



Reginald Henry Russell

Lance Corporal SD/726 Royal Sussex Regiment 11th Battalion, 39th Division

Died 30th June 1916 aged 23

Reginald was born in 1892 in Shipley to Walter Russell and Elizabeth Maddon, nee Brown. Walter and Elizabeth were married in April 1891 at Lower Beeding, West Sussex. They had two children, **Reginald Henry** (1892) and Walter Edward (1896). The 1901 Census shows the family living at South Lodge, Knepp Castle where Walter was a domestic gardener. In 1906 Reginald left Shipley Boys' School aged 14. By 1911 he was living at Lavington House in Petworth and working as a domestic footman. Walter and Elizabeth now lived at The Gardens, Knepp while Reginald's brother Walter had commenced work as a railway clerk.

Reginald enlisted in 1914 into a Southdowns* "Pals Battalion" which subsequently became known as "Lowther's Lambs". His name is listed on the Roll of Honour published in the Shipley Parish Magazine in November 1914.

Reginald embarked for France in March 1916 along with men he had grown up and enlisted together with. He took part in the diversionary attack, which became known as the Battle of the Boars Head*, on the day before the Somme offensive began. Reginald was killed in action on the Rue de Boison 30th June 1916. This day became one of the worst days in terms of loss for the Royal Sussex Regiment and was subsequently named "The Day Sussex Died". Two Shipley men gave their lives on this day; Leonard Pierce from the 13th Battalion was the other.

The Reverend Baker held a memorial service in November in remembrance of the eight Shipley men who had given their lives during this year of terrible losses.

Reginald is buried in St. Vaast Post Cemetery, Richebourg and commemorated in Shipley Church. He was awarded the British War Medal and Victory Medal.

*See Southdowns Battalions and The Battle of the Boars Head in Supporting Research

In Memory Of

Lance Corporal

REGINALD HENRY RUSSELL

Service Number: 726

11th Bn., Royal Sussex Regiment who died on 30 June 1916 Age 24
Son of Walter and Elizabeth Russell, of South Lodge, Knepp Castle, Shipley, Horsham.

BELOVED! THANK GOD FOR EVERY REMEMBRANCE OF THEE

Remembered with Honour

ST. VAAST POST MILITARYCEMETERY, RICHEBOURG-L'AVOUE

III.C. 9.



**COMMEMORATED IN PERPETUITY BY THE COMMONWEALTH
WAR GRAVES COMMISSION**