

Edye Kington Boddam-Whetham CBE DSO, Tanners



Rank	Rear Admiral
Regiment	Royal Navy
Date of death	27 th March 1944
Died	Gibraltar
Buried	Gibraltar (North Front) cemetery Plot 1 Row D Row 5
Age at death	57
Marital status	Married Elizabeth Margaret Ayers
Address	Tanners, Bentley then Long Sutton

Edye Kington Boddam-Whetham was from a large family, many of whom were in the armed forces. He was born in **1887**, the son of John Whetham Boddam-Whetham and Adelaide Harriett Matilda Boddam-Whetham of Kirklington Hall, Nottinghamshire and Folkestone, Kent. He married Elizabeth Margaret Ayers, a widow ten years his senior, in **1915** at Holy Trinity Church, Brompton. He and his wife lived at Tanners, Bentley before moving to Hyde Gate Farm, Long Sutton.

He had joined the Royal Navy as a cadet in **1901**. By the time of the First World War, he was in command of destroyers, being awarded the Distinguished Service Order in **1917** for his services in the action with enemy destroyers off the Belgian coast. *'He handled his ship well in the face of superior forces and under the fire of the shore batteries.'*

In **1920** he was the first commander to qualify as an observer for the Fleet Air Arm. In **1935** he spent some time in charge of the dockyard in Bermuda, returning to England in **1937** to take charge of the dockyard at Chatham. He was Aide de Camp to HM King George VI and a Commander of the Order of the British Empire. He retired in **1939** but 5 weeks later returned to active service.

He was mentioned in despatches in **1942** *'for outstanding devotion to duty during three years arduous service as Commodore of Ocean Convoy.'* On 13th March **1944** he fell ill with smallpox and was landed at Gibraltar. He seemed better on the 20th, but by the 24th he was paralysed. He succumbed on the 27th March at the age of 57.



Left: The family (left to right) - Edye, Arthur, John, Adelaide, Sydney, Lionel and Gerald c1904
Above: Kirklington Hall, Nottinghamshire