

First World War Service Record of Charles Joseph Pearson Brooke

The following is from the National Archives Ref: WO 339/45922

6/10

1 st. BN. WILTSHIRE REGT.

CASUALTIES.

No. 8 District.

C. 970.
30.9.16.

Reg.No. Rank & Name.	Casualty.	P.R.
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LIEUT. BROOKE C.P.J.	Missing believed Killed. 3.9.16. N Reptd by O.C. Bn. 24.9.16.	
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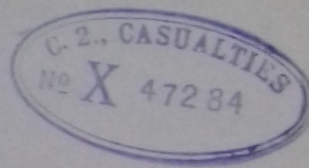
Copy of telegram from O.C. Unit:-

"A shell was seen to explode near this Officer,
since when he has not been seen."

29780	L/C. Brown E.	W. 3.9.16. N Reptd by O.C. Unit. (Rec'd 26.9.16.)
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21. Col. H. H.
Supt
Lectures

Brooke



Lieutenant C.P.J. Brooke,

1st Battalion, Wiltshire Regiment.

"Missing (believed killed) 3rd September, 1916".

Next of Kin :-

Lieutenant-Colonel H.M. Brooke, (Father)
London House,
Dawlish,
South Devon.

M.S.S. (Cas:)
7/9/16.

*Kloane
Capt.*

understanding and

Notes called & signed 12/6/16

Auth. desk

Shirley

Letter to Miss A.L. Brooke as per copy 14/10

*(copies of Hackett & Salmon's statements on
8.2.14. JHP)*

C. 2000

Minute to Records as per copy 14/10. 12.2.14. JHP

C.S. CAS. Lt. C. P. J. Brooke, 1st Wiltshire Regt.

Missing believed killed 3.9.16

Missing believed killed 3.9.16

Missing believed killed 3.9.16

No further official report has been received. Enquiries through the American Embassy have been without result. In view of the lapse of time since anything has been heard of this Officer, his name is put forward for presumption of death.

All unofficial information is attached

Address of Next of Kin.

Mrs Brook G
Sandringham
73 Cromwell
S.W.

Lt. Col H M Brooke (Father)
Supply & Transport Depot.

Both have been notified
the presumption of death
would be the order of the day
Lucknow India

This case has been referred to the Base.

No further information. Missing 3.9.16

M. S. J. (CAS).

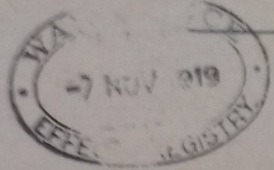
4.4.17

D. G. Scott Tucker Capt

Letter to Mr Brook as per copy l/w 5.5.17.
A.S. Cas.

2 Ladbroke Square.

London W. 5th November 1919



Sir,

I have the honor to refer you to your letter N^o 115110/3 (accounts 4) dated 16th October 1919 and to return you the form, duly completed, forwarded therewith.

Kindly pay the amount to my account at Messrs. Cope & Co. 16 Chancery Cross, and advise me of your having done so.

I presume this amount is on account of his Majesty's gratuity, if so, I should be obliged if his Majesty's gratuity could be paid to my account in due course.

I have the honor to be

Yours

Very most obedient servant

W. M. L. Ladbroke
S.T.C.

C. The Secretary.
His Office
Imperial Institute
South Kensington
London S.W. 7.

S.T.C.

I, Colonel Harry Morris Mitchelson Brooke.

declare that Lieut Charles Joseph Pearson Brooke
of Wiltshire Regtwho died on the third day of September 1917

If no Will was left
insert "no" before
"Will," and strike out
the words in brackets.
Any Will which it is
not intended to prove
should be forwarded
for inspection.

left no Will [~~which it is not intended to prove~~], and that Letters of
Administration of this Estate or Confirmation have not been, and are not
intended to be, taken out.

