

Private Fredrick James Brockway

There is little information of Private Brockway, Home Guard of the 3rd Wiltshire (Salisbury) Bn. apart from a grave stone registered as a Commonwealth War Grave in Teffont Evias cemetery (Figure 1).



The image shows a registration card for Private Frederick James Brockway. On the left, there is a text-based record with the following details:

- PRIVATE FREDERICK JAMES BROCKWAY**
- Regiment & Unit/Ship:** Home Guard, 3rd Wiltshire (Salisbury) Bn.
- Date of Death:** Died 25 November 1942, Age 43 years old
- Buried or commemorated at:** [TEFFONT EVIAS CHURCH CEMETERY](#), Grave 66, United Kingdom
- Country of Service:** United Kingdom
- Additional Info:** Son of James and Sarah Brockway; husband of Mabel Kathleen Brockway, of Tisbury.
- Personal Inscription:** IN EVER LOVING MEMORY OF MY DEAR HUSBAND. REST IN THE LORD

On the right, there is a placeholder for a photograph of the headstone, featuring the Commonwealth War Graves logo and the text: "We are in the process of collecting an image of this casualty's headstone".

Figure 1 - Commonwealth War Graves Registration

There is mention in the book 'The Bounding Spring' (A history of Teffont in Wiltshire) written by Audrey McBain and Lynette Nelson (Nee Keatinge) (ISBN 1-904377-26-2) of the Home Guard.

"A platoon of Home Guard had been formed to defend the village. But at this time they had little more than their undoubted courage to offer as resistance to an enemy. There was only one rifle between six men"

(Figure 2), however, shows a photo of the six but no mention of Private Frederick Brockway and they all are equipped with rifles.

The photo is taken from The Bounding Spring and there is also mention of an incident in Teffont.

" In June 1941, Hitler sent his armies off to the Russian front, and so the threat of invasion of the United Kingdom was lifted. The bombing of major cities continued, but mainly at night. One night three bombs were dropped around the village. None did any serious damage, but the situation might have been very different if one of them – which weighed a ton and a quarter had not failed to explode. It was an isolated occurrence, probably the result of random unloading".

There does not appear to be any documented information onto how Frederick died, perhaps it was natural causes? A photo of Frederick's war grave is shown in (Figure 3)



Figure 2 - Teffont Home Guard



Figure 3 - F J Brockway War Grave

We remember Frederick and honour his sacrifice.