

RICHARD ALFRED FULLER, T/121164

Driver (dispatch rider), Royal Army Service Corps

CYNTHIA EVELYN FULLER, 39477

Women's Royal Navy Service

Richard and Cynthia were two of the three children born to Ernest Fuller and Kathryn, née Michael.

Ernest Alfred Fuller was born 1872 in Ramsey, Huntingdonshire. His father was a corn merchant and farmer. By the 1901 census Ernest was also a corn merchant in Ramsey and his brother was a pupil corn merchant. Ernest and his brother Frank, along with Henry Stafford, became partners in a business in Nottingham. In the 1911 census return Ernest was recorded as a barley merchant, living in Nottingham with two of his sisters.

Katherine Gertrude Sophie Michael was the daughter of an Irish Lieutenant Colonel in the Royal Army Medical Corps. She was born 1 March 1885 in Devon and her younger sisters were born in Bermuda, Ealing and Dover. In 1901 the census returns found the family living in Paddington and in 1911 there were in Suffolk. That same year Katherine's sister Eileen married Stanley Bourne, a cotton doubler of Nottingham, who later became Deputy Chairman of Courtaulds Ltd. In 1927 Stanley Bourne, of Epperstone Manor, became High Sheriff of Nottinghamshire.

Ernest and Katherine married in Nottingham in 1918. Richard was born 1919, Gerald in 1920 and Cynthia in 1922. The family lived at Warren House, Repton. Ernest was appointed as a church warden in 1925. He was a member of the parochial council. In 1928 the top of the spire at St Wystan's Church was disturbed by lightning. Experts were called in to inspect it and in addition Ernest, on 1 May at 9 am, climbed up to the weathercock and made a thorough investigation. The report in the June copy of the parish magazine stated, *'We are quite sure that the village generally will share in the appreciation of Mr Fuller's voluntary and hazardous service in the interests of the parish.'*

By 1939 the family were living at Castle Hill, Tutbury, and at the end of that year Ernest became Director of a new company, the Trent Yeast Extract Company Limited, based at Shobnall Road, Burton. Ernest and Kathryn later returned to Repton, where Ernest died in 1951. In the 1960 Directory Kathryn was listed as living in Burton Road. She died in 1972 and they are buried in adjacent graves in St Wystan's Churchyard.

It was recorded in the Royal Aero Club's FLIGHT magazine, dated 25 May 1939, that on 9 May 1939 Richard had gained his Aviator's Certificate, number 18,067, at the Tollerton Royal Aero Club, Nottingham. The airport is situated 3.5 miles south east of the city centre. Nottingham Airport was opened in 1930 for civil aviation. During WW II it was known as RAF Tollerton. After the war it reverted to civilian use and for a short time it operated as a

commercial airport. It is now known as Nottingham City Airport and is operated by Truman Aviation.

Burton Observer, June 20 1940

'The first war casualty to be officially reported at Tutbury is that of Richard Alfred (Dick) Fuller, the elder son of Mr and Mrs E A Fuller, of Castle Hill, Tutbury.

He was a despatch rider, and the official notice states that he was found dead on June 4th. He was 21 years of age and educated at Malvern College.

His father is the managing director of English Grains Ltd and Peach and Co., maltsters, Burton and Mr Richard Fuller assisted in his father's businesses.



The family have lived at Tutbury and taken great interest in the church and social life of the town. They formerly lived at Repton.'

Burton Observer
June 20, 1940

Richard was involved in the France and Belgium Campaign, 1939-40. He is buried in grave ref 1.A.2. at Escoublac-la-Baule War Cemetery, Loire-Atlantique, France.

Richard is mentioned in the Tutbury Book of Remembrance (it states Richard's parents were of Repton), on the Roll of Honour plaque at St Mary's Church, Tutbury and the Tutbury War Memorial. He is also remembered on his sister's tombstone at St Wystan's Churchyard. In addition Richard and Cynthia are both listed on the Roll of Honour in the porch at St Wystan's Church, Repton, and on the Repton War Memorial.

Cynthia died of an unspecified illness on 16 March, 1946, aged 23, at the RN Auxiliary Hospital, Wootton. Cynthia is recorded in the WRNS Book of Remembrance.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
CYNTHIA EVELYN FULLER
W.R.N.S
DIED MARCH 16 1946
AGED 23
AND
RICHARD ALFRED FULLER
R.A.S.C.
KILLED IN FRANCE
ON JUNE 4 1940
AGED 21
THE PEACE OF GOD WHICH PASSETH
ALL UNDERSTANDING



St Wystan's Churchyard, Repton. The graves of their parents are close by.