

HASLINGFIELD VILLAGE SOCIETY

MINI-HISTORY SERIES

“THAT THEIR NAMES SHALL LIVE”

(REVISED AND ENLARGED EDITION 2010)



An account of the Village War Memorial and of those men of Haslingfield, as well as others in some way associated with the Village, who gave their lives in the two World Wars and in the more recent conflict in Iraq.

Compiled by Mr D.J.Beynon. of Haslingfield, towards their enduring memory

***"O Valiant Hearts, who to your glory came
Through dust of conflict and through battle-flame
Tranquil you lie, your knightly virtues proved
Your memory hallowed in the Land you loved."***



"IN THE BEGINNING"

"It has been decided to erect a marble or other kind of cross in the Churchyard. The sum of £60 is already in hand as a result of a house to house collection by the Vicar, the Revd A..E. Davies, who is Chairman of the Parish Council. With reference to a proposed County Memorial. Mr Davies writes "I do not think the village could afford to subscribe to another and I feel sure they would rather have their own, as decided upon".

News Item: "Cambridge Independent Press" 2 May 1919.

THE MEMORIAL

The Village War Memorial is located in the Churchyard, close to the main entrance to the Church. The following words are inscribed on the South side of the Memorial:

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF THE HASLINGFIELD MEN
WHO FELL IN THE GREAT WAR 1914 - 1919

It is interesting to note that the above inscription seems to indicate that the First World War lasted longer than conventional knowledge (i.e. "the 1914 - 1918 War"), would allow. In fact, the 11th of November 1918 was but an Armistice, with the War not ending officially until the signing of the Treaty of Versailles on 28th June 1919, following the Paris Peace Conference. As with the Haslingfield War Memorial, the Cenotaph in Whitehall, London, uses the date 1919 (or rather MCMXIX) for the ending of WW1.

Other War Memorials were solely the idea and responsibility of local communities. There was no central guidance on the form they should take, what should be inscribed thereon (if tangible memorials), nor the dates if these were to be included. Some communities, such as Haslingfield, decided upon 1919 when the War Formally ended. Others communities would put the date as 1918, when the guns fell silent.

For Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) purposes, the period for First World War casualties is taken as 4th Aug 1914 - 31st Aug 1921. The reason for this is to allow for the commemoration of those members of the Armed Forces who died, "no matter where and no matter what the cause", in a prescribed period Following the Armistice. Thus, Private William C. Douglas, a Haslingfield man who died 23 Feb 1919, is commemorated as a casualty of the Great War.

For the 1939 - 1945 War, the dates are 3rd Sep 1939 to 31st Dec 1947; the former date being once again that of the declaration of war by the British Government and the latter the date agreed by the participating countries.

Beneath the inscription on the South side of the Memorial, are the names of 18 men associated with Haslingfield who lost their lives in the First World War.

At this juncture, it is perhaps interesting to note that only 17 names are listed under "Haslingfield" on the Memorial Panels in the St George's Chapel, Ely Cathedral, to commemorate those men from Cambridgeshire and the Isle of Ely who died during World War I. Fredrick Wm Charles, listed on the Haslingfield War Memorial, is for some reason (perhaps his recorded place of birth, or the address at which his family were living at the time of his death) listed under "Cambridge" on the afore-mentioned Panels.

The names of the eighteen World War I casualties on the Haslingfield War Memorial are followed by the declaration:

"THEIR NAMES LIVETH FOR EVERMORE"

These words are common to many war memorials, having been chosen by Rudyard Kipling from the Bible (Ecclesiasticus Chapter 44, Verse 14) and the verse reads in full 'Their bodies are buried in peace; but their name liveth for evermore.'

On the lower step are the words:

GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS, THAT A MAN
LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS FRIENDS.

Still lower is inscribed:

THIS MONUMENT WAS ERECTED BY THE PARISHIONERS
OF HASLINGFIELD

On the West side of the Memorial is inscribed the dates 1939 - 1945, the names of those 9 Haslingfield men who perished in the Second World War and the words THEY ARE IN PEACE. This work was carried out in 1947, after the Monument was cleaned.

On the East side of the Memorial can be found the words:

LAY ME WHERE YOU WILL BUT REMEMBER ME
BEFORE THE ALTAR OF GOD

These were the dying words of the Mother of St Augustine, thought to be particularly appropriate as the men died in all parts of the world.

The newly cleaned and inscribed Memorial was unveiled on Sunday 14 Dec 1947. A very large Union Flag, lent for the occasion by Chivers, was removed by Colonel Dale after a moving speech. The large number present then went into the Church where a special service of commemoration was held. The sermon was preached by the Rev M.B. Dewey, Dean of Pembroke College, Cambridge, who had himself been a Naval Chaplain during the war.

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In more recent times (2004), the East face of the memorial has been inscribed with the name of Fusilier K.J. Turrington, of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, who lost his life in 2003 during the conflict in Iraq and who is buried nearby in the Churchyard

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**"THEY SHALL NOT GROW OLD
AS WE THAT ARE LEFT GROW OLD
AGE SHALL NOT WEARY THEM
NOR THE YEARS CONDEMN
AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN
AND IN THE MORNING
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM"**

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THE MEN WHO ARE COMMEMORATED

(a) WORLD WAR I

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It is a sad fact that no fewer than 14 out of the 18 casualties of World War I listed on the Village War Memorial have no known graves.

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BARNARD, ELIAS.

05 Aug 1917.

Age 33. b. Haslingfield 18 Nov 1883. Son of Mr Joseph & Mrs Eliza Emma Barnard (nee Robinson) of Haslingfield. Father's occupation: "Labourer". Baptised All Saint's. Haslingfield, 3 Feb 1884.

Attended Haslingfield school 11 Jun 1888 onwards (Register Entry No 495).

Enlisted at Kensington. Middlesex..

Service No R/26845. Rifleman. 21st Bn, King's Royal Rifle Corps.

"Killed in action France", according to news item and photo in "Cambridge Press & News" 28 Sep 1917. At this time "France" was synonymous with the Western front and used as a catch-all location. Soldiers often wrote home from "somewhere in France", even if they were in Belgium. Elias Barnard is thought to have died in Belgium, in the Ypres Salient.



The "Cambridge Independent Press" for 7 Sep 1917 reports "News has been received by Mrs Joseph Barnard, of Barton Road, Haslingfield, of the death of one of her sons. Pvt E. Barnard, of the King's Royal Rifles, who was killed in action early in August. No definite date has yet been ascertained" (sic).

The sad news was conveyed in a letter to his young widow, Mrs Ethel Barnard, of North Kensington, from Pvt Barnard's Commanding Officer, who wrote as follows:

"On behalf of the officers and men of (Censored) Company, I deeply regret to inform you of your husband's death. He was killed instantly along with three of his comrades, by a shell bursting and therefore suffering no pain. He had been with his Company since last October and was a good soldier and very popular. Please accept our best sympathy in your great loss."

The newspaper report continues: "Pvt Barnard had been in the fighting line since Oct 1916. with the exception of a short rest early in this year owing to being slightly wounded. He had been employed for several years with Messrs Lyons in London and was well-known and respected in Haslingfield and neighbourhood. He was 33 years of age and leaves a widow but no family".

Elias Barnard continued next page

The War Diary of 21/KRRC shows that, in early October 1916, the Regiment was on the Somme north of the village of FLERS, occupying 'Gird Trench' and part of 'Gird Support' which had just been captured from the Germans. Whilst there, it received on 7th & 9th of Oct, two drafts of reinforcements. One can surmise, from the following extract from "Another World", by Anthony Eden (then the 19 year old Adjutant with the Battalion) that Elias Barnard was included in one of these drafts - "....the men were not from our reserve battalion....they had enlisted as volunteers from an Eastern Counties Regiment.....".

In late October, the 41st Division, including the 21/KRRC, moved from the Somme to *Flanders* and for the remainder of 1916 and the first half of 1917 was in and out of the lines in front of the northern part of Messines Ridge.

On the night of 30/31st July 1917, the Battalion was involved in the capture of enemy trenches in the area between Hill 60 and the north side of the Ypres-Comines Canal, in the vicinity of ZILLEBEKE. After consolidating the gains made, the Battalion was relieved in the Front Line on the night of the 3rd/4th August and then took up a position in the old German Front Line. It is again surmised that Elias Barnard met his death by shellfire at that location.

No known grave. Commemorated on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial (Panel 51/53), Belgium.

The Ypres Memorial bears the names of 40,000 British, 7,000 Canadian, 6,000 Australian, nearly 600 South African and 400 Indian soldiers who died in the Salient and who have no known grave. Elias Barnard is one of 1,444 soldiers of the King's Royal Rifle Corps who are so commemorated and one of three Haslingfield men listed on the Memorial; the others being William Leonard Newling and John Wood.

Also commemorated on the Memorial Panels within St George's Chapel, Ely Cathedral, as one of the Cambs & Isle of Ely men to have died in the First World War.

26 Sep 1915.



Age 20. b. Haslingfield 2 Jun 1895 [Parish Records] or 3 Jun 1895 [School Records].

Son of Josiah Barnard (Occupation: Farmer) and Rebecca Barnard (nee Rayner) , of Knapp Farm, Haslingfield. Baptised All Saint's, Haslingfield 4 Aug 1895

Attended Haslingfield school 13 Feb 1899 onwards (Register Entry No 697).

Service No 11344. Private.

6th Battalion, Royal Scots Fusiliers.

At the beginning of the War, was living with a Mr Baird at Wellwood. Muirkirk, Ayrshire. "Enlisted at once into the Royal Scots Fusiliers" (giving Haslingfield, Cambs. as his main place of residence) and went to the front in May 1915. Reported as "missing" following the Battle of Loos, but with comrades believing that he might have been made a prisoner of war

His mother appealed for 'any news that other soldiers might have of her son to be passed on to her' (as reported in "Cambridge Independent Press" for 2 Jun 16).

"Killed at the battle of Loos". (Photo. "Cambridge Independent Press" 9 Jun 1916.)