The only near relations left by the said

were as follows:—

Relationship	Names in full	Addresses in full
Widow	—	—
Children	—	Age
Other relations	—	—
Father	Harry Morris Mitchelson Brooke	50 ¹² / ₁₂ 90 Mrs rd Cox R ^d 16. Charing Cr London.
Mother	May Brooke (Wife)	42 - do -

Insert
"None" if
that is the
fact in
either case.

Give
degree of
relation-
ship.

The said Charles Joseph Pearson Brooke
was born at London

Harry Morris Brooke, Lt Colonel
Etc.

Signature of the Applicant

CERTIFICATE.

I hereby certify that the above Statement made by Colonel H. M. M. Brooke
and signed in my presence is complete and correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Dated at London this 24th day of November 1919

Signature of Minister
Magistrate

John F. Wigglesworth
Major (retired)

Qualification

Justice of the Peace for
County of Hereford

Address

2. Edge Hill
Himbleton - Str. W. 19

115/10/1

FIRST APPOINTMENTS.

FORM to be filled up by successful Candidates for appointment to Commissions in the Army. Candidates are warned to consult their parents or guardians before stating their wishes, as changes cannot be made when once an officer has been gazetted.

Name in full Charles Pearson Joseph Brooke.

1. Regiments for which I desire to express a preference.	(1) <u>The Gloucestershire Regiment.</u>	Family or Territorial Claims (if any), to be fully stated.
Officers wishing for Scottish, Irish, or Welsh Regiments should state their connection, if any, with the country in question.	(2) <u>The Essex Regiment.</u>	My father (now Lt. Col. Supp Corps - Indian Army) received his first commission in this Reg.
(Not more than three Regiments should be specified. Family or Territorial claims should be fully stated.)	(3)	

In the event of a vacancy not being available in these Regiments, state whether it is desired to wait under the terms of the annexed Memorandum. Candidates will only be allowed to wait when they are considered to have special claims.

2. Failing the above, is a Regiment stationed at Home, India, or Colonies preferred?

3. The Indian Army authorities anticipate that the number of officers appointed to the United Kingdom from Sandhurst and from Universities will in ordinary circumstances be sufficient to supply or nearly all the vacancies in the Indian Army as they occur, but if any officers are required from time to time to supplement this direct supply such appointments will be open to officers of units of the Cavalry and Infantry of the Line and the Royal Artillery serving in India who possess the necessary qualifications. If a candidate desires to be posted to a Unit serving in India, with a view to becoming a candidate for the Indian Army, he would be well advised to state the following words on this Form, "Any Regiment which has a Battalion stationed in India," in place of specifying any particular Regiments. At the same time it is pointed out that though every endeavour will be made to meet the candidate's wishes, it cannot be guaranteed to prevent disappointment if he will bear in mind that the request can only be considered with if there is an available vacancy in the Indian Battalion of the Regiment to which he has been gazetted, taken in conjunction with the claims of other candidates who have been senior to him. As a very large number of those entering the Service wish to go to India it must be understood that it is quite impossible to accede to the request of all applicants owing to the small number of vacancies which occur from time to time in Battalions stationed in that Country.

Signature

C. P. J. Brooke.

Address to which notification of appointment should be sent. Any change should be at once notified to the War Office (to be written clearly).

33 Elsham Road.
Hensington
London

Date March 23rd 1915

War Office,
Imperial Institute,
South Kensington,
London, S.W.7.

Form 2.

Accounts 4. Plaque & Scroll

List No. 888. 1914-15.

31st January 1919

Madam

With reference to the late

Lieut. G. P. G. Brooke R. Bn
Wiltshire Regiment

and with a view to the issue of the
Plaque & Scroll which are to be sent
to the next-of-kin of those who have
fallen, I am to ask whether you can
inform this Department of the name
and address of the late Officer's
nearest relative now living, in the
following order of relationship:-

Widow	...	...	...
Eldest Son	...	...	...
.. Daughter	...	...	...
Father	Lt. Colonel H. M. Th. Brooke 5 th Indian Army		
Mother	...	...	...
Eldest Brother	Reginald Brooke Downside Bath.		
.. Sister	...	...	...
.. Half-Brother	...	...	...
.. .. Sister	...	...	...

