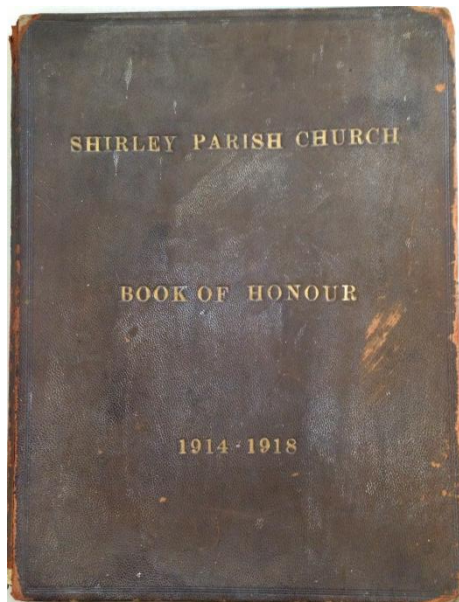


100 years on
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM



Shirley Remembers

Biographies of the 57 men
from Shirley, Southampton,
who lost their lives in World War 1



Back in 2013, we were clearing out a cupboard in St James' by the Park and found a book entitled "Shirley Parish Church Book of Honour". Inside were listed the names of 57 men from Shirley who died in the Great War (and another 28 men who died in World War 2).

That Book of Honour has inspired this booklet, which tells in brief the stories of those men. Many were born locally; others moved here for work.

A few died on these shores; many died in France or Belgium; a few died as far afield as Palestine and Turkey; several died at sea.

Five of them were teenagers when they died. The oldest was 56. Some lived for months or even years before their injuries took their lives; most died instantly.

A few died of gas poisoning; some from disease; most from blasts from guns, shells or mines.

All of them experienced the terrors of war. All left behind loved ones who grieved deeply for them.

As you read through these biographical sketches, you will read of a father who signed up to fight after his son was killed – but then he, too, was killed; a mother and father who lost three sons; of men who never got to meet their children. The 'Great War' brought such tragedies to many families around the world and to families here in Shirley.

The tragic stories touched the congregation of this church deeply – not least when they heard that a former curate, working as an army chaplain, was killed by a shell whilst taking a funeral near the front line. His biography is included in this booklet as well, although he's not listed on the original Book of Honour.

The War Memorial outside our church building was provided by one of my predecessors, Rev'd Jacob, who was vicar here from 1889 - 1920. Doubtless he would have christened and conducted weddings for some of those who were killed, and he would have offered pastoral care to many of the grieving. He would have taken the funeral of at least one man listed here, who is buried in the churchyard.

As part of our centenary commemorations, we have had work done to restore the War Memorial outside St James' by the Park so that it will stand as a memorial for another hundred years of the sacrifice that others made for our benefit. We are grateful to Allstone Stonemasons for completing this work at a heavily discounted rate, and to members of the public who have helped to fund the restoration.

We are indebted to Rev'd Nicholas Pye who has compiled the vast majority of these biographical sketches, to help us appreciate the local impact the Great War had on this area. Thanks are due also to Michael Hobbs, Maria Maund, Vicki Stacey, Ron Healey, Michaela Lawler-Levene and Ray Hancock from the Shirley History Group, who also contributed to the research, and to Theresa Bowen, for compiling and printing this booklet.

*They shall grow not old as we who 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.*

Rev'd Dan Clark, vicar, St James' by the Park

ALEXANDER, Leonard George

Rank:	Lance Corporal
Service No:	S/6579
Date of Death:	28 th October 1918
Age:	34
Regiment:	Royal Army Ordnance Corps
Cemetery:	Etaples Military Cemetery. It is located about 27 kms south of Boulogne and is the largest Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemetery in France. It is located on the former site of a large military hospital complex used by the Allies during World War 1 and contains in excess of 10,000 allied graves from this period.

Leonard was born in 1884 in Shirley, Southampton. His parents were James (1854-1906) and Ellen (1848-1896) Alexander. He had three siblings: Francis (b.1879), Mary (b.1881) and Susan (b.1887), and six half-siblings: Florence (1899-1981), Gertrude (1901-1980), Edith (1903-1987) and William (1906-1980). His step-mother was called Mary (b.1867).

At the time of the 1891 census, his family was living in Wellington Street, Shirley. His father worked as a plumber and painter. At the time of the 1901 census, his family was still living in Wellington Street, Shirley. His father worked as an inn-keeper and painter. Leonard was a painter.

Leonard enlisted in Shrewsbury, Shropshire, and served in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps. This dealt with the supply and maintenance of weaponry, munitions and other military equipment.

Leonard died of broncho-pneumonia in one of the 24 military hospitals that were at Etaples, near Boulogne. One theory is that the pandemic which wiped out millions all over the world between 1917 and 1920 originated in the lungs of soldiers recovering at Etaples. They lived in close proximity to pigs and poultry; the soldiers' lungs were weakened by trench living and exposure to gas. These conditions enabled the virus to jump species from pigs and/or poultry to humans.

At the time of his death, his registered address was Lion Inn, 14 Wellington Street, Shirley, Southampton. His estate was valued at £177, which was given to his unmarried sister, Mary.

His headstone inscription is: *"not as I will but as thou wilt"*, which is a quotation of the words of Jesus said in the Garden of Gethsemane on the eve of his crucifixion as recorded in the Bible (Matthew 26:39, Mark 14:46 and Luke 22:42). It's likely that he and his family were Christians.



ALLEN, Frank Albert

Rank:	Driver
Service No:	150188
Date of Death:	8 May 1918
Age:	20
Service:	2nd Brigade Head Quarters, Royal Field Artillery
Memorial:	White House Cemetery, St. Jean-Les- Ypres, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. 851 casualties are buried in the cemetery.

Frank Albert was born in St James, Shirley, Southampton in 1898. His father was Thomas Albert, born in Wimpson, Southampton (1878). His mother was Kate Elizabeth nee Joy, born Bridport, Dorset (1881). They married in Southampton in 1899, he was a General Labourer. Frank had 8 brothers and sisters. Frederick (b. 1899), William (b. 1900, Mabel (b. 1901), Leonard (b. 1903), Eva (b. 1904), Henry (b. 1906), Hilda (b. 1908), and one unknown that died (as per 1911 census). In 1911 the family was living in Warren Avenue and Thomas was a Council Dustman.

Frank's service records were lost in a fire in WW2, but his Medal Card has survived. It lists him as a R.F.A Driver. He has not been awarded the 1914 or 1915 Star, and has no date of going overseas. So was not in action until 1916 or 1917.

The 2nd Brigade HQ Quarters, R.F.A were part of 6th Division, 5th Army in France. In August 1914 this unit was in Ireland and comprised number 21, 42 and 53 Batteries. On mobilisation it came under orders of 6th Division. It landed in France with the Division in early September 1914 and remained within the Division on the Western Front for the rest of the war. On 12 May 1916 the brigade was joined by 87 (Howitzer) Battery (less one section) from 12 Brigade.

The Division was in Action in the 4th Ypres Salient Battle, 7th - 29th April 1918 was the Battle of the Lys. Shortly after this action Frank was killed in Action. He is buried in the White House Cemetery. Plot 3, Row Q, No.21. He was awarded The British War Medal And The Victory Medal.

AMES, Frank

Rank:	Private
Service No:	M2/135702
Date of Death:	18 th October 1918
Age:	29
Regiment:	Royal Army Service Corps
Cemetery:	Southampton (Hollybrook) Cemetery. It contains burials of both wars and a memorial to the missing. The cemetery has a WW1 plot near the main entrance containing most of the 125 graves from this period.



Frank was born 1889 in Selbourne, Hampshire, the eldest child of parents Sidney (b.1858) and Elizabeth, nee Richards, (1861-1909) who married in 1889 in Southampton. Frank had six siblings: Henry (b.1892), Ethel (b.1893), Robert (b.1899), Sidney (b.1901), and Evelyn (b.1905).

At the time of the 1891 Census, Frank and his parents were living at the Police Station in Alverstoke, Hampshire. Sidney was a police sergeant. At the time of the 1901 Census, the family was living at 51 Warren Avenue, Shirley Warren, Southampton. His father worked as a night watchman. At the time of the 1911 Census, Frank, his widowed father and his siblings, except Henry, who had died, were living at 55 Warren Avenue, Shirley Warren. His father was employed as a dock labourer and Frank as a domestic gardener.

Frank had been a gardener (listed on the 1911 census) , then a chauffeur for Vinery House (information from Millicent Jurd via an Oral History Interview in 2010 with Freda Hancock), then immediately prior to enlisting he was a chauffeur mechanic for Messrs Burt and Dedman, Motor Engineers at The Winchester Road Motor Garage on Winchester Road, Shirley. The private address for correspondence was at Thorndale, Winchester Road and it is from this employer that the War Office seek his reference (From Frank Ames' Service Record).

Frank enlisted in 1915 in the Army Service Corps whose role was to supply and transport provisions (though not weaponry or ammunition) to the front. His occupation was ambulance driver. He was drafted to Egypt, where he took part in several engagements, remaining on that Front until 1917. He was then sent to the Western Front where he was wounded on 18th September 1918. He returned to England before dying from his wounds a month later at the 4th London General Hospital, Denmark Hill, south London. His estate was valued at £202 19s 2d and went to Miss Millicent Jurd of Laundry Road, Shirley Warren, Southampton.



Frank's brother, Robert joined up in early 1917 as a private in the Royal Fusiliers. During his service on the Western Front, which lasted for two years, he took part in several engagements, including the third Battle of Ypres and was severely wounded in action at St. Quentin. He was demobilized on his return to England in 1919.

ARNEY, Ernest William

Rank:	Private
Service No:	20204
Date of Death:	Sunday 9 th December 1917
Age:	29
Regiment:	2nd Battalion, Coldstream Guards
Cemetery:	Wimereux Communal Cemetery. The cemetery is in Wimereux, a small town 5kms north of Boulogne, France, and contains 2,847 Commonwealth burials of the First World War, including Lt.-Colonel John McCrae, author of the poem <i>In Flanders Fields</i> . Wimereux was the headquarters of the Queen Mary's Army Auxilliary Corps during the War. From October 1914 onwards, Boulogne and Wimereux formed an important hospital cemetery for burials.

Ernest was born in Lordshill, Southampton. His parents were James (1844-1928) and Julia Arley (1853-1938), nee O'Connor, who married in the Winchester area in 1886. James had been married before but his first wife died in Lordshill in 1885, leaving him with four children. Julia also brought a child into the marriage: Ellen (b.1880). Ernest had four siblings: Leonard (1887-1961), Reginald (1889-1974), Gertrude (1890-1909) and Lena (1893-1948).

At the time of the 1891 Census, the family was living in Nursling, Southampton. At the time of the 1901 Census the family was living in the parish of St James Shirley. At the time of the 1911 Census, Ernest was still living with his parents at 146 Pound Street, Shirley, Southampton. He was employed as a carman for a railway company.

Ernest married Priscilla Emily King (1888-1935) in 1913. There is no evidence of children. After Ernest's death, Priscilla married Thomas Pickett in 1925.

The Guards Division attacked the German-held village of Fontaine Notre Dame between 23-28 November 1917 and there were many casualties on both sides. What remained of the Division was then ordered to try and hold the enemy at Gouzeaucourt with, once again, many casualties. It is probable that Ernest was injured in this fighting and transferred to one of the hospitals in Wimereux, where he succumbed to his wounds.

Ernest's name is listed on the Southampton Cenotaph.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; www.southamptoncenotaph.com/ernest-william-arney and www.ancestry.co.uk

BALSON, Frederick John

Rank:	Corporal - Acting Sergeant
Service No:	9086
Date of Death:	9 May 1917
Age:	Not Known
Service:	8th Battalion, Dorset Regiment
Memorial:	Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. The memorial stands at the entrance to the Faubourg d'Amiens Cemetery. 34832 names are on the memorial to the missing with no known grave. Most were lost during the Battle of Arras 9th April - 16th May 1917.

The only record with any information on Frederick's family is who received his War Gratuity and Pay, and this states payment was made to his widow, Jessie Flo. No other information. The CWGC has no more information on age or next of kin.

No information is available as to Frederick's service records as they were lost in a fire during WW2, but his Medal Card has survived. He has not been awarded the 1914 or 1915 Star and has no date for going overseas. So was not in action until 1916 or 1917.

19th August 1914 the 8th Battalion Dorset Regiment was formed as a Service Battalion, from Officers and men of the 1st Battalion. They became part of 29th Brigade, 7th Divisional Troops to 14th (Light) Division.

In 1916 the Battalion was in the Givenchy area of Northern France, 6 miles from Arras and on the Front Line with Germany. They then moved to the Somme area for the first Somme Offensive that started on the 1st July 1916 and lasted 140 days. The 9th April 1917 the Battalion was involved in the Battle of Arras. In April they attacked Ecoust with great success with only light casualties. On the 3rd May the 2nd Battle of Bullecourt began at 3.45 a.m. This action ended 15th May. This action cost the Battalion 382 killed and wounded. Frederick was reported missing on 9th May, presumed Killed in Action. The Battalion War Diary for the 9th May. States that the 8th Battalion along with the 20th Machine Gun Corps are to attack North West through Bullecourt from Green line and if possible establish a strong point. Frederick was missing in action on this day, no grave found. The War Diary for the 5th May - 9th May 1917 lists Casualties as, Killed, 5 Officers and 14 Other Ranks. Wounded, 6 Officers and 164 Other Ranks. Missing, 9.

Frederick's name is recorded on the Arras Memorial, Bay 4. He was awarded the British War Medal and The Victory Medal.

BISPHAM, William John

Rank:	Private
Service No:	L/7121 & 543710 Labour Corps
Date of Death:	29 November 1924
Age:	43
Service:	1st Battalion, Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment, then the Labour Corps, 522 H.S. Emp. (Home Service Employment).
Memorial:	Not known

William John was born 1 August 1881 in Camberwell, South London. His father was William Bispham, born 1855 in East London, he married Frances Isabel Blyth in 1880 in Southwick, London. Frances was born 1885 in Southwick, London. They had three children, William (b. 1881), Henry (b. 1884) and Isabel (b. 1887). In the 1911 census William and Frances were living in Portsmouth, and William is a Contract Officer.

William John was in the Merchant Navy working as a ship's butcher and living at 12 Edward Street. In 1911 he married, Alice Trimbey at the Southampton Registry Office. She was working as a Domestic Servant in Bassett House, Banister Road, Southampton. Alice was born 13 July 1879 in Twyford, and after they married they lived at 76 Sydney Road, Shirley. They had three children William (b. 1912), Olive (b. 1914) and Denis (b. 1921).

It is not known when William John joined up, as his service records were lost in a fire. His medal card has survived. This tells us that William served overseas with the 1st Battalion, Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment from 18th September 1914 until 23rd March 1918. He was then transferred on the 24th March 1918 to the Labourer Corps, 522 H.S. Emp. This unit was employed on home service in England.

The 1st Battalion landed at Le Havre, France 13th August 1914 as part of the 3rd Brigade in the 1st Division. The Battalion spent the whole war on the Western Front. They were in a number of battles including, Mons, Marne, Aisne, Ypres, Passchendaele and Arras.

William was awarded the 1914 Star with Clasp "5th AUG - 22nd NOV 1914" (The Mons Star), the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

After the war William returned to the Merchant Navy as a Butcher, sailing 17 March 1919 on the White Star Line, RMS Olympic between Southampton and New York.

Sadly William died 29 November 1924 of cancer, he was living at 5 Wordsworth Road, Shirley and listed as an Army Pensioner. His widow Alice was still living at 5 Wordsworth Road when the 1939 Register was taken.

BONE, Thomas James

Rank:	Greaser
Service No:	Unknown
Date of Death:	Tuesday 29 th February 1916
Age:	56 (which is exceptionally old)
Service:	Mercantile Marine Reserve, HMS <i>Alcantara</i>
Memorial:	Portsmouth Naval Memorial and Southampton Cenotaph Wall

Thomas was born in 1860, in Shirley, Southampton. His parents were George (1832-1909) and Sarah (1835-1905) Bone. Thomas had six siblings: Henrietta (1859–1919), George (b.1861), Fanny (1867–1932), Sarah (1869–1949), Ada (1876–1966) and Alice (b.1878).

At the time of the 1871 Census, Thomas was living with his family in Millbrook, Southampton. When the 1881 and 1891 Census were taken Thomas was probably at sea as his name does not appear in the records.

Thomas married Elizabeth Ellen Bartlett (1867-1905) in Southampton in early 1890. At the time of the 1901 Census, Thomas and Elizabeth were living at 15 Imperial Avenue, Shirley, Southampton. They had no children. When the 1911 Census was taken it seems that Thomas was again at sea.

Thomas joined the Mercantile Marine Reserve Navy. This was used to engage officers and seamen on board vessels employed on government service. He served on HMS *Alcantara* as a Greaser. As a Greaser, he would have been responsible for keeping oil-levels in various sumps on generators, compressors, winches, steering-gear etc. topped-up. He would have kept all machinery in the engine-room and on deck lubricated.