The Battle of Loos was fought by the British 1st and 4th Corps in the period 25 Sep - 13 Oct 1915. The attack began at 0630hrs on the 25th. being preceded for the very first time by a British release of poison gas. 6th Battalion, Royal Scots Fusiliers (which at one time up until May 1917 was commanded by Winston Churchill), were assigned to 27 Brigade which in turn was part of the 9th (Scottish) Division operating on the Northern section of the Loos battlefield. The Division's objectives on the opening day of the battle were Fosse 8 (a slag-heap) and the Hohenzollern Redoubt. 27 Brigade was brought forward to clear a maze of trenches and cottages East of Fosse 8 and fought in and around a trench called Fosse Alley. Very heavy casualties were suffered before the Division was withdrawn from the area two or three days later, with Private Barnard losing his life on the second day of the battle.

Josiah Barnard has no known grave and is amongst the 20,589 officers and men who lost their lives in this and later battles in the area and who are commemorated on the Memorial to the Missing at Dud Corner Cemetery, Pas de Calais. France.

Josiah Barnard continued next page.

He is also commemorated on the Memorial Panels within St George's Chapel, Ely Cathedral, as one of the Cambs & Isle of Ely men to have died in the First World War and by Lamp Fitting No 4 in Haslingfield Church.

An "In Memorium" notice from his father, mother, brothers and sisters at Knapp Farm, Haslingfield, published in the "Cambridge Independent Press" for 27 Sep 1918, includes the following verse:

"We miss him and mourn him in silence unseen
And dwell on the memory of days that have been
Unknown to the World he stands by our side
And whispers these words "Death cannot divide".

* Note: Listed in CWGC records as JOSEPH WILLIAM BARNARD, but with family details confirming the same Josiah Barnard. Also listed as Joseph Barnard in the HMSO Publication "Soldiers Died in the Great War".



Age 19. b. 28 Jun 1897, Chesterton, Cambridge. Attended Haslingfield school from 21 Oct 1907 onwards (Register Entry No ,S5S). (Brothers Harry and Thomas and sister Ada also attended village school for the first time that same day, suggesting that the family had only recently moved into the village.)

Son of William Charles of "Cantelupe" (sic).

Enlisted Cambridge Corn Exchange, Nov 1914 ("Cambridge Chronicle dated 27 Nov 1914).

Service No 16401. Private. 11th Battalion, Suffolk Regiment.

Although the caption beneath a rather poor quality picture of F.W. Charles, included in the 29 Jun 1917 edition of the "Cambridge Independent Press and News", proclaims him to be "the eldest son of Mr and Mrs W. Road"(Cambridge). he is listed in CWGC Records as "Son of William and Naomi Charles, of Joyce (sic) farm (*should read "Joist Farm"*), Waterbeach, Cambs". All of which suggests that the association with Haslingfield had been severed by the time of his death.

Killed in action during the Battle of Arras (the battle of Arleux), during an unsuccessful attack at ROEUX.

The Battalion War Diary for this day records:

3am	"Companies reported all in position and ready for attack."
4.25am	"BARRAGE commenced"
4.27am	"Battalion advanced to the attack"
5am	The attack was held up and driven back by very considerable hostile machine-gun fire from a trench which had been entirely missed by our barrage. What was left of our Battalion formed up in our Front 1 line".
9.45am	"Enemy counter attacked from the direction of Rouex" "

No known grave. Commemorated on the Arras Memorial. Pas de Calais, France.

This Memorial records the names of those 35,928 soldiers who have no known graves, following the battles at Arras and other nearby areas in 1917, including another casualty having connections with Haslingfield - Alick George Jennings. Frederick Charles is also commemorated on the Memorial Panels within St George's Chapel. Ely Cathedral, but as one of the "Cambridge" men to have died in the First World War.

COVENEY, GEORGE

26 Nov 1914.

Age 19. b. 9 Apr 1895, Camberwell, London. Entry No 731 in school register lists George Coven ley (sic) b. 1895. "Son of Samuel Bishop".

Attended Haslingfield school 15 Apr 1901 onwards.

Baptised All Saint's, Haslingfield, 28 Mar 1909, as foster son of Samuel Bishop ("Labourer") and Sylvester Bishop. CWGC records list as "foster son of Mrs S. Bishop, of New Road, Haslingfield"

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Service No PO/16696. Private. Royal Marine Light Infantry. HMS "Bulwark".

Enlisted 14 Jan 1913 in London, having falsified his age by 85 days. Trade: Farm Labourer. Age on Enlistment: 17yrs 9 months. (Height: 5'4-7/10". Complexion: Dark. Eyes: Brown. Hair: Dark Brown).

Served at Royal Marines Depot, Deal, Kent, 14 Jan 1913 to 28 Oct 1913, then Royal Marines, Portsmouth, 29 Oct 1913 to 27 Jul 1914. Embarked HMS "Bulwark" 28 Jul 1914.

On the 26th Nov 1914. the 15,000 ton, "London" class battleship HMS "Bulwark" was embarking ammunition at Sheerness in Kent when she was destroyed by an internal explosion which cost the lives of all but 12 of the ship's complement of 750. **George Coveney was one of those killed in the explosion and he has no known grave.**

He is, however, commemorated on the RN Memorial, Portsmouth, together with another Haslingfield man, Arthur Flack. This Memorial, situated on Southsea Common, commemorates 26,000 Portsmouth- based Sailors and Marines who lost their lives in the two World Wars.

Also commemorated on the Memorial Panels within St George's Chapel, Ely Cathedral, as one of the Cambs & Isle of Ely men to have died in the First World War

George Coveney continued next page.

George Coveney would seem to be the first Haslingfield man to lose, his life on active service during World War I.

His Service Record shows that a War Gratuity of £5 was paid to his recorded next of kin, Mrs Sylvester Bishop, of New Road, Haslingfield, on 10 Sep 1919. This is assumed to have been a one-off payment.



DAINTRY, WILLIAM LOVETT

24 Feb 1917.

Age 32.. b. Cambridge 3 Nov 1884. Son of William Joseph Daintry ("Harness Maker") and Elizabeth Daintry (nee Lovett), of (Barton Road?), Haslingfield. Baptised All Saint's, Haslingfield 5 Apr 1885. Attended Haslingfield school 25 May 1891 onwards (Register Entry No 548). Husband of KE Daintry, of 17 Merton Street. Cambridge.

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE:

Enlisted Woolwich, Kent, but giving "Cambridge" as his main place of residence.

Service No 33712. Private, 1st Battalion, Border Regiment. (Previously served as (79185 Royal Field Artillery and 5370 15th Battalion King's Liverpool Regiment)

Died of war wounds at Netley Hospital, Southampton.



Buried in Haslingfield Churchyard.

An account of his funeral service can be seen in the "Cambridge Independent Press" dated 2 Mar 1917.

Also commemorated on the Memorial Panels within St George's Chapel, Fly Cathedral, as one of the Cambs & Isle of lily men to have died in the First World War.

Age 22. b. 12 Dec 1896 [Parish Records| or 5 Dec 1896 |School Records|. Son of Thomas Douglas and Flora Ann Douglas (nee Wilmott), of Haslingfield. Fathers occupation: "Labourer". Baptised All Saints, Haslingfield 27 Feb 1897. Attended Haslingfield school 6 May 1901 onwards (Register Entry No 737).

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

(CWGC records confirm as "son of Thomas Douglas, of Haslingfield", but only give initials "W.C." in place of full Christian names.)

It was noted (both "Cambridge Independent Press" and "Cambridge Chronicle & University Journal", Sep 1915) that "WC Douglas enrolled 3/1st Battalion Cambridgeshire Regiment" on or about that date.

(On 17 Feb 1915, authority had been given for the formation of a second reserve battalion to the (Cambridgeshire Regiment, to be quartered and trained in Cambridge. At the time of William Douglas' enlistment, however, the 3/1st had relocated to Windsor. From Windsor, the Battalion despatched regular drafts of both officers and men to join the 1/1st Battalion at the Front, receiving in turn those returned through sickness or wounds. The first of the reserve battalions, the 2/1st, served throughout the war at various locations in England).

Service No 31346. Private. 12th (West Somerset Yeomanry) Battalion, Somerset Light Infantry.

Buried Halle (Hal) Communal Cemetery, Belgium. Grave A.70.

The Battalion was billeted at GRAMMONT from mid-December 1918 until disbanding in mid-1919. There was a Casualty Clearing Station at Halle and this is assumed to have been the nearest to Grammont, hence his burial there.

Also commemorated on the Memorial Panels within St George's Chapel, Ely Cathedral, as one of the Cambs & Isle of Ely men to have died within the period prescribed for First World War casualties.

FLACK, ARTHUR



31 May 1916.

Age 21. b. 14 Aug 1894. Stratford, London, Essex. Son of Arthur and Harriet Hack, of "The Knapp", Haslingfield. Attended Haslingfield school 17 Nov 1902 onwards (Register Entry No 761).

Service No PO/16585. Private. Royal Marine Light Infantry.

Enlisted in London 4th Nov 1912, at the given age of 18 years and two months. Trade: Farm labourer. (Height: 5' 4V4". Fresh complexion. Grey eyes. Fair hair.)

Served at the Royal Marine Depot, Deal, Kent, 4 Nov 1912 until 20 Aug 1913, then with Royal Marines Portsmouth 21 Aug 1913 until embarked on HMS "Black Prince" 21 Apr 1914.

Killed in action on board HMS "Black Prince", at the Battle of Jutland. (Photo: "Cambridge Independent Press" of 16 Jun 1916: also mentioned "Cambridge Chronicle & University Journal" 14 Jun 1916).

During this great naval engagement between the German High Seas Fleet and the British Grand Fleet, the 13,550 ton cruiser HMS "Black Prince" had for reasons which remain unknown to this day become detached from the British Fleet. Whilst far astern and out of touch, a line of warships was made out ahead: course was altered to rejoin what was assumed to be the British Fleet. At a range of barely half a mile, it was realised that the ships were German. Brilliantly lit by enemy searchlights, the British cruiser was shelled relentlessly before blowing up in a tremendous explosion. The entire crew was lost.

Arthur Flack has no known grave and, together with George Coveney, is thus one of two Haslingfield men to be commemorated on the RN Memorial. Portsmouth, Hants.

Also commemorated on the Memorial Panels within St George's Chapel. Ely Cathedral, as one of the Cambs & Isle of Ely men to have died in the first World War.

His Service Record shows that a War Gratuity of £10 was paid to his next of kin. This is assumed to have been a one-off payment.

GOODE, FREDERICK WALTER

14 Oct 1916.

b. Leytonstone (according to entry in the HMSO Publication "Soldiers Died in the Great War").

