Remembering those who sacrificed their lives for us
An illustrated record of those from Harlow who died in war

War memorials and war graves in Harlow
Final Edition - 2018
The First World War - Introduction

THE MEN WHO SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES FOR HARLOW

'They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
we will remember them' ¹

Laurence Binyon

The First World War between 1914 and 1918 was the first big war of the 20th century and remains one of the deadliest conflicts in human history. The last great clash of empires, which by the time the war ended saw many crumble and new nations rise out of the devastation. Over nine million soldiers and six million civilians lost their lives, largely because of the great technological advances in firepower without corresponding advances in mobility. Almost every town and village in the United Kingdom was deeply affected by the impact of the war, with many of their men, who went off to war in 1914, never returning. Harlow was not alone in its sacrifice; 128 men made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their country in what was claimed to be the 'war to end all wars'.

For the most part, the young men who came from Harlow and the surrounding villages of Potter Street, Great Parndon, Netteswell and Burnt Mill were under 30 years of age; 27 were under the age of 21 and three were aged just 17. One family, the Rileys from Burnt Mill lost three out of four sons in the war. Any loss of life in war for a family is a tragedy and their loss is never forgotten.

In 2014, with the centenary of the start of The First World War approaching, Harlow Council formed a project team comprising of members from Harlow Civic Society, Western Front Association, Heart 4 Harlow, Royal British Legion and community volunteers to organise and commemorate the centenary of The First World War and remember the sacrifice of the town's war dead.

A memorial register, commemorating each of the 128 men killed in the conflict was researched and published on 4th August 2014, exactly 100 years since 'The Great War' began. Over the four-year commemoration, the project team have carried out extensive research into the men from Harlow and prepared a number of exhibitions, most notably to mark the centenary of The Battle of the Somme and The Battle of Passchendaele in 2016 and 2017 respectively. The team’s volunteers spent a great deal of time transporting the exhibitions around Harlow to various venues and were surprised by the many people who came forward to share information and their own family stories with them. There has been a great enthusiasm in the community to know more about the men who made the ultimate sacrifice. Descendants of Harlow's war dead have been keen to contribute to the register and have provided the project team with photographs and documentation to be included in this final edition.

As the commemorations of The First World War draw to a close in 2018, consider your own family’s connections to The First World War and the impact that the loss of a generation of young men had on the communities they left behind. Laurence Binyon's 'Ode of Remembrance', read at the Cenotaph and war memorials around the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth every 11th November, is a poignant reminder of the sacrifice of the millions of men who died in The First World War and the conflicts since.

¹ http://www.greatwar.co.uk/poems/laurence-binyon-for-the-fallen.htm
Acknowledgements

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Great Parndon Memorial Cross
George Aldridge

George’s parents were Thomas Aldridge, born in Roydon in c.1870 and Adelaide Elizabeth Saville, born in Albury, Hertfordshire in c.1872. They married in 1892 and George Aldridge was born in 1896.

By the time of the 1911 census, Thomas and Adelaide had five children including George. His siblings were Adelaide, George, Annie and Mary. Thomas and Adelaide’s children were all born in Roydon. However by 1911 the family had moved and were living in five rooms at Endway, Great Parndon. Thomas was a horsekeeper on a farm.

Private George Aldridge, 32038, enlisted in Harlow in October 1916 and joined The 1st Battalion of The Essex Regiment. The Essex Regiment suffered heavy losses during the Battle of the Somme in July 1916. Approximately 949 men from the Regiment are commemorated on the Theipval Memorial to the Missing.

George was wounded whilst fighting in the 1st and 2nd Battles of The Scarpe, part of The Battle of Arras in April 1917. He died as a result of these wounds on 25 April 1917 at the age of 19 and is buried in Duisan's British Cemetery, Etrun, France. Plot 3, row F, grave 9. Register Index Number Fr.113.

Arthur Cottee

Arthur’s parents were Charles Cottee, born in Chelmsford in 1859 and Sarah Emma Clark, born in Tottenham in 1862. They married in Edmonton in 1883. Arthur Cottee was born in Harlow in 1886.

The 1891 census shows Arthur and his family living in Parndon Road. He is residing with his parents and sibling Alfred. Charles was working as a shoemaker. The 1901 census shows that the family had moved to ‘Woodhill’ in Great Parndon. By now Arthur, aged 15, was also working as a shoemaker. The census also revealed that Arthur’s brother Alfred had died at a young age.

By 1911 Arthur and his parents had moved to Water Lane. Both Charles and Arthur were working as shoemakers. Charles and Sarah had a further child, however, they also died, leaving Alfred the sole living child.

Private Arthur Cottee, 4492, enlisted in Epping in December 1915, joining The Essex Regiment. He later served with the 1st Battalion of The Hertfordshire Regiment. The Hertfordshire Regiment spent the opening months of 1917 holding the line near Ypres and preparing to attack in late July.

Arthur was killed in action on 8 July 1917 and is buried in Brandhoek Military Cemetery, Ypres, Belgium. Plot 1, row N, grave 49. Register Index Number Bel.6.

On this day

25 April 1917
Dr. A. Augusto da Costa succeeds Dr. A. J. d’Almeida as Portuguese Premier.

8 July 1917
Russian forces begin withdrawal from Western Persia; Qasr-i-Shirin evacuated.
George Bradley Fairchild

George was born in c.1899 in Great Parndon. Other than when he was in the army, he lived with his grandmother Sarah Fairchild nee Peters at Church Cottages, Great Parndon. Despite checks it has not been possible to find out which of Sarah's children was George's parent.

Sarah was born in Redhill, Surrey in c.1847. Her husband Charles Fairchild was born in Great Parndon in c.1837. As a child, Charles lived at Cramphorn Farm in Hare Street and as he got older a farm in Great Parndon. He then moved to live in the High Street, Epping. Charles and Sarah married in the district of Walthamstow on 8 March 1871. Sarah was living with her in-laws at Linford End. The couple went on to have seven children. However it is clear from census taken that they spent much of their married life living apart. At the time of the 1881 census Sarah was living at Church Cottages with her 4 children, namely Julia, George, Arthur and Elizabeth. The census records that Sarah was ‘supported by her absent husband’. There is no record of the whereabouts of Charles.

The family remained living at Church Cottages for the next 20 years. The 1901 census records that three further children had been born, namely Edward, Martha and Steven. Also recorded is George Bradley Fairchild aged two, grandson to Sarah. The 1901 census shows George’s grandfather Charles aged 64 living and working at Brooke House, a ‘private lunatic asylum’ in Upper Clapton Road, London. He was still there ten years later at the time of the census of 1911, shown working as a ‘house porter’. In the meantime Sarah and grandson George together with other family members were still living at Church Cottages. Charles died on 11 June 1912 aged 75.

Trooper George Bradley Fairchild, 4100, enlisted in Windsor and joined The 2nd Battalion of The Life Guards and was subsequently 4475 in The 2nd Battalion of the Life Guards, Machine Gun Regiment. He was killed in action on 21 October 1918 aged 19 and is buried in St Souplet British Cemetery, France. Plot 1, row c, Grave 16. Register Index Number Fr.1266 and is recorded on his grandfather's headstone which is in the graveyard at St Mary’s Church in Great Parndon.

Thomas Lewis

Thomas’ parents were John Lewis, born in Netteswell in c.1840 and Mary Ann Wood, also born in Netteswell in c.1854. They married in Harlow in 1876 and Thomas Lewis was born in Great Parndon in 1895. John and Mary had 10 children, one of whom died in infancy.

The 1891 census shows the family residing in Hare Street, near a property called Canons. The 1901 census shows that Thomas was still living in Hare Street. John’s occupation was recorded as a farm worker. Shortly after the census, Thomas’ father John died aged 60. Thomas’ mother Mary remarried Walter Bishop, who was 20 years her junior. The 1911 census shows Thomas living in Hare Street Green, Great Parndon with his mother, step-father and siblings; Ada, James, John, Harriet, Albert, Walter, Ann and Alice. Thomas was working as a farm labourer.

Private Thomas Lewis, 25653, enlisted at Warley and joined The 1st Battalion of The Bedfordshire Regiment. The Regiment was involved in the Battle of the Somme, specifically in the attack on High Wood on 20 August 1916 and the capture of Falfemont Farm between 3 and 6 September 1916. Thomas died of his wounds on 13 September 1916 and is buried in St Sever Cemetery, Rouen, France. Plot B, row 21, grave 35. Register Index Number Fr.145.

On this day

21 October 1918
The Ban of Croatia refuses offer of Military Governor of Agram to suppress the Yugo-Slav National Council.
The Czecho-Slovaks declare independence.
George Frank Myson

George's parents were Edward Myson, born in Great Parndon in 1843 and Susan Surridge, born in Sawbridgeworth in 1859. They married in Bishops Stortford in 1884.

The 1891 census shows Edward living with his mother at Tyson Gate, Great Parndon. There is no record of his wife Sarah or any other family member at that address.

The 1901 census shows George, aged nine, living at Tyson Gate with his parents and siblings Kate, Frederick and Rosa. Edward was working as a general labourer. The 1911 census shows that the family had moved to Nettleswell Common where they were living in four rooms. Edward was a road labourer and George was a nurseryman.

Lance Corporal George Myson, 202263, enlisted in Harlow and served in The 2nd/5th Gloucestershire Regiment. George was killed in action on 24 April 1918 at the age of 27 and is commemorated on The Loos Memorial to the Missing, France. Panels 60-64. Register Index Number MR19.

Stanley Montague Phillibrown

Stanley's parents were Harry Phillibrown, born in Broomfield in 1861 and Emily Vann, born in Manuden in c.1864. Harry and Emily married in 1888. Stanley Montague Phillibrown was born in Harlow in 1891.

The 1891 census shows Stanley, aged three months, residing at Church Cottage, Great Parndon with his parents and sibling Albert. Harry was working as a police constable. The 1901 census shows the family residing in Clatterford End, Stanford Rivers. Emily had given birth to another child, George. Harry was still a police constable. In c.1903 they had a further child Dorothy.

The 1911 census shows Stanley living with his widowed mother and siblings in Great Parndon. Harry Phillibrown died on 4 November 1906 aged 43 at The London Hospital. Probate was awarded to his wife Emily to the sum of £188 12s 1d.

Private Stanley Phillibrown, 3376, had enlisted in 1908 at Warley aged 17. He joined The 8th Battalion of The Kings Royal Irish Hussars. During the war, he became a member of The 14th Squadron of The MachineGun Corps (Cavalry) and was promoted to the rank of Corporal. His family meanwhile was living at ‘The Bungalow’, Great Parndon.

Corporal Stanley Phillibrown, 51012, was killed in action on 28 March 1918 aged 27. Stanley is commemorated on The Pozieres Memorial to the Missing, Picardie, France. Panels 93 & 94. Register Index Number MR27.
James Henry Seymour

James’ parents were John Seymour who was born in Epping in c.1860 and Rosa Brace who was born in Great Parndon in c.1860. They married in early 1881 and James Henry Seymour was born in 1887.

The 1891 census shows James residing in Great Parndon with his parents and siblings Alice, John and Arthur. John Snr. was working as a farm labourer. The family continued to live in Great Parndon and at the time of the 1911 census they were living at Kingsmoor Cottages. John and Rosa had six children, the five youngest were living at home. John was a ‘horseman, farm labourer’. Their children were Alice, James, Arthur, Fred, Albert and Ernest. James was listed as a contractors carman. James married Emma Mary Burton, who lived in Hare Street, in 1914.

Private James Seymour, 33078, enlisted in Harlow and joined The Essex Regiment. He subsequently joined The 11th Battalion of The Border Regiment.

The British line between St Georges, Ramskapelle and the sea at Nieuwpoort withstood the onslaught of the major German attack of 10 July 1917. They suffered very heavy losses. James was one of those losses on the first day of the attack, killed in action on 10 July 1917. He is buried in the Ramskapelle St George’s Road Military Cemetery, Belgium. Plot 5, row a, grave 11. Register index number Bel.173.

James’ widow Emma remarried in 1920 to Francis English and died in 1967 aged 80.

Ernest William Woollard

Ernest’s parents were William Woollard, born at Broadley Common in c.1868 and Ada Mary Parish who was born at Hillgates, Eastwick in 1869. William and Ada married in 1892 and Ernest William Woollard was born in Harlow in 1893.

The census of 1901 shows Ernest residing at Clapgates in Great Parndon. His father William was listed as a farm worker. The 1911 census shows that the family had moved to Kingsmoor Cottages, Great Parndon. There were nine children, including Ernest residing in five rooms. Ernest was the eldest of William and Ada’s children, his siblings were Annie, Agnes, Eleanor, Edith, Kathleen, Herbert, Florence and eight month old Eva.

Ernest married Nellie Baines in 1918. Nellie was born in Epping in c.1896. At the time of the 1911 census Nellie was working as a domestic servant aged fourteen at Parvills Farm, Epping.

Pioneer Ernest William Woollard, 129422, enlisted ‘in the field’ and became a member of The 1st Special Company of The Royal Engineers. Ernest died on 13 April 1918 of his wounds (just weeks after his marriage to Nellie) and is buried in Etaples Military Cemetery, Etaples, France. Plot 29, row B, grave 4. Register Index Number FR.40.

Nellie remarried in 1919 to Joseph Whitbread and died in Epping in 1958.
Thomas John Woolard

Thomas' parents were Thomas Woolard, born in Great Parndon in 1861 and Mary Higgs, born in c.1859. They married in 1884 and Thomas John Woolard was born in Harlow in 1890.

The 1891 census shows Thomas residing with his parents and siblings Mary and Alfred in Hatfield's, Rectory Lane, Loughton. Thomas Snr. was listed as a coachman and domestic groom. The 1901 census recorded that the family had moved and were by now residing at Clapgates, Great Parndon. Thomas was still working as a domestic coachman. Later in the decade the family moved to Kingsmoor Farm, Great Parndon. The 1911 census shows Thomas Jnr. living with his uncle in East Bridgeford in Nottinghamshire. He was working as a domestic groom.

Thomas married Dorothy M Hooper in 1915.

Private Thomas John Woolard, 28465, enlisted and joined The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment. Thomas later served with The 2nd/8th Battalion of The Lancashire Fusiliers. Thomas was killed in action on 21 March 1918 aged 28 and is commemorated on The Pozieres Memorial to the Missing, Picardie, France. Panels 32 to 34. Register Index Number MR27.

At the time of Thomas' death, Dorothy was living in the High Street in Roydon. She remarried in c.1924 and died in c.1983 at the age of 87.

On this day

21 March 1918
First Battles of the Somme 1918 or German Operation Michael begins with Battle of St. Quentin.
Passage of the Jordan by British forces.
Destroyer action in North Sea between Allied and German flotillas.
M. Marghiloman appointed Rumanian Premier.
M. Constantine Arian appointed Rumanian Foreign Minister.
On this day

**19 August 1916**
H.M.S. "Falmouth" and "Nottingham" sunk by submarine.

**2 May 1918**
Agreement concluded regarding export of sand and gravel from The Netherlands for German use.

**7 October 1917**
Uruguay severs diplomatic relations with Germany.

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**Private Charles Henry Slade**
Born in Terowie, South Australia. Died 19 August 1916 at Hillsborough Red Cross Hospital, Harlow.

**Private Hugh McGregor Oliver**
Born in Dunbeath, Scotland. Died 11 May 1917 at Hillsborough Red Cross Hospital, Harlow.

**Private Ernest Samuels**
Born in High Wych. Died 2 May 1918.

**Private Walter Marsh**
Son of Mr C Marsh of Mayfield Cottage, Harlow. Died 7 October 1917 in King George's Hospital, London.

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**Memorial Panel**
Great Parndon (St. Mary) Church.
Netteswell and Burnt Mill
Memorial Cross
Henry “Harry” Samuel Ayton

Henry’s parents were Richard Ayton, born in Itteringham, Norfolk in 1842 and Eliza Bramble, born in Oulton in 1843. They married in Itteringham in 1862 and Henry Ayton was born in Itteringham, Norfolk in early 1876.

The 1881 census shows Henry residing in Itteringham, Norfolk with his parents and siblings; Elijah, Sophia, Louisa, George and Elizabeth. Richard was working as a farm labourer. Henry’s father died in 1882 at the age of 40.

The 1891 census shows Henry residing in The Street, Itteringham. He was living with his widowed mother and siblings George and Elizabeth. Henry was working as a miller’s assistant. The 1901 census shows Henry living at The Bakers Row, Itteringham where he was working as a Miller. He is listed as the head of the household. Living with him was his mother and sister Ethel. The 1911 census shows Henry boarding in Netteswell, Harlow in Spring Street, aged 35. He was working as a stoneman in the local flour mill.

Private Henry Samuel Ayton, 24917, enlisted in Epping and joined The 1st Battalion of The Northampton Regiment. Henry fought in the Battles of Bazentin Ridge and Poziers Ridge, both part of The Battle of the Somme and died of his wounds on 25 August 1916 at the age of 40. Henry is buried in Etaples Military Cemetery, Etaples, France. Plot 10, row a, grave 4a. Register Index Number Fr.40. Henry’s name was added to the memorial after the cross at Netteswell was erected. This may have been due to the fact that Henry had not been born in the parish.

Henry “Harry” Belben

Henry’s parents were William Henry Belben, born in Wimborne, Dorset in 1863 and Lucy Elizabeth Turner, born in Petersfield, Hampshire in 1872. They married in Petersfield in 1893 and Henry was born in Ringwood, Hampshire in the summer of 1896.

The 1911 census shows William working as an insurance agent with The Prudential. They were residing at 6 Broomhill Cottages, Netteswell Cross with their five children Anthony, Henry, Wilfred and twins Austin and Lizzie. William and Lucy’s eldest children were born in Ringwood however the three younger children were born in Netteswell. Henry was working as a grocer’s errand boy. By 1918 William and Lucy had moved to 15 Market Street in Poole, Dorset.

Private Henry Belben, 10137, enlisted at Hertford and joined The 1st Battalion of The Bedfordshire Regiment. Henry was involved in the British Counter attack in response to the Germans’ fifth Ludendorff Offensive which began on 4 August 1918. The attack was known as ‘The Big Push’ which led to the ending of the First World War just three months later.

Corporal Henry Belben was involved in the British and Canadian advance in Picardy. Henry was killed in action on 21 August 1918 at the age of 22. Henry’s name is on panels 4 and 5 amongst the 9,903 names on The Memorial to the Missing at Vis-en-Artois, Haucourt, Pas de Calais, France. In the cemetery lie 1,700 British and 573 Canadian soldiers who died in the capture of this sector on 27 August 1918.

On this day

25 August 1916
Russian forces cross the Danube into the Dobrudja to assist the Rumanian forces.

21 August 1918
Second Battle of the Somme 1918. Phase 2 begins with the Battle of Albert 1918.
Second Battle of Bapaume 1918 begins.
**Joseph Culver**

Joseph's parents were William Thomas Culver, born in Sawbridgeworth in 1864⁴ and Louisa Farnham, born in Wenden, Hertfordshire in 1865⁵. They married in Bengeo on 22 August 1890³ and settled in Pye Corner Cottages, Gilston. Joseph Culver was born in Gilston in early 1893⁴.

The 1901 census shows Joseph living with his parents and siblings John and Howard at a cottage by Parndon Mill. William was a flour miller. The older children were born in Gilston, whilst Howard was born in Netteswell. The 1911 census shows the family living at Mill House, Little Parndon in nine rooms. Joseph, then aged 18 was working as a domestic house and garden worker.

**Private Joseph Culver, 10601** enlisted in The 2nd Battalion of The Irish Guards, which had been formed at Warley Barracks in Essex on 18 July 1915. The Battalion landed in Le Harve on 17 August 1915.

The Irish Guards fought at The Third Battle of Ypres, which commenced on 31 July 1917 lasting until 30 October. On 9 October the British front line extended some seven miles from Poelkapelle to Broodseinde with the right flank on the slope of Passchendaele Ridge. Casualties were high on both sides.

Joseph was killed in action on 9 October 1917 aged 25 and is buried in Artillery Wood Cemetery, Boesinghe, Belgium. Plot 8, row f, grave 15. Register Index Number Bel.106.

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**Alfred James Hale**

Alfred's parents were Alfred Hale, born in Bishop's Stortford and Sarah Skinner, born in Great Parndon. They married in 1893¹ and Alfred James Hale was born in Netteswell in 1894².

The 1901 census shows Alfred living in Netteswell with his parents. Alfred Snr. was working as a moulder. Alfred's mother Sarah died in 1910³ at the age of 39. The 1911 census shows Alfred and his father living in four rooms at 3 New Cottages, Netteswell Cross. Alfred Snr. was working at the local marine engineering factory and Alfred Jnr. then aged 17 was working as a carpenter's apprentice.

**Private Alfred Hale, G/16594**, enlisted in Stratford and served with The 4th Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers. Alfred died of his wounds on 31 August 1918 at the age of 23 and is buried in Bac-Du-Sud British Cemetery, France. Plot 1, row 5, grave 26. Register Index Number Fr.103.

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**On this day**

9 October 1917
Battle of Poelcapelle (Ypres).
Hussein Kamel, Sultan of Egypt, dies. Succeeded by Prince Ahmed Fuad, his youngest brother.

31 August 1918
German forces evacuate Mount Kemmel.
Capt. Cromie R.N., British Naval Attaché, murdered by Bolsheviki in British Embassy, Petrograd.
**Lee Lewis**

Lee’s parents were Lee Lewis Snr. born in Dodleson, Cheshire in c.1859 and Matilda Bellis, born in Hawarden, Flintshire, Wales in c.1858. They married in Cheshire in 1893 and Lee Lewis was born in Sawbridgeworth in 1896.

The 1901 census shows Lee residing at Hill Gates, Eastwick with his parents and siblings; John, Peter, Ethel, Joseph, Florence and William. Lee Snr. was working at the local marine engine works. Lee Lewis Snr. died in Harlow in early 1907 at the age of 48. Matilda died in Harlow in 1910 at the age of 52.

