



LEST WE FORGET.

SHALL we ever forget when the boys marched away,
To fight for their King and their home,
With a smile on their lips and their faces aglow,
And no thought of the days yet to come?

Shall we ever forget their whistle and shout,
Their songs and their laughter and fun?
To them 'twas a 'joke,' and a 'spree,' and a 'lark,'
Till they came face to face with the Hun.

Shall we ever forget when they took up their place
In the trenches so muddy and cold,
When "bully and biscuit" was "dinner and tea"?
Yet their spirits were brave and still bold.

Shall we ever forget when the news arrived home
That a loved one had fallen out there?
The sun seemed to set, and the birds ceased to sing,
And the future loomed dark with despair.

Shall we ever forget when peace was declared
And the nation went mad with delight?
Yet for many 'twas sad: no home-coming for them;
Still they joined in the shouts with their might.

Shall we ever forget our glorious dead,
Who freely gave all they could give?
No! in marble and granite, still more in our hearts,
We will praise them as long as we live.

1914

Aaron Gorton

1915

Percy Palmer

1916

William Tanner

1917

Charles Appleby

Walter Smith

Fred Vernon

William Maynard

1917 continued

William Gorton

Arthur Breadman

James Appleby

1918

Ernest Norcutt

Ralph Smith

Albert Tanner

Frank Maynard

George Taylor

Frederick Saunders

Walter Vockins

IN MEMORY OF

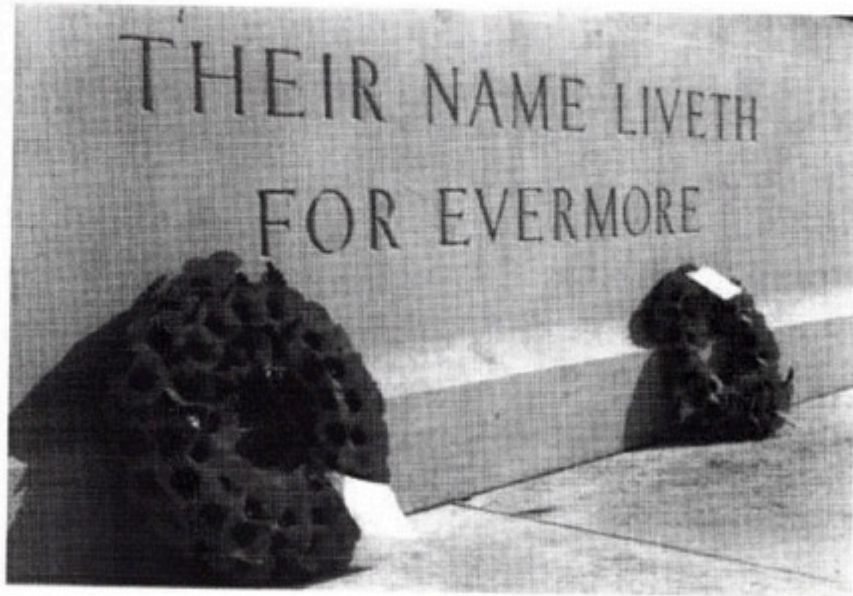
PRIVATE AARON GORTON

**9627, 1ST BN., ROYAL BERKSHIRE REGIMENT
WHO DIED AGE 21**

ON THURSDAY 29 OCTOBER 1914.

**PRIVATE GORTON, SON OF MATTHEW AND MARY A. H. GORTON, OF RUSSELLS
WATER, HENLEY-ON-THAMES.**

**REMEMBERED WITH HONOUR
BOULOGNE EASTERN CEMETERY**



**COMMEMORATED IN PERPETUITY BY
THE COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES COMMISSION**

Aaron Gorton

**7th April 1893 - 29th October
1914**

Died of wounds in Pas de Calais

**In the 1901 census, Aaron was
8 years old living with his
parents, three sisters, two
brothers (including William, who
died in 1917) and grandmother
in a 4-room cottage in Russell's
Water**

Percy Palmer

23rd September 1887 - 9th January 1915

Died of cerebro-spinal meningitis

In the 1901 census, 13 year old Percy was living in Cookley Green, next-door to Walter Vockins, and was working at the farm house

