

3: George Anyon

Basic Information [as recorded on local memorial or by CWGC]

Name as recorded on local memorial or by CWGC: G. Anyon

Rank: Private

Battalion / Regiment: 10th Bn. Cheshire Regiment

Service Number: 62006

Date of Death: 01 August 1917

Age at Death: 19

Buried / Commemorated at: Divisional Collecting Post Cemetery & Extension, Ypres (Ieper), West Flanders, Belgium

Additional information given by CWGC: The son of Joseph and Margaret Anyon, of High St., Neston.

George Anyon was the second child and first son of collier Joseph Anyon and Margaret.

George's father, Joseph (bpt 25 January 1867), was the son of blacksmith Samuel & Margaret Anyon of Neston and Joseph is recorded as a collier from the census of 1891 (although, in the 1911 census, he was a school caretaker) until 31 March 1917 when, aged 50, he was injured by falling rocks whilst underground. At that time he was recorded as a dataller, a day wage man or day-man, who was paid on a daily basis for work done as required. Datallers' work included building and repairing roadways but their employment by a colliery was often irregular and uncertain.

Joseph Anyon married Maggie Edwards in Liverpool in late 1890 and in 1901 the family was living on Bridge Street:

Joseph Anyon	Head M	33	✓	Coal Hewer	do	—	Neston Ches
Margaret do	Wife M	34	✓	—	—	—	Glandovey Cardigan
Elizabeth do	Daughter S	7	✓	—	—	—	Neston Ches
George do	Son S	2	✓	—	—	—	do do
Maggie do	Daughter S	Infant	✓	—	—	—	do do

1901 census (extract) – Bridge Street, Neston

Joseph Anyon	33	coal hewer	born Neston
Margaret	34		born Glandovey, Cardigan
Elizabeth	7		born Neston
George	2		born Neston
Maggie	infant		born Neston

The children were baptised at Neston parish church on:

Elizabeth	1 September 1893	Joseph was a collier
George	12 June 1898	Joseph was a miner
Maggie	9 September 1900	Joseph was a miner

In April / June 1903 son John was born and by 1911 the family had moved to Raby Road and Joseph had become a school caretaker:

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Number of Schedule 244
(To be filled up by the Enumerator after collection.)

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in Ink.

The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	AGE (last Birthday and SEX)	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE	PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Persons aged ten years and upwards	BIRTHPLACE of every person	NATIONALITY of every person born in a Foreign Country	INFIRMITY	
of every Person, whether Member of Family, Visitor, Boarder, or Servant, who	State whether "Head," or "Wife," or "Son," or "Daughter," or other Relative, "Visitor," or "Boarder," or "Servant."	For Infants under one year state the age in months as "under one month," "one month," etc.	State, for each Married Woman entered on this Schedule, the number of:— Children born alive to present Marriage (If no children born alive write "None" in Column 7). Total Children Born Alive. Children still Living. Children who have Died.	Personal Occupation. The reply should show the precise branch of Profession, Trade, Manufacture, etc. If engaged in any Trade or Manufacture, the particular kind of work done, and the Article made or Material worked or dealt in should be clearly indicated. (See Instructions 1 to 8 and Examples on back of Schedule.)	Industry or Service with which worker is connected. This question should generally be answered by stating the business carried on by the employer. If this is clearly shown in Col. 10 the question need not be answered here. No entry needed for Domestic Servants in private employment. If employed by a public body (Government, Municipal, etc.) state what body. (See Instructions 9 and Examples on back of Schedule.)	Whether Employer, Worker, or Working on Own Account. Write opposite the name of each person engaged in any Trade or Industry, (1) "Employer" (that is employing persons other than domestic servants), or (2) "Worker" (that is working for an employer), or (3) "One Account" (that is neither employing others nor working for a trade employer). Whether Working at Home. Write the words "At Home" opposite the name of each person carrying on Trade or Industry at home. NOTE.—In the case of persons born elsewhere than in England or Wales, state whether "Resident" or "Visitor" in this Country.	(1) If born in the United Kingdom, write the name of the County, and Town or Parish. (2) If born in any other part of the British Empire, write the name of the Dependency, Colony, etc., and of the Province or State. (3) If born in a Foreign Country, write the name of the Country. (4) If born at sea, write "At Sea." NOTE.—In the case of persons born elsewhere than in England or Wales, state whether "Resident" or "Visitor" in this Country.	State whether— (1) "British subject by parentage." (2) "Naturalized British subject," giving year of naturalization. Or (3) If of foreign nationality, state whether "French," "German," "Russian," etc. (4) "Lunatic," or "Imbecile," or "Feeble minded," state the infirmity opposite that person's name, and the age at which he or she became afflicted.
(1) passed the night of Sunday, April 2nd, 1911, in this dwelling and was alive at midnight, or								
(2) arrived in this dwelling on the morning of Monday, April 3rd, not having been enumerated elsewhere.								
No one else must be included. (For order of entering names see Examples on back of Schedule.)								
1 Joseph Anyon	Head	44	Married 20 6 4 2	Caretaker, County Council school	Neston, Cheshire			
2 Margaret Anyon	Wife	44	Married 20 6 4 2	House Wife	Cardigan, Cardiganshire, Wales			
3 Elizabeth Anyon	Daughter	17	Single		Neston, Cheshire			
4 George Anyon	Son	12		School	Neston, Cheshire			
5 Maggie Anyon	Daughter	10			Neston, Cheshire			
6 John Anyon	Son	7			Neston, Cheshire			

