

G10 Herbert Victor Gribble 1897

Herbert, my grandfather, was born on 5th February, 1897 and was registered in the Births, Marriages and Deaths as **Bertie** (Jan-Mar 1897 Axminster 6b 5) in Wilhay Lane in Axminster RD, Devon. His parents were **Henry Charles Willey Gribble** and **Eliza Jane Gribble née Larkworthy**.

CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF BIRTH GIVEN AT THE GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE

Application Number W 007269

REGISTRATION DISTRICT Axminster

1897. BIRTH in the Sub-district of Axminster in the County of Devon

Columns:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10*
No.	When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother	Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	Name entered after registration
126	5th February 1897 Wilhay Lane Axminster D.	Bertie	Boy	Henry Charles Willey Gribble	Eliza Jane Gribble formerly Larkworthy	General Labourer	E. J. Gribble, Mother, Wilhay Lane, Axminster	Eleventh March 1897	H. Cook Registrar	

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Births in the District above mentioned.

Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, under the Seal of the said Office, the 3rd day of December 1998


*See note overleaf

BXBY 608613

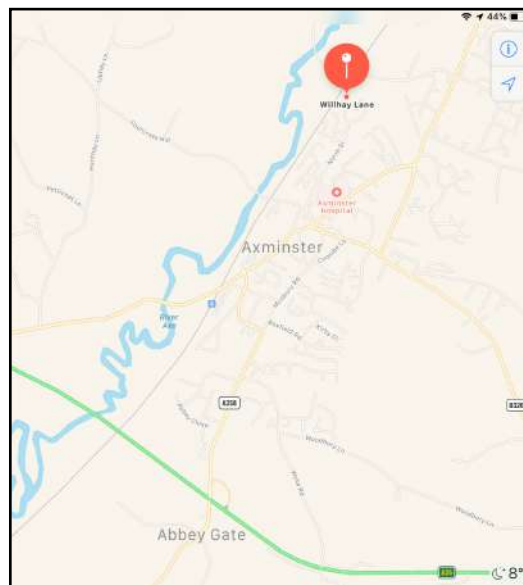
CAUTION:- It is an offence to falsify a certificate or to make or knowingly use a false certificate or a copy of a false certificate intending it to be accepted as genuine to the prejudice of any person or to possess a certificate knowing it to be false without lawful authority.

WARNING: THIS CERTIFICATE IS NOT EVIDENCE OF THE IDENTITY OF THE PERSON PRESENTING IT.

(Ed 0096 197M 788 Mar 203574)



He was the fifth of five children. His eldest brother, **Percy Henry** was born in the last quarter of 1888 (Axminster 5b 5), but registered as **Larkworthy** (his mother's maiden name) although he was always known as Gribble after Henry and Eliza married on 11th February, 1889. His second brother, **George Nathaniel Willy Gribble** was born in 1890 (registered Oct-Dec 1890 Axminster 5b 4) and his sister, **Jane** (sometimes called Jennie), on 30th June 1892 (birthdate on Women's Army Auxiliary Corps Index 1917-1920 states birth date as 30/6/1893, but registered July-Sept 1892 Axminster 5b 4). There appears to have been another baby, **Frank**, born between July and September 1895, registered in Axminster area 5b 3. Grandpa had no knowledge of this brother, whose death was registered in Jan-Mar 1897 (Axminster 5b 3), aged 1 year.