Percy and his brothers appear in the Swyncombe School Log Book several times; in 1899 Percy was awarded the Bishop's Prize



William Tanner

Baptised 29th March 1891
- 1st October 1916

William was the eldest of 6 brothers, one of whom (Albert) also died in the war in 1918

Casualty:	Gunner WILLIAM TANNER, 73579
Served With:	130th Siege Bty. Royal Garrison Artillery
Died:	1st October 1916
Commemorated:	SALONIKA (LEMBET ROAD) MILITARY CEMETERY Greece Grave 501.
Additional Information:	Age 30 Son of James and Mary Tanner, of Nettlebed, Henley-on-Thames.

Thessalonika (Salonika) is a town at the head of the Gulf of Thessalonika. The Cemetery is on the northern outskirts of Thessalonika, adjoining the Roman Catholic French and Italian War Cemeteries. It lies on the west side of the road (Lagadas road) to Seres.

- Enlisted at Aldershot, Hampshire, before the war & was already serving as a regular soldier in India before war broke out. Rank = Gunner.
- Served with 8th Mountain Battery, Royal Gurmeh Artillery on the North West Frontier.
- Stationed at Peshawar, India.
- Those serving in India at that time had an important part to play in the defence of The British Empire. They had to guard the North-West Frontier, which was the border of The British Empire, as it was expected that whilst our forces were engaged in fighting the war in Europe, there would be an attack on the North-West Frontier by one of the main powers. There was constant fighting there.
- When Charles boarded the troopship for India, (probably in 1913), he was never to return, because India was so far away & the sea journey took so long that there was not time for men to return home on leave.
- was serving as a Corporal just before he died.
- Died 16th February 1917 of Typhus Fever, aged 24.

Charles Appleby

1892 - 16th February 1917

Died of Typhus Fever in India

In the 1911 census, Charles was living in Park Corner with four of his seven living siblings and was working as a wagoner on the farm

Walter Smith

15th February 1897
- 28th February 1917

Killed in action on the Somme

Walter appears in the
Swyncombe School Log Book;
in 1902 he came second in an
Oxford needlework
competition

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

24 November 1998

Casualty Details

Rank	: Private
Initials	: W
Surname	: SMITH
Forenames	: WALTER
Unit Text	: 2nd/4th Bn.
Regiment	: Oxford. and Bucks Light Infantry
Service No	: 200844
Date of Death	: 28th February 1917.
Grave Ref	: Pier and Face 10 A and 10 D
Cemetery	: THIEPVAL MEMORIAL Somme France

Original Register Text:

SMITH, Pte. Walter, 200844. 2nd/4th Bn. Oxf. and Bucks Light Inf. 28th Feb., 1917.

Cemetery Location Information:

The Thiepval Memorial will be found on the D73, off the main Bapaume to Albert road (D929).

Casualty Details

Rank : Lance Corporal
Initials : F S
Surname : VERNON
Forenames : FREDERICK SANDALL
Unit Text : 8th Bn.
Regiment : Royal Fusiliers
Service No : 62553
Age : 22
Date of Death : 4th April 1917.
Grave Ref : Bay 3

Cemetery : ARRAS MEMORIAL
Pas de Calais
France

Additional Information:

Son of Edwin J. Vernon, of Wycombe, Oxon.

Original Register Text:

VERNON, Lce. Cpl. Frederick Sandall, 62553. 8th Bn. Royal Fusiliers. 4th April, 1917. Age 22. Son of Edwin J. Vernon, of Wycombe, Oxon.

Cemetery Location Information:

The Arras Memorial is in the Faubourg-d'Amiens Cemetery, which is in the Boulevard du General de Gaulle in the western part of the town of Arras. The cemetery is near the Citadel, approximately 2 kilometres due west of the railway station.

The Memorial commemorates almost 35,000 casualties of the British, New Zealand and South African Forces who died between Spring 1916 and 7th August 1918, with the exception of casualties of the Battle of Cambrai in 1917, and who have no known grave.

The design, by Sir Edward Lutyens, consists of a cloister, 25 feet high and 380 feet long, built up on Doric columns and faces west. In the broader part of the site the colonnade returns to form a recessed and open court, terminated by an apse. The names of the casualties are carved on stone panels fixed to the cloister walls.

