

Herts at War

(www.hertsatwar.co.uk)

Name: Alfred Charles Garrett Fowler

Rank: Second Lieutenant

Service Number:

Date of Death: 21st September 1918

Age: 19

Regiment/Service: 215 Squadron Royal Air Force

Award:

Grave/Memorial Reference: ARRAS FLYING SERVICES MEMORIAL

Cemetery/Memorial: Arras Memorial, France.

Hitchin War Memorial, St Mary's Church

UK Cemetery/Memorial: St Mary's Church Memorial Book, Hitchin (*not confirmed*)
Hitchin Grammar School War Memorial, Hitchin

Pre War:

He was born on the 17th June 1899 and attended the Hitchin Grammar School Kindergarten before progressing to the senior school, staying at the school from 1907-1913. He later went to the East Anglian School in Bury St. Edmund's. His parents were Alfred and Fanny Fowler of 'The Lodge', Chiltern Road, Hitchin. Mr Fowler was a builder.

Wartime Service:

He was brought down and killed whilst flying over the enemy aerodrome of Fresksty near Metz. He was flying a new Handley Page HP 0/400 with 215 Squadron based at Xaffevillers South East of Nancy. A report of the 7th October 1918 stated that he was missing and his death was confirmed some weeks later.

According to a report at the time issued by German Authorities to the Prisoner of War Agency in Switzerland, he was buried in the military cemetery in Metz "*marked so that it could be found by the family*", but the Commonwealth War Graves Commission states that he has no known grave.

No. 215 Squadron RAF was formed in France on 1 April 1918 by renumbering No. 15 squadron of the Royal Naval Air Service. Soon after the squadron became part of the Royal Air Force it returned to England to re-equip with the Handley Page O/400 before returning to France as part of the Independent Air Force.

Additional Information:

Acknowledgments:

Adrian Dunne, David C Baines, www.hitchinatwar.org.uk

