

## Provincial Grand Lodge of Somerset – Great War Dead

	<b>Lodge</b>	<b>Honour No. 379</b>		<b>Death</b>	<b>31/10/1914</b>	<b>Reference</b>
<b>Name</b>	<b>Spottiswoode</b> John			<b>Title</b>	Captain	
<b>Birth</b>	18/04/1874	<b>Birthplace</b>	Westminster, London			
<b>Parents</b>	George Andrew & Frances Grace (Publisher)					
<b>Education</b>	Winchester College, Commoner - January 1888. 1891: Red House School of Mathematics, Little Bookham, Epsom. Sandhurst Military Academy					
<b>Residences</b>	1874: 29 Ashley Place, Westminster 1894-1901: Military service incl. S African War. 1901-07 38 Egerton Gardens, Kensington 1911- 1914: 2 Sion Hill Place, Bath					
<b>Career</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	Army Officer.				
<b>Qual'ns</b>						
<b>Military</b>	<b>Enlistment</b>					
	<b>Initial Rank</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant Oct 1894; Lt. Jan 1898.				
	<b>Promotions</b>	Captain 5/1899, 7 <sup>th</sup> Bn. Mounted Infantry in South Africa.				
	<b>Service</b>	Army				
	<b>Regiment / Unit</b>	6th attached 2 <sup>nd</sup> Bn. Kings Royal Rifle Corps				
	<b>Theatre of War</b>	Belgium – Ypres.				
	<b>Awards</b>					
<b>Death</b>	31/10/1914, KIA at Gheluvelt, Belgium					
<b>Buried</b>	Unknown					
<b>Memorial</b>	Menin Gate: Panel 51 & 53. Bath War Memorial Victoria Park.					
<b>Next of Kin</b>	Wife: Sybil Gwendoline Ginsburg (c1879 -1950) m 14/08/07 St Judes Church, Egham.					
<b>Descendants</b>	Sons: Raymond John (1913-70) and Nigel Lawrence (1915-87) after his father's death.					
<b>Masonic</b>	<b>Lodge</b>	Honour			<b>No.</b>	379
	<b>Location</b>	Bath				
	<b>Proposer</b>	Capt. B Nilsen, PM	<b>Second</b>	G E McDonald PM		
	<b>Initiated</b>	12th February 1912	<b>Passed</b>	10th March 1913		
	<b>Raised</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> April 1913	<b>WM</b>			
<b>Notes from Lodge Records</b>	Proposed on 9th October 1911 and balloted 13th November 1911. The WTs were presented and explained by Bro Nilsen PM and the Charge was delivered by Bro Wilcox Jones PM." <p>Bro Spottiswoode was unable to attend an emergency meeting convened 30/9/1912 for the sole purpose of passing him. The minutes include a letter from him, dated 25/9/1912, apologising that "urgent and important business" was to take him to London on that day. He was passed at the next meeting he appears to have attended, 10/3/1913, when he was passed with two other brethren. He was raised at the following meeting on 14/4/1913. He appears not to have attended subsequently and there is no record of apologies. At the meeting held on 14/12/1914 the minutes record "a communication was received that Bro Capt J Spottiswoode was at the war, reported wounded and missing and the Secretary was requested to send a letter of regret to his wife."</p>					

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<b><i>Other details</i></b>	<p>Baptised St Andrew, Westminster, 17/05/1874. 1891 – Parents living at Chatton, Axminster, Devon.</p> <p>He obtained the highest marks in physics ever gained in the entrance exam for the RMC. In May, 1899, he became Captain in the 7th battalion and was with the Mounted Infantry in the South African War where he was twice wounded. He was granted the honorary rank of Captain in the Army in Oct 1900, but retired in 1901 following severe injury near Alandale 14/4/1901.</p> <p>He joined the 6th Bn. in Aug 1914 and the 2nd Bn. in Sept 1914, with which he was serving when he was killed at the head of his company on the 31st October 1914, at Gheluvelt, in the Battle of Ypres.</p> <p>He was noted for his expertise in radio telegraphy.</p> <p>His widow married Brig-Gnl Arthur Edward Aitken in 1922 (1861–1924 died in Rome).</p>	
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