

**IN MEMORY OF
4849817 LIEUTENANT ALONZA CHARLES
PLATTS WHO SERVED WITH THE
LEICESTERSHIRE REGIMENT FROM 1921 TO
1942 INCLUDING IN WW II.**



**THE ERECTION OF THE CWGC GRAVESTONE AND GRAVE REFURBISHMENT
WOULD HAVE TAKEN PLACE POST 1956**

BY SAMUEL T STEWART - APRIL 2024

**COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES COMMISSION
CERTIFICATE**

In Memory Of

Lieutenant

ALONZA CHARLES PLATTS

Service Number: 4849817

Leicestershire Regiment who died on 26 April 1943 Age 42

Son of Freeman and Rhoda Platts; husband of Elizabeth Mary Platts, of Brookwood, Surrey.

ALSO HIS WIFE ELIZABETH MARY 11TH JUNE 1895 AGE 90 AND SON FREEMAN CHARLES 22ND DECEMBER 1934 AGE 9

Remembered with Honour

COALVILLE (HUGGLESCOTE) CEMETERY

Sec. C. Grave 787.



|||||
COMMONWEALTH
WAR GRAVES
|||||

COMMEMORATED IN PERPETUITY BY THE COMMONWEALTH
WAR GRAVES COMMISSION

**THIS PHOTOGRAPH IS ONLY A GENERAL PHOTOGRAPH OF
COALVILLE (HUGGLESCOTE) CEMETERY**

BURTON-ON-THE-WOLDS CHURCH CEMETERY U.K. 2123
 LOYD, Sgt. (Pilot) DONALD ROBERT, 1435153. R.A.F. (V.R.). 7th December, 1942. Age 22. Son of Walter Charles and Edith Rose Loyd, of Wood Green, Middlesex; husband of Doris Loyd (*née* Hensman). Row E. Grave 13.

McLEAN, Flying Offr. (Pilot) DONALD RAE, J/20010. R.C.A.F. 25th April, 1943. Age 23. Son of Allan Grant McLean and Donalda Ruth Weir McLean, of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Row F. Grave 4.

MILLARD, Sgt. (W.Op./Air Gnr.) NORMAN KENNETH, 1380773. R.A.F. (V.R.). 6th December, 1942. Age 22. Son of Walter Douglas and Lily Evelyn Millard, of Thame, Oxfordshire. Row E. Grave 14.

PITHARA, Sgt. (W.Op./Air Gnr.) STELOIS PETRON, 1336315. R.A.F. (V.R.). 2nd August, 1943. Age 25. Son of Petros and Polixeni Pithara, of Pera, Orinis, Cyprus. Row F. Grave 5.

WHALLEY, Sgt. (Air Bomber) WILLIAM STEPHEN, 1473130. R.A.F. (V.R.). 8th September, 1943. Age 20. Son of Elsie Maud Whalley, and stepson of Walter Needham, of Great Sankey, Warrington, Lancashire. Row F. Grave 7.

CASTLE DONINGTON CEMETERY
(Index No. U.K. 2125)

ASTON, Gnr. ARTHUR LAWRENCE, 1763646. Royal Artillery. 6th April, 1946. Grave 763.

BRUCE, Ldg. Sto. FRANK, P/K.X.88939. R.N. 26th March, 1946. Age 29. Son of Frank and Elizabeth Bruce, of Castle Donington. Grave 576.

MASSEY, Sgt. (Air Bomber) CHARLES WILLIAM, 1575137. R.A.F. (V.R.). 11th April, 1944. Age 22. Son of William and Ethel Grace Massey, of Castle Donington. Grave 847.

POINTER, L. Bdr. CHARLES SIDNEY, 843193. 24 Field Regt., Royal Artillery. 5th June, 1940. Age 21. Son of Ernest Pointer and of Florence Emily Pointer, of Ramsgate, Kent. Grave 2.

TAYLOR, Sjt. HERBERT GEORGE, 845090. 10 Field Regt., Royal Artillery. 5th June, 1940. Age 24. Son of Herbert George Taylor and of Emma Elizabeth Taylor, of Walsall, Staffordshire. Grave 1.

