

**ST PETER'S LECKHAMPTON**

**BOOK OF  
REMEMBRANCE**



A tribute to the men of the parish  
who died on active service  
during the First World War

The following pages contain pen portraits of the thirty-five men with Leckhampton connections who died on active service during the First World War and whose names are listed on the Parish War Memorial in Church Road. Several of the men are buried in the churchyard or have memorials there. The positions of the relevant plots in the churchyard are shown on a plan printed at the end of this book. In addition two medal-holders have been included whose names are not listed on the Parish War Memorial.

The home addresses as recorded at the time of the men's death have been marked on the accompanying map as accurately as possible, given that some of the addresses were vague. Most house names have been replaced by numbers, and other buildings have been demolished. Veronica Biddle helped to identify the locations.

Much of the following information has been provided by Joseph Devereux and Graham Sacker, authors of *Leaving all that was Dear*. Many of the photographs are also taken from that book, and these and others are acknowledged on the last page.

This project results from an idea proposed by the Reverend Paul Wilkinson. A peal of bells is rung to mark the anniversary of the death of each of the men.

*Eric Miller*

*August 2014*

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A. Aldrich. 2/Lt. Worcs. (Italy).  
 R. E. Angus. Capt. R.F.C. (Bourlon Wood).  
 P. L. Ballinger. Cpl. Gos. (Loos).  
 W. J. Barrett. M.M. Lt. R. Warwicks. (Cambrai).  
 L. G. Bendall. Pvt. Herefords. (Jerusalem).  
 H. Burford. Pvt. Lancs. Fus. (Doullens).  
 W. H. Caudle. Pvt. A.S.C. (England).  
 V. F. Cherrington. Pvt. A.S.C. (Poperinghe).  
 J. R. Cheshire. Gnr. R.G.A. (Armentieres).  
 A. W. G. Enoch. M.M. L/Cpl. Gos. (Ovillers).  
 H. A. Farrar. Cpl. Q.V.R. (Hill 60).  
 A. F. Fordham. Pvt. Gos. (Grandcourt).  
 G. C. F. Gloster. Lt. Devons. (Near Ypres).  
 F. W. Hall. Pvt. Wilts. (England).  
 G. C. Hunt. Pvt. Worcs. (England).  
 A. F. V. Hunt. Pvt. R.I.F. (France).  
 H. C. Lacey. Sgt. Gos. (Aixe-Sur-Lys).  
 E. A. Larner. Cpl. York & Lancs. (Ypres).  
 J. F. Lefeaux. 2/Lt. R.H.A. (Ledeghem).  
 A. Moorman. Pvt. R. Berks. (France).  
 W. E. Moulder. Pvt. Queens. (Bullecourt).  
 F. C. Murphy. Pvt. Gos. (France).  
 A. O. Pritchett. Cpl. Gnr. M.G.C. (Wyschaete).  
 M. D. Quill. Capt. R.M.A. (Haslar Hospital).  
 F. W. Reilly. Pvt. Gos. (England).  
 T. C. Richings. Gnr. R.F.A. (Morelies Wood).  
 A. G. Siddall. A.B.R.N.D. (France).  
 J. M. Staines. R.S.M.R.B. (Delville Wood).  
 H. G. Summers. Pvt. Gos. (Pr in Germany).  
 A. R. Summers. Pvt. G.G. (Caterham Bks).  
 E. J. Thompson. C.Q.M.S. G.G. (Ypres).  
 S. B. Thompson. S.M. Lancers. (Neuve Chapelle).  
 C. G. Winstone. L/Cpl. Camerons. (Festhubert).  
 G. F. Delmar Williamson. Lt. R.F.C. (England).  
 C. A. J. Ward. Lt. I.A.R. (Hosp: S. Vita. Red Sea).

First World War panel on the Leckhampton War Memorial

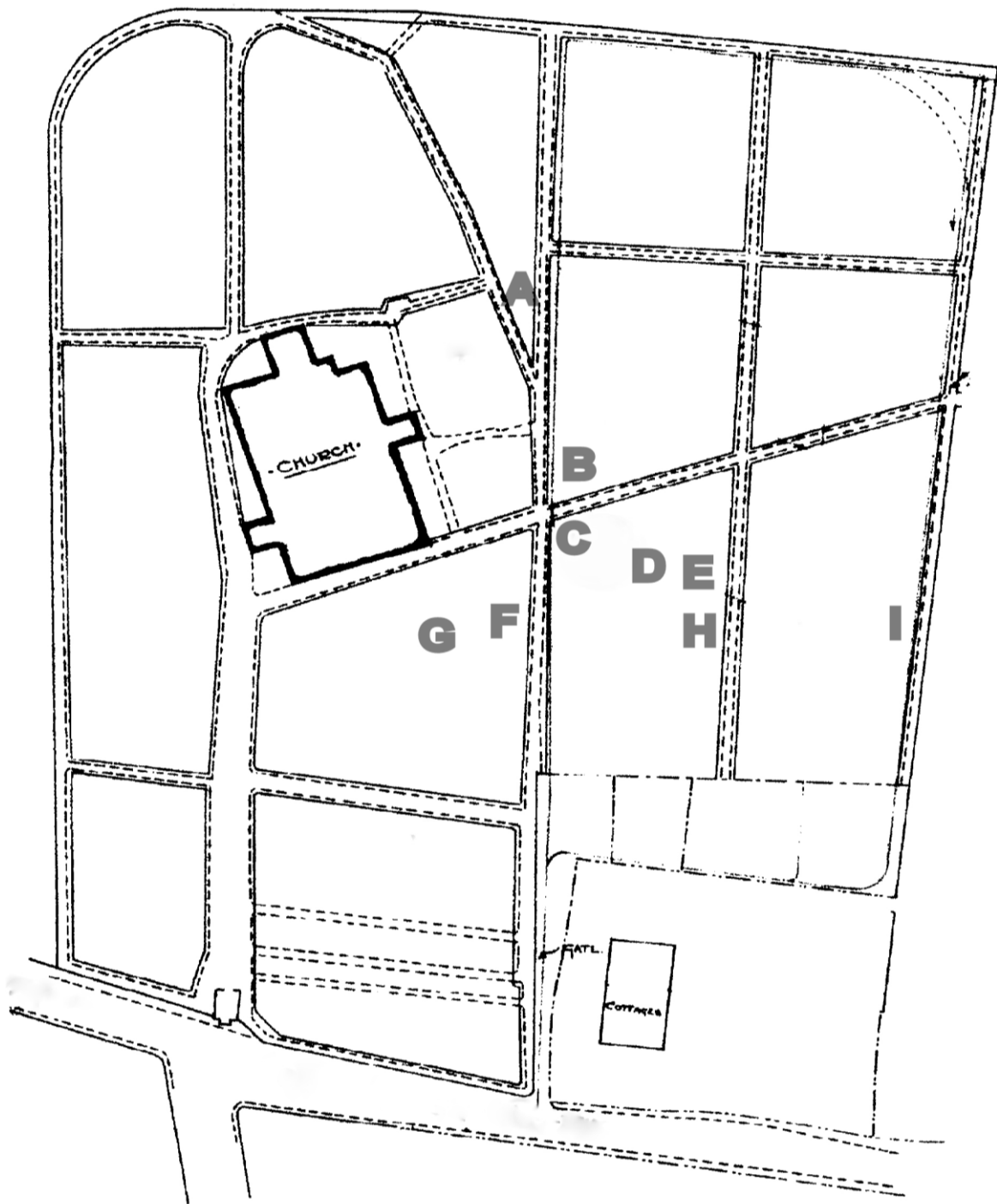
## NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF THE MEN NAMED ON THE LECKHAMPTON WAR MEMORIAL

