



# Arthur Kempster



Corporal - Service No. 42703 - Age 25

Army Unit 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade Canadian Field Artillery

Enlisted: January 1915 in Canadian Expeditionary Force



Arthur was born on the 8<sup>th</sup> May 1893 in Wingrave. The son of George and Sarah (nee Jakeman) Kempster, he was brought up in Crafton with 6 other children, his father was a shepherd. In 1911 he and his brother were butcher's assistants in Wealdstone, Middlesex.

He died on the 19<sup>th</sup> November 1918 from mustard gas and influenza. He is buried in Wingrave Congregational Chapel Yard and is also commemorated at All Saints, Wing.

His brother, Harry Fredrick Kempster was born in Wingrave in 1890. He died on the 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1917 in Flanders, Belgium. Harry was a rifleman with the Royal Irish Rifles, 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion. Whilst killed in action, he is not mentioned on the Mentmore War Memorial.



# Ernest Taylor

Private - Service No. 29168 - Age 30

6<sup>th</sup> Battalion Duke of Wellington's [West Riding] Regiment.

Enlisted: Huddersfield



Died July 27<sup>th</sup> 1918, in the No 3 Australian Casualty Clearing station, Brandhoek. Suffered gunshot wounds to his back, forehead and neck. Buried Esquelbecq Military Cemetery III D 14.

Born 1887 Cheddington, Son of William and Mary (nee Baker) Taylor

Ernest married Elizabeth Kelly (nee Firth). Elizabeth was a widow with four small children. The couple met and married in Huddersfield and had a child of their own on 11<sup>th</sup> Nov 1916.

Ernest had worked on a local farm in Cheddington then he moved to Huddersfield where he became a goods porter. Also commemorated on the War Memorial, The Green, Cheddington.



# Fredrick James Millins M.M



Private - Service No. 18379 - Age 24  
No. 4 Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Grenadier Guards.



Fredrick Died in action in Belgium on the October 9<sup>th</sup> 1917.

Buried at Zonnebke, Flanders. Plot 9 Memorial I.D.11953337.

Also commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial Panel 9 and the War Memorial, The Green, Cheddington.

Born 1893 Cheddington, Montague Hill. Youngest son of William Thomas and Dianah (nee Darvill) Millins.

1909 He worked as a Railway Porter at St.Albans railway station.  
Fredrick's father was killed 1895 by falling from a horse and cart when Fredrick was only two.

*1John 1888,Dennis 1891, Fredrick 1893, & Mother Dianah*



# George Potts

Private - Service No. 29216 - Age 53  
Army Medical Corps.  
Enlisted at Southampton



Died May 5<sup>th</sup> 1915 , of wounds at the Royal Victoria Hospital Netley where he was buried. C E 1685.

Born in Billington, Bedfordshire 1861.

Son of James and Jemima (nee Seabrook) Potts of Billington.

George was married 26<sup>th</sup> December 1887 to Selina Annie (James) who sadly died 1895. They had one son Jack born 1891.

George lived and worked on the Mentmore Estate as a foreman house painter.



# Henry Edward Griffiths



Gunner - Service No. 147379 - Age 39  
116<sup>th</sup> Siege Battery the Royal Garrison Artillery  
Henry enlisted in Paris



Died August 29<sup>th</sup> 1918 at a German military Hospital in Dercy-Mortiers, France. Buried at Chauny Communal Cemetery British Extension, Aisne, France. Plot 5 Row b Grave 2

Son of Joseph and Mary (nee Griffiths) Griffiths of Grove place Leighton Buzzard.

Born 1880 in Epsom, where his father was a Stud Groom. The family moved to Crafton when his father's work took him to the breeding stud there. Also commemorated on the War Memorial, Church Square, Leighton Buzzard.



# Herbert Kent MM



Private - Service No. 32139 - Age 20  
4<sup>th</sup> Battalion the Bedfordshire Regiment  
Enlisted when he was 16 years old



Died 27<sup>th</sup> August 1918 died of his wounds, France. Final resting place unknown.

Born 28<sup>th</sup> October 1899 in Wing, Son of Ernest Kent and Emily Ann (nee Rowe, of Ledburn). Lived next door to Hare & Hounds pub. Father was a 'Cowman'.

Commemorated on the Vis-en-Artois Memorial panel 4 & 5 this memorial bears the names of 9,000 men who fell in the period from 8 Aug 1918 to the date of the Armistice. These men have no known grave.

His mother received Soldiers effects of £9.16.4d



# James Bull



Private - Service No. 7771 - Age 31  
2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment

Enlisted in 1903 and was recalled from the reserve in August 1914



Died 26 September 1915 – died in action at the Battle of Loos. Burial is unknown. Born 1884 at Long Marston. Son of Joseph and Sarah (nee Woolhead) Bull, of Crafton. One of the family, possibly James, planted a walnut in his garden, the walnut had been given to him by his mother at Christmas. A tree grew and stands to this day in Crafton at Walnut tree cottage. Like his father James was a 'Cowman'. He left Crafton and in 1911 James was working in Doncaster he was 27 years old and single.

Also Commemorated on Loos Memorial Panels 64 and 65 and the War Memorial, All Saints Wing.