The 1911 census shows Lee residing with his siblings John, aged 25, Ethel, aged 21 and William, aged 12 in five rooms at 14 The Avenue, Burnt Mill. Lee was listed as an apprentice marine engineer with John Kirkaldy at Burnt Mill.

**Private Lee Lewis**, 14861, enlisted in Hertford on 5 October 1914, joining The Bedfordshire Regiment aged 19. The Machine Gun Corps was formed on 14 October 1915 and Private Lewis, 71080 joined The 54th Company of the Machine Gun Corps sometime thereafter. Over 170,500 men joined the company throughout the war with 12,498 of them being killed in action. The company was nicknamed ‘The Suicide Club’.

Lee died of his wounds on 12 August 1917 at the age of 21 and was awarded the DCM for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. Lee is buried in Brandhoek New Military Cemetery, Belgium. Plot 5, row E, grave 17. Register Index Number Bel.7.

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**Thomas William, Cyril and Francis Arthur Riley**

Thomas, Cyril and Francis’ parents were Arthur Riley, born in Aldershot in 1869 and Mary Elizabeth Hazleton, born in Netteswell in 1862. Arthur and Mary married in Netteswell in September 1894. Francis Arthur Riley was born on 14th August 1895. Thomas William Riley was born on 24th August 1896 and Cyril Patrick Riley was born on 8th February 1898. Cyril was known as Cecil throughout his life.

The 1901 census shows the family living at The Post Office at Netteswell Cross where Arthur carried out his business as a grocer and general store. The 1911 Census shows the family still residing at The Post Office in Netteswell Cross. Francis was working as a shop assistant, shirt and collar maker. Thomas, aged 15, was listed as an engineer’s apprentice, most likely working for Kirkaldy’s Marine Engineering Works in Burnt Mill.


Thomas William, Cyril and Francis Arthur Riley continued

Corporal Francis Arthur Riley, 33230, enlisted in Southwark serving in The 8th Battalion of The Bedfordshire Regiment. Francis had previously served with The Essex Regiment. Francis was wounded in action and died of wounds at a casualty clearing station on 6 February 1917, aged 21 and is buried in Bethune Town Cemetery, France. Plot 6, row B, grave 21. Register Index Fr.80.

Francis married Ida Mary Moore at St. Giles Parish Church, Colchester on 4th March 1916. Francis and Ida had one child, a daughter Eileen (1916-2016). In June 1917, a Grant of Probate to the sum of £108 4s 9d was granted to Ida, who was living in Burnt Mill. Ida never remarried and died in Guildford, Surrey on 4th July 1976, aged 83.

The Riley brothers’ mother Mary passed away on 9th July 1919, aged 56. A Grant of Probate was awarded to her widower Arthur for the sum of £54 10s. Arthur Riley died in Harlow on 15th July 1955, aged 86. A Grant of Probate was awarded to Arthur’s only surviving son, Jack for the sum of £6,654 5s. 2d.

Charley (Charlie) Thompson

Charley’s parents were William Thompson, born in Harlow in 1842 and Ann Fuller, born in Felsted in 1847. They married in Harlow in 1868 and Charley Thompson was born in Harlow in 1883. In the 20th century, Charley changed the spelling of his name to ‘Charlie’.

The 1891 census shows Charley living in Tye Green with his parents and five of his seven siblings. William was working as an agricultural labourer. By 1901 Charley was living with his brother Harry and sister-in-law Mary at 23 Ashton Road, West Ham. Both Harry and Charlie worked on the railway with Charlie working as a cleaner.

Charley married May Miriam Hutchings in 1906. The 1911 census shows Charlie living in two rooms at Tye Green, Netteswell with his wife and two children Lilian, aged four and Charlie aged one. Charlie and May had also had a further child who died before the census was taken. Charlie was working as a farm labourer. Charlie’s father and siblings were still residing in Tye Green however his mother had passed away before the census was taken.

Private Charlie Thompson, 6488, enlisted in Stratford and joined The 11th Battalion of The Essex Regiment. Charlie was killed on 24 May 1916 aged 33 and is buried in The Essex Farm Cemetery, Boesinghe, Belgium. Plot 2, row N, grave 20. Register Index Number Bel.73.

May never remarried and died in Chelmsford in 1949 at the age of 64.

On this day
24 May 1916
Mamakhatun (Armenia) taken by Russian forces.
William (Henry) Wheatley

William Wheatley appears on the Memorial Cross but there is no record of a William Wheatley living in this area. There are records however of a Henry Wheatley living and working in Netteswell and Burnt Mill who had a brother called William. William suffered from ill health which would have prevented him from entering military service and Henry may have taken his name if William had passed away.

William (Henry)'s parents were Henry Wheatley, born in Surrey in c.1861 and Sarah, born in Battersea in c.1864. William (Henry) Wheatley was born in Chiswick in c.1886.

The 1911 census shows Henry aged 25 living at Spring Street, Burnt Mill. Henry was a marine engineer. Sometime thereafter Henry married Elizabeth.

Private Henry Wheatley, 7045, enlisted in east London serving with the 1st Battalion of The Devonshire Regiment.

Henry fought in The Battles The Aisne and La Bassee in September and October 1914. He was killed in action on 30 October 1914 at the age of 29 and is buried in Arras Road Cemetery, Roclincourt, France. Plot 2, row c, grave 20. Register Index Number Fr.1059. At the time of his death Elizabeth was living in Hare Street, Great Parndon.

Alfred James Winch

Alfred's parents were Frank Winch, born in Harlow in 1859 and Eliza Wollin, born in Great Parndon in 1862. Frank and Eliza married in Harlow in the summer of 1889. Alfred Winch was born in Harlow in 1894.

The 1911 census shows Alfred living in Netteswell Common with his parents who had been married for twenty-one years and his siblings Mabel, Frederick and Herbert. Frank was working as a bricklayer while Alfred was listed as unemployed.

Lance Corporal Alfred Winch, 23932, enlisted in Epping and joined the 3rd Battalion of the Essex Regiment. The Battalion arrived in France in March 1916 and were involved with the attack at Beaumont Hamel at the start of the Battle of the Somme on 1st July 1916.

Alfred James Winch was killed in action on 1 July 1916, aged 22. Alfred was one of over 19,200 other British soldiers killed in action on the first day of The Battle of the Somme. Alfred is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing, France. Pier 10, face D. Register Index Number MR21
John Wood

John’s parents were William Wood, born in Harlow in c.1866 and Harriett Hampton, born in Sawbridgeworth in 1870. They married in Sawbridgeworth in 1890 and John Wood was born in Harlow in early 1894.

The 1901 census shows the family living at Nettleswell Cross. William was working as a fireman in an engineering factory. The 1911 census shows the family living in four rooms at 2 The Malt Houses, Nettleswell Cross. William was listed as a furnace man at a marine engineering factory. William and Harriett had 11 children, 10 of whom were still living at the time of the census. John’s siblings were Walter, Charles, Ernest, Robert, Florence, Ida, Violet, Sidney and Herbert. The children were all born in Nettleswell Cross. John was working as a ‘core maker’s apprentice’ at the time of the census.


John was listed in the De Ruvigny’s Roll of Honour as reported as missing, assumed killed on 10 November 1914 at the age of 20. It later transpired that John had been killed on 20 October 1914 and is buried in Caberet-Rouge British Cemetery, Souchez, France. Plot 27, row H, grave 24. Register Index Number Fr.924.
Memorials

Memorial Panel
Harlow College - now in Harlow Museum
Potter Street, Latton and surrounding district
Memorial Cross
Thomas William Baldock

Thomas’ parents were George Henry Baldock, born in Sawbridgeworth in c.1860 and Harriett Jeans, born in Bramfield in c.1860. George and Harriett married in High Wych on 1 October 1881. Thomas William Baldock was born in High Wych in 1886.

The 1891 census shows Thomas living at The Hand and Crown Public House in High Wych where his father George was a publican. He was living with his parents and siblings Eleanor, George and Laura.

George and Harriet had two further children before George died in 1891 aged thirty-six. Harriet later remarried to William Debenham, an agricultural labourer in late 1898.

The 1901 census shows Thomas living with his mother and step-father near The White Horse Public House in Potter Street. Harriet and William had a child, Annie, Thomas’ half-sister. The 1911 census shows Thomas still residing with his mother in three rooms in Potter Street.

Private Thomas William Baldock, 20830, enlisted at Warley and served with the 1st Battalion of The East Sussex Regiment. The regiment fought in The Battle of the Somme and distinguished itself at The Battle of Morval, which took place between 25 and 28 September 1916. Thomas was killed in action on the first day of the battle on 25 September 1916, aged 30. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing, France. Pier 6B, face 6C. Register Index Number MR21.

Vivian George Edward Ballard

Vivian’s parents were Edward George Ballard, born in Hertford in 1871 and Hilda Kate Kerry, born in Stansted in c.1868. They married in Holborn in 1893 and Vivian George Edward Ballard was born in Paddington in 1894.

The 1901 census shows Vivian living at 18 Nelson Street, Hertford with his parents. Edward was working as a railway clerk. The 1911 census shows Vivian living at 120 Walworth Road in south east London. Edward was a club steward and Hilda was a club stewardess. Vivian was a drapers’ assistant. Sometime after the 1911 census Vivian moved to Harlow.

Private Vivian George Ballard, 78298, enlisted at Woolwich and served with The 5th Battalion of The Machine Gun Corps/Tank Corps. Formerly Private 2216 of The Army Service Corps, Vivian was killed in action on 16 April 1918 at the age of 24 and is commemorated on The Ploegsteert Memorial to the Missing, Belgium. Panel 11. Register Index Number MR32.

Probate was granted on 2 February 1920 to Vivian’s father Edward, a hotel manager at 40 Hammersmith Road, West Kensington to the sum of £128 14s. 6d.
Albert William Beadle

Albert’s parents were Edwin Joseph Beadle, born in Shoreditch, east London in c.1855 and Eliza, born in Coventry in c.1854. Albert William Beadle was born in the West Ham district of London in 1882.

The 1891 census shows Albert living at 26 Wyatt Road, Stratford with his parents and siblings Edward, Theresa, Oliver and Emily. Edwin was working as a pianoforte maker. The 1901 census shows Albert residing in Hackney at 66 Albert Road with his parents and siblings Theresa and Oliver. Edward was working as a pianoforte maker; Albert followed his father into the profession. The 1911 census shows Albert boarding at 17 Wilton Road, Dalston, Hackney where he was working as a pianoforte maker aged 28.

Albert married Louise Esther Cox in Hackney on 4 January 1911 at Hackney Register Office.

Records indicate that Albert joined the army in 1901, serving in The Royal Berkshire Regiment.

Private Albert William Beadle, 6133, served with The 1st Battalion of the Royal Berkshire Regiment. Albert was discharged on pension on 18 April 1915 due to ill health with his service record showing that he was deemed ‘no longer physically fit for war service’. Albert died of tuberculosis on 25 February 1917 aged 34.

William Thomas Blatch

William’s parents were William Thomas Blatch who was christened in High Wych on 29 September 1867 and Isabella Wakelin, born in Leicester in c.1868. William and Isabella married in the summer of 1889. William Thomas Blatch was born in Harlow in 1893.


The 1901 census shows William residing in Netteswell Cross with his mother Isabella and step-father Henry. Henry was working as an agricultural labourer. The 1911 census recorded William still residing in Netteswell Cross with his mother Isabella and step-father Henry and half-siblings Dorothy and Harry.

Private William Thomas Blatch, 14358, enlisted in Bishops Stortford serving in the 7th Battalion of The Bedfordshire Regiment. William was killed in action on 7 September 1915 aged twenty-three. He is buried in Dartmoor Cemetery, Becordel-Becourt, France. Plot 1, row B, grave 6. Register Index Number Fr.188.

William’s mother Isabella was living at School House, Latton Street at the time of his death.
Arthur Henry and George Brown

Arthur and George's parents were Henry Brown, born in North Weald in c.1860 and Sarah Chopping, born in Harlow in c.1863. They married in Harlow in 1884. Arthur Henry Brown was born in Harlow in 1893 and George Brown was born in Harlow in 1896.

The 1901 census shows Arthur and George living in Mill Street with their parents and siblings Tom, Florence and Alfred. Henry was working as a farm labourer. The 1911 census shows Arthur and George living in four rooms in Mill Street with their parents and siblings, which by this time also included Frederick, Robert and Harry. Arthur was working as a farm labourer.

Private Arthur Henry Brown, 1383 enlisted in Harlow and joined The 1st/4th Battalion of The Essex Regiment. He was killed in action on 20 August 1915 aged 23 and is commemorated on The Helles Memorial to the Missing (fell on land), Gallipoli. Panels 144-150. Register Index Number MR6.

Private George Brown, A/205458, enlisted in Warley and served with The 8th Battalion of The Kings Royal Rifle Corps having been TR13/53183 in the 17th Training Battalion. George died of his wounds on 21 March 1918 at the age of 23 and is commemorated on The Pozieres memorial to the Missing, France. Panels 61-64. Register Index Number Mr27.

Herbert Clements

Herbert's parents were Charles Clements, born in Harlow in c.1860 and Emma Turner, born in Harlow in c.1862. They married in the summer of 1887 and Herbert Clements was born in early 1892.

The 1901 census shows Herbert living in Potter Street with his parents Charles and Emma and siblings Rose, Minnie, Edith and Ernest. Charles was working as a carpenter. Herbert's mother Emma died in 1906 at the age of forty-four. Charles remarried in 1908 to Mary Ann Davis.

The 1911 census shows Herbert living in five rooms in Potter Street with his father, step-mother Mary and siblings Edith, Ernest, Emma and Eleanor. Charles was working as a house carpenter and Herbert was working as a gardener.

Private Herbert Clements, 200076, enlisted in Harlow in 1914 and joined The 1st/4th Battalion of The Essex Regiment. He sailed to fight the Turks at Gallipoli and returned to England in 1916 suffering from dysentery. He returned to his battalion which in due course attempted to capture Gaza. Herbert was killed in action on 26 March 1917 aged 26 and is commemorated on The Jerusalem Memorial to the Missing, Palestine. Panels 33 to 39. Register Index Number MR34.

Herbert's father Charles' address was given as 4 Colenso Terrace, Bury Road at the time of Herbert's death.
John Cordell

John's parents were John Charles Cordell, born in Harlow in c.1867 and Emma Baker, born in North Weald in c.1874. John and Emma married in the summer of 1893. John Cordell was born in Harlow in 1899.

The 1901 census shows John living in Potter Street with his parents and siblings Esther and Lewis. John Snr. was working as a carpenter. The 1911 census shows John Jnr. still residing in Potter Street with his parents and siblings which by now included a further sister Florence, then aged six. John Snr. was still working as a carpenter.

Private John Cordell, 57812, enlisted in Romford serving with the 2nd Battalion of The Worcestershire Regiment.

John Cordell was killed in action on 29 September 1918, aged 19, whilst the regiment was involved in The Battle of St. Quentin Canal, part of The Battle of the Hindenburg Line. He is buried in Pigeon Ravine Cemetery, Epehy, France. Plot 2, row C, grave 5. Register Index Number Fr.665.

George Henry Debnam

George's parents were Thomas Debnam, born in Harlow in c.1868 and Rebecca Paine (or Payne), born in Epping in c.1871. They married in c.1888 and George Henry Debnam was born in Harlow in 1896.

The 1901 census shows George living at Harlow Common, not far from the vicarage with his parents and sister Florence. Thomas was employed as a bricklayer labourer. The 1911 census shows the family living in four rooms at Harlow Common. George's sister Florence was an assistant teacher working for Essex County Council.

Private George Henry Debnam, 40557, enlisted in Harlow, serving with The 11th Battalion of The Essex Regiment. George died of his wounds on 3 September 1917 aged 23 and is buried in Bethune Town Cemetery, France. Plot 6, row G, grave 31. Register Index Number Fr.80.

George's mother Rebecca died in 1920 aged 49.

On this day

29 September 1918
Battle of the St. Quentin Canal begins.
Passchendaele retaken by Allied forces and Dixmude retaken by Belgian forces.

3 September 1917
Battle of Marasesti (Rumania) ends, Riga captured by German forces and Severe aeroplane raid on Kent by moonlight (Casualties about 230, mostly military).
Charles Arthur Hall

Charles’ parents were Charles W Hall, born in Bethnal Green in c.1866 and Alice, born in Bethnal Green in c.1868. They married in c.1888 and Charles Arthur Hall was born in Stratford in 1892.

The 1901 census shows Charles residing at 46 Lett Road, in West Ham with his parents and brother Fred. Charles Snr. worked as a shopkeeper and grocer. The 1911 census shows Charles residing at the Inn & Whalebone Public House in Latton, Harlow. Charles Snr. was a licensed victualler while Charles Jnr. was working as a costerman.


William Frederick Hoad

William’s parents were William Sampson Hoad, born in Nazeing in 1862 and Jane Morris, born in Sawbridgeworth in c.1861. They married in Gilston on 28 October 1882 and William Frederick Hoad was born on 28 December 1884 and christened in Gilston.

The 1891 census shows William Jnr. residing at The Poplars in Potter Street with his parents and siblings. William Snr. was working as a bricklayer. The 1901 census shows William still residing in Potter Street at the same address. The 1911 census shows William Jnr. residing in Potter Street with his parents and siblings. William Jnr. followed his father into the trade as a bricklayer.

William emigrated to Canada aboard Cunard’s ship Ausonia on c.24 April 1913. At the time of his emigration William was working as a carpenter aged 28.

Private William Frederick Hoad, 80153, enlisted in Canada serving with The 31st Battalion of The Canadian Infantry Alberta Regiment. William died of his wounds on 3 May 1917 at the age of 32 and is buried in Bruay Communal Cemetery Extension, France. Row G, grave 6. Register Index Number France.
Alfred Ernest Hutton

Alfred's parents were Charles Hutton, born in Colchester in c.1850 and Mary, born in Little Horkesley, Essex in c.1851. Alfred Ernest Hutton was born in Colchester in 1878.

The 1881 census shows Alfred residing at 1 Boltolph Street, Colchester with his parents and siblings. Charles was working as a shopman. The 1891 census shows Alfred residing in Colchester with his father and step-mother Alice as well as his siblings Edith, Mary, Charles, Arthur, George, Maud, Ethel, Stanley, Emma, Sydney, Margery and Jessie. The 1901 census shows Alfred boarding in Prittlewell aged 23 where he was working as a shop assistant. Alfred married Emma E Waterman in Harlow in 1913 and the couple settled in Harlow Common.

Private Alfred Ernest Hutton, 15301, enlisted at Clerkenwell in November 1914 and served with The Essex Regiment. He later served with The 35th Company of The Machine Gun Corps (Infantry) and was promoted to Lance Corporal. Alfred died of his wounds on 1 May 1917 aged 38 and is buried in Fauberg-d’Amiens Cemetery, Arras, France. Plot 4, row b, grave 15. Register Index Number Fr.1182.

Thomas William Kerry

Little information is known about Thomas William Kerry. He was born in Bishop's Stortford in 1873 and married Florence Ann Brown in Holborn in 1906. They lived at Kitchen Hall, Harlow.

Private Thomas William Kerry, 3359, enlisted in Australia on 25 September 1915. Thomas served with The 51st Battalion, 14th Brigade, 5th Division of The Australian Imperial Force. Thomas was killed in action of 2 April 1917 and is commemorated on The Villers-Bretonneux Memorial to the Missing, France. Register Index Number MR26.

Albert Arnold Lawrence

Albert's parents were Henry Lawrence, born in Datchworth and Agnes Arnold, born in Peterborough. Henry and Agnes married on 9 September 1880 in Camden. Albert was born in c.1889 and christened on 17 January 1902 in Watton, Hertford.

The 1891 census shows that Henry and Agnes had four children, Mabel, Darby and twins Charles and Albert aged two. The 1911 census shows the family were residing in Mill Street, Harlow. Albert however was now lodging at 46 St Mary's Road, Ilford, where he was working as a baker.

Private Albert Arnold Lawrence, 27281, enlisted in Epping and joined the 2nd Battalion of the Essex Regiment.

Albert was killed in action in drew Drop trench, during The Battle of the Somme on 23 October 1916 at the age of twenty-eight. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing, France. Pier 10, face D. Register Index Number MR21.
**Albert Edward and John William Lincoln**

Albert and John’s parents were John Lincoln, born in Harlow in 1865\(^1\) and Eliza Cakebread born in Harlow in 1862\(^2\). They married in Harlow in the summer of 1885\(^3\).

Albert Edward Lincoln was born in Harlow in 1892\(^4\). He was known as Edward throughout his life. John William Lincoln was born in Harlow in c.1884.

The 1891 and 1901 censuses recorded a Lincoln family residing in Foster Street. The head of the household was John Lincoln, a farm labourer and his wife Eliza. They were living with their children John Jnr. Thomas, Robert, Frederick, Edward, Nellie, Clement and Charles. The 1911 census recorded Albert, aged nineteen living in five rooms in Spring Street, Burnt Mill, Harlow with the Moore family. His occupation was recorded as a butcher’s assistant. John was living at Barnsleys Wood, which today is part of Church Langley. He was working as a stud groom.

**Driver Albert Edward Lincoln**, 49952, enlisted at Stratford in the 475th South Midland Field Company of The Royal Engineers. Albert was killed in action during the Battle of Passchendaele on 10 September 1917 at the age of 25 and is buried in Bard Cottage Cemetery, Boezinge, Belgium. Plot 4, row G, grave 13. Register Index Number Bel.23.

John married Eliza Clark in Hornsey on 14 May 1910\(^5\). Eliza never remarried after the death of her husband and died in Epping on 16 June 1945\(^6\) at the age of 67\(^7\).

**Private John William Lincoln**, 19841, enlisted in Epping serving with The 1st Battalion of the Essex Regiment. John was killed in action on 14 April 1917 aged 34 and is commemorated on The Arras Memorial to the Missing, France. Bay 7. Register Index Number MR20.

