

# GREAT CHART



The village war memorial is located on the main road near to the old school building. It is a splendid example of a village war memorial and includes very helpful information including rank and the place and date of death. Some kind soul has painted black paint on the names inscribed on the memorial. The same person has very helpfully painted the letters on Captain Curties private memorial located in the churchyard. This village is obviously proud of its war hero's and takes great care of its monument.

The Great War  
1914 -1919

Of interest in the Great Chart Churchyard is the grave of a Victoria Cross winner



Lieutenant General William Knox LEET **VC** CB.  
Formerly of Prince Albert's Somerset Light Infantry. Although he did not serve in the Great War, his award warrants a mention here.

## AUSTIN H.J

**Lance Corporal G/52803 Henry (Harry) John AUSTIN. 17<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Royal Fusiliers. Formerly (20142) Middlesex Regiment.** Died 4<sup>th</sup> April 1918 aged 24 years. Resided Great Chart. Enlisted Ashford. Son of Alfred and Mary Austin of Box Cottage, Great Chart, Ashford, Kent. Brother of Sarah Jane Austin of 3, Ledcon (Leacon) Cottages, Great Chart, Ashford, Kent. Buried in the Cabaret-Rouge British Cemetery, Souchez, France. Grave reference VIII.Q.11.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Box Cottage, Great Chart

**Private R/388542 George Alfred AUSTEN. Army Service Corps.  
Private 52808 Henry John AUSTEN. Royal Fusiliers.**

The 1901 census gives –  
Great Chart Street

Alfred	AUSTIN	72	Labourer	Bethersden
Mary		45		Great Chart
James		29	Railway	Great Chart
Sarah J		24		Great Chart
George Alfred		23		Great Chart
<b>Henry J</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>Great Chart</b>
Edward G		3		Great Chart

## BARNES G

**Private S/1216 George William BARNES. 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).** Died of rheumatic fever 21<sup>st</sup> May 1915 aged 36 years. Born Romney Marsh, Kent. Enlisted Ashford. Husband of A.M Barnes of 1, Spring Cottages, Kennington, Ashford, Kent. Buried in the Wimereux Communal Cemetery, France. Grave reference I.H.21.

The 1901 census gives –  
Bridewell, Great Chart

John	BARNES	46	Farmer	London
Hannah		53		Cornwall

Wimereux is a small town situated about 5 kilometres north of Boulogne. From the centre of Boulogne take the A16 to Calais and come off at Junction 4. Take the road to Wimereux north, D242, for approximately 2 kilometres, following the road through the roundabout. Take the first turn on the left immediately after the roundabout and the Cemetery lies approximately 200 metres down this road on the left hand side. The Commonwealth War Graves are situated to the rear of the Communal Cemetery. Historical Information: Wimereux was the headquarters of the Queen Mary's Army Auxilliary Corps during the First World War and in 1919 it became the General Headquarters of the British Army. From October 1914 onwards, Boulogne and Wimereux formed an important hospital centre and until June 1918, the medical units at Wimereux used the communal cemetery for burials, the south-eastern half having been set aside for Commonwealth graves, although a few burial were also made among the civilian graves. By June 1918, this half of the cemetery was filled, and subsequent burials from the hospitals at Wimereux were made in the new military cemetery at Terlincthun. During the Second World War, British Rear Headquarters moved from Boulogne to Wimereux for a few days in May 1940, prior to the evacuation of the British Expeditionary Force from Dunkirk. Thereafter, Wimereux was in German

hands and the German Naval Headquarters were situated on the northern side of the town. After D-Day, as Allied forces moved northwards, the town was shelled from Cap Griz-Nez, and was re-taken by the Canadian 1st Army on 22 September 1944. Wimereux Communal Cemetery contains 2,847, Commonwealth burials of the First World War, two of them unidentified. Buried among them is Lt.-Col. John McCrae, author of the poem "In Flanders Fields." There are also five French and a plot of 170 German war graves. The cemetery also contains 14 Second World War burials, six of them unidentified. The Commonwealth section was designed by Charles Holden. Because of the sandy nature of the soil, the headstones lie flat upon the graves.

**BRUNGER H (Brother)**

**Private T/240374 Harry BRUNGER. 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).** Died 18<sup>th</sup> October 1917. Born Rolvenden. Resided Great Chart. Son of James and Nancy Brunger of Great Chart, Kent. Later of High Street, Charing. Buried in the Baghdad (North Gate) Cemetery, Iraq. Grave reference IV.K.9.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Street, Great Chart

**Stoker K/31187 Daniel Ernest BRUNGER. HMS Roebuck. Royal Navy.**

The 1901 census gives –  
Singleton Cottage, Great Chart

James	BRUNGER	32	Yardsman Farm	Rolvenden
Nancy	M	31		Rolvenden
William		9		Rolvenden
Alice		7		Rolvenden
<b>Samuel</b>		<b>5</b>		<b>Rolvenden</b>
<b>Harry</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>Rolvenden</b>
Robert		1		Great Chart

On the 18<sup>th</sup> October 1917 the 5<sup>th</sup> battalion was at Deli Abbas in Iraq. It was decided that the battalion should attack and take Jebel Hamrin. This was achieved and the British were able to take up a line astride of the Diala River. The 5<sup>th</sup> Buffs took up a picquet line along the Haruniyah Canal. It appears that Harry died during this short action.

