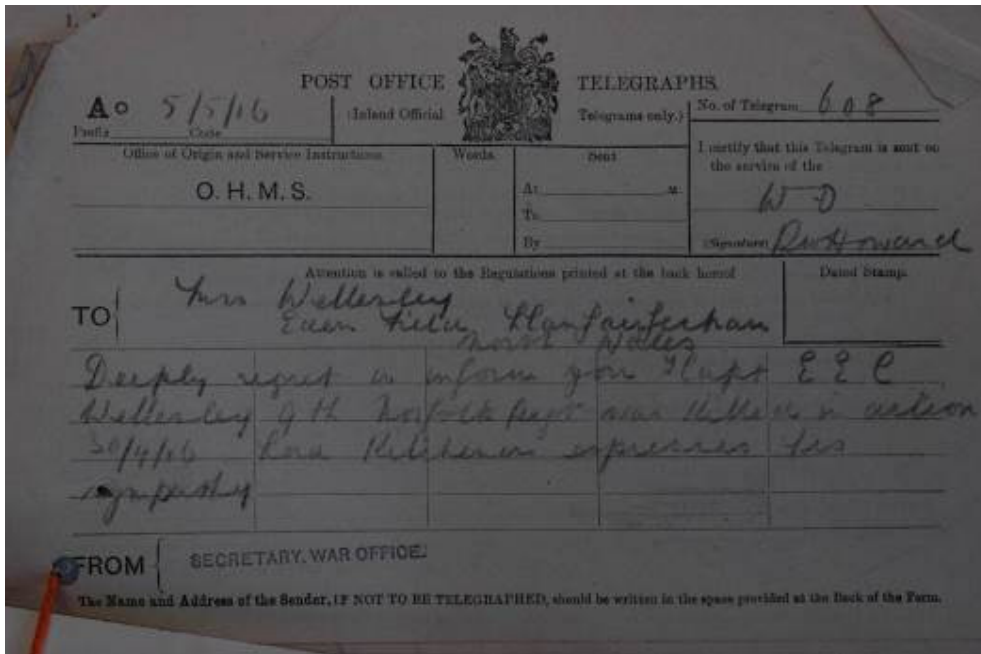


Memorial at Christ Church, Llanfairfechan. Photo courtesy of Peter Jones.

At the bottom of the memorial is engraved: "THIS TABLET IS ERECTED BY HIS SORROWING WIDOW".



9th Norfolk Regiment War Diary, WO 95/1623. Entry reads:
30/4/16 Fine and Warm. Usual shelling: Capt Wellesley killed by shell 9.30pm.



War Office Telegram 5/5/16 to Mrs Wellesley, Eden Field, Llanfairfechan. Entry reads:

Deeply regret to inform you Capt E E C Wellesley 9th Norfolk Regt was killed in action 30/4/16. Lord Kitchener expresses his sympathy.

France

NORFOLK
~~WEST-YORKS.~~ 9.B. WELLSLEY, Capt.E.H.C.

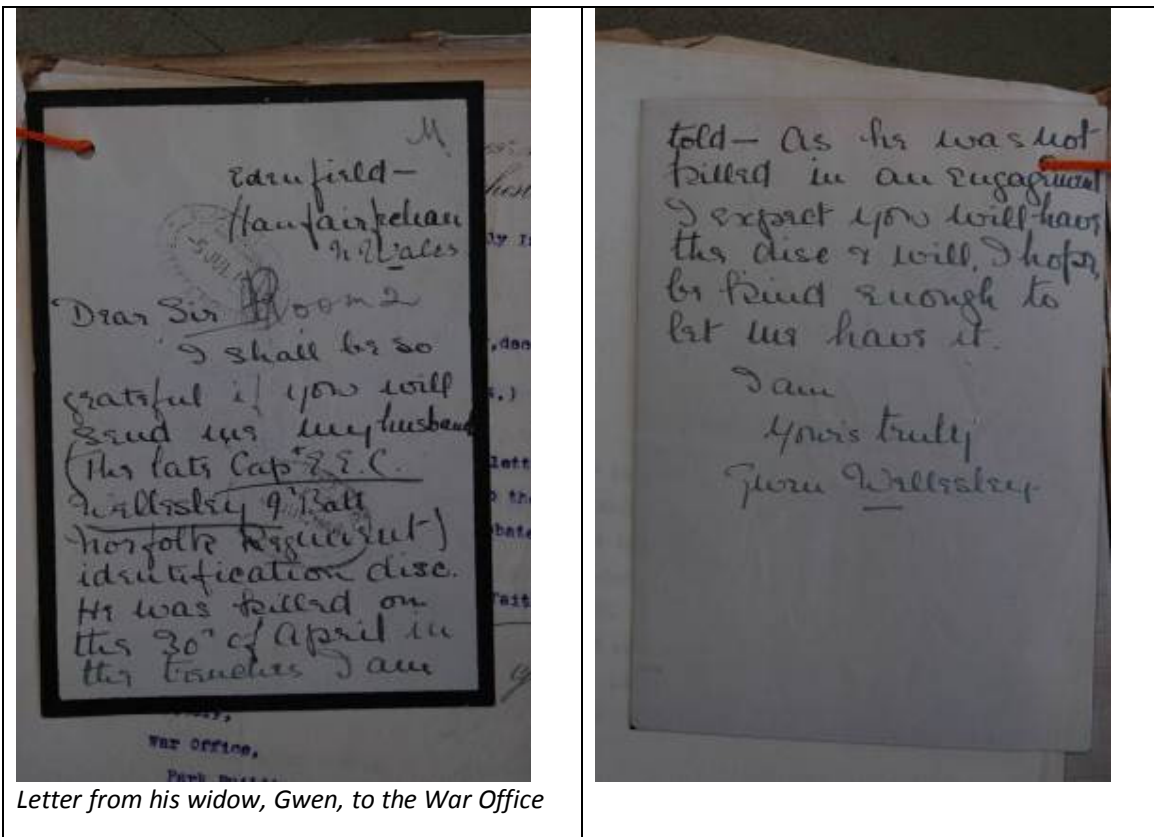
E. April 30th. 1916.