(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

I certify that—
(1) All the names on this Schedule are entered in the proper columns.
(2) I have counted the males and females in Column 3 and, separately, still have counted their sum with the total number of persons.
(3) After making the necessary enquiries I have completed all entries on the Schedule which appeared to be defective, and have corrected such as appeared to be erroneous.

Initials of Enumerator: *ML*

Total.	Males	Females	Persons
	5	5	6

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling.)

Write below the Number of Rooms in this Dwelling (House, Tenement, or Apartment). Count the kitchen as a room but do not count scullery, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom, nor warehouse, office, shop.

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: *Joseph Anyon*
Postal Address: *Raby, Rd. Neston Cheshire*

five Rooms

1911 census (condensed) – Raby Road, Neston

Joseph Anyon	44	caretaker, County Council school	born Neston
Margaret	44	house wife	born Cardigan
Elizabeth	17	at home	born Neston
George	12		born Neston
Maggie	10		born Neston
John	7		born Neston

Joseph and Margaret had been married for 20 years and four of their six children were still living.

Of the two children who had not survived it is known that Joseph Anyon (baptised 8 December 1895) was buried 21 August 1897 aged 1 year 10 months. The second child who died was Mary Jane Anyon whose birth was registered in the 3rd quarter of 1906 and who was buried, aged 18 months (when the address was recorded as Raby Road) on 1 February 1908.

George Anyon was employed as a porter on the Great Central Railway in Neston before joining the army and the family was, when George enlisted, living on Neston High Street.

George attested for the army in Birkenhead on 6 June 1916 when he was aged 18 years 2 months. Although his physical development was recorded as 'good' he was, in fact, rather small for his age being 5ft 6¼ inches tall, weighing 117lb (8 stone 5lb / 53kg) and with a chest measurement of 33 inches. Additionally, it is recorded that he had upper dentures and scars on both shins.

George was mobilised on 12 March 1917 and became part of the 1st Expeditionary Force to France on 20 June 1917, disembarking there the following day. On 24 June he was posted to the 1st Battalion Cheshire Regiment before, on 9 July 1917, being transferred to the 10th Battalion Cheshire Regiment. He was killed just over three weeks

later, during the Battalion's involvement at The Battle of Pilckem Ridge when the 10th Battalion was occupying the Bellewarde (Bellewaarde) section of the newly-captured high ground between Bellewarde and Pilckem.

