

William Arthur Skilton was a motor mechanic who lived in Esslemont, near Ellon in Aberdeenshire. He enlisted in the 3rd Gordon Highlanders in December 1915 and in April 1916 was sent to France. He was back in the UK for a year from September 1916 and during that time had spells in hospital, although not, it appears, from injury. He was living at home at that time, as his son was born later in the year after he had returned to France in September 1917.



Two months later he was wounded in the thigh and after treatment in the hospital at Etaples was repatriated, firstly to Queens Hospital, Birmingham and then to **Norton Hall**. He then transferred to the 1/6th Battalion, Black Watch and returned to France in March 1918, but for only a month, being again brought back to hospital, this time in Perth. He was finally discharged from service in February 1919.

The British Army Pension Records, 1914-1920, provided the information about William Skilton in a series of forms and reports about his medical condition and family commitments, in order to assess him for a pension. His Service Record has not survived so we do not know the exact circumstances of his movements between UK and France.

The photo shows that he was up for a bit of fun!