HMS *Alcantara* was an ocean liner and went into service weeks before the start of the World War 1. She was converted to an Armed Merchant Cruiser in early 1915. On 29th February 1916, while in the North Sea, she was signalled to intercept an alleged disguised merchant ship. At 08.45 a ship was subsequently sighted and identified as the Norwegian ship, *Rena*. Having been ordered to intercept and search the vessel, *Alcantara* closed to within 800 yards and a boarding party set out, but within minutes the German raider *Greif* raised the German flag, lowered false bulkheads concealing her guns and opened fire. The *Alcantara* was mortally wounded and soon developed a port list. At 0915 the order to abandon ship was issued, the list was so great that many of the ship's complement walked down the ship's side. The Cruiser *Comus* and Destroyer *Munster* arrived to pick up survivors and at 11.08 the *Alcantara* sank. Thomas was among the 72 of the ships' crew of 338 who did not survive the engagement.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; www.naval-history.net/OWShips-WWI-08-HMS_Alcantara.htm; and www.ancestry.co.uk

BOWDITCH, Frederick Charles

Rank:	Private
Service No:	204808
Date of Death:	Wednesday 18 September 1918
Age:	26
Service:	9th Battalion, South Lancashire Regiment
Memorial:	Doiran Memorial. The Memorial commemorates 2,174 members of the Commonwealth forces and stands near Doiran Military Cemetery, It is situated about 50 miles north of Thessaloniki, Greece, close to the Macedonia border. It marks the scene of the fierce fighting of 1917-1918, which caused the majority of the Commonwealth battle casualties.

Frederick was born in Chardstock, Devon in 1892. His parents were Henry 'Harry' Bowditch (1858-1940) and Matilda Martha Belgen (1863-1934). He had five siblings: John (b.1886) Annie (b.1887), Sidney (b.1893), Thomas (1898–1972) and Frank (1904–1984).

At the time of the 1901 Census, the family was living at Beacon Hill Cottage, Chardstock, Chard, Somerset. His parents were still living at this address at the time of Frederick's death.

Frederick enlisted in Weston-Super-Mare, Somerset. His medal index card reveals that he served initially with the Royal Army Service Corps, then the Welsh Regiment and finally the South Lancashire Regiment. Frederick was part of the British forces attacked at Doiran on 18th to 19th September and died in the engagement. With a breakthrough by Serbian forces west of the river Vardar the Bulgarian army was forced into a general retreat and the campaign concluded with the surrender of Bulgaria on 30 September 1918.

From October 1915 to the end of November 1918, the British Salonika Force suffered some 2,800 deaths in action, 1,400 from wounds and 4,200 from sickness. The campaign afforded few successes for the Allies, and none of any importance until the last two months.

Frederick's connection to Shirley is currently unknown.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; <https://salonikacampaignsociety.org.uk/campaign/>; and www.ancestry.co.uk

BUDD, Alfred Henry

Rank:	Private
Service No:	29517
Date of Death:	29th October 1916
Age:	20
Service:	2nd Battalion, Hampshire Regiment
Memorial:	Thiepval Memorial, Thiepval, France. Overlooking the River Somme. This is the memorial to the 72,336 officers and men missing with no known grave, who died in the Somme sector. Over 90% died between July 1916 and March 1918. This is the largest Commonwealth Memorial to the missing in the world.

Alfred Henry was born in Shirley, Southampton in 1896. His parents were Harry, born in Shirley, Southampton (1868). His mother was Julia Matilda nee Morgan born in Jersey, Channel Island, (1867). They were married in Shirley in 1887. Alfred and Henry were both House Painters and lived in Station Road, Shirley and Wellington Street, Shirley, Southampton. Alfred had three sisters, Florence Mary (b. 1891- d.1898), Louisa Elizabeth (b. 1888) and Laura Hetty (b. 1903).

Alfred's service records were lost in a fire during WW2, but his Medal Card has survived. It lists him as a Private in the 2nd Battalion Hampshire Regiment. He has not been awarded the 1914 or 1915 Star, and has no date for going overseas. So was not in action until 1916. It is not known if he joined the 2nd Battalion overseas or when they were brought back to fight on the Western Front in France.

The 8th January 1916 the 2nd Battalion were in Alexandria, Egypt. 20th March 1916 they left for the Western Front. They landed at Marseilles 29th March and then on to the front to join the 41st Division. The Hampshire's were to take part in the Somme Offensive that started 1st July 1916 until the 18th November. On Friday 15th September 1916 a new offensive on the Somme started and this was also to be the first time that the British used their Secret Weapon, the Tank. 49 tanks were sent into action, the total number we had. The 41st division including the Hampshire's were given the most tanks for their objectives, to capture the village of Flers. The village was captured early in the day, with one tank driving up the main street. The Battalion is still on the Somme in October. The Battalion's War Diary reads, "Somme, October 28th, Brigade occupied left sub sector of divisional front which is NORTH OF FLERS. Casualties. 2 Wounded, 2 Sick to Hospital". next day reads, "Somme, October 29th, Relieved by 1st Australian Regt and moved back to BERNAFAY CAMP. The whole division is being withdrawn from the line. Casualties. 2 Killed". Sadly Alfred is one of the 2 killed and has no known grave. He is listed on the Thiepval Memorial. Pier Face 7B and 7C. He was awarded the British War Medal and The Victory Medal.

BULLOCK, Reckey William Stanley

Rank	Private
Service No:	241117
Date of Death:	10 April 1918
Age:	21 or 22
Service:	2nd/5th Battalion, Hampshire Regiment
Cemetery:	Jerusalem Memorial, Jerusalem, Israel. This commemorates 3,300 Commonwealth servicemen who died during the First World War in operations in Egypt or Palestine and who have no known grave.

Reckey was born in 1896 in Bishopstoke, Hampshire. His parents were William David Bullock (1867–1944), who was born in Bath, Somerset, and Martha Read (1872–1942), who was born in Shirley, Southampton. They were married in 1894. He had two siblings: Ethel Marjorie (1903–1940), who was born in Eastleigh and James Edwin (1909–1971) who was born in Shirley, Southampton.

At the time of the 1901 Census, Reckey (his name is spelt Recque in this document) and his parents were living at 58 North Stoneham Farm, Southampton. His father was a dairyman.

At the time of the 1911 Census, William (there is now no mention of his name being Recque or Reckey) was living with his family in Shirley. His father was working as a gardener and he as a house boy (Domestic).

It is not known when he enlisted, but Reckey's Battalion featured in General Allenby's Gaza Campaign and the advance on Jerusalem in 1917. Following the capture of Jerusalem in early December, the remainder of the year saw his Battalion involved in operations on the coastal plain aimed at pushing back the Turks from Jaffa. The capture of this port enabled British forces to be resupplied from the sea. The Battalion then took part in the action at Berukin from 9th to 11th April 1918. It was during this engagement that Reckey was killed.

In 1939 his parents were living at 153 Cannon Street, Shirley Southampton.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; and www.ancestry.co.uk

BURT, Frank William

Rank:	Second Lieutenant
Service No:	Unknown
Date of Death:	Wednesday 5 th July 1916
Age:	20
Regiment:	1st Battalion, Sherwood Foresters (Notts and Derby Regiment)
Cemetery:	London Cemetery and Extension, Longueval, France. Longueval is a village 40 kms north-east of Amiens and 12 kms east-north-east of Albert. The cemetery, one of five in the immediate vicinity of Longueval which together contain more than 15,000 graves, is the third largest cemetery on the Somme with 3,873 1 st World War burials, 3,114 of them unidentified.

Frank was born on 17th August 1895 in Freemantle, Southampton. His parents were Frank Loosemore Burt (1866-1959) and Annie Barbe Louise Burt (1866-1949) and he had two younger siblings: Nellie Florence Dennett Burt (1897-1973) and Phyllis Louise Burt (1899-1976).

At the time of the 1911 census, Frank lived with his parents and siblings at St Agatha, Foundry Lane, Shirley, Southampton. His father was employed as a managing clerk in a shipping office. His parents had been married 17 years.

Frank was a pupil at King Edward VI School, Southampton, when the school was sited in Havelock Road, in the Marlands area of Southampton – he was one of 50 pupils of King Edward's to die in the 1st World War. He then studied civil engineering at the University of Southampton.

On 3rd November 1914 Frank enlisted as a cyclist in the 9th Battalion, Hampshire Regiment. He was initially stationed on the Isle of Wight. He applied for a commission in early 1915 and his character referees were the Revd Jacob, Vicar of Shirley, who stated that he had known him since 'a baby' and Fred Phillips, Senior Maths Lecturer at Southampton University, who said that he had known him since 1910. He became a Second Lieutenant (on probation) on 1st April 1915. This appointment was confirmed on 16th March 1916.

Frank was killed in action in the attack on La Boisselle, in the first week of the battle of the Somme. He was one of 4 officers and 54 men of the 1st battalion who died in the attack. The village, which is located some 22 miles north-east of Amiens was initially attacked on 1st July and most of it had been captured by 4th July. The operation was completed the day after Frank died.

At the time of his death, Frank's parents were living at 300, Winchester Road, Shirley. They received notification of his death in a telegram dated 10th July. His will, in which he gave all his belongings and money to his mother, was dated 27th May 1916, the eve of his departure to France. Despite the inscription on this plaque, there's no record of his having been promoted to Lieutenant.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; www.ancestry.co.uk; www.thegazette.co.uk; and the National Archives at Kew (WO 339/40054).

BUTLER, Henry (Harry)

Rank:	Stoker 1st Class
Service No:	K15724
Date of Death:	Wednesday, 4 June 1919
Age:	26
Service:	Royal Navy Submarine L55
Memorial:	Haslar Royal Naval Cemetery, Gosport.

Henry (Harry) was born in Portland, Dorset on 11th November 1892. His parents were Edwin (1858-1941), a career mariner and Edith Mary (1864-1896) Butler (nee Jordan), who married in Plymouth on 8 January 1889. Edith Mary Butler died in childbirth.

Henry had four brothers: Edwin (1889-1961), Charles (1891-1972), William (1895-1914), Walter (1896-1959) and two half sisters Caroline Mary (1903-1996), Catherine Louisa (1904-1910) from his father's second marriage in 1902 to Caroline Mary (1862-1925) Butler (nee Harvey).

At the time of the 1901 Census, Henry age 8 was living with his father and older brother Charles in Puncknowle, Bridport, Dorset. His father was working as a Commissioned Boatman with the HM Coast Guard. His eldest brother Edwin age 11 was at Royal Hospital School in Greenwich. His younger brothers William age 5 and Walter age 3 were living with their maternal grandmother Mary Jordan in Plymouth. All the Butler boys followed in their father's footsteps into the Navy. Henry married Gladys Ivy Craig in the summer of 1918 in Portsmouth. After the wedding they lived at 76 Langley Road, Buckland, Portsmouth.

He served in the Royal Navy until his death. From 7th August 1912 he served as a Stoker II on HMS *Victory* II. Service No. K15724. From 15th August 1913 he served as a Stoker 1st Class in the Royal Navy, HMS *Halcyon*. From 8th May 1919 he served as a Stoker 1st Class on HMS L55 submarine, which was a British L class submarine commissioned on 19 December 1918.

In 1919 L55 was sunk in the Baltic Sea by Bolshevik vessels while serving as part of the Allied intervention in the Russian Civil War. HMS L55 was based at Tallinn, Estonia as part of the Baltic Battle Squadron which was supporting the Baltic states fighting for independence. On 9 June 1919 in Caporsky Bay in the Gulf of Finland L55 attacked two 1,260-ton Bolshevik Orfey-class minelayer-destroyers, Gavril and Azard. HMS L55 missed her targets and was forced into a British-laid minefield. Soviet sources stated Azard sank her by gunfire. If she was sunk by gunfire, L55 was the only British submarine sunk by hostile Soviet vessels.

The Bolsheviks claimed they had sunk her but it is more likely that she actually hit a British laid mine.

In 1928 L55 was raised by the Soviets and the British asked for the bodies to be returned. The British merchantman Truro took the coffins onboard at Kronstadt and later transferred them to HMS *Champion* at Reval in Estonia. The coffins were brought back to England and all buried in a communal grave in the Haslar Royal Naval Cemetery, Gosport on 7th September 1928. A single large headstone marks the grave and has the names of the 42 crew.

BUTLER, William

Rank:	Seaman
Service No:	5804.A. (Po)
Date of Death:	Thursday 26th November 1914
Age:	19
Service:	Royal Naval Reserve - HMS <i>Bulwark</i>
Memorial:	Gillingham (Woodlands) Cemetery, Kent.

William was born in Portland, Dorset on 9 April 1895. His parents were Edwin (1858-1941), a career mariner and Edith Mary Butler (1864–1896), nee Jordan, who died in childbirth. They married in Plymouth on 8 January 1889.

William had four brothers: Edwin (1890-1961), Charles (1891-1972), Henry (1892-1919), Walter (1896-1959) and two half-sisters: Caroline Mary (1903-1996), Catherine Louisa (1904-1910), from his father's second marriage in 1902 to Caroline Mary (1862-1925) Butler (nee Harvey).

At the time of the 1901 Census, William and his younger brother Walter were living with their maternal grandmother Mary Jordan in Plymouth.

William and all his brothers followed in their father's footsteps into the Navy.

He was serving on HMS *Bulwark*, which following the outbreak of the First World War, *Bulwark*, along with the rest of the squadron, was attached to the Channel Fleet, conducting patrols in the English Channel.

On the 26th November, 1914 H.M.S. *Bulwark* was lying at her mooring in Kethole Reach to the west of Sheerness in the River Medway. On the stern at 7.45am, the Royal Marine Band was playing and after having had their breakfast some of her crew were preparing for work on the upper deck. A few minutes later the ship was torn apart by an explosion and she quickly sank beneath the cold waters of the River Medway with loss of nearly 800 crew. The explosion was likely to have been caused by the overheating of cordite charges that had been placed adjacent to a boiler room bulkhead.

At time of his death his father was living at 14, Lion Street, Shirley, Southampton.

His older brother, Henry (Harry) is also on the St James Roll of Honour. He died in Submarine L55 in June 1919 when the vessel sunk in the Baltic Sea while serving as part of the Allied intervention in the Russian Civil War.

*Tribute to William in the Isle of Wight memorial records: **A .B. William Butler** was a son of a former chief boatman of Coastguards at Yarmouth, who recently removed to Southampton. He was a scholar at Yarmouth National-school and is well known locally. His father and three brothers are serving in the Navy. He was a very promising young man and his death is much deplored. Whilst at Yarmouth he was a popular member of Dr. Carlyon's Boys' Club, and Dr. Carlyon received a letter from him two days after the disaster occurred, in which he humorously remarked that he was hoping to get leave at Christmas, 1915!*

COTTON, Albert Ernest

Rank:	Private
Service No:	44354
Date of Death:	Wednesday 24 April 1918
Age:	35
Service:	2nd Battalion, Devonshire Regiment
Memorial:	Adelaide Cemetery, Villers-Bretonneux, France. It is located 16 kms east of Amiens. There are 960 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery.

Albert was born in 1882 in Totton. His parents were Thomas Cotton (1847-1900) and Louisa Mills (1845-1923). Albert had five siblings: Ada (b.1872), Bessie (b.1874), William (b.1881), Elsie (1885-1968) and Percy (1888-1960).

At the time of the 1891 Census, Albert was living with his family at 22 Park Road, Shirley, Southampton. At the time of the 1901 Census, Albert was living with his widowed mother, William, Elsie and Percy at 22 Shirley Park Road. He was working as a joiner.

At the time of the 1911 Census, Albert was living with his mother and siblings at 20 Shirley Park Road, Shirley. He was working as a joiner carpenter. In the same year Albert married Mabel Hoskins (1888-1964) and they had two children: Albert (1913-1913) and Vernon (1916-2004).

Albert enlisted in the 2nd Battalion of the Devonshire Regiment. The German offensive on 21st March 1918 found the battalion in reserve. Rushed to Peronne, on 24th 25th they held off several German attacks, before conducting a fighting withdrawal covered by their field gunners. A month later, Albert was killed in action.

At the time of Albert's death, Mabel was living at "Laurel Bank," Norham Avenue, Shirley, Southampton.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; www.ancestry.co.uk and www.keepmilitarymuseum.org/history/first+world+war/the+devonshire+regiment/the+second+battalion

CREASE, Jesse Pearson

Rank:	Private
Service No:	8210
Date of Death:	2 November 1914
Age:	20
Service:	Hampshire Regiment, 1 st Battalion
Memorial:	Ploegsteert Memorial, Belgium. It commemorates more than 11,000 Commonwealth servicemen who died in the sector during WW1 and have no known grave. Most of them did not die in major battles but in the course of day-to-day trench warfare which characterised the fighting in the area. The Memorial stands in the Berkshire Cemetery Extension.

Jesse was born in 1894 in Winchester. His parents were Douglas (1844-1901) and Sarah Crease, nee Slack (1849-1919), who married in Bareilly, Bengal, India on 5 August 1867. He had twelve siblings: Agnes Elizabeth (1870-1918), Douglas (1873-1913), Sarah (1875-1940), Isabella (1877-1935), John (b.1880), George (1881-1931), Annie (1883-1892), Thomas (1886-1953), Charles (1888-1950), David Alexander (1889-1974), Ernest (1892-1950).

At the time of the 1901 Census, Jesse was living with his family in Winchester.

His entry in the Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects 1901-1929, states that Jesse enlisted in the Hampshire Regiment on 17th August 1908, even though he would have only been aged about 14. At the time of the 1911 Census, Jesse was serving as a 'boy' with the 1st Battalion, Hampshire Regiment as part of the British garrison in South Africa.