## BRUNGER S (Brother)

**Corporal 240913 Samuel BRUNGER. 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Suffolk Regiment.** Died Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December 1917 aged 22 years. Born Great Chart. Enlisted Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk. Son of Nancy Mercer Lilley (formerly Brunger) and James Brunger of High Street, Charing, Kent. He is buried in the Ramleh (Ramia) War Cemetery in Israel. Grave reference D.19.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Street, Great Chart

**Stoker K/31187 Daniel Ernest BRUNGER. HMS Roebuck. Royal Navy.**

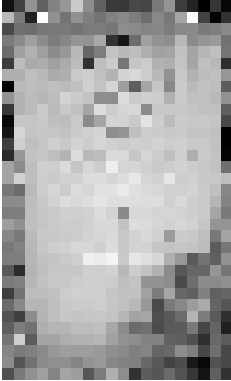
The 1901 census gives –  
Singleton Cottage, Great Chart

James	BRUNGER	32	Yardsman Farm	Rolvenden
Nancy	M	31		Rolvenden
William		9		Rolvenden
Alice		7		Rolvenden
<b>Samuel</b>		<b>5</b>		<b>Rolvenden</b>
<b>Harry</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>Rolvenden</b>
Robert		1		Great Chart

## BYFORD C.V

**Private T/1661 Charles Vere BYFORD. 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).** Died Iraq 7<sup>th</sup> January 1916. Born Nottingham. Enlisted Ashford. Resided Great Chart. Buried in the Amara War Cemetery, Iraq. Grave reference XXXI.B.7.

On the 4th January 1916 the 5<sup>th</sup> battalion was at Ali-el-Gharbi. The battalion moved up river towards Sheikh Saad. All surplus stores were carried by barges on the River Tigris. The battalion only marched about 8 miles due to inclement weather conditions. During the day it was extremely wet and at night the temperature dropped to less than freezing. On the 6<sup>th</sup> January the march was resumed and enemy outposts were reached. Firing commenced shortly after noon but casualties were light. On the 7<sup>th</sup> January 1916 the Battle of Sheikh Saad was fought. The Buffs advanced towards the enemy but came under extremely heavy artillery bombardment. As the day wore on the battalion started to suffer increasing casualties. The Adjutant Lt H.S Marchant was killed and Lt Col J Munn-Mace and Major E Clark were wounded. The weather remained wet and cold and soldiers rations consisted mainly bully beef and a few biscuits.



### CRAMP C

**Private G/66738 Charles CRAMP. 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment). Formerly (26321) The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).** Died Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 1918 aged 18 years. Born Great Chart, Ashford, Kent. Enlisted Canterbury. Resided Great Chart. Son of Henry and Ruth Cramp of "Ivy Cottage", Great Chart, Ashford. Buried in the Meaulte Military Cemetery, Somme, France. Grave reference G.17.

Do Not confuse Charles with this other local man –

**Lance Corporal T/240051 Charles CRAMP. 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).**

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

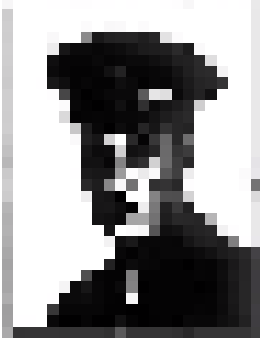
Street, Great Chart

**Private 495063 Arthur CRAMP. Royal Army Medical Corps.**

Charles was killed in action during the Battle of Amiens. On 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1918 the Battalion assembled at Becordel in readiness for an attack the next day. This attack went ahead at 0100 hours (moonlight) on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 1918. The 18<sup>th</sup> Division assaulted enemy positions in and around the Becordel area. The 36<sup>th</sup> Division on the left and 47<sup>th</sup> Division on the right were outflanked. Casualties were light (for the Great War) – about 40 men were wounded or killed.

### CROUCHER C

**Private L/10663 Charles CROUCHER. "D" Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).** Died 9<sup>th</sup> April 1917 aged 18 years. Born Canterbury. Resided Great Chart. Son of William and Ester Ellen Croucher (Stepmother) of 1, Leather Bottle Cottages, Little Belmont, Ospringe, Faversham, Kent. Buried in the Philosophe British Cemetery, Mazingarbe, France. Grave reference I.N.35.



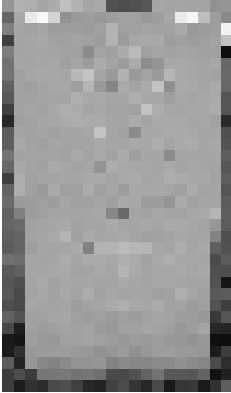
CURTIES C.A

**Captain Lionel Charles Alfred CURTIES. 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment). Attended 24<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Machine Gun Corps (MGC).** Died Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October 1915 aged 30 years. Lionel has no known grave. His name appears on the Ypres Memorial (Menin Gate), Ypres, Belgium. Panel reference 56.

There is a private family memorial to Lionel in the Great Chart Churchyard. His father Thomas Arthur Curties was a priest and the vicar of St Michael's in Wakefield, Yorkshire. His father was born on 30<sup>th</sup> October 1842 and died on 6<sup>th</sup> March 1913 in Great Chart (only a few years before his son Lionel was killed). When his father died his sons name was placed on his own memorial which can still be seen in the local Great Chart graveyard. Some kind soul (a local inhabitant) has blacked the lettering on this family memorial. Probably the same person that helpfully blacked the names on the parish tribute.

