

Lest we forget

The men of the Southwick Estate,
Hampshire, who fought and died
in the First World War

DUTY BRAVELY DONE
REST NOBLY WON.



A Foreword by the Squire of Southwick

One hundred years ago this community made a pledge, a pledge that they would remember the men of the Southwick Estate who were killed during the First World War.

Despite the brass memorial and an annual service of Remembrance the story of these men has faded with time and the passing of their close relatives.

Most, if not all, of these men were born on the Estate and baptised in one of the Estate's two churches. They perhaps went to Southwick School where they received an education. If the pattern of their lives had not been so rudely interrupted many of them would have been married here and, at the end of their lives, they would have been buried in the churchyard alongside other family members.

When war was declared on 4th August 1914, few of these young men understood the nature of the conflict they were about to enter.

The fearsome machines of war consumed men like never before.

One by one, the men described in these few pages answered the call to arms to "do their bit" and one by one they died, in a desolate landscape, confronting men who in other circumstances could so easily have been their friends.

I am grateful to the authors who have made these pages possible because this is the story of these men and, in the writing and the reading of these pages, the pledge made by this community, so long ago, is honoured.

In this way, these young men, and the families devastated by their loss, are remembered.

Mark Thistlethwayte
September 2021

Edwin AUSTIN (1887 – 1917)

Edwin Austin was born 13th May 1887 and baptised four days later at St Peter's and St Paul's church in Fareham, Hampshire. Edwin had a two hour older twin brother, Alan, who sadly died on 8th July 1887. Edwin was the son of Oliver Austin and Emma Elizabeth Gravett (known as Elizabeth). Oliver and Elizabeth had ten children: Harriet, Rebecca, Mary, Elizabeth, Oliver, Edith, Frederick, Georgina, Alan and Edwin.

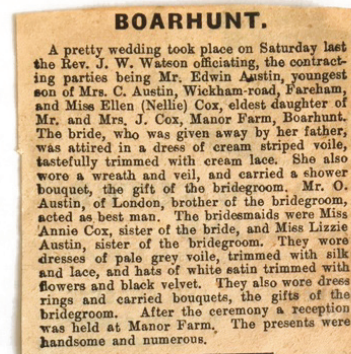
In the 1891 and 1901 censuses, the family was living in Wickham Road, Fareham. Oliver was working as a gardener and Elizabeth as a laundress. Oliver sadly died in 1901 at the age of 60. In 1911, Edwin was living with his mother and sister, Elizabeth, still in Wickham Road, Fareham but in a smaller, neighbouring, property.

In 1901 Edwin commenced a three year apprenticeship in ironmongery with William Radford in West Street, Fareham. His wage for the first two years was 2s 6d increasing to 4s in the final year. His mother agreed to provide board, food and drink and, when Edwin completed, he worked as an ironmonger.



Apprenticeship agreement

On 26th July 1913, when Edwin was 26, he married Ellen Cox (aged 28) at St Nicholas Church in South Boarhunt. The wedding service was conducted by Rev J W Watson. Ellen was the daughter of John Cox who was a tenant farmer of Southwick Estate and, at the time, they were farming Manor Farm, South Boarhunt (situated opposite the church) having previously run Ashlands Farm. It is believed Edwin served as a Batman to one of the Squires relatives.

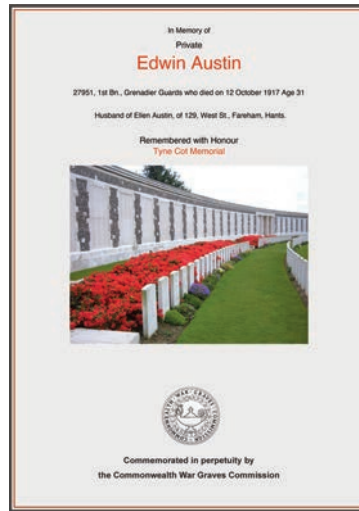


Edwin Austin and Ellen (Nelly) Cox July 26th 1913. Edwin and Ellen's wedding was reported in local paper plus decoration from their wedding cake.

In 1915 Ellen and Edwin had a son, Oliver John Austin. In December 1916, Edwin enlisted as a Guardsman with the 1st Battalion of the Grenadier Guards and his service number was 27951.

On 12th October 1917, Edwin was serving with a machine gun section when he was killed in action at France and Flanders, he was 30 years old. His body was never recovered and he is remembered on Panel 9 of the Tyne Cott Memorial in Belgium.

Unfortunately Edwin is not listed on the Southwick and Boarhunt memorial held in St James Church in Southwick. However there is a separate memorial plaque on the wall above the Squire's pew at St Nicholas Church in South Boarhunt. Perhaps the connection Edwin had with the Squire permitted the location of the plaque? Edwin is listed on Fareham town centre war memorial.



Edwin's medal record shows him as being awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

Edwin's effects of £3 11s 2d were left to Ellen, his wife in 1919. Ellen, who was living in West Street, Fareham, and remained there for much of her life, also received a war pension until their son's sixteenth birthday.





The wedding of Edwin Austin and Ellen Cox. Bridesmaids - with bouquets (left) Edwin's sister Lizzie, (right) Anne Cox, Ellen's sister

Alfred Bertie BARFOOT (1887-1917)

Alfred Bert Barfoot, known as Bertie, was born 12th August 1887. He was seventh of nine children of James Barfoot and Frances Messeem. Bertie, his three sisters and five brothers were all born in Southwick.

At the time of the 1891 census, the family were living in the High Street, Southwick, where Bertie's father was employed as an agricultural labourer. Bertie's uncle, Thomas Messeem, was living with them. From other documents we know the property was 55 High Street on the Flint Terrace.

Ten years later, the Barfoots and Thomas Messeem were still living together in Southwick. Thomas Messeem was described as a widower. His son Private William Henry Messeem, Bertie's cousin, was also present. (William Messeem was killed in 1915 at Gallipoli and is remembered on the Southwick and Boarhunt War Memorial). Bertie was thirteen years old and was employed as a worker on a farm. Bertie was still working as a farm labourer when on 4th January 1906, at the age of 18, he enlisted in the Royal Marine Light Infantry (RMLI) at Gosport and was given service number PO/14384. He was sent to the Royal Marine Depot at Deal for his initial training and returned to the Portsmouth Division Barracks at Forton, Gosport about a year later, on 24th January 1907. He then served on his first ship HMS Forte from July 1907 to August 1908. HMS Forte was a cruiser 'in reserve' at Portsmouth,

Bertie was under age so unable to sail. On 23rd September 1908 he embarked on his first real sea service on HMS Prosperine, which was tasked with operations against pirates and gunrunners off the coast of Somaliland (Somalia). For this he was awarded the Africa General Service medal with the "Somaliland 1908-10" clasp. HMS Prosperine then moved into the Persian Gulf and performed a similar service there resulting in Bertie being awarded the Naval General Service Medal with "Persian Gulf 1909-14" clasp. He returned to Forton Barracks via Gibraltar arriving on 29th August 1910; he



remained in the Portsmouth area until July 1914 including serving seven months on HMS Prince of Wales. On 28th July 1914, just a few weeks before the outbreak of war, he was appointed to HMS Queen, a London-class battleship commissioned in 1904. She was part of the 5th Battle Squadron engaged on Channel Patrols including operations with the Dover Patrol. In 1915 she was transferred to the Dardanelles to support the Allied landings in Gallipoli, participating in the landing at Cape Helles on the 25th-26th April and afterwards providing support to the ANZAC landings. During this period, on 14 May 1915, Bertie was promoted to Corporal.

