

Sargeant James Francis
7th Bn. Kings Shropshire Light Infantry

- He was born c 1890 at Edgerley, the son of Joseph and Sarah.
- In 1911 he was single living with his parents at 3 Ash Magna working as a House Joiner.
- He entered France on 28 September 1915.
- He was killed in action on 4 July 1916 and is buried in Dive Copse British Cemetery, Sailly-le-Sec and is remembered on Ash War Memorial.
- He was awarded 1915 Star, British War Medal and the Victory Medal.
- His now widowed mother was granted a War Gratuity of £11/10/-d and £24.19/-d in his pay account was refunded.

7th (Service) Battalion

Formed in September 1914 at Shrewsbury as part of the Third New Army (K3) and then moved to Codford, Salisbury Plain to join the 76th Brigade of the 25th Division. In May 1915 it moved to Bournemouth and then Romsey and then Aldershot.

28.09.1915 Mobilised for war and landed at Boulogne and engaged in various actions on the Western Front.

15.10.1915 Transferred to the 76th Brigade of the 3rd Division.

19.10.1915 Transferred to the 8th Brigade of the 3rd Division and engaged in various actions on the Western Front including;

1916

The Actions of the Bluff and St Eloi Craters, The Battle of Albert, The Battle of Bazentin, The Battle of Delville Wood, The Battle of the Ancre.