Owing to the great number of
cases to be dealt with it is
impossible to say how soon the
distribution will be effected in any
individual case.

I am, Madam

Your obedient Servant,

A. J. Mayot

for the Assistant Financial Secretary.

Miss. A. F. Brooke
2. Leathrope Square
London W.

Sir.

In answer to your
Inquiry - My late
Nephew's parents being
at the present moment
both in India - and his
next nearest relative a
Small brother at School
I shall feel very gratified
if you would allow
my Brother, his Grandfather
to take charge
of the Plaque and Scroll
referred to until such
time as we can hand
them over to his Father
in person.

Yrs faithfully,
A. F. Brooke

2. Leathrope Sq. W.
Feb. 5th 1919.

12/9/16 Cable

95-9

POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

Prefix **A** Code (Inland Official)

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. Words. Sent

M.S.3. O.H.M.S. CAS.

At .M. To By

I certify that this Telegram is sent on the service of the **no**

(Signature) **B. Hankins**

Attention is called to the Regulations printed at the back hereof

TO **Chief India**

Dated Stamp.

13696. **Lieut C P J Brooke** **Willskine** **Reg** **was killed on**
3 September **is reported** **missing** **believed** **Killed**
and Transport Depot **Lt Col H** **In Brooke** **Supply**
Lucknow

FROM SECRETARY, WAR OFFICE.

DESPATCHED IN CODE

O.2

The Name and Address of the Sender, IF NOT TO BE TELEGRAPHED, should be written in the space provided at the Back of the Form.

13.9.16. **mal.** **# m/w.**

POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

Prefix **A** Code (Inland Official)

Office of Origin and Service Instructions. Words. Sent

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I certify that this Telegram is sent on the service of the **no**

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and Transport Depot **Lt Col H** **In Brooke** **Supply**
Lucknow

FROM SECRETARY, WAR OFFICE.

The Name and Address of the Sender, IF NOT TO BE TELEGRAPHED, should be written in the space provided at the Back of the Form.

May 8: 17.

BEACON ROYAL HOTEL,
EASTBOURNE.

RECEIVED
WAR OFFICE
9 MAY 1917

r. Jours C. 2. Casualties
115 110/2 received this morning
I regret to have to tell you
that I have heard nothing
further concerning my
son Lieut: C. P. J. Brooke
1/1 Wilts hie Regt.

I am Sir,

Yours truly
W. Brooke.
To: The Secy
W.O.
Alexandra House.

Casualties. 115110/2.

5 May, 1917.

Madam,

I am directed to inform you that it is regretted that no further report has been received concerning Lieutenant C.P.J. Brooke, 1st Battalion, Wiltshire Regiment, reported Missing believed Killed 3rd September, 1916.

It is regretted that it will consequently be necessary for the Army Council to consider whether they must not now conclude that this officer is dead.

Before this course is taken, however, I am to ask if you will be good enough to confirm the fact that no further news of him has reached you.

I am to add that the official action taken as a result of the decision would consist in the winding up of the officer's accounts, and the removal of his name from the Army List. His name would not appear again in the official casualty lists.

I am,
Madam,
Your obedient Servant,

Mrs Brooke,
Sandringham Hotel,
73, Cromwell Road,
S.W.

(Sd.) C.F.H.

buried 10/5/17



No. 11943 Pte G Westcott, 1st North Devon Regiment
being duly sworn states

I knew Lieut Brooke, 1st North Devon Regt who
was in the attack on the Leipzig salient on
I think the 23rd Aug 1916

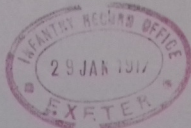
I did not see him killed but missed him and
on asking where he was, was told he had been killed

Taken down by me

G. Westcott, Pte

on 11th Jan 1917

Hospital, Hilsea
1st North Devon Regt



No. 13166. Pte. F. Salmon, having been duly sworn states :-

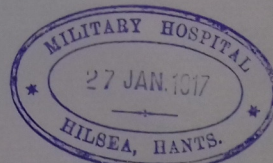
To the best of my belief the Officer whom I
previously mentioned was Lieut. Brooks, as this
Officer paid me.

