

## Cowley Family History - Research Detail

<b>Name:</b>	Charles Leonard Cowley <sup>1,2</sup>			<b>Sex:</b>	M
<b>AKA:</b>					
<b>Birth Date:</b>	15 Jul 1883	<b>Place:</b>	Brighton, Sussex <sup>1,2,3</sup>		
<b>Chr. Date:</b>	19 Aug 1883	<b>Place:</b>	Chapel Royal, Brighton <sup>4</sup>		
<b>Death Date:</b>	14 May 1966	<b>Place:</b>	Sutton Coldfield		
<b>Cremation Date:</b>		<b>Place:</b>			
<b>Cause of Death:</b>					

### Events

- 1 19 Aug 1883  
Address: 22, St James St., Brighton, Sussex..<sup>4</sup>

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- 2 1891 census  
Address: 2, Grenville Road, Brighton, Sussex.  
Living with parents, Francis and Charlotte Louise Cowley, and sister, Ellen Annie.  
Age: 7

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- 3 Divorced: 1910.<sup>5</sup> Divorce Court File: J77/1012/720  
Husband's petition for divorce  
Appellant: Charles Leonard Cowley  
Respondent: Florence Mary Cowley  
Co-respondent: Cyril de Lacy White

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- 4 1911 census  
Address: Coton Crescent, Shrewsbury.  
Boarder at above address.  
Age: 28  
Occupation: Commercial traveller (tea).

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- 5 War Service: Signed up for WW1 service, 11 Dec 1915.<sup>6,7</sup>

<b>Father:</b>	Francis Cowley (Abt 1837-1903) <sup>8</sup>				
<b>Mother:</b>	Charlotte Louisa Woolley (Abt 1849-1930)				
<b>Spouse:</b>	Florence Mary Dunsford ( - )				
<b>Marr. Date:</b>	Jun 1901	<b>Place:</b>	Marylebone, London <sup>9</sup>		
<b>Status:</b>	Divorced	<b>Date:</b>	1910		
<b>Other Spouse:</b>	<b>*Ellen Marshall (15 Jan 1890 - 22 Feb 1958)</b>				
<b>Marr. Date:</b>	5 Feb 1912	<b>Place:</b>	Shrewsbury (Registered At Atcham) <sup>10</sup>		
<b>Children:</b>	1	Charles Leonard Marshall Cowley (1912-2003)			
	2	Roy Marshall Cowley (1920-2007)			
	3	Dorothy Ellen Marshall Cowley			

### General:

Charles Leonard Cowley married his first wife in London in 1901. I know that he served with the Natal Field Artillery during the Natal Rebellion in 1906. The story from the family is that he subsequently returned to South Africa with his wife as he wanted to settle there. His wife returned to the UK - apparently she did not like living in South Africa - and on the way home by boat, she met another man, Cyril de Lacy White, with whom she had an affair. Charles divorced Florence in 1910. This was such an event that I believe that it was reported in the local papers in Birmingham.

No record has been found for a marriage between Florence and Cyril de Lacy White. However, there is a marriage recorded for a Cyril de L. White to Edith A. Marquand in Jun Q 1918 ( Willesden - Vol: 3a / Page: 572). There is also a war grave record for a Captain Cyril de Lacy White -

Welsh Regiment. Age: 36

Date of death: Jun. 27, 1918

Burial: Saint Sever Cemetery, Rouen, Haute-Normandie Region, France

Plot: Officers, B. 7. 7.

This may, or may not, be the same person.

Charles married his second wife Ellen Marshall in 1912. He worked as a commercial traveller and used

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### **General: (cont.)**

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to stay at Marshall's Hotel in Shrewsbury. Ellen was living and working in the hotel with her mother and that is obviously where he met her.

He signed up for service in WW1 in December 1915. Whilst away on military service and in order to maintain some income, his wife carried on with his work, paying for a lady to come and look after their son, Charles, whilst she was out.

When I was young he worked for Mazawattee Tea and I can remember, on occasions, going with him when he visited customers.

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<b>Last Modified:</b>	7 Aug 2010
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## ***Source Citations***

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1. Birth Certificate.
2. Personal knowledge / From family members.
3. England and Wales, Civil Registration Index: 1837 - 1983, Brighton - Vol: 2b / Page: 204.
4. From Baptism record via SFHG.
5. National Archives, Kew, Divorce Court File: J77/1012/720.
6. WW1 service record, Sign-up document.
7. War Office: Service Medal and Award Rolls Index, Catalogue ref: WO 372/5 - image ref: 55943 / 10182.
8. From Baptism record via SFHG, Baptism record of son, Charles Leonard.
9. England and Wales, Civil Registration Index: 1837 - 1983, Marylebone - Vol: 1a / Page: 1259.
10. England and Wales, Civil Registration Index: 1837 - 1983, Atcham - Vol: 6a / Page: 938.