

Private Charles Featherstone

Charles Featherstone was born in early 1888 in Biggin, near Hartington. He was the eldest child of Hannah Featherstone, although there is no record of his father on either his baptism or marriage record.

He had a younger sister, Clara (born 1889) and brother, Frank (born 1895)

The first census record for Charles is in 1891, where he was living with his maternal grandparents, Thomas and Mary Featherstone, in Heathcote near Hartington. There is no census record for his mother, whilst his sister was at the home of Joseph and Harriet Webster in Hartington.

Thomas Featherstone	Head	all.	55	General Laborer	X	Do do
Mary Do	Wife	all.	50			Stafford, Shrew
Thomas Do	Son		10	Scholar		Derby, Hartington
Charles Do	Gr. Son		3			Do, Hartington

(1)

In 1901, at the age of just 12, he is a cattleman at Dam Side, Peak Forest in North Derbyshire. His mother is living in Heathcote, near Hartington, with his younger siblings.

11	Dam Side			Elizabeth Hatfield	Head	Wid	70	Domestic		Derby	Ellon
				Mary Do	Son		38	Domestic		Do	Do
				Ruth Caldwell	Daughter		46	Domestic		at Home	Do
				Elizabeth Do	Gr. Daughter		14	Domestic		Do	Coaster
				Thomas Pipecock	Servant		20	Domestic		Do	Do
				Mary Cec. Sealbank	Do		12	Domestic		Do	Heathcote

(2)

On 27 May 1907 Charles married Mary Grace Harrison (known as Polly) in Alstonefield. Mary was born in Alstonefield in 1878.

By the time of the census in 1911, Charles was living in Milldale near Alstonefield and his occupation was that of a farm labourer. His wife, however, was living and working as a servant at Bank Top Farm, Hartington and is recorded on the census at that address.

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Number of Schedule 9
(To be filled up by the Enumerator after completion)

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 with regard 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 (Last Birthday) 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
			State, for each Married Woman entered on this Schedule, the number of—		Personal Occupation		Industry or Service with which worker is connected		Whether Working at Home				
1 <i>Charles Heathstone</i>	Head	23	Married	8	1	Farm Labourer	14		Woods	Headford Parly	24		
2 <i>Beatrice</i>													
3													
4													
5													
6													
7													
8													
9													
10													
11													
12													
13													
14													
15													

(To be filled up by the Enumerator)

I certify that—		Total	
(1) All the ages on this Schedule are entered in the proper sex columns.	Males	Females	Persons
(2) I have entered the names and surnames in Columns 1 and 2 respectively, and have entered there also with the usual number of persons.	1	1	1
(3) After making the necessary inquiries I have completed all entries on this Schedule which appeared to be definite, and have corrected such as appeared to be incorrect.			

(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, Bathrooms, or Apartments). Count the kitchen as a room but do not count sanitary, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom, and wardrobe, office, shop.

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

Signature *Charles Heathstone*

Postal Address *Mill Dale, Alstonefield, Notts.*

(3)

Charles and Mary had their only child, Charles William (Charlie), in October 1913. Sadly, he was born with a mental handicap.

With the outbreak of war the following year, Charles was enlisted to 2nd Btn. Sherwood Foresters (Notts & Derby Regiment) 27554. Records have not been located to ascertain exactly when or where he enlisted or where he served.

He was awarded the Victory medal and British War medal, both for campaign services.

Name.		Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
FEATHERSTONE		Notts + Derby R	Pte	27554
Charles				
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.	
VICTORY	F/103811	1967		
BRITISH	—	do		
STAR				
Theatre of War first served in				
Date of entry therein				

K. 1380

(4)

Charles was killed in action on 26 April 1918 in France and Flanders. He is buried at Brandhoek New Military Cemetery No 3, Belgium.



(5)

An announcement of his death was recorded in the Ashbourne News on 14 June 1918



After Charles' death, Polly lived in Milldale, in the cottage that is now known as Polly's Cottage, until her death in 1953. Their son, after initially attending Alstonefield School was later sent to a special school and only returned home for a holiday once a year. Charlie died in 1990 in Walsall.

Source of information

1. Census 1891 © Ancestry.co.uk
2. Census 1901 © Ancestry.co.uk
3. Census 1911 © Ancestry.co.uk
4. Medal Record Card ©Ancestry.co.uk
5. Headstone © twgpp.org
6. Newspaper extract © Ashbourne News 14 June 1918