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Entries in "Cambridge Independent Press" in Jun 1915 and "Cambridge Chronicle & University Journal" dated 25 Jun 1915, report that "Frederick Walter Goode of Haslingfield (enlisted) 3/1st Bn Cambridgeshire Regiment".

(On 17 Feb 1915, authority had been given for the formation of a second reserve battalion to the Cambridgeshire Regiment, to be quartered and trained in Cambridge. Moving to Windsor towards the end of Aug 1915, the Battalion despatched regular drafts of both officers and men to join the 1/1st Battalion at the Front, receiving in turn those returned through sickness or wounds. The first of the reserve battalions, the 2/1st. served throughout the war at various locations in England).

Service No 3966. Private. 1/1st Battalion, Cambridgeshire Regiment.

On 14th Oct 1916, on the Somme, units of the Cambridgeshire Regt together with 4th/5th Black Watch were tasked with assaulting the North face of a German strongpoint known as the Schwaben Redoubt, close to what was left of the village of THIEPVAL. The objective was taken and held.

Frederick Walter Goode has no known grave. Being commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial (Pier & Face 16B) and having died on the 14th, it can reasonably be assumed that he was one of the 213 casualties suffered by the Cambridgeshire Regt during that assault.

The Thiepval Memorial commemorates over 70,000 British and 830 South African soldiers who died in the area between Jul 1915 and Mar 1918 and who have no known graves. Frederick Walter Goode is one of three Haslingfield men listed on the panels of this Memorial: the others being Harry Jennings and Arthur Pagram.

Also commemorated on the Memorial Panels within St George's Chapel, Ely Cathedral, as one of the Cambs & Isle of Ely men to have died in the First World War.

HOY, WILLIAM JOHN

31 Oct 1918.

Age 19. b. 15 Aug 1899 (Parish Register) in Dalston, Middlesex, according to entry in HMSO "Soldiers Died in the Great War". Son of Mr William & Mrs Lilian Agnes Hoy of High Street, (shop, cottage and bakery located on the site of present day Nos 41 & 43 High St) Haslingfield. Baptised All Saint's, Haslingfield 1 Oct 1899, with father's occupation given as "Horsekeeper".

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Enlisted Cambridge.

Army No 52148. Private. 7th Battalion, Lincolnshire Regt. Formerly 51874 of the 52nd Graduated Battalion, Bedfordshire Regt (a training and Home Service Battalion).

Had joined the Army a year before his death and had arrived in France in March/April 1918, most likely as one of the young men rushed out as replacements for the casualties of the German Spring Offensives.

Died of influenza, 18th General Hospital, Camiers. Although a British Hospital, it was officially named the 18th General Hospital (Chicago USA) in July 1917, apparently in recognition of its large complement of American doctors and nurses. The War Records for this Hospital have survived and show the following entries for the period of William Hoy's death:

19.10.18	"An epidemic of Influenza has commenced in this hospital. Pneumonia appears to be on the increase".
31.10.18	"Influenza still prevails of a very virulent type 24 Influenza deaths (in) October 1918".

The Hospital's Admission and Discharge Book shows as Admission No 36,800 (sic) to Ward No 14 on 21-10-18 - "Pte W. Hoy, 51874, of D Coy, 7 Lines", suffering from "Influenza and severe broncho pneumonia". His subsequent death is shown as having occurred at 0300hrs 31-10-18.

Buried Etaples Military Cemetery, Pas de Calais.

Also commemorated on the Memorial Panels within St George's Chapel, Ely Cathedral, as one of the Cambs & Isle of Ely men to have died in the First World War.

JENNINGS, ALICK GEORGE (*)

03 May 1917



Age 29. b. 19 Feb 1888, Haslingfield. Son of Mr William Samuel Jennings ("Labourer") & Mrs Sarah Jane Jennings (nee Lawrence), of Pear Tree Cottages, Harston Road, Haslingfield. Baptised All Saint's, Haslingfield, 3 Jun 1888.

Enlisted Cambridge.

Service No 747. Trooper. Household Battalion, 1st Life Guards. (Formerly Service No 4031, 1st Life Guards.) Killed in action, with no known grave.

(Photos: "Cambridge Independent Press" 12 Oct 1917 & 1 Mar 1918).

"Mrs William Jennings has had news that her son, Trooper A.G. Jennings, Household Battalion of the Life Guards, has been missing since May 3rd. His brother Pte Harry J. Jennings, Suffolk Regt, was killed 26 Aug". ("Cambridge Independent Press" 21 Sep 1917.

The Household Battalion was formed in London on 1 Sep 1916 as an infantry battalion with personnel from the Household Cavalry Reserve Regiments.

The Battalion landed in France on 9 Nov 1916. On the 3rd May 1917, the Household Battalion was part of a force attacking the village of ROUEX and its notorious Chemical Works, as part of the Battle of Arras. The Battalion advanced along the north side of the village, the objective being the small woods on the high ground to the east. It failed in the attempt.

The War Diary of the 4th Division (of which the Household Battalion formed part) says for the 3rd of May:

"The attack in the centre by the Household Battalion, although carried out with great gallantry, very shortly became disorganised by the darkness (zero-hour 3.45am morning unusually dark) and heavy losses".

Very heavy German machine-gun fire was encountered. By 8am. surviving troops were back in their own front line.

The casualties for the Household Battalion between zero hour 3rd May and dawn May 4th were recorded as Officers: 4 killed. 3 missing. 3 wounded. Other Ranks: 16 killed. 91 wounded. 114 missing (most likely incl. Alick George Jennings)

Alick George Jennings continued next page

Alick George Jennings (*) is amongst those commemorated on the Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais. This Memorial records the names of those 35,928 soldiers who have no known graves, including another casualty having connections with Haslingfield - Frederick William Charles - following the battles at Arras and other nearby areas in 1917.

Also commemorated on the Memorial Panels within St George's Chapel, Ely Cathedral, as one of the Cambs & Isle of Ely men to have died in the First World War.

(*) Note: Shown in CWGC records as George Alec Jennings " whose brother Arthur Cecil also fell."

JENNINGS, ARTHUR CECIL.

27 Sep 1917.

Age 20. b. 1 Aug 1897, Haslingfield.
Son of Mr William Samuel Jennings
("Labourer") & Mrs Sarah Jane Jennings
nee Lawrence), of Pear Tree Cottages,
Harston Road, Haslingfield.
Baptised All Saint's, Haslingfield, 3 Oct
1897.

Attended Haslingfield school 24 Jul 1902
onwards (Register Entry No 755)

"Arthur Cecil Jennings. 19. Haslingfield.
Labourer." enlisted for Army service at
Cambridge Corn Exchange in Nov 1914
("Cambridge Independent Press" 13 Nov
14 & "Cambridge Chronicle" 27 Nov 14.)
It would seem that Arthur had put a
couple of years onto his actual age in order to
enlist. The Army Medal Roll
records that he qualified for the War
Medal and the Victory Medal, indicating that
he did not go overseas before 1916, possibly
because his true age had been discovered.

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Service No 16423. Private. 2nd Battalion, Suffolk Regiment. (Also served in the 11th,
12th and 9th Suffolks).

Wounded 1 Jul 1916 on the first day of the Somme offensive (almost certainly whilst serving
with the 11th Suffolks) "but now in hospital in Preston, Lanes and progressing favourably",
according to the "Cambridge Independent Press" 4 Aug 1916. ("Cambridge Chronicle &
University Journal" for 9 Aug 16 also lists him as amongst those recently wounded.)

Subsequently died of other wounds received on his return to the Front, probably sustained
during 2nd Battalion's attack towards ZONNEBEKE 26 Sep 1917. No 2nd Battalion
casualties are recorded as having been suffered in the period between 18 Sep and the night of
the 25th September and so it is considered most likely that Arthur died in the Casualty Clearing
Station at Mendingham as a result of wounds received in the Battle of Polygon Wood.

Buried Mendingham Military Cemetery, Belgium. Plot VII. Row A. Grave 10.

Mendingham Military Cemetery is one of three in the locality which were established for those
who died at the many hospitals and casualty clearing stations in that area. The other two are
"Dozingham" and "Bandaghem", all three names ("Mending 'em", "Dosing 'em" and
"Bandaging 'em" having been coined by British troops in phonetic likeness to Flemish
place-names.

Also commemorated on the Memorial Panels within St George's Chapel, Ely Cathedral, as one
of the Cambs & Isle of Ely men to have died in the First World War.

JENNINGS, HARRY

26 Aug 1917.

Age 34. Born Haslingfield 20 Jan 1883 (Parish Register); 30 Jan 1883 (School Register). Baptised All Saint's, Haslingfield, 1 Apr 1883. Attended Haslingfield School 19 Apr 1886 (sic) onwards. Son of Mr William Samuel Jennings ("Labourer") & Mrs Sarah Jane Jennings (nee Lawrence), of Pear Tree Cottages. Harston Road, Haslingfield. Husband of Ellen Louisa Jessie Jennings, of Potton Road, Hilton, St Ives, Hunts.

no photo available

("Cambridge Independent Press" reports that "Harry Jennings Labourer Haslingfield" enlisted at Cambridge Corn Exchange Dec 1914. Also mentioned in lists published in "Cambridge Chronicle and University Journal" dated 1 Jan 1915)

Service No 17529. Private. 11th (Cambridgeshire) Battalion, Suffolk Regiment.

"Mrs William Jennings has had news that her son, Pvt H. Jennings of the Cambridgeshire Battalion of the Suffolk Regt, was killed in action on 26 Aug". ("Cambridge Independent Press" 21 Sep 1917).

Killed in action, with no known grave. Commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. (Members of the Suffolk Regiment are commemorated on Pier 1 Face C and Pier 2 Face A.)

Harry Jennings is one of three Haslingfield men listed on the panels of this Memorial; the others being Frederick Walter Goode and Arthur Pagram. Also commemorated on the Memorial Panels within St George's Chapel, Ely Cathedral, as one of the Cambs & Isle of Ely men to have died in the First World War.

Harry Jennings was most likely killed in the attack on this day by the 101st Infantry Brigade against one of the strongest parts of the Hindenburg Line, west of the village of BELLICOURT which sits over the St Quentin Canal and just west of the present A26 AutoRoute. The 11th Suffolks were part of 34 Division of the 101st. The objective for 34 Division in this battle was to capture high ground occupied by the enemy. Specific to this task was the assault on Malakoff Farm, by the 11th Suffolks.