Jesse's regiment became part of the 11th Brigade of the 4th Division in III Corps prior to its departure for France in August 1914. As part of the British Expeditionary Force, the regiment arrived in France on 23rd August 1914 and took part in the Battle of Messines (13 October – 2 November) in Belgian Flanders and Jesse was reported missing sometime between 30 October and 2 November.

Jesse was a cousin of Thomas McBeath Pearson, whose name is also recorded in the Roll of Honour of Shirley Parish Church, Southampton. Thomas served in the Sherwood Foresters and died, aged 24, on 22 March 1915. As he has no known grave, his name is commemorated on the Le Touret Memorial, 8 km north-east of Bethune, France.

Jesse's name is listed on the Southampton Cenotaph.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; <https://southamptoncenotaph.com/>; and www.ancestry.co.uk

CREASE, Thomas McBeath

Rank:	Private
Service No:	10071
Date of Death:	Monday 22 March 1915
Age:	24
Service:	1 st Battalion, Notts and Derby (Sherwood Foresters) Regiment
Memorial:	Le Touret Memorial, France. It is 8 km north-east of Bethune, and commemorates over 13,400 British soldiers who were killed in the sector, from the beginning of October 1914 to the eve of the Battle of Loos in late September 1915, and who have no known grave.

Thomas was born in 1891 in Kilmorack, Inverness. His parents were James (1853-1935) and Georgina, nee McBeath (1853-1927), Crease, who married at St. Andrew's in 1883. He had five siblings: Annie (1884-1974), Elizabeth (1887-1966), Janet (1890-1927), Georgina (1893-1980) and Douglas (1897-1938).

At the time of the 1901 Census, Thomas was living with his family at 48 Romsey Road, Shirley, Southampton. His father was working as a plumber. At the time of the 1911 Census, he was serving with the 1st Battalion Sherwood Foresters in India.

At the start of the war Thomas' regiment was in Bombay and landed at Plymouth on 2 October. They became part of the 24th Brigade, which was a section of the 18,000 men in the 8th Division. It assembled at Hursley Park, Winchester, and landed at Le Havre, France, on 5 November 1914.

Thomas perished during actions around the village of Neuve Chapelle. The Germans had occupied Lille and the surrounding area since early in the war. The village stands on a slight ridge in an otherwise flat landscape, therefore offering a superb vantage point. The British knew that it was imperative to capture the area, and there was some very heavy fighting against the well-defended Germans. At the time of his death, Thomas' parents were living in Victor Street, Shirley.

Thomas was a cousin of Jesse Pearson Crease, whose name is also recorded in the Roll of Honour of Shirley Parish Church, Southampton. Jesse was a regular with the Hampshire Regiment and died, aged 20, on 2 November 1914. His name is on the Ploegsteert Memorial, Belgium, which commemorates more than 11,000 Commonwealth servicemen who died in the sector during WW1 and have no known grave.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; <https://hursleypark.wixsite.com/history/history-ww1-1914-1918>; <https://southamptoncenotaph.com/>; and www.ancestry.co.uk

DOE, George Henry John

Rank:	Deck Hand
Service No:	4884/SD
Date of Death:	Monday 18 September 1916
Age:	36
Service:	Royal Naval Reserve HMS <i>Terrible</i>
Memorial:	Southampton (Hollybrook) Cemetery.

George was born in Yarmouth, Isle of Wight, on 28th September 1879. His parents were George (1857-1919) and Amelia Doe, nee Dore (1859-1927), who married in Yarmouth in 1877. George had a younger sister, May (1882-1954). He was baptised in the United Methodist Church in Yarmouth on 13 January 1882.

At the time of the 1901 Census, George was living with his parents and sister at 21 Alma Place, Yarmouth. Both he and his father were working as mariners. At the time of the 1911 Census, George's parents and sister were living at 2 Baring Cottage, St James Street, Yarmouth. He was not listed on his family's census return. George Senior was still working as a mariner and his sister as a dressmaker.

George married Ada Maud Gear (1879-1933) in Southampton in 1911. They had a daughter, Phyllis, who was born in Southampton in 1916. There must be the chance that George never met his daughter.

George served on HMS *Victory I* from 12th June 1916 to 20th July 1916 when he was transferred to the Special Trawler Reserve, part of the Royal Naval Reserve.

George died on HMS *Terrible* in Portsmouth Dockyard. Launched from Clydebank on 27 May 1895, as an armoured cruiser, she served in China in suppressing the Boxer Rebellion in 1900. After 1904, she was laid up, as an economy measure. During WW1 most of her armaments were removed and she served as a troop transport and, later, an accommodation ship.

George died in Portsmouth, of an unknown illness. His cause of death was listed as '2' which means 'killed, died of injuries accidentally sustained or exposure, died of disease following injuries or exposure, drowned, missing and subsequently presumed killed or drowned following the accidental loss of ship.

At time of death widow at Whitheds Wood Cottage, Shirley Avenue, Southampton. His estate was valued at £274 18s 2d, which was left to his widow.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; <https://southamptoncenotaph.com/george-henry-john-doe>; and www.ancestry.co.uk

DOSWELL, Wilfred Henry

Rank:	Private
Service No:	21015
Date of Death:	30 September 1918
Age:	18
Service:	1st Battalion, Dorset Regiment
Memorial:	Buried in the Brie British Cemetery, Somme, France. Plot 4, Row "C" 3. There are 396 British and Commonwealth War Graves and 36 German War Graves.

Wilfred Henry was born in Shirley, Southampton in 1900. His parents were Charles William, born in St Deny's, Southampton (1863). His mother was Martha Lydia nee Cull, born in St James Parish, Southampton (1872). They married in Freemantle in 1891 and Charles was a Bricklayer. They had 4 other children, Ethel Elsie (b. 1892), William John (b. 1898- d. 1899), Frederick Charles (b. 1902), Albert Ronald (b. 1906). In the 1911 census Wilfred was a Music Hall Cleaner living in Beech Road. The family also lived in Station Road, Kingsley Road and later in Vaudrey Road, Shirley.

Wilfred joined the Army in March 1918 and was sent to join the Dorset Regiment as a Private. After training he was sent to the Western Front in France. The 1st Battalion served almost continually in France on the Western Front, August 1914 - November 1918. Except for service in Italy 29th November 1917 - 7th April 1918.

The 1st Battalion's War Diary report for the 29th September 1918 reads. "3.15 p.m. Machine Gun and Snipers were very active on the high ground from the right flank. FLECHE WOOD was attacked. 300 prisoners were captured in the neighbourhood of FLECHE WOOD together with 1x 12" Howitzers and 3x 4.2 Field Guns".

Casualties,

1 officer killed, 4 officers and 16 other ranks wounded. Sadly Wilfred was one of the wounded. His wounds were serious and he died the next day, and is buried in the Brie British Cemetery on the Somme. Wilfred was awarded the The British War Medal and The Victory Medal.

FARNAN, John William

Rank:	Fireman
Service No:	N/A
Date of Death:	17 April 1917
Age:	23
Service:	Mercantile Marine, SS <i>Donegal</i>
Memorial:	Tower Hill Memorial, London, and Southampton Cenotaph.

John was born in Southampton in 1889. His parents were John (1853-1923) and Alice (b.1862) Farnan. He had seven siblings: Edward (1879-1917), Thomas (1882-1944), Kathleen (b.1884), Harry (b.1886), Margaret (b.1891), Charles (1896-1972) and Alfred (b.1897), all of whom were born in Southampton.

At the time of the 1891 census, John was living with his parents and five siblings at 24 Elms Street, Southampton. His father was working as a boiler maker. By the 1901 census he was living with his parents at 14 Stanford Street, Southampton. Edward and Thomas were no longer at home. At the time of the 1911 Census, Edward was married and had had nine children, three of whom had died in infancy. He was employed as a coal porter. No trace of John has been found in the 1911 Census.

John married Elsie Lucy Long (1889-1979) in Southampton in 1911. They lived at 75 Chilworth Road, Shirley, and had two children: Betty (b.1914), who married Wilfred Ings in Southampton in 1937, and Freda (b.1916), who married Alfred Garney in Southampton in 1938.

Nothing is known about John's working life but at some stage he joined the merchant navy (perhaps this is why his name does not appear in the 1911 Census as he may have been at sea) and became a crew member of the Steamship *Donegal*, a Midland Railway Passenger Ferry constructed in 1904. She was converted to an Ambulance Ship for service in the First World War carrying the wounded from Le-Havre in France back to Southampton. At 7.43pm on 17th April 1917, whilst under Royal Navy escort, the *Donegal* was torpedoed by a UC II German Submarine. The vessel began to sink rapidly but HMS *Jackal* got alongside and took off some 500 troops, with other ships picking up some of the remainder. Three-quarters of an hour after the attack, the *Donegal* lurched to starboard, and sank 35kms south of The Dean Light Vessel. On-board were 610 lightly wounded soldiers and 70 crew and of these, 29 wounded soldiers and 12 crew were drowned, including John. His body was never recovered.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; www.ancestry.co.uk; and <http://forgottenwrecks.maritimearchaeologytrust.org/wrecks-and-sites/explore-the-wrecks/articles/ss-donegal>

FURLEY, Ernest Herbert

Rank:	Private
Service No:	202523
Date of Death:	Tuesday 13 November 1917
Age:	27
Service:	2nd/5th Battalion, Hampshire Regiment
Memorial:	Jerusalem Memorial, Israel. It commemorates 3,300 Commonwealth servicemen who died during the First World War in operations in Egypt or Palestine and have no known grave.

Ernest was born in Staines, Middlesex in 1889. His parents were George (1864-1930) and Martha (1865-1948) Furley (nee Cranford), who married in Staines on 2 April 1884. Ernest had five siblings: Mildred (1885-1965), Arthur (1886-1964), Edith (1892-1963), Doris (1904-1959) and one whose name is unknown and died in infancy.

By the time of the 1891 Census, Ernest's family had moved from Staines and was living at 12 Stanley Road, Southampton. His father was employed as an ironmongery assistant. At the time of the 1901 Census, the family was living at 121 Milton Road, Southampton, and George was continuing to work as an ironmongery assistant.

At the time of the 1911 Census, Ernest was living with his family at 17 Cromwell Road, Southampton. George was still working as an ironmongery assistant, Mildred as a dress maker, Ernest as a law clerk and Edith as a draper's assistant.

Ernest married Florence Daisy Smith (1886-1978) in Southampton in 1912. The couple had three children John (1913-1984), who became a sanitary and food inspector, Stella (1914-1940) and Phyllis (1917-1990). They lived at 2 Sandown Road, Shirley, Southampton,

Ernest enlisted in the 2/5th battalion, which was formed on Salisbury Plain in September 1914. They joined the 2/1st Hampshires in the 2nd Wessex Division in the October and embarked for India from Southampton on 13 December. On arrival in Bombay on 4 January 1915, the Division was broken up and battalions were placed around India. The battalion embarked for Egypt in March 1917 and transferred to the 75th Division in the April. They were immediately dispatched to Palestine to join the Egyptian Expeditionary Force, who had been fighting the Turks since December 1916.

Ernest was killed in action in the battle of Junction Station, where the British defeated a Turkish attempt to defend the line of the railway to Jerusalem. The day after Ernest's death, the 75th Division captured the station, cutting the Turkish rail link to Jerusalem.

At the time of his death, his widow and children were still living at 2 Sandown Road, but his mother was now living at 14, Burlington Road, Polygon, Southampton.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; <https://southamptoncenotaph.com>; www.forces-war-records.co.uk/units/256/royal-hampshire-regiment/; and www.ancestry.co.uk

HARDING, Arthur James

Rank:	Gunner
Service No:	72304
Date of Death:	20 November 1914
Age:	20
Regiment:	51st Battery, 39 th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery
Cemetery:	Sanctuary Wood Cemetery, Belgium. It is located 5 kms east of Ypres. There are 1,989 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in the cemetery.

Arthur was born on 1st March 1897 in West Cowes, Isle of Wight. His parents were Henry (1875-1917) and Elizabeth Harding (1869-1943), nee Spencer, who were married on 9th March 1895. He had seven siblings: Ethel (b.1895), Ernest (1899-1925), May (1901-1987), Harold (1903-1943), Nellie (1904-1990), Harry (b.1907-1982) and Willie (1910-1941).

At the time of the 1901 Census, the family was living at 42 Aberdeen Road, St Denys, Southampton. At the time of the 1911 Census, the family was living at 30 Pond Terrace, Winchester Road, Shirley, Southampton. Arthur, aged 14, was working as a milk boy.

Records indicate that at the outbreak of war Arthur was serving in the Royal Field Artillery, which was responsible for the medium calibre guns and howitzers deployed close to the front line. He was soon sent to the Western Front, where he took part in early engagements. He was killed in action in the First Battle of Ypres, just two days before the fighting stopped due to the onset of winter weather. Although he is recorded as being 20 years old when he died, Arthur's birth records and the 1901 and 1911 censuses would suggest he was actually just 17 years old.

Arthur's father Henry enlisted as a pioneer in a Labour Battalion of the Royal Engineers in 1915 and died, aged 42, of meningitis at 24 General Hospital, Etaples, some 27 kms from Boulogne, France, on 24th March 1917. His brother, Ernest, served as a private in the Labour Corps from June 1917 to December 1919. After his training, he stayed in the UK and was not transferred overseas.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; <https://southamptoncenotaph.com/>; and www.ancestry.co.uk

HARDING, Henry James

Rank:	Pioneer, Sapper
Service No:	124685
Date of Death:	24 March 1917
Age:	42
Service:	6th Labour Battalion, Royal Engineers
Memorial:	Etaples Military Cemetery. This is 27 kms south of Boulogne, France. During WW1, the area had an immense concentrations of Commonwealth hospitals, that could deal with 22,000 wounded or sick. The cemetery is the largest Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemetery in France.

Henry was born in 1875 in Fawley, Southampton. His parents were Charlotte, nee Bunday (1843-1928), and George (1842-1908). Both of them were born in Fawley and they were married in September 1866. Henry had three older siblings: Mary (1867-1938), Annie (1869-1902), and John (1871-1931).

The 1881 census shows that the family moved from Fawley to Northwood on the Isle of Wight and lived at 2 Kings Cottage for several decades. Henry's father was a farm carter. The 1891 census records that Henry himself worked as a farm labourer at the age of 15.

On 9th March 1895, Henry married Elizabeth Spencer (d.1943) and they had eight children: Ethel (b.1895), Arthur (1897-1914), Ernest (1899-1925), Elizabeth (1901-1987), Harold (1903-1943), Nellie (1904-1990), Harry (1907-1982) and Willie (1910-1941).

At the time of the 1901 Census, the family was living at 42 Aberdeen Road, St Denys, Southampton and Henry was working as a farm carter. At the time of the 1911 Census, the family was living at 30 Pond Terrace, Winchester Road, Shirley, Southampton. Henry was employed as a builder's carter and Arthur, aged 14, as a milk boy.

On 14th October 1915, aged 40, Henry enlisted in the Royal Engineers. He was sent to the Western Front on 1st June 1916, where he was engaged in road making. On 18th March 1917 Henry's wife received a telegram which read: *'Regret to inform you, Officer Commanding hospital, Etaples, France telegraphs 17 Mar 124685 Henry J Harding R.E, dangerously ill spotted fever. Regret permission to visit him cannot be granted'*. The War Office shortly received another telegram dated 18th March stating that Henry had suspected Cerebro Spinal Fever. He died six days later at 24 General Hospital, Etaples.

A letter to the Regimental Paymaster, Chatham, of April 1917 states that Henry died from Cerebro Spinal Meningitis and not Cerebro Spinal Fever. A letter was sent to Henry's wife on 10th April to inform her of this new information, although all records still list his cause of death as being Spinal Fever. Soldiers often had to sleep in overcrowded huts and barracks with poor heating and ventilation. This meant that 2 or 3 times as many men would sleep in a hut as during peace time with the space between beds reduced from 36 inches to 6 inches and some men sleeping on the floor. By the end of the war it was realised that the incidence of meningitis rapidly rose in such conditions and spacing out the beds reduced the risk.

At the time of his death, the family home was 56, Winchester Road, Shirley, Southampton. Henry's son Arthur, an artillery gunner, died in Belgium on 20th November 1914. He was aged 17 and 8 months,

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; <https://southamptoncenotaph.com>; <http://www.epsomandewellhistoryexplorer.org.uk/Meningitis.html>; and www.ancestry.co.uk

HAYTER, Henry

Rank:	Gunner
Service No:	618185
Date of Death:	16 July 1917
Age:	43
Service:	"A" Battery, 298th Brigade (Howitzer), Royal Field Artillery
Memorial:	Ypres Menin Gate Memorial. This memorial in Belgium commemorates the 54,609 who have no known grave in the Ypres Salient. Ypres is now known as Leper. Ever night at 8.00 p.m. all traffic at the Gate is stopped, and the local Fire Brigade sound the Last Post.

Henry was born 1874 in Lymington, Hampshire. His father Harry a shoemaker, was born in Linwood in the New Forest, Hampshire in 1838. He married Susannah Bran in Lymington in 1856. She was born in Lymington in 1836. They had eight children, William (b. 1857), John (b. 1860), George (b. 1863), Tom (b. 1864), Bessie (b. 1868), Frederick (b. 1870), Alice (b. 1874) and Henry (b. 1874). On the 1891 census the family was living in Wood Side, Lymington and Henry was age 16 years and a Mariner.

