

Percy Redgrave

Military Record – Percy Redgrave (No. 8034) (ancestry.co.uk):

Attested for Short Service at Coventry 4 January 1901,

Military History:

- Home 4.11.1901 – 9.10.02
- Bermuda 10.10.02 – 29.3.1904
- Gibraltar 30.3.04 – 12.6.05
- South Africa 13.6.05 – 28.11.1906
- India 29.11.1906 - ?
- ...pdy Force, France ?

Re-engaged (Army Reserve), 19 May 1913,

“...temporarily released from Military Duty for the purpose of being employed by Albion Drop Forging Co., Lockhurst Lane, Foleshill, Coventry” (Parkhurst, 11 September 1915)

Isle of Wight County Press - 10 August 1918

BATHING FATALITY AT SANDOWN

The Deputy Coroner (Francis A. Joyce, Esq.) held an inquest at Sandown Town Hall last (Friday) evening on the body of Percy Redgraves, 35, employed in motor works at Coventry, who was on a visit to the Island and met his death while bathing at Sandown on the previous afternoon. Mr. W. C. Church was foreman of the jury.

Lilian Kate Sanders, St. Elmo, Watergate, Newport said deceased had been discharged from the Royal Warwickshire Regiment, in which he had completed over 11 years service. He was wounded in October 1914, and had the Mons ribbon. Witness made his acquaintance when he was stationed at Parkhurst, and he came to Newport last Saturday for a short holiday. They went to Sandown together for the day, and about 2.30 Redgraves went for a bathe. He waved to her once or twice from the water, but she got into conversation with some friends and lost sight of him. As he had not returned to her by 4.30 p.m., witness went to the bathing-machine people, and a little later they found the body being washed ashore. She heard no call for help, and thought it was just possible he had come out of the water and that she had missed him. Before going to bathe he told her he had had cramp, and said if he felt it at all he would come out. He had not been well for some time, and was feeling the effects of shock sustained in the war. He told her he thought a lot of his trouble was due to his heart.

Charles Duff, son of the owner of the bathing-machine, said he saw the man swimming well 20 minutes after he had shown him to the machine. It was difficult to know when people left their machines, as they came out by either door. One could not very well open the doors when possibly people were dressing. His father had 13 machines, and there were

three or four people to look after them. No report was made of anyone being in trouble, and no cry for help was heard.

Dr. Collis said that if the man's heart had partially failed he might not have had the strength to cry out.

The Coroner said that the face had not the appearance of a man who had heart failure. The possibility was that he had a weak heart, which partially failed which reduced him to a condition in which he was not able to struggle, and was consequently drowned.

The jury returned a verdict of "Accidentally drowned."

*Transcription by Kate MacDonell for the Friends of Newport and Carisbrooke Cemeteries,
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