

BONNINGTON



The Great War

1914 – 1919

All of those who died during the two world wars, from the adjoining Kent parishes of Aldington, Bonnington and Hurst, already have far more details than has been entered below, running into several pages on each man, (but varying in number), in a book which has been in the process of being written since February 1999, by the transcriber. All money from which is being donated to a project for the erection of an external war memorial, allowing all of those from the three parishes to at long last be commemorated. For ease of access, the following brief commemorations are set out in alphabetical order, and not on the memorial plaques.

Help Please !

IF ANYONE IS AWARE OF ANYBODY EVEN TENOUSLY CONNECTED WITH ANY OF THE THREE PARISHES AS ABOVE, WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN OR RESULTANT OF EITHER WORLD WAR, PLEASE CONTACT US. IT MIGHT MEAN THAT THE CASUALTY CONCERNED COULD ALSO BE INCLUDED IN THE COMMEMORATION BOOK, BUT OF FAR MORE IMPORTANCE, BE ON A NEW COMBINED PARISHES CIVIC WAR MEMORIAL.

DAY, CHARLES. Private, G/1769.

7 th (Service) Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).

Died 29 September 1916. Aged 28.

Born Grafty Green, Lenham, Maidstone, Kent 28 August 1888.

Enlisted Guildford, Surrey.

Son of Robert and Elizabeth Day (née Butler) of Gains Cottage, Brabourne, Ashford, Kent.

Commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, France. Pier and Face 11C.



FRANKS, GORHAM EDWIN. Private, G/13291
1st Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).
Died Friday 13 April 1917. Aged 23.
Born Butcher Land, Bonnington, Ashford, Kent 11 November 1898.
Enlisted Canterbury, Kent.
Resided Bonnington, Lawson Cottage, Bonnington, Ashford, Kent.
Son of Frederick and Elizabeth Harriett Franks (née Higgins) of Lawson Cottage,
Bonnington, Ashford, Kent.
Buried Maroc British Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France. Grave Ref: I.Q.28.
Formerly Corporal, Royal East Kent Mounted Rifles.

HOGBEN, EDWARD. Corporal, 22900.
1st Battalion, Border Regiment.
Died Saturday 27 January 1917. Aged 20.
Born Lawson Cottages, Bonnington, Ashford, Kent 23 December 1896.
Enlisted Shorncliffe, Kent 1 September 1914. Resided Bonnington, Ashford, Kent.
Son of George and Louisa Fanny Hogben (née Bailey) of Upper Park Cottage, Lympne,
Hythe, Kent.
Commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Pier and Face 6A.



JELLEY, WILLIAM (Ted) EDWIN. Private, G/25213.

11th (Service) Battalion, (Lewisham) Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).

Died Tuesday 31 July 1917. Aged 20.

Born Coldharbour Farm, Hildenborough, Tonbridge, Kent 4 September 1896.

Enlisted Canterbury, Kent. Resided Falconhurst Farm, Bonnington, Ashford, Kent.

Son of Edwin and Fanny Mary Kezia Jelley (née Booker) of Horton Green Farm, Ruckinge, Ashford, Kent.

Commemorated on the Menin Gate (Ypres), Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Panel 45.

'Ted' was killed by shellfire, and buried in a British Military Cemetery near St. Éloi to the south of Ypres, Belgium, the grave probably later being destroyed by shelling.

MAJOR, HENRY WILLIAM. Private, G/22265.

6th (Service) Battalion, The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment).

Died Thursday 12 April 1917. Aged 38.

Born 5, Rendezvous Street, Folkestone, Kent 29 July 1878.

Enlisted and resided Dover, Kent.

Son of Francis Edward and Elizabeth Alicia Major (née Banks).

Commemorated on the Arras Memorial, Arras, Pas de Calais, France. Bay 2.

Also commemorated on the Folkestone, Kent, civic war memorial, and on Great War memorial plaque at the Harvey Grammar School, Cheriton Road, Folkestone, Kent, where Henry had been a pupil.

Henry was killed by shellfire near Monchy-Le-Preux, Pas de Calais, France.

MILES, HERBERT (Bert) WALTER. Private, 203033.

7th (Service) Battalion, East Surrey Regiment.

