



Bierton, Broughton & Hulcott in the First World War



Information about the 18 residents who died in action in World War 1 and the World War 1 memorials in Bierton and Hulcott. Please send any information about these men to the Bierton Parish Council Clerk parishclerk@biertonvillage.org.uk and we will do our best to add it to this record. Thanks to the Bucks Herald for permission to use their images.

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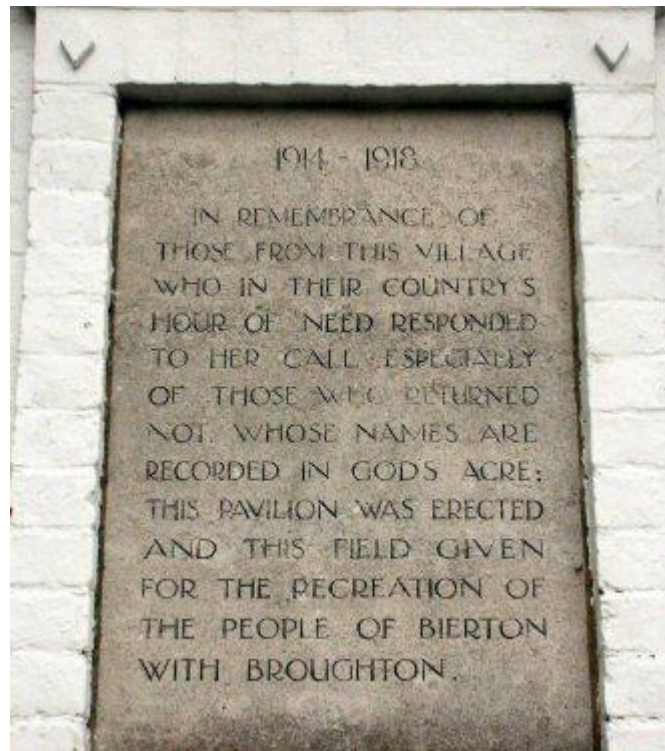
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World War 1 Memorials in Bierton and Hulcott



The WW1 war memorial at St James' Church Bierton

The WW1 memorial at the Recreation Ground, Bierton (right)



The World War1 memorial in Hulcott Church. (left)

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BIERTON. SIGNING OF THE ARMISTICE.

The sound of the "hooters" at Aylesbury on the 11th inst., conveyed the welcome news of the signing of the Armistice, and the inhabitants lost no time in showing their joy. In the evening the Nonconformists held a service in the Wesleyan Chapel, which was well attended, and the bells of the Parish Church—which had not been rung for about three years—were manned by a team of ringers, under the captaincy of Mr. A. C. Chapman, Mr. John Jeffs, who was a ringer forty years ago, being one of the number, and proved himself no novice; others were Messrs. Geo. Gray, Harry Thorn, and Bert Menday. Between the peals an adjournment was made to the Vicarage for refreshment, when the health of those serving from the parish was drunk. The Vicar (who was away taking the place of a Master at Thame Grammar School) and Mrs. Thompson were also toasted. On Sunday evening a united thanksgiving service was held, the Wesleyans joining, and the Parish Church being filled with a thankful congregation, including members of the Parish Council, headed by their Chairman (Mr. J. W. Grist), accompanied by the Bierton, Broughton, and Hulcott Special Constables (under Lance-Sergt. H. Griffin). The service commenced with the singing of a hymn, "Now thank we all our God," followed by the National Anthem, both being heartily joined in by the congregation. Special prayers were said by the Vicar, followed by the two special Psalms, the chanting of which was led by the combined choirs. The first lesson was read by Mr. F. Bush, and the second by Mr. T. Read. The "Magnificat" and "Nunc Dimittis" were brightly sung, also the hymn "O God, our help in ages past." The Vicar then read out the names of those who have fallen in the war, and the "Old Hundredth" was sung very heartily. The Vicar took for his text Psalm xlv. 1, and in the course of his sermon he pointed out the many blessings we had to be thankful for, and the duty which now rested upon the statesmen of the world to see that a new and purer era was started; also that they as individuals could "do their bit" by earnestly praying for God's guidance to that end, thus testifying their appreciation of the great sacrifices which had been made, especially by those near and dear to them. In conclusion, he said they had also to be thankful "for things which had not happened," viz., "that many of the ravages of the beast" had been spared them in that country. The meaning, he said, of their service was thankfulness and prayer to Almighty God, and he expressed his sincere hope that that united service in God's House might be followed by many similar ones, and so help to bridge over the rough edges between the denominations. The hymn "For all Thy Saints who from their labours rest" was followed by the Blessing, and the hymn "Praise the Lord, ye heavens adore Him," brought to a close a service which will not soon be forgotten by those who took part in it. A collection was taken in aid of St. Dunstan's Hostel for Blinded Soldiers, which amounted to £4:18. The bells again reminded the congregation on their homeward journey that "the war is over."—A large Union Jack was hung in the central arch between the tower and the nave, and a St. George's shield with the flags of the Allies placed over the altar. The "boys" who are serving were not forgotten, the Roll of Honour being adorned with a laurel wreath of white chrysanthemums.

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Armistice Service in Bierton to celebrate the end of WW1

World War I Casualties

Arthur Henry Curtis (Hulcott) was born in 1890 and known as Harry. His parents were Charles and Mary Jane Curtis.

The 1891 census shows

- Charles (22 – Milkman)
- Mary (23 – born Huntingdonshire)
- **Arthur H** (2 – born Huntingdonshire)
- Ethel A (0 – born in Middlesex.
- The family are living Pinner Road, Sudbury, Harrow, Middlesex.

The 1901 census shows

- Charles (35 – Agricultural Labourer – born Kingstone)
- Mary (36)
- **Arthur H** (13)
- Alice E (10),
- Christine S (8)
- Maud M (3)
- Violet M (2)
- Frederick C (1).
- The family are living in Winter Green, West London

The 1911 census shows

- Charles (44 – Cowman on farm – born Parish Kingston Cambs),
- Mary Jane (43 – Fitter – born Saxby Huntingdonshire),
- **Arthur Henry** (21 – Farm Labourer – born Godmanchester Huntingdonshire)
- Ethel Alice (21 – born Sunbury, Middx),
- Maude Mary (14 – born Grate Barlow Marlebone (Marylebone?)),
- Violet May (13 – born Waxlow Southall Middx),
- Frederick Charles (12 – born Bollobridge Road, Acton),
- Percy Page (10 – born Wintergreen, Knebworth, Herts),
- William Verley (7 – born London Colney, Herts),
- Edward James (3 – born Hulcott).
- At some point they had another son, Robert George, who died at 8 months.
- The family are living in Hulcott

The census information shows that the family had moved around a huge amount, which was fairly uncommon. Most of the local families have stayed put or stayed within the same general area. In 1911 the family are living in Hulcott but we don't know exactly where.

We don't know when Arthur Henry enlisted, which Regiment he served with or when he died, although this was possibly March 1917.

His younger brother [Frederick Charles Curtis](#) is buried in Hulcott Churchyard. He is not named on the war memorial as he died as result of injuries during the Irish conflict in c1919-1921. He served with the Oxford & Bucks Light Infantry. In May 1919, the 2nd Ox and Bucks left Germany where they had been part of the army of occupation and returned to Cowley Barracks, Oxford, the following month.



The battalion then moved to Tipperary, Ireland, to take part in operations against the IRA and Sinn Féin.