COALVILLE (BROOM LEYS) CEMETERY
(Index No. U.K. 2126)

BALL, Sgt. (Pilot) KENNETH, 1180226. R.A.F. (V.R.). 19th April, 1942. Age 20. Son of Amand George and Olive Elizabeth Ball, of Coalville. Sec. B. Grave 5822.

BOOTH, Flt. Lieut. (Pilot) CHRISTOPHER RICHARD, 46846. R.A.F. 16th December, 1945. Sec. B. Grave 826.

CRESSWELL, A.C.2 DONALD WILLIAM, 1678544. R.A.F. (V.R.). 6th April, 1943. Age 18. Son of William and Millicent Cresswell, of Coalville. Sec. B. Grave 707.

COALVILLE (HUGGLESCOTE) CEMETERY
(Index No. U.K. 2127)

EDWARDS, Sgt. (Air Gnr.) KENNETH, 1577779. R.A.F. (V.R.). 24th July, 1943. Age 20. Son of Joseph and Elizabeth Mary Jane Edwards, of Hugglescote. Sec. A. Grave 287.

FINCH, W.O.II. (R.Q.M.S.) JOHN HENRY, 13013310. Pioneer Corps. 11th February, 1943. Age 49. Son of John and Millicent Finch; husband of Dorothy Lilian Finch, of Coalville. Sec. A. Grave 240.

HARES, Flt. Sgt. (Air Bomber) FRANK, 1581827. D.F.M. R.A.F. (V.R.). 214 Sqn. 4th March, 1945. Age 21. Son of James and Beatrice Mary Hares, of Hugglescote. Sec. A. Grave 217.

JARVIS, Pte. GEORGE WILLIAM, 4859086. 1st Bn. The Royal Leicestershire Regt. 27th December, 1947. Age 27. Son of George Frederick and Gertrude Jarvis, of Coalville; husband of Irene Jarvis, of Coalville. Sec. C. Grave 2775.

KNIGHT, Sgt. (W. Op.) GEORGE WILLIAM, 626731. R.A.F. 4 Sqn. 4th May, 1941. Age 21. Son of Ernest and Helen Knight, of Hugglescote. Sec. B. Grave 3428.

PLATTS, Lt. (Q.M.) ALONZA CHARLES, 4849817. The Leicestershire Regt. 26th April, 1943. Age 42. Son of Freeman and Rhoda Platts; husband of Elizabeth Mary Platts, of Brookwood, Surrey. Sec. C. Grave 767.

SAUNDERS, Gnr. RALPH GEOFFREY, 14638000. 4 Calibration Troop, Royal Artillery. 12th October, 1946. Age 35. Son of John Munt Saunders and Martha Ellen Saunders, of Hugglescote; husband of Doris May Saunders, of Coalville. Sec. A. Grave 61.

COALVILLE (WHITWICK) CEMETERY
(Index No. U.K. 2128)

HOLLAND, A.B. JOHN HENRY, C/JX.214808. R.N. H.M.S. *Hornet*. 10th August, 1943. Age 23. Son of Percy and Kate Holland, of Coalville. Sec. A. C. of E. Grave 428.

NEEDHAM, Wt. Offr. (Pilot) FRANK, 659072. R.A.F. 19th February, 1945. Age 24. Son of Albert and Ursula Needham, of Whitwick; husband of Gwendoline Laura Needham, of Whitwick. Sec. A. N.C. Grave 250.

ROE, Sgl. (W.Op./Air Gnr.) LAWRENCE JOSEPH, 1326327. R.A.F. (V.R.). 57 Sqn. 6th January, 1942. Age 28. Son of James and Ada Roe, of Whitwick. His brother Leonard Francis also died on service. Sec. A. R.C. Grave 121.

COLE-ORTON (OR COLEORTON) (ST. JOHN) CHURCHYARD
(Index No. U.K. 2129)

GRANGER, Pte. LEWIS, 10630532. Army Catering Corps, attd. Royal Corps of Signals. 6th October, 1945. Age 29. Son of Edgar and Edith Ann Granger; husband of Alice Granger, of Loughborough.

