



George William Vivian Ladds

1899 - 1967

George William Vivian Ladds was born on the 15th May 1899 in Leamington, Warwickshire, the son of Charles Swift a civil servant and Marie Rose Spratt. He was the nephew of George Swift the Pastor of Winsford. He grew up in Winsford with his cousin George Norman Cyrus Swift and took the family name of his aunt, Mary Amy Ladds. George was affectionately known by his family as Buv.

George went to Sandhurst as an Officer Cadet and after one year passed out as a Second Lieutenant and joined the Gloucester Regiment. In May 1918 he was drafted to France and was seconded to the 4th Battalion, the Devon Regiment. He returned home that year in a very weak state having caught impetigo which was rife in the trenches. In the early summer of 1919 when the War was over George volunteered for the North Russian Relief Force which went to relieve and evacuate the British Army in the Murmansk area.

George returned to England and in Winchester in 1928 married Marjorie Gale. He continued his Army service in World War Two joining the First Gloucester Regiment and becoming a Major in 1943.

He died in Westminster in 1967.



George Swift, Pastor of Winsford and uncle of George Ladds.

" One holidays I wore Buv's old 'Tin Hat" which he had bought home from the front in France in 1918,and from this I caught the impetigo which he had out there. I am afraid that, when this came out on my face the next term several other boys caught it. Impetigo is something very much to be avoided.... as well as being terribly infectious, the scabs are most unpleasant."

George Cyrus Swift, George Ladds cousin.



Winsford 1914