The Battle of Pilckem Ridge (31 July - 2 August 1917) was the opening attack of the main part of The Third Battle of Ypres and took place in the Ypres Salient area of the Western Front. The Allied attack had mixed results; a substantial amount of ground was captured and a large number of casualties inflicted on the German defenders, except on the tactically vital Gheluvelt plateau on the right flank. The German defenders also recaptured some ground on the XIX Corps front, from the Ypres-Roulers railway, north to St. Julien. After several weeks of changeable weather, heavy rainfall began in the afternoon of 31 July and had a serious effect on operations in August, causing more problems for the British who were advancing into an area devastated by artillery fire and which was partly flooded. The battle became controversial, with disputes about the predictability of the August deluges and for its mixed results, which in much British writing were blamed on misunderstandings between Gough and Haig and on faulty planning, rather than on the resilience of the German defence.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Pilckem_Ridge]

The involvement of the 10th Battalion at that time was well-recorded by Colonel A. C. Johnston who, at that time, had been promoted to Temporary Lt. Colonel, in command of a Service Battalion of the Cheshire Regiment. In late 1917 Johnston was promoted to Brigadier General as Brigade Commander, 128th Infantry Brigade British Expeditionary Force, the youngest General in British Army. He was awarded the DSO & bar, the Military Cross and was wounded four times. Johnston's war diary for that time, reproduced by Arthur Crookenden, noted:

31st July. "Zero for the great push was at 3-50 a.m. Suddenly, as if by a wave of a magician's wand, hundreds of guns began to roar, captive balloons were hoisted in every direction, the sky became full of aeroplanes which seemed to arrive from all corners of the horizon, light trains steamed up full of troops, bodies of infantry began filling up all the emergency routes, mounted troops trotted up towards the front, lorries in streams noisily made their way along the roads. R.E. and Pioneers began moving up with all their tools and paraphernalia We were busy ourselves issuing bombs and tools, and getting ready to move forward. At 6-30 a.m., we heard that the first two objectives had been gained on the whole Army front. Soon after, we started to move up to our forward assembly area at Halfway House. This entailed going along a track through our guns. The noise was simply deafening, and some of our recruits were rather terrified by it. However, we got along all right and were lucky not to have to go through much German shelling. The orders were for the whole Brigade to be crammed into tunnels. I was pretty certain that there was not room for all and, as we were the rear Battalion, I saw there was not much chance for us. Fortunately, I knew this area very well,

and took the law into my own hands by putting three companies into some neighbouring trenches, where they were very comfortable. They got in before the shelling on Halfway House began. This shelling caught some of the men trying to get into the tunnels where the congestion was awful. I lost two officers and two sergeants here. We halted here some hours, and it was obvious that the attack on the front near Hooze was not going well. Further north, things were going excellently, but the weather looked ominous. About 5-30 p.m., we got orders to relieve the 24th Brigade (8th Division) on the West Hoek and Bellewarde ridges to-morrow. It had now begun to rain steadily. I went up past Bellewarde lake to the 2nd Northhamptons whom I was to relieve. The ground was already very slippery, a mass of crump holes, and in an awful state generally. The attack had gone well up to a point, but machine gun fire from the right flank had eventually held up the advance. The Germans had few men in their front system, so the casualties and prisoners were less than had been hoped. Hardly had I got back to Halfway House, than I was sent for to Brigade H.Q. The corps were nervous lest the 8th Division should be driven off the Bellewarde ridge. They, therefore, ordered a Battalion to be sent up to lie out in the open on the reverse slope of the ridge, not to go into the trenches on the ridge, and not to be used for anything. It was to wait till the 8th Division had been pushed off the ridge, and then it was to counter-attack the Germans off it—what an order! We were to be within 150 yards of the 8th Division, but were not allowed to help them till the position was lost, though we were to counter-attack up a steep slope, through a good deal of wire, and over nothing but a wide expanse of slippery crump holes. Prior to this attack, the Battalion would be lying out in the open, under an intense barrage from which they would have no protection. However, it had got to be, and my Battalion was “for it.” It was now 11-30 p.m., pitch dark, the whole country a mass of slimy mud and obstacles. No one in the Battalion except myself and one other had ever seen the ground before. I went on ahead with an orderly in the pouring rain, and though I knew every inch of the ground, was unencumbered with equipment, and had a stick to help me along, I found some difficulty in finding my way. Owing to the mud, it took me over two hours to get there, a distance of only a mile. When I got there, the 24th Brigade did not want us. However, the order had to be carried out. Waiting for the Battalion to arrive, and wet to the skin, I slithered about looking for any old German dug-out to shelter in, but without success. Tried several times to shelter in a hurdle lean-to in the wood near the lake, but was always getting shelled, and eventually had to content myself with walking up and down in mud up to my knees in a vain endeavour to keep warm, with my clothes soaked, and with the rain trickling down my neck. The worst night I have ever known.