Fred Vernon

7th June 1894 - 4th April 1917

Killed in Action

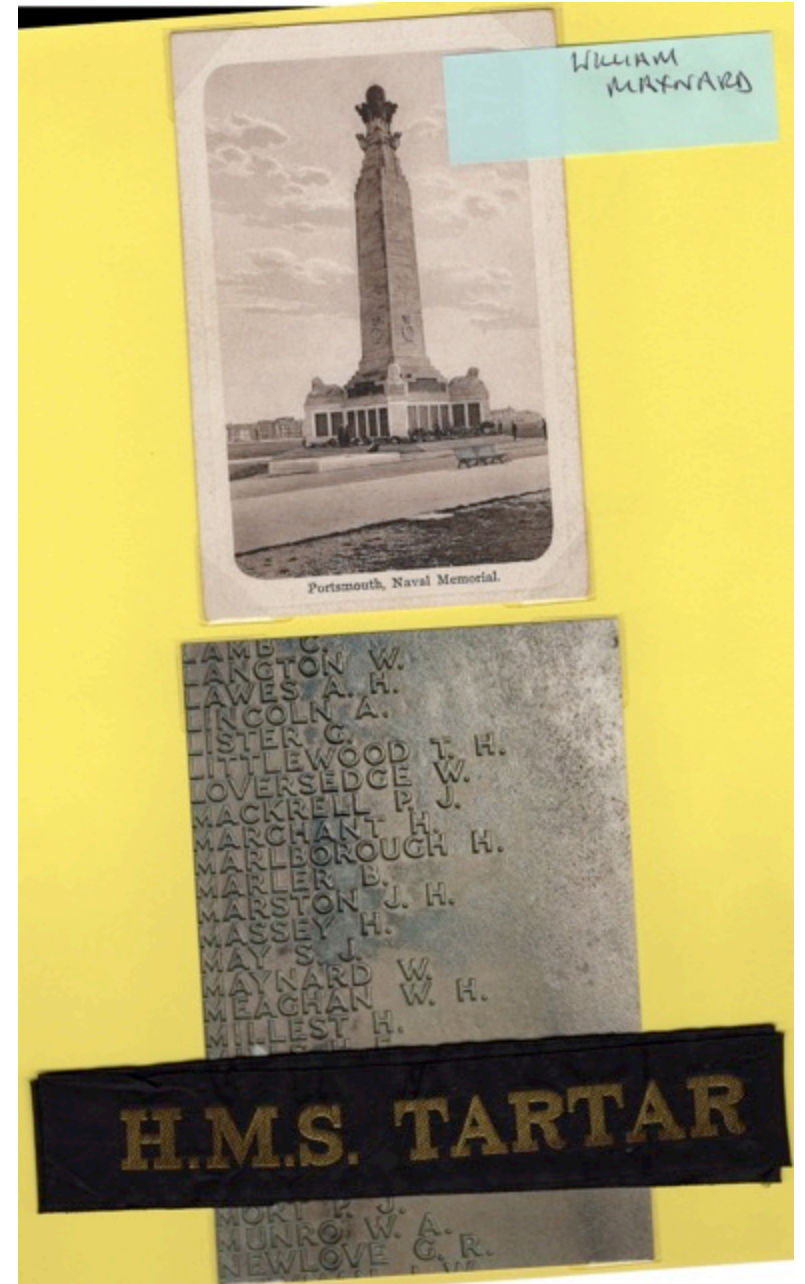
In the 1901 census, Fred was living at the farm in Park Corner, with his parents, four brothers and one sister. He attended Swyncombe School

William Maynard

8th October 1895 - 17th June 1917

Killed in Dover by a mine explosion while serving in the Royal Navy

In the 1901 census, 5 year old William was living in Brightwell, Wallingford, with his parents and three brothers – including Frank, who died a year later. At the time of the war, William's family was living on Howe Road, Watlington.