**Charles Frank Lindsell**

Little is known about Charles Frank Lindsell. Charles’ parents were Charles Lindsell and Martha. Charles Frank Lindsell was born in c.1883.

**Private Charles Frank Lindsell**, T/5395, enlisted in Epping and joined The Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment before serving with The 1st/5th Battalion of The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry. Charles was killed in action on 2 April 1917 at the age of 34 and is buried in Beurains Road Cemetery, Beurains, France. Row D, grave 9. Register Index Number Fr.418.

Charles’ parents lived at Latton Vicarage at the time of his death in 1917.

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**On this day**

- **10 September 1917**
  M. Kerenski assumes Dictatorship of Russia and issues proclamation declaring General Kornilov a traitor.
- **14 April 1917**
  Battle of Vimy Ridge and First Battle of the Scarpe end.
George Little

George’s parents were George Little and Mary Ann Bradley, born in Matching in c.1864. They married in 1883 but it appears that they separated later in the decade and George Little was born in Harlow in 1898.

The 1901 census shows George living in Harlow Common with his mother and siblings Edward, George and Minnie. They are residing in the household of Fred Parish, a horsekeeper on a farm. Mary Ann was recorded as housekeeper while the children were listed as illegitimate. The 1911 census shows George living at Harlow Common with his mother and siblings Frederick, Edward, Minnie, Herbert and Sidney. Frederick Parish was listed as a boarder.

Private George Little, 45806, enlisted in Epping and served with The 12th Battalion of The Suffolk Regiment. George was killed in action on 12 April 1918, the first day of The Battle of Hazebrook, part of the Battle of The Lys at the age of 20 and is commemorated on The Ploegsteert Memorial to the Missing, Belgium. Panel 3. Register Index Number MR32.

Richard Palmer

Richard’s parents were Henry Palmer, born in Oxfordshire in c.1860 and Ellen Townsend, born in Witney in 1859. They married in Oxford in the spring of 1882 and Richard Palmer was born in Oxford in 1893.

The 1901 census shows Richard living at 29 Hillview Road, Oxford with his parents and siblings Florence and William who were twins, Bertie, Wallie and Frederick. Henry was working as a general labourer. The 1911 census shows Richard living in Potter Street with his parents and siblings. Henry had become a publican of the Kings Head, Potter Street and Richard worked in the pub as a barman. The pub was recorded as having nine rooms.

Private Richard Palmer, 12393, enlisted at Stratford, serving with The 1st Battalion of The Coldstream Guards. Richard was killed in action at Givenchy on 25 January 1915 at the age of 21 and is commemorated on the Le Touret Memorial to the Missing, France. Panels 2 and 3. Register Index Number MR22.

On this day

12 April 1918
Battle of Hazebrook (Lys) begins.
Last airship raid over England in which casualties were inflicted (27).
Field-Marshall Sir Douglas Haig issues Order of the Day to the British Army in France on the serious situation (“Backs to the Wall” order).

25 January 1915
Lieut.-General Sir W. Robertson appointed Chief of the General Staff, British Expeditionary Force, France.
Rumania refuses Entente suggestion that she should join Greece in support of Serbia.
General Pimenta da Castro succeeds Senhor Coutinho as Portuguese Premier.
Frederick Benjamin and Charles Pavitt

Frederick and Charles’ parents were Benjamin Pavitt, born in North Weald in 1840 and Harriet Woods, born in Kenninghall, Norfolk in c.1847. They married in Kensington in 1872 and Frederick Benjamin Pavitt was born in Harlow in 1875. Charles Pavitt was born in Harlow in 1876.

The 1881 census shows Frederick and Charles living in Potter Street, Harlow with their parents and siblings William and May. The family also had a domestic servant, Margaret Brown, aged 14 working for them. The 1891 census shows Frederick and Charles living in Potter Street with their parents and siblings William, May, Ellen, Alice and Rose. Benjamin was working as a postmaster. Frederick was working as a grocer’s porter. The 1901 census shows Charles living in Potter Street with his parents and siblings. Benjamin was by this time sub postmaster at the Post Office while Charles was working as a postman. The census recorded that Harriet, then aged 56 was paralysed. The 1911 census shows Charles living at the Post Office with his parents and siblings. Benjamin was still Sub Postmaster while Charles was working as a postman.

Charles Pavitt married Ethel Law in the summer of 1914.

Stoker 1st Class Frederick Pavitt, 280876, joined the Royal Navy and served on board a ship in China in 1911. HMS Mary Rose was an Admiralty M Class Destroyer launched in October 1915; it is not known if Frederick joined the ship from its launch. The Mary Rose was sunk on 17 October 1917 while protecting a convoy of 12 merchant ships from Norway in the North Sea. Frederick Pavitt was killed in action on 17 October 1917 aged 41 and is commemorated on The Chatham Naval Memorial, Register Index Number MR1.

Probate was granted to Frederick’s father Benjamin on 2 November 1918 for the sum of £307 15s. 3d.

Private Charles Pavitt, T/202530, enlisted in Harlow having first been in the Territorial Army (TA) and later serving with The 1st Battalion of The East Kent Regiment. Charles died on 31 August 1918 at the age of 41, most likely from influenza and is buried in Longuenesse (St Omer) Souvenir Cemetery, France. Plot 5, row F, grave 73. Register Index Number Fr.141.

A grant of probate was made to Ethel on 1 May 1920 for the sum of £149 11s. 4d. Ethel never remarried and died in Bishop’s Stortford in 1958 at the age of 69.
**Arthur Robert Poney**

Arthur’s parents were George Poney, born in Milton Bryant, Bedfordshire in c.1859 and Emily Edith Hunt, born in Hayes, Kent in c.1864. They married on 10 January 1886 in Wandsworth and Arthur Robert Poney was born on 2 June 1893 in Croxley Green and was christened there on 1 July of the same year.

Arthur’s mother Emily died in 1899 aged 36.

The 1911 census shows Arthur living in Potter Street, Harlow with his brothers Frank and Horace and working as a baker’s assistant. The census shows Arthur’s father George living at Cemetery Lodge, Ware Road, Hoddesdon with his children George and Emily. George was the superintendent of a cemetery. They had a housekeeper, Frances Martin working for them. It appears that George never remarried.

Lance Corporal Arthur Robert Poney, 12392, enlisted in Stratford, serving with The 1st Battalion of the Coldstream Guards. Arthur was killed in action on 4 March 1915 aged 22 and is buried in Le Touret Military Cemetery, France. Plot 2, row A, grave 10. Register Index Number Fr.727.

A grant of probate was issued to George Poney on 25 June 1915 to the sum of £312. George died in Ware, Hertfordshire in 1934 at the age of 75.

**John Robinson**

John’s parents were Henry, born in High Laver in c.1860 and Charity, born in High Laver in c.1862. John Robinson was born in Harlow in 1888.

The 1891 census shows John living in Potter Street with his parents and siblings Annie, Ellen and Mary. Henry was working as a blacksmith’s labourer. The 1901 census shows John living at Kingston Hall Cottages, Harlow with his parents and siblings Ellen, Mary, Rosey, Charley and Emily. Henry was working as a blacksmith. The 1911 census shows John living in Potter Street where he was working as a farm labourer. He was boarding in the household of Eliza Reed, a widow.

John’s father Henry died in 1907 at the age of 46 followed by his mother Charity in 1908 aged 47.

Private John Robinson, 24517, enlisted in Harlow and served with The Suffolk Regiment. John later became Private 702739 in The 1st/23rd Battalions of The London Regiment. John was killed in action on 4 April 1917 aged 29 and is commemorated on The Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial to the Missing, Belgium. Panel 54. Register Index Number MR29.

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**On this day**

- **4 March 1915**
  - Stanislau (Galicia) recaptured by Russian forces.
  - French Government decide to send Expeditionary Force to the Dardanelles.
  - First case of “indicator” nets aiding in the destruction of a German submarine.
  - Russian Government send circular telegram to Entente Governments laying claim to Constantiople.

- **4 April 1917**
  - Khanaqin (North-East of Baghdad) again occupied by Russian forces.
**William and Alfred James Sortwell**

Alfred and William's parents were Henry Sortwell, born in Potter Street in c.1866 and Jessie Stevens, born in Tiverton in c.1865. They married in West Ham in 1887.

Harry William Sortwell was born in Harlow in 1889. He was known as William throughout his life. Alfred James Sortwell was born in Harlow in 1891.

The 1891 census shows Alfred and William living at Spring Side, Roydon Villas, Netteswell. Henry was working as a bricklayer. The 1901 census shows the family living at Glovers Farm in Hastingwood. Henry was still working as a bricklayer. The 1911 census showed William and Alfred living at Rose Cottage, The Wantz, North Weald. Henry continued to work as a bricklayer while William was working as a poulterer and Alfred a butcher.

Alfred married Alice Aldons in early 1916 in Amersham.

**Private William Sortwell**, 20826, enlisted in Warley serving with The 7th Battalion of The East Surrey Regiment. William was killed in action on 9 April 1917 at the age of 30 and is commemorated on The Arras Memorial to the Missing, France. Bay 6. Register Index Number MR20.

**Private Alfred James Sortwell**, S/4/250822, enlisted in Chelmsford and became a member of The Army Service Corps and subsequently 89497 in The 33rd Battalion of The Machine Gun Corps (Infantry). Alfred was killed in action on 23 September 1918 aged 27 and is buried in Villers Hill British Cemetery, France. Plot 2, row B, grave 32. Register Index Number Fr.407.

Alfred's widow Alice never remarried and died at St Margaret's Hospital, Epping on 1 February 1956. A grant of probate was issued to Annie Townsend on 28 March to the sum of £4,348 15s 1d.

**Henry Smith**

Henry's parents were George Smith, born in Ilford in 1866 and Annie, born in Harlow in c.1871. George and Annie married in c.1887. Henry Smith was born in West Ham in 1893.

The 1901 census shows Henry and his family living in Harlow Road. George was working as a game keeper on a farm. The 1911 census shows Henry to be living in Magdalen Laver, near Ongar with his parents George and Annie and his siblings George and Leonard. George Snr. was working as a horseman while Henry was working as a stockman.

**Private Henry Smith**, 40316, enlisted at Epping serving in the 11th Battalion of The Essex Regiment. Henry died of wounds on 29 March 1918, following his regiment’s participation in The Battle of St. Quentin, which commenced on 21 March 1918. Henry was 25 years old. He is buried in Mons Communal Cemetery, Mons, Hainaut, Belgium. Plot 7, row E, grave 9. Register Index Number Bel.241-264.
William Henry Stanham

William’s parents were William Stanham, born in Swaffham, Norfolk in 1865 and Betsy Ann Parker, born in Maltby, Lincolnshire in 1870. They married in Louth, Lincolnshire in 1894 and William Henry Stanham was born in Stansted in 1895.

The 1901 census shows William residing in Mark Hall Wood, Harlow with his parents and siblings Elsie, Alice and George. William Snr. was working as a gamekeeper. The family also had a domestic servant, Maud Swannell aged 12. The 1911 census shows William residing in Mark Hall Wood, Harlow with his parents and siblings which now included Edith, Albert, Bessie, John and Florence. William followed his father and became a gamekeeper.

Lance Corporal William Henry Stanham, 11234, enlisted in Reading, serving with The 1st/5th Battalions of The Royal Berkshire Regiment. William died on 11 September 1918 at the age of 23 whilst a Prisoner of War (POW) and is buried in Cologne Southern Cemetery, Germany. Plot 8, row F, grave 7. Register Index Number Ger.1.

Reginald Wheeler

Reginald’s parents were George Wheeler, born in Harlow in 1843 and Margaret Thrussel, born in Dublin, Ireland in c.1849. They married in Epping in 1877 and Reginald Wheeler was born in Harlow in 1890.

The 1891 census shows Reginald living in Latton Street with his parents and siblings Ruth and James. George was working as an agricultural labourer. The 1901 census shows Reginald still residing in Latton Street with his parents and siblings William, James, Winifred and Edward. George was working as an agricultural labourer. The 1911 census shows Reginald still living in Latton Street with his parents and siblings. Reginald was 20 years old and working as a groom. Younger brother Edward aged 13 was at school.

Gunner Reginald Wheeler, 122205, became a clearing officer in The Royal Field Artillery. Edward joined the army later during the war and survived the conflict. Reginald died from injuries sustained during the war on 19 September 1919 at the age of 29 and is buried in Latton (St Mary’s) Churchyard, Harlow at the south west end of the church. Register Index Number UK Essex 169.

On this day

11 September 1918
Ukhtinskaya (Murman front) captured by Allied forces.
Lieut.-General Sir G.M.W. Macdonogh appointed Adjutant-General, Home Forces, Great Britain.
Walter Wheeler

Walter’s parents were Henry, born in Harlow in 1859, and Elizabeth Ingram, born in High Wych in 1859. They married in 1887 and Walter Wheeler was born in Harlow in the summer of 1896.

The 1901 census shows Walter living in Potter Street with his parents and siblings William, Nellie, Alfred and Elizabeth. Henry was working as an agricultural hay binder. The 1911 census shows Walter living in Potter Street with his parents and siblings. Walter, then aged 15, was working as an errand boy while his father was still working as a hay binder.

Private Walter Wheeler, 24060, enlisted in Epping, serving with The 9th Battalion of The Essex Regiment. Walter was killed in action on 3 July 1916 aged 29, on the third day of the Battle of the Somme and is commemorated on The Thiepval Memorial to the Missing, France. Pier 10, face D. Register Index Number MR21.

Albert Edward Wilson

Albert’s parents were William Wilson, born in Harlow in 1859, and Elizabeth Cakebread, born in Harlow in c.1846. William and Elizabeth married in Harlow in 1885. Albert Edward Wilson was born in Harlow in early 1891.

The family lived in Foster Street for at least twenty years where William was a farm worker. The 1911 census shows Albert living in four rooms at Green Lane, Foster Street with his widowed mother Elizabeth where he was working as a farm labourer.

William Wilson had died in Harlow in 1909 aged 51.

Private Albert Edward Wilson, 40248, enlisted in Harlow and served with the 2nd Battalion of The Essex Regiment. The battalion fought in The Battle of Transloy Ridges, the last of The Battles of the Somme. The final British attack before the winter was on the German Boritska Trench on 23 October 1916. The regimental diary records that the regiment was due to attack the German lines at 11.30am on 23 October during The Battle of the Somme, but it was delayed until 2.30pm due to mist. They were met by heavy machine gun fire and the first four waves of men were stopped by the German front line, with only about 30 men reaching the line.

Albert Edward Wilson was killed in action on 23 October 1916, aged 25. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing, France. Pier 10, face D. Register Index Number MR21.
Montague Jones Winch

Montague’s parents were Frederick Winch, born in Harlow in c.1853 and Edith Wood, born in North Weald in c.1853. They married in early 1877 and Montague Jones Winch was born in Harlow in 1892.

The 1901 census recorded Montague living in Hastingwood Villas, Harlow aged eight. He was residing with his widowed father Frederick, a bricklayer and his siblings Annie, Clara, Thomas, Walter, Margaret and Ethel. The 1911 census shows Montague still to be living in Hastingwood Villas, near Harlow aged 18 with his widowed father Frederick and siblings. Montague was working as an assistant butcher.

Gunner Montague Jones Winch, 57749, enlisted at Hackney Baths on 1 November 1915. Montague served with The 30th Siege Battery of The Royal Garrison Artillery. At the time of his enlistment his occupation was recorded as a painter. Montague was killed in action on 26 September 1917 aged 26 and is buried in The Menin Road South Military Cemetery, Ypres, Belgium. Plot 2, row H, grave 7. Register Index Number Bel.72.

Walter Woollard

Walter’s parents were John Woollard, born in Harlow in c.1867 and Mary Ann Prior, born in Great Hadham in c.1865. They married in early 1890 and William Walter Woollard was born in Harlow in 1890. He was known as Walter throughout his life.

The 1901 census shows Walter living in Latton Street with his parents and siblings Emily and Alfred. Also living with them was Walter’s paternal aunt Annie Wollard, aged 30. John was working as a stockman on a farm. The 1911 census shows Walter still living in Latton Street with his parents where John was working as a cowman. Walter, then aged 19 was working as a butcher. Walter’s father died in Harlow in 1913 aged 46.

Lance Corporal Walter Woollard, L/14198, enlisted on 10 August 1912 serving in The Middlesex Regiment. Walter was twice wounded and following the second occasion was discharged from the army on 1 July 1918. He died on 20 February 1920 at Gifford House, Roehampton aged 30. Walter’s death was recorded due to gunshot wounds to the spine and paralysis. Walter is buried in Latton (St Mary) Churchyard, Harlow, at the south west end of the church. Register Index Number UK Essex 169.
War Graves

Private William Burls
Son of Mr and Mrs Burls of Redrick Lane, Harlow. Died 3 February 1918 in Colchester Military Hospital.

Private Joseph Benjamin Reed
Resident of Matching Tye. Died 2 December 1918 in High Laver.

Lance Corporal Walter Woollard
Died 20 February 1920 in Gifford House, Roehampton.

Roll of Honour
Latton (St. Mary) Church.

On this day
3 February 1918
British Government announce enlargement of powers of Supreme War Council at Versailles.
Old Harlow Memorial Cross
Francis (Frank) Aley

Francis’ parents were Francis Aley, born in Harlow in c.1877 and Minnie Trundle, born in North Weald Bassett in 1875. They married in Harlow in the spring of 1890 and Frank was born in Harlow in 1897. He was known as Frank throughout his life.

The 1901 census shows the family living at Hobbs Cross, Harlow. Francis was working as a Groom (domestic). Frank was then aged two and his sister Florence was nine months of age.

The 1911 census shows the family residing at 4 Hobbs Cross Road, Harlow occupying four rooms. Francis was working as a Groom at Kennels. By now Frank Snr. and Minnie had a further child, a son called Albert in c.1901.

Private Frank Aley, 2126, served in The 2nd/1st battalion of the Hertfordshire Yeomanry; The Household Cavalry and Cavalry of the Line (incl. Yeomanry and Imperial Camel Corps). Frank died of rheumatic fever on 4 January 1916 at the age of 18 and is buried in Thetford Cemetery, Section D, plot L, grave 458. Register Index Number UK Norfolk 255.

William Douglas Alsop

William’s parents were Oswald Percy Alsop, known as Percy, born in Bristol in 1869 and Rose Blatch, born in Harlow in c.1869. They married in St George Hanover Square in the December quarter of 1891 and William Douglas Alsop was born on 29 January 1893 in St George Hanover Square, London.

The 1901 shows William residing with his maternal grandparents Samuel and Ellen Blatch at 37 Old Road, Harlow. His grandfather Samuel was working as a farm hand. The 1911 census shows William residing at 26 Vauxhall Mansions, Glasshouse Street, Vauxhall, Kennington with his parents and siblings Reginald, Stanley, Percy, Beatrice and Ernest. Percy was working as a flusher and dustman while William was working as a lift attendant.

Private William Douglas Alsop, CH/18783, enlisted in The Royal Marines Light Infantry, Chatham Battalion, Royal Navy Division on 20 August 1914. The battalion landed at Lemnos in Gallipoli on 6 February 1915 and fought in The Battles of Helles and Anzac.

William Douglas Alsop died on 3 May 1915 when he was accidentally shot by a comrade. He was buried in Beach Cemetery in Gallipoli, Plot 1, Row G, Grave 2, Register Index No. GI30.
James William Andrews

James’ parents were William who was born in Dunmow in 1853 and Fanny Louisa Phillips, born in Saltfleetby, Lincolnshire in c. 1861. They married in Harlow in September 1881. James was born in Harlow in 1885. He was known as William in later life.

The 1891 census shows the family residing in Back Street, Harlow where William was working as a groom. James had two siblings, Gertrude and Nellie. The 1901 census shows that the family were still living in Back Street but William was employed as a bricklayer. The 1911 census shows the family’s home as 5 Back Street, College Road. Both William and James were working as gardeners.

Private James William Andrews, 16066 enlisted at Warley in December 1914 and joined The 2nd Battalion of The Essex Regiment. James was killed in action on 1 July 1916 at the age of 32, on the first day of The Battle of The Somme. He is commemorated on The Thiepval Memorial to The Missing, France. Pier 10, face D. Register Index number MR21.

James Alfred Bailey

James Alfred’s parents were James David Bailey, born in Alresford in 1851 and Milly Wheeler, born in Harlow in 1863. They married in London in the summer of 1882 and Alfred James Bailey was born in Harlow in 1886.

The 1891 census shows James residing in Station Road, Biggleswade with his uncle James Bailey and aunt Frances. Also residing with them was James’ paternal grandmother Catherine. The 1901 census recorded James living at Kennels, Harlow with his parents James and Milley and siblings Blanche, Winifred, Rosebud, Gladys, Mildred and Victoria. James Snr. was working as a Huntsman of Essex Hounds.

James married Charlotte Emma Sullins in Harlow in 1909. By 1911 James was residing at 2 Howard Road, Wokingham aged twenty-four and working as a butcher. He was living with his wife Charlotte and son James William. Also living with them was James’ grandmother Susan Matthews, aged seventy-six and living on her own means.

James Alfred Bailey enlisted at Colchester and joined The Middlesex Regiment, number 4622. He later served with the 11th Battalion of The Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment) as a Sergeant. James was killed in action in the Western European Theatre in France & Flanders on 17 February 1917 at the age of thirty. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing, Pier 8, face C. Register Index Number MR21.

James was awarded the Military Medal for his actions on the day that he died.
William Henry and Henry George Banham

William and Henry’s parents were William Banham, born in Drayton, Norfolk in c.1861 and Alice Jane Kerry, born in Stansted, Essex in c.1868. They married in late 1889 in St George Hanover Square, London and William Henry Banham was born in Woodburn Green, Buckinghamshire in 1894. He was baptised in London on 20 May 1894. Henry was born in Harlow on 2 July 1898.

The 1901 census shows William and Henry living in Bury Road, Harlow with their parents and siblings Levina, Evelyn and Gladys. William Snr. was working as a domestic butler. The 1911 census shows William and Henry still residing in Bury Road along with a further sibling, Stanley Hector Banham, born in c.1904.

