

**Names and Biographies of those remembered on the  
Bridgwater War Memorial, King Square  
Mr. Brian Dyer 2013**

*With amendments 2014*

**The 1914-18 War**

**Adams**

James Stoker  
Petty Officer  
309198

H.M.S "Valkyrie" Royal Navy.

Killed by an explosion 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1917.

James Adams was the 34 year old husband of Eliza Emma Duckham (formerly Adams of 4, Halesleigh Road, Bridgwater. Born at Huntworth. Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery Church portion Location IV. 8. 3.

**Adams**

Albert James  
Corporal  
266852

1<sup>st</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Devonshire Regiment.

Died 9<sup>th</sup> February 1919.

Husband of Annie Adams, of Langley Marsh, Wiveliscombe, Somerset.  
Bridgwater (St Johns) Cemetery.  
Ref 2 2572.

**Allen**

Sidney  
Private  
7312

19<sup>th</sup> (County of London) Battalion (St Pancras) The London Regiment  
(141<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade 47<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> London) Territorial Division).  
(formerly 3049 Somerset Light Infantry).

Killed in action 14<sup>th</sup> November 1916.

Sydney Allen was the 29 year old son of William Charles and Emily Allen, of Pathfinder Terrace, Bridgwater.

Chester Farm Cemetery, Zillebeke, West Flanders, Belgium.  
Plot 1. Row J Grave 9.

**Andrews**

Willaim  
Private  
1014

West Somerset Yeomanry.

Died in Malta 19<sup>th</sup> November 1915.

He was the son of Walter and Mary Ann Andrews, of Stringston, Holford, Bridgwater.

Pieta Military Cemetery, Malta.  
Plot D. Row VII. Grave 3.

**Anglin**

Denis Patrick

Private

3/6773

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action during the attack on and around the “Quadrilateral” a heavily fortified system of enemy trenches on Redan Ridge near the village of Serre 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916 the first day of the 1916 Battle of the Somme.

He has no known grave, being commemorated in the Thiepval Memorial to the ‘Missing’ of the Somme.

**Anglin**

Joseph

A/Sergeant

9566

**Mentioned in Despatches**

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Died of wounds on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March 1915.

The CWGC was not informed the next of kin.

Joseph Anglin was the son of Mrs Anglin of 3, Court, Albert Street Bridgwater. “Whilst at the front Joseph had gained a reputation for his coolness under fire and of being the ‘dare devil’ of the Battalion. Only quite recently he was Mentioned in Official Despatches for gallantry in action. At the beginning of the war he was a Private in the Somersets but his promotion was rapid and by his death the Battalion had lost one of its most promising Non Commissioned Officers. He recently returned to Bridgwater from the front for a few days leave when he told friends he had a presentiment that he would never come back again. Two brothers are serving at the front with the Somersets. Lieutenant D.R. Rowcroft in a letter to Mrs Anglin states the deceased was hit in the head in the afternoon of March 4<sup>th</sup> and died at 8 o'clock the same night in the presence of his two brothers. He adds ‘I am very sorry indeed. He had only just left my Company and was a very good Non Commissioned Officer. A short letter written by the late Sergeant to his mother on the date of his death was also enclosed

As a token of respect to the memory of Sergeant Anglin the Union Jack was flown at half mast on Tuesday at Albert Street School where he was a former pupil”.

London Rifle Brigade Cemetery, Ploegsteert, Comines-Warneton, Hainaut, West Flanders, Belgium.

Plot 1. Row B. Grave 1.

**Anglin**

John

Private

9828

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action during the attack on the Redan Ridge near Serre 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916 the first day of the 1916 Battle of the Somme.

He has no known grave being commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the ‘Missing’ of the Somme.

**Arthur**

Frank  
Private  
202148

2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light infantry.  
43<sup>rd</sup> Wessex Division

Died in India 26<sup>th</sup> July 1917.

He was the 22 year old son of James and Elizabeth Arthur, of Greinton Somerset.  
Karachi 1914-1918 War Cemetery, Pakistan.

**Ashton**

H  
Sapper  
50491

504 2<sup>nd</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Wessex Field Company Royal Engineers.  
(28<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action in France 15<sup>th</sup> June 1917.  
Arras Memorial. Bay 1.

**Baker**

Albert  
Private  
25394

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.  
(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Died in F 7<sup>th</sup> December 1918.

**The 1901 Census records**

Son of William. (54) and Lucy. (64)

**Albert is 16 born about 1885.**

Edward. 14.

Living at 96, Polden Street, Bridgwater. In the Parish of Eastover St John.

Valenciennes (St Roch) Communal Cemetery, Nord, France.

Plot II. Row A. Grave 13.

**Baker**

Ernest Edward  
Private  
7263

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.  
(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action in the vicinity of Ploegsteert Wood on the 11<sup>th</sup> November 1914 during  
winter trench warfare in atrocious conditions. Collapsed trenches were absolute  
quagmires, knee deep in mud and slime and everywhere lay the decomposing bodies  
of the dead.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Regular Division had held the trenches in the Ploegsteert Wood sector  
throughout the winter of 1914-15, they were relived by the 48<sup>th</sup> (South Midland)  
Territorial Division 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> April 1915.

Edward Baker was the 28 year old husband of Edith Mary Swayne (formerly Baker)  
of 72, Devonshire Street, Bridgwater.

Ploegsteert Memorial, Warneton. West Flanders, Belgium. Panel 3.

**Baker**

Ernest Edward

Cororal

9767

6<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion K1) Somerset Light Infantry.

(43<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 14<sup>th</sup> Light Division).

Killed in action 4<sup>th</sup> August 1917 during operations on the Menin Road, Ypres 22<sup>nd</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> August.

**Check Wembdon**

Tyne Cot Memorial, Passchendaele, West Flanders, Belgium.

Panels 41-42 and 163A.

**Baker** Frank Private 17293 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 8<sup>th</sup> August 1916 during the battle of the Somme.

Unable to identify from 106 CWGC records.

The 1901 Census identifies him as the son of Albert (39) and Mary A. Baker (40)

Charles 17. William. 15. Bertie. 13.

Frank. 11 born about 1892. Florence. 9.

Arthur. 8. Elsie. 6. Beatrice. 4.

Ernest. 2. Gladys. 9 months.

Resident at 17, Roesberry Avenue, Bridgwater in the Parish of Eastover St John.

Identification solved by the CWGC ltr 7. May 2010.

Essex Farm Cemetery, Boesinghe, West Flanders.

Plot III. Row C, Grave 16.

**Bale**

Harry

Private

38433

2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Highland Light Infantry.

(5<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 2<sup>nd</sup> Division).

Killed in action 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1917, during the enemy counter attack phase of the Battle of Cambrai November 20<sup>th</sup>-December 7<sup>th</sup> 1917.

He was the 31 year old husband of Rose Bale, of 14, Provident Place, Bridgwater.

Cambrai Memorial. Louverval, Nord., France. Panel 10.

**Banwell**

William

Private

17456

12<sup>th</sup> (West Somerset Yeomanry) Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.

(229<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 74<sup>th</sup> (Yeomanry) Division).

Died in Flanders 26<sup>th</sup> November 1918

William Banwell was the 21 year old son of Walter and Florence Banwell, of Bridgwater.

Terlincthun British Cemetery, Wimille, Boulogne, Pas de Calais, France.

Plot XI. Row E. Grave 5.

**Barber**  
Clifford  
Private  
240556

1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.

During the 2.5 years on garrison duty in India the battalion supplied reinforcement drafts to the 1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Bn and to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Dorsets in Mesopotamia Those to the Dorsets were to be among the garrison besieged at Kut, few of whom survived captivity following surrender..

Died in Mesopotamia 24<sup>th</sup> January 1916.

Clifford Barber was the 24 year old son of John and Alice Barber, of 86, Friarn Street, Bridgwater.

Basra Memorial, Iraq. Panel 12.

**Barnard**

Joseph Edward  
Lance/Coporal  
240773

1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.

(233<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 75<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1917 during the Battle of Nabi Samweil 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> November during the advance north west of Jerusalem. Nabi Samweil was one of several villages, which were the scene of tragic consequences for the 1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> SLI in three unsuccessful attacks on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. November 1917.

Next of kin not recorded.

BMD birth 1895 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr.

Jerusalem War Cemetery, Israel.

Row G . Grave 50.

**Barnes**

H.J.  
59325

25<sup>th</sup> (Tyneside Irish) Service Battalion (Frontiersmen) Royal Fusiliers.

Died 8<sup>th</sup> April 1918.

He was the 24 years old son of James and Fanny L. Barnes, of "Altoxtton" Sobewrton Road, Bournemouth.

Mons Communal Cemetery, Hainaut, West Flanders, Belgium. a P.O.W. Cemetery.

Plot VIII. Row D. Grave 10.

No apparent Bridgwater connection but of 4 CWGC results this is the only Royal Fusilier.

**Bawler**

Sidney Frank  
Private  
92478

3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion Royal Fusiliers.

(150<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 50<sup>th</sup> (Northumbrian) Division).

Killed in action in France 8<sup>th</sup> August 1918.

( formerly 85<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 28<sup>th</sup> Division).

(formerly S/157328).

BMD birth 1894 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr.

Peronne Road Cemetery, Maricourt, Somme.

Plot II. Row C. Grave 14.

**Beard**

A.W.

G/9601

24<sup>th</sup> (Service) (2<sup>nd</sup> Sportsman's) Battalion City of London Battalion Royal Fusiliers.

Died of wounds 27<sup>th</sup> March 1918. ? German March offensive in Picardy.

Next of kin not recorded.

St Hilaire Cemetery, Frevent, Pas de Calais, France.

Plot V. Row E. Grave 6.

**Beer**

Robert John Benjamin

Private

30721

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Gloucestershire Regiment.

(3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 1<sup>st</sup> Division).

Died of wounds in captivity 9<sup>th</sup> May 1918.

Robert Beer was the 28 year old husband of Ivy Beer, of 12, Hertford Street, Balsall, Heath, Birmingham.

Cologne (Southern) Cemetery, Nord-Rheine Westfal, Germany.

Plot VIII. Row A. Grave 21.

**Bell**

Horace

Able Seaman

Bristol Z/1040

Howe Battalion Royal Naval Division.

(189<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 63<sup>rd</sup> (Royal Naval) Division).

Killed in action 26<sup>th</sup> October 1917, during the Second Battle of Passchendaele 26<sup>th</sup> October-November 10<sup>th</sup> 1917 that ended the 4 month long bloody 3<sup>rd</sup> Ypres offensive with the capture by the Canadian Corps of Passchendaele and the ridge that had for so long dominated British positions in the Ypres Salient..

Horace Bell was the **18 year old** son of James and Lucy Bell, of 83, Bailey Street, Bridgwater.

Poelcappelle British Cemetery, near Ypres, West Flanders, Belgium.

Plot XV. Row D. Grave 3.

This large cemetery was made after the Armistice

Contains 6,541, British, 525 Canadian, 117 NZ, 10 SA, 8 Newfoundland and 4 Channel Isles. Plus 36 Special Memorials.

**Bell**

John

Rifleman

608411

18<sup>th</sup> (County of London) Battalion (London Irish Rifles) The London Regiment.

(141<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade 47<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> London) Territorial Division).

Killed in action 8<sup>th</sup> June 1918 during the battle of Amiens august 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> 1918.

(formerly 647 Wessex ASC).

John Bell was the son of William and Emma Bell, of Bridgwater; husband of Florence Bell, of 1, Court Penel, Orlieu, Bridgwater.

Ribemont Communal Cemetery Extension, Somme.

Plot I. Row K. Grave 3.

### **Bell**

Leonard Charles  
Lance/Corporal  
506286

502 (Wessex) Field Company Royal Engineers.

503 (57<sup>th</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> (West Lancashire) TF Division).

Killed in action in France 20<sup>th</sup> August 1917.

Leonard Bell was the 30 year old son of Henry and Lottie Bell; husband of Bessie Bell, of 3, Southgate Avenue, Bridgwater.

Erquinghem-Lys Churchyard Extensiion, Nord, France.

Row E. Grave 1.

### **Bellringer**

Albert George  
Private  
240550

5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

Died Home = in the UK 5<sup>th</sup> December 1918.

Aged 30, he was the husband of Mrs E. Bellringer of 3, The Court, Monmouth Street, Bridgwater.

Buried Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery (Church Portion).

Grave I. 5. 45.

Not listed in "Soldiers Died" Part 18 SLI.

### **Biddiscombe**

Jonathan  
Private  
25784

8<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K3) Somerset Light Infantry.

(63<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 37<sup>th</sup> Division). .

Killed in action 10<sup>th</sup> April 1917 during the 1<sup>st</sup> Battle of The Scarpe, (Arras) April 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> 1917.

### **The Battles of Arras April-May 1917.**

On Easter Monday the 9<sup>th</sup> of April 1917, in sleet and snow driven on a bitterly cold wind the four Divisions of General Byng's Canadian Corps attacked the crest of Vimy Ridge along a four mile front

Supported by the artillery of the Canadian Corps comprising 480 25 pounders and 138 4.5 howitzers plus 248 heavy heavy guns and howitzers

Possession of the ridge would give the Canadians the panoramic view over the Douai Plain from the 200 foot eastern side of the ridge, immediately below lay the villages of Vimy, Thelus, Farbus, and Givenchy

This powerful offensive by General Horne's First Army despite considerable opposition by an enemy in strong defensive positions on the gently rising forward slope of the ridge was overcome and by nightfall the Canadians gazed out across wide open views behind enemy lines.

On the left flank the the 13<sup>th</sup> Brigade of the 5<sup>th</sup> British Division attacked from neuville-St-Vaast.

By the 14<sup>th</sup> the Ridge, the eastern slopes and the villages of Vimy, Petit Vimy, Farbus and Hill 145 were securely in the possession of the attackers.

Canadian casualties in the operation amounted to approx 20,000 of whom 4,000 were fatalities.

On the right flank of this operation the Third Army under the command of General

Allenby attacked along an eight mile front astride the the Scarpe, Cojeul to the Sensee rivers around Croisilles.

This mighty offensive commencing also on the 9<sup>th</sup> April involved 16 British infantry and three Cavalry divisions followed a three week bombardment by 2,879 guns, 989 of them heavy guns and howitzers. The offensive was aimed at breaching the Drocourt-Queant Switch line protecting the end of the Hindenburg Line from an outflanking attack. The Drocourt-Queant Line however was up to 5 miles distant. This operation was termed the 1<sup>st</sup> Battle of the Scarpe and lasted until the 14<sup>th</sup> April. On April 23<sup>rd</sup> a further attempt by 13 Divisions including 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian to push forward this was termed the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battle of the Scarpe.

The battle of Arleux was fought on the 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> and on May 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>  
The battles of Arras came to a close with the Third Battle of the Scarpe May 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>  
There followed action at Roeux on the 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> May and action at Oppy Wood n  
June.

This month long series of very costly battles resulted in advancing the front lines for several miles with the capture of the devastated villages of Gavrell, Fampoux, Feuchy, Monchy-le-Preux, Geumappe, Wancourt and Heninel at a terrible cost in lives.

The Drocourt-Queant line was never reached.

The daily casualty rate for the battles of Arras exceeded that of the battles of the Somme and third Ypres (Passchendaele).

Jonathan Biddiscombe was the 30 year old son of John Biddiscombe; husband of Bessie Biddiscombe, of 15 Duffryn Street, Aberaman, Aberdare, Glamorgan.  
Arras Memorial. Bay 4.

### **Biffen**

Harry  
Corporal  
5803

8<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K3) Somerset Light Infantry.  
(63<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 21<sup>st</sup> Division)

Killed in action on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916, in the vicinity of the village of Fricourt the first day of the 1916 Battle of the Somme

The 21<sup>st</sup> Division with a Brigade of the 17<sup>th</sup> Division attacked and captured some ground north of Fricourt. The village of Fricourt which was the objective of the 51<sup>st</sup> Brigade (17<sup>th</sup> Northern) Division was occupied on the morning of the second day

In this sector very heavy casualties were sustained for very little gain particularly among the 7<sup>th</sup> East Yorkshire and 10<sup>th</sup> West Yorkshire Battalions whose dead rest nearby. 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry lost at least 112 dead 21<sup>st</sup> Division casualties of 4,256 were among the highest of that tragic day. Next of kin not recorded.

Gordon Dump Cemetery, Ovillers-la-Boiselle, Somme.  
Plot V. Row P. Grave 3.

### **Billing**

Ernest William  
Able Seaman  
R/167

Drake Battalion Royal Naval Division.  
(189<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 63<sup>rd</sup> (Royal Naval) Division.

Killed in action 24<sup>th</sup> December 1917.

He was the son of Mr and Mrs W.R.S. Billing, of 79. Barclay Street. Bridgwater.  
Thiepval Memorial. Pier and Face 1a.



**Bird**

James  
Private  
16631

7<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K2) Somerset Light Infantry.  
(61<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade 20<sup>th</sup> (Light) Division).

Killed in action 16<sup>th</sup> September 1916, during the battle of LFlers-Courcelette which resulted in the capture of Flers and Geudecourt were captured by the British and Rancourt and Fregiecourt by the French.

Combles also fell in a joint British French operation.

Aged 36, he was the son of the late Robert and Elizabeth Bird, of Enmore, Bridgwater.

Thiepval Memorial. Pier and Face 11C a.d 12A.

**Bishop**

Gerald.Clement.William.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut

16<sup>th</sup> Public Schools (Service) Battalion Middlesex Regiment  
(86<sup>th</sup> Brigade).

Killed in action 11<sup>th</sup> August 1917.

The CWGC was not informed the next of kin.

**The 1901 Census records.**

**Son of**

Frederick W (42) and Catherine Bishop (38)

Irene. G. 16.

Hilda. M. 14.

Mildred.K.B. 12.

Vera.E.D. 8.

**Gerald C.W. 3. Born about 1898.**

“Bridgwater ( St Mary),

Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial. Panels 49 and 50.

**Blackburn**

Frederick  
Private  
7447

“B” Squadron 2<sup>nd</sup> Dragoon Guards.(Queen’s Bays).  
(1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Brigade 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division).

Killed in action in France 13<sup>th</sup> May 1915 during the Battle of Frezenburg May 8<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>.

Frederick Blackburn was the 21 year old son of Mrs Elizabeth Blackburn, of 44, Redgate Street, Bridgwater.

Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial to 53,000 ‘Missing’ who fell in the Ypres Salient.  
Panel 3.

**Bloodworth Stanley Albert Cpl Gloucestershire Regiment.**

**No CWGC record found.**

**Board Ernest Victor Driver RASC.there is no E V Board RASC.**

**No SDGW. No CWGC.**

Ernest only = 45014 1<sup>st</sup> Bn Inniskilling Fusiliers dow (H) 8<sup>th</sup> November 1918  
(Wellington Cemetery Grave 1272.).

(formerly 70952 Devon).

Ernest Board was the son of Walter Board, of 46, Bovet Street, Wellington.

**Board**  
Sydney  
Signalman  
225623

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment.  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Brigade 1<sup>st</sup> Division).

Died of wounds 18<sup>th</sup> April 1918 probably sustained during the Battle of Bethune 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> April 1918 one of the Battles of the Lys (French Flanders) April 9<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>. This was the second phase of Ludendorff's Spring offensive begun opposite the Somme on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Commencing on the 9<sup>th</sup> April in the vicinity of Armentiers and extending south to the La Basse Canal, nine enemy divisions attacked the front held by three worn out Allied divisions, the 40<sup>th</sup> in the north, 2<sup>nd</sup> Portuguese centre and the 55<sup>th</sup> in the south. The main weight of the attack fell upon the 2<sup>nd</sup> Portuguese division holding an extended front of 7,000 yards. The two flank divisions were subjected to a bombardment of gas shell whilst the Portuguese sector was drenched with the contents of 1,000 cylinders that had been installed in the enemy front line trenches. The Portuguese who were un-protected fled in panic leaving many dead and dying on the battlefield

On the 10<sup>th</sup>, reinforced by a further seven divisions the enemy had penetrated to a depth of three miles and by the 11<sup>th</sup> the front had extended northwards to 24 miles and had crossed the river Lys and Laws by nightfall and on the 12<sup>th</sup> a further five enemy divisions had been committed between Armentiers and the Ypres Comines canal forcing the 19<sup>th</sup> (Western) and 25<sup>th</sup> Divisions to withdraw toward Baillel and Mont Kemmel.

The situation was stabilised with the arrival of many allied divisions.  
(formerly 6282 Cambridgshire)

Son of Mr and Mrs Board of Bridgwater; husband of Mary Ellen Board.  
Woburn Abbey Cemetery, Cuinchy, Pas de Calais, France.  
Plot 1. Row G. Grave 24.

**Bone**  
Frederick William  
Private  
27263

7<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K2) Somerset Light Infantry.  
(61<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade 20<sup>th</sup> (Light) Division).

Killed in action 16<sup>th</sup> August 1917 during the battle of Langemarck 2<sup>nd</sup> in the series of Battles of 3<sup>rd</sup> Ypres over the period 31<sup>st</sup> July-10<sup>th</sup> November 1917.  
Tyne Cot Memorial, Passchendaele, West Flanders, Belgium.  
Panels 41-42 and 163A.

**Bond** Charles Edwin Gunner Tank Corps.  
**CWGC record not found.**  
**No SDGW**

**Bonney**

William George  
Lance Corporal  
29380

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.  
(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action during the attack on the "Quadrilateral", a heavily fortified trench system situated on the Redan Ridge near the village of Serre 1<sup>st</sup> July  
The Battalion was met with murderous artillery, machine gun and rifle fire resulting in 138 o/rs killed.

William Bonney was the 21 year old son of Louise Bonney, of 25, Polden Street, Bridgwater and the late Charles Bonney.

He has no known grave being commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the 'Missing' of the Somme.

**Bowyer**

Cecil Henry  
Ordinary Seaman  
Bristol Z/2818 RNVR  
H.M.S. "Victory".  
Died 11<sup>th</sup> October 1918.

"Victory" was a Depot ship at Portsmouth, built in 1765 (Nelso's ship at Trafalgar) she was the flagship of Portsmouth in 1840 and was moved into dry dock on the 12<sup>th</sup> January, 1922 and bore the name of the barracks at Portsmouth that were opened in 1903, subsequently named 'Nelson'

Cecil Bowyer was the 18 year old son of Harry and Bessie Bowyer, of 12, South Parade, Bridgwater.

Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery (Church portion).  
Plot I. Row 6. Grave 3.

**Bradbeer**

W.J.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant  
Royal Garrison Artillery.

Died Home = in the UK **8<sup>th</sup> August 1920.**

He was the 32 year old son of Alfred and Jane Bradbeer; husband of S.E. Feven, (formerly Bradbeer), of 8, Alexandra Road, Bridgwater.

Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Church portion  
Plot III. Row 6. Grave 5.

**Brake**

Percy

28220

2nd Battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers.

(48th Infantry Brigade 16th (Irish) Division).

Killed in action 21<sup>st</sup> March 1918 during the Battle of St Quentin 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> March 1918

The Division was heavily engaged around Ronssoy, Lempire and Epehy.

For a good description of the 16th Irish Division's participation in the Spring Offensive read "Ireland's Unknown Soldiers" by Terry Denham pages 153-170.

Between the 21<sup>st</sup> March and April 3<sup>rd</sup> during Ludendorff's Spring offensive the 16<sup>th</sup> Irish suffered 7,149 casualties killed wounded and missing the highest casualties for any division involved in the battle.

med the next of kin.

**The 1901 Census records.**

Son of William (41) and Bessie. (40)

William. D. 16

Edmund Arthur 11.

**Percy. 10 born about 1891.**

Hester. 14.

They are living at Chedzoy St Mary, Somerset.

Poziers Memorial to the Fifth Army 'Missing'

**Brimson**

Frederick James

Driver

1246

2<sup>nd</sup> (Wessex) Field Company Royal Engineers.

(8<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action in France or Flanders 12<sup>th</sup> May 1915.

Frederick Brimson was the 21 year old son of Thomas and Ellen Brimson, of 4, Redgate Street, Bridgwater.

Ypres (Menin) Gate) Memorial, West Flanders, Belgium.

**Britton**

Ernest Edward

Private

50521

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 24<sup>th</sup> October 1918 during the Battle of The Selle, 17<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> October 1918.

He was thye son of Steven B and of Adelaide A. Britton; husband of Lilian Maud Britton of 4, Thornton Heath, Surrey.

Verchain Military Cemetery, Verchain-Maugre, near Valenciennes, Nord, France.

Row A. Grave 7.

### **Britton**

E

Sapper

WR/305178

Inland Water Transport, Royal Engineers.

Died 26<sup>th</sup> August 1918. Age 48.

Born at Bridgwater, he was the son of Edward and Eliza Britton; husband of Olive Britton, of 36, Bath Road, Bridgwater.  
Bridgwater (St John's) Cemetery. Ref 2 2552.

### **Broad**

William Knowles

Company Sergeant Major

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion City of London Regiment Royal Fusiliers The London Regiment.

(167<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 56<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> London) TF Division).

Killed in action 1<sup>st</sup> December 1917, during the German counter-attack phase in the Battle of Cambrai 30<sup>th</sup> November 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

He was the 26 year old son of William Bennicke Broad and Rosina Jane Broad, of Elm Grove House., 61, Victoria Road, Bridgwater.

William Broad was previously wounded at Suvla Bay, Gallipoli .

Cambrai Memorial to the 7,048 'Missing' of the Battle of Cambrai November/ December 1917. Nord, France. Panel 11.

### **Broughton**

S

Private

3308

7<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K1) Gloucestershire Regiment.

(39<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 13<sup>th</sup> (Western) Division).

Died of wounds in Mesopotamia, 4<sup>th</sup> February 1917.

Probably during the Battle of Kut-al-Amara 13<sup>th</sup> December 1916-25<sup>th</sup> February 1916.

The 13<sup>th</sup> (Western) Division arrived at Basra from Gallipoli on the 27<sup>th</sup> February 1916 and moved up the Tigris to become part of Tigris Corps and was involved in the third final unsuccessful attempt to relieve Major General Townshend's 6<sup>th</sup> Indian (Poona)

Division that had been trapped at Kut for 143 days

He was the 21 year old son of Mrs Alice Bloodworth, of 13, Cecil Terrace, Westonzoyland Road, Bridgwater.

Amara War Cemetery, Iraq.

Plot XXIV. Row B Grave 2.

### **Brooks**

Albert John

Private

413989

900<sup>th</sup> Area Employment Company Labour Corps.

Died in France 16<sup>th</sup> March 1918.

(formerly 9902 Somerset Light Infantry).

The CWGC was not notified the next of kin.

St Sever Cemetery Extension Rouen, Seine-Inf, France.

Block P. Plot V. Row R. Grave 4A.

**Brooks**

Clifford

Private

14733

7<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K2) Somerset Light Infantry.

(61<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade 20<sup>th</sup> (Light) Division).

Died (H)= in the UK 11<sup>th</sup> June 1916.

**The 1901 Census records**

Son of William E. (38) and Emily. J. (33)

William. C. 6.

**Clifford. 3.**

Doris. H. 2 months.

They are living in the Locking Road, WSM.

Shorncliffe Military Cemetery, Kent.

O. 411.

**Brooks**

Reginald

Private

**14734**

“A” Company 7<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K2) Somerset Light Infantry.

(61<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade 20<sup>th</sup> Light Division).

Killed in action 16<sup>th</sup> September 1916 during the Battle of Flers/Courcelette, Somme

September 15<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>.

The Battle of Flers-Courcelette was a major attempt by divisions of Rawlinson's

Fourth Army to break through on the Somme in the direction of Bapaume.

After a three day bombardment, the attack supported by tanks went in on a 12 mile front from Combles to the valley of the Ancre and beyond.

12 Divisions including the Canadian Corps and the New Zealand Division

The much hoped for break-through did not occur, however, an advance of between

1,000 and 2,000 yards was made, and the villages of Flers (41<sup>st</sup> Division),

Courcelette, and Martinpuich were captured and High Wood was finally cleared by

the 47<sup>th</sup> (London) Territorial Division.

**The 20<sup>th</sup> (Light) Division** was under orders of the G.O.C. Guards Division opposite

Lesboeufs east of the village of Flers.

The 59<sup>th</sup> Brigade could put only 900 rifles in the line facing Lesboeufs owing to the late hour the orders were received on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Both the 59<sup>th</sup> and 61<sup>st</sup> Brigades had no time to complete assembly before dawn on the 16<sup>th</sup> as a result they had to face heavy and very accurate machine gun and minnenwerfer fire which caused many casualties.

The 7<sup>th</sup> Somersets themselves suffered 65 killed in action and many wounded.

Lesboeufs was eventually captured by the Guards on the 25<sup>th</sup> September.

Reginald Brooks was the 26 years old son of the late James Brooks of Bridgwater.

**The 1901 Census records**

Son of James (53) and Elizabeth Brooks. (63)

**Reginald is 19 born about 1882.**

Florrie. 26.

They are living at 13, Eastover Bridgwater.

Reginald Brooks unfortunately has no known grave being commemorated on the

Thiepval Memorial to the 'Missing' of The Somme.

**Note consecutive regimental numbers above which indicates they joined up together.**

**Bullock**

Edward Rudolph  
Leading Stoker  
K/13643

H.M.S. "Bittern" Royal Navy.

Died on Thursday the 4<sup>th</sup> April 1918.

The Destroyer H.M.S. "Bittern" was lost as a result of a collision off the Shetlands on the 30<sup>th</sup> June 1917.

He was 25, the husband of Flossie Gertrude Bullock, of 86, Barclay Street, Bridgwater, Somerset.  
Portsmouth Naval Memorial.

**Burge**

Leonard  
Private  
29380

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 29<sup>th</sup> August 1918 during the Second Battles of Arras, 26<sup>th</sup> August-September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The CWGC was not notified the next of kin.  
Dury Crucifix Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France.  
Plot III. Row H. Grave 10.

**Burge**

William Henry  
Private  
295197

12<sup>th</sup> (West Somerset Yeomanry) Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(229<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 74<sup>th</sup> (Yeomanry) Division).

Killed in action in Palestine 6<sup>th</sup> November 1917 during the capture of the Sheria position in the advance toward Jerusalem.  
(formerly 1087 West Somerset Yeomanry).

William Burge was the 24 year old son of William and Annie Burge, of Floodgate, Goathurst, Bridgwater.  
Beersheba War Cemetery, Israel.  
Row L. Grave 70.