Captain Lionel Curties served with the 72<sup>nd</sup> Brigade Headquarters in France. He fell at Hulluch during the Battle of The Loos in 1915.





## DAY R

**Guardsman 23557 Robert (the 6<sup>th</sup>) DAY. 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Grenadier Guards.** Died 7<sup>th</sup> August 1917 aged 25 years. Born Great Chart. Enlisted Woolwich, London. Son of George (5<sup>th</sup> Day of Great Chart) and Esther Day of Padwell, Great Chart, Ashford, Kent. Buried in the St Julien Dressing Station Cemetery, Belgium. Grave reference II.B.3.

The 1901 census gives –  
Little Singleton, Great Chart

Robert	DAY	46	Farmer	Great Chart
Maria		45		Great Chart

Padwell, Great Chart

George	DAY	38	Gardener	Great Chart
Esther		33		Kingsnorth
<b>Robert</b>		<b>8</b>		<b>Ashford</b>
Mary Eva		7		Ashford
Lilian		6		Ashford
Alexander		2		Ashford

## GLOVER J

**Lance Corporal G/566 John (Jack) GLOVER. 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment). Formerly 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion.** Died Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October 1916 aged 26 years. Born Hereford. Enlisted Ashford. Resided Cross Hill, Malpas, Cheshire. Son of William J. Glover of Foel, Llangadfan, Welshpool, Wales. Jack has no known grave. His name appears on the Thiepval Memorial, The Somme, France. Panel reference 5D.

## HARDING A

**Private L/10087 Alfred John HARDING. 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).** Died 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1916. Born Egerton. Resided Great Chart. Son of Alfred J Harding of Leacon Cottages, Great Chart, Ashford, Kent. Husband of Theresa M Harding of Little Singleton, Great Chart, Ashford, Kent. Alfred has no known grave. His name appears on the Thiepval Memorial, The Somme, France. Grave reference 11C.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Leacon Cottages, Great Chart

**Private G/240482 Henry Ernest HARDING. 5<sup>th</sup> Buffs (East Kent Regiment).**

## HOUSE W

**Private 15117 Walter James HOUSE. 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Royal Munster Fusiliers. Formerly (4765) The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).** Died 10<sup>th</sup> December 1917. Enlisted Ashford. Resided Great Chart. Buried in the Cologne Southern Cemetery, Germany. Grave reference XIV.C.3.

This man appears to have died in Germany whilst a Prisoner of War (POW).

## HUGHES G.A

**Corporal 54244 George Arthur HUGHES. 56<sup>th</sup> (Reserve) Brigade, Royal Field Artillery (RFA). Formerly 74<sup>th</sup> Battery, RFA.** Died 13<sup>th</sup> February 1920 aged 31 years. Son of John and Emily Hughes of Ninn Cottages, Great Chart, Ashford, Kent. Buried locally in the Great Chart (St Mary) Churchyard. Grave reference – adjacent to the main road.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Ninn Cottage, Great Chart

**Corporal 54244 George HUGHES. 74<sup>th</sup> Battery, Royal Field Artillery.  
Private 648201 Harry HUGHES. Army Remount Service. Army Service Corps.  
Lance Corporal 2377 Leslie Thomas HUGHES. 21<sup>st</sup> Lancers.  
Private 240471 William Charles HUGHES. 5<sup>th</sup> Buffs (East Kent Regiment).**

The 1901 census gives –

Ninn Cottages, Great Chart

John	HUGHES	60	Labourer	Ireland
Emily		44		Great Chart
John		15	Labourer	Great Chart
<b>George</b>		<b>12</b>		<b>Great Chart</b>
Henry		10		Great Chart
Leslie		9		Great Chart
Frederick		7		Great Chart
William		5		Great Chart
Kathleen		2		Great Chart
Robert		2m		Great Chart



**JEFFERY F.J**

**Lance Corporal Frederick J JEFFERY. 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Royal Munster Fusiliers. Formerly Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment). Formerly (2089) The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).** Died 1<sup>st</sup> July 1918. Born Tenterden 19<sup>th</sup> April 1892. Enlisted Tenterden. Resided Tenterden. 6<sup>th</sup> Son of Mr Jeffrey of New Street Cottage, Great Chart, Ashford, Kent.

The Kentish Express gave the information that Frederick had 3 brothers serving in the colours at the time of his sad demise - Arthur, Charles, Frederick.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Mock Lane, Great Chart

**Sapper 19089 Arthur Morris JEFFERY. 57<sup>th</sup> Company, Royal Engineers.  
Private 27275 Jack Stanley JEFFERY. 1<sup>st</sup> Cyclists, Royal West Kent Regiment.**

**PALMAR H.J**

**Guardsman 26232 Hubert John PALMAR. 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Grenadier Guards.** Died 19<sup>th</sup> June 1918. Son of William and Annie Palmar of Ninn Farm, Great Chart, Ashford, Kent. Buried locally in the Great Chart (St Mary) Churchyard. Grave reference - North West end of church.

Educated at the Ashford Gramar School from 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1895 until Midsummer 1897. His name appears on the school book of remembrance.

