

When Daddy was home on leave, Pictures of a Sunday afternoon, 16th Sept. 1917

I picked up this pocket size photo album in a job lot from a local antique cum bric-a-brac shop in Surrey a couple of years ago. As "Daddy" never appears, it's easy to surmise that he must have been behind the camera taking the snaps (with captions written by mother possibly?) to accompany him as a treasured memento of happier days when he returned to the fray. Although dated, other than christian names, there are no indications of who the family were, where they lived, or whether "Daddy" was a soldier, sailor, or airman (this may have been given on the booklet's card cover but, as you will notice, these have been partially trimmed off, possibly for that very reason). As well as providing a brief glimpse of how this family spent its "pleasant" Sunday afternoon in 1917 the pictures leave the viewer - least they do me - wondering what happened to the family subsequently and, inevitably, whether "Daddy" survived to return safely home to his family after the war.

Sadly, the first and the last photographs are missing but, as there are captions, I have included the pages for the sake of completeness. (Note that the caption is always on the reverse of the photograph it relates to)

The Pleasant
Sunday afternoon.
Sept. 16, 1917.

A pleasant
Sunday afternoon.
Sept. 16, 1917.

Neil & Geoffrey.

Sept. 16, 1917.



Geoffrey with his pigeon,
when his Daddy was home
"On leave."



Grandpa reads 'The Observer'
Sunday afternoon.
Sept. 16. 1917.



Grandma reads "Black Sambo"
to Geoffrey and Mummy.
Grandpa not very interested.

Sunday afternoon. Sept. 16. 1917.



Mummy admires

her Son.

Sunday afternoon. Sept. 16, 1917.



Geoffrey and Mummy
again.

Waiting on the doorstep.
for.
Daddy to come.