

St Katharine's Church, Southbourne



War Memorial

- [2 Lt Laurie Bell](#)
- [Pte Walter Edmund Betts](#)
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- [Pte Alfred Henry Scott](#)
- [Cpl Charles Henry Tucker](#)
- [Pte Harold Thomas Squire Vincent](#)
- [Pte Adolphus Hubert Waterman](#)

The Memorial

The stained-glass west window and memorial tablets were dedicated in 1920. The large congregation at the ceremony included many relatives and friends of the men commemorated.



Laurie Bell

Laurie's father, **Francis Joseph Bell** (1862-1925) was born in Blackheath, London. In 1881 he was living in Greenwich and working as a telegraph electrician. Ten years later he married Harriet Emma Norris in Greenwich. They had 2 (surviving) children:

- **Sidney**, born Brockley 1887. He married Dorie Richardson of Boscombe Park in Mar 1914 and served as an air mechanic during the war
- **Andrew**, born Ealing 1890. He moved to Canada. During WW1 he served as a Cpl in Canadian army

When Harriet died in 1891, they were living in Battersea, and Francis had become the manager of a steam laundry. Two years later he married again to Annie Sarah Tavener (1862-). They had 4 more children:

- **George**, born 1894 Battersea. He became an estate agent's clerk. During WW1 he was wounded and captured by Germans in 1918
- **Marjory**, born Ramsgate 1896
- **Frances**, born West Kensington 1897. She was living at Seacote with her widowed mother in 1939. During WW2 she was an ARP (Air Raid Precaution) car driver
- **Laurie**, born 1898 – see below

Around 1900 the family moved to 'Seacote' a large house on Warren Edge Road, Southbourne and Francis was the manager/director of the New Era Laundry in Pokesdown. He also became a town councillor.



Laurie was born in Crouch End, London but grew up in Southbourne. At Bournemouth School he was a keen member of the Cadet Corps. On his 18th birthday in Aug 1916, he joined the Army as a motor transport driver. In Jan 1918 he transferred to the Royal Naval Air Service as a cadet pilot. After more basic military training, he'd have done 2 months pilot ground-school, then another 3 months basic flying training on the Avro 504. On 1 April the RNAS became part of the newly created Royal Air Force.

After the next stage of training on a faster aircraft he was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant. Before he could wear his wings, he had to train in an operational role (fighter, bomber etc). It seems he was offered the chance to become a basic flying instructor but chose to carry on training for the front line.



On Mon 29th July 1918 he was flying a Sopwith Camel from 54 Training Depot School at RAF Fairlop, near Ilford in Essex, when he collided with an Avro 504 from the same unit. The crew of the 504 survived but Laurie was killed in the collision or the subsequent crash (he probably wouldn't have had a parachute).

He was buried with full military honours at Boscombe Cemetery.



Laurie's Funeral 1918 –the coffin being carried to Boscombe Cemetery on a gun carriage

Edmund Walter Betts

William Betts (1850-1934) and Fanny (nee Frost) (1854-45) married in 1879 in Gateley, a small village South of Fakenham, Norfolk. William was a horseman on a farm, and they lived in Great Ryburgh, near Fakenham.



William and Fanny Betts

Their children were:

<p>Robert William (1881-1957) married Alice Elizabeth Barnett in Leytonstone in 1906. He worked as a railway porter</p>	
<p>John (1882 – 12 Oct 1917). He was working as a horseman on a farm when he signed up in 1915. He served with the Norfolk Yeomanry before transferring to the Sussex Regiment and then to 8th Battalion, Yorkshire and Lancaster Regiment.</p> <p>On 12th Oct they were in the front-line trenches in front of Polygon Wood, near Ypres, during the Battle of Passchendaele. There was no attack that day, but John was killed, possibly because of heavy German sniper fire. He has no known grave but is listed on the Tyne Cot Memorial.</p>	
<p>George (1884-) married in 1907. Like his father and older brother, he was a horseman on a farm.</p>	
<p>Edmund Walter 1886-1917</p>	<p>see below</p>

Arthur James (1888-1961) married in Leytonstone in 1915. He moved to Deptford where he worked as an iron & bronze moulder.



Ernest Henry (1891-1980). During the Great War he served with the Norfolk Regiment. He served in France from 1915 to 1917 when he was discharged following a gunshot wound to his right arm. He married later that year and became a postman.

Mary Edith (1894-1969) married in Greenwich in 1921 but moved back to Norfolk where her husband, William Thurlow, was a farmer.

Bill and Mary Betts with two German POW workers at Row Hill Farm, Hindringham during WW2



Frederick (1897-1943). Fred was a farm hand when he volunteered for the Norfolk Yeomanry in 1915. He then became a railway porter before being mobilised in the Royal Engineers the following year. After the war he married, moved to Caister and became a railway porter again. He was killed during an air raid in WW2 when a bomb hit the railway station in Great Yarmouth.

He was buried in Caister. Also buried there the same week were a sailor killed at Lowestoft, a woman and her 12-year-old daughter killed in the raid on Yarmouth, and a German airman found drowned.

Frederick's son became a locomotive fireman and then driver.

Thank you to [St Andrew's Church, Great Ryburgh](#) for information about members of the Betts family and to Keith Venables, great nephew of John Betts, for sharing the photographs of the family.

Walter was born in Gately in 1886. Although christened as Edmund Walter, he seems to have been known as Walter. In fact, the plaque in St Katharine's says 'Walter Edmund'.