1st August. The Battalion began to arrive about 3-30 a.m. The men were fearfully done up, having been slithering about in the dark all night, wet to the skin, and carrying a lot of extra weight. I felt very bad at having to line them out in the swamp, and put them in little groups in crump holes, most of which were deep in water. There was a

little shelling, and being out in the open, we began at once to have casualties. About 7 a.m., to my great relief, I was told I could relieve the 2nd Northhamptons right away. But it was not going to help us much, as they were holding new, half-dug trenches, which the rain was fast filling, or making them crumble to nothing. The relief was quickly over, and I made my H.Q. in a German concrete machine gun emplacement on the Bellewarde ridge. The rain continued to pour, and there was a good deal of shelling. About mid-day, the Germans started to bombard us heavily, and kept it up for the rest of the day. We had an awful time. There was no cover for the men. Trenches were soon non-existent, or became wet ditches in which men often sank up to their waists, and it often took six men to pull one man out of the mud. The Germans had got the range to an inch, had direct observation on to us from our right, and plastered the area incessantly with crumps, whizz-bangs, and 4.2's. Our casualties mounted rapidly. There was no cover, all one could do was to spread the men out in crump holes to minimize casualties. In these circumstances, the men are apt to crowd together. It was when I was going about shaking them out that I got hit, though only slightly. First I was knocked off my feet by a bit of shrapnel, which fortunately only went through my boot and sock, and badly bruised my ankle. About 20 minutes later, I got a small piece of shell in the left hand which the doctor extracted. My poor fellows had an awful time, and many wounded sank in the mud, and were drowned in it before assistance could reach them, or before they were discovered. One officer, who had practically sunk in the mud out of sight, was found only half an hour after I had been speaking to him. We had about 200 casualties in the day, and besides this, there were men dropping from cold and exhaustion. The stretcher bearers could not compete with the number of casualties, and, in many cases, it required about 6 men to carry a stretcher, as each man sank into the mud at least up to his knees, and most of the men were too done up to be able to carry the weight.

As it got dark, the shelling gradually subsided, but not so the rain, which fell incessantly. We got rations up with difficulty, but cooking was out of the question. The men had just to make the best of things, and spent the night in the mud, often up to their waists. Fortunately, we managed to get some rum which warmed them up a bit.

2nd August. The rain still continues and conditions are as bad as I have ever known. We get shelled at intervals, and, as there is no cover, we are still having a good many casualties. The powers that be are continually warning us that the enemy means to counter-attack us. In the present state of the ground, I doubt if they could attack.

The Battalion was relieved in the early morning of the 4th August, and moved back to Halfway House. Though it was only a mile, it took the men all their time to get back. Even here, the mud round about was

so deep, the tunnels and dug-outs so water-logged, and the filth and smells so bad, that it was no real rest for the men. The Battalion went back to Vancouver Camp on the 5th."

