# A Guide to the

# World War One Memorial



at

# Christ Church, Little Heath

As we approach the centenary of the First World War, this guide attempts to flesh out the basic facts of name, rank and regiment recorded on the memorial with details such as when and how each man died, their service history, civilian life and connection with the parish and/or the church.

This memorial honours 4 army officers, 29 ordinary soldiers and 1 sailor who died in the Great War. The Potters Bar war memorial in the High Street also mentions 31 (possibly 32) of these 34 men.

Not all of those who are listed died as a result of enemy action – 2 soldiers succumbed to disease and the sailor died in a tragic accident.

Nine men are buried in cemeteries in France, and one in each of England, Belgium, Egypt, Turkey and India. Twenty have no known grave.

The bulk of the troops of the initial British Expeditionary Force sent to assist the French embarked from Southampton for Boulogne and Le Havre on the nights of 12 and 13 August 1914. Walter Parker and George Redding were part of this spearhead with William Banks, John Woodcock and Edward Lammas also landing in France during August 1914.

If you are able to add any further information about any of these men, please contact the author by email to m\_cope@btinternet.com or via the Church Office.

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#### A transcription of the Memorial text

# TO THE GLORY OF GOD & IN HONOURED MEMORY OF THE MEN OF THIS PARISH & CONGREGATION WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR THE CAUSE OF JUSTICE & RIGHT IN THE GREAT WAR 1914-19

Private	G ARNOLD	Royal Fusiliers	Lt Col	LORD A BROWNE	R Field Artillery	Rifleman G PALLETT	Q West <sup>mr</sup> Rifles
Private	J D BRACE	Royal Fusiliers	Gunner	W BANKS	R Field Artillery	Private W PARKER	Northants Regt
Private	W J EBBS	Royal Fusiliers	Gunner	P COLLINS	R Field Artillery	Private M WESTON	Northants Regt
Sergeant	J E WOODCOCK	Royal Fusiliers	L Corpl	E BURDEN	East Kent Regt	Private A T PAYNE	Suffolk Regt
Private	J A ATTERBURY	Middlesex R	Private	J COLLINS	Bedfordshire R	Private R W REDDING	Essex Regt
Private	E LAMMAS	Middlesex R	Private	H C EBBS	Bedfordshire R	Boy 1stCl A W RICHARDS	HMS Vanguard
Private	G REDDING	Middlesex R	Private	A E TYLER	Bedfordshire R	Colonel S G SHEPPARD DSO	Herts Yeomanry
Corporal	J LEONARD	Middlesex R	Gunner	H W GARRETT	R Gar Artillery	Private A WARNER	Worces Regt
2nd Lieut	K SANDERSON	Middlesex R	Sapper	J E GREEN	R Engineers	Rifleman C WHITE	Lon Rifle Bgde
Private	W T BRACE	R West Kent R	Rifleman	C G KNIGHT	Rifle Brigade	Rifleman G WHITTARD	Lon Rifle Bgde
Corporal	W HALL	R West Kent R	Captain	H RUSSELL SMITH	Rifle Brigade	Corporal S WHITTARD	Lincolnshire R
			Corporal	A WOODCOCK	East Surrey R		

Our research has revealed a few errors on the memorial. In particular, E BURDEN should read F BURDEN and M WESTON was with the Hampshire Regiment not the Northamptonshire Regiment.

The memorial notes the DSO earned by SG Sheppard (awarded for actions in the Boer War), but fails to mention the DSO earned by Lord A Browne in this war.

The arrangement of names on the memorial is based on alphabetical order of surname, followed by adjustment to group together those in the same regiment in rank order, and finally some adjustment for aesthetic appearance. In this guide these men are listed in alphabetical order of surname.

# The fallen men listed by order of their date of death

1914					
23 October 1914	Private	George Edward Redding	29 yrs	Died of wounds. England	21
11 November 1914	Sergeant	John Edward Woodcock	31 yrs	Killed in action. Flanders	34
1915					
10 April 1915	Private	Arthur Woodcock	26 yrs	Killed in action. Flanders	33
19 April 1915	Private	William James Collins	21 yrs	Killed in action. Flanders	9
21 April 1915	Private	Albert Edward Tyler	18 yrs	Killed in action. Flanders	27
25 April 1915	Rifleman	Cyril White	20 yrs	Died of wounds. Flanders	30
9 May 1915	Private	Walter Parker	28 yrs	Killed in action. France	19
4 June 1915	Rifleman	George William Evans Pallett	22 yrs	Killed in action. Flanders	18
10 August 1915	Private	Martin Lloyd Weston	25 yrs	Killed in action. Gallipoli	29
21 August 1915	Lieutenant Colonel	Samuel Gurney Sheppard	50 yrs	Died of wounds. Gallipoli	25
25 September 1915	Second Lieutenant	Arthur Keith Sanderson	21 yrs	Killed in action. France	24
9 November 1915	Private	Frederick John Charles Burden	24 yrs	Died of wounds. France	7
1916					
27 March 1916	Private	William Joseph Ebbs	23 yrs	Killed in action. Flanders	11
1 July 1916	Rifleman	Charles Gambell Knight	29 yrs	Killed in action. France	15
1 July 1916	Rifleman	Gordon Hedley Whittard	23 yrs	Killed in action. France	31
5 July 1916	Captain	Hugh Francis Russell Smith	28 yrs	Died of wounds. France	26
15 September 1916	Private	Henry Charles Ebbs	22 yrs	Killed in action. France	10
16 September 1916	Corporal	Jack Leonard	21 yrs	Killed in action. France	17
5 October 1916	Private	Edward Lammas	27 yrs	Killed in action. France	16
27 October 1916	Private	Albert Edward Warner	24 yrs	Killed in action. France	28
31 October 1916	Gunner	Percival Collins	25 yrs	Killed in action. France	8

1917					
19 April 1917	Private	Arthur James Atterbury	18 yrs	Killed in action. Egypt	2
3 May 1917	Corporal	William Herbert Hall	21 yrs	Killed in action. France	14
3 May 1917	Lance Corporal	Robert William Redding	33 yrs	Killed in action. France	22
8 May 1917	Gunner	Henry William Garratt	29 yrs	Died of wounds. France	12
9 July 1917	Boy 1 <sup>st</sup> Class	Arthur William Richards	17 yrs	Killed in accident. Scotland	23
31 July 1917	Lance Corporal	George Arnold	26 yrs	Killed in action. Flanders	1
4 September 1917	Private	William Thomas Brace	27 yrs	Died from malaria. India	5
22 November 1917	Private	Arthur Thomas Payne	42 yrs	Killed in action. France	20
1918					
27 March 1918	Private	John Day Brace	31 yrs	Killed in action. France	4
28 April 1918	Gunner	William Charles Banks	30 yrs	Died of wounds. France	3
25 August 1918	Corporal	Stanley Percy Whittard	30 yrs	Killed in action. France	32
27 August 1918	Lieutenant Colonel	Lord Alfred Eden Browne	39 yrs	Killed in action. France	6
1919					
20 February 1919	Sapper	John Edward Green	27 yrs	Died from influenza. France	13

# George Arnold

CCLH memorial: Private G ARNOLD Royal Fusiliers

PB memorial: G ARNOLD

Birth: Little Heath.

