

My Thomas Family History

Author

Roger Thomas



Hubert David Thomas in 1908 aged 19 years old

This document is about the life of:
Hubert David Thomas (1889-1979)

Hubert David Thomas was the father of
Gordon David Thomas (1921-1985)

who was the father of
Roger Nicholas Hedley Thomas (1950-)
And Peter David Brandon Thomas and Michael Gordon Howard Thomas

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Hubert David Thomas (1889-1979)

Early Life

Hubert David Thomas was the son of John Thomas and Annie Elizabeth Ambrose, and the father of Gordon David Thomas (see Chapter 1).

He was born on 30th December 1889 at 6 Suffolk Street, Jarrow, South Shields and Durham.
He was christened on 6th February 1890 at Christ Church, Jarrow Grange, South Shields and Durham.
See Birth and Christening Certificates in Appendix.



*6 Suffolk Street, Jarrow, South Shields and Durham
(taken in 2009)*



Map showing the Tyne and Wear area, which includes Jarrow



Jarrow

Jarrow is a town in north-east England, located on the River Tyne. Historically part of County Durham, in 1974 it became part of the metropolitan county of Tyne and Wear.

Hubert David Thomas was always known by his second name, David.

He had an elder brother, Walter James Thomas, who was born in April 1887, and an elder sister, Olive Margaret Thomas, who was born in January 1889

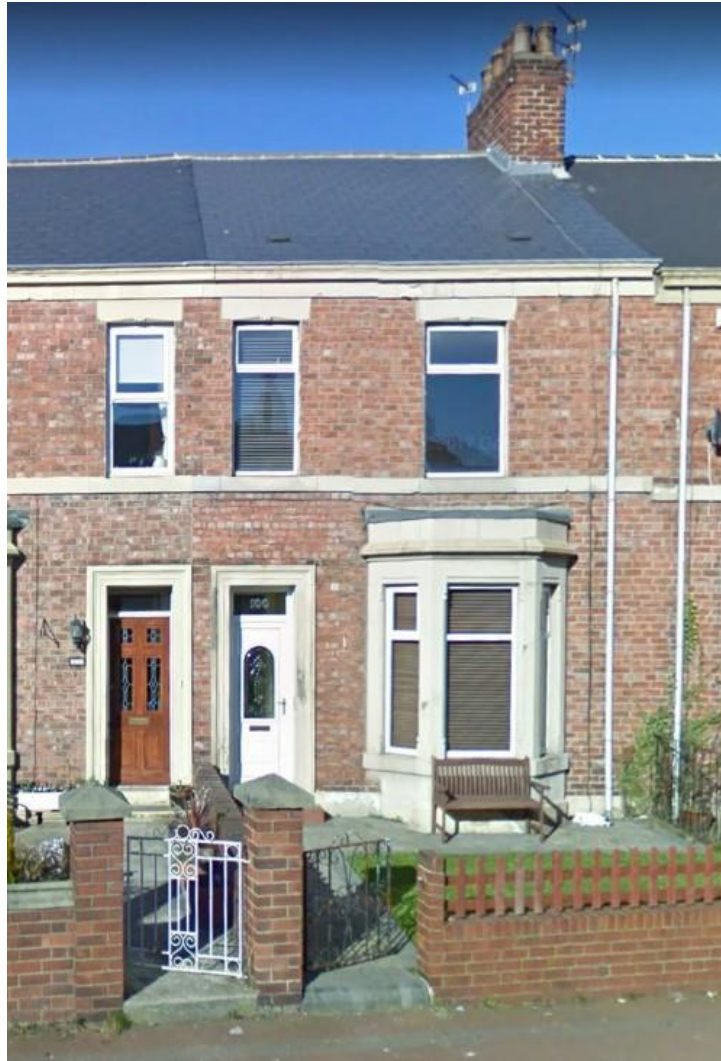
He also had twin sisters, Elizabeth and Annie, but sadly they both died immediately after being born.



Hubert David Thomas (on the right) in about 1894, aged about 5 years old with Olive (sister) and Walter (brother) on his left

His father, John Thomas, moved around the country from St Helens in Liverpool, to Jarrow in South Shields and then to Birmingham. It was whilst they were in Jarrow that David was born.

