

John Owen Royle

Village Centre, Holmes Chapel

Returned

The home and business of the Royle and Pickstock family.



His Story

John was born in 1899 at Holmes Chapel, the son of Josiah and Mabel Royle and brother to Eli. His father was a builder and contractor.

He was 2 years old at the 1901 Census when the family were living on Middlewich Road.

At the 1911 Census at Church Hulme, aged 11, he was at school.

His War Record

He attested on 15th October 1917, aged 18 years 3 months. He was 5 feet 5½ inches tall.

He was enlisted as a Private in the Labour Corps, number 496200.

Formed in January 1917, the Corps grew to some 389,900 men (more than 10% of the total size of the Army) by the Armistice. Of this total, around 175,000 were working in the United Kingdom and the rest in the theatres of war. The Corps was manned by officers and other ranks who had been medically rated below the "A1" condition needed for front line service. Many were returned wounded. Labour Corps units were often deployed for work within range of the enemy guns, sometimes for lengthy periods.

John was discharged from the Army on 23rd January 1919. John, for some reason, is not recorded on the Church Roll of Honour.