Birth register index Jul-Sep 1891 Barnet.

Final rank & unit: Lance Corporal G/47749 1st Battalion Royal Fusiliers

Death: Killed in action 31 July 1917 - age 26.

Recorded on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial for men

whose graves are not known.

Killed during the first day of The Third Battle of Ypres (Passchendaele). The 1st Battalion lost 277 men killed or

wounded that day.

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Detailed service records have not survived.

Enlisted at London while resident in Potters Bar in the 23<sup>rd</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> Sportsman's) Battalion Royal Fusiliers and given service number Spts/1987 which suggests he enlisted

in May 1915.

Landed in France, 16 November 1915. Returned to UK for the period 20 September 1916 to 11 January 1917

(possibly convalescence).

Later he was transferred to the 1st Battalion.

Family: In 1911 he was a gardener living with his widowed

mother Agnes Arnold in Church Road, Little Heath.

His mother died early in 1913 and his sister Evelyn was appointed executor of his estate valued at £286. She

also received a War Gratuity of £9.

# 2. Arthur James Atterbury

CCLH memorial: Private J A ATTERBURY Middlesex R

PB memorial: T ATTERBURY may be him

Birth: Little Heath, 5 December 1898.

Baptised at Christ Church 19 March 1899.

Final rank & unit: Private TF293653 2<sup>nd</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> Battalion Middlesex Regiment

Death: Killed in action 19 April 1917 – age 18.

Buried in Gaza War Cemetery.

Killed during the Second Battle of Gaza, in the Palestine

Campaign against the Turks.

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Detailed service records have not survived.

Enlisted at Barnet - probably early to mid 1915.

Original service number 5071. Probably part of a draft of troops sent to Egypt in early 1916 to reinforce the

battalion.

Family: In 1911 he was a schoolboy and living with his parents

George and Ellen Atterbury and five younger siblings in

Frampton Road, Little Heath.

His mother received a War Gratuity of £8-10s.

## 3. William Charles Banks

CCLH memorial: Gunner W BANKS R Field Artillery

PB memorial: W C BANKS
Birth: Potters Bar.

Birth register index Oct-Dec 1887 Barnet.

Final rank & unit: Gunner 45562 'C' Battery 124th Brigade Royal Field

Artillery

Death: Died of wounds 28 April 1918 - age 30.

Buried in Abbeville Communal Cemetery Extension,

Picardy, France.

Wounded possibly during the Battle of the Ancre on 5 April 1918 and then evacuated to No.2 Stationary

Hospital in Abbeville.

Medals: 1914 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Detailed service records have not survived.

Enlisted at London.

In 1911 he was stationed in India with the 38th Battery

Royal Field Artillery.

Landed in France 16 August 1914 (he could no longer be with the 38<sup>th</sup> Battery as that was still in India). Later he was transferred to 124<sup>th</sup> Brigade which had

arrived in France at the end of July 1915.

Family: In 1901 he was living with his widowed mother

Catherine Banks and an older brother in Church Road,

Potters Bar.

He married Annie C Lester while on leave early in 1918

and she received a War Gratuity of £21-10s.

# 4. John Day Brace

CCLH memorial: Private J D BRACE Royal Fusiliers

PB memorial: J D BRACE

Birth: Little Berkhamsted.

Birth register index Oct-Dec 1886 Hertford.

Final rank & unit: Private 59635 9th Battalion Royal Fusiliers

Death: Killed in action 27 March 1918 - age 31.

Buried in Bouzincourt Ridge Cemetery, Albert, Somme,

France.

Killed during the First Battle of Arras 1918.

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Detailed service records have not survived.

Originally enlisted at London in the 31<sup>st</sup> (R) Battalion Royal Fusiliers and given service number 1691. Landed in France, 17 March 1916 with 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion.

Returned to UK, 13 October 1917.

Transferred to 11th Battalion and returned to France, 29

December 1917.

Transferred to 9th Battalion, 3 January 1918.

Family: In 1911 he was a gardener living with his parents

Thomas and Annie Brace and six siblings in Thornton Road, Little Heath. Brother of William Thomas Brace (see

next).

His father died in mid 1917 and his mother received a

War Gratuity of £10-10s.

#### William Thomas Brace

CCLH memorial: Private W T BRACE R West Kent R

PB memorial: W T BRACE

Birth: Little Heath, 9 Feb 1890.

Final rank & unit: Private 265898 'A' company 1/1st Kent Cyclist Battalion

Death: Died from malaria 4 September 1917 - age 27.

Buried in Dalhousie Military Cemetery, Himachal Pradesh, North India. Recorded on the Kirkee 1914-

1918 Memorial.

Medals: British War Medal

Military service: Attested 10 Feb 1915 at Canterbury in the 2/1st Kent

Cyclist Battalion and given service number TF/1753.

At Kingsnorth Camp in September 1915.

Posted to the 1/1st Kent Cyclist Battalion 27 November

1915.

On 2 December 1915 the 1/1st Kent Cyclist Battalion moved to Chisledon Camp, Swindon, Wiltshire, was reorganised as an infantry battalion and sailed for India on 8 February 1916 heading for Bangalore. Moved in

December 1916 to Burhan, Punjab.

Given service number 265898 when Territorial Forces

were renumbered in March 1917.

Spent 19 June - 3 July 1917 in hospital at Bannu, North

West Frontier with food poisoning.

Family: In 1911 he was a gardener living with his parents

Thomas and Annie Brace and six siblings in Thornton Road, Little Heath. Brother of John Day Brace (see

previous).

His father died in mid 1917 and his mother received a

War Gratuity of £11-10s.

#### Lord Alfred Eden Browne

CCLH memorial: Lt Col LORD A BROWNE R Field Artillery

PB memorial: LORD A E BROWNE

Birth: Darjeeling, India, 30 November 1878.

Final rank & unit: Acting Lieutenant-Colonel 186<sup>th</sup> Brigade Royal Field

Artillery

Death: Killed in action 27 August 1918 - age 39.

Buried in Dainville British Cemetery, Pas-de-Calais,

France.

Killed in the Battle of the Scarpe, a part of the Second

Battle of Arras.

