

Private Arthur Humphreys Parker

2nd Battalion North Staffordshire

The Yew Tree Inn, All Stretton



The Yew Tree, All Stretton

Arthur Humphreys Parker was born on 29th August 1885 in Tamworth, Staffordshire. He was the eldest of two children in the family of Arthur Parker and Lucy (nee Humphreys).

Arthur Parker (father) originated from Derby and had a confectioner business in Tamworth when he married Lucy Humphreys in 1884 whose parents had a butchers shop (Thomas Humphreys) in the High Street, Church Stretton.

In 1891 after their son is born the family are living in Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, where Arthur and Lucy are running a Bakery and Confectioner business.

In 1901 the family are still living in Shrewsbury and Arthur (father) is working as a bread baker. They now have a daughter Evelyn Victoria and Arthur Humphreys is 15 years old and working as a Printers Clerk.

In 1911 the family are still living in Shrewsbury and Arthur Humphreys Parker is now aged 25 years old and is working as a Printers Managing Clerk.

In 1914 Arthur married Lizzie May Benton who came from Shrewsbury, it was probably after this that Arthur and Lizzie moved into the Yew Tree, All Stretton. The landlord of the Yew Tree Richard Everall died in 1915 and his wife Harriett Everall may have needed assistance.

Arthur joined the 2nd Battalion of North Staffordshire Regiment and was given the regimental number 39404. The Battalion remained all the War in India, moving around the North West Frontier, which is now part of Pakistan.

We believe he was based around the North West Frontier as part of the British Indian Army. The North West Frontier bordered Afghanistan where there was a threat to India, however Afghanistan remained neutral throughout World War One. Although he was never involved in fighting (only local skirmishes) there were a number of casualties from diseases in the regiment.

After World War One had finished in 1919 Afghanistan did cross the border into India, which started the 3rd Anglo-Afghan War, the war lasted three months and resulted in independence for Afghanistan later in 1919. The 2nd Battalion of the North Staffordshire had remained in India.



Image from the 3rd Anglo-Afghan war

We do know that Arthur had not returned to All Stretton before late 1919 as he was still absent from the voters list.

As he never entered a World War One theatre of war, Arthur only received the British Medal and not the Victory Medal.

In 1922 Arthur Parker took the license of the Yew Tree in All Stretton, he held the licence until 1934.

In 1939 Arthur and Lizzie May were living in Clun and they had a smallholding.

Lizzie May died in 1947 aged 59 years old and Arthur died in 1953 aged 68 years old having moved to Sheinton Common, Cressage.