



Edward Ewart Milner

62 Park Grove

Born in 1895 in Derby, Edward was the eldest of three children, son to Edward and Julia Milner. They were part of a very large and closely knit family, with Edward senior's brother Robert married to Julia's sister Alice. Robert and Alice lived at 27 Wheeldon Avenue, and their son Robert F Donovan Milner, several years younger than Edward, also served in the armed forces. Distant cousin Ernest Garratt (Army Ordnance Corps) also lived in the area at 28 Wheeldon Avenue.

In the 1911 census Edward aged 15 was still at school so we don't know where or when he started his working life – certainly by the time he retired he was a Bank Manager so he may have started as a bank clerk when he left school.

We have very few records relating to his military career but we know he served with the Sherwood Foresters (Notts & Derby). His potential as officer material was quickly spotted as there is a notification in the London Gazette for October 1915 that he had been promoted from Sergeant to 2nd Lieutenant. From this dating we know that he volunteered for the armed services before the introduction of conscription in 1916. He was only sent to France in February 1917 and it may be that before then he was in Ireland trying to restore order after the uprising in spring 1916 – this counted as service at "home". We certainly

know from other records that Reginald Severn from Statham Street who was also serving with the 2/5th Battalion of the Sherwood Foresters served in Ireland before he was transferred, like Edward, to France in 1917.

Edward survived the war and returned to Derby late in 1919. By this stage he had been promoted to Lieutenant (in July 1917) and then in February 1919 to Adjt (Adjutant) and "to be acting Capt with pay and allowance of Lt whilst so employed"

5th Bn., Notts. & Derby. Regt.—Lt. E. E. Milner to be Adjt., and to be actg. Capt., with pay and allces. of Lt. whilst so empld., vice Capt. G. J. Edmunds (6th Bn.). 7th Feb. 1919.

Notification from the London Gazette for 4 April 1919 listing Edwards's promotion to acting Captain.

By early 1920 he no longer appears in the Register of Electors for this area having moved to St Albans where he married Millicent Rhodes on 2 October 1920 – at this point he was a bank clerk. We know that Millicent and Edward had one daughter, Lesley, born in 1928 in West Bromwich, but it has not been possible to trace other children from the marriage. Nothing more has been discovered of Edward's life, until his death in Torquay in 1989 aged 93, when his death certificate lists him as a retired Bank Manager.



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