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| Age | Name: | Lieut James ATKINSON-JOWETT Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry |
| | Parents: | Nathan ATKINSON-JOWETT (born about 1842 - died March Qu. 1899 in Doncaster Reg. Dist., YKS, (WR)) and Fanny THORNTON (born about 1860 in Adwalton, YKS, ENG - died 3 Feb 1929 in Bradford, Yorkshire, ENG) |
| 23 | Life Range | 27 Jul 1893-16 Sep 1916 |
| ~51 | Abt 1842 | Birth of Father: Nathan ATKINSON-JOWETT (born about 1842 - died March Qu. 1899 in Doncaster Reg. Dist., YKS, (WR)). |
| ~33 | Abt 1860 | Birth of Mother: Fanny THORNTON (born about 1860 in Adwalton, YKS, ENG - died 3 Feb 1929 in Bradford, Yorkshire, ENG). In Adwalton, YKS, ENG. |
| -28 | 1865 | Father: Nathan Atkinson JOWETT. First married December Quarter 1865, Bradford Registration District, Mary Ann BOOTH [Vol. 9b Page 358]. Nathan was the son of James ATKINSON. The name change to "Atkinson-Jowett" apparently arose from a lengthy dispute over Nathan's right to inherit a very large estate which included "The Clock House" farm in Bradford. See: http://www.archive.org/details/manninghamheaton00cudwuoft (beginning at page 146.) |
| -22 | 1871 | Census: Father. Manningham, Bradford, Yorkshire. At "Clockhouse": Nathan JOWETT, head, age 30, Stone Merchant, born Bolton Yorkshire Mary Ann JOWETT, wife, age 33, born Allerton, Yorkshire Nathan JOWETT, son, age 2, born Bradford, Yorkshire Samual (sic) JOWETT, son, age 5 months, born Bradford, Yorkshire John JOWETT, son, age 5 months, born Bradford, Yorkshire [Plus 2 servants] |
| -12 | 1881 | Census: Father. Manningham, Bradford, Yorkshire. At "Clock House": M.A. (sic) JOWETT, head, age 40, Stone Merchant, born Bolton Yorkshire Mary Ann JOWETT, wife, age 44, born Allerton, Yorkshire Sam'l A. JOWETT, son, age 10, born Manningham, Yorkshire John A. JOWETT, son, age 10, born Manningham, Yorkshire Mary A. JOWETT, daughter, age 7, born Manningham, Yorkshire Allice (sic) E. JOWETT, daughter, age 6, born Manningham, Yorkshire [Plus 2 servants] |
| -2 | 1891 | Census: Father. Manningham, Bradford, Yorkshire. At Manningham Lane, 'The Clock House': N.A. JOWETT, head, widow, age 49, Farmer, born Bolton Calverley, Yorkshire J.A. JOWETT, son, age 20, born Manningham Bradford, Yorkshire* M.A. JOWETT, daughter, age 17, born Bradford, Yorkshire A.E.A. JOWETT, daughter, age 15, born Bradford, Yorkshire S.E.A. JOWETT, daughter, age 9, born Bradford, Yorkshire [Plus 2 servants - one was F. THORNTON** (?), age 29, born Dudley Hill, Yorkshire] *This is probably James' brother John who was later one of the executors of his estate. **Nathan's second wife was Fanny THORNTON, so it appears he may |

