<u>R E Bush</u>

CWGC - FLIGHT LIEUTENANT RICHARD ELDON BUSH

Royal Naval Air Service

Died 24 April 1917 Age 26 years old

Buried or commemorated at

KEYNSHAM CEMETERY Pink. D. 712.

Additional Info Son of Philip Wathen Bush and Maria Louisa Bush, of The Old Manor

House, Keynsham Bristol. He served at RNAS Westgate in 1915, was later promoted to Flight Lieutenant RNAS, before becoming the first airman to be posted to the new RNAS station at Fishguard in Wales, being billeted in the Fishguard Bay Hotel. On the morning of 24 April 1917 Bush, then aged 26 and unmarried, prepared to test a Sopwith Baby N1033, following the fitting of a new engine. He had two 16lb bombs aboard when he took off from the harbour for a flight over the Irish



very simple but impressive character. The collin, covered with the Union Jack, here the decenced's cap and benutiful floral tributes from his family. His finnede, Miss Haggard, to whom he was to have been morried in



and, neat a heart of dafiedle, which was laced upon the osfin and interred with it, he remain were couvered from the Old fanor House to the church upon a hand-hor. here was a hirgs congregation, and many copie also gathered outside the church.

Sea. However, the

aircraft failed to gain enough height to clear power cables linking the power house with the wireless station. Its twin floats caught on cables and the aircraft crashed into a cliff face, bursting into flames. A sentry, Private B. Blackburn of the King's Liverpool Regiment, pulled him clear before the aircraft exploded and he was then taken to his quarters at the Bay Hotel badly burned but still conscious. Bush was treated by Dr Mortimer Thomas, the Admiralty Medical Officer, but died that morning. His body was later taken by train from Fishguard & Goodwick railway station to Keynsham for burial in the local cemetery (Keynsham Cemetery, Pink. D.712).