

R THOMAS SMITH

Reginald Thomas Smith was born in 1894 in Partney. He was baptised in St Nicholas Church on 1st May 1894. His father John was working as a groom.

By 1901 his mother Lucy was widowed and working as a charwoman. She had six children aged 5 to 18 to care for.

Reginald, now known as Tom, was still living with his mother in Partney in 1911 and working as a groom and gardener. According to the Census, Lucy had had , at the age of 50, 12 children, 4 of whom had died.

During the First World War Thomas served as a gunner with the Royal Field Artillery. The most numerous arm of the artillery, the horse-drawn RFA was responsible for the medium calibre guns and howitzers deployed close to the front line and was reasonably mobile.



This photo is of a gun team of 126 Brigade Royal Field Artillery

Reginald's two brothers, Frederick Augustus Smith and George Henry Smith also served in the conflict.