

FOR GOD KING & COUNTRY

**"TO THE MEMORY OF THE
MEN OF AMPFIELD WHO FELL
IN THE GREAT WAR
1914-1918"**

Engraved on the Parish War Memorial.

**"THEIR NAMES LIVETH FOR
EVER MORE"**

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The following notes have been collated and published on this, the Ampfield Parish Council website, in order to commemorate and honour the men of Ampfield who served and fell as a result of their service during the First World War, 1914–1918. The notes are the result of careful research undertaken by Elizabeth Hallett, local historian and, with Anita Wood, co-author of the book 'Ampfield through the Ages', and by Jennie and Alan Edwards of St. Marks's Church, Ampfield. Their kind permissions to reproduce this information has been granted to a most grateful Ampfield Parish Council in order that, as a part the celebrations to mark the Centenary of the 1918 Armistice, current residents may be provided with a brief background of every man honoured and commemorated on the Parish War Memorial for the 1914-1918 World War.

Altogether, 71* members of our small community are recorded as having served during this 'Great War', 14 of whom did not return. *(Source: 'Ampfield Through The Ages' by Elizabeth Hallett and Anita Woods)

It is planned to produce a similar document to honour those who fell during the Second World War during the 75th anniversary of the end of that war in 2020.

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Carol Edward Vere Awdrey



Son of the Vicar, the Rev. Vere Awdry, and Mary Louisa Awdry, who lived in the Old Vicarage. A 2nd Lieutenant in the 2nd Btn. Royal Munster Fusiliers, Carol Awdrey died on 27th August, 1914, aged 20, only a month after the outbreak of the war during the retreat from Mons. Buried at Etreux British Cemetery, Aisne, France. Grave Ref: 11 3, where there is an account of the circumstances in which Carol died. (The village is 32 kilometres northeast of St Quentin and 20 kilometres west of La Capelle, on the D946.). Carol's surviving stepbrother, Wilbert, became the author of the 'Thomas the Tank Engine' series of stories.

John Henry Bowles

Son of Augusta Bowles of Rownhams and husband of Alice Lilly Bowles (nee Phillpott) of Ampfield. Prior to enlisting in the First Hampshire Regiment, John worked on the Hursley Estate. He was a Pioneer in the 319th Road Construction Company, Royal Engineers. John Bowles was killed in action, aged 34, on 25th September 1917 during the 3rd battle of Ypres in northern France. Buried at La Clytte Military Cemetery, Grave Ref: 111 B 20. (8 kilometres west of Ieper [formally 'Ypres'] town centre on N304.)

George Gardener

The son of Charles and Elizabeth Gardener of Hursley and later Ratlake, George worked as a woodman on the Hursley Estate. George enlisted as a private in the 10th Btn. the Hampshire Regiment. He died from wounds sustained at Gallipoli on 22nd August 1915. He is buried in the 7th Field Ambulance Cemetery, Anzac, Turkey. Grave Ref: Sp. Mem. A13. (190 metres east of the Anzac-Suvla road between Chailak Dere and Aghyl Dere.)

Harry Gradidge



The son of William and Fanny Gradidge of Jermyns Lane, Ampfield. Private Harry Gradidge enlisted in the Hampshire Regiment, transferring in 1916 to the newly formed Machine Gun Corps as a founder member of the 179th Machine Gun Company. Harry died, aged 21, on 3rd July 1916 at The Somme. He is buried in Haute Avesnes British Cemetery, Pas de Calais. Grave Ref: A 1. (9 kilometres west of the Arras/St Pol road to the north of the village on the road leading to Habarcq.)

Ernest Bone Haskell



The son of Harry and Annie Haskell of 182 Knapp, Ernest Haskell was a private in the 2nd Btn. Wiltshire Regiment. He was killed in action on 25th September 1915 aged 24, at Loos, Belgium. Although there is no known grave, Ernest is commemorated on the Loos Memorial Cemetery, panel 102. (This is in the village of Loos-en-Gohelle, 5 kilometres north-west of Lens.)

Henry James Payne (Harry) Haskell

Also the son of Harry and Annie Haskell of 182 Knapp. Harry Haskell was a private in the 5th Btn. Dorset Regiment, which was posted to Gallipoli in August 1915. Killed in action on 31st August 1915, aged 20, Harry is buried at Pieta Military Cemetery, Malta. Grave Ref: B. V11.3. (1.5 kilometres from Valetta, Malta, off the Sliema Road.) Tragically, Annie Haskell, the mother of Harry and Ernest was informed of the deaths of both of her sons on the same day. Mercifully, there were three brothers who did survive the war.