The 101st Infantry Brigade's War Diary records at 3pm 26 Aug 1917 "All the objectives were gained with few casualties, but during the morning heavy shelling had caused heavy casualties."

LAWRENCE, HARRY

21 Mar 1918.

Age 33. b. 25 Nov 1895.
Son of Jeremiah Lawrence (according to School Register); or Joseph Frederick Lawrence ("Labourer", of Trumpington) and Jane Mary Ann Collin according to Parish Register. Baptised All Saints, Haslingfield, 6 Apr 1896.
Attended Haslingfield school 24 Apr 1899 onwards (Register Entry No 700).

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Enlisted at Cambridge, with "Haslingfield" given as his main place of residence.

Served initially in the Cambridgeshire Regiment (Service No 4334). Subsequently served in the Royal Berkshire Regiment (Service No 36587), before transferring as follows:

Pte. Service No 71827. 18th Battalion, Machine Gun Corps (Infantry),

No known grave. Commemorated on the Pozieres Memorial, the Somme.

The Memorial relates to the period of crisis in March and April 1918, when the British Fifth Army was driven back by overwhelming numbers across the former Somme battlefields. The Memorial commemorates over 14,000 casualties of the United Kingdom who have no known graves and who fell in France during that retreat and in other skirmishes up until Aug 1918.

On the 20th March 1918, the 18th Battalion of the Machine Gun Corps formed part of the Division holding a sector of the British Front from roughly 2,000 yards south of VENDEUIL to just west of ALAINCOURT. At 0430hrs on 21st March, an artillery barrage opened the German assault. Harry Lawrence seemingly died during that day's action and is one of over 500 members of the Machine Gun Corps commemorated on the Pozieres Memorial.

Harry Lawrence is also commemorated on the Memorial Panels within St George's Chapel, Ely Cathedral, as one of the Cambs & Isle of Ely men to have died in the First World War.

MILLS, ERNEST EDWARD

12 Oct 1917.

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Age 38. b. Haslingfield 24 Oct 1879 (School Register) or 26 Oct 1879 (Parish Register).

Son of George Mills (Labourer) and Susan Ann Mills (nee Bishop) of Haslingfield.

Baptised All Saint's, Haslingfield, 7 Dec 1879.

Attended Haslingfield school 5 Mar 1883 onwards (Register Entry No 394).

Listed in CWGC records as "son of George and Sarah (sic) Mills; husband of Ena Frances Mills, of 19, Sussex Rd, Gorleston-on-Sea, Norfolk".

Enlisted London, with main place of residence given as "Tufnell Park, Middlesex".

Service No 41501. Private. 8th Battalion, South Staffordshire Regiment.

Formerly served in the Royal Flying Corps (Service No 37877), according to "Soldiers Died in the Great War" (HMSO).

By the date of his death, is likely to have been killed on the opening day of the first battle of Passchendaele. The 8th Battalion, South Staffordshire Regt formed up for the assault at 4.25am on the morning of Oct 12th. moving off at 5.25am behind a covering artillery barrage. All objectives were taken and the Battalion was able to consolidate on a new line by 6.40am. Casualties: "about 200 Other Ranks" and most of the Officers, according to the Commanding Officer's subsequent Report.

Ernest Mills is assumed to have fallen during this attack and has **no known grave**. Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium.

This Memorial forms the north-eastern boundary of Tyne Cot (Cemetery, which is now the resting place of nearly 12,000 soldiers of the Commonwealth Forces. Nearly 8,400 of these burials are of "unknowns", or 70% of the total. The names of the unidentified soldiers buried there are inscribed on the Menin Gate (for those who died before 16 Aug 1917) and on the panels of the Tyne Cot Memorial at the rear of the cemetery for those who, like Ernest Mills, died after that date.

Finest Mills is the second Haslingfield-born man to be commemorated on this Memorial. An entry in the HMSO Publication "Soldiers Died in the Great War" lists Albert Edward Baker, Service No 325390 (formerly 1846) Private 1st Battalion Cambridgeshire Regiment. Killed in F & F (France and Flanders) 26 Sep 1917. b. Haslingfield, Cambs" as also commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial).

Ernest Mills is another commemorated on the Memorial Panels within St George's Chapel, Ely Cathedral, as one of the Cambs & Isle of Ely men to have died in the First World War.

NEWLING, EDWARD ("Ted")

19 Apr 1918.

b. 28 Jun 1896, Haslingfield.
Son of Mr Edward Prime (Newling) and
Mrs Susan (Susannah) Newling (nee
Samuel), of Haslingfield.
Baptised All Saint's, Haslingfield, 4 Oct
1896.

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Attended Haslingfield school 12 Jul
1901 onwards (Register Entry No
740).

Enlisted Cambridge Corn Exchange.

Service No 40312. Private. 11th (Cambridgeshire Battalion), Suffolk Regt.
(Formerly 4253 Pvt, 4th Battn, Suffolk Regt and 40312 Pvt, 9th Battalion, Suffolk Regt.)

Killed in action "France and Flanders". **No known grave.** CWGC Records list no
next of kin. Ted is commemorated on Panel 3 of the Ploegsteert Memorial to the Missing,
Belgium.

The reported date of Ted Newling's death does pose questions, however, for the 11th Battalion
was relieved from the Front Line on the night of 17th/18th Apr and moved into Reserve
positions South-West of CROIX DE POPERINGHE until the night of 20th/21st April. If Ted
died of wounds received in the fighting to the South-East of HAZEBROUCK prior to the 19th
April, then it is likely that his last resting place would have been recorded. It is conjectured
that he was indeed killed during those actions, that his body was not subsequently identified
and that the date recorded against his name is that of the report of his death rather than that on
which it occurred.

The Ploegsteert Memorial lists 22,500 men who have no known graves and who died in battles
around the Franco-Belgian border, about a mile away, during 1914 - 18.

Also commemorated on the Memorial Panels within St George's Chapel, Ely Cathedral, as one
of the Cambs & Isle of Ely men to have died in the First World War

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Age 27. b. 13 Jun 1890 at Greenwich, Kent* (according to entry in "Soldiers Died in the Great War" (IIMSO). Baptised less than two months later, on 2 Aug 1890, at All Saint's, Haslingfield, the son of Mr William Prime (Newling) ("Labourer") and Mrs Caroline Newling (nee Chapman), of Grove Cottage, Haslingfield. Attended village school 7 May 1895 onwards. (Register Entry No 631).

Husband of Alice Dolly Okey Newling, of Cantelupe Road, Haslingfield. (nee Alice Dolly Okey, foster child of Alice & Thomas Okey, of Quarry Farm, Haslingfield)

Married Alice Dolly Okey Collins at the Register Office, Parish of St Benedict, Cambridge, 24th June 1911. Two children: Violet b. 1st Apr 1908(sic) at Quarry Farm, Haslingfield; Ena Maud b. 1st Nov 1913 at "Cherry Hinton Chesterton" (sic).

Enlisted at Catford 2 Jan 1916, at the given age of 26 years and 6 months and whilst living at No 20, Azof(?) Street. East Greenwich, Kent. Trade: Baker. Height: 5' 1½".

Service No G/11704. Private. 7th Battalion Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regt.

Originally enlisted in the 11th (Lewisham) Battalion, Royal West Kent Regt. Served in the UK 4 Jan 1916 until 2 Jul 1916; then to the British Expeditionary Force. Was originally meant to go to the 6th Battalion, RWK, from the an Infantry Base in France, but went instead to the 20th Advanced General Hospital (most likely suffering from scabies). From this Hospital, he was posted to 7th Battalion RWK, possibly arriving with a large draft of reinforcements on the 13th July.

The 7th Battalion RWK is known to have formed part of the 55th Infantry Brigade, undertaking normal trench holding operations in the sector in front of ZILLEBEKE between early July 1917 until being relieved on the night of the 23rd/24th. The Division's War Diary reports for the 23rd July (the day of William Newling's death) "the whole of our front line system was very heavily shelled from 6am to 12 noon" it also says that for this period of trench holding in July "casualties were almost all due to shelling"

No known grave. Commemorated on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium.

The Memorial bears the names of 40,000 British, 7,000 Canadian, 6,000 Australian, nearly 600 South African and 400 Indian soldiers who died in the Salient and who have no known grave. William Leonard Newling is one of three Haslingfield men listed on the Memorial; the others being Elias Barnard and John Wood.

William Leonard continued next page

Also commemorated on the Memorial Panels within St George's Chapel, Ely Cathedral. As one of Cambs & Isle or Ely men to have died in the first world war.

Social History footnote: With effect from the 11 Feb 1918, the Ministry of Pensions awarded a pension of 22 shillings and eleven (old) pence a week to William Newling's widow and their two children, all then living at No.3, New Street, Ashford, in Kent.

PAGRAM, ARTHUR WILLIAM

01 Jul 1916.

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Age 20. b. Haslingfield 13 Dec 1895. according to Entry No 698 in School Register, but this is unlikely to be correct, given other bench-marks against his name.

Parish Records show that he was baptised at All Saint's, Haslingfield, 4 Oct 1895, son of John and Mary Ann Pagram, of Haslingfield.

Attended Haslingfield school 6 Mar 1899 onwards.

Most likely birthdate circa Jun 1895.

Father's occupation: "Labourer".

"Arthur William Pagram (sic) 19. Haslingfield. Labourer." enlisted for Army service at Cambridge Corn Exchange ("Cambridge Independent Press" 13 Nov 1914 & "Cambridge Chronicle" 27 Nov 14).

Service No 16429. Private. "B" Coy, 11th (Cambridgeshire) Battalion, Suffolk Regiment. (Mentioned "Cambridge Independent Press" 28 Jul 1916.)

Killed in action as one of nearly 60.000 British casualties suffered on the first day of the Battle of the Somme.

"Mr and Mrs John Pagram (Haslingfield) have received the news that their son Pvt A.W. Pagram, of the Suffolk Regt, was killed in action July 1st 1915 (sic). He was reported missing and his parents have been hoping he was a prisoner in Germany, but their hopes were shattered when they received the sad news last week" ("Cambridge Independent Press" 16 Mar 1917).

11th (Cambridgeshire) Battalion, Suffolk Regiment was included amongst 101 Brigade, 34 Division troops tasked with the capture of the German positions at La BOISSELLE. The Battalion moved from Becourt Wood to its start position at 0500hrs. The attack went in at 0730hrs, shortly after the blowing of a large mine at 7.28am (now the 'Lochnager Crater'). The line of advance was through the centre of Bailiff Wood. Within the first ten minutes the Battalion, together with the 10th Lincolns (Grimsby Pals), had suffered very heavy casualties from German machine-guns, firing from the flanks.