The 1901 census gives –  
Ninn Farm, Great Chart

William	PALMAR	56	Farmer	Bethersden
Annie		53		Bethersden
Ashley		19	Farmers son	Great Chart
<b>Hubert</b>		<b>17</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Great Chart</b>
William W		15		Great Chart



SKINNER A.L (incorrect initials)

**Lance Sergeant Albert Edward SKINNER. 2/4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment). Kent Composite Battalion. Formerly (1811) 2/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).** Died 4<sup>th</sup> November 1917 aged 30 years. Enlisted Ashford. Son of Joseph and Clara Skinner of The Street, Great Chart, Kent. Buried in the Beersheba War Cemetery, Israel. Grave reference G.25.

Albert went to Gallipoli with the Kent Composite Battalion. This unusual infantry unit drew its strength from various second line territorial force units including elements of the Buffs and West Kent's. The Kent Composite Battalion was evacuated to Egypt where it eventually became 2/4<sup>th</sup> West Kent's.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Perches Cottage, Great Chart

**Gunner 58416 Albert William SKINNER. 77<sup>th</sup> Heavy Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery. Sapper 196163 Christopher George SKINNER. Royal Engineers.**

The 1901 census gives –  
Great Chart

Joseph	SKINNER	34	Bricklayer	Pluckley
<b>Albert E</b>		<b>13</b>		<b>Pluckley</b>
Violet		10		Little Chart
Isabella		8		Little Chart
Lucy B		4		Pluckley
Christopher		4		Pluckley
Douglas		3		Great Chart

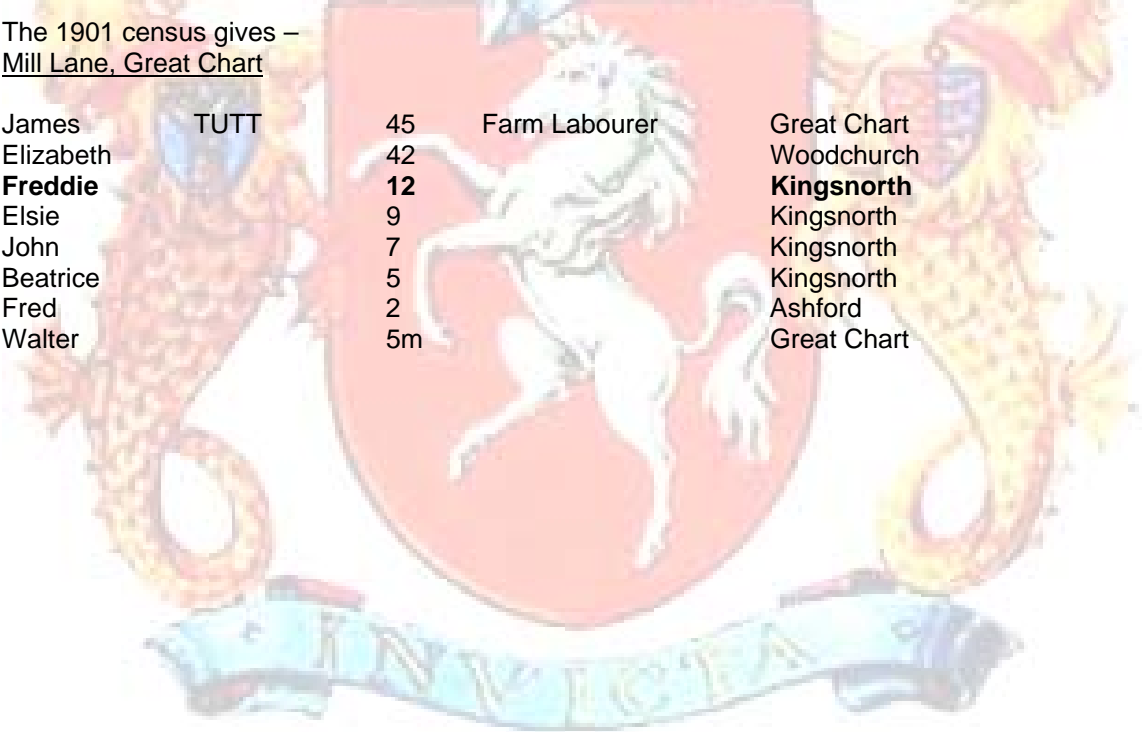


TUTT F

**Private G/5495 Frederick TUTT. 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).** Died 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916 (first day of the 1916 Battle of The Somme). Born Kingsnorth. Enlisted Dover. Resided Great Chart. Frederick has no known grave. His name appears on the Thiepval Memorial, The Somme, France. Panel reference 5D.

The 1901 census gives –  
Mill Lane, Great Chart

James	TUTT	45	Farm Labourer	Great Chart
Elizabeth		42		Woodchurch
<b>Freddie</b>		<b>12</b>		<b>Kingsnorth</b>
Elsie		9		Kingsnorth
John		7		Kingsnorth
Beatrice		5		Kingsnorth
Fred		2		Ashford
Walter		5m		Great Chart