By 1911 he'd moved to Southbourne, where he was working as a gardener and lodging with the Barrett family at 14 Priory Road.

In Sep that year he married Elizabeth Mary Curry (1882-1952) at Frenchay near Bristol.

They had a daughter Lillian Mary Fanny Betts in Mar 1914. She was baptised in Winterbourne (near Frenchay) the same month. By then he was gardener at Wick. By 1917 they were living at "Mayfield", Inverleigh Rd., West Southbourne.

In the Great War he served with 15th and then the 19th Battalions, Royal Welsh Fusiliers.

In Nov 1917 the 19th Battalion was serving with 119th 'Welsh Bantam' Brigade. They took a leading part in the capture of Bourlon Wood during the Battle of Cambrai, the first battle involving the large-scale use of tanks. He was killed in action on the first day of the attack, 23rd Nov 1917, aged 31. He has no known grave, but his name appears on the Cambrai memorial at Louveral.



In 1939 Elizabeth and Lillian were still living at 23 Inverleigh Road, where Lillian was a draper's assistant. Lillian married Edward H. Edwards in Bournemouth in 1972.

Richard Hector Carter

Richard was born onboard HMS Royal Adelaide at Devonport on 31st Dec 1882. The Royal Adelaide was wooden sailing 'ship of the line' launched in 1828 and later used as a depot ship.

His parents were Rear Admiral **Richard Carter** and **Alicia Catherine Loftus Carter** (nee Tottenham). He had a brother Alexander J (1885-1963) also born in Devenport. And a sister **Martha W** (1898-1978) born in Fareham.

Rear Admiral Carter died in 1887 and by 1891 Alicia (1854-1934) and the children were living at Solent Cottage, St Catherine's Road, Southbourne.

Richard attended Kelly College, Tavistock; Fosters, Stubbington House, Fareham and John Smyth's, Portsmouth.



He joined the Royal Navy on his 17th birthday, 31st Dec 1899, and was appointed Paymaster 4 years later. He was awarded a medal during the 1900 Boxer Rebellion in China.

In April 1909 he married **Margaret Rose Woolhouse** at St Jude's, Southsea. She was from Southsea, and he was serving on HMS Lord Nelson (the Navy's last pre-Dreadnought battleship). Their first son, Henry Hector Janverin, was born at Eversley, Southsea the following year, but died in infancy. By 1911 they were living at Shanganah, Dovercourt, Essex. They had 3 more children:



- Beryl Agnes Margaret Carter (1912-99)
- Richard Carter (1914-60)
- David John Carter (1915-1995)

In 1913 he was appointed secretary to the commander of the First Cruiser Squadron, Rear Admiral Sir Robert Arbuthnot. On 31st May 1916 they were both onboard the cruiser HMS Defence, during the Battle of Jutland, the largest naval battle of the Great War.

The Defence was hit by 2 salvos from German battleship and blew up after gunfire detonated the ship's magazines. All 904 crew were lost. In his will the Admiral left £100 to Richard, which passed to Richard's widow. The names of the crew are listed on the Plymouth Naval Memorial.



HMS Defence

Richard's sister Martha married Lt Col Harold St George Hammersley DSO, who'd been born in New Zealand. In 1921 Martha and her 3 children were living with her widowed mother Alicia at Wick Farmhouse, near Southbourne. By 1939 Harold and Martha had retired to the Garden House, Lymington. She died at Henley on Thames.

Richard's brother married in Bombay in 1914. In 1939 he was living in Dorking and was married, with a son.

Charles Cecil

Charles was the youngest son of Henry Cecil (1831-1899) and Mary Taylor (1835-1876) of 'Bregner', Bournemouth. She'd been born at Todmorden Hall, Lancashire, where her father James Taylor was a J.P. He also had property in Burghfield, Berkshire.

'Bregner' was next to 'Preston Grange' (31 Christchurch Road), which by the 1970s was Preston Grange flats. The latter was demolished in 1994 and replaced by the Liberty Court flats.

In Jan 1890 Charles' elder brother William Cecil disappeared from home. He was studying forestry but had become depressed and was last seen walking towards Hengistbury Head. His body was found in the River Avon a month later.

Charles's sister was Lucy Margaret Cecil, born Reading 1867. She died in Barmouth (Wales) in 1921. She was unmarried and left her estate to Charles' widow.

Another brother, Robert, was born in Birkenhead, Cheshire, in 1869 but died in infancy.

* * *

Charles was born in Birkenhead in 1872. He was educated at Queenwood College, a public school near Stockbridge which specialised in science, agriculture and engineering, the Royal Agricultural College at Cirencester and Cambridge University. His father owned property and Charles seemed to live on his own means. In July 1909 he married St Katherine's Church, Southbourne to Marjorie Porteous, the daughter of a Dumfries doctor. Their first daughter was born in Cherry Hinton, Cambridgeshire, but by 1911 they'd settled at 'Gardd' 4 Wollaston Road (next to St Katherine's Church). Their children were:

- **Mary** (1910-) married in 1939 to A A Tyndale-Biscoe of Broadstone.
- **Theophania** (1912-) married and became a physiotherapist/masseuse.
- **Selysette A** (1912-) Theophania's twin sister may have died in infancy.
- **Robert** (1913-) served in the Consular Service. He married Kathleen Mary Marindin in 1938.

