

William Percy King

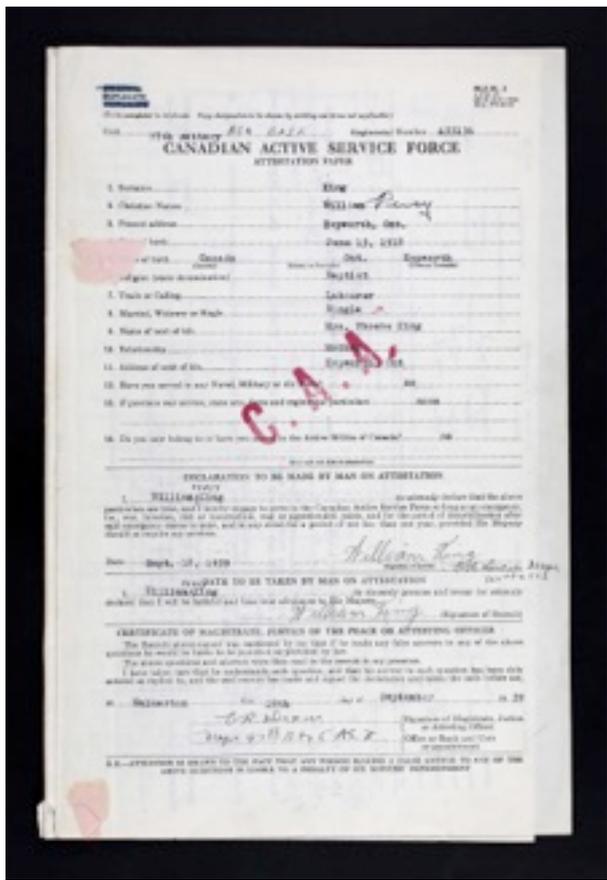
So this is the story of a young man called William King.



William was born in Hepworth, Ontario, Canada, June 13th 1913,

Brother of Robert King, P.T.E Albert King, Edward King and Alvin King and Mrs May Phillips of Ukiah Calif. William was also Half Brother to Harvey Warnock, George Warnock and Mrs. Chas. Primmer.

William Service to his country began in Canada, Enlisting in Walkerton September 1939 (Aged 21) and joined the 97th Battery. William trained in Listowel & Petawara.



William was needed to participate in the WW2 European war efforts and landed in England on March 30th 1940 where he continued his training on the Canadian Artillery Corps,

Statement of the Service of No. 43316 Rank Private Sheet No. 54764

William King, W.P.

Date	From where received	Rank	Station	Dist.	Place	Activity		
						Per (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6)	Days	
	SOR and transfer to 2nd Canadian Artillery Regiment	Private	10 Apr 41	10 Apr 41	2 A.H.U.	Borden	69	21 Apr 41
	TO 9 and transfer to 2nd Canadian Artillery Regiment	Private	11 Apr 41	11 Apr 41	2 A.H.U.	Borden	69	21 Apr 41
	TO 9 and transfer to 2nd Canadian Artillery Regiment	Private	20 Apr 41	20 Apr 41	2 A.H.U.	Borden	69	21 Apr 41
	In Command to 2 Lt A.A.T. Regt	Private	21 Apr 41	21 Apr 41	2 A.H.U.	Borden	69	21 Apr 41
	Off Command to 2 Lt A.A.T. Regt	Private	15 May 41	15 May 41	2 A.H.U.	Borden	94	16 May 41
	Leave with warrant sergeant (Borden)	Private	18 May 41	18 May 41	2 A.H.U.	Borden	97	19 May 41
	On Command to 2 Lt A.A.T. Regt	Private	19 May 41	19 May 41	2 A.H.U.	Borden	177	19 June 41
	On Command to 2 Lt A.A.T. Regt	Private	19 June 41	19 June 41	2 A.H.U.	Borden	176	7 Aug 41
	2nd Lt to 2nd A.A.T. Regt	Private	19 June 41	19 June 41	2 A.H.U.	UK	176	7 Aug 41
	Att'd to 3rd A.A.T. Regt F.A.P. from 2 A.H.U.	Private	19 June 41	19 June 41	2 A.H.U.	UK	90	19 July 41
	I.O.L. to Det 4th A.A.T. Regt	Private	25 Aug 41	25 Aug 41	2 A.H.U.	U.K.	186	27 Aug 41
	TO 9 from 2nd A.A.T. Regt	Private	2 Aug 41	2 Aug 41	4th A.A.T. Regt	U.K.	1	24 Aug 41
	Att'd to 2nd A.A.T. Regt for 1 day	Private	2 Aug 41	2 Aug 41	4th A.A.T. Regt	U.K.	105 H	24 Aug 41
	Att'd to 2nd A.A.T. Regt F.A.P. to 2nd A.A.T. Regt	Private	2 Aug 41	2 Aug 41	2 A.H.U.	U.K.	103 H	27 Aug 41
	Leave to 2nd A.A.T. Regt	Private	4 Aug 41	4 Aug 41	4th A.A.T. Regt	U.K.	73	4 Sept 41
	Off Command	Private	4 Aug 41	4 Aug 41	4th A.A.T. Regt	U.K.	73	4 Sept 41
	Leave 4th A.A.T. Regt	Private	10 Oct 41	10 Oct 41	4th A.A.T. Regt	U.K.	89	10 Oct 41