Bertie's movements during the latter part of 1915 are somewhat confused, his service record appearing to contain contradictory information and not relating to the known movements of the Royal Marine Brigade. The best interpretation is that he remained in the Portsmouth area, either at Forton Barracks or Browdown where the RM Brigade was reforming after their retreat from Antwerp. It is most likely that in late December 1915 or very early January 1916 he left with reinforcements for the Dardanelles, arriving at Mudros on 26 January.

On 22 February 1916 the 1st and 2nd RM Battalions embarked at Mudros for Stavros,

Macedonia to join the Salonica Army. Bertie, with the 2nd Battalion RMLI, initially went up into the mountains to relieve a battalion of the Rifle Brigade. There was no significant action and the mountain air and good climate was a nice change. It is reported that training and football were the main occupations before both Battalions were recalled to Mudros in April 1916.

The Battalions left separately for France arriving at Marseilles in early May. They moved north to Longpré and then took up positions on the front line near Grenay, about 7km NE of Lens, taking turns on the front line whilst the other was taking a rest.

Bertie seems to have been transferred to the 1st Battalion and, on 27th August 1916, the 1st Battalion moved back into the part of the front line known as Angres II. The following day the Battalion war diary records "Fairly quiet. Our trench mortars bombarded enemy fire for one hour, enemy retaliated by firing about 20 minnies (trench mortars) and a few rifle grenades. Casualties 3 other ranks wounded." Bertie was one of the casualties, receiving a bullet wound to his right ankle. He received initial attention at the nearest Dressing Station, including a tetanus injection, before being moved to No 23 Casualty Clearing Station at Lozinghem, about 25km NW, near Bethune.

He was repatriated to UK for recovery on 31st August 1916.

Following his recovery, he spent some time with the RM Brigade stationed at Blandford, Dorset, and on 3rd February 1917 was promoted to Acting Sergeant on transfer to the 2nd RM Battalion and once again embarked for France. The 1st and 2nd Battalions had moved south and were now operating near Gavrelle, about 10km NE of Arras.

On 28th - 29th April 1917 both Battalions along with Canadian troops were part of an action known as The Battle of Arleux. The intention was to tie-down German reserves and the 2nd Battalion were tasked with the capture of the important Gavrelle Windmill and the German trenches to the south of it. The windmill was captured but with great losses. The war diary records "Casualties were very heavy. Only two officers came out alive." The casualties were: one officer killed, 25 other ranks killed; 72 other ranks wounded; eight officers and 387 other ranks missing. Bertie was one of the missing, his body was never found. He was twenty nine years of age.

Charlotte Gardiner was Bertie's fiance and no doubt they planned to marry when the war was over. Sadly Bertie never returned home and Charlotte never married.



Bertie Barfoot
Charlotte Gardiner,
Bertie's fiance



Bertie is commemorated on the Arras memorial, Pas de Calais, France

David Victor BLACKMAN (1897–1918)

David Victor Blackman was born on the 21st June 1897 at East Meon, Hampshire. He was the son of David Blackman and Mary Ann Newport. David and Mary Ann (aka Annie) had ten children, Annie, Lilian, Ellen, William, David, Thomas, Florence, Henry, Beatrice and Dorothy. William and Henry both died as infants

In 1901 the family was living at Catherington, Hampshire.

Ten years later, at the time of the 1911 census, they had moved to Weston, which is just outside of Petersfield where David Blackman senior was a carter on a farm (a carter is described as "a driver of horse-drawn vehicles for transporting goods"). David Victor was aged thirteen and still at school.

Sometime after 1911 the family moved to Lye Heath Farm, which is on the east of the Southwick Estate.

David Victor enlisted as a private in the 8th battalion of the Gloucestershire Regiment in Bristol. His regimental number was 23601.

Unfortunately David's service record was destroyed in September 1940 as the result of a fire caused by an incendiary bomb at the War Office Record Store in Arnside Street, London. Approximately two thirds of 6.5 million soldiers' documents for the First World War were destroyed.

On the 18th September David was serving in a Trench Mortar Battery when he sustained an injury to his thigh.

He was admitted to No 34 Casualty Clearing Station, which was at Zuydcoote (near Dunkirk). His Battalion was recorded as the 10th and not the 8th so it is assumed that he had transferred to the 10th. (The 10th Battalion was disbanded on the 14th February and David transferred back to his original Battalion)

He was discharged from the Casualty Clearing Station on 1st October 1917.

Only six months later, on the 17th April 1918, aged 18, he died in action and is commemorated at the Tyne Cot Memorial Panel, Zonnebeke, West-Viaanderen, Belgium.

David's effects of £6.3s 11d were left to his father in 1918. £16 war gratuity was paid the following year.



David is listed on the Southwick and Boarhunt memorial. Please note, David's name is incorrect and he is called William. This is inconsistent with other church and military records and David is correct.

William Henry MESSEM (1888-1915)

William Henry Messeem was born in Waterlooville, Hampshire in 1888. He was the only child of Thomas Messeem and Sarah Ann Perver.

At the time of the 1891 census William and his mother, Sarah, were living in Hulbert Road, Waterlooville with William's grandmother, Sarah's brother and a lodger.

Meanwhile, William's father, Thomas, was recorded as a visitor at the home of his sister Frances Barfoot nee Messeem and her husband James Barfoot in Southwick. (James and Frances were the parents of Alfred Bertie Barfoot who died in the Great War in 1917 and who is also on the Southwick and Boarhunt War Memorial). Bertie and William were cousins.

When the 1901 census was taken, William and his father, Thomas, were living in the High Street, Southwick, with the Barfoot family. From other documents we know the property was 55 High Street on the Flint Terrace.

However, by 1911, William had joined the 2nd Battalion of the Hampshire Regiment and enlisted in Southampton. His service number was 8331 and he was a private. He was stationed at King's Hill, South Africa.

Unfortunately, William's service record was destroyed in September 1940 as the result of a fire caused by an incendiary bomb at the War Office Record Store in Arnside Street, London. Approximately two thirds of 6.5 million soldiers' documents for the First World War were destroyed.