ARNOLD ALDRICH	Enderley, 57 Charlton Lane
ROBERT EDWARD ANGUS	Hill House, Leckhampton Hill
PERCIVAL LOUIS BALLINGER	Laburnum, 206(?) Old Bath Road
WILFRED VARNISH BARRETT	Windermere, 32 Shurdington Road
LEONARD GRAHAM BENDALL	4 Providence Place, Moorend Road
HARRY BURFORD	Eastwood Cottage, Leckhampton
WILLIAM HENRY CAUDLE	Grantham, 24 Church Road
VALENTINE FRANK CHERRINGTON	Brookdale Cottages, Shurdington Road (?)
JAMES RICHARD CHESHIRE	St Ives, 99 Church Road
GEORGE FREDERICK DELMAR-WILLIAMSON	8 Lansdown Place, Cheltenham
ALFRED WILLIAM GEORGE ENOCH	Camden Cottage, Croft Street
HOWARD ALAN FARRAR	Highercombe, Hall Road
ARTHUR FREDERICK FORDHAM	Tygwyn, 10 Church Road
GERALD CHARLES EDWARD GLOSTER	Oak Manor, Hales Road
FREDERICK WALTER HALL	Gritmore, Leckhampton Road
ALFRED FREDERICK VICTOR HUNT	33, Pilley Lane
GILBERT CHARLES HUNT	2 Mapledene Cottages, Naunton Lane
HAROLD CYRIL LACEY	Carno, 35 Bath Parade
ERNEST ARTHUR LARNER	Tarradale, Old Bath Road
JOHN FAULKNER LEFAUX	Challow, Charlton Lane
ARTHUR MOORMAN	Templemead, 225 Old Bath Road
WILFRED ERNEST MOULDER	6 Victoria Place, Bath Road (Victoria Retreat)
FREDERICK CHARLES MURPHY	2 Pilley Cottages, Pilley Lane
ALBERT OSCAR PRITCHETT	St Hilda, 3 Church Road
MAURICE DESMOND QUILL	Craigeith House, Moorend Park Road
FREDERICK WALTER REILLY	4 Moorend Terrace, Croft Street
THOMAS CHARLES RICHINGS	(not known)
AUGUSTUS GILES SIDDALL	1, Southfield Villas, Old Bath Road
JOSEPH MIDDLETON STAINES	Ferncroft, 97 Church Road
ARTHUR RAYMOND SUMMERS	1 Pilley Cottages, Pilley Lane
HAROLD GEORGE SUMMERS	1 Pilley Cottages, Pilley Lane
ERNEST JOHN THOMPSON	The School House, Hall Road
SYDNEY BARNARD THOMPSON	The School House, Hall Road
CHARLES ALBERT JOHN WARD	33 Leckhampton Road
CHARLES GORDON WINSTONE	Ewlyn, 46 Leckhampton Road

## SUPPLEMENTARY LIST

### MEN WITH LECKHAMPTON CONNECTIONS BUT NOT NAMED ON THE WAR MEMORIAL

JAMES FERRARD DEARDEN, DSO, MC	Langton House, Bath Road Buried in Leckhampton Churchyard
DOUGLAS REYNOLDS, VC	Thornclyff, Lansdown Road Buried in Leckhampton Churchyard
ANKETELL MOUTRAY READ, VC	Born at Beaumont House, Shurdington Road



Leckhampton churchyard plan showing approximate positions of graves or memorials

**KEY**

A - 'Flanders crosses' (A W G Enoch MM, H Summers, A F V Hunt)

B - G F Delmar-Williamson

F - W H Caudle

C - D Reynolds, VC

G - G C Hunt

D - F W Hall

H - M D Quill

E - F W Reilly

I - J F Dearden, DSO, MC



### 'Flanders Poppies'

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place...

...If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.

*Lieutenant -Colonel John McCrae*

*LEST WE FORGET*  
**THE FOLLOWING PEN PORTRAITS ARE FILED  
 ACCORDING TO THE DATE OF EACH MAN'S DEATH AND  
 A SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE WILL BE HELD ON THE  
 ANNIVERSARY**

<b>PAGE</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DATE OF DEATH</b>
1a	SYDNEY BARNARD THOMPSON	28-Oct-14
1b	ERNEST JOHN THOMPSON	29-Oct-14
2	ERNEST ARTHUR LARNER	17-Apr-15
3	HOWARD ALAN FARRAR	24-Apr-15
4	CHARLES GORDON WINSTONE	18-May-15
5	JAMES RICHARD CHESHIRE	06-Jul-15
6	PERCIVAL LOUIS BALLINGER	13-Oct-15
7	ALFRED WILLIAM GEORGE ENOCH	21-Jul-16
8	HAROLD GEORGE SUMMERS	27-Jul-16
9	JOSEPH MIDDLETON STAINES	21-Aug-16
10	ARTHUR FREDERICK FORDHAM	22-Nov-16
11	ARTHUR RAYMOND SUMMERS	03-Feb-17
12	GILBERT CHARLES HUNT	12-Apr-17
13	WILFRED ERNEST MOULDER	23-Apr-17
14	ALBERT OSCAR PRITCHETT	08-Jul-17
15	VALENTINE FRANK CHERRINGTON	18-Sep-17
16	GERALD CHARLES EDWARD GLOSTER	06-Nov-17
17	ROBERT EDWARD ANGUS	20-Nov-17
18	ALFRED FREDERICK VICTOR HUNT	18-Dec-17
19	LEONARD GRAHAM BENDALL	02-Jan-18
20	THOMAS CHARLES RICHINGS	21-Mar-18
21	AUGUSTUS GILES SIDDALL	25-Mar-18
22	FREDERICK CHARLES MURPHY	16-Apr-18
23	HARRY BURFORD	20-Apr-18
24	HAROLD CYRIL LACEY	24-Apr-18
25	ARNOLD ALDRICH	01-May-18
26	MAURICE DESMOND QUILL	17-Jun-18
27	WILLIAM HENRY CAUDLE	06-Jul-18
28	GEORGE FREDERICK DELMAR-WILLIAMSON	12-Jul-18
29	WILFRED VARNISH BARRETT	28-Sep-18
30	ARTHUR MOORMAN	06-Oct-18
31	JOHN FAULKNER LEFAUX	15-Oct-18
32	FREDERICK WALTER HALL	20-Nov-18
33	CHARLES ALBERT JOHN WARD	15-Dec-18
34	FREDERICK WALTER REILLY	22-Mar-19



# ARNOLD ALDRICH

2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, 1<sup>st</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Worcestershire Regiment

Killed in action in Italy on 1 May 1918, aged 34

Address: Enderley, 57 Charlton Lane, Leckhampton

He is buried in Granezza British Cemetery in North-east Italy, Plot I, Row A, Grave 9. His name is listed on the Leckhampton and Cheltenham War Memorials.

Arnold Aldrich originally joined up as No 9917 with the 28<sup>th</sup> London Regiment (Artists' Rifles) and later transferred as No 763918 to the Worcestershire Regiment. He was commissioned as a Temporary 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in May 1917.

His battalion went to Italy in November 1917, one of several British and Empire units sent to assist the Italian Army which had entered the war on the Allied side in 1915 and had suffered major defeats against German and Austrian forces on the remote Asiago Plateau, in the Veneto region. (Though described as a plateau, it is a mountainous area and today Asiago is a ski resort.) Late in April 1918 the unit was struggling through rugged terrain in icy conditions. Lieutenant Aldrich was acting as Convoy Transport Officer and on 1 May, after a rest on a mountain road, he was about to restart the convoy when his horse panicked, slipped on the ice and went over an embankment, killing his rider.

Arnold Aldrich left a widow, Mrs Gertrude A Aldrich, at the above address.

Arnold Aldrich's grave stone in Granezza Cemetery. The date inscribed is shown incorrectly as 2 May but this will be amended by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Photo – by Catherine Switzer on <http://www.remembering.org.uk> website



*LEST WE FORGET*



Photo – Loretto College

## **ROBERT EDWARD ANGUS**

Captain, 64 Squadron Royal Flying Corps, formerly of The Ayrshire (Earl of Carrick's Own) Yeomanry

Killed in action in France on 20 November 1917, aged 23

Address: Hill House, Leckhampton

He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Arras Memorial and named on the War Memorials at Leckhampton and in Clare College, Cambridge.

Robert Edward Angus was the only son of his widowed mother Elizabeth Angus of the above address. His late father was James Angus JP of Ochiltree House, Ayr, Scotland. He was born at Radcliffe in Northumberland and was educated at St Ninian's College, Moffat, and Loretto College, near Edinburgh. He had been due to go up to Clare College, Cambridge, but having already obtained a commission in the Yeomanry he was called up when war broke out.

He fought at Gallipoli in October 1915 and later moved to Egypt in January 1916 to serve with the Machine Gun Corps. He transferred again in 1917 to the Royal Flying Corps and was sent to France in October that year. He was killed in aerial combat over Bournon Wood near Cambrai on 20 November 1917 during a bombing mission, a few days after his promotion as Captain.

A cavalry officer's sword, engraved 'Lieu. R. E. Angus', was sold at an auction in 2003.