He was hit in the lower part of his abdomen.
He fell on his back and did not speak or move, and
there was blood on his clothes.

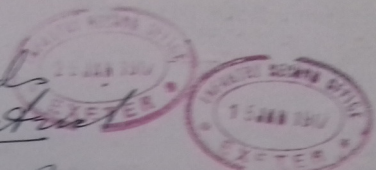
We were not allowed to halt for anything, but
I and another man dragged him into a shell-hole for
safety. I saw no more of the Officer.

F. Salmon. Pte. 13166.

Witness. J. A. Angus. Lt. R.A.M.O.
Qr. Mr. Hilsea Hospital.



2
Pl Records
No 8 District



Statement of No 11943 Pte G W Westcott hereunto
He knows nothing except by hearsay of Lieut Baker's
death

No 29747 Pte Salmon is not with the battⁿ &
is believed to be in the Military Hospital Aldershot

Weymouth
13.1.17

Hyderabad, Hol
Comd 3rd Bn. Regt

my.
District
24.85.

2. Ladbroke Square.
London. W.

INFANTRY RECORD OFFICE
15 JAN 1917
EXETER

January 5th 1917.

Lt. C. F. J. Brooke.

INFANTRY RECORD OFFICE
29 JAN 1917
EXETER

Dear Sir.

INFANTRY RECORD OFFICE
6 - JAN 1917
EXETER

With reference to your
letter of the 2nd instant - I
herewith forward a copy of
the communications, as forwarded
me from the Red Cross - 18 -
Carlton House Terrace together
with the questions I am so
anxious to have answered -
No matter how ghastly they
have been the nature of the
wound - I would rather know

machine gun just after we got

2
Not far a certainty, than
be kept in this terrible
uncertainty.

Had I also been able to
see the man, who described
my nephew as tall and
fair. I should have asked
him to pick out my
nephew from a group
photograph, in my possession.

I thank you for your
kindness in helping me,
in this matter.

Yours Truly.

A. L. Brooke

2. Ladbroke Square.

London. W.

January 2nd 1917



Lt. C. P. J. Brooke -

1st Bn. Regt. -



Dear Sir.

Being very anxious
to verify certain facts respecting
my nephew Lt. C. P. J. Brooke.
and having read two
reports, at 18. Carlton House Terrace
from men who saw him fall.
May I ask to be allowed to
be put in communication
with the two writers of said
reports - i.e. -

a machine gun just after we got
over the top, no more than three ya

Plé J. Westcott 994

+
Plé F. Salmon. 13166

both of the 1st Wilt's Regiment

The was office having mere
ksined the bald statement.

Missing — believed killed
leaves us in a terrible state
of uncertainty.

Yours truly.

(Miss) Aine Brooke.

information received by.
Lt. Cross. 18. Carlton House Terrace
Sept: 11th -

Westcott, 9943, 1st Wilts

Brooke was killed between the
two lines near Thiepval on the 3rd
Sept: I was present and saw this.
I do not know if his body was
recovered, as we were relieved
some time about noon.

Pte F. Salmon. 13166, of the same
Battalion, last week in hospital
in France; he says: -
"Lt. Brooke was my platoon officer;
he was a tall fair fellow and he
only joined a week before we
went over the top, at Bouzincourt.
We went over at Leipzig Salient
in the morning and he was hit by
a machine gun just after we got
over the top, no more than three yards
from me. He fell and lay quite still
and I took him to be dead. We went on
and took the German trench and have dis-
covered it ever since. We were relieved that was upon him.
The wounded were picked up but very anxious to
find the dead. Mr. Brooke was a very
good officer."

I should like Pte Westcott
to have described nature of
wound which caused
death, also what makes
so positive that Brooke was
dead.

