

# Oxshott War Memorial, details of those who died in the WW1 conflict.

The Names of those listed on the War Memorial on Oxshott Heath & on the Memorial Panel in St. Andrews Church, Oxshott.

More information on the effect of WW1 locally is available at the Surrey Heritage Centre and their online project '*Surrey in the Great War*'.

March 2018

Ref	NAME (on the memorial) (1)	SERVICE DETAILS (as War Memorial)	Rank, Unit	Age	Born (7)	Died (14) & (15)	Service No.	Address (5) (7) Source info. (9)	Enlisted at – & Comments. (8)
1	<b>W. AKERMAN</b>	E SURREY R East Surrey Regiment	Private 7 <sup>th</sup> Bn	20	1895 Oxshott	<b>13/10/1915</b> <b>France</b> *	185	Walter Akerman	Kingston, Sy.
<p><i>Family:</i> Son of Luke &amp; Marie Akerman 1, Godfrey Cottages, Steels Lane, Oxshott. Siblings, George, Lucy &amp; Henry Akerman. Walter was in service as a gardener. His father ran a newsagents shop from an awning at the side of their house, in their garden, which is adjacent to Arnwood (Road).</p> <p><i>Cemetery:</i> Loos Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Number of casualties is 20660. He has no marked grave &amp; is commemorated on a wall panel.</p> <p>In November 1915 the St Andrew's parish magazine reported that Private Walter Akerman had been unofficially reported as missing. The following month, December 1915, saw confirmation of his status, alongside that of local man Frederick Cotterell: We deeply regret to say that news has come from the War Office that Frederick [Cottrell] and Walter Akerman is now officially reported 'Missing, believed to have been killed'. These two men took part in the action of the 13th October, when the 7th Battalion East Surrey [Regiment] suffered so heavily. They were amongst the first to enlist, and have acquitted themselves in a highly meritorious manner during all the months of training and at the Front. Let us remember them in our prayers. We can at least ask for them, what we ask for ourselves. It was subsequently found that both men had in fact died on the 13th October 1915, as suspected. <i>Parish Magazine, November 1915 and December 1915 (9)</i></p>									Member of Oxshott Men's Club (6)
2	<b>J. AUGER</b>	RIF BRIG Rifle Brigade	Rifleman 13 <sup>th</sup> Bn	26	1889 Chesterton Cambs.	<b>19/12/1915</b> <b>France</b>	S/3684	Joseph Auger	Westminster
<p><i>Family:</i> Son of James and Sophia Auger, of Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire. Siblings, Frank, Winnie, Victor &amp; Godfrey. Joseph Married in 1914, to Ellen Gertrude (Knights), Lambeth, of 53, Bramber Rd., West Kensington, London. They had a son Joseph 1915-1920. No local address found, They may have been in service locally. Joseph was a gardener.</p> <p><i>Cemetery:</i> Beauval Communal Cemetery, Somme, France. Number of casualties is 250. He was buried &amp; has a headstone with a family personalised inscription. This was near the 4<sup>th</sup> Casualty Clearing Station.</p>									Member of Oxshott Men's Club (6)

<p>In October 1914 the St Andrew's parish magazine reported that:  News has come that Joseph Auger has been seriously wounded in France. He is in the Rifle Brigade, and has been at the Front some months. He always wrote the most cheering letters home. We trust he may have a speedy recovery.  However, a little under two years later, in September 1916, the magazine recorded that Rifleman Auger had subsequently laid down his life for his Country, some nine months previously.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Parish Magazine, October 1914 and September 1916 (9)</i></p> <p>Having joined on 10/8/1914 and served on the Western Front. He died of wounds received in action on the 19<sup>th</sup> December and was buried at Beuval.</p>									
3	<b>R. St. C BLAKEY</b>	RAVC Royal Army veterinary Corps.	Private 23 <sup>rd</sup> Vet. Hosp.	41	1876 Barnet Hertfordshire	<b>19/05/1918</b> <b>France</b>	SE/ 19703	Robert St. Clair Blakey	Esher, Sy.
<p><i>Family:</i> Son of Elisha and Maria Annie Blakey, of New Barnet, Herts.  Siblings: Ernest Elisha, Jeanette E, Sidney Malcolm &amp; Harold Llewelyn.  Married in 1905, to Caroline (Richards), of Langport, Somerset. They lived at Copseham, Esher,  He was the head coachman for the Copseham Estate.</p> <p><i>Cemetery:</i> Longuenesse (St. Omer) Souvenir Cemetery, Pas de Calais. Number of casualties is 3397. He was buried &amp; has a headstone with a family personalised inscription.</p> <p>In June 1918 the death of Private Robert St Clare Blakey was recorded in the St Andrew's parish magazine as follows: It is with deep regret that we have to announce the death of Robert St Clair Blakey AVC. He was killed by a bomb in France on 18th May. R.I.P.  <i>Parish Magazine, June 1918. (9)</i></p> <p>This was as a result of an air raid attack on British camps and hospitals at Etaples on the 19<sup>th</sup> May resulting in heavy casualties. (13)</p>									
4	<b>S. BOURNE</b>	RIF BRIG Rifle Brigade	Rifleman 2 <sup>nd</sup> Bn	20	1894 Oxshott	<b>09/05/1915</b> <b>Belgium</b>	4302	Stephen Albert Bourne	Kingston, Sy.
<p><i>Family</i>  Son of Edward &amp; Elizabeth Bourne, Oxshott Station Railway Cottages, (Edward was a platelayer on the railway).  Siblings; Edith, Alice, Edward, &amp; Herbert.  He worked for the Railway Company at the station as a coal porter.</p> <p><i>Cemetery:</i> Ploegsteert Memorial, Hainaut, Belgium. Number of casualties 11403. He has no marked grave &amp; is commemorated on a wall panel.</p>									

