



*David W Hughes : Neil R Clark : Kyle D Tallett*

## **Kent War Memorials Transcription Project**

[www.kentfallen.com](http://www.kentfallen.com)

[www.cwgc.co.uk](http://www.cwgc.co.uk)

### Appeal to the MoD (Army)

We have been investigating this case for over 4 years now! The problem we have is that we can't locate a death for Jack absolutely anywhere! (including overseas). We have spent nearly £100 trying to trace his death. On the balance of probability (the legal test which should be applied in your adjudications), John died from the effects of his war service (probably Malaria) shortly after he was discharged from the army. We have managed to find quite a lot about John including quite detailed family data going back many years. It's very annoying that we can't find a certified death. We have searched for a death from 1914 to 1990 without result.

There are many possibilities –

1. He Died in the UK and no one knew his identity.
2. He Died Overseas in a country that did not record deaths

What is known is that John must have died before 1921 because the village war memorial was erected in January 1921. His name wasn't added at a later date because it is between two other original casualties names. The people of Lympne must have had good reason to place his name on the village war memorial in 1921.

His name will have to be placed on the Brookwood Memorial in Surrey due to the fact we can't locate his place of burial.

On the basis of the evidence provided here we feel it is entirely correct and proper to approve this case. To deny this man a commemoration would be extremely harsh based purely on the grounds we couldn't trace his death. We appeal to you to look at the wider picture and take into account the other facts which in our opinion proves "on the balance of probability" that he is entitled to be commemorated by the country he gave his life for...

Thank you.  
Neil



## **6. UDEN J**

Lympne War Memorial  
Lympne School War Memorial

**Private 495038 (formerly Bugler 1096) John (Jack) UDEN. 82<sup>nd</sup> Field Ambulance, Formerly known as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Home Counties Field Ambulance (2<sup>nd</sup> HCFA). Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC).** Died sometime between February 1919 and January 1921. Born Quarter 3, 1890 Hythe, Kent (Elham District). Resided 3 Alma Place, Alma Street, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted 27 February 1912 at Shorncliffe Camp, Folkestone, Kent. Son of Frederick Stephen Uden and Elizabeth Uden of Uden Butchers Shop, 14 High Street, Hythe, Kent. Place of Burial – Unknown.

Educated Lympne village school, Lympne, Kent. His name is commemorated on the schools civic tribute there as well as the main village war memorial. In 2006 the Lympne County Primary School burnt down to the ground and the old school plaque commemorating the ex boys lost in the Great War was completely destroyed! The only monument now bearing Jack's name is the local parish civic war memorial.

It appears that John may have been married. We have identified two possible marriages here

1. **Elsie M DURRANCE** from Dover. Daughter of Henry and Fanny Durrance of 82 Longfield Road, Dover, Kent. Her father came from Canterbury and was a Cooper in a brewery. On the 1901 census she was only 3 years of age which makes her birth circa 1898. Married a John Uden 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 1919 Canterbury area (where John was living).
2. **Dorothy E WILKINS.** Married John Uden last Quarter of 1921 in the Elham district (includes Hythe and Lympne areas).

We can't trace the death of John's wife which may suggest that she remarried after John died.

Discharged 16 February 1919 (Para XVI, Kings Regs) **No longer Fit for War Service.** His service papers state he was discharged with – **MALARIA!** Jack was awarded a 20% Disability War Pension on 17 February 1919 by the Ministry of Pensions. The award was due to be re-assessed 26 weeks later which indicates his condition was not stable and was in fact likely to get even worse. In any case poor John was dead very soon afterwards...

The Lympne Civic War Memorial was erected in **January 1921** and Jack's name was placed on it alongside all the other men (Jack's name appears between two other local men). This is proof that Jack died between the date of his discharge from the army on 17 February 1919 and 1921 when the memorial was erected.

Jack resided at 3 Alma Place, Alma Street, in Canterbury. His name does NOT appear on the Canterbury city civic tribute which is surprising! Note – before 1912 the 2<sup>nd</sup> Home Counties Field Ambulance was based in Canterbury. In 1912 it moved to the Buffs Drill Hall, Ashford. The fact Jack served in the RAMC may have had something to do with him living there. Jack had obviously left the Hythe/Lympne areas before the outbreak of war. His parents continued to reside in Hythe or Lympne which would account for his name going forward for the village tribute.

Jack was a regular (professional) soldier in the Royal Army Medical Corps and on the outbreak of war was sent to the local RAMC (V) Territorial Force unit in Ashford to help out. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Home Counties Field Ambulance was originally a Canterbury Based Territorial Force RAMC unit, it moved to Ashford's Buffs Drill Hall in 1912. On 22 December 1914 Jack landed

in France with his unit. After the war he was awarded the 1915 Star (which denotes he served in the first months of the war), British War Medal and Victory Medal. Jack served in two appointments – as a Bugler then as a Cook.