William was shot by a sniper and died on the 8th May 1915 at Gallipoli. The Second Battle of Krithia was fought from 6th to the 8th of May and so it was likely that William died on the last day of the battle. He was 27 years old.

The village of Krithia and neighbouring hill of Achi Baba had to be captured in order for the British to advance up the Gallipoli peninsula to the forts that controlled passage of the Dardanelles straits. A small amount of ground was captured after two days of costly fighting but the objectives remained out of reach.

William is commemorated on Helles Memorial, Turkey.

His effects of £8 18s 6d plus £5 war gratuity were left to his father.



William Henry Messeem



Helles Memorial, Turkey

William Edward OLDING (1881-1916)

William Edward Olding was born in Southwick in 1881. His parents were Thomas Olding, who was born in Southwick and Martha Ann Merritt who was born in Westborne, Sussex. They had eight children, Rosina, Ellen, Elizabeth, Emily, Thomas, Richard aka Dick, Louisa and William.

Their residence was 15 High Street, Southwick.

At the time of the 1891 census William's father was employed as a bricklayer's labourer.

The Olding family were near neighbours of the Stubbs family who lost two sons in the Great War. Their names are on the memorial with William's. Soon after the census William's father died. William was only ten years old and his mother was now a widow with six children still living at home. Also living with them was two year old Walter Rand, her grandson, son of her eldest daughter Rosina.

In 1911 William was employed as a cowman and continued living in Southwick at 15 High Street with his mother and three of his siblings. His sister Louisa was deaf, his brother Dick was a brewer working at the brewhouse in Southwick and his other brother, Thomas, was a smallholder. None of the four siblings were married.

Unfortunately William's service record was destroyed in September 1940 as the result of a fire caused by an incendiary bomb at the War Office Record Store in Arnside Street, London.

Approximately two thirds of 6.5 million soldiers' documents for the First World War were destroyed.

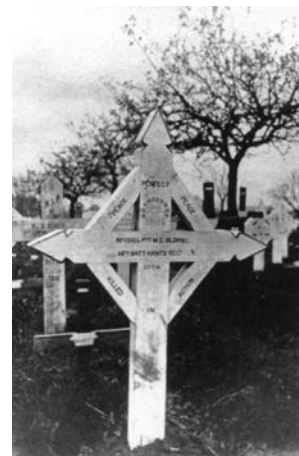
All we know is that William enlisted in the 14th Battalion of the Hampshire Regiment, (enlisting in Southampton) and that he was a private. His service number was 15126. He is listed in the 14th Battalion's War Diary as being killed on the 23rd July 1916, along with 10 others and 13 wounded during heavy shelling at Ferme du Bois. This was near to Gorre and Cuinchy in the Somme area; as the Somme Battle lasted from 1st July - November 1916, it will have been as a part of that. He is commemorated at St. Vaast Post Military Cemetery, Richebourg-L'avoüe, Pas de Calais, France, III. G. 13.

William's mother, Martha, received his effects of £4 8s.1d on the 16th December 1916 and War Gratuity of £6 10s on the 24th September 1919.

William's older brother, Dick became the village Master brewer and famously produced ale throughout WW2.



Olding family



William John OUGHTON (1883-1917)

William John Oughton was born in July 1883 in Portsmouth, Hampshire. His parents were William Edward Oughton and Emma Elizabeth Owen nee Clark. William senior was a bottler in a mineral water factory. William junior had a half brother from Emma's previous marriage, three brothers, Harry, Bertie and Ernest and two sisters, Emma and May.

In 1900, when he was 17 years 10 months of age, William joined the Hampshire Militia, the 3rd Hampshire Regiment, and signed to say that he was willing to be attested for the term of six years (provided her Majesty should so long require his services). He gave his employer as A. H. White and his occupation as a bus driver.

At the time of the 1901 census, William was living with his parents at 52 Stirling Street, Portsmouth. He was employed as a carman in a laundry (a carman was a driver of horse drawn vehicles).

On the 6th February 1902, in Gosport, William enlisted in the Army Service Corps. He was 5ft 4½ ins tall, had a fresh complexion, hazel eyes, brown hair and weighed 8st 3lb. He had a tattoo of a heart and clasped hands on his wrist. On the 8th February 1902 he was inspected and considered fit for service. He signed up to the Commanding Rifle Depot for "12 years' service to His Majesty the King".

William was admitted to hospital in Aldershot on the 30th October 1902 with a mild case of tonsillitis. The treatment was to gargle. He stayed in hospital for six days.

By 1911, William had left the army and was living with his parents in Portsmouth. He was employed as a milk carrier for a farmer.

Army Form B. 217.

SHORT SERVICE.

(3 years with the Colours, and 9 years in the Reserve, or if the man completes his 3 years' service with the Colours while beyond the seas, then for a further period, not exceeding one year, with the Colours, and the remainder of the 12 years in the Reserve.)

ATTESTATION OF
No. 18994 Name William John Oughton Corp Army Service Corps

Questions to put to the Recruit before Enlistment.

1. What is your Name?	William John Oughton
2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born?	Portsmouth
3. Are you a British Subject?	Yes
4. What is your Age?	17 1/2
5. What is your Trade or Calling?	Carman
6. Have you resided out of your Father's house for three years continuously in the same place, or occupied a house or land of the yearly value of £10 for one year, and paid rates for the same, and, in either case, the same name?	No
7. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? If so, where?	No
8. Are you Married?	No
9. Have you ever been sentenced to imprisonment by the Civil or Criminal Courts?	No
10. Do you now belong to the Regular Army, the Marines, the Militia, the Militia Reserve, the Special Reserve, the Volunteer Reserve, the Army Reserve, or the Supplementary Reserve? If so, by what name?	Yes. 3rd Hampshire Regt
11. Have you ever served in the Regular Army, the Militia, the Militia Reserve, or the Special Reserve? If so, state which and name of Regiment.	Yes. 3rd Hampshire Regt
12. Have you truly stated the whole, if any, of your previous service?	Yes
13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for enlistment?	No
14. Are you taking any medicine or so-called?	No
15. For what Corps are you willing to be enlisted, or are you willing to be enlisted for General Service?	Army Service Corps
16. Did you receive a Notice, and do you understand its meaning, and who gave it to you?	Yes (Name of Officer and Corp) [Signature]
17. Are you willing to serve upon the following conditions provided His Majesty should so long require your services?	Yes

(a) For the term of twelve years, for the first three years in Army Service and for the remainder of nine years in the Reserve, or at the termination of each period of Army Service, for one service, beyond the seas, then for a further period not exceeding one year with the Colours, and the remainder of each period of 12 years in the Reserve, or at the termination of the above-mentioned term of Army Service a state of War exists, then, if so directed by the competent Military Authority, to serve in Army Service for a further period not exceeding 12 months.