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| | | | have re-married the 'house-keeper'. |
| 0 | 27 Jul 1893 | Birth: | Doncaster Reg. Dist., YKS, (WR). |
| 5 | March Qu. 1899 | Death of Father: | Nathan ATKINSON-JOWETT (born about 1842 - died March Qu. 1899 in Doncaster Reg. Dist., YKS, (WR)). |
| 8 | 1901 | Census: | Bentley with Arksey, YKS, ENG. At 'Rostholme Lodge': Fanny A. JOWITT (sic), head, age 41, widow, 'Living on own means', born Adwalton, Yorkshire Emily A. JOWITT, step-daughter, age 19, born Manningham, Yorkshire James A. JOWITT, son, age 7, born Bentley with Arksey, Yorkshire [Plus one servant] |
| 18 | 1911 | Census: | Mother. Doncaster, YKS, ((WR). At 22 Windsor Road: Fanny Atkinson JOWETT, widow [married 6 years, 1 child (living)], age 51, 'Private Means', born Adwalton, YKS Nanny MITCHELL, sister, widow [married 45 years, 9 children (5 living)], age 65, Companion, born Adwalton, YKS Charlotte Ann LAYCOCK, niece/visitor [married 7 years (no children)], age 36, born Purston Jaglin (?), YKS Fanny GREEN, niece/visitor, [married 7 years, (1 child, living)], age 34, born Purston Jaglin (?), YKS George GREEN, nephew, age 3, born Crosshills Holme, Yorkshire [Plus one servant] |
| 18 | 1911 | Census: | Settle, Yorkshire (West Riding). At Giggleswick School: James Atkinson JOWELT (sic), age 17, pupil, born Bentley, Yorkshire |
| 21 | Oct 1914-Nov 1914 | OTC: | Inns of Court. Private 1658; 9 Oct 1914-13 Nov 1914 |
| 21 | 9 Oct 1914 | Enlistment: | |
| 22 | 16 Aug 1915 | Decorations: | Star. France. |
| 22 | 31 Aug 1915 | Wounded: | Near Ypres. In the back by a piece of shrapnel. No. 14 General Hospital, Boulogne and later Osborne House I.O.W. Fit for Home Service 23 September 1915 - 2 weeks leave (Medical Board). It appears the system then "over-looked" him until he wrote to the Secretary of the War Office on 26 November 1915 from Caton, Nr Lancaster advising that he had heard nothing. He was subsequently declared fit for duty on 7 December 1915. |
| 23 | 1916 | Next of Kin: | Mother. Mrs Jowett Caton, near Lancaster Later (28 Jan 1919): Clifton Villas Drighlington, Bradford |
| 23 | 16 Sep 1916 | Death: | France. KIA |
| | | Burial: | Thiepval Memorial. In Memory of Lieutenant JAMES ATKINSON-JOWETT 11th Bn. attd. 6th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, who died age 23 on 16 September 1916. Son of F. Atkinson-Jowett, of "Rostholme", |