The 10th Battalion lost 2nd/Lieut. W. G. Hastings and 53 men killed and missing, and 10 officers, of whom 6 remained at duty and 140 men wounded.

[From: *The History of the Cheshire Regiment in the Great War, 1914 – 1918* Arthur Crookenden, Colonel of the Regiment WH Evans, Sons & Co. Ltd. 1938]

The Regimental War Diary gives a little further information for the first two days in August 1917:

Instructions regarding War Diaries and Intelligence Summaries are contained in F. S. Regs., Par. II, and the Staff Manual respectively. Title pages will be prepared in manuscript.			WAR DIARY or INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. (Erase heading not required.)	10 th Bn Cheshire Regt.	Army Form C. 2118.
Place	Date	Hour	Summary of Events and Information		
BELLEWARDE RIDGE	1/8/17		<p>less B Company who remained in LEINSTER STREET trench. The Battalion relieved the 2nd Bn. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE REGT. in support of the newly captured BELLEWARDE RIDGE having moved up the previous night. Owing to the RIDGE being very heavily shelled the men were distributed in shell holes in front and behind of the ridge. It rained incessantly the whole day and our positions were very heavily shelled. The ground was in an extremely bad condition the mud being very thick and it was only possible to move about with difficulty. Our casualties were rather heavy but Lt. HASTINGS, W.G., was the only Officer killed. A number of Officers were slightly wounded but all remained at duty. Stretcher bearers experienced great difficulty in getting stretcher cases away and our carrying party which had remained at HALFWAY HOUSE had difficulty in getting water and rations to us. The shelling continued throughout the day and our Bn. HQ which was a small concrete Enemy O.P. came in for particular notice. We were to support the 1st WILTS. REGT. who held the new front line on the WESTHOEK RIDGE.</p>		
do	2/8/17		<p>The shelling continued throughout the day though except at intervals it was not so heavy as the previous 24 hours. Weather conditions still remained bad and it rained almost the whole day. Companies</p>		

War Diary extract, transcript - 10th Battalion Cheshire Regiment -1 August 1917 - morning of 2 August

