

1632

MEDICAL

Surname Nicholson Christian

TABLE I.—GENERAL

Birthplace ... Parish St. Andrew County

Examined ... { on 6 day of Dec
at **STOCKTON-ON-TEES**

Declared Age ... 35 years 8 days

Trade or Occupation ... Driver

Height ... 5 feet, 6 3/4 inches.

Weight ... 197 lbs.

Chest Measurement { Girth when fully Expanded. 42 inches.
Range of Expansion. 3 inches.

Physical Development ... Good
Right Left

Vaccination Marks { Arm ...
Number ... - H

When Vaccinated ... Infancy

Vision ... { R.E.—V = 12
L.E.—V = 12

(a) Marks indicating congenital peculiarities or previous disease ...

(b) Slight defects but not sufficient to cause rejection ... Minor left leg

Approved by (Signature) [Signature]
(Rank) [Rank] Medical Officer

Enlisted ... at **STOCKTON-ON-TEES**
on 1 day of October 1911

Corps.	Regt. No.

Became non-effective by ...

on _____ day of _____ 1911

(Signature) _____
(Rank) _____

0847

Duplicate

SERVICE.

(of the War.)

ATTESTATION OF

Robert Nicholson

J 418 B. Comp. No. 235 Army Troops R/6

Questions to be put to the Recruit before enlistment.

- 1. What is your name? 1. Robert Nicholson
 - 2. What is your full Address? 2. Brass Foundry Works, Allison St. Stockton on Tees
 - 3. Are you a British Subject? 3. Yes
 - 4. What is your Age? 4. 35 Years 8 Months
 - 5. What is your Trade or Calling? 5. Brass Foundry Works
 - 6. Are you Married? 6. Yes
 - 7. Have you ever served in any branch of His Majesty's Forces, naval or military. If so, state particulars? 7. No
 - 7A. Have you truly stated the whole, if any, of your previous service? 7A. No
 - 8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated? 8. Yes
 - 9. Are you willing to be enlisted for General Service? 9. Yes
 - 10. Did you receive a Notice, and do you understand its meaning, and who gave it to you? 10. Yes { Name: George Henry Scott, Corps: Artillery
 - 11. Are you willing to serve upon the following conditions provided His Majesty should so long require your services? 11. Yes
- For the duration of the War, at the end of which you will be discharged with all convenient speed. If employed with Hospitals, depots of Mounted Units, and as Clerks, etc., you may be retained after the termination of hostilities until your services can be spared, but such retention shall in no case exceed six months.

I, Robert Nicholson do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements made.

Robert Nicholson SIGNATURE OF RECRUIT.

Arthur Wesley Redfern Signature of Witness.

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY RECRUIT ON ATTESTATION.

I, Robert Nicholson swear by Almighty God that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth His Heirs and Successors, and that I will, as in duty bound, honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, in Person, Crown, and dignity against all enemies, and will observe and obey all orders of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and of the Generals and Officers set over me. So help me God.

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE OR ATTESTING OFFICER.

The Recruit above named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act.

The above questions were then read to the Recruit in my presence.

I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered, as replied to, and the said Recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me at STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

on this 6 day of October 1916

J. Anderson Signature of the Justice.

I certify that this Attestation of the above-named Recruit is correct, and properly filled up, and that the required forms have been compiled with. I accordingly approve, and appoint him to the 235 Army Troops R/6

If enlisted by 15 JAN 1916 Army Form B, 203 (or other authority for the enlistment) will be attached to the original attestation.

Date 15 JAN 1916 1916

Place Stockton Commandant R.E.C. Approving Officer.