	<p>In September 1915 the St Andrew's parish magazine recorded that:  No news has come of the whereabouts of Stephen Bourne, who is serving in the ranks of the 2nd Battalion of the Rifle Brigade. The last communication from him was dated May 7th.</p> <p>The following year, in August 1916, it was reported that:  On May 7th, 1915, Stephen Bourne was reported missing. No news has been received of him since, and now all hopes of his being a prisoner of war have been given up. He was in the Army before the outbreak of war, and was all through the desperate and ultimately successful fighting of the British Army in Flanders and France. His parents have nobly borne all the anxiety and grief of the past 14 months. We share their grief and offer them our heartfelt sympathy in the loss of a good a son.</p> <p>In September 1916 the magazine confirmed that Rifleman Stephen Bourne had laid down his life for his Country. In actuality he was recorded as having died on May 9th, 1915, only two days after his last communication.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Parish Magazine, September 1915, August 1916, September 1916. (9)</i></p> <p>Died at the Battle of Aubers Ridge, the attack was unsuccessful and he was one of more than 11,000 casualties sustained on the 9<sup>th</sup> May, most within a short distance of their own lines. This was one of the highest losses in the entire war. (13)</p>								
5	<b>A. BURGESS</b>	E SURREY R East Surrey Regiment	Private 13 <sup>th</sup> Bn	40	1877 Oxshott	<b>23/03/1918</b> <b>France</b> <b>**</b>	202592	Alfred Burgess	Guildford, Sy.
	<p><i>Family:</i> Alfred Burgess, Oakleigh, Steels Lane.  Son of Carolina Burgess.  Alfred Married in 1898, to Elizabeth Clara (Redit), Kingston. They had a son Arthur &amp; daughter Violet.  Alfred was a Bricklayer.</p> <p><i>Cemetery:</i> Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Number of casualties 34836. He has no marked grave &amp; is commemorated on a wall panel.</p> <p>Private Alfred Burgess was listed as serving, in the St Andrew's, Oxshott, parish magazine, in January 1917. The following year, in June 1918, the parish magazine recorded that he had been missing since March 21st, although 'Mrs Burgess has great hopes that he may be a prisoner'. In the same month as his father was listed as missing, Alfred and Caroline's son, Arthur joined up, in the Navy.  In the months that followed Alfred continued to be listed as missing and some time after December 1918 it was recorded that his death had taken place on 23rd March 1918, two days after he was originally reported as missing.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Parish Magazine, June 1918, July 1918, September 1918, and December 1918. (9)</i></p> <p>13<sup>th</sup> Battalion, The East Surrey Regiment, on 16<sup>th</sup> February 1918 they transferred to 119<sup>th</sup> Brigade, still with 40<sup>th</sup> Brigade. They fought in the battle of St. Quentin and battle of Bapaume on the Somme the Battle of Estaires &amp; Hazebrouck in Flanders, suffering heavy losses. (12)</p>								
6	<b>R. CARTER</b>	E SURREY R East Surrey Regiment	Private 7 <sup>th</sup> Bn	26	1895 Guildford	<b>13/10/1915</b> <b>France</b> <b>*</b>	139	Reginald Albert Carter	Kingston, Sy. 1914
	<p><i>Family:</i> Son of Albert &amp; Annie Carter, Guildford, Surrey.  Siblings; Ella Ada Carter, Hilda A, Dorothy H, Winifred E, John Grant, Alice Beatrice, Albert Bertram.</p>								

	<p>He was a Junior porter at Oxshott from 29th Nov 1913.</p> <p><i>Cemetery:</i> Loos Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Number of casualties 20660. He has no marked grave &amp; is commemorated on a wall panel.</p> <p>In October 1915 the death of Private Reginald Carter was recorded in the St Andrew's parish magazine as follows:  We regret to have to record that Reginald Carter, A Company, 7th East Surrey Regiment, was killed in action in France. Reginald Carter was employed by the L &amp; SWR [London and South Western Railway] Company at Oxshott Station before he enlisted at the beginning of the war. He was one of the first to come forward and offer his services to our country. Our deep sympathy goes out to his bereaved parents. RIP.  <b>Service Record:</b> Father born at Imber, Wiltshire, village seized by MOD in 1943 and never returned. Living at 2 Nightingale Road, Guildford in 1911, with occupation railway signal lad. Junior porter at Oxshott from 29th Nov 1913. Enlisted 19th August, 1914.  <i>Parish Magazines, October 1915, (9) &amp; Cobham Heritage- Remembers</i></p>								
7	<b>G. R. G. CHILD</b>	R SUSSEX R Royal Sussex Regiment	Second Lieutenant 2 <sup>nd</sup> Bn	18	1896 Chertsey	<b>09/05/1915</b> <b>France</b>	?	Gilbert Richard Gregory Child	
	<p><i>Family;</i> Son of Stephen Ambrose &amp; Mabel Child, The Crossways, Miles Lane, Cobham, (Fairmile).</p> <p><i>Cemetery;</i> Le Touret Memorial Pas de Calais, France. Number of casualties 13481. He has no marked grave &amp; is commemorated on a wall panel.</p> <p>In June 1915 the St Andrew's parish magazine recorded the death of Second Lieutenant Gilbert Richard Gregory Child as follows:  Our deep sympathy goes out to Mr and Mrs Child of the Crossways, in the loss of their gallant son. He gave his life for his country on Sunday, 9th May, during the battle of Richebourg.  <i>Parish Magazine June 1915. (9)</i></p> <p>He was in charge of 'D' Company when he was killed attacking the enemy trenches. He was one of the many casualties of the action. (12)</p>								
8	<b>F. COOMBES</b> (4)	E SURREY R East Surrey Regiment	Private7th Bn	34	1883 Hounslow Middlesex	<b>18/03/1916</b> <b>France</b>	5835	Frederick Coombs	Kingston, Sy. ----- Spelt Coombs on Church panel (3)
	<p><i>Family;</i> Son of Richard &amp; Emma Coombes, of 6, Godfrey Cottages, Oxshott.  Siblings Henry &amp; Richard.  Married Apr 1915, to Nellie (Gibbons) of 5A, Water Lane, Ospringe, Faversham, Kent.  He worked as a General Labourer.</p> <p><i>Cemetery;</i> Loos Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Number of casualties 20660. He has no marked grave &amp; is commemorated on a wall panel.</p> <p>Private Frederick Coombs was listed as serving, in the St Andrew's parish magazine, in November 1915. By the following month, December 1915, he was reported as convalescent. Nothing more was noted about Private Coombs until June 1918, when it was recorded that he had been missing for two years. By December 1918 Private Frederick Coombs was listed as one of a number who had 'given their lives for our country'.  His death was officially recorded as having taken place on 18th March 1916. (9)</p>								Member of Oxshott Men's Club (6)

