PRIVATE WILLIAM JAMES ROBERTS (21317)

ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS.

When William James Roberts was born in October 1893 in Nant Bwlch yr Haiarn, in the parish of Llanrhychwyn, his father, John, was 32 and his mother, Eliza, was 19. He was the oldest of ten children and had three brothers and six sisters. The 1911 census records him as a labourer and his father as a miner. They were living at a house called Tyn y Groes, in Llanrhychwyn.

When William enlisted in April 1915, the family had moved to Hill Cottage, on the Llanrhychwyn Road in Trefriw.

We know little about his war service but he survived the war and then died within a week of returning home on 9 February 1919 at the age of 25. Could he have succumbed to the outbreak of Spanish Flu that killed so many people at that time?

He was buried on 22 September 1919 in Trefriw Cemetery (no. 418) and the grave is marked as a war grave. On the burial record, his profession is recorded as an electrician. His father, John, two very young sisters and his brother Thomas Charles are buried in the same plot.

William was the eldest brother of the late Mrs Violet Owen, of Peniel House, Trefriw.

Sources:

1861 Wales Census

1871 Wales Census

1881 Wales Census

1901 Wales Census

1911 Wales Census

England & Wales, Civil Registration Birth Index, 1837-1915

England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index, 1916-2007

Trefriw Cemetery Burial Records

| No. DATE. | NAME. | Age. | RANK OR PROFESSION. | Anobe. | Parish or District. | No. in Order Book. | WHERE INTERRED. | | SIGNATURE OF | SIGNATURE OF |
|--|--|------|---|--|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
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Burial Record for Wiliam James Roberts



William Roberts' Grave in Trefriw Cemetery



Hill Cottage (Hillside Cottage) the home of William James Roberts

