

ERNEST GEORGE HOWLING BORN 20TH JULY 1894 IN BRISLEY -DIED 3RD JUNE 1918



Ernest was born on 20th July 1894 in Brisley. His parents were Thomas and Georgiana, K/a Anna, Howling nee Mack. He was one of 11 children 2 died before the 1911 census.

The Howling Children were:

James born 1880, Gertrude born 1882, Henry born 1883, Mary 1885, Martha born 1887, Mabel born 1887, **John born 1889, Ernest born 1894 and Mathew born 1896**

Thomas and Georgina k/a Georgie lived in a cottage on Brisley Green in 1901. Thomas worked as a farm labourer. Ernest attended Brisley School. Ernest along with his four brothers all worked initially on the land when they first left school.

Ernest was the second youngest of the eleven children, two died in infancy. There remained five sons and four daughters. Three of the Howling sons fought in WW1. John joined the army as a musician with 2nd Battalion Norfolk Regiment in 1911 and served with his Regiment throughout WW1. Ernest enlisted in September 1914 in the Royal Navy Reserve and Mathew was called up on 30th August 1915. Both Ernest and Mathew died in the war. John was promoted to Corporal and survived the war he served as a regular soldier until 1920; he died in Norfolk in 1969.

The Howling family were living on Gately Road, Brisley when Ernest enlisted. Ernest enlisted in 29th August 1914 and then transferred to the Royal Navy Reserve; he seems to have enlisted just as soon as war broke out. It would seem that he responded to Lord Kitchener's call for volunteers.

Ernest first enlisted in the York and Lancs Regiment on 29th August 1914. His service number was Kitchener W/402. On 10th September 1914 Ernest transferred to serve in the RNVR. It is recorded that he signed up at The Crystal Palace and was assigned to the Hawke Bn. 'B' Company. He was listed with his boat at sea from 3rd May 1915.

On 28th August 1916 Ernest was ill with Dysentery and he was invalided back to UK. He remained in the UK until 18th September 1916. He then returned to his ship. He joined another ship named The Nelson Bn, he went onto serve with 7th Entrenching Bn.

On 22nd February 1918 Ernest joined The Hawke Bn as an Able Seaman. He appears to have been promoted as the records of his service history at Kew state: Able Seaman, Acting Able Seaman Higher Grade, Able Seaman, York and Lancaster Regiment, Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve

Ernest was reported missing and later was identified as a POW. His whereabouts were unknown from 22nd February 1918 to 21st March 1918. On 15th March 1918 it appears that he was captured by the German's because he was later listed as a POW on that date. It was then established he was in a POW Camp at Cassel. On 3rd June 1918 Ernest died from blood poisoning and complications from his wounds. He died in the Cassel Camp Hospital. It was noted on the Royal Naval Division website that 'this unique Division was demobilised in France by April 1919. It had suffered over 47,900 casualties.' Ernest entry listed the following: RND, Hawke Battalion

HOWLING, Ernest G, Able Seaman, RNVR, KW 402, prisoner of war, illness died..



Cassel Camp in WW1

Ernest is buried at Niedierzwehren Cemetery, Cassel (Germany 3)

He was 26 years old when he died.

Ernest was awarded the Star, Victory Medal, and British War Medal

Ernest's Parents & Family:

Thomas Howling & Georgiana Mack

Thomas Howling, Ernest's father was born in 1856 in Brisley, Norfolk. He married Georgiana Mack (born in 1844) in 1877. Thomas died on 14th March 1929.

Thomas's family have for several generations lived in and around Brisley.

Georgina Mack was born in 1854 in Wymondham, Norfolk. She died 12th March 1929.

Thomas and Georgiana are both buried in Brisley Churchyard.- see headstone below.

Could one of these young men be John Howling? The photo of the Brisley Church band taken in 1911.





In
Loving Memory
— OF —
THOMAS HOWLING.
DIED MARCH 14TH 1929.
AGED 73 YEARS.
ALSO OF
GEORGIANA HOWLING.
BELOVED WIFE OF THE ABOVE
DIED MARCH 12TH 1929.
AGED 75 YEARS.
RESTING IN PEACE.

FRANK...
DEPT...