The Arras Memorial, which commemorates 34,785 soldiers of the forces of the United Kingdom, South Africa and New Zealand, with no known grave, who died in the Arras sector between the spring of 1916 and 7 August 1918

Photo – Commonwealth War Graves Commission



*LEST WE FORGET*



Photo from *Leaving All that was Dear* by J Devereux and G Sacker

## **PERCIVAL LOUIS BALLINGER**

Army Number 17566

Corporal, 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment

Killed in action in France on 13 October 1915, aged 21

Address: Laburnum, 206 Old Bath Road

He has no known grave but is commemorated on the Loos Memorial and is named on the War Memorials in Leckhampton and Cheltenham and also in Gloucester city.

Percival Ballinger was born in Leckhampton in 1893, the only son of Alfred and Eunice Ballinger of the above address. He enlisted in Gloucester in January 1915 and was sent to France on 4 October. He was killed nine days later in the Battle of Loos, during the unsuccessful storming of the Hohenzollern Redoubt, an important defensive point in the midst of the French coal-fields. The final British assault on 13 October failed and resulted in over 3,000 casualties, mostly in the first few minutes.

A memorial medallion issued to his next-of-kin is now held in the Cheltenham Museum and Art Gallery (The Wilson) – *see overleaf*.

The Loos Memorial, which lists 20,610 names of British and Commonwealth soldiers with no known grave who were killed in the area during and after the Battle of Loos

Photo – Commonwealth War Graves Commission



*LEST WE FORGET*



Bronze medallion commemorating Percival Ballinger, held in the Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museum (The Wilson) – actual size, about 5 inches (120mm).

Photograph – *Eric Miller* by permission of The Wilson

Popularly known as ‘Dead Man’s Pennies’ or ‘Death Pennies’, these medallions, or plaques, were issued to the next-of-kin of all members of the British and Empire services who had been killed as a result of the war. 1,355,000 were issued, including 600 to servicewomen.

The design portrays Britannia with a trident, standing beside a lion, and holding an oak wreath above a tablet bearing the name of the deceased. Two dolphins swim around Britannia, symbolizing Britain’s sea power, and at the bottom a second lion is tearing apart the German eagle. The reverse is blank. Around the picture the legend reads (in capitals) ‘He died for freedom and honour’, or for the six hundred plaques issued to commemorate women ‘She died for freedom and honour’.

A similar medallion was cast for Augustus Siddall (see later page).

*LEST WE FORGET*



Photo – Michael William  
Barrett

## **WILFRED VARNISH BARRETT, Military Medal**

2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, 16<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Royal Warwickshire  
Regiment

Died of wounds in France on 28 September 1918,  
aged 32

Address: Windermere, 32 Shurdington Road

Wilfred Barrett was the eldest son of Charles William and Angharad Barrett of The Apiaries, Old Bath Road (at the top end of the east side). He was a market gardener, related to the family that ran the Victoria Nurseries in Charlton Lane.

He had previously served in the ranks as a sergeant, No 610969 in the 6<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the London Regiment. After fighting in France from June 1915 his unit was sent to take part in the campaign in Salonica (now known as Thessalonika, in northern Greece), during which he was awarded the Military Medal. Back in France during the last weeks of the war, he was killed during the battle of Canal du Nord. He is buried in Grevilliers British Cemetery, Plot XII, Row C, Grave 11.

Wilfred Barrett left a widow, Agnes (née Wilkins), whom he had married at Leckhampton in February 1918 and who was living at the Shurdington Road address at the time of his death.

*Note: The above account revises what is written in Leaving All that was Dear and on some internet sites, using information supplied by the Barrett family historian.*

Grevilliers British Cemetery,  
near Calais, where Wilfred  
Barrett is buried

Photo – Commonwealth War  
Graves Commission



*LEST WE FORGET*



## **LEONARD GRAHAM BENDALL**

Private, 1<sup>st</sup>/1<sup>st</sup> Herefordshire Regiment

Died of wounds Egypt on 2 January 1918, aged 25

Address: 4 Providence Place, Moorend Road  
(opposite today's Station Close)

Photo from *Leaving All that  
was Dear* by J Devereux and  
G Sacker

He is buried in Jerusalem War Cemetery, Plot F,  
Grave 27. He is named on the Leckhampton and  
Cheltenham War Memorials and also at the church  
of St James the Great, Old Colwall, Herefordshire.

Leonard Graham Bendall was born in Cheltenham, the son of Leonard Thomas and Matilda Bendall of the above address. (He was not directly related to either the Bendall family of Leckhampton or the Bendalls of the removal firm Barnby, Bendall & Co.)

He joined up in the Herefordshire Regiment while living at Colwall and fought at Gallipoli in 1916 where he suffered badly from frostbite. He served with his unit in Palestine in 1917 and took part in the capture of Jerusalem in December of that year. During action to drive back the Turkish Army, which was trying to recapture the city, Leonard Bendall was wounded and died in a field hospital on 2 January 1918.

The Jerusalem War Cemetery

Photo – Commonwealth War  
Graves Commission



*LEST WE FORGET*



## HARRY BURFORD

Army Number 27660

Private, 17<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Lancashire Fusiliers

Died of wounds in France on 20 April 1918, aged 25

Address: Eastwood Cottage, Leckhampton (not located)

He is buried in Doullens Cemetery Extension No 1, Plot VI, Row C, Grave 47. He is commemorated on the Leckhampton and Cheltenham War Memorials and also at St Paul's Church, Cheltenham.

Photo from *Leaving All that was Dear* by J Devereux and G Sacker

Harry Burford was born in Cheltenham, the son of Charles and Harriett Burford, later of the above address. He joined the Army at Barnsley, in Yorkshire, giving a home address in Cheltenham. He was originally given Army No 22371 King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry but was later transferred to the Lancashire Fusileers.

His battalion had been engaged in the battle of Bapaume during the German spring offensive of 1918, and Harry Burford was taken to a Canadian Stationary Hospital at Doullens, where he died. (This probably explains why on the memorial at St Paul's Church he is incorrectly stated to have died serving with the Canadian Expeditionary Force.)

Doullens Cemetery,  
between Amiens and Arras,  
where Harry Burford is  
buried

Photo – Commonwealth War  
Graves Commission



# **WILLIAM HENRY CAUDLE**

Army Number 290589

Private, Army Service Corps

Died of pneumonia in England on 6 July 1918, aged 31

Address: Grantham, 24 Church Road, Leckhampton (next to the Village Hall)

He is buried in Leckhampton Churchyard (Plot H.27) and commemorated on the Leckhampton, Cheltenham and Pate's Grammar School War Memorials.

William Henry Caudle was born in Leckhampton, the son of John and Ellen Caudle of the above address. He was an Old Boy of Cheltenham Grammar School and before the war worked in the education department of London County Council. He joined up in the Army Service Corps in Tooting, London, and died of pneumonia at Prees Heath Military Hospital in Shropshire. The Leckhampton War Memorial incorrectly records that he died at Poperinghe, Belgium.

He left a widow, Florence May Caudle, of 857 Garratt Lane, Tooting.

William Henry Caudle's grave in Leckhampton Churchyard, provided by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Inlaid is the badge of Royal Army Service Corps. Other members of the family are also buried in the plot.

Photo – *Eric Miller*





*LEST WE FORGET*

# VALENTINE FRANK CHERRINGTON

Army Number 179446

Private, Army Service Corps

Killed in action in Belgium on 18 September 1917, aged 27

Address: Not known but see below

He is buried at Brandhoek New Military Cemetery No 3, Plot 1, Row F, Grave 10. He is commemorated on the Leckhampton and Cheltenham War Memorials.

Frank Cherrington was born in Gloucester and before the war worked for Herbert Owen Lord of Lilleybrook, Cirencester Road, Charlton Kings. At the time of the 1911 Census he had been lodging with his uncle and aunt William and Eliza Restall, at The Paddocks, Church Road (on the corner with Kidnapper's Lane, today the site of Home Orchard). William Restall was a market gardener, to whom Frank was apprenticed.

Frank joined up in Cheltenham and was serving as a driver with No 70 Auxiliary Petrol Company at the time of his death, which probably occurred near Ypres, in the Battle of Menin Road.

Brandhoek New Cemetery No 3, where Frank Cherrington is buried

Photo – Commonwealth War Graves Commission



*LEST WE FORGET*

# **JAMES RICHARD CHESHIRE**

Army Number 3086

Private, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment

Killed in action in France on 6 July 1915, aged 42

Address: St Ives, Church Road

He is buried in Chapelle d'Armentières Old Military Cemetery, Row D, Grave 17

James Richard Cheshire was born in Portsmouth. At the time of his death his widowed mother, Sarah Cheshire, was living in Church Road. He enlisted in the Royal Garrison Artillery in Cheltenham but on being posted abroad on 19 June 1915 he was transferred to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the Gloucestershire Regiment. He was serving with the Gloucesters when he was killed near Armentières, less than three weeks later, and is buried nearby.