He had been married to Catherine Curtis (nee Turvey) and they had a son. They were married on 12th May 1919 at Hulcott.

Frederick Charles was injured in Ireland and died of his wounds on 8th February 1921, aged 23 at home. He had previously been treated in a Military Hospital in Limerick.

His gravestone in Hulcott Churchyard (left)



William Richard Dearing was born in Berton in 1879, he was the third of four sons to Frederick and Sarah Dearing.

The 1901 census shows

- Frederick and Sarah living in the High Street, Berton ,
- George (14)
- Thomas (12)
- **William** (7)
- Percy (5).

Before joining the army, William worked in the machine department at Hazell, Watson and Viney Printers. Maybe he knew Percy Honour who also worked there. William was a member of the local cricket team.

William joined the 1st Buckinghamshire Battalion of the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry, on 24th August 1914, as Private Dearing - 265548. Two of Williams brothers also enlisted. His brother, Tom, was wounded in India. William's battalion saw the following action:

4th August 1914 - Stationed at Aylesbury as part of the South Midland brigade of the South Midland Division then moved to Writtle near Chelmsford.

30th March 1915 Mobilised for war and landed at Boulogne.

May 1915 The formation became the 145th Brigade of the 48th Division which engaged in various actions on the Western Front including;

1916 - The Battle of Albert, The Battle of Bazentin Ridge, The Battle of Pozieres Ridge, The Battle of the Ancre Heights, The Battle of the Ancre.

1917 - The German Retreat to the Hindenburg Line, The Battle of Langemarck, The Battle of Polygon Wood, The Battle of Broodseinde, The Battle of Poelcapelle.

He was killed in action in France/Flanders at 4.30am on 10th March 1917 aged 37. He died due to a large gas shell explosion. His death was reported in the Bucks Herald on 31st March 1917. His platoon sergeant described him as having a 'most cheerfull disposition.' He is buried at Hem Farm Military Cemetery in Somme France and was awarded a campaign medal.



Hem Farm Military Cemetery, Somme, France

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Bible Society is doing among the troops in this and other countries.



PRIVATE W. DEARING.

Last week we briefly recorded the death of Private William Dearing, Oxford and Bucks L.I. (T.F.), third son of Mr and Mrs. F. Dearing, of this village. Intimation that he had been killed in France by the explosion of a gas shell was forwarded to his parents by the Chaplain, and this has been confirmed in a letter from Lieut. Coates, and also the following letter from Sergt. T. Castle, a former employé on the staff of the *Herald*:—"Dear Mr. and Mrs. Dearing,—It is with the deepest regret that I write to tell you of the death of your son, 2136 Pte. W. Dearing, at 4.30 a.m. on Saturday morning, March 10. Death was instantaneous, being caused by the explosion of a large gas shell. He was buried on the 12th in a cemetery we had prepared some little way behind the line, and his grave was marked with a cross on which was his name and the date of his death. The service was conducted by the Chaplain attached to our Brigade. As his platoon-sergeant, I always knew him as my best soldier, and he was always of a most cheerful disposition. I join with all his comrades in extending to you the deepest sympathy in your great loss."—Deceased, who was 23 years of age, was formerly in the machine department at Messrs. Hazell, Watson & Viney, Ltd. He joined up on August 24, 1914, and went out to France in the following March. He was much respected in his native village, and took an interest in sport, being a member of the local cricket club. Mr. and Mrs. Dearing have two other sons serving. Their son Tom was with the 43rd Oxford and Bucks stationed in India on the outbreak of war. He was in General Townshend's advance on Baghdad, and was wounded in the battle of Ctesiphon. He was among the last batch of wounded to get out of Kut before it was besieged. He was badly wounded, and has since received his discharge. Mr. and Mrs. Dearing have received many letters and expressions of sympathy with them in their bereavement, and these they have deeply appreciated.

Obituary for William Richard Dearing from the Bucks Herald of 30th March 1919.

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Richard Everitt Gurney was born on 27th February 1882, the son of Reverend JL Gurney of Berton Vicarage and Katharine Elinor Gurney. His Mother originally lived at Stone Farm in Aylesbury.

In the 1891 census he is a 9-year-old scholar in Hertford, Hertfordshire. Richard was the fourth son in his family. The census is taken at his school, so doesn't show any family members or his home address. I can't locate him on the 1901 or 1911 census, possibly he'd moved to Canada by then.

He and his Mother (possibly others, moved to Saskatchewan in Canada). Richard was employed as a Tinsmith. At the age of 34, he enlisted with the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force on 29th April 1916 and joined C Company of the 5th Battalion Canadian Infantry as Private Gurney 276278. His enlistment papers (see below) show he had a tattoo on his left forearm of hope, faith and charity.

217th Overseas Battalion
ATTESTATION PAPER. No. 276278
 CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE.

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT BEFORE ATTESTATION.
 (ANSWERS)

1. What is your surname?
Gurney
2. What are your Christian names?
Richard Everitt
3. In what Town, Township or Parish, and in what County were you born?
Berton, Parishes, Dioc. of Salisbury, Wiltshire
4. What is the name of your next-of-kin?
Mrs. F. S. Gurney
5. What is the address of your next-of-kin?
Santolich, South
6. What is the relationship of your next-of-kin?
Mother
7. What is the date of your birth?
Feb. 27th 1882
8. What is your Trade or Calling?
Tinsmith
9. Are you married?
no
10. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated and inoculated?
yes
11. Do you now belong to the Active Militia?
no
12. Have you ever served in any Military Force?
no
13. Do you understand the nature and terms of your engagement?
yes
14. Are you willing to be attested to serve in the CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE?
yes

DECLARATION TO BE MADE BY MAN ON ATTESTATION.
 I, Richard E. Gurney, do solemnly declare that the above are answers made by me to the above questions and that they are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements by me now made, and I hereby engage and agree to serve in the Canadian Over-Sea Expeditionary Force, and to be attached to any arm of the service therein, for the term of one year, or during the war now existing between Great Britain and Germany should that war last longer than one year, and for six months after the termination of that war provided His Majesty should so long require my services, or until legally discharged.

OATH TO BE TAKEN BY MAN ON ATTESTATION.
 I, Richard E. Gurney, do make Oath, that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs and Successors, and that I will as in duty bound honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, in Person, Crown and Dignity, against all enemies, and will observe and obey all orders of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and of all the Generals and Officers set over me. So help me God.

CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE.
 The Recruit above-named was questioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act.
 The above questions were then read to the Recruit in my presence.
 I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as replied to, and the said Recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me, at Santolich this 29th day of April 1916.

Description of Richard Everitt Gurney on Enlistment

Apparent Age 34 years 6 months
 Height 5' 7 1/2"
 Weight 138 lbs
 Range of expansion 4 1/2" in
 Complexion Dark
 Eyes Grey
 Hair Black
 Church of England
 Protestant
 Methodist
 Baptist or Congregationalist
 Roman Catholic
 Jewish
 Other denomination

CERTIFICATE OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION.
 I have examined the above-named Recruit and find that he does not present any of the causes of rejection specified in the Regulations for Army Medical Services.
 He can see at the required distance with either eye his least and legs are healthy; he has the use of his joints and limbs, and he declares that he is not subject to fits of any description.
 I consider him fit for the Canadian Over-Sea Expeditionary Force.
 Date April 29 1916
 Place Santolich

CERTIFICATE OF OFFICER COMMANDING UNIT.
 Richard Everitt Gurney having been fully approved and inspected by me this day, and his Name, Age, Date of Attestation, and every prescribed particular having been recorded, I certify that I am satisfied with the correctness of this Attestation.
 Date May 3 1916

Tattoo marks on left fore arm & chest.

