

Albert Allan Wythem Tribe

My Grandfather was Albert Allan Wythem Tribe MM DCM. He was born in Midhurst in 1885, first son of James and Eliza Tribe. The family lived in Rumbolds Hill then Knockhundred Row and in 1911 they lived in Station Road, by this time Albert was head of the family as his father died in 1904. Albert married Emily Chedzoy in Midhurst Parish Church in October 1912. In 1918 Albert was a corporal in the 74th Division, Signal Company, R E, (Bognor). He was awarded the DCM for conspicuous gallantry near Templeux Le Guerard from Sept 17th - 20th 1918. He was continuously laying forward and repairing telephone lines under heavy shelling and gas. During the attack on the 18th September, although suffering severely from gas poisoning, he followed the barrage, laying cable with the advancing troops. From time to time he sent back information from the front line that was of the utmost value.

After the war Albert returned to the building trade and became Master Builder and built many houses for Bognor Council. He became a well respected and prominent member of the Bognor scene. He was active in the British Legion and he was voluntary pensions officer for Sussex, fighting many cases for war widows with great success. He also stood for Parliamentary Election in Chichester in 1942 but was not successful. Albert died in 1961 aged 75. The following is a photograph of Albert with his wife Emily and their first child Margaret (my Mum).

- as told by Lin Stewart in October 2018