In January 1891, aged 2 years old, he and the family were living at 100, Albert Road, Jarrow



100, Albert Road, Jarrow, South Shields and Durham (taken in 2010)

Later that year in April 1891 they had all moved to Liverpool Road, Knowsley, Liverpool.



Knowsley,

By 1901, aged 11 years old, he and the family were living at 40, Fernley Road, Yardley, Worcestershire (now part of Birmingham). Today, there is a gap in the terraces between number 44 and 32, and new houses are there instead, possibly due to war bomb damage.



Hubert David Thomas (on right) in about 1910, age about 21 years old with Walter (brother) and Olive (sister) at the back and John (father) and Annie (mother) at the front



Hubert David Thomas in 1908 aged 19 years old

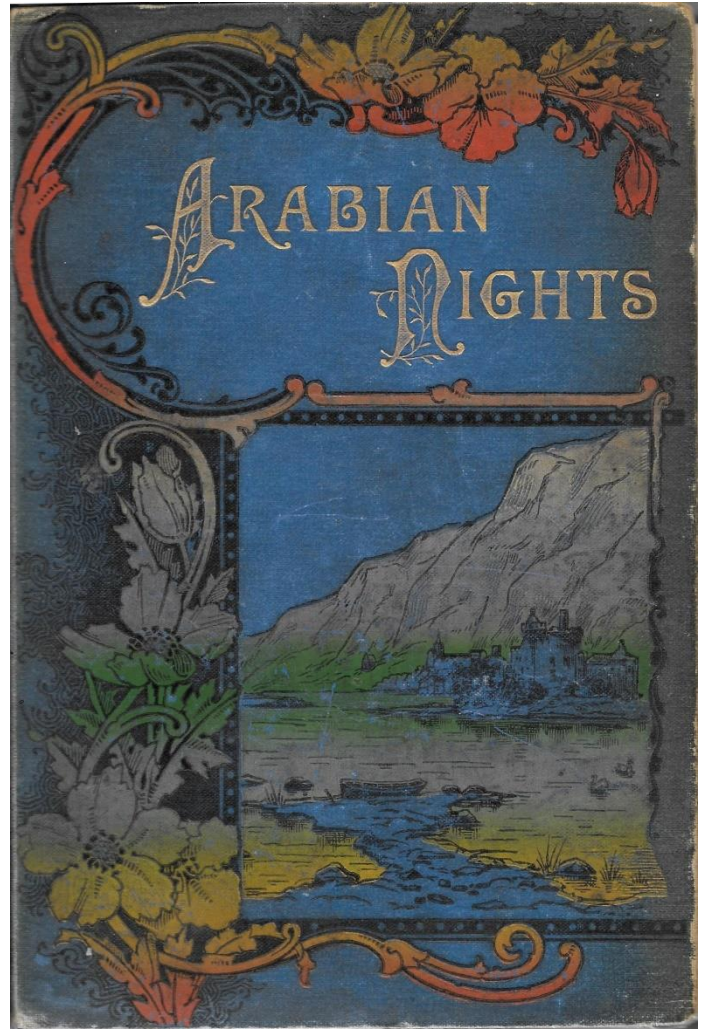
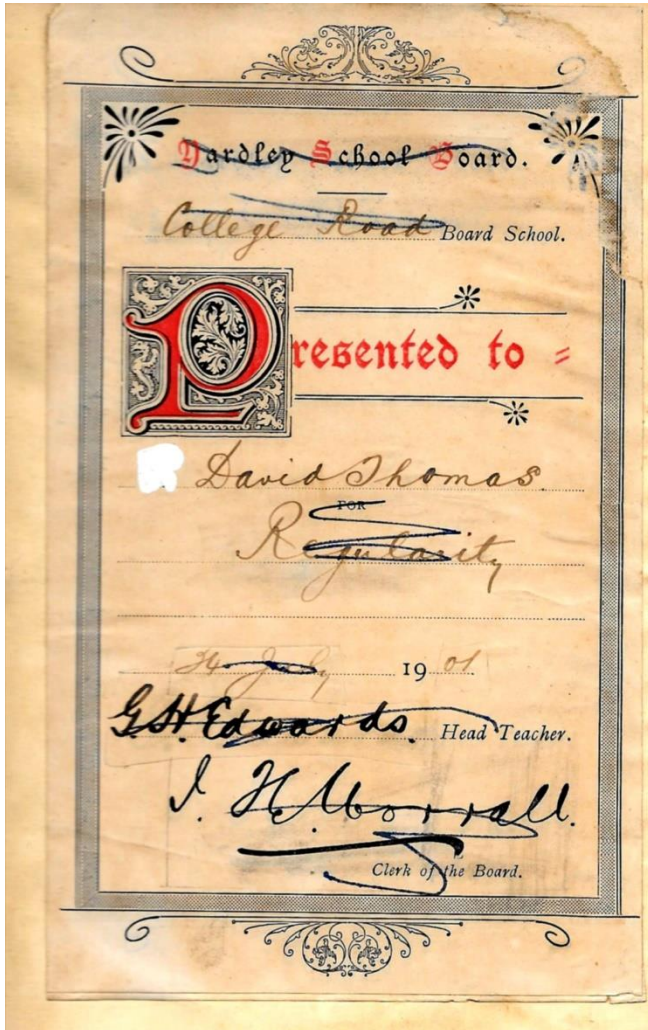
Between 1911 and 1912, they were living at 371, Rotton Park Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham. At this time, David was about 21 years old, and was an Analytical Chemist.