(b) If, at the expiration of the above-mentioned term of Army Service, you are so required by a Proclamation from His Majesty in case of imminent national danger or great emergency, then to serve in Army Service so as to complete your term of 12 years, and for a further period not exceeding 12 months.

(c) If the above-mentioned term of 12 years expires while you are on service with the Regular Forces beyond the seas, or while a state of war exists with a Foreign Power, or while Indian in the Reserve are required by proclamation to continue in or re-engage upon Army Service, then to serve for a further period not exceeding 12 months.

I, William John Oughton do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements made.

William John Oughton SIGNATURE OF RECRUIT.
[Signature] Signature of Witness.

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY RECRUIT ON ATTESTATION.

I, William John Oughton, do swear Oath, that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, and that I will, as in duty bound, honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, in Person, Crown, and Dignity against all enemies, and will observe and obey all orders of His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, and of the Generals and Officers and ever so. So help me God.

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE OR ATTESTING OFFICER.

The Recruit above-named was questioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act.

The above questions were then read to the recruit in my presence.

I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered on this form, and the said recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me.

[Signature] on this 6th day of February 1902. [Signature]

If an objection is required on this page of the Attestation, a Justice of the Peace should be requested to make it and sign the objection under Section 51 (1), Army Act 1902, and to forward a copy of the objection to the Commanding Officer of the Depot.

The Recruit should, if he requires it, receive a copy of the Rules in Army Form B. 217.



Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, West-Vlaaderen, Belgium

The following year William married Eliza Bailey. William and Eliza had three children. Dorothy was born in 1913, William in 1914 and Ivy in 1916.

Sometime during the Great War, William became Rifleman 42739 in the 12th Battalion of the Royal Irish Rifles. He fought in the Battle of Ypres. His death was presumed on the 16th August 1917. William was aged 35. He is commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, West-Vlaaderen, Belgium.

William's effects totalled £6 9s1d which his widow, Eliza, received on the 5th November 1918. In 1919 she was paid War Gratuity of £3.10s.

His parents had moved to the Alms Houses (poor houses) in Glasgow Road in Portsmouth.

As William was born in Portsmouth and his family had been living in Portsmouth when he died with no known connection, it was puzzling why his name appears on the Southwick and Boarhunt war memorial. The reason for this is that, in 1919, William's widow, Eliza, remarried to widower Arthur Silver and, although Arthur was a Private in the army, both he and Eliza gave their address on the marriage certificate as Vernon Farm, Southwick. Eliza would have requested William was added to the war memorial as it was permitted to have close relatives added.

George ROWE (1875 – 1915)

George Rowe was born at Barngreen, Hambledon, Hampshire on the 10th July 1875 and baptised in Hambledon on the 5th September 1875. His parents were George Rowe and Harriett Hill. George junior was one of twelve children. One of his younger brothers was John Rowe who also died in the Great War and, like George, is remembered on the Southwick and Boarhunt War Memorial.

At the time of the 1881 census George's family was living at Piper's Hill, which is on the Southwick and Denmead border. His father was employed as a carpenter possibly on the Southwick Estate.

The 1891 census records George as a cowman (domestic servant) at Hoe Gate, Soberton. He was living in the home of a miller called James Abbinnett.

On the 25th May 1892, George enlisted for twelve years service in the Royal Marines Light Infantry, Portsmouth Division. He gave his date of birth as 25th November 1874. Even by adding several months to his real age he was underage until 24th November 1892. George was therefore land based. His service record shows that he was 5ft 7ins tall with a fresh complexion, brown hair, and blue eyes. His occupation was given as farm labourer.

He began his service in the Royal Marines as a private. His service number was PO/6361.

Between 14th May 1895 and 11th December 1895, George was serving on HMS Royal Sovereign which was the lead ship of the seven ships in her class of pre-dreadnought battleships built for the Royal Navy in the 1890s. In June 1895, Royal Sovereign and three of her sister ships were part of a British naval squadron that attended the opening of the Kaiser Wilhelm Canal



HMS Royal Sovereign

The day following his last day on board Royal Sovereign, George joined the ship's company of HMS Majestic. HMS Majestic was a Majestic class pre-dreadnought battleship of the Royal Navy. Commissioned in 1895, she was the largest pre-dreadnought launched at the time. She was present at the Fleet Review at Spithead for the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria



HMS Majestic

on 26th June 1897, and was later flagship to Vice Admiral Sir Harry Rawson.

At the time of the 1901 census, George was enumerated at HMS Excellent, a Gunnery School in Portsmouth. On the 10th January 1905, he completed his 12 years service (he had grown about two inches in that time). He is recorded as living at 77 New Road, Buckland, Portsmouth. Eight months later George enrolled in the Royal Fleet Reserve.

In 1906 at Shoreditch, London, George married Alice Woods. Three years later George and Alice had a son named Maurice. At the time of the 1911 census, George, Alice and Maurice were living with Alice's parents in Southsea. George was employed as a Government Worker in the Dockyard. George's parents were living in High Street, Southwick.

George's service in the Royal Fleet Reserve ended in September 1909. He re-enrolled in April 1910.

On 14th August 1914, George embarked on HMS Edgar. HMS Edgar was a first class cruiser of the Royal Navy, and lead ship of the Edgar class. She was built at Devonport and launched on 24th November 1890. She served on the China Station and in the First World War in the Gallipoli Campaign.

On 1st November 1914, George's younger brother, John, was killed whilst serving on HMS Good Hope in the Chilean sea. George returned to Portsmouth a few days later.



HMS Viknor

George joined the ship's company of HMS Viknor on the 14th December 1914. HMS Viknor was built by Robert Napier in 1888 as the Atrato for the Royal Mail Steam Co. Ltd. S/S Atrato was a beautifully designed passenger ship, more resembling a luxury yacht than a liner. She was used in the service between England and the West Indies and could carry up to 280 passengers. Bought by Viking Cruising Co. Ltd. in 1912, she was renamed Viking.

At the beginning of WWI, she was requisitioned by the Admiralty, equipped with armament, and renamed HMS Viknor. She was mainly used as a cruising patrol ship.

On 13th January 1915, while on patrol, she sank in heavy weather without any distress call off the western coast of Ireland. It was assumed that she was sunk by a mine laid by the Germans but she may have run into rocks and become damaged. None of the 295 crew was saved. In the weeks following her disappearance, some of the bodies were washed up on beaches on the west coast of Ireland and were returned to their hometowns. Unfortunately, George's body has never been recovered.

George is commemorated on Portsmouth's Naval Memorial, on a War Memorial specific to HMS Viknor in Milton cemetery where other Portsmouth crew members are buried and on the Southwick, and Boarhunt War Memorial.

