



**POST CODE:** B63 2UL

**ADDRESS:** Churchyard, St Peter's Church, Church Road, Cradley

**GPS Location:** N. 52.46414555 W. -2.08888465

**Memorial Location:** Section B, Row 15, Grave No 251

## Charles William FOWKES

Stoker 1<sup>st</sup> Class. Royal Navy. Number K/12738 Died 29 November 1918 aged 27yrs

Following the Armistice signing Charles Fowkes became the second Cradley victim to succumb to the flu pandemic in November 1918.

Charles was 5 feet 2 ½ inch tall, lived at 76, Lodge Forge, Cradley, had been a pupil at Colley Lane School and worked as a stoker in a brickyard. On September 11<sup>th</sup> 1911 he enlisted into the Royal Navy for a period of 12 years.

During his career he was posted to HMS Europa, HMS Renown, HMS Zealandia, HMS Fisgard and HMS Victory II. Finally, on July 20<sup>th</sup> 1918 when he joined the destroyer HMS Conflict.

Charles died of pneumonia on Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup> 1918 at Haslar Royal Hospital, Gosport, Hampshire, and was buried on December 5<sup>th</sup> 1918 in St. Peter's Churchyard, Cradley.

The family inscription on his headstone reads:-

HE GAVE HIS LIFE  
FOR KING AND  
COUNTRY

