**Charles Edward Rogers**

Charles Edward Rogers, born in 1899, was the son of William and Ellen Mary Rogers, who had five children, one of whom died during childhood. William Rogers, who was a general labour, and Ellen Mary, a laundry worker, lived with their family at Horns Yard, Sparrows Herne, Clay Hill. At the time of the 1911 census, three sons, Frederick, aged 17, who was employed as a farm labour, Charles, aged 12, and Albert, aged 10, who were still at school, were still living at home. The family later moved to 21 Victoria Road, Bushey. He and his younger brother, Albert, were members of the choir at St Peter’s Church Bushey Heath.

Charles enlisted initially as Private 71100 with the Bedfordshire Regiment, and was later posted as Private GS/67632 to the Royal Fusiliers. He served on the Western Front and died on 26 October 1917, aged 19. He is remembered with honour at Tyne Cot Memorial to the Missing and is recorded on the panels of several regiments (panels 28 -30 & 162 to 162A & 163A). He is commemorated on the Bushey Memorial and at St James’ Parish Church. His older brother, Frederick, also served in the war and was badly injured. He died from his injuries and as a result, his mother received five shillings a week. His family was told that his name would not appear on the Bushey Memorial as he did not die during the war.

Albert, the youngest, joined the Navy as a trainee in the last year of the war. A story passed down through the family is that when Frederick came back injured, he told Alfred not to enlist in the Army but to join the Navy instead. Albert served in the Navy for 28 years.

Additional information supplied courtesy of Betty Burrows of Rudolph Road, Bushey. Charles Rogers was her uncle and Albert was her father.



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