Telegraphist Henry George Banham, J/27546, served on board HMS Rhododendron. Henry was killed in action on 5 May 1918 at the age of nineteen and is commemorated on The Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 28. Register Index Number MR1.

2nd Lieutenant William Henry Banham, MC, served in ‘A’ Battery of The 199th Brigade of The Royal Field Artillery. William died of his wounds on 8 September 1918 in France and is buried in La Kruele Military Cemetery, Hazebrouck, France. Plot 3, row D, grave 8. William was awarded a Military Cross and was mentioned in The London Gazette on 7 November 1918. William was awarded the MC for conspicuous gallantry and initiative under heavy shell fire. With help, William saved men buried in a dug-out and put out a fire in a gun pit, his actions saved many lives.

James and Henry George Bayford

Henry and James’ mother was Helen Bayford, who was born in Harlow in 1852. She was known as Ellen throughout her life. Ellen never married. She had four children, including James Bayford, who was born in Harlow in 1877 and Henry George Bayford who was born in Harlow in 1878. The parish register named George Challis as Henry’s father.

The 1881 census shows George, aged two, residing in Back Street, Harlow with his grandparents James and Emma Bayford. The 1891 census shows George living with his mother and siblings James and Lily in Back Street, Harlow. Ellen was working as a needlewoman. The 1901 census records George and James living with their mother and siblings Lily and William in Back Street, Harlow. George was working as a bricklayer’s labourer whilst his mother Ellen was listed as a domestic housekeeper. George and James’ mother Ellen died in Harlow in the June quarter of 1908 aged 56.

The 1911 census shows George boarding at 10 Lower Garden Terrace, Harlow and working as a labourer, whilst James was living in Back Street, Harlow with his Aunt and Uncle, John and Eliza Trundle. James was working as a domestic groom.

Private James Bayford, 26755, served with The 13th Battalion of The Essex Regiment. James was killed in action on 28th April 1917, aged 29. James is commemorated on The Arras Memorial to the Missing, France. Bay 7. Register Index Number MR20.

On this day

5 May 1918
Field-Marshal Lord French appointed Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland.

28 April 1917
United States Congress pass Bill for raising 300,000 men.
Battle of Arleux (Arras).
James and Henry George Bayford continued

Private George Bayford, 13221 enlisted in Stratford in September 1914 and served in The 8th Battalion of The Lincolnshire Regiment. This new battalion spent a year in training before departing England for France in September 1915. George was killed in action on 26 September 1915 in France, aged 36, along with 465 other soldiers from the Battalion, on the first day of The Battle of Loos. George is commemorated on The Loos Memorial to the Missing, France, Panels 31-34. Register Index Number MR19.

Charles Beale

Charles’ parents were William Beale, born in Royston in 1862 and Lizzie Aley who was born in Harlow in c.1863. They married in Harlow in the autumn of 1890 and Charles was born in Harlow in 1891.

The 1901 census shows Charles residing with his family in Bury Road, Harlow. His father William was working as a foreman groom. The 1911 census recorded Charles residing in Bury Road with his now widowed mother Lizzie and his siblings, Thomas, Emily and Edward. Charles was working as a groom in livery stables.

Gunner Charles Beale, 82886, enlisted in Harlow and served in The 142nd Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery. The Battery landed in France on 9 August 1916. The conditions were appalling and within two months Charles developed pneumonia. Charles died on 13 October 1916 aged 25 and is buried in Corbie Communal Cemetery Extension, France. Plot 2, row E, grave 46. Register Index Number Fr.23.

Cecil Walter Beeney

Cecil’s parents were Walter Thomas Beeney, born in Gumley, Leicestershire in 1867 and Rhoda Lavinia M Sprigg, born in Market Harborough, Leicestershire in 1868. They married in Market Harborough in the spring of 1893 and Cecil Walter Beeney was born in Market Harborough, Leicestershire in 1893. He was later known as Walter.

The 1901 census shows Cecil residing in Chapel Road, Evington, Leicestershire with his family. Walter Beeney was working as a domestic groom. The census shows that Cecil was eldest of four children; his siblings were Percy, Herbert and Frances. By the time of the 1911 census, Cecil, by now known as Walter had moved to Peatling Parva, Lutterworth where he was listed as the head of the household. He was working as a groom. Cecil’s brother Herbert, also working as a groom was living with him. In the meantime Cecil's parents had moved to 48 Dronfield St., Highfields, Leicester where Walter was still working as a domestic groom. They had three more children: Albert, Marjorie and Constance. At some time after 1911 Cecil came to live in Harlow, probably working as a groom.

Private Cecil Walter Beeney, 1132, enlisted at Colchester in August 1914 and served in The 1st Battalion of The Essex Yeomanry. Cecil became Alexander Swire’s (see page 67) Groom or regimental servant. Both died within a week of each other. Cecil died of his wounds on 20 May 1915 aged 23. Cecil was wounded on 13 May 1915 during the action at Frezenburg Ridge (Potijze) when the 1st Essex Yeomanry, as part of the 8th Cavalry Brigade charged on foot. Cecil is buried in Wimereux Communal Cemetery, France. Plot 1, row H, grave 19A. Register Index Number Fr.64.
Arthur William and Edwin Frederick Bines

Arthur and Edwin's parents were Maurice Bines who was born in Weeley in 1859¹ and Sarah Ann Aley who was born in Harlow in 1860². They married in c.1882 and Edwin was born in the spring of 1887 in High Laver¹. Arthur was born in High Laver in c.1893.

The 1891 census shows Arthur and Edwin residing in High Laver at Bush Hall with their parents and siblings May and Leonard. Maurice was working as a bailiff. The 1901 census recorded Arthur and Edwin still residing in High Laver at Kemsley's Farm. Arthur was working as a carpenter, whilst Edwin was working as a stockman of agricultural cattle on a farm. Edwin's parents had two further children Blanch and Maude. The 1911 census shows that Arthur and Edwin were still living in High Laver with their family, but were now at Malting Farm, near Moreton. Arthur was listed as a joiner, Edwin a bricklayer.


Private Edwin Frederick Bines, 26761, enlisted in Harlow and joined the 1st Battalion of The Essex Regiment in 1915. The regiment fought at Gallipoli and then in March 1916 on the Western Front. Edwin was wounded in early July 1916 during The Battle of the Somme and evacuated to St John's Hospital in Etaples. Edwin died of his wounds on 30 July 1916 aged 29. He is buried in Etaples Military Cemetery, France. Plot 9, row B, grave 24. Register index number Fr.40. Probate records show that Edwin left £142 1s. 4d to his father Maurice Bines, a farm bailiff which was granted on 11 January 1917⁴.

Harry Edward Bird

Harry's parents were Henry Edward Bird, born in Standon in 1874¹ and Maria Ann Knight born in Bishop's Stortford in 1875². Henry and Maria married in Bishop's Stortford in 1897³ and Harry Edward Bird was born in Edmonton in 1899⁴.

The 1891 census shows Henry living with his parents and siblings Frederick and Alice in Standon Street, Hertfordshire. Henry, father John and brother Frederick were working as agricultural labourers. The 1901 census shows Henry living in Brookfield Lane, Cheshunt with his wife Maria Ann and children Beatrice, Harry and Herbert. The 1911 census shows Henry and his wife and children living on the Hobbs Cross Road, Harlow. Henry was working as a gardener. Harry married Maria Ann Knight in Bishops Stortford in 1897.

Lance Corporal Harry Bird, 41365, enlisted at Banbury in the 1st Battalion of The Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry which was formerly 8/10756 Training Reserve Battalion. The Battalion fought in The Battle of Arras and The Battle of Ypres before going to Italy then back to France in April 1918. Harry was killed in action on the first day of The Battle of Bapaume on 31 August 1918, aged 44. He is commemorated on the Vis-en-Artois Memorial to the Missing, France. Panel 6. Register Index Number Mr16.

On this day

30 July 1916
First aerial operations carried out by combined French and British air services on French Western front.
Russian troops from France land at Salonika and join Allied force.
31 August 1919
German forces evacuate Mount Kemmel.
Captain Cromie R.N., British Naval Attaché, murdered by Bolsheviki in British Embassy, Petrograd.
Reginald John Bradley

Reginald’s parents were John Thomas Bradley, born in Sheering in c.1866 and Julia Kate Bonney, born in Manudon in c.1874. They married in the summer of 1892 and Reginald John Bradley was born in 1894.

The 1901 census shows Reginald to be living in Churchgate Street with his parents John and Julia and siblings Frederick and Victor. John was working as an insurance agent working for The Prudential. The 1911 census shows a further four children had been born, Dorothy, Cecil, Kathleen and Ethel. The family were living in four rooms in Churchgate Street. John remained working as an insurance agent.

Private Reginald John Bradley, CH/17049, enlisted on 15 May 1911 in The Royal Marines Light Infantry. Reginald served on at least two ships before joining HMS Hawke, which as an Edgar class protected cruiser. Launched from Chatham in 1891, on 15 October 1914 the ship was sailing off of the coast of Scotland with 524 men on board when it was sunk by a German U boat. Reginald John Bradley was one of the 454 men who died. He was 21 years old. His body was never recovered. He is commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 7. Register Index Number M.R1.

Reginald was the first person from Harlow to be killed in the war.

Victor Albert Burton

Victor’s parents were Charles Burton, born in Harlow in 1854 and Emily Howe, born in North Weald in 1856. They married in Harlow in the summer of 1878 and Victor Albert Burton was born in Harlow in 1894.

The 1901 census shows Victor living in Harlow with his parents and siblings Percy and Herbert in Church House, Foster Street. The 1911 census shows Victor still residing with his family in All Saints Cottage, Foster Street, the house name having been changed in 1901, its name still remains today. Victor was working as a domestic gardener. Charles was working as a farm labourer.

Private Victor Albert Burton, 38104, enlisted in Harlow and served in the 1st Battalion of the Essex Regiment having formerly been 24568 in the Suffolk Regiment. The regiment was involved in The Battle of Langemarck, part of the Passchendaele conflict. From 21 to 25 September 1917 the regiment were back in the trenches suffering from fairy heavy casualties. Victor was wounded and taken to a Casualty Clearing Station in nearby Dozinghem.

Victor Burton died of his wounds on 25 September 1917 aged 23. He is buried in the Dozinghem Military Cemetery, Westvleteren, Belgium Plot 8, row F, grave 8. Register Index Number Bel.16.
William Charles Cakebread

William’s parents were William Cakebread, born in Gilston, Hertfordshire in 1869, and Mary Oliver, born in Harlow in 1869. They married on 25 January 1891 in Ealing, London, and William Charles Cakebread was born in Harlow in 1898, an only child.

The 1901 census records William residing at The Heath, Hatfield Broad Oak with his parents. William Snr. worked as an insurance agent for The Prudential. The 1911 census shows that William Jnr. then aged thirteen was residing with his parents in Sheering, near Durrington House. By now William Snr. was working as a cowman on a farm.

Rifleman William Charles Cakebread, 3767, enlisted in Chelsea, London, in the summer of 1915 and joined the 1st/8th Battalion in the County of London (Irish Rifles) Regiment. The battalion went overseas in January 1916 and in June were in the trenches in the Angres Sector. On the night of 27 and 28 June, they staged a raid on the German trenches. William Charles Cakebread was killed in action on 28 June 1916 aged 18. He is buried in Tranchee-de-Mecknes Cemetery, Aix-Noulette, France. Row 6, grave 15. Register Index Number Fr.559.

At the time of William’s death, his parents were living at ‘The Nook’, Hart Road, Harlow where they remained until their deaths in the 1940s.

Harry Clarke

Harry’s parents were Thomas Clarke, born in Newmarket, Cambridgeshire in 1853, and Mary Ann, born in Linton c.1869. They married in c.1892 and Harry Clarke was born in Chigwell in 1894.

The 1911 census recorded Harry living with his parents Thomas and siblings Lily and Grace at 6 Sungate Cottages, Collier Row, Romford where Harry was working as a general farm labourer. Thomas was working as a horseman. It is believed that Harry and his family moved to Harlow sometime after the 1911 census was taken.

Private Harry Clarke, 235245, enlisted at Hertford and served in The 8th Battalion of The Lincolnshire Regiment (formerly 5750 in The Hertfordshire Regiment).

Harry was killed in action, along with 33 other men from his battalion, whilst the second major attack of the Third Battle of Ypres took place, on 16 August 1917 aged 23 and is buried in The Voormezeele Enclosure No. 3, Belgium. Plot 15, row E, grave 6. Register index number Bel.111.

At the time of Harry’s death, his parents were living at 2 Chantry Cottages, Churchgate Street, Harlow.

On this day

16 August 1917
Battle of Langemarck 1917 (Ypres), begins.
Herbert Clements

Herbert Clements was born and baptised in Potter Street but later moved to Harlow with his family. Herbert was killed in action on 26 March 1917 and is commemorated on both Potter Street and Old Harlow war memorials. For full profile please see page 25.

John and Frederick Cook

John and Frederick’s parents were James Cook, born in Harlow in 1849\(^1\) and Jane Wood, born in Magdalen Laver in 1862\(^2\). They married in Harlow in 1881\(^3\) and John was born in Harlow in c.1886. Frederick was born in Harlow in 1889\(^4\).

The 1891 census recorded John and Frederick residing in White Houses, Harlow with their parents and siblings William, Henry and Thomas. James was working as a brickmaker. The 1901 census shows John and Frederick living with their family in Shoe Lane, Foster Street. Both John and Frederick were general labourers.

The 1911 census shows Frederick still living in Shoe Lane, Foster Street with his parents. The house consisted of 4 rooms. James and Jane had by then 8 children, 7 of whom were still alive. Frederick was still working as a general labourer. In the meantime John had left the family home, having enlisted in the military and joining The 2nd Northamptonshire Regiment.

**Private John Cook**, 8714, enlisted in Warley and joined The 2nd Battalion of The Northamptonshire Regiment. The battalion took part in The Battle of Albert on 4 July 1916 and the capture of Contalmaison on 6 July 1916. John was killed in action on 9 July 1916, aged 30 and is commemorated on The Thiepval Memorial to the Missing, France. Pier 11, face A. Register Index Number MR21.

**Private Frederick Cook**, 15949, enlisted at Stratford and joined the 2nd Battalion of The Essex Regiment. Frederick was killed in action on 17 June 1915, aged 27, less than a month after arriving on the Western Front. Frederick is commemorated on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial to the Missing, Belgium. Panel 39. Register Index Number MR29.
Albert George Cordell

Albert’s parents were George Cordell, born in Epping in 1865¹ and Harriet Stracey, néé Cook, born in Sawbridgeworth in 1854¹. George and Harriet married in Harlow in the winter of 1895¹. Albert George Cordell was born in Harlow in the summer of 1896¹. He was known as George in his later life.

The 1901 census shows George residing in Nettleswell, Harlow at the age of five. He is living with his parents George and Harriet and step-siblings James Stracey and Rosa Stracey. George Sr. worked on a farm. The 1911 census shows George, now aged fifteen residing at 3 Brook Cottages, Churchgate Street, Harlow with his step-brother and sister in law, Samuel Blatch and his wife Mary. George was working as a farm labourer.

Albert George Cordell, 202262 enlisted in Harlow as a Sergeant in The 2nd/5th Battalion of The Gloucestershire Regiment in September 1916. On enlistment, George gave his address at Tye Green, Nettleswell. George’s regiment were involved in numerous battles and in March 1918 were being driven back by the German offensive. On 28 March, they retreated to Marcelcave. Albert was killed in action on 31 March 1918, aged 22. He is commemorated on the Pozieres Memorial to the Missing, France, Panels 40 & 41. Register Index Number MR27.

Ernest Edward and Herbert Cordell

Ernest and Herbert’s parents were Henry Edward Cordell, born in London in 1858¹ and Catherine Cakebread, born in Harlow in 1855². Henry and Catherine married in Harlow in the winter of 1889³. Ernest Edward Cordell was born in Harlow in 1891⁴. Herbert was born in Harlow in 1893⁵.

The 1901 census shows Ernest and Herbert living with their parents and siblings Minnie and George in Foster Street. Henry was working as a general agricultural labourer on a farm. The 1911 census records the family still residing in Foster Street, both Ernest and Herbert were working as labourers.

Private Ernest Edward Cordell, 1390, enlisted in Harlow and joined the 1st/4th Battalion of The Essex Regiment. The regiment landed at Suvla in Gallipoli on 12 August 1915. Ernest was killed in action on 20 August 1915, aged 26. He is commemorated on the Helles Memorial to the Missing (Fell on Land), Gallipoli. Panels 144-150. Register Index Number MR4.

Private Herbert Cordell, 200133, enlisted in Harlow and like his brother joined the 1st/4th Battalion of The Essex Regiment. The regiment landed at Suvla in Gallipoli on 12 August 1915. Herbert and his battalion remained in the Middle East for over two years after Ernest’s death. On 26 March they attempted to capture Gaza. Herbert was killed in action on 26 March 1917, aged 24. He is buried in The Gaza War Cemetery, Palestine. Plot 26, row C, grave 16. Register Index Number P8.

On this day

20 August 1915
Novo-Georgievsk (Poland) stormed by German forces.
26 March 1917
First Battle of Gaza begins.
Reginald John Cowlin

Reginald's parents were John William Cowlin, born in Epping in 1868\(^1\) and Louisa Jane Stevens, born in Kensington in 1870\(^1\). They married in Kensington on 29 December 1891\(^1\) and Reginald John Cowlin was born in Harlow in the winter of 1897\(^1\).

The 1901 census shows Reginald residing in Bury Road, Harlow with his parents and siblings James, Florence, and Olive. John was working as a house painter and decorator and is shown to have been an employer working at home. The 1911 census shows Reginald still residing with his family in Bury Road, Harlow aged 13. His father John was working as a builder while his brother James was working as a clerk for an insurance agent. John and Louisa had two further children by 1911, Kate and Lottie.

Gunner Reginald John Cowlin, 341152, enlisted in Hertford. Reginald joined The 51st Siege Royal Garrison Artillery having formerly been 105556 in The 4th Battalion Herts Yeomanry. Reginald died of his wounds as a result of being gassed on 26 June 1918 aged 21 and is buried in The Aire Communal Cemetery, Lys, France. Plot 3, row D, grave 14. Register Index Number Fr.31.

Sydney William Cowlin

Sydney’s parents were Daniel Robert Carrick Cowlin, born in Epping in 1867\(^1\) and Annie Jane Corney, born in Chelsea in 1855\(^2\). Daniel and Annie married in West Ham in the winter of 1887\(^3\). Sydney William Cowlin was born in Harlow in the autumn of 1891\(^4\).

The 1901 census shows Sydney residing in Bury Road with his parents and siblings James and Stanley. The Cowlin family were well known builders in Harlow. Their depot was at the top of New Road and Daniel worked as a builder. The 1911 census shows Sydney then aged nineteen residing in Eastfield, New Road, Harlow with his parents and siblings James and Stanley. Sydney was working as a house joiner. The family also had a domestic servant working for them.

Acting Sergeant Sydney William Cowlin, 1106, enlisted in Harlow and served with the 1st/4th Battalion of The Essex Regiment. The regiment was posted to Gallipoli in 1915, landing at Suvla Bay on 12 August where a week long campaign of heavy fighting took place. Sydney William Cowlin was killed in action on 19 August 1915, aged 24. He is commemorated on the Helles Memorial to the Missing (Fell on Land), Gallipoli. Panels 144-150. Register Index Number MR4.
Edward and Thomas Deards

Edward and Thomas' parents were Ambrose Deards, born in Harlow in the summer of 1858¹ and Annie Thurgood, born in Holloway in 1860². They married in the autumn of 1881 in Harlow³ and Edward Deards was born in Harlow in 1893⁴. Thomas Deards was born in Harlow in 1895⁵. The 1901 census shows Edward and Thomas residing in Dock Yard, Station Road, Harlow with their parents and siblings Sarah, William, Archibald, Nellie and Annie. Ambrose was working as a non-domestic groom. The 1911 Census shows Edward still residing in Dock Yard, Harlow with his parents and siblings which by 1911 included a further sister Edith. Edward was working as a groom while his father Ambrose was recorded as a groom out of employment at the age of 52. The 1911 census recorded Thomas residing at 20 Trebovie Road, Earls Court, London where he was employed as a Page (servant).

**Private Edward Deards**, 105859, enlisted in Harlow in the 1st/1st Battalion Hertfordshire Yeomanry. In March 1916, his squadron was posted to modern day Iraq. In December 1916, they fought in The 2nd Battle of Kut and in March 1917, they took part in the capture of Baghdad. The rest of the year saw numerous other battles alongside Indian troops. By December, the fighting had stopped but conditions were poor and Edward became ill. Edward Deards died on 13 December 1917 from pneumonia at the age of 24. He was buried in the Baghdad (North Gate) War Cemetery, Iraq. Plot 16, row H, grave 10. Register Index Number Iraq 8.

**Private Thomas Deards**, 251368, enlisted in Epping serving in the 1st/5th Battalion Essex Regiment. The regiment was posted to Gallipoli in 1915, landing at Suvla Bay on 12 August. A week of heavy fighting took place. Thomas, aged 21, was killed in action on 26 March 1917, the first day of the invasion of Palestine at The First Battle of Gaza. He is commemorated on the Jerusalem Memorial to the Missing, Palestine. Panels 3339. Register Index Number MR34.

Henry Leonard Fitzjohn

Henry's parents were William Walter Fitzjohn, born in Noak Hill in 1872¹ and Louisa Jane Osborne, born in Lambeth in 1873². They married in Romford in the summer of 1894³ and Henry Leonard Fitzjohn was born in Noak Hill on 24 September 1898⁴.

The 1901 census shows Henry residing with his parents and siblings Ruth, Sydney and Maude at 3 Kings Road, Hornchurch where William was involved in the corn milling trade. By 1911 Henry was residing in Bury Cottage, Old Road, Harlow with his family, which included further siblings Binter, Elizabeth and James. William was by now the head cowman on a farm.

