

John Russell England MC

1880 - 2 Jun 1964

John Russell England was born in Banstead, (a village in the borough of Reigate and Banstead in Surrey on the border of London) in **1880**, to Russell England and Emily Alice England (nee Ainsworth).

He was one of a very large family of at least nineteen children. It is possible that John had a twin sibling.

The **1881** census tends to confirm this as it shows 2 unnamed babies a son and a daughter aged under 1 year old. The son is almost certain to be John Russell. The daughter's name is unknown. There are 9 children including the two babies.

In **1881** father Russell England is a 'late Captain in the 4th Hussars' and, with wife Emily Alice, was living at Bracknell House, East Hampstead, London.

British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914-1920 for Englan... http://interactive.ancestry.co.uk/Print/1262/30850_A000506-0

Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
ENGLAND John Russell	S. W. B.	Capt.	
Serial 13.	Roll	Page	Remarks
VICTORY	off 47	180	17.X/1746.d/10/9/25. N.W/5/2607
BRITISH	"	"	
15 STAR	off 47	29	
Theatre of War first served in	(1)		
Date of entry therein	Sept. 1915	29417	N.W/5/2607. K.1309.

t. J. g. & cov. letter d/19-8-25.
Correspondence.

Address 95 Royal Parade. 1 The Friars,
24/1/20 Carlisle Combe Down,
Bath.

The London Electoral Register for **1888** shows that Captain Russell England was living at 29 Holland Park Gardens in a dwelling house (presumably with his family).

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 father's military occupation and nomadic lifestyle.

In **1901** John R, aged 21 years, is living with his mother still at 29 Holland Park Gardens, Kensington. He is working as a clerk. His father was not at home on census day.

By **1911** John, still living at 29 Holland Park Gardens, is working as 'Sec Salonia Co.' thought to be company secretary. Also living there was his brother Harold Russell (who died in the Great War on 31 August 1918 and is commemorated on the Smithills Hall Memorial) who had been married for four years, but with no issue recorded, sisters Gwendoline, Eleanor Karin (Elynor on 1891 census) now married for eight years with a child Winifred Karin. John is shown as single. Father is on the 1911 census as living in Combe Hill at 'Las Pampas' in East Grinstead (part of) Surrey.

The most likely record of John Russell England's war service is a WW1 Medal Rolls Index card showing Captain John Russell England with the South Wales Borderers. As a Company Secretary he was probably made an officer on joining. The record shows that he entered the 'Theatre of War' in **September 1915**. He qualified for the Victory, British and Star medals. The first address given for him was 95 Royal Parade, Eastbourne which was later crossed out and 1 The Firs, Combe Down, Bath inserted.

John Russell England **died on 2nd April 1964** aged 84 years in Bath, Somerset. He was living at 19 Forester Road. Probate¹ records for Bristol 22nd May show that he bequeathed £3227 to Basil Henry Sheldon, Solicitor. **It confirms that he had been awarded a Military Cross.**



¹ England & Wales National Probate Calendar 1858-1966