According to MS OH Vol 4 the 82<sup>nd</sup> Field Ambulance landed France 22 December 1914 with the 27<sup>th</sup> Division. They left Europe for Salonika 28 November 1915.

RAMC Medal Roll References

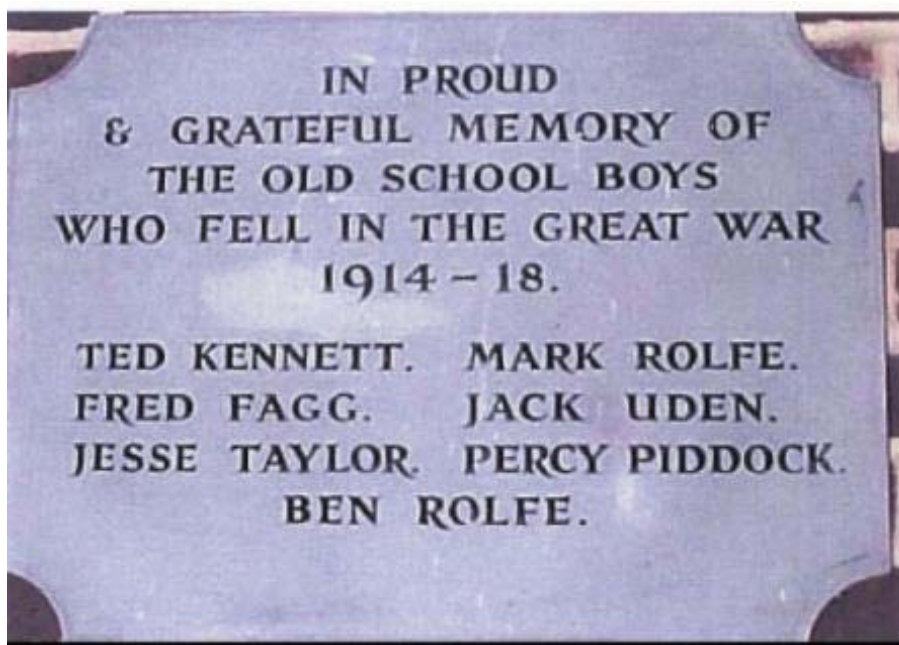
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Jack's parents were local to Kent. His father was born in Hythe and his mother in Dover. The rest of the family (all their children) were all born in Hythe. We think that his parents resided in Lympe after the war ended and that they ensured his name was placed on the parish tribute and Lympe village School memorial plaque after he died (as a direct result of his war service).

1901 Census

14 High Street, Hythe, Kent (Butchers)

Frederick	UDEN	44	Butchers Shopkeeper
Elizabeth		44	
Eleanor		18	
Frederick		17	
Harry		15	
William		13	
<b>JACK</b>		<b>11</b>	
Joy		9	
May		7	
Kate		5	
Albert		2	



The following members of the Uden family are buried locally in Lympne Churchyard –

**Sally Emma Elizabeth UDEN**

Died: 25 January 1954

Aged: 76

**Frederick Aaron UDEN      Jack's Brother Frederick?**

Died: 26 April 1966

Aged: 88

**Charles UDEN**

Died: November 1911

Aged: 71

**Abigail UDEN**

Died: 26 February 1915

Born: 3 October 1839

Aged: 76

**Frank UDEN**

**1891 Census:**

14 High St, Hythe

UDEN Frederick S, Head, 32, Butcher, born Hythe ("Frederic Stephen" b Elham Q4 1856, "Frederick Steven" m Q3 1881, "Frederick Stephen" d Q1 1938, age 81)

UDEN Elizabeth D, Wife, 32, born Dover (Elizabeth Dunkin GILLMAN, b Dover Q4 1856, m Q3 1881)

UDEN Frederick D [sic], Son, 6 (Frederick Charles, b Q1 1884, m Elizabeth Alice AHERN in Dover Q3 1908)

UDEN Harry, Son, 4 (b Q3 1886)

UDEN William, Son, 2 (b Q3 1889, m Violet M HILLS Q3 1915)

**UDEN John**, Son, 6 months (b Q4 1890, poss. m Dorothy E WILKINS Q4 1921)

UDEN Eleanor L, Dau, 9 (Eleanor Lilian b Q3 1882, m Arthur WOODS Q1 1915)

WEBB Frederick, Lodger, 19, Butcher's Assistant, born Canterbury

CHEESEMAN Bertha E, Servant, 16, Servant Domestic, born Lenham

(all BMDs in Elham RD unless otherwise specified!)

