BRADDICK, Ernest

Ernest Braddick was born in Membury in 1886.
The Braddicks were a large family of 4 girls and 6 boys. The parents were: Tom Braddick (b 1855 d 1924), an agricultural labourer and Ann (b 1858 in Membury, nee Pennycard d 1843) (married in 1876).

Tom and Ann had 10 children, all born in Membury or Kilmington: Elizabeth (1878, Tom (1879) – Royal Marines, William (1881) – Royal Marines, Samuel (1884) who in 1901 was a Blacksmith apprentice at Post Office, Widworthy, Ernest (1886) – Army, Lily (1887), James (1889) – Army, Joan (1892), Mary (1893), John (1898) – Royal Marines Labour Corps – invalided out on 24 October 1917

In 1881, they were at Henry Farm, Membury
In 1891, they were at Cleave Hill, Membury: Tom (36), Ann (39), Tom (12), William (9), Samuel (7), Ernest (5), Lillian (4) and James (2).
In 1901 the family were living at Cowley Pitt, Kilmington
In 1911 only Joan (20) and John (13) were living at home in Rock, Membury

On 8 October 1909, Ernest married Mary Snell in Swimbridge, Nr Barnstaple and in 1911 they were living at Trow Hall Cottage, Salcombe Regis and Ernest, aged 28, was working as a gardener. They had a son, Arthur William who was born on 6 April 1910 in Monkleigh, Nr Torrington, North Devon.

Ernest joined the army on 19 December 1915 and his occupation was gardener at Trow Hall, Salcombe Regis. The attestation oath was taken at Axminster and the approved on 9 June 1916. His army no was 91756 and his corps is shown as R.G.A. This was the "Royal Garrison Artillery." The Royal Artillery was divided into 3 groups, The Royal Horse Artillery and Royal Field Artillery comprised 1 group while the coastal defence, mountain siege, and heavy batteries were split off into another group named the Royal Garrison Artillery. This 3rd group continued to be titled simply Royal Artillery and was responsible for ammunition storage and supply.

He was a corporal and was wounded with a 19% disability. He was discharged from the army on 19 September 1919 with a pension of 7s 4d per week.