In 1900 in Alton, Hampshire Henry married Louisa Ellen Wort who was born in Alton 1871. In 1907 Henry was working on an American transatlantic passenger liner running between New York and Liverpool. On the 16th August 1907 Henry moved to the White Star Line and signed onto the RMS Majestic for White Stars Line new service from Southampton to New York. His address at that time was 134 Pound Street, Shirley.

In 1924 Pound Street was renamed Cannon Street.

Henry enlisted in Southampton in September 1914. He was sent to join the Royal Field Artillery. After training he was posted to the 298th Brigade (Howitzer) "A" Battery. They were sent to Ireland before being sent to the Western Front in 1916. They were involved in a number of battles along the Ypres Salient. On the night of the 16th July 1917 while moving their Howitzer Gun into position near Ypres for an up and coming attack on the Germans, a German shell landed in his battery. Henry was killed and has no known grave.

His name is recorded on the Menin Gate. Bay 5. Stone "F". Henry was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

JAY, Henry Albert

Rank:	Sergeant
Service No:	21456
Date of Death:	15 September 1915
Age:	24
Service:	122nd Company, Machine Gun Corps (Inf)
Memorial:	Thiepval Memorial, Thiepval, France. Overlooking the River Somme. This is the memorial to the 72,336 officers and men missing with no known grave, who died in the Somme sector. Over 90% died between July 1916 and March 1918. This is the largest Commonwealth Memorial to the missing in the world.

Henry Albert junior was born in Shirley, Southampton in 1893. His parents were Henry Albert, born in Newent, Gloucestershire (1871). His mother was Ann nee Miller born in Shirley, Southampton, (1873). They were married in Shirley in 1892. Henry Albert Senior family moved to Whiteparish (1881 census). Then to Salem Street, Shirley he was a "Carter" (1891 census). In the 1901 census he is now a Builders Carrier in Dorset Terrace, off Waterhouse Lane, he also lived in 14 Shayer Road, Shirley. Henry junior was their first-born and was followed by Beatrice Annie (b.1894), Charles (b.1895), Ellen (b.1896), William George (b. 1899), Ernest Bertie (b.1902), Frederick Samuel (b. 1904), George Richard (b. 1908), Edith Florence (b. 1909).

Henry joined the Hampshire Regiment as a full time soldier and is shown on the 1911 census as a 19 year old Private in the 1st Battalion, Hampshire Regiment, stationed in Badajos Barracks, Wellington Lines, Aldershot, Hampshire

Henry joined The 2nd Battalion in 1915 and embarking for Gallipoli on the 28th March 1915. His Medal Card has survived and shows he was in the 2nd battalion as a private 8621, then a Sergeant in the Battalion's Machine Gun Corp 21456. His entry into the theatre of war is listed as 24th April 1915. This is the date the 2nd Battalion started for Gallipoli. The 24th April they left Lemnos for the landing at Gallipoli. The regiment was evacuated from Gallipoli on the 2nd January 1916.

For this campaign he is awarded the 1915 Star, The British War Medal and the Victory Medal, all as part of the Machine Gun Corp.

The 8th January 1916 they were in Alexandria, Egypt, on the 20th March 1916 they left for the Western Front. They landed at Marseilles 29th March and then on to the Western Front to join the 41st Division. The Hampshire's were to take part in the Somme Offensive that started 1st July 1916. On Friday 15th September 1916 a new offensive on the Somme started and this was also to be the first time that the British used their Secret Weapon, the Tank. Forty-Nine tanks were sent into action, the total number we had. The 41st division including the Hampshire's were given the most tanks for their objectives, to capture the village of Flers. The village was captured early in the day, with one tank driving up the main street. Sadly Henry was killed in this action and has no known grave. He is listed on the Thiepval Memorial. Pier Face 5C and 12C.

JURD, Harry

Rank:	Lance Corporal
Service No:	10245
Date of Death:	6th September 1917
Age:	32 years
Service:	Hampshire Regiment, 10th Battalion
Memorial:	Struma War Cemetery, Greece, Southampton Cenotaph

Harry was born 1886 in Nursling, Southampton. He was the son of William and Henrietta Martha, nee Houghton, who married in 1870 in Southampton. Harry had five siblings: William (1871 – 1953), Mary Sophia (Polly) (b.1872), George (1879 – 1899), Louisa Harriet (1880), Kate Evelyn (1891 – 1900)

In the 1891 census Harry was living in Durley Street, Durley, Hampshire with his parents and siblings. His father was a Gardener and his brother George was a Farm Labourer. Harry was a servant in the 1901 census and was living at the Post Office in Durley, he was employed as a Bakers Boy Porter by Edmund Houghton.

Harry married Elizabeth Emma Herbert in 1908 Southampton. By the 1911 census Harry and his wife were living at 22 Wilton Road, Shirley, Southampton. He was working as a Journeyman Baker. They stated that they had one child who had died. In the following year, 1912, they had a daughter Edie M, born in Southampton.

Harry Joined the 10th Service Battalion of the Royal Hampshire Regiment in August 1914. The Battalion was formed from Kitchener's First Army Volunteers. They left Liverpool on 7 July 1915 for the campaign on the Gallipoli Peninsula, landing at Suvia Bay on the night of 5/6 August, serving there for eight weeks. The losses were 30 officers and 800 men. From there Harry and his fellow soldiers went to Modros, arriving in Salonika on 16 Nov 1915 and deployed on the Doiran Front. The 10th Battalion diary reads that on the 6th Sept at 0530 hrs, B company at Osman Kamilla came into collision with an enemy patrol (Bulgars) and suffered over 100 casualties – 2 men seriously wounded. One of these wounded was Harry Jurd, who died later that same day from his wound. Enemy casualties were estimated at 20. Harry is buried in Struma War Cemetery, Greece, plot 2 Row E Grave 9. His name is on the Southampton Cenotaph. He is Remembered with Honour at the Struma Military Cemetery, Greece.



The information set out here has been drawn from www.southamptoncenotaph.com and Durley History Society

KING, Charles Stanley

Rank:	Private
Service No:	9332
Date of Death:	27 th August 1915
Age:	20
Service:	Scots Guards (possibly 2 nd Battalion)
Cemetery:	Unknown

Charles was born in Southampton in 1895. His parents were Herman (1870-1949) and Mary (1868-1948) King, who were married in 1892. Charles had five siblings: Henry (1893–1917), Pearl (1897-1983), Violet (1901–1998), Herman (1907-1974) and Phyllis (1911–2009).

At the time of the 1901 Census, the family was living at 13 Chapel Street, Southampton (though this street does not exist now or was renamed, it was in parish of St James Shirley). Herman was employed as a gas worker. At the time of the 1911 Census, the family was living at 92 Clarendon Road, Shirley, Southampton. Herman was employed as a valveman at the gas works, Henry as a fitter (engineer) at the gas works and Charles as a butcher's errand boy.

Charles enlisted on 19th August 1914 at the age of 19 years and 60 days, giving his employment as 'labourer'. He was a member of the British Expeditionary Force and disembarked for France on 11th November 1914. He returned to England in 23rd March 1915. If he was in the 2nd Battalion of the Scots Guards, this may have been as a result of injuries received at the Battle of Neuve Chapelle, the first major offensive action undertaken by the British Expeditionary Force, which took place between 10th and 13th March 1915. On 24th July 1915, he was discharged by the adjutant of the 3rd Battalion, Scots Guards, which was based at Wellington Barracks near Buckingham Palace. This battalion was home-based through WW1 and supported the 1st and 2nd Battalions who were overseas. Charles was described as being 'no longer physically fit for war service'. He died just over a month later. He is not listed on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission's website.

Charles' older brother, Henry, died of wounds in Palestine on 11th May 1917. He was a private in the 1st 8th Battalion of the Hampshire Regiment (Service No: 331132). His sister, Violet, emigrated to the United States in 1920. Apparently she went with her mother's brother, Samuel, his wife Lizzie and their daughters Aileen and Pearl. She died in Florida in 1998.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.ancestry.co.uk

KING, Henry

Rank:	Private (Rifleman)
Service No:	331132
Date of Death:	11th May 1917
Age:	24
Service:	8th Battalion, Hampshire Regiment
Cemetery:	Damascus Commonwealth War Cemetery, Syria. It contains 661 Commonwealth burials and commemorations of the First World War.

Henry was born in Southampton in 1893. His parents were Herman (1870-1949) and Mary (1868-1948) nee Stanley, King, who were married in 1892. Henry had five siblings: Charles (1894-1915), Pearl (b.1897-1983), Violet (1901–1998), Herman (1907-1974) and Phyllis (1911–2009).

At the time of the 1901 Census, the family was living at 13 Chapel Street, Southampton (though this street does not exist now or was renamed, it was in parish of St James Shirley). Herman was employed as a gas worker. At the time of the 1911 Census, the family was living at 92 Clarendon Road, Shirley, Southampton. Herman was employed as a valveman at the gas works, Henry as a fitter (engineer) at the gas works and Charles as a butcher's errand boy.

It is not known when Henry enlisted in the 8th (Isle of Wight Rifles, Princess Beatrice's) Battalion, Hampshire Regiment. The battalion landed at Suvla Bay, Gallipoli on 9 August 1915. It was evacuated from Gallipoli and moved to Egypt, arriving on 19 December 1915. Thereafter the battalion moved into Palestine as part of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

On 25 February 1917, Henry's battalion reached El Arish, on the Egyptian coast. On 20 March they moved to In Serat, arriving five days later. During the First Battle of Gaza, 8th Hampshire took post at the Sheikh Abbas ridge but pulled back to In Serat, where they remained until 16 April when they prepared to advance once again to the ridge. During the three weeks between the first and second Gaza battles, the Ottomans considerably strengthened their defences. On 17 April, the 8th Hampshires and 5th Suffolks advanced and cleared outposts on the Sheikh Abbas ridge, suffering only two casualties. However, phase two of the attack, which opened two days later, proved to be a disaster. The 4th and 5th Norfolks advanced towards the Gaza-Beersheba road, A and B Companies of the Hampshires supporting the 5th, and C and D the 4th. With 2,500 yards of open ground to cross, the troops were severely exposed and suffered heavy casualties. Even so, they did capture a redoubt with the support of a tank, though this was knocked out when the Turks counter-attacked and recaptured the position. The Hampshires lost 23 officers and over 400 other ranks. After the battle the battalion was withdrawn from the line and moved to south of Sheikh Abbas. As Henry died of wounds on 11th May 1917, it is quite possible that he was injured during the Second Battle of Gaza.

Henry's brother, Charles, enlisted in the Scots Guards in August 1914. On 23rd March 1915, he returned to England. On 24th July 1915, he was discharged as he was considered 'no longer physically fit for war service'. He died just over a month later. His sister, Violet, emigrated to the United States in 1920. Apparently she went with her mother's brother, Samuel, his wife Lizzie and their daughters Aileen and Pearl. She died in Florida in 1998.

KING, Sydney John

Rank:	Private
Service No:	38690
Date of Death:	9th April 1918
Age:	32
Service:	8 th Battalion, Somerset Light Infantry
Cemetery:	Ontario Cemetery, Sains-les-Marquion, France. It is located 14 kms from Cambrai.

Sydney was born in 1886 in Hook Norton, Oxfordshire. He was the fourth of 6 known siblings born to George Allen (1850-1932) and Mary King (1858-1935), nee Baylis, who married in 1877. The couple had 8 children in total, so it must be assumed that two died in infancy: Alec (b.1878), Albert (b.1880-1960), Gertrude (b.1882), Frederick (1890-1967), Ernest (b.1897).

The family moved from Oxfordshire to Funtley near Fareham, in the late 1880's, and were still there at the time of the 1901 Census, when Sydney was employed as a labourer at a tile works. At the 1911 Census, Sydney's parents were living their sons, Alec and Ernest, at 27 Pond Terrace, Shirley, Southampton (formerly on the south side of Winchester Road, west of Warren Avenue), while Sydney was employed as a domestic gardener and boarding with one Fred Webb at The Gardens, Ampfield, Romsey, Hampshire.

Sydney originally enlisted in the Devonshire Regiment (Service No: 45971) and it is not known when or why he transferred to the Somerset Light Infantry. As part of the 63rd Brigade in the 21st Division, the 8th Somerset battalion arrived at Le Havre on 10 September 1915. Within 2 weeks, the division had lost over 3,800 men in the British assault at the Battle of Loos.

On 8 July 1916, the battalion transferred with the 63rd Brigade to the 37th Division. It was in this formation that they took part in the Battle of the Somme. 1917 saw the battalion taking part in the Arras Offensive and the Third Battle of Ypres.

On 5 April 1918, the 37th Division found itself based on the River Ancre near Amiens. At 07.00, the Germans launched a gas attack against the British front trenches. At 08.00, the British infantry launched retaliatory attacks. Later in the day, the division was part of the line attacked by more than 6 enemy divisions; heavy fighting took place in Rossignol Wood and the eastern half of Bucquoy village was lost. The Germans lost so many men during the assault, and gained so little territorially, that they called off the attack before the end of the day.

It would appear that Sydney was probably injured and captured by the Germans during this assault, because of where he was initially buried and the fact that a further 23 British servicemen were buried alongside him. He was originally buried in Oisy-le-Verger German cemetery but was resited in December 1920.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; <https://southamptoncenotaph.com>; <https://wartimememoriesproject.com/greatwar/allied/battalion.php?pid=7273>; and www.ancestry.co.uk

KNIGHT, Arthur William

Rank:	Stoker 1st Class
Service No:	197837
Date of Death:	Thursday 11 March 1915
Age:	33 (though the CWGC website says '35')
Service:	Royal Navy HMS <i>Bayano</i>
Memorial:	Portsmouth Naval Memorial. It stands on Southsea Common overlooking the promenade in Portsmouth. It commemorates nearly 10,000 naval personnel of WW1 who were lost or buried at sea.

Arthur was born in Southampton on 30th June 1882 (though 1880 the CWGC lists him being born in 1880. His parents were Henry (1848-1921) and Mary Jane, nee Harvey, (1857-1941) Knight, who married on 30th December 1879 in Southampton. They lived at 8 Lion Street, Shirley, Southampton. Arthur had four siblings: Florence (1878-1953), who appears to have been born out of wedlock, Henry (b.1883), Albert (b.1884) and Frederick (b.1888).

Arthur enlisted in the Royal Navy on 24 January 1898 and his first ship was HMS *Boscawen*. He served on more than 25 different ships in his 17 years in the service. At the time of the 1911 Census, he was serving on HMS *Swiftsure*, the lead ship of the Swiftsure-class pre-dreadnought battleships. It was docked in the Grand Harbour, Malta and was a member of the Mediterranean Fleet.

Arthur married Daisy Florence Gurman (1886-1973) in Southampton in 1914 and they lived at 78 Millbrook Road. After his death Florence married Harry Pearce.

At the outbreak of hostilities in August 1914, Arthur was a crew member of HMS *Grafton*, a first class cruiser of the Edgar class, launched in 1892. But on 18th December 1914, he was posted to HMS Auxiliary *Bayano*, an armed merchant cruiser, built in Glasgow as an ocean liner in 1913. While sailing from Glasgow to Liverpool she was torpedoed by U-27 when 3 miles off Corsewall Point, Galloway. The attack took place at 05:15 when many on board were asleep. The *Bayano* took only 3 minutes to sink with 196 fatalities, including Arthur, and only four officers and 22 ratings were saved.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-south-scotland-31821949; <https://southamptoncenotaph.com>; National Roll of the Great War; and www.ancestry.co.uk

LOVEJOY, Edward

Rank:	Private
Service No:	3/4733
Date of Death:	16 th May 1915. There is some discrepancy over this date of death.
Age:	41
Service:	1 st Battalion, Hampshire Regiment
Memorial:	Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial. This commemorates by name all those who perished in the Ypres Salient, Belgium, and have 'no known grave'. On the panels are displayed, unit by unit, with ranks and bravery awards, the names of more than 54,000 of the 'missing'. Southampton Cenotaph.

Edward was born in 1872 in the St. Mary's area of Southampton to Henry Lovejoy (1843-1888) and Charlotte, nee Ashley, although this is not 100% definite. Henry and Charlotte married in Southampton in 1864.

At the time of the 1881 census, Edward was living with his mother and step-father; Charlotte had married James Perry in 1880.

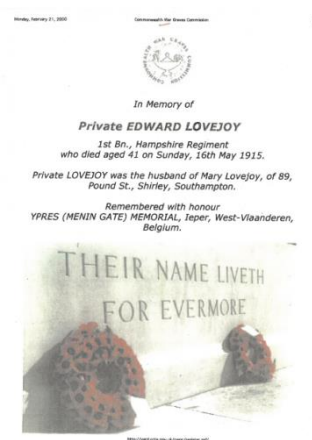
Edward enlisted in the Hampshire Regiment in 1890 at the age of 18. At the time of the 1891 Census, he was held the rank of private and was based at the Upper and Lower Barracks in Chatham, Kent. It is clear from the South African War Medal Roll that Pte Lovejoy took part in that conflict. He was entitled to the Queen's South Africa Medal with clasps Paardeberg, Johannesburg and Cape Colony and the King's South Africa Medal

Edward married Mary Whatmore (1873-1951) in Winchester in 1895, and they had eight children: Emily (1896-1930), Alice Rosina (1899-1899), Ethel (1900-1914), Edward (1903-1972), Mary (1905-1944), Florence (1907-1997), Jessie (1908-1994) and Frederick (1913-1913).