Administration County		Civil Parish		Ecclesiastical Parish		County		Rural District		Parliamentary Borough		Town or Village or Hamlet	
Dorset		Axminster		Axminster St Mary		Dorset		Axminster		Axminster		Axminster	
The undermentioned Houses are situate within the boundaries of the													
House No.	Area	Occupier	Name and Surname of Head of Family	RELATION to Head of Family	Age last Census	PROFESSION or OCCUPATION	Employer, Worker, or Own Account	If Working in Home	WHERE BORN	1. Date and Date of Birth 2. Sex 3. Marital Status 4. Tobacco, etc.			
79	1	Henry Chapman	Henry Chapman	Head	44	Labourer	Worship		Dorset Axminster				
		Elizabeth	Elizabeth	Wife	41				Dorset Axminster				
		Eda	Eda	Daughter	12				Dorset Axminster				
80	1	John Higgs	John Higgs	Head	42	Labourer	Worship		Dorset Axminster				
		William	William	Son	15				Dorset Axminster				
		Albert	Albert	Son	4				Dorset Axminster				
		Joseph	Joseph	Son	12				Dorset Axminster				
		Edward	Edward	Son	10				Dorset Axminster				
81	1	John Lamb	John Lamb	Head	42	Labourer	Worship		Dorset Axminster				
		John	John	Son	12				Dorset Axminster				
		James	James	Son	9				Dorset Axminster				
		Thomas	Thomas	Son	8				Dorset Axminster				
		William	William	Son	6				Dorset Axminster				
82	1	Blanche Christie	Blanche Christie	Head	42	Labourer	Worship		Dorset Axminster				
		Aliza	Aliza	Daughter	10				Dorset Axminster				
		John	John	Son	8				Dorset Axminster				
		Albert	Albert	Son	4				Dorset Axminster				
83	1	George Lynde	George Lynde	Head	42	Labourer	Worship		Dorset Axminster				
		Anna	Anna	Wife	37				Dorset Axminster				
		Aliza	Aliza	Daughter	10				Dorset Axminster				
		James	James	Son	8				Dorset Axminster				
		Henry	Henry	Son	7				Dorset Axminster				
		Robert	Robert	Son	6				Dorset Axminster				
				Total of Males and of Females	15	13							

The first census in which Bertie appears is the census of 1901, this time as Albert. The family were still in Willhay Lane, Axminster and consists Henry, Eliza and their children George (10), Jane (8) and Albert (4). Percy Henry has obviously left home at this time. One of this row of cottages, Albert Terrace, may have been the home of the Gribble family. From old maps there were not many houses at that time in Willhay Lane, but this row was built in 1889, the year Henry and Jane were married.





Part of Wilhay Lane in 2020, looking more like it must have looked like when the **Gribbles** were there than most of the road, which is full of latter 20th century building.

Amongst **Herbert's** belongings was this photo below of Axminster C.C. school, now part of Axe Valley Academy in Chard Street (although when it was built it was in Paradise Row), taken in 1931, so presumably he attended here at some point. Enquiries on a local website have ascertained that this building still exists as part of the Axe Valley Academy. I cannot see it from any of the surrounding roads, so cannot check it out.



Unfortunately **Bertie's** mother died between October and Dec 1901 (registered 5b 3) and it appears that the family were farmed out to various relatives.

Grandpa (**Herbert**) said he was orphaned at 5, but the only registered death for **Henry Gribble** is in the last quarter of 1907, aged 55, which would make **Henry** four years older than his birth certificate.

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in Ink.

The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed which would be injurious to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	AGE and SEX	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE			PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Person aged ten years and upwards		BIRTHPLACE of every person	NATIONALITY of every Person born in a Foreign Country	INFIRMITY
			Married	Single	Widow	Personal Occupation	Industry or Service with which trade is connected			
John Turl	Head	50	Married 27	6	6	Cooper	210	6	Devon Colyton	
Mary Jane Turl	Wife	61	Married 27	6	6				Devon Colyton	
Elizabeth Helen Turl	Daughter	26	Single			Cooper	210	1	Devon Colyton	
Edward Lambert Turl	Son	19	Single			Butcher	100	1	Devon Colyton	
Edith Elizabeth Turl	Daughter	15	Single						Devon Colyton	
Bertie Gribble	Boarder	13				School	390	0	Devon Colyton	

(To be filled up by the Enumerator.)

Male	Female	Total
41	2	6

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling.)

