

Service Record for Joseph Dunsmore

An unusually full set of notes has survived to show that Joseph seems to have been subjected to a wide range of experiences during his service. He was sent for trench war training on a mock up site in Yorkshire. He had four spells in hospital both in France and England to deal with medical problems (a bout of conjunctivitis and an abscess) and the results of being wounded twice. He was evacuated twice back to England on board hospital ships. There is a badly damaged undated medical form (**image 6**) which seems to relate to his two spells in UK hospitals but which is difficult to decipher. He seems to have been given leave (furlough) after each hospitalisation. The second line seems to refer to the abscess reported in the table below and that it ruptured and bled. The doctor urged a period of convalescence.

Image 1 Military history sheet

Country	From	To	Years	Days
Home	18/05/15	05/03/16		200
France	06/03/16	08/09/16		187
Home	09/09/16	30/12/16		118
France	31/12/16	24/09/17		268
Home	25/09/17	08/01/18		106
EF France	09/11/18	21/03/18		72
		Total	2	308

Behind this bland list of postings by country lies a complete list of Joseph's experiences during his service. The following account is built up from the information on images 2 to 5.

He was stationed at five different UK bases during training and also received three Typhoid vaccinations in June, July and December 1915. He was based at:

Station	Date of arrival	Date of departure
Buxton	18/5/15	8/6/15
Redmires	9/6/15	2/9/15
Hursley Park	2/9/15	30/9/15
Aldershot	30/9/15	8/11/15
Witley Camp	8/11/15	

Joseph's individual movements are explained by the movements of the 16th (Service) Battalion (Chatsworth Rifles):

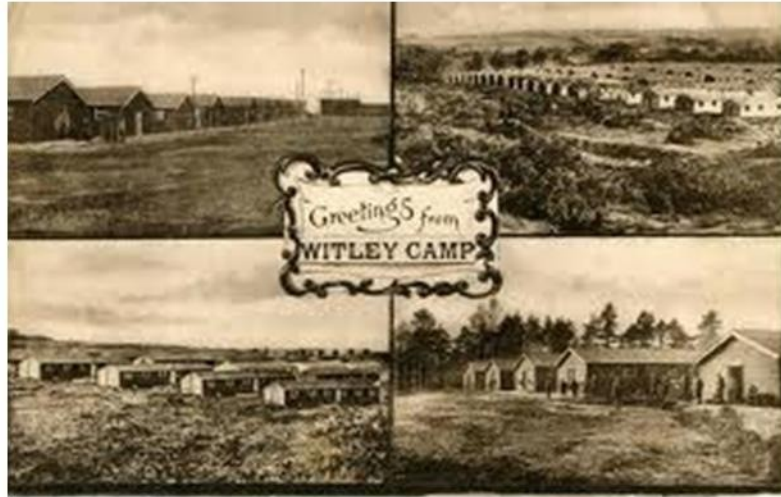
Formed at Derby on 16 April 1915, by the Duke of Devonshire and the Derbyshire TF Association.

*Moved to **Buxton** on 4 May 1915 and then on to **Redmires** near Sheffield on 8 June. Here they received training in trench warfare. The site has recently been the subject of an [archaeological excavation](#)*

*2 September 1915 : moved to **Hursley Park** near Winchester and came under the orders of 117th Brigade in 39th Division. Hursley House was also a military hospital in WW1 and is now a major research centre for IBM.*

Moved to Aldershot on 30 September 1915 but soon moved to [Witley](#).



Witley Military Camp, often simplified to **Camp Witley**, was a temporary army camp set up on Witley Common, Surrey, England during both the First and Second World Wars.




More images at <https://www.google.co.uk/search?q=witley+camp+history&sa=X&tbn=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&ei=alwBVP2VFOMx1AXSpGIDQ&ved=0CEAQsAQ&biw=1148&bih=902>

*March 1916 : landed at Le Havre.
16 May 1918 : reduced to cadre strength.
16 August 1918 : transferred to 197th Brigade in 66th (2nd East Lancashire) Division.
(from <http://www.1914-1918.net/notts.htm>)*

Joseph's Casualty forms and medical records (images 2-5) record his progress through the war:

Date	Record	Place	Remarks
6/3/16	Embarked Southampton		
8/4/16	Attached to 112/1 LJM Battery	In the field	B213 d 14.4.16
3/9/16	Wounded	In the field	
3/9/16	SW Foot [Shot wound?]	In the field	
4/9/16	<p>SW Foot</p> <p>Carmiers Hospital was a collection of tents and huts near the French village of the same name. Carmiers is situated near the North east coast of France. Several hospitals and holding camps were established in the area. One of these was the centre of the influenza epidemic of 1915/6.</p> <p>More images available at https://www.google.co.uk/search?q=camiers+hospital+ww1&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ei=Z5oBVI_VD6fV0QXSw4EQ&ved=0CDQQsAQ&biw=1148&bih=902</p> <p>A VAD matron's diary is at http://www.westernfrontassociation.com/great-war-people/photography-original/1297-a-great-war-nurses-photo-album.html</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>20th Gen. Hospital</i></p>	Carmiers	Ha 2251
7/9/16	<p>To England per HS Stad Antwerpen This was a hospital ship</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Hospital Ship Stad Antwerpen</p> <p>HS Stad Antwerpen was a converted fast cross Channel ferry operated by the Belgian State Ferry Company. She could accommodate about 150 servicemen and 30 medical staff. The ship was in service from October 1915 until December 1919.</p>		
8/9/16	Gunshot wound	Middlesex Hospital, Clacton-on-sea	10 days in hospital
18/5/17	Granted prof[iciency] pay class		In the field
1/7/17	Granted pay Class 1		In the field
19/8/11	GSW [gun-shot wound] to hand		In the field
31/8/17	Re-joined		In the field
12/9/17	[unreadable] [possibly relates to transfer to hospital in Rouen]		Rouen
24/9/17	To England per HS Grantully Castle... abcess		Rouen

	<p style="text-align: center;">HS Grantully Castle</p> <p>Initially a liner used as a troop ship in the first few years of the war to transport soldiers to the eastern Mediterranean. After conversion in Malta , HS Grantully Castle operated as a hospital ship from June 1915 until march 1919 and could carry over 400 soldiers with a medical staff of 74.</p> <p>GRANTULLY CASTLE (2) was built in 1910 by Barclay, Curle & Co. at Glasgow with a tonnage of 7612grt, a length of 450ft 7in, a beam of 54ft 4in and a service speed of 13 knots. Together with her sister, the Garth Castle, she was one of the last pair ordered under the personal supervision of Sir Donald Currie who died on 23rd April 1909 at the age of 83. One of five ships built for the Intermediate trade she was given a 'G' name to replace the ex-Union 'G' class but the class was never as popular as the 'D' class ships. In January 1915 she was being used as a troopship and while at Mudros during the Gallipoli campaign, in company with the Alwick Castle, and Balmoral Castle, was held for five weeks from 18th March when the troops, because of mines, were unable to force the Dardanelles straits until 23rd April when they eventually landed to oppose a re-inforced Turkish army. She left the Dardanelles on 1st May 1915 for Malta where she was commissioned as a hospital ship with 552 beds. She reverted to Union-Castle on 11th March 1919 and served for a further 20 years before being broken up in 1939. (Photo: UCPSC 13/134)</p> <p>See http://www.red-duster.co.uk/UNION15.htm</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">  </div>			
25/9/17	JCT Groin	King Gorge Hospital, London.		7 days in hospital
1/12/17	Transferred to 8 th [?] Bn Sherwood Foresters			
8/1/18	Base B & J Posted (rubber stamp)			
9/1/18	Transferred to 15 th [?] Bn Sherwood Foresters			
14/1/18	Transferred to 2 nd /7 th Bn Sherwood Foresters			
15/1/18	Joined depot Battalion from K IBD and posted to B Coy 2 nd /7 th Sherwood Foresters.		Field	
18/1/18	Joined Unit		Field	
29/1/18	Sick to hospital		Field	
29/1/18	2/2 NMFH [a Field Hospital?], admitted with conjunctivitis			
30/1/18	6 St[ationar]y Hos[pital]		Frevant hospital	
3/2/18	Re-joined Bn		Field	
21/3/18	Missing (rubber stamp)		Field	

Scroll down to see images

Image 1

MILITARY HISTORY SHEET.

1. Services at Home and Abroad (including former service of re-enlisted men, when allowed to reckon towards G. C. Pay or Pension).

COUNTRY	FROM	TO	YEARS	DAYS
Germany	14. 5. 15	5. 3. 16		200
France	6. 3. 16	8. 9. 16		184
Home	9. 9. 16	30. 12. 16		118
France	31. 12. 16	29. 9. 17		268
France	25. 9. 17	8. 1. 18		106
France	9. 1. 18	21. 3. 18		72
<i>Total</i>			2	368

N.B.—The Country only to be shown—it is not necessary to show separately the service in the different stations of the same Country. England, Scotland and Ireland to be shown under the general term "Home."

For mode of computing Service abroad, see King's Regulations.

Whether educated at (applies only to Boys) of School to be stated.	Duke of York's Royal Military School, _____ Royal Hibernian Military School, _____ Queen Victoria School, _____ Industrial School under Home Office } or Local Government Board } _____ _____ Army School and _____	Initials of Officer making the entry.
--	---	--

Casualty Form—Active Service.

Army Form B. 103.