**Henry Leonard Fitzjohn**, J/37915, enlisted in the Royal Navy as Boy 1st Class and served aboard HMS Invincible, the world’s first battle cruiser, which launched on 13 April 1907. She was 173 metres long and became the flagship of the 3rd Battle Cruiser Squadron at The Battle of Jutland. Henry was killed in action on 31 May 1916 at the age of 17 when HMS Invincible was destroyed by enemy fire, having suffered an explosion in the magazine which split the ship in half and sinking in just 90 seconds. Henry is commemorated on The Portsmouth Naval Memorial. Panel 14. Register Index Number MR34.

On this day

13 December 1917
Armistice negotiations on Russian front resumed. Russian Constituent Assembly dispersed by Bolsheviks.

26 March 1917
First Battle of Gaza begins.

31 May 1916
Frederick Francis

Frederick’s parents were William Francis, born in Hatfield Heath in 1837 and Eliza Blatch, born in Harlow in 1854. They married in Harlow in the winter of 1883 and Frederick Francis was born in Harlow in the summer of 1887.

The 1891 census shows Frederick residing with his parents and siblings Emily and William in Old Road, Harlow. William Snr. was working as an agricultural labourer while Frederick’s sister Emily was working as a silk weaver. The 1901 census shows Frederick living in Old Road, Harlow with his parents and brother William. William Snr. was still working as a general farm labourer at the age of 62. The 1911 census shows Frederick residing in Old Road, Harlow with his parents and brother William. Frederick was working as a house painter; William Snr. was listed as an old age pensioner at the age of 72 with the Pension Act having been passed by parliament in 1908.

Private Frederick Francis, 54872, enlisted in Epping and served in The 16th Battalion of The Welsh Regiment (formerly of The Essex Regiment). Frederick was killed in action on 29 November 1917 at the age of 30 and is buried in The Cite Bonjean Military Cemetery, Armentieres, France. Plot 2, row B, grave 50. Register Index Number Fr.992.

Crawford Cunningham Gadsden

Crawford’s parents were William Burchell Gadsden, born in Toddington, Bedfordshire in 1869 and Sara Jean W Cunningham, born in Luton in 1868. William and Sara married in Luton, Bedfordshire in 1896 and Crawford Cunningham Gadsden was born in Harlow on 7 April 1897.

The 1901 census shows Crawford residing in Bury Road, Harlow with his parents William and Sara. The census records Williams’ occupation as Drapery Traveller. At the time of the census Crawford’s aunt Alice Gadsden, then aged twenty-eight was living with them. The 1911 census shows Crawford residing in six rooms in Bury Road, Harlow with his parents and siblings Marie and William. Crawford was listed as being a student at college while his father, then aged forty-two was recorded as being a Commercial Traveller in Ladies shirts. The family also had a domestic servant, a local girl called Rosa Stacey, aged eighteen.

Lieutenant Crawford Cunningham Gadsden enlisted and served in the 1st/4th Battalion of the Royal West Surrey Regiment which was attached to the 101st Squadron RFC (bombing). Crawford gained his Aviators Certificate on 16 December 1916. On the night of 15 October 1917, he flew only his second sortie, in aeroplane B405 on a night bombing raid from Clairmarais airfield, just outside of St Omer but crashed soon after take off. The plane caught fire. Badly wounded, Crawford was taken to a nearby hospital and died of his wounds on 16 October 1917, aged 20. He was buried in the Longuenesse (St. Omer) Souvenir Cemetery, France. Plot 4, row E, grave 50. Register Index Number Fr.134

On this day

29 November 1917
First meeting of Great Inter-Allied Conference opens in Paris.
Air Force (Constitution) Act, 1917, comes into operation in Great Britain.

16 October 1917
Action of Nyangao (German East Africa) begins.
Naval action in Gulf of Riga. Russian battleship “Slava” sunk.
Gerard Croft Hoare

Gerard's parents were Geoffrey De Mountenay G Hoare, born in Godstone, Surrey in 1871, and Joyce Margaret Page Croft, born in Ware, Hertfordshire in 1870. His father was a wealthy commodities broker, a JP and rode in several hunts, sometimes as Master of Fox Hounds. Geoffrey and Joyce married in Ware, Hertfordshire in the spring of 1898. The family moved to Meadham, on the corner of Churchgate Street and Sheering Road in 1898. Gerard Hoare was born in Harlow in 1899.

The 1901 census shows Gerard residing in Harlow aged two in the care of domestic staff in Piper House, in the household of Henry Johnson, a solicitor and his family. The census shows Gerard's parents residing in Chelmsford Geoffrey's brother where he was working as a general merchant. The 1911 census shows Gerard as a pupil at St Peter's Court, Broadstairs, Kent. His parents were residing in Harlow where Geoffrey was working as a produce broker.

Gerard left school in the summer of 1917 and on 8 August joined The 9th Officers Training Battalion in Scotland. He was gazetted the following December as a 2nd Lieutenant in The 2nd Battalion of The Rifle Brigade (The Prince Consort's Own).

Gerard Croft Hoare served in the trenches from 9 April 1918. On 27 May 1918, The 3rd Battle of the Aisne began, the Allied Forces were overwhelmed. The Battalion was almost wiped out and Gerard was seriously wounded whilst retreating. He was evacuated to the Officers Convalescent Hospital in Bournemouth. A complete recovery was expected but Gerard suffered from Septic poisoning and died on 1 August 1918. Gerard is buried in Harlow in St Mary and St Hugh's Churchyard, in old ground near the North boundary. Register Index Number UK Essex 167.

Arthur Hoy

Arthur's parents were Frederick Hoy, born in Magdalen Laver in the summer of 1845, and Charity Rochester born in Magdalen Laver in 1846. They married in Ongar in the winter of 1865 and Arthur Hoy was born in Harlow in the spring of 1889.

The 1891 census shows Arthur residing with his parents in Threshers Bush, Harlow along with his siblings Ellen and Edith. Frederick was working as an agricultural labourer. The 1901 census recorded the family still residing in Threshers Bush where Frederick was working as an agricultural horse keeper on a farm. Arthur's sister Edith had died in 1897 at the age of 11 however, another sibling, Emily was residing with them along with Frederick's uncle Joseph Stevens, aged 80. The 1911 census shows Arthur boarding at Mark Hall Stables, Latton, Harlow where he worked as a coachman for the Gilbey family at the age of 22.

Lance Corporal Arthur Hoy, MT/07419, enlisted in The Army Service Corps which was attached to The 184th Tunnelling Coy, Royal Engineers. Arthur died on 25 November 1918. It is not known what his exact cause of death was. Arthur is buried in Terlinethun British Cemetery, Wimille, France, Plot 11, row D, grave 40. Register Index Number Fr.34

On this day

1 August 1918
Allied Expeditionary Force attack and capture the defences of Archangel.

25 November 1918
Strasbourg occupied by French forces.
German forces in East Africa surrender to Allied forces at Abercorn (Rhodesia).
John Givens Kirkaldy

John's parents were John Kirkaldy Sr. born in Wapping in 1853 and Harriette Gay born in Kings Lynn, Norfolk in 1862. John and Harriette married in Shoreditch, east London on 14 November 1881. John Givens Kirkaldy was born in Stepney, east London in the winter of 1882.

The 1891 census shows John, known as Givens residing in St Leonards, Hastings as a boarder at the age of eight where he was a scholar at a Boys School. The 1901 census recorded John residing with his parents in Fellmoors, Harlow where John Snr. was working as government contractor. Also residing with them were John's siblings Vera and Eugenie. The 1911 census shows John Jnr aged twenty-nine occupying fourteen rooms with his parents in Feltimores, Harlow and working as a marine engineer, while his father was working as a civil engineer. Also living with them were his siblings Irene, Jeanette, Anthony and Eugenie. John's wife Ethel was also residing with the family. John married Ethel Bainbridge in St George Hanover Square, London in the winter of 1907. They had one child, a son John N Kirkaldy, born in Harlow in 1912. In 1913, Givens emigrated to Canada leaving his wife and son in England.

When the war broke out, John enlisted on 23 September 1914 at Valcartier. John arrived in France in February 1915 but was recalled to England in August of the same year. He spent the next three years in the Middle East, specialising in water purification, skills he had learnt at his father's engineering works at Burnt Mill.

John Givens Kirkaldy was promoted to the rank of Major on 1 August 1918. He was lost at sea on 13 August 1918 whilst on the way from Cyprus to Egypt when the transport ship An-Hui was torpedoed. John was aged 35. He is commemorated on the Chatby Memorial to the Missing, Alexandria, Egypt. Register Index Number MR41.

Henry George and Edward Joseph Linsell

Henry and Edward's parents were James Linsell, born in Harlow in the winter of 1856 and Alice Mary Savill, born in Matching in the spring of 1862. They married in Harlow in the spring of 1882 and Henry George Linsell was born in Harlow in the spring of 1887. Edward was born in Harlow on the 29 December 1898. His birth was registered in the spring of 1899.

The 1911 census shows Henry and Edward residing at Lower Garden Terrace, Harlow. They were living with their parents and siblings William, Philip, Ernest and Eva. James was working as a gardener; Henry was a butcher, whilst Edward was attending school.

Private Henry George Linsell, 4391, enlisted in London and served with The 1st/6th Battalions (City of London Rifles) of The London Regiment. Henry landed in France in January 1917 and in April was in the trenches at Clerey, defending Vimy Ridge. On 30 April the trenches were subject to heavy bombardment and two mines exploded. Henry was amongst those killed on that day, aged 29 and is commemorated on The Arras Memorial to the Missing, France. Bays 9 & 10. Register Index Number MR20.

On this day

13 August 1918
The Czechoslovaks declare War on Germany. British Government recognise the Czechoslovaks as an Allied nation. Admiral von Capelle, German Minister of Marine, resigns.

30 April 1916
Battle of Lake Nanoch ends.

31 May 1916
Old Harlow Memorial Cross

Henry George and Edward Joseph Linsell continued

Edward Joseph Linsell, Boy 1st Class, J/34116, enlisted in The Royal Navy serving aboard HMS Indefatigable. HMS Indefatigable was a Battle Cruiser of 18,500 tonnes launched in October 1909. It was sunk at The Battle of Jutland on 31 May 1916 with the loss of all but two of the 1,019 crew on board. Edward Linsell, aged 17, was one of those who lost their lives on 31 May 1916. He is commemorated on The Chatham Naval Memorial, panel 16. Register Index Number MR1.

Frederick Linsell

Frederick's parents were Jonathan Linsell, born in c.1830 and Mary Anne Turner, born in Great Hallingbury in c.1832. They married on 7 August 1855 in Sawbridgeworth and Frederick Linsell was born in Sheering in the summer of 1874.

The 1881 census recorded Frederick residing in Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire with his uncle William Pavitt, a grocer's porter and aunt Jane. Also residing with them was Frederick's older sister Ellen. Frederick married Amelia Grace in c.1901. The 1911 census shows Frederick and his wife Amelia residing at Ye Oldecot, Threshers Bush, Harlow where Frederick worked as a carman for a builder.

Private Frederick Linsell, 19387, enlisted in Saffron Walden in The 2nd Battalion Bedfordshire Regiment. Frederick was killed in action on 21 September 1915 on the first day of the Battle of Loos aged 40 and is commemorated on The Loos Memorial to the Missing, France. Panel 41. Register Index Number MR19.

Amelia did not remarry, residing at Inglenook, Threshers Bush, Harlow until her death on 16 July 1929.

Edward Amos Luckin

Edward's parents were Henry James Luckin, born in Braintree in the winter of 1858 and Ellen Broad, born in Harlow in the spring of 1856. They married in Harlow in the winter of 1886 and Edward Amos Luckin was born in Harlow in the summer of 1887.

The 1901 census shows Edward residing in Hobbs Cross, Harlow with his parents Henry and Ellen and his siblings Beatrice, William, Eleanor, Francis and Frederick. The 1911 census shows Edward residing in Puddledock, Much Hadham Nr Ware, Hertfordshire as a boarder at the age of twenty-three where he was working as a general labourer.

Private Edward Amos Luckin, 12954, enlisted in Hertford and served in the 6th Battalion Bedfordshire Regiment. The regiment took part in The Battle of Albert on 10 July 1916 and The Battle of Bazentin Ridge on 14 July 1916, part of The Battle of the Somme. Edward was killed in action on 15 July 1916, aged 29. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing, France. Pier 2, face C. Register Index Number MR21.

On this day

21 September 1915
Bulgarian Government order partial mobilisation.
Greek Premier (M. Venizelos) asks for guarantee of 150,000 British and French troops as condition for Greek intervention.
Viscount Ishii succeeds Marquis Okuma as Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs.

15 July 1916
Battle of Delville Wood.
### James Neville Marshall VC


The 1891 census shows James residing at 64 Steven Street, Stretford with his parents and siblings Mary, Nannie, May and Dorothy. James Snr. was then aged 45 and working as a hardware buyer.

James married Edith Maud Taylor in Harlow in the autumn of 1911.

Lieutenant James Neville Marshall enlisted in London, serving in The Irish Guards (Special Reserve) attached to The 16th Battalion of the Lancashire Fusiliers. James was killed in action on 4 November 1918 in the attack on the Sambre-Oise Canal, France when a partly constructed bridge came under concentrated enemy fire. James organised repair parties for the bridge and was killed when he rushed across at the head of his battalion; he was 31 years of age. For his bravery James was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross (VC). James is buried in Ors Communal Cemetery, France, in line with Plot A, Grave 22. Register index No. Fr.1479.

### Albert John Monk

Albert’s parents were Joseph Monk, born in Harlow in c.1852 and Eliza Saville, born in Matching in c.1853. They married in Harlow in 1876 and Albert John Monk was born in Harlow in the spring of 1885.

The 1891 census recorded Albert residing in Sheering Road, Harlow with his parents and siblings Edward, Joseph, Florence and William. Joseph was working as a groom. The 1901 census shows Albert residing in High House Road, Harlow aged sixteen, working as a bricklayer. He was living with his parents, who by now had a further child, Edith. Albert’s father was working as a domestic groom. The 1911 census shows Albert living in Sheering Road, Harlow working as a bricklayer. He was residing with his parents and brother William. Joseph was a farm labourer.

Private Albert John Monk, 27247, enlisted in Epping, in the spring of 1916 and served in the 11th Battalion of The Essex Regiment. The regiment fought in The Battles of the Somme, the Cambrai operations and The Battle of Lys. On 1 June 1916, they were just behind the lines at Vlamertinghe when a German shell landed in baths set up in a hop factory and three men were killed. Albert was killed in action on 2 June 1918, aged 34. He is buried in Nine Elms British Cemetery, Poperinghe, Belgium. Plot 11, row D, grave 19. Register Index Number Bel.3.

On this day

4 November 1918

Battle of the Sambre including the Second Battle of Guise (4th/5th).
Albert Charles Negus

Albert’s parents were Charles Negus, born in Arksden in 1868 and Rosa Cranwell, born in Langley, Essex in the winter of 1868. Rosa was known as Rosetta and Rose in later life. Charles and Rosa married in Saffron Walden in the winter of 1888 and Albert Charles Negus was born in Arksden in 1895.

The 1901 census shows Albert residing in Trimms Green, Sawbridgeworth with his parents and siblings Frank, Florence, George, Rhoda and Mildred. Charles Snr. was working as a cowman on a farm. The 1911 census recorded Albert living in High House Cottages, Harlow at the age of 15 where he was working as a domestic gardener. He was residing with his parents and siblings which by this time included Hilda, Elsie, Vera and Evelyn.

Gunner Albert Charles Negus, 10006, enlisted in Hertford in The Royal Field Artillery, attached to The 7th/8th Mountain Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery. Albert went overseas, landing in Egypt on 8 October 1915 and remained in the Middle East for the next three years. Albert died of malaria on 21 October 1918 at the age of 24 and is buried in The Beirut British War Cemetery, Lebanon. Grave 70. Register Index Number Syria 1.

William Charles Page

William’s parents were William Page, born in Gilston in 1876 and Edith May Thear, born in Ware in 1874. Edith was baptised on 4 October 1874 in Gilston. They married in High Wych on 11 November 1894 and William Charles Page was born in High Wych, Hertfordshire in 1895.

The 1901 census shows William Jnr. residing in High Wych with his parents and siblings Florence and Nellie. William Snr. was working as a plate layer on the railway. The 1911 census recorded the family residing in Old Road, Harlow. William Jnr. was living with his parents and siblings Nellie, James, Harry and Lily and William Charles Thear, his maternal uncle. William was working as a bricklayer whilst William Snr. worked on the Great Eastern Railway.

Private William Charles Page, 1317, enlisted in Harlow and served with The 1st/4th Battalion of The Essex Regiment. The regiment landed at Suvla in Gallipoli on 12 August 1915. William died of his wounds at sea on 31 August 1915 aged 21 and is commemorated on The Helles Memorial to the Missing (buried at sea). Panels 229-233. Register Index Number MR4.

On this day

21 October 1918
The Ban of Croatia refuses offer of Military Governor of Agram to suppress the Yugo-Slav National Council.
The Czechoslovaks declare independence.

31 August 1915
Durazzo reoccupied by Serbian forces.
Victor George Parish

Victor’s parents were George Parish, born in 1858 and Rebecca born in Sawbridgeworth in 1870. They married in Bishop’s Stortford in 1898 and Victor George Parish was born in Harlow in 1897.

The 1901 census shows Victor residing in Hobbs Cross, Harlow with his parents and sister Constance. George was working as an agricultural farm labourer. The 1911 recorded Victor living in Threshers Bush, Harlow with his parents George and Rebecca and siblings Archie and Ivy where he was attending school. George was working as a farm labourer.

Private Victor George Parish, 15972, enlisted in Stratford and served with The 1st Battalion of The Essex Regiment. Victor was killed in action at Krithia Vineyard on 6 August 1915 aged 18 and is buried in Twelve Tree Copse Cemetery, Helles, Gallipoli, Grave C154 (Special Memorial). Register Index No. Gal.6.

This cemetery was made after the Armistice, when graves were brought in from isolated sites and small burial grounds on the battlefields. Many of the burials are unidentified but special memorials commemorate casualties known or believed to be among them, including Victor and another 141 men of the 1st Essex Regiment who also died on 6 August 1915.

Arthur Perry

Arthur’s parents were William Perry, born in Sawbridgeworth in 1843 and Emma Wood, born in Sawbridgeworth in 1845. They married in Bishop’s Stortford on 3 November 1867 and Arthur Perry was born in Harlow in the summer of 1888.

The 1891 census shows Arthur residing in White Horse Cottages, next to the White Horse Inn, Old Road, Harlow with his parents and siblings, John and Clara. William was working as a miller whilst Arthur’s brother John was working as an agricultural labourer and Clara was working as a domestic servant. The 1901 census recorded Arthur still residing in Old Road, Harlow with his parents. William was working as a general miller’s labourer. Arthur’s father William died in Harlow in 1904 at the age of 61.

The 1911 census shows Arthur residing in Old Road, Harlow with his widowed mother Emma. Arthur was working as a bricklayer while his mother was a charwoman.

Private Arthur Perry, G/15641, enlisted in Hertford and served in The 13th Battalion of The Royal Sussex Regiment. The Regiment was about to take part in the Battle of St. Quentin. Arthur was killed in action on 21 March 1918 aged 28 on the first day of the German Spring Offensive, which they hoped would end the war. Arthur is commemorated on The Pozieres Memorial to the Missing, France. Panels 46 & 47. Register Index Number MR27.
Arthur william perry

Arthur’s parents were arthur and Mary Ann Perry, both born in Essex in c.1864 and married in c.1885. In 1891 they were living in Matching Green with their four year old daughter Florence. The 1901 census shows the family living at Hobbs Cross. Young Arthur was known as William throughout his life. By 1901, he also had another sister named Elsie. Florence, aged 14 was a housemaid living in at The Chantry (until recently, the Churchgate Street Hotel). In 1911, the family’s address was given as 2 Bridge Cottages, which was next to Feltimores Lodge.

Private Arthur William Perry, 12995, enlisted on 31 August 1914. William landed in Le Havre on 30 July 1915 and fought in a number of battles including The Somme, Arras and Ypres. On 5 January 1918 he was discharged from the army on account of disablement or ill-health and died before the official end of the war on 28 June 1919.

Robert Evelyn Sandford and William hylton Sandford Poole

Robert and William’s parents were William Sandford Poole, born in Sawbridgeworth in 1866 and Evelyn Annie Hylton Lynch, born in Jamaica in c.1873. They married in Rugby in 1895 and Robert Evelyn Sandford Poole was born in Buckhurst Hill in July 1896 and baptised on 4 August 1896 in Lilbourne, Northampton. William Hylton Sandford Poole was born in West Ham in the spring of 1898.

In the early 20th century the family moved to Campions, Harlow where two of their sisters were born in 1905 and 1908. Robert was enrolled in Pembroke College, Cambridge but on the outbreak of the war he joined the Public School’s Brigade instead.

Lieutenant Robert Evelyn Sandford Poole served in The 6th Battalion attached to The 13th Battalion of The King’s Royal Rifle Corps. Robert served on the Western Front, fighting in the Battles of the Somme, Arras and Passchendaele. After six months home service he returned to France in October 1918. Robert was killed in action on 4 November 1918 aged 22 and is buried in Beaumain British Cemetery, France. Row B, grave 3. Register Index Number Fr.1480. Probate for the sum of £564 3s 4d was granted to Robert’s father on 7 May 1919. His address was given as Oakwood’s, Hayward’s Heath.

Private William Hylton Sandford Poole, 7207, enlisted in The 13th Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment. William died of illness in the Bath War Hospital on 13 January 1917 aged 18 and is buried in Hayward’s Heath, St. Wilfred’s Churchyard in the north-east division of the churchyard. Register Index Number UK Sussex 181.

