

## **Private Arthur Henry Greenshaw**

**Regimental number: 887614**

**28<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Canadian Infantry**

**born: 1 August 1898 - died: 9 September 1918**

Private Arthur Henry Greenshaw was born on 1 August 1898 in Shoal Lake, Manitoba, Canada,<sup>1</sup> the son of Edward Ernest Greenshaw and his wife, the former Edith Emily Castell.<sup>2</sup>

Arthur's father, Edward, was born in 1868 in Thixendale, Yorkshire, England, the son of Robert and Charlotte Greenshaw.<sup>3</sup> In 1881, he was living with his brother, John Robert, who was a farmer in Warter, Yorkshire.<sup>4</sup> In 1889, Edward immigrated to Canada.<sup>5</sup> His wife, Edith, was born in 1876 in Great Bedwyn, Wiltshire, England, the daughter of Charles Smith and Mary Ann Castell.<sup>6</sup> She immigrated to Canada with her father, a farmer, her mother and four siblings in 1889, arriving in Quebec City and travelling on to Portage La Prairie.<sup>7</sup> Her father became a school teacher in Shoal Lake.<sup>8</sup> In 1891, Edward was a labourer in Shoal Lake.<sup>9</sup>

Edward and Edith were married in Shoal Lake on 15 January 1896.<sup>10</sup> Arthur was one of probably six children born to the couple: Olive Maud (born in 1897),<sup>11</sup> Arthur, Edward Charles Robert (born in 1900),<sup>12</sup> George Howard (born in 1902, but died less than a year later),<sup>13</sup> Vera Lilian (born in 1904)<sup>14</sup> and Edith Mary Madeline (born in 1905).<sup>15</sup>

In 1901, the family was still living in Shoal Lake, where Arthur's father was now a merchant.<sup>16</sup> By 1911, the family had moved to British Columbia and was living at 1536 Cook Street in Victoria.<sup>17</sup> Arthur's father was still a merchant.

Arthur enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force and served in the 28<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Canadian Infantry (Northwest).<sup>18</sup> This Battalion was created in November 1914. It embarked for Britain in May 1915 and disembarked in France on 18 September 1915.<sup>19</sup> It is not known when Arthur joined the Front.

On 8 September 1918, he was injured and he died the following day:<sup>20</sup>

At about 1.50 o'clock on the afternoon of September 8<sup>th</sup> 1918, and when at Battalion Headquarters East of Cagnicourt, he was wounded by shrapnel which penetrated his back. His wounds were attended to and he was evacuated to the No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station where he succumbed the following day.<sup>21</sup>

The 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Casualty Clearing Station's chaplain recorded that he had gunshot wounds that had penetrated his back and right arm. The war dairies for the 28<sup>th</sup> Battalion indicate that eighteen Other Ranks were wounded on 8 September and eight were sent to hospital.<sup>22</sup> Perhaps Arthur was one of them.

Arthur was buried on 9 September in Duisans British Military Cemetery (Plot 5, Row H, Grave 42) with the chaplain W. F. O'N. Fisher presiding.<sup>23</sup> Arthur was identified as a member of the Church of England.

Duisans British Military Cemetery is located in Etrun, near Arras, in France. The first burials took place in the cemetery in March 1917.<sup>24</sup> The 1<sup>st</sup> CCCS arrived at the beginning of September and was

stationed near Duisans for two months in the autumn of 1918.<sup>25</sup> A total of 75 patients died at the 1<sup>st</sup> CCCS in September.

His mother, who was then living in Victoria, British Columbia, was notified of his death.<sup>26</sup> She would have been notified of the deaths of both her sons about the same time. Arthur's younger brother, Charles, was a Private (Regimental number: 102237) in the 54<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Canadian Infantry (British Columbia Regiment).<sup>27</sup> He died exactly a week before Arthur. Charles was stationed near Arras, probably just a few kilometres from his brother, when he was killed.

About 10 o'clock on the morning of September 2nd 1918, while advancing with his Company in an attack near Arras, he was shot through the stomach by a machine gun bullet. He lived for about four hours after receiving his wound and was cheerful to the last and appeared to suffer very little.<sup>28</sup>

He was buried in Dury Hill British Cemetery (Plot 2, Row A, Grave 32), which is located just 25 kilometres from where his brother lies. Charles was identified as being Presbyterian.

Their father, Ernest, died a couple of years after the end of the war. Both parents died in Vancouver – his father in 1920<sup>29</sup> and later his mother in 1947.<sup>30</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> "Birth index," *Province of Manitoba: Vital Statistics Agency* (<http://vitalstats.gov.mb.ca/>; accessed 8 October 2015), entry for Arthur Henry Greenshaw

<sup>2</sup> "Commonwealth War Graves Commission," ([www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org); accessed 3 December 2015), entry for Greenshaw, Arthur Henry, Service No: 887614

<sup>3</sup> "England & Wales Christening Records, 1530-1906," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 9 October 2015), entry for Edward Ernst Greenshaw

<sup>4</sup> "1881 England Census," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 8 October 2015), entry for Edward Ernest Greenshaw, Registration district: Pocklington, ED, institution, or vessel: 13, Piece: 4733, Folio: 62-0, Page Number: 7

<sup>5</sup> "1911 Census of Canada," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 8 October 2015), entry for Arthur H. Greenshaw, Province: British Columbia, "1891 Census of Canada," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 9 October 2015), entry for Edith E. Castell, Province: Manitoba, District Number: 7, District: Marquette, Subdistrict: Shoal Lake and Strathclair  
District: Victoria, District Number: 13, Sub-District: 4, Sub-District Number: 4