At the time of the 1911 census, Edward and his family were living at 89 Pound Street, Shirley. Lodging with them was Mary's brother, Frederick, aged 28. Edward and Frederick are both employed as general labourers on the railways.

Although Edward would have been considered rather old to join up when war was declared, as a former soldier he was probably encouraged to do so. He re-enlisted in September 1914 and was sent to France on 20th January 1915. He was killed in action three days after the Battle of Frezenberg Ridge, part of the 2nd Battle of Ypres. This took place between 8th and 13th May and involved many German attacks around the Menin Road. Many lives were lost on 13th May, a day of ceaseless rain and shelling.

At the time of his death, his family was still living at 89 Pound Street, Shirley, Southampton.



The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; <https://southamptoncenotaph.com/edward-lovejoy/>; and www.ancestry.co.uk

LUCAS, Reginald Bernard

Rank:	Trimmer
Date of Death:	Sunday 15 April 1917
Age:	23
Service:	Steamship " <i>Arcadian</i> "(<i>Belfast</i>), Mercantile Marine
Memorial:	Tower Hill Memorial, London. This commemorates more than 35,800 men of the Merchant Navy and Fishing Fleets who died in both World Wars and have no grave but the sea. The Mikra Memorial, Thessaloniki, Greece which commemorates almost 500 nurses, officers and men of the Commonwealth forces who died when troop transports and hospital ships were lost in the Mediterranean.

Reginald was born in 1894 in Wareham, Dorset. He was baptised on 14/01/1894 in Tyneham, Dorset. His parents were Nicholas (1856-1934) and Mary Jane (1861-1947) Lucas (nee Riggs), they married in Wareham at the end of 1880. Sometime between 1898 and 1900 the family moved to Hampshire.

By the time of the 1901 Census, Reginald's family were living in Lee, Romsey Extra with their 10 children: Wilton W (1883-1964), Fred T (1884-1977), Bessie M (1886-1961), Henry C (1888-1969), Ethel A (1890), Ada L (1892), Reginald B (1894-1917), Herbert G (1896-1953), Percy A (1898-1904), Mabel (b.1901 in Romsey). All the older children were born in Dorset. The family lived in Church Cottages in Lee and the father worked as an agricultural labourer.

By the time of the 1911 Census, Reginald was living with his family at 3 Octagon Terrace, Winchester Road, Shirley, Southampton. He was 17 and worked as a carter for a contractor. His father was a farm labourer. The other children still at home were Wilton W age 28 as a contractor labourer, Fred T age 27 as the corporation infirmity carter, Ada L age 19 as a dress maker, Herbert George age 14 as a grocery errand boy, Mabel age 10 at school and Bertie Gerard age 4. Percy A died in 1904 age 6.

The S.S. *Arcadian* was a steam powered passenger ship built in 1885 and was run by the Pacific Steam Navigation Company as the S.S. *Ortona* out of Liverpool to Australia from 1885 until 1910. In 1910, she was purchased by The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company Limited, based in London, and her name was changed to the S.S. *Arcadian*. The *Arcadian* was converted for use as a troop transport ship during the First World War and on her way from Salonkia to Alexandria with 1,335 troops when, 26 miles north-east of Milos Island in the Aegean Sea, she was torpedoed without warning by UC74 with the loss of 279 lives. Of these, 35 were crew including Reginald Bernard. 1,058 of those aboard were saved perhaps because the ship had just had a boat drill. The vessel sank in just six minutes.

At the time of Reginald Bernard's death his parent were living at 76 Winchester Road, Shirley, Southampton.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; www.ancestry.co.uk and <http://fascinatingfactsofww1.blogspot.com/2015/04/sinking-of-ss-arcadian-15th-april-1917.html>

MACEY, Charles Edward

Rank:	Private
Service No:	9469
Date of Death:	Saturday 18 September 1915
Age:	20
Service:	Hampshire Regiment. 2nd Battalion
Memorial:	Green Hill Cemetery, Turkey. There are 2,971 servicemen of the Great War buried or commemorated in the cemetery. 2,472 of the burials are unidentified but special memorials commemorate a number of casualties known or believed to be buried among them.

Charles was born in 1895 in Shirley, Southampton. His parents were William (1876-1952) and Fanny Macey (1875-1951), nee Masters, who were married in early 1894. Charles had ten siblings: Frederick (1894-1917), Gladys (1898-1985), Violet (1900-1903), Ivy (b.1902), Maggie (b.1904), Ruth (1906-2000), Blanche (1908-1940), Ida (1911-1988), Kitty (1914-1915) and Freda (b.1916).

At the time of the 1901 Census, the family was living at 28, Regent Street, Shirley. Charles' father was a general labourer. At the time of the 1911 Census, the family was living at 1, Didcot Road, Shirley. William was still a general labourer and his sons, Frederick and Charles, were both butchers.

It is not known when Charles enlisted. As he joined the 2nd Hampshires, which was a regular battalion and not one of the many created in the expansion of the Army after war was declared, it is quite likely that he joined up before August 1914. Military records indicate that he entered the 'theatre of war' on 23rd August 1914. This is almost certainly France as a large number of the initial members of the British Expeditionary Force arrived at Le Havre on that day. However, the 2nd Battalion was in India when war broke out and did not arrive in England until 22nd December 1914. This would suggest that he was with another battalion or regiment. Interestingly the 1st Hampshires arrived in France on 23rd August 1914, so perhaps Charles was serving with them.

What is clear is that Charles went with the 2nd Hampshires to Gallipoli, where he was killed in action. This unsuccessful campaign was fought by Commonwealth and French forces in an attempt to force Turkey out of the war, to relieve the deadlock of the Western Front in France and Belgium, and to open a supply route to Russia through the Dardanelles and the Black Sea.

At the time of his death, Charles' parents were still living at 1, Didcot Road, Shirley. The inscription on his headstone is: *'The Beloved Son Jesus Lover of my Soul'*. *'Jesus Lover of my Soul'* are the first words of a famous Christian hymn written by Charles Wesley (1707-1788), probably the greatest hymn writer and author of *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*, which is often sung at Christmas.

Charles' brother Frederick was a Lance Corporal in the 2nd Hampshires. He died, aged 23, on 23 April 1917 and is listed on the Arras Memorial, France. It must have been very hard for William and Fanny to endure the loss of their sons, whose names are on the Southampton Cenotaph.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; <https://www.forces-war-records.co.uk/units/256/royal-hampshire-regiment/>; <https://southamptoncenotaph.com/>; and www.ancestry.co.uk

MACEY, Frederick William

Rank:	Lance Corporal
Service No:	14487
Date of Death:	Monday 23 April 1917
Age:	23
Service:	2 nd Battalion, Hampshire Regiment
Memorial:	Arras Memorial, which stands at the entrance to the Faubourg d'Amiens Cemetery in Arras, France. The memorial commemorates nearly 35,000 soldiers of the British, South African and New Zealand forces with no known grave. Most of those commemorated were killed in the Battle of Arras, fought between 9 April and 16 May 1917.

Frederick was born in 1894 in Shirley, Southampton. His parents were William (1876-1952) and Fanny Macey (1875-1951), nee Masters, who were married in early 1894. Frederick had ten siblings: Charles (1895-1915), Gladys (1898-1985), Violet (1900-1903), Ivy (b.1902), Maggie (b.1904), Ruth (1906-2000), Blanche (1908-1940), Ida (1911-1988), Kitty (1914-1915) and Freda (b.1916).

At the time of the 1901 Census, the family was living at 28, Regent Street, Shirley. Frederick's father was a general labourer. At the time of the 1911 Census, the family was living at 1, Didcot Road, Shirley. William was still a general labourer and his sons, Frederick and Charles, were both butchers.

Frederick enlisted in the 2nd Battalion, Hampshire Regiment and went with them to Gallipoli. He arrived in the Balkans from Avonmouth via Alexandria, Egypt, on 25th April 1915. His battalion engaged in various actions, including the Battles for Krithia and the Achi Baba heights, and, on 8 January 1916, was evacuated to Alexandria due to heavy casualties from combat, disease and severe weather conditions.

In March 1916 Frederick's battalion moved to France landing at Marseilles where it engaged in various actions on the Western Front including, in 1916, the Battles of Albert and Transloy Ridges. Frederick was killed in action on the first day of the Second Battle of the Scarpe, which was part of the wider conflict known as the Battle of Arras, a major British offensive on the Western Front between 9 April and 16 May 1917. At the time of his death, Frederick's parents were still living at 1, Didcot Road, Shirley.

Frederick's brother Charles was a Private in the 2nd Hampshires. He died in Gallipoli, Turkey, aged 20, on 18 September 1915. It must have been very hard for William and Fanny to endure the loss of both of their sons, whose names are listed on the Southampton Cenotaph.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; <https://southamptoncenotaph.com/>; www.forces-war-records.co.uk/units/256/royal-hampshire-regiment/; and www.ancestry.co.uk

MARTIN, Cyril Arthur Osmond

Rank:	Private
Service No:	G/18468
Date of Death:	Thursday 7 June 1917
Age:	19
Service:	11th (Lewisham) Battalion. Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment)
Memorial:	Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium

Cyril was born in Southampton in 1899. His parents were Arthur (1851-1898) and Harietta (1856-1906) Reeves, who married in 1878. He had eight siblings: Arthur (1879-1971), Osmond (1881-1954), Hazel (1882-1911), Cassanett (1885-1893), Reginald (b.1887), Eugenie (b.1889), Dorcas (b.1891) and Burdett (b.1893). His father, who predeceased him, was an upholsterer.

At the time of the 1901 Census, the family was living at 16 Anglesea Road, Shirley, Southampton. Harietta was a widow and worked as a schoolmistress. Arthur was employed as a boot salesman's assistant, Osmond as a grocer's assistant and Reginald as an office boy.

Harietta had died by the time of the 1911 Census and the children had split up. Arthur, with his sister Eugenie, were at 29 & 30, Burgate Street, Canterbury. He was a widower and had a son, Cyril (1910-2002), aged 9 months. He was a manager of a boots and shoe store. Osmond was living with his wife and daughter at 35, Carlisle Road, Southampton, working as a house furniture shop assistant. Dorcas was a nurse, living at 39 Above Bar Street, Southampton. Burdett was a visiting Wiveliscombe, Somerset. It seems that Arthur remarried as by 1939 he was living in Buckingham with an Elsie Martin and his son, Cyril. He was still working as a boots and shoe store manager.

At the time of 1911 Census, Cyril, classed as an 'inmate', was attending school at the Teachers' Orphanage, 7, West Hill, Sydenham, south London. This was opened in 1899 at Westwood House, Sydenham, near Lewisham, south London, following its purchase by John Passmore Edwards (1823-1911), MP for Salisbury, editor of a leading London newspaper, life-long champion of the working classes and benefactor extraordinary, who gave it to the Benevolent and Orphan Fund of the National Union of Teachers. The property had been built in 1766 and the composers Liszt and Dvorak stayed there whilst visiting Crystal Palace. The house stood in 5 acres of beautiful grounds.

Cyril enlisted in Canterbury, Kent – this was probably because he was living with his widowed brother Arthur – joining the Royal East Kent Regiment (service no. 2573). At some stage he transferred to the Royal West Kent's 11th Battalion, which was raised at Lewisham, south London, in May 1915 and went to France on 3rd May 1916. In 1916 the battalion fought in the Battles of Flers-Courcelette and Transloy Ridges. Cyril was killed on the first day of the Battle of Messines, some 10 kms south of Ypres, Belgium.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; www.childrenshomes.org.uk/SydenhamTeachers/; www.forces-war-records.co.uk/units/3554/queens-own-royal-west-kent-regiment/; and www.ancestry.co.uk

MASTERS, James Andrew

Rank:	Able Seaman
Service No:	220445
Date of Death:	26 November 1914
Age:	29
Service:	Royal Navy HMS <i>Bulwark</i>
Memorial:	Portsmouth Naval Memorial and Memorial Wall in Southampton.

James was born in Southampton on 6th April 1885. He was often called Andrew (e.g. his entry in the 1901 Census has Andrew J Masters). His parents were Harry (1845-1906) and Louisa, nee Andrews, (1846-1911), who were married in 1870. He had eight siblings: Harry (b.1869), Louisa (b.1874), Elizabeth (b.1878), Emily (b.1880) Sam (1881-1944), Frederick (b.1884), Tom (1887-1958) and one other who had died by the time of the 1911 Census and is not listed in the Census of 1891 and 1901.

At the time of the 1891 and 1901 censuses the family lived at 5 Beavis Street, Shirley, Southampton. In 1901 Beavis Street was renamed Vaudrey Street. In 1891, Harry and Harry junior were both employed as labourers. By 1901 Harry senior was a labourer in a Church Cemetery, Frederick was a painter, James was working as a blacksmith's labourer and Tom was a painter's labourer.

James enlisted in the Navy on 24th April 1905. His first ship was HMS *Northampton* and he then served on a further ten ships before finally becoming a crew member of HMS *Bulwark* on 14th June 1912. In his annual end of year character assessment he was graded 'very good' for his first nine years of service, thereafter he was graded 'satisfactory'.

James was on board HMS *Bulwark* when a powerful internal explosion ripped the ship apart at 7.50am on 26 November 1914 while she was moored 4.6 miles west of Sheerness in the estuary of the River Medway. Within the three minutes it took for the smoke to clear, the ship had completely disappeared. The most likely cause of the explosion appears to have been overheating of cordite charges stored alongside a boiler room bulkhead. This was the explanation accepted by the court of enquiry. Out of her crew of 750, no officers and only 14 sailors survived, five of whom subsequently died from their injuries. James was one of the hundreds of sailors whose body was not recovered or identified. In terms of loss of life, the incident remains the second most catastrophic accidental explosion in the history of the Royal Navy, exceeded only by the explosion of the dreadnought battleship *Vanguard*, caused by a stokehold fire detonating a magazine, at Scapa Flow in 1917.

James left an estate valued at £215 10s which went to his sister, Mrs Emily Hawkins (formerly Masters), of 5, Vaudrey Street, Shirley, Southampton.

James' younger brother, Tom, joined the Royal Navy in March 1916 and served in a number of ships. He was engaged on various duties in the North Sea, off the coast of Scotland and with the Channel Patrol until January 1919, when he was demobilized.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; www.wessexwfa.org.uk/articles/hms-bulwark.htm; <http://southamptoncenotaph.com>; and www.ancestry.co.uk

MERRITT, Edward

Rank:	Private
Service No:	15335
Date of Death:	Wednesday 9 August 1916
Age:	39
Service:	2nd Battalion, Hampshire Regiment
Cemetery:	Potijze Chateau Wood Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Located to the north-east of Ypres, it is one of four in and around the site of the former Potijze Château and was behind Allied lines for most of the war and served as an Advanced Dressing Station. The cemetery holds the bodies of 46 soldiers, from the Hampshire and Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers regiments, who were killed in August 1916 by poison gas.

Edward was born in Bramdean, Hampshire in 1877. His parents were George (1825-1902) and Edith Jane Pomeroy (nee Bailey) Merritt (1838-1901), who married in Alresford on 30 January 1875.

Edward had two siblings: Katerine E (1875-1892) and Thomas B (1879-1937). As his parents had been previously married he also had half siblings on his father site: Stephen (1850-1890), Mary (1854-1904), George (1856-1907), William (1859), Lucy Maria (1861-1937), Henry (1863), James (1865-1931), and on his mother site: Henry Pomeroy (1859), Joseph Pomeroy (1860-1930), Walter Pomeroy (1869-1878), Dan Pomeroy (1870-1939).

At the time of the 1891 Census, Edward age 14 was living with his parents and younger brother Thomas in Bramdean, Alresford, Hampshire. George Merritt was still working as an agricultural labourer and Edward as a carter boy.

Edward married Keziah Trusler (1881-1964) on 21 November 1898, Millbrook, Hampshire. The couple had five daughters Kate (1899-1957), Frances Louise (1901-1992), Rose Ellen (1904-1956), Elizabeth Mary (1908-1980) and Ethel (1911-1988).

By the time of the 1901 Census, Edward was living at 126 Pound Street, Shirley, Southampton, with his family and he was working as a gas stoker.

At the time of the 1911 Census, Edward was living at 55 Chilworth Road, Shirley, Southampton with his family and he was still working as a gas stoker.

Edward entered France 2 May 1915. On 9 August 1916, as the Somme offensive raged further south, the first and second battalions of the Hampshire Regiment spent ten days in trenches just east of Potijze Chateau. As they were preparing to leave the Germans staged a surprise attack using a potent form of phosgene gas. Both units were caught unawares and although no ground was conceded the regiment suffered over 240 casualties, about half of whom were killed, including Edward.

The inscription on Edward's headstone is, '*No one stood by him to say goodbye but safe in God's keeping he safely lies*'.

MILLER, Charles Matthew

Rank:	Private
Service No:	16217
Date of Death:	Friday 13th September 1918
Age:	21
Service:	Royal Irish Regiment
Cemetery:	Southampton (Hollybrook) Cemetery, Hampshire.

Charles was born in Shirley, Southampton in 1897.

