

## HW U3A Family History Resources

### Researching WW1 Military Ancestors

The websites below are in the order I would use to search, on the basis that you want to find any information you can on the person in sites which cover many different records before going to specialist sites based on the specific circumstances.

#### **Ancestry and or FindMyPast**

If you use or keep your tree on Ancestry or FindMyPast the best place to start is probably to use the hints on these sites. There are several sets of records indexed on these sites and more are being added. Other than the name and birth date the key bit of information you want is the service or regimental number, which will be unique to that person. (although occasionally you may find a soldier with two numbers) This search is the easiest place to start and it may turn up information on a wide range of services, not just the army. The sort of records that are likely to come up are enlistment papers, service records, medal cards, POW rolls, pension records, promotions and awards, disciplinary actions, hospital admissions etc.

#### **Commonwealth War Graves Commission**

If the person was killed or missing in action the best site is the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. This is searchable by name, service number. The site has been recently updated and now has a series of short how to guides to help your search.

<https://www.cwgc.org/>

**British Army Ancestors.** This site is free and very easy to use and is one of my favourite sites. If you find the person you are looking for there are likely to be links to other information such as medal cards, service records and war diaries, there may even be a photograph of them. For many soldiers the links take you to the FindMyPast website.

<https://www.britisharmyancestors.co.uk/>