War Gratuity of £5 was paid on the 10th November 1919.



Portsmouth Naval Memorial

John ROWE (1887-1914)

John Rowe was born at Piper's Hill, on the Southwick and Denmead border, Hampshire, on the 12th November 1888. His parents were George Rowe, a journeyman carpenter on the Southwick Estate, and Harriett Hill. John was one of twelve children. He had a twin sister called Mary. One of his older brothers was George Rowe who also died in the Great War and, like John, is remembered on the Southwick and Boarhunt War Memorial.

At the time of the 1901 census, John was still at school but his twin sister Mary was a housemaid domestic for a solicitor's clerk in Portsmouth.

John joined the Royal Navy on 12th November 1905 for a twelve year engagement. His service number was 232049. He was 5ft 3¾ inches tall with light brown hair, grey eyes and a fresh complexion. He gave his date of birth as 12th November 1887 and his age as eighteen. He stated that his previous occupation had been a bricklayer's labourer.

In 1911 John was made a leading seaman. His parents were living in High Street Southwick. The same year he married Florence Bruce in St Stephen's Church (no longer in existence), Portsmouth.

John and Florence had a son named John, also known as Samuel, who was born on 5th July 1913.

A year later on the 1st November 1914, John was one of the crew on board HMS Good Hope when it was sunk in action off the Chilean coast during the battle of Coronel.

This was the first major sea battle of WW1 and there were no survivors. John drowned just off the coast of Peru and his body was never recovered.

As well as on the Southwick and Boarhunt War Memorial, John is commemorated on Portsmouth Naval Memorial.

In 1915, John's wife, Florence, was issued with a war pension of 15/- per annum. However, before this was granted, on the 29th December 1914, Florence enlisted in the Royal Irish Rifles as a rifleman. Her family believe that this was the result of her anger towards the Germans for taking John's life.

Florence served in France and Gallipoli. In December 1918, she was wounded and sent to Netley Hospital, Hampshire, as she was no longer fit for duty. Whilst in hospital, she met Walter Murphy who was to become her second husband. In 1919, Florence was awarded the Silver War Badge. Two years later she married Walter and they had three children together.



HMS Good Hope



The photograph shows Florence, Walter, their three children and in army uniform, Samuel, John Rowe's son. Samuel married latterly and had two children so had John lived, he would have been a grandfather.

George Walter STEERS (1897-1917)

George Walter Steers was born on 8th May 1897 in Portsea, Hampshire. His parents were Frederick Walter Steers and Edith Alice Rowe who married in 1894 in Portsea. Frederick was a plumber working for the government. Later in the year that they were married, Frederick and Edith had a son, Frederick Walter, whose death was registered in the same quarter as his birth.

At the time of the 1901 census George was living in Southwick Fort Cottages with his mother, younger sister Edith, a cousin and a servant (nurse domestic). George's father was in South Africa fighting in the Boer War.

Ten years later the family, including George's father, Frederick, was living at Hill Top Cottages, Southwick.

On 20th June 1913, George was one of 33 boys, all aged 15, on the ship 'Victorian' travelling from Liverpool to Gibb Home, Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada. The boys were being sent to Canada for 'a better life', by the Church of England Waifs & Strays Society.

Between 1869 and the late 1930s, over 100,000 juvenile migrants were sent to Canada from the British Isles during the child emigration movement. Motivated by social and economic forces, churches and philanthropic organizations sent orphaned, abandoned and pauper children to Canada. Many believed that these children would have a better chance for a healthy, moral life in rural Canada, where families welcomed

them as a source of cheap farm labour and domestic help.

George, however, didn't fit into any of the categories described. His parents were both living, he wasn't abandoned and two years before he left for Canada, at the time of the 1911 census, his father was employed so the family wasn't poor. It is, therefore, unclear why George was sent.

On the 8th April 1916, George joined the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force. His service number was 749005. He gave his mother as his next of kin even though his father was still living. He added a year to his age by giving his date of birth as 8th May 1896 and gave his trade or calling as 'farmer'. He was 5ft 7ins tall, his complexion ruddy, his eyes were brown and his hair was dark brown. Although George had been sent to Canada by the Church of England Waifs and Strays Society, he affirmed that he was a Roman Catholic. Attendance at church was mandatory. The Roman Catholic church service was the shortest which sometimes swayed what the boys declared.



George joined the 117th Battalion Company Canadian Machine Gun Depot as a private. His unit sailed from Halifax on the Empress of Britain on the 14th August 1916 and arrived in England ten days later.

On the 26th October 1916, George was to be transferred to the 148th Battalion at Bramshott but, underneath this entry, on the same date, is written 'Above entry cancelled'.

Dated 21st November 1916, proceedings of a Medical Board at Seaford, East Sussex, states that George had flat feet. It goes on to say that both feet were flat 3rd degree. It recommends that George was fit for duty (Class B2) the definition of which is: Able to walk five miles

to and from work, see and hear sufficiently for ordinary purposes.

On George's Medical History sheet, it gave his weight as 117lbs and his physical condition as good. There was also mention of his flat feet.

The next entries on the Service Record are on 6th January 1917 when George was SOS (struck off strength) to the 23rd Reserve Battalion, which was an infantry unit in the Canadian Expeditionary Force based at Shoreham, West Sussex and TOS (taken on strength) from the 117th Battalion.

(The terms taken on strength (TOS) or struck off strength (SOS) refer to the movement of personnel into and out of a unit. They are usually entered in pairs in an individual's personnel records, recording the departure from one unit and the entry into another, and the dates on which they occurred).

On 17th February there is a 'Special Report on Eyes' from Folkestone in Kent. George was prescribed glasses and the report said that with glasses he would be fit for overseas service. It also stated that the condition was present before enlistment and was not by service. He was recommended for Class A1.

Less than two weeks later, on 1st March, George was SOS from Shoreham and TOS to The Canadian Machine Gun Depot (C.M.G.D.) Crowborough, which was the Canadian Base for the Machine Gun Corps.

On the 12th May, George was posted to Machine Gun Reinforcement Pool Carriers, France. A month later he was posted to 9th Machine Gun Company Field Carriers.

On the 26th October 1917, at the age of 20, George was one of eight other Ranks killed on the first day of the second Battle of Passchendaele.



He was buried in Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium and is commemorated at Ypres 9 (Menin Gate) Memorial, Panel 32.

Herbert Claude STUBBS (1876-1914)

Herbert Claude Stubbs was born on 13th July 1876 in Bishop's Waltham, Hampshire. His parents were Angelina Hammond and Robert Stubbs. Angelina and Robert had ten children in twenty years. Lillian was their first child followed by Miriam, Herbert, Robert aka Lewis, Ethel, Bertha, Charles, Laura, Annie and Roy. Each child had two names and in census returns was sometimes referred to by their first name and sometimes the second.