William then met Miss Florence Rose Knight, Florence was from Brighton and met William whilst he was stationed near by, they promptly fell in love and married in 26th June 1943.

161264
 (The Statutory Fee for this Certificate is 2s.7d. If required subsequently to registration, a Search Fee is payable in addition.)

(Printed by the authority of the Registrar-General)

Certified Copy of an Entry of Marriage.

REGISTRY OF CIVIL MARRIAGES ACTS, 1911 to 1937

DEPENDENT U.K.
 TRANSMITTED TO 40 District

E. (Dist.)
 Church

REGISTRATION DISTRICT								
1943 Marriage solemnized at <u>The Parish Church</u> in the <u>County Borough of Brighton</u> in the Parish of <u>Brighton</u>								
Column	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
No.	When married	Name & Surname	Age	Condition	Rank or Profession	Res. at time of marriage	Father's name & surname	Rank or Prof. of father
196	26 June 1943	William Percy King	24	Bachelor	Canadian Forces	6 Grand Parade, Brighton	Charles King	Labourer
		Florence Rose Knight	21	Spinster	Banker	26 Albion Street, Brighton	Fredrick Knight	Railway Employee

MARRIED in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Church of England
 on the 26th day of June 1943 by us.

This marriage was solemnized between us:
William Percy King in the presence of F. Knight
Florence Rose Knight as Jo. V. McFarlane Jeffrey H. Wards-Vicar

I, Jeffrey H. Wards of The Parish Church in the County Borough of Brighton do hereby certify that this is a true copy of the Entry No. 196 in the Register Book of Marriages of the said Church.

Witness my Hand this 26 day of June 1943

Jeffrey H. Wards (Vicar)
 State Rector, Vicar or Curate.

NOTICE - any person who (1) falsifies any of the particulars on this Certificate, or (2) uses it as true, knowing it to be falsified, is liable to Prosecution.

"I hereby certify that I have personally compared this copy with the original document and that it is a true and exact copy in all material respects."

P. J. McFarlane Captain
 Registrar 5 Gln Lt Ad Regt RGA

RECEIVED
 1943 JUN 25
 W. H. R. Knight

Just a few months later, on the 19th November 1943, William was then deployed to Italy, (19 November 1943) and served on the front lines for nearly 4 months until he was injured and returned to England.

CANADIAN PACIFIC TELEGRAPHS

DAY LETTER
 NIGHT LETTER

CASUALTY (REPORT DELIVERY) OTTAWA FEBRUARY 21 1944

TO:-
 MRS FROENK KING
 HANOVER ONTARIO

5631 SINCERELY REGRET INFORM YOU A33136 GUNNER WILLIAM KING
 OFFICIALLY REPORTED WOUNDED IN ACTION STOP DATE AND NATURE OF
 WOUNDS NOT YET AVAILABLE STOP WHEN ADDRESSING MAIL ADD WORDS IN
 HOSPITAL IN BOLD LETTERS AFTER NAME OF UNIT FOR QUICK DELIVERY
 STOP FURTHER INFORMATION FOLLOWS WHEN RECEIVED

Director of Records

PREPAID

OFFICIAL RECORDS

William Was rewarded the 1939-45 Star, Italy Star, France and Germany Star, Defence Medal, War Medal and CVSM & Clasp.

C.B.

6-3-45 AWARDS—CANADIAN ARMY (ACTIVE) 1909 **M** 8002-1-48 (REV) H.O. 1370-25-8

FILE NO. 405-K-6807

KING William **A-33136** **Pte.** **C.D.C.**

SURNAME (IN BLOCK LETTERS) CHRISTIAN NAMES REG. NO. RANK ON DISCHARGE C.A.S.F. UNIT

WAR SERVICE

BADGE

(CLASS) NO. DATE DESPATCHED:

ADDRESS:

CAMPAIGN MEDALS	REGISTRATION NUMBER AND DATE DESPATCHED
1939-45 Star	
Italy Star	
France & Germany Star	
Defence Medal	
War Medal	
CVSM & Clasp	

(THE REVERSE TO BE USED FOR ESTATE PURPOSES)

On the 6th March 1945, William returned from Italy on a requested 7 Day leave to visit his wife Florence, however, sadly during the trip from William fell out of train on the way back to Brighton (cause unknown) and obtained a serious head injury and broken ribs, William was rushed to Purley Cottage Hospital where he sadly died from his injuries.

