

JOHN STEPHEN FREEMAN

**Driver
3077**

**43rd Battery, 24th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery
died on
Monday 10th December 1917
aged 39**

JOHN STEPHEN FREEMAN
is buried in
ROCQUIGNY-EQUANCOURT ROAD BRITISH CEMETERY, MANANCOURT
France

*. Additional information in the
Commonwealth War Graves Commission Register*

Husband of Jessie Louisa White (formerly Freeman), of 115, Alcester Rd. South, King's Heath, Birmingham.

Rocquigny and Equancourt are two villages in the Department of the Somme, and the British Cemetery lies about halfway between the two villages. This was occupied by Commonwealth troops at the beginning of April 1917 during the German withdrawal to the Hindenburg Line. It was lost on the 23 March 1918 when the Germans advanced, but regained at the beginning of September. The cemetery was begun in 1917 and used until March 1918, mainly by the Casualty Clearing Stations posted at Ytres, and to a small extent by the Germans, who knew it as "Etricourt Old English Cemetery". Burials were resumed by Commonwealth troops in September 1918. The cemetery contains 1,838 Commonwealth burials and commemorations of the First World War.

John Freeman is buried in Row VII. Row 7. Grave 19.



Campaign :— **1914**

(A) Where decoration was earned.
(B) Present situation.

Name	Corps	Rank	Reg. No.	MEDAL Roll on which included	ROLL (if any)	PAN
(A) FREEMAN	12 BDE R.F.A.	DR	3077	VICTORY BRITISH	REA/1078 do	14-01 do
(B) J	"	# A/Bde.	"	4 STAR	REA/07	24
Action taken		DOW 10.12.17				
<i>Clasp 2/2994</i>						
QUALIFYING DATE		11. 9. 14				

(6 34 46) W234—HP5590 500,000 4/19 HWV(P240) K608 [OVER.]

John Stephen Freeman was born in Shoreditch London in 1878. His father was a traveller in the Boot Trade. At 21 John was living at home working as a clerk. By 1909 he was a drayman living in Worcester where he married Jessie Louise Caines of Colwall, who was in service in Worcester. At the time of the 1911 census John was living in Hill View Terrace, The Wyche with his wife and daughter Ivy; Harry Caines, Jessie Louise Freeman's cousin was living there as a boarder. John Freeman's occupation was listed as drayman. John enlisted in Worcester in August 1914 and served with the Royal Field Artillery as a driver. He died of wounds at a Casualty Clearing Station and is buried in Manancourt.