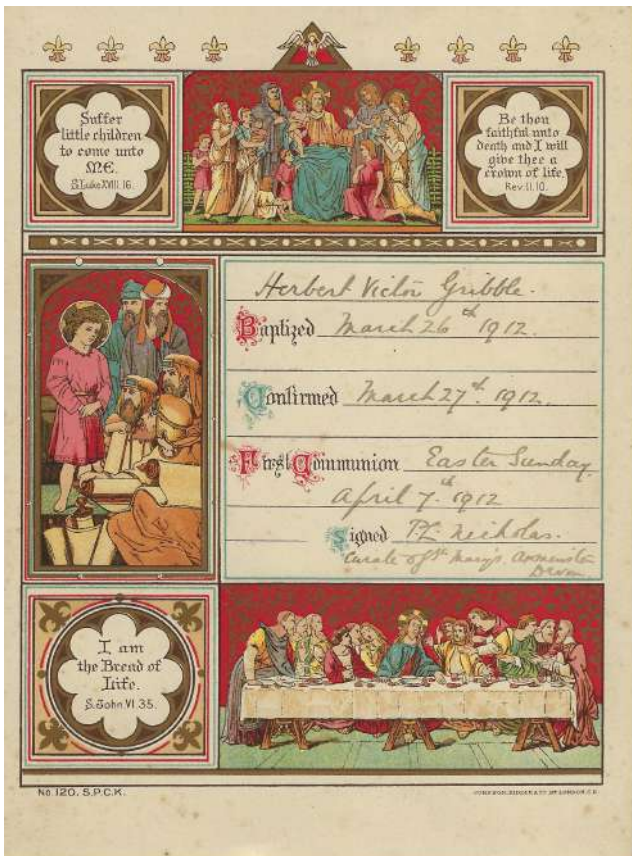
Write below the Number of Rooms in this Dwelling (Kitchens, Store-rooms, or Apartments, Count the Kitchens as a room, but do not count cellars, landings, lobbies, closets, bathrooms, sun-rooms, etc., etc.)

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: *John Turl*
 Postal Address: *14th Street Colyton*

My father says **Herbert** lived for some time with his uncle **William James Gribble** at Harcombe, but by the 1911 census he is boarding in Colyton, Devon, with the Turl family and is a Scholar, aged 13.

There may be some idea that **Herbert** was apprenticed to a butcher in Colyton, but didn't like it.



Bertie first became known as **Herbert Victor** on his joint Baptism and Confirmation certificate, aged 15. It is interesting that this is at St Mary's in Axminster, so he is back in Axminster by this time.

G10 Herbert Victor Gribble

In any case he enlisted in the army at Exeter on 4th December, 1814, officially at 18, but actually only 17 the previous February. His army number was 201499 and he was a Private in the 1/4 Devonshire Regiment.

Number of award strips attached to this Certificate is one *one* Army Form B. 2070

WARNING. - If you lose this Certificate a duplicate cannot be issued.

Certificate of discharge of No. 201499 (Rank) Private
 (Name) Herbert Victor Gribble
 (Regiment) Devonshire
 who was enlisted at Exeter
 on the 4th December 1914.

He is discharged in consequence of being found
unable physically fit for war
service No 395 887 H.P.
 after serving 3 years 226 days with the Colours, and
2 years 1 day in the Army Reserve.
 (Place) Exeter C. Stewart-Davies Major
 (Date) 19th Sept 1918 W. H. 121 Officer

*Description of the above-named man on when he left the Colours.
 Age 22 1/2 Marks or Scars, whether on face or other parts of body.
 Height 5ft 6 1/2 in full
 Complexion fair
 Eyes Brown
 Hair Brown

N.B. - Any person finding this Certificate is requested to forward it, in an unopened envelope, to the Secretary, War Office, London, S.W. 1.

**Should appear with description on Character Certificate, Army Form B. 2007*

The Character here given is based on continuous records of the holder's conduct and employment throughout his military career.

This is to Certify that No. 201499 Rank Private Name H. V. Gribble
 has served with the Colours in the Devonshire Regt for 3 2/3 years.
It is assumed on receipt of conduct sheet when
this certificate will be recalled and renewed.

C. Stewart-Davies
 Major, Officer in Charge of Reserves, Devonshire Regt.

Date 19th Sept 1918
 Commence

If further particulars as to his character and record of service are required within three years of above date, apply to Major when he is required for civil employment.
 Approved by the Officer in Charge of Reserves, Devonshire Regt W. H. 121 Officer

*This space is intended to be filled in by any regulations which has replaced the old's form and is prepared to supply further information.