Above: Richard Gurney's enlistment papers or attestation papers as they were called from the Library and Archives of Canada.

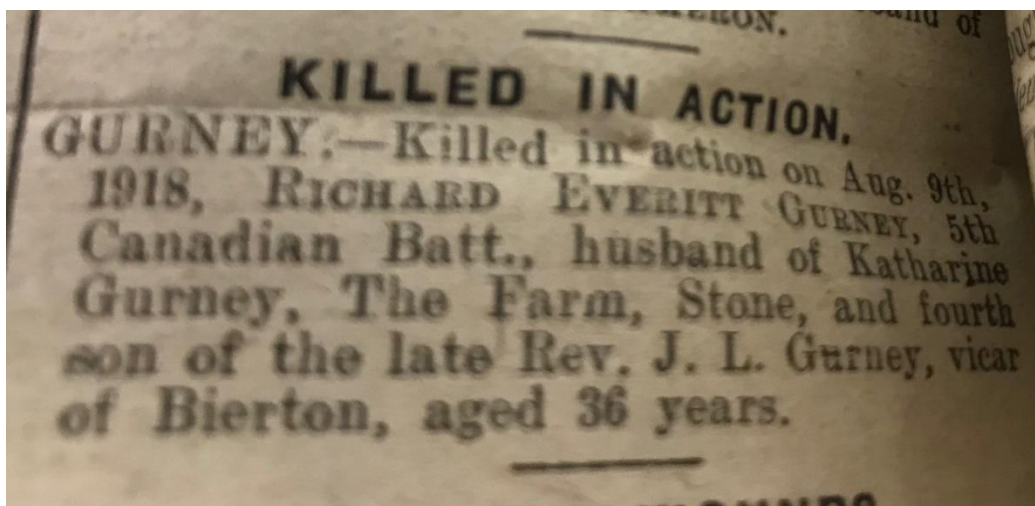
In June 1917, Richard sails from Halifax, Canada to Liverpool and then travels to Bramshott in Hampshire.

When he joined the army, he gave his next of kin as his Mother, Mrs Francis (or Frances) Sophia Gurney who lived in Canada. On 22nd December 1917 he was granted permission to marry and in January 1918 he has changed his will and next of kin to his wife, Katherine from Stone Farm in Aylesbury. He arrives in France on 1st March 1918.

He died on 9th August 1918 aged 36. He is commemorated at the Vimy memorial in Pas de Calais, France and on his father's grave (John Gurney) in St James' Churchyard, Bieron.

There are 70 pages of information of his army records on <http://central.bac-lac.gc.ca/.item/?op=pdf&app=CEF&id=B3891-S034>

Richard's fathers' grave in St James Churchyard with the memorial to his son.



Notice of Richard's death in the Bucks Herald

[Horace Sidney Hill](#) was born in Hulcott in 1888 and soon after moved to Bierton with his family. His parents were George and Emma Hill and he had at least two brothers, Frederick who was a year older and Cyril who was 3 years younger.

The 1901 census shows:

- George (35)
- Emma (38)
- Frederick (14)
- **Horace** (13 – Ploughboy)
- Edith (6)
- Thomas (5)
- Reymond (1)
- Cyril died age 4 in 1894.

Horace enlisted as Private Hill - 8009 with the 2nd Battalion Oxfordshire & Bucks Light Infantry. This is the same battalion that Frank Rickard served in.

Assuming Horace enlisted in 1914/15, he would have seen the following action:
04.08.1914 Stationed at Aldershot as part of the 5th Brigade of the 2nd Division.

14.08.1914 Mobilised for war and landed at Boulogne which engaged in various actions on the Western Front including;

1914 - The Battle of Mons and the subsequent retreat, The Battle of the Marne, The Battle of the Aisne, First Battle of Ypres.

1915 - Winter Operations 1914-15, The Battle of Festubert, The Battle of Loos.

He was killed in action in France/Flanders on 25th September 1915, he was 23 years old. He is commemorated at the Loos Memorial in Pas de Calais, France (photo below)



Raymond Hill was born on 5th June 1892, the son of George and Mary of Rowsham Road in Bieron. He was one of 5 children, including Daisy, Ned, Dennis, Nel and May.

The 1901 census shows that George and Mary have a daughter named Daisy, aged 3.

The 1911 Census carried out on the night of Sunday April 2nd, 1911, shows the family of the parents George & Mary Hill (married for 22 years, 6 children still living): George was 56, Mary was 48. They made a bit of a mess of their first go at completing this census sheet, as it's all crossed out and re-done underneath. The crossed-out entry states 5 children. Raymond aged 18 & Dennis aged 16 (both Labourers born in Bieron). Ned aged 7 was also born in Bieron and at school. Daisy is shown as aged 13 and a domestic servant at the household of Walter & Mary Hutchins (he was the Assistant Education Secretary at Bucks County Council), they lived in Bieron. Daisy Hill then married a Reginald Higgins in Aylesbury mid-1920 and they were living in Wing in 1939 with two children Annie and Dennis and her mother Mary Jane Hill who was then aged 77. The records indicate that Daisy passed away in early 1983 in the Aylesbury area.

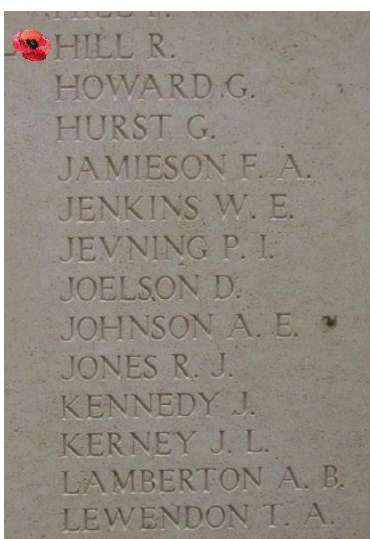


Raymond emigrated to Canada in 1911 with his brother Dennis who also served in the Canadian Army surviving the war.

Raymond enlisted and passed fit on 8th December 1915 at Lloydminster, Canada, aged 23, 5 months, height 5 feet 11½ inches, girth 36 inches, weight 167 lbs, complexion dark, eyes dark brown, hair black; religion Methodist. On his enlistment medical form, it states "Has varicocile left side but is so fit otherwise believe it all right it has given no trouble. Perhaps ops. later advisable, but personally would take him now." Private Raymond Hill 887617 46th Battalion, Canadian Infantry (Saskatchewan Regiment). Died October 26th, 1917, aged 26, during Third Battle of Ypres. He is commemorated on Ypres (Menin Gate), Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.

Private Raymond Hill 887617 46th Battalion, Canadian Infantry (Saskatchewan Regiment), died October 26th, 1917, aged 26, during Third Battle of Ypres. He is commemorated on Ypres (Menin Gate), Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. His brother, Ned died in 1977 and has relatives still living in Bieron.

