

LEWIS WILLIAM VICKERS

22ND HEAVY BATTERY ROYAL GARRISON ARTILLERY

EARLY LIFE

Lewis Vickers was born on 22nd August 1876 to Herbert Upton and Emma Jane Vickers of 39 Portland Street, Huddersfield. He was baptised on 8th February 1877 at St Peter's Church, Huddersfield. In 1881, the family were still living in Portland Street but, by 1891, they had moved to 34 Little Horton Lane in Bradford. At this time; Lewis had a brother, Sydney and sister, Charlotte.

The 1901 Census records that Lewis had left home and was living as one of three Boarders at the home of Clara Harris at 13 Neal St and working as a Stuff Manufacturer's Assistant. By 1911, Lewis was still living as a Boarder with Clara Harris, but now they had moved to 18 Ashfield, Bradford – a more prestigious residence and Lewis had moved up in the world too, now as a Textile piece Goods Buyer.

In 1913, Lewis married Kate Evelyn Parkinson on 6th June at Bradford Cathedral. Lewis was still living at Ashfield whilst Kate had been living just around the corner in Claremont.

Family Details 1916

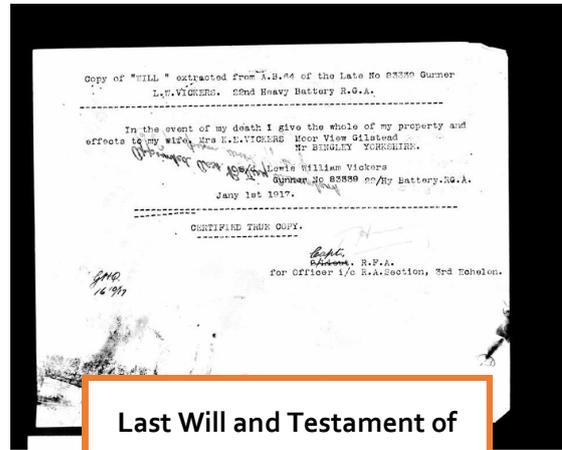
Marriage of Lewis Vickers and Kate Parkinson in 1913

ATTESTATION
 Being older and married with children, there was no requirement for him to enlist in 1914. He had attested to serve in accordance with the Derby Act on 15th November 1915 (see left) and was called up to enlist on 22nd May 1916 now with an address of 'Moorview', Warren Lane, Gilstead. He had advanced too in the textile industry to become a 'Textile Buyer'.

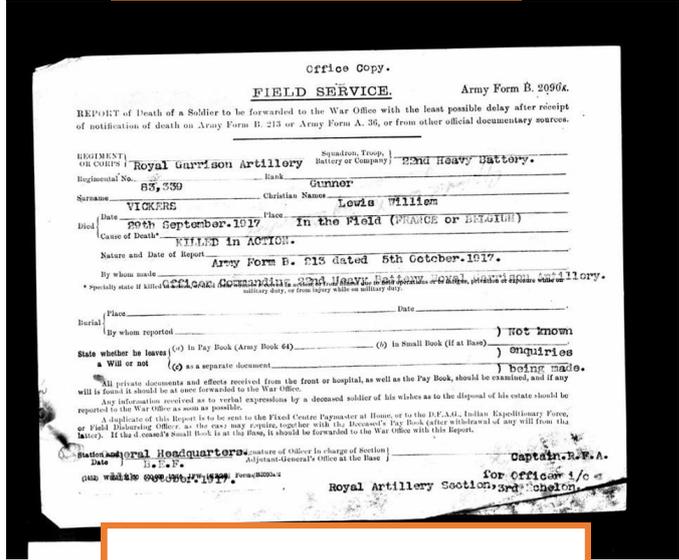
Lewis served with 22nd Heavy Battery, RGA till the day he was 'killed in action' on 29th September 1917, his records also include that he was buried in Buffs Road British Cemetery.

Lewis had made careful provision in case of his death and his records include a copy of his will (dated 1st January 1917) leaving everything to his wife.