On this day

4 November 1918
Battle of the Sambre including the Second Battle of Guise.
Battle of Vittorio Veneto ends.
Hostilities between Austria-Hungary and the Entente cease.
Antivari (Montenegro) occupied by Italian naval forces.
Mosul occupied by British forces.
Cecil Pryor

Cecil’s parents were Thomas Pryor, born in Waltham Abbey in 1859 and baptised on 15 May 1859 and Elizabeth Smee, born in Little Bardfield in 1862. Thomas and Elizabeth married in Maldon in the autumn of 1885. Cecil Pryor was born in c. 1896 in High Laver.

The 1901 census shows Cecil residing on the Harlow Road, High Laver with his widowed father Thomas and siblings Thomas, Arthur and Henry. Thomas was working as a farmer. The 1911 census shows Cecil residing at Holts Farm, Threshers Bush, Harlow with his father, his stepmother Annie and his siblings Victor, Herbert, Clifford, Albert, Eva and Stanley. Cecil was working as a farm labourer at the age of fifteen.

Lance Corporal Cecil Pryor, 32327 enlisted serving with the 97th Training Reserve Battalion (formerly of the Royal West Surrey Regiment).

Cecil Pryor was based at Aldershot and died from unknown causes in Hartley Wintney, Hampshire on 9 September 1916 at the age of 20. He was buried in High Laver All Saints Churchyard, north of the church. Register Index Number UK Essex 236.

Stanley Purkiss

Stanley’s parents were Frederick Purkiss and Ellen French, born in Harlow in c.1860. Stanley Purkiss was born in Harlow on 26 December 1889.

The 1901 census shows Stanley living in Churchgate Street with his mother Ellen and brother James, aged six. The 1911 census recorded Stanley as being a stoker living in The Naval Barracks in Portsmouth. His mother was residing at 1 Hillside Terrace, Churchgate Street.

Stanley married Ruth Seaman on 20 December 1914 at Clapton Park, All Saints in Hackney, East London. The marriage records states that Stanley was a motor driver and his father Frederick was deceased. The couple were residing at 231 Glyn Road, Clapton Park.

Stanley Purkiss, Stoker 1st Class, SS/106553 (RFR/PO/B/5861) joined HMS Tipperary, a Faulkner Class Destroyer. HMS Tipperary was involved in the Battle of Jutland, leading the 4th flotilla on 1 June 1916. The ship was sunk by a German ship SMS Westfalen with the loss of 185 men from its 197 crew. Stanley was among those who died when the ship was sunk. He is commemorated on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial. Panel 19. Register Index Number MR3.

Ruth remarried in 1918 in Hackney to John Trayler.
Henry John Frederick Randall

Henry’s parents were John Henry Randall, born in c.1837 and Elizabeth Cave, born in 1846 in West Haddon, Northamptonshire and baptised on 31 May 1846. Henry John Frederick Randall was born in Lambeth in 1888. He was known as Henry John Randall throughout his life.

The 1901 census shows Henry residing at 31 Grantham Road, Lambeth with his widowed mother Elizabeth and siblings Charles and Harriet as well as a domestic servant Ellen Smith. The 1911 census shows Henry residing at Chalks Farm, Sawbridgeworth where he was working as a farmer at the age of 22. Henry was residing with his 65-year-old mother, boarder Percy and servant Annie.

Lance Corporal Henry John Frederick Randall enlisted as a Yeomanry Volunteer in The 1st/1st Herts Yeomanry on 4 August 1914. Henry later served as a Private, 510010, in The Labour Corps. Henry fought in both Egypt and Gallipoli but returned to England in 1916. He married Blanche Mabel Bailey and a son was born to them in March 1917. Sadly Blanche died three weeks later and is buried in St. Mary’s, Churchgate Street. Henry was on active service at the time and was later repatriated, sick or wounded. The Labour Corps was set up for men like Henry, who were deemed unfit to fight. He was billeted with a Mrs Broad in Millbank, Headcorn. Henry died of pneumonia on 23 November 1918 aged 30 and is buried in St Mary and St Hugh’s Churchyard, Harlow, in the new ground, in the far left-hand corner. Register Index Number UK Essex 167.

John Reed

John’s parents were William Reed, born in Harlow in 1852 and Sarah Susannah Pavitt, born in Kennington in 1852. They married in c.1873 and John Reed was born in Harlow in 1894.

The 1901 census recorded John living in Back Street, next to The Crown Inn with his parents and siblings Walter, Agnes, Margaret, Albert and his nephew Percy. William was working as a bricklayer while his sister Agnes was working as a domestic servant. The 1911 census shows John living in Market Street, which had previously been called Back Street. John was working as a bricklayer’s apprentice at the age of sixteen. His father William was working as a bricklayer.

Corporal John Reed, 200385 enlisted in Harlow and served in the 1st/4th Battalion of The Essex Regiment. The battalion fought in Gallipoli in 1915 and in 1916 defended the Suez Canal. John was killed in action on 26 March 1917, aged 22. He is buried in The Gaza War Cemetery, Israel. Plot 18, row C, grave 6. Register Index Number P8.

John and Robert Reed

John and Robert’s mother was Eliza Reed, born in Matching Tye in 1856. Eliza never married but had two sons, Robert, born in Matching Tye c.1891 and John, born in Stanford Rivers in c.1893.

John lived with his mother and brother at Shoe Lane, Foster Street. They became general labourers while their mother worked as a housekeeper.

On this day

23 November 1918
Lemberg captured by Polish forces.
Yugo-Slav National Council vote for union with Serbia and formation of a common State with Serbia and Montenegro.
26 March 1917
First Battle of Gaza begins.
John and Robert Reed continued

The 1901 census shows Robert as a boarder in Foster Street, Harlow in the house of Robert Page, a widower. Robert was residing with his mother, who was listed as housekeeper and brother John.

The 1911 census shows John and Robert and residing in Shoe Lane, Foster Street with their mother. Both John and Robert were working as general labourers.

Private John Reed, 19517, enlisted in Epping serving with The 9th Battalion of The Essex Regiment. The Regiment took part in the Battle of Arras and John was killed in action on 13 September 1917. He is buried in Monchy British Cemetery, Monchy le Preux, Pas de Calais. Plot 1, Row L, Grave 20.

Private Robert Reed, 200117, enlisted in Harlow and joined The 1st/4th Battalion of The Essex Regiment. Robert was killed in action on the first day of the invasion of Palestine at the First Battle of Gaza on 26 March 1917 aged 25. He is commemorated on The Jerusalem Memorial to the Missing, Palestine, Panels 33 to 39. Register Index Number MR34.

At the time of Robert's death his mother was residing at 1 Woodside, Thornwood Common, Epping.

Harry Reynolds

Harry's parents were John Reynolds who was born in Magdalen Laver in about 1835 and Elizabeth Clayden who was born in Great Parndon in about 1834. John and Elizabeth married in Harlow in the summer of 1856. Harry Reynolds was born in Great Parndon in 1879. Sadly, Harry's mother died later that year.

The 1881 census shows Harry residing in Harlow Common, Harlow with his father John and siblings William, Rachel and Sarah. John was working as an agricultural labourer. The 1891 census shows Harry living with his father in Harlow Common. John was working as a general labourer. Harry married Rose Broad in Harlow in the spring of 1903.

The 1911 census shows Harry and Rose living in Foster Street where Harry was working as a general labourer. They had 4 children, Edith, Beatrice, Henry and Ivy.

Private Harry Reynolds, 33383, enlisted in Epping and joined The 1st Battalion of The Bedfordshire Regiment. He previously served as a Private, 31124, in The Essex Regiment. Harry fought in The Battle of the Somme and took part in The Battle of Arras, attacking La Coulotte on 23 April 1917. Harry was killed in action on that day, although official records recorded his death taking place on 27 April 1917. Harry was 39 years old. He is commemorated on The Arras Memorial to the Missing, France. Bay 5. Register Index Number MR20.

Harry's widow Rose remarried in 1919 to William Hoy and died in Harlow in 1956 at the age of 74.

On this day
13 September 1917
General Kornilov's revolt collapses.

26 March 1917
First Battle of Gaza begins.

27 April 1917
Guatemala severs diplomatic relations with Germany.
Percy and William Samuel

Percy and William's parents were Christopher Samuel, born in Harlow in 1864\(^1\) and Emily Ann Stracey, born in Sawbridgeworth in 1870\(^2\). They married in Harlow in the summer of 1889\(^3\) and Percy Samuel was born in Harlow in the spring of 1891\(^4\). William Samuel was born in Harlow in the summer of 1897\(^5\).

The 1901 census shows Percy and William residing in Garden Terrace, Harlow with their parents and siblings Beatrice, Ethel and Walter. Christopher was working as an agricultural labourer. The 1911 census shows Percy living in Old Road, Harlow with his wife Emma and their one year old daughter Lillian. Percy was working as a butcher’s roundsman looking after ponies. Percy and Emma were to have two further children, Percy, born in 1913 and Albert, born in 1915. During this period the family moved to Enfield. Percy married Emma Day in Harlow in the summer of 1910\(^6\).

Private William Samuel, 29314 enlisted in Harlow and joined the 1st Battalion of The Essex Regiment. The regiment fought in Gallipoli and then on the Western Front. William appears to have been held as a Prisoner of War (POW), during The First Battle of the Scarpe and died on 14 April 1917, aged 19. He is commemorated on The Arras Memorial to the Missing, France, Bay 7. Register index number MR20 in the absence of burial information by the Germans.

Private Percy Samuel, G/43528, was most likely to have been conscripted in 1916 into the 1st Battalion of The Middlesex Regiment. He fought in numerous battles during the war. Percy was killed in action on the first day of The Second Battle of The Scarpe, during The Battle of Arras, on 23 April 1917, aged 26. Percy’s death was just nine days after the death of his younger brother. Percy is commemorated on The Arras Memorial to the Missing, France. Bay 7. Register Index Number MR20.

At the time of Percy’s death, his wife Emma was living at 51 Main Avenue, Bush Hill Park, Enfield. Percy and William's family were residing in The High Street, Harlow.

Harry Spencer Seabrook

Harry’s parents were Walter Seabrook, born in Berden in July 1849\(^1\) and baptised on 19 August 1849\(^2\) and Selina Elizabeth Spencer, born in Saffron Walden in 1841\(^3\). They married in Saffron Walden in the summer of 1874\(^4\). Harry Spencer Seabrook was born in Saffron Walden in 1884\(^5\).

The 1891 census shows Harry living at Priory Farm, Berden with his parents and siblings Ida and Mary. Walter was working as a farmer. The 1901 census recorded Harry residing as a pupil at Waltham College in Cheshunt. The 1911 census shows Harry as assistant master/schoolmaster at St Mary's College, Harlow.

2nd Lieutenant Harry Spencer Seabrook enlisted and joined The 16th Battalion of The Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment). Harry was killed in action on 12 July 1916 aged 32 and is commemorated on The Loos Memorial to the Missing, France. Panels 87-89. Register Index Number MR19.

On this day

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14 April 1917</td>
<td>Battle of Vimy Ridge and First Battle of the Scarpe end</td>
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<tr>
<td>23 April 1917</td>
<td>Second Battle of the Scarpe 1917 (Arras).</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 July 1916</td>
<td>Mamakhatun (Armenia) again taken by Russian forces.</td>
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</table>
Henry George Searle

Henry’s parents were Charles Searle, born in Harlow in c.1845 and Harriet who was born in Hallingbury in c.1844. Henry George Searle was born in Harlow in the summer of 1879¹.

The 1881 census shows Henry living in Fore Street, Harlow with his parents and siblings Elizabeth, Charles, Albert and John. Charles was working as a journeyman hot water fitter. The 1891 census shows Henry residing in Reed Malting Cottages in Harlow with his parents and siblings which by now included George, Emily and Edith. Charles was still employed as a hot water fitter. The 1901 census shows Henry as a boarder at 6 Chelverton Road, Putney aged twenty-one where he was working as an omnibus conductor. By the time of the 1911 census Henry had returned to Harlow, residing as a lodger at Mrs Lawson’s in Market Street, Harlow where he was now working as a general labourer. The 1911 census shows that Henry’s wife Elizabeth and children were residing in the Epping Union Workhouse at the age of thirty-two. Henry had married Elizabeth Masson in Harlow in 1903².

Private Henry George Searle, 16853, enlisted in Saffron Walden and joined the 1st Battalion of The Essex Regiment. Henry landed in Gallipoli to join his battalion on 31 July 1915 and was killed in action on 6 August 1915 at Krithia Vineyard, Gallipoli, aged 37, having only been at the front for one week. He is commemorated on The Helles Memorial to the Missing (Fell on Land), Gallipoli. Panels 144-150. Register Index Number MR4.

Charles George Selmes

Charles’ parents were George Robert Selmes, born in Harlow in 1852¹ and Maria Holmes, born in Harlow in 1853². They married in Harlow in the spring of 1882³ and Charles George Selmes was born in Harlow in the spring of 1885⁴.

The 1901 census shows Charles living in the High Street, where he had a home combined with a butchers shop. This had been a family business since at least 1840 and continued in business until at least the 1960s. The premises are now occupied by a café. George was a widower, his wife having passed away in c.1888. They had five children including Charles. There is no trace of Charles on the 1911 census. His sister Mildred however can be found in Margate living at 74 High Street where she was working as an assistant draper.

Lance Corporal Charles George Selmes R/37892 enlisted in Harlow in The 13th Battalion of The King’s Royal Rifle Corps. (formerly 34812 Suffolk Regiment). Charles was killed in action on the first day of The Second Battle of The Scarpe, during The Battle of Arras, on 23 April 1917, aged 31. He is commemorated on The Arras Memorial to the Missing, France. Bay 7. Register Index Number MR20.

Probate was granted to Emily Sarah Selmes, a spinster on 4 March 1918 to the effect of £168⁵.

On this day

6 August 1915
Operations of the landing at Suvla (Dardanelles) begin. Battle of Sari Bair (Dardanelles) begins. Dr. Machado Guimarães elected Portuguese President. Bulgarian Government negotiate fresh loan for 400,000,000 francs with Austro-German banks. Agreement concluded between Japan and China substituting Japanese authority for German in Tsingtau customs.

23 April 1917
Second Battle of the Scarpe 1917 (Arras).
Alfred Edgar Seymour

Alfred’s parents were Frederick Seymour, born in Harlow in 1848¹ and Mary Ann Cordell, born in Hereford in c.1850. They married in Ongar in the autumn of 1872². Alfred Edgar Seymour was born in Southwark, London in October 1884³ and baptised in the parish of St Peter, Southwark on 12 October 1884⁴.

The 1891 census shows Alfred residing at 6 Peabody Buildings in Southwark, London aged six. He was residing with his parents and brother Fred. Alfred’s father Frederick was working as a police sergeant while his brother, also called Fred was working as an iron founder’s labourer. The 1901 census shows Alfred residing at Avenue House, Latton, Harlow at the age of sixteen where he was working as an office boy. Alfred was living with his parents with Frederick now a retired policeman. The 1911 census shows Alfred still residing at Avenue House, in Potter Street, Harlow aged twenty-six where he was working as a rural postman. He was residing with his parents Frederick. Alfred married Ethel M Parish in June 1916 in Harlow⁵.

Private Alfred Edgar Seymour, 60322, enlisted in Harlow serving with the 11th Battalion of The Royal Fusilier’s (formerly 4578 of The 1st/7th Battalion of The Essex Regiment). On 17 February 1917 the battalion were in the front line near Berneuil in the Somme and attacked in the early hours of the morning. The attack went badly wrong, resulting in three officers and 42 other ranks being killed, including Alfred, aged 33. He is buried in The Regina Trench Cemetery, Grandcourt, France. Plot 7, row E, grave 15. Register Index Number Fr.314.

Alfred’s widow Ethel was residing with her father and mother in law at Calypso Terrace, Bury Road, Harlow at the time of his death.

James Frederick Seymour

James’ parents were William Seymour, born in Harlow in 1858¹ and Alice Jane Beaumont, born in Cosford, Suffolk in 1854². They married in Harlow in 1878 ³ and James Frederick Seymour was born in Harlow in the spring of 1892⁴.

The 1901 census shows James, known as Frederick living in Harlow Tye with his parents William and Alice. William was working as a game keeper. The 1911 census shows James boarding at The Maypole, Harlow Road aged 20. He was working as a game keeper. James’ parents were residing in Reformatory Cottages, Harlow Tye where William was working as a game keeper.

Private James Frederick Seymour, SD/5608, enlisted in Bury St. Edmunds and served with the 2nd Battalion of The Royal Sussex Regiment before transferring to the 9th Battalion. James was killed in action on 22 June 1917 aged 25. He is commemorated on The Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial to the Missing, Belgium, Panel 20. Register index Number MR29.
Charles Henry Skingle

Charles’ parents were Charles Daniel Skingle, born in Hatfield Broad Oak in 1859 and Susannah Reynolds, born in Sawbridgeworth in 1862. They married on 5 April 1881 in Sawbridgeworth and Charles Henry Skingle was born in Harlow in the summer of 1885.

The 1891 census recorded Charles residing in Bury Road, Harlow with his parents and siblings Martha, William, Florence and Thomas. Charles Snr. was working as a Postman. Charles married Winifred Kezia Hopkins in Kuala Lumpur in the Federal Malay States on 29 April 1911. The couple had three children: Florence, Harry and Joseph and lived at Longburton, Sherbourne, Dorset. Charles’ father died in December 1914 aged 55, following an accident at Harlow (now Mill) Station whilst carrying mail sacks across the track.

Private Charles Henry Skingle, 68904, enlisted in Aldershot in The Royal Army Medical Corps. In December 1915, Charles was posted to Alexandria and spent two years serving in different locations. By the start of 1918 he was posted to Gaza where he worked in the 66th casualty clearing station. Charles developed Typhus Fever and was admitted to hospital on 22 January 1918 where he died on 30 January 1918, aged 33. Charles is buried in the Gaza War Cemetery, Israel. Plot 13, row F, grave 14. Register Index Number P8.

Herbert Smith

Herbert’s mother was Louisa Broad, born in 1877. Louisa lived with her parents in Mill Street, Hastingwood. Herbert was born in 1896, when Louisa was aged 18 and unmarried. Louisa married Frederick Smith in Harlow in 1899. Frederick brought Herbert up as his own son, changing his surname to Smith.

The 1901 census shows Herbert residing in Foster Street with his parents Fred and Louisa and sibling Fred. Herbert’s father Fred was working as a general labourer. The 1911 census recorded Herbert living in Foster Street, Harlow with his parents Frederick and Louisa and siblings Frederick and Millie. They had four rooms. Both Herbert and his father were working as labourers.

Private Herbert Smith enlisted in Stratford in September 1914 and joined The 1st Battalion of The Essex Regiment. Later he joined the 9th Battalion. The battalion fought at Gallipoli and was subsequently transferred to the Western Front. Herbert married Susannah Jane Reed on 16 June 1917 in Saffron Walden, whilst on leave, possibly wounded. They set up home in Castle Street in Saffron Walden. A daughter, May was born to them in 1918 after Herbert’s death, but she died in 1920.

The Regiment took part in The Battle of Albert, part of The second Battle of The Somme on 22 August 1918. Herbert was wounded, apparently for the sixth time and was taken to a casualty clearing station at Daours. He died of his wounds there on 26 August 1918, aged 22. He is buried in Daours Communal Cemetery Extension, France. Plot 8, row A, grave 28. Register Index Number Fr.119.

On this day

30 January 1918
Negotiations between Russian Bolshevik Government and Central Powers again resumed.

26 August 1918
Second Battles of Arras 1918 begin with Battle of the Scarpe 1918.
Berat (Albania) retaken by Austrian forces.
Defence of Baku (Caspian Sea) against Turkish attack begins.
James John Smith

James’ parents were Henry Smith, born in Harlow in c.1859 and Elizabeth, born in Harlow in c.1862. They married in c.1884 and James John Smith was born in Harlow in 1891.

From at least 1881 to at least 1911 the family lived at New Way Lane, Threshers Bush, Harlow. Henry worked as an agricultural labourer and the couple eventually had 7 children, one of whom had passed away by 1911. Henry passed away at some time between the censuses of 1901 and 1911. John’s siblings included William, John, Richard, Margaret and Dorothy. James and his brothers worked as farm labourers.

James John Smith left home and enlisted in the army. At the time of the 1911 census he was living at Meeanee Barracks in Mersea Road, Colchester as a Private in The Scottish Rifles. Later records gives his service number as 10537 and show that he was promoted to Acting Corporal. He went on to serve in the 29th Company of The Machine Gun Corps (Infantry) who fought on the Somme in The Battle of Delville Wood. James was reported missing, presumed killed in action on 19 July 1917, aged 27 and is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing, France. Pier 5, face C. Register Index Number MR21.

Alexander Glen Swire

Alexander’s parents were John Swire, born in Liverpool in c.1862 and Emily Hamilton Campbell Kidston, born in Dunbarton, Scotland in 1867. They married on 3 April 1889 in Kensington and Alexander Glen Swire was born in Kensington in 1896 and baptised on 18 January 1897.

The 1901 census shows Alexander living at 47 Queens Gate Place Mews, Kensington with his parents John and Emily and siblings Helen, John and Agnes. John Swire was a wealthy ship owner employing nine servants in the household. By 1906 Alexander’s parents were also living at Hillingdon, a country house they had built in Hobbs Cross Road, Harlow. Alexander went to Eton and when he left he had a place at University College, Oxford, however, by this time the war had broken out.

2nd Lieutenant Alexander Glen Swire enlisted in late 1914 and joined the 1st Battalion of The Essex Yeomanry. Alexander was killed in action on 13 May 1915 during the action at Frezenburg Ridge (Potijze) when The 1st Battalion of the Essex Yeomanry, as part of the 8th Cavalry Brigade, charged on foot. He is commemorated on the Ipres (Menin Gate) Memorial to the Missing, Belgium. Panel 5. Register Index Number MR29.

Probate was given to John Swire of Hillingdon, Harlow on 8 July 1915. Whether this was father John or brother John has not been established. The sum involved was £320 18s 3d.