He was the son of Charles William (b 1871) and Louisa (b 1873) Miller, Southampton. He had two sisters: Elizabeth (b 1899) Florence (b 1902)

At the 1911 Census, the family lived at 18 Vaudrey Street, Shirley. His father was working as a milkman. Charles and his sisters were at school.

Charles enlisted in Winchester.

He died in Fargo Military Hospital, Salisbury. In July 1914, just before the outbreak of the war, the Royal Army Medical Corps started work on the construction of the 1,200 bed Fargo Military Hospital. After the war the hospital became disused though some of the buildings were turned into married quarters for the nearby Rollestone camp.

At time of his death his parents were living at 17, Vaudrey Street, Shirley.

The inscription on Charles' headstone is, 'Safe in the arms of Jesus'.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; and www.ancestry.co.uk

MILLER, Hilton George

Rank:	Private
Service No:	7647
Date of Death:	Wednesday 10 February 1915
Age:	28
Service:	1st Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment
Memorial:	Dranouter Churchyard, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. It is located 11.5 kms south of Ypres and contains 79 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

Born in Shirley, Southampton in 1887. His parents were John (1857-1937) and Julia nee Boyce (1864-1939) Miller. They were married 16 April 1882 in Shirley, Southampton.

Hilton's siblings were: Ethel (1883), Elsie (1885), Eva (1888–1940), Harold (1890–), Bertha (1892–1962), Florence (1894–1970), Harry (1896–1967)

At the time of the 1891 Census, the family were living at 26 Chapel Street, Shirley, Southampton. Father was working as a horse keeper at the docks.

By the time of the 1901 Census Hilton George age 15 was living as a boarder with a Mr and Mrs Cowles and their 8 year old son at Horsemoor Green, Langley, Slough, Buckinghamshire. Mr Cowles was a gardener and Hilton is listed as a labourer.

At the time of the 1911 Census, Hilton was serving with the 2nd Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment in India and Ceylon. Overseas Military service in Ships and Overseas Establishments with the address in Wanowrie Lines Poona, India.

Mobilised in Belfast at the outbreak of war, the 1st Dorsets landed at Le Havre on 16 August 1914 as part of the British Expeditionary Force. In Belgium the Battalion saw action at Mons on 23rd August and then formed part of the rearguard in the long British retreat. On the move for 16 consecutive days, they marched 220 miles. On 4th September the Dorsets reached the town of Gagny south of the River Marne and the retreat ended as the Allies managed to halt the German advance. Two days later they turned to the offensive. They spent the winter months of 1914-15 near Wulverghem in the Ypres salient.

Hilton George died of wounds in the 15th Field Ambulance.

At the time of his death his parents were living at 42, Clarendon Road, Shirley, Southampton.

The inscription on his headstone is, 'He gave his life for his friends'.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; www.ancestry.co.uk; and www.keepmilitarymuseum.org/history/first+world+war/the+dorsetshire+regiment/the+first+battalion

NEW, Alfred John

Rank:	Gunner
Service No:	352687
Date of Death:	Thursday, February 8, 1917
Age:	20
Service:	Royal Garrison Artillery (Hampshire Battery)
Memorial:	Southampton (Hollybrook) Cemetery. The cemetery has a First World War plot near the main entrance containing most of the 125 graves from this period.

Alfred was born in Southampton in 1896. His parents were Harry (1868-1943) and Lydia (b.1874), nee Harding, New. He had six siblings: Harry (b.1896), Lydia (b.1897-1973), Margherita (1901-1993) and Marjorie (b.1909). Two children had died by the time of the 1911 Census.

At the time of the 1911 Census, the family was living at 1 Point Out, Shirley, Southampton. Alfred's father was employed as a gas stoker and he was working with the Gordon Boys Brigade, an organisation formed in memory of General Gordon, the Governor General of the Sudan during the 1884 uprising, and who once lived in Southampton's Rockstone Place, provided work for local youngsters, especially as messenger boys. Their headquarters were in Ogle Road.

The Hants Battery of the Royal Garrison Artillery, in which Alfred served, was a unit of the Territorial force with its Headquarters in St Mary's Road, Southampton. Military records indicate that Alfred served with its 34th AA Company (AA almost certainly stands for anti-aircraft) and died in hospital in Coventry.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; www.ancestry.co.uk and <https://wartimememoriesproject.com/greatwar/allied/rgartillery.php?pid=614>

NORGATE, William Harold

Rank:	Private
Service No:	15334
Date of Death:	Sunday 19 May 1918
Age:	24
Service:	1 st Battalion, Hampshire Regiment
Memorial:	Le Vertannoy British Cemetery, Hinges, France. It is located a couple of miles north-west of Bethune and was opened in April 1918, during the Battles of the Lys. It was used by field ambulances, burial officers and fighting units until September 1918. It contains 141 World War 1 burials.

William was born in Shirley, Southampton in 1894. His parents were Alfred John (1861–1932) Caroline Sarah Norgate (1858–1933), nee Howard, who were married in Croydon, south London in 1887. He had five siblings: Alfred (b.1888), Beatrice (1890–1973), Reginald (1896–1961), Cecil (1898–1974) and one who had died by April 1911.

At the time of the 1911 Census, William was living with his parents and two youngest brothers at 6 Vaudrey Street, Shirley Southampton. His father was working as a cabman and William as a bedding factory machinist. In the second quarter of 1915, William married Emily Rosina Masters in Southampton. They had one daughter whose name is unknown.

William enlisted in August 1914. and was drafted to France in May 1915. He took part in many important engagements and was wounded. He fought in the Battles of Ypres and was killed in action. His last known address was 36 Church Street, Shirley.

The inscription on his headstone is: *"In ever loving memory from his loving wife and daughter"*. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission websites indicates that William's wife and daughter lived at 33, Heysham Road, Shirley.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org and www.ancestry.co.uk

ORPET, Frederick

Rank:	Leading Stoker
Service No:	290268
Date of Death:	31 May 1916
Age:	37
Service:	Royal Navy H.M.S. <i>Broke</i>
Memorial:	Portsmouth Naval Memorial

Frederick was born in Shirley, Southampton in 1879. His parents were Enos (1840–1904) and Matilda Orpet (1840–1923), nee Haywood, who were married on 11th October 1861. Frederick had ten siblings, two of whom had died by the time of the 1911 Census: Alice (b.1863), Emily (1864-1937), Robert (1866-1945), William (1869-1922), George (1871-1920), Kate (b.1873), Charles (1876–1889), Walter (1881–1912), Jessie (1883–1954) and one other, whose name is unknown.

At the time of the 1881 Census, Frederick was living with his family at 29 Church Street, Shirley, Southampton. His father was a labourer. At the time of the 1891 Census, Frederick was living with his family at 21 Station Road, Southampton. His father was working as a farm labourer.

At the time of the 1901 Census, Frederick's parents with their children, William and Jessie, were living at 1 Beavis Street, Shirley,. This was renamed Vaudrey Street in 1901. His father was a bricklayer's labourer.

Frederick enlisted in the Royal Navy as a Stoker 2nd Class on 5 October 1898. He served for a total of twelve years. His first ship was HMS *Victory II* and his last was HMS *Drake*. In 1906 he was promoted to stoker and in 1908 to leading stoker. Stokers shovelled coal and did some boiler mechanics. At the time he was discharged, Frederick's character was assessed as 'very good'.

At the time of the 1911 Census, Frederick was living with his widowed mother and two of his brothers, William and Walter, at 1 Vaudrey Street, Shirley. His marital status was single and he was working as a dock labourer. Walter was a ship's steward and a crew member on RMS *Titanic* when it left Southampton on 10th April 1911. He died when the ship sank five days later.

With the outbreak of war imminent, Frederick was recalled to the Navy. On 2 August 1914 he re-joined HMS *Victory II*. He died at the Battle of Jutland on board HMS *Broke*, a Faulknor-class Destroyer. She was engaged at very close range with the German Battleship *Westfalen* around midnight on 31 May/1 June 1916 and badly damaged with 50 of her crew killed and 30 injured. The helmsman was also killed at this time. As he died, his body turned the wheel causing the ship to turn to port and ram HMS *Sparrowhawk* at a speed of 28 knots. After the two destroyers separated, *Sparrowhawk* was subsequently sunk but *Broke* made her way back to the Tyne and was repaired.

When Frederick died, his mother was still living at 1 Vaudrey Street. She was living at 9 Bellemoor Road, Shirley, when she died on 1st May 1923.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; www.docrn.org/index.php/history/battle-of-jutland-remembered; and www.ancestry.co.uk

OTHEN, William Bertram

Rank:	Stoker 1st Class
Service No:	SS/112770
Date of Death:	Wednesday 31 May 1916
Age:	21
Service:	Royal Navy HMS Queen Mary
Memorial:	Portsmouth Naval Memorial, Southsea Common, Hampshire.

William was born on 14th August 1894 in Southampton. His parents were William Thomas (1871-1949) and Eliza Dora, nee Hatch, (1874-1915), who were married in Southampton on 27th May 1894. William had seven siblings: Lilian Dora, (1896-1959), Nellie (1898-1969), Jennie (1901-2000), Arthur (b.1903), Alice (1905-2002) Emma (1908-2000) and Edward (1912-1989).

At the time of the 1901 census, the family was living at 44 Endle Street, Southampton, where they rented two rooms. William's father was working as a stevedore, employed at the docks to load and unload ships. At the time of the 1911 census, the family was living at 86 Pound Street, Shirley, Southampton. William's father was still a stevedore, being employed by the London and South West Railway.

According to the *National Roll of the Great War*, William served in the Royal Navy for eight years before the outbreak of war in 1914, though that is highly questionable as he would have been only 12 years old in 1906. His military record states that a couple of weeks after he turned 18 in 1912, he was a Stoker 2nd Class on HMS *Renown*, and that he was then transferred to HMS *Victory*, *Revenge* and *Albermale*, before becoming a member of the crew of HMS *Queen Mary* on 4th September 1913. On 6th November 1913, he was promoted to Stoker 1st Class. During the war, the *Queen Mary* was engaged on various duties in the North Sea. He lost his life on May 31st, 1916, when the *Queen Mary* was sunk at the Battle of Jutland. His body was not recovered for burial.

HMS *Queen Mary* was the last battlecruiser built before World War 1 and the only member of her class. She was in Vice Admiral David Beatty's 1st Battle Cruiser Squadron. She was hit twice by the German battlecruiser *Derfflinger* during the early part of the battle of Jutland and her magazines exploded shortly afterwards, sinking the ship. Of the crew of over 1,250 there were only 20 survivors. An investigation into the losses led to changes in ammunition handling aboard British ships as the report showed that cordite handling practices may have contributed to her loss.

William Pennicott of Shirley was a fellow Stoker 1st class and a member of the crew who died.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; www.thoughtco.com/world-war-i-hms-queen-mary-2361217; www.southamptoncenotaph.com/william-often/; and www.ancestry.co.uk

PAGE, Arthur

Rank:	Private
Service No:	3/5311
Date of Death:	Wednesday, August 9, 1916
Age:	32
Service:	2 nd Battalion Hampshire Regiment
Memorial:	Potijze Burial Ground Cemetery, Iper, Belgium. The nearby Potijze Chateau contained an Advanced Dressing Station and the Cemetery was used from April 1915 to October 1918. It contains 584 Commonwealth burials of the First World War.

Arthur was born in Singapore in 1884. His parents were James Arthur (1853-1926) and Louisa Mary Page, nee Lynch (1856-1929), who were married in India in 1881. He had nine siblings: Florence (1883-1915) - who was married in St James Church, Shirley, on 25th August 1909, and lived in Upper Shirley Avenue, Laura (b.1885), Ernest (1886-1918), Cyril (1887-1917), Percival (1889-1978), Gertrude (1891-1976), Gladys (b.1893), Harold (b.1896-1942) and Violet (1901-1901).

Arthur's father joined the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, as a Sergeant Major, on 11th April 1885 and retired as a Captain. As a result of his father's military service, the family moved around during his childhood. They were based in Durban, South Africa when Ernest was born in 1886 and Portsmouth when Percival was born in 1889. A year or so later they moved to Omagh in Northern Ireland. This would have been because of his father's commission with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers who were based in the country. The 1901 census shows the family living in Mullingar in County Westmeath in what is now the Republic of Ireland.

Arthur joined his father's regiment as a 15 year old on 7th October 1899. However, he went to war as a member of the 2nd Battalion Hampshire Regiment and fought in Northern France and Belgium.

Arthur was one of 124 Hampshire's who died in a phosgene gas attack. The regiment had been working on defences close to the town of Potijze near Ypres. The attack by the Germans on the night of 8th August 1916 took place very near to the battalion's location. The resulting large gas cloud drifted a distance of 8.5 miles behind the lines. The gas alarm was heard at 11:30pm and casualties began arriving about 4am at the No 3 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station. A total of 370 men were killed and 434 injured. Sadly, Arthur's brother Cyril also died as a result of a gas attack in 1917.

Arthur's brother, Percival, organised the inscription on his gravestone.... *"He Died That Others Might Live"*. Unfortunately, two other brothers, Cyril (05/12/1917) and Ernest (21/03/1918), died in the Great War and their names are also listed on the St James' Church Roll of Honour. At the time of their deaths, their parents were living at 123, Shirley Avenue, Shirley.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; <https://southamptoncenotaph.com>; <https://www.greatwarforum.org/topic/46454-ypres-gas-attack-august-1916/>; and www.ancestry.co.uk

PAGE, Cyril

Rank:	Bombardier
Service No:	285005
Date of Death:	15 th December 1917
Age:	30
Service:	329th Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery
Memorial:	Wimereux Communal Cemetery, France. It's 3 miles north of Boulogne. The total number of WW1 burials is 3,038 of which 2,847 are Commonwealth, including Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae, author of the poem " <i>In Flanders Fields</i> ".

Cyril was born in Cape Town, South Africa in 1887. His parents were James Arthur (1853-1926) and Louisa Mary Page, nee Lynch (1856-1929), who were married in India in 1881. He had nine siblings: Florence (1883-1915) - who was married in St James Church, Shirley, on 25th August 1909, and lived in Upper Shirley Avenue, Arthur (1884-1916), Laura (b.1885), Ernest (1886-1918), Percival (1889-1978), Gertrude (1891-1976), Gladys (b.1893), Harold (b.1896-1942) and Violet (1901-1901).

Cyril's father joined the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, as a Sergeant Major, on 11th April 1885 and retired as a Captain. As a result of his father's military service, the family moved around during his childhood. They were based in Durban, South Africa when Ernest was born in 1886 and Portsmouth when Percival was born in 1889. A year or so later they moved to Omagh in Northern Ireland. This would have been because of his father's commission with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers who were based in the country. The 1901 census shows the family living in Mullingar in County Westmeath in what is now the Republic of Ireland.

It is not known as to whether Cyril followed the example of his father and at least two of his brothers in joining the military before the outbreak of the Great War. What is certain is that he served in the Royal Garrison Artillery. His battery was stationed near the Westhoek Ridge, east of Ypres, in Belgium on 30th October 1917. Like his brother Arthur, Cyril was a victim of a gas attack. The Germans used gas in large volumes, especially in the various battles around Ypres. Cyril was probably "wounded" in late November 1917 and transported behind the Allied lines for medical treatment. He died from his wounds on 5th December 1917.

His headstone was organised by his mother Mary and poignantly reads ... "*Can Man Die Better Than That He Lay Down His Life For His Friends*". This was probably inspired by these words: "*Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends*" which were said by Jesus Christ to his twelve closest friends on the eve of his crucifixion and can be found in the Bible in John 15:13.

Unfortunately, two other brothers, Arthur (09/08/1916) and Ernest (21/03/1918), died in the Great War and their names are also listed on the St James' Church Roll of Honour. At the time of their deaths, their parents were living at 123, Shirley Avenue, Shirley.

PAGE, Ernest

Rank:	Lance Sergeant
Service No:	31243
Date of Death:	Thursday, March 21, 1918
Age:	32
Service:	7th/8th Battalion, Royal 27th Inniskilling Fusiliers
Memorial:	Templeux-Le-Guerard British Cemetery, Somme, France. The village is 16 miles east of Peronne. It contains over 750 1914-18 war casualties and of these, nearly a quarter are unidentified.

Ernest was born in Durban, South Africa, in 1886. His parents were James Arthur (1853-1926) and Louisa Mary Page, nee Lynch (1856-1929), who were married in India in 1881. He had nine siblings: Florence (1883-1915) - who was married in St James Church, Shirley, on 25th August 1909, and lived in Upper Shirley Avenue, Arthur (1884-1916), Laura (b.1885), Cyril (1887-1917), Percival (1889-1978), Gertrude (1891-1976), Gladys (b.1893), Harold (b.1896-1942) and Violet (1901-1901).

Ernest's father joined the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, as a Sergeant Major, on 11th April 1885. As a result of this, Ernest's family moved around during his childhood. They were based in Portsmouth when Percival was born in November 1889 and a year or so later they moved to Omagh in Northern Ireland. This would have been because of his father's commission with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers who were based in the country. The 1901 census shows the family living in Mullingar in County Westmeath in what is now the Republic of Ireland.

Ernest enlisted in his father's regiment as a Private. He initially joined the 1st Battalion and spent approximately five years in Ireland. During 1909 his Battalion was despatched to China, via Malta. Along with some battalions from other European countries they were sent to quell a rebellion and guard British interests. The Battalion arrived in Tientsin, North China in November 1909. Ernest probably did not experience any action in his two years in China as negotiations always seemed to be successful. In December 1911 the Battalion left for India.

