



Holt

World War I Casualty Biographies

CLARKE, William

William Clarke was born on 6th May 1878 at Odiham, Hampshire, son of Joe and Elizabeth Clarke, living, at the time of his death, on Hook Common, Basingstoke. Joe was a fish monger.

Little has been found out about William. He enlisted as a boy seaman in the navy at Portsmouth and was married to Rose, living at Star Buildings, Holt. [No record found].

He rose through the ranks to become a Master at Arms on HMS Hampshire and died on 5th June 1916, aged 37, on the same ship as Lord Kitchener.

LOSS OF H. M. S. HAMPSHIRE

Keen anxiety is felt by the parents and friends of Horace Buerdsell, who it is believed was on H. M. S. Hampshire when that cruiser sank off the Orkneys on Monday. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Buerdsell, of The Common, and 20 years of age. No news had been received of him up to Thursday morning. Petty-Officer J. Clarke, whose wife is residing at Star Cottages, Holt, had also been serving on same cruiser recently and the greatest anxiety is felt with regard to his fate.

Friday

Mr. and Mrs. Buerdsell were delighted to receive from the Admiralty on Thursday information that their son had survived.

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[William Clarke (referred to above as Petty-Officer J. Clarke) died in the sinking of the ship, along with Lord Kitchener. Horace Buerdsell survived the war]

He is commemorated on Portsmouth Naval Memorial - Panel Reference 21

William Clarke, Master at Arms, 180547, Royal Navy, HMS Hampshire

References

[Ancestry](#)

Falconer, J – Names in stone, 2010, Bed & Bolster Publishing, 978 0 9563423 1 7
Wiltshire Times