

## HUSK Frederick John



Second Lieutenant, 301st Siege Battery., 4th Brigade, Royal Garrison Artillery.

Mentioned in Despatches,

Age 26. Died of wounds 21 March 1918.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. F. Husk, of 83, St. Alban's Avenue, Bedford Park, Chiswick, London; husband of Florence Ivy Myall Husk, of Burgess Villa, Tollesbury, Essex. In 1901 census he is shown as born & living at Dover. He went overseas to France 9<sup>th</sup> October 1916.

The heavy artillery was manned by units of the Royal Garrison Artillery. In 1914 it consisted of one four-gun battery of 60-pounder guns per infantry Division. The Regular Army and Indian Army Divisions which moved to the Western Front after September 1914 were equipped with obsolescent 4.7-inch guns. During the war, the heavy artillery was massively expanded and ultimately became a war-winning factor.

The Batteries were usually clustered into formations known variously as RGA Brigades or Heavy Artillery Groups

*It was revolution in Russia that changed the nature of the attritional deadlock in the west. Fighting halted in the east in late 1917, allowing the Germans to transfer many Divisions to the Western Front. They knew that time was running out, for the United States of America had entered the war on the Allied side and it was only a matter of time before vast untapped reserves of manpower swung the balance in favour of the Allies.*

*The Germans struck in the Kaiserschlacht offensive on 21 March 1918. Such was the vigour of their attack that they broke through the British line and pushed towards the key positions of Amiens and the Channel Ports. Held only after the bitterest of defensive fighting, the Germans effort was exhausted and the line froze once more. The Allies gained strength, barely believing that the Germans had "shot their bolt".*



1914-1920 War Medal; 1914-1919 Victory Medal



14,000 casualties of the United Kingdom and 300 of the South African Forces who have no known grave and who died on the Somme from 21 March to 7 August 1918. The Corps and Regiments most largely represented are The Rifle Brigade with over 600 names, The Durham Light Infantry with approximately 600 names, the Machine Gun Corps with over 500, The Manchester Regiment with approximately 500 and The Royal Horse and Royal Field Artillery with over 400 names. The memorial encloses POZIERES BRITISH CEMETERY, Plot II of which contains original burials of 1916, 1917 and 1918, carried out by fighting units and field ambulances. The remaining plots were made after the Armistice when graves were brought in from the battlefields immediately surrounding the cemetery, the majority of them of soldiers who died in the Autumn of 1916 during the latter stages of the Battle of the Somme, but a few represent the fighting in August 1918. There are now 2,755 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery. 1,375 of the burials are unidentified but there are special memorials to 23 casualties known or believed to be buried among them. The cemetery and memorial were designed by W H Cowlshaw. No. of Identified Casualties: 14648

Last updated 25/01/2008



Saint Mary's Tollesbury