In December 1916 the St Andrew's, Oxshott, parish magazine recorded that:  
 All our readers will be glad to know that William Coombs [sic.], of the 7th East Surrey [Regiment], has been given the Military Medal for gallantry on the battlefield in France. We offer him our warmest congratulations, and are proud of home. William Coombs [sic.] is one of the four sons of Mr George Coombs [sic.] who are in the Army, and was one of the first to join up in August 1914. He has gained quite a reputation for shooting, and is one of the best marksmen in his Battalion.  
 In June 1918 it was noted that Private Coombes remained in France and, in August 1918, that he was now a Brigade Sniper in the 9th East Surreys, having put in three years' service at the Front. The author commented that, with a further three sons in the service, 'the Coombs [sic.] family have certainly done their bit'.  
 The following month a correction was published, stating that in fact Mr and Mrs Coombes had five sons 'in the Army', not four as previously stated.  
 The five Coombes brothers were:  
 Frank Arthur, born 1892, George, born 1895, William Richard, born 1896, Henry John, born 1898.  
*Parish Magazine, November 1914, November 1915, December 1915, June 1918, and December 1918. (9)*

The Company war diary notes considerable sniper success by his battalion (he was a sniper) in the week before he died near Hohenzollern an enemy defensive position where both sides were tunnelling and using mines to take the area. There had been a heavy bombardment prior to an enemy attack on the 18<sup>th</sup> when he was lost. (12)

9	<b>F. G. COTTERELL</b>	E SURREY R East Surrey Regiment	Private 7 <sup>th</sup> Bn	20	1895 Cobham	<b>13/10/1915 France *</b>	132	Frederick George Cotterell	Kingston, Sy.
<p><i>Family:</i> Son of James &amp; Jessie Cotterell, Littleheath Lane, Cobham.          He was from a large family of 3 brothers &amp; 8 sisters.          He had worked as a gardener.          Frederick's sister married Edwin Wiles, also fighting, who died in April 1918.</p> <p><i>Cemetery:</i> Loos Memorial Pas de Calais, France. Number of casualties 20660. He has no marked grave &amp; is commemorated on a wall panel.</p>									Member of Oxshott Men's Club (6)
<p>In November 1915 the St Andrew's parish magazine reported that Private Walter Akerman had been unofficially reported as missing. The following month, December 1915, saw confirmation of his status, alongside that of local man Frederick Cotterell:          We deeply regret to say that news has come from the War Office that Frederick [Cottrell] and Walter Akerman are now officially reported 'Missing, believed to have been killed'. These two men took part in the action of the 13th October, when the 7th Battalion East Surrey [Regiment] suffered so heavily. They were amongst the first to enlist, and have acquitted themselves in a highly meritorious manner during all the months of training and at the Front. Let us remember them in our prayers. We can at least ask for them, what we ask for ourselves.          It was subsequently found that both men had in fact died on the 13th October 1915, as suspected, and in July 1916 the magazine reported that:          Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Frederick Cotterell, East Surrey [Regiment]. News has been sent to his parents, by the War Office, that Frederick Cotterell was killed in action on October 13th, 1915. He was one of the first to enlist in this parish, and was a popular man in his Company – always cheerful and happy. He was in the choir as a boy, and took a keen interest in the Church. We sympathise with his sorrowing parents very deeply. RIP.  <i>Parish Magazine, November 1915 and December 1915. (9)</i></p>									

