



Stretton-on-Dunsmore and Princethorpe Roll of Honour 1914-1918

Introduction

The original Roll of Honour for Stretton-on-Dunsmore and Princethorpe was displayed in Stretton Church during most of World War I (with a carefully-tended vase of flowers) read out and updated regularly. Sadly, it has disappeared, which is why we have recreated framed lists in the Church. (A WWI Roll of Honour does survive for Princethorpe.) The Notes below contain details we have discovered about the men who served during WWI from Stretton and Princethorpe. We have consulted various local and national sources (see list at end) and hope it now includes almost all those connected with Stretton-on-Dunsmore and Princethorpe who served in the forces during the first World War. We sincerely apologise for any omissions or errors and if you have any further information, or corrections, please contact Stretton History Society either via their website or the secretary, 12 Squires Road, Stretton-on-Dunsmore, Rugby, CV23 9HF. We will endeavour to update these Notes annually as necessary. A copy of these details lives in the Church alongside the Roll of Honour and on our website: www.stretton-on-dunsmore-history.org.uk.

The significance of the floral decorations on the Roll of Honour in the Church

The **Poppy** is a symbol of eternal sleep and has come to represent all those who died during the Great War following the publication of the poem 'In Flanders Field'. **Wild Pansy** symbolises thoughts and **Forget-me-not** remembrance. **Rest Harrow** represents the fields left fallow because the farm-hands had gone to war and **Ivy** is for memories kept evergreen. **Bramble** and **Mallow** are reminders of a country childhood and **Speedwell** is for all those who have long journeys to return home.

Men who lost their lives as a result of the war are marked thus

'We shall not forget the brave lads who have made the supreme sacrifice, and who will not come back to Stretton.' (Rev. Stanley Collier, November 1918, *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* WCRO DR485/230.)

Contributors

Roger Clemons, Gillian Forsythe, Malcolm Gould, Anne Langley, Larry Wooding and Paul Waddoups (of the Stretton-on-Dunsmore History Society committee). We also wish to acknowledge the valuable work done some years ago by historians Chris Holland and Chris Tompsett, which focussed on the men who lost their lives and are commemorated on the war memorial inside All Saints Church in Stretton.

Alphabetical record of those who served

Anderton, George Henry

George was born in 1899 in Kingsbury near Tamworth to collier Joseph and Catherine Anderton. (His brother Thomas also served.) By 1911 he was living with his family in Stretton-on-Dunsmore and attending the local school; his father was working at Binley Pit as an onsetter. During the war, George served in 2/7th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment as Private 266202. By 1939 he was married and living in Birmingham, working as a carpenter's labourer. George died in Birmingham in December 1991.

Anderton, Thomas Reginald

Thomas was born in 1896 in Kingsbury near Tamworth to collier Joseph and Catherine Anderton (older brother to George who also served). By 1911 he was living with his family in Stretton-on-Dunsmore and working as an assistant gardener. Thomas joined the 4th (Special Reserve Battalion) of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment in August 1912. At the time he was working as a miner and living at 263 Church Road in Stockingford. He had been employed by Merry & Cunninghame Ltd at Binley Colliery. He left during the miners' strike and worked for Harris Cycle Company in Coventry (living at 8 Wyken Terrace, Wyken in Coventry. Thomas was called to the Colours and sailed for France on 2nd June 1915. While serving in France he volunteered to transfer to 178th (Tunnel Coy) Royal Engineers as Sapper 137574 in August 1915 and qualified as a Tunneller in September 1916. Whilst serving with them Thomas was wounded in January 1917. He returned to duty but was severely wounded in the head by a gun shot on 12th March 1917. He was treated at 11 Stationary Hospital Rouen and 2nd Stationary Hospital Abbeville then transferred to England in January 1918. He returned to 178th Company* in February 1918, was wounded again and spent a week in a French hospital in summer 1918. He was shipped from France in January 1919 and demobbed in February. By 1939 Thomas was married and living at 103 Tile Hill Road in Coventry, working as a civil servant at the Ministry of Labour. Thomas died in March 1965 at Marston Green in Birmingham. (* 178th Company consisted of pit men and miners from the Midlands. Nicknamed the 'Moles', they were involved in offensive and defensive mining, removing underground booby traps, laying explosives under enemy lines and digging saps and dug-outs. It was exceptionally dangerous work, as witnessed by his medical records.)

Atkins, John Sheasby #



John (known as Jack) was born in Stretton-on-Dunsmore in 1894 to William (a farm carter) and Martha Atkins; he was baptised on 7th October and had siblings Mary-Ann, William and Fanny. He attended Stretton Elementary School. In 1911 he lived in Stretton and worked as a cycle viewer (probably at Bluemels in Wolston). He was a member of the village football and cricket clubs. John enlisted in Rugby on 2nd September 1914 for three years with the 4th Battalion Rifle Brigade (Reg. no. Z/905) and was working as a capstan operator at the time. After training at Magdalen Hill Camp, Winchester, he shipped to France in January 1915. Jack was admitted to 8 General Hospital suffering from gastroenteritis on 17th February 1915. He later transferred to 11th General Hospital, Base Depot, Rouen, and was discharged for duty on 11th March. His Battalion was involved in an early morning, unsuccessful counter-attack around 'The Mound' at St Eloi in Belgium and sadly Jack died of wounds received in action on 15th March 1915, age 20. Jack has no known grave but is commemorated on the Menin Gate, Ypres (Panels 46-48 and 50), on the war memorial inside Stretton parish Church and on a

family headstone in the churchyard (shown here). It commemorates his parents (William and Martha) and reads: 'Also of my dear brother Jack killed in action in France on March 16th 1915 aged 20 years'. His loss was mentioned in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (April & June 1915).

Ayres, T.W.

Possibly William John Ayres, born in 1885 in Rugby who married Ethel Borton of Dunchurch in 1902 and may have been in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Reg. no. 55827) serving in France. William died in 1952 in Coventry. 'Mr Ayres' is commemorated on the Roll of Honour for Princethorpe. W. Ayres lived in Offchurch (possibly the son of T.W. Ayres): which would be in the Catholic parish of Princethorpe.

Badger, Frank #

Frank was born in Princethorpe in January 1889 to labourer Josiah and Agnes Badger, younger brother to William (who also served). In 1911 he was living at 79 Victoria Street, New Bilton (near Rugby) with his mother and siblings; he was 22 – a skilled labourer at the British Thomson Houston (BTH) engineering works in Rugby. Frank was living with his recently-widowed mother in Rugby when he enlisted on 31st August 1914, joining the Royal Engineers as a Pioneer (Reg. no. 42611) at M Depot Company. He was fast-tracked into the Army because skilled engineers were needed by the British Expeditionary Force as it assembled for France. Sadly, he took his own life a few days later on 2 Sept 1914, age 25, probably suffering from grief at the loss of his father. He received a military funeral and is buried at Fort Pitt Military Cemetery in Rochester, Kent. You can find out more about him in the booklet *Men of Princethorpe who died in the Great War* by Paul Waddoups.

Badger, William Josiah #



William was born around 1883 in Wootton Wawen and later moved to Princethorpe with his parents, labourer Josiah and Agnes Badger, and brother Frank (who also enlisted). In 1891 he was at school, living with his family in Princethorpe. In 1901 he was living with his family at 77 Victoria Street in Bilton (near Rugby) and working as a bricklayers' labourer. William joined the navy in 1903 at Portsmouth as Stoker (2nd Class) 302919. He rose rapidly through the ranks: by 1909 he was Leading Stoker in the Cruiser HMS 'Drake'; and by 1911 he was a Stoker Petty Officer serving on HMS 'Minotaur', an armoured Cruiser and flagship of the China Station. At the outbreak of war, he was Acting Mechanician, then Chief Petty Officer Mechanician on HMS 'Invincible'. (Mechanicians were specialist engineers. Most, like William, started their life as humble stokers.) 'Invincible' was a battle cruiser - the flagship to the 3rd Battle Cruiser Squadron. Sadly, William died, age 33, at the Battle of Jutland in 1916 when 'Invincible' sank after an explosion in her magazine, triggered by an enemy shell penetrating the armour in her gun turret. All but six men of over a thousand crew perished. William is mentioned in the booklet *Men of Princethorpe who died in the Great War* by Paul Waddoups.

Barratt, Rupert Conway #

Rupert was born in 1899 in Princethorpe to farm bailiff Stephen Bethuel and Alice Barratt. He was baptised in All Saints Church Stretton-on-Dunsmore on 1 January 1899. Rupert was living in Cawston when he enlisted in 1917. He served in the 2/6th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Private 35077) but sadly died on 12 July 1918, age 19, from trench nephritis (the result of appalling living conditions in the trenches). Rupert is buried at Tournai Communal Cemetery Allied Extension, Hainault, Belgium. His father Stephen died in 1918 in the 'flu epidemic. You can find out more about Rupert in the booklet *Men of Princethorpe who died in the Great War* by Paul Waddoups.

Bayliss, William Knight

William was born in 1899 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to agricultural labourer William and Annie Bayliss. The family subsequently moved to Ryton and then Princethorpe by 1911. (The Stretton Elementary School Logbook mentions the family leaving the village in 1904 and returning in 1905.) William enlisted in early 1918, was posted from a Young Soldier Reserve Battalion to the Royal Warwickshire Regiment on 9th July (No. 59162) and transferred to the Army Ordnance Corps in late September (no. 045417). He was discharged from the army in March 1920 suffering from malaria and valvular disease of the heart. By 1939 he was living with his wife in Plott Lane and working as a Rugby District Council roadman. William died at Atherstone in January 1966 and is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Billington, Alexander George # (George Alexander or Alexandra (sic) in military records)

Alexander was born in 1883 at 4 Clarendon Cottages, Trinity Street in Leamington to waggoner George and Eleanor Billington. In 1901 Alexander was a domestic groom living with his widowed mother at Bassett Road, New Milverton in Leamington Spa. By 1911, still working as a groom, he was married to Lily (nee Neale) and had a baby daughter Violet; the family were living in Princethorpe. Shortly afterwards he took a post as groom and motor driver at Wappenbury Hall. Alexander enlisted at Leamington in May 1916, joining the Army Service Corps. He was mobilised for service on 9th October and sent for training at Grove Park No. 1 Reserve Depot in London; he was transferred to the Learner Section and qualified as a Driver in January 1917. Driver Billington DM2/231316 ASC went to France in April 1917, sailing from Southampton to Le Havre on board the troopship SS 'Viper'. He served in a variety of ASC units, first attached to 276 Siege Battery Royal Garrison Artillery, 272, 654 and 406 Motor Transport Companies and finally 886 MTC. Alexander was posted 'wounded and missing' on 24th March 1918 and his family informed. His death 'killed in action' was only officially confirmed 8 months later in December 1918. He had been on home leave just over a month before he died. He was killed on the old Somme battlefield during the massive German offensive 'Michael', by which they hoped to push the Allies back to the coast. Sadly, his body was not recovered; he is commemorated on the memorial wall at Pozieres Military Cemetery in France. By 1921 his widow Lily was living at Wappenbury with her mother and their three children: Violet, Richard and 3-year-old Victor.

Blencowe, Richard

Richard was born in Stretton-on-Dunsmore on 8 June 1899 to labourer George and Sarah Blencowe. He was christened in the Primitive Methodist chapel in Stretton on 1 August 1899. In 1911 he was at school. Richard enlisted with the 10th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Private no. 26230) and served for two years. He is mentioned as wounded in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (June 1918). By 1939 Richard was married, living at 114 Wood Street in Rugby and working as a railway length man (responsible for a particular stretch of the line). He died in Rugby in 1959.

Bloxham, William



William was born in 1889 in Radford Semele to John and Hannah Bloxham; the family was living in Ryton-on-Dunsmore in 1911 (we have not yet managed to discover the connection with Stretton-on-Dunsmore). He served in the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, latterly as a Sergeant. The photo with the bandolier suggests he was part of the Battalion Transport section, transporting supplies, kit, water etc in a fleet of horse-drawn waggons. William was wounded and discharged from the Army in 1916. By 1939 he was married and living in Radford Semele, working as a farm carter. William died in March 1939 in Birmingham. The photograph (from the Blundell/Truslove collection) has 'For Dear old Lil' written on the back. A small photo of him no. 7 also appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915.

Boneham, George



George was born in Stretton-on-Dunsmore in 1890 to roadman James and Jane Boneham (his brother James also served) and worked as a grocer's assistant in Stretton. He attended Stretton Elementary School. In 1911 he was living with his family in Plott Lane, Stretton. George enlisted with the 2nd Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Reg. no. 1699) before the war started; he was listed as wounded in July 1915 and admitted to hospital in Glasgow. He was recorded as having been wounded in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (June 1915). George survived the war and died on 18th May 1952 in Warwick Hospital. This photo of him comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection.

Boneham, James



James was born in Stretton-on-Dunsmore in 1884 to roadman James and Jane Boneham (his brother George also served). In 1911 he was living with his parents in Stretton and working as a factory hand in Bluemels celluloid factory in Wolston. James enlisted for three years on 2nd September 1914 with the 1st Battalion Rifle Brigade as Rifleman Z/904. (He probably trained and served alongside John Atkins.) After training at Magdalen Hill Camp, Winchester he embarked for France with the British

Expeditionary Force on 5th January 1915. He later transferred to the 5th Battalion and was discharged from the Army on grounds of sickness on 21st November 1918. James probably lived in Plott Lane after the war, and he died in 1939 in Warwick Hospital. This small photo of him comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection; it is a copy of photo no. 28 that appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915, where it stated that he was in the Royal Berkshires.

Borsley, Harold David

Harold was born in 1900 to Thomas (a well-established tradesman in Stretton-on-Dunsmore) and Emily Borsley. In 1911 he was living at home with his parents. Harold enlisted on 1st January 1918 at Leamington Spa; at the time he was working as a bank runner. He volunteered for the Royal Flying Corps, which became the Royal Air Force in April of that year. He was posted to train as a learner pilot, but classed as 'unfit for Pilot Officer training but fit for General Service' on 8th February; shortly afterwards he was reclassified at Air Mechanic 3rd Class. Harold was compulsorily transferred to be Private 117069 in the 16th Battalion, Middlesex Regiment on 28th February 1918 and moved again to 7th (Reserve) Battalion of the London Regiment. In April he was transferred to the Grenadier Guards as Guardsman 31021 and served with them until he was demobbed in March 1920. Harold was too young for overseas service, which may account for the number of transfers he experienced after enlisting. By 1939 he was a grocer living at Church Hill in Stretton and a Deputy Senior Warden in the ARP. Harold died in Stretton in January 1967.

