

JOHN EDWARD WILLIAMS (TED)
b.1887, d.1925 -
**THE FIRST FATALITY AT NEW LOUNT
COLLIERY IN JUNE 1925**



BY SAMUEL T STEWART - SEPTEMBER 2024
(From information provided by his granddaughter
Kathryn Hodges)

FRONT COVER PHOTOGRAPH

Ted Williams in his Grenadier Guards uniform

'A Coalville Death.

Edward Williams, whose photograph appears below, was killed in the recent disaster at the new Lount colliery. A fine figure of a man, he was formerly a



The late E. Williams.

guardsman, and was on duty at Buckingham Palace, being present at the funeral of King Edward the Seventh. Mr Williams was well-known in the whole of the Coalville district.

The following is transcribed from the Coalville Times - July 3rd 1925 (annotated by the author in blue).

FIRST FATAL ACCIDENT AT THE NEW COLLIERY

The first fatal accident to occur at the new Leicestershire Colliery at Newbold ([New Lount Colliery](#)), was the subject of an inquest by Mr. H. J. Dean (coroner), at the Railway Inn, Newbold ([Gelsmoor](#)), on Wednesday afternoon, the victim being Mr. Edward Williams, aged 38, of "The Firs", Gelsmoor ([Lower Moor Road, Coleorton, almost opposite to Aqueduct Road](#)), a well known resident who leaves a widow and four children.

Mr. W. P. Musson represented "The Leicestershire Colliery & Pipe Comany ([owners of New Lount Colliery](#)),. Mr. T. Gowdrige (miner's secretary), appeared for the relatives, and Mr. T. Hartley, H.M. Inspector of mines, was also present.

Mrs. Sarah Ann Williams identified the body as that of her husband who, she said was an army reservist and a healthy man. He left home on June 29th about 1.30 p.m. for work, and later was brought home unconscious. He died at 4.30. about 10 minutes after he was brought to the house.

Wm. Platts of Coleorton, employed at the colliery as a filler, said he was working with Williams and they were getting coal at the time of the accident. They started filling on the RH side of the heading, and after about 10 minutes, Williams, who had set a prop, and was standing between the last bars, said: "Listen". Suddenly, a stone fell and caught the deceased, who called for help. Witness went for assistance, and when he got back Williams had liberated himself.

In reply to the Coroner, witness said deceased was in a crouching position when the stone caught him. Before starting work, Williams had sounded the roof and it seemed safe. There was no sign of a defect before the stone fell. The morning deputy had reported the place was alright before they went in.

The government inspector elicited from the witness that one prop they set was not satisfactory, and they took it out again.

The inspector said that probably shook it. In reply to Mr. Gowdrige, a witness said that the stone was eight or nine feet long, and fell in one peice.

James Richards of Peggs Green, said he was a deputy at the pit and had worked as a deputy for three years. The place of the accident was in his district, but he had not got there on his tour of inspection when it occurred. The deputy, J. H. Underwood had reported it safe. Witness was told of the accident and went straight at once arriving about 2.50 p.m. There was a prop under the right hand side, and any amount of timber ready for setting. The stone came from a slip, which was not visible beforehand. The coal was got with coal cutting machines and shots. He could not suggest why the stone

came down, unless it was due to slip. No foresight of the men could have prevented the accident.

Dr. A. Orchard, of Ashby, stated that at 3.45 p.m. he went to the colliery in response to a telephone message and saw Williams who had abrasions on his back, and was suffering considerably from shock. Witness dressed the wound and sent the man home, Williams then being fully conscious. On returning to Ashby, witness had another telephone message informing him that Williams was dead. The doctor said he saw the body the same night and concluded the death was due to syncope, the result of shock. He thought the strain of trying to get away from the stone, would have had a lot to do with it. He could not make out any fractures, and there was no dislocation of the vertebrae and no haemorrhage to show signs of internal rupture. Deceased was a strong and well built man.

The Coroner said the case presented unusual features, but there was no doubt on the report of the deputies that the place was well timbered and had a competent man in charge. No precautions by the men could have prevented the accident. He recorded a verdict of death from shock from injuries accidentally received by a fall of stone while working in the mine.

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CERTIFIED COPY of an ENTRY OF DEATH.
Pursuant to the Births and Deaths Registration Acts, 1836 to 1874.

[Printed by authority of the Registrar General.]

D. Cert.
R.B.D.

Insert in this Margin any Notes which appear in the original entry.

Registration District					in the County of				
1925					Death in the Sub-district of				
No.	When and where Died	Name and Surname.	Sex.	Age.	Rank or Profession.	Cause of Death.	Signature, Description, and Residence of Informant.	When Registered.	Signature of Registrar.
14	June 1925 The Bits Belmoot Nottingham. P.D.	John Edward Williams	Male	38	Changemans Coal-Get. Mine.	Shock from being caught under a fall of stone at New South Colliery, inquest held accidentally killed.	certificates received from Henry J. Deane, Coroner for the Northern Division of Leicestershire, inquest held 1st July 1925.	July 1925	John R. Bowley Registrar.

I, John R. Bowley, Registrar of Births and Deaths for the Sub-district of of Deaths for the said Sub-district, and that such Register Book is now legally in my custody.

WITNESS MY HAND this 16th day of July, 1925.

CAUTION.—Any person who (1) falsifies any of the particulars on this Certificate, or (2) uses it as true, knowing it to be false, is liable to Prosecution under the Forgery Act, 1819, or the Perjury Act, 1819.

John R. Bowley
Registrar of Births and Deaths.



SARAH ANN WILTON, THE WIDOW OF TED WILLIAMS IS THE SECOND LADY FROM THE LEFT VIEWING THE OX ROASTING