The Battalion War Diary for this day reads: ". . . our advance from the moment it left our assembly trenches was subjected to a very heavy lire from machine guns from La Boisselle. In spite of the fact that wave after wave were mown down by machine gun fire, all pushed on without hesitation, though very few reached the German lines". Soldiers were being cut down within moments of leaving the start line. 34 Division lost more soldiers than any of the 14 Divisions taking part in the assault and succeeded in capturing only a small part of La Boisselle. 691 men of the 11th Battalion became casualties of this one day's fighting.

Arthur Pagram continued next page

Arthur Pagram has no known grave. Together with Frederick Walter Goode and Harry Jennings, he is one of three Haslingfield men commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, The Somme. Two other men believed to have links with Haslingfield, David Matthews and Frederick John Prime, who also died 1st July 1916 in the 11th Suffolks' action, are known to be buried in the Gordon Dump Cemetery, near La Boisselle.. It is conjectured that Arthur Pagram could possibly be one of the over 1,000 "unknowns" buried in that same Cemetery.

Arthur is also commemorated on the Memorial Panels within St George's Chapel, Ely Cathedral, as one of the Cambs & Isle of Ely men to have died in the First World War. A Memorial Service for Arthur Pagram, held in the Village Church on Sunday, 18 Mar 1917, was reported in the "Cambridge Independent Press" 30 Mar 1917.

WOOD, JOHN

24 Apr 1915.

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Age 29. b. 13 Jan 1886, Foxton, Cambs
Attended Haslingfield school 31 Mar
1890 onwards (Register Entry No 523).
His elder brother Joseph and sister Mary,
all children of Thomas Wood, attended for
the first time on that same date and with
Foxton recorded as their previous school.
Reported in "Cambridge Independent
Press" for May/Jun 1915 as "youngest son
of Mr Thomas and Mrs Sarah Wood, of
Haslingfield".
Enlisted at Cambridge. Mentioned in
"Cambridge Chronicle and University
Journal" 25 Sep 1914 as one of two
Haslingfield men "already on active
service".

Service No 6506. Sergeant. 1st Battalion, Suffolk Regiment. "Killed in action at Ypres".
Death reported briefly in "Cambridge Chronicle and University Journal" dated 28 May 1915.

At 1 pm on the 24th April 1915, the 1st Suffolks were ordered from their position in reserve to advance in the direction of FORTUIN. Owing to very hostile fire, the Battalion was only able to proceed about 500 yards North of the Haanebeek stream, about 2,00 yards north-east of Fortuin. "Casualties up to this time had been very heavy from the enemy's shell fire", reported Capt and Adjutant D.V.M. Balders. It is reasoned that John Wood could well have been amongst those casualties.

No known grave. Commemorated on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial (Panel 21), Belgium. John Wood is one of three Haslingfield men listed on the Memorial; the others being Elias Barnard and William Leonard Newling.

The Memorial bears the names of 40,000 British, 7,000 Canadian, 6,000 Australian, nearly 600 South African and 400 Indian soldiers who died in the Salient and who have no known grave.

John Wood is also commemorated on the Memorial Panels within St George's Chapel, Ely Cathedral, as one of the Cambs & Isle of Ely men to have died in the First World War, and by an inscription on his parents headstone in Haslingfield Churchyard. Shown in CWGC records as "son of Sarah Woods" (sic): father Thomas Wood having died 14 Jul 1916.

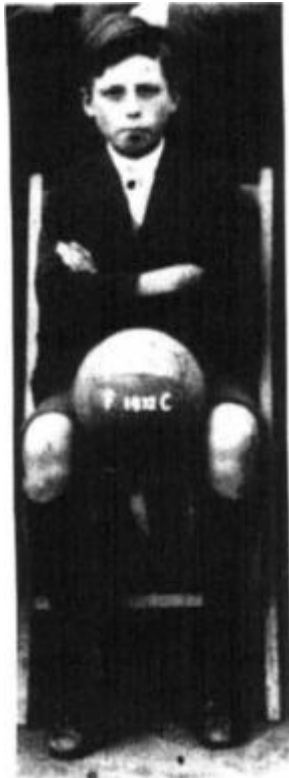
THE MEN WHO ARE COMMEMORATED

(b) WORLD WAR II

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HARDING, JAMES

09 May 1941.



Age 21. b. 11 Apr 1920.

Son of William and Sarah Ann Harding (nee Pond) of No 7 (present day No 53) Ration Road, Haslingfield.

father's occupation: "labourer".

Baptised All Saint's, Haslingfield.

23 May 1920.

Attended Haslingfield school 1 Apr 1924 - 3 Aug 1934 (Register Entry No 153).

Played for School Football learn 1932, together with Vimy Payne (qv). Employed by Pye Radio, Cambridge, on leaving school.

Service No 751347. .Sergeant. Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve. 99 (Madras Presidency) Squadron. Royal Air Force.

Initial training at Hamble, near Southampton. Subsequent training in Lincolnshire. Injured by shrapnel from bomb dropped by German aircraft during winter of 1940/1941 (most likely 7 Feb 11), whilst Squadron was based at RAF Newmarket Heath, necessitating a stay at Ely RAF Hospital.

At time of death was a **Sergeant Air Gunner**, stationed at RAF Waterbeach, Cambs. His aircraft, a Vickers "Wellington" Mk II bomber, serial No W5400, took off from Waterbeach at 2159hrs on 8 May 1941 on a bombing raid to Berlin. Last message received from aircraft at 0520hrs 9th May, calling for help.

James is one of the 20,547 airmen who have no known graves its a result of air operations in Northern Europe during WW II, now commemorated on the RAF Memorial at Runnymede (Panel 44).

He is also commemorated by Lamp Fitting No 7 in Haslingfield Church.



HEPHER, AUSTIN FRANK

09 Feb 45

(Reliably informed to have lived firstly at Penn Farm and then Green Farm, Haslingfield, his father being employed by Chivers Farms as Head Cowman). CWGC Records list as "son of Frank and Winifred Maude Hepher. of Hardwick, Cambs."

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Attended Cambridge, County High School for Boys (now Hills Road Sixth Form College), Cambridge. Known to have formed his own dance band, "The Blue Diamonds", with others of his age.

Service No 3031915. Leading Aircraftman, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve. No 5 Air Observers Training School, Manitoba, Canada.

Died Winnipeg, (Canada, age 19. Apparently taken ill whilst flying, subsequently diagnosed as a brain tumour. Reported to have died in Hospital of pneumonia.

Buried Winnipeg (Brookside) Cemetery, Manitoba, Canada. Military Section, Plot 2035. Also commemorated by Lamp fitting No 11 in Haslingfield Church.

The "Cambridge Independent Press" for 16 Feb 1945 reports on his death as follows, under the Hardwick village news heading:

"Death in Canada. News has been received by Mr & Mrs Frank Hepher, of Kings Road Farm, Hardwick, of the death of their only son Air Cadet Austin Hepher, at the age of 19. He was training at an Air Observers School in Winnipeg when his death occurred Austin was educated at the (Cambridge and County High School for Boys and went to start his training for the Air Force at Oxford (*), where he played in the University Association Football team. His boyhood was spent in Swavesey and he also spent some years in Haslingfield, where he had many friends".

(*) Mr Peter Neeves, once of Button End, Harston, a contemporary of Austin Hepher and who also played with "The Blue Diamonds" Dance Band, informs that Austin attended Wadham College, Oxford, on a war-time "short course" of six months duration, studying Politics, Philosophy and Economics.

LAWRENCE, PETER DANIEL

21 Sep 1944.

Age 30. b. 30 Dec 1913.

Father's occupation: "Farmer".

Baptised All Saint's, Haslingfield, 29 Mar 1914.

Attended Haslingfield school 27 May 1918 - 21 Dec 1927 (Register Entry No 33).

CWGC records show as son of Mr Charles & Mrs Lydia Lawrence, of Cantelupe Rd, Haslingfield. (Reliably informed to have lived in the last cottage before the old railway crossing at the top of Cantelupe Road, Haslingfield.)

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Service No 5830943. Private. 4th Battn. Suffolk Regiment.

Almost certainly amongst the 4th Suffolk troops embarked in the UK in Oct 1941 on the troopship SS "Andes" , originally bound for the Middle East. Arrived at Halifax, Nova Scotia, 8 Nov 41 and re-embarked the following day on the American troopship "Wakefield". By 17 Nov, the ship was off Port of Spain, Trinidad, subsequently crossing the South Atlantic bound for Cape Town. Arriving in Cape Town 9 Dec 41, the "Wakefield" sailed on the 13 Dec for Bombay, arriving there 27 Dec 41. Early in the New Year, it was then decided to divert the Battalion to assist in the defence of Singapore.

The Battalion was involved in fierce fighting in the vicinity of Hill 95 in Singapore during the Japanese assault, before the surrender of all British and Allied forces on the 15 Feb 42.

Peter's official Imperial Japanese Army POW record card (reproduced on the following page) suggests that, at the time of his capture, his parents were living at 2, The Knapp, Haslingfield. The same records also show a link (possibly his place of birth) with Moss Farm.

"Died on a vessel sunk by the Japanese in the Pacific", according to conventional village belief, although the reality is that he was on board a Japanese vessel taking allied prisoners of war (POWs) for work on mainland Japan, sunk en route by American aircraft.

Peter D. Lawrence is officially listed as being on board the Fuku Maru (also listed as the Hofuku Maru, Toyofuku Maru and Fuji Maru). which sailed as part of the Japanese Convoy MATA-27 from Manila in the Philippines on 20 Sep 1944, carrying 213 Dutch and 1,076 British POWs to Takao in Formosa. On the following day, 21 Sep 44, the ship was attacked and sunk by US Naval aircraft near San Narciso, in Subic Bay (N15° OF E120° 02'). One hundred and ninety-three Dutch and 1,033 British POWs lost their lives on this ship. The Fuku Maru was one of many POW-carrying, Japanese ships sunk by American aircraft or submarines during 1942 - 45, in circumstances where the attackers would have no way of identifying these ships as anything other than legitimate targets. The ships were not marked as or otherwise acting as "Hospital Ships". (Information courtesy of IWM, London.)