<sup>6</sup> "England, Select Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 9 October 2015), entry for Edith Emily Castell, FHL Film Number: 1279362

<sup>7</sup> "UK Outward Passenger Lists, 1890-1960," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 9 October 2015), entry for C. S. Castell

<sup>8</sup> "1891 Census of Canada," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 9 October 2015), entry for Edith E. Castell, Province: Manitoba, District Number: 7, District: Marquette, Subdistrict: Shoal Lake and Strathclair

<sup>9</sup> "1891 Census of Canada," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 9 October 2015), entry Ernest Greenshaw, Province: Manitoba, District Number: 7, District: Marquette, Subdistrict: Shoal Lake and Strathclair

<sup>10</sup> "Manitoba, Marriage Index, 1879-1931," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 8 October 2015), entry for Edward Ernest Greenshaw

<sup>11</sup> "Web: Canada, Manitoba, Birth Index, 1866-1912." *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 8 October 2015), entry for Olive Maud Greenshaw

<sup>12</sup> "Birth index," *Province of Manitoba: Vital Statistics Agency* (<http://vitalstats.gov.mb.ca/>; accessed 8 October 2015), entry for Edward Charles Robert Greenshaw

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- <sup>13</sup> "Web: Canada, Manitoba, Birth Index, 1866-1912," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 8 October 2015), entry for George Howard Greenshaw; "Death index," *Province of Manitoba: Vital Statistics Agency* (<http://vitalstats.gov.mb.ca/>; accessed 8 October 2015), entry for George Howard Greenshaw
- <sup>14</sup> "Web: Canada, Manitoba, Birth Index, 1866-1912," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 8 October 2015), entry for Vera Lilian Greenshaw
- <sup>15</sup> "Web: Canada, Manitoba, Birth Index, 1866-1912." *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 8 October 2015), entry for Edith Mary Madeline Greenshaw
- <sup>16</sup> "1901 Census of Canada," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 8 October 2015), entry for Arthur Greenshaw, Province: Manitoba, District: Marquette, District Number: 9, Sub-District: Shoal Lake, Sub-District Number: R-3
- <sup>17</sup> "1911 Census of Canada," entry for Arthur H. Greenshaw
- <sup>18</sup> "Record of Deaths, 17 February 1916 - 10 February 1919, a record maintained at No. 1 CCCS," *Library and Archives Canada*, (records accessed 2013 & 2015), Record Group 9, series IIC10, volume 4556, Record number 640
- <sup>19</sup> "28th Battalion (Northwest), CEF," *Wikipedia* ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/28th\\_Battalion\\_\(Northwest\),\\_CEF](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/28th_Battalion_(Northwest),_CEF); accessed 9 October 2015)
- <sup>20</sup> "Record of Deaths, 17 February 1916 - 10 February 1919, a record maintained at No. 1 CCCS," Record number 640
- <sup>21</sup> "Canada, War Graves Registers (Circumstances of Casualty), 1914-1948," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 8 October 2015), entry for Arthur Henry Greenshaw, Service number: 887614
- <sup>22</sup> "War diaries - 28th Canadian Infantry Battalion," *Library and Archives Canada* (<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/>; accessed 9 October 2015), MIKAN [1883248](#)
- <sup>23</sup> "Record of Deaths, 17 February 1916 - 10 February 1919, a record maintained at No. 1 CCCS," Record number 640
- <sup>24</sup> "Duisans British Cemetery, Etrun," *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* ([www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org); accessed 7 October 2015)
- <sup>25</sup> "War Diaries of the First World War: 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Casualty Clearing Station 1914/08/13-1919/03/31," *Library and Archives Canada* ([http://data4.collectionscanada.gc.ca/netacgi/nph-brs?s1=casualty+clearing&s13=&s12=&l=20&s9=RG9&s7=9-52&Sect1=IMAGE&Sect2=THESOFF&Sect4=AND&Sect5=WARDPEN&Sect6=HITOFF&d=FINDD&p=1&u=http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/archivianet/02015202\\_e.html&r=1&f=G](http://data4.collectionscanada.gc.ca/netacgi/nph-brs?s1=casualty+clearing&s13=&s12=&l=20&s9=RG9&s7=9-52&Sect1=IMAGE&Sect2=THESOFF&Sect4=AND&Sect5=WARDPEN&Sect6=HITOFF&d=FINDD&p=1&u=http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/archivianet/02015202_e.html&r=1&f=G); accessed 17 June 2015)
- <sup>26</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>27</sup> "Canada, CEF Commonwealth War Graves Registers, 1914-1919," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 8 October 2015), entry for Charles Greenshaw, Service number: 102237
- <sup>28</sup> "Canada, War Graves Registers (Circumstances of Casualty), 1914-1948," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 8 October 2015), entry for C. Greenshaw, Service number: 102237
- <sup>29</sup> "British Columbia, Canada, Death Index, 1872-1990," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 8 October 2015), entry for Edward Ernest Greenshaw, Registration Number: 1920-09-273440, BCA Number: B13118, GSU Number: 1927295
- <sup>30</sup> "British Columbia, Canada, Death Index, 1872-1990," *Ancestry* ([www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk); accessed 10 October 2015), entry for Edith Greenshaw, Registration Number: 1947-09-006257, BCA Number: B13194, GSU Number: 2032478