PRIVATE BERNARD ROWE

Service Number: 34631
15th Battalion Durham Light Infantry
Killed in action Saturday 23rd March 1918, Aged 21
Pozieres Memorial Somme France Panel 29 & 30
Born Burbage Leicestershire Enlisted Hinckley
Burbage War Memorial, Wesleyan Methodist Memorial, Congregational Memorial
Former Ancient order of Foresters Memorial. St Catherine's Church War Memorial. Family Grave St Catherine's Churchyard.

Bernard Isaiah Rowe was born in Burbage on 27th April 1897. The eighth child of nine, his parents, John William Rowe and Anna Maria Bird, originated from Great Glen. The family moved to Burbage in 1895 firstly living in Crosslands Row before moving to 21 Balls Lane, becoming neighbours of the Bradbury Family whose son Charles was also killed in WW1.

Figure 278 Crosslands Row

The family were all employed in the hosiery and knitwear industries and by the age of 13 Bernard was a frame helper in hosiery work. The Rowe family were related to the Cox family of Hogue Hall and would be aware of the dangers of serving on the front.

Figure 279 Britannia Road (Balls Lane)

In March and April 1918 there was a period of crisis when the allied fifth army was driven back over the hard fought former Somme battlefields and there was bitter fighting in the months before the advance to victory which began in August 1918. There were over 14,000 casualties from the United Kingdom and South Africa. The Durham light Infantry lost over six hundred men including Bernard Rowe during the first month of the offensive.

Bernard was killed in action and has no known grave. His name is remembered on the wall panels at Poziers Memorial near where he fell.

Figure 280 Birthday Message

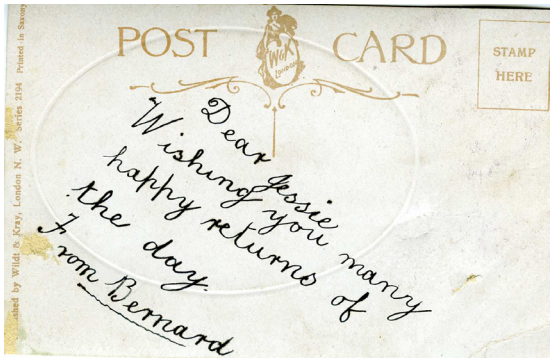
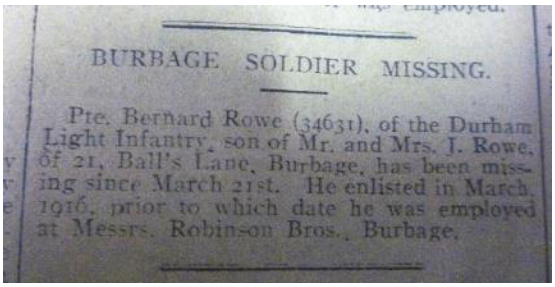


Figure 281 Postcards



BURBAGE SOLDIER MISSING.

Pte. Bernard Rowe (34631), of the Durham Light Infantry, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Rowe, of 21, Ball's Lane, Burbage, has been missing since March 21st. He enlisted in March 1916, prior to which date he was employed at Messrs. Robinson Bros., Burbage.

Figure 282 Hinckley Times Newspaper Report

Figure 283 Pozieres Memorial, Pozieres, Departement de la Somme, Picardie, France

Figure 284 Pte Rowe's Grave, St Catherine's Churchyard

Transcript - Census of England & Wales, 1911						
Address:	21 Balls Lane Burbage					
Name	Relationship	Age	Male/ Female	Marriage Status	Occupation	Birth Location
John William Rowe	Head	56	Male	Married	Taker In Of Yarn And Cotton And Griveng Astst To Winders	Great Glen, Leicestershire, England
Anna Maria Rowe	Wife	56	Female	Married		Great Glen, Leicestershire, England
Mabel Ann Rowe	Daughter	27	Female	Single	Tinker	Leicester, England
Jessie Maria Rowe	Daughter	20	Female	Single	Glove Maker	Leicester, England
Bernard Isiah Rowe	Son	13	Male	Single	Frame Helper	Burbage, Leicestershire, England
Muriel Adlaide Rowe	Daughter	12	Female	Single	School	Burbage, Leicestershire, England

Figure 285 1911 Census