

Geoffrey Burcham DRAKE

Born: 8th July 1894 in Banham

Baptised: 16th April 1899 in Shelfanger

A handwritten church record from 1899. The entry is for the baptism of Geoffrey Burcham Drake. The date is April 16, 1899. The parents are listed as David John Drake and Annie Amelia Burcham. The officiant is W. A. Harrison, Rector. The record is numbered 81.

1899	April 16	Geoffrey Burcham	David John Drake	Annie Amelia	Shelfanger	Farm Bailiff	W. A. Harrison Rector
No. 81.							
1899							

Parents: Father: David John Drake

Mother: Annie Amelia Burcham

married October 11th 1891 in Attleborough

Siblings: Stanley (1892-1918) **killed in action**

Eva Jane

Schooling: no record found

Occupation: Waggoner

Marriage: Violet Maud in 1924 in Smallburgh District

Children: not known

1901 census: Living in Barton Turf

Father's occupation farmer - steward

1911 census: Living in Oakham

Death: 24th September 1957 in North Walsham, aged 63

Military & War service:

Corporal 46688 Northumberland Fusiliers

Medals: -

April 1918

Mr and Mrs D Drake (Junior) were in great anxiety about their son, Corpl. Geoffrey Drake, who had been reported missing. Their suspense has been lightened by the news that he is a prisoner in Germany. He writes that he is well.

(Source: Waxham Rural Deanery Magazine Barton Turf and Irstead)



First World War 1914-18

The Northumberland Fusiliers raised more battalions during the war than any other of the regular army regiments, 51 in all, and its total of dead was the highest, 16000. The 1st Battalion was in Portsmouth in August 1914, and the 2nd which was in India. The 1st NF was in the 9th Brigade commanded by Brig-Gen Shaw, in General Haldane's 3rd Division and it needed 621 reservists to bring it up to war strength. It arrived in France on 14 August 1914 and was soon in action at Mons in which battle 3rd and 5th Divisions bore the brunt of the fighting, and thereafter saw action in all the major engagements of 1914 - Marne, Aisne, La Bassee, Armentieres and Ypres. The battalion remained on the Western Front, in the same brigade and division, for the rest of the war. In all it suffered 1742 dead.

(Source: britishempire.co.uk)

