

Humphrey Ainsworth Russell England

1883 -January to 8th March 1937

Humphrey Ainsworth Russell was one of a very large family of at least nineteen children. The 1911 census, signed by mother Emily Alice England, (née Ainsworth – daughter of John Horrocks Ainsworth and Elizabeth Shaw) shows that she had had 19 children with 15 still alive and 4 who had died. Humphrey was born in 1883 in Bracknell, a town in Berkshire. It is 11 miles (18 km) to the south east of Reading and 10 miles from Windsor.

The **1891** Census shows mother Emily Alice living at 29 Holland Park Gardens, Kensington, London together with eleven children (Maud R, Gwendoline R, Cicely R, Eric R, Cyril R, Margaret R, Elynor R, Jack (John) R then aged 11 years, **Humphrey Ainsworth R**, Arnold R, Dorothy R). In each case the 'R' denotes the name Russell. Also staying with them was a visitor Cecil Brodrick a solicitor and Rachel Blake a 'General Servant Domestic'.

Father Russell England is not resident there on Census day. Mother Emily was born in Bolton whilst the children were born in Warwickshire, Suffolk, Surrey, Twyford and London. The locations reflect their father's military occupation and nomadic lifestyle.

In **1901** Humphrey aged 18 and single is living with his mother, five brothers and six sisters at 29 Holland Park Gardens, Kensington, London. He does not have an occupation recorded.



By **April 1911** he was a 30 year old single visitor at 'Wanda' Walton on Thames living with George and Bessie Edmonds. Also visiting was a Charles Hare who is a 'Grocery Assistant' born in Parkhurst, Isle of Wight (this surname appears later in Humphrey's story). Humphrey is working as a 'Clerk'. George Edmonds is an unemployed baker.

There is an Index Card on the WW1 Medal Rolls for a Humphrey R. A England (although the second and third initials are the wrong way round this is still likely to be this Humphrey of this narrative). He was with the 9th London Regiment of the Royal Engineers as a private T2003075 and later A/568165. He is recorded as entering the 'Theatre of War' in **30th January 1915** (see photograph below).

Humphrey qualified for the Victory, British and Star medals.

The next recording of Humphrey shows him on a ship the "Sargasso" belonging to the 'Direct' Line bound for the West Indies. This ship sailed from London **on 24th December 1919**. He is described as Humphrey Ainsworthy England contracted to land at Grenada to work as a 'Sugar Planter' aged 36. He was one of 60 adult passengers on a voyage of 90 days. The ship was calling at a number of West Indies ports.

In the quarter **July – September 1921** Humphrey married an **Alice C Hare** (NB the 1911 Census visitor named Charles Hare – was he a relation of Alice?). They were married in Kensington, London. Alice was born circa 1892 and would have been about 29 years of age and Humphrey was 38.

On **1st May 1924** Humphrey England of 'The Drive, Rayleigh, Essex' is recorded as a passenger on the ship SS 'Melita' (see picture). He is described as being 40 years of age sailing to Canada (Quebec or Montreal) for the purpose of living there permanently and 'Farming'.

The England and Wales Death Index records the death of **Alice C England** in Camberwell, London in the **quarter October-December 1926**.

Humphrey A R England died at 29a London Road, St Leonards-on-Sea on **8th March 1937 aged 54¹**. Administration was in Lewes 11 June to Gwendoline Mary Russell England, spinster. Effects: £108 5s.



SS Melita formerly Canadian Pacific built 1913 and scrapped 1950.

Continued on next page

¹ England & Wales, National Probate Calendar

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regt. No.
ENGLAND.	9/Lond. R. R.E.	PRK	T 240 3075 A/568/65.
Humphrey R. A.			
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	RE/101	216	5339
BRITISH			
15 STAR	RE/80	9/1382	
Theatre of War first served in	1.		
Date of entry therein	20-1-15.		

K 1350.

Correspondence.

Address.