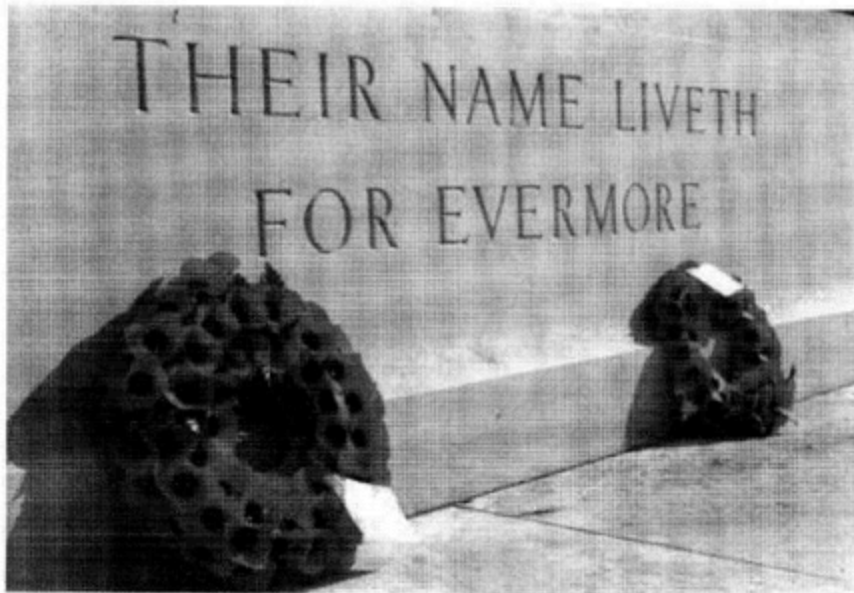


IN MEMORY OF

PRIVATE W J GORTON

**23844, 7TH/8TH BN., ROYAL IRISH FUSILIERS
WHO DIED
ON FRIDAY 10 AUGUST 1917.**

**REMEMBERED WITH HONOUR
BRANDHOEK NEW MILITARY CEMETERY**



**COMMEMORATED IN PERPETUITY BY
THE COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES COMMISSION**

William Gorton

1897 - 10th August 1917

**Died at a casualty clearing station after a
gunshot wound to the thorax**

**William, from Russell's Water, enlisted in
July 1915, nine months after the death of
his brother**

Arthur Breadman

5th May 1898 - 16th August 1917

Arthur was born in the Union Workhouse in Farnham, Surrey. In 1909 his mother married a farm labourer from Russell's Water. In 1911 he was commended for the Bishop's Prize at school

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

24 November 1998

Casualty Details

Rank	: Private
Initials	: A
Surname	: BREADMAN
Unit Text	: 2nd Bn.
Regiment	: Royal Berkshire Regiment
Service No	: 34063
Date of Death	: 16th August 1917.
Grave Ref	: V. G. 1.
Cemetery	: HOOGE CRATER CEMETERY Ieper, West-Vlaanderen Belgium

Original Register Text:

BREADMAN, Pte. A., 34063. 2nd Bn. Royal Berkshire Regt. 16th Aug., 1917. V. G. I.

Cemetery Location Information:

Hooze Crater Cemetery is located 4 kilometres east of Ieper town centre on the Meenseweg (N8) connecting Ieper to Menen.

From Ieper town centre the Meenseweg is located via Torhoutstraat and right onto Basculestraat. Basculestraat ends at a main crossroads, directly over which begins the Meenseweg.

The cemetery itself is located 3.6 kilometres along the Meenseweg on the right hand side of the road.



James Appleby

17th July 1897 - 3rd December 1917

Died from his wounds at a casualty clearing station awaiting transportation to Etaples Hospital.

James was born at Lower Farm Cottage in Swyncombe, his family moved to Park Corner two years later. Before he enlisted, he was working as an agricultural labourer.

Ernest Norcutt

June 1882 - 21st March 1918

Killed in action on the Somme, on the same day as Ralph Smith.

Ernest lived in Cookley Green, and in the 1901 census he was working as a farm labourer, living in a four-room cottage with his step-father, mother, and the youngest of his four siblings

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

24 November 1998

Casualty Details

Rank	: Private
Initials	: E W
Surname	: NORCUTT
Forenames	: ERNEST WILLIAM
Unit Text	: 5th Bn.
Regiment	: Oxford. and Bucks Light Infantry
Service No	: 202090
Age	: 36
Date of Death	: 21st March 1918.
Grave Ref	: Panel 50 and 51
Cemetery	: POZIERES MEMORIAL Somme France

Additional Information:

Son of Mrs. Sally Roberts, of Cookley Green, Swyncombe, Henley-on-Thames.