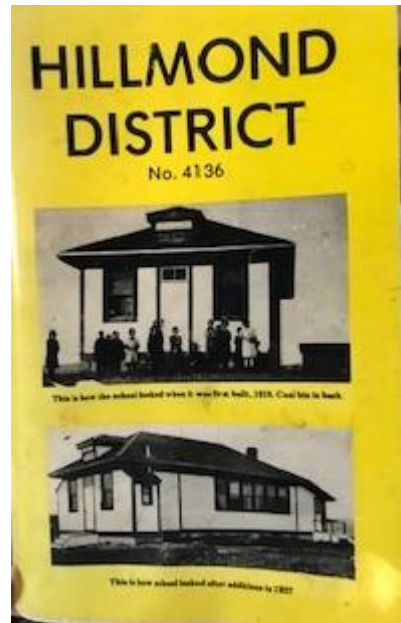
Raymond left a legacy in Lloydminster, Canada where they honoured him by naming the place where he settled after him, taking the Hill from his surname and Mond from his first name to make 'Hillmond'. He was the only fatality of World War I in Lloydminster. Dennis, his brother returned to Canada after being medically discharged and he and his wife ran the local school





Hillmond Central School is still going.

Thanks to Raymond's relatives for the photos



Frederick George Holdham appears on both the Bierton & Hulcott war memorials.

He was born on 8th September 1885 in Bierton. He was baptised on 29th November 1885. His parents were Joseph and Annie Holdham.



The 1891 census shows

- Joseph (27)
- Annie (25)
- **Frederick George** (5)
- Daisy B (2)
- George Reading (52)
- living together in the High Street, Bierton.

Frederick married Constance Tamar Bradbury in the first quarter of 1910.

The 1911 census shows Frederick and Constance were living at 11 Broughton Crossing, Aylesbury. They had a daughter, Vera, who was born in 1910 and a son, Leslie born in 1915. Before joining the army, he was employed as a Farm Labourer. He enlisted in Aylesbury as Private Holdham 36950 and joined the 4th Battalion of the Worcester Regiment.

We don't know when he joined, but his battalion saw the following action:

March 1915 - landed in Gallipoli as part of the 88th Brigade in the 29th Division

January 1916 – evacuated from Gallipoli to Egypt.

March 1916 – landed at Marseille for service on the Western Front.

October 1916 – took part in the Battle of Le Transloy.

Frederick was killed in action in France & Flanders on 27th September 1917, aged 32. His wife became a widow aged 26 and died in 1972 in Aylesbury. She didn't ever re-marry. Their daughter, Vera, became Vera Cooper and died in 2000.



Men of the 4th Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment marching to the trenches; Acheux-en-Amiénois, France, 27 June 1916. Photo from Wikipedia.

Frederick is commemorated at the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.



[Arthur John Honour](#) – He was born late in 1894. He was the eldest son of Frederick and Isabel Honour of Model Cottages, Bierton. Arthur had a brother Edward William who died on 14th June 1981, having lived at 116 Aylesbury Road, Bierton.

The 1901 census

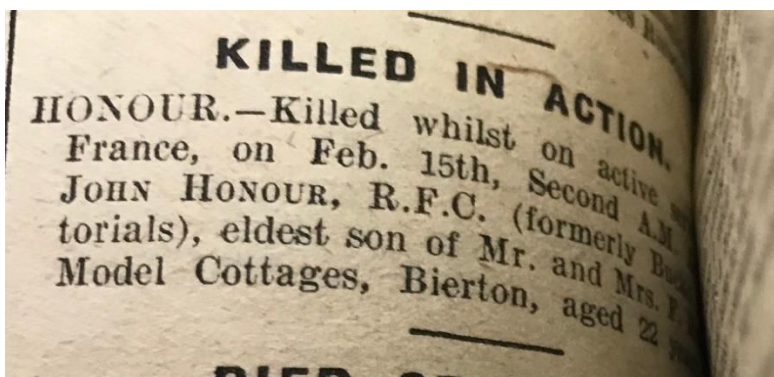
- Frederick (29 – Carter of Horses)
- Isabel (28)
- **Arthur** (6)
- Edith D (4)
- Edward W (3)
- Ada (1)
- living in the High Street, Bierton.

The 1911 census shows

- Frederick (39 – Horseman on Farm)
- Isabel (38)
- **Arthur** (16 – Carriers Labourer)
- Edith (14 – Domestic Servant)
- Edward (13 – Farm Labourer)
- Ada (11)
- Elsie M (9)
- Frank (2)
- living in Bierton.

Arthur later worked in the Co-op in the High Street, Aylesbury and was in the 75th Battalion Machine Gun Corps (Infantry) and 34th Squadron Royal Flying Corps. No. 34 Squadron RAF was formed at RAF Castle Bromwich on 7 January 1916 from elements of No. 19 Squadron RAF. It went to France in July 1916 as a reconnaissance unit equipped with BE.2s. It got RE.8s in January 1917. It transferred to the Italian front flying reconnaissance and bomber missions until the end of the war, returning to the UK and disbanding on 25 September 1919.

Arthur died in a plane crash on 15th February 1917 aged 22. His death was reported in the Bucks Herald on 3rd December 1917. Private Honour – 21732 is buried at Crucifix Corner Cemetery, Villers-Bretonneux.



Obituary in the Bucks Herald.



Crucifix Corner Cemetery,
Villers-Bretonneux

Percy Alfred Honour was born on 19th July 1890 in Bierton. He was the son of Reuben and Emma/Emily Honour of Rowsham Road, Bierton.

The 1891 census shows

- Reuben (39 Farm Labourer)
- Emily (43)
- Mary A (16)
- Kate (13)
- Lizzie (12 – Servant)
- Thomas R (10)
- Ernest W (8)
- **Percy A** (0)
- Agnes (4).
- All living in the High Road, Bierton.



The 1901 census shows

- Reuben (50 – Agricultural Labourer)
- Emily (53)
- Thomas R (20 – Coach Smith)
- Ernest W (18 – Coach Smiths Striker)
- Agnes (14)
- **Percy A** (10)
- Robert C (8).
- They are still living in the High Street

The 1911 census shows

- Reuben (60 – General Labourer)
- Emily (63)
- Kate (33 -Single)
- **Percy** (20 – Cowman on farm)
- Robert (20 – Horseman on Farm).

They later moved to 2 Burcott Cottages, Burcott Lane. Percy lived in Bierton and worked in the binding department of Hazell, Watson & Viney Printers in Aylesbury. Maybe he knew William Dearing who worked there too?

Percy enlisted in Aylesbury in 1914, joining as Private Honour 2144 of the 1st Buckinghamshire Battalion of the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry. He did his army training in Chelmsford and his battalion saw the following action:

04.08.1914 Stationed at Aylesbury as part of the South Midland brigade of the South Midland Division then moved to Writtle near Chelmsford.

30.03.1915 Mobilised for war and landed at Boulogne.

May 1915 The formation became the 145th Brigade of the 48th Division which engaged in various actions on the Western Front including;

December 1915, Percy had a short period of leave which he spent at home in Bierton.

1916 - The Battle of Albert, The Battle of Bazentin Ridge, The Battle of Pozieres Ridge, The Battle of the Ancre Heights, The Battle of the Ancre. .

He was awarded a campaign medal and was killed in action in France & Flanders on 14th August 1916, aged 26. He died on the same day as Frank Thorne and the day after Albert Matthews. His obituary describes him as a bright and cheery person. It also refers to his elder brother who was in the Royal Flying Corps.

