

18: Frederick William Daniel

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

Name as recorded on local memorial or by CWGC: F. W. Daniel
 Rank: Corporal Recorded by CWGC as being a Lance Corporal
 Battalion / Regiment: 1st / 5th Bn. The King's (Liverpool Regiment)
 Service Number: 7755 Date of Death: 01 January 1917 Age at Death: 28
 Buried / Commemorated at: Vlamertinghe Military Cemetery, Ypres (Ieper), West Flanders, Belgium
 Additional information given by CWGC: The son of Richard and Emily Martin Daniel of Neston *

* This information is suspect; although Fred Daniel had been born in Neston the family was, at the time of the 1911 census, and in 1917, living in the Toxteth area of Liverpool.

Frederick William Daniel was the first child of Richard and Emily Daniel.

Ship's steward Richard Martin Daniel, 23, married Emily Jellicoe of Neston at St George's Church, Everton, on 30 July 1887. Emily, 26, recorded her address as 24 Carmel Street (a street in Everton which no longer exists) and noted that her father was bricklayer Samuel Jellicoe. Richard's father was said to be *William Daniel, Master Mariner* and Richard gave his address as 6 Mere Lane, Everton.

Richard, born in Plymouth, was the son of William and Eliza Daniel. By 1881 Richard had moved to the Liverpool area as he is recorded, aged 17, as a clerk living at (probably as a lodger) 173 Elmswood Road, Wavertree.

By late 1888 (Frederick William Daniel was baptised in Neston on 11 November 1888 - Richard was recorded again as a ship's steward) the family was back in Neston and in the 1891 census they were living in Little Neston:

Richard Martin Daniel	Head	27	24	Ship's Steward	born Plymouth
Emily	Wife	27	24		born Neston
Frederick Wm.	Child	2	8		born Neston
Richard Jellicoe	Child	9 months			born Neston

1891 census (extract) - Little Neston

Richard Martin Daniel	27	ship's steward	born Plymouth
Emily	27		born Neston
Frederick Wm.	2		born Neston
Richard Jellicoe	9 months		born Neston

Emily understated her age on the census return as she would have been about 30 at this time.

Following Frederick, Richard and Emily baptised two further children in Neston:

Richard Jellicoe Daniel baptised 29 August 1890 Richard recorded as a ship's steward
 Emily Doris Daniel baptised 12 May 1895 Richard recorded as a mariner

By 1901 the family had moved back to West Derby, Liverpool:

37	D	1	Richard M. Daniel	Head	M	37	Shore Steward	Worker	Devon, Plymouth
			Frederick W. D.	Son	S	12			Cheshire, Neston
			Emily D.	Wife	M	40			D. D.
			Richard J. D.	Son	S	10			D. D.
			Emily D. D.	Daughter	S	6			D. D.
			Thomas A. Ellison	Visitor	S	16	Miss Howard	Worker	D. D.

1901 census (extract) - 37 Underley Street, West Derby, Liverpool

Richard M. Daniel	37	shore steward	born Plymouth
Frederick W.	12		born Neston
Emily	40		born Neston
Richard J.	10		born Neston
Emily D.	6		born Neston

Ten years later, at the time of the 1911 census, the family was still at the same address in West Derby (off Smithdown Road, near Toxteth Park Cemetery) and Frederick was working as a ship's joiner:

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

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	
			Write "Single," "Married," "Widower," or "Widow," opposite the names of all persons aged 15 years and upwards.	Children born alive to present Marriage. (If no children born alive write "None" in Column 7.)	Children born alive to previous Marriage. (If no children born alive write "None" in Column 7.)	Children with have died	Personal Occupation.				Industry or Service with which worker is connected.
Richard Martin Daniel	Head	47	Married	23	3	3	0	superintendent steward	Shipping	Worker	Devonshire, Plymouth
Emily Daniel	Wife	50	Married	23	3	3	0	Ship's joiner	Shipping	Worker	Cheshire, Neston
Fred William Daniel	Son	22	Single					Undergraduate			Cheshire, Neston
Richard Jellicoe Daniel	Son	20	Single					Undergraduate			Cheshire, Neston
Emily Doris Daniel	Daughter	16	Single								Cheshire, Neston

1911 census (condensed) - 37 Underley Street, Liverpool

Richard Martin Daniel	47	superintendent steward	born Plymouth
Emily	50		born Neston
Fred William	22	ship's joiner	born Neston
Richard Jellicoe	20	undergraduate	born Neston
Emily Doris	16		born Neston

Richard and Emily had been married for 23 years and all three children had survived.