Occupation *air signaller* 20/2/1917 62/20 ✓
 Regiment or Corps 18th BATTN. SHERWOOD FORESTERS
 Regimental No. 26121 Rank Pte Name Joseph Dunsmore
 Enlisted (a) 18/5/15 Terms of Service (a) D of W Service reckons from (a) 18/5/15
 Date of promotion to present rank } Date of appointment to lance rank } Numerical position on roll of N.C.Os. }
 Extended Raymer Re-engaged _____ Qualification (b) _____

Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents.
Date	From whom received				
		<i>Embarked</i>	<i>Bouclampton</i>	<i>6.3.16</i>	
<i>19.4.16</i>	<i>B.C. Bate.</i>	<i>Marched to 114/1. L.S.M. Battery.</i>	<i>In the field</i>	<i>8.4.16.</i>	<i>18213. d. 14.4.16.</i>
<i>10.7.16.</i>	<i>W. Rn.</i>	<i>Wounded.</i>	<i>Adm Field</i>	<i>3.9.16</i>	<i>CRoll.</i>
<i>11.9.16.</i>	<i>182. S.R.</i>	<i>Sw. post.</i>	"	<i>3.9.16.</i>	<i>ces 3.9.16. 25 2400.</i>
<i>2.10.16</i>	<i>H Gen HOS</i>	<i>do-</i>	"	<i>4.9.16.</i>	<i>Ha. 2251.</i>
<i>18.9.16.</i>	<i>H Gen HOS</i>	<i>To England per H.S. Stead Antwerpen.</i>	<i>4.9.16.</i>		

J.M. Hasell CAPTAIN.
 Officer i/c Regular Infantry Section No 4.
 General Headquarters, 3rd Echelon.

(2001)—Wt. W820—1273—500,000—11-14.—K. & K. — Forms B. 103/1.

Army Form B. 103.

Casualty Form—Active Service.

Regiment or Corps 4th Bn. Sherwood Foresters.
 Regimental No. 16126121 Rank Pte Name Joseph Dunsmore
 Enlisted (a) 18.5.16 Terms of Service (a) D of W Service reckons from (a) 18.5.16
 Date of promotion to present rank } Date of appointment to lance rank } Numerical position on roll of N.C.Os. }
 Extended _____ Re-engaged 18/5 Qualification (b) _____

Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form B. 213, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents.
Date	From whom received				
	<i>4 SBD</i>	<i>15 R.</i>	<i>Field</i>		
	<i>Ob</i>	<i>Joined</i>			
		<i>Granted Profy. Pay Class 2 from 18-5-17.</i>			
		<i>1st Pay class I from 1/1/17</i>			
<i>25.8.17</i>	<i>107 Pa.</i>	<i>Rejoined</i>		<i>19.8.17</i>	<i>D.O.</i>
<i>2.9.17</i>	<i>107 Pa.</i>			<i>31.8.17</i>	<i>D.O.</i>
<i>15.9.17</i>	<i>107 Pa.</i>			<i>12.9.17</i>	<i>D.O.</i>
<i>11.10.17</i>	<i>12 C.H.</i>		<i>Rejoined</i>	<i>16.9.17</i>	<i>Ha 111111</i>
<i>21.9.17</i>		<i>To England per H.S. Stead</i>		<i>21.9.17</i>	<i>43083</i>

End Lt. for,
 Officer i/c Infantry Section No 4,
 G.H. Qrs. 3rd Echelon.

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered.
 (b) e.g. Signaller, Shoeing Smith, etc., etc., also special qualifications in technical Corps duties. [P.T.O.]

26124 J.E. J. e. J.

Report		Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 218, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place	Date	Remarks taken from Army Form B. 218, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents.
Date	From whom received				
Depot.	Transferred to 27th Bn. Sherwood Foresters.		P6	1-12-17.	Jackson Lieut
	Base B & E Postal			2-1-18	Jackson Lieut
	Depot			9 JAN 1918	
	Depot			9 JAN 1918	
	Depot			9 JAN 1918	
23 JAN 1918	O/C. Unit.	Joined Battn From K.I.B.D., And Posted to... Coy. 27th Sherwood Foresters. Joined Unit.	Field.	15 JAN 1918	18/1/18 213.19/1
7/2/18.	To Unit.	Sick to Hosp.	Field.	29-1-18.	213. 2/2/17
8/2/18.	2/2 N.M.F.A.	Adm: Conjunctivitis.		29-1-18	6 H. H. 307. 29.7124
12/2/18.	6 H. H. 307.		Present.	30-1-18	HA 1918
14/2/18.	To Unit	Rejoined Bn. (M)	Field.	3-2-18.	213. 9/2
	O/C. Unit	Missing.	Field.	21 MAR 1918	O. 1810. 21 18
					For Officer Vc. Inf. Section, No. 4. G. H. Q. 3rd Echelon. B. E. E.

Image 6

In the case of Warrant Officers treated in quarters.

<p>Reporting on the cause, nature, or treatment of the case, likely to be of interest or of future value. In cases of syphilis, admissions and re-admissions to hospital will be shown. The subsequent progress, including particulars of treatment out of hospital, transfers, &c., will be given in the special syphilis case sheet.</p>	<p>Signature of Medical Officer</p>
<p>... ten days furlough.</p> <p>Notes from France.</p> <p>... left from opened &</p> <p>... ruptured sublingual</p> <p>... gland with syphilis.</p> <p>... Hospital</p> <p>... furlough & Duty</p>	<p>Louis Rivett</p> <p>J. Mackay CAPT., R.A.M.</p>