

Harold Frank EACOCK (1889-1951)

Harold Frank Eacock's connection to North and South Lopham is by birth and residency.

Harold Frank EACOCK, son of William Frost EACOCK (c. 1845-) and Sarah UNKNOWN (c. 1857-), was born on 3 January 1889 in South Lopham, Norfolk.¹ He was baptised on 14 February 1889 in South Lopham - parents William and Sarah.¹

The 1891 Census (held on 5 Apr 1891) shows Harold at The Beeches, Fen Road in South Lopham - 3, living with parents William F (46, farmer) and Sarah (35), siblings Harry W (12, scholar), Lily L (10, scholar), Gertrude M A (8, scholar), Robert F (6, scholar), Ella M (5) and Arthur E (8m), and general domestic servant Alice WHATLING (15).²

At the time of the 1901 Census, Harold was living at Garboldisham Road in South Lopham - 12, scholar, living with parents William F (56, farmer) and Sarah (45), siblings Harry William (22, farmers son), Lilly Louise L (20, drapers assistant), Robert Fisher (16, farmers son), Ella May (14), Arthur E (10, scholar), Margaret Lydia (8, scholar) and Edith Olive (4).³

On 2 Apr 1911, (the 1911 Census), he was living at Peoples Stores in Sutton, Cambridgeshire - 22, single, grocers assistant, living in the household of Horace Morley WHITEWORTH (36, grocer and draper) and his family.⁴

No complete service history for Harold has been found. Four documents list some details. (1) On the Royal Defence Corps list of individuals entitled to medals is Harold, shown as service no. 90007 and has previous units as 9th Bn. Suffolk Regiment, Private 4283, serving from 7 September 1916 to 29 October 1916, and 2nd Bn. Lincolnshire Regiment, Private 40424, serving from 30 October 1916 to 4 December 1916, (2) The World War I Pension Ledgers and Index Card for Harold shows the Durham Light Infantry, Private 90007. There are also 3 numbers along side the R.D.C., 4283, 43943 and 100607. Mention is made of his address as being Priory

Farm, Redgrave. (3) The WW1 Medal Index Card states service with the Suffolks, Lincs, and the R.D.C. - no D.L.I.! (4) Harold was entitled to the "War Badge" and gives his service as with the R.D.C., Private 90007, serving from 10 February 1916 to 23 November 1918, his discharge at age 29 being as a result of wounds received.

[There seems to be some confusion as to exactly where and with whom Harold served. There is an anomaly with the service number of 90007 given for both the D.L.I. and the R.D.C. It is known that many men who originally served with the D.L.I. but were deemed no longer fit for frontline duties, due to age or wounds, were transferred to the R.D.C. for home-front security and guard duties, including at PoW. camps. On transfer the soldiers were given new numbers but the ties with the original regiment were maintained. Maybe this is part of the explanation but it just leaves the 3 months he was with the Suffolks and the Lincs.]

In 1918 Harold was on the Absent Voters List at Mill Pond Farm, South Lopham - service given as 100607 Pte., 27th Bn. D.L.I. [Durham Light Infantry].

He married **Mabel G STILES** circa 1918.⁵

In the 1921 Census (19 Jun 1921) he appeared at High Street in Sutton - 32y 5m, grocers manager, living with wife Mabel G (28y 8m, home duties) and daughter Joyce (1y 6m).⁶

Harold was recorded on the 1939 Register living at High Street in Sutton - b. 03.01.1889, draper master, member of Observer Corps, living with wife Mabel G (b. 06.10.1892, unpaid domestic duties), daughter Brenda D (b. 15.04.1923, Insurance Office Clerk awaiting employment), a closed record, and Antony R DEAR (b. 30.07.1929, scholar).⁷

He married **Dora STILES** circa 1949 - Dora was the sister of Harold's first wife Mabel..⁸

He died on 3 August 1951 in North Lopham, Norfolk.⁹ He was buried on 7

August 1951 in Sutton - aged 62 years.¹⁰

He had his estate probated on 28 November 1951 in London - "EACOCK Harold Frank of Rose Villa North Lopham near Diss Norfolk died 8 August 1951 Probate London 29 November to Dora Escock widow and Frank Sayers Oliver baker. Effects £5897 17s. 9d."

In the London Gazette on 15 February 1952 the following notice appeared:

NOTICE UNDER THE TRUSTEE ACT, 1925 S.27

Name of Deceased	Address, description and date of death of Deceased	Names, addresses and descriptions of Persons to whom notices of claims are to be given and names, in parentheses, of Personal Representatives	Date on or before which notices of claim to be given
EACOCK, Harold Frank	Rose Villa, North Lopham, Diss, Norfolk, formerly of West End Stores, Sutton, Ely, Cambs, Retired Outfitter. 3rd August, 1951.	Johnson, Garrard & Co., Northampton House, 68, Sydney Street, Cambridge, Solicitors. (Dora Eacock and Frank Sayer Oliver.)	16th April, 1952.

Wives and known children:

Mabel G STILES, daughter of George Henry STILES (c. 1861-c. 1907) and Levinia Elizabeth REEVES (c. 1864-c. 1929), was born on 6 October 1892 in Mildenhall, Suffolk. She died circa 1947 in Sutton. She and Harold Frank EACOCK had the following children:

Ella Joyce EACOCK (c. 1920-c. 1925)

Brenda E EACOCK (1923-)

Michael Frank EACOCK (c. 1928-c. 2013)

Dora STILES, daughter of George Henry STILES (c. 1861-c. 1907) and Levinia Elizabeth REEVES (c. 1864-c. 1929), was born on 11 March 1899. She died circa 1985.

Sources

1. *PR - Baptism*. South Lopham, Norfolk. Cit. Date: 14 February 1889.
2. *1891 Census*. RG12 Piece 1548 Folio 129 Page 11 Schedule 83. Cit. Date: 5 April 1891.
3. *1901 Census*. RG13 Piece 1866 Folio 19 Page 1 Schedule 5. Cit. Date: 31 March 1901.
4. *1911 Census*. RG14PN9215 RG78PN493 RD184 SD2 ED1 SN51. Cit. Date: 2 April 1911.
5. *CR Marriage*. 1918 Q3 Mildenhall Suffolk Vol 4A Page 2130. Cit. Date: Q3 1918.
6. *1921 Census*. RG15 Piece 08178 Schedule 51 RD 184 RS 2 ED 1. Cit. Date: 19 June 1921.
7. *1939 Registration*. RG101/6341J/008/9 Letter Code: TDAJ. Cit. Date: 30 September 1939.
8. *CR Marriage*. 1949 Q1 Ely Cambridgeshire Vol 4A Page 588. Cit. Date: Q1 1949.
9. *CR Death*. 1951 Q3 Wayland Norfolk Vol 4B Page 535. Cit. Date: Q3 1951.
10. *PR - Burial*. Sutton, Cambridgeshire. Cit. Date: 7 August 1951.