

# Peter Tootill

## (1883-1941)

Peter Tootill was born on the 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1883 in Turton. He was the second son of Edwin Tootill of Turton and Sarah Ellen Barlow of Prestwich, Lancashire. Peter enlisted at the outset of war with the 1<sup>st</sup> East Lancashire, but later transferred to the 6<sup>th</sup> Worcestershire Regiment and finally to the 8<sup>th</sup> Lancashire Fusiliers. He served in Egypt and India and after the war continued with the Fusiliers, being promoted to the rank of Corporal before his final discharge in 1922.

### Family History<sup>1,3,5,33</sup>

Census returns and BMD data show that Peter's immediate family was as follows:

Father: Edwin Tootill b. 1851, Turton d. 1934, Turton  
 Mother: Sarah Ellen Barlow b. 1859, Prestwich d. 1921, Turton  
 (Edwin and Sarah were married at St. Anne's, Turton in 1880)

Children: James Henry Tootill b. 1881, Turton  
 Peter Tootill b. 1883, Turton

Below is the record of James' and Peter's baptisms:<sup>33</sup>

BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of <i>Turton</i> in the County of <i>Lancaster</i> in the Year 18 <i>81</i>						
18 <i>81</i>	<i>Oct 30</i>	<i>James Henry</i>	<i>Edwin Sarah Ellen</i>	<i>Tootill</i>	<i>Turton</i>	<i>overlooked J.W. Spencer of Finishes incumbent</i>
No. 2979						

BAPTISMS solemnized in the Parish of <i>Turton</i> in the County of <i>Lancaster</i> in the Year 18 <i>84</i>						
18 <i>84</i>	<i>Jan 4 24</i>	<i>Peter</i>	<i>Edwin Sarah Ellen</i>	<i>Tootill</i>	<i>Turton</i>	<i>Forman J.W. Spencer Finishes incumbent</i>
No. 3121						

No census return has been found for Edwin and Sarah in 1881, but in 1891 and 1901 they were living with their two sons at 33, Wellington Road, Turton. Edwin was a Foreman and a Cotton/Muslin Finisher. In 1901 James Henry was a Gorcer's Assistant and Peter was listed as a Student. In 1911, Edwin and Sarah are still at 33, Wellington Road, but Peter is working as a Pastry Cook at 105 Gt Clowes, Street, Lower Broughton, Manchester. The head of the household is given as Mrs Tootill – a 'Shop Confectioner'. Peter is listed as 'son' and a 36 year old Edith Barlow (confectioners assistant) is listed as 'sister'. This address is given for Peter's mother Sarah in his war record (see below) but his father's address continues to be 33, Wellington Road. (??)

No marriages have been found for James Henry or Peter. Peter probably died in 1941, the death being registered in Farnworth, Bolton. Sarah Ellen Tootill was buried at St. Anne's, Turton on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1921 aged 62. She had been living at 157 High Street, Turton. ([www.lan-opc.org.uk/Turton/stanne/burials\\_1916-1927](http://www.lan-opc.org.uk/Turton/stanne/burials_1916-1927))

## **War Record<sup>2</sup>**

Peter Tootill was attested in Manchester on the 31<sup>st</sup> August 1914 and appointed as a private to the 1<sup>st</sup> East Lancashire Regiment (Regimental No. 48903). He was posted to Egypt on the 10<sup>th</sup> September 1914 and was there until the 14<sup>th</sup> July 1915. (The document showing this information gives his father as Edward Tootill of 33, Wellington Road, Turton and his mother as S.E. of 105 Gt Clowes Street, Salford.) Peter was compulsorily transferred to the 6<sup>th</sup> Worcestershire Regiment on the 24<sup>th</sup> July 1917 and in October was posted to the Indian Expeditionary Force and stationed in Belgaum. Here he was charged with two offences, viz. 1) 'Creating a disturbance in a barracks room at about 10 p.m.'; 2) 'Losing by neglect his Identification Discs' – the latter charge was dismissed. It is not known what action if any Peter experienced through this period. He remained with the Worcesters until the 17<sup>th</sup> February 1920, at which point he transferred to the 8<sup>th</sup> Lancashire Fusiliers until the 11<sup>th</sup> July 1921. He then immediately attested to continue with the 8<sup>th</sup> Lancs Fusiliers using his mother's address of 105 Gt Clowes Street, Lower Broughton, Manchester, and his occupation as Clerk. (Another document gives his occupation as 'Baker'. His father's address continues to be given as 33, Wellington Road.). He was promoted to the rank of Corporal on the 29<sup>th</sup> July 1921 (Regimental No. 3438759). He was finally discharged on the 12<sup>th</sup> May 1922. For his war service Pete was awarded the British War and Victory Medals and the 1914/15 Star.

**Researcher:** Alan Woodward

**Standard references:** 1,2,3,5,33