Brightwell, Horace John

Horace was born in New Bilton in 1898 to carter John and Lizzie Brightwell. In 1901 and 1911 he was living with his parents in Victoria Street in Bilton. Horace enlisted in 1915 as Private 48941 in the 1st Garrison Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment that formed in Weymouth. He shipped to Egypt in December 1915 and then joined 1/8th Hampshires soon after they were evacuated from Gallipoli. He served with them in Egypt and Palestine as part of the Egyptian Expeditionary Force. By 1939 Horace was living in The Council Houses, Rugby and he died in 1946; he is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Brooks, Charles junior



Charles outside his cottage in Stretton

Charles was born in Stretton-on-Dunsmore in 1895 to farm labourer Charles and Jane Brookes (brother to Samuel Brooks who also served). He attended Stretton Elementary School. Charles junior was listed in the *Rugby Advertiser* as having joined the Worcestershire Regiment in 1914, but he served as a Private in the Warwickshire Yeomanry (no. 2344) in Egypt. He (and Alfred Falconbridge) had a narrow escape on the way back to Marseilles: the HMT 'Leasowe Castle' was torpedoed on 27th May 1918 north-west of Alexandria by U-Boat 51 and Charles spent a considerable time in the water (*Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine*, August and September 1918). Most of the crew were rescued by other ships, returned to Alexandria and re-kitted; all survivors were each given an Egyptian £1 (subsequently rather meanly deducted from their wages). Charles embarked for France again on June 14th, arriving at Taranto, Italy on 21st June 1918 and travelling by train to Etaples. In August his unit became 100 Battalion, Machine Gun Corps (No. 16444). He survived the war and by 1939 he and his brother were living at Longfield on the London Road (the man in the photo with the cottage is either him or his father). A small photo of him no. 36 appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915.

Brookes, Edward Gerald

Edward was born in Princethorpe in 1892 to farm bailiff Edward and Sarah Brookes (brother to Joseph who also served). In 1911 he was staying with Edward and Sarah Allen in Burbage, Leicestershire, working as a mole catcher. He married Edward's sister Gertrude in Burbage in 1913. Edward Brookes enlisted at Warwick in June 1916, when he was living at 17 Cooperative Street, Aldermans Green in Coventry and working as an artificial silk weaver. He joined the 6th (Reserve Battalion) Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Private Brookes 5693 was sent to train at Windmill Hill Camp on Salisbury Plain, but discharged from the Army on 26th August as being 'medically unfit for active service due to...lameness caused by damage to right knee joint'. By 1939 Edward was still living at Cooperative Street and working as a silk weaver; he died on 12th July 1952 in Coventry.

Brookes, Joseph Reginald #

Joseph was born in Princethorpe in 1899 to farm bailiff Edward and Sarah Brookes (his brother Edward also enlisted). By 1911 the family had moved to the Dairy Farm at Maxstoke. When he enlisted in 1917, Joseph was living with his parents in Coleshill. He joined the 59th Company Machine Gun Corps (Private 131835); sadly he was killed in action on 15 April 1918 in Flanders, aged 19. Joseph has no known grave and is commemorated on the Ploegsteert Memorial. You can find out more about him in the booklet *Men of Princethorpe who died in the Great War* by Paul Waddoups.

Brookes, Samuel Rathbone

Samuel was born in 1898 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to farm labourer Charles and Jane Brookes (brother to Charles who also served). In 1911 he was living with his family in Stretton and attending the local school. Samuel enlisted before the war started as Private 28148 in the Somerset Light Infantry and was sent to France with the BEF on 22 August 1914. Samuel was listed as wounded in April 1915. He is mentioned in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (March 1917). By 1939 he was living at 'Longfield' on London Road in Stretton working as a head store keeper in a local factory. He married Ethel Simpson in Rugby in 1942. Samuel died in Nuneaton in 1975, and his address at that time was 108 Oliver Street in Coventry.

Bryson, James

James was born in 1893 in Wolston to farmer John and Eliza Bryson. In 1911 he living with his family at Manor Farm, Wolston Grange, working on his father's farm. James enlisted in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Reg. no. 100262) in December 1915 under the Derby scheme; he was placed in the Army Reserve because of his occupation. He was called to the colours in January 1917; his brother Robert appealed against him being called up but the appeal failed and he reported for duty on 10th February 1917. He was posted as a private to 3rd Labour Company, Devonshires (no. 100262) and sent to France on 27 February 1917. James was severely wounded on 10th September by shrapnel in the shoulder and leg. After treatment at 2nd General Hospital, Etaples, he was invalided to England in September 1917 to the Auxiliary hospital in Southall. Once recovered he was transferred to the Devon Regiment 3rd Labour Corps (Reg. no. 45456) and promoted to Lance Corporal. Later he was transferred to 446, Agricultural Company, Royal Warwickshire Regiment based in Warwick. He is mentioned as severely wounded in the *Stretton-on-Dunsmore & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (September/October 1917). He was discharged from the Army in August 1919. By 1939 he was married and living at Hillmorton Grounds, near Rugby, working as a horse-man on a farm. James died in January 1964 at Cubbington.

Burden, Garnet John Edward

Garnet was born in 1883 in Priors Hardwick to Jane and William John senior, butcher and landlord of the 'Butcher's Arms', (his brother William also served). Garnet seems to have been known as Edward and he is 'Edward' in the military records. In 1911 he was living with his brother William at Lime Kiln farm, Stretton-on-Dunsmore, working as a farm labourer for his brother-in-law John Nicholas (father of Steward Norris Nicholas who also served). Garnet enlisted in Rugby on 8th September 1914 with the Kings Royal Rifle Corps as Rifleman 3209 and began training at Winchester in the 9th (Service Battalion). On 9th September he was declared unfit for military service on medical grounds, being diagnosed with chronic, recurrent serous synovitis (inflammation of the knee joints) and discharged. He emigrated to Australia in 1917 where he became a farmer. He served in the Australian home defence force in World War II. Edward died in 1958 and is buried at Mirboo, South Gippslandshire, North Victoria in Australia.

Burden, William John



William was born in 1880 in Priors Hardwick to Jane and William John senior (butcher and landlord of the 'Butcher's Arms'). In 1901 he was living with his brother Garnet (who also served) at Lime Kiln farm, Stretton-on-Dunsmore, working as a farm labourer for his brother-in-law John Nicholas (father of Steward Norris Nicholas who also served in WWI). By 1911 William junior was married, living at The Green, Long Lawford with his wife Olive and baby daughter Doris, still working as a farm labourer. In 1914 he was living in Stretton-on-Dunsmore and enlisted in Rugby with the 16th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment as Private 24832. He served in France, later transferring to the 2nd Battalion. In early 1918 he sailed with his Regiment to Egypt (sending a postcard of Nice home that survives) and was transferred to the Royal Munster Fusiliers (no. 40016) as part of the 1st Garrison Battalion. He was a military policeman whose duties included safeguarding lines of communication and policing the ports. He was demobbed in 1919. By 1939 he was living at 5, New Council Houses in Stretton and working as a farm labourer (recorded as 'John' Burden). William died in November 1962 recorded at Rugby. This family photo comes courtesy of Pam Tarbun.

Burgess, Peter Hewitt

Peter was born in 1885 at Mobberley in Cheshire, to farmer Elijah and Mary Anne Burgess. In 1911 he was living at Burnthurst Farm in Princethorpe and working on his father's farm. In 1914 Peter enlisted with the Royal Warwickshire Regiment and was transferred to the Reserve. The *Rugby Advertiser* recorded him as joining the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (September 1914). In 1915 he was grouped for later service under the Lord Derby Scheme. Peter died in March 1924 in Foleshill, Coventry with his home address given as Gun Range Farm, Barnacle, Bulkington. Peter is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour. Research has not yet found any record of him having been on active service with the Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

Burton, Ernest



Ernest was born in 1901 in Leicester to railway porter Frederick and Emily Burton (who both came from Stretton-on-Dunsmore). Sadly by 1911 his father Frederick had died; his mother Emily was

working as a servant in Leicester, whilst Ernest was living in Stretton with his grandmother Sarah Haydon and elder brother George, both of them still at school. Ernest joined the Grenadier Guards (Reg. no. 35938) in Coventry on 21st August 1919 (just after WWI). His mother Emily lived in the Plott in Stretton-on-Dunsmore. Ernest served abroad and sadly died of TB in the South African Military Hospital on 12 June 1920, age 19. He is commemorated in the churchyard at Stretton-on-Dunsmore (shown here).

Burton, George #

George was born in 1899 in Leicester, to railway porter Frederick and Emily Burton (who both came from Stretton-on-Dunsmore). In 1901 he was living with his aunt and uncle, George and Sarah West in Stretton-on-Dunsmore (presumably whilst his brother was born). By 1911 his father Frederick had died; his mother Emily was working as a servant in Leicester, whilst George was living in Stretton with his grandmother Sarah Haydon and younger brother Ernest, both of them still at school. George enlisted with the Leicestershire Regiment (No. 48797) and later joined the Cambridgeshire Regiment (No. 42973). Sadly, George was killed in action in Flanders on 18 September 1918, age about 19, and is buried in Epehy Wood Farm Cemetery, Somme, France. He is mentioned in the *Stretton-on-Dunsmore & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (March 1917).

Burton Leonard Alfred William



Leonard (known as William) was born in Thurlaston on 22 July 1901 to gardener Alfred Burton and Louisa (née Griffin). His grandfather lived in the School House in 1881, so may have been the local schoolmaster; in 1911 William was still at school in Thurlaston. He enlisted towards the end of WWI and served in the Army Ordnance Corps (Reg. no. 052569) from 1918-19; his brothers Percival and George were both too young to serve. Leonard died in July 1971 recorded at Aldershot. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection and has 'Brookside 27707' written on the back.

Byerley, Harry



Harry was born in 1896 in Exhall, Coventry to farm labourer George and Ellen Byerley; he had 11 siblings (including a brother Thomas who was fined for chicken stealing in 1916). In 1899 he was living at home in Stretton-on-Dunsmore and in 1901 in Frankton Lane, Stretton-on-Dunsmore, next to Asylum Farm (later renamed Hill Farm). In 1911 he was still living at home and working as a farm labourer. Harry enlisted in October 1916 and served in the Berkshire Regiment (No. 36925). By 1939 he was living on the London Road in Stretton and working as a roadman. Harry died in 1973. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection.

Clarke, George Earnest

George was born in Wolston in 1883 to railway labourer Robert and Esther Clarke. In 1901 the family were living in Priory Row in Wolston where George was working as a farm labourer, and in 1911 as a cycle pump stretcher at Bluemels factory in Wolston. Private GE Clarke (M/40304) served with the Mechanical Transport section of the Army Service Corps in France. By 1939 he was living at 10 School Street, Wolston, working as a capstan lathe hand. George died in Birmingham in June 1951 and a George Clarke (who may well be him) is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour. (Two of George's brothers were killed in WWI: Joseph James Clarke joined the Coldstream Guards - Guardsman 19561. He was killed in action on 22nd August 1918 and is commemorated on the memorial at Vis en Artois cemetery, Pas de Calais. William Robert Clarke enlisted with the Royal Warwickshire Regiment - Private 19634 - and served with the OBLI; he was killed in action in France on 21 March 1918, has no known grave and is commemorated on the memorial wall at Pozieres Military Cemetery.)

Clarke, Harry John

Harry was born in 1883 to farm labourer John and Mary-Jane Clarke in Wolston. In 1901 he was living at 29 Sherard Road in Leicester with his sister and her family, working as a railway cab man and groom for the London & North Western Railway. In 1911 he was a railway guard living in Fenny Stratford. By 1914 he was living in Princethorpe. Harry joined the Royal Warwickshire Regiment in July 1918 and served as Private 203778, first with the 2/8th Battalion and then the 1st Battalion. By 1939 he was married and living at 219 Edward Street in Nuneaton where he worked as a colliery hewer at Nuneaton pit. The *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* mentioned him enlisting (July 1918). Harry died in April 1973 in Nuneaton; he is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Dipper, Arthur William #

Arthur was born on Nov. 24 1883 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to agricultural labourer Frank and Matilda Dipper who lived on the London Road (his brother George also served). He was baptised on 6 Jan. 1884. He reached Standard V and left Stretton elementary school in March 1895. In 1901 Arthur was a grocer's assistant, but described himself as a farm labourer when he enlisted as a Private on 6 May 1904 with the 2nd Battalion of the Coldstream Guards (Reg. no. 5550). In 1911 after seven years' service he passed into the reserve and was recorded in the census as a police constable in Coventry. He worked for constabularies in Coventry and Birmingham and then as a bank messenger with the United Counties Bank. He married Annie Wall in July 1911 and had a son called George in 1913. He re-joined the Guards in August 1914 and served at Mons and on the Aisne and Marne. On 2 November 1914 he had a lucky escape when a bullet went through his coat, hit a tin and exited the other side of his coat. He was wounded in the foot on 2 December and then sadly killed in action by two shells on 28 Feb. 1915, aged 31, at Cuinchy in France and has no known grave. His brother, George, was near him but escaped unhurt. Arthur is listed on the Le Touret Memorial in France (Panels 2 and 3) and the war memorial inside the church at Stretton. His loss was mentioned in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (April 1915). A small photo of him no. 5 appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915. By 1921 his widow Annie was working as a housemaid living with the Darnforth family in Bilton (near Rugby) whilst seven-year-old George was living with his aunt and uncle Alfred Turrall and attending school in Stretton-on-Dunsmore.

Dipper, George Henry

George was born in 1892 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to farm labourer Frank Dipper and Matilda (née Turrall), brother to Arthur, Robert and John who also served. He attended Stretton Elementary School. They lived on the London Road. He was already serving in the Coldstream Guards (Reg. no. 8935) when war was declared: in 1911 he was based at the Guards Depot at Caterham. He was posted to France with his brother in August 1914 and served alongside him. He was listed as wounded in 1914 and is mentioned in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (June 1915). He served throughout the war in France, being promoted to Sergeant. He married Margaret Ellen Godden in October 1918 at St. James in London. On leaving the Army he joined the Metropolitan Police. By 1939 he was still serving as a Police Office and living at 16b Cato Road in Wandsworth. George died in 1962 in Battersea, London. A small photo of him no. 14 appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915.

Dipper, John Edward



John was born in 1895 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to farm labourer Frank Dipper and Matilda (née Turrall) brother to Arthur, Robert and George who also served. They lived on the London Road. He worked as a stable boy/groom at Harry Harvey's farm on Knightlow Hill. John attested on 28 October 1914 and joined the 1st Life Guards as Trooper 3402 in London in November. He had scars from an operation for hammer toes. He sailed to France in August 1915 and served there throughout the war. He briefly transferred to the Guards Machine Gun Regiment in May 1918 but returned to the 1st LG in March 1919. John married Mary Vernon in Rugby in December 1919 and was demobilised in March 1920. He lived briefly in Coventry before moving to London to join the Metropolitan Police in 1921. By 1939 he was still a serving police officer, living in Lambeth with his wife. John died in November 1972 in London. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection. A smaller photo no. 46 appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915.

Dipper, Robert Frank

Robert was born in September 1885 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to farm labourer Frank Dipper and Matilda (née Turrall) brother to Arthur, George and John who also served. They lived on the London Road. He appears to have been known as Frank. He attended the Stretton Elementary School reaching Standard V and leaving in 1898. In 1908 he married Fanny Alice Bourne at All Saints Church in Stretton. By 1911 he was living at 9 Chapel Yard, Spon End, Coventry working as a general labourer. Frank volunteered for the Royal Horse Artillery. He transferred to be Driver T/2/10743 (Horse Transport) Army Service Corps in Kitchener's New Army. He went to France in September 1915 and served there throughout the war. He was operated on for hammer toes during the war. Frank was demobbed in June 1919 and died in July 1933 in Coventry. A small photo of him no. 12 appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915.

