TO THE GLORY OF GOD
AND IN PROUD MEMORY
OF THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES
IN TWO WORLD WARS.
1914 - 1918.

GEORGE AKHURST.
MAURICE ASPREY.
JULIUS BAILEY.
OLIVER CORKE.
HORACE CHUMLEY.
WALTER CADE.
EDWARD CADE.
JOHN COLLINS.
ALBERT CORNWALL.
FREDERICK CHECKSFIELD.
WILLIAM DENT.
GEORGE DOLLEY.
SIDNEY DAVIS.
GARNET DAVIS.
JOHN FADE.
WILLIAM FATHERS.
WILLIAM FINN.
HERBERT GANE.
WILLIAM GOLDSING.
THOMAS GRAVES.
STEWARD MILLER-HALLET.
THOMAS HOPKINS.
WILFRED HAMIL.
WILLIAM HILLS.
JAMES HILLS.
HAROLD HASLIDEN.

NOAH HILLMAN.
ALBERT HOCKEN.
HENRY JARVIS.
HENRY KIMBER.
ERNST MUSSEL.
JOHN MUSSEL.
ALBERT MILES.
JOHN MURRELL.
ARTHUR MORGAN.
WILLIAM MULL.
WILLIAM MARTIN.
WALTER MATTHEWSON.
HARRY MINNS.
GEORGE PIERCE.
JOSEPH POTTER.
HERBERT SEWELL.
GEORGE SMALLWOOD.
HENRY SCRIVENS.
ANDREW SYMONDS.
ARTHUR TRIM.
FREDERICK THEOBARD.
Percy THORPE.
DAVID WADERS.
THOMAS WICKENDEN.
FRANK WHITE.
FREDERICK WICKHAM.

1939 - 1945.

JACK ARTHUR BALDING.
WILLIAM BEADLE.
ERNST CATON.
FREDERICK CHAPMAN.
EDITH MARY CHAPMAN.
EDWARD CLARKE.
LAWRENCE DOLLEY.
AUBREY HUTCHINSON.
ALAN ALBERT JAMES.
DAVID MARR.

DOUGLAS LEWIS MOPTON.
JOHN DESMOND NEEDHAM.
DAVID ALEXANDER NOALL.
FREDERICK THOMAS PARROTT.
HORACE SAMSON.
FREDERICK JAMES SMITH.
GEORGE EDWARD TAPSELL.
EDWARD ALEFORD WILDE.
ROY DAVID WATERS.
LEONARD FRANK WEBBER.

"Greater love hath no man than this,
that a man lay down his life for his friends."
The Chelsfield, Orpington, parish tribute to its victims of both world wars is in the form of the memorial plaque shown above, it was erected in 1953 and is located at the parish church of St. Martin-of-Tours. It is inscribed with 52 names of men commemorated from the Great War and 20 casualties of the Second World War. Unveiled by Sir Samuel Knox Cunningham, Q.C., the plaque was dedicated by the Vicar of Chelsfield; the Reverend Norman Woodhall. Although often referred to as still being in the county of Kent, in 1965 the parish of Chelsfield was transferred to Greater London, and it now forms part of the London Borough of Bromley. We are very grateful to Rob Bedwell for very kindly providing the photograph of the memorial plaque above, and the photographs of the war graves of those at rest in the churchyard of St. Martin-of-Tours for inclusion here. Whist thanking Rob, we would also like to tender our sincere apologies for the extraordinary time it has been since he furnished same, to us adding the photographs below on the www.kentfallen.com website. Unfortunately, for now time precludes even the basic transcribing of the Chelsfield memorial plaque, with the exception of those casualties who are buried in the local churchyard of St. Martin-of-Tours, but in order to allow any of the relatives of those who have been commemorated on the memorial plaque, or anybody else who is particular interested, the opportunity to at least view the names of the casualties, they can all be viewed above. The memorial plaque bares the two inscriptions:-

“TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN PROUD REMEMBRANCE OF THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN TWO WORLD WARS”

“GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS. THAT A MAN LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS FRIENDS”
MARTIN, LOUIS PERCY. Staff Serjeant, A/129397.
Army Service Corps (Canteens).
Died 26 September 1916. Aged 38.
Son of Samuel and Mary Martin.
Husband of Mary Martin (née Grant) of 4, Edith Villas, Warren Road, Farnborough, Orpington, Kent.
Buried St. Martin-of-Tours Churchyard, Chelsfield, Orpington.
Grave Ref: Row 8 Grave 1.
Louis was a veteran of the Second Boer War (1899-1902), and he had re-enlisted in the army ‘For the Duration of the War’ on 16 September 1915. At the time of his enlistment, Louis stated that he was 37 years of age, and that he was employed as Ships Steward. On enlisting he was attested as a Sergeant in the Army Service Corps, but was promoted to a Staff Serjeant the same day. He served in the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force from 27 September 1915 to 17 September 1916. Prior to enlisting, Louis was employed by the Union-Castle Steamship Co., and he had served on hospital ships and troopships.
SMITH, FREDERICK. Private, 48788.
52nd (Graduated) Battalion, Middlesex Regiment.
Born Chelsfield, Orpington, Kent.
Son of James and Emma Smith.
Husband of Lucy Smith of Rounds, Chelsfield, Orpington, Kent.
Buried St. Martin-of-Tours Churchyard, Chelsfield, Orpington.
Grave Ref: Row 10 Grave 3.
At the time of the 1901 census, the Smith family resided at Rounds, Chelsfield, Orpington, Kent. Head of the house was 48 year old Sutton-at-Hone, Dartford, Kent native James Smith, who was a Builder and an Employer. The then 23 year old Frederick was recorded by the census enumerator as being employed as a Carpenter, which was probably in the employ of his father. Frederick enlisted in the army ‘For the Duration of the War’ on 16 November 1915. Initially he served as Private, F8724, 27th (Reserve) Battalion, Middlesex Regiment. Later serving in the 10th (Service) Battalion, Middlesex Regiment.
THORPE, PERCY HARRY. Engine Room Artificer 4th Class, M/16987.
Royal Navy, H.M.S. Tyne.
Died 22 May 1917. Aged 29.
Born Bilsington, Ashford, Kent.
Youngest son of the late John Albert Thorpe and Emma Thorpe (née Langford) of Bilsington, Ashford, Kent.
Husband of Edith Emily Thorpe (née Price) of 2, Oak Road, Green Street Green, Farnborough, Kent.
Buried St. Martin-of-Tours Churchyard, Chelsfield, Orpington.
Grave Ref: Row 10 Grave 5.
Percy was born at Priory Cottage, Bilsington, Ashford, Kent on 8 June 1887, at which time his father who was a native of Kemsing, Sevenoaks, Kent was employed as a Game Keeper at Bilsington Priory. The Thorpe family was still residing at Priory Cottage, Bilsington at the time of the 1891 census. When the 1901 census was carried out, the family resided at White Lane Lodge, Chilworth St. Martha, Guildford, Surrey, and John Albert Thorpe was still employed as a game Keeper. The marriage of Percy to Miss Edith Emily Price was registered in the Bromley, Kent Registration District during the third quarter of 1912.
APPLETON, JOHN GEORGE. Warrant Officer Class II (B.S.M.), 1038718. Royal Artillery.
Died 12 July 1946. Aged 47.
Son of William and Sarah Appleton.
Husband of Doris May Appleton (née Auld) of Green Street Green, Farnborough, Kent.
Buried St. Martin-of-Tours Churchyard, Chelsfield, Orpington.
John's marriage to Doris May Auld was registered in the Alton, Hampshire Registration District during the fourth quarter of 1924. His death was registered in the Bromley, Kent Registration District during the third quarter of 1946.
CRADDOCK, PHILIP CHASE. Major, 41848.
Royal Artillery.
Died 31 January 1943. Aged 32.
Son of Albert Chase Craddock and Doris Kate Craddock.
Husband of Una Mary Craddock of Lower Kirby, Essex.
Buried St. Martin-of-Tours Churchyard, Chelsfield, Orpington.
A pre war member of Territorial Army, Philip was a Territorial Army Boxing Champion in 1932.
MASON, JOHN WILLIAM OLIVER. Corporal, 6970398. 9th Battalion, East Surrey Regiment.
Died 5 May 1941. Aged 29.
Born Warwickshire. Resided Kent.
Son of Thomas James Mason and Agnes Bertha Mason.
Husband of Florence Margaret Mason of Farnborough, Kent.
Buried St. Martin-of-Tours Churchyard, Chelsfield, Orpington.
Pre war member of the Rifle Brigade (Prince Consorts Own).
MEDHURST, JOHN ELI. Private, 6103576.  
The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey).  
Died 31 October 1945. Aged 33.  
Son of Eli John and Louisa Medhurst (née Bowen) of Pratt's Bottom,  
Farnborough, Orpington, Kent.  
Buried St. Martin-of-Tours Churchyard, Chelsfield, Orpington.  
John’s birth was registered in the Bromley, Kent Registration District during the  
third quarter of 1912. His death was registered in the Bromley, Kent Registration  
District during the fourth quarter of 1945.