

Wreclesham War Memorial

World War I 1914 – 1918

by

John Birch

Message from the Vicar of Wreclesham

Revd Canon Anne Gell

In towns and villages across the country you will find war memorials with the names of those who died in one or both World Wars.

Our own War Memorial for the village of Wreclesham was erected in St Peter's churchyard in the aftermath of the First World War and dedicated in December 1920. We can only imagine the feelings that day of grief and pride in the hearts of the families and friends of those it commemorated.

In this year of the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War, it feels very right that in amongst the larger scale commemorations we should think particularly about those 49 young men from our own village who lost their lives.

This short document gives us an insight into the lives of almost all of those 49 men. It informs our remembering and helps us in our awareness of how closely we are connected with those who have gone before us – these sons, brothers, sweethearts and fathers torn from their families in this community. As we give thanks to God for them, we use the poignant words from Laurence Binyon's

'For the Fallen (September 1914)':

"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;

Age shall not weary them or the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning

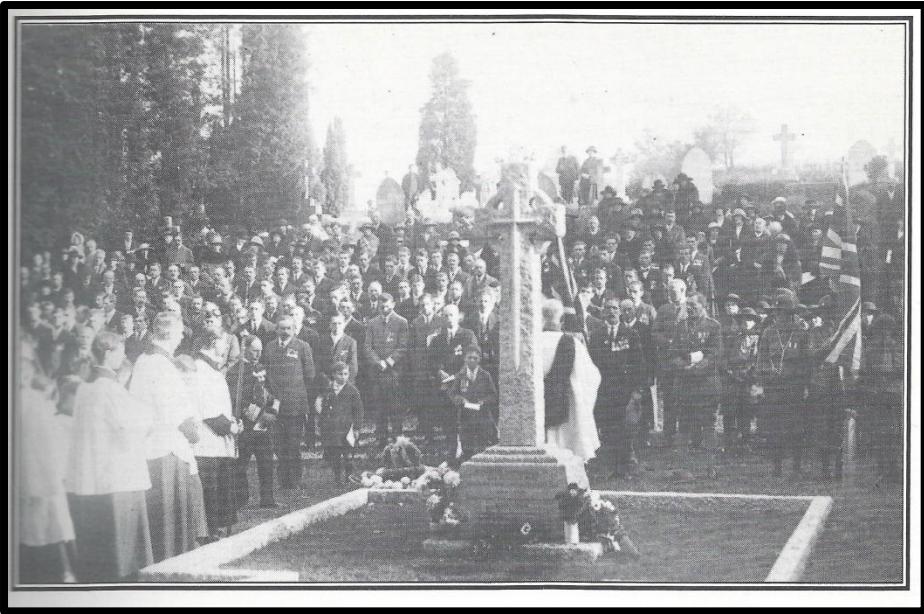
We will remember them."

'The War to End all Wars'?

Such was the hope of the nation in 1919. The 100th Anniversary this year of the outbreak of World War 1 has caught the imagination of the nation and has spawned books and television programmes both nationally and locally. It has been an especially timely reminder of the sacrifices made by so many young men who flocked to army recruitment centres at its outbreak. Little did they know as they left these shores what was to await them in the mud and the trenches of Europe and how long it would be for them to be away from their homes and their loved ones. That so many failed to return is a salutary reminder. It has been estimated that a frightening 21 million lives were lost. While most of the heaviest fighting was on the Western and Eastern Fronts, it became a truly Global War. Who can forget Gallipoli? Nor were these victims just from the UK but from across the whole Commonwealth and beyond.

This short treatise is dedicated to the 49 young men from our village of Wreclesham who gave their lives in the Great War and whose names are on the Memorial Plaque in St Peter's church. We remember them, and also those who followed them in World War II, annually in November at our Remembrance service, but the anniversary this year deserves our special attention. We have attempted here to give some background on the lives and wartime experiences of each of them. In only two cases have we been unable to trace their full records. They are a diverse group which includes large numbers who had close connections with our church, among them the son of the vicar of St Peter's at this time, Revd Charles H. Keable . They include four buried in our own cemetery.

We will Remember them.



The Dedication of the War Memorial
December 1920

Wreclesham War Dead 1914-1919 World War.

George William Ayres	1894 - 1917
Arthur Robert Dick Bacon	1898 - 1917
William Batters	1899 - 1915
Alan Jack Bridle	1899 - 1918
Alfred Brown	
Algernon Montgomerie Caulfield	1860 - 1915
Charles Angelo Carpenter	1876 - 1917
George Cole	1891 - 1917
Albert Corrigan	1897 - 1915
Joseph Edward Corrigan	1882 - 1918
Charles Jesse Cranham	1889 - 1918
Frederick Lewis Crow	1900 - 1917
Wilfred Douglas Stanley Dawes	1898 - 1917
Sidney Eade	1890 - 1914
Frederick Elkins	1892 - 1917
Harold Christopher Gaisford	1891 - 1918
Charles Gardiner	1883 - 1917
Albert John Green	1887 - 1914
Thomas Walter Green	1893 - 1916
Harry Hack	1883 - 1916
Albert Heath	1884 - 1918
Joseph John Hall	1869 - 1919
John Scott Huxley	1885 - 1916
Herbert William Jeffery	1888 - 1917
Harold Charles Linford Keable	1889 - 1915
Percy Frederick George Knight	1891 - 1917
Frederick Charles Mansey	1891 - 1916

Martin Edmund Maidment	1879 - 1916
Walter James March	1895 - 1916
Percy Marshall	1898 - 1916
Harold James Matthews	1890 - 1917
George William Warren Othen	1897 - 1918
Albert Parratt	1899 - 1918
Charles Ernest Parratt	1832 - 1914
Ernest V Parratt	
Lewis Parratt	1889 - 1919
Fred Wilfred Paviour	1885 - 1916
Frank Peacock	1879 - 1914
Edward James Piper(Usher)	1879- 1914
Alfred Thomas Shafe	1893 - 1915
Colin Stapley	1899 - 1916
Harry Stonard	1892 - 1916
Stuart Christian	1896 - 1918
Reginald Harry Tribe	1894 - 1919
William Charles Trimmer	1896 - 1917
Alex E Walford	1885 - 1915
George Henry Walford	1878 - 1915
Walter Wells	1887 - 1918
Frederick Wilkinson	1891 - 1916

George William Ayres 1894-1917

Private George Ayres, Service Number 32621, was born in Dippenhall in 1894, the son of Mary and Thomas Ayres of Trimmer's Almshouse in Farnham. He was married at St Andrew's Church, Farnham, to Mary Ann Elkins, youngest daughter of James and Eliza Elkins of the Street, Wrecclesham.



Mary Ann was living in the Street at the time of her husband's death

George served in the 5th Service Battalion of the Oxfordshire and Bucks Light Infantry (see Note 1) during World War1. He was killed in action in France on 3rd May 1917, aged 23.

The 5th (Service) Battalion was formed at Oxford in August 1914 as part of the First New Army (K1) and moved to Aldershot to join the 42nd Brigade of the 14th Division before being moved to Cranleigh.

In Februar 1915 the Battalion were moved to Salamanca Barracks, Aldershot, before on 21st May 1915 being mobilised for war. They landed at Boulogne and engaged in various actions on the Western Front.

George's memorial is to be found on Bay 6/7 on the Arras Memorial in the Pas de Calais. The Arras Memorial commemorates 34,795 servicemen from the United Kingdom, South Africa and New Zealand who died between the spring of 1916 and 7th August 1918 and who have no known grave.



Arthur Robert Dick Bacon

1897 – 1917

Lieutenant Arthur Robert Dick Bacon was born in Eversley, Hampshire, in the autumn of 1897. He died in France, aged 19, on 25th April 1917. Arthur was a Lieutenant in the 1st Battalion Princess Charlotte of Wales, Royal Berkshire Regiment. He is buried in Roclincourt Military Cemetery du Rionval, 62223 Roclincourt, Pas de Calais, France, Grave or Reference Panel Number: II. B. 12.

Arthur's parents were John Maunsell Bacon and Hilda Bacon and their address at the time of his death was Elnete, Shortheath, Wrecclesham, Farnham. John Bacon had been head-master of Winton House School, Manor Road, Aldershot. Arthur had an elder brother, John Nicholas Harris, born in 1895, and a younger sister, Dorothy Hilda, born in 1903.

Winton House School was a small private boarding school for boys and it is probable that Arthur was initially educated here whilst his brother, John, was boarding at the United Services College (USC) in Windsor. In 1912, the USC became the Haileybury and Imperial Services College, located near Hertford, and Arthur was one of the first twenty-three pupils to attend this school. As it was a school with a military background, Arthur participated in the important daily activities of the school's Officer Training Corps, enabling him to gain a commission with the rank of 2nd Lieutenant in the 1st Battalion, Royal Berkshire Regiment, at the start of World War 1.

Arthur was in action in the Battles of the Somme in 1916 and in the German Retreat to the Hindenburg Line in March 1917. In April 1917 the 1st Battalion was sent to relieve the 1st/6th Seaforths on the old German front line at Roclincourt, between Arras and Vimy. On 24th April 1917 they also relieved the 24th Battalion Royal Fusiliers in the

front line between Bailleul and Willerval. However, on the next day they came under constant enemy shelling and one officer and six other ranks were killed and one officer and six other ranks were wounded. Sadly, the officer killed that day was Lt. Arthur Robert Dick Bacon.



Roclincourt Military Cemetery du Rionval

William Batters

1899 - 1915

It has not been possible to identify precisely the Private William Batters who appears on the Wrecclesham Memorial. There are two soldiers by the name of William Batters who lost their lives in World War1, one serving with the Queen's Regiment, the other with the 3rd Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers. As a Surrey Regiment it is more than likely that a soldier from Wrecclesham would have joined the Queen's. However the William Batters in the Queen's has no noticeable connection with Wrecclesham, having been brought up in Merstham.

This Private William Batters was serving with the 2nd Battalion of Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment, Service Number 405. The Battalion mobilised for war in 1914 and landed at Zeebrugge and engaged in various actions on the Western Front including the First Battle of Ypres where the Division suffered such heavy casualties it took until 1915 to rebuild up to full strength.

William Batters died on 11th Feb 1915 and is buried in Sailly sur le lis churchyard in Pas de Calais.



Sailly sur le lis churchyard

Private William Batters in the Royal Fusiliers was born in Islington in 1899, the son of Arthur and Ann Batters. He was living in Wandsworth at the time of his enlistment aged 16. He joined the 3rd Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers, Service No. 405. The 3rd Battalion mobilised for war in January 1915 and landed at Le Havre where the Division was engaged in various actions on the Western front including the Second Battle of Ypres and the Battle of Loos.

