

# World War 1

## Birmingham City Police

### PC C248 Ernest KNIGHT

**Private 42240**

**1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Prince Albert's (Somerset Light Infantry)**

**Died in France 24<sup>th</sup> October 1918**

Ernest was born September 1894 in Ruspidge, Gloucestershire

He married Harriet (nee Fawlk) in the last quarter of 1915 in Westbury on Severn, Gloucestershire

Ernest joined Birmingham City Police 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1914, as a collier, he served on the 'C' Division with warrant number 8555 and collar number C248

Ernest was a member of the Birmingham City police gymnastics team where he pictured in January 1915

*Second from right second row*



Ernest resigned on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1918 and enlisted in the Somerset Light Infantry at Birmingham

Ernest went to the front on the 4<sup>th</sup> September 1918 and joined the battalion in the field 11<sup>th</sup> September 1918, he was killed a short time later in the battle of Selle

An article in The Coventry Standard November 1914

*Mrs Knight of 126 Radford Road, Coventry, has received notification of the death of her husband who was killed in action on October 13th. He was a private I the 1<sup>st</sup> Warwickshire and went out with the Expeditionary Force in the early stages of the War. He was born at Radford, and was employed at Binley Colliery. He was at one time a member of the Birmingham City Police Force. A man of fine physique and genial temperament, he was extremely popular with all who knew him, and much sympathy is felt towards his family. He leaves a widow and one young child and his parents still live at Radford*

Also killed in this battalion on this date was Ernest's police colleague, **James Winstanley**, who is also on the Roll of Honour

Ernest is buried at Verchain British Cemetery, Verchain-Maugre, France Grave C17



PC James Winstanley is also buried at this cemetery Grave A9



Photographs courtesy of Su and Paul Handford taken 2014 and 2016