THE ROLL OF HONOUR.
PRIVATE PERCY HONOUR KILLED.
Mr. and Mrs. R. Honour, of 2, Burcott Cottages, Barcott-lane, Bierton, have received news that their son, Pte. Percy Honour, Oxford and Bucks L.I., was killed in action on August 14. There were rumours of his death in the village last week, and these were unfortunately confirmed in three letters which his parents received at the end of the week. One was from Captain N. S. Reid, who states:—
I am very sorry to have to tell you that your son, Pte. Percy Honour, was killed by a shell on August 14. He died instantaneously, and therefore cannot have suffered pain. He was by far the best member of the Company; one of the very best all-round men, and all his mates, among whom he was very popular, wish to join with me in expressing our deepest sympathy with you in your loss.
Yours faithfully,
N. S. REID, Captain.
Another letter from Sergt. B. Bennet of whose platoon deceased was a member bore splendid testimony to his courage and exemplary character. Ptes. W. Dear and A. Holdham also wrote informing parents of the death of their comrade.

He is commemorated: Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France (as is Frank William Thorne)

Roll of honour in the Bucks Herald, announcing Percy's death, appeared 2nd September 1916

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THE LATE PRIVATE P. HONOUR.

Deceased was 26 years of age, and was employed in the Binding Department at the Aylesbury Printing Works for some years. He enlisted in the Oxford and Bucks L.I. soon after the declaration of war in 1914, and after training at Chelmsford went to France in March, 1915. He was home on furlough for a few days in December, and since his return his regiment has taken part in several important engagements. His elder brother is serving with the Royal Flying Corps.

Pte. Honour was of a bright and cheerful disposition, and a great lover of cricket and kindred sport, thereby making himself popular among his companions. Much sympathy is felt in the village with his parents and relatives in this their great sorrow. Not only do those nearest to him mourn his death, but those on whom he was billeted feel very keenly the blow, their association with him and the memory of his genial disposition being amongst the cherished recollections of the past. To these and the many friends, far and near, the sorrowing parents and relatives desire to tender their appreciation and sincerest thanks for their kind expressions of sympathy in their great sorrow.

Mr. and Mrs. Honour have received a number of letters of sympathy, including one from Mr. J. Groves, overseer of the Binding Department at Messrs. Hazell, Watson, and Viney's, on behalf of the deceased soldier's fellow workmen. Mr. Groves wrote:—"He was respected very much by us all, and was a good workman."

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Percy Honour's obituary in the Bucks Herald.

[Albert George Matthews](#) was born in 1888 in Aylesbury. He was the son of Jesse and Elizabeth Matthews and brother of Robert. Jesse had served in the Royal Artillery.

In the 1891 census

- Jesse (23 – Bricklayers Labourer)
- Elizabeth (24)
- **Albert** (2)
- Edward J (0)
- are living at Prospect Place in Aylesbury.

The 1901 census shows:

- the family were living at 92 Walton Street, Aylesbury.
- Jesse (33 – Bricklayer)
- Elizabeth (34)
- **Albert** (12 – Scholar)
- James (10 – Scholar)
- Robert (9 – Scholar)
- Jane (7 – Scholar)
- George* (3 – Scholar)
- John (2).

The 1911 census shows

- the family at the same address
- Jesse (43 – Bricklayer)
- Lizzie (43)
- **Albert** (22 – Miller)
- Jane (17 – Printing Works Folder)
- Victor* (13 – Erand Boy)
- John (12 – Scholar)
- Lizzie (9 – Scholar).

*I think these must be the same child due to the age, but quite why his name has changed, I don't know!

In 1915, Albert marries Emily Jane Cyster. He is 26 and she's 25. Albert and his wife lived at 13 Broughton Crossing, Broughton and Albert worked as a Miller. He enlisted in March 1916 in Aylesbury. He became Private Matthews 18428 of the 11th Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment and was also a member of the Somerset Light Infantry.

Albert was killed in action in France/Flanders on 13th August 1916, aged 27. He's commemorated at Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France as are Percy Honour and Frank William Thorne.

OCTOBER 14, 1916.

R

THE WAR.

PTE. A. G. MATTHEWS.

Mrs. Matthews, of 13, Broughton Crossing, Broughton, has received information of the death of her husband, Pte. A. G. Matthews, Royal Warwick Regiment. Deceased, who was 27 years of age, enlisted in March. In a letter to Mrs. Matthews, written on Sept. 30, Second-Lieut. H. Shewring says: "I regret to inform you that your husband, 18428 Pte. A. G. Matthews, was killed in action on August 13. He was reported missing, but information received leaves no doubt as to his death. Please accept my deepest sympathy in your sad loss."

Private Matthew's obituary in the Bucks Herald of 14th October 1916.



Thiepval Memorial, Somme

Arthur Norwood was the son of William and Maria Norwood of Corner House or Corner Farm, Bierton. Corner Farm is located near Gib Lane. He was born on 7th November 1894 and was the fifth son of William and Mary.

The 1901 census shows

- William (41 – Farmer)
- Maria (41)
- Harry (16)
- Ralph (14)
- Frank (12)
- Florence (10)
- Frederick (8)
- **Arthur** (6)
- George (4)
- Beatrice (2)
- were all living on the High Street Bierton

By the time of the 1911 census, his parents had been married for 28 years and had 9 children still alive.

- William (51 – Farmer)
- Maria (51)
- Frank (22 – Working on the Farm)
- Florence (20)
- **Arthur** (16)
- George (14)
- Beatrice (12)
- Doris (8)
- Eliza Markham (60 – Visitor).

Arthur enlisted in Aylesbury and became Lance Sergeant Norwood 266122 of the 1st/4th Battalion of the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry. He served in the same Battalion as Frank William Thorne.

We don't know when he joined, but his battalion is recorded as:

04.08.1914 - Stationed at Oxford as part of the South Midland Brigade of the South Midland Division and then moved to Writtle near Chelmsford.

30.03.1915 - Mobilised for war and landed at Boulogne.

May 1915 The formation became the 145th Brigade of the 48th Division which engaged in various actions on the Western Front including;

1916 - The Battle of Albert, The Battle of Bazentin Ridge, The Battle of Pozieres Ridge, The Battle of the Ancre Heights, The Battle of the Ancre.

1917 - The German Retreat to the Hindenburg Line, The Battle of Langemarck, The Battle of Polygon Wood, The Battle of Broodseinde, The Battle of Poelcapelle.

He was killed in action in France & Flanders on 16th August 1917 at the age of 22.
Buried: Poelcapelle British Cemetery, Langemark-Poelkapelle, West-Vlaanderen.

Obituary in the Bucks Herald on 25th August 1917.

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SERGEANT NORWOOD.

We regret to have to record the death of Sergeant Arthur Norwood, Oxford and Bucks L.I., fifth son of Mr. William Norwood, of Bierton, at the age of 22 years. News of the sad event was forwarded by Captain G. H. Greenwell, in which he says: "DEAR MR. NORWOOD,— I very much regret to inform you of the death of your son, Sergeant Norwood. Your son met his death leading his men in the big attack on the 16th August which ended successfully for us. He has made the supreme sacrifice like so many other gallant men before him, and I offer you my deepest sympathy in your loss."

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...SERGEANT W. ...



Poelcapelle British Cemetery

Henry O'Grady was born in 1889 in Buttevant, County Cork. His parents were Mr & Mrs Dennis O'Grady.