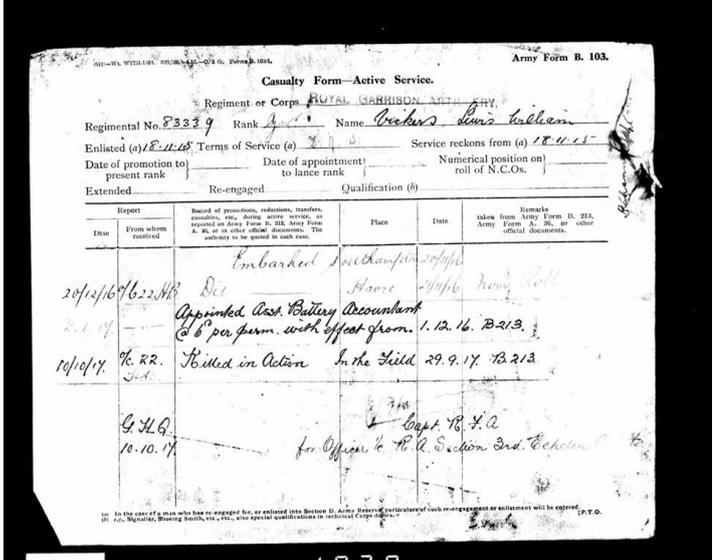
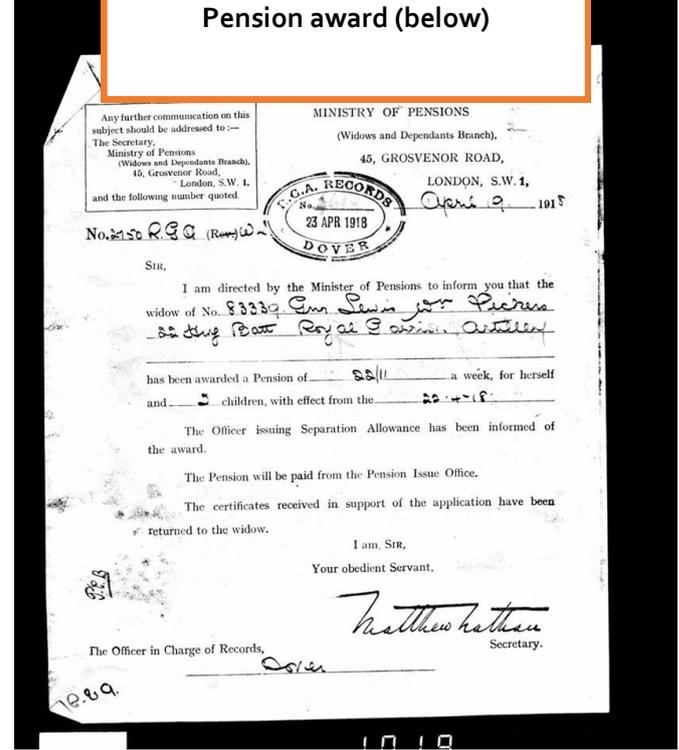
The war widow's pension details are also included in his records with Kate and her two children being granted 22/11d per week. This had been granted in April 1918, many months after Lewis had been killed.



Last Will and Testament of Lewis William Vickers



**Notice of death letter (above)
Pension award (below)**



ASSISTANT BATTERY ACCOUNTANT

During his service, his numeracy skills were soon noticed as he became the Assistant Battery Accountant from 1st December 1916 for which his pay was augmented by 6d per day, practically a 50% increase!

COMRADES AT PEACE

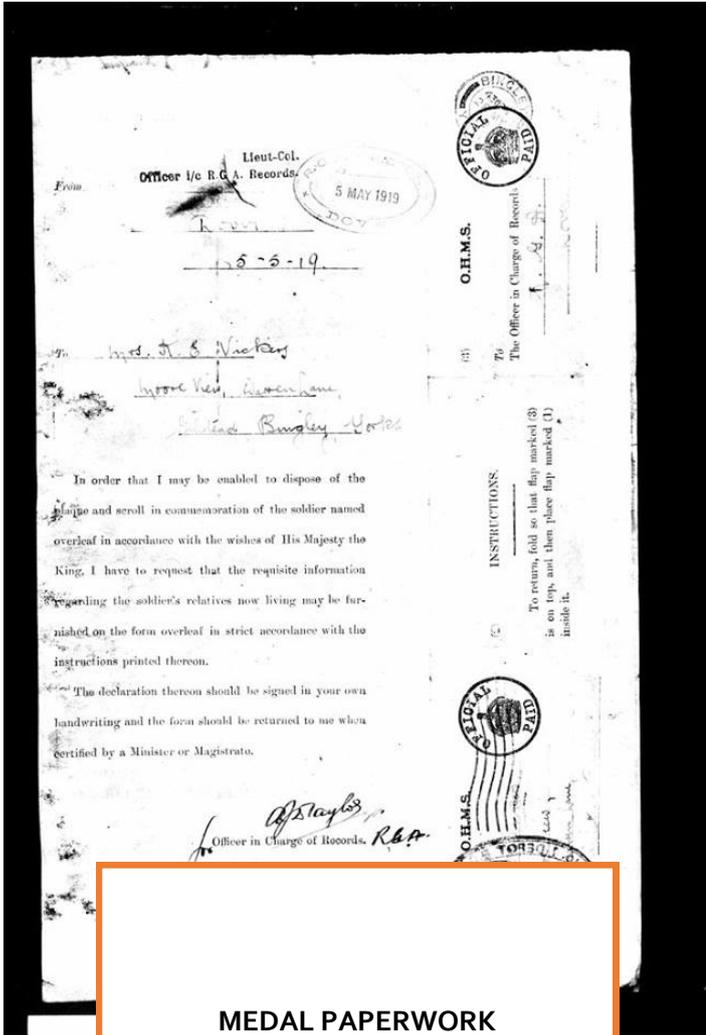
The records for Buffs Road Cemetery show that Lewis Vickers was buried besides 28120 Gnr A.N Round, also of 22nd Heavy Battery, RGA, with the same date of death, 29th September 1917. It is likely these two men were killed together as a result of enemy artillery fire on the gun positions.



Buffs Road Cemetery

GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS....

From both the Medal Index Card and her husband's service records, Kate Vickers, had requested assistance in 1919 from the Royal Garrison Artillery to expedite the issue of her husband's medals and 'Commemoration ('Death') plaque'. This help was indeed given. She also added an inscription at the foot of her husband's grave for future visitors to see, 'Greater love hath no man than this'... there is no more to be said.



MEDAL PAPERWORK

