

70: William George Pritchard

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

Name as recorded on local memorial or by CWGC: W. C. Pritchard

Rank: Private

Battalion / Regiment: 3rd Bn. Cheshire Regiment

Service Number: 33409

Date of Death: 02 February 1916

Age at Death: ?

Buried / Commemorated at: Liverpool (Kirkdale) Cemetery

Additional information given by CWGC: None

Whilst recorded by the CWGC as W C Pritchard he is known to be William George Pritchard, recorded as George William in the 1911 census.

William was the eldest child of joiner Frederick and Annie Pritchard; they appear to have married in 1893 although there is no definite record of this.

Frederick Pritchard was a much younger brother of Thomas Pritchard, the father of Reg Pritchard who also died in WW1 [see entry **69: (Charles William) Reginald Pritchard**]. Frederick and Thomas's parents were stonemason Thomas and Ellen Pritchard of Ness. William and Reg were, therefore, cousins and they died within 6 months of each other although the circumstances of their deaths were very different.

When William was baptised at Neston on 13 January 1895 his parents were living in Ness but in the 1901 census, when all three children had been born, they were on Mill Street in Neston:

Frederick Pritchard	38	joiner	born Ness
Annie	37		born Neston
Martha Norman	20	sister in law	born Neston
William Pritchard	6		born Neston
Lilian	5		born Neston
Joseph F.	20 months		born Neston

1901 census (extract) – Mill Street, Neston

Frederick Pritchard	38	joiner	born Ness
Annie	37		born Neston
Martha Norman	20	sister in law	born Neston
William Pritchard	6		born Neston
Lilian	5		born Neston
Joseph F.	20 months		born Neston

Lilian Pritchard was baptised, privately, on 19 June 1897 but no baptism has been found for Joseph Frederick although it is known that he was born in mid-1899.

In 1911 the family was still living on Mill Street:

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.		
			State, for each Married Woman entered on this Schedule, the number of—		Children born alive to		Personal Occupation.		Industry or Service with which Worker is connected.						
			Completed years the present Marriage has lasted.	Children born alive to	Total Children Born Alive.	Children living.	Children deceased.								
<p>of every Person, whether Member of Family, Visitor, Boarder, or Servant, who</p> <p>(1) passed the night of Sunday, April 2nd, 1911, in this dwelling and was alive at midnight; or</p> <p>(2) arrived in this dwelling on the morning of Monday, April 3rd, not having been enumerated elsewhere.</p> <p>No one else must be included.</p> <p>(For order of entering names see Examples on back of Schedule.)</p>															
<p>State whether "Single," "Married," "Widow," or "Widower," or "Orphan," or "Pauper," or "Visitor," or "Boarder," or "Servant."</p> <p>For Infants under one year state the age in months as under one month, "one month," etc.</p> <p>Write "Single," "Married," "Widow," or "Widower," or "Orphan," or "Pauper," or "Visitor," or "Boarder," or "Servant," opposite the names of all persons aged 15 years and upwards.</p> <p>For those who have been married, write "Single," "Married," "Widow," or "Widower," or "Orphan," or "Pauper," or "Visitor," or "Boarder," or "Servant," opposite the names of all persons aged 15 years and upwards.</p> <p>For those who have been married, write "Single," "Married," "Widow," or "Widower," or "Orphan," or "Pauper," or "Visitor," or "Boarder," or "Servant," opposite the names of all persons aged 15 years and upwards.</p>			<p>For those who have been married, write "Single," "Married," "Widow," or "Widower," or "Orphan," or "Pauper," or "Visitor," or "Boarder," or "Servant," opposite the names of all persons aged 15 years and upwards.</p>		<p>For those who have been married, write "Single," "Married," "Widow," or "Widower," or "Orphan," or "Pauper," or "Visitor," or "Boarder," or "Servant," opposite the names of all persons aged 15 years and upwards.</p>		<p>For those who have been married, write "Single," "Married," "Widow," or "Widower," or "Orphan," or "Pauper," or "Visitor," or "Boarder," or "Servant," opposite the names of all persons aged 15 years and upwards.</p>		<p>For those who have been married, write "Single," "Married," "Widow," or "Widower," or "Orphan," or "Pauper," or "Visitor," or "Boarder," or "Servant," opposite the names of all persons aged 15 years and upwards.</p>		<p>For those who have been married, write "Single," "Married," "Widow," or "Widower," or "Orphan," or "Pauper," or "Visitor," or "Boarder," or "Servant," opposite the names of all persons aged 15 years and upwards.</p>		<p>For those who have been married, write "Single," "Married," "Widow," or "Widower," or "Orphan," or "Pauper," or "Visitor," or "Boarder," or "Servant," opposite the names of all persons aged 15 years and upwards.</p>		
1	Frederick Hutchins	Head	44	married	18	3	3	none	since	210	Burtha	worked	Little Aston, Cheshire		
2	Agnes Hutchins	Wife	48										Little Aston, Cheshire		
3	George Hutchins	Son	16	single					shop boy	090	Manchester, Eng.				
4	Lillian Hutchins	Daughter	15	single					at home						
5	Joseph Hutchins		11						school	340					
<p>(To be filled up by the Enumerator.)</p>															
<p>I certify that—</p> <p>(1) All the ages on this Schedule are entered in the proper sex column.</p> <p>(2) I have entered the names and initials in Columns 3 and 4 respectively, and have compared them with the actual names and initials of the persons enumerated.</p> <p>(3) After making the necessary inquiries, I have completed all entries on this Schedule which appeared to be defective, and have corrected such errors as appeared to be erroneous.</p>			<p>Initials of Enumerator</p>		<p>Initials of Head of Family</p>		<p>Initials of other persons in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling.</p>		<p>I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.</p> <p>Signature <i>Frederick Hutchins</i></p> <p>Postal Address <i>Little Aston, Cheshire</i></p>						