* If so, the Recruit is to be asked the particulars of his former service, and to produce, if possible, his Certificate of Discharge and Certificate of Character, which should be returned to him conspicuously endorsed in red ink, as follows, viz.—(Name) _____ on the (Date) _____ re-enlisted in the (Regiment) _____

ORIGINAL

SHOR

(For the Duration)

ATTESTATION

No. 131632 Name Robert Nicholson

Questions to be put to the Recruit before enlistment

- 1. What is your name? 1. Robert Nicholson
 - 2. What is your full Address? 2. Brass Foundry Lane, White Street, Stockton
 - 3. Are you a British Subject? 3. Yes
 - 4. What is your Age? 4. 35 Years 8 Months
 - 5. What is your Trade or Calling? 5. Horse Collier
 - 6. Are you Married? 6. Yes
 - 7. Have you ever served in any branch of His Majesty's Forces, naval or military, if so, state particulars? 7. No
 - 7A. Have you truly stated the whole, if any, of your previous service? 7A. Yes
 - 8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated? 8. Yes
 - 9. Are you willing to be enlisted for General Service? 9. Yes
 - 10. Did you receive a Notice, and do you understand its meaning, and who gave it to you? 10. Yes Name Geo Gibson, 3rd Corps, Artillery
 - 11. Are you willing to serve upon the following conditions provided His Majesty should so long require your services? 11. Yes
- For the duration of the War, at the end of which you will be discharged with all convenient speed. If employed with Hospitals, depots of Mounted Guita, and as Clerks, etc., you may be retained after the termination of hostilities until your services can be spared, but such retention shall in no case exceed six months.

I, Robert Nicholson do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements made.

Robert Nicholson SIGNATURE OF RECRUIT.

Just W. Mearley, Rec. Clerk Signature of Witness.

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY RECRUIT ON ATTESTATION.

I, Robert Nicholson swear by Almighty God, that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth His Heirs and Successors, and that I will, as in duty bound, honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, in Person, Crown, and dignity against all enemies, and will observe and obey all orders of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and of the Generals and Officers set over me. No help no God.

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE OR ATTESTING OFFICER.

The Recruit above named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act.

The above questions were then read to the Recruit in my presence.

I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replied to, and the said Recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me at STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

on this 6 day of October 1915

Signature of the Justice J. Henderson Mayor

† Certificate of Approving Officer.

I certify that this Attestation of the above-named Recruit is correct, and properly filled up, and that the required forms have been compiled with. I accordingly approve, and appoint him to the 455 Army Hospital R.F.

13. JAN 1916

Special authority, Army Form B. 23 (or other authority for the enlistment) will be attached to the original attestation.

Signature of Approving Officer: J. Plummer, Commandant, R.F.C.

* If to the Recruit is to be asked the particulars of his former service, and to produce, if possible, his Certificate of Discharge and Certificate of Character, which should be returned to him conspicuously embossed in red ink, as follows, viz.—(Name) on the (Date)

Height 5 feet 6 1/2 inches.
 inches.
 inches.

INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY RECRUIT.

W.H.K.
 No Records R.E.

Name of wife of kin Miss Edith
Stockton | Relationship Wife
Lea

Particulars as to Marriage.

(a) Christian and Surname of Woman to whom married, and whether spinster or widow. (b) Place and date of marriage. (c) Present address. (d) Signature of Officer verifying entry from certificate.

(a) <u>Miss Edith</u> <u>Stockton</u>	(b) <u>Stockton</u> <u>27 Sep. 1904</u>	(c) <u>Bressingham</u> <u>1001 St. Street</u> <u>Stockton</u>	(d) <u>J. Henderson</u> Verified from certificate.
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Particulars as to children.

Christian Names	Date and Place of Birth	(d)
<u>Muriel</u>	<u>19 May 1907</u> <u>Stockton</u>	<u>J. Henderson</u> Verified from certificate.

STATEMENT OF THE SERVICES.