*371, Rotton Park Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham (taken in 2017)
Some odd things in the front garden and above the door today!*

Education

David went to school at College Road School, in Yardley, part of the Yardley School Board. On 24th July 1901 he was awarded a book – Arabian Nights Entertainment – for Regularity.



Award Notice and the Arabian Nights Entertainment Book

The school was opened in 1901 and so I am unsure whether it was his Primary School or Secondary School.



College Road School, now Springfield Primary School

He attended the City of Birmingham Municipal Technical School (evening school) in 1908-1909 where he studied a course in Inorganic Chemistry. I don't have any further information about David's education.



Hubert David Thomas Prize Certificate 1908-09

From City of Birmingham Municipal Technical School for Inorganic Chemistry General Course

War Service Enlistment

David made a recruitment application for Short Service in the Army Reserve in November 1915. [See Recruitment Application document in Appendix B.](#)

Employment History

David worked at Hudson & Wright Ltd., Grove Street, Birmingham 18 which manufactured Brass and Copper Tubes.

He was an Analytical Chemist and Copper Refiner, following in the same profession as his father, grandfather, and great grandfather. He became a Works Manager, then a Technical Manager, and finally a Director of the company.

On the 1921 Census, his occupation was Technical Manager of a Wire Manufacturing Company, which was United Wire Works, in Adderley Street, Birmingham.

On the 1939 Census, his occupation was a Technical Manager & Chemist (Metal) and an A.R.P. Control Officer.

*Foundry photos showing a workplace similar to those that David would have worked in. –
They may be his actual place of work or that of his father, John*





Medals / Badges

By the outbreak of war there were more than 1.5 million in the ARP (Air Raid Precautions), or Civil Defence as it was later re-named. The most visible members of the ARP were the air raid wardens.

David was an Air Raid Warden, and had the following badges.

The Hudson & Wright Fire Guard badge would signify that he performed Fire duties for his company.



Air Raid Precautions Badge



Hudson & Wright Fire Guard Badge



Two War Service Badges

E G Wrigley & Co Limited was a British tool maker, car component, and mechanical parts manufacturer, located at Foundry Lane, Soho, Birmingham



Civil Defence Unit

David is in the centre of the back row (marked from above)

Anne Beatrice (Bugsy) Lavender, his second wife to be, is in the second row (marked from above)

This is thought to be where David and Bugsy met.

Dick, Bugsy's first husband, was quite happy for David and Bugsy's friendship to develop and indeed they made music together with Dick on piano, David on his violin and Bugsy singing.

"Old Man Jolly" is in the centre of the front row, as he ran the Civil Defence Unit. He only had one eye and was quite badly disfigured by a bullet which disfigured him and killed the guy next to him. If you look closely at the photo someone has put a dot over his missing eye.