1911 census (condensed) – Mill Street, Neston

Frederick Pritchard	47	joiner	born Little Neston
Annie	45		born Neston
George William	16	shop boy, newspaper shop	born Neston
Lilian	15	at home	born Neston
Joseph Frederick	11		born Neston

Frederick and Annie had been married for 18 years and all three children had survived.

William George Pritchard attested for the 3rd Battalion Cheshire Regiment at Neston on 22 November 1915 and he gave his occupation as gardener for R L Price, was unmarried, and was living at Rose Cottage, Mill Street, Neston.

Richard Lewis Price who, in the 1911 census (aged 50, born Cardigan), is recorded as being the manager of the London City & Midland Bank in Neston was then living on Parkgate Road. The L. C. & M. Bank was created when the Birmingham and Midland Bank (founded in Birmingham in August 1836) merged with the Central Bank of London Ltd in 1891. In 1923 it simplified its name to the Midland bank.

William's medical record noted that he was 5ft 5½ins tall, had a 33½-inch chest and had a 'thickened toe nail on right foot'. After attestation William became a reservist - the 3rd (Reserve) Battalion Cheshire Regiment had been formed in August 1914 in Chester and was a training unit which remained in the UK throughout the war, providing drafts for other battalions.



Moorside House, near the junction of Moorside Lane and Parkgate Road, was the residence of Richard Lewis Price. The house was then known as *Glanrhos*.

Whilst the Regimental Depot remained at Chester, the battalion moved to war station at Birkenhead to assist with the Mersey Defences. On 31 January 1916 William was mobilised and sent for training duties at Blundellsands (near Southport) where he contracted pneumonia and died in Windy Knowe Hospital, a temporary military hospital at Blundellsands, Great Crosby on 2 February 1916.

He had served for just 73 days and was buried at Liverpool (Kirkdale) Cemetery with a military funeral - it is not known why he wasn't buried at Neston.

NESTON "DERBY" MAN

DIES IN TRAINING.

His many friends will hear with great regret of the sudden death of Private William Pritchard, the eldest son of Mr. Fred Pritchard, of Mill-street, Neston. The young man—he was only 21 years of age—had only quite recently been called up under the Derby system, and had been training with the 3rd Cheshires at Blundellsands. A few days ago he developed pneumonia, and passed away on Thursday last at the Seaforth Hospital. He was interred in the Memorial ground at the Kirkdale Cemetery on Monday afternoon, with full military honours. A large number of his comrades in the regiment were in attendance, in addition to the military band and the firing party, the ceremony being a most impressive one. Amongst the relatives and friends who travelled over from Neston were Mr. Fred Pritchard (father), Master Fred Pritchard (brother), Mr. Thomas Pritchard (uncle), and Mr. R. L. Price (his late employer).