On this day

19 July 1917
Action of Narungombe (East Africa).
Sir Edward Carson, First Lord of the Admiralty, Great Britain, tenders his resignation.
The Reichstag passes Resolution as to German War Aims.
M. Kerenski succeeds Prince Lvov as Premier of Russia temporarily.

13 May 1915
Battle of Frezenberg Ridge (Ypres) ends.
Windhuk (German South-West Africa) occupied by South African Northern Force.
H.M.S. “Goliath” sunk by Turkish destroyer in the Dardanelles.
Signor Salandra, Italian Premier, tenders his resignation.
Baron Sonnino, Italian Foreign Minister, tenders his resignation.
James Harry and Frederick Reginald Wakeling

Frederick’s parents were James Frederick Wakeling, born in Little Laver in c.1867 and Flora Annie Knight, born in Little Laver in 1866. They married on 20 September 1887 in Bethnal Green, east London. James Harry Wakeling was born in High Laver in the summer of 1890. Frederick Reginald Wakeling was born in Walthamstow in 1894.

The 1891 census shows James residing at 48 Gallow Road, Walthamstow aged ten months with his parents and sister Lilla. James Snr. was working as a cowman. The 1901 census shows James, now known as Harry and Frederick, known as Reginald living in Bury Cottages in Old Road, Harlow with their parents and sister Lilla. James Snr. was working as a farm bailiff. By the time of the 1911 census the family were living at Rowney Farm in Sawbridgeworth where James and Frederick were working as stockmen on a farm. James Snr. was working as a farm bailiff.

Lance Corporal Frederick Reginald Wakeling, 1099 enlisted in Harlow and served in The 1st/4th Battalions of The Essex Regiment. The regiment landed at Suvla, Gallipoli on 12 August 1915. Frederick died of his wounds at sea on 22 August 1915, aged 21. He is commemorated on The Helles Memorial to the Missing (buried at sea) Panels 229-233. Register Index Number MR4.

Gunner James Harry Wakeling, 70898 enlisted in Hertford and served in The 1090th Battery of the Royal Field Artillery. James was captured at Jut El Mara in 1916 and died in a Prisoner of War (POW) camp at Aleppo, Turkey on 6 May 1918, aged 28. He is commemorated on The Basra Memorial to the Missing, Iraq. Panels 34-60. Register Index Number MR38.

Johnny and Ernest Wakeling

Johnny and Ernest’s parents were Frederick Wakeling, born in High Laver in 1847 and Eliza Cordell born in Harlow in c.1857. They married in Harlow in 1876. Johnny was born in High Laver in 1896 and Ernest was born in High Laver in 1898.

The 1901 census shows Johnny and Ernest residing on the Magdalen Laver Road in High Laver with their parents and siblings William, Emily and Alfred. Frederick was working as an agricultural labourer. The 1911 census shows Johnny residing in Harlow Tye with his parents, William and Alfred. Ernest was visiting Albert and Louisa France in south Tottenham. Frederick was working as a farm labourer and Johnny was working as a builder’s labourer.

Private Johnny Wakeling, 6294, enlisted in Harlow in the 2nd/4th Battalions of The Gloucestershire Regiment. He was formerly Private, 1494 of The Essex Regiment. At the start of August 1916 the battalion was in trenches at Fauquissart, near Laventie. Johnny was killed in action on 9 August 1916, aged 20 and was buried in the Laventie Military Cemetery, La Gorgue, France. Plot 2, row D, grave 15. Register Index Number Fr.1887.

Private Ernest Wakeling, 32424, enlisted in Epping in the 1st Battalion of The Essex Regiment. The regiment fought in Gallipoli and then on the Western Front. After six weeks training the battalion support the tank attack at The Battle of Cambrai on 20 November 1917. Ernest was killed in action on 21 November 1917 at the age of nineteen and was buried in Flesquieres Hill British Cemetery, France. Plot 7, row A, grave 4. Register Index Number Fr.1483.
Samson Samuel Ward

Samson's parents were Samson Ward, born in High Wych in 1857 and Emily Butcher, born in Coggeshall in 1863. They married in High Wych in 1881 and Samson Samuel Ward was born in Harlow in the autumn of 1886.

The 1891 census shows Samson aged four living in Old Road, Harlow with his parents and siblings Emily and Frederick. Samson Snr. was working as an agricultural labourer. The 1901 census shows Samson still residing in Old Road, Harlow with his parents and siblings whom by now included Thomas and Dorothy. Samson Snr. was working as an under stockman on a dairy farm. By the time of the 1911 census Samson Jnr. was still residing with his parents in Old Road, where he was working as a baker. His father was working as a stockman on a farm. Samson Snr. and Emily had also had a further child Violet in about 1905.

Private Samson Samuel Ward, S4/146984, enlisted as a baker on 3 November 1915 in The Royal Army Service Corps. After initial training he became a 3rd hand baker and arrived in Alexandria on 21 January 1916. He was hospitalised on three occasions due to ill health and following the fourth occasion, this time in Beirut, he died, following a severe attack of Malaria, on 7 November 1918, aged 35. The chaplain who conducted the funeral wrote at the time that Samson had 'been a brave patient all through'. He is buried in The British War Cemetery, Lebanon. Grave 90. Register Index Number Syria 1.

Leonard Joseph Weald

Leonard's parents were Joseph Weald, born in Harlow in c.1845 and Eliza Ann Perry, born in Bishop's Stortford in c.1850. They married in Lambeth in 1878 and Leonard Joseph Weald was born in Harlow in 1884.

The 1891 census recorded Leonard residing in Dock Yard, Harlow with his parents and siblings Catherine and Alfred. Joseph was working as a plumber. The 1901 census shows Leonard as a visitor to the home of Robert William Steward, a butcher and his family at 197 Wivenhoe Road, Croydon. Leonard was working as a butcher's assistant. Leonard's parents were residing in Bury Road, Harlow where Joseph was working as a plumber. The 1911 census shows Leonard boarding at 301 Whitehorse Road, Croydon aged twenty-six where he was working as a butcher. Leonard's parents Joseph and Eliza were still residing in Bury Road, Harlow where Joseph was now working as a house painter.

Leonard married Eliza Jane Pooley in Edmonton in 1915 and lived at 14 Gisland Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey. Eliza died in 1979 aged 95.

Private Leonard Joseph Weald, 201094, enlisted on 17 August 1916 in Kingston Upon Thames and served in the 1st/5th Battalions of The Durham Light Infantry. Following heavy fighting the battalion returned to the trenches on 17 June 1917. In the early hours of the 26 June 1917 they went over the top and took a section of the German front line. Leonard was one of the men from the battalion who was killed on that night, aged 32. He is commemorated on The Arras Memorial to the Missing, France. Bay 8. Register Index Number MR20.
**Bernard Dickinson Wheeler**

Bernard's parents were Alfred Wheeler, born in Harlow in 1855 and Emma Lewsey, born in Harlow in 1854. They married in Harlow in June 1877 and Bernard Dickinson Wheeler was born in Harlow in 1892.

The 1901 census shows Bernard residing in London Road, Harlow aged nine. He was residing with his father Alfred, a groom and siblings Lizzie, Agnes, Percy and Harold. Bernard's mother Emma was away visiting in Acton. The 1911 census shows Bernard living at 5 Oddfellows Terrace, Park Hill, which had been built along with Mulberry Terrace in 1910 by the Oddfellows who were a Friendly Society of which Bernard was a member.

**Lance Sergeant Bernard Dickinson Wheeler**, 1065 enlisted in Harlow and served in The 1st/4th Battalions of The Essex Regiment. The regiment landed at Suvla, Gallipoli on 12 August 1915. Bernard was killed in action on 23 August 1915, aged 22. He is commemorated on The Helles Memorial to the Missing (Fell on Land), Gallipoli, Panels 144-150. Register Index Number MR4.

**James Winch**

James’ parents were Frederick Winch and Elizabeth Tucker. They married in Harlow in 1888 and James Winch was born in Harlow in 1889. Frederick and Elizabeth’s marriage failed and James was brought up by his grandparents, James and Elizabeth Tucker.

At the time of the 1901 census James and his grandparents were living at Cannons Cottages, Chalks Lane, Harlow, between Moor Hall and Feltimores. James’ grandfather was working as a general farm labourer.

**Gunner James Winch**, 53027, enlisted in Bishop’s Stortford in C. 1910 and was serving in India at the time of the 1911 census. His Company sailed from India to Mesopotomia, landing on 16 November 1914 to protect British oil supplies. He fought in and around Basra and was captured by the Ottoman-Turks and held at Tarsus as a prisoner of war. James died unknown causes at some time in 1916. The death was registered on 31 December 1916. James was buried at Tarsus Cemetery, but after the war his body was exhumed and re-buried in the Baghdad (North Gate) War Cemetery, Iraq. Plot 21, row P, grave 30. Register Index Number. Iraq8.
James George Winter

James’ parents were John Winter, born in Barkingside in 1867 and Ada, born in Hatfield Heath in about 1866. They married in the borough of West Ham in 1889 and James George Winter was born in Stratford in 1896. He was known as James throughout his life.

The 1901 census shows James residing at 36 Llewellyn Road in the London Borough of West Ham. He was living with his parents and siblings Ada and Margery. John was working as a Carman for the county borough. The 1911 census shows James residing at 8 Gough Road, Stratford with his parents. John was working as a dust collector for the borough council while James aged fourteen was working as a van boy.

By the time that James enlisted, the family had moved to Harlow, where at some stage, they ran The White Horse Inn in Old Road. It is recorded that they lived at Maytree Cottage, Station Road and remaining living in Harlow, later living in St. John’s Avenue.

Private James Winter, 34136, enlisted in Harlow and served in The 9th Battalion, A Company of The Essex Regiment. He was formerly of The Essex Yeomanry. The battalion took part in The Battle of Arleux, which formed part of The Battle of Arras, on 28 April 1917. James was killed in action on 30 April 1917, aged 21. He is commemorated on The Arras Memorial to the Missing, France, bay 7. Register index number MR20.

James’ parents were living at Maytree Cottage, Station Road, Harlow at the time of his death.

John Wood

John’s parents were Charles and Emma Wood who lived in Threshers Bush. They eventually had nine children, John was the fifth. He was baptised on 26 June 1870 at St Mary’s Church Old Harlow by the Reverend Charles Miller.

At the time of the 1871 census Charles and Emma had five children and were living at Hobbs Cross. Charles was an agricultural labourer a job he was to carry out for the rest of his working life. By 1881, the family had moved to Back Street (now Market Street) where they remained for over 10 years. By the time of the 1901 census the family had moved to Malting Cottages, Park Hill. Charles was 65 and unwell as he was receiving parish relief. John was working as a malt maker. Charles died in 1904, Emma remained living at Malting Cottages.

Private John Wood, 19863, enlisted in Epping and joined The 2nd Battalion of The Essex Regiment. The Battalion fought in the Battle of Transloy Ridges, the last of the Battles of The Somme. The final British attack before the winter was on the German Boritska Trench on 23 October 1916. The Regimental diary records that ‘the regiment was due to attack the German lines at 11.30am on 23 October during The Battle of The Somme but is was delayed until 2.30pm due to mist. They were met by heavy machine gun fire and the first four waves of men were stopped by the German front line, with only about 30 men reaching the line.

John was amongst those killed in action on 23 October 1916 aged 46. He is commemorated on The Thiepval Memorial to the Missing, France. Pier 18, face D. Register index number MR21.

Emma died shortly after her son, aged 80.

On this day
30 April 1917
Mush (Armenia) occupied by Turkish forces.
Addional names for inclusion on the Memorial

Two further names have been identified for inclusion on the Old Harlow War Memorial.

John Bernard Dent

John's parents were William Dent, born in Boston in c.1852 and Cecile Mary Monica George who was born in Huntingdon in c.1858. They married in Holborn in c.1877.

William Dent was a solicitor, his office was in Bury Road and at the time of the 1881 and 1891 census the family were living at Meadham, Churchgate Street. The sharp corner where the house is situated became known as ‘Dents Corner’. William and Cecile had 5 children, John was their third, born in 1881. He attended Grove House School near Guildford where he won a scholarship to Clifton College, Bristol. Things did not go well and he was withdrawn in 1898. Earlier that year William was declared bankrupt and there is no further record of him. By the time of the 1901 census the rest of the family had moved to 42 Woodstock Road, Chiswick. John was working as a clerk in the coal trade. They remained at that address, which had nine rooms until at least 1911. John was by now working as a ship brokers’ clerk. John's mother died in c.1913 aged about 55 and John married Betty Mary Copping in the spring of 1915.

Private John Bernard Dent, S/3968, enlisted in London and joined The 13th Battalion of The Rifle Brigade. He was promoted to Lance Corporal then Acting Corporal. John's battalion trained at Salisbury Plain, then landed at Le Havre, France on 30 July 1915. In September 1915 they moved into trenches at Hannescamps near Arras. The Battalion war diary records: 8 September 1915 Battalion in trenches all day. One man shot through the head, Acting Corporal Dent, C Company. John was taken to the 49th Field Ambulance. 9 September 1915 Battalion in trenches all day. Acting Corporal Dent died of wounds. John is buried in Humbercamps Communal Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France. Grave 2. Register index number Fr.746.

A grant of Probate was given to John's sister Dorothy, a spinster, to the sum of £1,717 16s 11d. Betty remarried in 1920. John's brother Richard who had lived in South Africa for many years was also killed in the war, in 1916 at Dar es Salaam.

Arthur James Petty

Arthur's parents were Benjamin Petty and Isabella White, both born in Bishop's Stortford in c. 1855. Benjamin and Isabella had 12 children, including Arthur, who was born in 1893.

The 1901 census shows the family living at 5 Hockerill Terrace, Bishop's Stortford. Benjamin was working as a carpenter. The 1911 census shows the family living at 29 London Road, Bishop's Stortford where Benjamin was still employed as a carpenter. Arthur, aged 17, was working as a porter. A short time after the census was taken, the family moved to Bury Road, Harlow.

Private Arthur Petty, 2755, enlisted in Hertford on 4 September 1914 and served with the 2nd Battalion of The Hertfordshire Regiment. The battalion was sent to the Western Front on 6 November 1914. Arthur was wounded in January in 1915 but recovered. He was wounded again, whilst in action at Windy Corner trenches at Givenchy on 20 April 1915 and died in hospital at Bethune later that day, aged 21. Arthur is buried in Bethune Town Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France. Plot 4, row B, grave 50. Register Index Number Fr.80.

On this day

9 September 1915
Battle of Dvinsk begins.
Battle of Vilna begins.

U.S. Government request recall of Austro-Hungarian Ambassador, Dr. Dumba (appointed to United States, March 1913)

20 April 1915
Armenian revolt at Van: Armenian defence of Van begins.

Additional names for inclusion on the Memorial

Two further names have been identified for inclusion on the Old Harlow War Memorial.

John Bernard Dent

John's parents were William Dent, born in Boston in c.1852 and Cecile Mary Monica George who was born in Huntingdon in c.1858. They married in Holborn in c.1877.

William Dent was a solicitor, his office was in Bury Road and at the time of the 1881 and 1891 census the family were living at Meadham, Churchgate Street. The sharp corner where the house is situated became known as ‘Dents Corner’. William and Cecile had 5 children, John was their third, born in 1881. He attended Grove House School near Guildford where he won a scholarship to Clifton College, Bristol. Things did not go well and he was withdrawn in 1898. Earlier that year William was declared bankrupt and there is no further record of him. By the time of the 1901 census the rest of the family had moved to 42 Woodstock Road, Chiswick. John was working as a clerk in the coal trade. They remained at that address, which had nine rooms until at least 1911. John was by now working as a ship brokers’ clerk. John's mother died in c.1913 aged about 55 and John married Betty Mary Copping in the spring of 1915.

Private John Bernard Dent, S/3968, enlisted in London and joined The 13th Battalion of The Rifle Brigade. He was promoted to Lance Corporal then Acting Corporal. John's battalion trained at Salisbury Plain, then landed at Le Havre, France on 30 July 1915. In September 1915 they moved into trenches at Hannescamps near Arras. The Battalion war diary records: 8 September 1915 Battalion in trenches all day. One man shot through the head, Acting Corporal Dent, C Company. John was taken to the 49th Field Ambulance. 9 September 1915 Battalion in trenches all day. Acting Corporal Dent died of wounds. John is buried in Humbercamps Communal Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France. Grave 2. Register index number Fr.746.

A grant of Probate was given to John's sister Dorothy, a spinster, to the sum of £1,717 16s 11d. Betty remarried in 1920. John's brother Richard who had lived in South Africa for many years was also killed in the war, in 1916 at Dar es Salaam.

Arthur James Petty

Arthur's parents were Benjamin Petty and Isabella White, both born in Bishop's Stortford in c. 1855. Benjamin and Isabella had 12 children, including Arthur, who was born in 1893.

The 1901 census shows the family living at 5 Hockerill Terrace, Bishop's Stortford. Benjamin was working as a carpenter. The 1911 census shows the family living at 29 London Road, Bishop's Stortford where Benjamin was still employed as a carpenter. Arthur, aged 17, was working as a porter. A short time after the census was taken, the family moved to Bury Road, Harlow.

Private Arthur Petty, 2755, enlisted in Hertford on 4 September 1914 and served with the 2nd Battalion of The Hertfordshire Regiment. The battalion was sent to the Western Front on 6 November 1914. Arthur was wounded in January in 1915 but recovered. He was wounded again, whilst in action at Windy Corner trenches at Givenchy on 20 April 1915 and died in hospital at Bethune later that day, aged 21. Arthur is buried in Bethune Town Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France. Plot 4, row B, grave 50. Register Index Number Fr.80.

On this day

9 September 1915
Battle of Dvinsk begins.
Battle of Vilna begins.

U.S. Government request recall of Austro-Hungarian Ambassador, Dr. Dumba (appointed to United States, March 1913)

20 April 1915
Armenian revolt at Van: Armenian defence of Van begins.
Memorials and Plaques

Memorial Tablet
Methodist Church, Old Harlow

Memorial Tablet
St. John's Art and Recreation Centre

Private Memorial Tablet - A. Swire
Harlow (St. Mary) Church

Memorial Panels - Baptist Chapel, Old Harlow.

Memorial Plaques -
War Memorial Institute Hall.

Memorial Tablet
Godfrey Vignoles Thomas,
Harlow (St. Mary) Church.

Memorial Panel Harlow (St. Mary) Church.
Private Graves and Grave Memorials

Private Grave
2nd Lieut. G. C. Hoare, Harlow (St. Mary) Church.

Private Grave and Commemoration
Originally the grave of his wife, Pte. Harry Randall was buried here in November 1918. The Cross has also been used for a private commemoration of Mrs. Randall’s brother, Sgt. James A Bailey.

Private Grave
Brig-General Sir Godfrey Vignoles Thomas, Harlow (St. Mary) Church.
First World War timeline for Harlow’s fallen: 1914-1915

| 4 August 1914 | War Declared |
| 23 August 1914 | First British troops in action |
| 15 October 1914 | Private Reginald John Bradley |
| 30 October 1914 | Private William (Henry) Wheatley |
| 25 January 1915 | Private Richard Palmer |
| 26 January 1915 | Private Albert Edgar Seymour |
| 4 March 1915 | Lance Corporal Arthur Robert Poney |
| 20 March 1915 | Private Arthur James Petty |
| 22 April 1915 | First use of gas in warfare |
| 3 May 1915 | Private William Douglas Alsopp |
| 13 May 1915 | 2nd Lieutenant Alexander Glen Swire |
| 20 May 1915 | Private Cecil Walter Beeney |
| 17 June 1915 | Private Frederick Cook |
| 6 August 1915 | Private Victor George Parish |
| 6 August 1915 | Private Henry George Searle |
| 19 August 1915 | Acting Sergeant Sidney William Cowlin |
| 20 August 1915 | Private Ernest Edward Cordell |
| 20 August 1915 | Private Arthur Henry Brown |
| 22 August 1915 | Lance Corporal Frederick Reginald Wakeling |
| 23 August 1915 | Lance Sergeant Bernard Dickinson Wheeler |
| 31 August 1915 | Private William Charles Page |
| 2 September 1915 | Private William Thomas Riley |
| 7 September 1915 | Private William Thomas Blatch |
| 8 September 1915 | First effective Zeppelin air raid on London |
| 9 September 1915 | Corporal John Bernard Dent |
| 21 September 1915 | Private Frederick Linsell |
| 26 September 1915 | Private George Bayford |
| 20 October 1915 | Private John Wood |
# First World War timeline for Harlow’s fallen: 1916

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Fallen</th>
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<td>4 January 1916</td>
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<td>Private Francis Aley</td>
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<td>30 April 1916</td>
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<td>13 May 1916</td>
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<td>31 May 1916</td>
<td><strong>Battle of Jutland</strong></td>
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<td>31 May 1916</td>
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<td>Boy First Class Leonard Henry Fitzjohn *</td>
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<td>Stoker First Class Stanley Purkiss</td>
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<td>Rifleman William Charles Cakebread</td>
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<td>1 July 1916</td>
<td><strong>Somme offensive starts +</strong></td>
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<td>1 July 1916</td>
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<td>Lance Corporal Alfred Winch +</td>
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<td>1 July 1916</td>
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<td>Private William Andrews +</td>
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<td>3 July 1916</td>
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<td>Private Walter Wheeler</td>
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<td>Private John Wakeling</td>
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<td>31 August 1916</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 September 1916</td>
<td><strong>First use of tanks in war -</strong></td>
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<td>25 September 1916</td>
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<td>Private Thomas Baldock</td>
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<td>Private Albert Edward Wilson</td>
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First World War timeline for Harlow’s fallen: 1917

