

28: Samuel Mark Duddridge MM

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

Name as recorded on local memorial or by CWGC: Samuel Mark Duddridge

Rank: Company Serjeant Major MM

Battalion / Regiment: 13th Bn. Cheshire Regiment

Service Number: W/341

Date of Death: 07 August 1917

Age at Death: 29

Buried / Commemorated at: Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Ypres (Ieper), West Flanders, Belgium

Additional information given by CWGC: The son of the late Samuel Mark and Harriet Duddridge and the husband of Mary Duddridge, of Liverpool Road, Neston.

Relatively little is known about Samuel Duddridge although it is recorded that he was born in Bristol and was baptised at the (now demolished) St Peter's church, Hotwell Road, Clifton Wood, Bristol on 26 May 1889.

In 1891 the family was living in Clifton, Bristol, at an address which no longer exists:

Samuel Duddridge	Head	M	63	Grocer Porter	X	Bristol St Pauls
Harriett do	Wife	M	40			Temple Cloud Somerset
William do	Son	S	24	Grocer Porter	X	Bristol Clifton
Anne do	Daughter		9	Scholar		" "
Edith do	"		6	"		" "
Samuel do	Son		1			" "

1891 census (extract) - 5 Yearsley's Buildings, White Hart Lane, Clifton, Bristol

Samuel Duddridge	63	grocer's porter	born Bristol, St Paul's
Harriett	40		born Temple Cloud, Somerset
William	24	grocer's porter	born Clifton, Bristol
Anne	9		born Clifton, Bristol
Edith	6		born Clifton, Bristol
Samuel	1		born Clifton, Bristol

Ten years later the family was at the same address although Samuel snr was again a ropemaker, his occupation recorded earlier in the 1861 and 1881 censuses:

Samuel J. Duddridge	Head	M	73	Rope Maker		Bristol St Pauls
Harriet do	Wife	M	50	Laundress	at home	Cameley Somerset
Annie A. do	Daughter	S	19			Bristol Clifton
Alice E. H. do	do	S	16	General Domestic		do do
Samuel M. do	Son		12			do do

1901 census (extract) - 5 Yearsley's Buildings, White Hart Lane, Clifton, Bristol

Samuel J. Duddridge	73	rope maker	born Bristol, St Paul's
Harriet	50	laundress, at home	born Cameley, Somerset
Annie A.	19		born Bristol, Clifton
			feeble minded from childhood
Alice E. H.	16		born Bristol, Clifton
Samuel M.	12		born Bristol, Clifton

Samuel James Duddridge, Samuel's father, was the son of haulier/porter William and Martha and he was born in Bristol and baptised at St Paul's on 15 June 1828.

On 13 August 1853 Samuel snr married Mary Ann Tutchen (also shown as Tutchery and *Tutching*, born 1831). Two sons were born: Samuel James (born October 1853, died July 1881) and William Albert (born April 1867, died December 1917 in Bristol). Mary Ann Duddridge died in January 1874 and in mid-1880 Samuel married Harriett Pickford. This union produced four children:

Anne Ada	born late 1881	died early 1910 aged 28
Unnamed male	born and died early 1883	
Alice Edith Hannah	born late 1884	died July/September 1968, aged 83, in Weston-Super-Mare, Somerset
Samuel Mark	born April/May 1889	

Samuel James Duddridge, Samuel's father, died in the Bristol area in April/June 1901, shortly after he had been recorded in the census.

In 1911 Harriett was living in the same house that she had occupied for many years, with her unmarried daughter Alice:

