

# Ruckinge

## Second World War 1939 – 1945

**BEECHING, FREDERICK GEORGE.** Lance Corporal, 6284129.  
2nd Battalion, The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment).  
Died 23 May 1940. Aged 29.  
Born and resided Kent.  
Son of Robert George and Alice May Beeching.  
Husband of Lilian Florence Beeching of Hatfield, Hertfordshire.  
Buried Schorisse Communal Cemetery, Maarkedal, Oost-Vlaanderen,  
Belgium. Grave Ref: 2.  
Pre war member of The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment).  
Frederick is the sole Second World War village casualty commemorated in  
the Wesleyan Chapel at Ruckinge, Ashford, Kent.

### LOST PERSONS

**DAW, ALICE ELLEN.**  
Died 16 September 1940. Aged 31.  
Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Orpin of Mincing Court, Shadoxhurst, Ashford,  
Kent.  
Wife of W. A. Daw of Hans Farm, Ruckinge, Ashford, Kent.  
Alice was injured on 15 September 1940, at her home Hans Farm, Ruckinge,  
Ashford, Kent, at which time her daughter lost her life, and is the next casualty  
commemorated. Alice succumbed to her injuries and died the following day  
whilst a patient at Ashford, Kent, Hospital.

**DAW, VERA MARY.**  
Died 15 September 1940. Aged 4.  
Daughter of W. A. Daw of Hans Farm, Ruckinge, Ashford, Kent, and of Alice  
Ellen Daw.  
Vera died at her home Hans Farm, Ruckinge, Ashford, Kent.

**GODDEN, JAMES.**  
Died 23 June 1944. Aged 69.  
Husband of Rose Godden of Hardings Bridge, Ruckinge, Ashford, Kent.  
James was injured on 18 June 1944, at his home Hardings Bridge Cottage,  
Ruckinge, Ashford, Kent, at which time his wife lost her life, and is the next  
casualty commemorated. James succumbed to his injuries and died whilst a  
patient at Willesborough Hospital, Ashford, Kent.

**GODDEN, ROSE.**

Died 18 June 1944. Aged 71.

Wife of James Godden of Hardings Bridge, Ruckinge, Ashford, Kent.

Rose died at her home Hardings Bridge Cottage, Ruckinge, Ashford, Kent.

**PRYCE, MORRIS.** Able Seaman, D/JX 126796.

Royal Navy, H.M.S. Glorious.

Died 9 June 1940. Aged. 30.

Son of Alfred and Sarah Pryce of Ruckinge, Ashford, Kent.

Commemorated on the Plymouth Naval Memorial. Panel 38. Column 2.

Built by Harland & Wolff Ltd. of Belfast, Northern Ireland, H.M.S. Glorious was a 22500 ton Courageous class aircraft carrier, and was commissioned on 14 October 1917. Converted to an aircraft carrier at Rosyth Dockyard, and Devonport Dockyard between 1 February 1924 and 10 March 1930, she was recommissioned on 7 January 1930, before the actual completion of her conversion. Having been in the Middle East, with the invasion of Norway on 9 April 1940, H.M.S. Glorious was hastily recalled to the United Kingdom, and she left Malta on 11 April 1940. During the Norwegian Campaign, the aircraft carrier was almost fully employed in transporting R.A.F. aircraft to Norway. During the withdrawal from Norway, at which time she was commanded by Captain Guy D'Oyly-Hughes, D.S.O. and Bar, D.S.C., R.N., and her escorting destroyers H.M.S. Acasta and H.M.S. Argent were caught by the German battle cruisers Gneisenau and Scharnhorst. At time of the interception and engagement by the two German battle cruisers, H.M.S. Glorious had a full deck of Hurricane and Gladiator aircraft which she unable to get airborne, and all the aircraft went down with her, when she was sunk with great loss of life, as there were only 43 survivors. For an in-depth website (by the publishers of the superb Warship International) comprehensively covering the loss of H.M.S. Glorious, please see [www.warship.org](http://www.warship.org) and click on Articles.

**ROOTS, WILLIAM.**

Died 7 July 1944. Aged 7.

Son of George William and M. I. Roots of Morness, Ruckinge, Ashford, Kent.

William died at his home Morness, Ruckinge, Ashford, Kent.