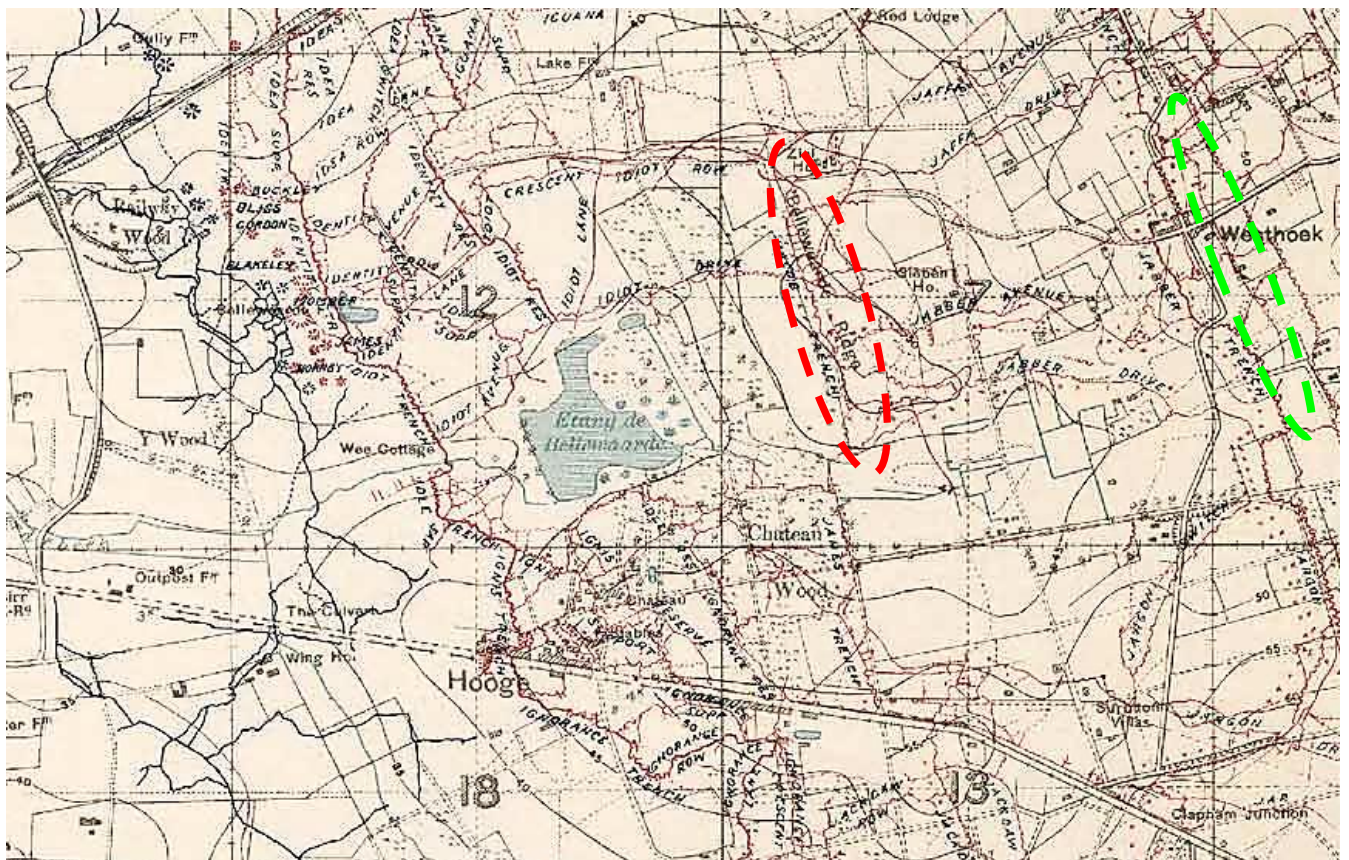
BELLEWARDE RIDGE 1/8/17 The Battalion less 'B' Company who remained in LEINSTER STREET trench relieved the 2nd Bn. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE REGT. in support of the newly captured BELLEWARDE RIDGE having moved up the previous night. Owing to the RIDGE being very heavily shelled the men were distributed in shell holes in front and behind of the ridge. It rained incessantly the whole day and our positions were very heavily shelled. The ground was in an extremely bad condition the mud being very thick and it was only possible to move about with difficulty. Our casualties were rather heavy but Lt. HASTINGS, W.G., was the only Officer killed. A number of Officers were slightly wounded but all remained on duty. Stretcher bearers experienced great difficulty in getting stretcher cases away and our carrying party which had remained at HALFWAY HOUSE had difficulty in getting water and rations to us.

The shelling continued throughout the day and our Bn. HQ which was a small concrete Enemy OP came in for particular notice. We were to support to the 1st WILTS. REGT. who held the new front line on the WESTHOEK RIDGE.

BELLEWARDE RIDGE 2/8/17 The shelling continued throughout the day though except at intervals it was not so heavy as the previous 24 hours. Weather conditions still remained bad and it rained almost the whole day.

(On the following page the Diary continues with the action during 2 August).

On 4 August, Haig claimed to the Cabinet that the attack [ie the Battle of Pilckem Ridge] was a success and that casualties had been low for such a big battle, 31,850 men from 31 July – 2/3 August, compared to 57,540 losses on 1 July 1916. An advance of about 3,000 yards (2,700 m) had been achieved, German observation areas on the highest part of the Gheluvelt Plateau near "Clapham Junction", the ridge from Bellewaarde to Pilckem had been captured and nine German divisions had been "shattered" and hurriedly relieved by the first echelon of Eingreif Divisions, implying that fresh divisions had replaced them in turn, beginning the process of drawing German divisions to Flanders, away from the bulk of the French armies. An unusually large number of German dead were counted, more than 6,000 prisoners and 25 guns had been taken. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Pilckem_Ridge]



The trench system around Bellewaarde Ridge (circled in red) and Westhoek Ridge (circled in green) on 30 June 1917 before the capture of this area by the Allied troops.