Family Life

David married Ada Turnor on 14th April 1917 in St Augustine's Church, Edgbaston, Birmingham. The witnesses at the marriage were John Thomas (David's father) and Benjamin Turnor (Ada's father). David was 27 years old and Ada was 28 years old when they married. At the time, they were living at 241, Rotton Park Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham. [See Marriage Certificate in Appendix.](#)



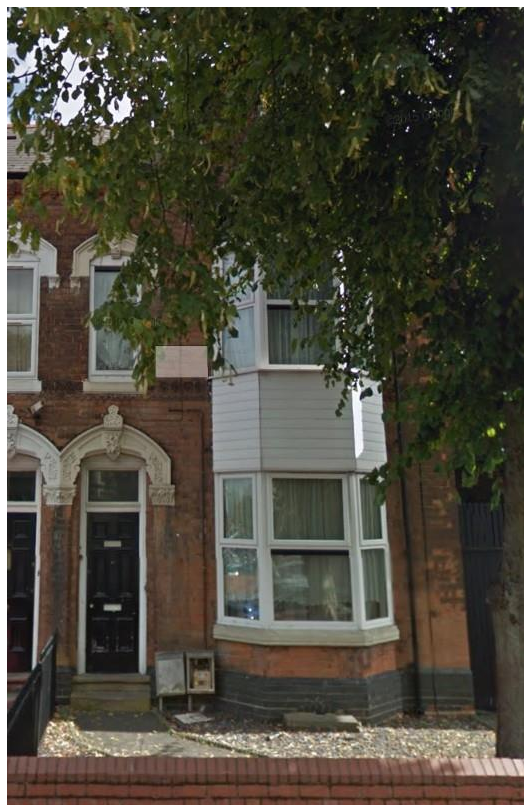
David and Ada Turnor marriage on 14th April 1917



St Augustine's Church, Edgbaston, Birmingham (taken in 2017)



St Augustine's Church, Edgbaston, Birmingham (taken in 2017)



241 Rotton Park Road, Edgbaston (taken in 2015)



Ada Turnor in about 1908

They had only one child from his marriage to Ada Turnor, namely Gordon David Thomas, who was born on 7th March 1921 at 15 Edgbaston Road, Smethwick, Birmingham.



15 Edgbaston Road, Smethwick, Birmingham (taken in 2018)

In about 1925, (date taken from the Electoral Registers) they then moved to 240 Rotton Park Road, Edgbaston. There he shared the house with his brother and wife, Walter James Thomas and Keitha.



240 Rotton Park Road, Edgbaston, (taken in 2015)

His wife, Ada, suffered from Septicaemia and was often quite ill, but it affected her fatally in July 1934. The family story has it that she died after scratching herself pruning the roses in the garden. This was only 3 months after her mother-in-law Annie. [See Death Certificate in Appendix.](#)

In 1938, David met Dick Greenhough and struck up a firm friendship with him and his wife, Annie (Bugsy). The two families went on holiday together in Rhyl and the three adults, possibly with Walter Thomas and Keitha too, used to have musical evenings. David played violin, Dick the Piano, Walter played the Cello and Bugsy sang.

However, Dick and Bugsy were having marital problems, and Bugsy increasingly turned to David for love and companionship. In about 1942 she moved out of her home in Hallewell Road, Edgbaston and effectively moved in to 101, Knightlow Road with her 3 children - Mary, Ann and Denis, although all three were in the various armed forces helping in the war effort. Bugsy used to stay with friends in Pereira Road unless any of the children were home, and visited David during the daytime if possible.

In 1945 (from the Electoral Registers) Bussy was living/staying at 101 Knightlow Road, together with Richard Greenhough (her then husband), David (her husband to be), and Anne Elizabeth Hippisley-Cox (nee Greenhough – her daughter).

David's second marriage was to Anne Beatrice (Bussy) Lavender on 28th June 1946 in the Register Office, Birmingham. The witnesses at the marriage were Mary L. Thomas (Bussy's daughter) and V.F. Watkins (David's brother-in-law). David was 56 years old and Anne was 50 years old when they married.

See Marriage Certificate in Appendix.

Between 1934 and 1974, David and his family were living at 101 Knightlow Road, Harborne, Birmingham. David had a considerable part in designing features of the property.



101 Knightlow Road, Harborne, Birmingham – circa 1940



101 Knightlow Road, Harborne, Birmingham – circa 2000

On the 1939 Census, his occupation was a Technical Manager & Chemist (Metal) and an A.R.P. Control Officer.