Peter Lawrence continued next page.

Peter Lawrence has no known grave and is thus commemorated by an inscription on the Singapore Memorial in Kranji War Cemetery, Singapore. Peter is also commemorated by the lamp fitting N0.5 in Haslingfield Church and by an inscription on his parents' headstone in the churchyard. (His father Charles Lawrence died 3 April 47 and his mother Lydia 11 Jun 52.)

收容所 Camp	馬來 泰 昭和 17 年 8 月 15 日	番 號 No.	馬 漢 1 英 II 404
姓 名 Name	LAWRENCE, PETER DANIEL ロバート	生 年 月 日 Date of Birth	1913. 12. 30.
國 籍 Nationality	英	所 屬 部 隊 Unit	No. 5830943. 4 SIF WOYK REGIMENT. ARMY.
階 級 身 分 Rank	PRIVATE.	捕 獲 年 月 日 Date of Capture	昭和 17 年 2 月 15 日
捕 獲 場 所 Place of Capture	SINGAPORE CHARLES.	母 名 Mother's Name	LYDIA.
父 名 Father's Name	CHARLES.	職 業 Occupation	cook 277
本 籍 地 Place of Origin	MOSS FARM, HASLINGFIELD CAMBS.	特 記 事 項 Remarks	死亡
通 報 先 Destination of Report	Mr Charles Lawrence, 2, The Knave, Haslingfield, Cambs, England.		

補修済

打電済

PAYNE, VIMY RIDGE.

13 Jan 1941.



Age 23. b. 21 Oct 1918. Son of William & Agnes Payne, of No 5 Back Lane (now No 27 School Lane), Haslingfield. Attended Haslingfield school 2 Jan 1923 - 23 Dec 1932 (Register Entry No 131). Played for School Football Team 1932, together with James Harding (qv)-

Vimy Payne at the age of 13/14 years.

Service No 937858. Gunner. 68 Medium Regiment, Royal Artillery.

"Died of disease in Africa". **Buried Keren War Cemetery, Eritrea, Grave 5.F.I.**

It can be assumed that Vimy Payne was involved in the early stages of the campaign which quickly resulted in the toppling of Mussolini's East African Empire. The conquest of Italian-held Eritrea, Ethiopia and Somaliland was hailed as the first absolute British land-based success of WWII.

Vimy Payne is also commemorated by Lamp Fitting No 16 in Haslingfield Church.

POWEL, CHARLES.

13 Jul 1943.



(Reliably informed to have lived at Grove Farm, Haslingfield, where his father was employed by Chivers Farms.) CWGC Records list as Son of Richard and Ada Powell, of Bromyard, Herefordshire.

The "Cambridge Independent Press and Chronicle", issue dated 17 Apr 1942, includes Charles Powell as being amongst those listed as missing following the fall of Singapore. The item confirms his dwelling place on enlistment as Grove Farm, Haslingfield, adding that he was "employed at the Atlas Stone Co, Meldreth, before joining up",

The portrait of Pvt Lawrence (left) is reproduced from a rather poor quality original in that newspaper item.

Service No 5833094. Pvt. 4th Battalion, Suffolk Regiment.

Almost certainly amongst the 4th Suffolk troops embarked in the UK in Oct 1941 on the troopship SS "Andes", originally bound for the Middle East. Arrived at Halifax, Nova Scotia, 8 Nov 41 and re-embarked the following day on the American troopship "Wakefield". By 17 Nov, the ship was off Port of Spain, Trinidad, subsequently crossing the South Atlantic bound for Cape Town. Arriving in Cape Town 9 Dec 41, the "Wakefield" sailed on the 13 Dec for Bombay, arriving there 27 Dec 41. Early in the New Year, it was then decided to divert the Battalion to assist in the defence of Singapore.

The Battalion was involved in fierce fighting in the vicinity of Hill 95 in Singapore during the Japanese assault, before the surrender of all British and Allied forces on the 15 Feb 42.

Charles Powell was subsequently to die of cholera as a prisoner of war in Japanese hands, age 29 (other sources give his age as 27).

Buried Kanchanaburi War Cemetery, Thailand. Plot 10. Row F. Collective Grave 2-10 to Row 11. Grave 4.

Charles is the second Haslingfield casualty of WW II to be buried at Kanchanaburi War Cemetery, Thailand, the other being Henry Victor Rutterford.

Kanchanaburi War Cemetery is at the Thai end of the infamous Burma - Si am Railway and contains the graves of 6,981 Allied personnel who died during the construction of that railway.

A plaque at the entrance to the Cemetery reads: "In honoured remembrance of the fortitude and sacrifice of that valiant company who perished while building the railway from Thailand to Burma during their long captivity."

Charles Powell continued next page

Charles Powell (Cont.)

Charles is also commemorated by Lamp Fitting No 14 in Haslingfield Church.

The front side of his official Imperial Japanese Army POW record card is reproduced below:

500 J17/59 V8714

收容所 Camp	馬來 昭和 年 月 日	番 號 No.	馬 道 1 5.131
姓 名 Name	POWELL, CHARLES.	生 年 月 日 Date of Birth	1914. 2. 6.
國 籍 Nationality	英	所 屬 部 隊 Unit	No. 5833094. 4 SUFFOLK REGIMENT. ARMY.
階 級 身 分 Rank	PRIVATE.	捕 獲 年 月 日 Date of Capture	昭和 年 月 日
捕 獲 場 所 Place of Capture	SINGAPORE	母 ノ 名 Mother's Name	ADA.
父 ノ 名 Father's Name	RICHARD.	職 業 Occupation	ASBESTOS FINISHER
本 籍 地 Place of Origin	BROMYARD, HEREFORD.	特 記 事 項 Remarks	
通 報 先 Destination of Report	Mr. Richard Powell. Grove Farm, Haslingfield, Cambs. England.		

死亡打電済

ROOKE, PHILIP ANDERSON.

11 Mar 1943.



Age 21. b. 17 Oct 1921.
Son of Charles Anderson Rooke
(Farmer) and Constance Maria
Rooke (Hospital Sister),
then residing in a cottage at "The
Leys", Barton. Known to family
and friends as "Pip" Rooke.

Attended Haslingfield school 28
Feb 1933 - 5 Aug 1933 (Register
Entry No 336) and again 22 Jan
1935 - 20 Dec 1935, on both
occasions whilst staying with his
grandfather at "The Chestnuts",
Haslingfield (a timber-built house
on the site now occupied by Nos 1
& 3 New Road).

Service No C/JX 300153. Able Seaman Royal Navy. HMS "Harvester".

During the Battle of the Atlantic in Mar 1943, the destroyer HMS "Harvester" (Commander A.A. Tait, RN) was part of Escort Group B3, escorting convoy HX228 of some 60 merchantships homeward-bound in the Western Atlantic. On the night of 10/11 Mar, some thirteen German U-Boats attacked the convoy, during which lime U-444 (Oberleutnant Albert Langfeld) was depth-charged by "Harvester" and forced to surface. The destroyer then rammed the U-Boat and for some time both were locked together, with the destroyer's port propeller entangled in the submarine's hydroplanes. U-444 broke away, badly damaged, to be located and sunk by ramming about an hour later by the Free French corvette "Aconit" (Lieutenant de Vaisseau Levasseur). Meanwhile, "Harvester" made the best speed she could on her one remaining propeller shaft in order to rejoin the convoy. Unfortunately, the starboard engine then broke down and, whilst laying stopped shortly before noon on the 11th Mar, the destroyer was hit by two torpedoes fired by another submarine, the U-432 (Kapitanleutnant Hermann Eckhardt). HMS "Harvester" broke in two and sank, taking Commander Tait and most of the ship's company, including Able Seaman Philip Rooke, with her.

"Pip" Rooke and "Harvester" were avenged later in the same day, again by the FF corvette "Aconit", which brought U-432 to the surface by depth-charges before finally despatching the submarine by gunfire and ramming.

Together with 19,000 other Chatham-based personnel lost at sea, Philip Rooke is **commemorated on the RN Memorial, Chatham, Kent.** "Pip" is also commemorated by Lamp Fitting No 9 in Haslingfield Church.

RUTTERFORD, HENRY VICTOR.

27 May 1945.



CWGC records list as "age 25, the son of Ernest and Rosanna Rutterford, of Haslingfield".

The "Cambridge Independent Press and Chronicle", issue dated 10 Apr 1942. includes Henry Rutterford, "son of Mrs R. Goodrick of No. 2 High Street, Haslingfield". as being amongst those listed as missing following the fall of Singapore. The item adds that he was "employed by Messrs Chive re and Sous, ltd. at their farm "Cantelupe", Haslingfield"

The portrait of Pvt Rutterford (left) is reproduced from a poor quality original in that newspaper item.

Service No 5933505. Private. 2nd Battalion Cambridgeshire Regiment.

His Imperial Japanese Army POW record card (reproduced at the end of this entry) shows him as born 20 Jan 1921 in Downham Market. Norfk, son of Mr .1. Goodrick. On the same card, his mother is shown as Mrs R.A. Goodrick of No 2. High Street, Haslingfield. His occupation before enlistment is given as (a) "Milkman".

Captured by tin- Japanese 26 Jan 1942 and subsequently died "as a prisoner of war in Siam."

Buried Kanchanaburi War Cemetery. Thailand Grave 6. E.4.

Henry Rutterford is the second Haslingfield casualty of WW II to be buried at Kanchanaburi War Cemetery. Thailand, the other being Charles Powell. Henry is also commemorated by Lamp fitting No 14 in Haslingfield Church and by an inscription on the headstone of his sister Doris Edna Rutterford in Haslingfield Churchyard.

Kanchanaburi War Cemetery is at the Thai end of the infamous Burma - Siam Railway and contains the graves of 6.981 Allied personnel who died during the construction of that railway

A plaque at the entrance to the Cemetery reads "In honoured remembrance of the fortitude and sacrifice of that valiant company who perished while building the railway from Thailand to Burma during their long captivity."

John Cosford's book "Line of Lost Lives" is one which tells their story. The book's back cover jacket lists a representative selection of names of some of the men of the Cambridgeshire Regiment who lost their lives in this way, with Pte H V Rutterford's name clearly discernible.

Henry Rutterford continued next page

Henry Rutterford (Cont.)