10	<b>Cpl F. V. FINCH</b>	RAF Royal Air Force	Corporal	24	1895 Des Moines Iowa, USA	<b>10/06/1919</b> <b>Surrey</b>	131862	Fenimore Victor Finch	
<p><i>Family:</i> Son of Albert and Mary Finch. Tudor Court Lodge, Cobham, (in Fairmile Park Rd.). He had 3 brothers. Albert, Fenimore &amp; Herbert. His younger brother Leland had died in September 1916, on the Somme. Fenimore was a gardener.</p> <p><i>Cemetery:</i> Cobham Cemetery, where there are 9 WW1 Commonwealth War Graves Commission graves there. He joined the RAF in February 1918 and served as an Air Mechanic, he died of peritonitis.</p>									Member of Oxshott Men's Club (6)
11	<b>L. J. G. FINCH</b>	E SURREY R East Surrey Regiment	Private 12 <sup>th</sup> Bn	19	1897 Des Moines Iowa, USA	<b>15/09/1916</b> <b>France</b>	17643	Leland John George Finch	
<p><i>Family:</i> Son of Albert and Mary Finch, Tudor Court Lodge, Cobham, (in Fairmile Park Rd.). He had 3 brothers. Albert, Leland &amp; Herbert. His brother Fenimore, died in September 1919, after returning to England.</p> <p><i>Cemetery:</i> Guards' Cemetery, Lesboeufs, Somme, France. Number of casualties 1497. He was buried &amp; has a headstone with a family personalised inscription.</p> <p>Private Leland John George Finch was first listed as serving in March 1916, and the following December his death was recorded as follows:</p> <p>Leland John George Finch. 12th East Surrey Regiment. We have heard with much sorrow that Leland Finch was killed in action last September. He was always popular with his companions and both at school and at his work was always considered from his studious nature and brightness to be sure of doing well. He was educated at Cobham School, and gained distinction there, amongst other things winning the Overseas Prize. On leaving school he was employed first at the Motor Works of Messrs. Dennis Bros., of Guildford and afterwards at the Abingdon Motor Works. He joined the Army last January, proceeding to France with his regiment in May. He was first reported missing in September, and news of his death has only just reached his anxious parents, to whom we express our deepest sympathy. RIP.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Parish Magazine, March 1916 and December 1916. (9)</i></p> <p>He was lost in the Somme, Battle of Delville Wood, which was considered a success although there were heavy casualties. (12)</p>									Member of Oxshott Men's Club (6)
12	<b>LCpl A. H. FOSTER</b> (2)	NORTH'N R Northamptonshire Reg.	Private 6th Bn	29	1887 Kingston	<b>25/10/1916</b> <b>France</b>	25475	Albert Henry Foster	Luton, Beds. Pte in CWGC records

		<p><i>Family:</i> Son of Henry &amp; Alice Foster, of Hare Lane, Claygate. Marr. Jennie (later Reeve) Claremont, Esher. Siblings Charles, Percy, John &amp; Daisey.</p> <p><i>Cemetery:</i> Regina Trench Cemetery, Grandcourt, Somme, Number of casualties 1203. France. He was buried &amp; has a headstone with a family personalised inscription.</p>						<p><i>He is not listed on the panel in St. Andrews Church, but is on the Oxshott Heath Memorial.</i> (2)</p>	
		<p>As part of the battle of the Somme in 1916, he probably died in the October Battles of Ancre Heights, around the Beaumont Hamel area. (13)</p>							
13	<b>MAJOR H. G. GIBSON</b>	RAMC Royal Army Medical Corps	Major	35	1883 Woolwich London	<b>12/02/1919 France</b>	?	Howard Graeme Gibson	
		<p><i>Family:</i> Son of Arthur Stanley &amp; Mary Gibson. The Withies, Oxshott. Sibling, a sister, Phyllis. Married, 1911, Ethel Beatrice (Winter), Woolwich. They had a daughter. He was in the medical profession.</p> <p><i>Cemetery:</i> Abbeville Communal Cemetery Extension, Somme, France. Number of casualties 2004. He was buried with a standard CWGC headstone. He died of pneumonia following influenza at Abbeville, France.</p>							



Title: Lt Howard Graeme Gibson  
 Description: RAMC Aldershot April 1907.  
 Source: <http://maltaramc.com/ramcoff/g/gibsonhg.h>

Howard Graeme Gibson was born on 20 May 1883 in Woolwich, London. He was the only son of Arthur Stanley and Mary Gibson, and had a younger sister, Phyllis, born in 1886. Gibson was educated at Felsted School, matriculated at London University in 1902, and graduated from Guy's Hospital in 1907 as a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons and a Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians. In June 1911 he married Ethel Beatrice Winter, the eldest daughter of Brigadier General Winter CB CMG and they had one daughter, born in April 1915. Gibson was commissioned Lieutenant in the Royal Army Medical Corps on 28 January 1907 and was promoted to Major in 1909. He specialised in pathology and bacteriology and, whilst stationed at Valletta Military Hospital in Malta in 1909, volunteered to demonstrate the transmission of sand-fly fever by being bitten by a sand-fly which had previously fed on a patient during the first day of his illness. On the outbreak of the Great War, Gibson was mobilized with the 12th Royal Lancers before being deployed to France with the British Expeditionary Force (BEF) in August 1914. He was present at the Battle of the Marne and Aisne, before being injured by the bursting of a high explosive shell at the First Battle of Ypres. Having suffered a concussion of the spine, he was returned to England and, once recovered, was posted to the Vaccine Department of the Royal Army Medical College where he developed an anti-dysenteric sero-vaccine. In 1917 he returned to France, having been declared fit for service, and joined Colonel William Leishman as Assistant Adviser in Pathology at the BEF headquarters, working on the effects of the typhoid-paratyphoid A and B inoculation and the use of antitetanic serum. When the influenza epidemic broke out in Autumn 1918, Gibson was appointed head of a research team and, whilst engaged in this work, contracted influenza himself, dying of complications on 12 February 1919 at No 2 Stationary Hospital, Abbeville. Gibson was buried at Abbeville Communal Cemetery Extension and is remembered on the Guys Hospital WW1 and WW2 Arch, Oxshott Memorial Cross, and the St Andrews Church, Men of Oxshott and Canadian Forces Memorial.

