



John Neaum

58 Statham Street

John Neaum was called up for service aged 18 years and 5 months in May 1916. His active life in the army began in October 1916 when he had to report for service to Normanton Barracks in Derby. He trained with the Northumberland Fusiliers, an infantry regiment, and left for France in March 1917.

Just a month later on 9 April 1917, which was the first day of the Battle of Arras, he received a gunshot wound in his chest, near one shoulder and 12 days later, after initial treatment at the 3rd Canadian Hospital at Boulogne he was transferred by ship home to England.

After his hospital recovery he was transferred to a reserve regiment of the Northumberland Fusiliers based at East Boldon near Sunderland, whilst he fully recovered. In November 1917 he was transferred to the Durham Light Infantry, but saw no active service until the end of March 1918 John (now with the Rifle Brigade) returned to France.

He served on the western front until August 1918 when he was diagnosed with appendicitis and had two operations – one in August, another a month later. His medical record stated that he was left unable to carry heavy weights due to the effect of surgery on his abdominal wall and in January 1919 he was discharged from the army.

1. (a) In what countries have you served during this war and for what periods? (b) In what capacity?	France. 1/1/17 — 21/4/17. 25.3.18 — 9.8.18. Infantryman.
2. If you are suffering from any disease, wound or injury, state what it is, the date upon which it started, and what in your opinion was the cause of it. (If more space is required a sheet of foolscap should be used and attached firmly to this form).	G.S.W. Chest in action. 2 operations for appendicitis contracted 2-8-18 & 20-9-18. - whilst overseas
3. Give the names of any Hospitals in which you have been treated for the above disabilities during this war.	3 rd Canadian Boulogne. Bradford War Hosp. Leicester Hosp.

Extract from John's medical record detailing his service and the injury and illness he suffered whilst on active service. "G.S.W." is short-hand for gun shot wound
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He returned home to his family at 58 Statham Street and resumed working for his father's company "Bingham & Neaum" as a lithographic printer. The family – John, his parents and brother and sister had all originated in Belper and initially moved to the Six Streets area in 1911, when they briefly lived at 32 Bromley Street, before moving to 58 Statham Street. The family business was first based in Court 5 off Agard Street (1908-1911) and then moved in about 1911 to Wood Lane, Nottingham Road.

By 1922 the family had moved away from Statham Street but John was to stay in the area living at 95 Markeaton Street with his wife Clarice, whom he married in 1923, and their daughter Maude (born 1925) and Clarice's father. John died in 1970, just short of his 73rd Birthday.