At the outbreak of the Great War in 1914 Charles joined the Public-School Corps as a private. He then trained at Oxford for a commission and was appointed as a 2nd Lt. in Princess Charlotte of Wales's (Royal Berkshire) Regiment in December 1915. He joined 2/4th Battalion, which had formed a year before and was training on Salisbury Plain. In May 1916 they landed in France. By July they were at La Gorgue, in a relatively quiet part of the front line between Bethune and Armentieres, seen as a good place to introduce the inexperienced troops to trench warfare.

With the Battle of Somme not going well to the south, they were ordered to prepare an attack. On 15th they moved forward to trenches near Laventie. On 16th they moved up to the front line under heavy shell fire, which killed Charles and 3 of his men. Another officer and 7 men were wounded. Charles was buried in Laventie Military Cemetery.

The attack was due the following day but was postponed when mist prevented the artillery observers registering the guns and the battalion returned to La Gorgue. When the attack finally went ahead on 19th (the Battle of Fromelles) the German defences were much heavier than expected and thousands of Australian troops were killed. A second attack involving 2/4th Berkshires, was cancelled the next day.

Herbert Collins

Herbert was born in Winterslow, near Salisbury in 1870. His parents were John Collins (a woodman) and Elizabeth (nee Collins).

In the 1880s Herbert and at least 2 of his siblings moved to Southbourne for work.

In 1890 he was working as a labourer when he signed up for the Hampshire Regiment. He may have been in the Army before but had bought himself out. He served until Jan 1898, mostly in the Far East. In Dec 1899 he was recalled from the reserves to fight in the Boer War. He returned home in Sep 1902.

In 1904 he married Annie Ada Tarrant at Christchurch, but she died on Boxing Day 1906.

In Aug 1914 he was again recalled to the Army and joined 1st Battalion, Hampshire Regiment. They landed at Le Havre on 23rd Aug and fought their first battle 3 days later at Le Cateau. They were pushed back towards Paris, but then took part in the counterattacks on the Marne and Aisne. At the end of 1914 they were holding the line at Ploegsteert ('Plugstreet') Wood near Ypres.

Early 1915 was fairly quiet on the western front, until 22nd April when the Germans attacked the North side of the Ypres salient, using poison gas for the first time. As the French line collapsed, the 1st Hampshires were sent North from Plugstreet on 24th. At 2am on 26th April they arrived between St Julien and Berlin Wood at the end of the salient and were ordered to dig in.

As the early morning mist cleared, their makeshift trenches were hit by continuous heavy artillery fire from 3 sides. German observers corrected the artillery fire from the high ground. The Hampshires were attacked and shelled for several days, but the shelling was heaviest on 26th. At times they estimated 50 shells a minute were hitting the battalion trenches. Surprisingly, only 59 men were killed – some of them just disappeared and were presumed buried. Another 100 men were injured.

Herbert was presumed killed on 26th April 1915 but has no known grave. [Victor Hare](#) was in the same battalion and died the same day. Both their names are on the [Menin Gate](#) in Ypres.

Herbert Charles Bruce Cummins

Herbert's parents, the Reverend William Henry Cummins (1826-1910) and Jeanie Douglas (nee Johnson) (1842-1912) were both born in Cork, Ireland. Their children were:

- Ethel Maude Villiers (1866-1882) died aged 15 at Holly Lodge, Bergh Apton, Norfolk
- Aubrey St George Bruce (1874-1928) was born in Bombay, India. He became the vicar of Burley, and then Bursledon
- Herbert Charles Bruce (1875-1916) – see below
- Norman St Claire B (1880-) became a medical student

By 1912 the family home was 'Fota', Foxholes Road, Southbourne.

Herbert was born in Hedenham, Norfolk on 30 Nov 1875. He went to Tonbridge School and then Durham University, where he was in the football, rugby and cricket teams. After completing his masters degree he became Assistant Master at Eastman's Royal Naval Academy, Winchester and then worked with two Army Tutors before becoming a master at Edinburgh Academy in 1908. He continued to play cricket for various counties and rugby for Hampshire.

At the outbreak of the Great War, he was an officer in the school's Officer Training Corps. A week later he was appointed a 2nd Lt in the 9th Battalion, Seaforth Highlands. By Feb 1915 he'd been promoted to acting captain.

They arrived in France in May 1915. In the first few months of 1916 he was slightly wounded 3 times. Then, on the night of 6th May 1916, he was hit by a bullet while directing a working party.

He died early the next morning in the Field Hospital at Nieppe and was buried at the Nieppe Communal Cemetery



John Marshall Dawson

John Marshall Dawson was born 1st Oct 1896 at Brockley, London. His father (also John Marshall) was a joiner but died 2 months later. His mother was Louisa Jane (nee Crane), whose father was a gentleman.

By 1901 the family were living in Fairfield, Christchurch. In 1911 they were at 33 St Catherine's Terrace, Christchurch. In 1917 they'd moved to 6 Skell Bank, Ripon, Yorkshire.

John enlisted in the Royal Navy in 1915. In 1917 he became a probationary flight officer in the Royal Naval Air Service. After ground school at Crystal Palace, he was posted to the RNAS airfield at Redcar.

After only 3 hours dual instruction on the Curtis JN.3 he was on his first solo flight on 7th Sep 1917 when the aircraft seems to have stalled and entered a spin. According to one report the wings came off as the aircraft dived.

He survived the crash but died the next day in a hospital in Middlesborough. He was buried in Coatham churchyard, near Redcar.



Wilfrid Yelverton Dawson

Yelverton Dawson (1845-1922) was a doctor from Ireland, where he married Alice Ann Martley in 1871. They had 10 children. The family moved from Ireland to London, via Paris, around 1880. In the mid-1880s they moved to Heathlands, Belle Vue Road, Southbourne, where Dr Dawson became a church warden at St Katherine's.