Herbert Claude Stubbs

At the time of the 1881 census the family was living in Shedfield, Hampshire. Robert, Herbert's father, was employed as a sawyer (a person who cuts timber/wood for a living). Ten years later the Stubbs family had moved to 60 High Street in Southwick.

On the 29th August 1894, Herbert enlisted as a Private in the Royal Marine Artillery (RMA) at Eastney Barracks, Portsmouth. His service number was 5329. He gave his trade as barman. Henry was 5ft 9⁵/₈ ins tall with brown hair, grey eyes and he had a fresh complexion. Herbert was unable to swim.

Under the 'Marks, Wounds and Scars' heading was written 'Numerous moles on body and arms'.

He gave his next of kin as his father. In 1901, when Herbert's father died, his mother became his next of kin.

Herbert served twice on HMS Empress of India. The first time was between 1st October to 11th December 1895 and the second time was from the 7th January 1902 to 31st December 1903.

HMS Empress of India was a flagship for the home fleet. Herbert would have been on board when the ship took part in the Coronation Fleet Review for Edward VII at Spithead on the 16th August 1902.

Another ship he served on was HMS Monarch, which was Guardship at Simon's Bay (Navy Base Capetown). Under the 'Wounds and Hurts' heading it states that Herbert was part of the Naval Brigade at Graspan in the 2nd South African War. This included an RMA company of fifty men together with 190 Royal Marine Light Infantrymen (RMLIs) and was part of a suicidal attack over open veldt with the Boers waiting for them in hidden positions. The Royal Marines lost 8 killed and 83 wounded of which Stubbs was one. It says "Bullet wound of back at Graspan (Hurt Certificate)" followed by a note about his South African gratuity.

Herbert received the South African Medal with Clasps for Belmont and Modder River.

Herbert completed his twelve years' service on the 28th August 1906.



HMS Empress of India



HMS Monarch

On the 28th January 1911 Herbert married Florence Hazzard. Florence, or Flora as she was often called, was born in Shirrell Heath, which is very near to where Herbert was living when he joined the Royal Marine Artillery.

At the time of the census later that year, Herbert and Florence were living in Woking, Surrey, where Herbert was the licenced victualler of the Castle Grove Inn.

In August 1914 Herbert was mobilised from the Reserve and appointed to HMS Hogue which was a Cressy-Class armoured cruiser built for the Royal Navy around 1900. This was an old cruiser that with the Cressy and the Aboukir was part of a notorious incident known by Naval historians as "Three before breakfast".

These elderly cruisers were manned with a mix of 'old timer' reservists and young cadets. On 22nd September 1914 at about 06:30 hours, they were cruising close together in the North Sea.

They had not been warned of any U-boat presence and so were not zig-zagging to reduce the target.

They were spotted by a U-9 which dispatched the Aboukir with a single torpedo.

The Hogue, thinking the Aboukir had hit a mine turned about to pick up survivors, she was then hit by the U-9. The Cressy, like the Hogue turned round and was also torpedoed. In all, 1459 men and boys, including Herbert, lost their lives.

Herbert's body was not recovered for burial. He was 38 years old.

Herbert's widow, Flora, was back living in Shirrell Heath and the sole beneficiary of his Will. His effects totalled £119 14s 10d. She also received £5 war gratuity.

Herbert is commemorated on the Royal Naval War Memorial, Portsmouth and on the Southwick and Boarhunt Memorial located in St James Church, Southwick.



Herbert Claude Stubbs



Portsmouth Naval Memorial

Lewis Robert STUBBS (1881-1918)

Robert Charles Stubbs birth was registered in the first quarter of 1881. He was enumerated as Robert in the 1881 census but thereafter was known as Lewis Robert Stubbs. Lewis was born in Bishop's Waltham, Hampshire. His parents were Robert Stubbs and Angelina (Annie) Hammond.

Robert and Annie had ten children in twenty years. Lillian was their first child followed by Miriam, Herbert, Robert aka Lewis, Ethel, Bertha, Charles, Laura, Annie and Roy. Each child had two names and in census returns was sometimes recorded by their first name and sometimes the second.

In 1891, the Stubbs family was living in Southwick at 60 Flint Terrace, High Street. Lewis's father was employed as a sawyer (a person who cuts timber/wood for a living).

In 1899, Lewis is recorded as being an auxiliary postman in Fareham.

Two years later, at the time of the 1901 census, he had enlisted as a gunner in The Royal Garrison Artillery and was stationed in The Red Barracks, Weymouth. His regimental number was 919.

Unfortunately, Lewis's service record was destroyed in September 1940 as the result of a fire caused by an incendiary bomb at the War Office Record Store in Arnside Street, London.

Approximately two thirds of 6.5 million soldiers' documents for the First World War were destroyed.

By the time of the 1911 census, Lewis had been made a Sergeant and was stationed in India.

Lewis entered into WW1 service in September 1914 as a Sergeant and served with 110 Heavy Battery. On 5th April 1917, he was promoted to Sergeant Major.

In the Medal and Award Rolls he is listed as WO cl2 (Warrant Officer Class 2 – Company Sergeant Major). He received his commission from the Battery Sergeant Major for 'service in the field'. The announcement was made on the 7th May 1917.

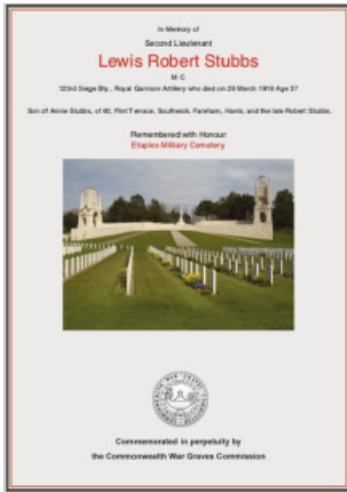
Lewis died of wounds on the 29th March 1918 in the Liverpool Merchants' Mobile Hospital and is buried in Etables Military Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France.

Lewis's effects totalled £35 and were paid to his next of kin who was his mother.



Lewis Robert Stubbs

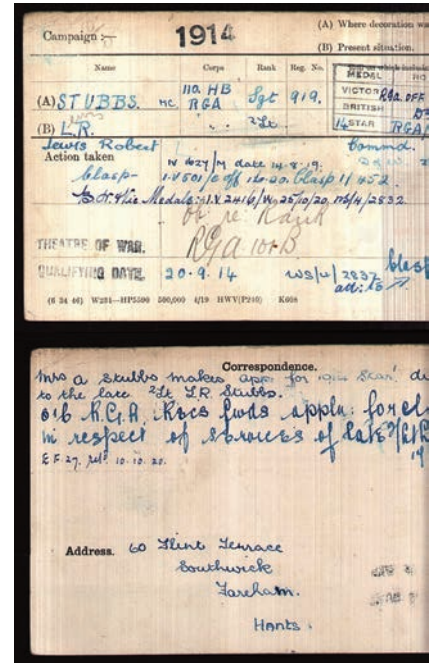
She also received £22 10s War Gratuity on the 10th November 1919.