William was killed in action in the Battle of Loos on 27th September 1915. He was buried at Loos Memorial Cemetery, Panel 25 – 27.

There can be little certainty that either of these is the Wreclesham William Batters as no connections with the village have come to light.



Loos Memorial Cemetery

Alan Jack Bridle

1899 – 1918

Private Alan Jack Bridle was born in Wrecclesham in 1899, the son of Walter and Ellen Bridle, who at the time of his death lived at Holly Cottage, Lower Bourne. He had two sisters, Ethel, born in 1891, and Mabel, born in 1905.

Walter was working as a grocer and baker. On 15th Jan 1899 Alan Jack was baptised at St Peter's church by Revd Charles Keable. The family address at this time was Clay Hill, Wrecclesham. Clay Hill was the name then given to what is now known as School Hill.

Jack enlisted, aged 17, in the 17th Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers and was killed in action on 1st May 1918 in the First Battle of Arras. His service number was 69564. He is buried at Cabaret Rouge British Cemetery, Souchez, France. Plot VIII No 49.

This can only be assumed because of the date of death. After the Armistice the Commonwealth War Graves Commission concentrated in Souchez the remains of 7,000 soldiers who had initially been interred on the battlefields of Arras and in 103 other burial grounds in the departments of Nord and Pas-de-Calais.





Cabaret Rouge British Cemetery, Souchez

Alfred Brown

1899

Alfred Wickham Brown was baptised at St Peter's church by Revd Charles Keable on 22nd March 1904, the son of William Edward and Louise Emily Brown of Woodcut, Wrecclesham. The Baptism Register suggests that he was born before 1899. However there is no other reference to him in either birth or census registrations. There are a large number of Alfred Browns in the World War 1 Death Registers and it has not yet proved possible to find records of Alfred's service history or to trace the date and place of his death.

Algernon Montgomerie Caulfield 1858-1915

Major Algernon Montgomerie Caulfield DSO was born in Ireland on 28th August 1858, the 4th son of Lieutenant Colonel Montgomerie Caulfield of Weston Park, Lucan, County Dublin. He was educated at the Royal Academy, Gosport, and Heidelberg College and, becoming a career soldier, joined the 66th Berkshire Regiment on 17th December 1881. He served as a Corporal in Afghanistan where, for outstanding conduct in the field, he was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal with clasp, an award that was presented to him by Queen Victoria .

Algernon was subsequently promoted to Sergeant before being given a commission in the 5th Fusiliers with whom he served in Burma 1886-88. It was here that he was mentioned in Despatches on 2nd September 1887 and created a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order (London Gazette, 25th November 1887). On 23rd February 1898 he was promoted to Major. He retired from the Army on 27th August 1902.

In 1897 Algernon married Edith Mabel Browning at St George's, Hanover Square. In 1911 Algernon and Edith were living at Flat G, 21 Cadogan Gardens, Chelsea, London S W with a 9- year old daughter Kathleen.

Algernon was recalled to serve in World War 1 as Second-in-Command of the 6th (Service) Battalion Border Regiment. The regiment was formed at Carlisle in August 1914. They first moved to Belton Park (Grantham) before in April 1915 moving to a tented camp in Frensham. The Battalion sailed for Gallipoli from Liverpool on 1st July 1915, landing at Helles on 20th July where they engaged in various actions against the Turkish Army.

Algernon was killed in action, aged 57, on 9th August 1915 during the fierce battles at Sylvia Bay in Gallipoli. His final resting place is unknown but he is included in the Helles Memorial at Canakkale in Turkey, name listed on Panel 119 to 125 or 222 and 223.

The Memorial is a tribute to the men who fell in the Gallipoli campaign. Inscribed on the monument are the names of 20,771 who died there. It stands on the tip of the Turkey Peninsula and is in the form of an obelisk over 30 meters high which can be seen by ships passing by on the Dardanelles.

At the time of Algernon's death his widow, Edith Mabel Caulfield, was living at the Moorings in Farnham. She later moved to live in Weybridge where she died, aged 86, in March 1956. It is not known if there was any other connection with St Peter's church.



The Helles Memorial

Charles Angelo Carpenter 1876 – 1917

Gunner Charles Angelo Carpenter was born in Binsted in 1876, the son of Angelo Carpenter and Marie Louise Carpenter. The 1901 Census shows Charles's parents, Angelo and Maria Louise, who had been married in Rowledge in 1875, to be living in Lodge Road, Binsted, with four children living at home, sons William aged 13, Henry aged 10, John aged 8 and a daughter Emilie aged 11. The Census shows that Angelo was born in 1846 and was working as a labourer and that Marie Louise had been born in Montpeliard in France in 1849. Angelo and Maria had a family of 6 children, 5 boys and a girl. The Census failed to record Charles Angelo, who would have been 25 at the time of the Census, and Alexander George who was not born until 1891. Charles had been baptised at Rowledge on 28th May 1876 by Revd Arthur William Parker. At that time the family were living in Bucks Horn Oak and his father was working as a labourer.

At some time before he served in World War 1 Charles had married and his next of kin is recorded as Maria Carpenter who was then living at 18, Gwydr Rd, Dolgarrog, Conway, Carnarvonshire.

It is not certain when Charles joined the Army but it is recorded that in World War 1 he was serving in A Battery of the 79th Brigade of the Royal Field Artillery (see Note 2). His Service Number was 108687 and his rank was Gunner

It is thought that Charles died in the Battle of Arras on 24th April 1917 aged 41 and is buried at Fabourg d'Amiens Cemetery in Arras, Pas de Calais, France. Grave reference is IV. C 14. The cemetery contains over 2,650 Commonwealth burials of the First World War, 10 of which are unidentified. At the time of Charles's death his mother Marie Louise is living as a widow at Wood View, Woodcut Estate, Wrecclesham, her

husband, Angelo, having passed away in Farnham in 1913. Maria remained living there until the mid 1920s.



George Cole

1891 – 1917

Driver George Cole was born in Rowledge in 1891, the son of George and Alma Charlotte Cole, who lived at 8 Beavers Yard, West Street, Farnham. George was baptised in Rowledge on May 31st 1891. In 1901 the Census records that the Cole family had four children, three boys and a girl, George aged 10, William aged 7, Florena, aged 3 and Stephen aged 1. By the time of the 1911 Census George, aged 20, had enlisted in the Army and is shown as serving in the 86th Battery of the Royal Field Artillery (see Note 2) at Minden Barracks, Deep Cut, Farnborough.

George was mobilised for World War 1 in 1914 and became a Driver serving with the 134th Battery 32nd Brigade Royal Field Artillery. His service number was 56148. He embarked for France early in the War and was serving in various locations. He died of wounds received in active service on 20th October 1917.

He is buried in the British Cemetery at Etaples sur Mer, Grave reference Part II UK Graves A to C. During the First World War the area around Etaples, which is located about 27 kms south of Boulogne, was the scene of immense concentrations of Commonwealth reinforcement camps and hospitals.



The British Cemetery at Etaples sur Mer

Albert Edward Corrigan

1897 – 1915

Private Albert Corrigan was born in 1897 in Wrecclesham, the youngest son of nine children, 3 boys and 6 girls, of Michael Andrew Corrigan and Jane Corrigan (nee Harwood). His father Michael was a basket maker. He and Jane had married in Hartley Wintney where they had the first of their children, William. Michael had been born in Glasgow, Jane in Romsey. The rest of their family were born in Farnham, including their second son Joseph Edward, whose life is considered in the next profile. The family moved to Farnham and later to Wrecclesham where, as recorded in successive Censuses towards the end of the 19th century, they lived at 15 Wagon Yard and at Myrtle Cottage. In the early 20th century they were living at 3 River Row, Wrecclesham.

In the 1911 Census Jane is shown as living on her own, with eight of her children, at 4 River Row. Six of the children were then working. The census records that she is married but this record has been crossed out and ‘widow’ added, presumably by the enumerator. However this is clearly a mistake as the couple would remain living in River Row for more than 20 years beyond this date. It is possible they lived separately at the time.

At the tender age of 17 Albert Edward joined the 2nd/4th Battalion Queen’s (Royal West Surrey Regiment), Service No. T/2120. The Battalion was mobilised for war in July 1915 and embarked from Devonport for Gallipoli. In August 1915 the Battalion was engaged in various actions against the Turkish Army. On the 9th August 1915 Albert Edward was killed in action in Gallipoli, aged 18. While in Gallipoli the Queen’s Regiment suffered severe casualties from combat, disease and harsh weather, which reduced the 2nd/4th Battalion to 162 officers and 2428 men (approx 15% of its strength).

Albert's name is included on the Helles Memorial, Panel 30 and 31 (see under Algernon Caulfield).

It was an extremely sad time for his parents as, apart from losing her youngest son Albert, they would lose their older son, Joseph Edward, three years later.

1933 was another bad year for the family as Jane died in March, aged 74, and her husband Michael was to follow her in April, aged 78. Both parents were buried in St Peter's cemetery, Jane on 29th March in Row R. Grave 12 and Michael on 16th Jun in the adjacent Row R. Grave 13. The burial services were conducted by Revd Leonard Storey.



The Helles Memorial

Joseph Edward Corrigan

1882 – 1918

Private Joseph Edward Corrigan was born in Farnham in 1882, son of Michael and Jane Corrigan (see under Albert Corrigan above). The 1911 Census shows the addition of a further boy Albert but Jane is erroneously shown as a widow. Michael Andrew is not present at the time. Joseph is shown to be working as a carter. Albert Edward is still at school.

Shortly after, in March 1915, Joseph enlisted in 18th Battalion. the Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex) Regiment, Service No. PW/347. He was sent to war after eight months training in Clymton Camp, Nottingham. In November 1915 they were moved to France. The regiment was involved in the Somme offensive in July 1916. In 1917 the Regiment carried out a flanking assault on the Hindenburg line and after a rest moved to Ypres where they were at the Battle of Menin Ridge and Polygon Wood.

In 1916 Joseph received a wound in the side and in May 1918 he was gassed. After a further dose of gas in 1918 he was transferred to the Labour Company. On 7th September 1918 he was killed by a shell which landed in the house in which the company was billeted.

Joseph was buried at Farbourg D'Amiens Cemetery, Pas de Calais Ref: Vii FB. Joseph left a wife Fanny and child who at the time of his death were living at 4 St Mary's Place, Farnham.