Their eldest son, **Wilfrid Yelverton Dawson**, was born in Aubrey, Shankill Village, near Dublin on 3rd Nov 1871. He attended Lancing College, Sherborne School and Trinity College, Cambridge.

In 1889 he was commissioned in 3rd (militia) Battalion, Sherwood Foresters. Between 1892 and 1898 he served in the [Cape Mounted Rifles](#). In 1897 they were part of the Bechuanaland Field Force in the [Langberg Campaign](#).

Returning to England he entered Lincoln Theological College in 1899, but when the 2nd Boer War broke out he joined [Loch's Horse](#) as a trooper and returned to South Africa. On the 1901 census he was at home in Southbourne, but still serving as a volunteer trooper.



After the Boer War he completed his theological course and was ordained in St Paul's Cathedral in 1905, after which he took up a curacy on the Isle of Dogs (East London). By 1911 he was the assistant curate at another church in East London. He then converted to the Catholic Church and worked in Canada and South Africa.

In 1913 he arrived in Australia and settled in Sydney. On the outbreak of the Great War he signed up as a private in the Australian infantry (aged 43), joining A Company, 4th Battalion. They sailed to Egypt in October 1914, before being sent to the Dardanelles (Turkey). They landed at Gallipoli (Anzac Cove) on 25th April 1915 and Wilfrid was killed in action 2 days later.

Barry Maynard Rynd Denny

Reverend Edward Denny married Alma Mary Chesshyre in Cheltenham in 1875. He served as a curate in Plymouth, then as vicar of Kempley (Gloucestershire) and then of St Peter's, Vauxhall.

In 1911 he was working in the Bournemouth area and the family were living at Drumcone, Warren Edge Road, Southbourne.

In 1915 he was appointed the rector of Codford, Wiltshire and later became a Canon and Prebendary of Salisbury Cathedral. Their children were:

- Alma Margaret Mary (1876-1968) born Cheltenham. Became a nurse
- Muriel Mary (1878-1963) born Stafford
- Anthony (1879-1880)
- Clare Innocenti Mary (1880-1965) born Plymouth
- Edward Maynard Coningsby (1883-1931) born Plymouth. Served in Duke of Cornwall 's Light Infantry
- Barry Maynard Rynd – see below
- John Maynard (1886-1967)
- Maynard Henry Blennerhassett (1888-1907) born Kempley
- Joan Champernowne Mary (1890-1964) born Kempley
- Mowbray Charles Maynard Denny (1891-1974) served in 11th Battalion, Kings Liverpool Regiment. He later became a schoolmaster
- Katherine Mary Monica (1893-1942)
- Doris Mary Georgina (1894-1977)
- Michael Maynard (1896-1972) was Sub Lt. on HMS Royal Sovereign during the war. He later became an Admiral, G.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O



Barry Maynard Rynd Denny was born 2nd Jan 1885 at Pontnewydd, Monmouthshire.

He attended Kings College, Taunton and then London University, graduating in 1909. He then became an assistant schoolmaster at Denstone College, Staffordshire and Worksop College, where he was an officer in the school's cadet corps and trained for a commission in the Army Special Reserve

He was gazetted 2nd Lieut. in the King's Liverpool Regiment (Special Reserve) in April 1914 and given the command of a fort at Crosby.

In Aug 1914 he was stationed at Talavera Barracks, Aldershot. He was mobilised and landed at Le Havre on 13th August in charge of 100 reservists to join the first elements of the British Expeditionary Force.

He served in the Battle of the Marne, the Battle of the Aisne and the First Battle of Ypres. On reaching Ypres on 22nd Oct 14 they were called off to take an important position, and found the village of Zonnebeke heavily defended by Germans. He led two bayonet charges under machine gun fire before being wounded. He died 2 days later, 26th Oct 1914, and was buried in Ypres Town Cemetery.



Adrian Drewe

Adrian Drewe was the eldest son of [Julius Charles Drewe](#) and Frances (nee Richardson) of Wadhurst Hall and Castle Drago. Julius founded the [Home and Colonial Stores](#). Their children were:

- Adrian (1891–1917) – see below
- Basil (1894–1974) MC, QC, OBE
- Cedric (1896–1971) MP, KCVO
- Mary
- Frances

Adrian joined the Royal Garrison Artillery. On 22nd May 1916 he married Jane Facey at St Katherine's Church, Southbourne. Her parents were Dr William Edward Facey and Ellen Jane (nee Gosden). They lived at Sterlings, 38 St Catherine's Rd, Southbourne.



Sterlings, 38 St Catherine's Rd (photo by Alwyn Ladell)

In 1917 Adrian was a major, commanding 262 Siege Battery. Siege batteries were sited behind the front lines and targeted enemy supply lines, stores and artillery. 262 Battery went to France in Feb 1917 armed with 8" howitzers.

Adrian was killed at Vlamertinge near Ypres at 6am on 12th July 1917 at when a shell hit his command post. He was 26 and his death was a terrible loss to his father who never fully recovered from the shock.



Jane, his widow, remarried on 14th Sep 1918 to Edward McNaughton Dawson. Edward, a captain in the Lancashire Fusiliers, was the son of Yelverton Dawson and the brother of [Wilfrid Yelverton Dawson](#) (killed in action in 1915). They had 3 children; the eldest was born in Southbourne, but then they moved to Oxfordshire.