The 1911 census shows Ernest as a private, single, and 25 years old. Soon after this he was promoted to Lance Sergeant. His Battalion was based in Hyderabad over Christmas 1912 and left Bombay on 15th December 1914 arriving in Southampton in January 1915. It is possible that Ernest had the chance to visit family members in Shirley before the Battalion was sent to Finner Camp, Ballyshannon, County Donegal. At around this time Ernest was transferred to the 7th/8th Battalion and he went with them to France in February 1916 where they served in the Somme region.

On 17th October 1917, Ernest married Agnes White (b.1883) at Trinity Church (Church of Ireland) in Belfast. Sadly, he died six months later on the first day of the massive German Spring Offensive of 1918. Ernest was killed near the village of Templeux-le-Guerad, in which he is buried.

Unfortunately, Ernest's brothers, Arthur (09/08/1916) and Cyril (05/12/1917) died in the Great War and their names are also listed on the St James' Church Roll of Honour. At the time of their deaths, their parents were living at 123, Shirley Avenue, Shirley.

PENNICOTT, William James

Rank:	Stoker, 1st Class
Service No:	SS/111732
Date of Death:	Wednesday, May 31, 1916
Age:	22
Service:	Royal Navy, HMS Queen Mary
Memorial:	Portsmouth Naval Memorial, Southsea Common, Hampshire.

William was born on 17th August 1893. He was the son of James Pennicott (b.1869), and Sarah Pennicott (1867-1942), nee Bedford, who married in 1892. He had eight siblings: Ada (b.1892), Emma, (b.1896), Kate (b.1897), Violet (b.1899), James (b.1902), Caroline (b.1904), Beatrice (1906-1969) and Albert (b.1909).

At the time of the 1901 Census, the family was living at 25 Pound Street, Bitterne, Southampton. William's father was a general labourer,

At the time of the 1911 Census, the family was living at 19 Crown Street, Shirley. William's father was now working as a railway platelayer at the docks, which would have involved inspecting and maintaining the track, including all its component parts. William was an under-gardener.

William enlisted in the Royal Navy on 5th February 1912. His first ship was HMS *Victory II* and he joined the crew of HMS *Queen Mary* on 4th September 1913. HMS *Queen Mary* the last battlecruiser built before World War I and the only member of her class.

William took part in the Battle of Heligoland Bight on 28th August 1914. On 31st May 1916, during the early part of the Battle of Jutland, the *Queen Mary* was hit twice by the German battlecruiser *Derfflinger*. Her magazines exploded shortly afterwards, sinking the ship. Of the crew of 1,289 there were only 20 survivors. William's body, along with those of his comrades, has never been recovered and the *Queen Mary* still rests on the bed of the North Sea. An investigation into her loss led to changes in ammunition handling aboard British ships as the report showed that cordite handling practices may have contributed to her loss.

William Othen of Shirley was a fellow Stoker 1st class and a member of the crew who died. Both of their names are listed on the Southampton Cenotaph and in the Shirley Parish Church Roll of Honour. At the time of his death, William's parents were living at 40, Shirley Park Road, Shirley.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; www.thoughtco.com/world-war-i-hms-queen-mary-2361217; www.southamptoncenotaph.com/william-james-pennicott/; and www.ancestry.co.uk

REEVES, Ernest James Benjamin

Rank:	Corporal
Service No:	77309
Date of Death:	4th November 1918
Age:	30
Service:	Royal Engineers, 11th Corps Signals
Memorial:	Southampton Cenotaph

Ernest was born in Southampton on 12th January 1888 to John Charles (1841-1906) and Mary Elizabeth Beckford, nee Ransom (1842-1925), who were married in Southampton in 1867. He had twelve siblings, including: Frederick (1868-1903), George (1869-1948), Ellen (1871-1871), Thomas (1873-1944) Rosa (1874-1959), Mary (b.1875) Frank (1876-1958) and William (1881-1941). Six siblings were dead by the time of the 1911 Census.

At the time of the 1891 census, Ernest lived with his family at 15 High Street, Shirley, Southampton. His Dad was a postmaster, Frederick a baker and Thomas a carpenter.

On the day of the 1901 census, Ernest is recorded as living with his parents, Rosa, Mary, Frank and William, at the Post Office, 15 High Street, Shirley. His Dad was a both a postmaster and baker, Frank a bicycle maker and William a baker.

At the time of the 1911 census, Ernest lived with Mary, his widowed mother, Rosa, a sub-postmistress, and William and Frederick, who like him, were bakers, employed by their mother at home. The family lived at 17 High Street, Shirley.

Ernest enlisted in Southampton on 1st November 1915 and was assigned to the Royal Engineers as a motor cyclist. On April 1st 1916 he joined the British Expeditionary Force in France. Little is known about Ernest's time between then and spring 1918, although there is some evidence to suggest that he spent some time in the Italian theatre of war.

In late March 1918 Ernest had an accident with his motorbike in the field. He was repatriated to a Red Cross hospital in Glasgow with broken bones and ribs. Whilst in hospital Ernest was found to be suffering from tuberculosis and a medical review on 28th June decided that he should be permanently discharged from the Army as unfit for further duty and this was enacted on 19th July. Ernest was moved closer to home, to the Isolation Hospital in Mousehole Lane, Southampton. In early November 1918, Ernest finally succumbed to the tuberculosis infection. In his will he left £908 12s 5d to his unmarried sister, Rosa.

Interestingly, presumably because he died of non-related war sickness and after he was discharged, Ernest's details are not listed on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.southamptoncenotaph.com and www.ancestry.co.uk

SMITH, Albert Edwin

Rank:	Driver/Gunner
Service No:	150123
Date of Death:	October 1917
Age:	19
Service:	Royal Field Artillery
Memorial:	Unknown, probably Southampton. He died 6 months after being discharged, medically unfit for war service.

Albert Edwin Smith was born in Shirley, Southampton, in April 1898. His parents were Edwin, born Shirley 1868. A labourer living at 9 Howard's Grove, Shirley. Edwin married Kate Emma Easton in Southampton in 1895. She was born in Highfield, Portswood, Southampton in 1870. The family continuously live in Howard's Grove, Shirley and had 7 children all born in Shirley. Ellen (b. 1896), Albert (b. 1898), George (b. 1900), Beatrice (b. 1903), Flora (b. 1905), Annie (b. 1907), and William (b. 1910).

Albert was a Gardner when he joined up in Southampton No. 1843 on the 22nd May 1916. The next day he was sent to Hilsea to join No. 3 Depot Royal Field Artillery.

27th May 1916 he was posted as a Gunner No. 150123 to 1B Reserve Brigade, Forest Row East Sussex.

In March 1917, Albert was admitted to the Norfolk War Hospital, Thorpe, Norfolk. On the 18th March 1917, he was diagnosed with Lung Disease, and on the 12th April 1917 he was discharged unfit, code 396 XVI (No longer physically fit for war service).

He had served 326 days service, all in England. He was awarded the Silver War Badge No. 44405. Sadly he died 6 months later in Southampton.

Albert was buried on 7th December 1917 in the graveyard at St. James' Church, Shirley.

SMITH, William Gilbert

Rank:	Private
Service No:	10209
Date of Death:	29th June 1915
Age:	18
Service:	2nd Battalion, Hampshire Regiment
Memorial:	Stone No. 133A. Helles Memorial, Cape Helles, Gallipoli, Turkey. The memorial has the names of 20,956 who have no known grave

William Gilbert was born 1897 in Shirley. His father was William Thomas Smith a House Painter born in Shirley in 1870. He Married in Shirley to Eleanor Jane Smith.

They had six children. William (b. 1897), Bessie (b. 1898), Florence (b. 1899), Maud (b. 1899), Frederick (b. 1902) and Kathleen (b. 1905). In the 1911 census William is a 14-year-old House Boy.

The 2nd Battalion was reinforced by 181 men on the 31st January 1915 and another 50 on the 20th February before embarking for Gallipoli on the 28th March 1915. William's Medal Card has survived and shows he was in the 2nd battalion as a private 10209, he has not been awarded the 1914 star, so did see action in that year. His entry into the theatre of war is listed as 15th June 1915. The 2nd Battalion started for Gallipoli. The 24th April they left Lemnos for the landing at Gallipoli. On the way they were transferred to the SS River Clyde, a 4,000 ton converted collier with eleven machine guns fitted on her bows and Sally ports cut into the hull to allow the men to embark and disembark via gangways on the side of the ship. The next day at 0622 a.m. they landed at V Beach, Cape Helles, Gallipoli. The landing was stopped twice because of the number of casualties. So they stayed on the ship until midnight, when they could leave under cover of darkness with no casualties. They were in a number of battles and attacks. The War Diary for the Battalion reads for the 29th June 1915. "Dug trench between H12 & H12A 70 yards from Turks. Fine view of the Turkish position from North. Turks fired very heavily on S.E. & N.W. side during night. Casualties 2 Killed, 1 Wounded". Sadly William was one of the killed, they had only moved to this trench the day before.

William has no known grave, as many graves were lost due to the heavy shelling.

For this campaign William is awarded the 1915 Star, The British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

STEWART, Reverend James Robert

Curate of St James Church 1904 - 1907

Rank:	Captain - Chaplain 4th Class
Service No:	No number
Date of Death:	2 January 1916
Age:	35
Service:	British Army Chaplains Department. Attached to the 2nd Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment
Memorial:	Bethune Town Cemetery. Pas de Calais, France. The Cemetery holds 3069 CWGC Graves.



James was born in China in 1881, the son of a missionary, the Rev Robert Stewart. Robert was born in Dublin in 1850. He was educated at Marlborough College and Trinity College, Dublin. He joined the Church Missionary Society in 1875 and was ordained at St Paul's Cathedral in 1876 and shortly afterwards married Louisa Katherine Smyly. In September they set out for China and arrived in Foochow the 14 November 1876. On the 1 August 1895 he was murdered in Kucheng Hwasang in the Kuchedg Massacre, along with his wife, two of his children and seven other missionaries.

James had returned to Ireland where he was educated before going to Australia for his health. There he attended Sydney University and gained his B.A. and went on to become a priest. As his health had improved he returned to England. In 1904 James became a priest serving at St James Church, Shirley for three years, until his last sermon on the 23 July 1907, when he left to become a Missionary in China, the same as his Father.

James returned to Ireland and joined the Army Chaplains Department to serve as a Padre. He was attached to the 2nd Battalion, The Worcestershire Regiment, and sent to the Western Front with them.

The start of the 2nd Battalion's report for January 1916 reads "The Battalion went into trenches on New Year's Day at Givenchy just north of the Canal. Three days of shells and bombs cost the Battalion several casualties (4 killed, 4 wounded) and a severe loss in the death of the Regimental Chaplain, the Rev. J. R. Stewart C.F., who was killed by a shell while officiating at a burial service close behind the line. The "Padre" was beloved by all. No trouble was ever too great for him, no risk daunted him. His bravery at the battle of Loos had earned him the admiration of the whole Battalion". James was standing in for another Padre at this burial to let his go to a service and save him a journey. He was killed on the spot when the shell landed.

James is buried in the Bethune Town Cemetery, Row L, No. 11. He is also commemorated on the Memorial to the Royal Chaplains Department. No. 154 on the East Wall of the Royal Garrison Church of All Saints in Aldershot, Hampshire. He is also on the Irish Roll of Honour for the Great War. His address at the time was Brighton Lodge, Monks- Town, Dublin.

This newspaper report was published in the Hampshire Advertiser on 22 January 1916

KILLED ON ACTIVE SERVICE.
FORMER SHIRLEY CURATE'S TRAGIC END.



The news of the tragic death of the Rev. J.R. Stewart, M.A. who for three years up till 1907 was curate at St James' Church Shirley, has caused deep regret in that parish and in the town.

At the time of his death, on January 9th, the reverend gentleman was serving as Acting Chaplain to the Forces with the British Expedition Force on the Continent, to take up which duty he relinquished his calling as a missionary of the Church Missionary Society in Western China, and the circumstances of his death were peculiarly sad. In order to enable his senior chaplain to conduct a service of soldiers in a theatre in the war zone, and to save him a few miles' journey, Mr Stewart offered to conduct the funeral of a fallen soldier nearer the firing line, and it was in the performance of this office that he met his end. While the service at the graveside was in progress an enemy's shell exploded in the midst of the mourners, killing the chaplain and others and seriously wounding many more.

The Rev. J.R. Stewart, who spent a few days' leave at Southampton recently, came of a missionary family, of the stock of adventurous souls of which heroes and martyrs are made and a crimson line of tragedy was woven into the threads of his all too short life. In 1886 his father and mother and younger brother were among other missionaries massacred at Hwisang, in the Fuh Kien Province of China, where they were stationed during the anti-foreign riots, while his sister narrowly escaped a similar fate, being severely wounded. At that time Mr Stewart, who was born in 1880, was at school at Haileybury. After matriculating at Dublin he took a trip to Australia for his health's sake, continuing his studies at Sydney University. He took his B.A. degree with second-class honours in Greek and Philosophy, and also a first-class in the Oxford-level preliminary examination at the Moore Theological College. His health improving he returned to this country, and was ordained to the curacy of St James' Shirley, where he remained three years up to 1907, when he went out to China on missionary work.

It was on July 21st of that year, on the eve of his departure for China, that he preached his last sermon from the pulpit of St James, and in bidding farewell to the congregation told them that he had become convinced that God was calling him to devote his life to Him as a missionary. "We may ask," said the preacher, "is it any good our going out to these foreign lands? Our Maker has bidden us do it; is not that enough! And yet it is good. I have seen just a little of what the work in a foreign land is, enough to convince me beyond all question and doubt that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the power of God unto salvation to every man that believeth Shall we receive the appeal that Jesus is making to us?

Oh come let us go and find them,
The paths of death they roam;
'Twill be sweet to say, at the close of day,
I have brought some lost one home."

STRIDE, Henry

Rank:	Leading Stoker
Service No:	281781
Date of Death:	11 th November 1917
Age:	40
Service:	Royal Navy, HMS M15
Memorial:	Portsmouth Naval Memorial and Southampton Cenotaph.

Henry was born in Southampton on 31st October 1877. His parents were George Stride (1839-1901) and Eliza Richards (1843-1917), who were married on 25th December 1860. Henry had eleven siblings: George (b.1862) a dock labourer, John (b.1864) a bricklayer's labourer, Annie (1868-1913), Maud (1870-1963), Bessie (1872), Ernest (1873-1948) Olive (b.1875), Eliza (b.1879), Rosina (1880), Alice and Fred (1885-1945).

In 1891, at the age of 14, Henry was working as an errand boy at the port of Southampton. At some stage thereafter, he joined the Royal Navy. The 1901 census records him in Gibraltar serving on *HMS Mars*, a training ship, as a stoker. Henry's father had worked as a dairyman but in 1901, George was a general labourer, living at 17 Marine Parade. He died on 26th November 1901.

In January 1902 Henry married Lydia Rose Richards (1878-1952). They lived at 372 Shirley Road, Southampton and had two children: Harry (1908-1959) and Doris (1907-1997). By the time of the 1911 Census, Henry had left the Royal Navy and is recorded as working as a labourer for the Ordnance Survey. Lydia was working as a dressmaker. Her widowed mother Rose, a "woman of private means", and Lydia's sister, Elizabeth, aged 14, were also living with them.

Henry was mobilised in August 1914 and served on *HMS Edgar*, a first class cruiser and lead ship of the "Edgar" class. It was a converted depot ship used for destroyers and submarines in the Northern patrol. Following this he was transferred to *HMS M15* an M15-class monitor.

In July 1915 *M15* received her main armament in Malta after which she proceeded to Mudros. She was later involved in the defence of the Suez Canal. After bombarding Gaza as part of the Third Battle of Gaza on November 11 1917, *M15* and a destroyer, *HMS Staunch*, were torpedoed off the Palestinian coast and *M15* sunk. 26 sixty nine officers and men, including Henry, died.

At the time of his death, his wife and children were still living at 372 Shirley Road, Southampton. Henry's estate was valued at £678 s12 7d, which he left to his wife. Sometime later Henry's son, Harry was identified as a fatherless boy with potential and received scholarships to attend Taunton School and Southampton University. He became a teacher and emigrated to South Africa, aged 22, sailing from Southampton on 11th January 1929, from where he continued to support his mother and sister. Records show that Lydia and daughter Doris lived at 50 Shirley Avenue, Southampton from 1951. Doris remained a spinster for many years as she cared for and nursed her mother until Lydia died on 17th April 1952. Doris (aged 45) married Eddie Maynard, who worked as a banker, in 1953. They lived in Pentire Avenue, Upper Shirley, Southampton.

TAMPEN, Alfred James

Rank:	Able Seaman
Service No:	198116
Date of Death:	13 January 1915
Age:	32
Service:	Royal Navy, HMS Vicknor
Memorial:	Portsmouth Naval Memorial and the Southampton Cenotaph

Alfred was born in Poplar, east London, on 19th May 1882 and baptised on 30th July 1882 in Rotherhithe. His parents were William (1851-1916), a dock labourer, and Amelia (1854-1941) Tampen, nee Clench. He had two younger siblings: George (b.1885) and Emma (b.1887).