Chapelle d'Armentières Old Military  
Cemetery

Photo – Commonwealth War Graves  
Commission



*LEST WE FORGET*



Photo – Terry Enoch

## **ALFRED WILLIAM GEORGE ENOCH, Military Medal**

Army Number 2528

Lance-Corporal, 1/5 Gloucestershire Regiment

Killed in action in France on 21 July 1916, aged 24

Parents' address: Camden, Croft Street, Leckhampton

He has no known grave but is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial and included on the Cheltenham, Leckhampton and St Philip and St James's War Memorials. In Leckhampton Churchyard a wooden cross bears his name.

Alfred Enoch was born in Cheltenham, the son of William Charles and Constance Fanny Enoch of the above address and also of Moorend Villas, Moorend Road, Leckhampton. His brother, Corporal G W Enoch, also served in the war and was wounded in action on 23 August 1916.

Alfred Enoch played for the Cheltenham Old Boys Football Club and was a former member of the Territorial Army, rejoining his unit in August 1914 at Cheltenham. He was sent abroad on 29 March 1915 and distinguished himself three times, once in September 1915 at Hébuterne, for which he was promoted to Lance-Corporal, and again on 15 November 1915 and during at the capture of Ovillers during the battle of Bazentin, when he met his death, following which he was awarded a Military Medal for Bravery in the Field.

These three "Flanders Crosses" in the churchyard (Block J) are copies of original wooden crosses which had marked the spot where the soldiers had fallen. L/Cpl Enoch's name is on the one in front.

Photo – Eric Miller



## LEST WE FORGET



Photo from *Leaving All that was Dear* by J Devereux and G Sacker

# HOWARD ALAN FARRAR

Army Number 1474

Corporal, 9<sup>th</sup> London Regiment (Queen Victoria's Rifles)

Killed in action in Belgium on 24 April 1915, aged 22

Address: Highercombe, Hall Road, Leckhampton

He has no known grave but is commemorated on the Menin Gate and on the kerbstone of his parents' grave in Leckhampton Churchyard (Plot A35). He is named on the Leckhampton and Cheltenham War Memorials.

Howard Farrar was the son of William David and Nellie Clara Jane Farrar of the above address. His father was a coal and coke merchant, with several offices and depots in Cheltenham and Leckhampton.

Howard Farrar worked at the furnishing department of Cavendish House, before moving to London to work at Harvey and Nichols of Knightsbridge. He was first a member of the 5<sup>th</sup> (Territorial) Battalion of the Gloucestershire Regiment and then transferred to the 9<sup>th</sup> County of London Battalion (Queen Victoria's Rifles).

He went with his regiment to France on 5 November 1914 and was in the area of Ypres during the winter of 1914-15. In April 1915 the Queen Victoria's Rifles played a leading part in taking and then defending "Hill 60", near Zillebeke Wood, and it was during this fighting that Howard Farrar was killed.

The Menin Gate Memorial, on which are carved the names of the 54,389 missing officers and men of the British and Commonwealth Forces who died while defending Ypres and whose bodies were never recovered.

Photo – Commonwealth War Graves Commission



*LEST WE FORGET*

# ARTHUR FREDERICK MILWARD FORDHAM

Army Number 3147

Private, 2<sup>nd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment

Killed in action in France on 22 November 1916,  
aged 19

Address: Tygwyn, 10 Church Road

He has no known grave and is commemorated on the  
Thiepval Memorial and is named on the War  
Memorials at Leckhampton and Cheltenham.



Photo from *Leaving All that  
was Dear* by J Devereux and  
G Sacker

Arthur Fordham was born in Leckhampton, the elder son of William and Margaret Fordham of the above address. He signed up with his regiment on 16 September 1914. He went with them to France in May 1916 and in November they were stationed in the Somme area, holding a line of trenches near Grandcourt. Private Fordham, who had previously been wounded in July that year, was killed by a stray shell.

The Thiepval Memorial, commemorating 72,195 missing British and South African men who died in the Battles of the Somme of the First World War between 1915 and 1918 with no known grave

Photo – Commonwealth War  
Graves Commission



## LEST WE FORGET



Photo from *Leaving All that was Dear* by J Devereux and G Sacker

# GERALD CHARLES EDWARD GLOSTER

Lieutenant, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Devonshire Regiment

Killed in action in Belgium on 6 November 1917,  
aged 20

Address: Oak Manor, Hales Road, Cheltenham

He has no known grave. His name is listed on the Tyne Cot Memorial and in the chapel of the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, as well as on the Leckhampton and Cheltenham War Memorials.

Gerald Gloster was the son of Brigadier-General Gerald Meade Gloster CMG, late Commanding Officer of the 1<sup>st</sup> Devonshire Regiment and Wilhelmina Gloster of the above address. He was educated at Cheltenham College and the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, and was commissioned into his father's old regiment in May 1915.

He was killed during the second battle of Passchendaele. On 6 November 1917, in support of a wider attack, the platoon under Lieutenant Gloster's command was ordered to capture a ruined building ('the Mound') that sheltered a German machine-gun. The platoon rapidly overran the Mound and over 20 of the enemy were killed or taken prisoner. While supervising defences against a German counter-attack Lieutenant Gloster was killed by a shot in the head. In addition 25 men were killed or missing and 80 were wounded.

Both of Gerald Gloster's parents are buried in Leckhampton Churchyard (Plot A.278).

The "Tyne Cot" Memorial near Ypres. The name is said to have been coined when men of the Northumberland Fusiliers saw a resemblance between the German concrete pill boxes, which still stand in the middle of the cemetery, and typical Tyneside workers' cottages – Tyne Cots.

Photo – Commonwealth War Graves Commission



*LEST WE FORGET*

# FREDERICK WALTER HALL

Army Number TR/8/31064

Private, Hampshire Regiment

Died of pneumonia in England on 20 November 1918, aged 23

Address: Gritmore, Leckhampton Road (site of Liddington Road today)

He is commemorated on the Leckhampton War Memorial and is buried in Leckhampton Churchyard (in Block F, not numbered – see plan). His father died the following year and is also buried in the churchyard.

Frederick Hall died in Beaufort War Hospital, Fishponds, Bristol. There is some confusion about the unit in which he served. On his gravestone it is shown as the Hampshire Regiment but on the Leckhampton War Memorial as the Wiltshire Regiment. The War Graves Commission lists his unit as the 36<sup>th</sup> Training Reserve, which his Army Number suggests. His death occurred after the Armistice and it is unlikely that he ever saw active service.

Frederick Hall's grave, provided by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. The badge is that of the Hampshire Regiment.

Photo – Eric Miller



*LEST WE FORGET*

# ALFRED FREDERICK VICTOR HUNT

Army Number 43644

Private, 11<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusileers

Died of wounds in France on 18 December 1917, aged 20

Address: 33 Pilley Lane

He is buried in the Rocquigny-Equancourt Road British Cemetery, Manoncourt, Plot VII, Row B, Grave 15. He is named on the Leckhampton and Cheltenham War Memorials and in the churchyard a wooden cross bears his name.

Alfred Hunt was the son of Alfred and Elizabeth Hunt of the above address. He joined up in Cheltenham as No 2675 in the Rifle Brigade but was later transferred to the Royal Inniskilling Fusileers. During fighting in the area of Cambrai in December 1917 he was wounded in the back and lungs on the 7<sup>th</sup> and died in a casualty clearing station eleven days later.

These three “Flanders Crosses” in the churchyard (Block J) are copies of original wooden crosses which had marked the spot where the soldiers had fallen. One of the two at the back commemorates Private Hunt.

Photo – Eric Miller





*LEST WE FORGET*

## GILBERT CHARLES HUNT



Photo from *Leaving All that was Dear* by J Devereux and G Sacker

Army Number 45966

Private, 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment

Died of illness in England on 12 April 1917, aged 18

Address: Mapledene Cottages, Naunton Lane

He is buried in Leckhampton Churchyard (Plot H.54) and is named on the War Memorials at Leckhampton and Cheltenham and in St Luke's Church, College Road

Gilbert Hunt was born in Leckhampton, the younger son of a gardener, Thomas Hunt, and Clara Hunt. Before the war he was a member of the Cheltenham Scouts, the Church Lads' Brigade and the Leckhampton choir for four years. Later he was working for the Midland Railway at Redditch, where he signed up on 26 February 1917 in M Company of the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Worcestershire Regiment. He died of meningitis at Devonport Hospital less than two months later.