Farbourg D'Amiens Cemetery

Charles Jesse Cranham

1889-1918

Charles Jesse Cranham was born in Wrecclesham in 1889 and baptised at St Peter's church on 27th January 1889, in a baptism conducted by Revd C.E Steward. Charles was one of eight children of Walter and Sarah Cranham, seven boys and a girl. Walter was a general labourer. In 1891 they were living in Shortheath Road. In the 1901 Census the family was living in Wrecclesham Street.

In the 1911 Census Charles Jesse was living at home in Church Lane, Wrecclesham, aged 22. At the time Charles, who was commonly known as Jesse, was working as a car-man.

In September 1914 Jesse was recruited to serve in the 7th Battalion of the Queen' s West Surrey Regiment, Service Number G/1526. In May 1915 they were moved to Salisbury Plain before being mobilised to war and landed at Boulogne.

The 7th Battalion were soon into action in 1916 and sadly Jesse Cranham was killed in action on 1st July 1916, aged 27, in the very first of the Battalion's engagements on the Somme, the Battle of Bazentin Ridge (see Note 3).

Jesse was buried at the Thiepval Memorial in Department de la Somme, Picardy, France. His grave is at Pier and Face 5d and 6d.

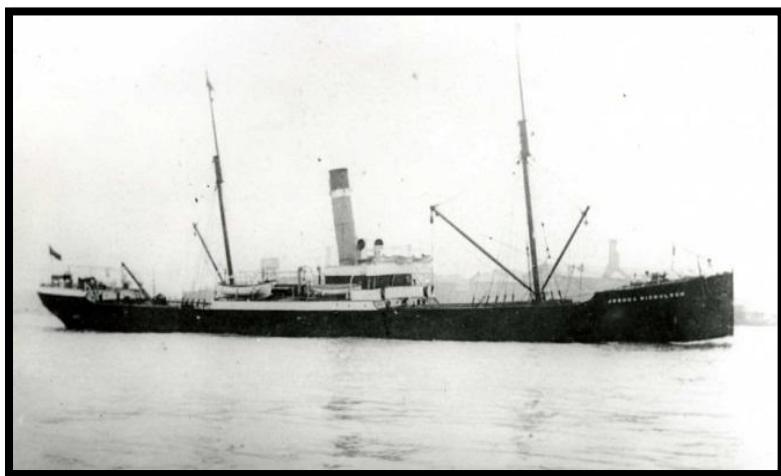


The Thiepval Memorial

Frederick Lewis Crow 1900 – 1917

Able Seaman Frederick Lewis Crow was born in Wreclesham in 1900, the son of Edith and Lewis Crow who lived in the Upper Bourne. Lewis had married Edith Loretta Stacey at St Peter's church, Wreclesham, on 17th August 1895. Frederick was their eldest son. In the 1911 Census the family is living in the Upper Bourne and Lewis and Edith have six children, three boys and three girls, all under 14. Lewis was a gravel pit worker and Frederick the eldest boy, aged 11, was still at school. Frederick had been baptised at St Peter's church on 4th March 1900 by Revd Charles Keable.

At some time around 1916, Frederick had joined the Mercantile Marine as an Able Seaman and was serving on the SS Joshua Nicholson, a cargo ship built on Tyneside in 1880. She was torpedoed and sunk by German U Boat U70 off Wolf Rock, close to Lands End in Cornwall, in 1917 en route from London to Alexandra. 26 members of the crew were lost including Frederick who died in this action on 13th October 1917.



SS Joshua Nicholson

Wilfred Douglas Stanley Dawes 1897 – 1917

Air Mechanic 1st Grade Wilfred Douglas Stanley Dawes was born in Bentley, Hampshire, on 29th August 1897, the son of Henry and Jane Dawes (nee Winter). Henry, born in Binsted, and Jane, born in Selborne, were married in the Alton Registration District in 1876. In the 1901 Census Henry, aged 49, and Jane, aged 47, were living at St James Cottages, Wreclesham, with their two sons Henry, who was 11, and Wilfred, who was 3. Father Henry at this time was working as a groom and gardener. In the 1911 Census Henry and Jane were living at the Bat and Ball Public House in Wreclesham where Henry , aged 59, is recorded as being an inn-keeper. Their son Henry had left home by this time but Wilfred aged 13 is shown as a student.

In 1916 Wilfred enlisted in the Royal Naval Air Service (see Note 4) as an air mechanic, Service Number F/8938. He was serving on HMS President and died on 29th January 1917. His death is commemorated at the Civil Cemetery in Deal, Kent, where the location of his grave is C Block 2 No 1288.



Sydney Eade

1889 – 1914

Private Sydney Eade was born on 31st May 1889 in the Upper Bourne, Wreclesham, the son of Minnie Wilkinson. There appears to be no birth or baptism registration for Sydney and, as he retains the surname Eade, it is presumed he was illegitimate. Minnie was the daughter of Alfred James and Fanny Eade (nee Nash) who had been married at St Peter's church on 17th November 1877. The Eade family was living in Upper Bourne and appear in the 1891, 1901 and 1911 Censuses which record Alfred James as being a labourer. There is no record of Minnie having been born but it is assumed she was their first born child, Alice, who was born in 1878 and subsequently adopted an alternative name. Sydney's father was a Canadian soldier, Private R.E.A. Wilkinson, and in 1914 Minnie was living at 107b Linden Grove, Nunhead, Surrey. There is no record of a marriage between the couple. There is however a service record which confirms this parentage and that Fanny Eade is Sydney's grandmother. It is assumed that Sydney was brought up by his grandmother as he appears living with his grandparents in the 1901 Census but is referred to as 'son'.

At the age of 18 years and 2 months, on 30th September 1907, Sydney signed up for a 7 year term with the 2nd Battalion of the Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment, Service Number. 9124. On enrolment Sydney had been working as an indoor servant. Sydney had an eventful early service with the Queen's which between 1907 and 1914 took him to Colchester, Gibraltar, Bermuda and South Africa. In October 1914 the Queen's were mobilised for war from Lyndhurst and landed at Zeebrugge where they were engaged in various actions on the Western Front. Sydney was killed in action on 30th October 1914 soon after arriving in Belgium. He died in the Battle of Ypres, where he is commemorated on the Memorial at Menin Gate for soldiers who were

killed in the Ypres Salient of World War I and whose graves are unknown.



Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing

Frederick Elkins

1892 – 1917

Private Frederick Elkins was born in Wrecclesham in 1892, the son of James Elkins and Constance Eliza Elkins of Moons Hill, Frensham, Surrey. Frederick Elkins was baptised at St Peter's church, Wrecclesham, on 7th August 1892. He is also recorded in the 1901 Census with parents James and Eliza living in the Street, Wrecclesham. The family at the time consisted of five children, four boys and a girl.

Frederick was to serve in the 11th Battalion of the Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment, Service Number G6705. The 11th Battalion were in Aldershot in February 1916 where they were mobilised for war, landing at Le Havre on 5th May 1916. They were in action in the battles around Ypres in 1917 and it was here that Frederick was killed in action on 16th May 1917. He was buried at Dickebusch New Military Cemetery, West Flanders, Belgium, in Plot B 10.



Harold Christopher Gaisford

1891- 1918

Sapper Harold Christopher Gaisford was born in Warminster, Wilts, in 1891, the son of Joseph and Rose Gaisford. In the 1891 Census Harold was the youngest member of the family which included six children, four boys and two girls. In the 1901 Census Joseph is living in 39 George Street, Warminster, with his six children. Harold is by this time 10 years of age. His father who had been a carpenter in 1891 is by 1901 describing himself as a builder. Joseph is shown as being a widower, his wife Rose having died in 1899.

In 1901 Joseph was remarried at Christ Church, Epsom, to a lady called Emily Perrin Parker, but his second marriage did not last long as he died at Woodcote, Wrecclesham, on 29th October 1910. The 1911 Census shows Harold Christopher living with his stepmother Emily at Woodcote. Emily is aged 41 and is described as an Elementary School teacher. Harold is aged 20 and is working as a carpenter.

On 14th January 1915 Harold enlisted in the Royal Engineers as a Carpenter, Service Number 65029. He was posted to the 130th Field Company of the Royal Engineers and on 27th September 1915 he was to join the British Expeditionary Force in France. In July 1916 he sustained a shell wound to his leg. He was ultimately killed in action on 10th April 1918. A memorial to his life is recorded at the Ploegsteert Memorial, Comines Warneeton, Hainaut, Belgium, on Panel 1. The Ploegsteert Memorial to the Missing (also known as Hyde Park Corner and referred to colloquially as "Plug Street") is a Commonwealth War Graves Commission memorial for the missing soldiers of World War I who fought in the immediate area of the Ypres Salient on the Western Front.

Charles Gardiner

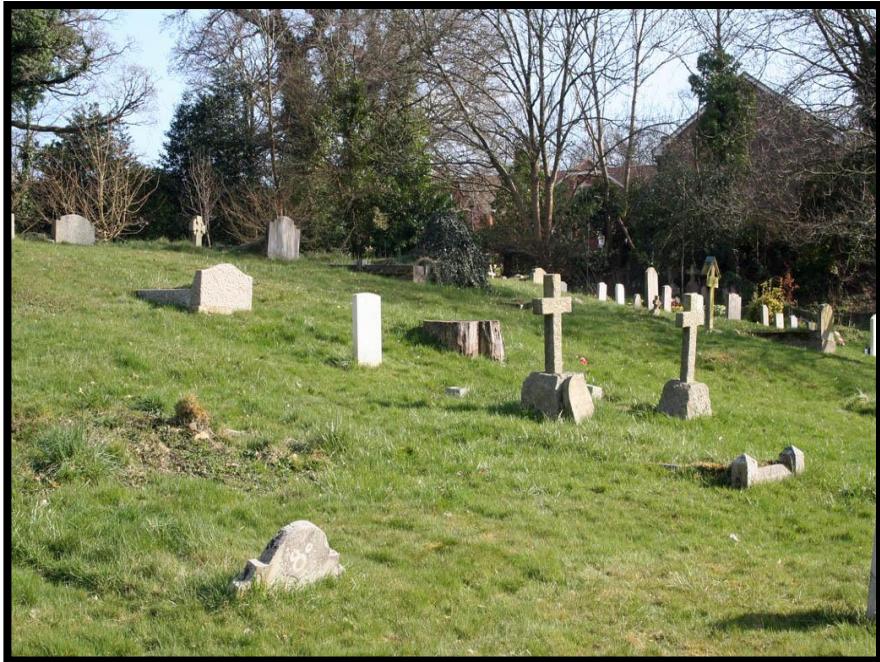
1883 - 1917

Private Charles Gardiner had been born in Compton in 1883, the son of James and Lizzie Gardiner (nee Trusler). In 1881 James and Lizzie were living in the Bourne with four children, two boys and two girls. Lizzie sadly died in Farnham in 1890, leaving James a widower. In 1891 he was living with four children in Compton. His son Charles was at the time just 5 years old. By 1901 the family is living in Shortheath and Charles is 16 and working as a labourer.