Dunbar, Archie

Archie was born in Southsea, Hampshire, in 1887 to Ellen and George, a physical training and drill instructor. Other children in the family were born in Royal Naval dockyard towns. The 1901 census records 14-year-old Archie living in Dunchurch with his mother and father George (a gymnastic instructor at a local preparatory school); Archie was working as an engine fitter. He joined the Royal Navy in March 1908 as an Engine Room Artificer Class II (a highly trained engineer responsible for maintaining the ship's engines): service no. M 246. He trained at HMS 'Pembroke' and was posted to the battleship HMS 'Agamemnon'. In December 1910 he married Phyllis who was a teacher at Stretton-on-Dunsmore village school. By 1911, 25-year-old Archie and his wife were living at 69 Richmond Street in Sheerness, Kent. At the outbreak of war Archie was serving on HMS 'Thames', a submarine depot ship repairing and servicing the submarine squadrons based around Devonport, Portsmouth and Sheerness. By 1917 he was Engine Room Artificer on Submarine G13; this sub sank German U-boat UC 43 at Muckle Flugga (north of the Shetland Islands) on 10 March, for which Archie was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for 'gallantry in action' (recorded by the *Rugby Advertiser* in April 1917). In 1918 he was serving on HMS 'Actaeon' as Acting Chief Engine Room Artificer 2nd Class. When the war ended Archie was a Chief Engine Room Artificer on HMS 'Lucia' (a submarine depot ship, formerly the Hamburg-America Liner 'Spreewald', captured in September 1914). He continued to serve, finally leaving the Navy on 8th January 1925 with the rank

of Chief Engine Room Artificer 1st Class. Archie died in July 1982 in Rugby. His framed medals were sold at auction in Ludlow in February 2018 for £900; they included a long-service good conduct medal for serving on HMS 'Columbine'. (His youngest brother, Leslie James, served as a gunner with the 1/4th South Warwickshire Howitzer Battery. Sadly, Leslie was killed in action near Petit Pont in Flanders on 27th March 1915, age 20 years old.)

Edmans, Frank Sidney #

Frank was born in Walthamstow to celluloid worker William and Beatrice Edmans in 1893. By 1901 he had a younger sister Violet. By 1911 the family had moved to Co-operative Cottages, New Bilton near Rugby, and Frank was working as a celluloid bicycle pump overhauler at Bluemels factory in Wolston (where his father was also working). He had six siblings living at home with him at that time and relatives living in Stretton-on-Dunsmore. Frank served in the Royal Navy and sadly was killed, aged around 20, when HMS Bulwark was sunk in 1914. (His relative Joseph Phillip Edmans served in the Army and died in France in 1918.)

Edmans, Joseph Phillip MM #



Joseph was born in Middlesex to walking-stick maker James and Alice Edmans in 1893 (younger brother to Percy who also served). Sadly, his mother died in 1907. In 1911 he was living in the Old Silk Mill Cottages, Ryton-on-Dunsmore, and working as a metal polisher. He was living with two brothers and his widowed father who was working at Bluemels celluloid factory. Joseph joined the 1st Battalion of the Royal Berkshire Regiment in 1912 and was sent to France when the war broke out. He was wounded on 8th November 1914 and again in May 1916. He transferred to the 5th Battalion and was awarded the Military Medal in November 1917; the citation says: 'a bomb dropped near a number of men and was about to explode. Private Edmans rushed up and threw it over the parapet and thus saved a number of lives'. Sadly, Joseph died of wounds received at the Battle of Cambrai on 5th April 1918, aged around 26. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection. (His relative Frank Sidney Edmans served in the Royal Navy and was killed in 1914.)

Edmans, Percy Henry



Percy was born in Hackney to walking-stick maker James and Alice Edmans around 1892 (elder brother to Joseph). By 1911 he was living in Wolston (boarding with Mr & Mrs Sturgess) whilst working as a polisher at Bluemels factory. He married Sarah Brookes in Stretton-on-Dunsmore on 23 October 1913. Percy enlisted with the York and Lancaster Regiment (Reg. no. 20053) before the war started (though the *Rugby Advertiser* records S. Staffs Regiment, 12/9/14). He was listed as wounded and promoted to Sergeant (*Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine*, June 1915). He suffered from gunshot wounds to the head and was discharged from the army in April 1916. He became a

Scoutmaster in Wolston. Percy died in 1968 and is buried in Stretton-on-Dunsmore (headstone shown here).

Falconbridge, Alfred (or Faulkonbridge)



Alfred was born in Kilsby in 1895 to farmer Alfred and Temperence Margaret Falconbridge. In 1901 he was living in Fen Lane, Upton, where his father farmed. By 1911 the family lived at Yew Tree Farm in Stretton-on-Dunsmore and Alfred was working on their farm. Sadly, Alfred senior was killed in a road accident on the A45 in March 1914. Alfred junior joined 'C' Squadron of the Warwickshire Yeomanry (Reg. no. 2345) in Warwick in September 1914. He embarked for service in Egypt on 11th September 1915 initially serving as part of the Desert Mounted Corps. The Squadron was reinforced by troops evacuated from Gallipoli and retrained becoming 'B' Battalion Machine Gun Corps (Reg. no. 164567); Alfred served in 'B' Company as an acting corporal. He (and Charles Brookes) had a narrow escape on the way back to Marseilles: the HMT 'Leasowe Castle' was torpedoed on 27th May 1918 north-west of Alexandria by U-Boat 51 and Alfred spent a considerable time in the water (*Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine*, August & September 1918). Most of the crew were rescued by other ships, returned to Alexandria and re-kitted; all survivors were each given an Egyptian £1 (subsequently rather meanly deducted from their wages). Alfred embarked for France again on June 14th, arriving at Taranto, Italy on 21st June 1918 and travelling by train to Etaples. In August his unit became 100 Battalion, Machine Gun Corps and he served the remainder of the war in France. He was 'disembodied' on 16th March 1919. Alfred was farming in Meriden in the 1930s and died in Coventry in 1973. The photo on horseback comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection. A small photo of him no. 38 appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915.

Fawdrey, A

No records have yet been found but he may be a relative of James William Fawdrey.

Fawdrey, James William



James (known as William) was born in Chesterton, Warwickshire, in 1893 to William (a coal carter) and Amelia, and had a sister called Elsie. In 1901 he was living with his parents in Bishops Itchington; by 1911 he was living with his family in Cawston and working as a farm waggoner. James enlisted on 1 May 1914 before the war started and joined 7th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Reg. no. 2251). When war broke out, he was working at Bluemels in Wolston and living at 30 Avenue Road in New Bilton. He embarked from Southampton for Le Havre on 23 March 1915. On 2nd December James was treated for trench foot and sent to Casualty Clearing Station, then 26 General Hospital in Etaples, and invalided home from the front (*Stretton-on-Dunsmore & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine*, June 1915). He lost several toes, but recovered and was subsequently transferred in October 1917 to 620 Agricultural Company Labour Corps as Lance-

Corporal (Reg. no. 435039). He served until he was discharged with flat feet on 17 April 1919. In 1920 he was living at 12, George Street, Stockton and by 1939 he was married, living in Lawford Lane, near Rugby, and working as a general labourer in an electrical engineering works. James died in January 1960 in Rugby. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection. A smaller photo no. 44 appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915.

Fell, Edward Thomas



Edward was born in Rugby in 1879 to William and Edith Fell, and lived in Little Church Street, Rugby, where his father was a master cabinet maker. He went to school in Cheltenham; in 1903 he married Norah Chloe Kilby and by 1911 he was head master at Stretton-on-Dunsmore elementary school, where he taught from 1906-24 (with a 3-year break for war-service). In 1916 Edward enlisted with the Machine Gun Corps (Reg. no. 55131) trained at Grantham and was posted to 194th Company as a Lance-Corporal. He went to Vlamertighe, near Ypres in December and served until wounded and shell shocked in 1917. On recovering he was posted back to his unit which left for Italy on November 11th 1917. In July 1918 he was severely wounded by a shell splinter in his thigh. After treatment he was shipped back to England. Edward was demobbed on 16th February 1919 and returned to the school at Stretton. He wrote the Stretton School logbook during his tenure as head master (now at the WCRO: ref. CR 699/4) and appeared regularly in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* as a prime mover in village activities (he is mentioned as being wounded in August 1918). By 1939 he had retired and was living at 'Green Gates' in Moreton Pinkney, Northamptonshire. Edward died on May 17th 1942. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection and has 'Old Headmaster' written on the back.

Finch, Thomas



Thomas was born in 1881 in Woolpit, Suffolk to farm labourer Robert and Emily Finch. In 1891 he was living with his uncle and aunt in Stow Upland in East Suffolk. He enlisted in February 1902 at York in the 1st Battalion (Prince of Wales own) West Yorkshire Regiment (his enlistment papers suggest he was born in 1884). He served in South Africa from 1902-4 and in India from 1904-10, being awarded the S Africa Medal and the India General Service Medal with North West Frontier clasp. He married Agnes Maud Brookes at Bury St Edmunds in July 1912. Private Finch 6332 served with the West Yorkshires until February 1914 when he was discharged from the Army Reserve. His son, Leslie Thomas Finch was christened at All Saints Church in Stretton-on-Dunsmore on 5th July 1914. Thomas re-enlisted at Coventry on 5th September 1914, joining the 1/7th Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Territorials) as Private 265332. He served in France and was promoted to Lance Corporal in March 1915. He was wounded in June; on recovery he returned to France and was promoted to

Sergeant (recorded in the *Stretton-on-Dunsmore & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* June 1915). He was promoted to Company Sergeant Major in January 1917. In early November 1917 the Battalion moved to Italy to reinforce Allied advances there. Thomas was wounded later that month and shipped home. He was reported as recovering well from wounds in the *S & P Monthly Magazine* (May 1918). He was promoted to Warrant Officer II and finally 'disembodied' from the Regiment in March 1919. Thomas helped to organise a muster of de-mobilised men on the day the memorial tablet was dedicated in Stretton Church (*S & P Monthly Magazine* December 1919). Thomas died in July 1961 in Southam. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection.

Flavell, Ernest John

Ernest was born in 1887 in Rugby to gas-maker Henry and Rose Flavell (his brothers Thomas and Francis also served). In 1911 he was boarding with George Walker at 14 Bellis Street Edgbaston (near Birmingham) and working as a gardener. Ernest enlisted in Rugby in December 1915 at which time he was living at 8 Lincoln Street Coventry and working as an artificial silk weaver. He joined 'C' company 5th Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment in 1915 (Reg. no. 5824) but was discharged as medically unfit because of poor eyesight in May 1916. His mother at that time lived in Priory Lodge, Princethorpe. By 1939 Ernest was living at 44 King Street in Bedworth and working as an artificial silk yarn weaver for Courtaulds; he was a designated First Aider and Air Raid Warden at their factory. Ernest died in March 1963 at the George Eliot Hospital in Nuneaton, having been living at 113 Grant Road in Exhall (near Bedworth). He is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Flavell, Francis Benedict

Francis was born in 1895 to gas maker Henry and Rose Flavell in Princethorpe (brother to Ernest and Thomas who also served). In 1911 he was working as a domestic gardener at Princethorpe. Francis enlisted in the Royal Welsh Fusiliers (Private 24206) and embarked for France in December 1915. He transferred to the Labour Corps in May 1919 (no. 653113). By 1939 he was living at 8 Council Houses Rugby, working as a steel hardener. Francis died in April 1975 in Rugby.

Flavell, Thomas Henry

Thomas was born in 1892 in Princethorpe to gas maker Henry and Rose Flavell (brother to Ernest and Francis who also served). In 1911 he was living at the Priory at Princethorpe with his parents and worked as an agricultural labourer. Thomas enlisted with the Royal Warwickshire Regiment in early 1916 as Private no. 307571. He went to France with 2/8th Battalion in September 1916, sailing from Southampton to Rouen. Thomas died in October 1976 recorded at Leamington and is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Fray

No definitive military records have been found but he could be Private J. Fray (Reg. no. 5132) of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment who was wounded in 1916, or Private W. Fray (Reg. no. 12718) of the same Regiment who was wounded in the eye in 1916. He joined up through the Lord Derby Scheme and is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Gilbert, George Edwin

George was born in Roxton, Bedfordshire, in 1895, to William and Ellen Gilbert; his father later became head gamekeeper in Princethorpe and by 1901 George was living at Wood Farm Cottages, Burnthurst, also working as a gamekeeper. In 1911 George was working as a grocer's porter in Stretton-on-Dunsmore. In autumn 1917 he was driving for the Siddeley-Deasy Motor Co. and had the honour of chaffeurage H.R.H. Princess Mary in a black 1824 HP Siddeley-Deasy Cabriolet when she visited Coventry in September 1917 (*Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine*, September/October 1917). He was recruited under the Lord Derby Scheme in 1917 and joined the 5th Battalion of the Royal Berkshire Regiment in July 1918 (Private no. 43125). George was wounded in his right thigh during service but recovered, and was discharged in March 1920. By 1939 he was an estate bailiff for Captain Stiff at Wolston Grange and living at Front Lodge in Wolston. George died in October 1947 at Catthorpe, near Lutterworth.

Gilbert, Harry



Harry was born in Lamborne (Berks) in January 1890 to gamekeeper William and Ellen Gilbert. He was the younger brother of William and George (both of whom also served), Ellen, Emily, James and Jesse. His mother died soon after he was born. In 1911 he was working as a factory labourer, lodging in Stretton-on-Dunsmore with his brother James and the latter's wife Martha at Well Head (see photo under James Gilbert). In 1914 he joined the Royal Field Artillery as driver 881039. By 1939 he was working as a tram driver and living at 16 Spring Road, Coventry. Harry died in Coventry in 1973. This small photo of him comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection; it is a copy of photo no. 40 that appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915.

Gilbert, James Charles



One of the Well head cottages in Stretton

James was born in 1884 in East Garston, Berkshire to gamekeeper William Gilbert; he was a half-brother to William S. Gilbert (who also served). In 1891, age 7, he was living with his widowed father and five siblings in Bedfordshire. In 1901 he was working as a gamekeeper and living alone in Princethorpe. In 1903 he married Harriet Martha Ward at Stretton-on-Dunsmore. By 1911 he was living at Well-head in Stretton, and working as a woodturner. They had a son called Charles Harry around 1917. James attested at Coventry for service under the Lord Derby Scheme in December 1915. He was mobilised at Warwick in May 1918, with the rank of Gunner (213413) in the Royal Garrison Artillery. He was posted to 39, then 48, Reserve Battery. He embarked for France in August 1918 and joined 354 Siege Battery, RGA at the end of September. On 2nd November James was admitted to 1st Australian General Hospital in Rouen suffering from influenza; sadly, he died at 5.45 am on Wednesday 13th November 1918, aged around 34. The hospital report noted 'Gunner Gilbert died from bronchial pneumonia following influenza due to fatigue, privation and exposure whilst on military duty'. (The autumn of 1918 was particularly cold and wet, with torrential rain for days on end.) Amongst the possessions returned to his family was a lock of his young son's hair. James is buried in St Sever Cemetery Extension in Rouen. By 1921 his widow Harriet had married Arthur Ward (who also served: see his entry) and was living at 18 St Lawrence Road in Coventry with him and her four-year old son Charles.