**Burgess**

James  
Private  
3/6407

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 7<sup>th</sup> July 1915.

James Burgess was the 20 year old brother of John Burgess, of 67, Devonshire Street, Bridgwater.  
Ploegsteert Memorial, Comines-Warneton, Hainaut, West Flanders, Belgium. Panel 3.

**Burke**

Edward James

1<sup>st</sup> Class Boy

H.M.S. "Indefatigable" Royal Navy.

Killed in action during the Battle of Jutland on Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> May 1916.

H.M.S "Indefatigable" was sunk as a result of heavy shell striking one of the main turret's sending flash down the ammunition hoist into the magazine igniting the cordite there resulting in a massive explosion. 1,022 of her crew were lost  
Edward Burke was the 17 year old son of Mr and Mrs S. Burke, of 28, West Street, Bridgwater.

Portsmouth Naval Memorial Panel 13.

**Burnell**

Rolland Alister

Private

165708

6<sup>th</sup> (Inniskilling) Dragoon Guards.

(7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Brigade 3<sup>rd</sup> Cavalry Division transferred to ??).

Killed in action 8<sup>th</sup> August 1918 during The Battle of Amiens August 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>.

(formerly 188 North Somerset Yeomanry).

The 8<sup>th</sup> of August was described by Ludendorf as the "Black Day of the German Army" it was an attack from which the German did not recover.

Rolland Burnell was the 30 year old son of Albert and Rose Burnell, of Bridgwater; husband of Frances, M Burnell, Ashcombe House, Ashleigh Avenue, Bridgwater.

Vis-en-Artois Memorial, Haucourt, France. Panel 2.

**Butt**

David

Private

17612

8<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K3) Somerset Light Infantry.

(63<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 37<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action on the 28<sup>th</sup> April 1917, during the Battle of Arleux 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> April, 1917.

Arleux, a village NE of Arras was captured by troops of the Canadian 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Divisions.

Arras Memorial. Bay 4.



**Caple**

Harry

Lance/Corporal

16100

9<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K2) Royal Welsh Fusiliers.

58<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 19<sup>th</sup> (Western) Division).

Killed in action 25<sup>th</sup> September 1915. during the Battle of Loos September 25<sup>th</sup>-October 8<sup>th</sup>, 1915.

**The Battle of Loos, Sept 25<sup>th</sup> October 8<sup>th</sup> 1915.**

Was fought on the insistence of the British government and Secretary of State Lord Kitchener, despite strong opposition by the military commanders Field Marshall Lord French and General Douglas Haigh, who both stressed the unsuitability of the area to offensive operations.

Loos-en-Gohelle is situated on the Lens coalfield in an area of closely packed mining villages, pithead structures and spoil heaps, an area of complicated industrial activity much favouring defence. The objections by the military commanders were over-ruled.

The French, who had borne the major share in the war thus far, suffering enormous casualties required British support on the left flank of their Tenth Army offensive around Arras. The British military commanders planned their attack, the success of which depended almost entirely on the successful use of gas to be discharged from a thousand cylinders labouriously brought up by night over two weeks prior to the and positioned in the front line trenches. The reason for the use of gas on such a scale was

twofold (a) the B.E.F were desperately short of artillery ammunition and had few heavy guns with which to pound communication centres behind enemy lines (b) it was hoped to cause considerable surprise being the first time of use by British forces. However nearly 1,000 guns were made available for a four day preliminary bombardment, Six divisions were brought forward for the assault the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> (Scottish) 15<sup>th</sup> (Scottish) and 47<sup>th</sup> London TF plus the 21<sup>st</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> New Army divisions who had only arrived in France on September 15<sup>th</sup> and who were in reserve in billets some 16 miles behind the front These two divisions, tired after their march from Le Harvre were released from reserve and reached the front on the late evening of the first day During the following days the 19<sup>th</sup> (Western) 28<sup>th</sup> Guards, 12<sup>th</sup> 28<sup>th</sup>, Meerut and 3<sup>rd</sup> Cavalry Divisions

The attack commenced on the 25<sup>th</sup> with the release of gas which drifted on a gentle breeze across no mans land elsewhere with little breeze the gas accumulated in a great cloud and remained stationary in no mans land placing the attacking infantry in jeopardy. At 6.30 the infantry rose from their trenches and advanced in the face of murderous machine gun and rifle fire toward their separate objectives. The 15<sup>th</sup> (Scottish) division swept through the enemy defences lost but direction in the mist and smoke and became entangled with the division on its flank both becoming isolated

The history of the Battle of Loos is extensive and too involved to detail here involving bravery and huge casualties resulting in much controversy it resulted in the final destruction of the original regular army divisions of the British army

Field Marshall French was blamed by Haigh for holding his reserves too far back (21<sup>st</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Divisions) such that they were not available at the critical phase. French was relieved of his command and Haigh took his place. During the battle eight British generals became casualties, five of them fatally, which dispels the myth that the generals remained out of danger. British casualties were 59,247 the great majority of whom fell on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> September. According to the 1901 Census Harry Caple who is aged 24 and born about 1877 is a lodger in the household of George and Kate Bowders at Chapel House Compton Bishop.

That would make him 39 at death which is old for an infantryman and therefore open to doubt as to identification. Loos Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Panels 50-55.

### **Caple**

William James

Private

18710

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Grenadier Guards.

(3<sup>rd</sup> Guards Brigade Guards Division).

Killed in action 7<sup>th</sup> October 1915 during the Battle of Loos September 25<sup>th</sup>-October 8<sup>th</sup>.  
He was the 29 year old son of Francis and Mary Ann Caple, of 34, Mount Street, Bridgwater.  
Loos Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Panels 5-7.

? brother to Harry above.

### **Carver**

Sidney Walter

Private

14713

7<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K2) Somerset Light Infantry.

(61<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade 20<sup>th</sup> Light Division). Killed in action 13<sup>th</sup> July 1918 the 61<sup>st</sup> Brigade was engaged in bringing forward 4,000 gas cylinders in preoaration for an attack. Tournai Communal Allied Extension, Hainaut, Belgium.

Plot III. Row H. Grave 15.

### **Cattle**

Ernest Wyndham

Able Seaman

J/24374

H.M.S. "Acasta" Royal Navy.

Died on Saturday the 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1917.

The 1,350 ton Destroyer H.M.S. "Acasta" together with her sister ship "Ardent" were operating in the Norwegian Sea as escort to the Aircraft Carrier "Glorious" which were protecting the evacuation of British troops from Norway.

All three ships were sunk by the guns of the "Scharnhort" and "Gniesenau" with huge loss of life.

He was the son of Edward and Sarah Cattle, of 6, All Saints Terrace, Bridgwater.

Plymouth Naval Memorial. Panel 21.

### **Cattle**

Frederick Thomas John

Rifleman

A/202949

17<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (British Empire League King's Royal Rifle Corps.

(117<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 35<sup>th</sup> (Bantam) Division).

Killed in action 18<sup>th</sup> November 1917., 2<sup>nd</sup> Paschendaele.

**The 1901 Census reveals that Frederick and Ernest are brothers.**

They are the sons of Edward, (37) and Sarah Cattle

Walter. 16. Edward. 11.

Elizabeth. 9. Eva. 7.

**Frederick. 3 born about 1898.**

Albert. W. 1.

**Ernest. 5. Born about 1896.**

**Born, Staplegrave, resident Taunton St James.**

Tyne Cot Memorial, Passchendaele, West Flanders, Belgium. Panels 115-119 and 162 and 163A.

**Chard**

Charles Norman  
Private  
260056

7<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K2) Alexandra Princess of Wales's Yorkshire Regiment.  
(50<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 50<sup>th</sup> (Northumbrian) Division).  
Died in France 4<sup>th</sup> August 1917.

Charles Chard was the 26 year old son of Charles and Marriane Chard, of "Parkside"  
13, Durleigh Road, Bridgwater.  
Sunken Road Cemetery, Fampoux, Arras.  
Plot 1. Row C. Grave 13.

**Chedzey**

Clifford Edward  
Lance/Corporal  
34886

6<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K1) Somerset Light Infantry.  
(43<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 14<sup>th</sup> (Light) Division).

Killed in action 9<sup>th</sup> April 1917 during the 1<sup>st</sup> Battle of The Scarpe Arras. April 9<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>  
1917.

London Cemetery, Neuville Vitasse, near Arras, Pas de Calais, France.  
Plot II. Row F. Grave 15.

**Chick**

Robert G  
Sapper  
140507

126<sup>th</sup> Field Company Royal Engineers.  
(21<sup>st</sup> Division).

Died of wounds 12<sup>th</sup> July 1916.

Robert Chick was the 21 year old son of Thomas Chick, of 106, Chilton Street,  
Bridgwater.  
Thiepval Memorial. Pier and Face 8A and 8D.

**Chick**

Walter John  
Private  
30846

2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Devonshire Regiment.  
(23<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 8<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 31<sup>st</sup> July 1917 during the attack on Westhoek Ridge  
Third Battles of Ypres 31<sup>st</sup> July-10<sup>th</sup> November, 1917.

Walter Chick was the 21 year old son of William and Alice Chick, of Queen Street,  
Bridgwater.  
Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial. Panel 21.

**Chick**

William Henry

Private

268947

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Black Watch.

(1<sup>st</sup> (Highland) Brigade 1<sup>st</sup> Division).

Killed in action 18<sup>th</sup> October 1918, during the Battle of The Selle October 17<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>. in  
the Final Advance to Victory.

Busigny Communal Cemetery Extension, near Le Cateau, Nord, France..

Plot 1. Row D. Grave 12.

**Chidgey**

Walter Thomas

Private

16682

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action in Flanders 13<sup>th</sup> June 1915.

Born Stogursey. **Under Nether Stowey on Somerset Memorial.**

Talana Farm Cemetery, Boesinghe, West Flanders, Belgium.

Plot 1. Row D. Grave 4.

**Chinn**

Sidney James.

652820

1<sup>st</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> TF Bn London Regiment (1<sup>st</sup> Surrey Rifles).

Killed in action 10<sup>th</sup> June 1918.

Aged 31, he was the son of Stephen and Blanche Chinn, of 36, Bristol Road,  
Bridgwater.

**The 1901 Census records.**

Son of Stephen and Blanche Chiin.

Florence. 15.

**Sidney. I. 14. Born about 1887.**

Mabel. 13.

Lilian. 8

The family are living in 107. Bristol Road, Bridgwater.

Eastover St James Parish.

Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial. Panel. 54.

**Chubb**

Oliver Job (John Canada).

Private

180602

29<sup>th</sup> Battalion Canadian Infantry (British Columbia) Regiment. Canadian Expeditionary Force.

Died Home, = in the UK 17<sup>th</sup> December 1918. His Canadian records are located in RG 150

Accession 1992-93/166 Box 1707 21 sheets. He was born 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1888.

Next of kin Mrs Ellen Ferrett (his sister) or similar of The Coach and Horses Charlton Street,  
Bridgwater. Labourer. Enlisted in Victoria, British Columbia. On the 17<sup>th</sup> November 1915.

Oliver Chubb was the 33 year old son of Job and Louisa Chubb, of 3, Barclay Place,

Bridgwater, Somerset.

Bridgwater (St John's) Cemetery.

Ref 1. 2867.

**Cockerell**

Charles James

Private

29458

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry.

Killed in action 6<sup>th</sup> November 1917.

(14<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 5<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 6<sup>th</sup> November 1917 during the Second Battle of Passchendaele, 26<sup>th</sup> October-November 10<sup>th</sup>.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Battle of Passchendaele which resulted in the capture of the remains of Passchendaele village and the ridge which had dominated British positions in the Salient for so long brought to an end the 5 month long 3<sup>rd</sup> Ypres offensive.

Charles Cockerell was the 24 year old son of Mr G. Cockerell, of 7, West Quay, Bridgwater.

Tyne Cot Memorial, Passchendaele, West Flanders, Belgium. Panels 80-82 and 163A.

**Coggan**

W R

Sergeant

S/18202

"I" Supply Company Royal Army Service Corps.

Died 29<sup>th</sup> July 1920 Age 38.

Bridgwater (St John's) Cemetery Ref 3 1557.

**Not on the Somerset County Memorial.**

**May not be on the Bridgwater War Memorial**

**Coles**

Albert Edward

2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade attached 11<sup>th</sup> Trench Mortar Battery 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 4<sup>th</sup> October 1917 during the Battle of Broodseinde 5<sup>th</sup> in the series battles of 3<sup>rd</sup> Ypres.

**The Battle of Broodseinde 4<sup>th</sup> October 1917.**

On the morning of the 4<sup>th</sup> October 12 Divisions attacked high ground along a front of 14,000 yards E of Ypres and NE of the Menin Road. The operation involved the 37<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Australian and the New Zealand Division the 48<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> Divisions.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Division, which included the 1<sup>st</sup> Somerset and the 29<sup>th</sup> Division were involved in a minor roll in the vicinity of Poelcapelle.

All objectives having been taken including the capture of Broodseinde Ridge General Plumer closed the battle down by 2 pm

Conditions in the Salient were described as appalling.

The Battle of Broodseinde was very largely an Australian success story On the early morning of the 4<sup>th</sup> October twelve divisions attacked high ground along a front of 14,000 yards. east of Ypres and north-east of the Menin road. The operation involved the 37<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Australian and the New Zealand divisions the 48<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and lastly the 4<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> divisions The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and New Zealand Divisions of the ANZAC Corps and the 7<sup>th</sup> Division assaulted the Broodseinde Ridge and by mid-morning had achieved their objective The 4<sup>th</sup> Division which included 1<sup>st</sup> SLI and the 29<sup>th</sup> who were in (IV Corps Fifth Army) were involved in a minor supporting role on the left flank in the vicinity of Poelcapelle. All their objectives having been taken

By 2pm the battle was closed down .  
Conditions around the Salient were appalling, a scene of total desolation with  
overlapping water filled craters  
He was the 20 year old son of Albert Edward and Ida Belle Coles, of “The Gables”  
Hamp, Bridgwater.  
Tyne Cot Memorial. Passchendaele, Ypres, West Flanders, Belgium.

**Collard** E. Not found.  
No SDGW.

Could be son of Abel and Eliza Collard who had sons  
Frederick J. 15. and Ernest R. also 15.  
Victoria Terrace, Rhode Lane  
Bwtr Holy Trinity.

**Conduit** William Henry Driver Royal Field Artillery.  
Not found.

**Coombes** D.W. Not found.

**Cousins**

George Henry  
Private  
30199

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.  
(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 30<sup>th</sup> August 1918 during the Second Battles of Arras.  
George Cousins was the 25 year old son of Thomas and Maria Cousins, of Bickford  
Lane, Teignmouth, Devon.  
Eterpigny British Cemetery, near Arras, Pas de Calas.  
Row A. Grave 12.

**Cox**

Tom  
Private  
TR8/21434

53<sup>rd</sup> Battalion Hampshire Regiment.  
Died of Pneumonia 31<sup>st</sup> October 1918.

Tom Cox was the 18 year old son of Ellen Cox, of 10, Christmas Steps, Bristol, and  
the late William Humphrey Cox, of Bridgwater,  
Bridgwater (Wembdon) Cemetery.

**Creech**

William  
Private  
27169

7<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K2) Somerset Light Infantry.  
(61<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade 20<sup>th</sup> Light Division).

Killed in action 7<sup>th</sup> October 1916 during the Battle of Le Transloy, 12<sup>th</sup> in the series of major Battles of the Somme over the period July 1<sup>st</sup>-November 10<sup>th</sup> 1916. Having successfully advanced their line to a more favourable position on the forward slopes of the Le Transloy Ridge and consolidated positions between 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> October the next plan was to capture the ridge thus giving observation over the enemy positions on the reverse of the ridge. This next operation was put into operation on the 7<sup>th</sup> with the 1<sup>st</sup> objective being Rainbow Trench followed by Cloudy Trench.

The Somerset's were in support of the 12<sup>th</sup> King's (Liverpool) and the 7<sup>th</sup> King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. The leading Companies advanced "as though on Salisbury Plain" and immediately came under heavy fire as soon as they reached the crest of the slope 20 yards short of the enemy wire. On the 60<sup>th</sup> Brigade front casualties were heavy, wire had not been entirely cut. On 61<sup>st</sup> Brigade front the wire was less of an obstacle but battalions suffered from very severe rifle and machine gun fire and some hand to hand fighting ensued before those who were unable to get away were finally driven out of their position.

See History of the 20<sup>th</sup> (Light) Division.

William Creech was the son of James and Eliza Jane Creech, of East Quantoxhead, Bridgwater.

Thiepval Memorial to the 73,000 'Missing' of the Somme.  
Pier and Face 2A.

**Creedy**

Henry J. T.  
Private  
9301

2nd Battalion Dorsetshire Regiment.  
(21<sup>st</sup> Indian Infantry Brigade 7<sup>th</sup> Indian Division).

Killed in action in Mesopotamia 31<sup>st</sup> December 1916.  
Basra Memorial, Iraq. Panels 22 and 63.

**Cross**

Henry James  
Driver  
T4/071613

248 Horse Transport Company. Royal Army Service Corps.  
(29<sup>th</sup> Divisional Train No 3 Company H.T).

Killed in action 29<sup>th</sup> April 1915.

He was the 20 year old son of Isaac and Emma Cross, of 24, St John Street, Bridgwater.

Helles Memorial, Turkey. Addenda Panel.

### **Crossman**

Arthur Edward  
Company Sergeant Major.  
14864

12<sup>th</sup> (Service) (Bristol) Battalion Gloucestershire Regiment.  
(95<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 32<sup>nd</sup> Division).

Killed in action in France 25<sup>th</sup> August 1918, during the Second Battles of the Somme.

Arthur Crossman was the 31 year old son of W.J and I. Crossman, of Bridgwater;  
husband of E. Nash, (formerly Crossman), of "Woodbine Villa", Wood Street, Ash  
Vale, Aldershot, Hampshire.

Queen's Cemetery, Bucquoy, Pas de Calais, France.  
Plot III. Row E. Grave 14.

### **Crossman**

Sidney Francis  
Corporal  
H/8448

14<sup>th</sup> The King's Hussars.  
Died 18<sup>th</sup> November 1918.

Sidney Crossman was the 24 year old son of Mr and Mrs W.J. Crossman, of 12,  
Church Path, Bridgwater.

The 14<sup>th</sup> Hussars served in Mesopotamia from November 1915 where they were  
under the orders of 6<sup>th</sup> Indian Cavalry Brigade until May 1918 when the regiment left  
for Persia.

Buried Muttra Cemetery and commemorated on the Madras 1914-1918 Memorial,  
Chennai, Face 2.

### **Culverwell**

Cecil  
Lance/Corporal  
Ply/1984

2<sup>nd</sup> Royal Marine Battalion Royal Marine Light Infantry.  
(63<sup>rd</sup> (Royal Naval) Division).

Killed in action 28<sup>th</sup> April 1917 during the Battle of Arleux (Arras), April 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>  
1917.

Involving the 2<sup>nd</sup>, **63<sup>rd</sup> (Royal Naval)**, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 34<sup>th</sup>, 37<sup>th</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Canadian  
Divisions. The village situated NE of Arras was captured by the Canadians.

Cecil Culverwell was the 23 year old son of Edward and Sarah Ann Culverwell, of  
107, Chilton Street, Bridgwater.

Arras Memorial to the 35,928 'Missing' who fell in the Battles of Arras, Vimy Ridge,  
1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Battles of the Scarpe, Battles of Arleux, Bullecourt, Hill 70 and all the  
RFC and RAF 'Missing'.

Bay 1



**Culverwell**

Thomas J.  
Sergeant  
175641

257<sup>th</sup> Tunnelling Company Royal Engineers.

Died 22<sup>nd</sup> January 1918.

Thomas Culverwell was the 29 year old son of Henry Culverwell,; husband of Ellen Elizabeth Culverwell, of 40, Wellington Road, Bridgwater.  
Mendinghem British Military Cemetery, Proven, West Flanders, Belgium.  
Plot 1X. Row C. Grave 32.

**Cummings**

Henry  
Sergeant  
T4/056722

29<sup>th</sup> Divisional Train Royal Army Service Corps.

Died (H)=in the UK 6<sup>th</sup> April 1915.

Henry Cummings was the husband of Sarah Pollard (formerly Cummings), of 7, Potter Street , Newport, Mon. Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery (Church portion).  
Plot I. Row 6. Grave 35

**Cummings**

John  
Private  
25834

7<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K2) Somerset Light Infantry.

(61<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade 20<sup>th</sup> Light Division).

Killed in action in Flanders 16<sup>th</sup> August 1917, during the Battle of Langemarck 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> August. 2<sup>nd</sup> in the series of major battles of the Third Battles of Ypres (Passchendaele).

Tyne Cot Memorial, Passchendaele, West Flanders, Belgium. Panels 41-42 and 163A.

**Dart**

William John  
Private  
302302

13<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K2) Durham Light Infantry.

(68<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 23<sup>rd</sup> Division).

Died of wounds 27<sup>th</sup> December 1917

Giavera British Cemetery, Italy.

Plot 6. Row A. Grave G6.

**Davey**

Henry

Private

19993

7<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K2) Somerset Light Infantry.

(61<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade 20<sup>th</sup> (Light) Division).

Killed in action near the villages of Motauban/Guillemont of 25<sup>th</sup> August 1916 during the Battle of the Somme.

Thiepval Memorial. Pier and face 2A.

**David**

William Arthur

Private

22478

6<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K1) Somerset Light Infantry.

(43<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 14<sup>th</sup> Light Division).

Killed in action 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1916 during the Battle of Guillemont, Somme  
September 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>.

William David was the 31 year old son of William and Maria David; husband of Rhoda Castle (formerly David), of Silver Street, Burrowbridge, Somerset.

Lonsdale Cemetery, Authuille, Somme.

Plot III. Row A. Grave 3.

**Denning**

Arthur

Lance/Corporal

728

1<sup>st</sup>/1<sup>st</sup> West Somerset Yeomanry.

(6<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Brigade 3<sup>rd</sup> Cavalry Division).

Died during the Palestine campaign 7<sup>th</sup> July 1916.

Cairo War Cemetery, Egypt.

Row H. Grave 53.

**Recorded under Chedzoy on County Memorial.**

**Dennett**

William John Charles

Lance Corporal

3/6770

7<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K2) Somerset Light Infantry.

(61<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade 20<sup>th</sup> (Light) Division).

Killed in action on Friday, the 30<sup>th</sup> November 1917 during the powerful German counter-attack phase of the Battle of Cambrai, November 20<sup>th</sup>-December 5<sup>th</sup>, 1917.

**The Battle of Cambrai 20<sup>th</sup> November-7<sup>th</sup> December, 1917.**

20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> November The Tank Attack.

21<sup>st</sup> November The Recapture of Noyelles.

23<sup>rd</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> November Capture of Bourslon Wood.

**30<sup>th</sup> November-3<sup>rd</sup> December The German Counter-Attack.**

**30<sup>th</sup> November Attack on Gouzeaucourt.**

1<sup>st</sup> December Attack on Villers Guislain and Gauche Wood.

30<sup>h</sup> December Welch Ridge..

The British Third Army under the command of General Byng attacked at Cambrai on November 20<sup>th</sup> without a preliminary bombardment, relying on the mass use of tanks

and the element of surprise to breakthrough the Hindenburg Line defences before  
Cambrai

The attack was initially successful, tanks burst through the massive wire entanglements  
of the Hindenburg Line, Bournon Wood and the villages of Bournon, Trescault and  
Ribecourt were captured and British forces came to within 2 miles of Cambrai

In the UK the attack was prematurely hailed as a triumph.

The attack however almost ended in disaster when powerful German counter-attacks  
on the flanks of the sector recaptured most of the British gains.

Metz-en-Couture Communal Cemetery British Extension, Pas de Calais, France.

Plot IV. Row A. Grave 17.

### **Dennett**

Reginald Francis Arthur

Sergeant

9276

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Died of wounds 19<sup>th</sup> November 1914.

Bailleul Communal Cemetery, Nord, France.

Special Memorial. Row B. Grave 1.

### **Dewdney**

Samuel Ernest

Private

G/96307

Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment. posted to 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion London  
Regiment.

(140<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 47<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> London) Territorial Division).

Killed in action 8<sup>th</sup> August 1918

(formerly 2456 West Somerset Yeomanry).

Samuel Dewdney was the 34 year old son of Albert and Hannah Dewdney, of 115,  
Victoria Road, Bridgwater; husband of Gladys M. Dewdney, of 43, Victoria Road  
Bridgwater.

Vis-en-Artois Memorial Haucourt, Pas de Calais, France. Panels 8-9.

### **Dibble**

C

Private

235135

4<sup>th</sup> Battalion Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry.

Died 7<sup>th</sup> May **1921**. Age 31.

He was the husband of Constance Beatrice Dibble, of 88, Polden Street, Bridgwater.  
Bridgwater (St John's) Cemetery. Ref 1 2851.

May not be on the Bridgwater War Memorial

**Dingley**

Harry  
Private  
13969

9<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K2) Devonshire Regiment.  
(20<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 7<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 6<sup>th</sup> September 1916 during the Battle of Guillemont 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> September  
Battle of the Somme.  
Thiepval Memorial. Pier and Face 1C.

**Doble**

George William  
Sapper  
256209

26<sup>th</sup> Railway Workshop Company Royal Engineers.

Killed in action in Flanders 21<sup>st</sup> October 1917.  
Reninghelst Military Cemetery, near Poperinge, West Flanders, Belgium.  
Plot IV. Row C. Grave 26,

**Dowdeswell**

Frederick James  
Rifleman  
345033

6<sup>th</sup> (County of London) Battalion (Rifles) The London Regiment attached to the 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Battalion Kings Royal Rifle Corps..

(140<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 47<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> London) Territorial Division).  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade 1<sup>st</sup> Division 2<sup>nd</sup> KRRC).

Killed in action in France 29<sup>th</sup> September 1918  
He was the 32 year old son of Edith Dowdeswell, of 54, Victoria Road, Bridgwater  
and the late F.T. Dowdeswell.  
(formerly 594740 18<sup>th</sup> London).

Vis-en-Artois Memorial, Haucourt, Arras. Panel 9.

**Duddridge**

Charles  
Sapper  
1159

1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> (Wessex) Field Company Royal Engineers.  
(13<sup>th</sup> (Western) Division).

Died at Gallipoli 13<sup>th</sup> July 1916.  
Mikra British Cemetery, Kalamaria Greece.  
Ref 1378.

**Duddridge**

Henry

**DCM,**

**Croix de Geurre (Belgium)**

Sergeant

201379

7<sup>th</sup> Battalion Machie Gun Corps (Tanks).

Killed in action 30<sup>th</sup> September 1918.

He was the 33 year old son of William and Ellen Duddridge of Bridgwater; husband of Florence Kate Duddridge of Taunton Road, Bridgwater, Canada Cemetery, Tilloy-Les- Cambrai.  
Plot II. Row E. Grave 6.

**Durrant**

Frederick John

Lance Corporal

13888

2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Wiltshire Regiment.

( 21<sup>st</sup> Brigade 7<sup>th</sup> Division).

Died 14<sup>th</sup> October 1915.

On the 14<sup>th</sup> The Bn marched to Les Harisoirs and went into billets there.

He was the 21 year old son of Edward and Mary Ann Durrant. Native of Eydon, Byfield, Northants.

Cambrin Churchyard Extension, Pas de Calais, France.

Row H. Grave 30.

**Dyer B** no details.

**No Dyer B on the Somerset County Memorial**

**No SDGW**

**The 1901 Census record**

**Bertie the son of John and Mary Dyer.**

**Bertie is 18 Born about 1883.**

**Annie. 15.**

**Rose. 13.**

**Dyke**

Bernard.

66837

3<sup>rd</sup> (Reserve) Battalion Devonshire Regiment.

Died (H)=in the UK 18<sup>th</sup> January 1918

Bernard Dyke was the 21 year old son of Albert John and Edith Lucy Dyke, of Parkstone House, Dawlish, Devon. Born at Bridgwater. Died at Tregantle Fort, Antony, Cornwall . The Rev. W.E. Catlow buried him in a new grave at WRC on 18<sup>th</sup> January 1918. Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery (Church portion).

Plot IV. Row 8. Grave 2.

*[Additional Research by Mr. Harry Frost]*

**Dymond**

Charles Henry

Private

252920.

**19<sup>th</sup>**(Service) Battalion (K?) Manchester Regiment.

(21<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade Division).

Killed in action 29<sup>th</sup> October 1918 during the Final Advance in Flanders.

He was the 36 year old son of Mrs Lucy Mason (formerly Dymond) of 1, New Road,  
Eastover, Bridgwater.

Dottines Communal Cemetery, near Courtrai.

Plot 1. Row B. Grave 4.

**Edgar**

John Maxwell

Captain

4<sup>th</sup> Battalion South Staffordshire Regiment.

(7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 25<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1918, (Battle of Bapaume) during the German Spring  
offensive in Picardy March 21<sup>st</sup>-April 3<sup>rd</sup> 1918.

He was one of four officers of the battalion killed in the battle.

On the 21<sup>st</sup> March 1918, three German Armies attacked on a forty mile front with 32  
divisions, and another 39 divisions in reserve, with the aim of winning the war. The  
British facing this massive offensive force had only 14 Infantry divisions on Byng's  
Third Army front of 26 miles and 3 Cavalry Divisions and 14 Infantry Divisions on  
Gough's Fifth Army Front of 42 miles. The Fifth Army bore the brunt of the attack.  
Ludendorff's aim was to split the British and French armies by driving on Amiens, an  
objective in which they almost succeeded.

Allied reserves arrived in the nick of time and the line was stabilised after a retreat of  
up to 40 miles to within 5 miles of Amiens. The Germans squandered their reserves  
and began to experience supply problems.

The British suffered huge losses in men and munitions.

General Gough was blamed for the Fifth Army debacle and was sacked by Haigh  
following political pressure.

John Edgar was the 30 year old son of John and Margaret Miller Edgar, of 48,  
Whirlowdale Road, Sheffield.

A Schoolmaster M.A. Hons Edinburgh University. O.T.C Gazette March 1915.  
Arras Memorial Bay .

**Elver**

Edwin John

Private

6694

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action in France 26<sup>th</sup> August 1914 during the Battle of Le Cateau.

Ex "Soldiers Died" Check the County Roll

Edwin Elver who was born at Walton near Street, Glastonbury, was the 29 year old  
son of Joseph Thomas Elver, of Bridgwater; husband of Annie Davies (formerly  
Eolve) of 7, Lansdown Road, Pwllgwaun, Pontypridd.

