

World War 1 Roll of Honour

Birmingham City Police

PC A121 Josiah William RUTHERFORD

Lance corporal P/8136 Military Mounted Police

Josiah was born 28th February 1876 in Stratford, Essex and a resident at 44 Fenwick Street, Woolwich

1890 to 12th May 1902 Josiah served 12 years with the Royal Field Artillery as Gunner 79187 with 119 battery. He was court martialled twice, for being absent and also mistreating a horse, he was also fined on ten occasions for taking a horse from it's stables without permission, breaking into camp bathing pond, late for sounding school, absent from sounding retreat, neglect of duty x 2, leaving barracks without permission, illtreating his horse, late sounding, and neglect of duty and telling a falsehood

22nd September 1902 Josiah joined Birmingham City Police as a labourer, he was issued with warrant number 7211 and served on the A division with collar number PC A121

12th March 1903 Josiah married Emily Weekes who was born 9th January 1880 and was from Oakhampton, Devon. They had two sons, Frederick William and Albert Edward

1st August 1903 Albert had his leave stopped for being absent from his beat for 20 minutes and found asleep in the Plough and Harrow Licenced House yard at 4.05am on 29th July

2nd April 1904 Josiah again had his leave stopped until further orders and was to be reported upon as to his future conduct and fitness for the force in 6 months, this was for being asleep in a doorway in Bordesley Street whilst on duty for eight minutes from 3.30-3.38 on 27th March

22nd April 1909 Josiah had one day's leave stopped for being absent from a portion of his day beat for 25 minutes on 19th April

26th July 1909 Complimented and allowed to retain 10/- for the arrest of a warehouse breaker

2nd October 1916 Josiah was cautioned after being reported for being absent from his special protection duty post (armed) for 6 minutes from 9.19 to 9.25pm 26th August and found coming from an entry leading to the Samson and Lion Licenced House, Hill Street

30th October 1916 Josiah was taken ill on duty and detained at the General Hospital where he remained 12 days, the diagnosis was given as a dilated heart

27th February 1917 Josiah resigned to join HM Forces with the Military Mounted Police. Whilst serving, Josiah was seized with a complaint of hemiplegia and was in hospital in France in Trevant and Rouen. He was invalided to England and was in Chester Hospital for three months

3rd October 1917 Josiah was discharged from the army for being no longer physically fit for war service as he was suffering from hemiplegia contracted whilst in the Military Mounted Police

15th October 1917 Josiah re-joined the police after serving with HM Forces, he was issued with a new warrant number of 9071. He returned on light duties at Victoria Law Courts until 14th June 1919 when he performed street duty

1st September 1922 Josiah was on duty having been posted to Protection Duty at the Council House when he subsequently walked into the quadrangle of the Council House as he felt unwell, he collapsed, was unconscious and was taken by police motor ambulance to the General Hospital where he was detained on ward 3 for examinations. He was diagnosed with a slight dilation of his ascending aorta and a little hypertrophy of the left ventricle. He was told to rest and have a change of air for 14 days in Llandudno at the Convalescent Home

21st October 1922 Josiah returned fit for duty and was engaged on protection duty at the Council House

6th August 1924 Josiah was off duty at the Beehive Licence House when he had a seizure and was again taken to the General Hospital and detained in ward 8. He had also lost two teeth as he fell. He was discharged on 12th August and told he would be liable to suffer further seizures as he was suffering from chronic disease of the brain.

18th August 1924 Josiah was rendered unfit for police duty with chronic disease of the brain and received a police medical pension of £112 6s 4d

12th October 1924 Josiah left the police

8th April 1944 Josiah died at his home address of 124 Frederick Road, Aston. His funeral took place 13th April at Witton Cemetery, Birmingham. He was survived by his widow Emily, who received a police widow's pension of £30 per annum, and his two sons, Frederick William died 14th February 1962 and left £561 2s to his brother, Albert Edward who died 26th July 1971, intestate