



WWI Casualty


**Captain Christopher Ken Merewether - Bradford-on-Avon, Lacock, North Bradley
& Salisbury (Cathedral)**



| Surname | Given Names | Rank | Number | Regiment | Attachment | Date of Death | | Age at Death |
|------------|-----------------|---------|--------|---------------------------------------|------------|---------------|--------|--------------|
| | | | | | | Year | Date | |
| Merewether | Christopher Ken | Captain | | 1st/4th Battalion, Wiltshire Regiment | | 1917 | 19-Dec | 27 |

| Date of Birth | | Place of Birth | Father | | Mother | | Baptised | | |
|---------------|--------|----------------|------------|-----------------------|-------------|---------------|----------|--------|-----------------------------|
| Year | Date | | Surname | Given Names | Maiden Name | Given Names | Year | Date | Place |
| 1890 | 26-May | North Bradley | Merewether | Wyndham Arthur Seinde | Fox | Harriot Edith | 1890 | 03-Aug | St. Nicholas, North Bradley |

Census Information

| Year | Surname | Given Names | Status | Age | Occupation | Place of Birth | Relationship to Head | |
|--|------------|-----------------------|---------|-----------|----------------------|----------------|--|------|
| The Vicarage, Church Lane, North Bradley | | | | | | |  | |
| 1891 | Merewether | Wyndham Arthur Scinde | Married | 38 | Clerk In Holy Orders | Lacock | | Head |
| | Merewether | Harriot Edith | Married | 26 | | London | | Wife |
| | Merewether | Christopher Ken | | 11 months | | North Bradley | | Son |

| | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|------------|-----------|----|----------------------|-------------------------|---------|
| | Everingham | William | Widower | 35 | Clerk in Holy Orders | Withernwick, Yorkshire | Visitor |
| | Wells | Phyllis H. | Unmarried | 19 | Parlour maid | Taplow, Buckinghamshire | Servant |

St. Aubyns School, Rottingdean, Sussex



| | | | | | | | |
|-------------|------------|-----------------|--|----|---------|---------------|---------|
| 1901 | Merewether | Christopher Ken | | 10 | Scholar | North Bradley | Boarder |
|-------------|------------|-----------------|--|----|---------|---------------|---------|

The Vicarage, 7 Church Street, Bradford-on-Avon

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|--------------------------|-----------|----|--|--------------------------|---------------|
| 1911 | Merewether | Wyndham Arthur Scinde | Married | 58 | Clerk In Holy Orders within the Established Church | Bowden Hill, Lacock | Head |
| | Merewether | Harriot Edith | Married | 46 | | Cavendish Square, London | Wife |
| | Fox | Adeline Elizabeth Welson | Unmarried | 41 | | Grosvenor Square, London | Sister in law |
| | Merewether | Christopher Ken | Unmarried | 20 | Undergraduate Student | North Bradley | Son |
| | Culverhouse | Agnes Fanny | Unmarried | 31 | Domestic Housemaid | Bradford-on-Avon | Servant |
| | Knight | Alice Amelia | Unmarried | 28 | Parlour maid | Chirton | Servant |
| | Barner | Edith Annie | Unmarried | 21 | Cook | Little Somerford | Servant |