La Ferte-sous-Jouarre Memorial. to the 3,987 'Missing' of the Battles of Mons, Le  
Cateau, The Marne and the Aisne, 1914. France.

Seine-et-Maritime, France.

**Emery**

Frank  
Private  
202524

No 5 Company 2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.  
(232<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division 75<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action during the Battle of Berukin, Palestine 9<sup>th</sup> April 1918  
Frank Emery was the 20 year old son of Mr and Mrs William Emery, of 44, Redgate  
Street, Bridgwater.  
Ramleh War Cemetery, Israel.  
Row T. Grave 23.

**Evans**

Robert  
Private  
38449

2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Highland Light Infantry.  
(5<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 2<sup>nd</sup> Division).

Killed in action in France 6<sup>th</sup> December 1917.  
Robert Evans was the 30 year old husband of Lilla J. Evans, of 59, Wellington Road,  
Bridgwater.  
Hermes Hill British Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France.  
Plot 1. Row D. Grave 2.

**Farthing**

Henry James  
Private  
85528

15<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K?) Durham Light Infantry.  
(64<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 21<sup>st</sup> Division).

Killed in action on the Somme 9<sup>th</sup> September 1918  
Henry Farthing was the 20 year old son of Henry Farthing, of 118, Wellington Road,  
Bridgwater.  
Vis-en-Artois Memorial, Haucourt, Arras Panel 9.

**Fender**

Henry  
Private  
59852

24<sup>th</sup> (Denbighshire Yeomanry) Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers.  
(231<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade 74<sup>th</sup> (Yeomanry) Division).

Killed in action in Palestine 31<sup>st</sup> October 1917, during the capture of Beersheba by  
XX Corps.  
(formerly T/1684 RASC).  
Beersheba War Cemetery, Israel.  
Row K. Grave 38.

**Fender**

Willie

Driver

T4/213575

485 Motor Transport Company Royal Army Service Corps.

(54<sup>th</sup> (East Anglian) T.F Division).

Died on active service 1<sup>st</sup> August 1919.

Haidar Pasha Cemetery, Turkey.

Plot 1. Row F. Grave 15.

**Fender**

Bertie

Private

20402

6<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K1) Somerset Light Infantry.

(43<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 14<sup>th</sup> (Light) Division).

Killed in action 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1917 during the German retreat to the Hindenburg Line.

14<sup>th</sup> March-5<sup>th</sup> April, 1918.

Bertie Fender was the son of Mr H. G. Fender, of 76, Barday Street, Bridgwater.

Beaurains Road Cemetery, near Bapaume, Pas de Calais, France.

Row D. Grave 24.

**Fooks**

Percy

Sergeant

12809

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Devonshire Regiment.

(8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 3<sup>rd</sup> Division).

Killed in action near Arras. 9<sup>th</sup> May 1917

Percy Fooks was the son of Mrs Harris, husband of Emily Louisa Phillips (formerly Fooks) of 59, Benedict Street, Glastonbury.

Arras Memorial. Bay 4.

**Forbes D K**

**No CWGC**

**No SDGW.**

**Ford**

Albert

Corporal

202277

7<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K2) Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry.

(61<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade 20<sup>th</sup> (Light) Division).

Died 2<sup>nd</sup> April 1918 following the Division's involvement in the "Kaisers Battle" which commenced on 21<sup>st</sup> March

The 20<sup>th</sup> Light was withdrawn to the Lens Avion Sector for rest and refit commencing 2<sup>nd</sup> April to 8<sup>th</sup> October.

Grand Seracourt Cemetery, Aisne, France.

Plot IV. Row J. Grave II.



**Ford**

Tom  
Private  
10394

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.  
(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action during the Battle of the Somme 8<sup>th</sup> August 1916.  
He was the 34 year old son of Frederick and Rebecca Ford; husband of Ellen Ford, of  
16, Court, West Street, Bridgwater.  
Essex Farm Cemetery, Boesinghe, Ypres, West Flanders, Belgium.  
Plot III. Row B. Grave 31.

**Ford**

Walter George  
Able Seaman

RFR/PO/B/ 1469 211586

H.M.S “Good Hope” Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve.  
Died at sea 1<sup>st</sup> November 1914.

He was the 33 year old son of George and Margaret Ford, of Worcester.  
H.M.S. “Good Hope” an obsolete Cruiser was destroyed by the gunfire of the  
German Cruisers “Scharnhorst” and “Gneisenau” of Admiral Graf Spee’s Pacific  
Squadron in the Battle of Coronel, off Chile. There were no survivors.  
Portsmouth Naval Memorial. panel 2.

**Forgan**

Walter George  
Able Seaman  
Bristol Z.1114

Howe Battalion Royal Naval Division Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve.  
(188<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 63<sup>rd</sup> Royal Naval Division).

Killed in action 13<sup>th</sup> November 1916.during the Battle of The Ancre 13<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup>  
November 1916.

The Battle of the Ancre brought to an end the five month long series of Battles of the  
Somme in 1916.

Ancre British Cemetery, Beaumont-Hamel, Somme, France.  
Plot IV. Row A. Grave 51,

**Foster**

Clifford  
Sapper  
155419

300<sup>th</sup> Engineering and Mining Company Royal Engineers.  
Died 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1917.

Clifford foster was the 36 year old son of James and Ellen Foster, of Bridgwater;  
husband of Edith May Foster, of 75, St John Street, Bridgwater.  
Basra War Cemetery, Iraq.  
Plot 1. Row A. Grave 15.

**Fowler**

Albert John  
Sapper  
495176

105<sup>th</sup> Field Company 495176 105<sup>th</sup> Field Company Royal Engineers.  
(25<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 27<sup>th</sup> May 1918 during the Battle of The Aisne 27<sup>th</sup> May-6<sup>th</sup>

**The German offensive on the Aisne, May 27<sup>th</sup>-June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1918.**

The 8<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> British Divisions worn out as a result of fighting on the Somme and during the Battle of the Lys were transferred to the French Sixth Army sector for rest and refit. A large number of young reinforcements only partly trained had arrived. On May 1<sup>st</sup> the 21<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> Divisions were put in the line on a front of 15 miles between Reims and Soissons on account of enemy activity. On the 27<sup>th</sup> the Germans launched a powerful offensive against the French and British holding a twenty miles front.

June. Albert Fowler was the 23 year old son of George and Clara Fowler, of 10, All Saints Terrace, Bridgwater.  
Arras Memorial, Bay 1.

**Frampton**

H

Private  
29569

No 4 Protection Company Royal Defence Corps.

Died 26<sup>th</sup> October 1919

No next of kin on record. He may not be a Bridgwater soldier.  
Bridgwater (St John's) Cemetery. Ref 1 1707.

**French**

John Willis  
Gunner  
59274

60<sup>th</sup> Howitzer Battery Royal Field Artillery.

Died in Mesopotamia 18<sup>th</sup> April 1916.

John French was the 32 year old son of John and Sarah Fursland, of 31, Union Street, Bridgwater.

Basra Memorial, Iraq.  
Panel 3 Column 60.

**French**

Austin Clifford  
Private  
20352

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1917 during the Third Battle of The Scarpe. (Arras) May 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> 1917.

Austin French was the 19 year old son of Len and Rose French, of Moorlynch, Bridgwater.

Roeux British Cemetery, Arras.  
Row C. Grave 23.

**Frost**  
Clifford  
Lance/Corporal  
240211  
2<sup>nd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.  
Died in India 27<sup>th</sup> October 1918. Age 27.  
Born Bridgwater.  
Madras 1914-1918 War Memorial, Chennai, India. Face 10.

**Fry**  
Clarence Vivian Clements  
Private  
43835  
1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Wiltshire Regiment.  
Died of wounds in the UK 5<sup>th</sup> November 1918.  
(formerly M/297131 RASC).  
Clarence Fry was the 20 year old son of William Fry, of 58, Ashleigh Avenue,  
Bridgwater, and the late Rosa Fry.  
Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery (Church portion)  
Plot IV. Row 9. Grave 1.

**Fudge**  
Arthur John  
Private  
Ply/1180  
H.M.S. "Goliath" Royal Marine Light Infantry.  
Died at sea 13<sup>th</sup> May 1915.  
The obsolete Battleship "Goliath" was sunk by torpedo by a Turkish submarine  
manned by a German crew in the Dardanelles on the above date.  
Arthur Fudge was the 28 year old son of Osmond and Angelina Fudge, of 79,  
Wellington Road, Bridgwater.  
Plymouth Naval Memorial. Face 7.

**Fudge**  
Henry Charles  
Private  
20026  
"A" Company 2<sup>nd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.  
Died in India 30<sup>th</sup> May 1917.  
He was the 28 year old son of Osmond Rowland and Angelina Fudge, of 88,  
Wellington Road, Bridgwater.  
Madras 1914-1918 War, India. Memorial Face 10.  
Buried Dinapore No 3 Cemetery, India.

**Fursland**

Joseph Leonard  
Lance/Corporal  
25684.

(Somerset Light Infantry.) 12<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (Bristol) Gloucestershire  
Regiment.

(95<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 32<sup>nd</sup> Division).

Not listed in "Soldiers Died" Part 18 SLI.

Died 14<sup>th</sup> April 1918.

He was the son of J.W. Fursland, of 10, Fore Street, Bridgwater.

He is recorded on the County Memorial as Somerset Light Infantry but this is  
incorrect.

Morbecque British Cemetery, Nord, France.

Plot 1. Row B. Grave 2.

**Gabriel**

Ernest Edward  
Private  
2735

2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.

( The 43<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division broken up on arrival in India and dispersed throughout  
India on garrison duty. Drafts were however made to Mesopotamia

Died in Mesopotamia 14<sup>th</sup> June 1916.

Basra War Cemetery, Iraq.

Plot V. Row M. grave 20.

**Galley**

Douglas  
Corporal  
1765

1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.

Died in Mesopotamia 7<sup>th</sup> October 1916.

Draft from India.

Baghdad (North Gate) War Cemetery, Iraq.

Plot XXI. Row K. Grave 42.

**Gamlin**

W H  
Corporal

152<sup>nd</sup> Field Company. Royal Engineers.  
(37<sup>th</sup> Division).

Died of wounds in France 18<sup>th</sup> October 1917.

He was the 28 yearold son of Frederick and Mary Gamlin, of Shelford, Taunton;  
husband of Annie Gamlin, of 2, The Goss, St Michael's Road, Minehead.

Outtersteene Communal Cemetery Extension, Bailleul, Nord, France.

Plot II. Row A. Grave 4.

**Gardener**

William  
Private  
25458

8th (Service) Battalion (K3) Somerset Light Infantry.  
(63rd Infantry Brigade 37th Division).

Died in the No 9 Red Cross Hospital, 8th February 1918.

William Gardener was the 21 year old son of John and Sarah Gardener, of  
Bridgwater.

Hazebrouck Communal Cemetery, Nord, France.  
Plot III. Row C. Grave 32.

**Gaylor**

Frederick  
Private  
241095

2nd/5th Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

Died in India 29th November 1918.

**Listed among the casualties who are not recorded in "Soldiers Died" Part 18**

**SLI. of the 2nd/5th Bn at the back of book "A Strange War" by C P Mills**

Frederick Gaylor was the 24 year old son of Sidney and Mabel Gaylor, of 43,  
Kidsbury Road Bridgwater.

Madras War Memorial, 1914-1918 Chennai, India. Face 10.

Buried Barrackpore New Cemetery.

**Gilbert**

William Clifford  
Able Seaman  
Bristol Z/1053

Howe Battalion Royal Naval Division  
(188th Infantry Brigade 63rd (Royal Naval)  
(Division).

Died 7th November 1917 during the 2nd Battle of Passchendaele October 26th-  
November 10th 1917 which brought the five month battles of the Somme to a close.

He was the son of Selina and the late W. Gilson.

Tyne Cot Memorial Memorial to the 'Missing, Passchendaele, West Flanders,  
Belgium.

Panel 2 and 3 and 162 and 163A.

**Gilson**

Thomas Hedley  
Private  
34401

2nd/4th Battalion TF Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry.  
(184th Infantry Brigade 61st (South Midland) Territorial Division).

Died 10th June 1918.

He was the 18 year old son of George and Emma Gillson, of Bridgwater.

Aire Communal Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France.

Plot III. Row B. Grave 27.

**Gilson**  
W.A.  
Corporal  
Devonshire Regiment.  
Died 10<sup>th</sup> November 1918.  
Bridgwater (St John's) Cemetery. Ref 3 1553.

**Godden**  
J  
Private  
2717  
Training Centre Army Cyclist Corps.  
Died Home = in the UK 29<sup>th</sup> April 1917.  
He was the 37 year old husband of Hester J Godden, of 11, West Street, Bridgwater.  
Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery (Chapel portion) Location 4. 107.  
**Not on the Somerset County Memorial.**

**Goodland**  
Leslie Maurice Lewis  
Private  
203196  
1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.  
(14<sup>th</sup> Indian Division)  
Died in India 29<sup>th</sup> April 1918  
( He was probably draft ex Mesopotamia)  
Leslie Goodland was the 31 year old son of Charles James and Kate Mary Goodland,  
of 39, North Street, Bridgwater,  
Madras 1914-1918 War Memorial, Chennai.  
Face 10.  
Buried Wellington Garrison Cemetery, India.

**Gordge**  
Samuel  
Private  
147735  
8<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K3) Somerset Light Infantry.  
(63<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 37<sup>th</sup> Division).  
Killed in action 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1917 during the Battles of Third Ypres otherwise known  
as the Passchendaele offensive.  
He was the 37 year old son of Mrs Jane Gordge, of Market Street, Bridgwater;  
husband of Beatrice Woodbridge (formerly Gordge), of 65, Union Street, Bridgwater.  
Tyne Cot Memorial, Passchendaele, West Flanders, Belgium.  
**Grey Percy John Private Royal Naval Air Service.**  
**Not found.**

**Gully**

Albert W.

Private

205200

3<sup>rd</sup> Garrison Battalion Bedfordshire Regiment.

(formerly 2<sup>nd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Somerset Light Infantry).

Died in India 7<sup>th</sup> March 1918.

He was the 38 year old son of Ruscombe and Betsy Gully, of River View Terrace,  
Bridgwater.

Rangoon War Cemetery, Myanmar (formerly Burma).

Plot 4. Row F. Grave 11.

**Gunningham**

Frank

Stoker Petty Officer

RFR/ Dev/ B/ 3049 287128

**Long Service and Good Conduct Medals**

H.M.S. "Challenger" Royal Navy.

Died 13<sup>th</sup> December 1918.

He was the son of Robert Gunningham; husband of Henrietta Gunningham, of 15,  
Polden Street, Bridgwater. Born Spaxton.

Dar es Salaam (Upanga Road) Cemetery, Tanzania.

Plot Y2 Row B. Grave 2.

**Hagon**

Charles Douglas

2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant

4<sup>th</sup>/attached 8<sup>th</sup> Service) Battalion (K3) Somerset Light Infantry.

63<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 37<sup>th</sup> Division).

Died of wounds in France 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1917.

Buried in Abbeville Communal Cemetery Extension France.

Plot III. Row B. Grave 22.

**Haines**

Jesse

Private

SE/23170

Royal Army Veterinary Corps attached 4 Mobile Veterinary Section.

Died 25<sup>th</sup> January 1918.

Amara War Cemetery, Iraq.

Plot XIV. Row C. Grave 6..

**Hake**

Fred  
Sergeant  
6647

6<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion K1) Somerset Light Infantry.  
(43<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 14<sup>th</sup> (Light) Division).

Killed in action during an attack on Inverness Copse, Ypres, 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1917  
During the series of Battles of 3<sup>rd</sup> Ypres  
Fred Hake was the 33 year old son of Walter and Sarah Hake, of 48, John Street,  
Hindmarsh, Adelaide South Australia.

Tyne Cot Memorial, Passchendaele, West Flanders, Belgium..

**Hales** Charles Private 240174 1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.  
(233<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 75<sup>th</sup> Division).

Died of wounds sustained during the invasion of Palestine 24<sup>th</sup> December 1917.  
CWGc no  
SDGW

**Hale.**

C.  
Private.  
241505.

1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> TF Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.  
(223<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 75<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1917 during the Battle of Nabi Samweil 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>  
November 1917.

Next of kin not notified.  
Jerusalem ar Cemetery, Israel.  
Row B. Grave 79.

**Hallett**

Gilbert Charles Drummond  
Private  
28642

7<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K3) King's Shropshire Light Infantry.  
(76<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 25<sup>th</sup> New Army Division).  
(formerly 8/11904 Training Battalion).

Vraucourt Copse British Cemetery, Vaul-Vraucourt  
Plot 1. Row A. Grave 15.

**Helps**

Frank Bovett  
Rifleman  
2471

16<sup>th</sup> Battalion Queen's Westminster Rifles The London Regiment.  
(169<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 56<sup>th</sup> ( 1<sup>st</sup> London) TF Division). (Formed on the WF).

Killed in action, 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1915.

He was the 21 year old son of Edward William and Emily Helps, of Eastover,  
Bridgwater.

Potijze Burial Ground, Ypres, West Flanders, Belgium.  
Plot B. Row 1. Grave 27.



**Hamblin**

Charles  
Private  
5553

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.  
(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 19<sup>th</sup> December 1914 during the attack on the "Birdcage" on the edge of Ploegsteert Wood, Belgium.

The "Birdcage" was a heavily wired system of trenches situated between St Yves and Le Gheer off the eastern end of Ploegsteert Wood.

It was once a portion of the British front line which the Germans had captured and fortified.

The attack involving the 1<sup>st</sup> Somerset and 1<sup>st</sup> Hampshire was a complete failure, which resulted in over 200 casualties. Six days later the Xmas Truce was observed in this sector when soldiers gathered between the front and exchanged gifts

It was during the truce that the body of Lieut Henson of Wedmore was recovered among others.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Somerset had 27 killed and 52 wounded and 30 missing.  
Strand Military Cemetery, Ploegsteert Wood. Comines-Warneton, Hainaut, West Flanders, Belgium.

Plot IX. Row R. Grave 8.

**Hampson**

Charles W  
T4/212272

Royal Army Service Corps attached 86<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance Royal Army Medical Corps.

(28<sup>th</sup> Division).

Died 21<sup>st</sup> March 1917.

Husband of Mrs H Hampson, of 12, Queen Street, Bridgwater.  
Struma Military Cemetery, Greece.

Plot VI. Row G. Grave 9..

**Hannaford**

Ernest  
Private  
L/5143

Royal Lancers.

(3<sup>rd</sup> Cavalry Brigade 2<sup>nd</sup> Cavalry Division).

Died of wounds in 2<sup>nd</sup> April 1918.

The only Lancer is L/5143 5<sup>th</sup> Royal Irish Lancers.  
2<sup>nd</sup> April 1918.

No next of kin given.

Mabeuge Centre Cemetery, France.

Row A. Grave 16.

### **Hannaford**

Walter  
Private  
21693

8<sup>th</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.  
(63<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 37<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1917 during the Battle of the Menin Road Ridge 22<sup>nd</sup>-  
25<sup>th</sup> September 3<sup>rd</sup> in the series of battles known as Third Ypres fought over the  
period 31<sup>st</sup> July- November 10<sup>th</sup>, 1917..

Walter Hannaford was the 31 year old son of Samuel and Mary Hannaford, of 10,  
Barclay Street, Bridgwater.  
1901 Census records.

Son of Samuel a tailor aged 45, Mary aged 45. Walter 16, Fred 14, Kate 12, Amelia  
10, Stanley 8, Ernest 6, Frank 4.

The family are living at 14, Barclay Street, Bridgwater.  
Etaples Military Cemetery, Boulogne, Pas de Calais, France.  
Plot XIX. Row M. Grave II.

### **Hansford**

Bertie  
24693

3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion Guardsman Grenadier Guards.  
(2<sup>nd</sup> Guards Brigade Guards Division).

Died of wounds in France 31<sup>st</sup> January 1917.

Bertie Hansford was the 24 year old son of Frederick and Annie Hansford; husband of  
Edith Lilian May Hansford, of 10, Cranleigh Road, Bridgwater.  
Grove Town Cemetery, Meaulte, Somme.

Plot II. Row M. Grave 38.

The 2<sup>nd</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> London Casualty Clearing Station was operative here September 1916-  
April 1917.

### **Harris**

Benjamin  
Private  
6002

6<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K1) Somerset Light Infantry.  
(43<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 14<sup>th</sup> Light Division).

Killed in action aged 33 16<sup>th</sup> September 1916, during the Battle of Flers/Courcelette,  
8<sup>th</sup> in the series of major battles of the Somme, fought over the period July 1<sup>st</sup>-  
November 18<sup>th</sup> 1916.

The infantry of the 61<sup>st</sup> Brigade attacked the Blue Line between the villages of  
Morval and Les Boeufs during the early hours of the 16<sup>th</sup> and were met with heavy  
and very accurate machine-gun and 'minnenwerfer' fire which caused many  
casualties. The 7<sup>th</sup> Somerset lost all their senior officers. Later in the day they gained  
a little ground which they held until ammunition ran out when they were forced to  
retire having suffered yet more casualties. The 7<sup>th</sup> Somerset lost 65 men killed.  
The Brigade was attached to the Guards Division whose objective was the village of  
Les Boeufs which they succeeded in capturing on the 25<sup>th</sup>. The Guards Division was  
relieved at the end of the month having sustained 7,240 casualties during their 3 weeks in the line.

Benjamin Harris was the 33 year old son of William Wakely and Fanny Harris;  
husband of Lily Harris, of 1, Anstice Place, Eastover, Bridgwater.

Commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the 'Missing' of the Somme.

**Harris**

William John  
Private  
15957

2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Devonshire Regiment.  
(23<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 8<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916 the first day of the Battle of the Somme.  
The Division attacked up "Mash Valley" between Authuille Wood and Ovillers  
Thiepval Memorial.

**Hartnell**

E B.  
Captain

1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> London Mounted Field Ambulance Royal Army Medical Corps TF.  
Died in Egypt 25<sup>th</sup> April 1916.  
Cairo War Cemetery, Egypt.  
Row F. Grave 41.

**Harwood**

Francis James  
Private  
12614

5<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K1) Dorsetshire Regiment.  
(34<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 11<sup>th</sup> (Northern) Division).

Killed in action in France 26<sup>th</sup> September 1916 during the Battle of Thiepval Ridge,  
Somme, 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> September.  
The 18881 Census records  
Frederick 21 a mariner, Harriett 25.  
Francis James aged 1.  
They are living at Somerset Place.  
Thiepval Memorial.

**Haste**

Clifford Wyndham  
Lance/Corporal  
205859

2<sup>nd</sup> (Garrison) Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers.  
Died in Mesopotamia 18<sup>th</sup> October 1918. (formerly 4412 Hampshire). He was the 22 year old son  
of Ceaser William Haste, of 36, Edward Street, Bridgwater.  
Amara War Cemetery, Iraq. Plot XIV. Row C. Grave 20.

**Hawkins**

Francis Ralph  
Sapper  
1247

2<sup>nd</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> (Wessex) Field Company Royal Engineers.  
Died of meningitis Home = in the UK 17<sup>th</sup> February 1915.  
Francis Hawkins was the 19 year old son of Charles and Jane Hawkins, of 6, All  
Saints Terrace, Bridgwater. Born at Bishop's Lydeard.  
Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery (Church portion)  
Plot B. Row 4. Rave 7.

**Hayman**

Austin

Private

22573

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Died in France 7<sup>th</sup> November 1916.

Austin Hayman was the 37 year old son of Mrs May Hayman, of Green Dragon Lane, Bridgwater; husband of H.D. Carver (formerly Hayman) of 12, Queen Street, Bridgwater.

Serre Road Cemetery, No 1 Hebuterne, Somme.

Plot 1. Row BB. Grave 6.

**Haysham**

Ernest Charles

**MM**

Private

240775

1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.

(233<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 75<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 1917 during three heavy Turkish counter-attacks launched in an unsuccessful attempt to recapture the village of Nabi Samweil and ridge some 5 miles west of Jerusalem. The Battle of Nabi Samweil was a very costly action for the 1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Somerset's, 68 men were killed on the 23<sup>rd</sup> with an estimated 400 plus wounded.

Ernest Haysham was the 20 year old son of Harry and Kate Haysham, of 36, Market Street, Bridgwater; husband of Ellen Lucy Haysham, of 68, West Street, Bridgwater.

He is commemorated on the Jerusalem Memorial. Panel 17.

**Haysham**

Harry

Private

240767

1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.

(233<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 75<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action in Palestine 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1917 during the Battle of Nabi Samweil 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> November. Nabi Samweil was one of several villages, which were the scene of heavy fighting during the advance north from Nablus to Jerusalem.

The CWGC was not informed of his next of kin.

He is buried in the Jerusalem War Cemetery, Israel.

Row Y Grave 43.

**Brothers ??**

**Heard**

Alexander Cameron

Private

9478

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry. (11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 16<sup>th</sup> September 1914 during the Battle of The Aisne, September 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>, 1914.

La Ferte-sous-Jouarre Memorial to the 3,888 'Missing' of the Battles of Mons, Le Cateau, The Marne and the Aisne Seine-et-Marne, France.

**Hill**

Albert

Private

46704

18<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (Bantam) Lancashire Fusiliers.

(104<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 35<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 26<sup>th</sup> March 1918 during the massive enemy Spring offensive against the Fifth Army in Picardy (The Kaisers Battle "Operation Michael" 21<sup>st</sup> March-April 5<sup>th</sup>

On the 21<sup>st</sup> March 1918, three German Armies attacked on a forty mile front with 32 divisions, and another 39 divisions in reserve, with the aim of winning the war. The British facing this massive offensive force had only 14 Infantry divisions on Byng's Third Army front of 26 miles and 3 Cavalry Divisions and 14 Infantry Divisions on Gough's Fifth Army Front of 42 miles. The Fifth Army bore the brunt of the attack. Ludendorf's aim was to split the British and French armies by driving on Amiens, an objective in which they almost succeeded.

Allied reserves arrived in the nick of time and the line was stabilised after a retreat of up to 40 miles to within 5 miles of Amiens. The Germans squandered their reserves and began to experience supply problems.

The British suffered huge losses in men and munitions.

General Gough was blamed for the Fifth Army debacle and was sacked by Haigh following political pressure.

(formerly 208439 Royal Engineers).

He was the 20 year old son of Mrs Eliza Hill, of 1906, West Street, Bridgwater.

Poziers Memorial the Fifth Army 'Missing' of 1918.

Ovillers-la-Boiselle, Somme, France. Panels 32-34.

**Hill**

Robert

Private

25785

6<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K1) Somerset Light Infantry.

(43<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 14<sup>th</sup> (Light) Division).

Killed in action 16<sup>th</sup> September 1916 during the Battle of Flers-Courcelette Somme. 15<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> September

The Battle of Flers-Courcelette was a major attempt by divisions of Rawlinson's Fourth Army to break through on the Somme in the direction of Bapaume.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> September, 1916, after a three day bombardment the 12 divisions, including the Canadian Corps, and the New Zealand Division attacked along a 10 mile front from Combles to the valley of the Ancre and beyond with tanks in support for the first time. The infantry of the 61<sup>st</sup> Brigade attacked the Blue line between the villages of Morval and Les Boeuifs during the early hours of the 16<sup>th</sup>, and were met with heavy and very accurate machine-gun and minnenwerfer fire which caused many casualties. The 7<sup>th</sup> Somerset's lost all their senior officers. Later in the day they gained a little ground which they held until ammunition ran out when they were forced to retire having suffered yet more casualties. The Battalion lost 65 killed with many others wounded.

The Brigade was attached to the Guards Division whose objective was Les Boeuifs which they captured with heavy loss of life as the many burials in Les Boeuifs Cemeterey bear witness. Robert Hill was 29 years of age. He was the son of Robert and Elizabeth Hill, of Parkstone Terrace, Bridgwater; husband of Mary Hill, of Bristol Road, Bridgwater.

Thiepval Memorial. Pier and Face 2A.

**Hill**

William  
Private  
9746

8th (Service) Battalion (K3) Somerset Light Infantry.  
(63rd Infantry Brigade 37th Division). Died of wounds 21st July 1916.  
St Sever Cemetery, Rouen, Seine-et-Maritime, France.  
Plot 1. Row H. Grave 132.

**Hobbs**

Frederick  
Private  
2848

1st/6th Battalion TF Devonshire Regiment.  
Died (H) in the UK 14th December 1914.  
Fremington (St Peter) Barnstaple, Devon. North part.

**Hobbs**

Frederick  
Private  
241544

1st/5th Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry. Died 12th June 1920  
Bridgwater (St John's) Cemetery. Ref 3 545.

**Hobbs**

Frederick Henry  
Driver  
T4/213526

3rd Base Horse Transport Depot Royal Army Service Corps.  
Died in Macedonia 23rd July 1917.  
Mikra British Cemetery, Greece. Grave 64.

**Hobbs**

Frederick.  
Private  
14008

10th Battalion Devonshire Regiment.  
Died Home = in the UK 25th November 1916.  
He was the 29 year old son of Mrs M Hobbs, of 33, Bailey Street, Bridgwater.  
Bridgwater (St John's) Cemetery. Ref 3 1549.

**Hodges**

Arthur William  
Sapper  
159062

15th Field Company Royal Engineers.  
(8th Division).  
Killed in action in France, 7th July 1917.  
Arthur Hodges was the 32 year old son of William Henry and Mary Hodges, of 40,  
Redgate Street, Bridgwater.  
Brandhoek Military Cemetery, Vlamertinghe, Ypres, West Flanders, Belgium.  
Plot II. Row M. Grave 1.

### **Hodges**

Charles Harry

Gunner

244 Siege Battery Royal Garrison Artillery.

Killed in action 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1917.

Charles Hodges was the 19 year old son of William Henry and **Mary Hodges, of 19 Sycamore Road, Waterloo, Liverpool.**

Duhallow Advanced Dressing Station Cemetery, Ypres, West Flanders, Belgium.

Plot VII. Row 4. Grave 14.

### **Holder**

Haford

Private

19966

6<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K1) Somerset Light Infantry.

(43<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 14<sup>th</sup> (Light) Division).

Killed in action 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1917 during an attack on Inverness Copse, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ypres.

Born Tiverton, Devon. Resident Bridgwater.

Tyne Cot Memorial, Passchendaele, West Flanders, Belgium.