Hubert David Thomas in his Laboratory at work



David, Christmas 1965, with his wife Bugsy (Anne Beatrice)

By 1974, Bugsy had become muddled due to approaching senility and David was unable to help due to his weak joints and arthritis crippling him. So in 1974, due to failing health, David and Bugsy moved in with his son, Gordon, at 34 Oakham Road, Harborne, Birmingham.



34 Oakham Road, Harborne, Birmingham (taken in 2014)

David died when he was 89 years old, on 19th November 1979 at 34, Oakham Road. He was buried on 26th November 1979 in Lodge Hill Crematorium, Selly Oak, Birmingham.

See Death Certificate in Appendix.



Cars Owned

Listed below are all the cars that David owned, in chronological order.



*Sunbeam Talbot (Company Car)
on left of photo*



*Wolseley Series II Super Six 25 HP – Black
in 1949*



Standard Vanguard Phase I – Black – (not David's actual car)



Ford Consul Mark II – Pale Blue – (not David's actual car)

Appendix

Documents relating to Hubert David Thomas (1889-1979)

- Birth Certificate
- Christening Certificate
- Recruitment Application Documents
- Marriage Certificate to Ada Turnor
- Death Certificate Ada Thomas (nee Turnor)
- Marriage Certificate to Anne Beatrice Greenhough
- Death Certificate

Appendix
Birth Certificate Document

H.D.T.

Birth Certificate

BIRTHS AND DEATHS REGISTRATION ACT, 1874.
CERTIFICATE of REGISTRY of BIRTH.

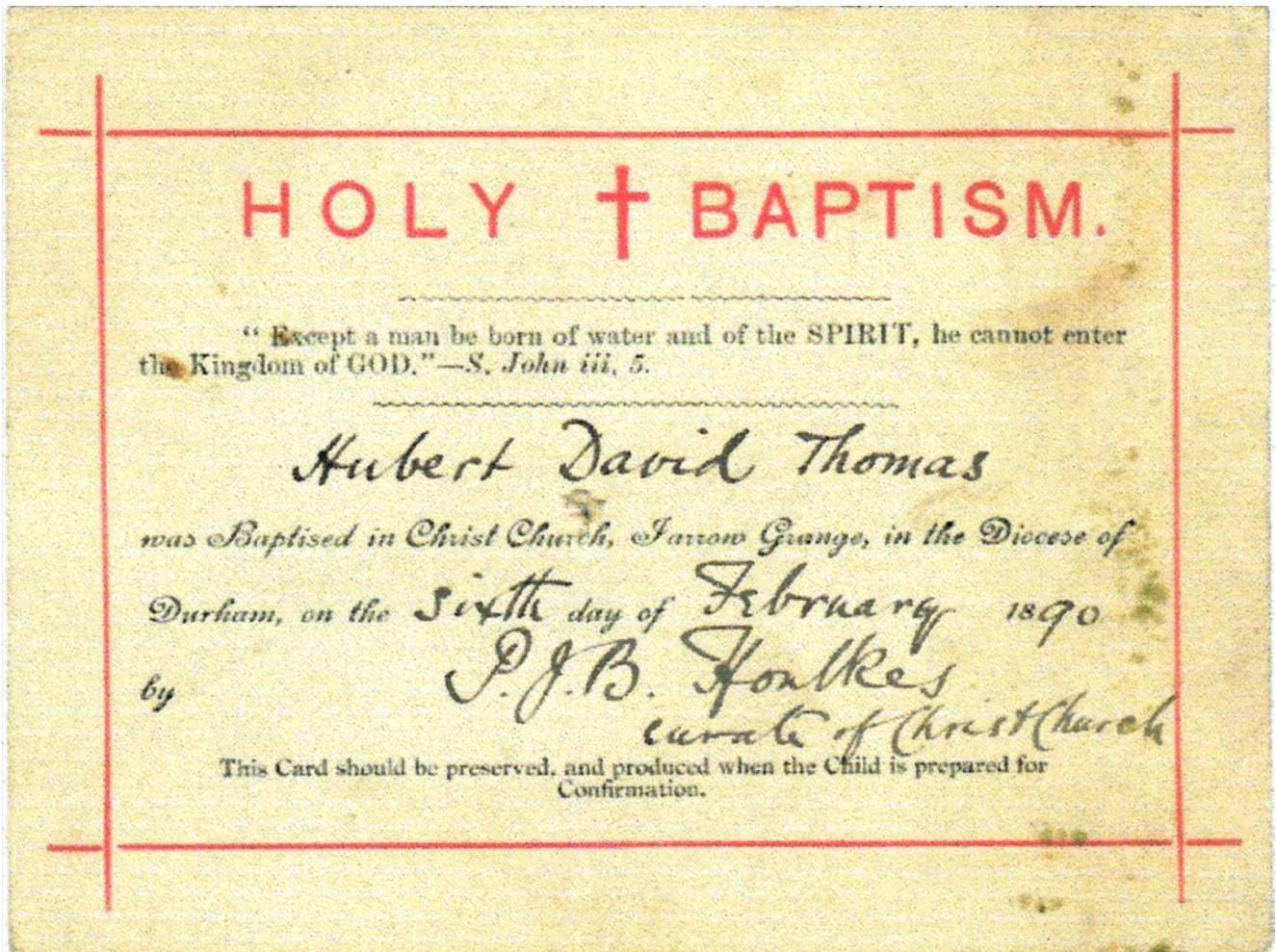
I, the undersigned, Do hereby certify that the Birth of
Hubert David Thomas
born on the 30 day of Decr 1889, has been duly registered by me.
Witness my hand, this 31 day of February 1890
W. Ramsey
SOUTH SHIELDS
Registrar of Births and Deaths.
Sub-District.

