



Thame Remembers

Rifleman Frank Chowns



Frank Chowns was born in Moreton the second of four sons and one daughter born to William and Emma Chowns. When he married Rose Squires in Thame in 1905 his address was give as 13, Bell Lane, Thame. Whilst Frank remained in Thame with his new wife the rest of his family had emigrated to Canada by 1911.

Frank had served with the Kings Royal Rifle Corps in South Africa 1902–1904, following the Boer War, and it would appear that he was called back on the outbreak of World War 1. The family story that has been passed down says that on receiving the news of his call up his wife Rose took his kit bag down to the farm, where he was working, and from there he departed for his regiment.

Frank was killed whilst fighting with the 2nd Battalion The King's Royal Rifle Corps in the Battle of Aubers Ridge on the 9 May 1915. The 2nd KRRC were in a support role at the southern end of the attack at Richebourg, close to Le Touret. His body was never found and his name appears on Le Touret Memorial, Pas de Calais, France.

He is remembered in Thame on the War Memorial and on All Saints and St Mary's Memorial Boards.



**The Thame Remembers
Cross was delivered
to his memorial on
12th May 2015
by
Mr Brett Chowns
(Thame Resident)**