Gilbert Hunt's grave in  
Leckhampton  
Churchyard (Plot H.54)

Photo – Don Biddle



## LEST WE FORGET



# HAROLD CYRIL LACEY

Army Number 240982/3114

Sergeant, 2<sup>nd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Gloucestershire Regiment

Died of wounds in France on 24 April 1918, aged 26

Address: 6 Blenheim Place, Bath Parade

He is buried in Aire Communal Cemetery, Plot II, Row F, Grave 15. He is named on the War Memorials at Leckhampton and Cheltenham, in St Luke's Church and at Pate's Grammar School.

Photo from *Leaving All that was Dear* by J Devereux and G Sacker

Harold Cyril Lacey was born in Cheltenham, the son of Joseph and Alice Lacey of Carno, 35 Bath Parade. He was educated at St Luke's Primary School (the former National School, in Bath Road) and Cheltenham Grammar School, after which he went to St Paul's Teacher Training College. His first post was in Tewkesbury but he later transferred to Leckhampton Primary School, where he was employed when war broke out. Some roses in the school grounds had been planted by him.

Harold Lacey volunteered for service in Gloucester on 15 September 1914. He was promoted to sergeant in 1915 and went with his battalion to France in May 1916. He fought at Ypres and Cambrai and during the German Spring offensive of 1918. In mid-April the battalion was transferred to defensive positions in the area of the River Lys in Northern France, taking part in the Battle of Béthune on 18 April. It was probably here that Sergeant Lacey was severely wounded and gassed and was taken to the 54<sup>th</sup> Casualty Clearing Station at Aire-sur-Lys, where he died six days later.

Aire Communal Cemetery,  
where Harold Lacey is buried

Photo – Commonwealth War  
GravesCommission



*LEST WE FORGET*



Photo from *Leaving All that was Dear* by J Devereux and G Sacker

## **ERNEST ARTHUR LARNER**

Army Number 9513

Corporal, 1<sup>st</sup> York & Lancaster Regiment

Killed in action in Belgium on 17 April 1915, aged 22

Address: Tarradale, Old Bath Road, Leckhampton

He has no known grave but is commemorated on the Menin Gate and he is named on the Leckhampton and Cheltenham War Memorials.

Corporal Ernest Lerner was born in Cheltenham, the eldest son of Ernest and Kate Lerner of the above address. He was a regular soldier before the war and one of three brothers serving in the army at that time.

He had been a teacher at the Royal Artillery School at Hyderabad in India and when war was declared he was about to undergo officer training. In March 1915 he rejoined the York and Lancs and during a relief operation in the trenches at Zonnebeke on the night of 16/17 April he was one of two men reported killed. He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Menin Gate Memorial. On the Leckhampton Memorial he is listed as having died at Aix-sur-Lys.

The Menin Gate Memorial, on which are carved the names of the 54,389 missing officers and men of the British and Commonwealth Forces who died while defending Ypres and whose bodies were never recovered.

Photo – Commonwealth War Graves Commission



*LEST WE FORGET*

# JOHN FAULKNER LEFEAUX

2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, Royal Horse Artillery

Died of wounds in Belgium on 15 October 1918, aged 20

Address: Challow, Charlton Lane (near junction with Leckhampton Road, on north side)

He is buried in Dunhallow Advanced Dressing Station Cemetery, Ypres, Plot IV, Row F, Grave 12 and is named on the Leckhampton, Cheltenham and Pate's Grammar School War Memorials.

Lieutenant Lefaux was born in Ponytpridd, the son of John Tregoning Lefaux and Mary Lefaux of the above address and previously of Camden, Langton Grove Road, Charlton Kings. He was educated at the nearby Miss Bamber's Preparatory School, Hayward's Road, and at Cheltenham Grammar School from 1907 to 1914, and later worked as a clerk in a London bank.

He was granted a commission in October 1917 and was serving with the 15<sup>th</sup> (Warwick) Brigade of the Royal Horse Artillery when he died of wounds near Ypres.

*Note: The name is spelt Lefaux (without an 'e') on the Leckhampton War Memorial.*

Dunhallow ADS Cemetery,  
Ypres, where John Lefaux  
is buried

Photo – Commonwealth War  
Graves Commission



*LEST WE FORGET*

# ARTHUR MOORMAN

Army Number 220450

Private, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Royal Berkshire Regiment

Killed in action in France on 6 October 1918, aged 29

Address: 3 Templemead, 225 Old Bath Road

He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Vis-en-Artois Memorial. He is named on the Leckhampton and Cheltenham War Memorials.

Arthur Moorman was born in West Bromwich, the son of Walter and Emily Moorman, later of Leckhampton View, Old Bath Road. He was working in Cheltenham as a bricklayer and signed up as No 3658 in the Gloucestershire Regiment but was later transferred to the Berkshires. He served in France and was killed during the final advance in Artois, just a few weeks before the Armistice.

He left a widow, Gertrude Mary, who continued to live in at 225 Old Bath Road for a further 50 years.

Vis-en-Artois Cemetery, south-east of Arras, where Arthur Moorman is commemorated

Photo – Commonwealth War Graves Commission



*LEST WE FORGET*

# **WILFRED ERNEST MOULDER**

Army Number 18703

Private, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, The Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment

Killed in action in France on 23 April 1917, aged 28

Address: 6 Victoria Place, Bath Road (now Victoria Retreat)

He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Arras Memorial and on the Leckhampton and Cheltenham War Memorials

Ernest Moulder was born in Middlesex, the son of William and Charlotte Moulder who later moved to Lawson Villa, (25) Charlton Lane, Leckhampton. He signed up in Cheltenham in the Army Service Corps, with Army Number 6296, but was later posted to France as an infantryman in the Royal West Surrey Regiment. He was killed in April 1917, during fighting that followed the Battle of Vimy Ridge, north-east of Arras.

He left a widow, Fanny Edith, at the above address in Victoria Place.

The Arras Memorial, which commemorates 34,785 soldiers of the forces of the United Kingdom, South Africa and New Zealand, with no known grave, who died in the Arras sector between the spring of 1916 and 7 August 1918

Photo – Commonwealth War Graves Commission



*LEST WE FORGET*

# FREDERICK CHARLES MURPHY



Photo from *Leaving All that was Dear* by J Devereux and G Sacker

Army Number 241361

Private, 2<sup>nd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment

Killed in action in France on 16 April 1918, aged 31

Address: 2 Pilley Cottages, Pilley Lane

He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Loos Memorial (Row 63, Column 1) and on the Leckhampton and Cheltenham War Memorials

Frederick Murphy was born in Leckhampton and before the war was employed by E W and W J Moore & Co, builders, of Bath Parade.

He joined up with the 2<sup>nd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> (Territorial) Battalion of the Gloucesters in May 1915 and had served with his unit for three years when he was killed in Northern France by a shell during the German Spring offensive of 1918.

He left a widow, Mrs A Murphy, living at the above address.

The Loos memorial, on the outskirts of Lille, where Frederick Murphy is buried

Photo – Commonwealth War Graves Commission



*LEST WE FORGET*



## **ALBERT OSCAR PRITCHETT**

Army Number 16990

Corporal, 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment

Killed in action in Belgium, on 8 July 1917, aged 24

Address: St Hilda, 3 Church Road

He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Menin Gate Memorial and on the Leckhampton and Cheltenham War Memorials.

Photo from *Leaving All that  
was Dear* by J Devereux and  
G Sacker

Albert Pritchett was born in Bristol, the eldest son of Oscar and Annie Pritchett, later of Leckhampton. He signed up in the Worcestershire Regiment at Bristol, giving the Leckhampton address, and went to serve as a machine-gunner with his unit in France and Flanders. In July 1917 the regiment was in the front line in the region of Ypres. On the night of 6-7 July it was attacking enemy trenches but was driven back by heavy fire from machine-guns and a hail of bombs and the following day it was withdrawn. It was during these actions that Corporal Pritchett was killed.

The Menin Gate Memorial, on which are carved the names of the 54,389 missing officers and men of the British and Commonwealth Forces who died while defending Ypres and whose bodies were never recovered.

Photo – Commonwealth War Graves  
Commission





## LEST WE FORGET

# MAURICE DESMOND QUILL

Captain, Royal Marine Artillery

Died of accidental injuries in England on 17 June 1918, aged 22

Address: Craigleith House, Moored Park Road

He is buried in Leckhampton Churchyard and his name is inscribed on the Leckhampton War Memorial.