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	INFLUENT	
of every Person, whether Member of Family, Visitor, Boarder, or Servant, who (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.)	State whether "Head," or "Wife," "Son," "Daughter," or other relative, "Visitor," "Boarder," or "Servant."	For Infants under one year state the age in months as "under one month," "one month," etc.	Write "Single," "Married," "Widowed," or "Widow," opposite the names of all persons aged 15 years and upwards.	State, for each Married Woman entered on this Schedule, the number of—				Personal Occupation. The reply should show the precise branch of Profession, Trade, Manufacture, &c. 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 5 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 Service in private employment. If employed by a public body (Government, Municipal, etc.) state what body. (See Instructions 3 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, employer of persons other than domestic servants), or (2) "Worker" (that is, working for an employer), or (3) "Own 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.	(1) If born in the United Kingdom, write the name of the County, and Town or Parish, Colony, etc., and of the Province or State. (2) If born in a Foreign Country, write the name of the Country. (3) If born at sea, write "At Sea." NOTE.—In the case of persons born elsewhere than in England or Wales, state whether "English" or "Welsh" in this Country.	State whether:— (1) "British subject by parentage," (2) "Naturalized British subject," giving year of naturalization, (3) "Lunatic," or (4) "Imbecile," or (5) "Feeble-minded," state definitely opposite this person's name, and the age at which he or she became afflicted.	If any person included in this Schedule is— (1) "Totally Deaf," or "Deaf and Dumb," (2) "Totally Blind," or "Imbecile," or "Feeble-minded," state definitely opposite this person's name, and the age at which he or she became afflicted.
				Completed years the present Marriage has lasted, (if less than six years write "under six years.")	Dead Children Born Alive.	Children Living.	Children who have died.							
1 Harriett Duddridge	Head	60	Widow	30	4	2	2	Laundress	030	-	Own Work/At Home	Somerset, Temple Cloud	British Subject by parentage	-
2 Alice E. H. Duddridge	Daughter	26	Single	-	-	-	-	Daily Domestic Help	475	-	Worker	Bristol, Clifton Wood	British Subject by birth	-

(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

1. Number of persons in this dwelling on April 2nd, 1911: 2

2. Number of persons in this dwelling on April 3rd, 1911: 2

3. Number of persons in this dwelling on April 4th, 1911: 2

(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 (Kitchens, Parlours, or Apartments). Count the kitchen as a room but do not count sanitary, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom, nor wardrobe, store, shop.

3

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

Signature: Harriett Duddridge

Printed Address: 5 Yearley Buildings Clifton Wood

1911 census (condensed) – 5 Yearsley Buildings, Clifton Wood, Bristol

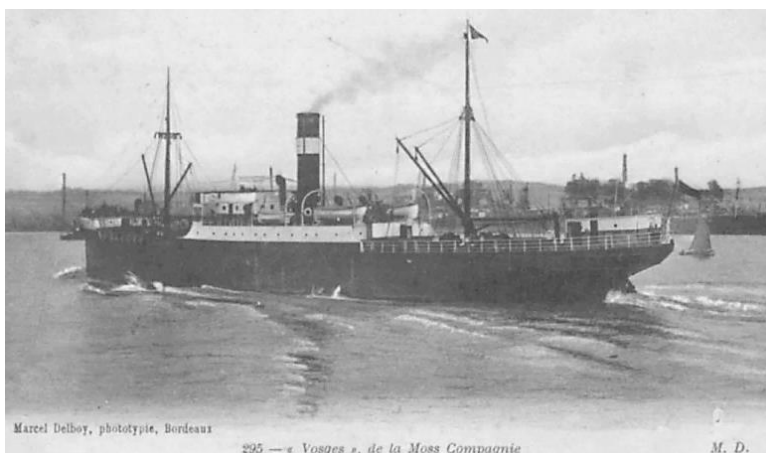
Harriett Duddridge	60	widow, laundress, own account	born Somerset, Temple Cloud
Alice E. H.	26	daily domestic help	born Bristol, Clifton Wood

Harriet recorded that she had been married for 30 years and that two of her four children were still alive.

The location of Samuel Mark Duddridge has not been traced in the 1911 census; however, it is very probable that he had, at this time, enlisted in the merchant navy. Certainly, in 1912 Samuel was recorded as an AB (Able Seaman - an unlicensed member of the deck department of a merchant ship) when the cargo ship SS *Vosges* returned to Liverpool after voyages between Liverpool and Bordeaux. Samuel signed off from the ship when it docked on 23 December 1912 and he gave his address as Chester Road, Neston.

The *Vosges* seems to have run a regular general transport route to Bordeaux and, on 27 March 1915, the vessel was sunk by gunfire from the German submarine U-28 about 38 miles off Trevose Head, Cornwall, as it was returning to Liverpool. One person was lost in the sinking.

When Samuel left the *Vosges* it was recorded that he was earning £4 10s per month (slightly less than a crewman on the *Titanic* in the same year) and that he was owed £1 10s 8d. Significantly, it was also noted that he had, prior to joining the *Vosges* (which was probably a 6-month contract) been employed on a vessel named *Catherine*.