Panels 41-42 and 163A.

### **Hornsby**

William

2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut

6<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K1) Somerset Light Infantry.

43<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 14<sup>th</sup> (Light) Division).

Killed in action on Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> August 1917 during heavy fighting in the vicinity of Inverness Copse, situated off the Menin Road. During the action the battalion was seriously threatened with encirclement

Casualties 6 officers and 44 other ranks killed Total casualties 59 officers and 1,345 o/rs 74 missing.

William Hornsby was the 30 year old son of Horace and Ellen Hornsby, of 14, Blacklands, Bridgwater, Somerset.

He has no known grave, being commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.

Panel 41-42 and 163A.

### **Howe**

Frederick James

Bombardier

5212

“Z” 29<sup>th</sup> Trench Mortar Battery Royal Field Artillery.

Killed in action France 29<sup>th</sup> June 1916.

He was old son of Mrs J.H Howe, of Williams Buildings, East Quay, Bridgwater.

Thiepval Memorial. Pier and Face 1A and 8A.

**Hoyal**

John

Private

9472

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action in during severe winter warfare conditions in the vicinity of

Ploegsteert Wood 1<sup>st</sup> November 1914.

Ploegsteert Memorial, Comines Warneton, Hainaut, Belgium. Panel 3.

**Hubbard**

Clifford

Able Seaman

Bristol Z/1898

S.S. "Lynburn" Royal Navy.

Died at sea 29<sup>th</sup> August 1917. The 587 ton Steamship "Lynburn" (Murphy and Sandwith of Workington) was mined ½ mile SE from N of Arklow Lightship

Cork/Whitehaven, Ireland.

There were three survivors.

Plymouth Naval Memorial. Panel 24.

**Hurford**

F. C.

13169

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Devonshire Regiment.

(8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 3<sup>rd</sup> Division).

Killed in action 1<sup>st</sup> May 1915.

Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial. Panel 21.

**Hurford**

Percy Albert

Private

S/1834

12<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (2<sup>nd</sup> South Down). Royal Sussex Regiment.

(116<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 39<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 31<sup>st</sup> July 1917 during the Battle of Pilckem Ridge 31<sup>st</sup> July-2<sup>nd</sup> August, 1917, 1<sup>st</sup> in the series of major battles of Third Ypres fought over the period 31<sup>st</sup> July-November 10<sup>th</sup>, 1917.

**The Third Battles of Ypres 31<sup>st</sup> July –November 10<sup>th</sup>, 1917.**

An Allied offensive in the Ypres Salient was designed to break through enemy defences the successful outcome of which was to have been the link up with an amphibious force under the command of General Rawlinson.

Seven days before the Fifth Army attack on the 31<sup>st</sup> July, a bombardment by 3,091 guns of which 999 were heavies began pounding German front and rear areas.

The weather to the 31<sup>st</sup> July had been generally dry and it was hoped it would stay that way.

The Flanders plain is land reclaimed from the sea and the water table was therefore high. In winter a shallow trench would soon fill with water.

Into this area British artillery hurled four and a quarter million shells

On the 31<sup>st</sup> July at 3.50 am 12 Divisions of General Sir Hubert Gough's Fifth Army attacked east of Ypres along a seven mile front with the aim of quickly taking the

Pilckem Ridge



As fate was to determine the weather deteriorated, heavy and continuous rain set in what was to become the wettest August to November periods on record.

By the end of the second day, an advance of 2-3 miles had been made Pilckem was captured by the 38<sup>th</sup> (Welsh) Division, the Steebeeck by the 51<sup>st</sup> (Highland) Frezenburg by the 15<sup>th</sup> (Scottish) and Pomern Castle by the 55<sup>th</sup> (West Lancashire) Division.

Westhoek, St Julien, Sanctuary Wood and Hooge had also been taken

The bombardment completely destroyed the drainage system and the terrain over which the infantry and engineers were to fight over the next three months was appalling. Trench systems having disappeared men, reaching the limits of their endurance floundered around in a knee deep morass, The few well defined tracks across the desolation over which men and pack animals brought up supplies became targets for enemy artillery.

The attack by the 30<sup>th</sup> Division up the Menin Road with the support of tanks was brought to a standstill as one by one seventeen tanks were destroyed By the middle of August the Fifth Army advance had not even reached the objectives planned for the 31<sup>st</sup> July

The weeks went by with repeated attacks, interspersed with lulls in activity, Langemarck, August 16-18<sup>th</sup>, Menin Road, September 20<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>, Broodseinde October 4<sup>th</sup>, Poelcappelle October 9<sup>th</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> Passchendaele October 12 and the final capture of Passchendaele and Ridge October 26<sup>th</sup>-November 10<sup>th</sup> when the battle was closed down.

The optimistic vision of a break through and a link up to the rear employing the Cavalry Division was but a dream. And the cost in human life had been appalling. He was the 22 year old husband of May Thirza Hurford, of Faith Cottages, Dibden, Southampton.

Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial. Panel 20.

### **Hurford**

William

Private

7813

6<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K1) Somerset Light Infantry.

(43<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 14<sup>th</sup> (Light) Division).

Killed in action 18<sup>th</sup> August 1916 during fighting in Delville Wood.

William Hurford was the husband of Bessie Fry (Formerly Hurford), of 2 Court, Albert Street, Bridgwater. He was 23 years of age.

Thiepval Memorial to the 'Missing' of the Somme.

### **Hurley**

F

.TF 2013

1<sup>st</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment.

(167<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 56<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> London) Territorial Division).

Killed in action 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1916. Somme.

He was the 19 year old son of Frederick George Hurley, of 17, Salisbury Road, Barnet, Herts.

Thiepval Memorial. Pier and Face 12D. and 13B.

**Iley**

Alfred B.(Richard CWGC).

Private

49302

2<sup>nd</sup> (Garrison) Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers.

Killed in action in 1<sup>st</sup> December 1917.

(formerly 26044 Wiltshire).

He was the 23 year old son of John and Elizabeth Iley, of 45, Mount Street,  
Bridgwater.

Baghdad (North Gate) War Cemetery, Iraq.

Plot XII. Row G. Grave 16.

**Iley**

Herbert John

Private

203672

1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.

(233<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Battalion 75<sup>th</sup> Division).

Died of wounds received during the Palestine campaign 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1917.

He was the son of Mrs John Iley, of Bridgwater; husband of Wimifred L. Iley, of  
Henley Cottage, Henley Lane, Yatton, Bristol.

Kantara War Memorial Cemetery

Row E. Grave 295.

**Irish**

Alfred

Private

240234

1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.

Died in Mesopotamia 28<sup>th</sup> July 1916.

He was among one of a number of reinforcement drafts sent to Mesopotamia from the  
battalion during its two and a half years garrison duty in India.

He was the 22 year old son of Clara and the late John Henry Irish.

Baghdad (North Gate) War Cemetery, Iraq.

Plot XXI. Row D. Grave 30.

**James**

William Edward

Private

38282

1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.

(Garrison duty India).

Died in India 20<sup>th</sup> May 1918.

William James the 29 year old son of the late Charlotte Ann James; husband of  
Florence Mabel James, of 163, Pearl Street, Roath, South Glamorgan.

Madras 1914-1918 War Memorial, Chennai.

Buried in Trimulgheny Cantonment Cemetery.

**Jarrett**

Frederick

Private

8667

2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Devonshire Regiment

(23<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 8<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 10<sup>th</sup> November 1916 during the Battle of the Somme..

He was the 27 year old son of Mrs E. Jarrett.

Thiepval Memorial. Pier and Face 1C.

**Jarvis**

Charles Edwin

Private

17717

7<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K2) Somerset Light Infantry.

(61<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade 20<sup>th</sup> Light Division).

Killed in action 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1917 during the Battle of the Menin Road Ridge, second in the series of battles Third Ypres that ended with the capture by the Canadian Corps of the remains of the village of Passchendaele and the ridge which had dominated British positions for so long. He was the victim of aerial activity.

Charles Jarvis was the 19 year old son of Edwin and Ada Bower, of Bridgwater.

Bluet Farm Cemetery, Elverdinghe, Ypres, West Flanders, Belgium.

Plot 1. Row D. Grave 14.

**Jarvis**

Frederick

Private

2972

2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Devonshire Regiment.

(2<sup>nd</sup> Devon/Cornwall Brigade 2<sup>nd</sup> (Wessex) Division) Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Died in Palestine 16<sup>th</sup> February 1917 Jerusalem Memorial, Israel. Panel 16.

**Jarvis**

Leo Charles

Sapper

506469

65<sup>th</sup> AFA Signals Sub Section Royal Engineers. Killed in action in France or Flanders 27<sup>th</sup> March 1918. He was the son of Mr and Mrs Frederick Jarvis, of 29, Cranleigh Gardens, Bridgwater.

Poziers Memorial. Panels 10-13.

**Jennings**

David

Lance/Corporal

987

7<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K2) Somerset Light Infantry.

(61<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade 20<sup>th</sup> Light Division).

Killed in action 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1918, during Ludendorff's Spring offensive opposite the Somme which forced the Fifth Army and the right flank of the Third Army to retreat up to forty miles to within 5 miles of Amiens, before Allied reinforcements, exhaustion and huge losses brought the retreat to a halt.

Grand Serracourt British Cemetery, 7 miles approx SW of St Quentin, Aisne France.

Plot VI. Row H. Grave 1.

**Jennings**

Tom

Corporal

241479

1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.

(233<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 75<sup>th</sup> Division).

Egyptian Expeditionary Force.

Died of wounds sustained during the invasion of Palestine 27<sup>th</sup> July 1918.

Ramleh War Cemetery, Israel.

Row S. Grave 39.

**Jennings**

William Charles

Corporal

722311

1<sup>st</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> Battalion (City of London) The London Regiment.

(143 Infantry Brigade 47<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> London) TF Division).

Killed in action 15<sup>th</sup> September 1917 during the Third Battles of Ypres July 31<sup>st</sup>-  
November 10<sup>th</sup>, 1917.

He was the 32 year old son of Matilda J Jennings and S Jennings, of 147, Verney  
Road, Camberwell, London.

Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial. Panels 52-54.

**Keep**

Edgar

Lance Corporal

18716

10<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K2) Worcestershire Regiment.

(57<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 19<sup>th</sup> (Western) Division).

Killed in action 20<sup>th</sup> December 1915.

He was the 26 year old son of William and Rose Keep; husband of Jessie Keep, of  
107, Chilton Street, Bridgwater.

St Vaast Post Military Cemetery, Richebourg l Avoue, Pas de Calais, France.

Plot II. Row H. Grave 7.

**Keirle**

Harry James

Private

34745

11<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K3) Worcestershire Regiment.

(78<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 26<sup>th</sup> Division).

Salonika Force.

Died 25<sup>th</sup> April 1917.

He was the 34 year old son of Mrs Hannah Keirle; husband of E.C. Keirle, of 125, St  
John's Street, Bridgwater.

Doiran Memorial, Macedonia, Greece.

**Keirle**

William  
Private  
9831

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.  
(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).  
Died of wounds in F 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1915.

Born North Petherton.  
Boulogne Eastern Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France.  
Plot VIII. Row B. Grave 23.

**Kerslake**

Joseph Richard  
Sapper  
506282

39<sup>th</sup> Works Company Royal Engineers.  
Died 20<sup>th</sup> January 1919.

Les Baraques Military Cemetery, Sangatte, Pas de Calais, France.  
Plot VII. Row A. Grave 8.

**King**

Joseph  
Private  
240380

1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.

The Battalion arrived Bombay, India 10<sup>th</sup> November 1914 as garrison troops.  
During its two and a half years there it supplied several reinforcement drafts to the  
1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Battalion and to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Dorsets some being among the besieged garrison at  
Kut.

Died in Mesopotamia 14<sup>th</sup> September 1916  
Baghdad (North Gate) War Cemetery, Iraq.  
Plot XXI. Row P. Grave 9.

**King**

William  
Private  
240381

1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.

See details above.

Died in Mesopotamia 28<sup>th</sup> April 1917  
Basra Memorial, Iraq. Panel 12.

**Obviously brothers who enlisted together.**

**King**

William  
Private  
20788

8<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K3) Somerset Light Infantry.  
(63<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 21<sup>st</sup> Division).

Killed in action 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916 near Fricourt, Somme.  
Next of kin not known

Thiepval Memorial to the 'Missing' of the Somme.

**Law**

Tom

Able Seaman

Bristol Z/1368

Hood Battalion Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, Royal Naval Division.

(189th Infantry Brigade 63rd (Naval) Division).

Killed in action 4th September 1918 during the Battle of the Drocourt Queant line in the 2nd Battle of Arras August 26th-September 3rd 1918.

He was the son of Henry and Parthenia Law, of 58, Wembdon Road, Bridgwater.

Queant Road Cemetery, Buissy, Pas de Calais, France.

Plot VII. Row D. Grave 22.

**Legg**

Ernest Robert

Corporal

15804

7th (Service) Battalion (K2) Bedfordshire Regiment.

(54th Infantry Brigade 18th (Eastern) Division).

Killed in action 17th February 1917.

He was the 20 year old son of Willie Robeert and Martha Legg, of 42, Polden Street, Bridgwater.

Thiepval Memorial to the 73,000 'Missing' of the Somme. Pier and ace 2C.

**Legg**

William Robert

Corporal

21578

1st Battalion Oxfordshire/Buckinghamshire Light Infantry.

Killed in action 6th April 1916

Arrived Mesopotamia 27th November 1914. The Bn was captured with the fall of

Kut-al-Amara 29th April 1916

(formerly 6377 Somerset Light Infantry).

He was the 20 year old son of Willie Robert and Martha Legg, of 42, Polden Street, Bridgwater.

Basra Memorial. Iraq. Panels 26-28.

**Leigh**

Fred William

Private

26543

8th (Service) Battalion (K3) Somerset Light Infantry.

(63rd Infantry Brigade 37th Division).

Killed in action 10th April 1917, during the First Battle of Arras April 9th-14th, 1917.

**The Battles of Arras April-May 1917.**

On Easter Monday the 9th of April, 1917 in sleet and snow driven on a bitterly cold wind the four Divisions of General Byng's Canadian Corps attacked the crest of Vimy Ridge along a four mile front

Supported by the artillery of the Canadian Corps comprising 480 25 pounders and 138 4.5 howitzers plus 248 heavy heavy guns and howitzers

Possession of the ridge would give the Canadians the panoramic view over the Douai Plain from the 200 foot eastern side of the ridge, immediately below lay the villages of Vimy, Thelus, Farbus, and Givenchy

This powerful offensive by General Horne's First Army despite considerable opposition by an enemy in strong defensive positions on the gently rising forward slope of the ridge was overcome and by nightfall the Canadians gazed out across wide open views behind enemy lines.

On the left flank the 13<sup>th</sup> Brigade of the 5<sup>th</sup> British Division attacked from Neuville-St-Vaast.

By the 14<sup>th</sup> the ridge, the eastern slopes and the villages of Vimy, Petit Vimy, Farbus and Hill 145 were securely in the possession of the attackers.

Canadian casualties in the operation amounted to approx 20,000 of whom 4,000 were fatalities.

On the right flank of this operation the Third Army under the command of General Allenby attacked along an eight mile front astride the Scarpe, Cojeul to the Seneffe rivers around Croisilles.

This mighty offensive commencing also on the 9<sup>th</sup> April involved 16 British infantry and three Cavalry divisions followed a three week bombardment by 2,879 guns 989 of them heavy guns and howitzers. The offensive was aimed at breaching the Drocourt-Queant Switch line protecting the end of the Hindenburg Line from an outflanking attack. The Drocourt-Queant Line however was up to 5 miles distant.

**This operation was termed the 1<sup>st</sup> Battle of the Scarpe and lasted until the 14<sup>th</sup> April and included the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Cavalry, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, 37<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 56<sup>th</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 34<sup>th</sup> and 51<sup>st</sup> Divisions.**

On April 23<sup>rd</sup> a further attempt by 13 Divisions including 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian to push forward this was termed the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battle of the Scarpe.

The battle of Arleux was fought on the 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> and on May 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>

The battles of Arras came to a close with the Third Battle of the Scarpe May 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>

There followed action at Roeux on the 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> May and action at Oppy Wood on June.

This month long series of very costly battles resulted in advancing the front lines for several miles with the capture of the devastated villages of Gavrell, Fampoux, Feuchy, Monchy-le-Preux, Geumappe, Wancourt and Heninel at a terrible cost in lives.

British and Canadian losses in killed wounded and missing in the opening phase of the Battle to April 14<sup>th</sup> are recorded as over 150,000.

The Drocourt-Queant line was never reached.

The daily casualty rate for the battles of Arras exceeded that of the battles of the Somme and third Ypres (Passchendaele).

Arras Memorial. Bay 4.

### **Letherby**

Cecil John

Private

74016

28<sup>th</sup> (North West) Battalion Saskatchewan Regiment Canadian Infantry Canadian Expeditionary Force.

(6<sup>th</sup> Canadian Infantry Brigade 2<sup>nd</sup> Canadian Division).

Killed in action 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1915

He was the 28 year old son of Richard John and Sarah Jane Leatherby, of 14, Alexandra Road, Bridgewater.

Kemmel Chateau Military Cemetery, West Flanders, (6 miles Ypres).

Row K. Grave 62.

Lewis  
Ernest  
Private  
9760

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.  
(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Died of wounds (Gas) Home = in the UK 27<sup>th</sup> October 1915.

Ernest Lewis was the 21 year old son of Frederick Lewis, of Gloucester Place, Friarn Street, Bridgwater, Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery (Church portion).

Plot I. Row 1. Grave 2.

This July 1<sup>st</sup> 1916 narrative is by E.F.M Lewis **a survivor** of the same address as Ernest Lewis above although there appears to be no connection.

One of our representatives obtained a highly interesting narrative of the gallant part played by the Somersets **at the beginning of the great advance** from a Bridgwater soldier who was wounded at an early stage of the attack and who is now home on leave. **The soldier in question is Lance Corporal E.F.M. Lewis, of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry., and residing at Gloucester Place, Friarn Street.** He has been fighting with the 1<sup>st</sup> Somersets since the outbreak of war in August 1914, and this is the third occasion on which he has been wounded. While reticent concern, the part played by himself in the fighting he has a great pride in his regiment and willingly related incidents witnessed by him at the commencement of the advance before a shrapnel bullet knocked him out. **It may be added that he had two brothers in the Somersets who took part in the advance, and both were also wounded. On ?/ Private Jesse Lewis is in hospital at Bristol and the youngest brother Private Harry Lewis is still in France, his wound only being of slight character.**

“We had been getting special training for the advance” said Lewis, and on Friday night went up to the trenches while the artillery was finishing its preparation. The guns were roaring all night and just before we commenced the advance next morning, the German front line trenches were blown up by mines. Our fellows were only too anxious to be over the top, and there were several mouth-organs going to work. Our late brigadier-general had given us some encouraging words before. He said, “well, men, remember the old Somersets have always had a good name. Keep it, no lagging behind. Remember Ploegsteert, the Aisne, and the Marne. If anything wants shifting the Somersets will do it. We were going to give three cheers, but he said ‘Not now. The time for cheering will be afterwards’ The men were all fond of Brigadier-General Prowse, and he died as he lived- a soldier. Our other officers were splendid and wished us all the best of luck. We had a singsong and sort of feast before going to the trenches, and all the boys were in excellent spirits. every man knew his duty, and when the order came they were up over the parapet and making for the German front line as calmly as if on manoeuvres. Our losses were very small at this part of the attack as the enemy front line had been smashed to pieces by our artillery fire

In some parts the sights were awful it was almost like a slaughter house.

We were told afterwards by some of the prisoners that they had been kept for days without any supplies owing to artillery fire and that they were practically starving. We were hung up for a bit by what remained of their wire entanglements but were making for the second German line as soon as possible. We had a good deal of trouble with some of the German dug-outs which had not been destroyed by the bombardment and we were attacked by the occupants in some unexpected quarters, but our bombers soon accounted for them. Several Germans came out yelling for mercy and some of them were absolute wrecks. At one point there was fierce hand-to-hand fighting, and those who had lost their rifles and bayonets or who could not use them properly owing to space fought with their fists. At any rate the first line was taken quite



comfortably, but when we were approaching their second line they made a better show of resistance. Machine guns appeared and did a good deal of damage checking us for a short time. The Germans concentrated for a counter-attack, but we obtained reinforcements and succeeded in capturing the second line. Our carriers did fine work in bringing up ammunition, but they suffered heavily from shell-fire. Our Brigadier General (Prowse) was killed by a shell, which burst just in front of him and a fragment struck him in the head. He died on the way back to the Dressing station. He had been with us all the time cheering us up and telling us to keep up our reputation of the 'Stone Wall' brigade. I got hit myself between the second and the third line. I was going across to help the Warwicks bomb some Germans out of a dug-out when a shrapnel shell burst killing two of the Warwicks. One of the shrapnel bullets caught me in the chest near the shoulder and I knew no more for a time. When I came round I had to make my way back as best I could. I had lost a lot of blood, and the journey back was worse than the advance, for the shells were then falling thickly but I safely reached some R.A.M.C. men and was carried on a stretcher back to the Dressing Station. Even during the advance our fellows were hunting for souvenirs, and several could be seen wearing German helmets. There was not a murmur from one of them all the time. They were only too eager to be attacking and before the first could hardly be kept back. During the last hour of the bombardment some were almost on top of the trenches waiting for the order to attack. Our own advance was delayed afterwards because our flanks did not come up quick enough, but we were all seasoned men in the Somersets. At the beginning of the advance our casualties were slight and the wounded cases for the most part were not serious. The enemy's losses were terrible. When we reached their trenches we could see heaps of their dead, killed by our shellfire. A lot of Germans who were left took refuge in their dug-outs and these had to be bombed out. All of us were carrying one or two bombs as well as our rifles in case of emergency. I had one narrow escape just after I had lost my own rifle. A German suddenly came for me with a bayonet and I did the first thing that came into my head. I managed to dodge the first thrust of the bayonet and then gave the German a terrific kick in the stomach which put him out completely. It was the only chance I had not having any weapons on me at the time but I managed to pick up another rifle soon afterwards. Our fellows were maddened by one thing which happened, and the Germans got no mercy for some time afterwards. We had taken a line of trenches and were searching about the communication trenches to see if they were clear of the enemy when a body of Germans made an unexpected raid on a part of the captured trench and killed some of our defenceless wounded. We had our revenge in full afterwards. The advance was a grand piece of work, our men sweeping on in skirmishing order line after line. Of course you cannot undertake an advance against such defences without losses, and we found the worst thing we had to face was machine gun fire, which caused our division to lose a good many men. I was sorry not to be able to follow the Somersets through to their objective, but I was lucky to escape with my life. As at one time men were falling all around me. I was not far away from one of the Anglin brothers when he was knocked over by a shell in the attack and killed. The different regiments were a good bit mixed up afterwards, but managed to sort themselves out alright. One of the bravest actions I witnessed was that of Captain Neville, of the Somersets who was badly wounded in the left arm. Although the arm was quite useless he refused to leave his post and was still firing his revolver when I last saw him while the Germans were sniping at him from all directions. Our fellows took the fourth German line, I heard afterwards, in about seven or eight hours and held on to the captured ground. I have been wounded twice before, once at Plug Street and once at Ypres. We had a splendid reception on reaching London and were nearly covered in flowers.

**Lock**

Samuel

Private

Canadian Expeditionary Force.

446687

7<sup>th</sup> Battalion Canadian Infantry.

(2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Brigade 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Division).

Killed in action 15<sup>th</sup> April during the Battles of Arras.

No next of kin recorded.

Canadian records indicate his former address as 38, Polden Street, Bridgwater. Samuel Lock attested willingness to serve with the Canadian Expeditionary Force at Calgary, in the Province of Saskatchewan on the 7<sup>th</sup> May 1915. His age on attestation was 26 year 2 months (born 31<sup>st</sup> March 1886).

His trade being a polisher.

His records are contained in R.G.150 Box 5701 6 sheets.

Bois Carre Cemetery. Thelus, Pas de Calais, France.

Plot 1. Row E. Grave 8.

**Lomax**

John

Corporal

10057

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 6<sup>th</sup> July 1915.

He was the son of Henry George and Amelia Lomax, of Bath; husband of Mary Lomax, of 83, Union Street, Bridgwater.

Served on the North-West Frontier (Punjab) of India.

Talana Farm Cemetery, Boesinghe, West Flanders, Belgium.

Plot 1. Row D. Grave 3.

**Loubo**

Lawrence Castano

Able Seaman

Royal Naval Reserve 1338D

H.M.S. "Triumph" Royal Navy.

Died at sea 25<sup>th</sup> May 1915

The 11,800 ton pre Dreadnought Battleship "Triumph", launched in 1903 was torpedoed in the Dardanelles on the above date.

He was the 48 year old husband of Ellen Luobo, of "Penel Orliou", Bridgwater.

Plymouth Naval Memorial. Panel 8.

**Lucas**

Ernest

Private

51923 or 5923

50<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance Royal Army Medical Corps.

(50<sup>th</sup> (Northumbrian) Division).

Died of wounds 21<sup>st</sup> October 1918.

He was the 31 year old son of Edwin and Elizabeth Lucas, of 5, Blake Place, Bridgwater.

Etaples Military Cemetery, Boulogne, France.

Plot LXVII. Row K. Grave 20.

**Major**

Arthur Oswald

Captain

1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.

(233<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 75<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1917 during the Battle of Nabi Samweil one of several heavily defended villages situated approximately 5 miles NW of Jerusalem on the road to Nablus.

The 23<sup>rd</sup> was a tragic day for the Bn who lost 69 killed and over 400 wounded in an unsuccessful attack on the village on El Jib.

Arthur Major was the 42 year old son of Henry James and Julia Mary Major, of 18, Northfield, Bridgwater.

Jerusalem War Cemetery, Israel.

Row C. Grave 27.

**Manchip**

Frederick

Private

**MM**

132588

85<sup>th</sup> Battalion Canadian Infantry (Nova Scotia Highlanders) Canadian Expeditionary Force.

(12<sup>th</sup> Canadian Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Canadian Division).

Died ? of wounds 10<sup>th</sup> October 1918.

Next of kin not known

Canadian Records which are contained in RG 150 Accession 1992-93/166, Box 5884 11 sheets. indicate.

Date of birth 15<sup>th</sup> July 1897.

Next of kin Frank Manchip, father.

Address of Frederick 764, La Fontaine East, Montreal, Quebec.

Occupation Elevator operator.

He enlisted in Montreal on the 14<sup>th</sup> September 1915 giving his age as 18 years 2 months.

St Sever Cemetery Extension, Roeun, France.

Section S Plot II. Row S. Grave 2.

**Manchip**

Mathew

Private

28950

“B” Company 7<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K2) Somerset Light Infantry.

(61<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade 20<sup>th</sup> (Light) Division).

Killed in action in France 27<sup>th</sup> August 1918.

On the 27<sup>th</sup> August 1918 the 61<sup>st</sup> Brigade was in the Achieville Lens/ Avion Sector were

He was the 19 years old son of the late Harry and Elizabeth Manchip.

Vis-en-Artois Memorial to the 9,903 ‘Missing’ of the Advance in Picardy, the battles of the Hindenburg Line, the Selle, and the final Advance in Picardy.

Panel 4.

**Manchip**

Walter Stanley  
Lance Corporal  
88

50<sup>th</sup> (South Australia) Infantry Battalion Australian Imperial Force.  
(13<sup>th</sup> Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Australian Division).

Killed in action on Monday the 4<sup>th</sup> September 1916 during the Battle for possession of  
Poziers Ridge, the highest point on the Somme battlefield.

The 49<sup>th</sup>, 51<sup>st</sup>, and 52<sup>nd</sup> Battalions of the 13<sup>th</sup> Brigade were involved in the attack on  
the fortress of Mouquet Farm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September with 50<sup>th</sup> Battalion in reserve.

This was the second attack by infantry of the 4<sup>th</sup> Australian Division. The former on  
the 29<sup>th</sup> August involved the 13<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Battalions of the 4<sup>th</sup> Brigade.

Seven Victoria Crosses were awarded during the 1916 Battle of Poziers.

**The A.I.F Project provides the following information.**

Address in Australia John Street, New Hindmarsh, South Australia.

Age at embarkation 22.

Status single

Next of kin, Mother at above address.

Date of enlistment 19<sup>th</sup> August 1914.

Bugler.

AWM Embarkation Roll No 23/27/1.

Unit embarked from Adelaide, South Australia on board the Transport A11.

“Ascanius” on the 20<sup>th</sup> October 1914.

Killed in action 4<sup>th</sup> September 1916.

Panel number, Roll of Honour Australian war Memorial. 151.

The CWGC were not informed of his next of kin.

He has no known grave being commemorated on the Australian National Memorial,  
Villers Bretonneux, Somme, France.

**Manchip**

William  
Driver  
4136

10<sup>th</sup> Heavy Battery Royal Garrison Artillery.

Killed in action Gallipoli 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1915.

The 1901 Census records

Son of Charles 56, and Sarah 52.

Francis James is aged 1 year.

Address Somerset Place, Bridgwater.

Hill 10 Cemetery, Gallipoli, Turkey.

Plot 1. Row A. Grave 10.

**Manley** Arthur George Lance/Corporal Somerset Light Infantry.

**No CWGC.**

**Not listed in “Soldiers Died” Part 18 SLI.**

**Manley**  
Cecil Eric  
Private  
25692

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Wiltshire Regiment.  
(110<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 21<sup>st</sup> Division).

Killed in action 24<sup>th</sup> March 1918 during the German Spring offensive "Operation Michael" in Picardy March 21<sup>st</sup> - April 5<sup>th</sup>.

On the 21<sup>st</sup> March 1918, three German Armies attacked on a forty mile front with 32 divisions, and another 39 divisions in reserve, with the aim of winning the war. The British facing this massive offensive force had only 14 Infantry divisions on Byng's Third Army front of 26 miles and 3 Cavalry Divisions and 14 Infantry Divisions on Gough's Fifth Army Front of 42 miles. The Fifth Army bore the brunt of the attack. Ludendorff's aim was to split the British and French armies by driving on Amiens, an objective in which they almost succeeded.

Allied reserves arrived in the nick of time and the line was stabilised after a retreat of up to 40 miles to within 5 miles of Amiens. The Germans squandered their reserves and began to experience supply problems.

The British suffered huge losses in men and munitions.