Gilbert, William S

William was born at Beckley, Hampshire, in 1873 to gamekeeper William and Ellen Gilbert and by 1911 he was a game keeper living in Burnthurst, Princethorpe. William junior enlisted under the Lord Derby Scheme in June 1916 and was called to service at Coventry in June 1918 to the Royal Army Service Corps (Reg. no. 056964). He was posted for training at the RASC Depot at Park Royal, Willesden, as a driver (T/422749) in 567 Company Horse Transport section. He sailed from Folkstone to Boulogne on board SS 'Onward' on 8th September 1918 to join 576 Company, attached to the 3rd Cavalry Division and served with them until he was demobbed at Woolwich in July 1919. He is mentioned in the *Stretton-on-Dunsmore & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (July 1918). By 1939 he was working as a market gardener, living with his wife and son at 7 the Small Holdings, Rugby Lane, Stretton. William died in July 1952 recorded at Warwick. He is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Grant, Edward Boneham

Edward was born in Ryton in 1893 to ironworker Edward George and Norah Annie Grant. After his parents moved to Deptford in London, Edward lived with his grandparents in Ryton and Stretton-on-Dunsmore (the 1913 survey records him at Princethorpe). Edward Grant junior is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour that states he was serving in the Royal Horse Artillery. He married Edith and by 1939 was living in Coventry working as a silk spinner. Edward died in Coventry in 1957.

Grant, Fred



Fred was born in Wolston on 29 January 1897 to George Grant and Rosie Annie (née Pinker); sadly, his mother died when he was two. In 1901 he was living in Napton with his aunt and uncle. In 1911 (age 13) he was working as a farm labourer and living with his widowed father (a rabbit catcher) in Brook Street, Wolston. Fred joined the Navy in 1915 as a Boy (2nd Class) and gave his occupation as a fitter (Reg. no. J40281). He served as an Ordinary Telegraphist on HMS Valiant and took part in the Battle of Jutland in the Fifth Battle Squadron of the Grand Fleet. He left the Navy in 1920 as a Leading Telegraphist. By 1939 he was living at 265 London Rd in Coventry and working as a lorry driver mechanic. Fred died in January 1969 in Coventry. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection: it shows him in sailor's uniform by a boat and has 'Fred Grant Brookside' written on the back of the mount.

Hall, Thomas

Thomas was born in 1889 in Long Lawford to labourer George and Mary Hall. In 1911 he was living with his family in Church Lawford, working as a general labourer. He was recorded as volunteering to join the Royal Artillery (*Rugby Advertiser*, Sept 1914). By 1939 he was living at Old Manor Farm in Princethorpe. Thomas died in September 1977 recorded at Rugby. Thomas is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Hancock, George Francis #

George was born in 1886 in Hook Norton, Oxfordshire, to cowman Samuel and Sarah. In 1891 George was living with his family at Clifford Chambers in Warwickshire; by 1901 he was working as a ploughboy and living with his family at Wooten Wawen. In 1911 he married Annie Lomas, from Marton; they lived in Princethorpe where he was working as a farm labourer. They had a son called Louis Norman around 1912. George enlisted in the Coldstream Guards on 8th December 1915 at Rugby. Following basic training at the Guards Depot at Caterham, he completed his training with the 5th Reserve Battalion at Windsor Barracks. Guardsman Hancock 20313 was posted to France in

March 1916 and served there until wounded by gunshot in his right upper arm. After treatment he was discharged from the army on 28th November 1918. Sadly, George died in Rugby on 2nd March 1920 from an intestinal problem contracted whilst serving in France. By 1921 his widow Annie had married Arthur Harbage and was living at Whitmore Park in Coventry with him and her nine-year old son Louis; she was working as a machine tool maker.

Hancox, Charles John #

Charles was born in 1894 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to farm labourer Thomas and Eliza Hancox and baptised on 6 May. In 1901 the family lived at Ferry Farm, London Road, Wolston. By 1911 Charles was a farm labourer living at London Road in Stretton when he enlisted as a Private with the 3rd Battalion Worcestershire Regiment in 1914 (Reg. no. 15316). He arrived in France on 24th March 1915. Sadly, Charles died of wounds to the head and thigh on 20 June 1915, age 21, at 10 Stationary Hospital in St. Omer in France and is buried at Longuenesse Souvenir Cemetery there (Grave ref. IA 163). Charles' death was reported in the *Rugby Advertiser* on 10th July 1915 and in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (July 1915) and he is commemorated on the war memorial inside the church at Stretton-on-Dunsmore.

Hancox, Harwood Frank

Harwood was born in 1873 at Leamington Priors (now Spa) to Isaac and Mary Hancox; he was related to the Stretton-on-Dunsmore Hancox family and well known in the village. In 1881, after Mary's death in 1875, he was living at Main Street in Monks Kirby with his uncle and aunt. He was still there in 1891, living with his uncle and working as a general servant. He attested on 4th August 1898 at Warwick, joining the 3rd Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment. He served in Malta, Ceylon and India where he served on the North West Frontier and Zakka Khel Country; he was awarded the India General Service Medal in 1908. In 1911 he was with the 2nd Battalion at Whittington Barracks in Lichfield. Whilst serving with the 4th Battalion he opted to leave the Army by purchasing his way out. On the outbreak of war, he was recalled to the Colours in early August 1914. Lance Corporal Harwood, 6097, 'A' Company 1st Battalion, went to France with the British Expeditionary Force on the 22nd August. Whilst involved in heavy fighting he was slightly wounded and captured on 26th August near Ligny. He was a Prisoner of War in a number of camps, ending the war in Hameln and being repatriated via Interlaken. By 1939 he was living at 75 York Street in Rugby and working as a storeman labourer. Harwood died at home in York Street in September 1953.

Hancox, Henry #

Henry (called Harry in the school logbooks) was born on 19 October 1886 (the 10th child in the family) and baptised in Stretton-on-Dunsmore on 5 December. He lived on Knightlow Hill, Stretton with his father William (an agricultural labourer) and mother Sarah (his brother James also served). He reached standard IV at Stretton elementary school, which he left in October 1899. He was working as a farm carter in 1901 and may have moved to Bright Street, Coventry where he worked as a machinist in a cycle factory. Henry enlisted with the 2nd R.N. Battalion, Portsmouth Division of the Royal Marines Light Infantry (Reg. no. PO/2402). He was captured during the Michael offensive in March 1918, and sadly died of disease whilst a prisoner of war in Germany on 8th November 1918, age 32. Henry is buried at Niederzwehren Cemetery, Kassel (grave ref. XF 12) and is commemorated on the war memorial inside the church at Stretton-on-Dunsmore. Private Henry Hancox was mentioned as 'missing' and then a prisoner in Germany in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (May & June 1918). He is also mentioned in the booklet *Men of Princethorpe who died in the Great War* by Paul Waddoups.

Hancox, James #



James was born on 13 April 1877 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to farm labourer William and Sarah Hancox (his brother Henry also served) and lived on Knightlow Hill and then a cottage near the Shoulder of Mutton pub. He attended Stretton elementary school (1883-91) latterly half-time working for Mr Coles, and only reached Standard I. He worked as a farm labourer. In 1901 he married Rosa Annie Jarvis in Coventry and by 1911 they had two children: Annie and Violet. Before the war he was a groom and the family lived at Frankton Wood Cottage in Princethorpe (but at the time of the 1911 census his wife and children were with her parents in Allesley). James enlisted in May 1916 as a Driver (No. 171) and then as a Gunner (no. 651672) with the Royal Field Artillery. Sadly, James died on 29 April 1917, age 39, at the Duston Military Hospital in Northampton, after an operation for appendicitis and was buried in the All Saints churchyard in Stretton on 4 April (grave ref. West 92 pictured). James is commemorated on the war memorial inside the church at Stretton, and mentioned in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (May 1917). You can find out more about James in the booklet *Men of Princethorpe who died in the Great War* by Paul Waddoups. By 1921 his widow Rosa was living in Stretton with her two daughters Annie and Violet.

Hancox, John Frederick #

John was born in 1895 to waggoner John and Mary Jane Chatwin Hancox of London Road, Stretton-on-Dunsmore and baptised 'Frederick John' on 3 November. John enlisted in Coventry as a Private with the 14th Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Reg. no. 25543) and sadly was killed in action in Nieppe Forest, Hainaut, France on 14 April 1918, age 24; he has no known grave. John is listed on the Ploegsteert Memorial in Belgium (Panels 2 & 3) and commemorated on the war memorial inside the church at Stretton-on-Dunsmore. Private F Hancox (who must be him) was reported to have been killed in action in France in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* of June 1918.

Harrison, Frank B.

Frank was born in 1881 in Leigh, Lancashire, to schoolmaster William and Jane Harrison. In 1891 he was living with his parents at the School House, Llandona in Anglesey. He joined the Royal Artillery in 1900 in Liverpool, and is listed in the 1901 census as a Bombardier 6044, living in RA barracks at Ipswich. He married Edith Emily Warren (daughter of Homer & Elizabeth Warren) on 12th April 1909 at All Saints Church in Stretton-on-Dunsmore; Frank was stationed in Kildare, Ireland, at the time. He served in Ireland from 1903 – 1910 when he moved to Aldershot. In 1911 he was a Sergeant in 116 Battery, Royal Field Artillery at Tournay Barracks, Aldershot, living in married quarters with his wife. From 1912 he was stationed in Newcastle until the outbreak of war, when the Battery moved back to Aldershot prior to leaving for France. He embarked from Southampton with the British Expeditionary Force, landing at Le Havre in October 1914 where he served throughout the war; his Battery was in the vanguard of the BEF. Frank was wounded in June 1915 near Cuinchy, Pas de Calais when the Battery came under heavy fire and suffered many casualties; he was reported wounded in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (June 1915). On recovery he returned to his Battery, was promoted to Sergeant Major, and served with them for the rest of the war. In December 1918 he left Brasmenil travelling by train to Le Havre and sailed home on the SS 'Lorraine' on 7th April 1919. After the war the family settled in Luton, Bedfordshire; his wife died there in 1966.

Hartley, H.

Sadly, we have no details as yet of this man.

Harvey, Edward #

Edward was born in Swansea in 1885 to Robert and Mary Harvey. His family worked in the steel industry and the docks. In 1901 and 1911 he was living at 57 Carmarthen Road in Swansea, working as a tin man in a tin-plate works. In 1912 he married Hilda Blanche Bates who had relatives living in Stretton-on-Dunsmore and Ryton-on -Dunsmore. They had two children: Winnifred and Ruby (both born in Rugby). Edward enlisted in Rugby at the outbreak of war, joining the Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire Light Infantry (Reg. no. 17534). He was soon transferred to the 1st Battalion Hampshire Regiment (Reg. no. 16341). He embarked for France on 2nd June 1915 and was later promoted to Lance-Corporal. Sadly, Edward was killed on 1st July 1916 on the first day of the Battle of the Somme, age 31. The *Stretton-on-Dunsmore & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* describes the memorial service held on August 27th for him and mentions that his 'little family is living with us now in the parish' (September 1916). There is a memorial to him in Ryton churchyard (together with his brother-in-law Thomas Bates, who was also killed in action in March 1918). By 1921 his widow Hilda had married Victor Tee and was living in Ryton on Dunsmore with him and her two daughters Winnifred and Ruby.

Harvey, Harry

Harry was born on 2 Feb. 1877 to William Harvey and Anne (née White) owners of Church Farm, Church Hill, Stretton-on-Dunsmore. He reached standard VI at Stretton elementary school, which he left in April 1890. He joined the Warwickshire Imperial Yeomanry in 1895 (Reg. no. 247) and served throughout the Boer War in South Africa until he was discharged on 19 October 1901. By 1911, Harry had married and was the owner of Church Farm in Stretton (inherited from his father who was the last master of the Warwick County Asylum: an early reformatory situated at Hill Farm in Frankton Lane, Stretton). Harry re-joined the Warwickshire Yeomanry in 1914 as Regimental Sergeant Major; he served mostly at home in the Reserve Regiment, and was promoted to Quarter Master with the honorary rank of 2nd Lieutenant (*Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine*, June & July 1915). By the end of the war, he had been promoted to Captain and helped to organise a muster of de-mobilised men on the day the memorial tablet was dedicated inside Stretton Church (*Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* December 1919). Harry died in April 1922 recorded at Warwick.

Hobday, Frederick William



Frederick (known as Fred) was born in 1891 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to carpenter James and Charlotte Hobday of Knightlow Hill (his brother George also served). In 1901 he was living with his family and attending the Elementary School in Stretton. In 1911 he was lodging with his sister Rose and brother-in-law Horace Blanchett at 9, Alfred Road, Hillfields in Coventry, and working as a motor fitter. Fred enlisted with the 2nd Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment in September 1914 in Coventry. Private Hobday (Reg. no. 3067) shipped to France on 20th January 1915. He was wounded in September 1915 during the Battle of Loos, during which his Battalion suffered very heavy casualties. Following his recovery in 1916 he returned to duty with the Garrison Battalion, and later transferred to the Royal Defence Corps as Private 77016. He was discharged from the Army on grounds of ill health on 23rd September 1918. By 1939 he was married to Edith (née Poole) working as an engine fitter and living at 72 Yelverton Road in Coventry. Frederick died in Coventry in December 1940. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection.

Hobday, George #

George was born in 1889 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to carpenter James and Charlotte Hobday of Knightlow Hill in Stretton-on-Dunsmore (his brother Fred also served). He attended Stretton Elementary School. In 1911 he was working as an iron turner and still living with his family at Knightlow Hill in Stretton. George enlisted with the 11th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Reg. no. 9076) in Coventry soon after the war started (when he was living in Marton). He embarked for France on 30th July 1915 and sadly was killed in action on 16th July 1916, age about 27, at the Battle of Albert, part of the Somme Offensive. George's body was never recovered and he is listed on the Thiepval Memorial.

Hobday, Thomas George

Thomas was born in 1888 at Knightlow Hill, Stretton-on-Dunsmore, to farm stockman John and Mary Hobday. He attended Stretton Elementary School. In 1911 he was living with his parents in Stretton and working as a Factory hand in Bluemels celluloid factory at Wolston. In November 1915 Thomas enlisted in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (private 19121) in 16th Battalion. He later transferred to 1st Gloucester Regiment and was promoted to Lance Corporal (no. 36664). He was wounded in action (gunshot to the left leg) and discharged with a pension on 22nd April 1919. A George Hobday (presumably him) was reported to have been in the Gloucestershire Regiment for 'some time' in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (December 1917). By 1939 Thomas was living with his son at 7 Wolston Lane, Stretton, and working as a general labourer. Thomas died on 11th May 1967 at Shipston on Stour.