COVER

Printed by Authority of the Registrar General by H. B. & Co., 76, Farringdon Road, E.C.

Hubert David Thomas's Birth Certificate - 1889

Appendix
Christening Certificate Document



Hubert David Thomas's Christening Certificate - 1890

Appendix

Recruitment Application Document

HAM/R.O.3. Q3610

CERTIFIED COPY OF ATTESTATION.

No. _____ Name Thomas, Hubert David Corps _____

Questions to be put to the Recruit before Enlistment.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. What is your Name?</p> <p>2. What is your full Address?</p> <p>3. Are you a British Subject?</p> <p>4. What is your Age?</p> <p>5. What is your Trade or Calling?</p> <p>6. Are you Married?</p> <p>7. Have you ever served in any branch of His Majesty's Forces, naval or military? If so, *which? }</p> <p>8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated?</p> <p>9. Are you willing to be enlisted for General Service?</p> <p>10. Did you receive a Notice and do you understand its meaning, and who gave it to you?</p> <p>11. Are you willing to serve upon the following conditions provided His Majesty should so long require your services?
 <small>For the duration of the War, at the end of which you will be discharged with all convenient speed. You will be required to serve for one day with the colours and the remainder of the period in the Army Reserve in accordance with the provisions of the Royal Warrant dated 20th October, 1915, until such time as you may be called up by Order of the Army Council. If employed with Hospitals, depots of Mounted Units, or as a Clerk, etc., you may be retained after the termination of hostilities until your services can be spared, but such retention shall in no case exceed six months.</small></p> | <p>1. <u>Thomas, Hubert David</u></p> <p>2. <u>24, 1 Cotton Park Road</u>
<u>Birmingham</u></p> <p>3. <u>Yes</u></p> <p>4. <u>25</u> Years <u>11</u> Months.</p> <p>5. <u>Analytical Chemist</u></p> <p>6. <u>No</u></p> <p>7. <u>No</u></p> <p>8. <u>Yes</u></p> <p>9. <u>Yes</u></p> <p>10. <u>Yes</u> Name <u>William J. G. ...</u>
Corps <u>S. & ...</u></p> <p>11. <u>Yes</u></p> |
|---|--|

I, Hubert David Thomas do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements made.

Hubert David Thomas SIGNATURE OF RECRUIT.
W. W. ... Signature of Witness.

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY RECRUIT ON ATTESTATION.

I, Hubert David Thomas swear by Almighty God, that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs, and Successors, and that I will, as in duty bound, honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, in Person, Crown, and dignity against all enemies, and will observe and obey all orders of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and of the Generals and Officers set over me. So help me God.

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE OR ATTESTING OFFICER

The Recruit above named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act.

The above questions were then read to the Recruit in my presence.

I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replied to, and the said Recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me at HAM/R.O.3. on this 29th day of November 1915.