William Gallop

William Gallop was born in Bournemouth in 1890. He was fostered as a baby by William and Mary Brown in Sopley. William Brown was a farm carter. Around 1900 they moved to Wick, where William (Gallop) started working as a gardener.

During the Great War William Gallop joined the Royal Army Service Corps in about 1915 but was then transferred to 9th Battalion, Royal Welsh Fusiliers. He was wounded in Aug 1917 and may have been sent back to England for a while. In early 1918 he married Emily Eliza Lane of Grove Road West (born Cranborne) before returning to France on 13th March.

He was killed by shellfire during the German Spring Offensive, on 1st May 1918. He has no known grave, and his name is on the Tyne Cot Memorial.

His adopted sister Lucy's husband, John Henry Carter, had been killed in action in May 1917 whilst serving with the Lancashire Fusiliers. Lucy and their 2 daughters were living at Wyncombe Road.

William's widow, Emily, moved to Bedford where she married Philip Martin in 1923.

Victor Nanson Hare

Victor's parents were John Hare and Helen Sibley (nee Nanson). John worked as a draper's steward. Their children were:

- Victor Nanson born 12th June 1888, Clapham – see below
- Constance Nanson born 1890, Chelmsford. She married Alfred Pearce in Southbourne then moved to Barnes, Surrey where she ran an animal and bird food shop
- John born 1892, Camberwell. He became a clerk in a newspaper office. He married Gwendoline Jackson in 1929. By 1939 they were at Victoria Park Road, Bournemouth and he was an advertising clerk
- Beatrice Nanson born 1895, Camberwell. She married Frances Verrier Shields in Southbourne in 1923. She died in Thorpe Bay, Essex in 1932

Victor grew up in Peckham, but by 1911 his father had died, and the family were living at Highcliffe House, Church Road, Southbourne, although Victor wasn't with them. He may have moved to Canada for a while.



In 1915 he married Daisy Glover in Southampton. During the Great War he became a L/Cpl with 1st Bn Hampshire Regt. He was killed in action during the 2nd Battle of Ypres, on the same day (26th Apr 1915) as [Herbert Collins](#), who was serving in the same battalion (see Herbert for more details of the battle). They have no known grave and are listed on the Menin Gate.

William John Head

William John Head was born in Southbourne in 1883. His father, John, was a market gardener from Ringwood. His mother, Mary Ann, was from Barnes, Surrey. He had 2 sisters:

- Mary Ann born Putney, 1882
- Kate born Southbourne, 1889

In 1891 and 1901 the family were living in Belle Vue Road, Southbourne. John's parents had also moved from Ringwood to Southbourne (St Catherine's Rd).



Belle Vue Road (©Alwyn Ladell)

During the Great War, William (apparently known as John) joined the Royal Garrison Artillery and served with 13th Siege Battery, who were sent to France in April 1915. Siege batteries had heavy howitzers firing 6", 8" or 9.2" shells. They were sited behind the front lines and targeted enemy supply lines, stores and artillery. In turn, they would have been a target for heavy German guns.

He died on 4th Oct 1915, during the Battle of Loos. He was buried at Noeux les Mines, south of Bethune.

His sister Mary Ann married in Andover in 1904. They had a son, but Mary died in 1914.

In 1911 his younger sister Kate was living in Boscombe with her baby son. She died in Bournemouth in 1963.

Arthur William Light

Arthur William Light was born at Edmondsham in 1889. His parents were William John & Sarah Elizabeth Light. William worked with horses on farms.

He had 2 older sisters:

- Edith Mary 1886, Gussage St Michael
- Elizabeth Sarah 1887, Edmondsham

In 1891 they were living at Upper Farm, Edmondsham, though by 1901 they'd moved to Wimborne St Giles.

In 1911 they were at Tuckton Farm and Arthur was also working on a farm.



Photo courtesy of [Alwyn Ladell](#)

In 1914, Arthur married Elizabeth Deacon at Chipping Sodbury. They had 2 daughters:

- Elizabeth Gwendoline 1915, West Moors
- Audrey Kathleen 1916, Pokesdown

During the Great War Arthur joined the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, but was transferred to 13th Battalion, Welsh Regiment. From late 1916 they were on the front line near Boesinghe, north of Ypres. On 31st July 1917 they took part in an attack on Pilckem Ridge, on the first day of the 3rd Battle of Ypres, later known as the Battle of Passchendaele. The 13th Welsh were one of the lead battalions in the attack and Arthur was killed in action that day. He has no known grave but is listed on the Menin Gate in Ypres.

Arthur's widow Elizabeth married Harry Cailles in 1921. By then Arthur's parents (William and Sarah) had moved to Purewell, Christchurch.

In 1939 Arthur's elder daughter, Elizabeth was working as a cook at Burton House, Ringwood. The following year she married Sidney Wilcox. In 1939 Audrey was a servant in Twynham Road, Christchurch. She married Ronald Fisher in 1942.

Frederick John Nixon

Sgt '*Frederick John Nixon*' named on the war memorial was actually Frederick Edward Nickson.

His father **Edward James Nickson** (1866-1924) was born in Rotherhithe and was working as a sailor when he joined the army in 1884. He served in the Mediterranean and Egypt. He married Annie Catherine Lainsbury (1871-1907) in 1888. Their children were:

- Rosina Nellie born 1888 Portsmouth – see below
- Emma Lainsbury born 1891 Dorchester – see below
- Frederick Edward born 1896 Portsmouth – see below

In 1891 the family were at the Dorset Regiment Depot at Fordington, Dorchester. Edward left the army in 1896 to work in the Torpedo Depot, at the Royal Gun Factory in Portsmouth. Around 1899 he was recalled to the Army for the Boer War and spent 2 years in South Africa before returning to the torpedo depot.

