

John Henry Smedley, 4805697
Private, Lincolnshire Regiment, 1st Battalion, Infantry, SEAC

John was the son of George William Smedley and Margaret May, née Weston.

George was born 25 August 1884 in Newhall. When he was admitted to the infants' class at the village school on 4 March 1891 the family were living in Morley's Yard, Long Street, Repton. George was previously been at school in Newton Solney. In the census return of the following month his father John was listed as a butcher, born Newhall. His mother Ann was born Coleorton, Leicestershire. George's sisters were Mary and Elizabeth (both dressmakers), Edith, Maud, Catherine and a brother Thomas. Also living with the family was Ann's mother, Hannah Johnson, born Charnwood.

George transferred into the elementary school on 1 December 1892 and left to take up work in January 1901. When the census was taken on 31 March that year John, of Long Street, was recorded as a farmer, George as a grocer's apprentice and his brother Thomas a farmer's son.

1911 Census, Park End, Repton

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in Ink.

The contents of this Schedule will be treated as confidential. Special care will be taken that no information is divulged with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

Series of Schedules—
 (To be filed up by the Returnee
 after completion.)

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	AGE and SEX	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE		PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Person aged 15 years and upwards			BIRTHPLACE of every person.	NATURALITY of every Person born in a Foreign Country	INFIRMITY.
			HUSBAND or WIFE	CHILDREN	PERSONAL OCCUPATION	INDUSTRY or SERVICE with which connected	NUMBER and CLASS			
1. John Henry Smedley Head	67	Male	Married	12	Butcher	3/0			Wolverhampton Staffordshire	
2. Ann Smedley Wife	67	Female	Married	46					Leicester Leicestershire	
3. Edith Emma Smedley Daughter	34	Female	Single		Drapery Assistant	2/0	Drapery		Wolverhampton Staffordshire	
4. Maud Alice Smedley Daughter	32	Female	Single						Wolverhampton Staffordshire	
5. George William Smedley Son	26	Male	Single		Railway Clerk	5/0	Midland Railway		Wolverhampton Staffordshire	
6. Thomas William Smedley Grandson									Wolverhampton Staffordshire	

(To be filled up by the Returnee.)

I intend to—		That	
(1) All the ages in this Schedule are correct in the largest and smallest			
(2) I have omitted the names and dates of birth of illegitimate children and persons who were not in the house on the night of the Census			
(3) After writing the necessary particulars I have inserted all names in the Schedule which appeared in the Schedule of the last Census			

Male	Female	Total
3	2	5

Number of Inhabitants.

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family in cases where the Returnee is absent, or in charge of the household.)

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature *John Henry Smedley*
 Postal Address *Repton*

S.W.C.

Margaret May Weston was born on 23 February 1893, at Barlestone, near Market Bosworth, Leicestershire. Her father Jonathan was a coal miner.

1901 Census, Barlestone.

Administrative County <i>Leicestershire</i>		The undersigned houses are situate within the boundaries of the										Page 25	
Civil Parish <i>Barlestone</i>		Ecclesiastical Parish <i>Market Bosworth & St. Peter</i>		County Borough, Municipal Borough, or Urban Sanitary District		Ward or Municipal Sanitary or Urban Sanitary District		Rural District <i>Market Bosworth</i>		Parliamentary Borough or Election District <i>Market Bosworth</i>		Various Villages or Hamlets <i>Barlestone</i>	
House No. or NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES	Name and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	Sex	Age last Birthday of	PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION	Employed, Worker, or Own account	Working at Home	WHERE BORN	Deaf and dumb		Blind	
										(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
161 <i>Radcliffe Road</i>	1	<i>Jonathan Weston</i>	<i>Head</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>39</i>	<i>Coal Miner</i>	<i>Worker</i>		<i>Leicestershire</i>				
		<i>Jane</i>	<i>Wife</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>36</i>				<i>Leicestershire</i>				
		<i>Edgar A.</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>15</i>				<i>Leicestershire</i>				
		<i>Florence A.</i>	<i>Daughter</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>12</i>				<i>Leicestershire</i>				
		<i>Alfred M.</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>10</i>				<i>Leicestershire</i>				
		<i>Margaret M.</i>	<i>Daughter</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>8</i>				<i>Leicestershire</i>				
		<i>Angela M.</i>	<i>Daughter</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>5</i>				<i>Leicestershire</i>				
		<i>George W.</i>	<i>Son</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>2</i>				<i>Leicestershire</i>				
		<i>Oliver W.</i>	<i>Daughter</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>2 1/2</i>				<i>Leicestershire</i>				

In 1911 her parents were living at Bagworth near Ibstock and there were another two small children. At this time Margaret was living with her sister Florence and brother-in-law Horace Tomson in Saffron Hill Road, Leicester. Horace was a cycle dealer and Margaret was working on shawls in the hosiery trade. There was a boarder living at the same house, i.e. Sidney Jerram born in Burton. He was a barman at a hotel.

George and Margaret married in the Market Bosworth registration district in 1915. John was their first child, followed by the birth of their other children i.e. Olive, Emily, Harold, Clifford and Margaret.

In the 1935 Directory George Smedley was listed as a clerk, living in Main Street, Repton. The 1960 County Borough of Burton upon Trent Directory lists his address as 15 Main Street. George died 5 March 1964, aged 78 and Margaret died 11 March 1983, aged 90. They are buried together at the cemetery in Monsom Lane, Repton.

In 1938 John was living in lodgings in Main Street, Repton, and working as a grocer's assistant. While riding his motor bike he collided with a car at Willington crossroads and was admitted to Derby Royal Infirmary. He fractured his knee and suffered other injuries.

The condition of Mr. John Henry Smedley (23), of Main-street, Repton, who was injured in a motor-cycling accident at Willington yesterday, was stated at the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary to-day to be unchanged.

Derby Daily Telegraph, Saturday 27 August 1938.

John became a private in the 1st Battalion, Lincolnshire Regiment, SEAC. The battalion went into action in India/Burma. John died aged 31, at Derby Royal Infirmary on March 4 1946.

SMEDLEY.—On March 4, 1946, at D.R.I., Pte. John Henry, aged 31 years, 1st. Lincolnshire Regt., S.E.A.C. beloved son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Smedley, main-st., Repton.

Derby Daily Telegraph, 7 March 1946



Commonwealth War Graves' section

St Wystan's Churchyard, Repton

For the battalion's services in the campaign against Napoleon in Egypt, the Lincolnshire Regiment was granted the honour of wearing the Sphinx as a distinguished mark of the King's "Royal Approbation", both on Regimental Colours and on their headgear.