PARTICULARS OF SERVICE.
 Date of Enlistment 4th Dec 1914
 Periods of Furlough pending transfer to the Army Reserve, or Discharge on Devonshire
 Periods of absence from the Army Reserve on Devonshire
 Date for Transfer to the Army Reserve on Devonshire

ARMY FORM B. 2007.
 Serial No. N 1447
 CHARACTER CERTIFICATE of No. 201499
 Rank Private Name Herbert Victor Gribble
 Regiment, Devonshire

He was on service at home from 4/12/14 - 11/12/14. There is no destination listed on his discharge form for the period 11/12/14 - 3/10/16, but I think he was in India, as there are many places in which he was stationed on one side of his army wallet, which is in my possession. From 3/10/16 - 25/2/17 he was in I.E.F "D", which I believe was service in Mesopotamia, with places also listed on the Wallet. He was wounded in Kut-al-Amara in

Tewkesbury
 (9 25 40) W372-M1980 150,000 9/17 HWV(M1951) Form W3201/2 Army Form W. 3201.
 (in parts of 50.)
 FOR USE IN THE CASE OF A SOLDIER SENT TO HIS HOME
 From a Hospital or Unit as "Medically Unfit."
 No. 201499, Rank Private, Name Gribble H.
 has orders to proceed to his home:
 (Address) North Street Exeter
 and there to await further instructions as to his discharge from the Service.
 Place Exeter Major W. H. 121 Commanding
 for O's 2nd. S. Genl. Hosp. & I. District
 Date 30th Aug

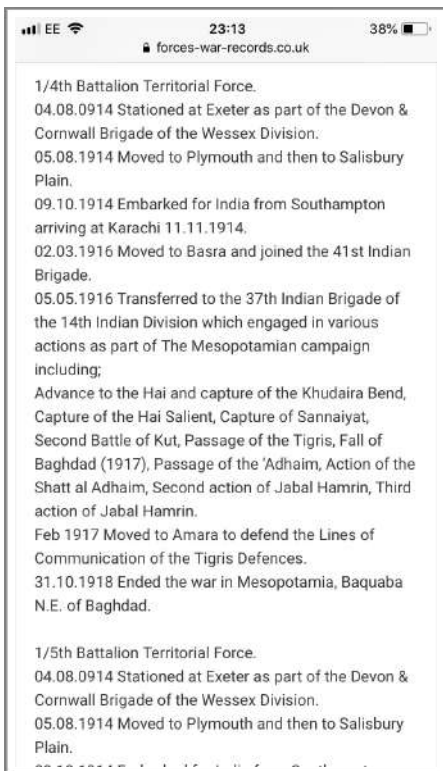
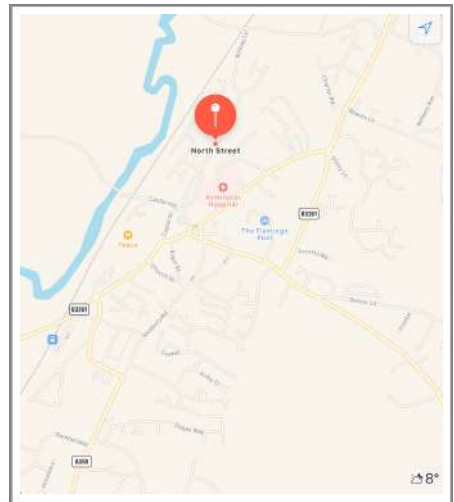
**Here enter name of Hospital or Unit from which the Soldier proceeds.*

WAR BADGE awarded to Herbert Victor Gribble
 late No. 201499 1st Devonshire (1st Bn)
 for "Services Rendered" in H.M.'s Military Forces since 4th August, 1914.
 Station Exeter C. Stewart-Davies
 Date 11th Sept 1918