Hoffgaard, Eric Albert



Eric was born in Manchester in 1878 to Johannes (a naturalised Dane) and Fanny Hoffgaard. By 1911 Eric was a barrister living in Hertfordshire and married to Mary Wilcox of Wolston (a village near Stretton). During the war he was a Captain in the Warwickshire Yeomanry; Eric died in 1930 and is buried in Stretton-on-Dunsmore churchyard (headstone shown here).

Howard, George

George was born in Stretton-on-Dunsmore in September 1885 to farm labourer Edward and Clara Howard. He attended Stretton Elementary School, reaching Standard V and leaving in 1898. In 1901 George was a carter on a farm in Stretton. In 1911 he was married to Rose and living at 44 Highfield Road in Coventry, employed as a van driver for a confectionary firm. By 1915 he had moved to 206 Sovereign Road in Coventry, and was a wholesale confectioner. George enlisted in December 1915; after training he was posted to 7th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment in September 1916. Later he transferred to 13th Company 3rd Battalion Machine Gun Corps as Private 67809. He suffered an accidental Pott's fracture to his left leg and was discharged from the Army on 11th December 1917 as no longer physically fit for war service. By 1939 he was living at 15 East Cotes Road in Coventry and working as a glaziers' traveller. George died in January 1956 in Coventry.

Howkins, Charles #

Charles was born on 23 June 1894 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to Thomas (a labourer/waggoner) and Sarah Howkins of the Plott in Stretton (brother to George who also served). He was christened in the Primitive Methodist Chapel at Stretton on July 26 (the published baptismal record says 1892 in error). He attended Stretton Elementary School. Charles enlisted with the 10th Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Reg. no. 16900) and sadly was killed in action at Grandcourt in France on

18 November 1916, age 22. Charles was buried in the Grandcourt Road Cemetery (Grave ref. B 28) and is commemorated on the war memorial inside the church at Stretton-on-Dunsmore. In 1916, Charles' mother Sarah, by then a widow, was living in School Street in Wolston.

Howkins, David



David was born on 30 November 1894 to labourer Henry and Mary Ann Howkins of the Plott, Stretton-on-Dunsmore. He was christened in the Primitive Methodist Chapel in Stretton on 31 March 1895. In 1911 he was living with his family in Stretton and working as a farm labourer. David enlisted in the Royal Berkshire Regiment in 1914 (Reg. no. 14781) and was posted to D Company of the 7th Battalion. Smoking in his photo suggests a cheeky personality. He shipped to France in September 1915 (with Ernest Albert Nix) and in November 1915 transferred to Salonika, where he faced particularly harsh conditions both winter and summer. He contracted malaria in 1917 and was treated at 28 Casualty clearing station in Karasouli and the 7th Convalescence Depot; he returned to duty on 22nd November. He transferred to the Labour Corps in France (no. 632152) and served until April 1919. The *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* mentions Private D. Howkins as home on leave (from Salonika) 'looking bronzed and well after a long absence' (August 1918). He survived the war, married Alice in 1918, and by 1939 had moved to 89 Alpine Street in Reading where he worked as a bricklayer's labourer. David died in November 1970 in Reading. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection and has a message on the back to his mates in the local pub 'The Black Dog' and a note added later suggests he was living 'behind Parrotts House' (i.e. off Brookside in Stretton). A smaller photo no. 50 appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915.

Howkins, George

George was born on 16 June 1886 and baptised in 1887 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore; his parents were labourer Thomas and Sarah Howkins of the Plott, Stretton (his brother Charles also served). He reached standard V at Stretton elementary school, which he left in June 1899. The parents were Primitive Methodists later on, but George does not appear to have been christened in the Methodist Chapel in Stretton. He enrolled in the 4th Devonshire regiment (*Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine*, September 1918). No military records have yet been found but he survived the war. George died in January 1954 recorded at Coventry.

Howkins, Henry



The Primitive Methodist Chapel in Stretton

Henry was born on 10th November 1893 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to market gardener Charles and Emma Howkins of Brookside/Knob Hill, Stretton. He was christened in the Stretton Primitive Methodist Chapel on 23 January 1894. In 1911 he was living at home, working as a gardener. Henry enlisted on 11 December 1915 as a Gunner with the 109th Heavy Battery of the Royal Garrison Artillery (Reg. no. 98642). He was posted to France in April 1917, wounded in action at the Somme in France and sadly died as a result on 30 March 1918, aged 24. Henry is buried at Heilly Station Cemetery, Mericourt (Grave ref. VII A 10) and commemorated on the war memorial inside the church at Stretton-on-Dunsmore. He was a respected Primitive Methodist and a joint commemoration service was held for him in Stretton with the Primitive Methodist minister from Rugby and the local Anglican vicar (*Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine*, May 1918).

Howkins, William

William was born on 24 December 1872 and baptised in 1873; his parents Thomas (a labourer) and Ann Howkins lived in the Plott in Stretton-on-Dunsmore. He only reached standard I at Stretton elementary school, which he left in March 1886. In 1901 he was working as a farm labourer and living with his family in Stretton. In 1911 he was working as a waggoner and living in Stretton with his widowed father. He served in the 9th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Private 25360) and is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour. (Please note that his surname is 'Hawkins' in some records.) By 1939 he was working on a farm as a 'horse man' and living at 1 Plott Lane, Stretton-on-Dunsmore. William's death was recorded in September 1943 in Rugby.

Humphries, Henry G.

Henry was recorded as having volunteered for Kitchener's Army in the Kings Royal Rifles (*Rugby Advertiser* Sept. 1914). In 1911 there was a Henry Humphreys (age 14) living with his parents (John and Marian) and siblings in Wolston (a village near Stretton-on-Dunsmore); Henry was working as a pump finisher at Bluemels factory and he may be the person concerned.

Jackson, George William

George was born in Banbury in 1882 to house painter John and Phoebe Jackson and in 1891 he was still living in Banbury with his family. In February 1901 he joined the Imperial Yeomanry, 78th company 12th Battalion at Oxford as Trooper 23526; his occupation was recorded as 'baker' and he'd previously served with the 2nd Volunteer Battalion of the Oxford Light Infantry. He sailed to South Africa and served there until August 1902, being awarded the Queen's South African Medal (3 clasps) and South Africa 1901 and 1902 medals. He was discharged at Aldershot in August 1902. By 1911 he was married to Lucy, working as a house painter (his father's trade) and living in Coventry Road in Princethorpe. He was recalled to the Colours in August 1914 and joined the 7th Royal Warwickshire Regiment before the war started (*Rugby Advertiser* 12 September 1914). He embarked for Le Havre from Southampton in March 1915, on board the SS 'Copenhagen', served in France, moved with the Battalion to Italy in November 1917 and ended the war in Austria. By 1939 he was living with his family in Medina Road Coventry as an unemployed fitters' labourer. George died in Spring 1944 in Coventry and is commemorated on the Princethorpe Priory Roll of Honour.

Kennard, Alfred

Alfred was born in 1899 to domestic groom Thomas and Mary Kennard, of London Road, Stretton-on-Dunsmore. In 1911 he was living at home with his parents. Alfred enlisted in February 1914, before the war started, as Private 2395 C/(M.T.) in the Army Service Corps. He went to France on 12th August 1914 with the 1st Cavalry Ammunition Park. He served in France until discharged on 6th March 1916 as 'sick'. By 1989 he was married and living at 15, School Street in Rugby, working as a heavy haulage lorry driver. Alfred died on 12th November 1972 at Dunchurch.

Kibler, Frederick W. #

Frederick was born in 1893 in Long Itchington to Henry (a labourer at a lime works) and Lucy Kibler. In 1901 he was living at Leamington Road, Long Itchington with his sister Jane and his widowed father. In 1911 he was living with his father and sister at New Row, Long Itchington, working as a labourer at the cement works. Frederick enlisted at Warwick in September 1914 with 7th Battalion and was shipped to France on 11th August 1915. (Please note he was recorded as 'Kibbler' in military records.) Later he was promoted to Lance Corporal. Sadly, Frederick died of wounds in No. 1 Canadian General Hospital on 21 Jan 1916, aged about 23, and he is buried in Etaples War Cemetery, France. We have not yet found his precise local connection but presumably he was related to the Princethorpe Kiblers.

Kibler, George

George was born in 1875 in Princethorpe to gamekeeper Daniel and Sarah (Sally) Kibler. In 1881 he was living with his family at The Chase, Kenilworth. In 1891 he was working as a waiter at his father's public house the 'Ring of Bells' at Hampton in Arden. In 1893, following his brother, George emigrated to Canada, settling in Middlesex County, Ontario. He worked as an electrician, living at 395 Oxford Street in London Ontario. Before the great war, George served for 9 years in the Canadian Army: in Number 1 Detachment, Canadian Ordnance Corps, the Royal Canadian Regiment and the 7th Battalion (1st Columbia Regiment). In November 1915 he joined the 135th (Middlesex) Battalion, preparing to ship to France as part of the Canadian Expeditionary Force CEF. He had been promoted to Serjeant and later Company Serjeant Major but transferred back to Private on BEF embarkation. On 30th August 1916 Private Kibbler 802014 sailed from Halifax, Nova Scotia to Liverpool on board the SS 'Olympic' with the 116th (Ontario County) Battalion. After training the Battalion moved to France. George was wounded on 1st October 1918 during the Battle of Cambrai. (Between 27th September and 11th October 30,000 Canadians were killed or wounded at Cambrai.) George was admitted to 18th General Hospital, Camiers, with severe gunshot wounds to the left leg. Later he was treated at hospitals in Liverpool and Manchester. He completed his recovery at Woodcote Park convalescent home in Epsom. In December 1918 he resumed duties at the Canadian Reserve Camp at Witley in Surrey. He returned to Canada in January 1919 onboard the SS 'Empress of Britain' and was discharged from the Army on 6th February 1919. George died on 16th March 1936 in London, Ontario.

Kibler, Joseph

Joseph Walter Kibler was born around 1896 in Long Itchington to labourer Walter and Rose Kibler. In 1911, age 15, he was living with his parents and elder brother George in Long Itchington and working as a ploughboy. Joseph had joined the Royal Welsh Fusiliers before the war started. There was a Private Joseph Kibler in the King's Own Rifle Corps (No. Y1139) who was wounded in January 1918 and discharged back to duty who may have been him. We have not yet found his precise local connection but presumably he was related to the Princethorpe Kiblers.

Linnett, Frederick William #

Fred was born in 1891 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to farm labourer William and Harriet Linnett of the Plott, Stretton (younger brother to John who also served); Fred was baptised on 1st Feb. 1891. He attended Stretton Elementary School. He enlisted with the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment before the war broke out (Private no. 1155). He served for 8 years at home, in India and Malta. Fred also served during the war. He was gassed during the Battle of Loos in 1915, and sadly died of wounds sustained in action on 3 Sept. 1916 at Ginchy in France, aged about 25; he has no known grave (being posted 'missing' for a long while after this). Fred was awarded the Victory, British and 14 Star medals. He is listed on the Thiépval Memorial (Pier and Face 9A, 9B and 10B), commemorated on the war memorial inside the church at Stretton-on-Dunsmore and mentioned in the

Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine (June 1915, March & August 1917). A small photo of him no. 33 appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915.

Linnett, John Thomas

John was born in 1888 to farm labourer William and Harriet Linnett of the Plott, Stretton-on-Dunsmore, and baptised on 19 February 1888 (elder brother to Frederick who also served). In 1911 he was living in Plott Lane with his parents and working as a cowman. John enlisted at Rugby on 4 September 1914, working as a labourer at the time; he joined the 10th (Service) Battalion of the King's Royal Rifle Corps (Reg. no. 1345) but was discharged on 30 Sept 1914 as unfit due to varicose veins. By 1939 he was living at Shilton Lane near Coventry and working as a grave digger. John died in April 1974 at Nuneaton.

Lister Kaye, Arthur

Arthur was born in Stretton-on-Dunsmore in March 1896 to Captain Arthur Lister Kaye RA and Eugenia (née Bower), both from Yorkshire. Arthur senior was a lime and cement manufacturer who co-founded Rugby Portland Cement. In 1901 Arthur junior was a dairy farmer living at the Manor House in Stretton with his widowed mother and family. By 1911 he was living with his wife at The Cottage, Stratfield Mortimer in Berkshire, working as manager and owner of a motor engine works. In 1914 he was living at Shoborough House, Wareham in Dorset, where his occupation was listed as 'motor mechanic'. Arthur enlisted at Bournemouth on 10th February 1915, joining the Army Service Corps (Motor Transport) as Private M2/049055. On 18th February 1915 he was discharged from the Army as 'not likely to become an efficient soldier'. His medical examination on enlistment noticed that 'the 2nd toe of his right foot had been amputated and the left leg had been amputated below the knee'. By 1939 he was living at the Old Palace, Romsey & Stocksbridge in Hampshire, working as a dairy farmer. Arthur died in June 1943 at Kings Somborne in Hampshire.

Lockett, Albert

Albert was listed in the *Rugby Advertiser* as having joined the Royal Navy in 1914 but no military or other records have yet been found. (There were over 100 Albert Locketts serving.)

Ludford, Charles Henry #



Charles was born in Coventry in 1897 to Henry and Elizabeth Ludford. His father died and in 1901 his mother was working as a servant in Kenilworth. In 1911 Charles was living in Stretton-on-Dunsmore with his mother and step-father, Frederick Orcherton, and working as an errand boy at Bluemels factory in Wolston. He was active as a choir boy and Boy Scout (*Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine*, December 1917). Charles enlisted in Coventry in September 1916 as a Private with the 1st Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Reg. no. 1110). He spent seven months in hospital in France suffering from illness caused by drinking 'bad water'. He was transferred to hospital in England, returned to France in June 1917, was wounded in action during the assault on Broodseinde Ridge, Arras, in Belgium. Sadly, Charles died the following day, 6 October 1917, age 20; he was awarded the Victory and British medals. Charles is buried in Duhallow Advanced Dressing Station Cemetery near Ypres (Grave ref. VIII B 12) and commemorated on the war memorial inside the church at Stretton-on-Dunsmore. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection.

Manton, Alfred Samuel

Alfred was born in January 1887 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to farm labourer George Manton and Jane (née Howard), younger brother of Harry who also served. He attended Stretton Elementary School, reaching Standard VI and leaving in 1900. In 1911 he was living in Stretton, married, and working as a cleaner in a motor works. By the time Alfred enlisted for the Army, in Rugby in March 1915, he was working as a motor fitter. He joined the 5th Battalion, Rifle Brigade as S/9028 and embarked for France in June 1915. On 30th September he transferred to the Army Service Corps as M2/132513. He joined 4th Company Motor Transport working as a fitter in the repair shops in Rouen. Alfred was in hospital from August to October in 1918, but returned to service, ending the war with his unit in Germany, being demobbed in June 1919. By 1939 he was back working as a motor fitter, living at 64 Birmingham Road in Coventry. Alfred died in December 1979 in Hinkley, Leicestershire. A small photo of him no. 32 appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915.