5ft 8, darkish moustache, very popular and very much missed by the men in B. Company. On April 30th the battalion were at Labreake, a village in Ypres district. At dusk the Capt. was standing at the rear of the bay of a trench, talking to two other officers who were within shouting distance of him. A shell burst near him which killed him. Informant that evening was sent down to Etaples to hospital so never saw him buried. He was buried in the Cemetery near St. Jean. When he got back from Etaples at the Pioneer Shop of the battalion, informant saw them making an imitation wooden wreath marked with his name and date of death.

JED

Informant: R.C. Firman, 12774.
 No. 8 Stationary Hospital.
 BOULOGNE. Sept. 5th. 1916.

Description of how he was killed



Letter from his widow, Gwen, to the War Office

His widow, Gwen, received a gratuity of £250 and a pension of £100 a year.

Gerald Valentine Wellesley (born 25th May 1885)

Gerald Wellesley joined the 15th Bn Royal Fusiliers in November 1914 but was admitted to hospital on 23/2/1915 with rheumatism with his right ankle and left wrist swollen and painful. He resigned due to ill health on 21/4/1915.

His address was Sutton Green near Guildford.

He re-enlisted in the 1st Reserve Bn Suffolk regiment and arrived at Alexandria on 20/10/16 but was admitted to hospital on 29/10/16 with gonorrhoea and invalided back to England on 7/3/17.

The image shows two documents related to the recruitment of Gerald Valentine Wellesley. On the left is a handwritten letter, and on the right is a typed application form.

Recruitment Letter (Left):

Warcham's
Sutton Green
N. Guildford
Nov. 10th 1914

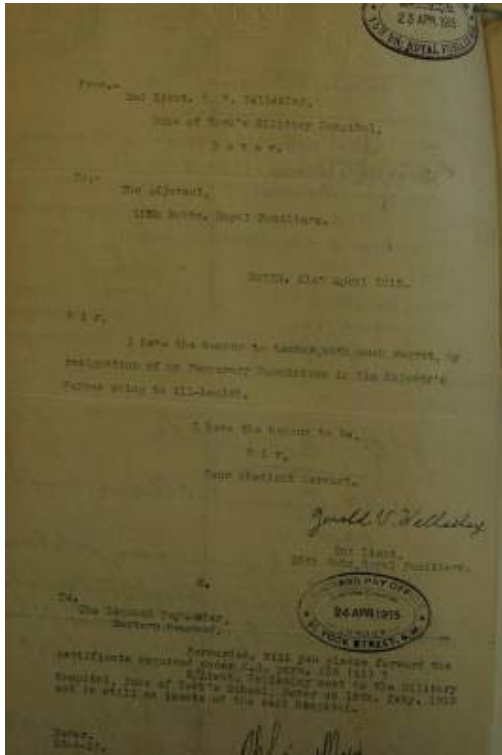
Dear Sir
I enclose application form for
Commission in the Infantry
duly filled up & signed. I myself
and I speak German fairly
well.
Yours faithfully
Gerald V. Wellesley
To Major Ferguson
The War Office

Application Form (Right):

Form 423
CANDIDATE FOR APPOINTMENT TO A TEMPORARY COMMISSION
IN THE REGULAR ARMY FOR THE PERIOD OF THE WAR.
No information asked for below need be given in full.

