

# Arthur Howard Lane

Born in Trowbridge 1892

Killed in Action Arras offensive, 9<sup>th</sup> April 1917

Arthur was sent out to France early in the war, having joined the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the Wiltshire Regiment. He must have been already trained for this to happen, either as a territorial or a reservist, volunteering or being called up. Arthur first landed in France on 20<sup>th</sup> October 1914, returning home on leave towards the end of 1916 (when he married) but returned to France soon after.

On Easter Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April 1917, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wiltshires were part of an attack on the Hindenberg Line, just south of the town of Arras. This was the first day of the major Arras offensive, sometimes referred to as the Battle of Arras. Casualties were heavy, the enemy resisting the attack with shellfire and machine guns. Arthur was one of those casualties, like many others with no known grave, but commemorated on the Arras Memorial and the North Bradley memorials.

See Arthur Howard Lane's Life Story at: <https://livesofthefirstworldwar.org/lifestory/2304488>

## **Father:** William Arthur/Albert Lane

Born in Hawkeridge but had moved to Woodmarsh with his parents before 1870.  
A Tailor.

## **Mother:** Ellen Usher

Born in Trowbridge, a Cloth Worker (Twister) when she married, but later was not recorded working outside the home.

Married in 1880, they were living in Mortimer Street, Trowbridge until at least 1891. Between 1896 and 1901 they moved with their four children to Woodmarsh. William senior and Ellen were still living in the same house in Woodmarsh in 1911, with Arthur their only child still at home. William must have been making a relatively good living from his Tailoring, as although Ellen was not working outside the home, the three of them were living in a 5-room house (poorer families of 8 or 10 people were living in similar houses at the time). Their oldest son William, may also have served in the army during the war.

## **Arthur Howard Lane**

Farm Labourer in 1911 Census.

## **Wife:** Alice Carr

Born in Edington in 1895.

Remarried Charles Henry Webb in 1919.

The outbreak of war meant Arthur and Alice did not get the chance to marry before their first son, Arthur W J Lane was born, shortly before Arthur H Lane landed in France in 1914.

Arthur and Alice married in the last quarter of 1916 and their second son George H I Lane was born soon after Arthur's death so his father never met him.

*[Please see the Timeline on the Life Story on the link given above for the memoriam Alice inserted in a local paper]*

Arthur W J Lane married Doris S Hartley in Trowbridge in 1941. He died in Trowbridge in 1987.

George H I Lane married Cynthia M Draper in Devizes in 1946. He died in Plymouth in 2003.

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