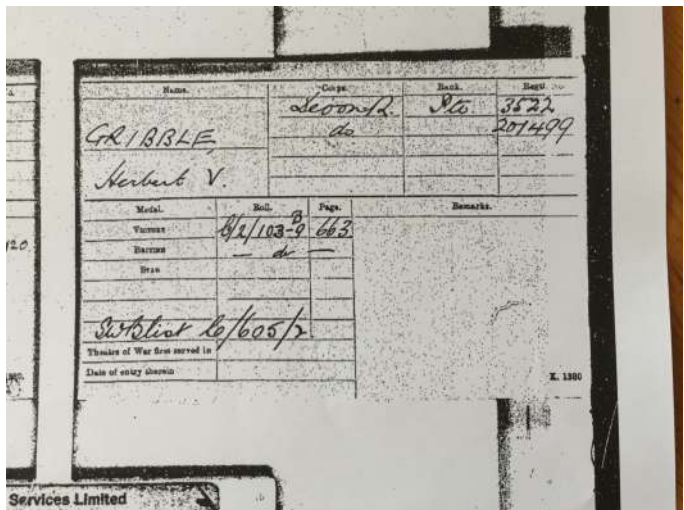
11 SEP 1918
 NO 2327

Mesopotamia and was then shipped back to India and eventually back to England. A letter received from his brother, **George**, was postmarked 13th April and directed to 34th Welsh Hospital, Deolali, Bombay. His son, says he had a large soup plate like hole in his ribs and I know that his last three fingers on his left hand were permanently curled down and unusable, as a result of his wounds.

He was then on home service from 25/4/18 - 19/9/18, mostly, I believe, in Hospital in Tewkesbury. **Herbert** was awarded his War Badge on 11th September 1918, no. 2327.

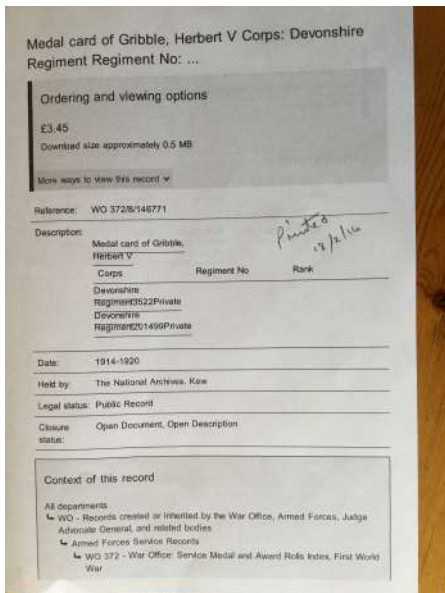


He was discharged from Tewkesbury on 19/9/18, to go to his home address of c/o Mrs **Sansom**, North Street, Axminster, just down the road from where he was born. This picture shows Part of Old North Street. Today North Street is a new road, bypassing this part - you can see why!



This extract shows the movements of the 1/4th Territorial Force. For more information on the activities of the 1/4th Devon's in Mesopotamia, see the copy of Chapter Eight of the book The British Army in Mesopotamia 1914-1918 by Paul Knight ISBN 978-0-7864-7049-5 Library 940.415, in a separate file or a paper copy in my box.

Herbert was awarded two medals ref. Medal Index Cards Transcription: Service No: 3522/201499



Herbert was honourably discharged on 19/09/1918.



There is a blank as to **Herbert's** movements after being demobbed. These two photos, though, are probably taken in this period. The one on the left is inscribed on the back "To **Carrie**", so is probably somewhere between 1918 and 1922, as he has already met his future wife. Grandma told me they were introduced by a mutual friend, **Aif Henley**.

B 259952

CERTIFIED COPY of an ENTRY OF MARRIAGE Pursuant to the Marriage Acts, 1836 to 1898.

Registration District

1922. Marriage Solemnized at The Parish Church in the Parish of St Michael in the County of Bristol

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.
237	17 th April 1922	Herbert Victor Gribble	25	Bachelor	Clerk	20 Woodland Road Lyndalls Rd	Henry Milley Gribble	Farmer
		Caroline Lily Paull	24	Spinster	-	2 Albert Road Clifton	James Paull	Farmer

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church by John S. C. Adams after Banns by me.

This Marriage was solemnized between us, Herbert Victor Gribble and Caroline Lily Paull in the Presence of us, Ethel B. Radcliffe and Lezzie Harris Paull John S. C. Adams

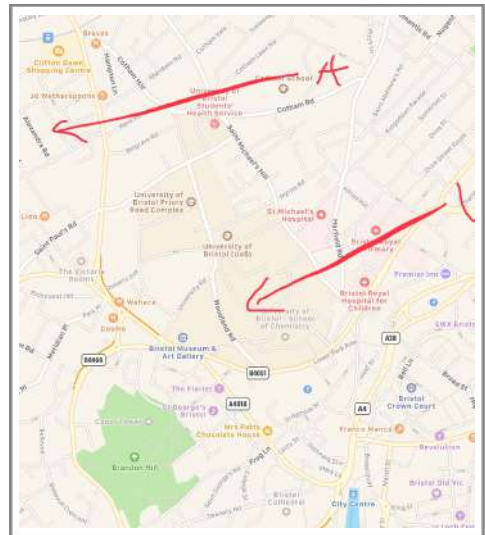
I, John S. C. Adams of St. Michael's (City) in the County of Bristol do hereby certify that this is a true copy of the Entry No. 237 in the Register Book of Marriages of the said Church, and that such Register Book is now legally in my custody.