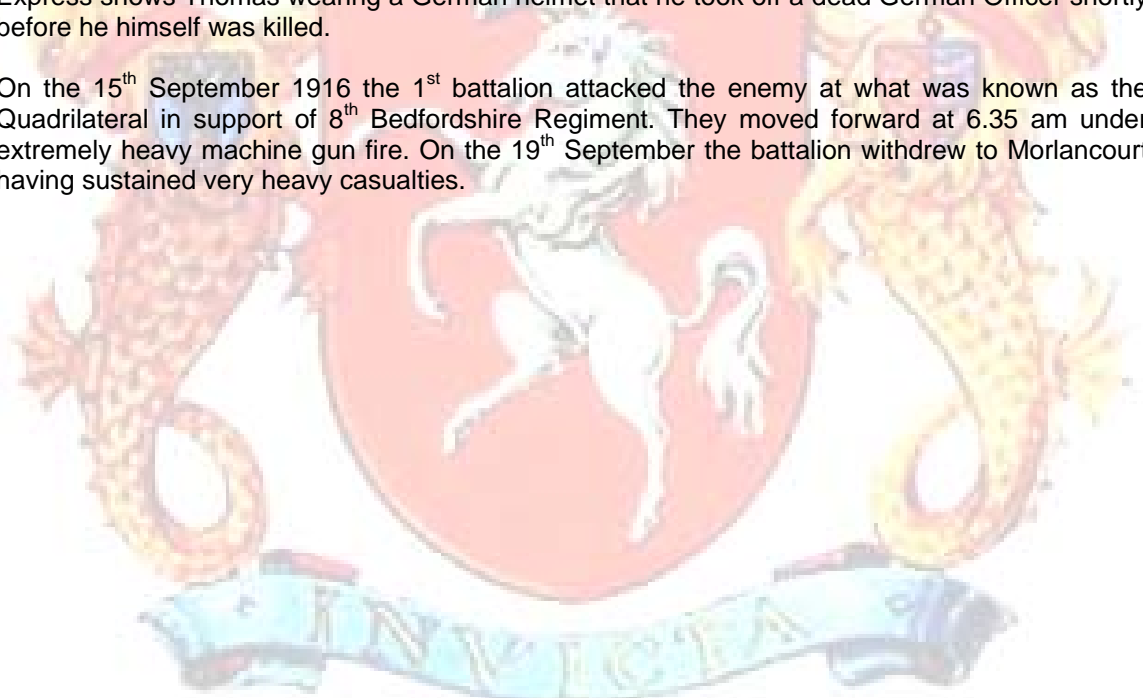
TUTT T

**Private S/10403 Thomas TUTT. "B" Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).** Died 15<sup>th</sup> September 1916. Born Kingsnorth. Enlisted Canterbury. Resided Great Chart. Thomas has no known grave. His name appears on the Thiepval Memorial, The Somme, France. Panel reference 5D.

Before the outbreak of war Thomas was employed at the Great Chart Post Office for 5 years. He was educated at the British School in Ashford.

The exact circumstances of Thomas's death was reported in detail in the Kentish Express- He was shot through the heart after his battalion started to advance towards the enemy. He was carried away that night and buried somewhere behind the line. His photograph in the Kentish Express shows Thomas wearing a German helmet that he took off a dead German Officer shortly before he himself was killed.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> September 1916 the 1<sup>st</sup> battalion attacked the enemy at what was known as the Quadrilateral in support of 8<sup>th</sup> Bedfordshire Regiment. They moved forward at 6.35 am under extremely heavy machine gun fire. On the 19<sup>th</sup> September the battalion withdrew to Morlancourt having sustained very heavy casualties.





VIDEON C

**Private 33183 Charles VIDION. 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Formerly (23028) Lancers.** Died 23rd December 1917 aged 34 years. Born Molash. Enlisted Canterbury. Resided Molash. Son of Mr Vidion of Curzon House, Molash, Ashford, Kent. Buried in the Happy Valley British Cemetery, Fampoux, France. Grave reference A.11.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives these probable relations of Charles all living in Wye –

Pested Lane, Wye

**Stoker Alfred Frank VIDION. Royal Navy.**  
**Private 99539 Edward VIDION. 4<sup>th</sup> Buffs (East Kent Regiment).**  
**Private 242992 Frederick George VIDION. 5<sup>th</sup> Buffs (East Kent Regiment).**  
**Private 200476 John VIDION. 5<sup>th</sup> Buffs (East Kent Regiment).**

The 1901 census gives –

Molash, Kent

George	VIDION	Agricultural Labourer	53	Throwley
Anne			49	Molash
William			26	Molash
<b>Charles</b>			<b>19</b>	<b>Molash</b>
Edward			17	Molash
John			12	Molash
Alfred			6	Molash
Dorothy			1	Molash



WILSON A.W

**Corporal A Charles WILSON. 26<sup>th</sup> Mechanised Ammunition Convoy, Royal Army Service Corps.** Died 1<sup>st</sup> March 1923. Resided The Limes, Great Chart. Son of Alice Wilson (nee Russell).

This man died nearly 5 years after the Great War ended. The circumstances of his death are unknown but it seems likely that he either died directly of wounds received during the Great War or was killed on active service in one of the British overseas possessions.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

The Limes, Great Chart

**167563 Alexander Charles WILSON. 26<sup>th</sup> Company, M.A.C.**

If he died of wounds received in the Great War, the reason why his name is not recorded by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission is probably because he was swiftly discharged from the army on medical grounds and died years later. There were many men like this who were casualties of war but were literally forgotten...



# LOST MEN

## BARNES W

**Private W BARNES. 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).** His death was reported in the Kentish Express on 29<sup>th</sup> May 1915. It states that he was born and lived in Great Chart. His name does not appear on the Great Chart war memorial.

The 1901 census gives –  
Bridewell, Great Chart

John	BARNES	46	Farmer	London
Hannah		53		Cornwall

I can find no reference to this man in the Royal West Kent's regimental history or in the CWGC death indexes.