Maurice Quill came from a distinguished military family and was the son of Surgeon Major-General Raymond Humphrey Quill, CB, of the Army Medical Service and Marian Muir Randolph Quill. He was educated at Cheltenham College from 1909 to 1913, after which he was granted a commission in the Royal Marine Artillery. He went to France in September 1914, serving at Dunkirk with the Royal Naval Brigade. He was mentioned in despatches for Gallant and Distinguished Conduct in January 1916 and in 1917 served at the front with heavy siege guns.

He came home for a short leave in June 1918 and was seriously injured when he fell from his horse at Eastney Barracks, Portsmouth. He died in Haslar Royal Naval Hospital and was buried in Leckhampton Churchyard (Plot F.157).

Maurice Quill's grave in Leckhampton Churchyard. His mother, who died in 1933, is buried in the same plot, next to the grave of his father, who died in 1924 (incorrectly named elsewhere as Raymond Humphrey, confused with his son who had the same initials).

*The inscriptions are printed overleaf.*

Photo Eric Miller



*LEST WE FORGET*

**QUILL FAMILY TOMBSTONE INSCRIPTIONS**

F.157

TO THE / BELOVED MEMORY / OF / OUR DEAR SON / MAURICE DESMOND / QUILL /  
CAPTAIN ROYAL MARINE ARTILLERY / WHO WAS ON ACTIVE SERVICE / FOR NEARLY  
FOUR YEARS OF / THE GREAT WAR / AND D IED FROM INJURIES / SUSTAINED WHILE  
ON DUTY / JUNE 17TH 1918 / AGED 22 / MAY GOD REMEMBER HIM FOR EVER

AND TO THE DEAREST MEMORY OF / MARIAN MUIR RANDOLPH QUILL / WHO DIED  
14TH JAN 1933 AGED 73 / A MOST WONDERFUL AND DEVOTED MOTHER

F.156

IN MEMORIAM / MAJ GEN R H QUILL / DIED 18TH OCT 1924 AGED 76 / "GOD SAVE OUR  
GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN, / ... AND THE BROTHERHOOD" .. / LIVING AND DEPARTED OF  
THE MOST HONOURABLE ORDER OF THE BATH



Photo from *Leaving All that was Dear* by J Devereux and G Sacker

## **ANKETELL MOUTRAY READ, Victoria Cross**

Captain, Northamptonshire Regiment

Killed in action in France on 25 September 1915,  
aged 30

His connection with Leckhampton is that he was born at Beaumont House, Shurdington Road, where there is a blue plaque in his honour. He has the most distinguished record among all those recorded in this book.

He is buried at Dud Corner British Cemetery and is named on the Cheltenham War Memorial and on the Regimental Memorial in Sandhurst Memorial Chapel. He is also named on the War Memorial in Wicklow Parish Church, Eire, and has a memorial in St Michael and All Angels Church, Bampton, Devon; both are places with family connections.

A M Read was the youngest son of Major (later Colonel) John and Mrs Edith Moutray Read and was educated first in Cheltenham at Glyngarth School, Douro Road. He later attended the United Services College, at that time located in Westward Ho!, before moving on to the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, in 1901. He served as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the Gloucestershire Regiment from 1903 to 1907, when he transferred to the Indian Army. He was an outstanding boxer and had an unequalled record as a heavyweight and middleweight champion among the services in India and in England.

In 1911 he joined the Northamptonshire Regiment and was attached to the Royal Flying Corps, obtaining his flying certificate in 1912.

At the outbreak of war he rejoined the Northamptonshire Regiment, going to France as early as 11 August 1914, and was severely wounded the following month. He took part in action around Ypres in March the following year, but in September he was killed during the first day of the Battle of Loos. Although partially gassed, he several times led and encouraged scattered groups of men into the firing line, under 'withering' fire and regardless of danger to himself. For this and earlier acts of bravery he was awarded the Victoria Cross.

*Please turn over*

## LEST WE FORGET



Captain Read's headstone in Dud Corner Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France

Photo – CWGC

Commemorative blue plaque on former Beaumont house (now Beaumont Hotel), Shurdington Road, where A M Read was born

Photo – Eric Miller by permission of Mr Alan Bishop



Memorial in Bampton Church, Devon

Photo – Mr Tom McManamon of Bampton on <http://www.remembering.org.uk> website



*LEST WE FORGET*

# FREDERICK WALTER REILLY

Army No 7478

Private, Gloucestershire Regiment

Died in England on 22 March 1919, aged 31

Address: 4 Moorend Terrace, Croft Street

He is buried in Leckhampton Churchyard and his name is inscribed on the Leckhampton War Memorial.

Frederick Reilly was the son of George and Elizabeth Reilly and the husband of Annie Eleanor Reilly, née Irvin, of the above address. He was a reservist who had originally signed up in 1904. He was recalled at the outbreak of war and sent to France with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of the Gloucestershire Regiment on 13 August 1914. He was apparently discharged from the army on 14 December 1914 and his career after that is not known. At the time of his death over four years later, well after the war had ended, he was described as serving in the Gloucestershire Regimental Depot.

Frederick Reilly's grave in Leckhampton Churchyard, erected by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (in Block F, not far from Maurice Quill's grave, seen in the background). The pale stone makes it easily recognised.

Photo – Eric Miller



*LEST WE FORGET*



Photo from *Leaving All that was Dear* by J Devereux and G Sacker

## THOMAS CHARLES RICHINGS

Army Number 17768

Gunner, Royal Field Artillery

Killed in action in France on 21 March 1918, aged 25

Exact address in Leckhampton not known

He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Arras Memorial, Bay 1. He is named on the War Memorials at Leckhampton and Cheltenham

Thomas Richings was born in Leckhampton and before the war was employed by his father George Richings, a market gardener in Leckhampton. Though no address was given at the time of his death, his parents and the family are known to have been living at Southville in Leckhampton Road at the time of the 1911 Census.

He signed up in the Royal Field Artillery in Cheltenham in November 1914 and went to France with the 82<sup>nd</sup> Battery of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade. In 1918 he was serving with his unit south of Arras. Gunner Richings was one of the many casualties of the German Spring offensive of 1918, whose place of death was overrun and not recaptured until the Autumn.

The Arras Memorial, which commemorates 34,785 soldiers of the forces of the United Kingdom, South Africa and New Zealand, with no known grave, who died in the Arras sector between the spring of 1916 and 7 August 1918

Photo – Commonwealth War Graves Commission



## LEST WE FORGET

# AUGUSTUS GILES SIDDALL

Navy Number R239

Able Seaman, 63<sup>rd</sup> Royal Naval (Infantry) Division

Killed in action in France on 25 March 1918, aged 20

Address: 1 Southfield Villas, 345 Old Bath Road

He has no known grave but is commemorated on the Arras Memorial and also on the Leckhampton War Memorial.

Augustus (“Gussie”) Siddall was born in Leckhampton, the son of Albert Giles and Emily Augusta Siddall of the above address. (Siddall’s Caravan factory was opened in 1930 on a site next to Southfield Villas by a brother of his.) Augustus had at first been in the Army Reserve but signed up in the Royal Navy in September 1916 and was posted to one of several units in France made up of sailors acting as infantrymen. In February 1917 he received a gunshot wound to his right thigh and was returned to hospital in Liverpool. Rejoining his unit in the following month he was diagnosed with impetigo and again returned to England, where he remained until he was posted back to France in November.

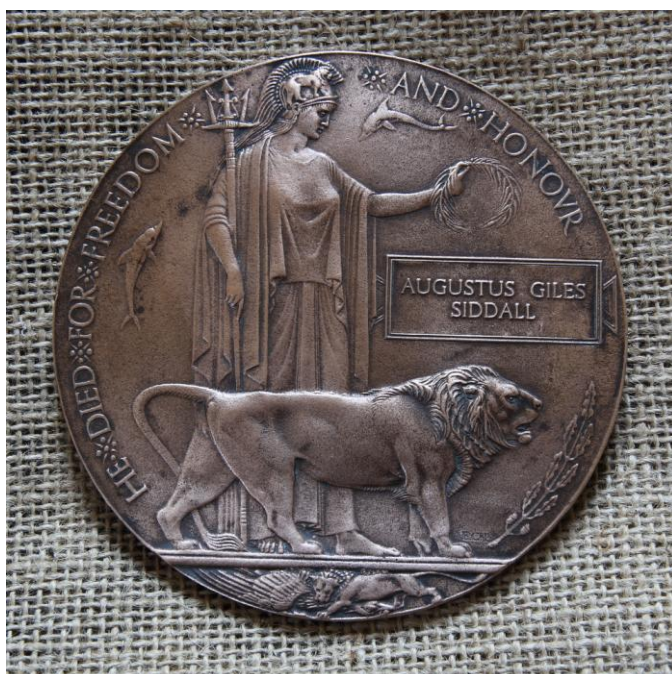
During the 1918 German Spring offensive the 63<sup>rd</sup> Division was in the front line opposite Cambrai. It came under a heavy gas attack, which caused many casualties, and was withdrawn on 21 March to new positions. During the fighting that followed, Able Seaman Siddall was killed, though it was not until after the war was over that his death was officially confirmed.