Manton, Harry



Harry was born on 19th October 1877 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to farm labourer George Manton and Jane (née Howard) older brother to Alfred who also served. He attended Stretton Elementary School, reaching Standard V, was attending part-time latterly, and left in 1890. In 1911, age 33 and single, he was living with his widowed father George in Stretton; both were working as farm labourers. At the outbreak of war, he was called to the Colours and enlisted in the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry (Reg. no. 20011). He later transferred to the Dorsetshire Regiment (Reg. no. 14769). He was promoted to Corporal and wounded in December 1916. By 1939 he was a farm worker living at Well Head (in Stretton) with his wife Lizzie (a photo of Well Head cottages can be found under J.C. Gilbert). Harry died in April 1951 recorded at Coventry. This small photo of him comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection; it is a copy of photo no. 22 that appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915.

Marshall, Henry

Henry was born in Princethorpe to waggoner Richard and Emily Marshall (his brother Richard also served). In 1911, age 18, he was living with his family in Princethorpe and working as a farm labourer. He joined up through the Lord Derby Scheme but no further military records have yet been found. Henry died in April 1948 recorded at Warwick. H. Marshall is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Marshall, Richard

Richard was born in Princethorpe to under-gardener Richard and Emily Marshall (his brother Henry also served). In 1911, age 16, he was living with his family in Princethorpe and working as a farm labourer. He joined the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (as Private 15910) in late 1915. However, he was later discharged from the Army as 'not likely to become an efficient soldier'. By 1939 he was married and living at Priory Garden cottage in Princethorpe; he was employed as a gas worker at St Mary's Priory and was also an air-raid warden. Richard died at Godalming in Surrey in March 1976 and is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

McAuley, John

No military records have yet been found but John McAuley is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour that states he was serving in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

Maycock, Charles William

Charles was born in May 1887 to agricultural labourer Richard and Hannah Maycock of London Road, Stretton-on-Dunsmore (his elder brother Henry also served). He attended Stretton Elementary School, reaching Standard VI and leaving in 1899. In 1901 he was living at Hill Fields Farm, Coombe Fields, Binley, working as a farm servant for Mr Edward Reynolds; his elder brother Henry was cowman on the same farm. Charles married Rose Banbrook in 1909 when he was working as a core turner at Bluemels factory in Wolston; they had a daughter Edith Louisa. Charles enlisted on 13th March at Warwick, joining the Labour Corps attached to the Devonshire Regiment. He embarked for France on 28th March 1917 and on 28th December 1918 he was transferred to 290 (POW) Company Labour Corps until demobbed in 1919. The *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* mentions that Private C. Maycock was home on leave (from France) 'looking bronzed and well after a long absence' (August 1918). By 1939 he was living at 4 Plott Lane in Stretton, and working as a labourer for a Public Works Contractor. Charles died in October 1971 in Huntingdon.

Maycock, Henry John

Henry was born in 1881 to agricultural labourer Richard and Hannah Maycock of London Road, Stretton-on-Dunsmore (his younger brother Charles also served). He attended Stretton Elementary School, reaching Standard V and leaving in 1893. In 1901 'John' was living at Hill Fields Farm, Coombe Fields, Binley, working as a cowman for Mr Edward Reynolds. By 1911 he was foreman to Jane and Sarah Reynolds at Bulkington Fields Farm, Nuneaton. Henry enlisted with the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (as Private 22643) and served in France. He later transferred to the Machine Gun Corps (no. 160587) and was wounded in May 1918. By 1939 he had married his former boss Jane (18 years his senior) and they were farming Lindley Hall Farm in Market Bosworth. Henry died in July 1960, registered in Coventry.

Morby/Mawby, William Herbert



William was born on 3/8/1882 to William and Sarah Annie from Princethorpe but sadly his father died in 1886. In 1891 he was living in Stretton with his widowed mother; he attended Stretton elementary school, reaching Standard V and leaving in 1893. In 1894 his mother married George Osborne (who died in 1912). In 1901 William was working in Flintshire with a bricklayers' team from Warwickshire at the Queensferry Chemical Works. By 1911 he was living at home with his mother and step-father and working on a farm. In September 1911, before the war, William enlisted in the 1/1 Warwickshire Royal Horse Artillery (Territorial Force) at Warwick giving his occupation as blacksmith (reg. no. 249 - 614378); he was described as Corporal Shoeing Smith 1st class 78. In September 1914 he embarked for France with 7th RHA Ammunition Column 1st Cavalry Division. He served in France throughout the war, marrying Esther Slade from High Wycombe in February 1917. He was in hospital with influenza in July 1918 but returned to duty with the 89th Field Ambulance. He was demobbed in May 1919 and lived at Chapel Lane, Woburn Sands, Buckinghamshire. William died on 1st May 1931 at Booker, High Wycombe. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection.

Nall, Thomas

Sadly we have no records of Thomas at present.

Newman, Charles Edward (maybe Newnham in some army records)

Charles (called Edward by his family) was born in 1892 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to farm labourer James and Sarah Ellen Newman (brother of James and George). In 1911 he was living in Draycott with his family and working as a farm labourer. Charles joined the 9th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment as Private 3/10712 in February 1915. He was sent to the Balkans area, landing there via Egypt in July 1915. His Battalion was sent to rebuild those badly depleted during the Gallipoli campaign. He served in Mesopotamia and was wounded in September 1915. He was badly wounded by shrapnel in the back and shoulder in September 1916 and shipped home on board the Hospital Ship 'Asturius' arriving in England in October 1916. He was treated at Weybridge Military Hospital in Surrey and University College Hospital in London. He was discharged from the Army on 7th August 1918. In 1921 he married Elizabeth Baker at All Saints Church, Carshalton in Surrey when he was working as a crane driver. By 1939 he was living with his wife at 7 Little Pennington Street in Rugby, and working as a crane driver at the British Thomson Houston (BTH) engineering company in the town. Charles died in January 1973 in Rugby.

Newman, George William (maybe Newnham in some army records)

George was born in 1895 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to farm labourer James and Sarah Ellen Newman (brother to Charles and James). In 1911 he was living with his family in Draycott, working as a waggoner. George enlisted in June 1915 when he was living at 7 Houston Road in Rugby, working as a farm labourer. He trained as Driver 840763 with 3/4th South Midland Howitzer Brigade (a territorial Unit based around Rugby). He served in France and Belgium from May 1916 until he was badly wounded in action by gun-shot to the head whilst fighting near Ypres in August 1917. George was shipped back to England in September 1917 and discharged from the Army in November at Woolwich as 'no longer physically fit for War Service'. By 1939 he was married and living at 43 Cambridge Street in Rugby, working as a coal and forage delivery driver. George died in October 1976 in Rugby.

Newman, James Ernest (maybe Newnham in some army records)

James was born in 1891 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to farm labourer James and Sarah Ellen Newman (elder brother to Charles and George). In 1911 he was living in Draycott with his family and working as a farm labourer. James enlisted in the Royal Engineers at Rugby in September 1915, when he was living at 13 Boughton Road in Rugby and working as a waggoner. He trained as Driver 99553 and joined 220th Army Troops Company; (they were responsible for supporting the infantry by digging wells and maintaining water supplies, vital in the Middle East.) James embarked for Egypt as part of the Expeditionary Force in February 1916. He served in Egypt and near El Fulah in Sudan in 1917 and trained as a tinsmith. He was accidentally injured in November 1918 and demobbed at Chatham in June 1919. James died in Rugby in April 1923.

Nicholas, John

John was born in 1892 to farmer John and Anne Kizia Nicholas of Lime Kiln Farm, Stretton-on-Dunsmore, and baptised on 23rd Oct. (His brothers Percy and Stewart also served). In 1911 he was working on his father's farm. The *Rugby Advertiser* recorded that he had joined the Worcestershire Regiment in 1914, but the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News*, 6/8/1915 suggested he had joined the Warwickshire Yeomanry (No. 2343); he was later promoted to Lance-Corporal (No. 310436). He served in Egypt and Palestine and was seriously wounded; he was mentioned in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (June 1915, March & December 1917 and September 1918). A small photo of him no. 35 appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915.

Nicholas, Percy Victor

Percy was born in 1897 to farmer John and Annie Nicholas of Lime Kiln Farm, Stretton-on-Dunsmore, and baptised on 30th May 1897. (He was younger brother to John and Stewart who also served). Percy enlisted - along with his brother Stewart - on 19 January 1916 with the Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Posted to France on 29 August, he was transferred to the 7th Battalion Royal West Kents (Reg. no. 18214) in early September. He suffered slight gunshot wounds to hands, face and elbow a month after arriving in France. He returned to active service in October 1916 and deserted on 2 January 1917 probably suffering from shell shock. The *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* reported that he had been severely wounded in France (March 1917). Percy and his brother John are both recorded in the 1939 survey as working on their father's farm in Stretton. Percy died in September 1969 in Rugby.

Nicholas, Stewart Norris #

Stewart was the eldest son born in 1885 to farmer John and Annie Nicholas of Lime Kiln Farm, Stretton-on-Dunsmore (brother of John and Percy who also served). He was baptised on 3rd November 1895. In 1911 he was working on his father's farm as a shepherd and enlisted as a Private on 19 January 1916 with the Royal Fusiliers (Reg. no. 10988). He suffered from German Measles in training camp and was treated in Edinburgh Castle; he was transferred on 10 September 1916 to the 7th Battalion of the Queen's Own (Royal West Kent) Regiment (Reg. no. G/18213). Stewart was wounded, reported missing and sadly presumed dead on 29 September 1916 at Schwaben Redoubt in France, aged about 31; he has no known grave. Stewart is listed on the Thiepval Memorial (Pier and Face 11C), commemorated on the war memorial inside the church at Stretton-on-Dunsmore and mentioned in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (March & September/October 1917).

Nix, Ernest Albert

Ernest was born in 1893 in Chislehurst, Kent to labourer William and Emma Nix who subsequently moved to Stretton-on-Dunsmore and lived in the Plott (his brothers Harry and Sidney also served). He attended Stretton Elementary School. The parents were Primitive Methodists and christened later children in the Stretton Methodist chapel. In 1911 he worked as a cowman and enlisted on 9 Sept 1914 with Royal Berks Regiment (Reg. no. 14780). He was despatched to France 9 Sept 1915 landing at Le Havre. In November the battalion shipped to Salonika to fight the Bulgarians; he was wounded in June 1917 and discharged 6 May 1918. Ernest died in June 1947 recorded at Coventry. A small photo of him no. 47 appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915.

Nix, Harry Godfrey

Harry was born in 1896 in Oxford to labourer William and Emma Nix (his brothers Ernest and Sidney also served); the family moved to Stretton-on-Dunsmore and lived at the Plott. He attended Stretton Elementary School. The parents were Primitive Methodists and christened later children in the Stretton Methodist Chapel. In 1911 Harry was working at Bluemels factory in Wolston and he enlisted on 11 September 1914 with the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Reg. no. 13569); he transferred to the 12th Hampshire Regiment on 3 October 1914, was promoted to Acting Sergeant, and discharged in 1919. Harry died in Rugby in 1962. A small photo of him no. 17 appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915.

Nix, Sidney George



Sidney was born on 18 October 1898 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to labourer William and Emma (his brothers Harry and Ernest also served). In 1911 he was at school in Stretton. He served in the Royal Engineers as Sapper 318486 from 1914 until he was demobbed in November 1919. In September 1920 he married Ada Monica; she died in 1934 and two years later he married Jessie Curzons. By 1939 he was working as a general labourer and living in Henry Road Coventry. Sidney died in Coventry in 1980. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection.

Oldham, William

William was born in 1897 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to farm labourer Thomas and Elizabeth Oldham. He attended Stretton Elementary School. In 1911, age 24, he was living with his family in Stretton and working at Bluemels factory in Wolston. He served with the King's Royal Rifles (Private no. C6542?) in 1914, was wounded four times, and repatriated to England. Private William Oldham is mentioned as seriously wounded in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (May &

September 1918). By 1939 William was living at 2, New Council Houses, Rugby and working as a labourer for Warwickshire County Council. William died in June 1948 in Rugby.

Paget, George

George was born in 1876 in Bourton-on-Dunsmore to George senior (a carpenter) and Emma Paget. George junior worked as a joiner. He enlisted on 12 July 1918 with the Royal Air Force, no. 238084, and served in France as a carpenter from 2 August 1918 to 16 January 1919. He was transferred to the RAF Reserve on 21 February 1919 and discharged on 30 April 1920. George featured regularly in the *Stretton-on-Dunsmore & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine*: he was a sidesman (April 1910), captained the cricket team and won the batting prize (February 1914), lived in Church Hill (July 1914), was a bell-ringer (July 1918) and was serving in the 'Royal Flying Force' (sic) and went to France (August 1918). In 1939 George was married and living in Church Hill, Stretton, working as a painter, decorator and carpenter. There is a photo of him on p. 19 of the book 'Stretton-on-Dunsmore: the making of a Warwickshire Village': he had been a chorister for 69 years and was still ringing the church bells in his late 70s. George died in September 1964 in Rugby.

Phillips, William John

William was born in Brailes in 1879 to watch & clock repairer Joseph and Emma Phillips, a Catholic school mistress. In 1901 William was living with his widowed mother and teacher sister Lucy, working at a carpenter. By 1911 he was married, living at Coventry Road in Princethorpe and working as a 'stationary engine driver' in the steam laundry at St Mary's Priory. William enlisted in June 1916 at Rugby with the 17th Battalion Devonshire Regiment, having served previously as a Territorial in the Oxfordshire Volunteers. In November 1917 he was transferred to 927 Area Employment Company as Private 92830. (Such companies, part of the Labour Corps, were involved in a variety of roles including salvage work.) He returned from France in December 1918, was discharged from the Army on 1st January 1919 and awarded a pension for 'deafness aggravated by war service'. William returned to Princethorpe and died there in January 1935; he is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Poole, William #

William was born in 1888 in Middlesex to shoemaker William and Elizabeth Poole. By 1901 he was living with his widowed father in London and working as an errand boy (age 13). Later he moved to Ryton on Dunsmore to live with his uncle and aunt, general dealer and haulier Thomas and Charlotte Chatwin. The family worshipped at the Catholic chapel in Princethorpe. William worked at Courtauld's factory in Coventry and enlisted in 1914 when he joined the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry (Private 13055). Sadly, William was killed on 17 October 1915 near Loos, aged 27, and has no known grave. He is commemorated on the Menin Gate memorial in Ypres, on the war memorial in Ryton churchyard and on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour. You can find out more about William in the booklet *Men of Princethorpe who died in the Great War* by Paul Waddoups. A small photo of him no. 8 appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915.