Major Gibson's death was recorded in March 1919 edition of the St Andrew's, Oxshott, parish magazine as follows:  
 It is with very deep regret that we have to announce the death of Major Gibson, R.A.M.C., which occurred in France owing to pneumonia following influenza. He had served with distinction in the Great War ever since 1914, and was in the retreat from Mons. He came home for a while on sick leave, suffering from wounds, and shell-shock, and while in England he devoted his remarkable talents to bacteriological research. On his return to France he continued his studies with the special object of discovering the cause and cure of the influenza epidemic. He had just achieved success in this direction when he himself fell victim to the disease, which he contracted through the culture on which he was experimenting. He did in a very real sense lay down his life for the sake of his brother men. We tender our deep and respectful sympathy to Mrs. Gibson in her sorrow, and we are proud to think that this heroic and disinterested man of science has been connected with our village.

*Parish Magazine, March 1919. (9)*

Internet - 'Gibson, Howard Graeme', Kings College London, War Memorials, accessed 20 April 2017, <http://www.kingscollections.org/warmemorials/guys-hospital/memorials/gibson-howard-graeme>.

'Medical Officers of the Malta Garrison', British Army Medical Services and the Malta Garrison 1799-1979, accessed 20 April 2017.

14	<b>E. GODFREY</b>	R W SURREY R Queens – (Royal West Surrey Regiment)	Private 1 <sup>st</sup> Bn	27	1887 Cobham	<b>14/09/1914</b> <b>France</b>	L/8549	Ernest Godfrey	Kingston, Sy.
<p><i>Family:</i> Son of Frederick &amp; Ellen Godfrey. Married. Ellen Farrow (of Littleheath Cobham). Marr. 1913, Oxshott. Ernest was a Soldier, having enlisted in the army and was in the Queens at Guildford in 1911.</p> <p><i>Cemetery:</i> La Ferte-Sous-Jouarre Memorial, Seine-et-Marne, France. Number of casualties 3764. He has no marked grave &amp; is commemorated on a wall panel.</p>									



	He died at Paissy, between Reims and Laon, France, they were sent to support other units and were there to hold the line against enemy attack. (12)								
15	<b>Lieut J. S. HARDING</b>	NORTH FUS Northumberland Fusiliers	Lieutenant 11 <sup>th</sup> Bn	20	1895 Hampstead Middlesex	<b>8/11/1915 France</b>	?	John Samuel Harding (Jack).	
<p><i>Family:</i> Son of Samuel Alfred &amp; Edith Frances Harding, Brackenwood, Leatherhead. (Pachesham Park). Siblings, Francis C, Margaret F, Bernard P Harding.</p> <p><i>Cemetery:</i> Brewery Orchard Cemetery, Bois-Grenier, Nord, France. Number of casualties 344. He was buried &amp; has a headstone with a family personalised inscription.</p>									
Died whilst in his own trench he was shot early in the morning by an enemy sniper, he was part of B Company at Bois-Grenier. (12)									
16	<b>A. HARRIS</b>	MIDLX RIF Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex Regiment)	Private 5 <sup>th</sup> Bn	29	1887 Guildford	<b>1/4/1916 Kent</b>	G/12920	Albert Victor Harris	Kingston, Sy.
<p><i>Family:</i> Son of Caroline Harris, Step son of George, Avenue Gate, Looseley Park, Compton, Guildford. Siblings, James &amp; William Harris. He worked as a dairyman.</p> <p><i>Cemetery:</i> Fort Pitt Military Cemetery, Kent. Number of WW1 casualties 267. He was buried &amp; has a headstone with a family personalised inscription. CWGC records state that he died of meningitis.</p> <p>Albert Harris was one of the 'Derby Recruits' and was called up for training in his group. Never of robust health, he was unable to endure the heavy work put upon him. He caught a chill, and after a very short illness was called away for higher service among the great majority of Christ's soldiers in Paradise. The funeral took place at Chatham. RIP.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Parish Magazine, May 1916. (9)</i></p>									
17	<b>C. HATCH</b>	RGA Royal Garrison Artillery	Gunner 210 <sup>th</sup> Siege Battery	42	1876 Chalk Farm, Middlesex	<b>31/3/1918 France **</b>	134346	Charles Hatch	

