



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
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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



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.