

Harold Checkley Cresswell

Harold Checkley Cresswell was born in Radford in 1899 to father George and mother Elizabeth Checkley Cresswell.

His sister Winifred was born in 1906 in Holme Pierrepont where the family had moved for George to work as groom to Earl Manvers.

Gunner Cresswell enlisted with the Royal Field Artillery and was discharged in September 1918. Due to his incapacity he was awarded the Silver War Badge. This was issued to all those honourably discharged and was to avoid them receiving "white feathers".



A family story is that when Harold returned to Holme Pierrepont his uniform was so stiff with mud they stood it up in the garden.

His daughter Josie recalls that when discharged he had such a lot of shrapnel in his body he was sent to Loughborough College (now known as Loughborough University) to recuperate. There, he learnt woodwork and met his future wife Mary Ellen Concannon. They married in Loughborough in June 1925 and returned to Nottingham for Harold to work for Pilkington Glass.

Their only son Michael was born in 1926 and died in June 1931 by which time they were living near Harold's parents on Whatton Rise in Sherwood. Their daughter Joseline was born in 1934.

10 weeks later on 13th April 1934 Harold Checkley Cresswell died aged 35 years. Harold Checkley Cresswell and his father George Richard Cresswell are the only father and son named on Holme Pierrepont War Memorial.