The 1911 census shows him to be a Brickyard Worker living at 23 Hales Street, Aylesbury. He married Ada Williams of South End, Stewkley in 1910. The 1911 census shows that Henry and Ada were living with her family. They had two children, Albert Robert O'Grady was born 14th June 1913 (in 1939 he was living at 203 Aylesbury Road) and Florence Gladys O'Grady born 26th February 1915 (she married Frederick Hinxman and in 1939 they were living at 3 Rose Avenue, Aylesbury, they had a son Frederick David Hinxman who lived for a while at Briar Cottage on the Bierton Road).

Henry joined the 5th Battalion of Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry, becoming Sergeant O'Grady 8907. He was awarded a campaign medal. He was in the same battalion as John T Thorne.

We're not sure when Henry joined, but the 5th Battalion had the following involvement in WW1:

Aug 1914 - Formed at Oxford as part of the First New Army (K1) and then moved to Aldershot to join the 42nd Brigade of the 14th Division and then moved to Cranleigh, Guildford.

Feb 1915 - Moved to Salamanca Barracks, Aldershot.

21.05.1915 - Mobilised for war and landed at Boulogne and engaged in various actions on the Western Front including;

1915 - The Action of Hooze, part of the first flamethrower attack by the Germans and the Second Attack on Bellewaarde.

1916 - The Battle of Delville Wood, The Battle of Flers-Courcelette.

Henry died of wounds in France & Flanders on 25th August 1916, aged 27. He was buried at Dernancourt Communal Cemetery, Somme, France.



Henry Read (known as Harry) was born on 10th November 1881 in Waddesdon. His parents were Edward and Martha Read.

The 1891 census, shows

- the family living in Back Road, Waddesdon.
- Edward (49 – Labourer)
- Martha (49), William (27 – Blacksmith)
- Thomas (21 – Labourer), Kate (14 – Scholar)
- Arthur (13 – Labourer)
- Sarah Jane (11 – Scholar)
- **Henry** (9 – Scholar)
- Robert (7 – Scholar).

In the 1901 census,

- Edward (60 – Labourer)
- Martha (60)
- William (35 – General Labourer)
- Kate (24)
- **Henry** (20 -General Labourer)
- Robert (17 – General Labourer)
- Ada (8)
- Arthur (4)
- the family are living in Frederick Street, Waddesdon. Edward's Father was a General Labourer.

Harry married Sarah Jane in 1904. In the 1911 census Henry and Sarah are living in Station Road, Quainton. They have 4 children, Albert (8), Frederick Cyril (4), George Edward (3) and Elsie Ellen (0). Henry is employed as a Platelayer for the local railway company – possibly at Quainton station. We believe that his children stayed in the area throughout their lives.

Harry enlisted in Aylesbury and joined the Royal Army Service Corps as Private Read 141805 and then the 7th Battalion of the Suffolk Regiment as Private Read 50582. He died of wounds in France/Flanders on 28th April 1917. He's commemorated at the Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France.



Photo of 7th Battalion Suffolk Regiment in Tilloy, France, Oct 17 (14 months after Harry had died). Photo from Wikipedia.

[William Thomas Michael Read \(Hulcott\)](#) born 1897 in Quinton. Baptised 5th September 1897. His parents were William & Edith Annie (nee Woodman) Read. William Snr was a Cattleman on a farm.

The 1901 census shows

- William (39 – Cattleman on farm)
- Edith Annie (23)
- **William** (3)
- Rose (1).
- The family are living in Church Street Quinton.

I can't locate them on the 1911 census.

William enlisted in High Wycombe and became Private Read 21870 of the Gloucestershire Regiment 4th Battalion. We're not sure when William enlisted but his Battalion went to France in March 1915 and took part in the battle of the Somme.

He was 18 when he died on 4th June 1916, he died of wounds and is buried Merville Communal Cemetery, Nord, France .



Edmund Reynolds was born in Piddington, Oxfordshire in 1890.

The 1901 census

- Thomas (47 – Cattleman on Farm)
- Elizabeth (44), Mabel (14)
- Amos (12 – Agricultural Labourer)
- **Edmund** (11)
- Susannah (8)
- Elizabeth (7)
- Albert (5)
- living in Beriets Lane, Rowsham.

The 1911 census shows

- Thomas (57 – Farm Labourer)
- Elizabeth Mary (54)
- **Edmund** (21 – Farm Labourer)
- Elizabeth Mary (16 – Assistant at home)
- Albert Thomas (15 – Farm Labourer)
- Reginald Robert (1)
- all living in Rowsham.

He married Amy Elizabeth Bunch at the end of 1913. She died on 21st July 1971. At one point they lived in Ledburn. He enlisted in Leighton Buzzard and joined the 6th Battalion of the Bedfordshire Regiment as Lance Corporal Reynolds 18366.

We don't know when he enlisted but his battalion saw the following action:

On the 21st April 1915, the Division moved to Cholderton on the south east boundary of the Salisbury Plain and continued training in preparation for their entry into the war. By early June specialist training was in full swing and the troops realised they would not be waiting long before they got to grips with the enemy. Finally, the Battalion boarded trains at Ludgershall Station, 7 miles north-west of Andover, and arrived at Southampton late that afternoon.

They left English shores at 6.30pm on board the Empress Queen and landed at 7am at Le Havre in France on the 30th July 1915. Having gathered their supplies, the Division concentrated around St Omer before moving forward to the front line.

The 6th Battalion served entirely on the Western Front until disbanded in May 1918.

He was killed in action in France/Flanders on 11th August 1917.

He is commemorated: Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.





Frank Rickard was born in Wingrave on 10th March 1879, so would have been c35 at the start of WW1.

He was one of at least 4 brothers, 3 of which also fought in WWI, one of which was Private G Rickard who was blinded and entered St Dunstons home for blinded soldiers.

Two of his brothers were in the Oxford & Buckinghamshire Light Infantry and one in the Royal Garrison Artillery.

The 1881 census shows

- Dan (29 – Bricklayer, born Wingrave)
- Mary (28 – Straw Plaiter – born Rowsham)
- Allac (probably Alice female) (10 – Scholar, born Wingrave)
- Mary (8 – Scholar, born Wingrave)
- Ellen (6 – Scholar, born Wingrave)
- Alfred (4 – Scholar, born Wingrave)
- **Frank** (2 – born Wingrave)
- Reece (female) (0).
- The family are living at Little Aston near Wingrave.

In 1885, Frank enrolls at Miss Hannah de Rothschild's Infants' School in Wingrave.

The 1891 census shows

- Dan (39 – Bricklayer)
- Mary (38)
- Alice (20 – Domestic Servant)
- Mary (18 – Domestic Servant)
- Alfred (14 – Bricklayers Labourer)
- **Frank** (12 – Agricultural Labourer)
- Rosa (10 – Scholar)
- Harry (6 – Scholar)
- Tilly (4 – Scholar)
- Tom (2)
- Fred (0).
- Presumably poor Reece has died.
- The family are now living in Cat Street, Wingrave.

The 1911 census shows

- Alfred Dan (60 – Bricklayer)
- Mary (59)
- **Frank** (33 – Farm Labourer)
- Tom (23 – Farm Labourer)
- Bob (19 – Farm Labourer)
- George (16 – Farm Labourer, born in Bierton).

- The family now live in Bierton

Frank had previously served in the Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, fighting in the 'South African War' which we now call the Second Boer War (11 October 1899 – 31 May 1902).