**Military Service Record
Enlistment Details**

| Year | Date | Place | Age | | | Trade | Religion | | |
|--|--------|------------|------------|-------------|----------------------|-------|----------|--|--|
| | | | Years | Months | Days | | | | |
| 1914 | August | | | | | | | | |
| Physical Description | | | | | | | | | |
| Height | | Complexion | Eye Colour | Hair Colour | Distinguishing Marks | | | | |
| Feet | Inches | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| Having passed through the Officers Training Corps at Winchester, he was appointed to the command of the Bradford-on-Avon half company of the Wilts Territorials. | | | | | | | | | |
| On the outbreak of war he left his appointment with the White Star Company and joined the Wilts Regiment, with which he served continuously from August 1914. | | | | | | | | | |
| The undermentioned appointments are made: | | | | | | | | | |
| Personal Staff - Aides de Camp | | | | | | | | | |
| Lieutenant C. K. Merewether, 4th Battalion, The Duke of Edinburgh's (Wiltshire Regiment), Territorial Forces, vice Lieutenant J. N. Carson, Dated 27th October 1914. | | | | | | | | | |
| Also | | | | | | | | | |
| 4th Battalion, The Duke of Edinburgh's (Wiltshire Regiment); Lieutenant Christopher K. Merewether is seconded, under the conditions of Paragraph 112, Territorial Force Regulations. Dated 27th October 1914. | | | | | | | | | |
| London Gazette, Tuesday, 19 January 1915 | | | | | | | | | |
| The undermentioned Lieutenants to be temporary Captains | | | | | | | | | |
| C. K. Merewether, and to remain seconded. 3rd November 1915. | | | | | | | | | |
| London Gazette, 22 August 1916 | | | | | | | | | |
| Wiltshire Regiment - Lieutenant (temporary Captain) C. K. Merewether is restored to the establishment. 22 November 1914. | | | | | | | | | |
| London Gazette, 14 November 1916 | | | | | | | | | |
| Lieutenant (temporary Captain) C. K. Merewether to be Captain, with precedence as from 1st June 1916. 20th April 1917. | | | | | | | | | |
| London Gazette, 19 April 1917 | | | | | | | | | |
| On 13 November 1917, he fell wounded while leading an assault on a strongly fortified enemy position at El Mesmiyeh and was subsequently admitted to Kantara Hospital, from which he was transferred to the 31st General Hospital at Port Said. He was reported dangerously wounded in the right shoulder and spine, and on Monday 26 November 1917, news was received stating that his condition was grave, but that he was cheerful and had practically no pain. | | | | | | | | | |
| Next of Kin | | | | | | | | | |

| Surname | Given Names | Status | Relationship | Abode |
|------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Merewether | Wyndham Arthur Seinde | Married; Rev. Cannon | Father | Langton House, Salisbury |
| Merewether | Harriot Edith | | Mother | |

Details of Death

| Date of Death | | Cause of Death | Theatre of War | Ships Name | War Gratuity Paid | | | | | |
|---------------|--------|----------------|----------------|------------|-------------------|------|---|----|----|-----------|
| Year | Date | | | | Year | Date | £ | s. | d. | Recipient |
| 1917 | 19-Dec | Died of wounds | Egypt | | | | | | | |

Grave Location

| Cemetery | Plot Number |
|--|-------------|
| Port Said War Memorial Cemetery, Egypt | C 31 |



Newspaper Death Notice:

Died of Wounds

Merewether – On the 19th December, 1917 of wounds received in action 13th November, 1917. Christopher Ken Merewether, Captain, Wiltshire Regiment, only child of the Rev. W. A. S. Merewether, M.A., Vicar of St. Thomas of Canterbury, Salisbury, and grandson of the late Henry Alworth Merewether, Q.C., Bowden Hill, Chippenham, Wilts, aged 27.

The Times, Saturday, 29 December 1917

Obituary:

Captain Christopher Ken Merewether, Wiltshire Regiment, who died on December 19 of wounds received on November 13, was born at North Bradley Vicarage in 1890. He was educated at St. Aubyn's, Rottingdean and Winchester College, where he was in the senior division sixth book and head of his house (the Rev. J. T. Bramston's). He matriculated at Oriel College, Oxford, took honours in modern history and when leaving the university was selected by the directors of the White Star Line of Liverpool for training as an assistant manager. After passing through the O.T.C. at Winchester he was appointed to the command of the Bradford-on-Avon half-company of the Wilts Territorials, and on the outbreak of war he left his appointment with the White Star Company and joined the Wiltshire Regiment, with which he served continuously from August, 1914, until his death. Captain Merewether took a prominent place in all school games, played for his college eleven, was a member of Vincent's and the Authentics Cricket Club, and at hockey represented Oxford University against Cambridge. He was an original member of the Cavendish Club, London. Captain Merewether was the only child of the Rev. W.A.S. Merewether, vicar of St. Thomas of Canterbury, Salisbury, and grandson of the late Henry Alworth Merewether, Q.C., of Bowden Hill, Chippenham, formerly chairman of the Wiltshire Quarter Sessions and Recorder of Devizes.