Medals: Distinguished Service Order, 1914 Star, British War

Medal, Victory Medal

DSO citation Major (Temporary Lieutenant-Colonel) Lord Alfred Eden

Browne, Reserve of Officers, Royal Field Artillery. 'For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. During successive withdrawals under orders, this officer displayed great skill in artillery rearguard actions, remaining in action until the last moment, running it very fine on three occasions, and then withdrawing by batteries or sections at a time. He was always cool, and showed great power in keeping in touch with both the

infantry and the C.R.A of the Division.'

Announced two weeks after his death, this must refer to

events which took place in March 1918.

Military service: Commissoned 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the Royal Artillery on 26

February 1898. Promoted to Lieutenant on 16 February 1901 and to Captain on 28 October 1905. Resigned his

commission on 4 April 1908.

Recalled from reserve and landed in France on 12

September 1914.

Mentioned in Despatches by Field-Marshall French on 14 January 1915. Promoted to Major during 1915. Given command of 186th Brigade on 12 December 1917.

Posthumously Mentioned in Despatches by Field-Marshall Sir Douglas Haig on 23 December 1918.

Family: Youngest son of Henry Ulick Browne, 5th Marguess of

Sligo. Educated at Marlborough College.

He married Cicely Wormald in 1908 and they had four children. Cicely was the daughter of Edward Wormald who built Sheepwell House – home to Queenswood

School since 1925.

## Frederick John Charles Burden

CCLH memorial: L Corpl E BURDEN East Kent Regt

PB memorial: F BURDEN

Birth: Northfleet, Gravesend, Kent.

Birth register index Jan-Mar 1891 Strood.

Final rank & unit: Private G/3261 8th Battalion East Kent Regiment (Buffs)

Death: Died of wounds 9 November 1915 – age 24.

Buried in Les Gonards Cemetery, Versailles, France.

Probably injured during the Battle of Loos and died in

No.4 General Hospital at Versailles.

Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Detailed service records have not survived.

Enlisted at Westminster while resident in Little Heath. The 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion was formed from men volunteering in

September 1914.

Landed in France, 31 August 1915.

Family: In 1911 he was a footman and living with his parents

and sister in Upton Road (today Coopers Road), Little

Heath.

His sister Beatrice received a War Gratuity of £4-10s.

## 8. Percival Collins

CCLH memorial: Gunner P COLLINS R Field Artillery

PB memorial: P COLLINS

Birth: Upper Gravenhurst, Bedfordshire.

Birth register index Jul-Sep 1891 Ampthill

Final rank & unit: Gunner 79193 45th Battery 42nd Brigade Royal Field

Artillery

Death: Killed in action 31 October 1916 - age 25.

Buried in Euston Road Cemetery, Colincamps, Picardy,

France.

This battery was part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division which suggests he was killed during the Battle of Ancre Heights, which was the 11<sup>th</sup> major offensive of the Battle of the Somme.

Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Attested 14 January 1915 at Edmonton.

Landed in France, 22 November 1915.

Posted to 45<sup>th</sup> Battery 42<sup>nd</sup> Brigade 28 November 1915.

Family: In 1911 he was a gardener and living with his parents

Alfred and Sarah Rebecca Collins in Upton Road (today

Coopers Road), Little Heath.

His father received a War Gratuity of £8.

#### William James Collins

CCLH memorial: Private J COLLINS Bedfordshire R

PB memorial: J COLLINS

N.Mymms memorial: Pte W J Collins Beds Regt

Birth: North Mymms.

Birth register index Oct-Dec 1893 Hatfield.

Final rank & unit: Private 16423 1st Battalion Bedfordshire Regiment

Death: Killed in action 19 April 1915 – age 21.

Recorded on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial for men

whose graves are not known.

Killed during the Battle of Hill 60 (south of Ypres). The battalion war diary states "19 Apr 1915 – Front line occupied in early morning by Bedfords & 1/East Surrey Regt. Work carried out under difficulties to consolidate position on Hill 60. Considerable shelling and bombing

by enemy."

Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Detailed service records have not survived.

Enlisted at North Mymms.

Service number 16423 suggests he enlisted in early

September 1914.

Landed in France, 2 February 1915.

Family: In 1911 employed as a plumber and living with his

father George Nathaniel Collins and brother Charles in

North Mymms.

His father remarried in 1911 and died at a similar time in 1915. A War Gratuity of £3 was divided between his step-mother Harriet and his two brothers Arthur and

Charles.

# 10. Henry Charles ("Jack") Ebbs

CCLH memorial: Private H C EBBS Bedfordshire R

PB memorial: Not included

Birth: Mymwood Lodge, 21 July 1894.

Baptised at Christ Church 19 August 1894.

Final rank & unit: Private 25378 8th Battalion Bedfordshire Regiment

Death: Killed in action 15 September 1916 - age 22.

Recorded on the Thiepval Memorial for men whose

graves are not known.

Killed during the Battle of Flers-Courcelette, which saw the first use of tanks and was the 7<sup>th</sup> major offensive of the Battle of the Somme. The battalion war diary states

"15 Sep 1916 Battalion ordered to take

QUADRILATERAL, assisted by the Heavy Section of the M.G. Corps with "TANKS", advance about 500 yds NE and dig in. Battn was in a position for attack about 4.30 a.m. ZERO hour 6.20 a.m. Three waves were supplied by C, D and A Coys ... to attack the QUADRILATERAL, which was on our left flank, whilst B Coy co-operated by bombing down trench leading to it. At 6.0 a.m. heavy artillery opened slow barrage on Line MORVAL - LES BOEUFS. At ZERO hour (6.20 a.m.) intense artillery barrage opened and unluckily was cut short where our 3 companies were drawn up for the attack in shell

holes. This mistake caused many casualties."

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Detailed service records have not survived.

Enlisted at Bedford while resident at Hatfield.

Service number 25378 suggests he enlisted in January

1916.

Family: In 1911 he was an under gamekeeper lodging at

Harpenden. Son of Joseph and Rosa Ebbs. Brother of

William Joseph Ebbs (see next).

His father received a War Gratuity of £3.

Hertfordshire Advertiser, 11 November 1916 page 6

#### Mr and Mrs Joseph Ebbs' Sorrow

It is feared that Private C H ("Jack") Ebbs, Beds Regiment, and Private William Ebbs, Royal Fusiliers, the only children of Mr and Mrs Joseph Ebbs of Mymwood Lodge, [are] both fallen in the war.

Private C H Ebbs joined the Bedfordshires in January last, went out to France in April, and was killed in action on September 16th. Deceased was only 22 years old. His officer writes of him "He was one of the best, always cheerful and a good lad. We miss him very much."

# 11. William Joseph Ebbs

CCLH memorial: Private W J EBBS Royal Fusiliers

PB memorial: Not included Birth: Little Heath.

Birth register index Oct-Dec 1892 Hatfield.

Final rank & unit: Private G/2737 4th Battalion Royal Fusiliers

Death: Killed in action 27 March 1916 - age 23.

Recorded on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial for men

whose graves are not known.

