

# Albert MASTERS

Private 19672, 1st Battalion, Devonshire Regiment

Died April 23<sup>rd</sup> 1917, aged 23

Commemorated on Arras Memorial, Arras, France

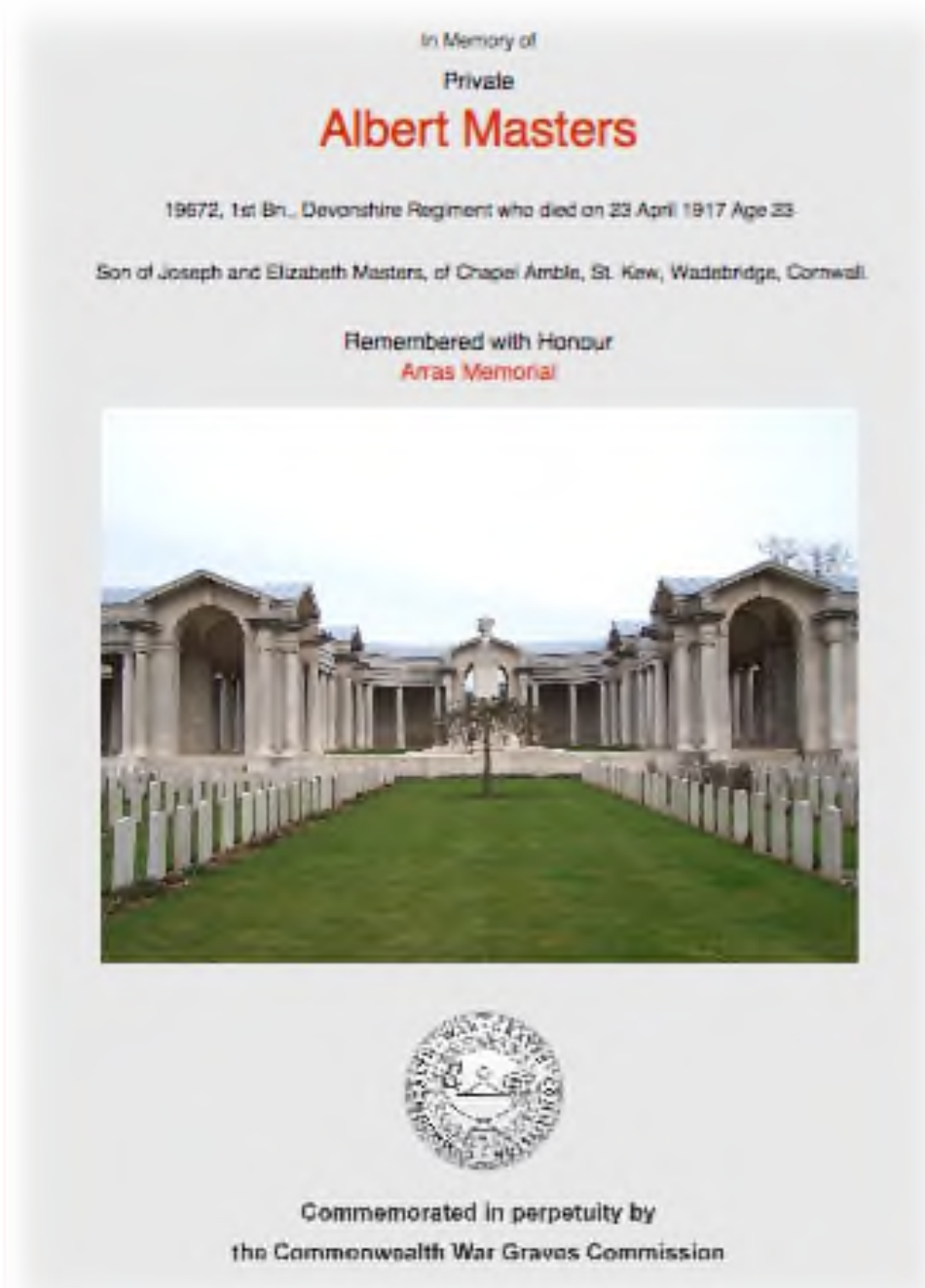
Albert was born in 1894 to Joseph and Elizabeth Masters. He is a cousin to *Robert Masters*. In the 1901 census they were living in Port Isaac, where Joseph is recorded as a farm labourer, with Albert having an elder sister and two younger brothers. In 1891 Joseph lived in Port Gaverne where three more elder brothers and another elder sister are shown in the family. Presumably they had left the family home by 1901. In the 1911 census, Albert was working at Tolraggot Farm as a cowman.

Albert was in the 1st Battalion, Devonshire Regiment, which went to France in August 1914 and served on the western front as part of the 5th Division. In 1914 and 1915, the 5th Division was active in the First and Second Battles of Ypres, and the Capture of Hill 60. In 1916 it was involved in various phases of the Battle of the Somme and in 1917 in the Battle of Arras. In April 1917, as part of the 95th Brigade of the 5th Division, they took part in the Second Battle of the Scarpe. On April 23<sup>rd</sup> the British launched an assault east from Wancourt (*three miles south east of Arras*) towards Vis-en-Artois and were able to capture the village of Guemappe, but could advance no further east and suffered heavy losses. There were 78 soldiers from the 1st Division lost that day who have no known grave, including Albert Masters. All are commemorated on Bay 4 of the Arras Memorial in the Faubourg-d'Amiens Cemetery.

The Arras Memorial contains the names of almost 35,000 servicemen from the UK, South Africa and New Zealand who died in the Arras sector between the spring of 1916 and August 7<sup>th</sup> 1918 and have no known grave.



*Tommies showing remarkable nonchalance about being under fire, as a stretcher bearer waits for casualties. Battle of Arras April 24th 1917*



*Opening of the Arras Memorial by Lord Trenchard in 1932*

## Sources

5th Division: <http://www.1914-1918.net/5div.htm>

Second Battle of the Scarpe: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle\\_of\\_Arras\\_\(1917\)#Second\\_Battle\\_of\\_the\\_Scarpe\\_.2823.E2.80.9324\\_April\\_1917.29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Arras_(1917)#Second_Battle_of_the_Scarpe_.2823.E2.80.9324_April_1917.29)

Arras Memorial: <http://www.cwgc.org/find-a-cemetery/cemetery/82700/ARRAS%20MEMORIAL>