By the time Annie died in 1907 they'd moved to Weymouth, where Edward worked in the government torpedo factory. He was still there (alone) in 1911, but when he re-married (Sarah Hounsel) in Weymouth in 1913, he was employed as a superintendent of torpedoes at the newly opened Loch Long Torpedo Range near Arrochar, Argyllshire. He died in Maidenhead in 1924.

Rosina Nellie Nickson (1889-1913)

Rosina was named after her father's mother and sister. She married James Henry Mace (1846-1928) in 1910. She was about 22 and he was about 64.

His first marriage, to Ann Eliza Hiscock had been 31 years earlier, when he was a bombardier in the Royal Horse Artillery. He later became a quartermaster and paymaster sergeant.

In 1911 James and Rosina were living at South Bank, 62 Belle Vue Road, Southbourne. Henry was a gardener and the household included two grown up daughters from his first marriage, plus Rosina's sister Emma and her brother Frederick.

James and Rosina had a daughter, Nellie Lainsbury Mace, in 1912, but Rosina died in Oct 1913, aged 24.

In 1921 James Mace (aged 75) was at Pleasant View, Inverleigh Rd with his grown-up daughter Ethel and his 9-year-old daughter Nellie.

When he died in 1928, his address was 26 Inverleigh Rd ([Walter Betts](#)' widow was living at No 23).

Emma Lainsbury Nickson (1891-)

Emma married William John Martyn in Radipole, Weymouth in 1913. The marriage was witnessed by her brother Frederick. William's father was an inspector in the Water Police.

They lived in Corfe Castle. He worked on the railway, but served in the Royal Army Medical Corps in France during the war and was killed by shell fragment on 30 Jul 1918.

Frederick Edward Nickson (1896-1917)

Frederick was living with his elder sister in 1911. He was 15 and working as an apprentice gas fitter for Bournemouth Gas and Water.

During the Great War he served with the Hampshire Regiment, serving initially with 1/7th (Territorial) Battalion and later with 1/4th Battalion.

He may well have been in the Territorial Force before the war (minimum age was 17 and the 1/7th was based in Bournemouth) and called up at the start of the war. Both battalions sailed to India in Aug 1914 and then moved to Mesopotamia (Iraq) in Mar 1915.

In early 1917 they were part of General Maude's Anglo-Indian force sent to recapture Kut al Amara. The surrender of Kut and its 13,000 defenders in April 1916 had been one of the worst allied defeats of the war.

The moved from Basra up the Tigris River. On 23rd February 1917 they began to cross the Tigris upstream of Kut to cut off the Turkish army from Baghdad. The Hampshires were involved in the amphibious attack, which was successful and pushed the Turks back far enough to allow the construction of a pontoon bridge. Frederick was one of the approx. 98 members of the battalion killed on 23/24th and recorded on the Basra Memorial.

Herbert Gaussen Sargeant

Herbert was born in Bombay on 7th Feb 1873, the son of Colonel RA Sargeant of Westridge, Apsley Guise, Bedfordshire. He was educated at Marlborough College.

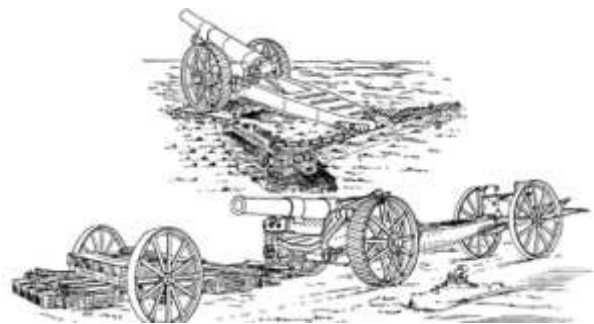
He was commissioned in the Royal Garrison Artillery at Woolwich in 1893. He served in Gibraltar, India, Aden and then Singapore, where he was the divisional adjutant for the Royal Artillery, before being invalided home.

He married Norah Millicent Dunman (1883-1971) in Poole in 1902. He then served in Ireland, where their first daughter Ena Nora (1903-1994) was born in Cork. He was then in Gosport, Plymouth and Lydd before attending the gunnery staff course at Woolwich and Shoeburyness.

From there became the armament officer in Ceylon before (1913) being promoted to major and sent to Hong Kong as a gunnery instructor. Early in WW1, whilst he was the Divisional Artillery Quartermaster General for China Command, a 2nd daughter, Gwyneth Maud (1915-2008) was born in Hong Kong.

He then returned to the UK to command and train a siege battery in 16th Heavy Artillery Group.

The battery deployed to France in 1916 and he was made an acting Lt Colonel in Dec 1916. He was twice mentioned in despatches and was killed in action on the night of 14/15th June 1917, aged 44. He is buried in Bailleul, South of Ypres.



His name is also on war memorial at Apsley Guise, as is that of his elder brother, Lt Col Arthur Frederick Sageaunt, who was also killed near Ypres, whilst the divisional Royal Engineer commander in Jul 1915. He also left a widow and two daughters.

