

Private RONALD ERNEST COLLETT

6026915, *Essex Regiment*

who died on 22 February 1941

Remembered with honour in the TEWKESBURY CEMETERY

No photograph is available of this casualty but the *Register*, 8 March 1941, recorded his local, but untimely, death.

Broadcast Appeal For Witness

In the early morning wireless news bulletin on Monday a broadcast appeal was made for the witnesses or for any information regarding a fatal accident in High Street, Tewkesbury, on Saturday evening.

*The unfortunate victim was **Private Ronald Ernest Collett**, formerly of Spring Gardens, Tewkesbury, who was in Tewkesbury on leave. It appears that he came into collision with a motor lorry and trailer near the Sabrina Cinema and his injured body was next discovered in Church-Street, just beyond the Cross.*

The accident happened just before 10 o'clock and at that time Collett was in the company of Mrs. Booth, his cousin, and Miss Franklin, both of whom were also knocked down but escaped injury.

Mr. Collett who was 29 years of age used to reside in Spring Gardens with his grandmother, who not so long ago died in Tewkesbury Hospital from burns. Before joining the Army, he was employed on a contract at the water works.

The Collett family had lived at 20 Spring Gardens since at least 1871 but by the time of his death both parents were dead. Other deaths from accidents have been recorded on the War Memorial but was the omission because his death occurred apparently off-duty? Was his case considered after the war?

In 2018 on Armed Forces Day, his name was added to the War Memorial