**Fallen**

- 13 January 1917 Private William Hylton Sandford Poole
- 6 February 1917 Corporal Francis Arthur Riley
- 17 February 1917 Sergeant James Alfred Bailey
- 17 February 1917 Private Alfred Edgar Seymour
- 25 February 1917 Private Albert William Beadle
- 26 March 1917 Private Herbert Clements
- 26 March 1917 Private Herbert Cordell
- 26 March 1917 Private Thomas Deards
- 26 March 1917 Corporal John Reed
- 26 March 1917 Private Robert Reed
- 2 April 1917 Private Charles Frank Lindsell
- 2 April 1917 Private Thomas William Kerry
- 4 April 1917 Private John Robinson
- 6 April 1917 USA enters the War
- 9 April 1917 Private William Sortwell
- 14 April 1917 Private John William Lincoln
- 14 April 1917 Private William Samuel
- 17 April 1917 Private Arthur William Bines
- 23 April 1917 Private Percy Samuel
- 23 April 1917 Lance Corporal Charles George Selmes
- 25 April 1917 Private George Aldridge
- 27 April 1917 Private Harry Reynolds
- 28 April 1917 Private James Bayford
- 30 April 1917 Private James George Winter
- 1 May 1917 Lance Corporal Alfred Ernest Hutton
- 3 May 1917 Private William Frederick Hoad
- 22 June 1917 Private James Frederick Seymour
- 26 June 1917 Private Leonard Joseph Weald
- 8 July 1917 Private Arthur Cottee
- 10 July 1917 Private James Henry Seymour
- 12 August 1917 Private Lee Lewis
- 16 August 1917 Private Harry Clarke
- 3 September 1917 Private George Henry Debnam
- 6 September 1917 Private Charles Arthur Hall
- 10 September 1917 Driver Albert Edward Lincoln
- 13 September 1917 Private John Reed
- 25 September 1917 Private Victor Albert Burton
- 26 September 1917 Gunner Montague Jones Winch
- 9 October 1917 Private Joseph Culver
- 16 October 1917 Lieutenant Crawford Cunningham Gadsden
- 17 October 1917 Stoker First Class Frederick Pavitt
- 21 November 1917 Private Ernest Wakeling
- 29 November 1917 Private Frederick Francis
- 13 December 1917 Private Edward Deards
First World War timeline for Harlow’s fallen: 1918 onwards

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<td>30 January 1918</td>
<td>Private Charles Henry Skingle</td>
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<td>Private George Brown</td>
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<td>Corporal Stanley Montague Phillibrown</td>
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<td>31 March 1918</td>
<td>Sergeant Albert George Cordell</td>
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<td>12 April 1918</td>
<td>Private George Little</td>
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<td>13 April 1918</td>
<td>Pioneer Ernest William Woollard</td>
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<td>16 April 1918</td>
<td>Private Vivian George Edward Ballard</td>
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<td>Lance Corporal George Myson</td>
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<td>Telegraphist Henry George Banham</td>
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<td>6 May 1918</td>
<td>Gunner James Henry Wakeling</td>
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<td>2 June 1918</td>
<td>Private Albert John Monk</td>
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<td>26 June 1918</td>
<td>Gunner Reginald John Cowlin</td>
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<td>2nd Lieutenant Gerard Croft Hoare</td>
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<td>Major John Givens Kirkaldy</td>
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<td>21 August 1918</td>
<td>Private Thomas William Riley</td>
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<td>21 August 1918</td>
<td>Corporal Henry ‘Harry’ Belbin</td>
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<td>26 August 1918</td>
<td>Private Herbert Smith</td>
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<td>31 August 1918</td>
<td>Lance Corporal Henry Edward Bird</td>
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<td>Private Charles Pavitt</td>
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<td>31 August 1918</td>
<td>Private Alfred James Hale</td>
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<td>8 September 1918</td>
<td>2nd Lieutenant William Henry Banham</td>
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<td>11 September 1918</td>
<td>Lance Corporal William Henry Stanham</td>
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<td>Private John Cordell</td>
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<td>21 October 1918</td>
<td>Gunner Albert Charles Negus</td>
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<td>21 October 1918</td>
<td>Trooper George Bradley Fairchild</td>
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<td>4 November 1918</td>
<td>Lieutenant (Acting Lt. Colonel.) James Neville Marshall VC</td>
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<td>4 November 1918</td>
<td>Lieutenant Robert Evelyn Sandford Poole</td>
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<td>7 November 1918</td>
<td>Private Samson Samuel Ward</td>
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<td>23 November 1918</td>
<td>Private Henry John Frederick Randall</td>
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<td>Lance Corporal Arthur Charles Hoy</td>
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<td>28 March 1919</td>
<td>Private Arthur William Perry</td>
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<td>19 September 1919</td>
<td>Gunner Reginald Wheeler</td>
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<td>20 February 1920</td>
<td>Lance Corporal Walter Woollard</td>
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Appendix

Great Parndon historic reference details

George Aldridge
1 GRO Marriage Index; Aldridge, Thomas; Saville, Adelaide Elizabeth; Mar 1892; Epping, vol. 49, p. 421
2 GRO Birth Index; Aldridge, George, Jul 1896; Epping; vol. 4a, p.412

Arthur Cottee
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2 GRO Birth Index; Clark, Sarah Emma; Dec 1862; Edmonton; vol. 3a, p. 140
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4 GRO Marriage Index; Woolard, Thomas John; Hooper, Dorothy M; Sep 1915; Epping; vol. 4a, p. 1335
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2 GRO Birth Index; Turner, Lucy Elizabeth; Mar 1872; Petersfield; vol. 2c, p. 142
3 GRO Marriage Index; Belben, William Henry; Turner; Lucy Elizabeth; Dec 1893; Petersfield; vol. 2c, p. 314
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2. GRO Birth Index; Baldock, Thomas William J; Dec 1886; Bishop's Stortford; vol. 3a, p. 498
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3. GRO Birth Index; Blatch, William Thomas; Jun 1893; Epping; vol. 4a, p. 379
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5. GRO Marriage Index; Pavitt, Henry; Blatch, Isabella; Sep 1899; Epping; vol. 4a, p. 700

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2 Place: Gilston, Hertfordshire, England; Date Range: 1872 - 1883; Film Number: 1040809
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Updated February 2018
Reflections of the WW1 Project Team

Dedicated to the memory of local historian and our friend Ron Bill

The WW1 Project Team was formed in mid-2014 with representatives from the Royal British Legion, Western Front Association, Heart 4 Harlow, Harlow Council, Harlow Civic Society and community volunteers, to mark the four-year centenary of The First World War. Joe McGill, Property & Facilities Manager at Harlow Council formed the group and led the team through the early stages of the commemoration. Joe's leadership led to the research and production of a memorial Register of the Fallen, profiling the 128 men from the villages of Harlow, Great Parndon, Potter Street, Netteswell and Burnt Mill, who died during the conflict. The register has been updated over the four-year commemoration, culminating in this final edition, which you have just read.

Through a grant from the War Memorials Trust, all of the town's war memorials were cleaned with Potter Street, Latton and Surrounding District Memorial Cross being restored by the same stone masons who had erected the memorial in c.1920. Joe headed up organisation of a service at the Potter Street, Latton and Surrounding District Memorial Cross on 4th August 2014, marking the centenary of the start of the First World War and the rededication of the war memorial. Hundreds of people from around the town gathered to be part of the special service and to remember the sacrifice of millions of young men who fought and died for king and country.

The WW1 Project team have organised and been involved in a number of other events and activities to commemorate the centenary of The First World War such as the naming of a new housing development called ‘Riley Mews’, named after the three Riley Brothers, who were all killed during the conflict to an event to mark the centenary of The Battle of the Somme on 1st July 2016. The team also researched and hosted exhibitions to mark the men from Harlow who died in The Battle of the Somme and The Battle of Passchendaele in 1916 and 1917 respectively. The exhibitions travelled around a number of venues across Harlow highlighting the sacrifice these men made. The team’s volunteers have worked tirelessly, meeting members of the public, giving talks and raising awareness of Harlow’s war dead, ensuring that they are never forgotten.

2018 marks the end of the period of commemoration and as people come together to mark the centenary of the Armistice, which brought hostilities to an end on 11th November 1918, and reflect on what life was like for the returning soldiers and the communities that they returned to, the project team reflect on their personal experiences of being involved in marking the centenary. The articles that follow have been written by members of the WW1 Project Team documenting their thoughts and feelings about The First World War and their involvement in the project team.

Lee Johnson B.A. (hons) – Lead Officer (Harlow Council) of WW1 Project Team

All of us know a little about the horrors and devastation of The First World War. As a graduate historian with an interest in The First World War and a keen interest in the stories of the last living veterans, who fought in ‘The Great War’, I was delighted to be approached to join the WW1 Project Team in 2014. Initially I joined to assist the volunteers with the research, having access to genealogical databases and knowledge of other historical sources, which produced the ‘Register of the Fallen’ in August 2014.
The register has been an evolving document over the course of the project, with new research, information and photographs having been discovered over the course of this project.

In 2016, I was privileged to be appointed the Lead Officer of the WW1 Project Team and to coordinate the team's commemorations of The Battle of the Somme, in 2016, and The Battle of Passchendaele, in 2017, through to the commemoration of the centenary of the Armistice in 2018, which ended the hostilities and brought the war to a conclusion.

The First World War was initially hailed as ‘The War to End all Wars', although sadly, we know this was not the case. The war was an epoch in world history, the last great clash of empires, which would see the world map redrawn, empires collapse and new, independent nations arise. The war resulted in over 11 million British and Empire troops having been killed in action, 23 million wounded, with a further seven million civilians killed.

I have worked with dedicated and very passionate people, especially the volunteers, who have given up so much of their time to ensure that the lives of those lost in the war are never forgotten. Without their dedication, the centenary commemorations would not have been so successful.

As the centenary of The First World War approached in the early 21st century, I was surprised to learn that there were still living veterans, many of whom were over 100 years of age. I began reading all the books and watching as many documentaries as I could find, amazed at how these men could have survived the horrors of the war and lived to a grand old age.

I can recall veteran Harry Patch's statement in an interview with the BBC in 2003: ‘[…] if any man went over the top and told you he wasn't scared, he's a liar', and Arthur Halestrap's horror at watching men fall off of the duckboards and drown in the liquid mud on the Western Front, or the fear of Arthur Barraclough as he faced 'going over the top' and finding comfort in a prayer. These veterans' memories made me think of my own relatives who served and were lost on the battlefields of the Western Front during the conflict and the horrors that they must have seen. On Remembrance Sunday each year, I now feel a greater sense of loss, not just of my own family members who have been killed in conflict, but for the 128 men from Harlow and surrounding villages, who made the ultimate sacrifice in service of their country.

It is important that we continue to remember the sacrifice of millions and ensure that they are never forgotten, especially as the last veterans have now passed away and The First World War has passed out of living memory.

The WW1 Project Team has worked over the past four years to remember and create a lasting legacy of the men from Harlow to ensure that we look back and remember their sacrifice and look forward to continue to strive for a better world, free of conflict in the future.

**Nich Taylor – Community Volunteer**

My grandfather Charles Taylor enlisted in August 1914 aged just sixteen. As far as I know he rarely spoke about what he did during the First World War. However when I was about twelve years old the subject came up during a family get together and he recounted how he had been wounded during The Battle of The Somme and spent some three days in no man's land, slowly crawling back to the Allied trenches. He duly rolled up his sleeve to show us the wound which left a large area missing from his upper arm. This event left me with an indelible memory which led to my lifetime interest in the First World War.
Since the 1980’s I have attended the Remembrance Service in Harlow’s Town Park and it was here in November 2013 that I was struck by the fact that when the names of the fallen are read out, not all of the christian names were being given. I thought I would research these men so that the following year their full names could be heard. I happened to mention this to my friend John Bawden who told me he had a great interest in The First World War and that in 1998 Arthur Graham had produced a register of all the men from Harlow who had died since 1914 in conflicts around the world. Almost at the same time I became aware that Harlow Council were looking to bring together a group of local residents who were prepared to organise events and exhibitions to commemorate events that took place during the First World War. John and I joined the group soon after its formation.

Since then I have carried out a great deal of research which led to more information becoming available about the men of Harlow who did not return home. A first and second updated version of Arthur Graham’s register was published in 2014 and this third and final edition has become available in November 2018 to mark the end of WW1.

The group organised the rededication of the Memorial Cross in Potter Street on 4 August 2014 following repairs and cleaning, an event in Market Square on the 1st July to commemorate the start of The Battle of The Somme, three exhibitions during the period 2014 to 2018, the first to commemorate The Battle of the Somme, the second The Battle of Passchendaele and finally one to mark the 100th anniversary of the ending of hostilities. John and I met many interested residents whilst hosting these exhibitions and I was asked to trace a number of men who fought in the war by some of these residents.

In conclusion, the work undertaken by the group will ensure that the men of Harlow who made the ultimate sacrifice during WW1 will never be forgotten.

John Bawden – Western Front Association / Community Volunteer
I would like to thank everyone involved in the WW1 Project Team for the chance to join you in 2014 to commemorate 100 years of Harlow in The Great War.

Being a normally shy person, I am pleased I joined the group now, it has helped me to open up and talk to complete strangers on something I am passionate about WW1.

Having already taken photos of all the war graves in and around Harlow and having them put onto a web site TWGPP (The War Graves Photographic Project) now part of CWG (Commonwealth War Graves Photographic Project), I was very happy to help out with their locations.

Having known Nich for some time through my ten-pin bowling, it was great to team up with him to help with promoting this project with everyone around Harlow. We have met so many lovely people in doing the exhibition around the town, and we are still being surprised by people wanting to chat and listen to us both. Having met so many lovely people in our group, I still think about Ron Bill, such a lovely gentleman and a great help to me to overcome my shyness in helping me to talk to complete strangers.

So to close, thank you everyone for the chance to join the group and may we continue to remember those who left Harlow and the surrounding villages and gave their lives in sacrifice for this country and world peace?
Reverend Martin Harris – Heart 4 Harlow
I recall visiting the trenches and graveyards of World War 1 with my parents and also the
beach at Dunkirk from which my father was evacuated. These memories have been very
important in my own formation, both in my thankfulness to all who gave their lives, and the
need to work to build understanding and reconciliation between communities and people.
Hence it was and is very moving to be involved in the team, including helping plan the
commemoration and rededication at the Potter Street memorial.

My father was orphaned, his father dying in the flu epidemic after the First World War. The
wars of the last century formed whom he became, as he helped make sense of life for himself
and our family. To learn of others who gave their lives or whose lives were so deeply affected is
deeply moving. Being able to give names to individuals, and to know some of their stories are
so important to our understanding of the past, and our learning for the future.

What my father did for himself and for his family deeply engaged with my faith on his passing.
At his funeral In 1999 I spoke of how he ‘made sense’ of the 20th century through the life he
lived and all he gave. He lived a life of hope through his love of his family and the evening
classes he attended after the war to help in his career as a Legal Executive.

John's gospel in the Bible speaks of Christ who is the author of ‘sense’, of reason. ‘In the
beginning was the Word.’ This is read at most carol services. ‘Word’ is much the same as reason
or sense. God is at work in and though all things that happen. One day he will bring them all
to a good conclusion.

In the midst of this world, this can sometime be hard to hang onto. My father, who
experienced Dunkirk and Normandy, hung on to hope. Normandy was the beginning of
the end for the Nazis and the decisive victory. When Christ dies and rose again, that was the
decisive victory for our world.

Remembering the past is always so important. Thankfulness for all that was good helps build
community for the present and the future; and we find wisdom to guide us individually and as
communities. I am enormously grateful to the team for all their hard work.

Carlo Pelka – The Royal British Legion (Harlow Branch)
I started working behind the bar at the British Legion in Colt Hatch in Summer 1998 and
to be honest I really didn't know much about the organization. I saw the men and women at
poppy time “manning” the stalls and whilst I had a basic knowledge of why and what they
were there for that was it. I knew my father, born in Poland, in 1925 had suffered under
German occupation during WW2, been conscripted as a labourer, escaped and had been hit by
shrapnel from a bomb dropped by a Stuka before ending up in Scotland, but he would not talk
about the “War Years” and the horrors he saw as so many of his generation wouldn't.

It was only after I started at the Legion and listened to some of the “Vets” telling their stories
that I realised how much we had to thank them for, those that returned and those that didn't,
for the freedoms we have today.
I decided at that time I wanted to give something back. I joined the Branch Committee, who are responsible for the Charitable and Remembrance side of the British Legion but because of working full time couldn't give the time that was needed for some of the work. In 2006 the then Poppy Appeal organizer decided he needed an “deputy” to take some of the pressure off him. I foolishly offered my services thinking I would have a few years to learn the ropes. Sadly he died the following year and I have taken the role on since then, utilising holidays and the help of other like-minded volunteers to run the Poppy Appeal.

It has been frustrating, stressful, hard work and many other things but it has also been fun, interesting, enlightening and rewarding to have had contact with so many people, and not just Legion members, who still remember grandfathers, fathers, brothers, sisters and other family members and the sacrifices they made. People want to share their memories and in a way they become my memories, the ones my father couldn't speak.

History was never my strong point at school, but through my involvement with the WW1 Committee and the likes of John and Nich I have learnt so much more of the horrors and waste of life and the comradeship of those that fought. The Somme, Passchendaele, Ypres, were only words that I had heard, now they have become real events, brought to life by people with the passion to ensure “WE REMEMBER THEM!!

As to the future, I will carry on running the Poppy Appeal while I can. Retirement calls in 5 or so years and health permitting I will be visiting those sites that were only words and offer my own silent words of prayer for all those that made the ultimate sacrifice for the generations that came after them.

Jean Clark – Chair of the WW1 Project Team

When I was first asked to chair the WW1 Project Team, I worried about a potential glorification of war. My focus had always been on peace. Then I met the group, knew several, including Ron Bill, a strong lifelong advocate of peace, and relaxed...to learn a great deal. We all shared an interest in history, including the lead council officer, which was good.

National research highlighted the enormous loss of life, underlining for me the horrors of war. Two dedicated members conducted meticulous research into the individual stories of Harlow young men- including even children- who lost their lives. I learnt of the appalling conditions troops confronted- for example, some drowned in mud in the lengthy Battle of Passchendaele, when they only managed to advance eight kilometres. 128 Harlow men never returned from the war. But each single biography helped to bring them to life. Research gave them a voice. The whole group remembered the terrible losses of Harlow young men at specific public events. At the Potter Street memorial, a beautifully illustrated book was well- received and poppy illustrations provided us with a continuity theme. Moving ceremonies marked occasions. The Somme was remembered through the drizzle of a bleak early morning, a fitting sombre setting.

The work of the group was demonstrated in exhibitions around the town. Impressive banners of commemoration drew attention and respect in public spaces. The horrors of war were remembered through the voices of individual Harlow losses. They generated interest and relatives of those who died shared their memories and experiences, adding to existing research...an ongoing project.
We know that those who survived the war were mostly unable to speak of its horrors or their huge despair at the loss of their comrades.

But it is all the more important to understand our history and the conditions of war to learn lessons. Otherwise, we are condemned to repeat them. It is not about glorifying war, but through those young voices, we can understand, remember and respect. It strengthens our desire for peace, for a future without the futility of war.

**Simon Carter – Deputy Chair of the WW1 Project Team**

There is a tragic dilemma in remembering the fallen; those who were there and suffered want to forget all about it, those who have lost people want to remember for as long as possible. Many want to draw a line and move on, and others want to show their respect to those who made the ultimate sacrifice so that we could live in peace and freedom.

My grandfather was in the Ordnance Corp during WW1 and saw some action in France. As a child I would spend part of my summer holiday with my grandparents and although he would happily chatter away about Worcester cricket club, he would never be drawn on his army service. In the Second World War my father lost a brother after the D-Day landings.

The armistice ending the Great War occurred at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, which became the time of annual remembrance. In the mid twentieth century the act of remembrance was on the Sunday nearest the 11th November, and it was only in 1999 that the two minutes silence was re-adopted on the 11 November, whichever day of the week it was. It would appear that the further we drew away from conflict, the more we wanted to remember it and those who gave their lives so that we could live in liberty and freedom.

Such sacrifice came more into focus as we committed to the invasions of Iraq and Afghanistan and the armed services repatriated their dead and injured. Bodies were flown to RAF Lyneham, in Wiltshire and driven to the John Radcliffe hospital in Oxford for post mortems. They were driven through the market town of Wootten Bassett (now Royal Wootten Bassett) near the airfield and the local branch of the Royal British Legion began small services in the middle of the town as the cortèges drove by. Soon, the whole town paused to show their respects. I visited there on 9 November 2009 when Staff Sgt Olaf Schmid came home, a former member of the 11 Ordnance Disposal Regiment, posthumously awarded the George Cross for his efforts in dismantling 70 IEDs.

So when the Government announced plans to help communities commemorate the centenary of the First World War it seemed natural the council would want to assist. I asked a question at Full Council in October 2013 when we were informed the council would be consulting with local groups as to what kind of activities they would think appropriate. And so the working group came together.

I have no particular connection or knowledge of the First World War, but now I know a few people who are. I am cheered that I have been able to help them achieve some remarkable activities, such as the reconstruction of the Potter Street war memorial, by the same company who built the original almost a hundred years ago. And the hours of painstaking research that has gone into the memorial book of all those from Harlow who fell in the Great War.
We have been able to hold services to commemorate various stages of the War. We have created some excellent banners to form a mobile exhibition. They have details of the battles, and of those who were killed at that event. The council, in building its own houses for the first time in decades, named the three estates in memory of soldiers killed in all conflicts.

At the time of writing, we have another year to go before we can commemorate the end of the “War to end all wars”. Harlow is fortunate in the dedicated team from the community and council staff who have worked so hard to ensure we will never forget.

**Conclusion**

A century has passed since The First World War devastated the globe. Virtually every town and village in the United Kingdom suffered losses, the loss of a generation of men. Harlow and its surrounding villages were included, with 128 men losing their lives in the conflict.

Almost everyone knows stories of their own family’s involvement and losses suffered in The First World War, some of whom shared with the WW1 Project Team’s volunteers whilst out with the exhibitions around the town, over the past four years. It is sharing stories and talking about those brave men who paid the ultimate sacrifice that keeps their memories and their bravery alive and this booklet confirms on paper the stories and backgrounds of Harlow’s war dead for future generations to ensure that we will remember them!

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Information in this booklet correct at time of publication.