On their return to England during the war, Herbert's family had moved to "Eagle Dene," 58 Belle Vue Road (corner of Foxholes Rd), Southbourne. His widow (Norah) was still there in 1939, with their elder daughter, Ena, who served as an ARP warden during WW2. Gwyneth, the younger daughter, married Patrick Edward Aston Talbot in Bournemouth in 1936 and went on to have two children. Norah and both her daughters eventually retired to Jersey.

Albert Sawyer

Albert Sawyer's father **John Sawyer** (1842-1915) joined the Army in about 1860 and served as a private in 1st Battalion, 24th Regiment of Foot (2nd Warwickshire) from around 1860 until 1881.

The battalion seems to have spent most of the 1860s in Malta, where the main risk was from disease, although 3 of them won Victoria Crosses for rescuing sailors from cannibals in the Andaman Islands in 1867. In 1879 they were involved in the Zulu War, where most of 1st Battalion and G company 2nd Battalion were in the British column wiped out at Isandhlwana. It's not clear if John's company wasn't involved, or if he was one of the few survivors of the Zulu attack. B company, 2nd Battalion and a few stragglers from 1st Battalion were then sent to reinforce a depot and hospital at Rorke's Drift, under the temporary command of Lt Bromhead. Their defence against the subsequent attack was featured in the 1964 film 'Zulu'. The whole affair was a mess. The British incursion into KwaZulu by Lord Chelmsford hadn't been authorised by the Government in London and the Zulu attack on Rorke's Drift was against the orders of their king. Later that year, British reinforcements defeated the Zulu army using artillery and machine guns.

John seems to have retired with an Army pension in 1881 and became a coachman for a Major in 24th Foot in Watton Barracks, Brecon. His wife Sarah (nee Worsley, 1844-1933) worked for the major as a cook. Later that year his old regiment was renamed the South Wales Borderers. John and Sarah had 4 sons:

- John Frederick (1874-1945) joined the Royal Navy and was serving on HMS Victorious in 1901. He later moved to Australia
- Harry Rowland (1877-1972) born Brecon, died Bournemouth
- Charles George (1879-1972) born Brecon, died Bournemouth
- Albert (1881-1916) born Brecon – see below

By 1891 they'd moved to Southbourne, where they were living in the Coachman's Cottage for '[Grassendale](#)' on the corner of St Catherine's and Belle Vue Roads.

Albert Sawyer joined the Royal Navy. In 1901 he was serving on the cruiser HMS Juno. On the 1911 census he was a leading seaman, based in Portsmouth. During WW1 he was a petty officer gun layer on HMS Black Prince, an armoured cruiser.

At the Battle of Jutland on 31st May 1916 Black Prince was part of the 1st Cruiser Squadron. They were deployed as a screen ahead of the Grand Fleet. Black Prince became separated from the rest of the force, and during the night she found herself amongst the German High Seas Fleet. Powerful searchlights were turned on her and she was engaged by up to five battleships and sunk. There were no survivors from a crew of 858. Petty Officer Sawyer was 36. His name is on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial.



HMS Black Prince

Ian Mackay Scobie

John (Ian) Allan Mackay Scobie was born on 31st Oct 1891 in Thayetmyo, Burma, where his father, Mackay John Scobie (1854-1928) was an engineer with the Indian Public Works Dept. The father had been born in Assynt, in the far Northwest of Scotland. His mother, Louisa (nee Scott) was from Edinburgh and was 12 years younger than Mackay. They had 3 other children:

- Ronald Mackenzie (1893-1969) born Burma
- Mabel Louisa (1899-1975) born Burma
- Alice Margaret (1904-1969) born Bengal.

When Mackay retired around 1909, the family moved to Woodlands, Stourwood Ave, Southbourne.

Ian was educated at Timsbury (Eastbourne) Haileybury (Hertford) and then the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, graduating in December 1910.

In 1911 he joined the Indian Army was attached to the North Staffordshire Regiment at Peshawar. In 1912 he transferred to [59th Scinde Rifles](#) (Frontier Force). At the outbreak of the Great War they were sent to France, taking part in the battles of Givenchy (Dec 1914) and Neuve Chapelle (Mar 1915). In April 1915 Ian was seriously wounded near Ypres. He was mentioned in despatches and awarded the Military Cross.

On recovering, he re-joined his unit and was sent to Mesopotamia (Iraq) in Dec 1915. On 8th Mar they were involved in the Battle of Dujaila against the Turkish army. Ian was leading his men in an assault on the Dujailah Redoubt when he was shot through the heart near the Turkish front line. His body was not recovered and his name is listed on the Basra Memorial.



The only officer of 59th Rifles left uninjured at the end of the day was Captain Roland Debenham Inskip, who was at Ian's side when he was shot. [Roland Inskip](#) had a long career and became a Major General. In 1923 he married Ian's sister Mabel Louisa in Bengal.

Alfred Henry Scott

Alfred Henry Scott was born in/around Christchurch in 1887. His parents were Alfred, a gardener (1860-1934) and Mary Ann (nee Phillips). They moved from Christchurch to Belle Vue Road, Southbourne in about 1890. By 1901 they'd moved to 11 Priory Road and Alfred (age 14) was an apprentice gardener. Ellen and Henry Scott (a market gardener) were at 9 Priory Road. William Scott (a nurseryman) was at No 12 and William H Scott (another nurseryman) was at No 14.

In 1911 Alfred and Mary Ann were at 22 Priory Road. Their children were:

- Alfred Henry 1887 - (see below)
- Annie 1889 -
- Kate 1890 -
- Elsie 1892 -
- Sydney 1900 -
- Dorothy Ethel May 1901 -
- Margery 1905 -

In 1912 **Alfred Henry** married Kate Buckell in Farnham.