W 095395 **A-33136 (15)** (Issued by authority of the Registrar General) **G. Oct. R.D.**

CERTIFIED COPY of an ENTRY OF DEATH
Pursuant to the Births and Deaths Registration Acts, 1836 to 1929.

Registration District **HOVEYDON** in the **COUNTY BOROUGH OF HOVEYDON**

Registration District HOVEYDON in the COUNTY BOROUGH OF HOVEYDON								
1 per Death in the Sub-district of HOVEYDON SOUTH in the COUNTY BOROUGH OF HOVEYDON								
No.	When and where Died.	Name and Surname.	Sex.	Age.	Rank or Profession.	Cause of Death.	Signature, Description and Residence of Informant.	Where Registered.
242	March, 1945 Purley Cottage Hospital, Brighton, S.E.	William Perry 2139	Male	27 years	Canadian Army Dental Corps, Canadian Army Convalescent & Gunner, Royal Canadian Artillery.	Multiple injuries caused by a fall from an electric railway train in motion. Miscellaneous. P.M.	Certificate received from H.S. Jackson, Surgeon B.F. Borough of Hoveydon, Inquest held 3rd March, 1945	Fourteenth March, 1945
								V. Davis Registrar

I, **V. Davis** Registrar of Births and Deaths for the Sub-District of **HOVEYDON SOUTH** in the **COUNTY BOROUGH OF HOVEYDON** do hereby certify that this is a true copy of the Entry No. 242 in the Register Book of Deaths for the said Sub-District, and that such Register Book is true copy in my custody.

Witness my Hand this **20th** day of **March** 1945

V. Davis
Registrar of Births and Deaths

DEFINITION.—Any person who (1) falsifies any of the particulars on this certificate, or (2) uses it as true, knowing it to be false, is liable to imprisonment.

William was due on his return train back to Italy on March 13th 1945, if anything positive can be taken from William's tragic passing, its the mindset he would of been in travelling down the peaceful countryside as apposed to awful conditions over in Italy.

(b) If fit to travel he should be instructed to return to his Unit and report sick to his Medical Officer.

If unfit, he should be furnished with a certificate to that effect to be forwarded to his Officer i/c Records, and at the same time be instructed to notify the nearest Military Medical Establishment.

(c) To obtain payment for attendance on a soldier, a Civilian Medical or Dental Practitioner should satisfy himself that the above instructions have been carried out. He should submit his claim on Army Form O.166 (the scale of fees allowed are set out on the back of the form) which may be obtained from the local National Health Insurance Committee, and when completed should be forwarded to the A.D.M.S. of the Area in which the soldier is temporarily residing, for payment.

The Dental Practitioner will be paid only for strictly emergency treatment, and at the rates admissible under the National Health Insurance Act (Dental Benefit Regulations).

RETURN TRAIN TIMINGS

(For the use of Movement Control)