Died Friday 30 November 1917.

Enlisted Canterbury, Kent.

Resided Thrift Cottage, Cherry Garden Lane, Bonnington, Ashford, Kent.

Son of Henry Charles and Elizabeth Cobb Miles (née Brazier) of Thrift Cottage, Cherry Garden Lane, Bonnington, Ashford, Kent.

Commemorated on the Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, Nord, France. Panel 6.

Brother of Frederick, the next casualty commemorated.

MILES, FREDERICK (Fred). Private, M3/025612.

Motor Transport Company, Royal Army Service Corps, attached to the 20th Combined Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps.

Died Sunday 18 May 1919.

Resided Thrift Cottage, Cherry Garden Lane, Bonnington, Ashford, Kent.

Son of Henry Charles and Elizabeth Cobb Miles (née Brazier) of Thrift Cottage, Cherry Garden Lane, Bonnington, Ashford, Kent.

Buried Tehran War Cemetery, Iran. Grave Ref: III.F.14.

Due to Frederick's date of death, there is no SDGW entry for him as the vast majority of war related death post Armistice are not recorded on same. Frederick died of Tubercular Lung in Mesopotamia, by which time his unit was at Etaples, Pas de Calais, France. The unit with which Frederick had served in Mesopotamia was a combination of the Royal Army Service Corps and Royal Army Medical Corps. It being a mixed British/Indian unit

serving under the command of the 14th Indian Division. The cemetery where he is at rest is within the confines of the British Embassy at Gulhek, Iran, and was built in 1962.

MILTON, FRANK CURTIS. Private, T/1092.

5th Battalion, (Territorial Force) The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).

Died Friday 7 January 1916. Aged 32.

Born Bonnington, Ashford, Kent 3 January 1883.

Enlisted (Territorial Force) Aldington, Ashford, Kent 3 December 1912.

Resided Cherry Gardens, Bonnington, Ashford, Kent.

Son of Curtis Milton of Cherry Gardens, Bonnington, Ashford, Kent.

Commemorated on the Basra Memorial, Iraq. Panel 6.

It would appear that Frank's mother, Martha Milton (née Sharwood), a native of Northiam, Sussex c1858 had pre-deceased him.



WILSON, ARTHUR. Lance Corporal, 26766.

8th King's (Royal Irish) Hussars.

Died Friday 30 November 1917. Aged 24.

Born Bonnington, Ashford, Kent. Enlisted Folkestone, Kent.

Resided Aldington, Ashford, Kent.

Son of Frederick Edward and Emily Mary Ann Wilson (née Boulden) of Bridge Cottage, Aldington, Ashford, Kent.

Buried Gouzeaucourt New British Cemetery, Nord, France. Grave Ref: VII.D.4.

LOST MAN



AMOS, PERCY WILLIAM. Lance Corporal, G/2566.

7th (Service) Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).

Died Saturday 25 November 1916. Aged 23.

Born Burntdown House, Burntdown Corner, Bonnington, Ashford, Kent 4 August 1893.

Enlisted Ashford, Kent.

Resided The Ash Tree, White Hill, Boughton Aluph, Ashford, Kent.

Son of Stephen and Sarah Ann Amos (née Newland) of The Ash Tree, White Hill, Boughton Aluph, Ashford, Kent.

Buried (St. Gregory and St. Martin) Churchyard, Wye, Ashford, Kent.

Grave Ref: South West end of Church near main gate.

Percy died of his wounds at the 1,200 bed St Luke's War Hospital, Little Horton Lane, Horton, Bradford, Yorkshire. Percy's death certificate shows cause of death as due to a "Gun Shot Wound to the thigh, and a Secondary Hemorrhage." It is likely that the gunshot wound stated on the certificate (although not entered) was probably resultant of machine gun fire, as was mentioned in a letter sent to his parents from a close friend of Percy, which is still in the Amos family's possession. The Secondary Hemorrhage was almost certain to have been Gas Gangrene, although again not stated as such on Percy's death certificate. Prior to her death, Percy's mother Sarah was asked by a family member what regrets she had in her life, to which she said that she had two, they being that some of her children had before her, and that Percy was not commemorated along with some of his former school friends, and neighbours in St. Rumwolds church at Bonnington.