



Henry Igglesden and his mother c.1916

IGGLESDEN Henry – Attended school from 8th May 1890 to July 1897
(The school remembrance book lists Henry Igglesden with no rank or unit detail)

Warrant Officer 1 (Regimental Sergeant Major) Henry (Harry) IGGLESDEN MSM. Army Service Corps. General Headquarters (GHQ), Montreuil (Special Intelligence, Censorship and Press). Died 13th June 1919 aged 39 years (Not July 1919 as recorded in the A.G.S Book of Remembrance) of Appendicitis (14 days) and Peritonitis Toxemia at The Cottage Hospital, Sevenoaks, Kent. Born 94 High Street, Ashford, Kent 21st February 1880. Resided London Road, Westerham, Kent. Husband of Charlotte Igglesden (nee Fuggle). Son of William Igglesden and Elizabeth Igglesden (formerly Stanford or Barnes) of Northbrook, Canterbury Road, Ashford, Kent. Later residing 11 North Street, Ashford, Kent. Henry's father William Igglesden was also unsurprisingly a journalist.

Henry was Mentioned in Dispatches (M.I.D) for his intelligence work with GHQ and awarded the Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) in 1918 and the French Medaille dille d'Honneur en Avec Glaives.

The first edition of the Kentish Express (then known as the "Ashford & Alfred News & General Advertiser) was printed by Henry Igglesden on 14th July 1855. This (earlier) Henry Igglesden bore a 2 sons: William Igglesden (19 February 1852), the father of our Henry Igglesden (a grandson of the founder of the Kentish Express) and Charles Igglesden who went on to become Sir Charles Igglesden an Ashford dignitary and VIP.

Attended Ashford Grammar School from 8th May 1890 to July 1897. Henry (Harry when at school) was a "Burra" Exhibitionist in 1886. Mr Burra (a famous engineer) was closely connected with the AGS. When Mr Burra died, a school scholarship trust was set up to benefit students. Harry obviously benefited from this trust in some way. After leaving the A.G.S Harry attended London University where he was awarded a law degree. Whilst at A.G.S Harry was Captain of the school 1st Eleven cricket team (1901).

Henry and Elizabeth Igglesden had 4 children –

1. William Igglesden (Our Henry Igglesden's Father)
2. Elizabeth Igglesden
3. Charles Igglesden (Later Sir Charles Igglesden)

4. Kate Igglesden

Henry Igglesden married Charlotte Igglesden (nee Fuggle) in 1914. Charlotte Fuggle was from a famous hop growers who came from the Kent Weald (Marden and Staplehurst areas). The "Fuggle" hop is named after this family.

Prior to his death Henry was a Newspaper Reporter in Maidstone which is not entirely surprising given the fact that his Grandfather founded the Kentish Express newspaper and his father was also a newspaper man.

DEATH CERTIFICATE

Henry IGGLESDEN
September Qtr, 1919, Sevenoaks, 2a, 693, aged 39 years
Newspaper Reporter

1. Appendicitis (14 days)
2. Peritonitis Toxemia (7 days)

Death registered by his son – E.H Igglesden of London Road, Westerham, Kent

1881 Census gives –
94 High Street, Ashford, Kent

Mary Ann	BURBRIDGE	14
Harriet	HORTON	19
Elizabeth	IGGLESDEN	29
Henry	IGGLESDEN	1
Mabel	IGGLESDEN	3
William	IGGLESDEN	29
Hugh W.J	MILLINGS	29
Elizabeth	STAMFORD	61

When Henry left the Ashford Grammar School in 1897 he was on the staff of the "Kentish Express" representing it at Maidstone and Canterbury. Upon the outbreak of war Henry immediately volunteered for the army and entered the Army Service Corps as a writer in 1915. He was offered a commission but refused it preferring to serve with his friends in the ranks. The story goes that Harry was sent to France in 1916 where he served with the Intelligence Department at General Headquarters (GHQ). He held a very confidential post under General's Haig and French who both wanted to promote Henry to a Major but Henry refused. He was Mentioned in Dispatches (M.I.D) for this intelligence work and awarded the Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) in 1918 and the French Medalle dille d'Honneur en Avec Glaives. On returning to Ashford from the war, Harry returned to the Kentish Express newspaper and was in charge of the Maidstone branch.

Henry was an extra-ordinary man, he came from a privileged and monied background but refused to take advantage and obtain a commission. He was obviously a gifted soldier because he ended up an RSM after only a few years service.

Harry was suddenly taken ill and died of appendicitis. He left a widow and 6 children! The trustees of the A.G.S obviously felt that Harry's death was in part due to his war service and this seems the reason why his name was placed in the book of remembrance. We are unable to identify a link between his service in the British Army and his death! There is no way that the Commonwealth War Graves Commission would accept this man as a casualty of war. We have therefore taken the decision not to put this case forward for Ministry of Defence (M.O.D) adjudication.



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William Igglesden.



Northbrook, Canterbury Road, Ashford, the home of Henry Igglesden, founder Kentish Express.