Killed during the first day of the Battle of St Eloi.

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Detailed service records have not survived.

Enlisted at Barnet while resident at Hatfield.

Service number 2737 suggests he enlisted in September

1914.

Landed in France, 26 January 1915.

Family: In 1911 he was a gardener and living with his parents

Joseph and Rosa Ebbs at Mymwood Lodge. Brother of

Henry Charles Ebbs (see previous).

His father received a War Gratuity of £6-10s.

Hertfordshire Advertiser, 11 November 1916 page 6

#### Mr and Mrs Joseph Ebbs' Sorrow

It is feared that Private C H ("Jack") Ebbs, Beds Regiment, and Private William Ebbs, Royal Fusiliers, the only children of Mr and Mrs Joseph Ebbs of Mymwood Lodge, [are] both fallen in the war.

Private William Ebbs enlisted in the Royal Fusiliers in September, 1914 and he is reported "Missing, supposed killed in action." on March 26th last. Mrs Ebbs has received a very nice letter from deceased's captain concerning her son's work in the Army, and the sympathy of all will go out to her in her great sorrow.

# 12. Henry William Garratt

CCLH memorial: Gunner H W GARRETT R Gar Artillery

PB memorial: H W GARRETT Birth: Little Heath.

Birth register index Jul-Sep 1887 Hatfield.

Final rank & unit: Gunner 79015 162<sup>nd</sup> Siege Battery Royal Garrison

Artillery

Death: Died of wounds 8 May 1917 - age 29.

Buried in Nine Elms Military Cemetery, Thelus, Pas de

Calais, France.

Admitted to hospital wounded 8 May 1917. The battery war diary states "5 a.m., Bombardment of S.O.S. lines. Battery dug out heavily shelled, 3 dugouts blown in, 7 OR killed by shellfire, 7 O.R. wounded, (3 of whom

died)."

Most probably this was during the German offensive

against Fresnoy.

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Attested 2 May 1916 at Whitehall, London while living

at 20 Frampton Road, Little Heath. Posted to No1 depot 2 May 1916.

Posted to 40<sup>th</sup> Training Company at Dover 17 May 1916.

Posted to 162<sup>nd</sup> Siege Battery 6 June 1916. Landed in Le Havre, France 5 September 1916.

Family: In 1911 he was a nurseryman boarding in Coopers

Road, Little Heath.

He married Agnes Edith Clapton 16 April 1911 and they had two daughters Gladys Louisa Agnes (1911) and

Beatrice May (1915).

They were living in Frampton Road when Beatrice was

baptised at Christ Church on 1 August 1915.

Agnes was awarded a war pension of 22 shillings and 11 pence per week from 26 November 1917 for herself and her two children. She received a War Gratuity of

£3-10s.

Note: All records show his surname as Garratt.

Both memorials erroneously use Garrett.

## 13. John Edward Green

CCLH memorial: Sapper J E GREEN R Engineers

PB memorial: J GREEN
Birth: Hatfield.

Birth register index Apr-Jun 1891 Hatfield.

Final rank & unit: Sapper WR/250933 112th Railway Company Royal

Engineers

Death: Died from influenza 20 February 1919 - age 27.

Buried in Lille Southern Cemetery, France.

Admitted to 39 Stationary Hospital, Lille on 14 February 1919. 'The above named soldier was admitted to this hospital on 14/2/19 suffering from Influenza which was contracted during Military Service, and aggravated by exposure or fatigue while on Military duty. He was in no

way to blame.'

Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Attested on 2 December 1914 at London in the 112<sup>th</sup>

Railway Company, Royal Engineers and given service

number 55580.

Landed in France 15 February 1915.

Given service number WR/250933 when the Royal

Engineers was re-organised in 1918.

Family: He married Dorothy Lydia Rebecca Sadler 6 March 1911

at Bishop's Hatfield Parish Church. Their children were Dorothy Lydia (1911) and John Albert (1914) born two

days after he enlisted!

At the 1911 census he was a carter, but by the time he enlisted he was a platelayer for the Great Northern Railway and the family were living at Reeves Cottages,

North Mymms.

Dorothy received a War Gratuity of £24-10s.

Hertfordshire Advertiser, 15 March 1919 page 10

This week we publish the photograph of Sapper John Edward Green, R.E., of Reeves Cottages, North Mymms, who died from influenza in France, on February 20<sup>th</sup>, at the 39<sup>th</sup> Stationary Hospital, Lille. He was 27 years of age, served four and a half years in France, and was to have returned home the very week he died. It will be remembered that in the days before the war, he was a keen footballer.

## 14. William Herbert Hall

CCLH memorial: Corporal W HALL R West Kent R

PB memorial: W H HALL
Birth: Potters Bar.

Birth register index Jul-Sep 1895 Barnet.

Final rank & unit: Acting Corporal G/3920 'A' Company 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion

Royal West Kent Regiment

Death: Missing, presumed killed in action 3 May 1917 - age 21.

Recorded on the Arras Memorial for men whose graves

are not known.

Killed in the Third Battle of the Scarpe (1917), a part of

the Arras Offensive.

Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Enlisted at Bromley, Kent 20 September 1914 and

posted to 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion.

Appointed unpaid Lance Corporal 15 October 1914. Landed in France 23 April 1915 to join 'C' Company 1st

Battalion.

Appointed paid Lance Corporal 15 August 1915.

Reduced to Private 18 September 1915. Appointed Lance Corporal 10 July 1916. Gunshot wound to hand 21 July 1916. Posted to 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion 7 August 1916. Appointed acting Corporal 9 April 1917.

Family: In 1911 he was a butcher's assistant living with his

mother Annie Hall and three younger siblings at Pine

Ridge Terrace, Church Road, Potters Bar.

His mother received a War Gratuity of £13.

# 15. Charles Gambell Knight

CCLH memorial: Rifleman C G KNIGHT Rifle Brigade

PB memorial: C KNIGHT

Birth: Battersea, Surrey.

Birth register index Oct-Dec 1886 Wandsworth.

Final rank & unit: Rifleman B/1714 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Rifle Brigade

Death: Missing, presumed killed in action 1 July 1916 - age 29.

Recorded on the Thiepval Memorial for men whose

graves are not known.

Killed during the first day of the Battle of the Somme where the battalion was in reserve in the assault on

German trenches near Ovillers-la-Boisselle.

Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Attested 31 Aug 1914 at Westminster and posted to 9<sup>th</sup>

Battalion.

Trained at Aldershot then posted to 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion,

landing in France, 16 June 1915.

Attached to 1/1 Home Counties Field Company Royal Engineers 15 Jan 1916 and rejoined 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Rifle

Brigade 11 Mar 1916.

Family: Married Anne Harris at Christ Church on 25 December

1909.

In 1911 he was an electrician and they were living at 1 Osborne Cottages, Little Heath. A daughter, Thirza May

Helen Knight, was born 27 April 1912.