General Gough was blamed for the Fifth Army debacle and was sacked by Haigh following political pressure.

(formerly 23952 Somerset Light Infantry).  
Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Bay 7.

### **Manning**

William Charles  
Air Mechanic Class II  
12421

Royal Flying Corps.

Accidentally killed in the UK 8<sup>th</sup> July 1916.

William Manning was the husband of Nellie Frances Manning, of 103, Elm Park Road, Reading. He was 25 years of age.

Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery (Chapel portion) Location 4. 140.

### **Marchant**

Frederick Charles  
Private  
13557

4<sup>th</sup> Battalion Coldstream Guards.  
(Guards Division).

Killed in action F/F 5<sup>th</sup> July 1917.

Aged 20, he was the son of Mr and Mrs E. Marchant, of 24, Polden Street, Bridgwater.

Artillery Wood Cemetery, Boesinghe, Ypres, Belgium.  
Plot VII. Row C. Grave 16.

**Margetts**

Harold Francis

Private

9889

2nd Battalion Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry

**(Somerset War Memorial = Worcestershire Regiment).**

(5th Infantry Brigade 2nd Division).

Killed in action 29th April 1917 during the Battle of Arleux, Arras.

He was the brother of Edward Philip Margetts, of 15, Distons Lane, Chipping Norton,  
Oxfordshire.

Arras Memorial. Bay 6-7.

**Considerable doubt as to correct identification.**

**Margetts**

Henry Edwin

Private

9932

8th (Service) Battalion (K3) Somerset Light Infantry.

(63rd Infantry Brigade 37th Division).

Killed in action in France 3rd September 1916.

He was the 18 year old son of Henry Edward and Eva Florence Margetts, of 12,  
Stanley Terrace, Bristol Road, Bridgwater.

Lonsdale Cemetery, Authuille, Somme.

Plot V. Row D. Grave 2.

**Margetts**

William Henry

Lance Corporal

9335

2nd Battalion Devonshire Regiment.

(23rd Infantry Brigade 8th Division).

Killed in action 11th March 1915 during the battle of Neuve Chapelle

March 10th-13th, 1915..

Killed in action 12th March 1915 during an attack on the village of Fromelles in the  
Battle of Aubers Ridge, 10th-13th March, 1915.

This was a 1st Army offensive operation in which 7,000 men of the 7th and 8th  
Divisions took the major part.

It was a disastrous operation, in one day the 8th Division lost 192 officers and 4,490  
casualties.

Total loss to the Division amounted to 458 Officers and 11,161 men.

Blame was directed at the shortage of heavy guns and a desperate shortage of artillery  
a commander General Haking a similar disaster involving 61st British and 5th  
Australian in the Battle of Fromelles.

He was the 22 years old son of Henry Edward and Eva Florence Margetts, of 12,  
Stanley Terrace, Bristol Road, Bridgwater.

Le Touret Memorial to the 13,479 'Missing' of the Battles of La Bassee, Neuve  
Chapelle, Aubers Ridge, and Festubert in 1914-15.

Richebourg L'Avoue, Bethune, Pas de Calais, France.

Panels 8-9.

**Marks**

Alfred

Driver

217170

Royal Field Artillery.

Killed in action in France 25<sup>th</sup> October 1918.

(formerly T/1850 Dvr RASC 135<sup>th</sup> Inf Bde).

He was the 30 year old son of William and Lucy Marks, of Bridgwater; husband of Alice Marks, of 6, Dry Dock, East Quay, Bridgwater.

Tantignies Communal Cemetery, Rumes, near Tournai, Hainaut, Belgium.

Row F. Grave 6.

**Marks**

Walter John

Driver

T4/212463

Royal Army Service Corps.

Died in the Balkans 9<sup>th</sup> November 1916.

(formerly T/1800 2<sup>nd</sup>/1<sup>st</sup> SW Bde Coy).

Salonika (Lembet Road) Military Cemetery, Greece.

Location 668.

**Mead**

Albert George

Cooks Mate

M/13631

H.M.S. "Defence" Royal Navy.

Died at sea 31<sup>st</sup> May 1916 during the battle of Jutland.

H.M.S. Defence was a 14,600m ton Cruiser, launched in 1907. She was destroyed by the gunfire of the German Battleship "Hipper" with the loss of nearly 800 lives.

Albert Mead was the 21 year old husband of Gertrude mead, of Somerset Bridge, Bridgwater.

Plymouth Naval Memorial. 17.

**Meade**

Ernest John

Private

3/6793

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 19<sup>th</sup> December 1914 during the attack on "The Birdcage", Ploegsteert Wood, Belgium.

Ernest Meade was the 18 year old son of Ernest John and Fanny E. Mead, of 52, Polden Street, Bridgwater.

Ploegsteert Memorial, near Armentiers, Hainaut, West Flanders, Belgium.

**Millard**

Edmund George  
Chief Petty Officer /Acting Engine Room Artificer 4th Class  
M/11585 (CH).  
H.M.S. "Pembroke" Royal Navy.  
Died Home = in the UK 26th January 1918.  
H.M.S. "Pembroke" was a shore based establishment (Chatham)  
George Millard was the 24 year old son of Mrs Annie Jane Millard, of "The Lindens"  
Wembdon Road, Bridgwater.  
Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery (Church Portion)  
Grave A. 2. 1.

**Milton**

Joseph John  
Private  
17454  
6th (Service) Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.  
Killed in action in France 16th September 1916 during the Battle of Flers-Courcelette,  
8th in the series of major battles of the Somme fought over the period July 1st-  
November 18th.  
This was the first battle in which tanks were used and resulted in the capture of the  
villaged of Courcelette, Martinpuich and Flers.  
Guards Cemetery, Les Boeufs, Somme.  
Plot V. Row K. Grave 1.

**Mitchell**

Robert  
Private.  
79348.  
King's Liverpool Regiment  
Transferred to 53699 Labour Corps. (90th Coy).  
Killed in action in France 10th December 1917.  
Fins New British Cemetery, Sorel-le-Grand, Somme.  
Plot III. Row A. Grave 10.

**Moore**

Harold George  
Corporal  
TF 207939  
21st (Service) Battalion (Islington) Middlesex Regiment.  
(119th Infantry Brigade 39th Division).  
Killed in action 9th April 1918 during the Battle of The Lys April 9th-29th.  
On April 9th, following an artillery bombardment of considerable intensity, nine  
enemy divisions attacked a frontage held by three Allied divisions between the La  
Bassee Canal and Armentiers. The flanks of the sector held to the north by the 40th  
Division and in the south by the 55th Division were subjected to a prolonged and  
heavy saturation by gas shell. In the centre the 2nd Portuguese Division, due to be  
relieved that very day by the 50th and 51st Divisions, were holding an extended front  
of 7,000 yards. The full force of the attack fell on the unfortunate Portuguese who  
gave way and fled the battlefield clogging the roads and further delaying the two  
relieving divisions. A gap opened up by noon that day the enemy, reinforced by a  
further seven divisions had penetrated to a depth of three miles. By next day 24 miles



of frontage had been engulfed and a bridgehead was established across the river Lys between Saily and Bac st Maur, at the junction of the 40<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> Divisions By nightfall on the 12<sup>th</sup>, the enemy committed a further five divisions and widened his frontage northwards from Armentiers towards the Ypres Canal

He was the 22 year old son of Mr A.H. and Mrs E.E. Moore, of 34, Devonshire Street, Bridgwater.

Rue Petillon Military Cemetery, Fleurbaix, near Armentiers, France  
Petier Mortier German Cemetery 2.

### **Morgan**

Henry

Private

2355

3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion Australian Machine Gun Corps.

Died of wounds (Gas) 8<sup>th</sup> May 1918.

Henry Morgan was the 25 year old son of Charles and Ellen Morgan, of 2, Hampton Terrace, Bridgwater.

Australian Embarkation Roll records

Age 22. Farmer.

Address in Australia Hillgrove, New South Wales.

Next of kin Mrs Ellen Morgan of Cranleigh Gardens Bridgwater.

Date of enlistment 18<sup>th</sup> May 1916.

Embarked from Sydney, New South Wales aboard H.M.A.T A30 "Borda" on the 17<sup>th</sup> October 1916.

Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery, (Chapel portion) Location A. 26.

### **Mounsher**

William James

Driver

11598

"A" Battery 63<sup>rd</sup> (LXIII) Brigade Royal Field Artillery.  
(12<sup>th</sup> (Eastern) Division).

Killed in action in France 17<sup>th</sup> August 1918.

William Mounsher was the 24 year old son of Charles and Nellie Mounsher, of 5, Hamp Ward, Taunton Road, Bridgwater.

Caix British Cemetery, Somme.

Caix was captured by the Canadian Corps August 8<sup>th</sup> 1918.

Plot 1. Row C. Grave 9.

### **Mounstephens**

Frederick

Pioneer

220544

302 2<sup>nd</sup> Road Construction Company Royal Engineers.

Died 7<sup>th</sup> February 1917.

Next of kin not known

Warlencourt Halte British Cemetery, Somme.

Plot IV. Row H. Grave 3.

**CWGC Mountstevens.**

Frederick.

Pioneer.

220544.

302, 2<sup>nd</sup> Road Construction Company, Royal Engineers.

Died 7<sup>th</sup> February 1917.

Next of kin no0t notified CWGC.

Warlincourt Halte British Cemetery, Saulty, Pas de Calais, France.

Plot IV. Row H. Grave 3.

The site of various Casualty Clearing Stations.

**Mulford**

Robert George Jennings

Lance/Corporal

22408

6<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K1) Somerset Light Infantry.

(43<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 14<sup>th</sup> Light Division).

Killed in action 29<sup>th</sup> March 1918 during Ludendorf's massive Spring offensive in Picardy March 21<sup>st</sup>-April 5<sup>th</sup>.1918..

Robert Mulford was the 38 year old son of the late Joseph and Sophia Mulford, of Born Highbridge enlisted Derby.

Poziers Memorial to the 'Missing' of the Fifth Army in 1918. Ovillers-la-Boiselle, Somme, France. Panels 25-26.

**Nash**

Tom

Able Seaman

R/648

Anson Battalion Royal Naval Divison Royal Navy.

(188<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 63<sup>rd</sup> (Royal Naval) Division).

Killed in action 28<sup>th</sup> October 1917 during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battle of Passchendaele, October 26<sup>th</sup>-

Nine Elms Miklitary Cemetery, Thelus. Pas de Calais, France.

Plot VII. Row E. Grave 3.

Site of the No 44 R.A.M.C Casualty Clearing Station Sepember 1917-April 1918.

**Nicholls**

Herbert C P

Lance/Corporal

11<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (Donegal and Fermanagh Vols) Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

(109<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 36<sup>th</sup> (Ulster) Division).

Died of wounds 21<sup>st</sup> August 1917.

(formerly 25735 Somerset Light Infantry).

Herbert Nicholls was the 29 year old son of James and Emily Nicholls; husband of Amelia E. Nicholls.

Etaples Military Cemetery, Boulogne, Pas de Calais, France.

Plot XXII. Row Q. Grave 13A.

**Norrish**

Walter Edwin

Private

6297

24<sup>th</sup> The Queen's (County of London) Battalion The London Regiment.

(142<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Brigade 47<sup>th</sup> (2nd London) Territorial Division).

Killed in action 16<sup>th</sup> September 1916 during the Battle of Flers-Courcelette 15<sup>th</sup>–22<sup>nd</sup>  
September 1916 8<sup>th</sup> in the series of major battles of the Somme over the period July  
1<sup>st</sup>- November 18<sup>th</sup>, 1916.

This was the first battle in which tanks were used. The villages of Courcelette,  
Martinpuich and Flers were captured.

(formerly 21515 Somerset Light Infantry).

He was the 22 year old son of Harriett Emily Norrish of 10 George Street,  
Bridgwater.

Thiepval Memorial. Pier and Face 9D-9C 13C –12C.

**Novak**

Gerald Victor

Corporal

19716

Royal Army Medical Corps.

Died 8<sup>th</sup> December 1918.

He was the 34 year old son of Gyula and Ada Novak. Born London.  
Dar-es-Salaam (Upanga Road), Tanganyika.

**Nurton**

John Stanley

Private

19716

7<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K2) Somerset Light Infantry.

(61<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade 20<sup>th</sup> (Light) Division).

Died 13<sup>th</sup> March 1918.

John Nurton was the son of Frederick Nurton, of "Stradlings" Cannigton Street  
Bridgwater.

Ham British Cemetery, Muille-Villette. Somme.

Plot 1. Row B. Grave 9.

**O'Brien**

Lawrence James

Private

14003

9<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K2) The Welch Regiment.

(58<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 19<sup>th</sup> (Western) Division).

Died in France/ 7<sup>th</sup> March 1916.

He was the Brother of Mrs M. Coakley, of 4, Valetta Place, Bridgwater.

Merville Communal Cemetery, Nord, France.

Plot VI. Row N. Grave 6.

**Parker**

Ernest Albert

Private

241100

2<sup>nd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.

(2<sup>nd</sup> Wessex Division which was broken up on arrival in Burma 1st January 1915.

Died in India 21<sup>st</sup> October 1918.

He was the son of George and Elizabeth Parker, of 54, Barclay Street, Bridgwater.

Buried Katapahar New Cemetery, Jalapahar, India.

Commemorated on the Madras 1914-1918 War Memorial. Face 10.

**Palmer**

Ernest

Private

38490

15<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion Highland Light Infantry.

(97<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 32<sup>nd</sup> Division).

Died of wounds 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1918.

Possible casualty of the German Spring offensive in Picardy.

He was the 32 year old son of Mrs E.R. Palmer; husband of Ethel Palmer, of 27,

Cambden Road, Bridgwater.

Dozinghem Military Cemetery, Westvleteren, West Flanders, Belgium.

Plot XIV. Row 1. Grave 21.

**Palmer**

Harry

Private

34441

2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Ox/Buckinghamshire Light Infantry.

(184<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 61<sup>st</sup> (South Midland) Territorial Division).

Killed in action 18<sup>th</sup> April 1918 during the Battle of the Lys, April 9<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>.

Commencing on the 9<sup>th</sup> April in the vicinity of Armentiers and extending south to the

La Basse Canal, nine enemy divisions attacked the front held by three **worn out**

Allied divisions the **40<sup>th</sup>** in the north 2<sup>nd</sup> Portuguese centre and the **55<sup>th</sup>** in the south

.The main weight of the enemy attack fell upon the 2<sup>nd</sup> Portuguese Division holding

an extended front of 7,000 yards the two flank divisions were subjected to a

bombardment of gas shell whilst the Portuguese sector was drenched with the

contents of a thousand cylinders that had been installed in the enemy front line The

Portuguese who were unprotected fled in panic leaving many dead and ying on the

battlefield.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> reinforced by a further seven divisions the enemy had penetrated to a depth of three miles and by the 11<sup>th</sup> the front had extended northwards to 24 miles and

had crossed the river Lys and Laws by nightfall on the 12<sup>th</sup> a further 5 enemy

divisions had been committed between Armentiers and the Ypres Comines Canal

forcing the 19<sup>th</sup> Western and 25<sup>th</sup> Divisions to withdraw toward Bailleul and Mont

Kemmel.

The situation was stabilised with the arrival of many allied divisions including 19<sup>th</sup>

Western

Harry Palmer was the son of George and Maria Palmer, of "Dunkeld Villa"

Ashcombe Park Road, Weston super Mare.

Loos Memorial., Pas de Calais, France. Panels 83-85, Pas de Calais, France.

**Palmer**

Richard

Private

20857

2<sup>nd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Gloucestershire Regiment.

(184<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 61<sup>st</sup> (South Midland) Territorial Division).

Killed in action 11<sup>th</sup> August 1918 during an attack to secure the crossing of the Plate Becque, a muddy stream varying in width from 15 to 25 feet. The attack cost the Battalion 8 o/rs killed 2 officers and 39 o/rs wounded and 3 o/rs missing. Flanders.

Richard Palmer is buried in Merville Communal Cemetery, Nord, France.  
Plot 2. Row D. Grave 2.

**Palmer**

Walter Henry

Private

45962

2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Devonshire Regiment.

(23<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 8<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 31<sup>st</sup> July 1917 during the Battle of Pilckem Ridge, first in the series of major Battles of Third Ypres over the period 31<sup>st</sup> July-10<sup>th</sup> November 1917.

Popularly known as the Passchendaele offensive

**The Third Battles of Ypres 31<sup>st</sup> July –November 10<sup>th</sup>, 1917.**

A British offensive in the Ypres Salient was designed to break through enemy defences the successful outcome of which was to have been the link up with an amphibious force under the command of General Rawlinson.

Seven days before the Fifth Army attack on the 31<sup>st</sup> July, a bombardment by 3,091 guns of which 999 were heavies began pounding German front and rear areas.

The weather to the 31<sup>st</sup> July had been generally dry and it was hoped it would stay that way.

The Flanders plain is land reclaimed from the sea and the water table was therefore high. In winter a shallow trench would soon fill with water.

Into this area four and a quarter million shells were hurled

On the 31<sup>st</sup> July 12 Divisions of General Sir Hubert Gough's Fifth Army attacked with the aim of quickly taking Menin and the Pilckem Ridge. In the meantime Plumers's Second Army on the right flank would remain almost stationary capturing a few local strong-points around Warneton.

However as fate would determine continuous and at times torrential rain set in lasting for weeks. It was planned to introduce 216 Mark V tanks but as the countless shell holes began to fill with water it soon became apparent this was no tank operating country however some were used and as a consequence of the conditions quickly were put out of action. The bombardment completely destroyed the drainage system and the terrain over which the infantry and engineers were to fight over the next three months was appalling. Men, reaching the limits of their endurance. The few well defined tracks over the desolation over which men and pack animals brought up supplies became targets for enemy artillery.

By the middle of August the Fifth Army advance had not even reached the objectives planned for the 31<sup>st</sup> July. The weeks went by with repeated attacks, Langemarck,

August 16-18<sup>th</sup>, Menin Road, September 20<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>, Broodseinde October 4<sup>th</sup>,

Poelcappelle October 9<sup>th</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> Passchendaele October 12 and the final capture of Passchendaele and Ridge October 26<sup>th</sup>-November 10<sup>th</sup> when the battle was closed

down.

The optimistic vision of a break through and a link up to the rear employing the Cavalry Division was but a dream. And the cost in human life had been appalling. Walter Palmer was the 34 year old son of Walter and Susan Palmer, of "Horsepond" Friarn Street, Bridgwater; husband of Christinna Louise Caller (formerly Palmer), of Chilton Trinity, Bridgwater.

Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial. Panel 21.

**Parsons**

Alexander Clifford

Private

38752

7th (Service) Battalion (K2) Somerset Light Infantry.

(61st Infantry Brigade 20th (Light) Division).

Killed in action near Arras 19th June 1918

Arras Memorial., Pas de Calais, France. Bay 4.

**Parsons**

Albert

Private

7186

1st Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(11th Infantry Brigade 4th Division).

Killed in action 26th August 1914 during the Battle of Le Cateau in the retreat from Mons..

Born Chedzoy.

He was the 29 year old son of Edward and Mary Ann Parsons, of The Wharf, Dunball, Bridgwater; husband of Annie bates (formerly parsons) , of 17, 2nd Avenue, Treceenydd, Caerphilly, Glamorgan.

La Ferte-sous-Jouarre Memorial to the 3,888 'Missing' ,who fell in the Battles of Mons, Le Cateau, the Marne and the Aisne in 1914.

**Parsons**

Edwin

Private

G/11766

10th (Service) Battalion (Battersea) Royal West Surrey Regiment.

(124th Infantry Brigade 41st Division).

Killed in action 22nd September 1917 during the Battle of The Menin Road Ridge 20th-22nd September, 1917, 3rd in the series of major battles of Third Ypres over the period July 31st-November 10th, 1917.

Tyne Cot Memorial to the 'Missing' Panels 14-17 and 162-162A.

**Parsons**

William Edward

Lance Corporal

T/1823

South Western Mounted Brigade Royal Army Service Corps.

Accidentally killed 5th February 1916.

William Parsons was the 25 year old husband of Matilda Hurford (formerly Parsons) of 34, Union Street, Bridgwater, Somerset.  
Bridgwater (St John's) Cemetery Ref 2 2525.

**Passmore**

William Henry

Private

19022

5<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K1) TF Wiltshire Regiment.

(40<sup>th</sup> Brigade 13<sup>th</sup> (Western) Division.)

Killed in action in Mesopotamia 9<sup>th</sup> April 1916.

Battalion War Diary records heavy fighting in vicinity of Sannaiyat, casualties 21 killed 161 wounded 37 missing. Get full account.

The 13<sup>th</sup> (Western ) Division arrived at Basra on the 27<sup>th</sup> March 1916, and began the move up the River Tigris taking over part of General Goringe's Tigris Force front on the 2<sup>nd</sup> April and became engaged in the Third unsuccessful attempt to relieve General Townshend's 6<sup>th</sup> Indian (Poona) Division who had been trapped at Kut-al-Amara.

Capitulation occurred on the 29<sup>th</sup> April 1916, after 143 days of siege. 8,000 British and Indian troops and over 3,000 non combatants went into captivity many died as a result of disease and harsh treatment by the Turks.

William Passmore was the 23 year old son of mr and Mrs Passmore, of 10, Provident Place, Bridgwater.

Basra Memorial, Iraq. Panels 30 and 64.

**Patteson**

No further details.

**Not found.**

**Payne** Robert Stoker Royal Navy.

**Not identified**

**Payne**

Percy

Private

132795

8<sup>th</sup> Training Battalion Royal Army Medical Corps.

Died 26<sup>th</sup> June 1918.

He was the son of Mrs E. J Payne, of The Slip, Congresbury near Bristol.

Born at Yatton.

Yatton St Mary Churchyard. West Boundary.

**Pearce**

Stanley Arthur Robert

Driver

T4/213527

662<sup>nd</sup> Heavy.Transport.Company Royal Army Service Corps

( 1<sup>st</sup> Reserve Horse Transport Depot Park Royal London).

Died Home = in the UK 10<sup>th</sup> November 1918.

Stanley Pearce was the 24 year old husband of Floss Pearce, of Queen Street, North Petherton, Bridgwater.

Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery (Chapel portion. Location 4. 114.

**Pearn**

William Henry  
Gunner  
83375

“D” Battery 123<sup>rd</sup> Brigade Royal Field Artillery.

Died Home = in the UK 19<sup>th</sup> October 1918.

William Pearn was the 22 year old son of Richard and Selina Pearn, of 33, Edward Street, Bridgwater. Bridgwater (St John’s) Cemetery, Ref 2 2534.

**Penfold G H**

**No further details.**

**Not found.**

**Perrett**

Frank Herbert  
Private  
19426

Depot Dorsetshire Regiment.

Died Home = in the UK 13<sup>th</sup> July 1918.

He was the 39 year old son of Thomas L Perrett; husband of Bessie Perrett, of 16A, Cornhill Bridgwater.

Bridgwater (St John’s) Cemetery. Ref 2 1200.

**Perry**

Walter  
Private  
321389

Royal Wiltshire (Yeomanry) Hussars.

Died Home = in the UK 6<sup>th</sup> June 1917.

Walter Perry was 42, the husband of M.A. Perry, of 91, West Street, Bridgwater. Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery, (Chapel portion). Location C. 163.

**Phillips H**

**This could possibly be**

**Phillips Harold**

Sergt  
L4267

Died 5<sup>th</sup> December 1917.

12<sup>th</sup> (Prince of Wales’s) Royal Lancers.

Aged 23, he was the son of Mrs C. Pitman of 20, Mount Pleasant, Wellington.

St Sever Cemetery Extension, Roeun, Seine et Maritime, France.

Section P. Plot V. Row I. Grave 10B.

**Phillips**

William George  
Able Seaman  
Bristol Z/1380

Nelson Battalion Royal Naval Division. (189<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 63<sup>rd</sup> (Royal Naval) Division).

Killed in action 18<sup>th</sup> December 1917.

He was the 29 year old son of Charlie and Mary Jane Phillips, of 77, Oxford Street, Burnham on Sea; husband of Annie Phillips, of 7, Pathfinder Terrace, Bridgwater.

Thiepval Memorial, Somme.



**Phillips**

William John

40077

Sergeant

12<sup>th</sup> (Service) (Bristol) Battalion Gloucestershire Regiment.

(95<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 32<sup>nd</sup> Division).

Died of wounds 15<sup>th</sup> November 1918.

He was the 25 year old husband of Mary. A. Phillips, of Eggington, Derby.

(formerly 18649 DCLI).

St Sever Cemetery Extension. Rouen, Seine-et-Maritime, France.

Section S. Plot III. Row Y. Grave 5.

**Pitman A**

No further details.

**Pitman**

Edward

Private

7418

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry,

(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 2<sup>nd</sup> May 1915.

He was born Bedminster, Bristol.

The CWGC was not informed the next of kin.

Ypres (Menin Gate) Memoria, I. Panel 21.

**Pitman**

Victor

Private

21288

7<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K1) Gloucestershire Regiment.

(39<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 13<sup>th</sup> (Western) Division).

Killed in action at Gallipoli 6<sup>th</sup> December 1915.

He was the 18 year old son of Tom and Elizabeth Jane Pitman, of 17, Blacklands,  
Bridgwater.

Azmac Cemetery, Suvla Gallipoli, Turkey.

Plot II. Row E. Grave 3.

**Pocock**

Robert

Private

125060

147 Labour Company Labour Corps.

(formerly 4566 Depot Somerset Light Infantry)

Died 7<sup>th</sup> December 1918.

Turcoing (Pont Neuville) Communal Cemetery, Nord, France.

Row H. Grave G.

**Pole**

Arthur Leonard

Sergeant

163744

75<sup>th</sup> Battalion Canadian Infantry Mississauga (Central Ontario) Regiment Canadian Expeditionary Force.

(11<sup>th</sup> Canadian Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Canadian Division).

Killed in action 1<sup>st</sup> March 1917.

The CWGC were not informed the next of kin.

From Canadian enlistment records which are contained in RG 150 Accession 1992-93/166 Box 7883 23 sheets.

Born 4<sup>th</sup> August 1891.

Next of kin Mabel {ole.

Age on enlistment 24.

Trade or profession Shipper.

Address in Canada 475, Brock Avenue, Toronto, Ontario.

Place of enlistment Niagara, Ontario.

Previous military Service 4 years in Territorial Army in England

Villers Station Cemetery, Villers-au-Bois, Pas de Calais, France.

Plot VII. Row D. Grave 8.

**Pole**

David

Private

22819

4<sup>th</sup> Battalion Grenadier Guards.

(3<sup>rd</sup> Guards Brigade Guards Division).

Killed in action during the capture of Gouzeaucourt by the Guards Division on the 30<sup>th</sup> November 1917.

This was in the German Counter-attack phase of the Battle of Cambrai, November 20<sup>th</sup>-December 7<sup>th</sup>, 1917.

Gouzeaucourt New Military Cemetery, Nord, France.

Plot XI. Row A. Grave 5.

**Pope**

Frederick

Private

240781

2<sup>nd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.

(2<sup>nd</sup> Wessex Division which was broken up on arrival in Burma January 1915).

Died in India 27<sup>th</sup> August 1919.

He was the 27 year old son of Charlie and Charlotte Pope; husband of Ellen Pope, of 71, Polden Street, Bridgwater.

Madras 1914-1918 War Memorial, Chennai, India. Face 10.

**Porter**

Edward John  
Private  
2399

1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> TF Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.  
Died in India whilst on garrison duty 4<sup>th</sup> December 1916.  
Delhi 1914-1918 War Memorial, India.

**Posnett**

Harold William  
Pioneer  
268007

attached 5<sup>th</sup> Army HQ Signal Coy Royal Engineers.  
Killed in France 21<sup>st</sup> December 1917.  
He was the 19 year old son of George William and Lizzie Posnett, of Weston super Mare.  
Fins New British Cemetery, Sorel le Grand, Somme.  
Plot III. Row C. Grave 5.

**Potter**

Herbert Harry  
Sapper  
176858

59<sup>th</sup> Field Company Royal Engineers. (5<sup>th</sup> Division).  
Killed in action Flanders 21<sup>st</sup> October 1917.  
Kleine-Vierstraat British Cemetery, Kemmel, West Flanders, Belgium.  
Plot III. Row F. Grave 21.

**Pow**

Albert Francis  
Private  
26623

Depot Somerset Light Infantry. Died Home = in the UK 11<sup>th</sup> May 1917.  
Albert Pow was the 30 year old son of Albert and Annie Pow, of Withy Mills, Farm  
Paulton, Bristol; husband of Leonora Pow, of 2, Southgate Avenue, Bridgwater.  
Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery (Church portion).  
Plot I. Border grave 5.

**Pratt**

Robert  
Lance/Corporal  
26668

6<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K1) Somerset Light Infantry. (43<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 14<sup>th</sup> (Light) Division).  
Died 9<sup>th</sup> April 1917. 1<sup>st</sup> Battle of the Scarpe, Arras.  
The Battles of Arras commenced on April 9<sup>th</sup> Easter Monday 1917.  
From the Souchez river near Vimy to Croisilles south of Arras the First Army under  
General Horne and the Third Army under General Allenby launched a powerful  
offensive to capture the strategic feature of Vimy Ridge in the north by the Canadian  
Corps and to break through the Drocourt-Queant Switch Line around Arras which had  
been designed to prevent the outflanking of the end of the Hindenburg Line.  
Born Islington, resident Bridgwater. He was the husband of Cecilia Minnie Pratt.  
Tigris Lane Cemetery, Wancourt, Arras, Pas de Calais, France.  
Plot 1. Row F. Grave 1

**Prew**

Alfred William

Sergeant

17637

8th (Service) Battalion (K3) Somerset Light Infantry.

(63rd Infantry Brigade 37th Division).

Killed in action in the Ypres Salient 4th October 1917, during the Battle of Broodseinde 5th in the series of major Battles of 3rd Ypres, (Passchendaele offensive) 31st July-November 10th.

On the morning of the 4th October 12 Divisions attacked high ground along a front of 14,000 yards E of Ypres and NE of the Menin Road. The operation involved the 37th, 5th, 21st, 7th, 1st, 2nd and 3rd Australian and the New Zealand Division the 48th, 11th, 4th and 29th Divisions.

The 4th Division, which included the 1st Somerset and the 29th Division were involved in a minor roll in the vicinity of Poelcapelle.

All objectives having been taken including the capture of Broodseinde Ridge General Plumer closed the battle down by 2 pm

Conditions in the Salient were described as appalling.