The Times, Saturday 29 1917

Captain Christopher Ken Merewether was entitled to the 1915 Star, British War & Victory Medals.

Probate was granted on 20 June 1918 at Salisbury

Christopher Ken Merewether of Langton House, Salisbury. Captain 4th Battalion Wiltshire Regiment, died 20 December 1917 of wounds at 31st General Hospital, Port Said, Egypt. Administration Salisbury - 20 June 1918 to the Reverend Wyndham Arthur Scrinde Merewether, clerk. Effects £374 19s. 8d.

War Memorials and Commemorations

Memorial Name and Location

Panel Number

The inscription on his war grave reads:- A Good Soldier of Jesus Christ

Battlefield Cross, Cloisters, Salisbury Cathedral



Named on the Winchester College War Cloister, Winchester, Hampshire (Outer 6)



Christopher is named in the Bradford-on-Avon, Salisbury Cathedral & Salisbury St. Thomas sections of the Diocese of Salisbury Memorial Book housed in Salisbury Cathedral




He is named on the Holy Trinity Church Memorial, Bradford-on-Avon



Named on a private headstone at Bowden Hill, Lacock

Commemorated on the Liverpool Cricket And Rugby Football Clubs, Aigburth, Merseyside



| | |
|--|---|
| Named in the Oriel College Section of the Oxford University Roll of service | <p>1909 Merewether, C. K. (Aug. 1914). Capt. 1/4th Wiltshire Regt. India, 1914-17; Palestine, 1917. Died in hospital at Port Said on Dec. 20, 1917, of wounds received in action.</p> |
| Named on the Salisbury War Memorial, Guildhall Square, Salisbury |  |
| Other Significant Information | |
| Grandson of the late Henry Alworth Merewether, Q.C., of Bowden Hill, Chippenham, formerly chairman of the Wiltshire Quarter Sessions and Recorder of Devizes. | |
| Christopher was an only child | |
| He was educated at St. Aubyns Preparatory School, Rottingdean, Sussex (pictured left). He then attended Winchester College and became Head of the House, a Commoner Prefect and a member of Sixth Book. He played in the Commoner XV in 1908 (rugby) and in both 2nd XI's (cricket and football) in 1909. In 1909 Christopher Ken Merewether went to Oriel College, Oxford, where he took Honours in Modern History and gained his half-blue for hockey. He also played in the college Cricket XI | |
| Christopher played for his college XI, was a member of the Vincent's and Authentic's Cricket Club, and at hockey represented Oxford University against Cambridge. He was an original member of the Cavendish Club, London. | |
| Oxford University V. Dublin University | |
| <p>Yesterday Oxford University opened their Hilary term fixtures by entertaining Dublin University at Oxford, and, after a somewhat vigorous game, defeated the visitors by 3 goals to 2. In the first half Oxford University scored all three goals through Kirby and Hosie (twice). After crossing over, however, the Irish forwards displayed better combination, and, after some fine play, O'Reilly and Rushman scored. The teams were:- Oxford University - D. A. Clarke (Uppingham and Magdalen), goal; H. Watkins (Monmouth and Hertford) and G. B. Brown (Bowden and New College), backs; A. F. H. Wiggin (Felsted and Oriel), C. K. Merewether (Winchester and Oriel), and C. K. Weller (Felsted and St. John's), halfbacks; K. A. I. Mackenzie (Repton and Trinity), A. L. Hosie (St. Lawrence, Ramsgate, and Magdalen), A. C. Kirby (Repton and Balliol), G. W. Grassett (Hereford and Brasenose) and R. Q. Cruttwell (Burton and St. John's), forwards. Dublin University - C. P. Kelly, goal; R. H. Jones and W. P. Croker, backs; G. N. Birch, H. P. Groves, and A. W. Orr, half-backs; W. Foot, H. V. Hampton, A. N. J. Rushman, C. O'Reilly, and F. H. Hall, forwards.</p> | |
| London Standard, Wednesday, 15 January 1913 | |
| Hockey Record | |