Annie was awarded a war pension of 15 shillings per week from 19 March 1917 for herself and her child. She

received a War Gratuity of £8-10s.

# 16. Edward Lammas

CCLH memorial: Private E LAMMAS Middlesex R

PB memorial: E LAMMAS

Birth: King's Cross.

Birth register index Jan-Mar 1889 Islington.

Final rank & unit: Private L/11604 11th Battalion Middlesex Regiment

Death: Killed in action 5 October 1916 - age 27.

Recorded on the Thiepval Memorial for men whose

graves are not known.

Killed during the Battle of the Transloy Ridges, which was the 10<sup>th</sup> major offensive of the Battle of the Somme.

Medals: 1914 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Attested 4 October 1906 at Stratford joining the Militia

with the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion Royal Fusiliers.

Five months later attested 15 March 1907 at London joining the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Middlesex Regiment (also

Militia).

Transferred on 4 May 1907 to the regular army at the Middlesex Regiment's Mill Hill depot for a 7 year term.

Posted to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion 27 August 1907.

Posted to Guernsey 1 October 1907, then to Devonport

18 October 1911.

Posted to the 1st Battalion 3 September 1913 and to

Woolwich 9 October 1913.

Posted to the reserve 4 February 1914.

Recalled from the reserve and posted on 20 August 1914 to the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion which was already in France.

Landed in France 31 August 1914.

Appointed Lance Corporal 1 October 1914. Repatriated with gun shot wound to left arm to Northumberland War Hospital, Newcastle-on-Tyne

3 - 23 June 1915.

Posted to the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion 30 June 1915.

Reverted to Private at own request 17 July 1915. Returned to France with posting to the 11th Battalion

4 August 1915.

Wounded 3 November 1915.

Wounded in action 4 August 1916. Shell wound to hand and foot. Rejoined unit from hospital 22 August 1916.

Family: Son of Robert and Anne Lammas.

In 1907 he was employed by his uncle - Fred Turner, Wood Merchant, Upton Road (today Coopers Road),

Little Heath.

His father received a War Gratuity of £12-10s.

## 17. Jack Leonard

CCLH memorial: Corporal J LEONARD Middlesex R

PB memorial: J LEONARD

Birth: Little Heath, 31 July 1895.

Baptised at Christ Church 25 August 1895.

Final rank & unit: Corporal TF1612 1st/7th Battalion Middlesex Regiment

No.5 platoon, B company.

Death: Killed in action 16 September 1916 - age 21.

Recorded on the Thiepval Memorial for men whose

graves are not known.

Killed during the Battle of Flers-Courcelette, which saw the first use of tanks and was the 7th major offensive of the Battle of the Somme. His mother received a letter from a soldier saying that Jack was wounded and left in

a shell hole.

Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Attested 5 June 1912 at Barnet.

Attended Territorial Force summer training at Falmer in

1912 and Eastbourne in 1913.

Mobilised 4 August 1914 and posted to Gibraltar from

4 September 1914 to 14 February 1915.

Embarked from Southampton and landed in France at

Le Havre, 12 March 1915.

Promoted to Lance Corporal 24 June 1915.

Injury to foot, admitted to hospital 16-19 March 1916.

Promoted to Corporal 7 April 1916.

Wounded in action 29 June 1916 [Gommecourt].

Rejoined unit 5 July 1916.

Family: Youngest son of Arthur and Esther Leonard of 3 Heath

Cottages, Little Heath.

Had been a member of 1<sup>st</sup> Little Heath Scout Troop. In 1911 he was a railway booking clerk and living with

his uncle and aunt in Bradford.

His mother received a War Gratuity of £10.

# 18. George William Evans Pallett

CCLH memorial: Rifleman G PALLETT Q Westmr Rifles

PB memorial: G PALLETT
Birth: Edmonton.

Birth register index Apr-Jun 1893 Edmonton.

Final rank & unit: Rifleman 2949 1st/16th Battalion The London Regiment

(Queen's Westminster Rifles)

Death: Killed in action 4 June 1915 – age 22.

Recorded on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial for men

whose graves are not known.

From the end of May, until September, there was a period of static warfare, where the army suffered average losses of 300 men a day from sniping and shellfire, while they continued to gradually improve and

consolidate the trenches.

Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Detailed service records have not survived.

Enlisted at Westminster while resident in Potters Bar. Service number 2949 suggests he enlisted in September

or October 1914.

Landed in France, 24 January 1915.

Family: Son of Thomas and Sarah Mary Pallett, of 20A, Elsham

Rd., Kensington, London.

In 1911 he was an insurance clerk and living with his

parents in Birmingham.

His father received a War Gratuity of £3.

#### 19. Walter Parker

CCLH memorial: Private W PARKER Northants Regt

PB memorial: W PARKER

Birth: Weston, Hertfordshire.

Birth register index Jul-Sep 1886 Hitchin.

Final rank & unit: Private 8123 1st Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment

Death: Killed in action 9 May 1915 – age 28.

Recorded on the Le Touret Memorial, Pas de Calais for

men whose graves are not known.

Killed during the Battle of Aubers.

Medals: 1914 Star with clasp, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Attested 21 February 1906 at Barnet joining the Militia

with the 4th Battalion Bedfordshire Regiment.

Joined the Northamptonshire Regiment 1 September 1906. Detailed service records after this have not

survived.

In 1911 with his regiment at Floriana Barracks, Malta.

Landed at Le Havre, France, 13 August 1914.

Family: In 1906 he was a gardener working for Mr Morgan at

the Osborn Nurseries and living at 14 Frampton Road, Little Heath with his parents George and Mary Parker

and siblings.

His father received a War Gratuity of £5.

Note: Some records incorrectly show his birthplace as Friern

Barnet.

In the 1881 census his father is recorded as George Shaw Parker, and the family appear in subsequent censuses as Parker yet the births of all the children

were registered as Shaw!

# 20. Arthur Thomas Payne

CCLH memorial: Private A T PAYNE Suffolk Regt

PB memorial: A T PAYNE

Birth: Clophill, Bedfordshire.

Birth register index Jul-Sep 1875 Ampthill.

Final rank & unit: Private 27753 12th Battalion Suffolk Regiment

Death: Killed in action 22 November 1917 - age 42.

Recorded on the Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France for men whose graves are not

known.

Killed at Graincourt during the Battle of Cambrai.

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Detailed service records have not survived.

Originally enlisted at Mill Hill in the Middlesex Regiment and given service number G/21452 which suggests this

was about January 1916.

Family: In 1911 he was a nurseryman living with his wife Ellen

Selina and their daughter Emily (1906) and son Arthur

(1909) in Thornton Road, Little Heath.

His wife received a War Gratuity of £8-10s.