He became Private Rickard - 16981 of the 2nd Battalion of the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry. Enlisting in February 1915, joining the same Battalion as Horace Sidney Hill. After 4 months training, he went to France.

His battalion saw the following action:

1915 - Winter Operations 1914-15, The Battle of Festubert, The Battle of Loos.

1916 - The Battle of Delville Wood, The Battle of the Ancre, Operations on the Ancre.

He was awarded a campaign medal. Frank was injured on 30th July and died of wounds on 10th August 1916, aged 38. He is buried: Bernafay Wood British Cemetery, Montauban, Somme, France.

**BIERTON.
ROLL OF HONOUR.**



PRIVATE F. RICKARD.

We have to record the death of another young man from this village, news having been received that Private Frank Rickard, Oxford and Bucks L.I., died on August 10 of wounds received in action. Deceased, who was 38 years of age, was in the Oxford and Bucks L.I. during the South African War, and went through that campaign without a scratch. He rejoined his old regiment in February, 1915, and after four months' training went out to France. He was home on leave early in the present year. As no news of his whereabouts had been received for some time his friends communicated with the War Office, and were informed that he had been wounded. A fortnight later they received a notice from the War Office to the effect that he had died on August 10 from wounds received on July 30. He has three brothers serving, one being in the R.G.A. and two others in the Oxford and Bucks L.I. Pte. G. Rickard's eyesight having failed, he is shortly entering St. Dunstan's Home for Blinded Soldiers.

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[Harry Smith](#) – poor Harry, we can't find any information on him. Please send me any information

It's possible he was born in 1880 and is Harry G Smith who died in 1915.

Or

It's possible he's Harry Smith born 1876 in Waddesdon who joined the Scots Guards in 1890

Or

He's someone else. His first name could be Harry, Henry or Harold. Or Harry could be his middle name.

[Frank William Thorne](#) (brother of John Thomas Thorne – see next page) was born in Burcot, Berton on 20th January 1883. He was the son of William and Mary Ann Thorne. He was a builder by trade working for W Fleet Builders in Wingrave. He enlisted in Aylesbury.

The 1901 census shows the family as

- William (51 – Farm Labourer)
- Mary Ann (45)
- **Frank William** (18 – Farm Labourer)
- Mary (14)
- Rose (12)
- James (10),
- Jane (8)
- John Thomas (5)
- Oliver (3).
- Frank was born in Berton, the other children in Burcott.
- The family are living Burcott Lane, Berton.

The 1911 census shows the family as

- William (61 – General Farm Work)
- Mary Ann (56)
- **Frank William** (29 – Builder Labourer)
- James (20 – Brewers Labourer)
- Jane (18),
- John Thomas (16 – At printing works)
- Oliver (13 – at farm work) and Helen (9 – School).
- The family are living in Berton.

I'm not sure if the information in this paragraph is definitely our Frank Thorne – possibly he joined the Oxford Light Infantry on 19th September 1905, aged 22, if it is our Frank, he returns to live with his family and carry on farming by 1911. There are two marriages for Frank Thorne in Aylesbury/Halton, again not sure if this is our Frank as he's not married to either of these women in the 1911 census, nor can I locate a record of death for either, which could have resulted in him returning home to his family. He was married to Annie Emma Babb on 19th July 1905. Potentially he married a second time to Ethel May Parker in 1908.

Private Thorne 5727 of the 1st/4th Battalion, Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry was killed in action in France & Flanders on 14th August 1916, aged 33, the same day as Percy Honour. He served in the same Battalion as Arthur Norwood.

We don't know when he joined his battalion, but they saw the following action:

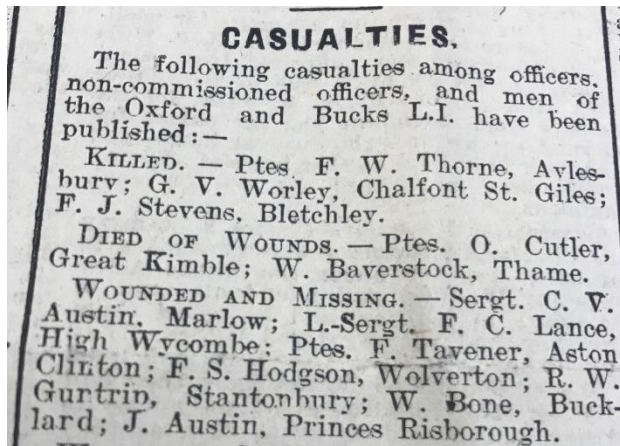
Stationed at Oxford as part of the South Midland Brigade of the South Midland Division and then moved to Writtle near Chelmsford.

30.03.1915 Mobilised for war and landed at Boulogne.

May 1915 The formation became the 145th Brigade of the 48th Division which engaged in various actions on the Western Front including;

1916 - The Battle of Albert, The Battle of Bazentin Ridge, The Battle of Pozieres Ridge, The Battle of the Ancre Heights, The Battle of the Ancre.

He is commemorated at the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France as is Percy Honour and Albert George Matthews.



Notification of death on 30th September 1916 in the Bucks Herald.



[John Thomas Thorne](#) (brother of Frank William Thorne – see previous page) was born on 17th December 1894 in Burcott, so was approximately 11 years younger than Frank. His parents were also William and Mary Anne Thorne of Berton.

The 1901 census shows the family as

- William (51 – Farm Labourer)
- Mary Ann (45)
- Frank William (18 – Farm Labourer)
- Mary (14)
- Rose (12)
- James (10)
- Jane (8)
- **John Thomas** (5)
- Oliver (3).
- Frank was born in Berton, the other children in Burcott.
- The family are living Burcott Lane, Berton.

The 1911 census shows the family as

- William (61 – General Farm Work)
- Mary Ann (56)
- Frank William (29 – Builder Labourer)
- James (20 – Brewers Labourer)
- Jane (18)
- **John Thomas** (16 – At printing works)
- Oliver (13 – at farm work) and Helen (9 – School).
- The family are living in Berton.

Private Thorne - 265677 joined the 5th Battalion of the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry. He was in the same battalion as Henry O'Grady. We don't know when he enlisted but his battalion saw the following action:

Aug 1914 Formed at Oxford as part of the First New Army (K1) and then moved to Aldershot to join the 42nd Brigade of the 14th Division and then moved to Cranleigh, Guildford.

Feb 1915 Moved to Salamanca Barracks, Aldershot.

21.05.1915 Mobilised for war and landed at Boulogne and engaged in various actions on the Western Front including;

1915 - The Action of Hooge, part of the first flamethrower attack by the Germans, The Second Attack on Bellewaarde.

1916 - The Battle of Delville Wood, The Battle of Flanders-Courcelette.

1917 - The German retreat to the Hindenburg Line, The First Battle of the Scarpe, The Third Battle of the Scarpe, The Battle of Langemark, The First Battle of Passchendaele, The Second Battle of Passchendaele.

John was killed in action in France & Flanders on 3rd May 1917. Aged 22. He is commemorated: Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France



[Ernest Edward Wallace](#) (Hulcott) was born the last quarter of 1877 in Hulcott. His parents were Samuel and Sophia Wallace. Samuel was a Farm Labourer.