S.S. Vosges
Built in 1911 by Sir Raylton Dixon & Co. Ltd., Middlesbrough for Moss Tankers Ltd. (Moss H. E. & Co.), 1295 gross tons, registered in Liverpool (No. 131330) Crew: around 30

It is unknown why Samuel Duddridge first made his home in Neston but it is recorded that he married Mary Price at St Nicholas church, Liverpool, on 3 March 1913 when he was recorded as a mariner:

It is known that the couple had three children: Edith M (April / June 1913), Lilian (July / September 1914) and Samuel Edward (April / June 1916).

Mary Price was a daughter of Neston-born labourer Edward Price and Betsy (née Jones, also of Neston). In the 1911 census Mary, 20, was at home (Chester Road, Neston) with her parents; Edward, 49, was then recorded as being a colliery lamp examiner (above ground) at Neston Colliery and Mary's brother, Richard (18) was a coal miner's loader.

Little is known of Samuel whilst in Neston although he was recorded as being a member of the Neston branch of the Loyal Order of Ancient Shepherds, a male 'friendly society' which, in Neston, was a counterpart to the Neston Ladies Friendly Society ('Ladies' Club').

1913. Marriage solemnized at <u>St Nicholas Church</u> in the <u>Parish</u> of <u>Liverpool</u> in the County of <u>Liverpool</u>								
Column	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
No.	When Married,	Name and Surname,	Age,	Condition,	Rank or Profession,	Residence at the time of Marriage,	Father's Name and Surname,	Rank or Profession of Father,
149	3 March 1913	Samuel Mark Duddridge	23	Bachelor	Mariner	Dennison Street	Samuel Duddridge	Repe Maker
		Mary Price	22	Spinster		Dennison Street	Edward Price	Labourer
Married in the <u>Church of St Nicholas</u> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the <u>Established Church</u> by <u>Richard Herwood</u> or after <u>Hanns</u> by me, <u>A. Healy</u> This Marriage was solemnized between us, <u>Samuel Mark Duddridge</u> in the Presence of us, <u>Mary Price</u> <u>Lena Churchill</u> <u>Office Man</u>								

The Industrial Revolution led to major changes in society, with village communities diminishing and new towns and industries springing up. As there was no state provision for the poor, mutual aid organisations known as friendly societies were established to help families against hardship brought about illness or death. Such societies began as locally based groups, whose members contributed a small amount each month so that payouts could be made to those in need, with the rest of the money received either saved or invested.

Shepherds Friendly started life as a sickness and benefits society, Ashton Unity, which was formed in Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire on Christmas Day in 1826. It was later renamed as the Loyal Order of Ancient Shepherds, "loyal" referring to the Crown and "shepherds" to the Nativity of Jesus. Its objects were *to relieve the sick, bury the dead, and assist each other in all cases of unavoidable distress, so far as in our power lies, and for the promotion of peace and goodwill towards the human race*. It later spread across the country, organised into local branches; like other friendly societies such as the Oddfellows, these were known as 'lodges', and officers wore regalia somewhat similar to those of freemasons. By 1914 the membership had grown to 143,000. The Ancient Shepherds raised substantial funds from its members to support charities.....

[Wikipedia]

Awarded "The Military Medal" FRANCE	
18/12/54	
Surname	Duddridge
Christian Name	L. M.
Rank	Lt
Corps	13 th Bn. Ches. R. (TF)
Regimental Number	W/341
Date of Gazette	9/11/16 11-11-16
Registered Paper	64.36987
68/Gen. No./2730 (M.S. 3).	GD7570 5000 4/16 HWV(P351/2) Q16/478 W3958-8083 20 000/6) 7/16

Nothing is known of Samuel's military career - his Service Record has not been found - although it is known that he enlisted for, and remained in, the 13th Battalion Cheshire Regiment in Port Sunlight, possibly in September 1914. It is known also that he gained the Military Medal in action in France in November 1916 although no details of the action for which this was awarded have been found.

The 13th (Service) Battalion Cheshire Regiment (informally, the 'Wirral

Battalion') was raised at Port Sunlight on 1 September 1914 by Gershom Stewart MP and, initially, consisted solely of volunteers from Lever Brothers. These early recruits had the prefix W in front of their Service Number and this, together with Samuel Duddridge's name being commemorated on the Port Sunlight War Memorial, indicates that he was an employee of Levers at the soap works.