TOPHAM, Pte. CHARLES PERCY, 1798235. Pioneer Corps. 16th March, 1943. Age 21. Son of Charles Frederick and Helen Topham, of Coleorton.

COSBY CEMETERY
(Index No. U.K. 2130)

GIBSON, A.C.W.2 LILIAN, 2163474. W.A.A.F. 11th November, 1947. Age 19. Daughter of Frederick Percy and Doris Wynn Gibson, of Cosby. New Sec. Grave 156.

SHENTON, A.B. HARRY C/JX.169104. R.N. H.M.S. *Warspite*. 6th January, 1947. Age 28. Husband of Edith Shenton, of Leicester. Church Sec. Grave 48.

COUNTESTHORPE CEMETERY
(Index No. U.K. 2131)

BROTHWELL, Flt. Sgt. (Pilot) ROBERT SIDNEY, 1238487. R.A.F. (V.R.). 20th August, 1943. Age 21. Son of Wilfred Wright Brothwell and Florence Brothwell, of Countesthorpe. Grave 347.

CHAPMAN, Pte. DOUGLAS ARTHUR, 7674382. R.A.P.C. 26th April, 1942. Age 24. Son of Mrs. S. Chapman, of Countesthorpe. Solicitor. Grave 342.

CREASEY, L.A.C. HENRY ERNEST, 1304130. R.A.F. (V.R.). 15th May, 1943. Grave 710.

HICKFORD, A.C.2 EDWARD CHARLES (TED), 1008557. R.A.F. (V.R.). 504 Sqn. 5th April, 1941. Age 26. Son of Owen and Ethel B. Hickford, of South Wigston. Grave 441.

HILL, Gnr. THOMAS CHARLES, 11002061. 195 Coast Bty., Royal Artillery. 23rd March, 1945. Age 35. Son of Roland and Susan Hill; husband of Frances Annie Hill, of Countesthorpe. Grave 761.

CROFT (ST. MICHAEL) CHURCH CEMETERY
(Index No. U.K. 2132)

WALE, Pte. LAWRENCE, 5051789. The North Staffordshire Regt. 25th February, 1940. Age 22. Son of Henry J. Wale and Hannah E. Wale, of Croft. Grave 167.

CWGC RECORDS

LY.

County: LEICESTERSHIRE **GRAVES REGISTRATION REPORT FORM** Schedule No. : 1.

PLACE OF BURIAL : COALVILLE (HUGGLESCOTE) CEMETERY UNITED KINGDOM DISTRICT

Controlling Authority : _____

The following are buried here : _____

Certified complete and correct.

SIGNATURE Judy A.P.S. Eastern Area DATE 13. 9. 56

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(j)
P.R.G.	No. and Rank	Initials, Name and Honours	Unit	Date of Death	Details of Grave marking including Screen Wall	By whom maintained, if at Commission expense state fee payable	Ownership of Grave	REMARKS
<u>Gr. No.</u>		<u>SECTION A.</u>						
61.	14638000 Gnr.	R.G. SAUNDERS	R.A.	12.10.46.	C/H	All by Relatives.		PI
217.	1581827 F/Sgt. (A/B)	F. HARES (D.F.M.)	214 Sqn. R.A.F. (V.R.)	4. 3.45.	C/H			PI
240.	13013310 W.O.II. (R.Q.M.S.)	J.H. FINCH	Pioneer Corps	11. 2.43.	C/H			PI
287.	1577779 Sgt. (A/G)	K. EDWARDS	18 O.T.U. R.A.F. (V.R.)	24. 7.43.	C/H			PI
		<u>SECTION B.</u>						
3428.	626731 Sgt. (W.Op.)	G.W. KNIGHT	4 Sqn. R.A.F.	4. 5.41.	C/H			PI
		<u>SECTION C.</u>						
767.	4849817 Lieut. (Q.M.)	A.C. PLATTS	Leicester Regt.	26.4.43.	PEM & C/H			PI
#.2775.	4859086 Pte.	G.W. JARVIS	1st. Bn. R.Leic.Regt.	27.12.47.	C/H			PI