## BAXTER B.E

**Private 10/275 Bernard Eyre BAXTER. A Company (West Coast), Wellington Infantry Regiment. New Zealand Expeditionary Force.** Died Anzac Beach, Gallipoli, Turkey 29<sup>th</sup> April 1915. born on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1893 at Hagg Hill Farm, Hinton, Steeple Ashton, Wiltshire. Son of Stanley Eyre Baxter of North Lees, Taikawhana, Hopianga, Auckland, New Zealand. Husband of Emma Louisa Baxter (nee Green) of Downhead, Somerset, England.

Bernards Wife Emma was the daughter of Stephen Green of Downhead, Somerset. Stanley Eye Baxter (Bernard's father) was born 1861 at Upper Holloway, Highgate, London.

Educated at the Shepton Mallet and Ashford Grammar Schools. Bernard left the UK for New Zealand in 1909. Upon reaching there he was for 12 months a Cadet at Weraroa Experimental Farm near Levin. When war was declared Bernard immediately answered the call of his mother country and volunteered for overseas service. In August 1914 he moved to Egypt with his ANZAC regiment. Once in Egypt Bernard saw action when Turkish forces attacked the Suez Canal in February 1915. On the 25<sup>th</sup> April 1915 Bernard landed at Anzac Beach Gallipoli, Turkey under extremely heavy fire. He was killed in action near Anzac Beach 4 days later.

Exerts from "Defeat at Gallipoli" by Nigel Steel (1995) page 133 – "Part of the Wellington Battalion was sent forward. The New Zealander's were not able even to move into position before being hit by fire from the higher ground to the northeast and, unabated, the fighting continued all day".

Bernard had a brother who was educated at the South Eastern Agricultural College at Wye who was also killed in action -

**2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant 929 Gordon Eyre BAXTER. 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Devonshire Regiment. Formerly King Edwards Horse. Formerly (Trooper 929) Royal East Kent Yeomanry (REKMR) from 1908 to 1911.** Died Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 1918 aged 28 years.

## CARPENTER H.J

**Private L/9782 Henry John CARPENTER. 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).** Died 12<sup>th</sup> May 1915 aged 22 years. Born Great Chart. Enlisted Ashford. Resided Westwell. Son of Charles and Ann Elizabeth Carpenter of "Malthouse Cottages", Westwell, Kent. Henry has no known grave. His name appears on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Leper, Belgium. Panel reference 12 and 14.

The 1901 census gives –  
Nash Cottage, Westwell

Charles	CARPENTER	44	Platelayer	Hothfield
Ann		39		Westwell
Clara		13		Westwell
Amy		10		Westwell
Florence		9		Westwell
<b>Henry</b>		<b>8</b>		<b>Great Chart</b>
Minnie		5		Westwell

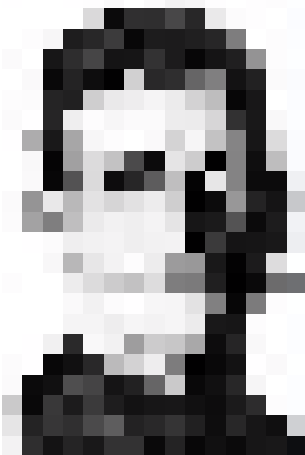
The day that Henry died his battalion had been under heavy bombardment for the preceding days. Towards midnight the battalion was relieved by the Life Guards and moved into billets at Poperinghe.

## MILLER L

**Lance Corporal 14056 Leonard MILLER MM. 11<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Northumberland Fusiliers.** Died 15<sup>th</sup> August 1916. Born Great Chart. Buried in the St Sever Cemetery, Rouen, France. Grave reference B.31.24.

This man died of his wounds at Rouen Military Hospital in France. Before the outbreak of war Leonard was employed by Mr Headley the Grocer of Great Chart. He then went on to run his own business in Saltwood near Hythe. He joined the Northumberland Fusiliers direct in August 1914 in Newcastle.

He was awarded the Military Medal for bravery following an action on 7<sup>th</sup> July 1916 near Ovillers, France. He rescued a number of injured men with a total disregard of his own life whilst under extremely heavy bombardment by German Heavy Artillery.



### RUANE B.T

**Lance Corporal S/9359 Bert Thomas RUANE. 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).** Died 15<sup>th</sup> September 1916 aged 27 years. Born Charing, Kent. Son of William and Mary Ruane of Willesborough, Ashford. Formerly residing St Mary's Road, Faversham, Kent. Husband of Lucy Ruane of The Street, Great Chart, Ashford, Kent. Buried in the Serre Road Cemetery No 2, France. Grave reference XXXIII.F.8.

His father William was at one time the butler to Colonel Groves of Charing, Kent. Bert lived at number 7, Lees Road in Willesborough, Ashford. Before the outbreak of war he worked for Mr Salmon the Grocer and Postmaster in Hythe Road, Willesborough.

Bert was a first class marksman and he was selected for duty at the coronation of King George.