Shortly after this Census Charlie, as he was known, married a lady called Lucy Clark. The wedding took place at St Peter's church on 22nd November 1902 and was conducted by Revd Charles Keable. It is known from the Army Records of 1911 that Charles and Lucy had five children, two boys and three girls. They were then living at Sandrock Cottage, Upper Bourne.

In 1915, shortly after the birth of his 5th child, Charles enlisted in the army. He was posted to join 5th Army Service Corps (Remounts), Service Number R\$/095840. On 13th June 1916 he embarked from Southampton to join the British Expeditionary Force arriving at Le Havre the next day.

Charles served for just over a year in France but in June 1917 he was invalided back to England. He was admitted to the Royal Hampshire County Hospital in Winchester suffering from myocarditis. His condition did not improve and on 15th October 1917 he died aged 34 of pneumonia. Charles was buried at St Peter's church, Wreclesham, cemetery on 18th October 1917, Row H Grave No 6.



Wrecclesham Cemetery

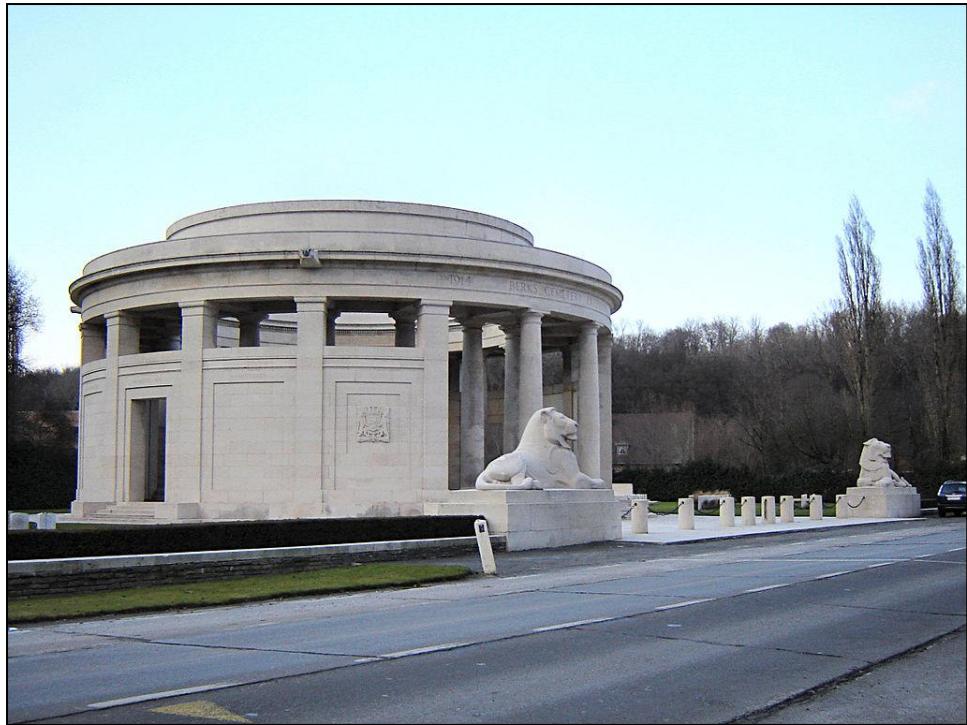
Albert John Green

1887– 1914

Private Albert John Green was born in Wreclesham in 1887. He was baptised at St Peter's church on 20th November 1887 by Revd L.H. Burrows. His parents were Charles and Charlotte Green (nee Parratt) and they had four children, two boys and two girls. The couple lived in Shortheath where Charles was a market gardener. In 1911 the family address was Parkside, Upper Bourne. However by the time of the 1911 Census Albert was not living at home as he had married a lady called Emily Kadman. The marriage at St Peter's church took place on 23rd October 1809. Albert is recorded at this time as working as a market gardener, presumably with his father. Neither Albert nor Emily can be found in the 1911 Census.

Albert, who was 22 at the time of his marriage, joined the 2nd Battalion of the Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment) at the outset of World War 1 in 1914, Service No. S/695. The 2nd Battalion was mobilised for war and landed at Zeebrugge on 6th October 1914. The Battalion was involved in preliminary skirmishes on the Western Front before in late 1914 becoming involved in the first Battle of Ypres where they had a heavy loss of life. The First Battle of Ypres, also called the First Battle of Flanders, was fought for the strategically important town of Ypres in western Belgium in October and November 1914. Albert John Green was killed in action on 18th December 1914.

Albert is buried in the Ploegsteert Memorial in Belgium. The Ploegsteert Memorial commemorates more than 11,000 missing British Commonwealth servicemen who died in the immediate area of the Ypres Salient on the Western Front.



Ploegsteert Memorial

Thomas Walter Green

1893 - 1916

Private Thomas Walter Green was born in Wrecclesham in 1893, the son of Thomas and Jane Green. He was baptised at St John the Evangelist church, Hale, on 13th August 1893.

Thomas had enlisted in the 1st/5th Territorial Force of the Queen's (Royal Surrey) Regiment in August 1914 at the age of 21, Service Number T/240160. After a short training in Guildford, the Regiment embarked to India arriving in Bombay in December 1914. A year later the Regiment was broken up and Thomas was deployed to Basra, Iraq, with the 12th Indian Division. In May 1916 the Brigade transferred to the 15th Indian Division. It was in Basra that Thomas died on 23rd August 1916, aged 23. Thomas is commemorated in the Baghdad (North Gate) War Memorial Plot 1.



Baghdad (North Gate) War Memorial

Harry Hack

1883 – 1916

Gunner Harry Hack was born in 1883, the son of John and Eliza Hack who lived in the Hatches, Wrecclesham. John and Eliza had a large family with ten children, five boys and five girls. Harry was their second son and he was baptised at St Peter's church on 1st April 1883. Harry's father John was working as an agricultural labourer. In the 1911 Census Harry, aged 18, is shown as working as a farm labourer. By the time of the 1911 Census Harry had progressed to being a carter.

In 1914 Harry enlisted in the 14th Brigade of the Royal Horse Artillery, a branch of the Royal Field Artillery (see Note 2), Service Number 15232. Harry was to die from his wounds on 22nd September 1916 on the Western Front. We have no detail of where he received his wounds but it is known that he was buried at the Dermancourt Communal Cemetery Extension in the Department de la Seine, Picardy, France. His grave is registered as Plot III B.39.

Albert Heath 1884 - 1918

Private Albert Heath, popularly known as Bertie, was born in Farnham in 1884 and was baptised at St Peter's church, Wrecclesham, on 6th July 1884. Bertie was the son of Edward and Charlotte Matilda Heath (nee Penny). Charlotte had been born in Radlett, Herts, in 1842 and Edward, a tailor, was born in 1862 in Westbury, Bucks. In 1891 the Census shows them living in Shortheath Road with their four children, one girl and three boys, of whom the youngest is Bertie. In the 1901 Census Albert is living as the only remaining child with his parents in Shortheath Road. By 1911 Charlotte is a widow, Edward having died in 1903 when he was buried in St Peter's church. Albert has by this time enlisted in the army and is serving with the 2nd Battalion of the Coldstream Guards (Service Number 6883) and is stationed in Rammillies Barracks in Aldershot.

At some time before World War 1 Albert was married and his next of kin was recorded as Ellen Heath who was living in Chepstow.

In 1914 Albert was transferred to the Army Service Corps, Service Number M/39672. He was to serve in France and Flanders where he was wounded. Returning to England he died of those wounds on 12th August 1918, aged 35. There is no record of where he has been buried.

Joseph John Hall

1869 – 1919

Company Quarter Master Sergeant Joseph John Hall was born in 1869, the son of James Charles Hall who was a carpenter living in Knaphill, Woking. It has not been possible to find credible census records of the earlier years of either Joseph, his father James or his mother. However it is known that Joseph was married to a lady called Lily Stevens. The wedding took place at St John's Church, Woking, on 17th July 1897.

Joseph had been serving as a regular soldier in the 12th Battalion of the Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment, Service Number 6272. He had served in the South African campaign. Joseph died on 16th June 1916, aged 47. It is thought that he died in England. He was buried in the Wrecclesham Cemetery, Row. J. Grave 18. The burial service was conducted by Revd Charles H. Keable.

It must have been a moving occasion for Revd Keable as his own son, Harold, had been killed in action at the Battle of Loos just one year before.

At the time of his death Joseph's wife, Lily Stevens, was living at Broadwells, Wrecclesham. The Surrey Electoral Rolls show Lily to continue living in Wrecclesham until the outbreak of World War 2, initially at Broadwells and later at West End Cottages.



**Joseph John Hall's Grave
In Wreclesham cemetery**

John Scott Huxley

1885 – 1916

2nd Lieutenant John Scott Huxley was born in Canterbury in 1885, the son of George Thomas Scott Huxley and Emily Charlotta Huxley, of "Dropmore", Shortheath, Farnham, Surrey. John Scott came from an ancient family with Canterbury connections and was descended from Sir Walter Scott . In 1901 John, aged 15, is living in Tonbridge with his mother, his brother Thomas, aged 15, and sisters Margaret, aged 18, and Mary, aged 7. In 1911 John Scott is living as a boarder in County House, Brecon, where he is shown as working as an architect. At some time before he enlisted in the Army, John married a lady called Eva Kathleen. It has not proved possible to trace the wedding.

John Scott joined the 10th Company of the Machine Gun Corps which was formed in 1915 (see Note 5). He was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant and was sent to France. John Scott was killed in action in France on 15th July 1916, aged 30, in the battle to capture the village of Thiepval. The Thiepval memorial to the Missing of the Somme bears the names of more than 72,000 officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20th March 1918 and have no known grave. John Scott Huxley is commemorated at Pier and Face 5C and 12C of the Thiepval Memorial.

At the time of his death John Huxley's widow, Eva Kathleen, was living at 2, Hill Court, Dorchester Rd, Weymouth, Dorset. His parents were living at "Dropmore", Shortheath, Farnham. Eva was later to move to Reigate where she lived at 2 Eversfield Road. She remained a widow and died in December 1970 aged 86. John's mother continued to live in Shortheath Road until her death in December 1938.