Original Register Text:

NORCUTT, Pte. Ernest William, 202090. 5th Bn. Oxf. and Bucks Light Inf. 21st March, 1918. Age 36. Son of Mrs. Sally Roberts, of Cookley Green, Swyncombe, Henley-on-Thames.

Cemetery Location Information:

Pozieres is a village some 6 kilometres north-east of the town of Albert. The Memorial encloses Pozieres British Cemetery which is a little south-west of the village on the north side of the main road, D929, from Albert to Pozieres.

On the road frontage is an open arcade terminated by small buildings and broken in the middle by the entrance and gates. Along the sides and the back, stone tablets are fixed in the stone rubble walls bearing the names of the dead grouped under their Regiments.

It should be added that, although the memorial stands in a cemetery of largely Australian graves, it does not bear any Australian names. The Australian soldiers who fell in France and whose graves are not known are commemorated on the National Memorial at Villers-Bretonneux.

Casualty Details

Rank	: Private
Initials	: R
Surname	: SMITH
Forenames	: RALPH
Unit Text	: 2nd/4th Bn.
Regiment	: Oxford. and Bucks Light Infantry
Service No	: 202044
Age	: 22
Date of Death	: 21st March 1918.
Grave Ref	: Panel 50 and 51
Cemetery	: POZIERES MEMORIAL Somme France

Additional Information:

Son of Walter and Elizabeth Smith, of Swyncombe Lodge, Henley-on-Thames.

Original Register Text:

SMITH, Pte. Ralph, 202044. 2nd/4th Bn. Oxf. and Bucks Light Inf. 21st March, 1918. Age 22. Son of Walter and Elizabeth Smith, of Swyncombe Lodge, Henley-on-Thames.

Cemetery Location Information:

Pozieres is a village some 6 kilometres north-east of the town of Albert. The Memorial encloses Pozieres British Cemetery which is a little south-west of the village on the north side of the main road, D929, from Albert to Pozieres.

On the road frontage is an open arcade terminated by small buildings and broken in the middle by the entrance and gates. Along the sides and the back, stone tablets are fixed in the stone rubble walls bearing the names of the dead grouped under their Regiments.

It should be added that, although the memorial stands in a cemetery of largely Australian graves, it does not bear any Australian names. The Australian soldiers who fell in France and whose graves are not known are commemorated on the National Memorial at Villers-Bretonneux.

Ralph Smith

25th December 1895 - 21st March 1918

Killed in action on the Somme, on the same day as Ernest Norcutt, who was in the same Regiment; with similar service numbers, it is likely these two enlisted together.

Ralph was born in Elm Tree Cottage in Russell's Water, and in the 1901 census he was living there with his parents, sister, brother, and cousin.

Albert Tanner

13th November 1892 - 11th April 1918

Killed in action, two years after the death of his brother, Walter.

Albert married Elizabeth Trendall, the daughter of a Swyncombe Farm labourer, and lived with her in Darkwood Cottage in Park Corner; Albert worked on Darkwood Farm. He had two sons; Albert was born in October 1915, and Harold was born in January 1918.



Casualty Details

Rank : Private
Initials : F
Surname : MAYNARD
Forenames : FRANK
Unit Text : 2nd/7th Bn.
Regiment : Royal Warwickshire Regiment
Service No : 28870
Age : 26
Date of Death : 14th April 1918.
Grave Ref : Panel 2 and 3

Cemetery : PLOEGSTEERT MEMORIAL
Comines-Warneton, Hainaut
Belgium

Additional Information:

Son of Alfred and Mary Maynard, of Russells Water, Henley-on-Thames.

Original Register Text:

MAYNARD, Pte. Frank, 28870. 2nd/7th Bn. Royal Warwickshire Regt. 14th April, 1918. Age 26. Son of Alfred and Mary Maynard, of Russells Water, Henley-on-Thames.