Birkenhead Advertiser – Saturday 11 March 1916

MEMORANDUM	
From <i>C. C. Records</i> <i>Plasmarke Bank</i> <i>Shrewsbury</i> To <i>C. C.</i> <i>3rd Bde</i> <i>The Cheshire Regt.</i>	From <i>A. C. E. Boy</i> <i>3rd Bn Cheshire Regt.</i> To <i>C. C. Records</i> <i>Shrewsbury</i> ANSWER.
<i>9 March 1916.</i>	<i>Birkenhead</i> <i>10/3/1916.</i>
<i>33409 Pte Wm Geo Pritchard</i>	<i>33409. Pte W Pritchard</i>
<i>Will you please</i> <i>favour me with the</i> <i>name & address of the</i> <i>next of kin of this man</i>	<i>Next of kin.</i> <i>Mother. Annie Pritchard</i> <i>Rose Cottage</i> <i>Mill St.</i> <i>Neston</i> <i>Cheshire.</i>
Major, for Colonel i/c Records, No. 4 District.	<i>R. G. E. Boy</i> <i>Commandg B Coy.</i>

MESSAGES AND SIGNALS.				No. of Message
Prefix	Code	Words	Charge	This message is on a/c of:
Office of Origin and Service Instructions				
Sent		Received		
At	By	Signature of "Franking Officer."		
TO <i>C/C 3rd Cheshire Bde</i>				
Sender's Number		Day of Month		In reply to Number
<i>Funeral of Pte Pritchard will</i> <i>take place on Monday next</i> <i>at 2 pm prompt from here</i> <i>please note</i> <i>from Seaforth Hospital</i>				
<i>W. B. E. Boy</i> <i>3/3/16</i>				
From	Place	Time		
The above may be forwarded as now corrected.				
Censor	Signature of Addressee or person authorised to telegraph in his name			
* This line should be erased if not required				

It is believed that Annie Pritchard died in the Bebington area in early 1916 aged 51 and that Frederick Pritchard died in West Wirral in early 1949 aged 84.

It is recorded in William's Service Record that his brother, (Joseph) Frederick, was also serving in the army and it is known that Frederick was a post office engineer who served with the Bedford "A" Signal Depot RE. He survived and was demobilised in March 1920.



William George Pritchard

Joseph Frederick Pritchard married Aletheia Rushton Woods at a Civil Marriage on Wirral in mid-1928 and he may have died in 1969 aged 71. At the time of the 1939 Register (29 September) he was living at 67 Mayfield Gardens, off Liverpool Road, Neston (below)

Confusingly, his date of birth is recorded as 16 June 1897 - this was the date on which his sister, Lillian Pritchard, was baptised privately. It is known from the birth register that Joseph Frederick Pritchard was actually born in Neston in mid-1899. In fact, from his death record in mid-1974, it is known that he was born on 16 June 1899.

It may be presumed that the two lines on the Register which have been redacted (as of March 2018) contain the details of the two known

children of Joseph and Aletheia; Doreen Rushton Pritchard was born in early 1929 and Jean Rushton Pritchard was born in late 1934, both in Neston.

It is not known when Aletheia died although it would appear to be after mid-1981.

67	do	89	1	Pritchard, Joseph F	M	16 June '97	M	Civil Servant, P.O. Telephone Operator
			2	Pritchard, Aletheia	F	16 June '05	M	Unpaid domestic duties

This record is officially closed.

This record is officially closed.

In 1939 Frederick, William George Pritchard's father, was recorded as a joiner, born 19 March 1864, living at 4 Mill Street, Neston.

4	do	do	189	1	Pritchard Frederick	M	19 Mar 64	W	Joiner
				2	Lillian	F	20 Feb 96	S	Unpaid Domestic Duties
				3	Briscoe Sarah	F	3 Feb 70	W	Unpaid Domestic Duties
				4	Leah	F	10 Aug 92	S	Laundress

In the household was unmarried daughter Lillian (born 20 February 1896, grocery shop assistant) together with Sarah Briscoe (a widow, born 3 February 1870 and her unmarried daughter Leah (born 10 August 1892). It is known that Sarah Tilley married Neston baker William Briscoe at Our Lady & St. Nicholas & St. Anne, the Liverpool Parish Church, in in early 1890 and that Leah was baptised at Neston Parish Church on 11 September 1892. It is also believed that William Briscoe died, aged 67, in early 1925 but the connection between the Pritchard, Briscoe and Tilley families is unknown.