# 21. George Edward Redding

CCLH memorial: Private G REDDING Middlesex R

PB memorial: G REDDING

Birth: Hornsey, Middlesex.

Birth register index Oct-Dec 1885 Islington.

Final rank & unit: Private L/10085 4th Battalion Middlesex Regiment

Death: Died of wounds 23 October 1914 – age 29.

Registered in Chelsea.

Buried in Brompton Cemetery, London.

Probably wounded during the Battle of Mons or the following actions prior to the First Battle of Ypres – and then repatriated to the 2nd London General Hospital located in St Mark's College at 552 King's Road,

Chelsea.

Medals: 1914 Star with clasp, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Detailed service records have not survived.

Enlisted at Hornsey, London 2 March 1905.

In India with 1st Battalion in 1911.

Landed at Boulogne, France, 14 August 1914.

Family: In 1901 he was a gardener living in Quaker's Lane with

his parents Robert and Margaret Redding and siblings.

Brother of Robert William Redding (see next).

His mother received a War Gratuity of £5.

# 22. Robert William Redding

CCLH memorial: Private R W REDDING Essex Regt

PB memorial: R W REDDING

Birth: Holloway.

Birth register index Jan-Mar 1884 Islington.

Final rank & unit: Lance Corporal 30316 2nd Battalion Essex Regiment

Death: Killed in action 3 May 1917 - age 33.

Buried in Canadian Cemetery No.2, Neuville-St. Vaast,

Pas de Calais, France.

Killed in the Third Battle of the Scarpe, a part of the

Arras Offensive.

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Detailed service records have not survived.

Enlisted at New Barnet while resident in Potters Bar. Service number 30316 suggests he was conscripted in

1916.

Family: In 1911 he was a general labourer living with his

parents Robert and Margaret Redding and siblings in

Frampton Road, Little Heath.

Robert married Matilda Shaw at Christ Church 19 April 1914 and a son Leslie was born in summer 1915. (Widowed Matilda married William Arlington Gelder at

Christ Church 21 April 1919.)

Brother of George Edward Redding (see previous).

His widow received a War Gratuity of £3.

## 23. Arthur William Richards

CCLH memorial: Boy 1stCl A W RICHARDS HMS Vanguard

PB memorial: A W RICHARDS

Birth: Bethnal Green, 5 May 1900.

Final rank & unit: Boy 1st Class J/45298 HMS Vanguard

Death: Killed or died by means other than disease, accident or

enemy action 9 July 1917 - age 17.

Recorded on the Chatham Naval Memorial for men

whose graves are not known.

At 11.20 pm on 9 July 1917 HMS Vanguard exploded while at anchor in Scapa Flow, Orkney. A court of inquiry found no clear cause but many consider that most likely a fire in an adjacent coal bunker had overheated cordite stored against the bulkhead in one of Vanguard's magazines. The resulting explosion triggered other magazines and the ship was blown apart. Just 2 of 845 personnel on board survived.

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Started as Boy 2<sup>nd</sup> Class on 16 September 1915 at

training ship HMS Powerful at Devonport.

Moved to training ship HMS Impregnable also at

Devonport 31 October 1915.

Promoted to Boy 1st Class 8 January 1916.

Posted to scout cruiser HMS Blanche 17 September

1916.

Posted to battleship HMS Vanguard 13 November 1916.

Family: In 1911 he was a schoolboy living with his father Henry

Frederick Richards and stepmother and siblings in Thornton Road, Little Heath. Arthur's mother Ellen had

died when he was two years old.

## 24. Arthur Keith Sanderson

CCLH memorial: 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut K SANDERSON Middlesex R

PB memorial: A K SANDERSON

Birth: Ealing, 23 September 1894.

Final rank & unit: 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Middlesex Regiment,

attached 7th Battalion The London Regiment

Death: Killed in action 25 September 1915 - age 21.

Recorded on the Loos Memorial, Pas de Calais for men

whose graves are not known.

Killed during the first day of the Battle of Loos.

Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: At the outbreak of war he enlisted in the 1st Public

Schools Battalion, Royal Fusiliers. In May 1915 he was

commissioned in the 5th Battalion, The London

Regiment, and went to France with the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion on 17 August 1915. He was moved up to the Front on 14

September.

Family: Only son of Arthur Bengough Sanderson and Amelia

Girton Sanderson, of Morven, Potters Bar.

Educated at Rugby School from September 1908 to May 1913 and at Pembroke College, Cambridge from 1913

to 1914.



The Colonel commanding the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion wrote:-

"It will be some comfort to you to know that the steady way in which the 7th formed up after leaving our trenches, and advanced to the attack. earned the unstinted praise of all who witnessed it. It was a great success; the German first and second lines were taken, a dangerous counter-attack was met and defeated, and all ranks, including your son, did splendidly. He died leading his men to victory, and giving his life for home and country. We lost 14 Officers and 292 men killed, wounded and missing, but gained a great success."

# 25. Samuel Gurney Sheppard

Colonel S G SHEPPARD DSO Herts Yeomanry **CCLH** memorial:

PB memorial: G S SHEPPARD DSO

Birth: Walton-on-Thames, 23 March 1865.

Final rank & unit: Lieutenant-Colonel Hertfordshire Yeomanry Died of wounds 21 August 1915 - age 50. Death:

Buried in Green Hill Cemetery, Gallipoli.

Wounded in the advance on Chocolate Hill 21 August 1915. A letter written by a sergeant in the Hertfordshire Yeomanry stated "Among the first to fall was our

gallant leader, Lieutenant Colonel S G Sheppard. He was bravely marching at the head of the regiment, when he was terribly wounded by shrapnel, but as his men reached him he very gallantly sat up to urge them on. His last command: 'Go on, the Herts! Go on, the Herts!' will be remembered by all ranks for all time to come".

Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal

He served in the Boer War with the Imperial Yeomanry Military service:

and was Mentioned in Despatches in December 1901: "32nd Company, Imperial Yeomanry, Lieutenant S G Sheppard. On 18th September, headed a party which swam to some islands in the Vaal River held by armed Boers and took them prisoners. On 19th September, rescued a man from drowning at great personal risk". He was awarded the Distinguished Service Order for the first of these actions and invested by the King 24 October 1902.

Became a Major in the Hertfordshire Yeomanry 20 December 1905.

Went to Egypt as second-in-command of the Hertfordshire Yeomanry 10 September 1914. Promoted to Temporary Lieutenant-Colonel in January 1915 and left Egypt 14 August for Gallipoli. Landed at

Suvla Bay 17 August 1915.

Family: Son of the Samuel Gurney Sheppard of Leggatt's who

championed the building of Christ Church.

Educated at Eton and became a stockbroker. He married Eileen Mary Winchester Clowes who was 19 years his junior on 27 June 1906. They had four children:

Kathleen Penelope (1907), Daniel Gurney (1908), Ellie

Dorothea (1910) and Hugh Graham (1913).