Contract No:-

SCHEDULE "A"

Page No:1

Name & Address of firm:-

Name of Burial Place:-

U.K. GROUP P/19D (LEICESTERSHIRE)

COALVILLE (HUGGLESCOTE) CTY., NO. 4

1035/1/A/8 C.767 1

Lieutenant 10

A.C.Platts 21

The Leicestershire Regt. 18

26th April 1943 Age 42

(Cross) 14

~~The strife is over~~ 12~~The battle won.~~ 17~~In God's safe keeping~~ 17~~Are our beloved ones~~ 17

RR/1/1

Also his wife Elizabeth Mary 09
 11th June 1985 Age 90
 and son Freeman Charles
 22nd December 1934 Age 9

CONTRACT DOCUMENT FOR THE CWGC GRAVESTONE AS SHOWN ON PAGE 1

**ALONZA, HIS WIFE RHODA AND SON FREEMAN CHARLES
 WERE ALL BURIED IN THE SAME GRAVE (SEE PAGE 1)**

BIOGRAPHY OF ALONZA CHARLES PLATTS

Freeman William Platts was born in Pegg's Green on the 1st December 1874. He was the son of William Cooper Platts and Sarah Nicklinson (nee. Handford) Platts. She was born in Griffydam c.1878 (parents unknown).

Freeman William Platts married Rhoda Holland, born in Griffydam on 22nd December 1877. She was the daughter of William Holland (born in Thringstone) and Louisa Haywood, who was born in Griffydam. Freeman and Rhoda were married in 1897 at Breedon on the Hill parish church in the Shardlow registration district.

In 1901 Freeman William Platts (25), a coal miner hewer, and his wife, Rhoda (23), had three children at that time - James W (3), Freeman R (2) and **Alonza Charles** (11 months) and were living on Swannington Common, Leicestershire, England, United Kingdom.

In 1911, Freeman Wm. Platts (35), a coal miner hewer, his wife Rhoda (33), five sons, James Wm. (13), Freeman Richard (12), **Alonza Charles** (10), Walter Joseph (9) and Bramley (4) and twin month-old daughters, Evangeline Norah and Louise Grace were living in a 5 room house at 55 Forest Road, Hugglescote, Leicestershire, England, United Kingdom. The couple had been married 14 years and had had eight children, seven of whom were still living.

Freeman and Rhoda also had a son, Benjamin Arthur, registered in the first quarter of 1904. He died in 1905 Q1 at 12 months of age.

Alonza Charles Platts was one of 8 siblings and the third oldest of 6 sons, born to Freeman William Platts and his wife Rhoda (see above para).

Freeman William Platts died in Leicester in 1969 at 94 years of age. Rhoda Platts died in 1958 in Coalville, Leicestershire, age 80 years and was buried on 16th October 1958 in Coalville (Hugglescote) cemetery, Leicestershire.

Alonza Charles Platts joined the Royal Leicestershire Regiment in 1918 and subsequently married Elizabeth Mary Fairs of Pirbright, Surrey in 1920 at St. Michael and All Angels Church in Pirbright. Banns were read on the 14th, 21st and 28th November 1920. They had a son Freeman Charles Platts who died on 22nd December 1934 aged 9 who was buried in Coalville (Hugglescote) cemetery.

Alonza Charles Platts registered with the 1st Battalion Leicestershire Regiment and went to India with them in 1924 at the age of 23, and was promoted to Quartermaster in 1926. He served in Egypt and again later in India, returning to England in 1931 to become Regimental Quarter Master. In 1939, Alonza's wife, Elizabeth Mary was recorded as living (presumably in married quarters with her husband) at the Infantry Training Centre, Glen Parva Barracks, Wigston, Leicestershire

Alonza served in WW II being promoted to Lieutenant in 1941. He was invalided out of service on 27.6.1942 due to poor health. He died on the 26th of April 1943 and was buried in Coalville (Hugglescote) Cemetery with his son. The burial entry gives his abode at the time as South Wigston. His wife died on the 11th of June 1985 aged 90 in Coalville, and is buried with **Alonza** and their son Freeman Charles (see page 1).