

William Horace Gouldsmith

22nd November 1899 – 9th November 1915

Name: GOULDSMITH
Initials: W H
Nationality: United Kingdom
Rank: Boy 2nd Class
Regiment: Royal Navy
Unit Text: H.M.S. "Vivid."
Date of Birth: 22nd November 1899
Date of Death: 09/11/1915
Awards:
Service No: J/42476
Casualty Type: Commonwealth War Dead
Grave/Memorial: Church S. 3. 11.



William Horace GOULDSMITH was born on 22nd November 1899 in Wormley, Hertfordshire. He was the son of Horace GOULDSMITH and Martha PHIPPS, unfortunately Martha died on 16th October 1903.

On 11th January 1909 Horace married Elizabeth PROCTOR and the family moved to Stock where Horace became head gardener at Apps Farm in Mill Road.

The 1911 census shows the family living at Apps Farm Lodge, Mill Road, Horace 37, Elizabeth 31, William 11 and Margery 8 months. William was attending Stock School. He enlisted in the Royal Navy on 8th July 1915 and was posted to the training ship HMS "Vivid", but unfortunately died of scarlet fever on 9th November 1915.

During the First World War, Plymouth, Devonport and Stonehouse contained between them the Royal Dockyard, Royal Naval Barracks (known as H.M.S. Vivid), the Royal Marine Barracks of the Plymouth Division, and naval and military hospitals.

For the duration of the war, Devonport was made headquarters of the Auxiliary Patrol Area. Plymouth was a naval station second only to Portsmouth during the Second World War.

Devonport was also an important military station and there was a R.A.F station at Mount Batten, opposite Plymouth. Ford Park Cemetery contains 752 burials of the First World War, more than 200 of them in a naval plot.

William attended the [national school](#) at the top of Stock Hills.