Tyne Cot Memorial, Passchendaele, West Flanders, Belgium.

Panels 41-42 and 163A.

**Pugsley**

Walter

Private,

9095

3rd Battalion Coldstream Guards.

(4th Guards Brigade 2nd Division).

Killed in action 21st October 1914.

He was the 22 year old son of Henry and Mary Ann Pugsley, of 1, Redgate Street, Bridgwater.

Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial. Panel 11.

**Rabjohns**

Albert Edward

Driver

T4/056777

798 Horse Transport Company Royal Army Service Corps.

(Salonika Army troops also 15 Auxilliary Transport Company).

Died in the Balkans 31st July 1918.

Son of Mrs S. Rabjohns of 7, Blacklands, Bridgwater.

Karasouli Cemetery, Greece.

Row C. Grave 444.

**Randall**

Charles William

Private

8501

2nd Battalion Dorsetshire Regiment. Died in Mesopotamia 18th August 1916..

Not listed in "Soldiers Died" part 18 SLI. County Memorial = SLI.

He was the 27 year old son of Eliza Rolls, of Carters Avenue, Hamworthy, Poole, Dorset. Baghdad (North Gate) War Cemetery, Iraq.

Plot XXI. Row F. Grave 30.

**Randall** George Charles Sapper Royal Engineers.  
No SDGW.  
No CWGC.

**Randall**  
James William  
Private  
20403  
7<sup>th</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.  
Killed in action in F 11<sup>th</sup> September 1917.  
?? a Somereset born soldier.  
Cement House Cemetery, Langemarck, Ypres, West Flanders, Belgium.  
Plot VIII. Row B. Grave 27.

**Redding**  
Clifford  
Private  
26715  
6<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K1) Somerset Light Infantry.  
(43<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 14<sup>th</sup> (Light) Division).  
Died of wounds 8<sup>th</sup> June 1917.  
He was the 26 year old husband of Mrs A.A.M. Redding, of 46, Barclay Street,  
Bridgwater.  
Achiet-le-Grand Communal Cemetery or Extension, Somme.  
Plot 1. Row J. Grave 11.

**Redding**  
Henry  
Sergeant  
240048  
1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.  
(233<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 75<sup>th</sup> Division) Egyptian Expeditionary Force).  
Killed in action on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1917 during the Battle of Nabi Samweil,  
Palestine 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> November.  
On the 23<sup>rd</sup> November the 1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> SLI suffered their heaviest casualties of the  
campaign in an unsuccessful attack on the village of El Jib approximately 5 miles NW  
of Jerusalem. Losses amounted to 69 killed and over 400 wounded.  
Henry Redding was the son of Mrs Sarah Redding: husband of Kate Redding, of 44,  
Barclay Street, Bridwater, Somerset.  
He is buried in Jerusalem War Cemetery, Israel.  
Row B Grave 74.

**Reed**  
P M  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry and Royal Flying Corps  
Died 27<sup>th</sup> December 1915.  
Aged 18, he was the son of T.M.Reed and Ethel M. Reed of 2, Glenwood Mansions,  
The Shrubbery, Weston super Mare.  
Cairo War Cemetery, Egypt.  
Row D. Grave 23A.

**Reed**

Stephen  
Corporal  
P/785  
Private

2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Coldstream Guards.

Transferred to 586726 Labour Corps.

Died Home = in the UK 10<sup>th</sup> November 1918. CWGC 27<sup>th</sup> April 1918.

Stephen Reed was the husband of Emily Maud Reed, of 21, Old Taunton Road,  
Bridgwater.

Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery (Church portion).  
Plot III. Row 3. Grave 10.

**Renwick**

William Thomas  
Gunner  
110511

299 Siege Battery Royal Garrison Artillery.

Killed in action 29<sup>th</sup> August 1918.

He was the brother of Mr B. Renwick, of Bridgwater.

Bienvillers Military Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France.

Plot XX. Row F. Grave 7.

**Rich**

Francis. Frederick. Herbert.

**MM**

Corporal  
510410

20<sup>th</sup> TF Depot Royal Engineers.

Died (H)=in the UK 16<sup>th</sup> May 1918.

Francis Rich was the 22 year old son of Frederick James and Alice Mary Rich, of  
Myrtle Villa, 1, Wembdon Road, Bridgwater.

North Petherton Cemetery.

Plot III. "C" Grave 1.

**Richards**

Alfred George  
Lance Corporal  
2303

1<sup>st</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Manchester Regiment.

(127<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 42<sup>nd</sup> (East Lancashire) Division).

Killed in action at Gallipoli 11<sup>th</sup> July 1915.

Arrived Helles May 1915.

He was the 21 year old son of George James, and Miranda Jane Richards, of 14,  
Wembdon Road, Bridgwater.

Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey. Panels 158-17

**Roberts**

Roland  
Private  
9000

2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Coldstream Guards.  
Transferred to 586726 Labour Corps.  
Died Home = in the UK 10<sup>th</sup> November 1918.  
Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery (Church portion).  
Plot I. Row 5. Grave 8.

**Roberts**

Robert  
C.Q.M.S.  
297996

Canadian Forestry Corps.  
Died of pneumonia 6<sup>th</sup> February 1919.  
Robert Roberts was the husband of Edna Bessie Roberts, of 968, Angus Street,  
Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada.  
His Canadian Attestation record is contained in RG 150 Box 8341 50 sheets.  
Date of birth 18<sup>th</sup> November 1887.  
Current address of next of kin his wife Mrs Edna Roberts 1368, Scarth Street, Regina,  
Saskatchewan.  
Occupation Lumberman.  
Previous military service 95<sup>th</sup> saskatchewan Rifles.  
Date of enlistment in Regina 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1916.  
Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery (Church portion).  
Plot III. Border Grave 26.

**Roberts**

Samuel  
Private  
473

5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.  
Died Home = in the UK 19<sup>th</sup> October 1914.  
Samuel Roberts was the son of William Roberts, ; husband of Rose Roberts, of 74,  
Barclay Street, Bridgwater.he was 39.  
Bridgwater (St John's) Cemetery. Location Ref I 2925.

## **Roman**

Walter James

Private

5592

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Died of wounds Home = in the UK 28<sup>th</sup> July 1916, probably Somme.

Walter James Roman was born on July 1<sup>st</sup> 1880 in West Street, Bridgwater he was the son of George (a brickyard labourer) and Bessie. His rugby career began in 1893 when at the age of 13 he joined the Bridgwater Dreadnoughts. He captained the side for two seasons playing centre-three-quarter. The club was disbanded in 1895 and Walter joined the Bridgwater Club (senior) and made his debut for them at the age of only 15. He was obviously recognised as something of a star from this early age, and in 1897 he represented Somerset in County Friendly matches against Middlesex, Surrey and Glamorgan.

His army career begins in 1899 when he enlisted in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry. He saw service in South Africa in the Boer War and was awarded the Queen's South Africa Medal, Cape Colony, Orange Free State, Transvaal and the King's South Africa Medal. In 1901 he transferred to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of the Somerset Light Infantry and served in India for five years. Whilst stationed at Cawnpore for two years the Battalion formed a Rugby Club, and after an easy time beating local teams entered the Calcutta Cup but were beaten in the first round. In 1907 Walter was discharged from the army and returned to Bridgwater, where he worked as a brickyard labourer.

He rejoined the Bridgwater Rugby Club, became captain and represented Somerset sixteen more times. In the 1909/10 season Walter featured in a number of England trials and many believed him to be a future England player. It seems to be much to his disappointment that he was not chosen for England's team to play Wales, and he subsequently embraced professionalism and signed for Rochdale Hornets Northern Union team (Rugby League) and in January 1910 for what was rumoured at the time to be the substantial fee of £20.

As well as play rugby in Rochdale; Walter became landlord of a public house, the Beehive Hotel, only half a mile from the Hornet's ground. He became captain of the team in November 1911, played for Wales and the West of England against Australia at Bristol AFC (Australia won 28-3) and in February 1914 he played for England against Wales at St Helens (England won 16-12) Also in this year he was chosen for the Northern Union tour of Australia although he never won a test cap, he played several games and scored one try. The tour was cut short by the outbreak of war. When 'Rattler' returned to England he was recalled to the Army (number 5592) and rejoined the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion as a Corporal. He advanced to Sergeant but was unfortunately court marshalled for drunkenness and reduced to Private on the 12<sup>th</sup> July 1915. The record of service of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry and list of wounded indicate that on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916, the first day of the Battle of the Somme and Walter's 36<sup>th</sup> birthday, he was admitted to the 12<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance with wounds to the thigh, hand and leg and was evacuated to England from France on the 5<sup>th</sup> July 1916.

He was hospitalised at Cheltenham and initially his health appeared to improve, after a couple of weeks he was able to write a few lines to his wife in Rochdale. However a telephone call was received in Rochdale soon after asking Mrs Roman to go to Cheltenham as soon as [possible as her husband's condition was serious. The Rochdale Gazette of the time stated that it was doubtful if she arrived in time to see



him alive. Walter 'Rattler' Roman died of wounds on the 8<sup>th</sup> July 1916 aged 36 at Cheltenham Military Hospital, Gloucestershire. He received the 1914-15 Star, British war and Victory Medals. His body was brought back to Bridgwater and the funeral took place in Holy Trinity Church where Walter had once been a chorister. The congregation was described as numerous and at the church about 40 members of D (Bridgwater) Company of the Somerset Volunteer Regiment formed up together with many local soldiers home on leave. He cortege progressed from the church to Wembdon Road Cemetery and a large crowd assembled at the gates. After the body had been lowered in the grave the choir sang 'On the Resurrection morning'. There were a large number of floral tribute including one from the customers of the Beehive Hotel.

The Rev. Edward de St. Croix buried him in a new grave  
(Section 4 Plot 2. Row 6 Grave 2) WRC on 1st August 1916

After his death, Walter's widow, Henrietta, returned to Bridgwater and ran a local pub with her brother. She died in 1935.

Brian Gillard. August 2005.

Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery (Church portion).

Location Plot IV. Row 6. Grave 2.

*[Additions supplied by Mr. Harry Frost]*

### **Rosier G S**

**No further details.**

### **Rossitter**

Henry Samuel

Driver

T4/213530

121 Company Royal Army Service Corps.

(28<sup>th</sup> Division).

Died 15<sup>th</sup> June 1918.

He was the son of Edward and Mary Rossitter, of 3, Hawkers Cottages, Bristol Road, Bridgwater.

Sarigol Military Cemetery Extension, Kriston, Greece.

Row C. Grave 499.

### **Rowles**

Harold William Thomas

Sapper

496353

478 Field Company Royal Engineers.

(61<sup>st</sup> (South Midland) Territorial Division).

Killed in action 19<sup>th</sup> March 1917.

Thiepval Memorial. Pier and Facw 8A and 8D.

### **Rowles**

Leonard Arthur John

**MM**

372733

1<sup>st</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Battalion (TF) Post Office Rifles The London Regiment.

(140<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 47<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> London) Territorial Division).

Killed in action 15<sup>th</sup> September 1916 during the Battle of Flers-Courcelette, Somme,  
15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> September 1916.

#### **The Battle of Flers-Courcelette Somme September 15<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>, 1916.**

The Battle of Flers-Courcelette was a major attempt by divisions of Rawlinson's  
Fourth Army to break through on the Somme in the direction of Bapaume.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> September, 1916, after a three day bombardment the 12 divisions,  
including the Canadian Corps, and the New Zealand Division attacked along a 10  
mile front from Combles to the valley of the Ancre and beyond with tanks in support  
for the first time.

The Infantry of the 61<sup>st</sup> Brigade attacked the Blue line between the villages of Morval  
and Les Boeuifs during the early hours of the 16<sup>th</sup>, and were met with heavy and very  
accurate machine-gun and minnenwerfer fire which caused many casualties. The 7<sup>th</sup>  
Somerset's lost all their senior officers. Later in the day they gained a little ground  
which they held until ammunition ran out awhen they were forced to retire having  
suffered yet more casualties The Battalion lost 65 killed with many others wounded.  
The Brigade was attached to the Guards Division whose objective was Les Boeuifs  
which they captured with heavy loss of life as the many burials in Les Boeuifs  
Cemeteray bear witness.

Leonard Rowles was the 28 year old son of John and Henrietta Rowles, of 65,  
Cambden Road, Bridgwater.

Caterpillar Valley Cemetery, Longueval, Somme.

Plot VII. Row G. Grave 31.

### **Russell**

William

Private

13745

10<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K3) Devonshire Regiment.

(79<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 26<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action Salonika/Macedonia 29<sup>th</sup> January 1918.

He was the 29 year old son of William Robert Russell, of 38, Union Street,  
Bridgwater.

Sarigol Military Cemetery, Kriston, Greece.

Row C. Grave 518.

**Saunders**

Reginald Bailey

Private

36322

2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Wiltshire Regiment.

(110<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 21<sup>st</sup> Division).

Died of wounds in France 31<sup>st</sup> May 1918 sustained during Battle of the Aisne (The German offensive in Champagne) May 27<sup>th</sup>-June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1918.

**The German offensive on the Aisne, May 27<sup>th</sup>-June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1918.**

The 8<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> British Divisions worn out as a result of fighting on the Somme and during the Battle of the Lys were transferred to the French Sixth Army sector for rest and refit. A large number of young reinforcements only partly trained had arrived. On May 1<sup>st</sup> the 21<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> Divisions were put in the line on a front of 15 miles between Reims and Soissons on account of enemy activity. On the 27<sup>th</sup> the Germans launched a powerful offensive against the French and British holding a twenty miles front.

He was the 18 year old son of William and Alice Saunders, of 1, "Hillgrove Villa", Newtown, Bridgwater.  
Soissons Memorial.

**Sear**

Victor Valentine

Private

7119

Machine Gun Corps Cavalry.

(formerly Somerset Light Infantry)

Killed in action in France 18<sup>th</sup> February 1917

(formerly R/7605 KRRC).

He was the 23 year old son of the late Robert Valentine and Emily Saunders, of Bridgwater.

Regina Trench, Grandcourt, Somme.

Plot V. Row C. Grave 14.

**Selley**

Jesse

Sapper

213339

264<sup>th</sup> Forestry Company Royal Engineers.

Died in France 24<sup>th</sup> October 1918.

(formerly SE/2018 AVC).

He was the 28 year old husband of Beatrice Annie Sully, of Brown's Buildings, Taunton Road, Bridgwater.

St Marie Cemetery, Le Havre, France.

D62. V. N. 1.

**Sellick**

Edmund Charles

Private

1027514

54<sup>th</sup> Battalion Canadian Infantry (Kootenay) Canadian Expeditionary Force.  
(11<sup>th</sup> Canadian Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Canadian Division).

Died 18<sup>th</sup> September 1918.

The CWGC was not informed of the next of kin.

From Canadian enlistment records which are contained in RG 150 Accession 1992-93/166 Box 8773-22 sheets.

Date of birth 7<sup>th</sup> February 1897.

Next of kin Lucy Sellick of St Matthew Street, Bridgwater, Somerset.

Address in Canada Cabourg, Ontario.

Enlisted Cabourg, Ontario.

Age on enlistment 19 years 1 month.

Terlincthun British Cemetery, Wimille, Pas de Calais, France.

Plot III. Row F. Grave 23.

**Sellick**

Richard Henry

Private

28527

15<sup>th</sup> (Service) (2<sup>nd</sup> Portsmouth) Hant Yeomanry Battalion Hampshire Regiment.  
(122<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Brigade 41<sup>st</sup> Division).

Killed in action 4<sup>th</sup> September 1918 during the advance in Flanders.

Voormezele Enclosure No 3, West Flanders, Belgium.

Plot XVI. Row L. Grave 19.

**Selway**

Marmaduke Sidney

Private

28724

15<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (2<sup>nd</sup> Portsmouth) Hampshire Regiment.  
(122<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Brigade 41<sup>st</sup> Division)

Killed in action 31<sup>st</sup> July 1918.

He was the 19 year old son of John and Eva Selway, of Barclay Street, Bridgwater.

Esquelbecq Military Cemetery, Nord, France

Plot III. Row D. Grave 22.

**Senior**

Edward

Private

16963

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.  
(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action in the Ypres Salient 8<sup>th</sup> August 1916.

He was the 37 year old son of James and Ellen Senior of, 11, Bath Road, Bridgwater.

Essex Farm Cemetery, Boesnghe, West Flanders, Belgium.

Plot III. Row B. Grave 41.

**Not listed in "Soldiers Died" Part 18 SLI.**

**Shaddick**

Clifford  
Private  
20077

6<sup>th</sup> (service) Battalion (K1) Somerset Light Infantry.  
(43<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 14<sup>th</sup> (Light) Division).

Killed in action in Delville Wood, Somme 18<sup>th</sup> August 1916.

**The operation involving 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.**

On the morning of the 18<sup>th</sup> at 3am the four Coys of the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion moved up from the village of Montauban to the assembly positions in the SE corners of Delville Wood and at 6am a preliminary bombardment commenced on BEER Trench and HOP ALLEY.

At 2.45pm attacking troops advanced across NML and entered enemy trenches at the junction of BEER TRENCH and HOP ALLEY.

Heavy fighting took place at this point.

At 6pm an enemy counter-attack developed from PINT TRENCH but the positions gained earlier were held.

The cost of the operation was 5 officers killed 7 officers wounded, 48 o/rs killed, 220 wounded and missing.

The CWGC was not informed of the next of kin.  
Born Bridgwater, resident Abertridwr, Glamorgan.  
Thiepval Memorial. Pier and Face 2A.

**Southwood**

Stanley James  
Corporal  
9568

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

1. Died Home = in the UK 8<sup>th</sup> September 1919.
2. Stanley A Southwood was the 25 year old son of John and Florence Southwood, of Dunball, Bridgwater,
3. Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery. Location C. 89.

**Steadman**

J.R.  
Private  
9460

No 1 Company 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Coldstream Guards.

Died of wounds 1<sup>st</sup> November 1917.

The 26 year old son of Alfred Steadman, of 115, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham; husband of Ethel May Westgate (formerly Steadman) of T 14 Block, Victoria Barracks, Windsor.

Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery (Church portion).  
Plot I. Row 2. Grave 21.

**Short**

Percy

Bristol Z/1333

H.M.S. "Victory" Royal Naval Division.

Died 21<sup>st</sup> November 1917.

He was the 23 year old son of Frederick William and Mary Short, of 72, Alma Street, Taunton. Educated at Taunton School.  
Plymouth Naval Memorial. Panel 25

**Shrimpton**

Richard Kenneth

Company Sergeant Major

3460

45<sup>th</sup> (New South Wales) Infantry Battalion Australian Imperial Force.

(12<sup>th</sup> Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Australian Division).

(11<sup>th</sup> Reinforcement).

Died of wounds on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> June 1917.

Richard Shrimpton was the 34 years old son of Frederick Edward and Elizabeth E Bleaton Shrimpton, of Northfield, Bridgwater, Somerset.

**From Australian enlistment records**

**Attestation Form.**

Date of enlistment 6<sup>th</sup> September 1915.

Age on enlistment 32 years 5 months.

Marital Status Single.

Trade or profession Estate Agent.

Next of kin as above.

Served in the South African Constabulary 2.5 years

Also Transvaal Police 1.5 years.

**Active Service record.**

Embarked from Sydney aboard the H.M.A.T "port Lincoln A17 on the 13<sup>th</sup> October 1915.

Disembarked\*\*\*\*\*

Corporal 25<sup>th</sup> March 1916, Sergeant 11<sup>th</sup> May 1916, Warrant Officer 4<sup>th</sup> December 1916.

**From Australian Embarkation records.**

Next of kin Mr F.E. Shrimpton, Northfield, Bridgwater, Somerst.

Date of enlistment 18<sup>th</sup> August 1915.

Date of embarkation 13<sup>th</sup> October 1915.

Address in Australia Dapline Street, Botany, Sydney, New South Wales.

12<sup>th</sup> Training Battalion Codford 17<sup>th</sup> November Etaples 17<sup>th</sup> November 16.

Wounded 7<sup>th</sup> June 1917 Gun shot wound.

Etaples Military Cemetery.

Plot XXV. Row J. Grave 12A.

**Silby**

George Robinson

Gunner

74326

"B" Battery 69 Brigade Royal Field Artillery.

Killed in action 26<sup>th</sup> April 1916.

Amara War Cemetery, Iraq.

Plot XXII. Row E. Grave 15.

**Silke**

Henry Alfred George  
Sapper  
496915

497<sup>th</sup> (Kent) Field Company Royal Engineers.  
(29<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action in Flanders 12<sup>th</sup> April 1918, during the powerful German Lys offensive aimed at the strategic rail centre of Hazebrouck and the Channel ports  
April 9<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>, 1919.

**The Battle of the Lys, April 9<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>, 1918.**

On April 9<sup>th</sup>, following an artillery bombardment of considerable intensity, nine enemy divisions attacked a frontage held by three Allied divisions between the La Basse Canal and Armentiers. The flanks of the sector held to the north by the 40<sup>th</sup> Division and in the south by the 55<sup>th</sup> Division were subjected to a prolonged and heavy saturation by gas shell. In the centre the 2<sup>nd</sup> Portuguese Division, due to be relieved that very day by the 50<sup>th</sup> and 51<sup>st</sup> Divisions, were holding an extended front of 7,000 yards. The full force of the attack fell on unfortunate Portuguese who gave way and fled the battlefield clogging the roads and further delaying the two relieving divisions. A gap opened up and by noon that day, the enemy, reinforced by a further seven divisions had penetrated to a depth of three miles. By next day 24 miles of frontage had been engulfed and a bridgehead was established across the River Lys between Saily and Bac st Maur, at the junction of the 40<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> Divisions. By nightfall on the 12<sup>th</sup> the enemy committed a further five divisions and widened his frontage northwards from Armentiers towards the Ypres Comines Canal forcing the 19<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> Divisions to withdraw towards Bailleul and Mont Kemmel. During the advance repeated counter-attacks both in the northern and southern sectors achieved little, Bailleul and the Ravensburg ridge fell and on the 15<sup>th</sup>, Merville, Vieux Berquin and Meteren had also fallen french troops who had taken over Mont Kemmel had to retire toward the Scherpenburg following costly encounters. As the end of the month approached the enemy momentum was lost and enemy attempt on the 29<sup>th</sup> failed and the offensive came to an end.

The area captured during the period 9<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> april 1918 remained in enemy hands until retaken during the Advance in Flanders between August 18<sup>th</sup>- September 6<sup>th</sup>.

Henry Silke was the 30 year old son of Alfred Jonas Rowe Silke and Ellen Jane Silke, of Bridgwater; husband of Hilda Silke, of 80, Cabden Road, Bridgwater.

Le Grand Beaumart British Cemetery, Steenwerke, West Flanders, Belgium.  
Plot II. Row A. Grave 6.

**Smith**

Sydney  
Private  
7851

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.  
(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 26<sup>th</sup> August 1914 during the Battle of Le Cateau.

He was the 26 year old son of William and Harriett Smith, of Whitehall, Station Road, Taunton; husband of Louisa Smith, of 5, Court, West Street, Bridgwater.  
La Ferte-sous-Jouarre Memorial to the 'Missing' of the Battles of Mons, Le Cateau, the Marne and the Aisne in 1914.

**Smith**

Sydney

A G Air Mechanic 2<sup>nd</sup> Class

102945

34 Squadron Royal Air Force.

Died 24<sup>th</sup> July 1918.

He was the son of Sidney and Annie Smith, of 29, Caryle Street Terrace, Bristol Road, Bridgwater.

The Squadron was based at Villaverla, Italy where it was equipped with Bristol F2B Aircraft.

Tezze British Cemetery, Italy.

Plot 5. Row C. Grave 17.

**Southwood**

Stanley James

Lance Corporal

9568

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

Died 8<sup>th</sup> September 1919.

He was the 25 year old son of John and Florence Southwood, of Dunball, Bridgwater. Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery.

Row C. Grave 69.

**Spragg**

Bert

Private

19172

5<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K1) Dorsetshire  
(34<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 11<sup>th</sup> (Northern) Division).

Killed in action in France 11<sup>th</sup> January 1917.

(formerly 1172 NSY).

Cayeux Military Cemetery, Cayeux-en-Santerre, Somme.

Plot II. Row A. Grave 19.

The site of No 36 R.A.M.C Casualty Clearing Station

19<sup>th</sup> March 1917-1<sup>st</sup> April 1917

9<sup>th</sup> April 1917-13<sup>th</sup> May 1917.

**Spraggs**

Edwin

17979

11<sup>th</sup> Battalion Somerset light Infantry

(177<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 59<sup>th</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> North Midland Division).

Killed in action F/F23<sup>rd</sup> October 1918 during the Final Advance in Artois and Flanders.

He was the 42 year old husband of Emily Spraggs, of Bisgood Buildings, Somerset Bridge, Bridgwater.

Tournai Communal Cemetery Allied Extension, Hainaut, Belgium.

Plot II. Row J. Grave 10.



### **Spriggs**

Albert Ernest

Private

46540

14<sup>th</sup> Battalion Canadian Infantry (Royal Montreal) Canadian Expeditionary Force.  
(3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Infantry Brigade 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Division).

Killed in action 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1916 during the Battle of Mount Sorrell June 2<sup>nd</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>  
At 7 minutes past one o'clock on the afternoon of 2<sup>nd</sup> June the German XIII Corps  
with some assistance from corps on its flanks assaulted the sector of the Canadian  
Corps which lay between Hill 60 and Hooze, where on the German's land averaged less than  
150 yards wide.

This front extended from a point half-a-mile south west of St Eloi, through the Bluff  
and Hill 60 (in German possession) to a point five hundred yards north-west of  
Hooze, with a total length of slightly more than five and a half miles.

He was the son of Mrs G. Spriggs, of 110, Bristol Road, Bridgwater.

His Canadian records are contained in RG 150 32 sheets.

Albert Spriggs was born 6<sup>th</sup> May 1893.

His next of kin Elizabeth Spriggs of 110, Bristol Road, Bridgwater.

Trade Collar Cutter.

Previous military service in Grenadier Guards.

Age on enlistment 22 years 11 months. Enlisted at Valcartier Camp Quebec on the  
28<sup>th</sup> September 1914.

Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial. Panels 24-26.

### **Spring**

Albert Henry

Private

12341

15<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> Birmingham) Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment.  
(95<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 32<sup>nd</sup> Division).

Killed in action 21<sup>st</sup> October 1916.

(formerly 49369 Royal Garrison Artillery).

He was the 35 year old husband of Elizabeth Spring, of 81, St Stephens Street,  
Salford, Manchester.

Brown's Road Military Cemetery, Festubert, Pas de Calais, France.  
Plot II. Row A. Grave 17.

### **Steadman**

J.R

Private

9460

No1 Company 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Coldstream Guards.

Died of wounds 1<sup>st</sup> November 1917.

He was the 26 year old son of Alfred Steadman, of 115, Albert Road, Handsworth,  
Birmingham; husband of Ethel May Westgate (formerly Steadman) of T.14 Block,  
Victoria Barracks, Windsor..

Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery (Church portion) I. 2. 21.

Connection with Bridgwater not known but he is recorded on the Book of  
Remembrance.

**Stone**  
Charlie  
Private  
50057

19<sup>th</sup> (Service) (3<sup>rd</sup> City of Liverpool) Battalion King's Liverpool Regiment.  
(89<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 30<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 31<sup>st</sup> July 1917 during the Battle of Pilckem Ridge, Ypres.  
(formerly T4/956780 RASC).

**The Third Battles of Ypres 31<sup>st</sup> July –November 10<sup>th</sup>, 1917.**

An Allied offensive in the Ypres Salient was designed to break through enemy defences the successful outcome of which was to have been the link up with an amphibious force under the command of General Rawlinson.

Seven days before the Fifth Army attack on the 31<sup>st</sup> July, a bombardment by 3,091 guns of which 999 were heavies began pounding German front and rear areas. The weather to the 31<sup>st</sup> July had been generally dry and it was hoped it would stay that way.

The Flanders plain is land reclaimed from the sea and the water table was therefore high. In winter a shallow trench would soon fill with water.

Into this area British artillery hurled four and a quarter million shells  
On the 31<sup>st</sup> July at 3.50 am 12 Divisions of General Sir Hubert Gough's Fifth Army attacked east of Ypres along a seven mile front with the aim of quickly taking the Pilckem Ridge

As fate was to determine the weather deteriorated, heavy and continuous rain set in what was to become the wettest August to November periods on record.

By the end of the second day an advance of 2-3 miles had been made Pilckem was captured by the 38<sup>th</sup> (Welsh) Division, the Steebeeck by the 51<sup>st</sup> (Highland) Frezenburg by the 15<sup>th</sup> (Scottish) and Pomern Castle by the 55<sup>th</sup> (West Lancashire) Division.

Westhoek, St Julien, Sanctuary Wood and Hooge had also been taken  
The bombardment completely destroyed the drainage system and the terrain over which the infantry and engineers were to fight over the next three months was appalling. Trench systems having disappeared men, reaching the limits of their endurance floundered around in a knee deep morass, The few well defined tracks across the desolation over which men and pack animals brought up supplies became targets for enemy artillery.

**The attack by the 30<sup>th</sup> Division up the Menin Road with the support of tanks was brought to a standstill as one by one seventeen tanks were destroyed  
By the middle of August the Fifth Army advance had not even reached the objectives planned for the 31<sup>st</sup> July**

The weeks went by with repeated attacks, interspersed with lulls in activity, Langemarck, August 16-18<sup>th</sup>, Menin Road, September 20<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>, Broodseinde October 4<sup>th</sup>, Poelcappelle October 9<sup>th</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> Passchendaele October 12 and the final capture of Passchendaele and Ridge October 26<sup>th</sup>-November 10<sup>th</sup> when the battle was closed down.

The optimistic vision of a break through and a link up to the rear employing the Cavalry Division was but a dream. And the cost in human life had been appalling.  
Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial. Panels 4 and 6.

**Stone**

Henry John  
Corporal  
301

32<sup>nd</sup> Australian Infantry Battalion Australian Expeditionary Force.

The CWGC have no record of him.

His Australian records indicate

Date of enlistment 28<sup>th</sup> June 1915.

Place of enlistment Keswick South Australia.

**Returned to Australia 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1917.**

Date of death 25<sup>th</sup> February 1920.

Age at death 32.

Place of burial Payneham Cemetery, South Australia.

**Storey**

Arthur  
Sapper  
167856

237 Field Company Royal Engineers.

(41<sup>st</sup> Division).