The 1881 census shows

- Samuel (44 – Agricultural Labourer)
- Sophia (43 – Laundress)
- Herbert (18 – Agricultural Labourer – Born in Bierton)
- Selina (14 – born in Bierton)
- John (8 born in Bierton)
- **Ernest Edward** (4 – born in Bierton).
- The family live in Bierton Alley, in Bierton.
-

The 1891 census shows

- Samuel (54 – Farm Labourer)
- Sophia (53), Selina (24)
- John (18 – Farm Labourer)
- **Ernest** (14 – Labourer at Printing Works).
- They are living in Rowsham Road, Hulcott.

On 5th September 1894, Ernest enlisted with the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry, 4th Battalion. He was 18 years old.

The 1901 census shows that Samuel has died, the household now comprises

- Sophie (64 – Widow – born Wingrave)
- John (29 – General Labourer, born Broughton)
- **Ernest** (24 – Bricklayers Assistant, born Burcott).
- They are living in Broughton Road, Hulcott.

On 3rd November 1904, Ernest enlisted with the Oxford Light Infantry, he was 29.

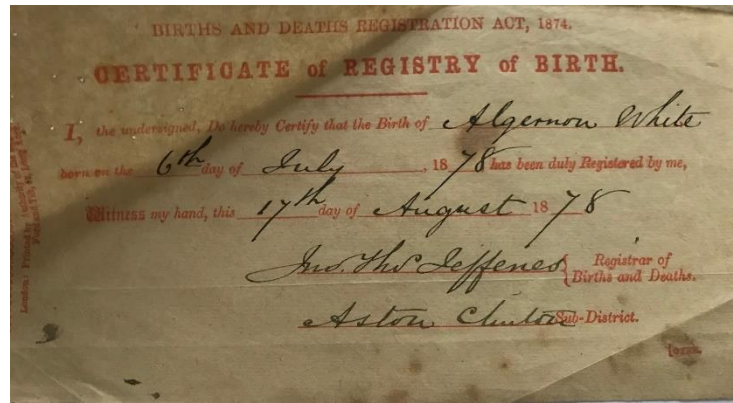
The 1911 census shows

- Sophia (74 – Housekeeper)
- John (39 – Farm Labourer)
- Ernest (35 – General Labourer).
- The family live in Hulcott.

It looks like he moved at some point between 1911 and 1917 to Tottenham in North London. He enlisted in Aylesbury and became Private Wallace 285056 of the Oxford & Bucks Light Infantry, 1/1st Bucks Battalion. He was killed in action on 8th March 1917, aged 41. He's buried Hem Farm Military Cemetery, Hem-Monacu, Somme, France

Algernon White was born on 6th July 1878 in Broughton. He was baptised on 1st September 1878 in Bierton.

His parents were George and Mary Ann White (nee Arnold). He was a cousin to William George White, who also died in WW1.



The 1881 census shows

- George (38 – Common Carrier to London*),
- Mary Ann (34)
- Annie (12 – Scholar)
- George (8 – Scholar)
- Minnie (5 – Scholar)
- **Algernon** (2)
- Nellie Ada (0).
- The children were all born in Broughton.

. *George transported parcels to and from London using a pony and trap. They are living next to Jacob and Lucy White, who could be George's parents, both Jacob and Lucy are listed as Mole Catchers

The 1891 census shows

- George (48 – Carrier)
- Mary Ann (44)
- Annie (22)
- George W (18 – Carrier)
- **Algernon** (12)
- Nellie Ada (10)
- Theodore (7)
- Florance S (4).
- The family are living at and running the Prince of Wales pub in Broughton which is now the Doghouse pub.

The 1901 census shows

- George (58 – Publican)
- Mary Ann (54)
- **Algernon** (23 – Builders Labourer)
- Theodore (17 – Farm Labourer)
- Florance (14 – at home domestic).

Algernon then became a Dairyman, employed in Burcott by Freddy Chappin. He didn't marry or have children. He enlisted as Gunner White - 144909 of the 12th siege battery of the Royal Garrison Artillery on 11th December 1915 at the age of c37. He was in the Reserve and didn't serve active duty until he went to France on 9th March 1917. Sadly, he died just over a year later on 19th April 1918 after he was shot in the lungs, while on active duty. He was awarded two medals, the Victory Medal and a campaign medal.



A soldier from the Royal Garrison Artillery siege battery, standing with a 9.2 inch howitzer Mk I, on the Somme.

The camouflaged box in front of the gun was filled with soil and attached to the gun to act as a counterweight to the force of the blast and keep the gun in position. Photo and information from Wikipedia

He is buried: Rue-Petillon Military Cemetery, Fleurbaix, Pas de Calais, France. His relatives still live in Bierton.



Algernon's relatives still live in Bierton. Algernon was known by his nieces and nephews as 'Uncle Algie.' Algernon's brother Theodore Charles White (below right) also served in World War I as a Lance Corporal in the 1st Buckinghamshire Battalion. Theodore saw action in Africa and India after completing his training in Wolverton. Theodore married after the war and he and his wife took over the running of the Prince of Wales pub in Broughton when his parents died. Theodore's wife, Mabel (below left), also played a part during the war by becoming a delivery driver for the Co-op, driving the horse-drawn bread van to make deliveries around Aylesbury.



Two of Theodore's sons fought in the 2nd World War. Gordon worked behind the lines delivering supplies. Fred saw action on D-day and rarely spoke about his experiences. Theodore's daughter, Joyce, still lives in Bierton and has kindly provided photos and information about her family.

[William George White](#) was the son of Mr William George Snr and Mrs Fanny White (nee Jeffs), they married in 1897. He was born on 17th January 1899 in Broughton. He was baptised on 12th March 1889. *Fanny White was the sister of Algernon and Theodore White, so William George Snr was their brother-in-law and William George Jnr was Algernon's cousin. William George had a brother called Tom.

The 1901 census shows

- William George Senior (28 – Milk factory worker, born Broughton)
- Fanny White (26)
- Mabel (3)
- Willie (**William**) (2)
- The family are living in Burcott Lane, Bierton

The 1911 census shows

- William George Senior (38 – Milk Hand Condensed Works)
- Fanny White (37)
- Mabel (13)
- **William** (12)
- Gladys (5)
- Ethel (3)
- living at 7 Broughton Gates.

One of his sisters, Gladys Daisy White who lived at 30 Walton Way was a nurse. She married Frederick Fordham.

William enlisted in Aylesbury, becoming Private White 44519 of the 2nd/4th Battalion Royal Berkshire Regiment. Formerly 37416 Wiltshire Regiment. We're not sure when he joined the Royal Berkshire regiment, but this is what happened to them during World War I.

06.11.1914 Formed at Reading and then moved to Maidenhead.

Feb 1915 Moved to Northampton to join the 184th Brigade of the 61st Division and then moved to Chelmsford and then Salisbury Plain.

27.05.1916 Mobilised for war and landed at Havre and engaged in various actions on the Western front including;

During 1916 - The Attack at Fromelles.

During 1917 - The Operations on the Ancre, The German Retreat to the Hindenburg Line, The Battle of Langemarck.

During 1918 - The Battle of St Quentin, The Actions at the Somme Crossings, The Battle of Estaires, The Battle of Hazebrouck, The Battle of Bethune, The Battle of the Selle, The Battle of Valenciennes.

11.11.1918 Ended the war in France, Sepmeries S.E. of Valenciennes.

William was killed in action in France & Flanders on 25th October 1918, aged just 19 and just 3 weeks before the end of the war.

He is commemorated: Vis-En-Artois Memorial, Pas de Calais, France.

