



Ernest James Nicholls
1299622 Leading Aircraftman
Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve

Quarry Worker of Pendeen, St. Tudy

Born 1922

Died 29th September 1945

Ernest was born in St. Tudy in 1922 and lived with his family in St. Tudy, and was the nephew of Jack Nicholls who died in WW1. His mother and father were Emily (nee Whale) and James (Jim) Nicholls. Jim's own brother, Jack, died in WW1 and is also commemorated on the War Memorial.

Ernest worked at Thomas Ward Ltd, Wadebridge, and De Lank Quarry at St. Breward, prior to enlisting in the RAF. Unfortunately as we cannot access his records due to privacy, we only know he joined up after 1939.

He was stationed at RAF Portreath and held the rank of Leading Aircraftman with the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

Unfortunately, as the air base was in the process of closing down in September 1945, Ernest contracted TB and died on the 29th of September 1945 in Truro Hospital.

There was a lengthy article in the Western Morning News on his funeral at St. Tudy, which was taken by the Reverend Schuster, who at that time, had two sons in the Army.

Ernest seems to have been well liked and respected by his work and RAF colleagues, family and friends, and there was a large attendance at his funeral with many floral tributes.

He is remembered and buried in St. Tudy New Graveyard, and has a War Graves Commission Headstone.