Signature of the Justice W. W. ...

RECRUITING OFFICE No. 3,

I certify that the above is a true copy of the Attestation of the above-named Recruit.

SUFFOLK STREET, [Approving Officer.]

Appendix

Recruitment Application Document

(7 12 5) W 12323-1115 250,000 11/15 H W V(P 954) Forms/B. 2512/L.

Army Form B 2512A.

SHORT SERVICE.

(For the Duration of the War with the Colours and in the Army Reserve.)

NOTICE to be given to a MAN at the time of his offering to
join the Army.

Date November 24th 1915.

You (name) Hubert David Thomas

are required to attend *forthwith, or

at _____ o'clock _____ on the _____ day of _____

at _____ [here name some place]

for the purpose of appearing before a Justice to be attested for His Majesty's Army,
in which you have expressed your willingness to serve.

The General Conditions of the Contract of Enlistment that you are about to enter
into with the Crown are as follows:—

1. You will engage to serve His Majesty as a Soldier in the Regular Forces for the duration of the war, at the end of which you will be discharged with all convenient speed. You will be required to serve for one day with the Colours and the remainder of the period in the Army Reserve in accordance with the provisions of the Royal Warrant dated 20th October, 1915, until such time as you may be called up by order of the Army. You may be employed with Hospitals, Depots of Mounted Units, or as a Clerk, etc. you may be retained after the termination of hostilities until your services can be spared, but in no case shall this retention exceed six months.
2. Your term of Service will be reckoned thus:—
 1. The Service shall begin to reckon from the date of Attestation, but
 2. If guilty of any of the following offences:—
 - (a) Desertion from His Majesty's Service, or
 - (b) Fraudulent Enlistment,the whole period of Service prior thereto shall be forfeited.
3. You will be enlisted for General Service, and appointed to a Corps when called up for Service.
4. If serving beyond the seas at the time you are entitled to your discharge, you will be sent to the United Kingdom free of expense.
5. When attested by the Justice you will be liable to all the provisions of the Army Act for the time being in force.
6. You will be required by the Justice to answer the questions printed on the back hereof, and you are warned that if you make at the time of your attestation any false answer to him you will thereby render yourself liable to punishment.

Signature of the Non-Commissioned
Officer serving the Notice..... }

W. Thomas

Appendix

Marriage Certificate to Ada Turnor

Certificate of Marriage.

Registration District King's Norton

1917. Marriage solemnized at S. Augustines in the parish
of Edgbaston in the County of Birmingham

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
158	April 14	David Hubert Thomas	27	Bachelor	Analyst	241 Cotton Park Rd. Edgbaston	John Thomas	Copper refiner
	1917	Ada Turnor	28	Spinster		92 Ridgeway	Benjamin Turnor	Metal polishing Refiner

Married in the parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Church of England or after banes by me,
David Hubert Thomas in the presence of John Thomas Prof. J. Bruce D.D.
Ada Turnor in the presence of Benjamin Turnor Vicar

I, Prof. J. Bruce D.D. Vicar S. Augustines in the County of Birmingham do hereby certify that this is a true Copy of the Entry No. 158 in the Marriage Register Books of the said Church
Witness my Hand this 14th day of April 1917 Prof. J. Bruce D.D. Vicar

Hubert David Thomas and Ada Turnor's Marriage Certificate in 1917

Appendix

Death Certificate of Ada Thomas (nee Turnor)

(Printed by authority of the R)

CERTIFIED COPY of an ENTRY OF DEATH.
Pursuant to the Births and Deaths Registration Acts, 1836 to 1929.

Registration District **BIRMINGHAM**

Death in the Sub-district of **EDGBASTON.** in the County of **BIRMINGHAM.**

Columns	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
No.	When and where Died.	Name and Surname.	Sex.	Age.	Rank or Profession.	Cause of Death.	Signature, Description, and Residence of Informant.	When Registered.	Signature
232	Twenty First July 1934 101 Knightlaw Road Harborne	Ada Thomas	Female	45 Years	Wife of Robert Edward Thomas a Brass Plate maker Works Manager	Lobar pneumonia No P.M. Certified by D.J. Nicol M.B.	A.D. Thomas Widower of deceased Present at the death 101 Knightlaw Road Harborne.	Twenty Third July 1934	<i>[Signature]</i>

I, *[Signature]*, Registrar of Births and Deaths for the Sub-District of **EDGBASTON.**, in the County of **BIRMINGHAM.** do hereby certify that this is a true copy of the Entry No. *232* in the Register Book of Deaths for the said Sub-District, and that such Register Book is now legally in my possession.