Corps in which served	Regt. or Depot	Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c.	Army Rank	Dates	Service not allowed to reckon for fixing the rate of pension		Service in Reserve not allowed to reckon towards G.C. Pay		Signature of Officers certifying correctness of entries
					years	days	years	days	
Service towards limited engagement reckons from <u>6-10-16</u>									<u>J. Henderson</u> Maj. Lieut. for Col. R. E. RECORDS. <u>J. Henderson</u> Capt. for Col. R. E. RECORDS. <u>J. Henderson</u> Lieut. for Colonel R. E. RECORDS.
Joined at <u>Stockton</u> on <u>6-10-16</u>									
<u>Army Troop</u>	<u>1st E.</u>	<u>Attached</u>	<u>Private</u>	<u>6 OCT. 1918</u>					
		<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Private</u>	<u>11-11-18</u>					
		<u>Promoted</u>	<u>2nd Corp.</u>	<u>21-12-18</u>					
		<u>Promoted</u>	<u>Corporal</u>	<u>7-2-19</u>					

Total Service forfeited as above

Total Service towards Engagement to _____ (date of discharge) _____ years _____ days

" " " Pension " _____ (") _____ " _____ "

feet 6 1/2 inches

inches.

inches.

FORMATION SUPPLIED BY RECRUIT.

W.H.K. No. Records R.E.

Name of wife of kin Wife Edith
100 St Stockton | Relationship Wife

Particulars as to Marriage.

(a) Christian and Surname of Woman to whom married, and whether spinster or widow. (b) Place and date of marriage. (c) Present address. (d) Signature of Officer verifying entry from certificate.

(a) <u>W.H. Blough</u> <u>Spinster</u>	(b) <u>Stockton</u> <u>27 Sep 1904</u>	(c) <u>Buss Finckherlein</u> <u>100 St Stockton</u> <u>Stockton</u>	(d) <u>J. Henderson</u>
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Particulars as to children.

Christian Names	Date and Place of Birth	(d)
<u>Muriel</u>	<u>19 May 1907</u> <u>Stockton</u>	Verified from certificate. <u>J. Henderson</u>

STATEMENT OF THE SERVICES.

Corps in which served	Regt. or Depot	Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c.	Army Rank	Dates	Service not allowed to reckon for fixing the rate of pension		Service in which not allowed to reckon towards G.C. Pay		Signature of Officers certifying correctness of entries
					years	days	years	days	
Service towards limited engagement reckons from <u>6.10.15</u>									
Joined at <u>Stockton</u> on <u>6.10.15</u>									
		<u>Attended</u>	<u>Private</u>	<u>8 OCT. 1915</u>					<u>J. Henderson</u>
		<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Ser. 1st</u>	<u>11-11-15</u>					<u>Attache</u>
		<u>Promoted</u> <u>PO 2318</u>	<u>2nd Corp</u>	<u>21.12.15</u>					<u>Chief for Col</u> <u>10 R.E. RECORDS</u>
		<u>Promoted</u> <u>PO 2224</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>7.2.16</u>					<u>Chief for Col</u> <u>10 R.E. RECORDS</u>
				<u>8 MAR 1916</u>					<u>Lieut</u> <u>for Colonel 10</u> <u>R. E. RECORDS</u>
<u>Decorated Military Medal, with Bar</u>									
Total Service forfeited as above									
Total Service towards Engagement to _____ (date of discharge) _____ years _____ days									
" " " Pension " _____ (") _____ " _____									

Name Robert
 Apparent age 35 years

Chest measurement { Girth when full
 Range of expansion

Distinctive marks None

INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY RECRUIT

Name and Address of next of kin Wife Estelle
Brass Finishes Co. Ltd
11 Green St. Stockton-on-Tees | Relationship Wife

Particulars as to Marriage.

(a) Christian and Surname of Woman to whom married, and whether spinster or widow. (b) Place and date of marriage. (c) Present address. (d) Signature of Officer verifying entry from certificate.

(a) <u>Estelle Clough</u> <u>Spinster</u>	(b) <u>Stockton-on-Tees</u> <u>29 Sep 1901</u>	(c) <u>Brass Finishes Co. Ltd</u> <u>11 Green St</u> <u>Stockton-on-Tees</u>	(d) <u>J. Henderson</u>
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Particulars as to children.

Christian Names	Date and Place of Birth	(d)
<u>Muriel</u>	<u>19 May 1907</u> <u>Stockton</u>	<u>J. Henderson</u>

STATEMENT OF THE SERVICES.