Killed in action 25<sup>th</sup> March 1918.

Arras Memorial. Bay 1.

**Storey**

Frederick  
Private  
20687

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 20<sup>th</sup> October 1916 during the later battles of The Somme.

(Le Transloy Ridges October 1<sup>st</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>).

Thiepval Memorial. Pier and Face 2A.

**Storey**

John  
Sapper  
550448

520 (London) Field Company Royal Engineers.

(47<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> London) Territorial Division).

Killed in action 21<sup>st</sup> June 1917.

He was the son of Dorcas Storey, of 5, Sydenham Terrace, Bath Road, Bridgwater.

Chester Farm Cemetery, Zillebeke, near Ypres, West Flanders, Belgium.

Plot III. Row C. Grave 9.

**Sully**

Francis John  
Private  
TF/292573

3<sup>rd</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment.

Killed in action Flanders 4<sup>th</sup> October 1917.

He was the 27 year old husband of Mrs C. Pike, (formerly Sully), of 51, First Avenue, Bath.

Tyne Cot Memorial, Passchendaele, West Flanders, Belgium. Panels 113-115.

### **Sweet**

Edward Charles

Private

26549

7<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K2) Somerset Light Infantry.

(61<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade 20<sup>th</sup> (Light) Division).

Killed in action 30<sup>th</sup> November 1917 during the enemy counter-attack phase in the battle of Cambrai November 20<sup>th</sup>-December 7<sup>th</sup> 1917.

Cambrai Memorial to the 7,048 'Missing' of the battle of Cambrai, 1917, Louverval, Nord, France.

### **Symons**

R.C.

Lieutenant

3<sup>rd</sup> Wessex Coy Royal Army Service Corps.

Died 13<sup>th</sup> September 1915.

Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery (Chapel portion). Location ??

Not on the Somerset County Memorial.

### **Tambling**

C.F

Private

165344

1<sup>st</sup>/1<sup>st</sup> North Somerset Yeomanry.

(6<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Brigade 3<sup>rd</sup> Cavalry Division).

Killed in action 11<sup>th</sup> April 1917 during the 1<sup>st</sup> Battle of The Scarpe, Arras, April 9<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>, 1917.

### **The Battles of Arras April-May 1917.**

On Easter Monday the 9<sup>th</sup> of April, 1917 in sleet and snow driven on a bitterly cold wind the four Divisions of General Byng's Canadian Corps attacked the crest of Vimy Ridge along a four mile front

Supported by the artillery of the Canadian Corps comprising 480 25 pounders and 138 4.5 howitzers plus 248 heavy heavy guns and howitzers

Possession of the ridge would give the Canadians the panoramic view over the Douai Plain from the 200 foot eastern side of the ridge, immediately below lay the villages of Vimy, Thelus, Farbus, and Givenchy

This powerful offensive by General Horne's First Army despite considerable opposition by an enemy in strong defensive positions on the gently rising forward slope of the ridge was overcome and by nightfall the Canadians gazed out across wide open views behind enemy lines.

On the left flank the 13<sup>th</sup> Brigade of the 5<sup>th</sup> British Division attacked from Neuville-St-Vaast.

By the 14<sup>th</sup> the ridge, the eastern slopes and the villages of Vimy, Petit Vimy, Farbus and Hill 145 were securely in the possession of the attackers.

Canadian casualties in the operation amounted to approx 20,000 of whom 4,000 were fatalities.

On the right flank of this operation the Third Army under the command of General Allenby attacked along an eight mile front astride the Scarpe, Cojeul to the Sensee rivers around Croisilles.

This mighty offensive commencing also on the 9<sup>th</sup> April involved 16 British infantry and three Cavalry divisions followed a three week bombardment by 2,879 guns 989 of them heavy guns and howitzers. The offensive was aimed at breaching the

Drocourt-Queant Switch line protecting the end of the Hindenburg Line from an outflanking attack. The Drocourt-Queant Line however was up to 5 miles distant. This operation was termed the 1<sup>st</sup> Battle of the Scarpe and lasted until the 14<sup>th</sup> April. On April 23<sup>rd</sup> a further attempt by 13 Divisions including 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian to push forward this was termed the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battle of the Scarpe.

The battle of Arleux was fought on the 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> and on May 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>  
The battles of Arras came to a close with the Third Battle of the Scarpe May 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>  
There followed action at Roeux on the 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> May and action at Oppy Wood n  
June.

This month long series of very costly battles resulted in advancing the front lines for several miles with the capture of the devastated villages of Gavrell, Fampoux, Feuchy, Monchy-le-Preux, Geumappe, Wancourt and Heninel at a terrible cost in lives.

British and Canadian losses in killed wounded and missing in the opening phase of the Battle to April 14<sup>th</sup> are recorded as over 150,000.

The Drocourt-Queant line was never reached.

The daily casualty rate for the battles of Arras exceeded that of the battles of the Somme and third Ypres (Passchendaele).

He was the 23 year old son of William Austin Tambling, of Horncastle, Yastton, near Bristol.

Feuchy Chapel British Cemetery, Wancourt, Arras.  
Special Memorial. Plot III. Row D. Grave 17  
Buried near this spot..

**Taylor**

Charles Henry  
Driver  
66<sup>th</sup> Brigade  
112921

Royal Field Artillery.

Died in Mesopotamia 9<sup>th</sup> December 1917.  
Baghdad (North Gate) War Cemetery, Iraq.  
Plot XII. Row G Grave 4.

**Taylor**

W.H.  
Private  
278109

10<sup>th</sup> Battalion Essex Regiment.

Died Home = in the UK 14<sup>th</sup> July 1918.  
Bridgwater (St John's) Cemetery, Location ref 3. 1544.  
**Not on the Somerset County Memorial.**

**Thomas**

Francis Felix Banks  
Private  
M/414755

1<sup>st</sup> Base Mechanical Transport Company Royal Army Service Corps.  
Died 19<sup>th</sup> February 1919. Aged 31, he was the son of Harry and Eliza Thomas of Frampton-on-Severn, Gloucestershire.

Bois Guillaume Communal Cemetery Extension, Rouen, France.  
Row G. Grave 228.

**Thorne**

William

Private

34995

15<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (Carmarthenshire) Welsh Regiment.

(114<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 36<sup>th</sup> Welsh Division).

Died 6<sup>th</sup> August 1917.

Dozinghem Military Cemetery, Westvleteren, West Flanders, Belgium.

Plot II. Row E. Grave 1.

**Tincknell**

William

Private

10902

6<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K1) Somerset Light Infantry.

(43<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 14<sup>th</sup> Light Division).

Hit in the stomach by a stray bullet as the battalion pulled out of dugouts west of  
Ypres.(see History of the SLI)

Died of wounds 9<sup>th</sup> August 1915.

He was the 23 year old son of Charles and Bessie Tincknell, of 102, Bristol Road,  
Bridgwater.

Lijsssthenhoek Military Cemetery, Poperinge, West Flanders, Belgium.

Plot 1. Row C . Grave 4.

**Tottle**

Henry

Corporal

240754

1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.

(233<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 75<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1917 during the Battle for Nabi Samweil on the  
approaches to Jerusalem.

Henry Tottle was the 21 year old son of Mr and Mrs Tottle, of 8, Halswell Lane,  
Bridgwater.

He is buried in Jerusalem War Cemetery, Israel.

Row X. Grave 24.

**Tottle**

Walter James

Corporal

202164

2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> TF Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

Died 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1918.

Bridgwater (St John's) Cemetery.

2. 2591.

Not listed in "Soldiers Died Part 18 SLI).

### **Treliving**

Walter Ricks

2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut Royal Army Service Corps.

Died home = in the UK 11<sup>th</sup> Octobewr 1918.

Walter Treliving was the 42 year old son of James Rufus and Elizabeth treliving, of  
Bridgwater.

Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery Church portion.

Location 8.

### **Trunks**

Walter Benjamin

Private

36221

43 Company Machine Gun Corps (Inf).

Killed in action near Arras, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1917.(3<sup>rd</sup> Scarpe)

(formerly 18850 Somerset Light Infantry).

Wancourt British Cemeter, Arras.

Plot V. Row E. Grave 21.

### **Turner**

Clifford

Lance Sergeant

240350

1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.

(233<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 75<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 9<sup>th</sup> April 1918 during the battle for the village of Berukin, 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>  
April Palestine.

Clifford Turner was the son of William Turner, of 25, Mary Street, Porth, by his wife,  
Elizabeth, dan of Joseph Holman; born Bridgwater.27<sup>th</sup> July 1897; educated Albert  
Street Council School there; was a miner who joined the Somerset Light Infantry in  
March 1912.; was called up on mobilisation, and proceeded to India with his  
regiment; served with the Egyptian Expeditionary Force in Palestine from 10<sup>th</sup>

January, 1917, and was killed in action 9<sup>th</sup> April,

Buried in a little village he helped to capture.

Now in Ramleh War Cemetery, Israel.

Row N. Grave 36.

### **Turner**

Robert

Private

241101

2<sup>nd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

Died 12<sup>th</sup> August 1916.

The Battalion arrived in Burma on 10<sup>th</sup> November 1914, where it remained for the  
duration, on garrison duty. Whilst there, several drafts of reinforcements were sent to  
the 1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Bn in Mesopotamia

Baghdad (North Gate) Cemetery, Iraq.

Plot XXI. Row W. Grave 4.

**Turner**

Sidney Joseph  
Lance/ Corporal  
38509

12th Battalion Highland Light Infantry.

Died of wounds (Gas) 2nd July 1921.

(formerly Royal Army Service Corps).

Sidney Turner was the husband of B. Turner, of 53, Barclay Street, Bridgwater.

Bridgwater (St John's) Cemetery (Chapel portion) Location ref 2. 2442.

Not on the town Memorial.

Not on the Somerset County Memorial.

**Valentine**

John

Private

29316

6th (Service) Battalion (K1) Somerset Light Infantry.

(43rd Infantry Brigade 14th Light Division).

Died 26th June 1918.

Hautmont Communal Cemetery, 3 miles Mabeuge, Nord, France.

Plot V. Row A. Grave 8.

This cemetery was used by the Germans as a Prisoner of War cemetery to November 1918 when it was captured.

**Vickery**

Bertie James

Corporal

265492

1st Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(11th Infantry Brigade 4th Division).

Killed in action 31st August 1918 during the Second Battles of Arras, August 26th-  
September 3rd.

Vis-en-Artois Memorial., Pas de Calais, France. Panel 4.

**Vickery**

W.G.

Private

89195

13th Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers.

Died Home = in the UK 28th November 1919. Age 26

Bridgwater (Wembdon Road ) Cemetery (Chapel portion) Location ??



### **Vowles**

Charles

Private

204412

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action in France 16<sup>th</sup> April 1918 during the German Lys offensive April 9<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> the objective being the strategic rail centre of Hazebrouck and the Channel ports.. Commencing on the 9<sup>th</sup> April in the vicinity of Armentiers and extending south to the

La Basse Canal, nine enemy divisions attacked the front held by three **worn out** Allied divisions the **40<sup>th</sup>** in the north 2<sup>nd</sup> Portuguese centre and the **55<sup>th</sup>** in the south .The main weight of the enemy attack fell upon the 2<sup>nd</sup> Portuguese Division holding an extended front of 7,000 yards the two flank divisions were subjected to a bombardment of gas shell whilst the Portuguese sector was drenched with the contents of a thousand cylinders that had been installed in the enemy front line The Portuguese who were unprotected fled in panic leaving many dead and ying on the battlefield.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> reinforced by a further seven divisions the enemy had penetrated to a depth of three miles and by the 11<sup>th</sup> the front had extended northwards to 24 miles and had crossed the river Lys and Laws by nightfall on the 12<sup>th</sup> a further 5 enemy divisions had been committed between Armentiers and the Ypres Comines Canal forcing the 19<sup>th</sup> Western and 25<sup>th</sup> Divisions to withdraw toward Bailleul and Mont Kemmel.

The situation was stabilised with the arrival of many allied divisions including 19<sup>th</sup> Western

Charles Vowles was the 32 year old husband of Margaret Kate Vowles, of 84, Main Street, Walton, near Glastonbury.

Loos Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Panels 38-39.

### **Walford**

Bertie

Private

6780

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Died of wounds 14<sup>th</sup> July 1916. Sustained during the Battle of the Somme. He was the 24 year old son of Charles and Caroline Walford, of Bridgwater.

Bertrancourt Military Cemetery, Somme.

Plot 1. Row H. Grave 15.

### **Walters**

Alfred Charles

Able Seaman Bristol Z/1811

Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve

S.S "Tanfield".

Died (Home = in the UK 20<sup>th</sup> February 1919.

The SS "Tanfield" 4538 tons was torpedoed by a submarine in the English Channel 15<sup>th</sup> April 1918 but managed to reach port..

Alfred Walters was the 19 year old son of Alfred Charles Walters, of 31, Market Street, Bridgwater.

Bridgwater (Wembdon Road) Cemetery (church portion).

Plot I. Row 5 Grave 14.

**Ware**  
Thomas  
Private  
26063

6th (Service) Battalion (K1) Somerset Light Infantry.  
3rd Infantry Brigade 14th Light Division).

Killed in action 21st March 1918 the first day of Ludendorff's Great Spring offensive  
launched against the 5th and 3rd Armies 21st March-5th April 1918

On the 21st March 1918, three German Armies attacked on a forty mile front with 32  
divisions, and another 39 divisions in reserve, with the aim of winning the war. The  
British facing this massive offensive force had only 14 Infantry divisions on Byng's  
Third Army front of 26 miles and 3 Cavalry Divisions and 14 Infantry Divisions on  
Gough's Fifth Army Front of 42 miles. The Fifth Army bore the brunt of the attack.  
Ludendorff's aim was to split the British and French armies by driving on Amiens, an  
objective in which they almost succeeded.

Allied reserves arrived in the nick of time and the line was stabilised after a retreat of  
up to 40 miles to within 5 miles of Amiens. The Germans squandered their reserves  
and began to experience supply problems.

The British suffered huge losses in men and munitions.

General Gough was blamed for the Fifth Army debacle and was sacked by Haigh  
following political pressure.

He was the 26 year old son of Mathew and Mary Ware, of 12, Barclay Street,  
Bridgwater.

Poziers Memorial to the Fifth Army 'Missing' in 1918.  
Ovillers-la-Boiselle, Somme, France.  
Panels 25-26.

**Warren**  
Ernest William  
Guardsman  
15023

2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards.  
(1st Guards Brigade Guards Division).

Died of wounds 11th October 1915 probably sustained during the Battle of Loos

He was the son of Mrs E. Warren, of 53, Salmon Parade, Bridgwater.

Sailly-au-Bourse or La Bourse Communal Cemetery, Bethune, Pas de Calais, France  
Row K. Grave 8.

**Warren**  
Sidney John  
Private  
30489

1st/4th Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.  
Transferred to 285828 Labour Corps.

Died Home = in the UK of Pneumonia 27th November 1918

Sidney Warren was the 28 year old son of George and Elizabeth Warren, of 53,  
Salmon Parade, Bridgwater.

Bridgwater (St John's) Cemetery. Location ref 2. 2579.

**Washer**

Clifford

Private

19425

5<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K1) Dorsetshire Regiment.

(34<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 11<sup>th</sup> (Northern) Division).

Killed in action 12<sup>th</sup> January 1917.

(formerly 25920 Somerset Light Infantry).

He was the 36 year old husband of Sarah Waher, of 129, Richmond Road, Crewe.

Ancre British Cemetery, Beaumont-Hamel, Somme.

Plot IV. Row A. Grave 37.

**Webb**

Dennis

Private

20365

7<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K2) Somerset Light Infantry.

(61<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade 20<sup>th</sup> Light Division).

Died of wounds 5<sup>th</sup> October 1916.

Denis Webb was the 20 year old son of Mr and Mrs T. Webb, of Main Street, Walton  
near Glastonbury.

St Sever Cemetery, Rouen, Seine-Inf, France.

Plot B. Row 15. Grave 47.

**Webb**

Francis Henry

Private

202702

2<sup>nd</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

(182<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Brigade 61<sup>st</sup> (South Midland) Territorial Division).

Died 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1917.

St Julien Dressing Station Cemetery, Langemarck, Ypres, West Flanders, Belgium.

Plot IV. Row B. Grave 6.

**Webber**

William Francis

Private

241504

1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion TF Somerset Light Infantry.

(233<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 75<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action in Palestine 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1917.

The 75<sup>th</sup> Division arrived in Egypt from India on the 6<sup>th</sup> May 1917.

William Webber was the 36 year old son of William and Jane Webber, of Bridgwater;  
husband of M. Webber, of 9, All Saint's Terrace, Colly Lane, Bridgwater.

Gaza War Cemetery, Palestine.

Plot XVI. Row G. Grave 14.

**Wellman**

William Norman

Private

38187

1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(233<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 75<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action on the 11<sup>th</sup> April 1918 during fighting around Berukin April 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>  
in the invasion of Palestine.

(formerly T/4/07167 R.A.S.C).

He was the 40 year old son of Joseph and Susan Wellman, of Eastleigh, Hampshire.

Ramleh War Cemetery, Israel.

Row N. Grave 38.

**Weston**

Harry

Private

16676

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Division attacked the area around the Quadrilateral on the Redan Ridge north of Beaumont-Hamel and south of Serre. The 1<sup>st</sup> Somerset Light Infantry amongst other battalions of the Brigade succeeded in occupying the "Quadrilateral" during the day but were ejected by evening. Heavy, confused and costly fighting took place in the area during the day. The Somerset's casualties included approximately 140 killed, whose bodies for the most part lay out between the lines for months, and who are to be found commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the 73,000 'Missing' of the Somme.

Harry Weston was the 24 year old son of George and Alice Weston, of 16, Staple Cottage, Bicknoller, Taunton. was born at St Andrews, Bridgwater..

He has no known grave being commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the 'Missing' of The Somme.

Taken from "Soldiers Died" Part 18.

**Willcox**

Company. Sergeant. Major. C.

8572

**D.C.M.**

3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

**Russian Order of St George, 4<sup>th</sup> Class.**

Accidentally killed 4<sup>th</sup> December 1919, whilst boxing at the National Sporting Club, London.

Aged 26, he was the son of Mrs S.E. Willcox, of 298<sup>th</sup> Street, La Rochelle, Johannesburg, Transvaal, south Africa

Connection with Bwtr in doubt.

Bridgwater Wembdon Road) Cemetery (Church portion).

Plot III. Row 7. Grave 2.

**Not on the Somerset County Memorial.**

## **Williams**

Charles

Private

9634

8th (Service) Battalion (K3) Somerset Light Infantry.

(63rd Infantry Brigade 21st Division).

Killed in action near Fricourt 1st July 1916, the first day of the 1916 Battle of the Somme.

### **The Battles of the Somme July 1st-November 18th 1916.**

The attack on July 1st followed a seven day bombardment of enemy front support and reserve trenches, wire entanglements, artillery positions and dumps.

13 Divisions were assembled for the initial assault which took place along an eighteen mile front from Fonquevillers in the north to the junction with the French Sixth Army around Maricourt,

In the north two Territorial Divisions of the Third Army, the 46th (North Midland) and the 56th (London) attacked north and south of Gommecourt in a diversionary operation to hold down enemy troops in that area

The attack at Gommecourt went badly.

The main attack by Rawlinson's Fourth Army in order north to south

The 48th (South Midland) remained inactive.

The 31st Division attacked opposite the village of Serre.

The 4th Division attacked the area around the Quadrilateral on the Redan Ridge north of Beaumont-Hamel and south of Serre. The 1st Somerset Light Infantry amongst other battalions of and costly fighting took place during the day

The 29th Division attacked east of Beaumont-Hamel

A mine containing 40,000 pounds of Ammonal was exploded under the enemy front line trenches. Very heavy fighting incurred heavy loss on this division's front. The

Division's casualties were the second highest of the day 5,240.

The Newfoundland Battalion attacking "Y" Ravine sustained over 700 casualties.

The Division's objectives were not taken.

The 36th Division attacked from the edge of Thiepval Wood toward the Schwaben and Stuff Redoubts, heavy casualties were sustained by fire and also from Thiepval village as the Ulstermen advanced toward their objectives.

The Schwaben redoubt was occupied but the attackers were pinned down in front of uncut wire in front of the enemy second line

The 32nd Division attacked the Leipzig Salient and the "Wunder Werke" from Authuille Wood

Heavy machine-gun fire caused very severe casualties, pinned down the attackers in 'no mans land' and progress was impossible.

The 8th Division attacked up Mash Valley toward Ovillers-La-Boiselle and the Poziers Ridge..

The 34th Division attacked La Boiselle astride the road in the direction of Poziers Ridge.

The exploding of two huge mines at La Boiselle (Lochnager Crater) and "Y" Sap on either side of the village shortly before zero hour

The 34th Division suffered 6,800 casualties the heaviest of the day.

### **The 21st Division attacked and captured ground north of Fricourt and took the village of Contalmaison.**

The 21st Division with a Brigade of the 17th Division attacked and captured some ground north of Fricourt the village of Fricourt which was the objective of the 51st Brigade (17th Northern) Division was occupied on the morning of the second day In this sector very heavy casualties were sustained for very little gain particularly

among the 7<sup>th</sup> East Yorkshire and 10<sup>th</sup> West Yorkshire Battalions whose dead rest nearby..

8<sup>th</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry lost at least 112 dead

21<sup>st</sup> Division casualties of 4,256 were among the highest of that tragic day.

The 7<sup>th</sup> Division ( 9<sup>th</sup> Devons and 2<sup>nd</sup> Gordon Highlanders) attacking from Mansell copse succeeded in taking the village of Mametz in the face of heavy fire from Mametz, Danzig Alley and Fricourt Wood.

The 18<sup>th</sup> attacked on the 30<sup>th</sup> Division's left flank toward Pommiers Trench and Montauban Alley

The 30<sup>th</sup> captured the remains of the village of Montauban and captured Montauban Alley the enemy's last line of defence .

British troops now had the advantage of a line overlooking a wide open valley.

This was the great success of the day

**Those Divisions in the initial attack were by the end of the day so seriously depleted that new divisions were brought forward to replace them.**

Charles Williams is among the 73,412 who are commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the 'Missing' .

Edward

Driver

3 Company 29<sup>th</sup> Divisional Train Royal Army Service Corps.

He was the 23 year old son of Zacharia and Clara Jane Williams, of 99, West Street, Bridgwater.

Faubourg d' Amiens Cemetery, Arras, Pas de Calais, France.

Plot V. Row G. Grave 1.

### **Williams**

Thomas

Sapper

1326

503<sup>rd</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> Wessex Field Company Royal Engineers.

(27<sup>th</sup> Division).

Died of wounds in Mesopotamia 13<sup>th</sup> December 1916.

He was the 36 year old son of James and Elizabeth Williams, of North Petherton, Bridgwater.;husband of Ada Williams, of 92, Chilton Street, Bridgwater.

Struma Military Cemetery, Macedonia, Greece.

Plot VIII. Row B. Grave 11.

### **Winslade**

Thomas

Private

19520

8<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(63<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 37<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1917 during heavy enemy counter-attacks from the direction of Greenland Hill east of Arras. Second Battle of Arras, April 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>, 1917.

### **The Battles of Arras April-May 1917.**

On Easter Monday the 9<sup>th</sup> of April, 1917 in sleet and snow driven on a bitterly cold wind the four Divisions of General Byng's Canadian Corps attacked the crest of Vimy Ridge along a four mile front

Supported by the artillery of the Canadian Corps comprising 480 25 pounders and 138 4.5 howitzers plus 248 heavy heavy guns and howitzers

Possession of the ridge would give the Canadians the panoramic view over the Douai Plain from the 200 foot eastern side of the ridge, immediately below lay the villages of Vimy, Thelus, Farbus, and Givenchy

This powerful offensive by General Horne's First Army despite considerable opposition by an enemy in strong defensive positions on the gently rising forward slope of the ridge was overcome and by nightfall the Canadians gazed out across wide open views behind enemy lines.

On the left flank the 13<sup>th</sup> Brigade of the 5<sup>th</sup> British Division attacked from Neuville-St-Vaast.

By the 14<sup>th</sup> the ridge, the eastern slopes and the villages of Vimy, Petit Vimy, Farbus and Hill 145 were securely in the possession of the attackers.

Canadian casualties in the operation amounted to approx 20,000 of whom 4,000 were fatalities.

On the right flank of this operation the Third Army under the command of General Allenby attacked along an eight mile front astride the Scarpe, Cojeul to the Seneffe rivers around Croisilles.

This mighty offensive commencing also on the 9<sup>th</sup> April involved 16 British infantry and three Cavalry divisions followed a three week bombardment by 2,879 guns 989 of them heavy guns and howitzers. The offensive was aimed at breaching the Drocourt-Queant Switch line protecting the end of the Hindenburg Line from an outflanking attack. The Drocourt-Queant Line however was up to 5 miles distant. This operation was termed the 1<sup>st</sup> Battle of the Scarpe and lasted until the 14<sup>th</sup> April. On April 23<sup>rd</sup> a further attempt by 13 Divisions including 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian to push forward this was termed the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battle of the Scarpe.

The battle of Arleux was fought on the 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> and on May 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>

The battles of Arras came to a close with the Third Battle of the Scarpe May 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>

There followed action at Roeux on the 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> May and action at Oppy Wood on June.

This month long series of very costly battles resulted in advancing the front lines for several miles with the capture of the devastated villages of Gavrell, Fampoux, Feuchy, Monchy-le-Preux, Geumappe, Wancourt and Heninel at a terrible cost in lives.

British and Canadian losses in killed wounded and missing in the opening phase of the Battle to April 14<sup>th</sup> are recorded as over 150,000.

The Drocourt-Queant line was never reached.

**On the morning of the 10<sup>th</sup> April the 37<sup>th</sup> Division, (one of 19 Divisions involved) unsuccessfully attacked the heavily wired fortress village of Monch-le Preux, east of Arras. The following day there was another attempt involving a mixed up force of engineers and infantry of the 12<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 37<sup>th</sup> Divisions and by evening the village had fallen**

The series of very costly battles around Arras over the period of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battle of the Scarpe April 9<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> cost the British and Canadian Divisions 29,000 killed, 108,279 wounded and 20,876 missing.

The daily average casualty rate for the Battles of Arras, April -May, 1917, exceeded that of the Battles of the Somme and 3<sup>rd</sup> Ypres.

The 37<sup>th</sup> Division's soldier trio memorial is located at Monchy.

Brown's Copse Cemetery, Roeux, Arras, Pas de Calais, France.

Plot 1. Row H. Grave 1.

### **Winter**

Arthur John  
Able Seaman  
Bristol Z/1404.

Hawke Battalion Royal Naval Division.  
(189<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 63<sup>rd</sup> (Royal Naval) Division).

Killed in action near Arras 25<sup>th</sup> August 1918.

Arthur Winter was the 26 year old son of John Thomas and Sarah Winter, of 36, St John's Street, Bridgwater.

Bagneux British Cemetery, Gezaincourt, Somme.  
Plot IV. Row G. Grave 21.

### **Wood**

Ernest James  
Driver  
T4/212473

662<sup>nd</sup> Company Royal Army Service Corps.

Died Home = in the UK 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1919.

Ernest Wood was the 26 year old son of Alfred and Charlotte Wood, of 13, Devonshire Street, Bridgwater; husband of Hilda Wood, of 8, Cranleigh Road, Bridgwater.

Bridgwater (St John's) Cemetery. Location ref 2. 1624.

### **Woodbury**

William Alfred  
Private  
20315

6<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion (K1) Somerset Light Infantry  
(43<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade 14<sup>th</sup> Light Division).

Died Home = in the UK of wounds 30<sup>th</sup> August 1916.

William Woodbury was the 17 year old son of Mr A. R. Woodbury, of 17, Silver Street, Bridwater. Born at Stowey.

Bridgwater (St John's) Cemetery. Location ref 1. 2987.

### **Woodward T.W.**

No details.

### **Woollan**

Bertie Albert  
Sapper  
3/8327

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Devonshire Regiment.

(8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 3<sup>rd</sup> Division).

Killed in action 26<sup>th</sup> September 1915.

He was the 23 year old son of Henry John Woollan, of 11, Wyldsborough Terrace, Bridgwater.

Thiepval Memorial. Pier and Face 1C.



**Wright**

William Henry

Gunner

105916

203 Siege Battery Royal Field Artillery.

Killed in action 6<sup>th</sup> October 1917.

He was the son of William Wright; husband of Ada Wright, of 26, Groveland Avenue, Holyoake, Cheshire.

Zuydcoote Military Cemetery, Dunkirk, Nord, France.

Plot 1. Row F. Grave 2.

?? Somerset connection. This being the only record.

**Wyatt**

Arthur

Able Seaman.

Bristol Z/1440

Nelson Battalion Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve Royal Naval Division.

Killed in action in the vicinity of Gavrelle 24<sup>th</sup> April 1917.

He was the 19 year old son of Rev Henry and Emily Wyatt, of The Manse, Bratton, Wiltshire.

Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Bay 1.

**Young**

Frederick John

Private

7570

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(11<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Died of wounds 14<sup>th</sup> October 1914.

Frederick Young was the son of William and Emily Young, of 76, West Street, Bridgwater.

Porte de Paris Cemetery, Cambrai, Nord. France.

Plot 1. Row A. Grave 34.

**Young John Henry Charles Private Royal Welsh Fusiliers.**

**Not identified from 8 records.**

**Young**

William Charles

Gunner

71825

72<sup>nd</sup> or 77<sup>th</sup> Battery 38<sup>th</sup> Army Brigade Royal Field Artillery.

Died 1<sup>st</sup> October 1916.

He was the 22 year old son of Frederick John and Mary Ann Young, of 39, Albert Street, Bridgwater.

Delville Wood Cemetery, Longueval, Somme.

Plot XXIII. Row L. Grave 1.

**Bridgwater.  
1939-45.**

**Bater**

Harold Charles  
Chief Petty Officer  
(Supply) D/M/37318  
H.M.S. "Tamar" Royal Navy.  
Died on Sunday the 25<sup>th</sup> October 1942.  
H.M.S. "Tamar" was a shore base at Hong Kong.  
He was 42, the son of John and Selina Bater, of Bridgwater.  
Yokohama War Cemetery. Japan  
British Section Plot E Row D. Grave 9.