In April 1919 William Jellicoe Daniel, aged 28, was working at the Fishery Board, Parliament Street, London.

William - he seems to have used this name whilst in the army - enlisted in Liverpool on 27 January 1915 for the Lancashire Hussars Yeomanry (Service Number 1522). He was then aged 26 and unmarried. It was recorded that he was 5ft 10ins tall.

On 11 June 1915 he was promoted to Lance Corporal (unpaid) and, from 5 December 1915, was paid for this promotion. On 8 December 1916 William was transferred to the 1st Battalion The King's (Liverpool Regiment) and, the following day (9 December 1916) his unit embarked at Folkestone for Boulogne, disembarking the same day. The following day he joined the 24th Base Depot at Étapes to await posting to the front.

Étapes was a particularly notorious base camp for those on their way to the front. The officers and non-commissioned officers (NCOs) in charge of the training, the "canaries", also had a reputation of not having served at the front, which inevitably created a certain amount of tension and contempt. Under atrocious conditions, both raw recruits and battle-weary veterans were subjected to intensive training in gas warfare and bayonet drill, and long sessions of marching at the double across the dunes. After two weeks, many of the wounded would rather return to the front with unhealed wounds than remain at Étapes. [Wikipedia].

On 22 December William joined his battalion and moved to the front lines where, just 12 days later, he was killed in action.

The 1/5th Battalion The King's (Liverpool Regiment) was a Territorial Force which was formed on 4 August 1914 in St Anne Street, Liverpool as part of the Liverpool Brigade, West Lancashire Division.

In the autumn of 1914 the troops moved to Canterbury and on 22 February 1915 they were mobilised for war, landing at Le Havre on 22 February 1915 where they transferred to the 6th Brigade, 2nd Division. During 1915 they were engaged in action at The Battle of Festubert and The Battle of Loos before, on 15 December 1915, being transferred to the 99th Brigade in the same Division.

On 7 January 1916 they transferred again, now to the 165th Brigade of the 55th (West Lancashire) Division.

During 1916 they saw extensive action at The Battle of Delville Wood, The Battle of the Ancre, The Battle of Guillemont, The Battle of Ginchy, The Battle of Flers-Courcelette and The Battle of Morval (25–28 September 1916).

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
10-12-16	24 Base	Embarked ... Disembarked ... joined 24 Base Depot	Folkestone Boulogne Étapes	9-12-16 9-12-16 10-12-16	
22-12-16	Battalion	joined Battalion	Field	13-12-16	Memo B-213
2-1-17	do	KILLED IN ACTION	do	1-1-17	B-213

E. M. ...
Signature of Officer-i/c Records.

Although Frederick William Daniel was killed in action on 1 January 1917 the 5th Battalion was not engaged in any significant engagement at that time. On that date the 55th Division, east of Ypres, was undertaking a combined artillery and trench-mortar bombardment of the German line between the Potijze - Zonnebeke road and the Ypres - Roulers rail line and this hostility was met with heavy return shelling.

The 165th Brigade, including the 5th Battalion, together with the 166th Brigade, was in the front line and the Battalion (commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel J J Shute) received a direct shell hit in a dug-out in Beek Trench which killed five men. It is most probable that it was this that killed (Frederick) William Daniel.

In 1916 a soldier recorded that

Going up Beek trench on a dark night was no picnic. You started along a long narrow alley winding uphill, your hands feeling the slimy sandbag walls, your feet wary for broken duck boards; now and again a hot, stuffy smell, a void space in the wall, and the swish of pumped up water under foot proclaimed the entrance to a mine. ... round corners you dived under narrow tunnels two or three feet high, finally emerging into the comparative open of the front line trench.

[Trench: A History of Trench Warfare on the Western Front Stephen Bull Abe Books 2010]

Unfortunately, it has not proved possible to locate the exact site of this trench.