The 1901 census gives –  
The Laundry, Smeeth

Frances	RUANE	40	Laundress Washer	Leigh, Kent
William		17	Gardener	Boxley, Kent
Margaret		15		Maidstone
Gertrude		13		Hollingbourne
<b>Bertie T</b>		<b>9</b>		<b>Charing</b>
John D		7		Charing
Charles E		1		Smeeth
Robert H		2days		Smeeth

On the 15<sup>th</sup> September 1916 the 1<sup>st</sup> battalion was engaged in a major action at Morval on The Somme. The battalion moved forward from frontline trenches and attacked a heavily fortified enemy redoubt known as "The Quadrilateral" which was located on the edge of Bouteaux Wood. This was one of the first actions where tanks were used in force by the British. The Buffs were tasked with supporting the 8<sup>th</sup> Bedford's and the 2<sup>nd</sup> York and Lanc's. The Buffs were pinned down in shell holes and suffered enormous casualties - 6 officers and 53 men killed and a further 190 men wounded. During the night the battalion withdrew to a trench running south east to Guillemont.

## SHORTER C

**Private 40681 Charles SHORTER. 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Formerly (31130) Northamptonshire Regiment.** Died 16<sup>th</sup> August 1917. Born Great Chart. Enlisted Canterbury. Charles has no known grave. His name appears on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, Belgium. Panel reference 70 to 72.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

The Lees, Kennington

**Sapper 76844 John William SHORTER. Royal Engineers.**

## SINDEN W.F

**Sergeant 3408 William Frederick SINDEN. 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Rifle Brigade.** Died 27<sup>th</sup> October 1916 aged 24 years. Born Edenbridge, Kent. Enlisted Tunbridge Wells. Resided Ashford. Son of William and Clara Sinden of Great Chart, Ashford, Kent. It is recorded that William lived in Great Chart for many years. Buried in the Etaples Military Cemetery, France. Grave reference VIII.D.16A.

William was educated at the Simon Langton Grammar School in Canterbury. He left that school in 1908.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> October 1916 the 2<sup>nd</sup> battalion moved into lines near Lesboeuvs via Trones Wood on the Somme, France. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> October 1916 the battalion was in action all day. Its objective was an enemy trench system known as Zenith Trench. The battalion sustained heavy casualties – 238 men wounded and killed. On the 25<sup>th</sup> October the battalion moved to Trones Wood and remained there in the frontline until the 30<sup>th</sup>. William was wounded in one of these engagements and was recovered to a base hospital at Etaples where he subsequently succumbed to his wounds. His body was buried in the hospital's dedicated cemetery.

Not to be confused with the W SINDEN that appears on the Boughton Aluph war memorial –

**Private 446232 William Alfred SINDEN. 107<sup>th</sup> P.O.W Company, Labour Corps. Formerly 836<sup>th</sup> Area Employment Company. Formerly (5062) The Buffs, (East Kent Regiment).** Died 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1920 aged 44 years. His death is not recorded by the CWGC as a casualty of The Great War.

# GREAT CHART

## Roll of Honour



The following Great Chart men served in the colours during the Great War. Two rolls of honour hang in the parish church at Great Chart. This list combines the roll of honours with a list published in the Kentish Express in 1915. It includes some men who went onto lose their lives later on

1915

## **ROYAL NAVY**

AUSTIN Edward G, Stoker, HMS Hibernia  
BRUNGER Alfred Chas, Stoker, HMS Edrick  
BRUNGER D.E, Stoker, HMS Roebuck  
HOBDEN George, Stoker Petty Officer, HMS Lark  
HOBDEN Joseph, CPO, HMS Vengeance  
LUCKHURST W.H, Signaller HMS Kewtrol

## **ARMY**

AUSTIN George, Private, 12<sup>th</sup> Middlesex Regiment  
AUSTIN Harry J, Lance Corporal, 10<sup>th</sup> Royal Fusiliers  
ATTWOOD Robert, Pte, RWKR  
BACK James, Private, RAMC  
BARNES George, Private, 1<sup>st</sup> West Kent's  
BARTON Claude, Private, 4<sup>th</sup> Norfolk Regiment  
BARTON Fred R, Private, 4<sup>th</sup> Norfolk Regiment  
BARTON Victor, Private, 2<sup>nd</sup> Machine Gun Corps  
BATES Sidney H, Rifleman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Rifle Brigade  
BEAN George, Private, R. Army Veterinary Corps  
BENNETT W.G, Private, 1<sup>st</sup> Buffs  
BINGHAM George, Private, Suffolk Regiment  
BRUNGER William, SGT, 5<sup>th</sup> Buffs  
BRUNGER Harry, Pte, 5<sup>th</sup> Buffs  
BRUNGER Samuel, Pte, 5<sup>th</sup> Suffolk's  
BYFORD Charles V, Pte, 5<sup>th</sup> Buffs  
BENNETT J.W, Pte, 1<sup>st</sup> Buffs  
CAYOT George, French Army  
CEIRGLEYS Baron De T'Serclaes Ceirgleys, Commandant Mitrailleuse, Grand Quatre de L'Armee, Belge  
CHATTERTON George, 5<sup>th</sup> R Irish Rifles  
CHITTENDEN William, Trooper, 3<sup>rd</sup> Dragoon Guards  
CRAMP Arthur, Pte, RAMC  
CRAMP Charles, Private, 3<sup>rd</sup> Buffs  
CROUCHER Alfred, Trooper, REKMR  
CROUCHER Charles, Private, 3<sup>rd</sup> Buffs  
CURTIES Lionel Charles Alfred, LT, 8<sup>th</sup> Buffs  
DANCE W, Air Mechanic, RAF  
DAY George, Gunner, RFA  
DAY Robert, Private, 4<sup>th</sup> Grenadier Guards  
DAVIS Walter, Pte, 2<sup>nd</sup> Rifle Brigade  
DORMAN George C, Private  
EVEREST Ernest, Pte, 2<sup>nd</sup> Buffs  
FINNIS Henry, Private, 5<sup>th</sup> West Yorkshire's  
FOREMAN H.J, Private, Dorsetshire Regiment  
GILBERT Ernest E, Bombardier, RGA  
GILBERT John, Pte, ASC  
GLOVER John (Jack), Pte, 5<sup>th</sup> Buffs  
HARDING Alfred W, Pte, 1<sup>st</sup> RWKR  
HARDING William E, Pte, 5<sup>th</sup> Buffs  
HARDING Ernest H, Pte, 5<sup>th</sup> Buffs  
HICKS John, Pte, 5<sup>th</sup> Buffs  
HILLS George, Driver, RAMC  
HILLS Walter L, Private, 3<sup>rd</sup> West Kent's  
HOLDSTOCK Noel P, Private, 2/5<sup>th</sup> East Surrey's