WITNESSES MY HAND this 17th day of April, 1922.

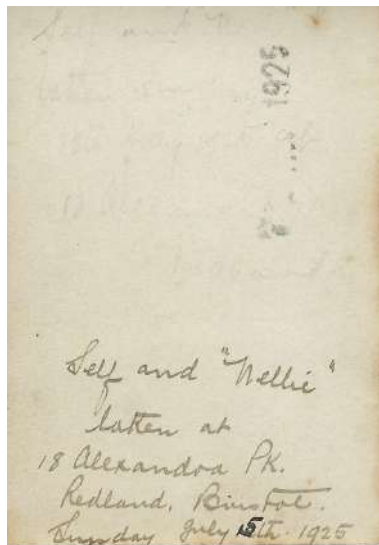
John S. C. Adams
Registrar

However, by 1922 he was living at 80, Woodlands Road, Tyndall Park in Bristol when he was married to **Caroline Lily Paull** at the Parish Church of St Michael's in Bristol on 22nd April of that year.

The church's full name was St. Michael the Archangel on the Mount Without! The witnesses were **Ethel B. Radcliffe** and **Lizzie Harris Paull**. His occupation is stated as a Clerk, probably in the Civil Service as that is where he spent most of his working life. Out of interest, we can notice that he has reverted to his proper age now out of the army!



Map shows Woodlands Rd and Alexander Rd in Bristol

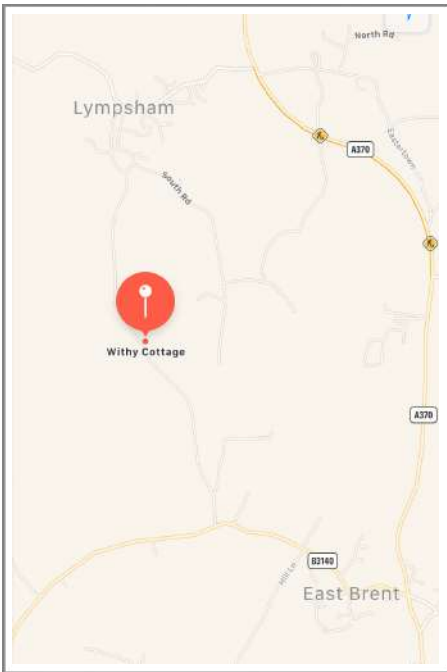


By July 1925, they moved to 18, Alexandra Road, Redlands, Bristol, as this photo has the accompanying inscription on the reverse. Alexandra Road is shown on the map above marked "A".



In due course **Herbert** and **Caroline** produced a son. **Herbert's** Occupation on the Birth Certificate is stated to be Civil Servant Inland Revenue Income Tax Department. By this time they were living at Drove Cottage, Winscombe, Somerset.

At some time, obviously by May 1929, the family moved to Withy Cottage, Lympsham, Somerset and they remained there until the Spring of 1932. Whilst here **Herbert** played for the local Cricket Team.



This picture is inscribed "Self in front garden of Withy Cottage 1/05/1929"



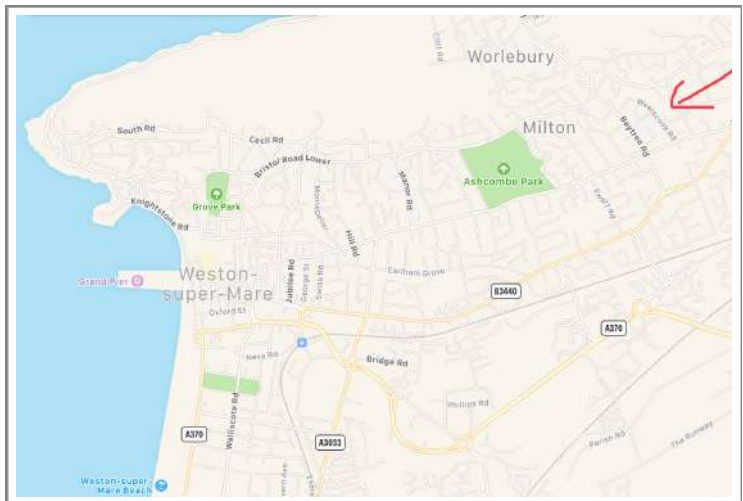
At some point **Herbert** was well off enough to invest in this car. Unfortunately this is one photo which has no inscription.