In 1919, Annie Stubbs wrote to Lewis' regiment to rightly request the issue of the Star medal. Lewis had only been issued the British and Victory medals, despite having entered WW1 service in 1914 which usually qualified the issue. Annie's request was granted, meaning Lewis was posthumously awarded the triple medals.

There was a recommendation made on the 20th September 1919 for Lewis to be awarded the Military Cross.

The adjacent newspaper cutting shows Angelina Stubbs receiving the Military Cross for her son from Major General Sir H. Selater.



The inscription on his gravestone is

DUTY BRAVELY DONE
REST NOBLY WON
SOUTHWICK, HANTS.

Stephen WARE (1882-1917)

Stephen Ware was born in 1882 in Southwick. His parents were Ellen Ware and Stephen Ware. They had eight children, two of whom died in infancy.



At the time of the 1891 census Stephen senior and Ellen were living in Southwick with six children, William, Gertrude, Stephen, Ethel, Mary and Bernard. Their youngest child Wilfred wasn't born until 1894. Stephen senior was employed as an agricultural labourer.

Ten years later, Stephen (junior), was also employed as an agricultural labourer. He was still living at home in School House, Southwick in 1911 and employed as a farm worker. The following year he married Ethel Bessie Palmer and they lived in School House. Ethel was from Chumley in Devon and before she married Stephen she was a cook domestic in a house in Uplands, Fareham. Stephen and Ethel had two children. Archie Evelyn was born in 1913 and his sister, Ena Doreen, was born two years later.

Unfortunately Stephen's service record was destroyed in September 1940 as the result of a fire caused by an incendiary bomb at the War Office Record Store in Arnside Street, London. Approximately two thirds of 6.5 million soldiers' documents for the First World War were destroyed.

All that is known of Stephen's service is that he enlisted in the 12th Battalion of the Hampshire Regiment in Winchester. He was a private and his service number was 25032.

The 12th Hampshire Regiment joined the forces in Macedonia and Gallipoli, as well as 4 other British Divisions sent over from France. The 12th Hampshire reached Salonika on 25th November 1915 and was used to help set up defences. Duties included digging, wiring, road making and training. Incidents were rare and as defences grew stronger, more emphasis was placed on training.

In many cases the Hampshire was often used as a reserve force, troops were given painting sets and Kodak pocket cameras to capture the scenes around them. They frequently put on shows to keep troops entertained. However in June 1916 Stephen's Division moved on towards Struma and took defences at Orylak Bridge from Connaught Rangers. Unfortunately after just four weeks they were moved back into reserve due to a massive mosquito problem, in which many men were lost and the other ranks that were fit for duty were down by at least 100 men. Malaria was a significant issue for those who served in this area during WW1.

In April 1917, British forces attacked the Bulgarians at Lake Doiran where most of the fighting took place. They were met by heavy machine gunning and shelling. Despite this the Hampshire's right company had been able to push forward and even cross the wiring and gain a foothold in the enemy trench.

The Hampshire Right Company was an arm of the Hampshire Regiment in military action in Salonica at that time.

Stephen was killed in action at the fierce Battle of Doiran in Salonica on the 24th April 1917. He was one of the first British soldiers to fall. Stephen was aged 34 and is commemorated on the Doiran Memorial, northern Greece.

Ethel, his widow, received £3 2s 6d from Stephen's effects on the 11th September 1918 and £3 war gratuity in 1920. A war pension would have been paid up to their children's 16th birthdays.

In 1926, nine years after Stephen died, Ethel married Wilfred Ware, Stephen's youngest brother.



Henry/Harry WEBB (1878-1915)

Henry, known as Harry, Webb was born in Wickham, Hampshire in 1878. His parents were George Webb and Elizabeth Goff. George was born in Wickham and Elizabeth came from Didling, Sussex. George and Elizabeth's first child who was born in 1877, was a son they named William. Sadly, he died the same year. Harry was born the following year.

At the time of the 1881 census, Harry and his parents were living in High Street, Wickham. They had three lodgers. The occupation of Harry's father, George, was a gardener.

Ten years later, the family had moved to Sussex and were living in The College Cottage, College Lane, Chichester, where George was employed as a gardener at the college. Harry's mother, Elizabeth, was a laundress, presumably also employed by the college. The under gardener was described as a lodger. (The College Cottage was in the grounds of Bishop Otter College, which was a training institute for 'women' teachers). Harry was still at school.

In 1896, aged 18 years 9 months, Henry enlisted as Harry Webb when he joined the Royal Garrison Artillery at Fort Rowner, Gosport. He signed for seven years' service. His Regimental Number was 14340. He was 5ft 8 ins tall, weighed 132lbs and his chest measured 36½ ins. His complexion was fresh, his eyes were hazel and his hair was light brown.

Harry married Ada Ellen Crook in St Nicholas Church in Boarhunt in 1900. In 1901, Harry and Ada were living in Cottage Grove, Gosport. Harry was a Corporal in the army. A year later their first child Beatrice Lily was born in Seaforth Liverpool. The following year they had a son named Herbert Henry who was born on the Southwick Estate in Hampshire.

On the 3rd March 1903, Harry had completed his seven years' service and transferred to the Army Reserves Section B.

A second daughter, Georgina Ruby Ellen was born in 1906, also on the Southwick Estate.

Harry re-engaged in the Army Reserves Section D, on the 14th January 1908 for four years from 3rd March 1909.

Kathleen Nora, Harry and Ada's fourth child, was born in 1909 in North Boarhunt, Hampshire.

In 1911, the family was living at Staple Cross Cottages in North Boarhunt where Harry was employed as a labourer general.

Harry was discharged from the army at the termination of his engagement on the 2nd March 1912.

The birth of Harry and Ada's fifth child, Leslie George, was registered in 1913 at Fareham.

Harry re-enlisted in the Royal Garrison Artillery, Royal Regiment of Artillery (RGA) Corps in November 1915. His home address was Staple Cross, Boarhunt, and his occupation was Dairyman. His service number was 282244. He was 5ft 9½ ins tall and weighed 151lbs. His chest measurement was 37½ ins and his physical development was good. He had perfect vision.

On the 14th May 1916, he embarked at Southampton and disembarked at Le Havre four days later. In the field, on 7th October, he was appointed Acting Corporal.

He was reverted to his permanent rank on 26th October, again in the field.

On 16th March, Harry was admitted to a Field Hospital with myalgia and returned to duty after ten days. Less than a week later, he was admitted to hospital again, this time with bronchitis.