Record of 2nd Lieut John Scott Huxley's service is to be found in the
National Archives Ref: WO 339/36734



The Thiepval Memorial

Herbert William Jeffery

1888 -1917

Sergeant Herbert William Jeffery was born in Wrecclesham in 1888, the son of James and Dorcas Bertha Jeffery, who lived at 9 Fairthorne Terrace, Wrecclesham. Herbert was baptised at St Andrew's church, Farnham on 26th November 1888.

In the 1891 and 1901 Censuses the family is living at Fairthorne Crescent. Herbert's father was working as a brewer's cooper. They had six children, four girls and two boys. Herbert is their youngest son and is then aged 12 . By the time of the 1911 Census all the boys had left home. Herbert, aged 22, is living at 52 Rushes Road, Petersfield, as a boarder. He was then working as a cooper.

In 1914 Herbert enlisted in the 2nd/9th Battalion (County of London) Battalion of the Queen Victoria Rifles, Service Number 391217. He was killed in action on 27th September 1917. He is commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 151.

Tyne Cot Cemetery is the resting place of 11,954 soldiers of the Commonwealth Forces. This is the largest number of burials contained in any Commonwealth cemetery of either the First or Second World War. It is the largest Commonwealth military cemetery in the world.



Tyne Cot Memorial

Harold Charles Linford Keable

1889-1915

On the north wall of the Lady Chapel at St Peter's Church, Wrecclesham, is this window of St Michael, with the following dedication:



To the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of
2nd Lieut. Harold Charles Keable,
8th Service Battalion, Royal Berkshire Regiment,
younger and dearly loved son of
Charles Henry Keable, Vicar of this Parish
and Constance May his wife
Who gave his life at the Battle of Loos, Sept 25 1915
Aged 26 years.
This Chapel is given by his parents and brother.

2nd Lieutenant Harold Charles Linford Keable was born in Luton, Bedfordshire, in 1889. He was the second son of Charles Henry Keable,

who was later to become Vicar of Wrecclesham, and Constance Mary Linford.

The Revd Charles Henry Keable was installed as Vicar of Wrecclesham in 1890. In the Census of 1891 Revd Keable, aged 38, is shown as living in the vicarage in Wrecclesham, where he resides with his wife Constance, two sons, Rupert Henry, aged 3, and Harold Charles Linford, aged 2. In the 1901 Census the family is still living in Wrecclesham. Rupert, aged 13, and Harold, aged 12, are presumably scholars, though this is not shown on the Census document

In the 1911 Census Harold Keable is shown to be living alone, aged 22, at Court Lodge Cottages, Horton Kirby, Dartford, Kent. His occupation is shown as agricultural student. It is envisaged that he was studying at Wye College, an Agricultural College of the University of London situated in the Village of Wye near Canterbury. It is understood that he went to work in Egypt for two years before the war.

We know from the dedication on the Church window that Harold Keable joined the army soon after the outbreak of World War I and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Berkshire Regiment. His army record shows that he was sent to France in August 1915 and was killed in action one month later on 25th September 1915 at Nouex les Mines, France, on the first day of the Battle of Loos. He is buried in the Bois Carre Military Cemetery near the village of Haisnes, Pas de Calais.

Harold's Father, Revd Charles Henry Keable, was Vicar of Wrecclesham from 1890 to 1923, a period of 33 years. He died on 10th August 1923 and was buried in the graveyard on School Hill on 10th August that year (Grave D2). His wife Constance Mary died three years later in June 1926 and is buried alongside him (Grave D3). Apart from the gift of the window, at Easter 1914 Revd Charles Henry Keable also gave the church a Litany Desk. Harold left his father his two dogs in his will!

Percy Frederick George Knight

1891 – 1917

Sergeant Percy Knight was born in Chertsey in 1891, the only son of Frederick and Alice Adelaide Knight, formerly of Ottershaw, Chertsey, Surrey, who in 1914 were living at 19, Sloughton Rd, Guildford, Surrey. Percy was baptised at Christ Church, Ottershaw, on 25th October 1891. In the 1911 Census Percy's father Frederick was a police sergeant living at Newtown, Lingfield, Surrey. Percy was 19 at this time and was working as an electrical engineer.

Percy enlisted in the Royal Garrison Artillery (see Note 7) with the 126th Siege Battalion, Service Number 68702.

Percy Knight was killed in action in Belgium on 5th July 1917, aged 25, and is buried at Vlamertinghe New Military Cemetery in Ypres (West Flanders), Belgium

At the time of his death the army records show that Percy's home was in Wrecclesham.



Vlamertinghe New Military Cemetery



Frederick Charles Mansey

1891 – 1916

Private Frederick Mansey was born in Farnham in 1891, the son of Jonathon and Mary Mansey who in 1911 were living at Shortheath Cottage, Shortheath, Wreclesham. In 1911 Jonathon was working as a gardener. They have eight children, three girls and five boys of whom Frederick is the second youngest. In 1911 Frederick is 20 years of age and is working as a bricklayer.

In December 1915 Frederick, aged 24, enlisted in the 7th Battalion of the Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment, Service Number G/7566, and embarked for France, in February 1916 landing at Boulogne. He was killed in action in France on 28th September 1916, aged 25. On 26th September 1916 the 7th Battalion of the Queen's was involved in the Battle of Thiepval Ridge.

Frederick was buried in the Regina Court Cemetery, Grandcourt, Grave reference IX F. 11.

Regina Court Cemetery is in the commune of Grandcourt.

The Cemetery now contains 2,279 burials and commemorations of the First World War. 1,077 of the burials are unidentified, but there are special memorials to 14 casualties believed to be buried among them. One American airman is also buried in the cemetery.



Regina Court Cemetery

Martin Edmond Maidment

1879- 1916

Private Martin Maidment was born in Shaftesbury in 1879, the son of Jeremiah and Caroline Maidment. They had six children, four boys and two girls. Martin was their second born child. The family lived in Dorset until 1891 when they moved to the Farnham area where they lived at Oak Cottage, Woodcut, Wrecclesham. In 1911 Jeremiah, aged 60, is working as a stonemason. Their son Martin, aged 32, is working as a bricklayer.

In 1914 Martin enlisted in the 11th Battalion of the Suffolk Regiment, Service Number 21635. After training, the Battalion were mobilised for war in January 1916 and landed at Boulogne, France, where they were immediately involved in various actions on the Western Front. During 1916 they took part in the Battle of Albert, the Battle of Bazentin Ridge and the Battle of Pozieres Ridge. Martin was killed in action on 3rd August 1916. The date of his death would suggest that he was killed in action at the battle of Pozires Ridge. Martin has a memorial at the Thiepval memorial, Pier and Face 1C and 2A.



The Suffolk Regiment

Walter James March

1895 - 1916

Lance Corporal Walter March was born in Portslade, Sussex, in 1895, the son of Richard and Rose March. In 1911 the family was living in River Row, Wrecclesham, where Walter is shown as an errand boy aged 16. His father Richard, who had been born in Arundel, is a carter and mother Rose, who had been born in Boundstone, is a charwoman. He has one sister, Hilda, who was born in Lower Bourne, who is 12 and still at school. At the outset of the war the March family were living at 18 Fairthorne Terrace, Farnham.

Walter enlisted in the 2nd Battalion Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment, Service Number L/10519. The 2nd Battalion was mobilised for war and landed at Zeebrugge and engaged in various actions on the Western Front in 1916 including the Battle of Albert, the Battle of Bazentin and the Battle of Delville Wood.

Walter March was killed in action on 14th July 1916, aged 21.

The Battle of Albert was concluded on 13th July, the day before Walter was killed. It is however likely that he was killed in Bazentin which began on 14th July whereas the Battle of Delville Wood did not start until 15th July.

Walter's contribution to the war is remembered at the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme which is a major war memorial to 72,195 missing British and South African men who died in the Battles of the Somme of the First World War and who had no known grave. The Memorial is near the village of Thiepval, Picardy, in France. Walter's memorial is at Pier and Face 5d and 6d.

Percy Marshall

1898 - 1916

Rifleman Percy Marshall, who was born in 1898 in Haslemere, was the son of James and Kate Marshall. James was a builder and he had a large family of eight children, six boys and two girls. Percy was the youngest son. In the 1901 Census the family is living in Gold House, Shottermill. By the time of the 1911 Census Kate Marshall is living with her three boys, including Percy, aged 13, with her nephew who is a publican in West Liss, nr Petersfield. Kate has been shown as a widow in the 1911 Census but it has not yet been possible to find a record of her husband's death. The Forces War Record lists Percy's parents as the late James and Kate Marshall, of Forest Rd, East Liss, Hants. There does not appear to be any connection with St Peter's church.

Percy was enlisted in the 2nd Battalion, the Rifle Brigade (see Note 8), Service Number S.11739. In 1914 the 2nd Battalion was mobilised for war, landed at Le Havre and were engaged in various actions on the Western Front.

During 1916 the main action was in the Battle of the Somme and it is thought that Percy Marshall was killed in this action on 23rd August 1916. He is buried in the Boulogne Eastern Cemetery, Grave Number VIII. B. 155.



Boulogne Eastern Cemetery

Harold James Matthews

1890 - 1917

Bandmaster Harold James Matthews was born in Gibraltar in 1890, the son of James and Amy Mary Matthews (nee Turner). In 1901 Harold was living at 16 Vine Street, Aldershot. According to army records his parents were living in a house called 'Rosia' in Wrecclesham at the outset of the war. On 29th May 1915 Harold was married, aged 25, in St Philip and St James's church, Whitton, Middlesex, to Dorothy Frances Evetts. At the time Harold gave his address as Morval, Kneller Road, Twickenham. It is presumed that he was at this time stationed at the Kneller Hall Military School of Music. Dorothy is living at the same address at the time of the marriage and it would appear that her father is also involved with military music as he is shown as a Sergeant Major on the wedding certificate.

Harold was enlisted in the 1st Battalion Royal Irish Rifles, Service Number 4761. In 1914 the 1st Battalion moved to Hursley Park, Winchester, to join the 25th Brigade of the 8th Division where they were mobilised for war and landed at Le Havre and engaged in various actions on the Western Front including in 1915 the Battle of Neuve Chapelle, the Battle of Aubers and the action of Bois Grenier.

In 1916 the 1st Battalion were involved in the Battle of Albert. In early 1917 they took part in the Battle of Langemarck. Harold died on 16th Feb 1917 and was buried at St Peter's cemetery on School Hill on 22nd February 1917, Row J Grave 19. The Burial service was conducted by Revd Charles H Keable. It is not certain what the cause of death was and why he was back in England at the time of his burial.