Corps in which served	Regt. or Depot	Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c.	Army Rank	Dates	Service not allowed to reckon for fixing the rate of pension		Service in Reserve not allowed to reckon towards G.C. Pay		Signature of Officers certifying correctness of entries
					years	days	years	days	
Service towards limited engagement reckons from <u>6-10-15</u>									<u>J. Henderson</u> <u>C. M. J. J. J.</u> <u>20. Toms</u> <u>20. Toms</u> <u>20. Toms</u> <u>20. Toms</u> <u>20. Toms</u>
Joined at <u>Stockton</u> on <u>6 OCT. 1915</u>									
<u>235 Army Coy</u>	<u>R.F.</u>	<u>Attended</u>							
Total Service forfeited as above									
Total Service towards Engagement to _____ (date of discharge) _____ years _____ days									
" " " Pension " _____ (") _____ " _____ "									

Life in
Stockton on Tees

A POTTED HISTORY OF ROBERT NICHOLSON AND HIS STOCKTON FAMILY

Early Life

Robert was born in February 1880 at Brampton Cumbria. He grew up a country boy with a great love of nature and with a particular love of horses. Family stories confirm he was a keen and successful pony and trap competitor in and around the Cumbria district. In sport he was also a successful boxer and athlete.....

but that's a story for another day!

Life in Stockton on Tees

He arrived in Stockton on Tees in his early 20's. Records show at 21 he was working as a machinist in Stockton and living in a house in Bright Street.

On 27 September 1904 age 24 at St Peter's (C of E) Parish Church in Yarm Road Stockton he married Edith Clough a spinster age 23 of 25 Ewbank Street Stockton. Family stories confirm that Edith worked as a seamstress and hand lace maker with her sisters Emily and Annie, at their home in Ewbank Street.

Marriage

Edith and Robert's marriage certificate confirms he was now living at 2 Allison Street Stockton. He was a Licensed Victualler at this address, running a free house at his public house called The Brassfinishers Arms. (Brassfinishers used to be a trade in Stockton) Today, Allison Street has now been replaced by a new Stockton access road. This starts at the roundabout at St Mary's RC Church and ends at Bishopton Road, just before it leads into the The High Street. The Brassfinishers Arms stood at the Bishopton Road end. (A picture postcard is supplied in this file.) It shows Robert's only child, Muriel, age 3, standing on the step with a barmaid in the window.

Children

The 1911 Census confirms that whilst living at the Brassfinishers Arms they had one child living, 3 years old and two years previous, a child who had died. Research at Stockton Registry Office confirmed this was a girl named Edith (obviously named after her mother) who had died two years before Muriel's birth on the 19 May 1907.

Interestingly, although the family were Church of England and had a history of attending St Peters C of E Church in Yarm Road Stockton, Muriel attended the Roman Catholic Convent known as Wellington House on Norton Road at the other end of Allinson Street, all her schooling life. This was near the other end of Allinson Street. It was commonly known that she was taught French at the Convent, a skill she was still able to demonstrate in later life. She always kept her French school text book costing one shilling and six pence covered in brown paper all her life. Her small school wooden chair was also always a treasured keep sake.

Muriel went to work as a shop assistant in the Co-operative Department Store Wellington Street Stockton where she specialised in men's and women's fashion. Her love of fashion was said to have been developed whilst working alongside her mother and aunties working as seamstresses.

In her early twenties she became engaged to Edmund Sainsbury, a member of the family who owned ship's chandellers in the area. He contracted TB or "consumption" as it was called then. He was sent on a cruise to New Zealand where he died. Muriel was heartbroken. However some years later she met her future husband William who lived with his family in Nelson Terrace Stockton and married him at the age of 31.

Living and working in another public house in Stockton

Evidence in trade and electoral roll directories confirm Robert lived in The Brassfinishers Arms from 1904 – 1929. Family history also confirms that the family lived and worked in The Blue Posts public house but no records have been found during this research period. However if anyone does have any information the author would be grateful to learn more.