As the 1891 census was taken on 5/4/1891, this John must have been born around October 1890, which tallies with the birth registration above.

**1901 Census:**

14 High St, Hythe

UDEN Frederick, Head, 44, Butcher/Shopkeeper, born Hythe

UDEN Elizabeth, Wife, 44, born Dover

UDEN Eleanor, Dau, 18

UDEN Frederick, Son, 17

UDEN Harry, Son, 14

UDEN William, Son, 13

**UDEN Jack**, Son, 11

UDEN Ivy, Dau, 9 (b Q1 1892, d Q3 1918 age 25)

UDEN May, Dau, 7 (b Q3 1894, m William H CANNON in West Ashford Q2 1925)

UDEN Kate, Dau, 5 (b Q4 1896)

UDEN Albert, Son, 2 (Albert Edward, b Q4 1898, m Annie M CLOKE Q3 1924)

There are two interesting marriage records:

Marriages Q4 1921 in Elham - **UDEN John** to WILKINS Dorothy E (2a 2797)

(Possibly Dorothy Emma WILKINS, born Elham Q2 1898)

No idea if this is him, but there are no other plain John UDENs in Elham that fit the bill (though you say he was living in Canterbury?). If this *is* him, then he probably outlived the deadline for CWGC commemoration. I can find no children from this marriage.

Then there's this:

Marriages Q3 1924 in Medway - UDEN Dorothy E to MORRIS Alan S (2a 1933)

(Alan Stanley MORRIS, b Medway Q4 1900)

This *\*could\** perhaps be a recently widowed Mrs John UDEN remarrying, or it could just as well be the first marriage of Dorothy Ellen UDEN, born Strood RD, Q2 1904.

Jack had obviously left the Hythe/Lympne areas before the outbreak of war. His parents continued to reside in Hythe or Lympne which would account for his name going forward for the village tribute. Note that Jack was educated in the Lympne Village School too so he must have resided there at some stage during his childhood probably after leaving Hythe where his father owned a Butchers Shop in the High Street.

The family was at 14 High St, Hythe, until at least 1903, as the father Frederick Stephen UDEN is listed there in Kelly's Directory of Kent 1903.

He must have retired some time after, however, because Kelly's Directory of Kent 1913 shows him as a farmer at Pennypot Farm, Dymchurch Road, West Hythe. (Which is close enough to Lympne for young Jack to walk to school!)

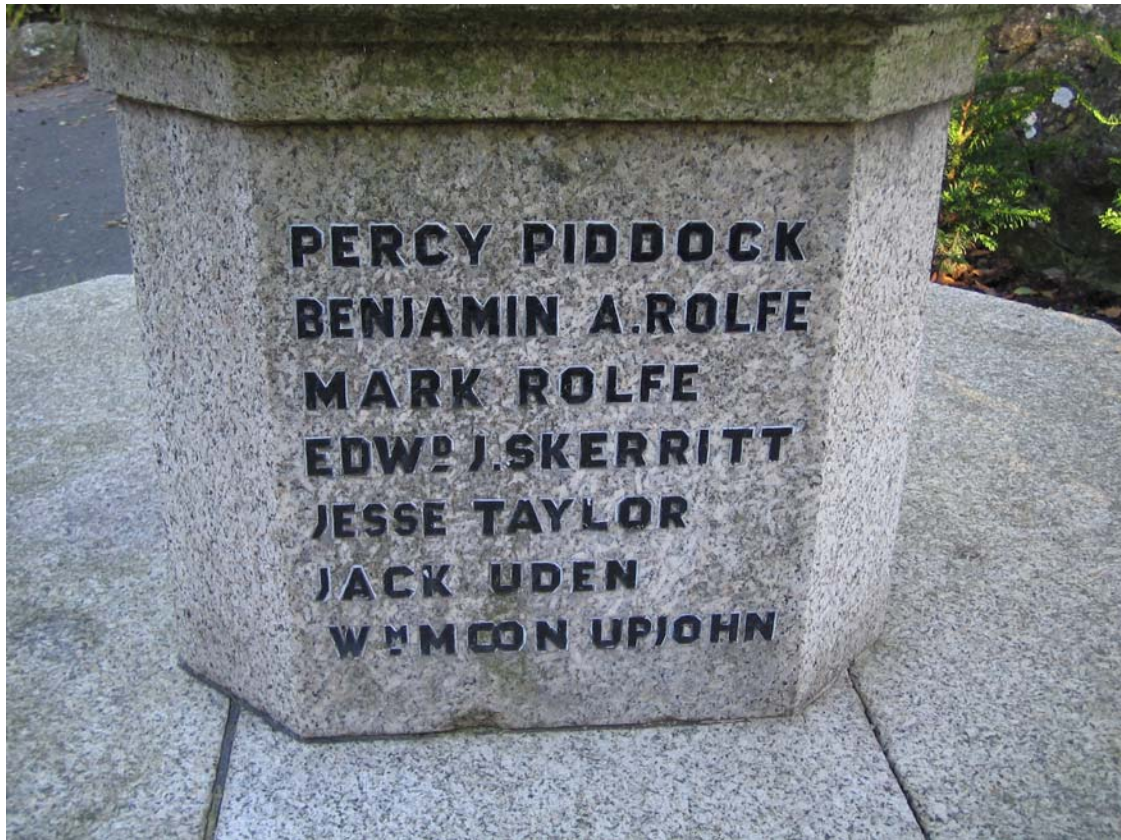
This ties in with:

<http://www.doverwarmemorialproject.org.uk/.../SurnamesA.htm> under "Ahern, H W"

"One of the other sisters became Mrs Youden, of Penny Pot Farm, Hythe". This was Elizabeth Alice AHERN, who married Jack's eldest brother Frederick Charles in Dover, Q3 1908. Note the spelling YOUDEN - maybe another avenue of investigation...?







**PERCY PIDDOCK**  
**BENJAMIN A.ROLFE**  
**MARK ROLFE**  
**EDW<sup>d</sup> J.SKERRITT**  
**JESSE TAYLOR**  
**JACK UDEN**  
**W<sup>m</sup> MCON UPJOHN**



Administrative County		The undermentioned House are situate within the boundaries of the															Page 14
Civil Parish of <u>Hythe</u>		Ecclesiastical Parish of <u>St Leonard</u>			County Borough, Municipal Borough, or Urban District of <u>Hythe</u>			Ward of Municipal Borough or of Urban District of <u>Hythe</u>		Rural District of <u>Hythe</u>		Parliamentary Borough or Division of <u>Hythe</u>		Town or Village or Hamlet of <u>Hythe</u>			
Coln	No. of HOUSE	HOUSES				Name and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	Sex	Age last Birthday	PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION	Employer, Worker, or Own account	If Working at Home	WHERE BORN	<input type="checkbox"/> Deaf and Dumb <input type="checkbox"/> Blind <input type="checkbox"/> Lame <input type="checkbox"/> Inebriate, feeble-minded			
		1	2	3	4												
79	1/2 High St					John Hewest	Head	M	49	Market Gardener	Employer	at home	Swiss, England	/			
						Mary Day Ann	Wife	M	49				Archdeacon, Guild South	/			
						John Alfred	Son	S	22	Market Gardener	Worker		Swiss	/			
						Edward Joseph	Son	S	19				" "	/			
						Kate Mary	Daughter	S	17	Shop Assistant	Worker		Swiss, Wootton	/			
						Norman Carl	Son	S	14				Head, Hythe	/			
						Arthur	Son	M	11				" "	/			
						Harry	Son	S	9				" "	/			
80	1/4 St					Richard Alder	Head	M	46	Wentworth Hoopline	Employer	at home	Swiss, Hythe	/			
						Elizabeth	Wife	M	44				" "	/			
						Blanche	Daughter	S	18				" "	/			
						Richard	Son	S	17				" "	/			
						Harry	Son	S	15				" "	/			
						William	Son	S	13				" "	/			
						Jack	Son	S	11				" "	/			
						Ray	Son	S	9				" "	/			
						May	Daughter	S	7				" "	/			
						Kate	Daughter	S	5				" "	/			
						Albert	Son	S	2				" "	/			
81	1/5 St					Augustine Harrison	Head	M	27	Cycle, Engineering & Supplies	Employer	at home	London, Hamp, Cross	/			
						Mabel	Wife	M	23				Brown, Ebecker	/			
82	1/6 St					James Lovick	Head	M	36	Printer, Bookbinder, Stationer	Employer	at home	London, Newmarket	/			
						May Jane	Wife	M	36				Head, Somersham	/			
						Edgar	Son	S	25	Post Law, Electrical	Worker		" "	/			
						William James	Son	S	22	Bookbinder, Stationer	Worker		Head, Hythe	/			
						Herbert	Son	S	21				" "	/			
						Arthur	Son	S	19				" "	/			
						Alfred Fuller	Son	S	17	Bookbinder & Stationer	Worker		" "	/			
						Harold	Son	S	12	Printer, Compositor	Worker		" "	/			
						Kate	Daughter	S	13				" "	/			
						James Rowland	Son	S	19	General Services	Worker		" "	/			
4	Total of Schedule of Houses and of Tenements with less than Five Rooms	4				Total of Males and of Females..			19	12							

NOTE—Draw your pen through each words of the headings as are inapplicable.