Victory of Cambridge Over Oxford

Cambridge University allayed all fears as to the possibility of their taking the field against Oxford handicapped by staleness, by a handsome victory at Beckenham yesterday by seven goals to two. This is the largest margin by which an inter-University match has been won, and although the half-time score was one goal each, the Light Blues may be said to have outclassed the opposition throughout. S. H. Saville, the captain, set his team an admirable example by playing magnificently at inside right. He was at once speedy, resourceful, and artistic, and he made his passes perfectly to both right and left. R. W. Stevenson at outside right had a fine understanding with his captain, and showed almost phenomenal speed in the taking up of hard forward passes, whilst A. H. A. Vann, the centre, improved vastly on his display of last year's match. At inside left B. P. Nevill, when once he settled down played with fine dash and enthusiasm, and accomplished some brilliant shooting, but J. M. A. Kendall, the outside left, was not up to the form of his colleagues, being too much addicted to one-handed play, and keeping too much to the touchline when it would have been to the advantage of his side for him to work his way in.

Lagden In Form

It is questionable whether the Cambridge halfback line has ever played a better game. R. B. Lagden, in the centre, was the outstanding man, and valuable alike in attack and defence, his control of the ball, whether in the air or on the ground, being a feature of the pace, whilst his anticipation of his opponent's moves lifted his game above the ordinary. L. F. W. A. Kendall played very pretty and effective hockey at right half, and on the left T. G. Fowler, the Rugby Blue, was quite first class in his tackling. The half-backs took so much responsibility off the full-backs that the latter were not heavily pressed. Both C. Patleson and S. C. Pair, however, did well, and especially the former, in the way of sending the ball through to the forwards. As on the Oxford side, the goalkeeping was not impressive, and it appeared as if W. J. A. Whyte might have stopped the shot with which the Dark Blues scored. He made one or two good saves subsequently, but neither he nor D. A. Clarke made a deep impression by the manner in which they shaped at the ball.

A Broken Defence

Compared with Cambridge Oxford gave a ragged and fitful display. They did well to keep the game so close in the first half, but the interval score undoubtedly flattered them. Their left defence was overwhelmed by Saville and Stevenson, and so ineffective was C. K. Waller at left half that it must be assumed he had not fully recovered from his recent injury. A. F. H. Wiegman did some attractive things at right half, and **C. K. Merewether** was industrious without being distinguished at centre half; whilst both the full backs were overburdened with work and can be said to have had little chance. The forward line promised well, but gradually became ragged and did not maintain the pace. There were possibilities in the dangerous rushes of A. L. Hosie, but A. C. Kirby, the other football Blue, was an indecisive and unreliable centre forward. Altogether Cambridge were a better class team, with a good understanding, plenty of pace, and infinite resource. The victory enabled the Light Blues to take a lead of eleven matches to ten on the series, three games having been left drawn.

London Standard, Thursday, 27 February 1913

Upon leaving university Christopher Ken Merewether had been selected by the directors of the White Star Line for training as an assistant manager, and was working in their offices when the war broke out. On mobilisation he joined the Wiltshire Territorial battalion, in which he had for some years held a commission, and accompanied them to India and Palestine.

The [Wardrobe](#) - Museum of the Infantry Regiments of Berkshire and Wiltshire have several photos of Captain Christopher Ken Merewether that can be purchased.