WITNESS MY HAND this *23rd* day of *July*, 19*34*.

CAUTION.—Any person who (1) falsifies any of the particulars on this Certificate, or (2) uses it as true, knowing it to be falsified, is liable to Prosecution under the Forgery Act, 1913.

[Signature]
Registrar of Births and Deaths

Ada Thomas (nee Turnor) Death Certificate on 21st July 1934

Appendix

Marriage Certificate to Anne Beatrice Greenhough

WB 118403

[Printed by Authority of the Registrar-General.]

CERTIFIED COPY of an ENTRY OF MARRIAGE.
Pursuant to the Marriage Acts, 1811 to 1939.

The Statutory Fee for this Certificate is 2s. 6d., together with 1d. Stamp Duty. Where a search is necessary to find the entry, a Search Fee is payable in addition.

M. Cert.
R.B.D. & M.

Insert in this Margin any Notes which appear in the original entry.

Registration District BIRMINGHAM.							
Marriage Solemnized at THE REGISTER OFFICE.							
in the COUNTY BOROUGH OF BIRMINGHAM.							
Column :-	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.
	26 th June 1946.	Hubert David Thomas	56 years	Widower	Works Manager (Brass Lubric.)	101 Knightlow Road Harborne	John Thomas (deceased)
	1946.	Anne Beatrice Greenhough formerly Leaverd.	50 years	formerly the wife of Richard Greenhough from whom she obtained a Divorce		101 Knightlow Road Harborne	James Thomas Leaverd (deceased)
Married in the REGISTER OFFICE. according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the _____ by <i>certificator</i> me,							
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<i>A. D. Thomas.</i> <i>A. B. Greenhough</i>	in the Presence of us,		<i>Mary L. Thomas</i> <i>V. H. Watkinson</i>	<i>L. J. Mann</i> Registrar <i>H. J. Cooper</i> Deput Registrar	

I, **L. J. MANN.** Registrar for the District of **BIRMINGHAM.** in the **COUNTY BOROUGH OF BIRMINGHAM.** do hereby certify that this is a true copy of the Entry No. *267* in the Register Book of Marriages for the said District, and that such Register Book is now legally in my custody.

WITNESS MY HAND this *20th* day of *June*, 1946.

CAUTION.—Any person who (1) falsifies any of the particulars on this Certificate, or (2) uses it as true, knowing it to be falsified, is liable to Prosecution.

20/6/46

Hubert David Thomas and Anne Beatrice Greenhough's Marriage Certificate in 1946

Appendix Death Certificate

D. Cert.
S.R./R.B.D.



CAUTION—Any person who (1) falsifies any of the particulars on this certificate, or (2) uses a falsified certificate as true knowing it to be false is liable to prosecution.

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY
Pursuant to the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953

DEATH		Entry No. 10
Registration district Birmingham	Administrative area metropolitan district of Birmingham	
Sub-district Birmingham		
1. Date and place of death Nineteenth November 1979 Queen Elizabeth Hospital Edgbaston		
2. Name and surname Hubert David THOMAS	3. Sex male	4. Maiden surname of woman who has married —
5. Date and place of birth 30th December 1889 Jarrow Tyne and wear		
6. Occupation and usual address works Director (retired) 34 Oakham Road Birmingham 17		
7.(a) Name and surname of informant Mary Lavender THOMAS	(b) Qualification daughter in law	
(c) Usual address 34 Oakham Road Birmingham 17		
8. Cause of death Ia Pneumonia II Haematemesis certified by D Hutchinson MB		
9. I certify that the particulars given by me above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief		Signature of informant <i>Mary Thomas</i>
10. Date of registration Twenty first November 1979	11. Signature of registrar Anita Farrer Registrar	

Certified to be a true copy of an entry in a register in my custody.

.....*Anita Farrer*.....
Registrar

.....*21.11.79*.....
Date

IS 079495

Hubert David Thomas Death Certificate in 1979