Signing up for War

It was during this time living in the Brassfinishers Arms that Robert signed up for war. It was on the 6 October 1915 at the age of 35 years and 8 months that he joined the Royal Engineers and enlisted for the army. The AD newspaper in this file confirms that recruits had to be between 19 and 30. As his records show with his love of horses he enlisted to work with horses in The 235th Company Troop of The Royal Engineers.

A spell in hospital

It is noticeable that his records show he had a spell in hospital *prior* to his action in the field for which he was awarded the Military Medal. From his own stories of his war service, perhaps this hospital need could have been as a result of riding his horse BOB across a field under heavy fire, to successfully blow up an ammunition dump, only to ride back with his horse and his long booted legs on fire. On return he told the story of how he had to shoot his beloved horse in the head to put it out of its pain. He never mentioned how his own lower legs were disfigured for the rest of his life. Also it is evident from his service records that he did not claim to have any disabilities on leaving the service.

Moving to Norton

Records show that the Nicholson family was living in Eamont Road in 1932. This Norton council estate was all named after rivers. Interestingly the River Eamont is in Cumbria where Robert came from – could that have influenced his choice of new home? It was also said that soldiers from the WW1 were given priority for housing on this development.

Living at Norton

At home in Eamont Road the author remembers Robert always had a large picture on the wall of him mounted on his beloved horse BOB. Also a beautiful framed certificate in ornate writing starting with. "For gallantry in the field....." hanging above his fireplace.

Back home, Robert carried on his love of nature. He was always out in the street talking and feeding the community service horses, particular the fruit cart horse. He would breed white mice in his garden shed for children in the area to understand and enjoy. Training his blue budgie Joie to say almost anything and taking it outside in the garden where it just never left his shoulder was quiet amazing to experience. He would feed and talk to wild birds who he would befriend when flying down to him. He was a

constant radio listener or wireless as it was called then. When television arrived in the 50's he always said he would never buy one because they were time wasters. Until, he saw the nature programs produced by Armand and Michaila Dennis on Safari which changed his mind! He was amazed at what he saw on the small screen as he called it then. He also wrote and typed poetry on parchment paper about the Second World War

Obituaries

Robert outlived his wife Edith and daughter Muriel. Edith died of a stroke in the 50's in her 70's at home. His daughter Muriel died age 49 following the Asian flu epidemic which resulted in kidney failure and blood poisoning in the private Middlesbrough hospital, Carter Bequest.

The Electoral Roll shows Robert as living in 9 Eamont Road Norton until his death.

Robert Nicholson died in June 1961 at the age of 81 in Sedgefield Hospital from brochopneumononia and congestive cardiac failure.

Grandchildren

Robert was survived by his two granddaughters Lesley Marian and Glenys Muriel. The later still lives in Stockton on Tees today.

1904. Marriage solemnized at the Parish Church in the Parish
of S. Peter, Stockton, in the County of Durham.

Columns. No.	1 When Married.	2 Name and Surname.	3 Age.	4 Condition.	5 Rank or Profession.	6 Residence at the time of Marriage.	7 Father's Name and Surname.	8 Rank or Profession of
90	Sept 27 th 1904.	Robert Nicholson	24	Bachelor	Licensed Victualler.	2 Allison St.	Thomas Nicholson	Road Surveyor
		Edith Clough	23	Spinster.	—	25 Ewbank St.	Robert Moore (deceased) Clough	Joiner

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Church of England by or after banns by