George William Warren Othen

1897 – 1918

Stoker George William Warren Othen was born in Wrecclesham in 1897, the son of George and Mary Jane Othen. Father George is a labourer and they live at 3 Lowndes Building, Farnham. George Junior was baptised at St Peter's church, Wrecclesham, on 7th November 1897 by Revd Charles Keable.

In 1901 George, aged 4, is living with his grandparents at 3 Lowndes Buildings. His grandfather, aged 66, was a general labourer.

At the beginning of the war George enlisted in the Royal Navy. He was serving as a Stoker 1st Class on HMS Idaho (see Note 9). He died on 1st November 1918, aged 21, from disease he contracted aboard HMS Idaho. He was buried at the cemetery on School Hill, Wrecclesham, on 7th November 1918.



George Othen's Grave in Wrecclesham Cemetery

Albert Parratt

1899 – 1918

Private Albert Parratt was born in 1899, the son of Mrs Ellen Parratt of Tilford Cottage, Upper Bourne Lane, Wrecclesham. In 1911 Ellen and her son Albert were living at Tilford Cottage with her mother Jane who had six children, four boys and two girls.

On 1st May 1917 Albert enlisted with 7th Battalion of the Leicestershire Regiment, Service Number 41620. The Leicestershire Regiment raised a total of 19 Battalions during the course of the First World War and served in France and Flanders, Mesopotamia and Palestine, losing approximately 6,000 men throughout the war. Albert joined his Battalion in France in May 1917 where they were then involved in the second Battle of Passchendale. Albert was killed in action on 25th April 1918. It is likely that this was in the Battle of Messines which was fought from 7th to 29th April. He was commemorated in the Tyne Cot Memorial Cemetery, Panel 50 – 51.

Tyne Cot Cemetery, located 9 kms North East of Ypres town centre in Belgium, is the resting place of 11,954 soldiers of the Commonwealth Forces. This is the largest number of burials contained in any Commonwealth cemetery of either the First or Second World War. It is the largest Commonwealth military cemetery in the world.



Tyne Cot Cemetery



The Leicestershire Regiment

Charles Ernest Parratt

1882 - 1914

Able Seaman Charles Parratt was the son of Henry and Louisa Parratt. Charles was born in Newington, Surrey, on 21st August 1882. In 1891 Henry, who had been born in Farnham, was serving as a policeman in Bermondsey and living at 15 Fairthorn Crescent, Lewisham, with his wife, Louisa, and four children, two boys and two girls. Charles, who was 9 at the time, was attending Dalmain Road School, Lewisham. The 1911 Census shows Henry to have retired from the police and now living at Holt View, Rowledge. Two years prior to this Census, on 2nd January 1909, Charles had married a lady called Bertha Parratt. The wedding was held at St Peter's church and conducted by Revd Henry Stenning. At the time of her wedding Bertha had been living at 15 Fairthorn Terrace, Wreclesham, where her parents John and Annie Parratt were living with a family of five children, three boys and two girls. Bertha's father was a railway labourer.

It is not known for certain when Charles joined the Royal Navy but in 1901, aged 18, he was in Gibraltar aboard the cruiser HMS Minerva. The 1911 Census finds him serving as an able seaman aboard HMS Foresight, then in harbour at Grimsby on the river Humber. HMS Foresight was part of the 3rd Destroyer Flotilla of the Home Fleet. His service number was 203270. By 1914 Charles had been transferred to the cruiser HMS Cressy.

Charles died aboard HMS Cressy on 22nd September, aged 32. His name appears on the Chatham Naval Memorial, Plot 2. Following Charles's death, Bertha remained a widow and died childless on 19th December 1945. She lived on the Broadwells estate. She was buried at St Peter's on 22nd December 1945.



Chatham Naval Memorial

Ernest V Parratt

It has not been possible to trace Ernest V Parratt in either birth registration or census records. There is no Ernest V Parratt in either the records of the Commonwealth Graves Commission or the Forces War records website.

Lewis Parratt

1889 – 1919

Lewis Parratt was born in Wreccelsham in 1889, the son of George Barley and Jane Parratt (nee Porter). George and Jane had been married at St Peter's church on 28th May 1870. The family appears in the 1881, 1891, 1901 and 1911 Censuses. In the earlier Censuses they are living in Lower Bourne. In the 1911 Census Jane is living in Tilford Cottage, Boundstone, now a widow. George had died in February 1903 and was buried at St Peter's cemetery on 4th February. George and Jane had seven children, five boys and two girls. The older of the two girls, Ellen, born in 1870, had a young son Albert, born in 1899. It is possible that Ellen was an unmarried mother. Both Ellen and Albert are living with Jane in the 1901 and 1911 Censuses. Albert served and died in World War 1 and his life is detailed in an earlier section. Lewis, the subject of this profile, was Albert's uncle as Albert's mother Ellen was his sister.

Lewis enlisted in the 1st/ 7th Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment, Service Number 44055.

During World War 1 the Warwickshire Regiment raised 30 Battalions and was awarded 70 Battle Honours and 5 Victoria Crosses losing

11,610 men during the course of the war. The 1/7th Battalion was mobilised for war and landed at Le Havre in 1915. They engaged in various actions on the Western Front over the next 3 years. Lewis died on 13th July 1919, after World War 1 had ceased. It is likely that Lewis was injured in one of the battles towards the end of World War 1 and died in hospital. There can be no certainty about the battle in which he was injured but it was obviously one that was in Flanders.

He was buried in the Terlingthun British Cemetery at Wimille, near Boulogne. His grave reference is XIV. B. 15. The cemetery at Terlingthun was begun in June 1918 when the space available for service burials in the civil cemeteries of Boulogne and Wimereux was exhausted. It was used chiefly for burials from the base hospitals. In July 1920 the cemetery contained more than 3,300 burial, but for many years Terlingthun remained an 'open' cemetery and graves continued to be brought into it from isolated sites and other burial grounds throughout France where maintenance could not be assured.



Royal Warwickshire Regiment

Fred Wilfred Paviour

1885 - 1916

Private Fred Paviour was born in Rowledge in 1885, the second son of William and Mary Paviour (nee Stockbridge). William and Mary had seven children, four daughters and three sons. William was an agricultural labourer and they were shown living at Upper Bourne in the 1891 and 1901 Censuses. Frederick was married to a lady called Edith Eade in 1909. Frederick is shown as working as a bricklayer in both the 1901 and 1911 Censuses. In the 1911 Census Frederick and Edith are living at Boundstone Cottage, Wrecclesham, and they have one son, Frederick William James Paviour, who was born in 1910 and was baptised at St Peter's church on 6th February 1910. In 1912 Frederick and Edith have a second son, Wilfred George, who was baptised at St Peter's church on 30th June 1912. Both baptisms were conducted by Rev Henry Snelling. Sadly their son William died in 1912 and was buried in St Peter's cemetery.

In August 1914 Frederick enlisted in the 2nd Battalion of the 4th (Queen's Own) Hussars, a Regiment of the Household Cavalry, Service Number 6335. In November 1914 the Battalion was mobilised for war and landed at Zeebrugge and engaged in various actions on the Western Front including the first Battle of Ypres. Frederick was killed in action on 7th February 1916. It is not known where Frederick lost his life but he was buried in the Vermelles British Cemetery in Grave II B 1.

Edith remained living in 4 Fairview Cottages until she died in 1957. Her son Wilfred remained at Fairview Cottages until he also died in 1985 aged 72.



Vermelles British Cemetery

Frank Renalda Peacock**1895 - 1916**

Private Frank Renalda Peacock was born in East Street, Farnham, in 1895, the son of Ernest John and Alice Peacock (nee Small). In 1901 he was living in the Middle Bourne with his parents and his sister Annette. In the 1911 Census Ernest and Alice are living at 1 Post office Cottages, The Street, Wrecclesham. Frank who would have been 15 at this time was not present.

Frank enlisted in the 11th Battalion of the Queen's (Royal West Surrey) regiment on 9th February 1915, Service Number G. 7107. He was mobilised in May 1916 and landed at Le Havre. The 11th Battalion was involved in a string of Battles on the Western Front. Frank died of wounds on 18th June 1916, aged 21. It has not been possible to identify in which battle Frank received the wounds from which he died but he was buried at the Cite Bonjean Cemetery in Armentieres, Nord Pas de Calais, France, Grave Ref. II. B. 32. The cemetery is located on the Franco-Belgian Border so would have received the dead from battles on the Western Front in France and Flanders.



Cite Bonjean Cemetery, Armentieres

Edward James Piper (Usher) 1879 - 1914

Private Edward Piper, whose birth name was Usher, was born in Bradley, near Alton in Hampshire, in 1879. When Edward was 9 years old, his mother, Alice, married his step-father, Charles Frederick Piper, and in 1901 they were living at the Kennels, the Holt. Charles was working as a gamekeeper and Edward, aged 22, who is listed in the Census as Edward Usher, is recorded as Charles's stepson. It appears that Edward took his step-father's name when enlisting in the forces and became Edward Piper. He is working as a domestic gardener. In 1911 Charles and Alice are living with a family of four boys of whom Edward is the eldest, at Stickhams, in Wrecclesham. Both Charles and Edward are shown working as hay binders.

Edward enlisted in the 1st Battalion of the Hampshire Regiment in 1914, Service Number 7197. The 1st Hampshire Battalion arrived in France in August 1914 and was soon in action. In September 1914 it was engaged in the Battle of Cateau and the Battle of the Marne and it is believed that Edward Piper died in the Battle of the Marne. He died in action on 16th September 1914 and was buried at Crouy-Vauxrot French National Cemetery at Crouy, Grave Sp. Mem A 5.

Crouy French National is a small cemetery. Crouy is a village in the Department of the Aisne, 4 kilometres north-east of Soissons on the road to Laon. It contains only 50 British casualties, nearly half of whom are unidentified. Ernest Piper is listed among these 50 soldiers.



Crouy-Vauxrot French National Cemetery



Royal Hampshire Regiment

Alfred Thomas Shafe 1892-1915

Private Alfred Thomas Shafe, known as Thomas, was born in 1892 in Wandsworth, the son of Alfred and Maria Shafe. In the early part of the 20th century Thomas and his sister Emma were adopted by George Elias Bryant and his wife Ellen Bryant who lived in Sunnydell, Shortheath Road, Wreclesham. In the 1911 Census his adopted father George Bryant was working as a maltster in a brewery. Thomas was working as labourer in the Wreclesham Potteries. On 22nd March 1908 Thomas was baptised at St Peter's church by Revd Charles Keable. The baptismal record shows his parents as Alfred and Maria Shafe but also records that Alfred had deceased. It is not known whether Thomas was related to the Bryants.