<p><i>Family:</i> Son of Edward &amp; Clara Hatch.          Sibling. Brother Ernest Arthur.          Married at St. Andrews, Oxshott, 20/11/1916 to Ethel M (Gray), her father was a gardener (in service) at Ordsall, Oxshott, where Charles lived.</p> <p><i>Cemetery:</i> Etaples Military Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France. Number of casualties 11517. He was buried &amp; has a headstone with a family personalised inscription.</p> <p>He was probably one of the huge number of casualties of the Battle of the Somme, near Arras, from the large scale enemy Spring Offensive.          Charles is believed to have been a gardener.          He would have been moved back to a field hospital at Etaples, where he died of his wounds. (17)</p>									
18	<b>Lieut E. G. J. HUMBERT</b>	R BERKS Royal Berkshire Reg.	Lieutenant 9 <sup>th</sup> Bn	27	1888 West Drayton Middlesex	<b>08/06/1915</b> <b>Gallipoli</b> <b>Turkey</b>	?	Ernest Graham Johnston Humbert	Inns of Court 4/8/14
<p><i>Family:</i> He was the third son of Ernest &amp; Margaret Humbert, Langleys, Queens Drive, Oxshott.          He was a solicitor.</p> <p><i>Cemetery:</i> Gallipoli, Turkey, Lancashire Landing Cemetery. Number of casualties 1117. He was buried with a standard CWGC headstone.</p> <p>Mr Graham Humbert was first listed as serving his country in the October 1914 edition of the St Andrew's parish magazine, and the following January, 1915, the authors offered him their congratulations on being given a commission as Second Lieutenant.          However, only six months later, it was recorded that:          [Lieutenant] Ernest Graham Johnston Humbert, 9th Royal Berkshire Regiment, who is reported from Alexandria to have died from wounds received at the Dardanelles, was the youngest son of Mr and Mrs Ernest Humbert of Langleys, Oxshott. He was educated at Charterhouse and Oriel College, Oxford, and was admitted as a solicitor in 1912. On the outbreak of war he joined the Officers' Training Corps, and in November last was gazetted to a commission in the 9th Battalion of the Royal Berkshire Regiment. He was afterwards raised to the rank of Lieutenant. He was aged 27.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Parish Magazines, July 1915.(9)</i></p> <p>This could have been the battle of Krithia, in the Helles war zone, Gallipoli. (13)</p>									
19	<b>E. W. PARKER</b>	NORT'M FUS Northampton Regiment	Private 6 <sup>th</sup> Bn	26	1892 Cobham	<b>18/09/1918</b> <b>France</b>	58081	Edgar William Parker	Guildford, Sy.
<p><i>Family:</i> Son of John &amp; Annie Parker.          Sibling, Ruby Millicent Parker.          Married. 1915, to Edith Amy Elizabeth (Rockingham), of 1, Daisy Cottage, Denby Rd. Cobham.          Edgar was a chauffeur.</p> <p><i>Cemetery:</i> Ste. Emilie Valley Cemetery, Villers-Faucon, Somme, France. Number of casualties 293. He was buried &amp; has a headstone with a family personalised inscription.</p>									

	<p>The St Andrew's parish magazine first recorded that Private Edgar Parker was serving his country in July 1915. In June 1918 readers were advised that he was in the Northamptonshire Regiment and was at Chatham, having been in hospital for fourteen months. Two months later, in August 1918, the magazine recorded that Edgar had been home on leave and, a month later, that he had now returned to France. Sadly, in November 1918, the magazine reported that, after spending the best part of a year and a half recovering:  We are now sorry to report that on September 18th [Private Edgar Parker] was killed. He wrote to his wife on the 17th, saying that he was going to the trenches the next day.  <i>Parish Magazine, July 1915, June 1916, Aug. 1918, Sept. &amp; Nov. 1918. (9)</i></p> <p>His father was a signalman at Cooks Crossing, on Littleheath Lane when Edgar was born, but died before the end of the century. They still lived in Littleheath in 1911. He is thought to have died at the Battle of Ephey.</p>								
20	<b>A. M. RIMER</b>	R FUS Royal Fusiliers	Private 10 <sup>th</sup> Bn (City of London Regiment)	29	1887 Kingston	<b>23/07/1916 Cobham</b>	STK/519	Arthur Mitchell Rimer	
<p><i>Family:</i> Son of Henry &amp; Catherine Ellen Rimer, Botolph, Sheath Lane, Oxshott.  Siblings: Winifred Dancombe  He was a solicitor.</p> <p><i>Cemetery:</i> Stoke d'Abernon, St. Mary Churchyard. With a private headstone.  He died of his wounds after being sent back to a Hospital in Brighton.</p>									Member of Oxshott Men's Club (6)

	<p>In August 1916 the death of Private Arthur Rimer was recorded in the St Mary's parish magazine as follows:</p> <p>When war was declared it was not too long before Arthur Rimer answered to the call: 'Your King and Country need you,' and he enlisted in the 10th Royal Fusiliers. He was one of those who said little and did much. Quiet, thoughtful, with a keen sense of duty, he was quick to respond when the way of action was marked out for him. We call to mind his willingness to be operator for the Lantern Services in the Church and how he at once volunteered to guard the Church at night when, before the war, we were in danger from Suffragette outrages. If many another was kept away from the Church by inclement weather, Arthur Rimer was one of those who were certain to face all weathers, and to be found at worship in the House of God. He was wounded in the great advance at Pozieres, on, we believe, Saturday, July 15th. He was brought home to the Military Hospital in Brighton. A slight haemorrhage set in on Sunday, July 23rd, and he had to go under an anaesthetic, but shortly after he fell asleep. A Life nobly lived and nobly given for His Country, King, and God.</p> <p>In the same month the authors of the St Andrew's parish magazine recorded their 'esteem and affection' for Private Rimer:  On Sunday, July 23rd, A M Rimer fell asleep in a war hospital at Brighton. He had been suffering for over a week from the effects of a serious wound in the thigh during heavy fighting of the 15th north of the Somme. From what we knew of his keenness, pluck and determination on the cricket ground and football field we are not surprised to know that he became a real good soldier. In his love of Nature, his devotion to duty, his King and his God, his constant and regular attendance at the services of the Church, his love for and attachment to his home, he leaves us all a splendid example. All hearts will go out in real sympathy to his sorrowing parents in their great trial. The funeral took place at Stoke D'Abernon on Friday, July 28. The many people and the wealth of flowers testify to the esteem and affection of his friends.  Arthur Rimer was the only man to be remembered on the War Memorials of both St Mary's and St Andrew's, and it seems clear that he was a much loved and respected member of both parishes, as well as the wider community.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Parish Magazine, August 1916. (9)</i></p> <p>His Battalion attacked Pozieres, but were held up by strong enemy resistance and in the afternoon and regrouped before resuming the attack. Some progress was made and by the time they were relieved later in the evening they had suffered 250 casualties to officers &amp; other ranks. Arthur Rimer was one of these and due to his injuries he would have been sent back via field hospitals to Brighton. (12)</p>								
21	<b>W. SCARFE</b>	E SURREY R East Surrey Regiment	Private 5 <sup>th</sup> Bn	19	1896 Norfolk	<b>3/02/1915</b> <b>India</b>	1698	William James Scarfe	Leatherhead ----- Spelt Scarff on CWGC info. which seems correct.
<p><i>Family:</i> Son of William &amp; Margaret Scarfe of Effingham.  Sibling, Eva Scarf. Living at The Cottage Effingham.  He had enlisted in the East Surrey Regiment in 1913.</p> <p><i>Cemetery:</i> Barkacha Military Grave, India. A single CWGC grave in the countryside, near the village of Barkacha &amp; commemorated on the Madras Memorial.</p>									