**Binding**

Mervyn Kenneth  
Private  
5682987  
4<sup>th</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.  
(129<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 43<sup>rd</sup> (Wessex) Division).  
Killed in action in Normandy 10<sup>th</sup> July 1944 during "Operation Jupiter", the attack on Hill 112 in Normandy.  
Who was killed in action on Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> July 1944, during the costly six day battle for possession of Hill 112, a strategic feature rising out of the valley of the Odon and Orne rivers south-west of Caen, Normandy..  
"Operation Jupiter", a series of attacks by the British 2<sup>nd</sup> Army in the direction of Villers Bocage began on the 10<sup>th</sup> July. The 43<sup>rd</sup> (Wessex) Division who were on the left of 8 Corps were ordered to capture the high ground situated between the Odon and Orne. The objective of 129<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade was Hill 112, the highest point on a 110 acre plateau which rose gently out of the valley. Hill 112 was very heavily defended and offered the enemy unrestricted observation over a wide area. The 4<sup>th</sup> Bn Somerset Light Infantry, with 2 Coys forward and 2 in support were supported by a squadron of Sherman tanks.  
The attack began at 0500 hrs following a heavy bombardment by divisional artillery and mortars. The 4<sup>th</sup> Somerset Light Infantry advanced through standing corn over 1,500 yards of open country in the face of heavy mortar and machine gun fire. They reached their first objective at the foot of the rise but by this time their losses were so severe that the C.O considered the battalion unfit to resume the attack.  
At 1700 hrs the 5<sup>th</sup> DCLI attacked through the 4<sup>th</sup> Somerset's but failed to reach point 112 suffering heavily themselves The Hill became known as "Cornwall Hill" and "The Crown of Thorns" The battlefield was littered with burnt out tanks and the dead of both sides. The 4<sup>th</sup> Bn Somerset went into the battle on the 10<sup>th</sup> July 845 strong and suffered no less than 556 casualties.  
Mervyn Binding was the 21 year old son of Evan and Gertrude Bessie Binding, of Bridgwater, Somerset.  
Banneville-La-Campagne War Cemetery, Calvados, Normandy, France.  
Plot IX. Row C. Grave 28.

**Blackmore**

Wilfred Arthur

Private

5682988

4<sup>th</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.  
(129 Infantry Brigade 43<sup>rd</sup> Wessex Division).

Died 29<sup>th</sup> May 1944.

Wilfred Blackmore was the 21 year old son of William James and Alice Maud Blackmore, of Bridgwater.

Shorncliffe Military Cemetery, Kent.

Section Q. Row G. Grave 1137.

**Bowerman**

Stanley

Private

5666784

14<sup>th</sup> Army Field Workshop Royal Army Ordnance Corps./Somerset Light Infantry.

Killed in action whilst serving with the British Expeditionary Force 23<sup>rd</sup> May 1940.

He was t 34 year old son of James and Elizabeth Bowerman; husband of Violet Nelly

Bowerman of Bridgwater.

Dunkirk Memorial, Column 46.

**Brokenshire**

Harry

Able Seaman

D/JX155487

H.M.Submarine "Turbulent" Royal Navy.

Lost at sea when "Turbulent" was depth charged and sunk by Royal Italian Navy

MA/SB off Sardinia 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1943.

Harry Brokenshire was the son of William Henry and Winifred Grace Brokenshire of Bridgwater.

Plymouth Naval Memorial Panel 79. Column 1.

**Bull**

David Thomas

Private

5679824

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

Killed in action 21<sup>st</sup> October 1944.

David Bull was the 27 year old son of James F.G. Bull and Elizabeth Bull, of Bridgwater.

Rangoon War Cemetery, Myanmar (Burma).

Plot 6. Row F. Grave 9.

**Byrd**

William Alfred

Sergeant

544393

2844 Squadron Royal Air Force

Died whilst on air operations over Europe 30<sup>th</sup> March 1945.

William Byrd was the 24 year old son of William Hay and Dorothy Ellen Byrd of

Bridgwater,

Goirle Roman Catholic Churchyard, 4 km from Tilburg, Netherlands.

Row 3. Grave 9.

**Chilcott**

Brian

Gunner

14330629

62<sup>nd</sup> Anti-Tank Regiment Royal Artillery.

Killed in action 29<sup>th</sup> June 1944.

Brian Chilcott was the 20 year old son of Frederick James and Althea Chilcott, of

Bridgwater.

Ryes War Cemetery, Bazenville, Normandy.

Plot IV. Row A. Grave 3.

**Conolly**

Cyril William

Sergeant.

87763

625 Squadron Royal Air Force.

Bomber Command.

Lost on air operations 27<sup>th</sup> August 1944.

625 Squadron were equipped with Lancaster 1 and III Heavy Bomber aircraft and were based at Kelstern, 5 miles South of Louth, Lincolnshire.

Cyril Connolly was the son of John William and Nellie Conolly, of Wembdon

Runnymede Air Forces Memorial Panel 227.

**Criddle**

Charles

Corporal

5574751

2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Wiltshire Regiment.

(13<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 5<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division).

Killed in action at Anzio 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1944.

Charles Criddle was the 29 year old son of Charles and Rose Criddle; husband of

Emily Hilda Criddle, of Lechlade Gloucestershire.

Beachhead War Cemetery, Anzio, Italy.

### **Croker**

Alfred John

Marine

Ply/X835

H.M.S. "Exeter" Royal Marines.

Died 13<sup>th</sup> December 1939 during the encounter with the Graf Spee in the South "Exeter" was a "York" Class Cruiser built at the H.M. Dockyard Devonport in 1929, she was sunk by the gunfire of Imperial Japanese Cruiser Myoko and Ashigara in the South Java Sea 1<sup>st</sup> March 1942.

He was the 25 year old son of Lilla Croker of Bridgwater.  
Plymouth Naval Memorial. Panel 35. Column 2.

### **Crouch**

Ronald Cecil Alexander

Pilot Officer

171936

198 Squadron Royal Air Force. Volunteer Reserve.

Killed on offensive operations over Normandy 14<sup>th</sup> June 1944.

198 Squadron based at Thorney Island, 2 miles S of Emsworth, Hampshire from 30<sup>th</sup> April 1944 to 18<sup>th</sup> June 1945 and were equipped with the Hawker Typhoon IB Fighter bomber during that time.

Ronald Crouch was the son of William Bertie and Ethell Maud Crouch of Bridgwater.  
Bayeux War Cemetery, Calvados, Normandy, France.  
Plot II. Row G. Grave 2.

### **Deadman**

Cecil Frank

Private

5672785

7<sup>th</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(214<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 43<sup>rd</sup> Wessex Division).

Died of wounds sustained during the fight for Mont Pincon Normandy 16<sup>th</sup> August 1944.

On the 27<sup>th</sup> July British XXX Corps under the command of General Horrocks commenced a three division drive south from Caumont to capture the 1,200 foot Mont Pincon which dominated the area and get astride the road from Vire through Vassy to Conde-sur-Noireau. This was difficult 'bocage' country ideal for defence. Seventh Armoured found great difficulty especially with the profusion of mines and concealed "Tigers" and "Panthers" and strong detachments of enemy infantry. Like wise the 43<sup>rd</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> divisions too found it difficult to make headway. The distance from Caumont to Mont Pincon was about 15 miles and the approach was through a deep wooded valley heavily mined and strongly defended.

The 43<sup>rd</sup> Division captured the Mont Pincon on the 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> August and shortly afterwards General Horrocks established his HQ there.

Cecil Deadman was the 24 year old husband of Phyllis Doreen Deadman, of Bridgwater.

Tilly-sur-Seulles War Cemetery, Calvados, Normandy, France.  
Plot V. Row D. Grave 13.

**Doughty**

Harry  
Sergeant  
977761

15 Squadron Royal Air Force.

Killed on operations 30th May 1942.

15 Squadron were based at Wyton, Cambridge, with a detachment at Lossiemouth from 15th May 1940 until 13th August 1942, during that time the squadron was equipped with Blenheim IV, Wellington IC and Stirling I aircraft

On the night of 30th/31st May 1942 the RAF mounted the 1st One Thousand Bomber raid. 1,047 aircraft were involved. The target was the city of Cologne. 41 aircraft were lost, the heaviest Bomber Command losses to date. One Wellington crashed in the sea.

Harry Doughty was the 28 year old son of Harry and Annie Doughty of Bridgwater.  
Runnymede Air Forces Memorial, Surrey. Panel 82.

**Giles.**

R.

Private

14704172

4th Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(43rd We

Died 2nd October 1944.

Aged 18, he was the son of Albert and Emily E. Giles, of Bridgwater.

Arnhem Oosterbeek War Cemetery, Holland.

Plot 7. Row C. Grave 19.

Not recorded under Bridgwater.

**Gill**

Alfred George

Captain

Ply/X 657

H.M.S. "Repulse" Royal Marines.

Killed in action 10th December 1941 when "Repulse" was torpedoed by aircraft of the Imperial Japanese Navy in the South China Sea

H.M.S. "Repulse" was a 32,000 ton Battleship built by John Brown (Clydebank) launched 8th January 1916

Of the total complement of "Repulse" of 1,309 27 officers and 486 ratings were lost.

Alfred Gill was the 29 year old son of William Henry and Maud Gill, of Bridgwater; husband of Minnie Freda Gill, of Bridgwater.

Plymouth Naval Memorial Panel 59 Column 1.

**Greedy**

Frederick Wilfred

Petty Officer

D/J 114292

114292

H.M.S. "Hecla" Royal Navy. Died on Thursday the 12th November 1942.

H.M.S. "Hecla" was a 10,850 ton Destroyer depot ship, she was sunk by a German U boat west of the Straits of Gibraltar 12th November 1942. He was the 33 year old son of Fred and Caroline

Greedy, of Bridgwater; husband of Lilian Irene Greedy, of Bridgwater.

Plymouth Naval Memorial. Panel 63. Column 2.

**Greenwood**

Arthur Henry  
Sergeant  
1720218

150 Squadron Royal Air Force.

Killed in action 26<sup>th</sup> August 1943.

150 Squadron operating Vickers Wellington heavy bomber aircraft was based at Kairouan , Tunisia from the 26<sup>th</sup> May until November 5<sup>th</sup> 1943.

Arthur Greenwood was then son of Henry and Edith Greenwood of Bridgwater.  
Malta Memorial Panel 8. Column 2.

**Haines**

John William  
Sergeant

259<sup>th</sup> (West Country) Field Company Royal  
Engineers.

Died 15<sup>th</sup> December 1941.

Bridgwater Quantock Road Cemetery.  
Section A. Grave 130.

**Harris**

Clifford  
Private

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Gloucestershire Regiment.

Died 18<sup>th</sup> March 1942.

Age 23.

Rangoon Memorial. Myanmar (formerly Burma).

**Harris** Raymond William Ordinary Seaman Royal Navy.

**There is no CWGC record.**

**Hayward**

Kenneth Allan  
Guardsman  
2659674

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Coldstream Guards.

(1<sup>st</sup> Armoured Battalion 5<sup>th</sup> Guards Brigade Guards Armoured Division).

Kenneth Hayward was the 25 year old son of Frederick and Ruby Hayward; husband of Mary Hayward, nephew of Miss T Houlsham, of Kidderminster.

Heverlea War Cemetery, Netherlands.

Plot 6. Row B. Grave 20.

**Hill**

Herbert Dennis John  
Sergeant  
5672996

1<sup>st</sup> Glider Pilot Regiment Army Air Corps.

(1<sup>st</sup> Air Landing Brigade 1<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division).

Killed in action during the airborne invasion of Sicily 10<sup>th</sup> July 1943. The 1<sup>st</sup> Air landing Brigade's objective was the Ponte Grande, a road bridge near the town of Syracuse in the SE of Sicily. Due principally to high winds things began to go disastrously wrong on the long journey from bases in North Africa. Gliders started to come adrift from their tug aircraft crashing into the sea along the route. American

pilots who had not seen action and who had no glider towing experience then started releasing their gliders prematurely in the sea. Sixty eight gliders landed in the sea few being saved

The remaining 54 gliders were scattered all across SE Sicily. Of the 2,000 glider men who had left Africa only a very small number landed anywhere near their objective others smashed into stone walls and were wrecked on the rocky surface others overturned. The airborne operation involving parachute and glider infantry British and US was a disaster.

He was the son of Roland John and Elsie May Hill, of Bridgwater.  
Cassino Memorial, Italy. Panel 12.

### **Hooper**

Leonard George  
Leading Seaman  
D/J 110317

H.M.S. "Onslow" Royal Navy.

Died on Thursday the 7<sup>th</sup> January 1943.

H.M.S. "Onslow" was an "O" Class Escort Destroyer which survived the war to be sold to the Pakistani Navy.

He was the son of George Hubert and Eliza Jane Hooper; husband of Evelyn Mabel Hooper of Bridgwater.

Plymouth Naval Memorial Panel 78. Column 3.

### **Hooper**

Robert Cecil  
Pilot Officer  
172176

630 Squadron Royal Air Force.

5 Group.

Killed whilst on air operations over Europe 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1944.

630 Squadron, operating Lancaster Mk 1 and III were based at East Kirkby, 4 miles SW of Spilsbury Lincolnshire.

On the night of the 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> June 1944 123 Lancasters and 9 Mosquitoes of 1,5 and 8 Groups attacked the synthetic oil plant at Schloven/Buer. 8 Lancasters were lost.

A similar raid took place on the ???oil plant involving 133 Lancasters and 6 Mosquitoes mainly from 5 Group. **37 Lancasters were lost.**

Robert Hooper was the 22 year old son of Cecil and Lilian Hooper, of Bridgwater

Heverlea War Cemetery. Netherlands

.Joint Grave 6. Row F. Grave 11-12.

### **Hughes**

Ronald James  
Fusilier  
5680052

2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Royal Fusiliers (City of London) Regiment.

(12<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 4<sup>th</sup> Division).

Killed in action in Italy 1<sup>st</sup> July 1944

Ronald Hughes was the 31 year old son of Idris and Florence Hughes; husband of Evelyn Hughes, of Bridgwater.

Assisi War Cemetery, north of Rome, Italy.

Plot III. Row A. Grave 2.



**Hurst**

David Picton

Flight Sergeant Pilot

1315897

101 Squadron Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

Killed during air operations over Germany 28<sup>th</sup> July 1943.

101 Squadron (Lancasters Mk I and III) was based at Ludford Magna , 6 miles E of Market Rasen, Lincolnshire.

On the night of the 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> July 1943, 787 aircraft comprising 353 Lancasters, 244 Halifaxes, 116 Stirlings, 74 Wellingtons attacked Hamburg.

This was the night of the Hamburg firestorm.

17 aircraft were lost. 11 Lancasters, 4 Halifaxes, 1 Stirling, and 1 Wellington.

David Hurst was ---no details available.

Hamburg Cemetery Germany

Collective Grave Plot A. Row C. Grave 6-11.

**Jennings.**

Frederick Tom.

5680849

9<sup>th</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

Died 20<sup>th</sup> December 1942.

Aged 30, he was the son of Tom and AnnieMmaria Jennings of Bridgwater; husband of Ida Theresa Jennings, of bridgwater.

Fayid War Cemetery, Egypt.

Plot 1. Row C. Grave 18.

**Lovell**

Frederick

Gunner

1644973

“Z” Battery 142 Anti Aircraft Regiment Royal Artillery.

Died 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1942.

Frederick Lovell was the 32 year old son of John and Alice Maud Lovell; husband of Irene Mary Ann Lovell, of Bridgwater.

Bridgwater (Quantock Road) Cemetery. Section A grave 132.

**Manchip**

Arnold Rowland

Aircraftman 1<sup>st</sup> Clas.

1315240

186 Squadron Royal Air Force.

Died on active service 24<sup>th</sup> March 1942.

Arnold Manchip was the 20 year old son of William George and Hilda Manchip, of Bridgwater.

Malta (Capuccini) Naval Cemetery

Prot Section (Mens) Collective Grave 109.

### **Manley**

Albert Edward

Warrant Officer 1st Class (Company Sergeant Major).

5435033

2nd Battalion Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry.

(10th Infantry Brigade 4th Infantry Division).Eighth Army.

Died 25th July 1944.

No next of kin available.

Foiano Della Chiana War Cemetery, 31 km S of Arezzo, Italy.

Plot II. Row P. Grave 4

### **Marks**

Frederick John

Musician

RMB/X74

H.M.S. "Uganda" Royal Marines Royal Navy.

Died 13th September 1943. Cause unknown.

H.M.S. "Uganda" was a "Fiji" Class Cruiser which survived the war and was renamed by the Royal Canadian Navy "Quebec".

Frederick Marks was which was later transferred to the Royal Canadian Navy and renamed "Quebec" she survived the war.

Portsmouth Naval Memorial Column 3.

**Melhuish** Cecil Redvers Engineer Merchant Navy.

**No record.**

### **Novak**

Roths Gerald

Cadet (Apprentice)

Motor Vessel "Chama" (London) Merchant Navy.

Died at sea 23rd March 1941,

The Motor Vessel "Chama", a tanker of 8,077 tons was torpedoed by a U 97 in the North Atlantic, WSW of Fastnet 49 degrees 35 North 19 degrees 13 West Voyage Androssan to New York in ballast. A straggler from convoy OG 56.

Her Master, crew of 54 and 4 gunners were lost.

He was the 18 year old son of Henry and Minnie Novak, of Bridgwater, Somerset.

Tower Hill Memorial (London) Panel 27.

### **O'Donnell**

Hugh John James

Private

14600580

2nd Battalion Sherwood Foresters.(Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire) Regiment. (3rd Infantry Brigade under US 6th Corps Anzio "Operation Shingle"). Killed in action on the 8th February 1944, The 2nd Bn Sherwood Foresters attacked the station at Campoleoni and suffered heavy casualties The battalion was met by a murderous barrage of machine-gun fire on their flanks, there were many officer casualties and a roll call of other ranks resulted in only 260 survivors. The battalion ceased to be a fit fighting unit. General Harmon of the 1st US Armoured Division on visiting the scene found "dead bodies everywhere such that I had to step carefully" Hugh O'Donnell was the 20 year old son of Hugh and Ada O'Donnell, of Bridgwater.

Anzio War Cemetery Italy.

Plot 1 Row S. Grave 7

**Oliver**

Edgar Trevor  
Corporal  
2067159

261<sup>st</sup> (West Country) Field Company Royal Engineers.  
Died 20<sup>th</sup> September 1941.  
Buried in Ramleh War Cemetery, Israel.  
Row S. Grave 8.

**O’Riordan**

Dennis Christopher  
Stoker 1<sup>st</sup> Class  
P/KX 88597

H.M Submarine “Perseus” Royal Navy.  
Lost at sea 19<sup>th</sup> December 1941 when “Perseus” was torpedoed by the Royal Italian Navy submarine “Enrico Toti” off Zante. (Zackinthos) in the Ionian Sea off Western Greece.

She was a “P” class submarine of 1,475 ton and had a complement of 56.  
Dennis O’Riordan was the 23 year old son of Daniel and Nora O’Riordan; husband of Kathleen Grace O’Riordan of Bridgwater.  
Portsmouth Naval Memorial Panel 54. Column 12.

**Paddick**

Sydney Robert  
Warrant Officer  
657555

169 Squadron Royal Air Force.  
Bomber Command.

Lost whilst on air operations over Europe. 15<sup>th</sup> April 1945.  
169 Squadron were based at Great Massingham, Norfolk, eight miles from Fakenham where the squadron operated De Haviland Mosquito XIX aircraft until the end of the war.

Sydney Paddick was the 26 year old son of William John and Lily May Paddick; husband of Anna Liliias Maud Paddick, of Bridgwater.  
Runnymede Air Forces Memorial Panel 269.

**Parker**

Clifford William George  
Corporal.  
5680381.

2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Devonshire Regiment.  
(231<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade 650<sup>th</sup> (Northumbrian) Division).

Killed in action 11<sup>th</sup> July 1944.  
He was the son of Clifford William George and Flora Parker of Bridgwater; husband of Gertrude Florence Parker of Bridgwater.  
Bayeux War Cemetery, Calvados, Normandy.  
Plot XXI. Row E. Grave 12.

**Passcoe**

Frederick Charles  
Sergeant

Somerset Light Infantry.

Died in Palestine 8<sup>th</sup> November 1941.

Frederick Passcoe was the son of Sidney and Mabel Perkins of Bridgwater.

Khayat Beach War Cemetery, Israel.

Plot B. Row D. Grave 14

**Pinnock**

Victor George  
Leading Aircraftman  
639706

Royal Air Force.

Died 28<sup>th</sup> June 1944.

Victor Pinnock was the 28 year old son of George and Louisa Pinnock of Bridgwater.

Bridgwater Cemetery. Section 2. Grave 4348.

**Redwood**

William  
Chief Officer

SS "Opawa" (Plymouth) Merchant Navy.

Died at sea 6<sup>th</sup> February 1942 when the 10,354 ton steamer SS "Opawa" was torpedoed by a U Boat in the North Atlantic 38 degrees, 21 North 61 degrees 13 West.

William Redwood was the husband of Gertrude Kate Redwood, of Bridgwater, Somerset.. He was 37.

Tower Hill Memorial (London).

**Rees**

David George  
Private  
14600586

2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Devonshire Regiment.

(231<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade 50<sup>th</sup> Northumbrian Division).

Died (? of wounds) 9<sup>th</sup> June 1944

He was the 19 year old son of Frederick George and Helen Rees, of Bridgwater.

Gosport (Ann's Hill) Cemetery Hampshire.

Plot 189 Grave 77.

**Ridgway**

George Edwin  
Aircraftman 1<sup>st</sup> Class  
611142

220 Squadron Royal Air Force.

Coastal Command. Died 15<sup>th</sup> April 1940.

220 Squadron was based at Reykjavic, Iceland with a detachment at Benbecula (Outer Hebrides) from 11<sup>th</sup> July 1942 until 14<sup>th</sup> February 1944 during which time it operated Boeing 17 Fortress II aircraft on Maritime operations over the north Atlantic. .

George Ridgway was the 19 year old son of Henry and Mabel Ridgway, of Bridgwater.

Runnymede Air Forces Memorial, Windsor/Egham, Surrey.. Panel 25.

**Roman**

Henry John  
Petty Officer  
D/J 110319

H.M.S. "Itchen" Royal Navy.

Died 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1943.

H.M.S. "Itchen" was a 1,325 ton Frigate which was sunk in the North Atlantic by a U Boat 23<sup>rd</sup> September 1943.

He was the 33 year old husband of Kathleen Roman, of Islington, London.  
Plymouth Naval Memorial Panel 78. Column 2.

**Russell**

Bert  
Private  
13115742

Royal Pioneer Corps.

Died 11<sup>th</sup> September 1942.

Bertie Russell was the 37 year old son of Alfred and Fasnny Russell, of Woodville, Derbyshire.

Blackford (St Margaret) Churchyard. Somerset.

**Russell**

Harold Arthur  
Corporal  
7889682

4<sup>th</sup> Royal Tank Regiment. Royal Armoured Corps.

Killed in action in North Africa 21<sup>st</sup> November 1941 almost certainly during the Battle of Sidi Rezegh, Libya, July-December 1941.

Harold Russell was the 21 year old son of Rev Bertam John Russell and Edith Elizabeth Russell (nee Edwards), of Bridgwater.

Knightsbridge War Cemetery, Acroma, Libya.

Plot 3. Row C. Grave 3.

**Setter**

Henry James  
Private  
5672997

7<sup>th</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry.

(214<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade 43<sup>rd</sup> Wessex Division).

Died of wounds Oosterhout Holland 24<sup>th</sup> September 1944.

Henry Setter was the 26 year old son of Frederick George and Elizabeth Setter; husband of Margaret Setter, of Washford, Bridgwater, Somerset.

Jonkerbos War Cemetery, Holland.

Plot 23. Row A. Grave 6.

**Smith**

Clifford

Stoker Petty Officer

P/JX 290174

H M Launch CG (L) 16.Royal Navy.

Died 26<sup>th</sup> April 1943.

He was the son of James and Annie Smith, of Buxworth, Derbyshire.

Portsmouth Naval Memorial. Panel 75. Column 3.

**Smith**

Edward George

**D FM.**

Warrant Officer

582 Squadron Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

Bomber Command.

Killed on air operations 6<sup>th</sup> July 1944.

582 Squadron was based at Little Stoughton, 4 miles from St Neots, Bedfordshire  
operating Lancaster Mk I and III aircraft.

On the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> July 1944 542 aircraft attacked the flying bomb sites in France and  
Belgium. 4 Lancs were lost.

WO Edward Smith was a member of Lancaster N169 piloted by Canadian Donald  
Manson (28) one of a force of 87 Lancasters despatched to attack Flying Bomb sites  
around Wizernes in Northern France the crew consisted of

Donald Manson Pilot Officer. J/85487. 28. R.C.A.F.

John. Geeves. \*\*\*\* 1717745 19. R.A.F.V.R.

John Stapleton . J/23460 28. R.C.A.F.

Ero Salomaa. Flying Officer. J/25513. 31. R.C.A.F.

Alan Fretwell. Flight Sergeant. 1577087 23. R.A.F.V.R.

Douglas Eggleton. Sergeant. 752767 R.A.F.V.R.

Edward Smith DFM. Sergeant. 1316567. 21. R.A.F.V.R.

Four Lancasters were lost 2-635 Squadron. 1-15 Squadron and 1-582 Squadron.

Three of these aircraft were lost without trace.

There were no survivors from the 28 crew members.

Edward Smith was the 21 year old son of Walter and Letitia Smith, of Bridgwater.

Runnymede Air Forces Memorial, Windsor/Egham, Surrey.. Panel 214.

**Sprouting**

Albert William

Gunner

5670320

9 Coast Regiment Royal Artillery.

(9 Coast Regiment was part of the fixed coastal defences of Singapore.

The regiment comprised 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 32<sup>nd</sup> Batteries Royal Artillery).

Died 16<sup>th</sup> February 1942.

Singapore was surrendered to the Japanese invader on the 15<sup>th</sup> March 1942.

Albert Sprouting was the 25 year old son of Annie Rose Sprouting; stepson of G H  
Moggridge, of Wandsworth, London.

Singapore Memorial Malaysia.Column 31.

**Sutherland-Clift**

Timothy Anthony Victor Hugh  
Aircraftman 1st Class  
550857

Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.  
Died 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1943.

He was the 22 year old son of Victor Hugh Sutherland-Clift and Hilda Mary  
Sutherland Clift, of Wembdon, Bridgwater.  
El Alia War Cemetery, Algeria.  
Plot 12. Row K. Grave 32.

**Swayne**

Alan Raymond  
Trooper  
14316166

2<sup>nd</sup> Derbyshire Yeomanry Regiment Royal Armoured Corps.  
(Divisional troops 51<sup>st</sup> Highland Division).

Killed in action in Holland 27<sup>th</sup> November 1944.

Alan Swayne was the 20 year old son of John and Edith Mary Swayne, of Bridgwater.  
Groesbeek Memorial, Netherlands. Panel 1.

**Tucker**

Henry George Charles  
Able Seaman  
D/JX 127544

H.M.S. "Glorious" Royal Navy.

Lost at sea 9<sup>th</sup> June 1940 when H.M.S. "Glorious" a 22,5000 ton aircraft converted  
aircraft carrier launched in 1916 was sunk by the gunfire of the German Battlecruisers  
"Gniesenau" and "Scharnhorst" west of Narvik, Norway 8<sup>th</sup> June 1940.

"Glorious" was launched as a Cruiser and converted in the late 1920's.

Henry Tucker was the 30 year old son of Henry George and Clara Tucker of  
Bridgwater.

Plymouth Naval Memorial Panel 38. Column 2.

**Vignaux**

Vincent Ronald  
Flight Sergeant  
560946

806 Squadron Royal Air Force.

Died during the heroic defence of Malta 10<sup>th</sup> January 1941.

Malta Memorial Panel 1 Column 2.

Squadrons 800-899 were allocated to carrier and land based operational squadrons of  
the Fleet Air Arm.

Malta Memorial Panel 1 Column 2.

**Welland**

Linaker James  
Lance Corporal  
7595804

5 Base Ordnance Depot Royal Army Ordnance Corps.

Died on active service 8<sup>th</sup> July 1941

He was the 30 year old son of Francis James and Maggie Linaker Welland, of  
Bridgwater.

Alamein Memorial, Egypt. Column 83.

**West**

Charles Frederick William  
Gunner  
1097381

Royal Artillery attached to 1055 Stevedore Battalion Royal Engineers.

Died 20<sup>th</sup> July 1943.

During the invasion of Sicily (Operation Husky) the prelude to the invasion of the  
Italian mainland.

He was 34 the husband of Clara West of Bridgwater.

Syracuse War Cemetery, Sicily.

Plot VIII. Row C. Grave 7..

**West**

Samuel George  
Lance Bombardier  
999470

77<sup>th</sup> Duke of Lancaster's Own Medium Regiment Royal Artillery.

Killed in action 12<sup>th</sup> October 1944.

He was the 33 year old son of Charles F West and Florence West, of Bridgwater.

Overloon War Cemetery, Holland.

Plot IV. Row C. grave 11.

**Whitelock** Sidney John Somerset Light Infantry..

**No SDGW.**

**No CWGC.**

**Wilkins**

James  
Gunner  
1833953

90 Battery 49 Light Anti-aircraft Regiment Royal Artillery.

Killed in action in Italy 4<sup>th</sup> October 1943.

James Wilkins was the 36 year old son of James and Florence Wilkins; husband of  
Louisa Alice Wilkins, of Southwark, London.

Sangro River War Cemetery, Italy.

Plot XI. Row B. Grave 10.

**Wills** Percy Frank RASC.



**Witheridge**

Norman

Private

5735270

Died 15<sup>th</sup> April 1945.

Battalion **Not recorded**

The Queen's Royal Regiment West Surrey).

(169 (Queen's) Infantry Brigade 56<sup>th</sup> (City of London) Infantry Division

Norman Witheridge was the 23 year old son of Harry and Mabel Witheridge, of  
Bridgwater.

Argenta Gap War Cemetery, Italy.

Plot III. Row E. Grave 12.

**Young**

Roland Robert

Flying Officer

185679

576 Squadron Royal Air Force.

Died whilst on operations over Germany 14<sup>th</sup> February 1945.

576 Squadron RAF Bomber Command was based at Fiskerton near Lincoln from 31<sup>st</sup>  
October until the end of the war. It was a Lancaster Station.

Next of kin not recorded.

Durnbach War Cemetery, Germany.

Plot 1. Row J. Grave II.