This Marriage
was solemnized
between us,

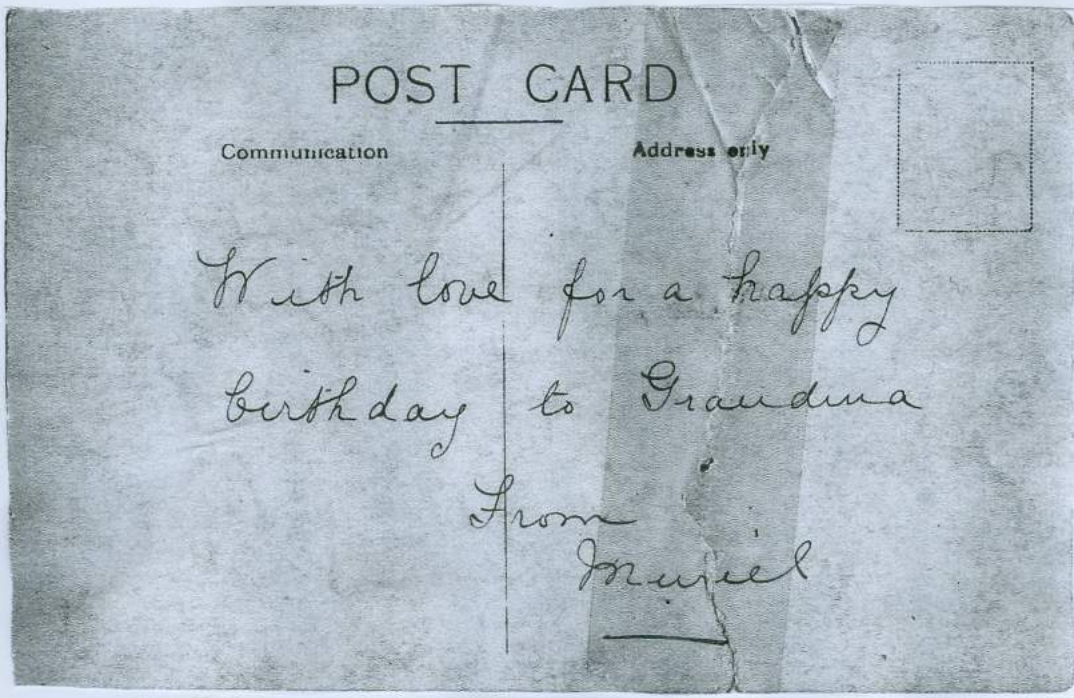
Robert Nicholson
Edith Clough

in the
Presence
of us,

Robert Moore Clough
Isabella Nicholson

S. P. Watts
(Asst. Curate)

Edith Clough



¹ This is Robert and Edith's only child Muriel Clough Nicholson born 19 May 1907, standing at the door of their Public House, The Brass Finishers Arms 2 Allisons Street (off Bishopton Road and now a new road) Stockton. You can see the name of the pub on the glass windows and in the above light cover. A Barmaid is looking on. An adult looks to have written birthday wishes on the back of the card for Muriel's Grandma. The 1911 census shows Robert and his wife had had another child which had died. Further research confirmed was born in 1905 and was called Edith obviously after he mother.



USE

ALLSOPP'S

ALLSOPP'S

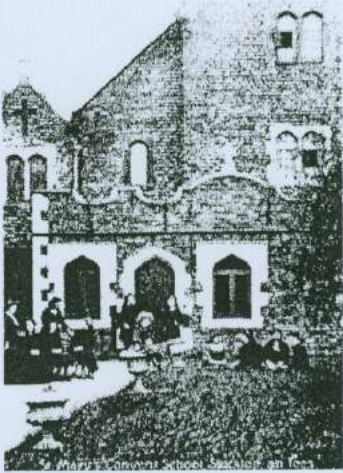
BURTON
ALE

BURTON
ALE

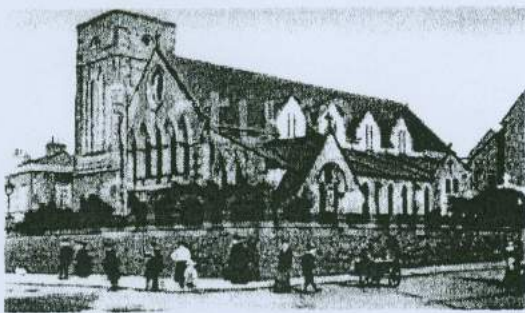




St. Mary's Convent School, Stockton on Tees.



St. Mary's Convent School, Stockton on Tees.



ST. MARY'S RC CHURCH – WELLINGTON HOUSE CONVENT STOCKTON ON TEES
WHERE MURIEL WENT TO SCHOOL

Reference Source: Stockton Council picture Web site.



MURIEL AT AGE 8