

## *James William Burt Tribunal Reports*

### **Military Service Tribunals- Transcriptions of Newspaper Reports**

#### **JWB-001**

**From Bexhill Chronicle 15th July 1916 – Local Tribunal**

“The next case was that of James William Burt (21), married, gardener and grower of vegetables, who also claimed exemption on conscientious grounds. – He said he was a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, and could not take up arms to destroy human life, and proceeded to quote several texts of Scripture, including the one beginning, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, saith the Lord.” Mr Burt said he had no objection to non-combatant service, if it was for the saving of life, and he would do anything he could in that direction. He had joined the Brethren two years ago, before war broke out. Asked if he had made any serious sacrifice on account of his principles, he replied that he had not yet been called upon to do so. The Mayor said that the Tribunal would exempt him from combatant service; he would be liable for non-combatant work.”

#### **JWB-002**

**From Bexhill Observer 15th July 1916 – Local Tribunal**

#### **WOULD SAVE LIFE**

James William Burt, 21, married in July, 1915, a gardener, asked for exemption from combatant service, as his conscience would not allow him to take up arms to destroy life.

“Vengeance is mine, I will repay”. He did not object to non-combatant service, because that was allowed by God for Christians. He was willing to save life. He belonged to the Brethren

Applicant was exempted from combatant service. The Mayor said that he might be engaged in saving life, perhaps on a minesweeper.