Phinehas Kebby

Son of Eli and Alice Kebby of Hillside, Winchester Road, Ampfield, Phinehas Kebby also worked on the Hursley Estate. Phinehas joined the Worcester Regiment, subsequently becoming a private in the 11th Btn. Somerset Light Infantry. He served in France and Flanders before dying of his wounds, aged 32, on 6th September 1917, in Northern France. He is buried in the Calais Southern Cemetery, Pas de Calais. Grave Ref: Plot H, Row 5, Grave 16. (On the southern side of the main road to Dunkerque.)

Cecil Marsh

Son of William and Mary Marsh, Cecil Marsh enlisted as a private in the 10th Btn, The Hampshire Regiment. Cecil was killed in action at Gallipoli on 21st August 1915, aged 18. Commemorated on the Helles Memorial, Turkey, Ref: Panel 125-134 or 223-226, 228-229 and 328. (This is situated on the tip of the Gallipoli Peninsula, on an obelisk over 30 metres high, sufficient to be seen by ships passing through the Dardanelles.)

David Neale

Son of James and Edith Neale of Ampfield, whose gravestone in St Mark's churchyard records: 'David, their son, who drowned at Basra, Persian Gulf, when on active service, 2nd June 1917, aged 37'. David Neale enlisted as a private, 783rd MT Coy, Army Service Corps. He is commemorated on the Basra Memorial, Al Basra, Iraq, panel 42. (This was originally situated within Basra War Cemetery but in 1997 the memorial was moved by Presidential decree and re-erected 32 kilometres along the road to Nasiriyah, in what was the middle of a major battleground during the Gulf War.) [The memorial in St. Mark's spells the name as Neal]

Ronald E Stratton

The Stratton family lived in Pound Lane. Ronald attended the HMS 'Impregnable' Training Establishment, Royal Navy, listed as Boy, Second Class. He died on 27th May 1916, aged 17, from disease sustained while training at Plymouth. Buried in St Mark's churchyard, grave number 592, his is the only Commonwealth War Grave in the Churchyard.

Leonard Vivian Douglas Waygood

Son of William and Janet Waygood of Ampfield. Leonard Waygood enlisted on 16th September 1918 as a private in the Royal Marine Artillery, based at the RM Depot, Eastney. He died from disease thought possibly to be Spanish Flu, some 13 days later, on 28th September 1918, aged 17. Buried in Haslar Royal Navy Cemetery. Grave Ref: E31 17.

Frank Webb

Son of Benjamin and Catherine Webb of Ampfield, Frank Webb worked at the Eastleigh Railway Works. He joined the 10th Btn. The Hampshire Regiment as a private. Frank was killed in action at Gallipoli on 10th August 1915, aged 29. He is commemorated on the Helles Memorial, Turkey. Ref: Panel 125-134 or 223-226, 228-229 and 328. (On the tip of the Gallipoli Peninsula, as described for Cecil Marsh).

Benjamin Percy Whitbread

Son of William and Laura Whitbread of upper Knapp Lane, Benjamin Whitbread was a Gunner in the Royal Garrison Artillery, East Africa Details. He died of a tropical disease, assumed to be malaria, in Tanganyika (now called Tanzania), just after the end of the war, on 6 December 1918, aged 27. Benjamin is buried in the Dar es Salaam (Upanga Road) Cemetery, Tanzania.. Grave Ref: VII F 8.

Archibald Henry Witcher

The son of James and Anne Maria Witcher of Hawstead, Archibald Witcher worked on the Hursley Estate as a woodman. Having enlisted in the 1st Btn. Grenadier Guards, Lance Corporal Archibald Witcher served in France and Flanders before dying of wounds sustained at the Battle of Flers-Courcalette aged 21. This was the first battle in which tanks were deployed. Archibald is buried in Grove Town Cemetery, Meaulte, Somme, France. Grave ref. I C 33. (The village lies a little south of Albert - take the D329 through Meaulte towards Bray sur Somme, for 2.5 kilometres, then right towards Etinehem (C6).

Note:

A young man born and raised in Ampfield, but not on the war memorial because his family had moved away in 1909, was Leslie Penn, son of Walter Penn, the former schoolmaster, and his wife, Cecilia. Leslie's death at Passchendaele on 12th October 1917 is commemorated on his parents' gravestone in St Mark's churchyard. He had been a private in the 7th Btn. Queens Own Royal West Kent Regiment

"WE WILL REMEMBER THEM"

CAROL E. V. AWDRY.
JOHN BOWLES.
GEORGE GARDENER.
HARRY CRADIDCE.
ERNEST B. HASKELL.
HARRY J. HASKELL.
PHINEHAS KEBBY.



CECIL MARSH.
DAVID NEALE.
RONALD STRATTON.
LEONARD WAYCOOD.
FRANK WEBB.
PERCY B. WHITBREAD.
ARCHIBALD WITCHER.