[Source: NMP/National Archives TM CD]

Westhoek Ridge, August 1917

<https://ww1ieper1917.wordpress.com/2012/09/19/part-three-westhoek/>



Although George Anyon is recorded as being buried at the Divisional Collecting Post Cemetery & Extension in Belgium the photograph of the gravestone on the International Wargraves Photography Project website appears to be of a different individual.

ROLL OF HONOUR.—News was received on Sunday of the death in action of Pte. George Anyon, of the 10th Cheshires. Although up to the time of writing the sad news has not been officially declared by the War Office, yet there is no shadow of doubt as to its authenticity, as the report of his death came direct from the captain of the company to which he belonged. Pte. Anyon was just over 19 years of age, and only went to France a few weeks ago. He was very well known and respected, and his lamented death, after being out such a short time, cast quite a gloom over Neston and was a staggering blow to his parents and family. Before joining up Pte. Anyon was employed at the G.C. Station, Neston and Parkgate. His father is a well-known figure and employed as caretaker at the County Council Schools, and much sympathy is extended to him and his sorrowing family in their sad bereavement. The air is full of rumours in regard to other Nestonians, but these require confirmation.

Chester Chronicle - Saturday 18 August 1917

A YOUNG PATRIOT'S SACRIFICE.—Another gap has been made in the ranks of the many brave Neston boys who willingly left their homes at the call of duty to defend their country. The news of the death in action of Private George Anyon has been received with the deepest regret. He was the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Anyon of High street, and although of a quiet retiring disposition he won the esteem and regard of all with whom he came into contact. He was a most conscientious member of the Rev. H. M. Harriss' Bible Class, his influence among his companions always being used for good. Although only 19 years of age he had performed useful work with the Men's V.A.D. and is the second of their number to make the great sacrifice. He enlisted in the Cheshire Regiment as soon as he was old enough, and it is only five weeks since he left England. The greatest sympathy is felt for his parents and other relatives in the heavy blow which has fallen upon them, and many messages of condolence have been received.

Cheshire Observer - Saturday 18 August 1917

IN MEMORIAM.
ANYON—In loving 20th birthday remembrance of our dear son Private GEORGE ANYON, Cheshire Regt., killed in action, in France, August 1, 1917.
His sweet smile and loving face
Are pleasant to recall;
He had a kindly word for each
And died beloved by all.
Fondly remembered by his Father, Mother, Sister, and Brother, at High-street, Neston

*Liverpool Echo - Tuesday
9 April 1918*

Joseph Anyon, George's father, died on 31 August 1933 aged 66 and Margaret died on 11 December 1940 aged 76.

John Anyon, George's brother, probably married Annie Hamilton in late 1929 and he died in April / June 1966 aged 62.

Elizabeth Anyon, George's sister, married John H Griffiths in late 1923.

Nothing is known for certain of Maggie Anyon although she may have married James Norman in late 1925.

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regt. No.
ANYON	Ches R	Pte	62006
George			

Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	J/2/101 B20 6629		
BRITISH	do - - do -		
STAR			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

K. 1380

British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index
Cards, 1914-1920



Stretcher bearers in deep mud, Pilckem Ridge, 1 August 1917

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Pilckem_Ridge



Battle of Pilckem Ridge 31 July - 2 August: The first wounded to come in lying on the ground at a farm at Elverdinghe. An observation balloon is rising in the background. www.ww1cemeteries.com

Margaret Guyon
High St. Weston Coy.
Mother

17801/B Head

Army Form B. 103.

Casualty Form - Active Service.