During the Great War he served with 6th Battalion, Royal Berkshire Regiment. He seems to have been a prisoner of war. He died on 12th March 1917. His name is on the Thiepval Memorial.

Charles Henry Tucker

Henry Tucker was born in Christchurch in 1842, son of William Tucker, a grocer and bookseller.

Henry moved to Glasgow, where he worked as a mineral water manufacturer and married Margaret Gray Somerville (1850-1922) in 1873. Their children were:

- William J 1875
- Margaret EE 1877
- Charles Henry 1881 (see below)

They lived in Glasgow and then Govan, before moving to The Holt, Belle Vue Road, Southbourne around 1915. Henry died in Sep 1919 and Margaret Gray died Jan 1922.



Charles Henry was born 21 Apr 1881 in Tradeston, Lanarkarkshire. 1901 he was an insurance clerk in Glasgow. In 1908 he married Rosa Isabel Tucker in Leeds. In 1911 they were living in Leeds, and he was an insurance manager.

During the Great War he joined the West Yorkshire Regiment at Leeds and joined their 9th Battalion, eventually becoming an acting corporal. After training, the battalion spent the 2nd half of 1915 fighting the Turks at Gallipoli. In Jan 1916 they moved to France, via Egypt. They served in the Somme campaign with their last major action being the assault on the Zollern Redoubt during the Battle of Thiepval Ridge in Sep 1916. Then it was the usual British Army routine of rotating troops between the front line, reserve trenches and billets.

On 16th December they left the front line at Beaumont Hamel (between Albert and Arras) and were sent by buses to Lielvillers. Here they would have got cleaned up, integrated reinforcements, and rested. Christmas was celebrated on 22nd December. As well as having no duties that day the battalion officers would have served the men their Christmas Dinner. The following day they were addressed by the Corps Commander (a Lt General). On 24th they moved via bus to 'Lancashire Dump' where they had dinner before moving up to the front line at Beaucourt. The next few days were relatively quiet in the front line, with just one officer being killed. In the early evening of 28th they were relieved by 8th Battalion and moved to the reserve dugouts, but two 9th battalion men were injured that day and Charles was killed. He was buried in Hamel Military Cemetery, Beaumont-Hamel.

Rosa stayed in Leeds, where she lived with her younger sister. She died in Leeds in 1964.

Harold Thomas Squire Vincent

William Vincent and Mary Squire married in 1891. He was a gardener from Winterborne Anderson, Dorset and she was from Bloxworth. They lived in Langton Long Blandford before moving to Wick around 1900, where William became a dairyman. They had 3 sons:

- William George (1892-1976) moved to Bournemouth and became a market gardener.
- Harold Thomas Squire (1893-1915) see below
- Daniel Freeland Charles (1902-1974) married and worked as a steward at the sailing club.

In 1911 the family were living at The Elms, Wick Green. William (junior) had started work as a domestic gardener and Harold was a dairyman. They later moved to 'The Cottage' in Wick.



In the First World War, **Harold** joined the Dragoon Guards at Bournemouth, before being transferred to D Company, 2nd Battalion, South Wales Borderers.

After training, they were sent to Gallipoli, landing at Cape Helles on 25 Apr 1915. They fought several battles against the Turks at Helles before moving to Suvla Bay on 16th Aug. There they were part of the Battle of Scimitar Hill on 21st Aug, a major attack by the allies, to link up with the ANZAC troops to the south. But the attack was a costly failure, and Harold was killed during the action, aged 22. His name is on the Helles Memorial.

Adolphus Hubert Waterman

Adolphus Hubert Waterman (known as Hubert) was born in Poole 20 Dec 1861, one of 8 children. His parents were James Waterman (a draper) and Mary Ann (nee Hodge, from Crewkerne).

After James and Mary Ann married in 1851, they lived in Somerset and Devon before moving to Poole High Street, presumably above his shop. After James died in 1878, Mary Ann and the younger children moved to 1 'Allendale', Wimborne Road, Longfleet.

In 1879 Hubert started in the merchant navy, with a 4-year apprenticeship to John Mann of Mistley, Essex. He served as an able seaman on the 'Frances and Jane' and the 'Anglo Indian'.

In 1884 he was living with his mother at 1 Allendale, when he qualified as a second mate. For the next 3 years he served on the SS Angerton, a 1692-ton single screw steam vessel owned by the Port of Newcastle. In Dec 1886 the Angerton arrived in Adelaide, Australia with a cargo including a torpedo launch for Melbourne.



SS Angerton

In 1887 he qualified as a first mate and in 1890 he qualified as a master. It's not clear if he remained on the Angerton, which was wrecked when it struck rocks off Alexandria in 1899. But the following year he'd retired and was running a boarding house at Chelmsford House, Constitution Hill, Bournemouth. Also in the house were his mother (now 70 and blind) and two of his sisters, who were both nurses.

In 1904 he was living in Parkstone and in 1907 he had an adult baptism at Parkstone St Peter.

In 1911 he was at 32 Parkwood Road, Bournemouth, with his mother and Mary, his elder sister. They later moved to 'Cairnmuir' 131 Richmond Park Road, Bournemouth.

During the war Hubert was a private in the Army Service Corps and served with 356th Mechanised Transport Company, which operated steam-driven vehicles. On 29th May 1918 he was killed while attached to the ammunition column of 26th Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery. He was buried at Duisans British Cemetery, Etrun, west of Arras.

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