

McKIERNAN Evelyn James
(A soldier who served in the War but is not recorded on the War Memorial)

Sub Conductor, Supply and Transport Corps Evelyn James Mc Kiernan – 10536

Evelyn was with the 35th Foot Regiment of the Royal Sussex Regiment, Indian Service. He died on 14th June 1916 aged 35 in, what was at that time, Persia and is buried in the Basra War Cemetery. It appears that Evelyn and his brother, Gerald Sydney joined the regular army and were probably posted to India, hence the Indian Army registration.

Evelyn was the first son of Henry McKiernan who was a career soldier with the Royal Sussex Regiment. Henry had four children. Their places of birth reflected the stationing of the Regiment around the world. Hence, Evelyn was born in Malta in 1881, Kathleen in Barbados in the West Indies in 1877, Gerald in Cyprus in 1883 and Laura in Aldershot, England in 1887. They are all listed in the Census records as being British subjects. Henry, Evelyn's father married Ann McKiernan in 1891, a widow, aged 53 at Birkenhead. She was born in 1858 at Hooton. However, Ann is not the mother of Henry's children so it is assumed that she is the second wife. Evelyn married Eliza Ann. She died aged 78 in 1935.

The family had many connections with the Willaston area. Evelyn's step mother's father was the station master at Hooton Station in 1850's. The Census of 1861 and the Census of 1871 record Thomas as being a coal merchant living in Willaston. Despite these family links, it would appear that Evelyn had never lived in Willaston but is remembered in the churchyard on the family grave.