Regimental Number... 62006

Regiment or Corps... 2nd Cheshire

Rank... Pte Surname... GUYON Christian Name... George

Religion... Methodism Age on Enlistment... 18 years 12 months

Enlisted (a)... B Head Terms of Service (a) Duration... 12-9-14 Service reckons from (a) 12-9-14

Date of promotion to present rank... Date of appointment to lance rank...

Extended { } Re-engaged { } Qualification (b) ...
or Corps Trade, and Rate...

Occupation... 3rd Order (B) Signature of Officer... H. Lunnell

Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, &c., during active service, as reported on Army Form B.213, Army Form A.36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks Taken from Army Form B.213, Army Form A.36, or other official documents
Date	From whom received				
		Embarked ...			
		Disembarked...			
	CHESHIRE 3.	POSTED. PTE	13-9-17		H. Lunnell
		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"><p align="center">POSTED Bn. EXPEDITIONARY FORCE JUN 20 1917 <i>H. Lunnell</i> CAPT. ADJUTANT, 3RD BN. CHESHIRE REGT.</p></div>			

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered.
(b) Signaller, Showing-Smile, &c.

(5225) W. 1586/M.1477 2,400,000 1/17 M&A & W Ltd Forms B./100/4 (M. 886)

[P.T.O.]

The Anyon family grave in Neston parish churchyard is heavily weathered and flaked and much of the inscription is unreadable. However, the grave contains George's parents and siblings Joseph and Mary and part of the inscription records George's death in 1918 aged 19.



From Army Reg. 83. 12/2/17

DEAD 191801 E1

ARMY FORM D

To be used (a) for recruits enlisting direct into the Regular Army, and (b) for men of the Territorial Force when they are admitted to Hospital, Army Form B. 178A to be used for Special Reserve recruits and Reservists enlisting into the Regular Army.

MEDICAL HISTORY of

Surname Anyon Christian Name George

TABLE I. - GENERAL TABLE.

Birthplace ... Parish Neston County Cheshire

Examined ... On 5 day of Jan 1917
at B. Lea

Declared Age ... 18 years 2 months 2 days.

Trade or Occupation ... Printer

Height ... 5 foot 6 1/2 inches.

Weight ... 11 1/2 lbs.

Chest Measurement { Circ. when fully Expanded 33 inches.
Range of Expansion 2 1/2 inches.

Physical Development ... Good

Part of George Anyon's Medical Record containing some details of his age and physical attributes. The form has been over stamped **DEAD** but the date of his death - he was killed in action - was not noted on this form.

546503 E/400280 Anyon George

10th Bn 1st P. 17 Ph.bury
Cheshire Belgium 10/17
Pli in No 2
62006 Action

a 74 5070
Lene 26.6.19

WAR GRATUITY.
1/12/18 12/11/19
transfer 6586
Liedg. Paper 21035
Serial No. 23885 6-17

1 17 = 1 17 = m.o. 12-17. 5-12-17 Fa. Joseph 1 17 =

6 11/19 2. Mo. Harriett 3 - -

8-1-20 Fa. Joseph 3 - -

Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects, 1901-1929

In June 1919 the army paid outstanding credits – mainly remaining wages – to soldiers or, in the case of those who had died, their family or nominated representatives. At the same time a War Gratuity was often paid. George Anyon had accrued a credit of £1 17s and his father, Joseph, received this. Joseph received also the £3 War Gratuity although this, initially, was recorded as being paid to his mother, named as Harriett (George's mother was Margaret). This payment has been encircled and a pencil note *apparent error entry* has been appended.

The total payment, £4 17s, is approximately equivalent to a *labour value* (ie wages) of about £750 in 2016.

The War Gratuity was introduced in December 1918 as a payment to be made to those men who had served in WW1 for a period of 6 months or more home service or for any length of service if a man had served overseas. The rules governing the gratuity were implemented under Army Order 17 of 1919 but the amount paid was related to the length of war service.