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| Name: | Lieut James ATKINSON-JOWETT Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry |
| Age | Drighlington, Bradford, and the late Nathan Atkinson-Jowett. |
| Brothers: | Samuel ATKINSON-JOWETT (half-brother) Married Bertha HAIRSINE, in Worksop, Nottinghamshire in 1896. In 1901, he was age 30 and they were living at "Manor Farm", Styrrup with Oldcotes, Nottinghamshire with a 3 year old daughter (Florence) and 4 servants. [Class: <i>RG13</i> ; Piece: <i>3127</i> ; Folio: <i>56</i> ; Page: <i>9</i>] |
| Brothers: | Nathan Atkinson JOWITT (half-brother) In 1901 age 32, unmarried, born Bradford, Yorkshire, he was a patient in Royal Albert Asylum, Lancaster, Lancashire. [Class: <i>RG13</i> ; Piece: <i>3992</i> ; Folio: <i>98</i> ; Page: <i>18</i> .] |
| Memorial Inscriptions: | There is an inscription in James' memory on the headstone of the grave of his grand-father Jeremiah THORNTON at Drighlington Cemetery, Yorkshire: "James Atkinson Jowett, Lieutenant of K.O.Y.L.I., killed in action 16/9/1916 aged 23, grandson to Jeremiah Thornton, above" "Also Fanny A. Jowett, daughter of Jeremiah Thornton, died 3 Feb 1929 aged 69 yrs" Also, at St Paul Churchyard, Bradford: ATKINSON-JOWETT F. Mrs ATKINSON-JOWETT Fanny ATKINSON-JOWETT James Lt. ATKINSON-JOWETT James Lt. Killed Geudecourt ATKINSON-JOWETT Nathan of Clock House, Manningham [http://www.lancasterfamilyhistory.org.uk/files/brookhouse.htm] |
| Higher Education: | OXFORD: Lincoln College. (Letter in Service Record confirming his date of birth from the University Registrar) |
| Personal File: | 339/990. |
| <p>General Notes: Service Record: There is a letter dated 27 July 1919 on file from Lieut J.G. Atkinson-Jowett, late 1st (Res) Garr Bn KOYLI advising that his permanent address was Drewton, Weaponess Valley, Scarborough. [I may have misread this - it might be a letter from James' brother John in relation to his brother James but it is worth looking into.]</p> <p>Executors: John Atkinson-Jowett (brother), C/- Messrs Vint, Hill & Killick, Solicitors (residence The Clock House, Manningham, Bradford) & Rev Thomas Mercer, Commercial Bank Buildings, Bradford, YKS (jointly).</p> <p>[THE FOLLOWING ADDED 13 AUG 2012]</p> <p>GWF: Posted 20 October 2010 (Big)</p> <p>I have recently been contacted by a John Wrightson. He found a posting of mine on the Birmingham History Forum web pages about my Great Uncle Captain Alfred Christopher Pearson (known as Chris as his father was also Alfred). He found a letter that Chris wrote to his grandmother about her son James Atkinson-Jowett of the 6th Bn Kings own Yorkshire Light Infantry. He had recently heard from his mother Caroline Pearson that James had been Killed on 16th September 1916 during the battle of the Somme. Unfortunately the letters are too large to post but I would be interested to know if anybody else has found letters of Condolance and if by chance they were from my Gt Grandmother as she did contact my parents of Officers who served in the 9th Battalion of the RWR. The reason she wrote to Chris about James was that they went to school together at Giggleswyke in Yorkshire and latter studied together at Lincoln College Oxford.</p> <p>Some background information -</p> <p>John Wrightson is descended from Mrs Atkinson-Jowett (nee Thornton) via his paternal grandfather's mother, Eliza Annie Thornton who was Fanny's illegitimate first child. James Atkinson-Jowett was her younger stepbrother and therefore John's great great step-uncle. The original letters are lost but we know that this typed transcript reproduced</p> | |

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here was first made for Mrs Atkinson-Jowett. An original copy was in papers my father inherited from his father in 1974. We kept a photo-copy and gave the inherited copy to the KOYLI Regimental Museum collection, now held in Doncaster Library.

James Atkinson-Jowett was Fanny's second and last child following her marriage to Nathan Atkinson-Jowett. James was born in 1893 at Bentley near Doncaster. His father was a middle-aged widower who had retired as a gentleman farmer to Rostholme, near Bentley, after handing over to his eldest son substantial property in Manningham, Bradford that he held in trust under the terms of his own father's will. James was named after Nathan's deceased father who had been a wealthy man of business in mid-Victorian Bradford, one-time Alderman of the city and one of the founding patrons of Leeds University. James junior was a boarder at Giggleswick School, a popular choice for the merchant families of the West Riding, from 1906 until 1911 when he went up to Lincoln College Oxford to read Theology. He appears to have been a devout Anglican and it seems possible that he was intending to become an ordained minister. After his death his mother had brass commemorative plaques installed in the churches of Bentley, Bolton (in Bradford) and Caton (near Lancaster), places where he had lived and worshipped, and donated funds to Giggleswick School to endow a perpetual scholarship in his memory.

