

Herts at War

(www.hertsatwar.co.uk)

Name: Percy Buck

Rank: Private

Service Number: 267098

Date of Death: 31st July 1917

Age: 26

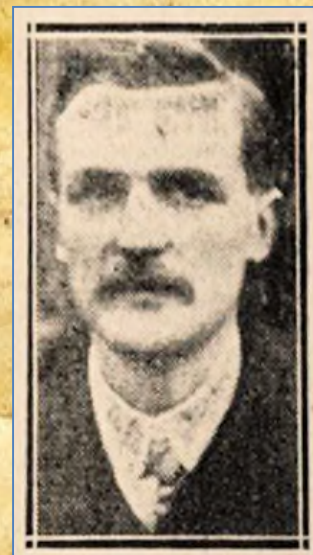
Regiment/Service: 1st Battalion Hertfordshire Regiment

Award:

Grave/Memorial Reference: Panel 54 and 56.

Cemetery/Memorial: Ypres Memorial, Menin Gate.

UK Cemetery/Memorial: Hitchin Memorial, St Mary's Church. Panel B
St Mary's Church Memorial Book, Hitchin (*not confirmed*)
Hitchin Territorials Memorial, Hitchin



Pre War:

He was the son of John W.C. and Elizabeth Ellen Buck of 9, Baliol Road, Hitchin. His wife Bertha and their son stayed with his parents and also had a home at 7, Park St. Hitchin.

Before joining the army, he had served an apprenticeship with Carling, Paternoster & Hales the Hitchin printers and he later moved to St. Albans. During the time that he was in Hitchin he was in the choir of St. John's Church and was a sidesman at St. Mary's Church. In addition, he was the first Scoutmaster of the St. John's Troop and a Sunday school teacher. He had been born in Peterborough and enlisted in St. Albans where he was living at the time.

Wartime Service:

His Regimental Number was 267098 and he went to France in November 1916. Prior to going to France he was Acting Musketry Instructor at Tring. The War Memorial at the Drill Hall, Bedford Rd, Hitchin states that he had been a member of No. 4 Company in the 1st Battalion of the Regiment.

He was died in Belgium having been found lying badly wounded clutching a photograph of himself, his wife and child. On the back of the photograph he had written his name and address with a request that the finder would forward it. A German soldier sent it to Hitchin via the Swiss Red Cross with a message that he had found it "*in the hand of a dying comrade*".

On the day of his death, the 1st Herts were cut to pieces by shot and shell at St. Julien in the Ypres Salient. Over half the fighting strength of the Battalion, including most of the officers, were killed or wounded in a single day.

Additional Information:

See additional information page

Acknowledgments:

Adrian Dunne

David C Baines

www.hitchinatwar.org.uk

Dan Hill