From hospital, he joined Base Ex 4 Con Depot. Eight days later he was re-posted from Base to the Field.

In June 1917, Harry was appointed Acting Corporal and was promoted to Corporal in July. From 13th to 23rd August, he was granted leave in the UK.

In January 1918, Harry was appointed acting Sergeant, in the field. This was confirmed a month later. In March he was granted two weeks leave in the UK. Harry attended the 3rd Army Rest Camp in July where he remained for two weeks before rejoining his unit.

Harry was killed in action in France on 14th September 1918, he was 39 years old. He is buried in Lebuquiere Communal Cemetery Extension, Pas de Calais.



Harry's effects were returned to his wife. They included his pipe, tobacco pouch, six pieces of pencil, razor strap, comb and watch chain together with the equivalent of £2 18s 8d in francs. In the records, there was a letter from his wife asking how she could get the money as it hadn't been returned with his effects.

Ada never remarried. She died in 1959 aged 83.



Arthur John WING (1893-1918)

Arthur John Wing, always known as John, was born 8th September 1893 in Boarhunt, Hampshire. His parents were William Wing and Sarah Paice. William was a gamekeeper and the family lived in the remote 'Keepers Cottage' on Boarhunt Common. Arthur had three sisters Fanny, Nelly and Rose. Every day the children walked about a mile across the fields to school in Southwick.

John's first job after leaving school was as a gardener's boy to the Pink family, who were well known Portsmouth Grocers.

At the time of the 1911 census, when John was eighteen, he was a cowman. However, sometime after leaving school, he had enlisted in a correspondence course in engineering, which he must have worked on after his day job. His mother recalled that he had a lifetime obsession with aeroplanes and flying and collected postcards depicting early flying machines and read any magazine about flying that he could find.

John's cousin, Frank Wing, also from Southwick, helped to establish the motor company Wadhams at Waterlooville and John was given a job there as a motor mechanic.

He enlisted in the Royal Flying Corps as an Aircraft Mechanic 2nd class on 1st February 1915 giving his civilian occupation as chauffeur. He was 5ft 7ins tall, had blue eyes, a fresh complexion and his chest measured 37ins.

His service number was 3433. In July 1915, he was appointed Aircraft Mechanic 1st class.

Eleven months later he was promoted to Corporal. Although still part of the ground crew, he was very keen to fly. On 1st January 1917, John was promoted to Sergeant. Most of the pilots accepted by the RFC were young officers with 'the right sort of background'. The son of a humble gamekeeper was certainly not the norm for officer material but so many pilots had been lost that, in a letter to his mother, John wrote that he was being urged to put himself forward to become an officer as this would speed up his application for a pilot's licence. In a subsequent letter he wrote that 'You need so much money to keep a commission. Especially with this crowd' Eventually, his application for a pilot's licence was accepted without him having a commission and he was sent to the School of Aerial Fighting at Marske in Yorkshire. In his log of 5th March 1918, he wrote 'Took control – feel confident.' After just one month of training he took his first solo flight.



The Royal Flying Corps merged with the Royal Naval Air Service on 1st April 1918. A month later John obtained the Royal Aero Club Aviator's Certificate on the Avro Biplane at Ruislip Military School. His good friend Andrew Stewart qualified at the same time.

On the 8th September 1918 (John's 25th birthday), he was posted to France with 84 Squadron. He immediately started offensive patrols.

The following is from his log over the next month.

3/10/18 Attacked by four Fokkers.

Got lost and landed in Vedencourt.

9/10/18 2,000ft. Le Cateau. Dropped bombs on train. Shot up troops and transport.

13/10/18 5,000ft. Balloon strafe.

Top left plane shot through.

14/10/18 Engine boiled so left formation.

Crashed on landing.

Same day: 2,000ft. North of Le Cateau.

Dropped bombs. Shot up troops in trenches.

30/10/18 10,000ft. Drove a Fokker down onto the carpet.

Put 200 rounds into him but he got away.

4/11/18 3,000ft. Bomb dropping.

Shot down a hun. LCG machine shot about badly, tank shot through. Just got back in an emergency.

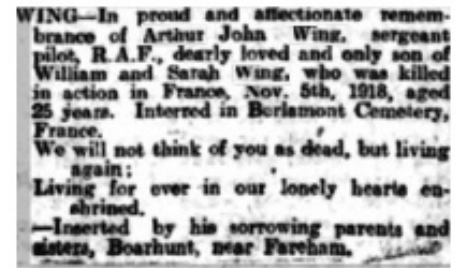
Four days later John's family received a letter from the Air Ministry stating that 3433 Flight Sergeant A J Wing was missing. The service record shows some confusion over the actual date of death but it was eventually finalised as 5th November 1918.

John's friend Andrew Stewart was killed the following week immediately before the Armistice. On hearing of his death, John's family wrote to Andrew's mother in Scotland and kept in touch for many years. Each Spring they sent her a small shoe box of early primroses packed in moss.

The two mothers did eventually meet and there is a photograph of them outside of Keeper's Cottage.

John was buried in a communal cemetery extension in the village of Berlaimont on the edge of the Marmal Forest between Aulnoy, Aymerie and Le Quesnoy, near to where his plane had crashed.

The Germans occupied this village until the end of hostilities and used the cemetery for both their own and Allied PoWs' dead. Sometime after 1918, the German graves were removed and an extension made to the cemetery. This became John's final resting place.



His will states that Sergeant Mechanic Arthur John Wing (84th Squadron) died on or since 4th November 1918 at the Forest of Marmol, France.

His effects, totalling £170 1s 7d, were left to his father.



We will remember them

The men of the Southwick Estate
who fought and died in the First World War

Edwin Austin
(1887 – 1917)

William Edward Olding
(1881-1916)

Herbert Claude Stubbs
(1876-1914)

Alfred Bertie Barfoot
(1887-1917)

William John Oughton
(1883-1917)

Lewis Stubbs
(1881-1918)

David Victor Blackman
(1897–1918)

George Rowe
(1875 – 1915)

Stephen Ware
(1882-1917)

William Edward Daniels
(1898-1917)

John Rowe
(1887-1914)

Henry/Harry Webb
(1878-1915)

William Henry Messem
(1888-1915)

George Walter Steers
(1897-1917)

Arthur John Wing
(1893-1918)



Photo credit: Zieben VH

The guide was written and researched by Elizabeth Brocklehurst and Joan Dickson, who is a distant relative of David Blackman, who would like to thank the following people for their support in putting the guide together:

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Annie and Matthew Turner (Granddaughter and Great Grandson of Edwin Austin)

Lionel Smith and Walter Corney (relatives of Florence Rowe, wife of John Rowe)

Patricia Stewart (niece of Stephen Ware) and Stephen Ware, (Grandson of Pte Stephen Ware).