In 1912 Thomas enlisted in the 1st Battalion of the Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment, Service Number L/10386. Following initial training the Battalion was mobilised for war and landed at Le Havre and engaged in various actions on the Western Front. Including the Battles of Mons, Marne, Aisne and Ypres. In December 1914 Thomas was treated for gunshot wounds on his left arm. However, on 25th September 1915 he was killed in action at the Battle of Loos. The Battle of Loos was the largest British offensive mounted on the Western Front during World War I. British casualties resulted in 59,247 losses. Loos was the first battle in which the British used poison gas

Thomas's life is commemorated at the Loos Memorial Panel 13- 15. The Loos Memorial commemorates over 20,000 soldiers who fell in the battle and have no known grave.



The Loos Memorial

Colin Victor Stapley

1898 – 1916

Private Colin Stapley was born in Lower Bourne in 1898, the son of James and Eliza Stapley. Colin was baptised at St Andrew's church, Farnham, on 11th January 1898. In the 1901 Census the family is living at Bower Cottage, Upper Bourne, where they have a family of six children, four girls and two boys. Colin is the youngest son. His father James is working as a bricklayer. In the 1911 Census the family is still living at Bower Cottage and Colin, aged 13, is still at school.

In June 1915 Colin enlisted for service in the 2nd Battalion of the Borders Regimen, Service Number 22050. Following initial training, in December 1915 Colin was sent to France to join his Battalion who had been in action since 1914.. Colin's first taste of action would have been in the Battle of Ypres. Colin was to be killed in action on 21st February 1916. It is believed that this was on the first day of the Battle of Verdun. The Battle of Verdun is considered the greatest and longest in world history. Never before or since has there been such a lengthy battle, involving so many men, situated on such a tiny piece of land. The battle, which lasted from 21st February 1916 until 19th December 1916, caused over 700,000 dead, wounded and missing.

Colin was buried at the Norfolk Cemetery at Beccordel-Becourt. His grave reference is 1A .38.



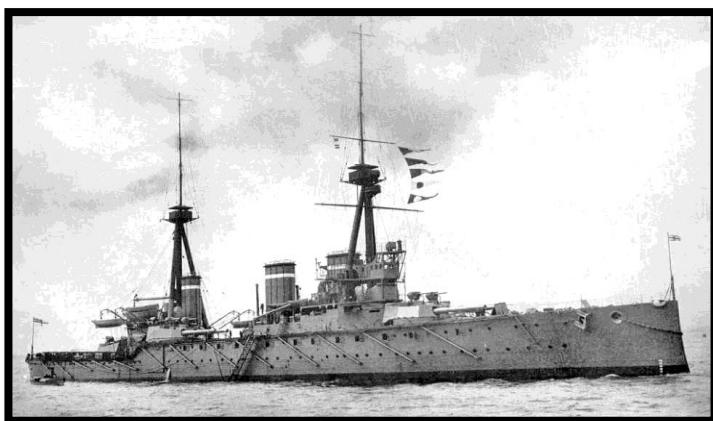
Norfolk Cemetery at Beccordel-Becourt

Harry Stonard

1892 - 1916

Stoker 1st Class Harry Stonard was born on 2nd January 1892, the son of Harry and Louisa Stonard who in 1911 had a family of seven children, three boys and four girls, all born in Farnham. In 1911 the family lived in Home Villa, Boundstone, Farnham, Surrey. Father Harry was a labourer at Falcon Brickworks.

In 1914 Harry enlisted in the Royal Navy, Service Number K/27913. He was serving as a Leading Stoker aboard HMS Invincible, a battle cruiser and part of the 3rd Battle Squadron patrolling in the North Sea in the Battle of Jutland, when they intercepted five German battle cruisers. On the 30th May 1916 heavy gun fire from the German ships destroyed the Invincible which sank in 90 seconds. Of her complement, 1026 officers and men were killed, including Harry Stonard. There were only six survivors picked up. Harry was recorded as killed in action, aged 23, on 31st May 1916. As the body was not found for burial and his final resting place is unknown, he has been commemorated at the Portsmouth Naval Memorial where his name is listed on Panel 11.



HMS Invincible



Portsmouth Naval Memorial

Stuart Christian Tinne

1896- 1918

Captain Stuart Tinne was born in Cranbrook on 21st August 1896, the son of Theodore Frederick and Grace Elizabeth Tinne (nee Lane) who, at the time of their son's death, were living in the Chine, Wrecclesham. Theodore and Grace had two children, Stuart, and Esme who was five years Stuart's junior. In 1911 Theodore and Grace were living in Southborough, Kent, with Esme aged 11, but Stuart, who would have been 16 at the time, was not living at home.

In 1914 Stuart enlisted in the 1st Battalion of the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment

Having survived World War 1, Stuart died suddenly of heart failure, aged 22, on 1st March 1918 at Hythe in Kent where he was serving with the No 1 School of Air Gunnery. Stuart was buried in Wreccelsham cemetery on 5th March 1918 at a service conducted by the Rector of Farnham, Revd J.M.C. Cram.



Reginald Harry Tribe

1894 – 1919.

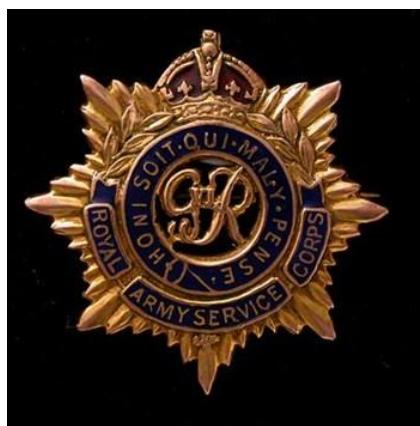
Corporal Reginald Harry Tribe was born in Rake, Sussex, in 1894, the son of Harry and Mary Maria Tribe (nee Wells) who, at the time of his death, were living at Forest View Bungalow in Rowledge. In 1901 Reginald Tribe was living in Rake, Sussex, with his mother and father. It is thought he was an only child. His father was shown to be working as a builder. His mother, Mary Maria, had been born in Wreclesham, the daughter of George and Mary Jane Wells. She had been baptised at St Peter's church on 6th May 1866. Harry and Mary were married in Farnham in 1888 while they were living in Rogate, Sussex. In the 1911 Census Mary is living at the Wreclesham Institute with her father and mother, George and Mary Jane Wells. Mary Maria is shown then to be working as a dressmaker. There is no record of father, Harry Tribe, being present in Wreclesham in 1911 but Reginald is at this time living in Barnham, Sussex, aged 17, where he is working as a chauffeur.

It is not known when Reginald enlisted in the Army but it was probably at the outbreak of World War 1. He was allocated to the Royal Army Service Corps, Service Number MS/4792. He was posted to the 20th Division MT Company which during the war would have been involved with transporting supplies to the forces at the front. He was promoted to Corporal but this is unlikely to have involved significant responsibility. There is no record of his movements during the hostilities. However he was able to get back to the UK in November 1917 to marry a lady called Daisy Ethel Hicks who at the time was living at 17 Sandfield Terrace, Guildford. Their marriage was short-lived as just over one year later he died, aged 25, on 2nd January 1919 in Paris. No record is given of the circumstances of his death. Casualties in Paris

were somewhat unusual in World War 1. Reginald was buried in Cemeterie de Pantin, Department de Seine, Saint Denis, Ile de France.



Cemeterie de Pantin



Royal Army Service Corps

William Charles Trimmer

1896 - 1917

2nd Lieutenant William Trimmer was born in Farnham in 1896, the son of William Septimus Trimmer and his wife Elizabeth (popularly known as Lily) who, at the time of their son's death, were living at Ridgeway House on the Willey Estate, north of Wrecclesham. His father, William Septimus, was the youngest child of George Trimmer, who in the second half of the 19th century was one of the most wealthy and influential men in Farnham. George Trimmer founded the Lion Brewery, a business that still survives in East Street, Farnham. William had been educated at Cheltenham College until 1914.

In the 1901 Census William and Lily were living at The Meadows, Crowhurst, Sussex, with two children, William Charles, aged 4, and Dorothy, aged 3. In the 1911 Census William is shown as a student at Cheltenham College but William's father is now shown as living with his wife in Runwick House. On leaving Cheltenham, William enlisted in the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry where he was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant

There is no further record of William Charles before the notification of his death in France during World War I. By 1916 he had reached the rank of 2nd Lieutenant in the Buckingham Territorial Battalion of the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry. He was killed in action on 21st July 1916

There is a splendid memorial window dedicated to William on the west wall of St Peter's church in Wrecclesham.



The West Window, St Peter's Church

The Dedication on this window reads as follows:

To the Glory of God and to the sacred memory
of an only son

2nd Lieutenant William Charles Trimmer,
1st Bucks Territorial Battalion, Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry.

Born Sep 19th 1896

fell in action near Pozieres 21st July 1916
'And I will give them a Crown of Life.'

During World War 1 the Oxon and Bucks Regiment raised 18 Battalions and was awarded 59 Battle Honours and 2 Victoria Crosses losing 5,880 men during the course of the War.

Lieutenant Trimmer's contribution was commemorated at the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme battlefields. This memorial bears the names of 72,194 officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces.



The Thiepval Memorial



Badge of the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry

Alexander Ellis Walford

1885 - 1916

Lieutenant Alexander Walford was born in 1885 in Felixstowe, Suffolk, the son of Lieutenant Colonel Henry Alexander Walford and Edith Caroline Walford (nee Walker). In 1891 Alex, aged 5, is living with his family at The Hall, Felixstowe. Alex's father, Henry, who had been a Lieutenant Colonel in the 12th Hussars, had by this time retired from the army. In the 1901 Census the Walfords were listed as an old Suffolk family who had lived at Foxborough Hall at Melton in Suffolk. Henry and Edith had four children, a girl and three boys. Alex was the youngest son and his older brother George was also killed in World War 1 (his profile follows). Alex (as he was popularly known), aged 16, was a boarder at Rugby School. His mother was at this time living in a house called 'Shrubbery' in Shortheath, Wreclesham, with Alex's sister Helen. His father, Henry, had died in February 1895. No record of either Alex or his mother has been found in the 1911 Census. However, there are records of Edith living at the Grange, Wreclesham, at the time of Alex's death. The Grange is also given as Alex's address in his probate. In 1922 Edith was living in Hythe, Kent.