Poyner, Albert John

Albert was born in 1880 in Little Dilwyn, Herefordshire, the son of collier Herbert Leonard and Lucy Poyner (elder brother to Alfred, Edward, George and William who also served). In 1881 he was a baby living with his parents in Dilwyn, near Weobley. In 1891, age 10, he was living with his family in Nantglo. The family moved to Princethorpe in Warwickshire and then to Frankton. He married Lucy Lily (née Boddington from Birdingbury). In 1911 he was living with his wife and three daughters at 11 Lewis Terrace in Llanbradach (near Cardiff) working as a collier hauler; his brother William was living with him. Albert enlisted in August 1915 and joined the Army Service Corps as a learner driver in the Motor Transport section as Private DM2/118165 and served in France. Albert was in hospital with malaria in July 1918 and invalided home. (He may have contracted malaria in France, or it's possible his unit fought in the Middle East or Balkans; unfortunately, his Service record no longer exists for this period.) He was discharged from the Army in March 1919. By 1939 he was living at the same address with his family near Cardiff and working as a lorry driver. Albert died in June 1960 in Glamorgan.

Poyner, Alfred Ernest #

Alfred was born in Canon Pyon, Herefordshire in 1896, son of collier Herbert Leonard and Lucy (younger brother of Albert, George and William who also served). The family moved to Princethorpe in Warwickshire. In 1901, age 5, he was living with his family in Frankton and attending school; his father and elder brother Herbert were working as carters. In 1911, after his father's death, he lived with his widowed mother at Backbury, Mordiford in Herefordshire, working as a farm labourer. Alfred enlisted on 10th August, 1914, joining the 2nd Battalion Welsh Regiment as Private 11482. Having been a Territorial, he sailed for France in September 1914. Sadly, Alfred was killed in action at Givency on 21st January 1915, aged about 19.

Poyner, Edward Charles

Edward was born in Frankton in 1899 to collier Herbert and Lucy Poyner (brother to William, Albert and George who also served). The family moved to Princethorpe in Warwickshire. On the death of his father in 1905 he went to live with his widowed mother and family at Backbury, Modiford Herefordshire. Edward joined the Royal Garrison Artillery in late 1917 at No. 2 Depot, Fort Brockhurst in Gosport. He served in France as Gunner 186386 with 32 Battery RGA (a heavy artillery battery of 6.6" Howitzers). By 1939 he was married, working as a builder's carpenter, living in Durlow, Tarrington, near Ledbury in Herefordshire. Edward died in March 1973 in Hereford.

Poyner, George Thomas

George was born around 1890 in Nantyglo Monmouthshire to collier Herbert Leonard and Lucy Poyner (his brothers William, Alfred and Albert also served). The family moved to Princethorpe in Warwickshire. In 1901, age 11, he was living with his family in Frankton and attending school; his father and elder brother Herbert were working as carters. He joined the Royal Navy in 1907 and served there throughout the war until 1919. In 1911, after his father's death, he was based with his widowed mother at Backbury, Mordiford in Herefordshire. George died in September 1938 recorded at Hereford.

Poyner, William Henry #

William was born in Canon Pyon Herefordshire around 1893 to collier Herbert Leonard and Lucy (his brothers George, Alfred and Albert also served). The family moved to Princethorpe in Warwickshire. In 1901, age 8, he was living with his family in Frankton and attending school; his father and elder brother Herbert were working as carters. In 1911, after his father's death in 1905, William was living with his brother Albert and family in Lewis Terrace, Llanbradach, near Cardiff, working as a colliery labourer. William enlisted in the 1/1st Herefordshire Regiment (TF) as Private 2772 in October 1914. After training, he embarked at Devonport for Gallipoli on the SS 'Euripedes' on 16th July, 1915. Sailing via Port Said, they landed on 'C' beach Sulva Bay at 7.20 a.m. on 9th August. The Battalion had no tents so lived on the bare hillside under constant sniper and shell fire. Sadly, William was killed in action seven days later at Canakkala, aged about 22; he is commemorated at the Azmak Cemetery, Sulva Bay.

Quarterman, Frederick James

Frederick was born in 1899 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to market gardener Thomas and Sarah Ann Quarterman of London Road, Stretton (brother to George, Samuel and William who also served). In 1911 he was at school, living at home with his family. Frederick joined the 8th Battalion, Somerset Light Infantry (Reg. no. 28505) and was later transferred to the Hampshire Regiment (no. 09730). He was wounded in the left hand during the Fourth Battle of Ypres in March 1918. By 1939 he was married, living at 218, London Road in Stretton, and working as an artificial silk spinner. Frederick died in April 1974 in Rugby

Quarterman, George Herbert

George was born in 1892 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to market gardener Thomas and Sarah Ann Quarterman of London Road, Stretton (brother to Frederick, Samuel and William who also served). He attended Stretton Elementary School. In 1911 he worked as a cycle hand in a cycle factory and he married Sarah Capell of Brinklow in 1916. George enlisted at Warwick on 30 Oct 1916 with the 7th Battalion, Suffolk Regiment (Reg. no. 106518). He embarked for France on 6th March 1917 and was promoted to temporary Corporal in May. On 12 December 1917 he was transferred to 152 Labour Company (No. 36358) in the Hampshire Regiment. He was demobilised on 29 Oct 1919 and returned

to Brinklow. By 1939 he was still living in Brinklow and working as a stores' assistant. George died in January 1969 in Brinklow.

Quarterman, Samuel John

Samuel was born in 1896 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to market gardener Thomas and Sarah Ann Quarterman of London Road, Stretton (brother to Frederick, George and William who also served). He attended Stretton Elementary School. In 1911 he was living in Stretton with his grandmother, widowed farmer Alice Quarterman, and working as a farm labourer. Samuel enlisted with the 11th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Private no. 28672). Once in France he was transferred to 13th Platoon, 'D' company 10th Battalion RWR. He was wounded in August 1917. Samuel was initially posted missing in late April 1918 but had in fact been captured at the start of the Battle of Messines on April 10th. He was held for a while in France, moved to Dulman, Westphalia and finally transferred to Camp Sagan, Silesia, in August 1918 (POW no. 34393). The *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* reported that he was a prisoner of war in June 1918. By 1939 he was living at 63, Hollis Road in Coventry and working as a labourer in an iron foundry. Samuel died in May 1952 in Coventry.

Quarterman, William



William was born in 1890 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to market gardener Thomas and Sarah Ann Quarterman of Stretton (brother to Frederick, George and Samuel who also served). He attended Stretton Elementary School. In 1911 he was living in Stretton with his grandmother, widowed farmer Alice Quarterman, working as a farm labourer. William enlisted with the 1/7th Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Reg. no. 4927); later he transferred to 1/6th Battalion and was promoted to Corporal. William was wounded in 1916 but survived the war. By 1939 he was living at 222 London Road, Stretton, and working as a coal merchant. William died in April 1975 in Rugby. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection.

Rathbone, Arthur William

Arthur was born on 6 January 1877 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to market gardener Samuel and Sarah Rathbone and lived on Knightlow Hill. He reached standard VI at Stretton elementary school, which he left in May 1889. He married Martha Joanna Maria Roundhill and had a son William Arthur (who also served in WWI). Arthur was living on the London Road in 1911, working as a farm labourer, before moving to Cubbington. He was working as a cycle builder when he enlisted in Coventry, joining the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (as Private. no. 22491). On active service he was moved from the 1st to the 16th and finally to 1/8th Battalion. On his transfer to the Labour Corps in November 1915 his number changed to 222912 and he served in France from November 1916. He served in 220 Divisional Employment Company (ECs provided a wide range of services including cooks and batmen – often older men unsuited to front-line duties). He was demobilised at Chiseldon in February 1919. By 1939 he was living in Chapel Yard, Warwick, and working as a gardener. Arthur died in Radford Semele in 1947.

Rathbone, William Arthur

William was born in 1901 at Stretton-on-Dunsmore to farm labourer Arthur William (who also served in WWI) and Martha (nee Roundhill). William joined the RAF on 9th August 1918 when he was living in Warwick and working as a silk spinner. After basic training he joined 19 Training Squadron and

was stationed at RAF Baldonnell and then at the Engine Repair Depot at Shrewsbury. William sailed with 31st Wing as part of the Mesopotamia Expeditionary Force in June 1919. They were sent to reinforce British forces facing Arab rebellion against continued military occupation (the promised independence from the Ottoman empire not having been granted). William served at Aircraft Park in Baghdad as an Aero Rigger, assembling, maintaining and repairing aircraft. He returned to England in March 1920 and was demobbed in May. By 1939 he was married, living in Queen Street in Warwick and working as an aero engine fitter. William died in January 1976 in Warwick.

Rennison, Thomas W.



Thomas – known as Tom – was reported in the Rugby Advertiser as enlisting in Rugby in 1914 with a group of men from Stretton. He joined the East Yorkshire Regiment as Private 15926. He was posted for training to 13th (Service Battalion) at Hursley Park, Winchester. Tom was posted to France to join the 2nd Battalion, landing at Le Havre in April 1915. He served in France for over a year, but was invalided home before the Battalion embarked for Salonika in September 1916. He was discharged from the Army at York on 26th September 1916 classified as ‘no longer fit for military service’. He was awarded a Silver Badge and pension as a result of his ‘sickness’ (unspecified). We have not yet identified his precise connection with Stretton-on-Dunsmore or Princethorpe, but this photograph emerged recently in the Blundell/Truslove collection confirming that there must be a link; research continues.

Richardson, Charles

Charles was born in October 1892 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to baker Frederick William and Fanny Richardson (his brothers Frederick, Ernest and Walter also served). He attended Stretton Elementary School. He was baptised in the Primitive Methodist chapel at Stretton on 30 November 1892 (though subsequent children were baptised in the local Anglican church). Charles worked as a factory hand and enlisted in Rugby on 9th September 1914. He joined the 6th Battalion, Royal Dorsetshire Regiment as Private 12093, trained at Bovington and was posted to St Omer, France in July 1915. His Battalion took part in major battles, including Albert and Passchendaele. He served throughout the war and was demobbed in January 1919. By 1939 Charles was married and living in Stretton at 9 New Council Houses, working as a general labourer. Charles died in July 1946 recorded at Bedworth. A small photo of him no. 39 appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915.

Richardson, Frederick George

Frederick was born in 1895 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to baker Frederick William and Fanny Richardson (his brothers Charles, Ernest and Walter also served). In 1911 he was living at home and working as a baker. ‘George’ Richardson joined the Kings Royal Rifle Corps in 1914, as Rifleman 47811. He embarked for France on 21st July 1915. He was badly wounded in the leg at the Battle of Guillemont in September 1916. After treatment in France, he was transferred to England; in March 1917 he was receiving further treatment in Birmingham, followed by convalescence in Kenilworth. On discharge from hospital George spent the rest of the war in the Labour Corps. The *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* reported that four Richardson brothers were serving, and ‘George’ had been wounded and was receiving hospital treatment (March 1917). By 1939 he was married, living at 81 Fowles Road, Coventry, working as an aircraft fitter. Frederick died in July 1967 recorded at Rugby. A small photo of him no. 31 appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915.

Richardson, Ernest William

Ernest was born in 1895 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to baker Frederick William and Fanny Richardson (his brothers Charles, Frederick and Walter also served). He attended Stretton Elementary School. In 1911 he was working as a farm labourer and living with his family in Stretton. Ernest enlisted in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment on 10th December 1915. He served in Mesopotamia and was wounded in 1917. On his return to England, he was transferred to 'E' Company 600th Labour Corps (Reg. no. 585763) being 'no longer fit for war service'. He remained in the Labour Corps until discharged in February 1919. The *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* reported that four Richardson brothers were serving, and Ernest had been wounded in Mesopotamia and was receiving hospital treatment (March 1917). By 1939 he was married, working as a saw operator and living at 15 Bartlett Hill, Rugby. Ernest died in 1980 in Rugby.

Richardson, Walter

Walter was born in 1899 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to baker Frederick William and Fanny Richardson (his brothers Charles, Frederick and Ernest also served). In 1911 he was a pupil at the village school, living with his family in Stretton. At the outbreak of war, he enlisted with the Royal Warwickshire Regiment at Leamington Spa. After training, he sailed to France in 1915 as Private 9190 'A' Company 10th (Service) Battalion with the Birmingham Pals. Walter suffered a gunshot wound to his right elbow on 2nd July 1916, when his Battalion was engaged in heavy fighting at La Boiselle, during the Battle of the Somme; he was eventually evacuated by Ambulance Train to England. He probably returned to active service because the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* reported that four Richardson brothers were serving in March 1917. By 1939 Walter was married and living at Church Hill in Stretton, employed as a shot blaster and enameller. He died in October 1975 registered in Rugby.

Robbins, Charles Frederick #

Charles was born in 1888 to George (a bricklayer's labourer) and Mary Robbins of the Plott, Stretton-on-Dunsmore (his brother Herbert also served); he was baptised on 2 September. In 1911 he was working at the Humber car factory when he enlisted with the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Reg. no. 2833) in 1914. Charles seems to have been known as Frederick in the army. He was reported as promoted to Lance-Corporal (*Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine*, June 1915). Sadly, Charles was killed in action in France by a German sniper on 30 April 1916 at Morlancourt in France, age about 28. He is buried in the Citadel New Military Cemetery, Fricourt (Grave ref. IV E2) and commemorated on the war memorial inside the church at Stretton. His death was recorded in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (May 1916). A small photo of him no. 30 appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915.

Robbins, Herbert Frank



Herbert was born in 1895 to George (a bricklayer's labourer) and Mary Robbins of the Plott, Stretton-on-Dunsmore (his brother Charles also served). He attended Stretton Elementary School. In 1911 he was an engineering apprentice. No military records have been found but he was listed in the *Rugby Advertiser* as having joined the Royal Marines in 1914 and the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* 6/8/1915 (which had small photo 48 of him) also said he was in the Royal Marines. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection.

Robbins, Thomas Arthur #

Thomas was born in December 1886 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore (son of Elizabeth and presumably John Robbins junior); He appears to have been known as Arthur. Sadly his father had died by 1890 and by 1891, age 4, he was living with his grandparents John senior and Sarah Robbins. He reached standard IV at Stretton elementary school, which he left in 1899. By 1901, age 14, he was working as a farm boy and living with his uncles Thomas and William. He worked as a farm labourer for Mitchells. Thomas enlisted on 15 November 1905 with the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Reg. no. 9917); he bought himself out on 18 June 1907. In spring 1911 he was boarding with Richard and Mary Wise in Stretton (their son Walter Wise also served) and he married their daughter Emily in summer 1911. Thomas enlisted again in the Royal Marine Light Infantry in May 1916 and served in their reserve from 1917-18. He was sent to France on 28th January 1918 with the Royal Marine Battalion, reported 'missing in action' on 29th August and then as a P.O.W. 25 in Oflag B in Germany. Sadly, Thomas died of disease in October 1918, age about 30, and his family was told he had no known grave in March 1919. However, his body was identified and reburied in November 1919 at Hennuyeres Communal Cemetery in Belgium. We have not been able to trace his widow in the 1921 census.

Roberts, William

William was recorded as enlisting in Lord Kitchener's Army (*Rugby Advertiser* 12 Sept. 1914). No identifiable military records have been found because there were many William Roberts in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment alone.

