



Richard Leslie Dingle

Rank: Corporal

Service No.: 6285648

Enlisted: 27/10/1933

Regiment: The Buffs

Residence: Standard Hill Farm Cottages, Elham

Before Service:

Richard was born 12/04/1915 at Exhurst Staplehurst, son of Arthur and Adelaide Dingle. He grew up at Clockhouse Farm Challock and went to Challock school. The Family moved to Wingate Farm in about 1932/3, however there was not enough work on the farm for Richard, so he joined the army

During Service:

He enlisted in the Buffs on 27/10/1933 at Canterbury. In 1935 he was confirmed by the Bishop of Guildford at St Georges Garrison Church Borden Hampshire. On the 3/10/1936 he was sent to Palestine where he stayed for 88 days, then back to U.K for 24 days, then the Buffs went to India on 23/1/1937 for 260 days, returning back to Palestine until 18/7/1939.



During the 2nd World War the Battalion spent their time between Egypt and Palestine.

On the 1/7/1942 (the first day of the battle of El Alamein) while manning a Bren Gun he was shot and wounded. An aircraft bullet passed through his shoulder and came out of the top of his arm. This resulted in him being hospitalized in Alexandria.

He returned to the U.K on the 10/10/1943.

Richard finally left active service 16/3/1946 and was in the reserves until 17/6/1953.



He was awarded the G.S Medal with clasp (Palestine), Africa Star & 8th Army Clasp and War Medal 1939/45.

After Service:

When he left the army, he worked as a groom and then a shepherd for Mr Bob Martin at Standard Hill Farm until his early death from Leukaemia in 1967 age 53. Leaving a wife and three children, Yvonne, Eileen and Richard.

All 3 still live in the area.