# The Right Hon.



# Neil James Archibald Primrose M.C.

MC Captain

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion the Royal Buckinghamshire Hussars



Died 15<sup>th</sup> November 1917 in Action in Palestine. Buried, Ramleh War Cemetery D 49.

Born 14<sup>th</sup> December 1882 Dalmeny West Lothian Scotland. Son of Philip, 5<sup>th</sup> Earl Rosebery and Hannah( nee Rothschild.) Neil married Victoria A.L. nee Stanley, on 7<sup>th</sup> April 1915. They had one daughter, Ruth Alice Hannah Primrose Wood countess Halifax. He was a Privy Councillor and Member of Parliament for Wisbech Division since 1910.

Also commemorated, Memorial, Saint Giles Cathedral Edinburgh.  
Memorial Postwick Church Norwich.



# Percival Fiddler



Private - Service No. 200646 - Age 25

5<sup>th</sup> Battalion the Bedfordshire Regiment

Enlisted as 4672 - Bedfordshire Territorials



Died 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1917 in action. 4 days later the ruined and deserted city of Gaza was captured. Buried Gaza War Cemetery Plot XX11 row A Grave 3.

Born 15<sup>th</sup> April 1892 at Chipping Norton. Son of William and Emma (nee Hayes) Fiddler of Ledburn.

1901c, living in Ivinghoe next to the Wesleyan chapel with 4 brothers and sisters. Percy's father was a horse keeper.



# Phillip Varney



Lance Corporal - Service No. 16828 - Age 29

7<sup>th</sup> Battalion the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry.

Transferred to 203<sup>rd</sup> Area Employment Company the Labour Corps



Died 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1918 of pneumonia just eleven days after the war had ended. At No.27 Clearing Station, Kavalla in Salonika, Greece  
Buried Dedeagatch, Greece. British Cemetery 77.

Born 1889 Ledburn. Son of Henry and Maria (nee Green) Varney. He was one of fifteen children born to Henry and Maria. Phillip attended Sunday school in Ledburn; by 1911 he was a farm labourer in Ledburn.



# Reuben Jeffery



Lance Corporal - Service No. 13095 - Age 23

A Company, 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion the Buffs, East Kent Regiment

Formerly 14590 of 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion the East Surrey Regiment

Enlisted 1914 Kingston



Died 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1917, at the 3rd battle of the Scarpe, reported missing presumed dead. Burial unknown

Born 1894 Exning Suffolk. Son of Fredrick William and Thurza (nee Crane) Jeffery. He was their only child.

The family moved to Crafton when Reuben's father became a groom at the Stud at Lower Crafton.

Ruben went to Epsom to become a motor driver.

Also commemorated -Arras Memorial Bay 2.



# Samuel Sayell

Private - Service No. 49685 - Age 33

32<sup>nd</sup> Battalion the Royal Fusiliers.

Enlisted at Thrapston

Died 17<sup>th</sup> July 1917, Belgium. Buried in Lijssenthock Military Cemetery XVI F20

Born 1884 in Cheddington, the Son of Henry and Elizabeth (nee Foxon) Sayell. Samuel grew up in Mentmore where his father was a Cattleman on Manor Farm. Samuel earned his living as a Waggoner. He married Francis Annie (nee Harmsworth) at Mentmore 1907. They had two children, Lucy and Edward.

He is also named on the family gravestone at Mentmore Church.





# William Earnest Bond MM



Private - Service No. 41614 - Age 28

Royal Army Medical Corps

Attached to 88<sup>th</sup> Battery The Royal Field Artillery

Enlisted at Chelsea



Died of his wounds May 21<sup>st</sup> 1917 Flanders. Buried at Fosse No.10 Communal Cemetary Extension Sains en Gohelle. Pas Du Calais Nord. France Row C Grave 11.

Awarded the British Military Medal

Born July 1888 Mentmore. Son of Albert and Charlotte (Nee Green) Farrington. 1901 William lived with his family Mentmore Square 5 doors from the school house. Their father worked for the Rosebery Estate as a groom and coachman and his brother was a gardener. There were 5 children all born in Mentmore, Elizabeth 1887, Joseph 1853, and William 1889. 1911 William worked as a carpenter.



# William John Randell M.M



Private - Service No. M2/178158 - Age 26  
13<sup>th</sup> Siege Battery, Ammunition Column the ASC.

Died 12<sup>th</sup> March 1919 No.41 Stationary Hospital, Poulainville. Buried at Saint Pierre Cemetery XIV E 1. Born 1892 Burcott. Son of George Randell and Emma (nee Smith, of Wing). William boarded with the Gilbert family in Ledburn. He worked as a groom and later became chauffeur to Lord Rosebury's Estate manager. William met his future wife Ellen nee Sayell whilst living in Ledburn. They married in 1912.

Herbert Randell, William's older brother, also fought and was killed. Private 17209 Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry. Transferred to 432<sup>nd</sup> Agricultural Company. Herbert Died 21<sup>st</sup> November 1918 in Wing. He is buried in a War Grave and commemorated at Wing Church.

Edwin Randell born 1896, another brother, fought and survived. Service no.19149 Private - Grenadier Guards. Like his brother he also was awarded the Military Medal. He died age 72 years.