Samuel G. Sheppard.

# 26. Hugh Francis Russell Smith

**CCLH** memorial: Captain H RUSSELL SMITH Rifle Brigade

PB memorial: H F RUSSELL-SMITH

Birth: Highbury, 11 August 1887.

Final rank & unit: Captain 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade, attached 6th Battalion

Died of wounds 5 July 1916 - age 28. Death:

Buried in St. Sever Cemetery, Rouen, France.

Hit by shrapnel in the attack on Beaumont Hamel in the Battle of the Somme, on 1 July, and died in No2 British

Red Cross hospital at Rouen.

Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Commissioned in April 1915, and landed in France, 25

October 1915, attached to the 1st Battalion. Promoted to

Captain in January 1916.

Family: Second son of Henry Russell Smith, of Heathside, Little

Heath.

Educated at Rugby School from September 1901 to 1906, he won a Classical Scholarship to St. John's College, Cambridge. He obtained a Second in Part I of the Classical Tripos in 1909 and a First in Part II of the Historical Tripos in 1910. He also won the Winchester Reading Prize and the Thirlwall Prize for a dissertation on "The Theory of Religious Liberty in the Reigns of Charles II and James II" which he published in 1912. He was elected an Allen Scholar, and a Fellow of St. John's, and appointed a Lecturer on Political Science.

A close friend of the poet Rupert Brooke at Rugby and

at Cambridge.

Married Dorothy Catharine Willett Tait in 1914. A son

Roy Sabine was born 1 July 1915.



The Colonel of the 6th Battalion wrote:-

"We shall all feel his loss very much." He had been doing splendid work with the 1st Battalion. I had a letter from the Colonel Commanding the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion a short time ago recommending him for promotion and saying that he was a most capable Officer and in every way fit to command a Company."

# 27. Albert Edward Tyler

CCLH memorial: Private A E TYLER Bedfordshire R

PB memorial: A TYLER

Hatfield memorial: ALBERT E TYLER. PRIVATE. BEDS REGT. APRIL 1915.

**FRANCE** 

Birth: Lemsford, Hertfordshire.

Birth register index Jan-Mar 1897 Hatfield.

Final rank & unit: Private 14344 1st Battalion Bedfordshire Regiment

Death: Killed in action 21 April 1915– age 18.

Recorded on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial for men

whose graves are not known.

Killed during the Battle of Hill 60 (south of Ypres). The battalion war diary states "21 Apr 1915 – Reningelst Bombardment & counter attacks continued during early morning & position critical at times. Casualties very heavy. Enemy's machine guns partially enfiladed reverse of Hill 60, trench mortar bombarded it, & field guns were brought up to within about 30 yards & fired point blank at parapet, blowing it to pieces & mangling the defenders. Casualties of Bedfords 4 officers killed, 8

wounded. Other ranks over four hundred."

Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Detailed service records have not survived.

Enlisted at Hertford while resident in Hatfield.

Service number 14344 suggests he enlisted in early

September 1914.

Landed in France, 24 March 1915.

Family: In 1911 he was a Garden Boy living with his parents

Percy Samuel and Matilda Elizabeth Tyler and 3 younger

siblings at Warren Wood Lodge, Kentish Lane.

His parents received a War Gratuity of £3.

#### 28. Albert Edward Warner

CCLH memorial: Private A WARNER Worces Regt

PB memorial: A WARNER

Birth: Swanley Bar.

Birth register index Apr-Jun 1892 Hatfield.

Final rank & unit: Private 42635 1st Battalion Worcestershire Regiment

Death: Killed in action 27 October 1916 - age 24.

Recorded on the Thiepval Memorial for men whose

graves are not known.

Killed in the front line near Gueudecourt during a later

phase of the Battle of The Somme.

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Detailed service records have not survived.

Enlisted at Gerrard's Cross while resident in Denham,

Buckinghamshire.

Original service number 22990 with The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry suggests he

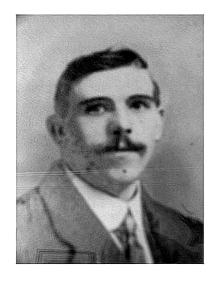
probably enlisted in January 1916.

Family: In 1911 he was working at a nursery and living with his

parents Frederick and Mary Ann Warner and five younger siblings at 4 Osborne Cottages, Little Heath. He married Maude M Garner and their son Albert

Frederick was born in late 1915.

His widow received a War Gratuity of £3.



# 29. Martin Lloyd Weston

CCLH memorial: Private M WESTON Northants Regt

PB memorial: M WESTON

Birth: Torquay, Devon.

Birth register index Apr-Jun 1890 Newton Abbot.

Final rank & unit: Private 14232 10th Battalion Hampshire Regiment

Death: Killed in action 10 August 1915 – age 25.

Recorded on the Helles Memorial, Gallipoli for men

whose graves are not known.

Killed during the Battle of Sari Bair.

Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Detailed service records have not survived.

Enlisted at Winchester while resident in Little Heath. The 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion was formed from men volunteering in

August 1914.

Landed at Suvla Bay, Gallipoli, 6 August 1915.

Family: Son of James and Priscilla Weston, of Cressing Temple,

Braintree, Essex.

In 1911 he was an elementary school teacher and living

in lodgings in St Albans.

His father received a War Gratuity of £3.

Note: Wrong regiment shown on memorial.

# 30. Cyril White

CCLH memorial: Rifleman C WHITE Lon Rifle Bgde

PB memorial: C WHITE Birth: Ealing.

Birth register index Apr-Jun 1895 Brentford.

Final rank & unit: Rifleman 9687 5th Battalion The London Regiment

(London Rifle Brigade)

Death: Died of wounds 25 April 1915 – age 20.

Buried in Vlamertinghe Military Cemetery, Belgium

Probably wounded during the Battle of St Julien (part of the Second Battle of Ypres) and died in No3 Canadian

Field Ambulance.

Medals: 1914 Star with clasp, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Detailed service records have not survived.

Enlisted at London while resident in Potters Bar. Service number 9687 suggests he enlisted about

December 1913.

Landed at Le Havre, France, 4 November 1914.

Family: Eldest son of Frederic Charles and Mildred Sarah White

of "Hillcrest," Little Heath. In 1911 he was an

accountant's articled clerk.

His father received a War Gratuity of £3.

# 31. Gordon Hedley Whittard

CCLH memorial: Rifleman G WHITTARD Lon Rifle Bgde

PB memorial: G H WHITTARD

Birth: Colney Hatch.

Birth register index Apr-Jun 1893 Barnet.

Final rank & unit: Rifleman 301597 "D" Company 1st/5th Battalion The

London Regiment (London Rifle Brigade)

Death: Killed in action 1 July 1916 – age 23.