	<p>News has come from India that Private William Scarfe (sic.), of the East Surrey Regiment, was drowned while bathing last month. William Scarfe (sic.) was a resident of Effingham, and was employed at Warren Mount, Oxshott, when called up for service at the general mobilization. The 1/5th and 1/6th battalions, part of the Territorial Force, East Surrey Regiment battalions were part of the Surrey Brigade, alongside the 4th and 5th West Surreys. They embarked for India in October 1914 and were employed on garrison duties in the United Provinces and the Punjab for two years.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Parish Magazines, March 1915. (9)</i></p> <p><i>Also detailed at Effingham Parish Council War Memorial.</i></p>								
22	<b>H. W. SELBY</b> (2)	E SURREY R East Surrey Regiment	Private 7th Bn	32	1883 Midhurst Sussex	<b>13/10/1915</b> <b>France</b> *	7032	Hubert William Selby	Kingston Jan 1915
<p><i>Family:</i> Son of William &amp; Emma, Midhurst, Sussex. Married, 1913, Ada Ellen (Bicknell), of Myrtle Cottage, Fernhurst, Sussex. Lived at Rose Cottage, Oxshott. He worked as a gardener.</p> <p><i>Cemetery:</i> Loos Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Number of casualties 20660. He has no marked grave &amp; is commemorated on a wall panel.</p> <p>Private Hubert William Selby was first listed as serving in the February 1915 edition of the parish magazine. In December of the same year, the magazine recorded that: H W Selby was killed in action on the 13th October, while serving with the 8th Battalion of the East Surrey Regiment. He was only married a short while before the war broke out, and was employed in Oxshott as a gardener. He was popular with all. We mourn his loss and shall remember him as a good man. Our deepest sympathy goes out to his sorrowing widow. RIP. In addition, it was reported that 'Mrs Selby desires to return thanks for all the kind letters of sympathy which have been a source of great comfort to her'.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Parish Magazines, 1915. (9)</i></p> <p>He was at the Battle of Loos, the first genuinely large scale British offensive action, to gain the Hohenzollern Redoubt, the unit was near the quarries of Hulluch. There were many casualties and missing and he was one of the 56 from his battalion killed in the action. (12)</p>									<p><i>He is not listed on the panel in St. Andrews Church, but is on the Oxshott Heath Memorial.</i> (2)</p> <p>Member of Oxshott Men's Club (6)</p>
23	<b>F. SKELTON</b>	WORC R Worcester Regiment	Private 4 <sup>th</sup> Bn	35	1880 Oxshott	<b>29/05/1917</b> <b>France</b>	40345	Frederick Skelton	Staines, Middlesex
<p><i>Family:</i> Son of late William &amp; Louise Skelton, of Oxshott. Siblings, David, William J, Annie E, Henry E, Arthur J &amp; Emily Skelton. Married, 1905, Amy Celia (Hammond) &amp; 2 daughters b1907 &amp; 1910, lived at 1, Hesley Cott. High St. Hampton Wick. Middlesex. Frederick was a gardener in Oxshott.</p>									

	<i>Cemetery:</i> Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Number of casualties 34836. He has no marked grave & is commemorated on a wall panel.								
	When he was fighting in the battle of Arras, they were just south of the River Scarpe and it was just a day or so after the end main assault and their trenches were heavily shelled practically all day and he was one of the 10 killed. (12)								
24	<b>E. P. VICKERY</b>	MIDDX R Middlesex Regiment	Lance Corporal 23 <sup>rd</sup> Bn	34	1882 Ashtead	<b>25/09/1916</b> <b>France</b>	G/11489	Frank Percival Vickery	Mill Hill, Middlesex ----- Frank Percival. E P – an error on war memorial (2)
	<p><i>Family:</i> Son of Walter &amp; Sarah Vickery. Marr. 1915, Mary L (Wragg) Oxshott &amp; son b1916, Claremont Cottages, Fairmile, Cobham. Frank was a labourer.</p> <p><i>Cemetery:</i> St. Sever Cemetery, Seine-Maritime, Rouen, France. Number of casualties 3096. He was buried &amp; has a headstone with a family personalised inscription.</p> <p>The 23rd Battalion Middlesex Regiment (2nd Football Battalion) served with 123rd Brigade, 41st Division. The battalion arrived on the Somme at the end of August 1916 and served in Delville Wood and on 15th September 1916 was in support for the attack on the Switch Line, suffering 195 casualties, and then later served in the trenches at Flers where he was a casualty. (12)</p>								
25	<b>E. E. WILES</b>	R FUS Royal Fusiliers	Private 26 <sup>th</sup> Bn	34	1883 Sevenoaks Kent	<b>02/04/1918</b> <b>France</b> <b>**</b>	41126	Ernest Edwin Wiles	Leatherhead
	<p><i>Family:</i> Son of William &amp; Eliza Wiles, Married, 1911, Annie (Cotterell), they're believed to have had a son &amp; 2 daughters. Littleheath, Cobham. He's listed as working as a 'waggoner' in the 1911 census, later as a 'House Driver' which could have been for a carriage.</p> <p><i>Cemetery:</i> Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Number of casualties 34836. He has no marked grave &amp; is commemorated on a wall panel.</p> <p>His unit was fighting in the Arras area moving towards Bienvillers, East of Bucquoy. They were holding their position with intermediate shelling by the enemy which was then following a heavy barrage under cover of which the enemy moved forward. This ground was soon recovered, the battalion were relieved and then moved off to a rest station. It is believed that he lost his life during this action. (12)</p>								

