

Norman Birtles

Holmes Chapel

Returned

Distinguished Conduct Citation received by Norman Birtles

36839 Sjt. N. Birtles, M.M.,
B/78th Bde., R.F.A. (Alderley
Edge) (LG 10 Jan. 1920).

Near Montigny, on 9th October, 1918, this non-commissioned officer was No. 1 of a gun ordered to take up a position in the open. He silenced two enemy machine guns, and then engaged a 7.7 cm. gun, firing over open sights. His own gun received a direct hit, killing the officer and wounding him and three gunners. He displayed great courage, and assisted the wounded gunners to a place of safety.

His Story

No link has been found between Norman and Holmes Chapel but the most likely person was born in 1895 in Wilmslow. He was living in Lindow in 1901 and still there in 1911 aged 16 when he was a gardener.

In 1938 September Quarter he married Elaine Elizabeth Taylor at Wilmslow Congregational Church.

He died in February 1941 aged 46, at Rusland, 40 Broad Lane, Wilmslow.

His name is recorded on the Church Roll of Honour.

His War Record

The Parish Magazine records that he was with the Royal Field Artillery from October 1914. The only report is that he was serving abroad in August 1915

His military record shows that Sgt N Birtles, M.M. B/78th Brigade of the Royal Field Artillery (Alderley Edge) received a Distinguished conduct citation 36839.