Frederick William Daniel is buried at the Vlamertinghe Military Cemetery, 5km west of Ypres.

Vlamertinghe Military Cemetery was started by French troops in 1914 and was taken over by Commonwealth forces in April 1915. It was used by fighting units and field ambulances until June 1917, when the land adjoining the cemetery was claimed for a military railway preventing further extension. The cemetery is remarkable for the care with which men of the same unit were buried side by side if they died at about the same time. There is also a very high proportion of graves of Territorial units, in particular Lancashire Territorials, who have nearly 250 graves in plots IV, V and VI. During the early months of 1917, whenever it was possible, the 55th Division brought their dead from the front for burial here. The cemetery now contains 1,175 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

[CWGC]

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regt. No.
DANIEL	L'pool R.	Pvt.	7755
<i>William</i>			
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	H/2/10209	162	
BRITISH	— do —	— do —	
STAR			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

British Army WW1 Medal Rolls
Index Cards, 1914 - 1920



DEATHS.
KILLED IN ACTION.
DANIEL—January 1, killed in action, (corporal F. W. Daniel, K.L.R. (formerly Lancashire Hussars). 37, Underley-street, Smithdown-road.

Liverpool Echo - Thursday 18 January 1917

The war grave of Frederick William Daniel at Vlamertinghe Military Cemetery, Ypres, Belgium [Source: CWGC]

405482	39641	Daniel William	1/5th Batt 1-1-17. Preston	6 6 2	6 6 2	11/8-1/17	24. 4. 17	Fa. adm: Richard M.	6 6 2
			Liverpool Belgium 1/17.						
			Lt Col. 7755.	9 - -			23/10/19	- do -	9 - -
							3		

Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects, 1901-1929

In Summer 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.

William Daniel had accrued a credit of £6 6s 2d and this was received by his father Richard. Richard received also the £9 War Gratuity.

The total payment, £15 6s 2d, is approximately equivalent to a *labour value* (ie wages) of about £2300 in 2016.

It appears likely that Emily Daniel, William’s mother, died in Liverpool in early 1929 aged 68 and that Richard, his father, died in Wirral (possibly Neston) in late 1943 aged 79. The 1939 Register (29 September) recorded that Richard, and his unmarried children, were living at 37 Woodlands Road, Liverpool (south-east of Sefton Park):

1	Daniel Richard M.	-	M	16 Nov 63	W	Superintendent Shore Steward (Retir)
2	Daniel - Richard J.	-	M	12 June 90	S	Lecturer in Oceanography (Leverhulme Fellow) Liverpool
3	Daniel Emily D.	-	F	4 Feb 95	S	Unpaid Domestic Duties

Daniel, Richard M.	born 16 November 1863	superintendent + shore steward (retired)
Daniel, Richard J.	born 12 June 1890	lecturer in oceanography (Leverhulme Fellow) in Liverpool
Daniel, Emily	born 4 February 1895	unpaid domestic duties

Richard Jellicoe Daniel died in Bideford, Devon, in early 1979. The date of Emily’s death is unknown.

BRITAIN DECLARED WAR AGAINST GERMANY

Wednesday, August 5, 1914.



"God Save the King."

BRITANNIA, THE PRIDE OF THE OCEAN

Britannia, the pride of the ocean,
The home of the brave and the free,
The shrine of each patriot's devotion,
The world offers homage to thee.
At thy mandates heroes assemble,
When liberty's form stands in view ;
Thy banners make tyranny tremble
When borne by the red, white, and blue.

When borne by the red, white, and blue,
When borne by the red, white, and blue,
Thy banners make tyranny tremble,
When borne by the red, white, and blue.

"BRITAIN DECLARED WAR AGAINST GERMANY Wednesday, August 5, 1914." This card - in the 'Davidsons Art Series' - was mailed from Fife to Glasgow on 24th August 1914. The start of the war is usually recorded as 4th August 1914. On that date the British Prime Minister told the House of Commons that his government had given the Germans until midnight (their time) to "provide assurances...that Belgian neutrality would be respected." At midnight, German time, no assurances had been given, which possibly accounts for the date of this card. (In Britain it was still only 11 pm.)

[Source: <https://www.worldwar1postcards.com/ww1-poetry-and-verse-on-postcards.php>]