The battalion moved to Chester and joined the 74th Brigade, 25th Division in Kitchener's Third New Army and then assembled in the area around Salisbury for training before the 13th Cheshires spent the winter in billets in Bournemouth. The division moved to Aldershot in May 1915 for final training and proceeded to France on 25 September 1915, concentrating in the area of Nieppe. Their first action was in defence of the German attack on Vimy Ridge in May 1916.

They then moved to The Somme and joined the battle just after the main attack, with the 75th Brigade making a costly attack near Thiepval on the 3rd of July. The Division was in action at The Battle of Bazentin, The Battle of Pozieres and The Battle of the Ancre Heights. In 1917 they were in action at The Battle of Messines attacking between the Wulverghem-Messines and Wulverghem-Wytschaete roads. In the Third Battle of Ypres the troops saw action during The Battle of Pilckem Ridge (31 July - 2 August) and it was immediately following this, on 7 August 1917, that Samuel Duddridge died.

However, around the time that Samuel died the 13th Battalion was not engaged in any recorded action - in early August the 13th Battalion was at Bellewarde Ridge, near Ypres, and on 9 August they had moved up to West Hoek Ridge - and so it may be surmised that his death arose from a localised conflict. Between 5 and 11 August 1917 the casualties of the 13th Battalion were 50 killed, 266 wounded and 56 missing.

Harriett Duddridge, Samuel's mother, died in June 1929 in Bridgewater, Somerset.

Samuel E Duddridge, Samuel and Mary's only son, married Jessie Whatmore in a Civil Marriage on Wirral in April / June 1939 and it is believed that they had two children, Margaret A (born late 1939) and Peter J Duddridge (born April / June 1942). In the 1939 Register Samuel (born 18 April 1916) was recorded as a house & ship's painter. Jessie was born on 6 June 1914 and they were living at 9 Shone's Croft off Mill Lane, Ness. Samuel died in mid-1961 on Wirral. No record has been found of Jessie's death, or if she remarried.

The 1939 Register records that Mary Duddridge (domestic daily worker), Samuel's widow, was living at 29 Olive Drive, Neston, with her unmarried daughter, Lilian (born 17 April 1914). Mary died in the Birkenhead area aged 84 on 8 August 1975. She was born on 19 November 1890 and it is known that she was baptised at Neston Parish Church on 11 January 1891. Lilian died on 5 September 1947 when she was aged 33.

Alice Edith Hannah Duddridge, the sister of Samuel Mark Duddridge, was recorded as a café waitress living at 11 Canning Street, Liverpool, at the time of the 1939 Register (29 September). Born on 22 October 1884 she never married and she died aged 83 in July / September 1968, in Weston-Super-Mare, Somerset.

Memorial Service for Fallen Soldier.

A memorial service for the late Sergt.-Major Samuel Duddridge was held at the Neston Wesleyan Church on Sunday, conducted by the Rev. J. Newton Davies. Special lessons and hymns were used, including "Jerusalem, the Golden," "O God, our Help in Ages Past." An appropriate address on the words, "He doeth all things well," was given by the Rev. J. N. Davies, who alluded to the many good qualities of the deceased soldier, who was held in high esteem by officers and men. The "Dead March" was played by Mr. W. Rees at the close of the service, the congregation standing. In addition to the bereaved stand-the members of the Shepherds' Club were present as a mark of respect and sympathy, Sergt. Duddridge having been one of their number.

News has been received by Mrs. Williams, of Park-street, Neston, of the death of her husband, Pte. William Williams. He was 40 years of age, and in the Labour Battalion, and was a son of the late Mr. William Williams and of Mrs. Williams, Parkgate. He had been on active service about 12 months, and was killed by an enemy bomb.

Birkenhead News – Saturday 13 October 1917



The grave of Lilian Duddridge, the unmarried daughter of Samuel Mark Duddridge, in Neston Cemetery. Lilian died, aged 33, on 5 September 1947. The grave also holds Mary, Samuel's wife, who died, aged 84, on 8 August 1975.

British Army WWI Medal Rolls
Index Cards, 1914-1920

Chester Chronicle - Saturday
1 September 1917

Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects, 1901-1929

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.