*	<p><b>Walter Ackerman, Reginald Carter, Frederick Cotterell &amp; Hubert Selby</b>, all died at Loos on the same day 13<sup>th</sup> October 1915.</p> <p>They were all in the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the East Surrey Regiment, probably friends who joined up on the same day in Kingston, in a similar way as those who formed the 'Pals Battalions'.</p> <p>The 7<sup>th</sup> Formed at Kingston-on-Thames in Aug 1914 as part of the First New Army (K1) at Purfleet. In Feb 1915 they moved to Aldershot. Then in June 1915 they were mobilised for war and landed at Boulogne and engaged in various actions on the Western Front including; the Battle of Loos which was the first genuinely large scale British offensive action.</p> <p>Their division was ordered to attack, following a 2 hour artillery bombardment, they were part of the general advance on the 13<sup>th</sup>. to gain the Hohenzollern Redoubt, the unit was near the quarries of Hulluch &amp; were to hold 'gun trench', which they did.</p> <p>There were over 200 casualties, officers and other ranks with 33 missing with these men being some of the 56 from the battalion killed in the action. It was noted that 'the men fought splendidly all through the attack and was especially creditable as they had been in the trenches for 4 months without a rest and the last 5 days had undergone continual and heavy bombardment'.</p> <p>They were some of over 3,500 casualties suffered in the battle and most were during the first part of the attack. (12)</p>	
**	<p><b>Alfred Burgess, Charles Hatch &amp; Ernest Edwin Wiles</b>, are all believed to have lost their lives as part of the German Spring offensive (Kaiserschlacht) which commenced on the 21<sup>st</sup> March 1918.</p>	

### Notes on Table Content.

Name, Rank & Regiment information taken from the War Memorial, Oxshott Heath, with the details confirmed on Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) database.

Names searched on 'Free BMD' & 'Ancestry' web sites for additional details, name & family connections/address etc. were checked on 1911 census database.

- (1) Names shown are as listed on the War Memorial on Oxshott Heath.  
There are Differences from Oxshott Heath War Memorial which has 25 names and the panel in St. Andrews Church, Oakshade Road, Oxshott, which has 23 names shown. The reason for the discrepancy, is not known.
- (2) Both Foster & Selby are missing from the Memorial Panel in St. Andrews Church.
- (3) The Memorial Panel in St. Andrews Church, is mounted on a pillar to the side of the main aisle, showing names, without rank or regiment.
- (4) F. Coombes, is the spelling at War Memorial & Oxshott Men's Club records, but spelt as Coombs in St. Andrews Church & Combes on Service info.
- (5) Wife's maiden name shown in brackets.
- (6) Eight men are listed as Members of the Oxshott Men's Club, Oakshade Road, Oxshott, they were mentioned in the Club's AGM minutes 1919. This was the first AGM after the WW1, no other membership/personal details were found.

- (7) At the time of WW1, Cobham, Stoke D'Abernon & Oxshott, were part of the registration district of Epsom. Most of Oxshott was originally part of the parish of St. Mary's Church, Stoke d'Abernon with the area on the Fairmile side of the railway, being part of Cobham Parish. As the Parish of St. Andrews, Oxshott had only been created in 1912.
- (8) Source, SHC is the Surrey Heritage Centre and their project 'Surrey in the Great War'.
- (9) Magazine info. St Andrews Parish Magazine was part of St. Mary's Stoke d'Abernon Parish Magazine until c1936.
- (10) Source information is by Alison Gibson from St Andrew's, Oxshott & Stoke D'Abernon, Parish Magazines, for the Surrey in the Great War project. From Surrey Heritage Centre archive file ref. 8909/8/1/4, magazine dates as shown.
- (11) Additional info. From Cobham Conservation & Heritage Trust Project, 'Cobham Remembers, Local Men Lost in WW1'  
<https://www.cobhamheritage.org.uk/learning/cobham-remembers/local-men-lost-in-ww1>
- (12) East Surrey Regiment, Royal Sussex Regiment, Northumberland Regiment, Royal Fusiliers, Middlesex Regiment, actions etc. from their War Diaries.
- (13) Other general WW1 information, as found on Internet information searches etc..
- (14) Commonwealth War Graves Commission information (CWGC), for dates, grave & memorial information.
- (15) The CWGC cemetery Memorial Panels commemorate and reflect the details of individuals who are commemorated in this way, where there is no known burial for the individual or in circumstances where graves cannot be individually marked.  
Grave Headstones were of a standard design and provide basic details of the individual, such as name, service number, rank, regiment, unit, awards and date of death, and any personal inscription requested by the family.

*M J Crute – 3-2018*