R. T. O.
STATION *100*
REPORT

MOVEMENT CONTROL

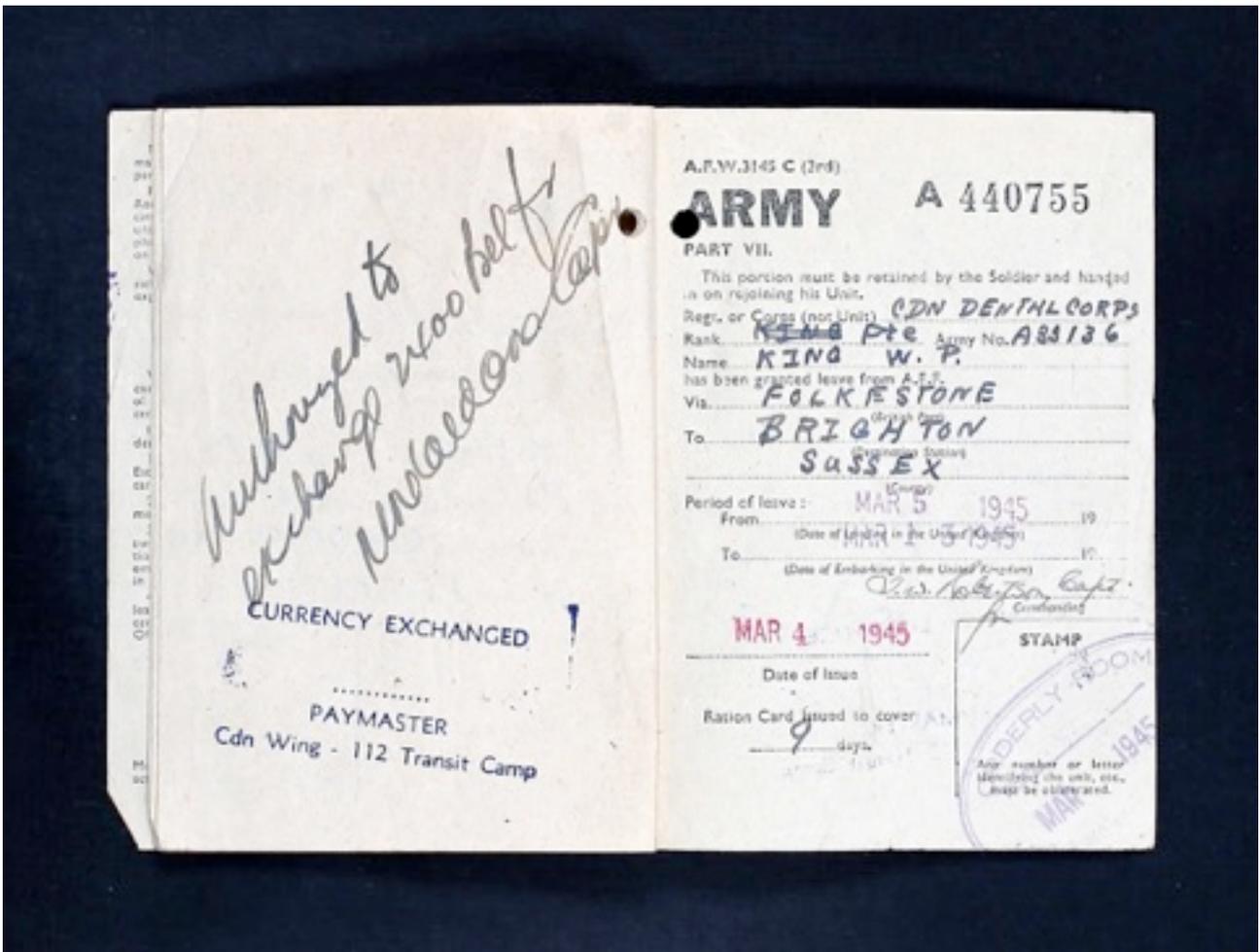
**YOUR RETURN TRAIN DEPARTS
VICTORIA STN. LONDON**

ON 13 MAR 1945

AT *11:00* HRS

FOLKESTONE

Failure to use the return train indicated may result in a missed connection, and disciplinary action being taken against you.



William was laid to rest at Brookwood Military Cemetery (Plot 50 Grave 3) on the 10th March 1945.



Why the story you ask?, For the answer to this questions we must fast forward 75 Year back to the Brighton, England.

On the 7th September 2019, Myself (Jason Roberts was metal detecting a friends field just outside of Brighton when a signal pulls up a something rather interested.. A Pocket Watch, it was buried about 8 inches into the ground and covered in dirt and chalk.



I spent the following days cleaning the watch, with the help from Jay at Military Man, and eventually we managed to get some back to a condition close to when it was in use.



Now whilst admiring the restoration work, we came across something that was not visible when we pulled it out of the ground, some writing scratched into the back of the watch.

W KING
HURST



The Research began and after 100s of hours combined research from a range of friends and professionals, of whom I will mention shortly, we were able to compile the above information.

The most concrete evidence that matches this pocket watch to William was from taking the his handwriting from his enrolment application and comparing his writing to the back of the pocket watch. This for us was what made us conclude our research was successful



I have been thinking long and hard about what should happen to the watch, Despite attempts to contact long distant family relatives, unfortunately they were not too interested.

I feel like the right thing to do is to send the watch back to his hometown where he can be remembered for generations to come. Hepworth is blessed with a Royal Canadian Legion (Hepworth Shallow Lake #586) and we feel that this would be the place it would be most

appreciated. Looking at the legions website there appears to be some lovely display stands in the hall and I think it will be nice to return William Home, back to his routes (In Pocket Watch Spirit, of course). We also feel returning the watch to Hepworth is well suited as his name is listed on the Hepworth Memorial just a short walk away from the Royal Canadian Legion.



I would like to thank William Percy King of Hepworth for the commitment he made not only to his country, but ours. A true hero that will never be forgotten.

Finally, as I conclude my story, I must thank 2 people who put hours of time and energy into the research and without them the level of information would not be available.

Firstly Terry Hanlon, A local Metal Detectorist and friend, and

Fraser Kinnie, Owner of Heirhunteruk.com, who spent hours upon hours carrying out intensive research and without his help we would of certainly been writing a much shorter story today.

I hope you have found this story useful and if you have any questions please feel free to contact me at jcressey@hotmail.com

Jason Roberts
12th September 2019