

**Gunner Thomas Sidney Milner** 63834 Royal Field Artillery died on 13/02/1917 aged 31 and is buried in Longuenesse (St Omer) Souvenir Cemetery.

He was the son of Elizabeth Milner, of Retford, and the late **George** Milner; husband of E. Waterland (formerly Milner), of 61, Market St., Eckington, Sheffield.

I have failed to locate any report of his death in the Retford Times. Some War Office Service Records survived the enemy bombing of the second war and although partially charred provide some information.

He served in France starting 10/09/1915

His Army Attestation form shows he enlisted at Sheffield on 26 Dec 1914, was living at 16 West Street, Eckington, aged 28 years and 7 months, 5ft 8 inches in height, weight 140 lbs. and married to Elizabeth Milner, the marriage having taken place on 6 June 1908 at St Saviours, Clarborough. He gave grocer as his occupation and had already served in the Yeomanry. He had 3 children George Harold born 21 Dec 1908 in Eckington, Annie Flora born 18 Jan 1912 in Barnsley and Dorothy born 12 Feb 1915 in Eckington.

A copy of a telegram survives:-

To Mrs Milner, 16 West Street, Eckington, Sheffield

Regret to inform you that 63834 Gunner T. S. Milner is dangerously ill in 7 General Hospital St Omer. Permission to visit him cannot be granted.

From Artillery Records

It is undated but his casualty form has him in hospital at St Omer on 27/01/1917 with Cerebro-Spinal-Meningitis.