Lt James Atkinson-Jowett was amongst the many casualties suffered during an evening assault on the enemy-held Gird Trench south of Gueudecourt village on Saturday 16th September 1916, the second day of the battle of Flers-Courcelette, the third British offensive of the wider Somme campaign. After initial successes on 15th September, when British tanks were used in combat for the first time, the attack's momentum had stalled in front strongly fortified German lines. For most of 16th September British units were pinned down in recently taken forward positions by heavy enemy fire. At 6.20 pm part of 43 Infantry Brigade, two companies each from 6KOYLI and 6Bn Somerset LI, was ordered to restart the attack at 6.55 pm. It was a futile endeavour. The men were caught by enfilading machine-gun fire as they advanced across open ground. Survivors took cover in an unmarked shallow trench in no-man's land and held out until they were able to withdraw back to their start line under cover of darkness. In the two KOYLI companies that took part in the attack, three out of the five officers were killed and one wounded; one hundred other ranks were lost either killed or wounded. Most of the soldiers' bodies were either not recovered or were not individually identifiable when the permanent military cemeteries were created in that locality some time later. Consequently their names are recorded on the Thiepval Monument. One of the Somerset LI survivors of that evening assault was Arnold Ridley (died 1984) who later wrote the 'The Ghost Train' and was Private Godfrey in the TV sitcom 'Dad's Army'.

Robert Alexander Gordon Cane (died circa 1964) was James Atkinson-Jowett's company commander when he was first commissioned into 11Bn KOYLI during 1914. He was wounded in June 1915, whilst on attachment to the 1st Royal Dublin Fusiliers at Gallipoli, and subsequently relinquished his commission due to ill-health sometime during 1916. He became headmaster of Saffron Walden School and later of Kinmel School, Abergele. He was a friend and lifelong correspondent of Captain, later Sir, Basil Henry Liddell-Hart, (died 1970) the noted military historian and The Times' military affairs correspondent during the inter-war years. I'm pretty sure that Liddell-Hart was first commissioned into 11 KOYLI at around the same time as Atkinson-Jowett and if so service in 11Bn is what links all three men. Like Atkinson-Jowett, Liddell-Hart transferred to 6Bn KOYLI and saw action at Ypres and in the first stages of the Somme offensive until the battle for Mametz Wood on 16th July where he was gassed. He never returned to the front-line and remained on light duties until he was medically discharged from the army in 1924, following two heart attacks that may have been caused by the after-effects of gassing.

file:///C:/DOCUME%7E1/user28/LOCALS%7E1/Temp/moz-screenshot.png

Photo from:

<http://www.lancasterwarmemorials.org.uk/memorials/caton.htm>

Lancaster Guardian date 30 September, 1916 page 8

Jowett J Atkinson Lieutenant 6th Yorkshire Light Infantry#
killed in action 16 September, 1916, age 23,
Father Mr Nathan Atkinson Jowett of Bentley, Doncaster, and Bradford,
his brother John resides at Clock House Bradford.
His mother is now at Caton.

LETTERS OF CONDOLENCE SENT BY FRIENDS AND FELLOW OFFICERS TO MRS FANNY ATKINSON-JOWETT FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF HER SON Lt JAMES ATKINSON-JOWETT, 6 KOYLI, KILLED IN ACTION DURING THE BATTLE OF THE SOMME 16TH SEPTEMBER 1916

Lt Col G Mynall wrote:- It is with deep regret that I write to let you know that your son gave his life for his country whilst leading his men to attack on the evening of the 16th. He was shot through the head and death was instantaneous. His loss is deeply felt by myself and all ranks of the battalion for he was a most promising officer, and beloved by his men for whose welfare he was forever solicitous. He was imbued too with a high sense of duty which showed itself in everything he did. It may console you to know that his life was not given in vain for nothing could have been finer than

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the work of the whole Battalion that day, which I attribute chiefly to the glorious self sacrifice of the young company officers. I went into action with 16 of the latter. I returned with one."

Lieut Patterson also wrote:- "He died most bravely whilst he was leading the company forward and though he was first of all wounded in the leg he continued to carry on until hit in the head by a bullet and died instantaneously. I was by his side during the fight which lasted all day and he was killed about 7-5 pm on the 16th. I miss him very much." Educated at Giggleswick school and Lincoln College, Oxford, With many of his fellow students he joined the Inns of Court OTC and was gazetted into the 11th Yorkshire Light Infantry. He was seriously wounded on September 1st 1915. On August 19th 1916 he was again wounded in the neck but soon returned to duty. Whilst resident at Caton he read the lessons at church services, and he presented a valuable carpet to cover the Chancel. A memorial service is to be held on 1 October. His mother is resident in Caton.