Name	Wellesley Gerald Valentine
Date of Birth	May 25 th 1885
Rank	Single
Whether you speak English fluently	Yes
Whether a British born or a naturalized British subject	British-born
Present address	Warcham Sutton Green N. Guildford
Former address or addresses	Warcham Sutton Green Warcham Sutton Green
Whether you are, or have previously been, in the Army, Navy, or Air Force, or in any other Government Department (Home, India, or Colonial). If so, give particulars.	No
Whether you are a civil	Yes
Details of previous military training and military experience	Wellington Voluntary Rifle Battalion Corps Sept 1909 - Dec 1902
Whether you are, or have previously been, a member of any of the following: (a) the Royal Naval Reserve, (b) the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, (c) the Royal Air Force Reserve, (d) the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, (e) the Royal Army Medical Corps Reserve, (f) the Royal Army Medical Corps Volunteer Reserve, (g) the Royal Army Medical Corps Reserve, (h) the Royal Army Medical Corps Volunteer Reserve, (i) the Royal Army Medical Corps Reserve, (j) the Royal Army Medical Corps Volunteer Reserve, (k) the Royal Army Medical Corps Reserve, (l) the Royal Army Medical Corps Volunteer Reserve, (m) the Royal Army Medical Corps Reserve, (n) the Royal Army Medical Corps Volunteer Reserve, (o) the Royal Army Medical Corps Reserve, (p) the Royal Army Medical Corps Volunteer Reserve, (q) the Royal Army Medical Corps Reserve, (r) the Royal Army Medical Corps Volunteer Reserve, (s) the Royal Army Medical Corps Reserve, (t) the Royal Army Medical Corps Volunteer Reserve, (u) the Royal Army Medical Corps Reserve, (v) the Royal Army Medical Corps Volunteer Reserve, (w) the Royal Army Medical Corps Reserve, (x) the Royal Army Medical Corps Volunteer Reserve, (y) the Royal Army Medical Corps Reserve, (z) the Royal Army Medical Corps Volunteer Reserve.	No
I certify the above statements to be correct, and I request that I may be appointed to a temporary commission in the Regular Army for the period of the war.	
Date	Nov. 10 th 1914 Gerald V. Wellesley United Kingdom of Great Britain

Recruitment letter and form of GV Wellesley



Resignation letter of GV Wellesley

Army Form B 103. **Casualty Form—Active Service.** Regimental Number _____

Rank *Private* Regiment or Corps *1st Reserve Bn Buff Pioneers* Christian Name *G. V.*

Regiment *12th Bn Buff Pioneers* Age on Enlistment _____ years _____ months

Trained in (a) _____ Terms of Service (a) _____ Service positions from (a) _____

Date of promotion to present rank _____ Date of appointment in latest rank _____

Extended (b) _____ Re-engaged (b) _____ Qualification (c) _____

For Corps Trials and Rate _____

Signature of Officer in Charge _____

Date	Event which occurred	Place of Occurrence	Date of Occurrence	Remarks
	Enlisted	<i>Sturtevant Street</i>		
	Transferred	<i>Northampton</i>	<i>27-12-17</i>	
<i>29-10-18</i>	<i>Joined Buff Pioneers</i>	<i>Northampton</i>	<i>29-10-18</i>	<i>A. 2. 1219</i>
<i>29-10-18</i>	<i>1st Class Buff Pioneers (Barracks)</i>	<i>Northampton</i>	<i>29-10-18</i>	<i>R. 11. 522</i>
<i>30-10-18</i>	<i>Admitted</i>	<i>Northampton</i>	<i>30-10-18</i>	<i>R. 11. 543</i>
<i>16-11-18</i>	<i>1st Class Buff Pioneers (Barracks)</i>	<i>Northampton</i>	<i>16-11-18</i>	<i>R. 11. 543</i>
<i>16-11-18</i>	<i>Transferred to England per 2nd Buff Pioneers</i>	<i>Northampton</i>	<i>16-11-18</i>	<i>R. 20. 75</i>
<i>7-2-19</i>	<i>Admitted to England per 2nd Buff Pioneers</i>	<i>Northampton</i>	<i>7-2-19</i>	<i>R. 20. 75</i>

1917-18.

Casualty form of GV Wellesley

He married Christine Adelina Jelley on 12 June 1918 and they had the following children:
 Edmund Gerald Valerian Wellesley b: 23 Sep 1919
 Phillip Vernon Charles Wellesley b: 10 Mar 1921 who mar Marguerite Victoria Clark on 03/9/1952
 Eileen Ivalene Christine Wellesley b: 7 Jun 1922
 Florence Geraldine Joan Wellesley b: 5 Mar 1924 who mar Capt John Gabriel Combe on 21/9/1946.

References

1. EEC Wellesley War service record: WO 339/24307, National Archives, Kew
2. War Diary of Norfolk Regiment, 9th Bn: WO 95/1623, National Archives, Kew
3. GV Wellesley War service record: WO 339/27381, National Archives, Kew
4. Photograph of Burr & Wellesley family at Vicarage. Source: Brodnax Moore (<http://www.flickr.com/photos/brodnax/1841433058/>)
5. Probate record of E E C Wellesley (died 11/8/1886).
6. Commonwealth War Graves Commission.
7. London Gazette <http://www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues/29433/supplements/438>

Author

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