Charles Edward Wise June 1864 - 21 February 1935

Charles Edward was born in June 1864 in Greys, Oxfordshire. His father, John Wise (1837-1916), was a gardener to Lord Robert Cecil at Gale. Charles' mother was Catherine Ivermee (1843 - 1877) and she came from Henley-on-Thames.

There were 9 other children born to John and Catherine; Frederick (1860-1866), William (1861-1945), Kate (1865-????), Mark (1866-1951), Ernest (1868-1952), Herbert (1870-1935), Minnie (1872-????), Fanny (1874-1961) and Edith (1876-1957).

Catherine sadly died the year after her last child Edith was born, she had given birth to 10 children between 1860 and 1876. She was 34 years old.

The 1871 census records Charles Edward living with his parents and siblings in Greys, Oxfordshire where he stayed until moving to Kilburn, London where he became a gardener.

Charles married Sarah Ann Wright on 7th August 1882 in Marylebone, London. They continued to live in Kilburn where two children were born.

A daughter, Frances Justina was born in 1884, but sadly died in 1903 aged just 19 years. Their son Charles John Billington was born in 1887. He served in WW1 with The 1st Scottish Rifles and was killed in action on 3rd August 1917 in France. Charles and Sarah suffered the heartbreak of losing of both their children but they lived on until dying within two months of each other, Sarah on Christmas Day 1934 and Charles on 21st February 1935.

In 1922 Charles and Sarah were living at New Cottages, Chelwood Gate, but at the time they died they were living at Rocks Platt Cottages, Danehill, but Charles died at High View House in Uckfield, which was a care home. Charles left £322 175 7d in his Will to his brother William. He was buried at Danehill cemetery on 25th February 1935.

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Charles and Sarah's marriage certificate



Sarah Ann Wise (nee Wright) 27 December 1859 - 29 December 1934

Sarah Ann Wright was born in Pimlico, London on 27th December 1859. Her father, Billington Wright (1829-1901) was a boot maker and later a postman. Sarah's mother was Mary Ann Elizabeth Chilmaid (1835-1917).

In 1861 Sarah was living with her parents and two sisters, Hannah and Mary at 19, Capland Street, Marylebone, London. Her father is listed as a boot maker. As he was born in Kings Clere, Northamptonshire, perhaps he learnt his trade there, as Northampton was the centre of boot and shoe making.

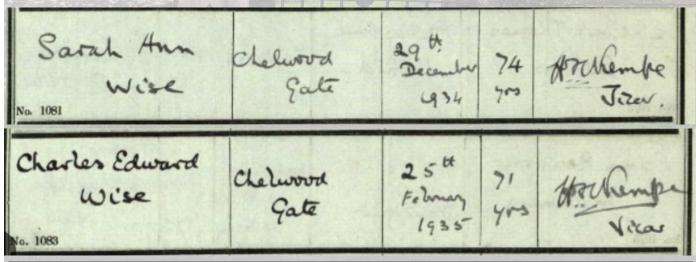
By 1871 they are still in Marylebone, but Billington is now a letter carrier, which must be the name for postman.

Sarah had 5 siblings; Hannah, Mary, John, William and Henry. John became a porter, maybe on the railway, and William was an errand boy.

William Henry Preece the Chief Engineer of The Post Office remarked at a Select Committee Hearing in 1879 "why do we need telephones when we have a superabundance of errand boys to carry messages" Telephones were being installed in America and he did not think there was a need for them in a domestic situation in this country.

Just before her marriage to Charles, Sarah is still at home with her family and her occupation is a servant. She married Charles Edward Wise on 7th August 1882 in Marylebone. They had two children.

Sarah Ann died on 25th December 1934 aged 74 years. She was buried at Danehill cemetery on 29th December 1934.

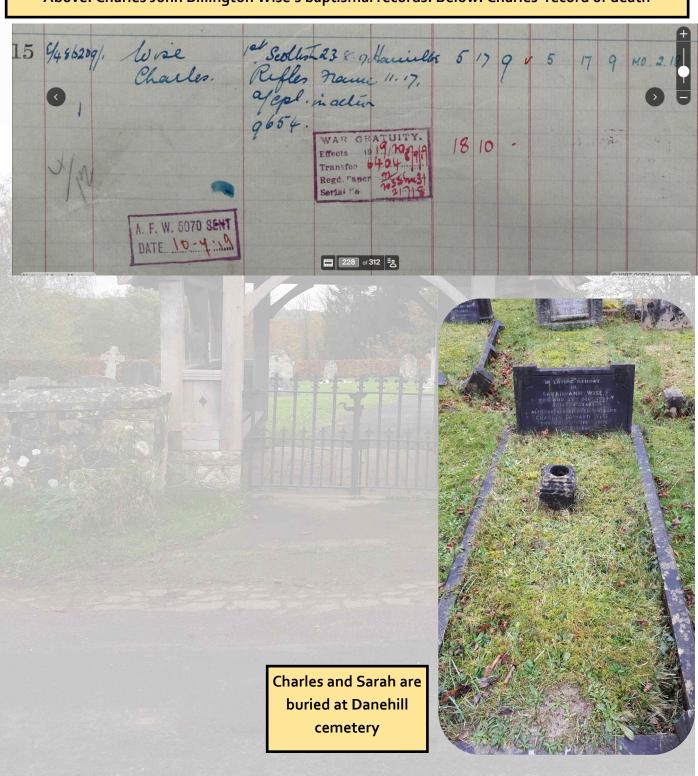


Charles and Sarah's burial records



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Above: Charles John Billington Wise's baptismal records. Below: Charles' record of death





Charles Wise 18 March 1887 - 23 August 1917

Charles Wise was born on 18th March 1887. He was born in St Johns Wood London. His parents were Charles John Billington Wise of Laundry Lane, Chelwood Gate and Sarah Ann Wright.

Charles enlisted at Kilburn He was an Acting Corporal, Cameronian Scottish Rifles, 7654.

He was killed in action on 23rd August 1917, aged 30, near Ypres. His name is on the Nieuport Memorial.

FRANCIS BENNETT ALSO REMEMBERS -

As a child of the 1930's, all recollections of the World War 1 have been passed on by word of mouth. I was told by an older resident that during the war there was intensive government effort to produce more food. As part of this programme, Ashdown Forest between the Red Lion and Wych Cross was ploughed up and planted with potatoes. It proved to be a disaster, for not a single seed was got back.

A very poignant memory of the War related to Mr Wise, who was head gardener to Lord Cecil. His only son was killed just hours before the Armistice in 1918. For some time afterwards his mother always wore her son's woolly hat.



Charles Wise is remembered on the war memorial in Danehill