HOLLYER F, Gunner, RGA  
HOUSE Walter J, Private, 2<sup>nd</sup> R Munster Fusiliers  
HUGHES Leslie, Cpl, 21<sup>st</sup> Lancers  
HUGHES George, Bomdr, RFA  
HUGHES Harry P, Remount Depot, ASC  
HUGHES Frederick Ernest, Pte, 8<sup>th</sup> Queens RWSR  
HUGHES Leslie, Corporal, 21<sup>st</sup> Lancers  
HUGHES William Charles, Pte, 5<sup>th</sup> Buffs  
JEFFREY Arthur M, L/Cpl, RE  
JEFFREY Bertram H, Cpl, RE – **Meritorious Service Medal (M.S.M)**  
JEFFREY H Jesse, Sapper, Royal Engineers  
JEFFREY J Stanley, Remount Depot  
JEFFREY Frederick John, Pte, 5<sup>th</sup> Buffs  
JEFFREY Charles E, Pioneer Cpl, 7<sup>th</sup> RWKR  
JONES John N.L, Cpl, Advanced Remount Depot  
JONES Lombard, Corporal, 2/4<sup>th</sup> Buffs  
KEMP George L, Sergeant, 2<sup>nd</sup> West Kent's – **Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM)**  
KEW George, Private, RAMC  
KING Kennett F, Tank Corps  
LIGHT Herbert John, Pte, Coldstream Guards  
LIGHT George Alexander, Pte, 8<sup>th</sup> Queen's RWSR  
LUCKHURST Cecil A, Trooper, 21<sup>st</sup> Lancers  
LUCKHURST George, Trooper, 1/1<sup>st</sup> Berkshire Yeomanry  
LUCKHURST Harry, Driver, RAMC  
LUCKHURST Reginald, Private, 9<sup>th</sup> Norfolk's  
LUCKHURST Thomas, Pte, 1<sup>st</sup> Buffs  
MANN Alfred, Pte, 8<sup>th</sup> Buffs  
MANNERING John W, Pte, 5<sup>th</sup> Buffs  
MANNERING James K, Pte, 5<sup>th</sup> Buffs  
MARSH Fred, Corporal, 6<sup>th</sup> Buffs  
MARTIN William J, Pte, 5<sup>th</sup> Buffs  
MEALHAM Jack, Rifleman, K.R.R.C  
MILLEN Sydney, Private, ASC Base Remount Depot  
MOORE Albert E, Private, 2<sup>nd</sup> Queen's RWSR  
MUNN Alfred, Trooper, REKMR / 8<sup>th</sup> Buffs  
NICKALLS James W, Pte, 10<sup>th</sup> Middlesex Regt  
NOYES Conrad, Major, Highland L.I  
OTTAWAY Ernest, Lance Corporal, R. Army Veterinary Corps  
PALMAR Hubert J, Private, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grenadier Guards  
PIPER William H, Private, 11<sup>th</sup> West Kent's  
RICKSON Edward A, Pte, 2/5<sup>th</sup> Buffs  
ROOTS Ernest, Private, The Buffs  
SAXBY Frederick G, Private, RASC  
SHORTER John, Private, 2/5<sup>th</sup> Buffs  
SKINNER Albert Edward, Pte, 5<sup>th</sup> Buffs  
SKINNER A.W, Gunner, RGA  
SKINNER C.G, Sapper, Royal Engineers  
SKINNER Douglas, Pte, 5<sup>th</sup> Buffs  
SKINNER Walter Charles, Gunner, RGA  
SMITH George Lewis, Pte, Remount Depot  
SMITH Stanley, Bombardier, RGA  
SPRATT George, Private, 3<sup>rd</sup> Buffs  
TAYLOR Herbert C, Gunner, RFA  
TAYLOR T William, Pte, 5<sup>th</sup> Buffs  
TUTT Thomas, Pte, 3<sup>rd</sup> Buffs  
TUTT Frederick, Pte, 3<sup>rd</sup> Buffs

VIDEON Charles, Private, R Warwickshire's  
WEBB Alfred, Private, 1<sup>st</sup> Buffs  
WILSON A.C, Lance Corporal, RASC  
WOODGATE George, Sgt, Kent Fortress RE  
WOODASON Harry, Pte, 2<sup>nd</sup> Suffolk's  
WOODASON William, Cpl, 1<sup>st</sup> Suffolk's  
WOOLSTON A, Sapper, R Engineers

