

Herts at War

(www.hertsatwar.co.uk)

Name: Henry French

Rank: Private

Service Number: 14240

Date of Death: 25th November 1916

Age: 26

Regiment/Service: 6th Battalion Bedfordshire Regiment

Award: 1914/15 Star, British War and Victory medals.

Grave/Memorial Reference: II. A. 14A.

Cemetery/Memorial: WIMEREUX COMMUNAL CEMETERY, FRANCE

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



Pre War:

His home was in 12, Telegraph Place, Hitchin where his parents, Mr and Mrs Harry French lived. His parents were Henry and Sarah French of Hitchin and he was their eldest son. He was born in Hitchin, resided and enlisted there as a volunteer in September 1914.

Wartime Service:

Henry was sent to France in July 1915 and fought at Loos and on the Somme where he was injured. He was in the 6th Battalion and his Regimental Number was 14240.

He was most probably injured on or about the 14th November 1916 at Mailly-Maillet near the Ancre River where the Battalion attacked Frankfort trench and the following day attacked Munich trench. There were several casualties at this time. His brother, Jack French, was in the same Company and saw the wounds inflicted.

He was buried in Plot 2, Row A, Grave 14A in the Wimereux Communal Cemetery, France. Wimereux is on the coast near Boulogne and he would have been moved there from the front. The stones in this Cemetery are laid flat probably due to subsidence in the area. A private inscription on the stone reads "*Our sweetest thoughts will ever linger round the spot where you are laid*".

Additional Information:

Acknowledgments:

Adrian Dunne
David C Baines

www.hitchinatwar.org.uk