Weston Taxes Cricket Team taken 7th July, 1931. **HVG** is third from left on front row.



The next move for the family was to 11, Westbrook Road, Weston-Super-Mare, Somerset - a brand new semi detached house, bought for £650! Here they remained for many years.

During the Second World War, **Herbert** became a member of the local Home Guard, as the picture, taken at Westbrook Road, shows.



Caroline at Westbrook Road, Weston-Super-Mare



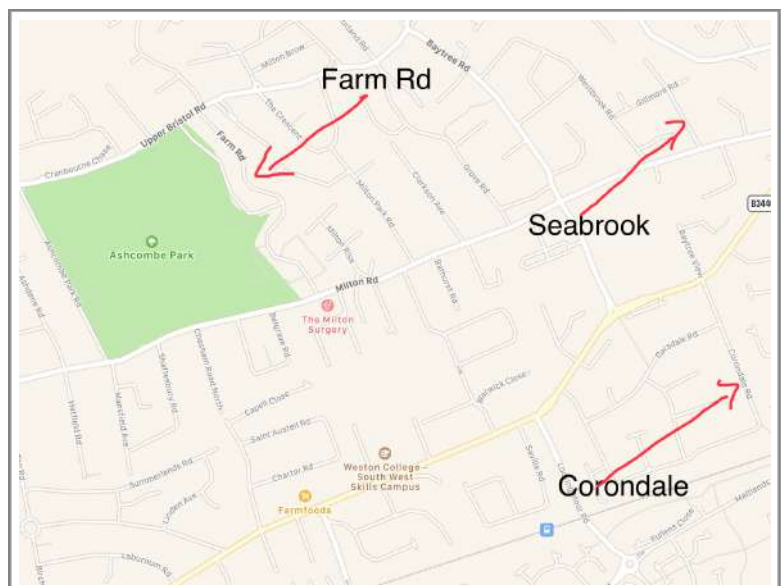
In August 1944, **Herbert** transferred to Chippenham, Wiltshire with promotion to Higher Tax Officer. The family moved to 29, Birch Grove, Chippenham, another semi and **Herbert** and **Caroline** stayed there for 12½ years.



In February 1957, **Herbert** reached his sixtieth birthday and under Civil Service rules, was able to opt for retirement, which he did. **Herbert** and **Caroline** moved back to Weston -Super-Mare, Somerset. The bungalow they chose was at 35, Corondale Road. Grandpa took up Bowls and was a frequent player at the Bowling Green in Clarence Park, just behind the seafront. He was also a keen stamp collector.

At some time later, maybe about 1960, they made the move up the hill a bit to 66, Farm Road, a slightly bigger bungalow, which my sister and I really liked because it was very near to Ashcombe Park. Grandma and Grandpa always had two stone rabbits in their garden, which were called Mutt and Jeff. I also enjoyed using their tea trolley, which had a flap on either side, as a mini office, complete with Grandpa's portable typewriter.

Some time later, maybe the 70s, another move was made to 35 Seabrook Road, very close to their original abode in Westbrook Road.



Herbert enjoyed his retirement, playing bowls, walking and cycling, laterally on a small wheeled Dawes bike, well into his 70s. Life continued peacefully until, in 1977, **Herbert** was unfortunate enough to have to have his left leg amputated due to gangrene. Sadly, the stump never healed well enough to allow him to walk with an artificial leg and he spent the next eighteen months in a wheelchair. In 1978 the other leg also became gangrenous, but he resisted another amputation and died in his sleep on the 24th August at Weston -Super - Mare General Hospital, aged 81½ years. His ashes were interred in Kewstoke cemetery.



This photo was taken on a Clarence Park Bowling Tour in 1961 on the prom at Weymouth, Dorset.