The front side of his official Imperial Japanese Army POW record card is reproduced below:

泰 II 4794. 13963

收容所 Camp	馬一泰 17 年 28 日 昭和 17 年 28 日	番 號 No.	馬遺 17 389
姓 名 Name	RUTTERFORD; Henry. V. ルッターフォード ハンリー ヴェー	生 年 月 日 Date of Birth	20/1/ 1921
國 籍 Nationality	英	所 屬 部 隊 Unit	No. 5933505 THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE REGIMENT
階 級 身 分 Rank	PRIVATE 兵	捕 獲 年 月 日 Date of Capture	昭和 17 年 1 月 26 日
捕 獲 場 所 Place of Capture	馬來半島北干丹	母 ノ 名 Mother's Name	MRS R: A: GOODRICK
父 ノ 名 Father's Name	MR J: GOODRICK	職 業 Occupation	牛乳屋
本 籍 地 Place of Origin	DOVERHAM MARKET: ENGLAND	特 記 事 項 Remarks	
通 報 先 Destination of Report	(Mother) MRS R: A: GOODRICK 2, HIGH STREET HASLINGFIELD: CAMBS ENGLAND		

SEABROOK, CHARLES EDWARD

26 Sep 1941.



Age 54. Son of Amos and Emma Kezia Seabrook. or Haslingfield. (Believed to have lived in a cottage in Back lane, Haslingfield.)

Picture shows Charles Edward Seabrook around the time of joining his first ship in the Mercantile Marine 1.9 Dec 1919 the Union Castle Hail Steamship Co's "Dunvegan Castle"

Service No D/115652. Private. Corps of Military Police.

"Died at Bletchley in a road accident", according to conventional village recollection, and this seems to be borne out by an entry at the Public Records Office to the effect that his death was registered in the District of North Buckinghamshire in Sep 1941.

Buried Haslingfield Churchyard.

Entry by Headmaster in Haslingfield School Log Book for 1 Oct 41 reads "I obtained leave from Managers to attend funeral this afternoon, as representative of Local Home Guard, of Mr C. Seabrooks (sic), killed on service"

Account of funeral service in "Cambridge Independent Press and Chronicle" dated 10 Oct 1941 reveals that he served in the Royal Navy for 16 years, including the whole of World War 1. before joining the Merchant Navy for a further 10 years.

Subsequent researches show that he joined the Royal Navy 1902 as a boy and became an Ordinary Seaman 28 Apr 05. his 18th birthday. His naval records have his place of birth as "Welwyn. Herts" (see below) and his occupation on enlistment as "farm labourer" Serving throughout WW [on a variety of ships, he was transferred to the Royal Fleet Reserve 10 Mar 1919.

He joined his first ship in the Merchant Navy 19 Dec 1919. His place of birth, as recorded in his Merchant Navy Record, is "Newlyn. Cornwall" (sic). It would appear from his Royal Navy records that he was recalled to serve in the RN between 13 Apr 1921 and 7 Jun 1921.

An entry for Charles Edward Seabrook in the Roll of Honour for WW II casualties, held at the Public Records Office, shows that he was serving with the (Cambridgeshire Regt on 1 Sep 1939. The same entry gives "Cambridgeshire" as his place of birth!

Also commemorated by lamp Fitting No 14 in Haslingfield Church.

WISBEY, ALFRED CHARLES

02 Dec 1940.

b. 31 Dec 1901, son of John and Mary Wisbey, of 44 High Street, Haslingfield. Attended Haslingfield school 6 Jul 1906 onwards (Register Entry No 832). Husband of Violet Amy Wisbey, of Angle, Pembrokeshire.

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Chief Officer in the Merchant Navy. Official No 160376.

Seemingly the first Haslingfield man to lose his life on active service during World War II.

Died when the Furness Withy owned Motor Vessel "Pacific President" (7,113 tons) was torpedoed by the German submarine U-43, under the command of Kapitän zur See Wolfgang Luth, at position 56° 04' North, 18° 45' West (some 600m W of Ireland). The "Pacific President" had sailed "in ballast" from Leith and Oban on 29 Nov 40 for New York, attached to Convoy OB 251.

The "Pacific President" was the tenth of some 23 merchant vessels to be sunk by U-43 during the war. The U-43 was itself sunk on 30 Jul 43 at position 34° 57' North by 35° 11' West (380 miles south-west of the Azores), whilst under the command of Oberleutnant zur See Hans-Joachim Schwantke, by two US Navy aircraft from the aircraft carrier USS "Santee", providing air cover for convoy GUS 9.

Alfred Charles Wisbey is also commemorated on Panel 79 of the Tower Hill Memorial, Trinity Square, London, to the men of the Merchant Navy and Fishing Fleets who have no known grave, and by the Pulpit Light in Haslingfield Church.

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THE MEN WHO ARE COMMEMORATED

(c)IRAQ 2003

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Age 18. Born 26 Nov 1984 at the British Military Hospital, West Berlin, the son of Mr "Curly" and Mrs Ann Turrington. After West Berlin, the family moved firstly to Catterick Garrison in Yorkshire before moving in 1988 to Cambridge. Kelan and his family then in 1993 took up residence in Chestnut Close, Haslingfield.

Kelan attended Haslingfield Endowed School before moving on to Comberton Village College. A keen member of the Scout Movement, he subsequently joined the Army Cadets in order to further his ambition of becoming a soldier, like his father before him.

Service No 25141264. Fusilier. 1st Battalion, Royal Regiment of Fusiliers.

Kelan entered the Army in October 2001 serving, as had his father, in the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers. After Initial training at Lichfield, in Staffordshire, Kelan moved on to the Infantry Training Centre at Catterick, where he was adjudged the Best Recruit of his intake. After completion of his training, he was then posted to the 1st Battalion's Y Company at Celle, in Germany.

In February of 2003 the Regiment was assigned as part of the British involvement with Operation Telic, a Coalition operation to liberate Iraq from Saddam Hussein's regime. It was there that Kelan was to lose his life, one of the youngest British servicemen to die in that conflict.

The Fusiliers entered Iraq in the early hours of March 21st and were fully engaged right from the start of the campaign. On the 6th of April, their major task was to secure the bridges across the Shatt-al-Basrah waterway close to the City of Basra, then to move into the City itself. As the Fusiliers assaulted Iraqi positions close to Basrah Power Station, they encountered strong resistance. Kelan was fatally wounded in the grounds of the Iraqi Naval Academy during that action.

Kelan's conduct during the whole of this time was exemplary, earning him a Mention in Despatches. An (edited) version of the citation reads as follows:

"On 6 April 2003, First Fusiliers Battlegroup launched an attack on enemy positions in the area of northern Basra as part of the 7th Armoured Brigade assault to seize the City. Intelligence suggested that the enemy was well prepared and working in small groups of irregular forces designed to slow or check the advance of the Coalition Forces.

Fusilier Turrington was a Light Support Weapon gunner, part of the left assault group during an attack to clear the Objective known as ACADEMY. His Platoon came under fire from a trench position forward of the objective. His Section was ordered to attack. As the Section dismounted, it was fiercely hot, dusty and the visibility was poor. A Warrior armoured vehicle was drawing enemy fire and the situation was thoroughly confusing. Fusilier Turrington calmly operated his Light Support Weapon, under fire, onto suspected enemy locations.

The Section Commander launched an attack, taking Fusilier Turrington with him to assault the enemy trench whilst the remainder of the Section gave them fire support. As they made their way forward the pair received enemy small arms fire. Without concern for his own safety and with extreme courage, Fusilier Turrington closed with the enemy and assaulted the trench position. In the final stages of the attack, he received a fatal gunshot wound.

The courage Fusilier Turrington displayed in following his Section Commander's orders led him to making the ultimate sacrifice to ensure the safety of his comrades and guarantee the success of the mission. His fearless example and sacrifice inspired those around him and the remaining enemy positions were quickly cleared and the objective secured.

His action, in the face of considerable danger and with the odds stacked against him, was in the highest traditions of his Regiment and the British Army".

"My lowest point during the whole war was when we lost Kelan Turrington, who was killed as we assaulted an enemy position near the power station. From that moment on, we found it very difficult to concentrate on the job in hand but I did, we all did, he wouldn't have expected anything less because he was a professional soldier"

Fusilier Stewart, 9 Platoon, Y Company.

Kelan was buried with Full Military Honours in Haslingfield Churchyard on Monday 28th April 2003, after a Commemorative Service in the Church attended, by some 500 mourners.

Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force subsequently commissioned a special portrait painting of Kelan, to commemorate his time as a member of the Unit. It shows Kelan, in cadet uniform, putting on his Bergen (rucksack) against a background of the lake at the Waterbeach training area. It now hangs in the Library at the Cadet Training Centre, Frimley Park, Surrey - the national home of the cadet movement.

OTHERS BELIEVED OR KNOWN TO HAVE HAD LINKS WITH
THE VILLAGE AND WHO EITHER LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE
TWO WORLDS WARS OR ARE OFFICIALLY CLASSIFIED AS
ENTITLED TO WAR GRAVES TREATMENT

0000000000000000

BAKER, ALBERT EDWARD

Entry in the HMSO Publication
"Soldiers Died in the Great War" lists
this man as **"Service No 325390
(formerly 1846) Private 1st
Battalion Cambridgeshire
Regiment. Killed in F & F (France
and Flanders) 26 Sep 1917.
b. Haslingfield, Cambs."**

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Parish Register lists Albert Edward Baker, b. 03 Mar 1893, son of Mr William Henry and Mrs Rose Baker, of Haslingfield. Father's occupation: "Publican".

Haslingfield School Register (Entry No 648) lists an Albert Baker, son of William H Baker, b. Feb 1893 and attending the school 13 Apr 1896 (at the age of 3!) onwards. Register also lists (Entry No 721) an Albert Baker, son of Rose Baker, b. 3 Mar 1893 and attending school 17 Sep 1900 onwards.

According to the Army Medal Rolls, Albert Baker arrived in France on 14 Feb 1915 ie, when the 1/1st Cambridgeshire Regt originally went overseas with 27 Division. He must, therefore, have been one of the last of the original Battalion by the time of his death, unless he had been wounded or sick at any point previous.

From the date of his death, it is reasonable to assume that Albert Baker was killed in the assault by 1/1 Bn, Cambridgeshire Regt, on the German position at "Tower Hamlets" Ridge, to the SE of Ypres, which took place that day.

Albert Baker has no known grave and is thus commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial. Albert Baker is the second Haslingfield-born man to be commemorated on this Memorial, the other being Ernest Mills.