Cemetery Location Information:

The Ploegsteert Memorial stands in Berks Cemetery Extension, which is located 12.5 kilometres south of Ieper town centre, on the N365 leading from Ieper to Mesen (Messines), Ploegsteert and on to Armentieres.

From Ieper town centre the Rijselsestraat runs from the market square, through the Lille Gate (Rijselpoort) and directly over the crossroads with the Ieper ring road. The road name then changes to the Rijselseweg (N336). 3.5 kilometres along the N336 lies a fork junction with the N365. The N365, which forms the right hand fork, leads to the town of Mesen. The Cemetery lies 3 kilometres beyond Mesen on the right hand side of the N365, and opposite Hyde Park Corner Royal Berks Cemetery.

The Memorial commemorates over 11,000 men who have no known grave. They fought throughout the War on Belgian soil beside French troops, and died in France or Belgium when the frontier was of little interest in this area in which trench warfare lasted longest. The Memorial is a covered circular colonnade, 20 metres across and 11 metres high, enclosing an open space, and is entered by an opening between two stone lions. The names of the dead are carved on panels set in the walls of the colonnade. They belonged to thirty-six different Divisions and to a hundred Regiments; of these Regiments the Rifle Brigade with 559 names, the Northumberland Fusiliers with 535 and the Durham Light Infantry with 444 claim the largest individual shares.

Frank Maynard

23rd June 1893 - 14th April 1918

Killed in action

In the 1901 census he was 7 years old living in Brightwell, Wallingford, with his parents and three brothers – one of whom, William, died in 1917. At the time of the war, Frank's family was living on Howe Road Watlington.

George Taylor

16th June 1891 - 1st June 1918

In 1901, George was living in Swyncombe Gardens His mother, father, and sister – all of whom died long before the start of the war – are buried at St. Botolph's.

6 months before he died, George married Bridget Sheils at a registry office in Salisbury, were both were living in a hospital caring for Australian soldiers.

George was awarded the Military Medal for Gallantry.

DEBT OF HONOUR REGISTER

In Memory of

GEORGE HENRY TAYLOR MM

Lance Corporal
1601

17th Bn., Australian Infantry, A.I.F

who died on
Saturday 1 June 1918 . Age 26 .

Additional Information: Son of James and Fanny Taylor; husband of B. E. Taylor, of Adderbury West, Banbury, Oxon, England. Native of Swyncombe, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon.

Cemetery: ETAPLES MILITARY CEMETERY Pas de Calais, France

Grave or Reference
Panel Number: LXV. E. 8.

Location: Etaples is a town about 27 kilometres south of Boulogne. The Military Cemetery is to the north of the town, on the west side of the road to Boulogne.

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

24 November 1998

Casualty Details

Rank	: Private
Initials	: F T
Surname	: SAUNDERS
Unit Text	: 12th/13th Bn.
Regiment	: Northumberland Fusiliers
Service No	: 52838
Date of Death	: 21st August 1918.
Grave Ref	: Plot I. Row E. Grave 38.
Cemetery	: ACHEUX BRITISH CEMETERY Somme France

Original Register Text:

SAUNDERS, Pte. F. T., 52838. 12th/13th Bn. Northumberland Fusiliers. 21st Aug., 1918. Plot I. Row E. Grave 38.

Cemetery Location Information:

Acheux lies on the D938, the main road from Albert to Doullens, approximately 10 kilometres out of Albert.

As you arrive in Acheux the church will be seen on your right and you will come to a crossroads. Turn left on to the D114 in the direction of Lealvillers and the cemetery will be found 800 metres further along on the right hand side of the road.

Fred Saunders

15th January 1899 - 21st
August 1918

Died of his wounds on the
Somme.

According to the Swyncombe
School Log Book, Fred came
third for the Bishop's Prize in
1911.

Walter Vockins

14th June 1895 - 2nd October 1918

In the 1901 census, Walter was living in a two-room cottage in Cookley Green, next door to Percy Palmer, with his parents, two sisters and one brother. Walter was one of ten Vockins children.

Walter entered the theatre of war on the 19th August 1914, at the start of the conflict; if he had lived just one month longer he could have come home.



Acknowledgement

We wish to thank Linda and Angela Welsford whose tireless research has enabled us to produce this document.

Liz and Sabrina Longley 2018