



WOODROOF, EDWARD CHARLES

EARLY LIFE

Jan 21, 1885

Born at 24 New Writtle Street, Chelmsford, England to William and Elizabeth Mary (Higgins) Woodroof.

Jun 5, 1889

Age 4

William Woodroof died in the River Can in Chelmsford, England.

1891 Census

Age 6

Lived in Chelmsford, England with Elizabeth Woodroof (head of house – mother, age 39), Annie Woodroof (sister, age 11), Ellen Woodroof (sister, age 10), William Woodroof (brother, age 9), Ethel Woodroof (sister, age 7), Alice Woodroof (sister, age 4) and Winnifred Woodroof (sister, age 2).

1901 Census

Age 16

Lived in Chelmsford, England with Elizabeth Woodroof (head of house – mother, age 49), William Woodroof (brother, age 19) and Alice Woodroof (sister, age 14).

Worked for a while as a brass finisher at Cromptons Arc Works on Anchor Street in Chelmsford, England. He also spent some time in the 2nd Battalion Essex Infantry.

Mar 12, 1909

Age 24

Arrived in Canada from England on the “Virginian”

Port of Departure: Liverpool, England

Port of Arrival: Halifax, Nova Scotia

Worked in Schomberg, Ontario on the dairy farm of Ed Lloyd.

MILITARY SERVICE

Apr 16, 1915

**Attestation
Paper**

Attested to the 4th Canadian Mounted Rifles, Canadian Over-seas Expeditionary Force

- **Number:** 109694
- **Next of kin given:** Mrs. Elizabeth Woodroof (Mother) at 37 New Writtle Street in Chelmsford, England
- **Trade or calling:** Brass Finisher
- **Married:** No
- **Previous military experience:** Yes – 10 months with Essex Infantry
- **Religion:** Church of England
- **Physical attributes:**
 - **Age:** 30 years, 3 months
 - **Height:** 5’9”
 - **Complexion:** Fair
 - **Eyes:** Brown
 - **Hair:** Brown
 - **Distinctive marks:** All upper teeth gold except for two central

Jul 18, 1915

Age 30

Boarded the SS Hesperian in Quebec for England.

Oct 24, 1915

Age 30

Marched with the regiment to Folkestone where they embarked for Boulogne, France. They arrived at 10pm, where they marched to St. Martin's camp on the hills overlooking the town.

Oct 26, 1915

Age 30

Moved to Bailleul, France where they could hear guns for the first time.

Oct 27, 1915

Age 30

Diagnosed with bronchitis but was returned to his unit the following day.

Jan 3, 1916

Age 30

Promoted to Lance Corporal and for the following 6 months alternated between rest billets and front-line duty at Zillebeke, Belgium.

Jun 2, 1916

Age 31

Took part in the Battle of Mount Sorrel. There was a large amount of losses and Edward was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal for returning to the front line to gather intelligence.

Sep 7, 1916

Age 31

Moved from the Ypres sector to Franqueville on the Somme and then subsequently to the front at Pozieres where Edward and his regiment were bombarded with gas shells. Edward was admitted to the No. 2 Canadian Stationary Hospital.

Oct 16, 1916

Age 31

Returned to duty after hospitalization. He was promoted to sergeant.

Nov 11, 1916

Age 31

Promoted to Company Sergeant Major.

Dec 20, 1916

Age 31

Company Sergeant Major sustained a shrapnel-wound to the thigh fracturing his femur. The wound was fatal and he died in No. 8 Field Ambulance. He is buried at **Louez Military Cemetery** in Pas-de-Calais, France.

LETTER TO SCHOMBERG HOME COMFORTS

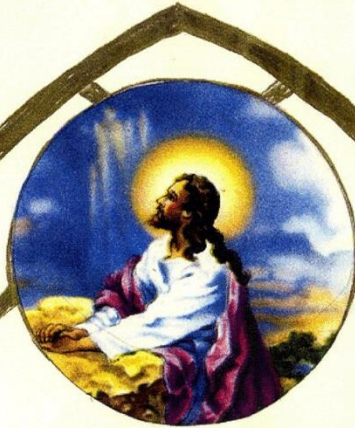
Dec 11, 1916 letter of appreciation to the women of the Schomberg Home Comforts Society

Dear Friends – I received a box of Xmas gifts from you last night and must thank you very much for same. It brings to mind all kinds of pleasant memories to know I am still remembered by the people of Schomberg with whom I lived for so few years. Coming as it did last night makes it doubly cheerful as I had just returned to the trenches after spending a most enjoyable 10 day rest in England with my people. I might say it was hard to leave home; I felt it worse than at any previous time, but I suppose there are others that are perhaps worse than I was. If so I pity them. I thank you so much for your kind words. Let me say that if I have done anything to bring honour to my regiment or to the country I represent, I always feel that I have brought credit to Schomberg and vicinity, where I lived for some time. I cannot relate to you any of my experiences now: but should I be spared to live through this terrible war, I would be only too glad to tell you of some of them. I would like to tell you where we are now but it would only be erased by the censor. – The very best wishes to the ladies of Schomberg, sincerely yours, Serjt.-Maj E.C.Woodroof

MENTIONED IN SCHOMBERG TWEEDSMUIR HISTORY

Women's Institute – Schomberg Vol. 2: Part 6 of 7 – Pg. 4

Lest we Forget.