At the time of the 1881 Census, his parents were living at 72d Mellish Street, Poplar. Alfred joined the Navy on 1 February 1898. At the time of the 1901 Census, HE was serving in Hong Kong on *H.M.S. Ocean* and his parents were living at 101 Malmesbury Road, Stratford, east London.

Alfred married Susan Alexander (1886-1963) of Shirley, Southampton in 1910. At the time of the 1911 Census and Alfred's death, their address was 51 Shayer Road, Shirley, Southampton. They had one son, Edgar (1914-1983), who was only 4 months old when his father died, so it is quite likely that he never met his father.

On the outbreak of war Alfred was serving on *HMS Edgar*. On 5th December 1914 he joined the crew of *H.M.S. Vicknor*. Originally the *Vicknor* was named the *Atrato* and carried up to 280 passengers for the Royal Mail Steam Company between England and the West Indies. At the outbreak of war she was requisitioned by the Admiralty, equipped with armaments and renamed *HMS Vicknor* and used as a merchant cruiser in the Royal Navy's 10th Cruiser Squadron.

On 13th January 1915, while on patrol, HMS Vicknor sank in a violent storm, possibly having hit a mine belonging to a minefield laid by the Germans. She took with her the entire 291-man crew, as well as a German national who had been taken off a neutral Norwegian vessel, under suspicion of being a secret agent, as well as six other men who have been cryptically referred to as "stowaways".

Some of the bodies of the crew were washed up on Irish and Scottish soil over the course of several days. She had been in wireless contact with the shore while on duty and was suddenly sunk, without sending any distress signal, 11 miles west off Tory Island, Co Donegal, Ireland. Whether it was the storm, a mine or a combination of both is not known.

Minimally armed, merchant cruisers were not expected to meet enemy warships. Their main purpose was to intercept neutral shipping for inspection to detect war contraband destined for Germany. Considering that during the winter months the ships on this station were likely to encounter some of the worst sea conditions in the world, it is surprising that an old, underpowered vessel with a top speed of only 14 knots, was chosen for such duty. The wreck of the ship was found by a survey vessel in 2006 but the reason for her loss could still not be identified with absolute certainty.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; <https://dawlischchronicles.com/the-loss-of-hms-viknor-13th-january-1915/>; <https://southamptoncenotaph.com>; and www.ancestry.co.uk

TRIMMER, George Ernest

Rank:	Captain
Service No:	18518
Date of Death:	Monday 18 November 1918
Age:	30
Regiment:	2nd Field Survey Company, Royal Engineers
Cemetery:	Lille Southern Cemetery, France. This was used after the Armistice by the 39th Stationary Hospital and the 1st Australian Casualty Clearing Station. There are over 600 Commonwealth burials from WW1.

George was born in South Stoneham, Hampshire in late 1887. His parents were William (1855-1932) and Annie (b.1855) Trimmer. William was a dock labourer. George had five siblings: Arthur (b.1876) William (b.1879), Charles (b.1881) Laura (b.1885), Walter (b.1890) and Basil (b.1894), and one of these had died by the time of the 1911 Census.

At the time of the 1891 Census, the family was living at 27 Howard's Grove, Shirley, Southampton. At the time of the 1901 Census, the family was living at 66 Howard's Grove, Shirley. George, aged 13, was employed as an office boy.

George's military records reveal that on 8th February 1909, at the aged of 21 and 3 months, he joined the Royal Engineers, as a sapper, on a short service commitment of 3 years with 9 years in the Reserve. He had previously served with 5th battalion, Hampshire Regiment. He gave his religious denomination as 'Church of England'.

At the time of the 1911 Census, George's parents were living at 86 Howard's Grove, Shirley. The two youngest children are still resident with their parents, along with two 'step-sons': Harry Heath, aged 33 and William Heath, aged 31. Interestingly, at the time of the 1891 Census, Harry Heath, who was living with the family, was described as 'son-in-law', yet 'single' and 'aged 17' and in the 1901 Census as 'stepson', 'single' and 'aged 26'.

In 1911, George was still in the Royal Engineers, working as a Zinc Printer and living at the Staff Quarters, Ordnance Survey Office (OSO), London Road, Southampton. The Office was established in 1841, after a fire at the Tower of London had destroyed their London offices. On 18th August 1911, he extended his service commitment to 7 years and was re-mustered to litho-printer 'skilled'.

On 13th January 1912, while working in the zinc printing department at the OSO, George received an injury for which 'he was in no way to blame'. On 25th October 1912, he had a medical examination and was declared fit for service in northern Nigeria. He served in the Colonial Service from 27th November 1912 to 5th July 1914. He embarked for West Africa on 27th November and arrived on 13th December 1912. He left Nigeria on 19th March 1914 and arrived in England on 6th April 1914.

On 7th October 1914, just 9 weeks after Britain entered WW1, George went to France. On 31st January 1915, he was appointed acting lance corporal and, six days later, he joined his unit, 11th Company, from Base Headquarters. Two days thereafter, he was recommended to the notice of General Officer Commanding, 4th Guards Brigade 'for gallantry in assisting to rescue a wounded man, under heavy fire' at Guinchy, south of Bapaume. On 20th February, he transferred to the Royal Engineers base at Rouen

and from 16th to 21st March 1915 he was on leave in the UK. On 30th June 1915, he extended his service commitment to 12 years.

Nothing is known about George's service in 1916, except that, on 21st January, he was promoted to Sergeant. However, in common with Ordnance Survey staff working at the front, his role would have been to help with the provision of a reliable ranging method to enable the artillery to hit their targets. This would have included Sound Ranging, which required the accurate location of the sound receivers in relation to the guns so that when the sound of a German gun was recorded at those locations, the position of the German gun could be calculated.

On 13th April 1917 and 'for service in the field', he was given a commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the 2nd Battalion, Lancashire Fusiliers, attached to the 2nd Field Survey Battalion, Royal Engineers.

On 17th March 1918, George married Lily Bertha Trimmer (1886-1959) of Shirley, Southampton. That same year he was promoted to Lieutenant and then, on 24th September, given the rank of acting Captain. A letter from the Director of Personnel services, dated 4th September 1918, to Field Marshal C-in-C British Armies in France refused his transfer to a temporary commission in the Royal Engineers as 'he is attached to RE and will not be seconded from his regiment'.

Military records reveal that George died on 16th November 1918 (not 18th as stated on his grave). No. 39 Stationary Hospital confirmed that he died of diphtheria 'in his billet' at Lille. He died intestate, leaving £334 19d 3d to his wife who lived at Northlands, 217, Winchester Road, Shirley.

During WW1, sixty-seven Ordnance Survey staff lost their lives, around 6% of the men they sent overseas for the war. In this time, Ordnance Survey supplied almost 33 million maps, plans and diagrams to the forces, a vital tool for the war effort.

The inscription on George's headstone is, 'until the day break'.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk; www.ancestry.co.uk and file WO 339/117313 at the National Archives, Kew.

WARWICK, Henry Lancelot

Rank:	Gunner
Service No:	46841
Date of Death:	Saturday 1 July 1916
Age:	27
Regiment:	Royal Field Artillery, 37th Battery, 27th Brigade.
Cemetery:	Habarcq Communal Cemetery Extension. Habarcq is a village 12 kms west of Arras, France. It contains 179 Commonwealth burials of the 1914-1918 war.

Henry was born in Freemantle, Southampton. His parents were Henry (1850-1913) and Ellen (b.1852), nee Rogers, Warwick, who married in 1883. Henry had one sibling who had died by the time of the 1911 Census.

At the time of the 1891 Census, Henry was living with his parents at 14 Naseby Road, Freemantle, Southampton. Naseby Road was the former name for the north-east section of Paynes Road in Freemantle, between Park Road and Shirley Road. His father was a drayman, the driver of a dray, a low, flat-bed wagon without sides, pulled generally by horses that were used for transport of all kinds of goods.

At the time of the 1901 Census, Henry was living with his parents at 63 Pound Street, Shirley, Southampton. Pound Street was the name of what is now Cannon Street. This was the location of the Nags Head Public House and his father was a licensed victualler.

At the time of the 1911 Census, Henry was based at Minden Barracks, Deep Cut, Farnborough, Hampshire. He was a Gunner in the 87th Battery, Royal Field Artillery and thus a regular in the army, who joined up well before the outbreak of World War 1.

At the time of his death on 29th October 1913, his father's address was 16 Lion Street, Southampton. His occupation was brewer's drayman,

As a regular, Henry was a member of the British Expeditionary Force that was sent to France after the outbreak of war on 4th August 1914. He arrived in France on 19th August 1914. Henry died of wounds on the first day of the Battle of the Somme. It was the bloodiest day in the history of the British Army, which suffered 57,470 casualties, including 19,240 fatalities, of which Henry was one. The inscription on Henry's headstone is, "*Beautiful memories left behind until the day breaks*".

Records indicate that Henry's widowed mother was still living at 16 Lion Street in 1939, aged 87.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; and www.ancestry.co.uk

WELLS, William Henry

Rank:	Private
Service No:	5596
Date of Death:	Friday 21 May 1915
Age:	32
Regiment:	1st Battalion, Hampshire Regiment
Cemetery:	Wimereux Communal Cemetery. The cemetery is in Wimereux, a small town 5kms north of Boulogne, France, and contains 2,847 Commonwealth burials of the First World War, including Lt.-Colonel John McCrae, author of the poem <i>In Flanders Fields</i> . Wimereux was the headquarters of the Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps during the War. From October 1914 onwards, Boulogne and Wimereux formed an important hospital cemetery for burials.

William was born in 1883 in Eling, Hampshire. His parents were Henry (b.1837) and Jane (b.1841) Wells, nee Harding, and he had nine siblings: Edwin (1865-1924), Eliza (b.1867), Tom (b.1869), Ada (1872), James (b.1874), Louisa (b. 1876), Kate (b.1878), Agnes (1880-1882) and William (b.1883).

At the time of the 1891 Census, the family was living at Woodlands, Eling. His father had died and his mother was working as a charwoman (a cleaner).

William married Sarah Ada Vincent (b.1883) in 1908. They had two children: Montague (1909-1973) and Thirza (b.1910). At the time of the 1911 Census, William and his family were living at 15, Shayer Road, Shirley, Southampton. He was employed as a ship's fireman (sea going).

Military records indicated that William enlisted in Southampton. His battalion took part in the Second Battle of Ypres, 22 April – 25 May 1915, which saw the first mass use by Germany of poison gas on the Western Front. He died of wounds sustained in the battle. At the time of his death, William's wife and children were living at 5, Shayer Road, Shirley, Southampton.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org and www.ancestry.co.uk

WHITE, George Ernest

Rank:	Private
Service No:	22288
Date of Death:	Tuesday 8 th August 1916
Age:	21
Regiment:	15th Battalion, Hampshire Regiment
Cemetery:	Kemmel Chateau Military Cemetery. It is located 8 kms south of Ieper, Belgium. There are 1,135 Commonwealth burials of the First World War in the cemetery.

George was born in Shirley, Southampton, to Frederick (1858-1933) and Emily (b.1861) White. He had eight siblings: Elsie (b.1881), Eva (b.1885), Frederick (b.1888), Irene (b.1890), Katie (b.1892), Ethel (b.1894), Hilda (b.1898) and Frank (b.1901).

At the time of the 1911 Census, the family was living at Cleveland, 33 Norham Avenue, Shirley, Southampton. Frederick was employed as a market gardener as was Frederick and George.

George enlisted in the 15th battalion of the Hampshire Regiment. This was a 'Pals' battalion, formed in 1915. It proceeded to northern France in early May 1916, concentrating initially between Hazebrouck and Bailleul. He was killed in action in Belgium. The inscription on his headstone is: rest in peace.

At the time of his death, his parents were still living at 33 Norham Avenue. At the time of his father's death in 1933, George's parents were living at 58 Newtown Road, Woolston, Southampton.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; www.wartimememoriesproject.com/greatwar/ and www.ancestry.co.uk

WINTER, William Dan

Rank:	Private
Service No:	32976 (Formerly 26142)
Date of Death:	Between 09/04/1917 and 12/04/1917
Age:	34
Regiment:	Lincolnshire Regiment, 8th Battalion (formerly of the Hampshire Regiment)
Cemetery:	Arras Memorial, France. This commemorates almost 35,000 servicemen from the United Kingdom, South Africa and New Zealand who died in the Arras sector between the spring of 1916 and 7 August 1918, the eve of the Advance to Victory, and have no known grave. The most conspicuous events of this period were the Arras offensive of April-May 1917, and the German attack in the spring of 1918.

William was born in 1883 in Boscombe, Wiltshire and baptised in St Andrew's Boscombe on 28th January 1883. The baptism register states that his father worked as a carter. His parents were Dan (1833-1921) and Charlotte (b.1842) Winter, who were married in 1867. He had six siblings, including: Annie Maria (1871-1949), George (b.1873), Emily (b.1876), Ann (b 1881) and Sydney (1885-1936), who served in the Royal Navy from 1903 to 1926.

At the time of the 1891 Census, the family was living in the hamlet of Upper Eldon, near King's Somborne, Hampshire.

At the time of the 1901 Census, William was a boarder at 10 Chilworth Road, Southampton. He was working as a milkman. Resident at this address were: his sister, Anna Maria Drewett, and her husband, Charles, together with their 7 month old son, Albert, and his 16 year old brother, Sydney, who is also described as a boarder. In addition Henry and Edith Winter and their three children: Edith, Alice Elizabeth and Alma are recorded as visitors.

William married Margaret Payne (b.1884) in 1907. At the time of the 1911 Census, they were living at 5 Bellevue Street, near East Park, Southampton and had been married 3.5 years. They had had one child who had died. William was working as a baker.

William enlisted in Southampton and originally served in the Hampshire Regiment. He was killed in action in the Battle of Arras. Sadly, William's wife predeceased him.

The information set out here has been drawn from www.cwgc.org; and www.ancestry.co.uk

WREN, Alfred

Rank:	Private
Service No:	10807
Date of Death:	Friday 13 August 1915
Age:	21
Regiment:	2nd Battalion, Hampshire Regiment
Cemetery:	Helles Memorial, Turkey. This serves the dual function of Commonwealth battle memorial for the whole Gallipoli campaign and place of commemoration for many Commonwealth servicemen who died there and have no known grave. There are also panels for those who died or were buried at sea in Gallipoli waters. It bears more than 21,000 names, stands 30 metres tall and can be seen by ships passing through the Dardenelles.

Alfred was born in Shirley, Southampton, in 1895. His parents were Frederick (b.1858) and Eliza Charlotte (b.1855), nee Tiller, Wren, who were married in 1885. Alfred had four siblings: Florence (b.1886), Frederick (b.1887), Albert (b.1890) and one other who had died by the 1911 Census.

At the time of the 1891 Census, the family was living at 39 Laundry Road, Shirley, Southampton. Alfred's father was employed as a general labourer. At the time of the 1901 Census, the family was living at 35 Laundry Road, Southampton. Alfred's father was working as a navvy (a labourer employed in the excavation and construction of a road, railway, or canal), Florence as a domestic servant and Frederick junior as a domestic help.

At the time of the 1911 Census, the family was still living at 35, Laundry Road. Alfred's father was employed as a railway labourer, Florence was living at The School House, Lyndhurst, Hampshire, where she was working as a general servant domestic, Albert was a jobbing gardener and Alfred a domestic gardener. Alfred's grandparents and uncles also lived in the same road, just a few doors away from each other.

Alfred enlisted in Southampton in September 1914 and after training his regiment was sent to the Dardenelles. On 28th July 1915, he sailed on the *Royal Edward* from Avonmouth. The ship arrived at Alexandria, Egypt, on 10th August, from where it departed for the island of Lemnos, a staging point for ships in the Dardenelles. Alfred died when the vessel was torpedoed by German submarine UB-14, 6 miles west of Kandeliusa in the Aegean Sea. The torpedo hit the *Royal Edward* in the stern and it sank within 6 minutes. The crew managed to send an SOS before losing power. The British hospital ship *Soudan* responded and rescued 440 men in six hours. Two French destroyers and some trawlers rescued another 221. The death toll was thought to be 935, though sources vary on the number who died. At the time of his death, Alfred's parents were living at 57, Laundry Road, Shirley. His name is listed on the Southampton Cenotaph.

Alfred's brother, Frederick, served as a Private in the 1st King's (Dragoons Guards). He enlisted in 1908 and on the outbreak of hostilities, his regiment went to France where it took part in the Retreat from Mons and the Battles of Ypres, Hooze and the Somme. In January 1918 he was transferred to India, where he remained until after the end of the war.

The following sources have also been used in compiling this booklet:

National Archives - nationalarchives.gov.uk

Commonwealth War Grave Commission (GB) - cwgc.org

Civil Registration index of birth, marriage and death for England and Wales - freebmd.org.uk

Southampton Cenotaph - southamptoncenotaph.com

Hampshire Record Office, Winchester.

Southampton Record Office, Civic Centre, Southampton.

Southampton Central Library, Local Studies and Maritime Library.

Southampton Shirley Library.

National Roll of the Great War, Section 6, Southampton.

Hampshire Regiment and the Dorset Regiment.

WW1 Regimental History. Regimental War Diaries.

LDS - The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints - familysearch.org

Internet Sources at ancestry.co.uk & findmypast.co.uk

Service Records. Medal Cards. WW1 War Gratuity Records. Census Records.

1939 Register.



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