Recorded on the Thiepval Memorial for men whose

graves are not known.

Killed during the first day of the Battle of the Somme in

the attack on Gommecourt.

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Detailed service records have not survived.

Enlisted at London while resident at Friern Barnet. Originally given service number 2467 which suggests

he enlisted in July 1915.

Landed in France, 2 February 1916.

Family: In 1911 he was living with his parents Alfred Henry and

Charlotte Elizabeth Whittard and nine brothers and sisters at Osborne House, Little Heath. He was a

hosier's assistant. Brother of Stanley Percy Whittard (see

next).

His brother Willie received a War Gratuity of £3.

# 32. Stanley Percy Whittard

CCLH memorial: Corporal S WHITTARD Lincolnshire R

PB memorial: S P WHITTARD

Birth: Colney Hatch, 16 September 1887.

Final rank & unit: Corporal 235109 8th Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment

Death: Killed in action 25 August 1918 – age 30.

Recorded on the Vis-en-Artois Memorial, Pas-de-Calais,

France for men whose graves are not known.

Killed during fighting near Bapaume in the Second

Battles of the Somme 1918.

Medals: British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Detailed service records have not survived.

Enlisted at Hertford in the Hertfordshire Regiment and given service number 5781 while resident in New

Southgate.

Given service number 266931 when the Hertfordshire

Regiment was renumbered in early 1917.

Was transferred to the Lincolnshire Regiment after this

date.

Family: In 1911 he was living with his parents Alfred Henry and

Charlotte Elizabeth Whittard and nine brothers and sisters at Osborne House, Little Heath. He was a stock broker's clerk. Brother of Gordon Hedley Whittard (see

previous).

His mother received a War Gratuity of £14.

# 33. Arthur Woodcock

CCLH memorial: Corporal A WOODCOCK East Surrey R

PB memorial: A WOODCOCK

Birth: Barnet.

Birth register index Oct-Dec 1888 Edmonton.

Final rank & unit: Private 1541 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion East Surrey Regiment

Death: Killed in action 10 April 1915 – age 26.

Recorded on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial for men

whose graves are not known.

Probably the victim of shelling or sniping while moving into the front line. The battalion war diary states "Battalion left VLAMERTINGHE at 6 pm for trenches

near ZONNEBEKE via YPRES."

Medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Detailed service records have not survived.

Enlisted at London.

Landed in France, 24 March 1915 as part of a draft of 90 NCOs and men that joined the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion at St Eloi

on 28 March 1915.

Family: In 1911 he was living with his widowed mother Sarah

Ann Woodcock and sister Florence in Frampton Road, Little Heath. He was working for Middlesex Council.

Brother of John Edward Woodcock (see next).

A War Gratuity of £3 was divided between his mother, his brother's widow, his brother George and sister

Millie.

## 34. John Edward Woodcock

CCLH memorial: Sergeant J E WOODCOCK Royal Fusiliers

PB memorial: J E WOODCOCK

Birth: Potters Bar.

Birth register index Jan-Mar 1883 Edmonton.

Final rank & unit: Sergeant L/8252 4th Battalion Royal Fusiliers

Death: Killed in action 11 November 1914 – age 31.

Recorded on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial for men

whose graves are not known.

Most probably he was killed in the Battle of Nonne Boschen Wood in the final phase of the First Battle of

Ypres.

Medals: 1914 Star with clasp, British War Medal, Victory Medal

Military service: Detailed service records have not survived.

Enlisted at London while resident in Potters Bar. Service number 8252 suggests he enlisted in 1900. In 1901 at Shaft Barracks, Western Heights, Dover.

In 1911 at Barracks in Hounslow. Landed in France, 21 August 1914.

Family: In 1911 his widowed mother Sarah Ann Woodcock was

living in Frampton Road, Little Heath with two of his younger siblings. Brother of Arthur Woodcock (see

previous).

He married Kathleen Adeleen Day on 3 June 1911 at Hounslow Heath. She received a War Gratuity of £8.

They shall not grow old, as we who are left grow old, Time shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning,

We shall remember them.

#### **Background Notes**

#### The Beginning of the War

On 28 June 1914 Archduke Franz Ferdinard, heir to the throne of Austria-Hungary, and his wife were assassinated in Sarajevo. This provided the excuse for Austria-Hungary to make demands upon and ultimately to declare war against Serbia on 28 July. Germany supported Austria-Hungary while Serbia was supported by Russia who had France as an ally.

Diplomatic efforts to avoid war proved fruitless and Germany declared war on Russia on 1 August, against France on 3 August and against Belgium on 4 August. This latter act violated Belgian neutrality, to which Germany, France, and Britain were all committed by the 1839 Treaty of London.

Great Britain delivered an ultimatum to Germany demanding a commitment by midnight (Berlin time) to proceed no further with violation of Belgium's neutrality. No reply was forthcoming, leading to Great Britain being at war with Germany from 11pm (British time) on 4 August 1918.

#### The End of the War

Unrest in Germany led to the abdication of Kaiser Wilhelm II and the declaration of a republic on 9 November 1918.

On 11 November, at 5am, an armistice was signed in a railway carriage at Compiègne. At 11am – "the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month" – a ceasefire came into effect.

A formal state of war between the two sides persisted for another seven months, until the signing of the Treaty of Versailles on 28 June 1919. This has led to the war being referred to sometimes as 1914-1918 and at other times as on this memorial as 1914-1919.

#### **Christ Church records**

The war merits little mention in the surviving records of the church – held at Hertfordshire Archives.

The minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting of 3 May 1916 record "Mr Whittard, the organist, stated that he will be called up by the end of the month and suggestions were made as for selecting a temporary organist in his place – till the end of the war."

The organist was Alfred Whittard, elder brother of Gordon and Stanley who are listed on the memorial. Alfred enlisted on 2 June 1916 and survived the war being discharged as 'no longer physically fit for war service' in December 1918.

Also the minutes of a Church Council Meeting on 4 March 1919 state "The main point before this meeting was as to what should be done to mark our appreciation of our men who have returned from the war – as soldiers or sailors. It was suggested that a Social Welcome evening should be held for all who belong to the parish or are connected with the church."

However, I have found no records concerning the creation and installation of this memorial.

#### Reference Material

The principal resources consulted while researching this memorial include:

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Debt of Honour Register

Soldiers Died in the Great War

Officers Died in the Great War

British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914-1920

UK WWI Service Medal and Award Rolls, 1914-1920

British Army WWI Service Records, 1914-1920

UK, Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects, 1901-1929

The Long, Long Trail (www.1914-1918.net)

Army Service Numbers 1881-1918 (armyservicenumbers.blogspot.co.uk)

1901 and 1911 Censuses

GRO birth registration index

CCLH Vestry minutes, PCC minutes, Baptism register and Marriage register Regimental histories and rolls of honour for universities and public schools