1914 - 1918

Lieut. Jack Sydie
Sgt. Major Chas. E. Woodroof
L.C. Jas. A. Ralston
L.C. Ewart Wickens
Pte. Harold J. Brown
Pte. Maxwell Doyle
Pte. William J. Doyle
Pte. Wilfred L. Doyle
Pte. Edward Douglas
Pte. John Ferguson
Pte. Thos. McMaster
Pte. Leslie D. Martin
Pte. Arthur Payne

1939 - 1945

- C.A.O. -
Sgt. Alan A. Wyatt
L.C. Ross S. Rutherford
L.C. A.B. Clifford Dalton
Tpr. Andrew Snedden
Gnr. Jos. P. Primeau
Pte. Thos. A. Duggan

- R.C.A.F. -

S.L. Harry L. Kay
F.L. William D. Pagan
Sgt. Mason A. Edwards



TO THE GLORY OF GOD
MEMORY OF THOSE
WHO DIED THAT

AND IN GRATEFUL
GREAT HEROES
WE MIGHT LIVE



MENTIONED IN SCHOMBERG AND ITS SCHOOL

Schomberg Village – pg. 37

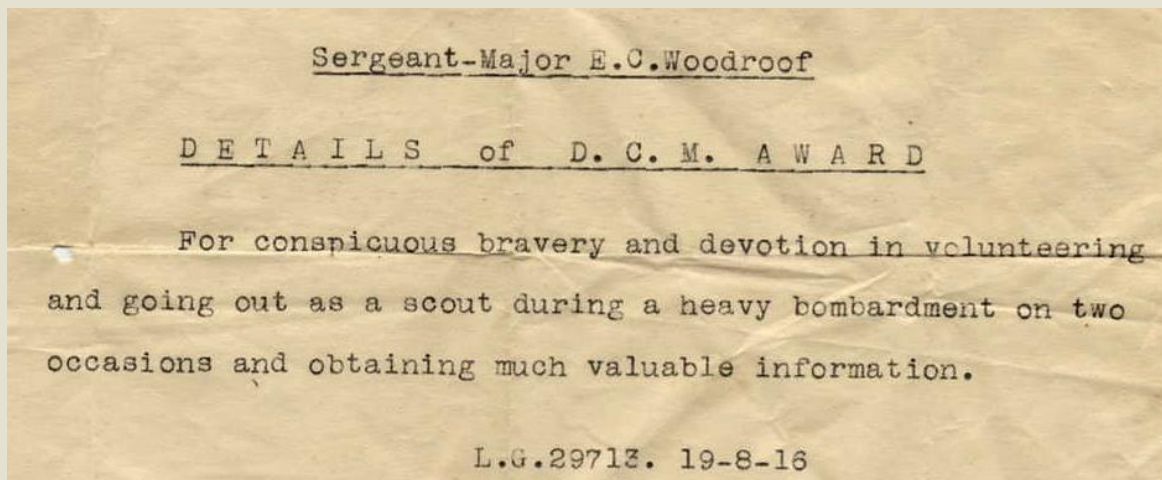
When the great European War broke as a bolt from the blue, in 1914, many of the young men in and around Schomberg signed up and went overseas to take part in maintaining the principle upheld by the allied nations of the world. Many of these returned but many made the supreme sacrifice.

As a memorial to these unreturning brave, a monument was erected in the Agricultural Grounds. On this monument are engraved the following names:

LIEUTENANT JACK SYDIE
SGT.-MAJOR CHARLES E. WOODROOF
LANCE-CORPORAL JAMES A. RALSTON
LANCE-CORPORAL EWART WICKENS
PRIVATE HAROLD JOS. BROWN
PRIVATE MAXWELL DOYLE
PRIVATE WILLIAM JOS. DOYLE
PRIVATE WILFRED LAURIER DOYLE
PRIVATE EDWARD DOUGLAS

PHOTOS

Explaining E.C. Woodroof's Distinguished Conduct Medal



Ancestry

Explaining E.C. Woodroof's Medals



Ancestry



4th Canadian Mounted Rifles

IN THE NEWS

Notice of Death

The Toronto Star

Thursday, January 4, 1917 pg. 12

SGT.-MAJ. WOODRUFF KILLED.

Acting Sergt.-Major Edward C. Woodruff was reported wounded the day after Christmas. The latest casualty list contains his name among those who have succumbed to their injuries. He went overseas with a C.M.R. unit of the second contingent.

Aurora War Memorial

The Aurora Banner

Friday, March 20, 1925

<h3>Aurora War Memorial</h3>	<h3>Township of King.</h3>
<p>The names given below are those of the fallen men of Aurora, King and Whitechurch, as ascertained up to the present time by the War Memorial Committee.</p>	<p>Brown, Sherman Brown, Harold Cliff, Russell</p>
<p>Will every reader of the Banner in Aurora, King and Whitechurch, please look carefully over the list and draw attention to any error in initials or spelling of name, or omission of any name, communicating with the Editor of the Banner or with J. G. McDonald, Secretary of the War Memorial Association, without delay.</p>	<p>Doyle, Max Doyle, Wilfred Ferguson, John Ferguson, Leonard Green, Percy Green, Roland Harper, Roy Howard, George Little, Telford McMaster, Thos. Merchant, Wallace Marshall, Aubrey Barker, Russell Routledge, John Stewart, Harry Stocks, Roy Watson, Townley Woodroof, Chas.</p>
<p>The Whitechurch list is an official list that has been checked over and pronounced correct; but it is included in above so that any typographical error, if any, may be noticed and corrected.</p>	
<p>Although some of the names on these lists may and do appear on some local memorials, it will not be too much honour to these men that their names should also appear on this larger memorial— which from its location, its great size and architecture, will be visited by thousands of motorists and visitors aside from the people of Aurora, King and Whitechurch.</p>	