Bronze medallion commemorating Augustus Siddall.

Britannia is portrayed holding a trident, standing with a lion, and holding an oak wreath above a tablet bearing the name of the deceased.

See Percival Ballinger’s page for more details.

Photo – Anthony Siddall



*LEST WE FORGET*



Photo from *Leaving All that was Dear* by J Devereux and G Sacker

## JOSEPH MIDDLETON STAINES

Army Number 1809

Regimental Sergeant-Major, 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Rifle Brigade

Killed in action in France on 21 August 1916, aged 43

Address: Ferncroft, 97 Church Road

He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial and is named on the War Memorials at Leckhampton and Cheltenham.

Joseph Staines was born in Norfolk in 1873 and before the war had been a regular soldier for 21 years, including service with the Indian Army. On retirement he became a gymnastic instructor at Cheltenham College and re-enlisted in the Rifle Brigade in Winchester, giving a home address in Leckhampton.

In the summer of 1916 his unit was stationed on the Somme and on 18 August took part in an attack on enemy trenches at Longueval, near to Delville Wood. He was killed three days later and left a widow, Flora Staines, living at the above address.

The Thiepval Memorial, commemorating 72,195 missing British and South African men who died in the Battles of the Somme of the First World War between 1915 and 1918 with no known grave

Photo – Commonwealth War Graves Commission





## LEST WE FORGET



Photo from *Leaving All that was Dear* by J Devereux and G Sacker

# HAROLD GEORGE SUMMERS

Army Number 3567

Private, 1/5th Gloucestershire Regiment

Died of wounds in France on 27 July 1916, aged 21

Address: 1 Pilley Cottages, Pilley Lane

He is buried in at Labucquière Communal Cemetery Extension, Plot II, Row C, Grave 21 and he is named on the War Memorials at Leckhampton and Cheltenham. He is also commemorated by a wooden cross in the churchyard.

Harold Summers was born in Leckhampton, the son of Edwin and Annie Summers of the above address. In August 1914 he signed up at Cheltenham in the 1/5<sup>th</sup> (Territorial) Battalion of the Gloucestershire Regiment and was in France during the Somme offensive which began in July 1916.

During one of many night-time operations his company had moved forward into ‘no-man’s-land’ and lay waiting for the order to charge. They were spotted by the enemy, however, who bombarded them with artillery fire. Few men survived, and Harold Summers was among the wounded. He died later at a casualty clearing station.

His brother Arthur also died in the war, on 3 February 1917.

One of these three “Flanders Crosses” in the churchyard (Block J) commemorates Private Summers. They are copies of original wooden crosses which had marked the spot where the soldiers had fallen.

Photo – Eric Miller



*LEST WE FORGET*

# ARTHUR RAYMOND SUMMERS



Photo from *Leaving All that  
was Dear* by J Devereux and  
G Sacker

Army Number 29007

Private, 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Grenadier Guards

Died in England on 3 February 1917, aged 18

Address: 1 Pilley Cottages, Pilley Lane

He is buried in Caterham Burial Ground, Row D, Grave  
27 and is named on the War Memorials at Leckhampton  
and Cheltenham.

Arthur Summers was born in Leckhampton, the third son of Edward and Annie Summers of the above address. He enlisted in the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Grenadier Guards, in Cheltenham and died while training at Caterham Barracks, Surrey.

His brother Harold also died in the war, on 27 July 1916.

*LEST WE FORGET*



Photo from *Leaving All that was Dear* by J Devereux and G Sacker

## **SYDNEY BARNARD THOMPSON**

Army Number 6207

Acting Sergeant-Major, 21<sup>st</sup> (Empress of India's) Lancers

Killed in action in Belgium on 28 October 1914, aged 34

Address: The School House, Hall Road, Leckhampton

He has no known grave and is commemorated on the memorial at Le Touret and on his parents' grave in Leckhampton Churchyard (Plot A10). He is named on the Leckhampton and Cheltenham War Memorials.

Sydney Thompson was the son of Barnard George Thompson (headmaster of Leckhampton School from 1886 until his death in 1913) and Susan Isabel Thompson.

He was a regular soldier and had already served in the South Africa Campaign of 1899 – 1902, during which he was awarded the Queen's Medal. His name appears on the South African memorial in the Long Gardens in Cheltenham Promenade.

He went to France in August 1914 and in the following month took part in what was to be the last battle in which lances were used by mounted cavalrymen. On 28 October his regiment was defending a line around Ypres and during a heavy German artillery bombardment many of the troops were killed, including Sydney Thompson.

His younger brother, Quartermaster Sergeant Ernest Thompson of the Grenadier Guards, was killed the following day during fighting only a few miles away.

*LEST WE FORGET*

# ERNEST JOHN THOMPSON

Army Number 10463

Company Quartermaster Sergeant, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Grenadier Guards

Killed in action in Belgium on 29 October 1914, aged 30

Address: The School House, Hall Road, Leckhampton

He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Menin Gate Memorial and on his parents' grave in Leckhampton Churchyard (Plot A10). He is named on the Leckhampton and Cheltenham War Memorials.

Ernest Thompson was the second son of Barnard George Thompson (headmaster of Leckhampton School from 1886 until his death in 1913) and Susan Isabel Thompson.

He was a regular soldier who had joined the Grenadier Guards before the war. He landed with his unit at Zeebrugge on 7 October 1914 and later that month was fighting in the area of Ypres. By 29 October, under heavy artillery fire, the battalion was outnumbered by the enemy by ten to one, and at the roll call at the end of the day only 5 officers and 192 men were left out of almost 1000 who had originally 'gone over the top'.

His older brother, Acting Sergeant-Major Sydney Barnard Thompson of the 21<sup>st</sup> Lancers, was killed in nearby fighting on 28 October 1914.

The Menin Gate Memorial, on which are carved the names of the 54,389 missing officers and men of the British and Commonwealth Forces who died while defending Ypres and whose bodies were never recovered.

Photo – Commonwealth War Graves Commission



*LEST WE FORGET*



Photograph taken from  
an election poster

## **CHARLES ALBERT JAMES WARD**

Lieutenant, Indian Army Reserve of Officers attached to the censor's department.

Died on board the Hospital Ship *Vita* sailing on the Red Sea, on 15th December 1918, aged 51

Address: 33, Leckhampton Road

He is commemorated on the Leckhampton and Cheltenham War Memorials and also on the Jerusalem memorial, in Israel.

Charles Ward was the son of George and Mary Ward of Fairfield House (now demolished), Leckhampton Road. He trained as a lawyer and worked in a practice in Cardiff, where he was elected as a Conservative Councillor in 1894. As a member of the 3rd Volunteer Battalion of the Welsh Regiment he served from 1900 to 1902 in the South African Campaign, during which time he was appointed as a staff officer in the 'Brabant's Horse' cavalry regiment.

He volunteered again in 1915 and was posted to India, where he served in the Censor's Department. He became ill late in 1918 and was sailing home on board the Hospital Ship *Vita* when he died and was buried in the Red Sea.

Charles Ward was married to Ada Grace Hall, who was the Commandant of the Red Cross Voluntary Aid Hospital at Leckhampton Court throughout the war.

Mrs Grace Ward, Commandant of the  
Leckhampton Court Red Cross Hospital

Photo taken from *Souvenir of  
Leckhampton V.A.D Hospital* ed. By  
Sydney Harrison





# GEORGE FREDERICK DELMAR-WILLIAMSON

Lieutenant, Royal Air Force, formerly of the Black Watch

Died in a flying accident in England on 12 July 1918, aged 19

Address: 8 Lansdown Place, Cheltenham

He is buried in Leckhampton Churchyard (Plot E.164) and named on the War Memorials at Leckhampton and Cheltenham and at Cheltenham College.

Photo from *Leaving All that was Dear* by J Devereux and G Sacker

George Frederick Delmar-Williamson was born in Notting Hill, the only son of Frederick Delmar-Williamson, a noted musician of his day, and Emily Rowley Delmar-Williamson of the above address and later of Firs Lodge, 26 Moorend Road. He was educated at Glyngarth School and attended Cheltenham College from 1913 to 1915, after which he entered the Royal Military College, Sandhurst.