This Memorial forms the north-eastern boundary of Tyne Cot Cemetery, which is now the resting place of nearly 12,000 soldiers of the Commonwealth Forces. Nearly 8,400 of these burials are of "unknowns", or 70% of the total. The names of the unidentified soldiers buried there are inscribed on the Menin Gate (for those who died before 16 Aug 1917) and on the panels of the Tyne Cot Memorial at the rear of the cemetery for those who, like Albert Baker, died after that date.

GUY, JOSEPH

Son of John Henry and Agnes Guy (of Walton, Liverpool?). Married Eileen Harriet Leaford at All Saint's, Haslingfield, 1 May 43. Lived with mother-in-law at the 'The Orchard', a timber-built, single-storey dwelling now demolished and with the site occupied by the two bungalows Nos 50 & 50a on the Barton Road, Haslingfield. Said to have been employed as a tree feller.

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

**Able Seaman, Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve. Service
No D/MD/X2952. Died 14 Apr 1947, age 29.**

Died in (Old) Addenbrooke's Hospital, Trumpington Street, Cambridge, reportedly from "Bright's disease" - a kidney disease which in its terminal stages had caused him to go blind. **Buried in village churchyard.** Account of funeral service appears in "Cambridge Independent Press and Chronicle" dated 25 Apr 1947. Wife subsequently remarried and moved to America.

Having died ("no matter where and no matter what the cause") before 31 Dec 1947 and whilst still a member of the Commonwealth Armed Forces (ie the RNVR), is listed by the CWGC as amongst the Commonwealth War Dead 1939 - 1945.

HARDING, JAMES

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Service No 25855 Pte 10th Battalion Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding).

Killed in Action "France & Flanders" 16 Oct 1917. No known grave. Commemorated on the Memorial at Tyne Cot Cemetery.

Enlisted Stratford, London, giving Victoria Park as his place of residence. Age 34. Husband of Elizabeth Harding, of 35 Trego Road, Victoria Park, Hackney Wick, London.

Listed in "Soldiers Died in the Great War" as "**born 1883 Haslingfield**". No confirmation in Church records (perhaps Chapel?). No further links with village established.

LAW, FRANCIS ("FRANK") REGINALD

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Service No 934284 Sgt (Wireless Operator/Air Gunner), No 50 Squadron, Royal Air Force.

Son of William Leonard and the late Ada Martha Law. Husband of Dorothy Elsie Grace Law, of Rock, Worcestershire.

Killed 22 Feb 1942, when Handley-Page "Hampden" Mk I bomber serial No AE394, squadron coded VN-N and based at Skellingthorpe, Lincs, crashed at 0218hrs near the "Rowntree" Theatre, York, after running out of fuel on return from a bombing raid to Koblenz.

Buried Thurlby (St Germain) Churchyard, Lincs. Joint Grave Al.

Also commemorated on the stonework surrounding the grave of his mother (Ada Martha law, d. 13 Aug 1941) in Haslingfield Churchyard Known from Press Report to have been included amongst the mourners at her interment.

Frank Law would appear to have but tenuous links with the village. His mother Ada Martha Law (nee Butler) was one of the thirteen children of Charles and Sarah Butler, of New Road, Haslingfield. Born 6 Feb 1884, Ada Butler attended the village school 16 May 1887 onwards, marrying a Mr William law early in this Century and moving to Chadwell Heath in Essex.

One of three children subsequently born to Mr & Mrs Law, Frank Law thus became grandson to Charles and Sarah Butler.

LEADER, GEORGE

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Service No 28132. Pte. 1st Battalion Bedfordshire Regt.

Killed in action "France & Flanders" 23 Apr 1917. No known grave. Commemorated on the Memorial to the Missing in Arras.

Enlisted Bury St Edmunds. Suffk, giving Gamlingay, Cambs, as his place of residence. Age 25.

Son of Stephen and Martha Leader, of Waresley Road, Gamlingay.

Listed in "Soldiers Died in the Great War" as "**born 1892 Haslingfield**" No confirmation in Church records (perhaps Chapel?). No further links with village established.

Is commemorated by name on the War Memorial at Gamlingay.

MATTHEWS, DAVID

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE

Service No 16602 Pte 11th Battalion, Suffolk Regt.

Killed in action "France & Flanders" 1 Jul 1916. **Buried Gordon Dump Cemetery, near La Boisselle. Plot IX, Row Q, Grave 2.**

Listed in "Soldiers Died in the Great War" as "**born Haslingfield**". Parish Records list a David Matthews baptised All Saint's Church, Haslingfield 2 Aug 1891, b. 28 May 1891, at Orwell, Cambs, son of William and Ann Matthews, of Orwell.

No further link with Haslingfield established. Is not listed on the Roll of Honour of those men from Orwell who served/were killed in WW I, displayed within the Church at Orwell.

PRIME, FREDERICK JOHN



Enlisted Cambridge Corn Exchange.

**Service No 16325. Private. 11th
(Cambridgeshire) Battalion,
Suffolk Regt.**

'Missing 1 Jul 1916' (first day of the Battle of the Somme) - "from Haslingfield" according to "Cambridge Independent Press" 4 Aug 1916 (Photo) but born Harlton, Cambs, according to "Soldiers Died in The Great War"

Killed in action 1 Jul 1916, one of nearly 60,000 British casualties suffered on the first day of the Battle of the Somme. (Picture: Cambridge Independent Press:, 29 Sep 16.)

11th (Cambridgeshire) Battalion, Suffolk Regiment . was included amongst 101 Brigade, 34 Division troops tasked with the capture of the German positions at la Boisselle. The Battalion moved from Becourt Wood to its start position at 0500hrs. The attack went in at 0730hrs, with the line of advance thru' the centre of Bailiff Wood. Within the first ten minutes the Battalion, together with the 10th L.incolns (Grimsby Pals), had suffered very heavy casualties from German machine-guns, firing from the flanks.

34 Division lost more soldiers than any of the 14 Divisions taking part in the assault and succeeded in capturing only a small part of la Boisselle.

Frederick Prime is buried in Gordon Dump Cemetery, near La Boisselle. Plot VIII, Row R, Grave 3. Also commemorated on the Harlton Village War Memorial, inside Harlton Church.

TONGUE. ARTHUR E

06 Aug 1944



**2nd Lieutenant,
505 Fighter Squadron,
339 Fighter Group,
8th United States Army Air
Force.**

An American airman who died during the Second World War. Is included in this paper because his death occurred within the village boundaries, as a result of a flying accident whilst on active service 6 Aug 1944. **Is buried at the American Military Cemetery at Madingley (Block E, Row 4, Grave 73).**

By this time in the war, the US 8th Army Air Force had grown to become the largest airforce the World has ever seen. Within a very short distance of Haslingfield there was a USAAF bomber airfield at Bassingbourn (91st Bomb Group) and USAAF fighter airfields at Duxford (78th Fighter Group), Fowlmere (339th Fighter Group) and Steeple Morden (355th fighter Group).

On 6 Aug 44, the 8th USAAF despatched over 1.0(K) heavy bombers, escorted by well over 700 lighters, to attack oil refineries and other industrial and strategic targets in France and Germany.

2nd Lt Tongue was scheduled to fly on this mission from Fowlmere airfield, in a P51 "Mustang" escort fighter, serial No 44-13632. Normal operating procedure for the 339th Fighter Group was to take-off in pairs, but on this day his element leader's aircraft went out of commission due to engine trouble and 2nd Lt Tongue had to depart on his own. The weather on this day is recorded as a 10/10 strato cumulus layer at 700 feet, with the top of the overcast at about 2,500 ft. Visibility at ground level at Fowlmere was 2 miles.

Pilots had been instructed during the pre-mission briefing to fly straight ahead after take-off, then climb through the overcast to formate with the other Group aircraft in the clear air above. 2nd Lt Tongue took-off at 0835hrs and the last that was seen or heard of him was that he was climbing straight ahead.

At approx 1150hrs, HQ 339th Group at Fowlmere was informed by HQ 361st Fighter Group, (stationed at Bottisham to the East of Cambridge), that Tongue's aircraft had crashed and that his body had been taken to the Station Mortuary at Bottisham. The time of his fatal crash was put at approx 0850hrs.

Tongue had apparently lost control in the overcast and had spun into the ground before he could effect recovery. The "Mustang" had crashed through the hedges still bordering Cantelupe Road, Haslingfield, at a point roughly 100 yds beyond the footpath at Lesanna Farm, before exploding in the field to the right of the road. Wreckage was strewn a distance of some 400yds. The pilot had not baled out, but was thrown clear of the wreckage and killed on impact with the ground.

The late Mr Ted Pitt attended the crash scene as a Special Constable. Interviewed in 1985, Ted recalled:

"During the Second World War, I lived at Church Cottage in School lane, Haslingfield, and I served as a Special Constable. On the morning of Sunday, 6th August 1944 I was at home in School Lane when I received a report that an aircraft had crashed in Cantelupe Road. I remember that it was a very misty morning. When I arrived at the scene, I found that an American fighter-plane had crashed just inside the field. There were a lot of villagers already there and it was a wonder that none were injured as the ammunition was going off and bullets were flying everywhere. There was nothing that could be done for the unfortunate pilot and my job was to clear the members of the public away and maintain guard over the wreckage. The Americans turned up shortly afterwards and took away the body of the pilot. I was told that his name was Arthur Tongue."

Tongue is reported to have shot down one Messerschmitt Bf 109 and shared in two other "kills" during an escort mission only two days previous to his fatal crash.

In January of 1999, a group of "aviation archaeologists" investigated the crash site. Apart from exploded ammunition and many pieces of aluminium, the more interesting finds included the clip from the pilot's oxygen mask (still lying on the surface of the field some 54 years after the crash!) and a complete propeller blade, found buried at a depth of some 30 inches.



January 1999. A Haslingfield meadow yields its wartime secret

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**This Edition Dedicated to the Memory of
Nina Mary Kate Beynon,
"a loving Wife, Mother and Grandmother",
who died On Saturday 6th September 2008.**

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INFORMATION SOURCES:

The late Mr Ron Baker, of Haslingfield.

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“The Cambridgeshires 1914-1919”. Riddell & Clayton

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Mr Jack Flack, of Harston.

Haslingfield Parish Records, courtesy of Mr Harold Hopkins.

Haslingfield School Records, courtesy of the then(Acting) Head Teacher..

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