The description "Tall" of
does not apply to my
nephew - who was barely
5 feet 10 inches - I was in
complexion & colouring more
so dark, rather than fair.
How was he hit? in
head, body? or - blown up?
What made Pte F. Salmon, feel
so sure he was dead?
If we have held the ground
ever since - why have we
never received Lt. Broo-
ke's disc? or any thing
at all upon him.
The body was never pi-
cked up if so.

Relationship to the Officer

Mother

Date

18/10/16.

Information received by.
Lt. Brose. 18. Carlton House Terrace
Sept: 11th -

Westcott, 9943. 1st Willie

Brooke was killed between the
lines near Thiepval on the 3rd
Sept. I was present and saw this.
I do not know if his body was
recovered, as we were relieved
some time about noon.

I should like to have described features
wounds which caused
death, also what makes
so positive that Brooke is
dead.

Pte F. Salmon. 13166. of the same
Battalion, last week in hospital
in France; he says: -

"Lt. Brooke was my platoon officer;
he was a tall fair fellow and he
only joined a week before we
went over the top, at Bouzincourt.
We went over at Leipzig Salient
in the morning and he was hit by
a machine gun just after we got
over the top, no more than three yards
from me. He fell and lay quite still
and I took him to be dead. We went on
and took the German trench and have since.
I have seen nothing
of it ever since. We were relieved that was upon him - We
morning. The wounded were picked up but very anxious to know
the dead. Mr. Brooke was a very
good officer."

The description "Tall
does not apply to my
nephew - who was barely
5 feet 10 inches - I was in
complexion & colouring
so dark, rather than fair.
How was he hit? in
head, body or - blown
What made Pte F. Salmon
so sure he was dead?
If we have held the position
ever since - Why have we
never received a Mr. Brooke
and have since? Is anything
of it ever since? Was upon him - We
morning. The wounded were picked up but very anxious to know
the dead. Mr. Brooke was a very
good officer."

Relationship to the Officer

Mother

Date

18/10/16

France.

WILTS REGT. 1.

BROOKS. Lt. C. P. J.

M. bel. K. W. O. L. Sept. 10. 1916.

Informant says:

"Lt. Brooks was my platoon officer; he was a tall fair fellow and he only joined a week before we went over the top, at Bouzincourt. We went over at Leipzig Salient in the morning and he was hit by a machine gun just after we got over the top, no more than three yards from me. He fell and lay quite still and I took him to be dead. We went on and took the German trench and have held it ever since. We were relieved that evening. The wounded were picked up but not the dead. Mr. Brook was a very good officer.

Inf: F. Salmon. 13186. B. Coy.

No. 3 Can. Gen. Hosp.

BOULOGNE. 18. 10. 16.

JFSJ.

France.

WILTSHIRE REGT. 1.

BROOKS. Lt. C. P. J.

M. bel K. W. O. L. Sept. 10. 16.

On Sunday about a month ago (would be Sept. 3rd) we made an attack at Thiepval. I saw Lt. Brooks wounded in a shell hole about thirty yards outside our trenches. We had to go on. We took a trench, but had to retire back to our own. The doctor and stretcher bearers went out at night, but could find no trace of him. It is supposed he was blown to pieces or buried.

Informant: L/C P. King, 19131. D. Coy.
Mauricien.

BOULOGNE. Sept. 30th. 1916. JT.

Havre

Oct. 30th 1916

WILTSHIRE REGT. 1.

BROOKE Lt. C.P.J.

M.bel.X.(W.O.L.Sept.10/16)

He was killed between the two lines near Thiepval on the 3rd Sept. I was present and saw this. I do not know if body was recovered as we were relieved sometime about noon.

Informant G. Westcott 9943

1st Wilts B Co.

H.S. Asturias

The Military S.R.B.S.

(M.S.3. Cas.)

7th October, 1916.

The Military Secretary presents his compliments to Mrs. Brooke, and begs to inform her that the following report concerning Lieutenant C.P.J. Brooke, 1st Battalion, Wiltshire Regiment, has been received from the Officer Commanding the Unit :-

"A shell was seen to explode near this Officer, since when he has not been seen."