

<p>40.Neville B W</p> <p>Born 1891 Mistley Enlisted Colchester</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Bertie James Neville (Newell)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Grenadier Guards 2nd Battalion</p>	<p>Killed in action 19th October 1915 Aged 24 Pas de Calais France Private 16960</p>
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Bertie's father James was born and brought up in Manningtree, living in Back Hill (now Brook Street) and in the 1870's worked for the Essex Militia. He married Emma Gosling from Bradfield & moved first to St Osyth, then Bishop Stortford to take up work at the maltings there. The family moved back to the town just before Bertie was born in 1891, living first in 'Cabbage Row', near Oxford Road, Mistley. It's not clear exactly where this was. It may be what became known as Norman Road – which otherwise is not mentioned in Census, Railway terrace is listed), but by the turn of the century they are living in Railway Terrace, with father James working at the docks and Bertie's older brothers George & Edward both working locally as labourers.



Railway terrace.

Ten years later on and his brothers had both married and were working at the Xylonite factory, whilst living close by in Oxford & Norman Road. Bertie



British troops in captured German trench known as 'Big Willie'

According to the regiments detailed war diary at the end of 'Loos', on the 19th October the Battalion was sent back in to take over the line opposite 'Big Willie', the German trench on the eastern side of the Hohenzollern Redoubt which had just been fought over and changed hands a number of times.

They reached this by 3.00 pm, but on the way several 'unlucky shells' caught them as they were moving into place. Nine died and eight were wounded, Bertie being one of those killed, age 24 years. In all, the Guards Division had taken 2,115 casualties during the Battle of Loos, which effectively ended the day Bertie was killed.

His body was recovered and buried at the Vermelles Cemetery, close to the dressing station just behind British lines.

His parents later moved a short distance to Railway Street and were awarded war gratuities in 1916 and 1919.

Neither of his brothers appears to have been called up and though George died shortly after in March 1917, Edward lived on in Colchester until 1972 aged 89.

Background notes and dates

1851: Father James George Nevill, b 1851 only 8 months, born Manningtree – Back Hill. Grandfather George Nevill Coal Labourer from Ardleigh. Mother Ann from Manningtree.

Other older children born in Lawford and Baylham Suffolk.

1861: Nevill Manningtree. Father James 10 yrs scholar. Plus other younger siblings.

1871: Nevill Manningtree, Back Hill. Father George working as a Gardener. Mother Ann. James 20yrs only child left – working as part of the Essex Militia.

Soon after in July 1871, James married Emma Gosling (b 1850) from Bradfield & moved to Bishop Stortford

1881: Bishop Stortford. James 30 yrs Malt Maker, Emma 31 yrs from Bradfield. Plus son George J age 6 years who had been born in St Osyth. Mary Gosling Emma's older sister from Bradfield was visitor.

1891: Mistle Cabbage Row (Think this is what became Norman Road – which otherwise is not mentioned in Census, Railway terrace is listed). James G Nevelle Funeral? Labourer. Emma, George and now Edward 8 years born Bishops Stortford.

Birth 1891 Oct- Dec Bertie **William** Neville - Tendring

1901: Neville (recorded as Norrell) Railway Terrace, Oxford Road, James working as a Dock Labourer, George - Labourer ?Funeral, Edward also Labourer ?Funeral. + Bertie **W** Neville 9 yrs born Mistley.

1911; Edward James Neville (b 28th Jan 1883) has married Salina Annie and works at the Xylonite factory. Living at Norman Road. 28 years old. Edward lived to September 1972, aged 89 (Colchester)

1911: George James Neville married and living in Oxford Road – Ann Palmer Neville wife from Norwich. George working at the British Xylonite factory as a Zinc White Machinist. George died in March 1917 age 42.

1911: Bert (aged 20) (born Mistley) was living with his father James (a Jobbing Gardener) and mother Emma at 8 Oxford Road, Mistley and working as a Labourer at Celluloid Works. Parents are 61 & 62 years, they had had 8 children, three still living. He served as Bertie James **Newell** 2nd GG 16960 and his Medal Index Card shows that he was awarded the 1915 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal, entered Theatre (France) 24th May 1915.

Son of James and Emma Neville, of Railway St., Mistley, Essex. Register of effect says Newell Bertie James or Neville and gratuity paid to James Neville in February 1916 and July 1919.

Notes - There is another Bertie Nevelle born 1891 from Abberton Essex who in 1911 was in the Hussars in India.

Also Bertie Neville in 1st G Gds but with regiment number 11134 – see medal record. Also a Bertie Newell from Colchester who served with the 2nd Essex and was killed in action in November 1914.

Some ancestor family trees link him to grandparents in Fingeringhoe where there is another Bertie Neville, but this is wrong.