His first posting was as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the Black Watch but in 1916 he was attached to the Royal Flying Corps, gaining his wings at Vendôme in 1917. He carried out photographic reconnaissance on the Western Front but was invalided home in August 1917, suffering from concussion. After recovering he was put on anti-air raid duties over England, including missions against zeppelins.

In March 1918 he was appointed as a flying instructor at Yatesbury, Wiltshire. In the newly formed Royal Air Force, he was test flying an RE 8 biplane over Chippenham when it collapsed in mid-air. Both he and his co-pilot, Captain Douglas Gabell (also from Cheltenham: the Gabell Wing of Delancey Hospital was named after his clergyman father) were killed in the crash. Lieutenant Delmar-Williamson was buried with full military honours in Leckhampton Churchyard. His parents, who died in 1942 and 1943, are buried in the same plot.

Details from Lieutenant Delmar-Williamson's grave in Leckhampton Churchyard

Photos – Eric Miller



*LEST WE FORGET*



The wreckage of the RE 8 biplane in which G F Delmar-Williamson and his friend and colleague Douglas Gabell died

Photo -



Douglas Gabell's grave in St Lawrence's Churchyard, Swindon Village

Photo – Eileen Allen

*LEST WE FORGET*

# CHARLES GORDON WINSTONE

Army Number 2234

Lance-Corporal, 4<sup>th</sup> Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders

Killed in action in France on 18 May 1915, aged 20

Address: Ewlyn, Leckhampton Road

He has no known grave but is commemorated on the Le Touret Memorial and on his father's grave in St Lawrence's Churchyard, Swindon Village. He is named on the Leckhampton, Cheltenham and Pate's Grammar School War Memorials.

Charles Winstone was the son of Gordon Arthur Winstone, a retired farmer who was living at the above address before the war. He was educated at Cheltenham Grammar School between 1903 and 1909.

He enlisted in the 4<sup>th</sup> (Territorial) Battalion, Cameron Highlanders at Inverness, which arrived in France in February 1915. He was wounded the following month and was sent to a hospital at Boulogne. He recovered and took part in the battle of Festubert in May. In this battle the Camerons and troops of the Bedfordshire Regiment attempted to capture a German communications trench and a nearby group of houses but were driven back and overrun. The assault was a costly failure, and the 4<sup>th</sup> Camerons lost 13 officers and 215 men including their Commanding Officer. Charles Winstone too was killed during this battle.

The memorial at Le Touret, near Festubert, where Charles Winstone was killed

Photo – Commonwealth War Graves Commission



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*LEST WE FORGET*



Charles Gordon Winstone's name on his parents' grave in St Lawrence's Churchyard,  
Swindon Village

Photo – Eileen Allen

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Photo from *Leaving All that was Dear* by J Devereux and G Sacker

## **DOUGLAS REYNOLDS, Victoria Cross**

Major, Royal Field Artillery

Died of wounds in France on 3 February 1916, aged 33

Parents' address: Thorncliff, Lansdown Road. He is buried in Etaples Military Cemetery, Grave I.A.20, and is commemorated on his parents' grave in Leckhampton Churchyard (Plot F.50) and on the War Memorials at Cheltenham and at Cheltenham College. A commemorative Victoria Cross paving stone was laid in his honour in his home town of Bristol on 26 August 2014.

Douglas Reynolds was born in 1882, the second son of Colonel Henry Charles Reynolds, Royal Engineers, and Eleanor Reynolds. His grandfather was General John Williams Reynolds.

He was educated at Cheltenham College and entered the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, in 1896 and was commissioned in the Royal Artillery in 1900. He served during the South African War with the Mounted Infantry attached to the Royal Artillery and received the Queen's Medal with three clasps. He spent most of the period up to the First World War in India but in 1913 went to Ireland, where he was serving when war was declared.

He went abroad immediately and was involved in heavy fighting from the start. On 26 August, during a prolonged artillery battle at Le Cateau, east of Cambrai, he led two teams of volunteer drivers to recapture British guns. On 9 September 1914, during a reconnaissance mission, he discovered an enemy battery that was holding up the advance and silenced it single-handedly. For these two actions he was awarded the Victoria Cross, together with the volunteer drivers. He was twice mentioned in despatches and made a Chevalier of the Légion d'Honneur.

He was later wounded twice, and as a result of the second injury in December 1915 he was admitted to the Duchess of Westminster's Hospital at Le Touquet, where died some weeks later of septicaemia and gas poisoning. In 1915 he had married Doris Peterson, of Cherkley Court, Leatherhead. At the time of his death, their son was four weeks old.

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*LEST WE FORGET*



Etaples Military Cemetery, where Douglas Reynolds is buried

Photo – Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Inscription commemorating Douglas Reynolds on his  
parents' grave in Leckhampton Churchyard

Photo – Eric Miller

## **JAMES FERRAND DEARDEN, Distinguished Service Order, Military Cross and two Bars**

Captain, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Royal Fusileers (City of London Regiment)

Died of illness in England, 6 October 1919, aged 23

Address: Langton House, Bath Road

He is buried in Leckhampton Churchyard (on the southern edge of Block A)

James Ferrand Dearden was born in New Zealand, the eldest son of Peregrine Robert and Annie Abbott Dearden. He attended Cheltenham College before entering the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, in 1913. On 1 October 1914 he was granted a commission in the Royal Fusileers. By 1916 he had been given the temporary rank of Captain.

He was awarded the Military Cross for the first time during the Battle of the Somme in the summer of 1916 and later earned two bars to this honour. In April 1917, during the Battle of Vimy Ridge, he jumped on to a parapet with a machine gun and accounted for many of the opposing force, inspiring his men to hold their positions. For this action he received the Distinguished Service Order – the second highest award for gallantry given to officers.

He was severely wounded in November 1917 and took no further part in the war. He died from the effects of his wounds and illness at Mostar, Queens Road, Cheltenham (near Lansdown Station). This is one of several addresses with which he and his family were associated. Langton House was demolished in the 1960s to make way for the Eagle Star building. It had earlier been occupied by families with Indian Empire connections. For example, Sir James Brooke ('Brooke Rajah,' the ruler of Sarawak) visited his married sister there in 1848. In James Dearden's Will, his address was given as Lewisham House, Suffolk Road.

James's younger brother Peregrine was a Lieutenant in the Royal Navy and was one of the few survivors when HMS Queen Mary blew up under fire in the Battle of Jutland. He was taken prisoner but survived and after his release he returned to New Zealand where he became a sheep farmer.

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The headstone on Captain Dearden's grave, erected by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission in 2006

Photo – Eric Miller

## LEST WE FORGET

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The chief source of information on each serviceman's family, previous life and military career has been the book *Leaving all that was dear*, by permission of its authors Joseph Devereux and Graham Sacker. Similarly, this has been supplemented by details found on certain websites, in particular <http://www.remembering.org.uk>, created by Jimmy James, and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) site [www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org). Other particulars have been added as the result of examination of Census returns and local directories and conversation with family members.

In most cases the photographs of individual servicemen are taken from *Leaving all that was dear* and those of military cemeteries or other war memorials are from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website. Credits for exceptions and other photographs are as follows:

Leckhampton War Memorial, 'Poppies,' 'Flanders Crosses,' gravestones of W H Caudle, J F Dearden, F W Hall, M D Quill, F W Reilly, D Reynolds and G F Delmar-Williamson - *Eric Miller*

A Aldrich's gravestone - *Catherine Switzer* on <http://www.remembering.org.uk> website

R E Angus - *Loretto College website*

P L Ballinger's bronze plaque - *Eric Miller* by permission of The Wilson (Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museum)

W V Barrett - *Michael William Barrett*

A W Enoch - the late *Terry Enoch*

G C Hunt's gravestone - *Don Biddle*

A M Read: gravestone - *CWGC*; his memorial in Bampton Church - *Mr Tom McManamon*; blue plaque on Beaumont Hotel - *Eric Miller* by permission of *Mr Alan Bishop*

A G Siddall's bronze plaque - *Anthony Siddall*

C A J Ward - *Dave Ward*

Mrs Grace Ward - from *Souvenir of Leckhampton Court V.A.D. Hospital*, ed. *Sydney Harrison*

G F Delmar-Williamson: aircraft wreckage - <http://www.remembering.org.uk>; same page, photograph of Douglas Gabell's grave - *Eileen Allen*

C G Winstone's gravestone - *Eileen Allen*

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