Alex enlisted in the Suffolk Regiment on leaving school and was posted to the 2nd Battalion. In 1914 the Battalion was mobilised and landed in France at Le Havre where they were engaged in action at the Battles of Mons and of Le Cateau, where the Battalion suffered over 700 casualties. In 1915 the Suffolks were engaged in fighting at Baelewaarde in Belgium. During 1916 the Battalion was engaged in the Battles of the Somme. Alex was killed in action on 16th August 1916 which would suggest he died in the Battle of Delville Wood which ran from 15th July to 3rd September. Alex was commemorated at the Thiepval memorial in Picardie, Pier and Face 1C and 2A. He is also commemorated on the Melton Village War

Memorial in Melton, Suffolk.



The Suffolk Regiment

George Henry Walford

1878 - 1915

Brigade Major George Henry Walford was born in 1878 in Leeds, Yorkshire. He was the son of Lieutenant Colonel Henry Alexander Walford and Edith Caroline Walker. The Walfords, an old Suffolk family, had lived at Foxborough Hall, Melton in Suffolk. Henry and Edith had four children, a girl and three boys. George was the oldest son and his younger brother Alex was also killed in World War 1. See previous profile.

In 1881 George, aged 2, is living with his parents at East Bergholt, Suffolk. In the 1901 Census, George, aged 12, is a boarder at Cordwalles School in Maidenhead. In 1910 George was married to Inez Nellie Treadwell at St George's, Hanover Square. By 1911 George was serving as a Captain in the Suffolk Regiment and is living with his wife Inez at The Swallows, Gordon Road, Camberley. In 1913 George and Inez had a son, Richard George. The couple were at this time living with George's mother Edith at the Grange in Wrecclesham.

The Regiment raised a total of 23 Battalions during the course of the First World War and was awarded two Victoria Crosses. George was mentioned in despatches and gained the rank of Brigade Major in the service of the 84th Infantry Brigade.

George was killed in action on 19th April 1915, aged 36. It is thought that he was at this time in action in the Battle of Hill 60, which was held between 17th and 22nd April on high ground south-east of Ypres. George was buried in Ramparts Cemetery (Lille Gate), Ypres, Grave reference F.1

Inez, who was living in Link Hill Cottage, Sandhurst, Kent, remained a widow for the rest of her life and died in Newton Abbott aged 70 in 1960. Probate was granted to his wife Inez and to his brother, Edward Walford, with effects valued at £14,621 – 11s – 5d.



Ramparts Cemetery (Lille Gate) Ypres, West Flanders.

Walter William Wells 1887 – 1918

Corporal Farrier Walter Wells was born in Farnham in 1877, son of George and Mary Jane Wells (nee Bitten), who lived in Wrecclesham Street. George was working as a blacksmith. George and Mary Jane were both born in Wrecclesham and were married at St Peter's church. They had a family of three children, two girls and a boy. Walter was their second child and was baptised at St Peter's church by Revd Henry Julius on 4th February 1877. It appears that Walter and his family were not listed in the 1901 and 1911 Censuses.

Walter enlisted in the Royal Field Artillery in January 1915, Service Number 102910. He was transferred to France in December 1915, serving on the Western Front. He was killed in action on 7th November 1918. It is not known where in France and Flanders he was serving; however he was buried at Pont sur Sambre Community Cemetery, a village 13 kms south-west of Mauberge in Northern France. It is a small cemetery and there are only 54 Commonwealth graves.



Pont sur Sambre Community Cemetery

Frederick George Wilkinson

1891 - 1916

Private Frederick Wilkinson, popularly known as Fred, was born in Farnham in 1891, the son of Frederick and Mary Ann Wilkinson (nee Bulpit) who lived at The Green, Badshot Lea, Farnham. In the 1901 and 1911 Censuses young Fred was living with his parents in Badshot Lea. Frederick and Mary had a family of three boys and three girls. In 1911, aged 19, Fred was working as a nurseryman. Although living in Badshot Lea in the early part of the 1900s, both Fred's father and mother had been born in Wrecclesham and they had married at St Peter's church in 1876. In 1881 they were living in Wrecclesham Street. Fred was baptised at St Peter's church by Revd Charles Keable on 10th January 1882.

Soon after war broke out Fred was living in Neath in South Wales where he was visiting his sister, Florence, who had married in 1912. The address at which they were living was Grioll Gardens, Neath. Florence and her husband Alfred had one daughter who was Fred's niece Florence.

In 1916 Fred was enlisted, in Neath, into the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, Service Number G/7572. After initial training he was transferred to the 10th Battalion of the Queen's Own (Royal West Surrey) Regiment. He joined the Battalion in France where they had already been involved in various actions on the Western Front. Fred was declared missing in action, presumed killed, on 15th September 1916. It is believed he was taking part in the Battle of Flers Courcellette, a battle within the Franco-British Somme Offensive which was launched on 15th September 1916. The battle lasted for just one week and Fred was unlucky enough to fall on the first day.

Fred's contribution to the war is remembered at the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme which is a major war memorial to 72,195 missing British and South African men who died in the Battles of the Somme of the First World War and who had no known grave. The Memorial is near the village of Thiepval, Picardy, in France. Fred's memorial is at Pier and Face 5d and 6d.



Royal Welch Fusiliers



Queen's Own (Royal West Surrey)

Notes

1. The Oxfordshire and Bucks Light Infantry Regiment raised 18 Battalions for the Great War and gained 59 Battle Honours and 2 Victoria Crosses and lost 5,880 men during the course of the War. Among the battles that the 5th Battalion fought was the Battle of Passchendaele
2. The Royal Field Artillery was the largest arm of the artillery. It was responsible for the medium calibre guns and howitzers deployed close to the front line and was reasonably mobile. It was organised into brigades, attached to divisions or higher formations. During the 1st World War a whole new form of artillery was developed to meet the unusual conditions of war on the Western Front: the trench mortar. The lighter weapons being manned by the infantry, the Royal Field Artillery provided the manpower for the heavier mortars.
3. The Battle of Bazentin Ridge, launched by the British Fourth Army at dawn on 14 July 1916, marked the start of the second phase of the Battle of the Somme. Dismissed beforehand by one French commander as "an attack organized for amateurs by amateurs", it turned out to be "hugely successful" for the British, in contrast to the disaster of the first day on the Somme. However, like the first day, the British failed to exploit their advantage in the wake of the victory and as German resistance stiffened, a period of bloody attrition commenced. The battle cost the Fourth Army 9,194 casualties.
4. The Royal Naval Air Service (RNAS) was the air arm of the Royal Navy, under the direction of the Admiralty's Air Department, and existed formally from 1st July 1914 to 1st April 1918 when it was merged with the British Army's Royal Flying Corps to form a new service, the Royal Air Force, the first of its kind in the world.

5. In its short history the Machine Gun Corps gained an enviable record for heroism as a front line fighting force. Indeed, in the latter part of the war, as tactics changed to defence in depth, it commonly served well in advance of the front line. It had a less enviable record for its casualty rate. Some 170,500 officers and men served in the MGC with 62,049 becoming casualties, including 12,498 killed, earning it the nickname 'the Suicide Club'.

6. The Battle of Loos was one of the major British offensives mounted on the Western Front in 1915 during World War I. It marked the first time the British had used poison gas during the war, and is also famous for the fact that it witnessed the first large-scale use of the new army, or "Kitchener's Army" units. More than 61,000 British casualties were sustained in this battle. 50,000 of them were in the main fighting area between Loos and Givenchy, and the remainder in the subsidiary attacks. Of these, 7,766 men died.

7. The Royal Garrison Artillery developed from fortress-based artillery located on British coasts. From 1914 when the army possessed very little heavy artillery it grew into a very large component of the British forces. It was armed with heavy, large calibre guns and howitzers that were positioned some way behind the front line and had immense destructive power.

8. The Regiment formed a total of 28 battalions during the First World War in addition to the pre-war establishment of two Regular and two Militia and two Territorial Battalions. The Regiment lost 11,575 men killed during the course of the war and were awarded 52 battle honours including 10 Victoria Crosses.

9. HMS Idaho was one of the ships in the Dreadnought Project. This was a project to build ships quickly to a standard design based on HMS

Dreadnought. Her design so thoroughly eclipsed earlier types that subsequent battleships of all nations were generically known as "dreadnoughts" and older battleships disparaged as "pre-dreadnoughts". Her very short construction time was intended to demonstrate that Britain could build an unassailable lead in the new type of battleships.

10. On the morning of 22nd September, Cressy and her sisters, Aboukir and Hogue, were on patrol without any escorting destroyers as these had been forced to seek shelter from bad weather. The three sister ships were steaming in line abreast about 2,000 yards (1,800 m) apart at a speed of 10 knots (19 km/h; 12 mph). They were not expecting submarine attack but had lookouts posted and one gun manned on each side to attack any submarines sighted. The weather had moderated earlier that morning and Admiral Tyrwhitt was en route to reinforce the cruisers with eight destroyers.



HMS Cressy

Submarine U-9, commanded by Kapitänleutnant Otto Weddigen, had been ordered to attack British transports at Ostend but had been forced to dive and take shelter from the storm. On surfacing, she spotted the British ships and moved to attack. She fired one torpedo at 06:20 at Aboukir which struck her on the starboard side; the ship's captain thought he had struck a mine and ordered the other two ships to close to transfer his wounded men. Aboukir quickly began listing and capsized around 06:55 despite counter-flooding compartments on the opposite side to right her.

As Hogue approached her sinking sister ship, her captain, Wilmot Nicholson, realized that it had been a submarine attack and signalled Cressy to look for a periscope although his ship continued to close on Aboukir as her crew threw overboard anything that would float to aid the survivors in the water. Having stopped and lowered all her boats, Hogue was struck by two torpedoes around 06:55. The sudden weight

loss of the two torpedoes caused U-9 to broach the surface and Hogue's gunners opened fire without effect before the submarine could submerge again. The cruiser capsized about ten minutes after being torpedoed and sank at 07:15.

Cressy attempted to ram the submarine, but did not succeed and resumed her rescue efforts until she too was torpedoed at 07:20. Weddigen had fired two torpedoes from his stern tubes but only one hit. U-9 had to manoeuvre to bring her bow around with her last torpedo and fired it at a range of about 550 yards (500 m) at 07:30. The torpedo struck on the port side and ruptured several boilers, scalding the men in the compartment. As her sisters had done, Cressy took on a heavy list and then capsized before sinking at 07:55. Several Dutch ships began rescuing survivors at 08:30 and were joined by British fishing trawlers before Admiral Tyrwhitt and his ships arrived at 10:45. From all three ships 837 men were rescued, and 62 officers and 1,397 enlisted men lost; 560 of those lost were from Cressy.