Sabin, Charles Walter

Charles was born on 3rd July 1879 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to agricultural labourer Charles and Sarah Sabin (his brother William also served). They lived on the London Road and he attended Stretton Elementary School, reaching Standard III and leaving in 1892. In 1901 he was living with his parents and brother, working as a farm labourer. In 1906 he married Alice Fox at Hunningham. By 1911 he was living at Back Lodge, Wolston Grange, working as a general labourer. Charles enlisted in Warwick on 17th October 1916. After training at Parkhurst, IoW, he was posted to France in January 1917. In May he was wounded by shrapnel in the back and legs and shipped home to Stourbridge Hospital, then to Ballyvonare, County Cork to convalesce. He was sent back to France and served there until demobbed in February 1919. By 1939 he was living at Stone Edge Cottage, Warwick, working as a private gardener. Charles died in April 1967 in Warwick.

Sabin, William George



William was born in 1877 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to agricultural labourer Charles and Sarah Sabin. They lived on the London Road and he attended Stretton Elementary School, reaching Standard V and leaving in 1890. In 1901 he was working as a farm labourer, living with his parents and younger brother Charles (who also served) on London Road. In 1911 he was working as a farm waggoner, living with his widowed mother in Stretton. He joined the 15th (Service Battalion) 2nd Birmingham Pals (No. 203720) and after one month in France he was invalided out with Synovitis Left Metatarsal. He is mentioned in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (November 1917). By 1939 (aged 63) he was working as a farm hand and living in one of the Well Head Cottages in Stretton with his sister Mary (a photo of these cottages can be found under J.C. Gilbert). William died in November 1955 in St Cross Hospital in Rugby. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection.

Sargent, John,

John was born in 1890 in Warwick; in 1901 his widowed mother Sarah was living in Princethorpe working as a charwoman. He married Amelia Mary Howkins of Stretton-on-Dunsmore in 1910; they were living in Princethorpe in 1911 and caring for his young cousin Lily Green. John served in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Private no. 1865) before the war started (later no. 265226). John was wounded in September 1916; the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* reported him as seriously wounded (March 1917). By 1939 he was living in Leamington Road, Princethorpe with his family. John died in July 1972 in Princethorpe and he is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Savage, Arthur

Arthur was born in Warwick in 1897 to Eliza Anne and William, who was a labourer for a brick-layer. In 1901 Arthur was living with his family at 29, North Rock, Saltisford in Warwick. By 1911 he was living at home with his mother and grandmother, and employed as a labourer for the Borough Surveyor. Arthur enlisted in Lord Kitchener's Army with the Kings Royal Rifles (*Rugby Advertiser* 12 September 1914) but was transferred to the Royal Warwickshire regiment as Private 16054. He served in France and was wounded in July 1916 and again in April 1917, aged 20, by which time he was serving in the Somerset Light Infantry as Private 52098. By 1939 Arthur was married and living in his childhood family home (29 Saltisford in Warwick) and employed as a labourer in a builder's yard. Arthur died in Warwick in July 1972. We have not yet found his link to Stretton or Princethorpe.

Simpson, Wardrop Broadwood Dallas

Wardrop was born in 1892 in Hillmorton to George and Agnes Annie Simpson. By 1901 his mother was widowed and working as a farmer and grazier in Hillmorton. By 1911 they had moved to Stretton-on-Dunsmore. Agnes was still a farmer and Wardrop an electrical engineer; he enlisted in 1911 with the 4th Dragoon Guards (Reg. no. 5826). He is mentioned as having been wounded by the *Stretton-on-Dunsmore & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (October 1914 & June 1915). He served in France until April 1919 and was mobilised with the Royal Tank Corps (service number 388460) from 1921 until 1936 when he was discharged at Canterbury. He was living at 54a St John's Avenue, Harlesden London NW10. He travelled with his widowed mother to Los Angeles on board the SS 'Loch Goil' in March 1927 and later gained citizenship in California. A pension record in Wardrop's name was submitted to the Pension Office 'from overseas' in 1954.

Skinner, Herbert John



Herbert was born in 1891 in East Down, Devon, to William (a shepherd and cattleman) and Emily Anne Skinner. By 1901 Herbert was working as a ploughboy, living in Calcutt, Grandborough, with his family. Later Herbert worked as a groom and joined the Army Service Corps before the war: in 1911 he was a driver living in barracks at Woolwich. By 1913 he had left the ASC and was working as a domestic groom at Weston-under-Wetherley. When war was declared Herbert re-joined the ASC and is listed with other recruits from Stretton-on-Dunsmore and Princethorpe in the *Rugby Advertiser* in September 1914. By 1939 he was married, working as a farm labourer, and living at 'Holly Cottage' Birmingham Road in Kenilworth. Herbert died in 1963 in Warwick. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection. (His brother George served with the Canadian Expeditionary Force and sadly died of wounds in Flanders on 15th March 1916.)

Smith, Albert H.

Albert was born around 1892 to waggoner Charles and Phoebe Anne Smith of Princethorpe (brother to Alfred, Ambrose, Austin, John, Joseph and William who all served). Albert served in India as a regular soldier, and then in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment during WWI. He was recorded as having been taken prisoner in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (June 1915) and was still a prisoner of war in 1917. He is mentioned in the booklet *Men of Princethorpe who died in the Great War* by Paul Waddoups and commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Smith, Alfred Edward #

Alfred was born in 1884 to waggoner Charles and Phoebe Anne Smith of Princethorpe (brother to Albert, Ambrose, Austin, John, Joseph and William who also served); he was baptised in Stretton-on-Dunsmore on 6th January 1884 and later attended school in the village. In 1901 he was boarding at 37 Franchise Street in Handsworth, Staffordshire working as a coal carter. He married Helen (née Bosworth) and had two children. Alfred enlisted in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment in 1904 (well before the war started). In 1911 he was stationed with the 1st Battalion in Bombay; he also served in Aden and Malta. The Battalion later returned to England in barracks at Shorncliffe, Warwick, where he was placed in the Army Reserve. The family were living in Marton when he was recalled to the Colours; Alfred went to France soon after war broke out and was transferred to the 14th Battalion (1st Birmingham Pals as Private 371). Sadly, Alfred was killed on 9th May 1917 at Arleux near Vimy Ridge in France, age 33, during attempts to retake the village of Fresnoy, occupied by the Germans the previous day. The fighting was described as 'savagely, a mix of hand-to-hand fighting, bayonet charges and bombing raids...the Battalion suffered heavy casualties'. Alfred has no known grave but is commemorated on the Arras memorial (Bay 3) and the war memorial inside the church at Stretton-on-Dunsmore. He is mentioned in the booklet *Men of Princethorpe who died in the Great War* by Paul Waddoups and commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour. We have not been able to trace his widow in the 1921 census.

Smith, Ambrose Bernard

Ambrose was born in Princethorpe in 1900 to waggoner Charles and Phoebe Anne Smith of Princethorpe (brother to Albert, Alfred, Austin, John, Joseph and William who all served). Ambrose worked as a silk spinner in Coventry. He joined the Training Reserve Corps, Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Reg. no. 27632) in August 1918, but was discharged to work in the coal mines before he had the opportunity to serve abroad. He transferred to the Army Reserve in January 1919 and died in 1928. He is mentioned in the booklet *Men of Princethorpe who died in the Great War* by Paul Waddoups and commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Smith, Arthur Basil

Arthur was born in Princethorpe in 1889 to James Basil, a farm waggoner and Elizabeth Smith. In 1911 he was living with his parents at Eathorpe and working as a domestic gardener. During the war he served in the Army Service Corps as Private 170604 DM2 (Driver Motor Transport, Learner). By 1939 he was married and living at 72 Gresham Avenue in Leamington Spa, employed as a lorry driver. Arthur died on 20th October 1954 at Warneford Hospital in Leamington.

Smith, Austin Benedict

Austin was born in Princethorpe in 1894 to waggoner Charles and Phoebe Anne Smith of Princethorpe (brother to Albert, Alfred, Ambrose, John, Joseph and William who all served). In 1911 he was living with his family at Coventry Road in Princethorpe and working as a labourer on a local farm. Austin enlisted with the Royal Field Artillery as Driver 72330 at the outbreak of war. He embarked for France in October 1914 with the 22nd Brigade RFA, but later transferred to the Royal Horse Artillery. He received his Victory Medal as Private no. 274125. By 1939 he was living at Coventry Road in Princethorpe and working as a farm labourer. Austin's death is recorded in Rugby in July 1971 and he is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Smith, Austen Benedict #

Austen (Austin in some records) was born in 1876 in Princethorpe to farm labourer William and Elizabeth Smith. He worked as a carter and then joined the 1st Battalion, S. Staffordshire Regiment at Lichfield in 1893 as Private 34071 and served in Gibraltar from 1899-1900. Then he went to South Africa from 1901-1902 (the 2nd Boer War) and was awarded the South Africa medal. He was

transferred to the Army Reserve in January 1903 and discharged from the Army in January 1905. When war broke out, he re-joined the Colours in the 14th Battalion (1st Birmingham Pals) of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Private no. 17637). Sadly, Austen was killed in action on the Somme on 3 September 1916, aged 40; he has no known grave and is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial. You can find out more about Austen in the booklet *Men of Princethorpe who died in the Great War* by Paul Waddoups and he is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Smith, James

Two James Smiths are commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour (one in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment) but we have not been able to trace them.

Smith, John Wilfred MM #



John (known to his family as Jack) was born in 1898 to waggoner Charles and Phoebe Anne Smith of Princethorpe (brother to Albert, Alfred, Ambrose, Austin, Joseph and William who all served). He worked as a farm labourer and a collier. John enlisted in January 1915 (age 16) with the Royal Warwickshire Regiment with a declared age of 19 years 4 days (Private 2940). In March 1916 he was discharged for having made a mis-statement as to his age on enlisting. He then volunteered with the 1st Battalion of the Warwickshire Yeomanry (Private no. 310881) and was awarded the Military Medal for bravery (reported in the London Gazette on 21 October 1916): 'for volunteering and remaining behind under heavy fire and bringing out Sergeant C. Hudson who was dangerously wounded'. Sadly, John was killed in action in the famous last-ever British Army cavalry charge at Huj in Palestine on 8th November 1917, aged 19, and is buried in the Gaza War Cemetery (Grave ref. XIX C 3). He was awarded the Victory and 15 Star Medals. John is commemorated on the war memorial inside the church at Stretton-on-Dunsmore. You can find out more about him in the booklet *Men of Princethorpe who died in the Great War* by Paul Waddoups and he is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour. This small photo of him comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection; it is a copy of photo no. 34 that appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915. (The *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (December 1917) states that his parents were Mr & Mrs L. Smith, but this appears to be an error as it talks of the couple's six soldier sons, which clearly means Charles and Phoebe Smith.)

Smith, Joseph

Joseph was born in 1888 in Eathorpe to waggoner Charles and Phoebe Anne Smith of Princethorpe (brother to Albert, Alfred, Ambrose, Austin, John and William who all served). In 1891 he was working as a farm labourer, living with his family in Princethorpe. In 1911 he was working as a labourer on Priory Farm and living on Coventry Road in Princethorpe. He married and by 1914 was living in Stretton at Turralls Yard, Knob Hill. He had joined the Royal Warwickshire Regiment before the war started, returned to the Colours in 1914 and embarked for France in 'B' Company 2nd Battalion. He was recorded as having been wounded and taken prisoner in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (June 1915). He was treated in Margaretts Ward of the General Hospital in Lille and later transferred as a Prisoner of War to the Fortress Military Hospital in Wesel, near Dusseldorf. He remained a POW until 1918. He is mentioned in the booklet *Men of Princethorpe who died in the Great War* by Paul Waddoups and commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour. By 1939 Joseph was living at 'The Poplars' on London Road, Stretton, working as a house painter. Joseph died in April 1963 recorded at Rugby.

Smith, William Percival

William was born in 1886 to waggoner Charles and Phoebe Anne Smith of Princethorpe (brother to Albert, Alfred, Ambrose, Austin, John and Joseph who all served). William enlisted as a Private in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment before the war started and it was reported that he had been wounded by the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (June 1915). He was captured and a Prisoner of War in 1917. After the war, by then a Corporal, he was present at the dedication of the War Memorial in 1922. William died in April 1979 at Princethorpe.

Spencer, Edward Harold #

Edward was born in 1897 in Princethorpe to farm labourer Edward Henry and Edith Spencer. Before the war the family were living in Hinckley. Edward enlisted in the Leicestershire Regiment (Private no. 22490). He went out to Mesopotamia with the 2nd Battalion in late 1915 and served there for over a year. Sadly, Edward was killed in action on 9th March 1917 in Mesopotamia, age 20; he has no known grave and is commemorated on the Basra Memorial in Iraq. You can find out more about Edward in the booklet *Men of Princethorpe who died in the Great War* by Paul Waddoups and he is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Styles, Joseph Bernard

Joseph was born in Eathorpe to Charles and Mary Ann Styles in 1897. In 1911 he was living in Eathorpe and working as a houseboy. Joseph enlisted with the King's Royal Rifle Corps in September 1914 (Reg. no. R1083) and spent three and a half years in France. He was discharged in August 1919 with arthritis, as no longer physically fit. He joined the Warwickshire Constabulary, but resigned through ill health after 6 months. Joseph died in 1923 in Farnborough, Warwickshire, and is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour as 'of Eastbrook' (probably a misprint for Eathorpe).

Teverson, Henry George W

Henry was born in 1897 in Princethorpe to Ellen Marion and Henry John William Fuller Teverson. He went to boarding school in Wolverly, Kidderminster where he was known as George. He served as a second lieutenant in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment and was invalided home from Italy suffering from trench fever (*Stretton-on-Dunsmore & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine*, August & September 1918). Henry died in 1977 in Warwick; he is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Thorne

No relevant records have yet been found, but we do know that Mr Thorne joined up through the Lord Derby Scheme and he is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Tracey, Leonard Charles #

Leonard was born in 1884 to farm labourer Charles and Susan Tracey (Susan had been born in Stretton-on-Dunsmore). Leonard married Eva Louisa Lomas in 1908 and they lived in Princethorpe where he worked as a farm labourer and then a domestic gardener at the Convent. The couple had three children Annie, Kathleen and Eric. Leonard enlisted as a Private with the 20th Hussars in 1914, was drafted into the Dorset Regiment (Reg. no. 11837) and then transferred to the 2nd Battalion of the Duke of Edinburgh's (Wiltshire) Regiment (Reg. no. 29662). Sadly, Leonard was killed in action on 16th October 1916 at the Somme in France, age 32, and has no known grave. He was awarded the Victory, British and 15 Star medals. Leonard is listed on the Thiepval Memorial (Pier and Face 13A), commemorated on the war memorial inside the church at Stretton-on-Dunsmore and mentioned in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (March 1917). You can find out more about Leonard in the booklet *Men of Princethorpe who died in the Great War* by Paul Waddoups and he is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour. By 1921 his widow Eva was living in Princethorpe with her three children: Amy, Kathleen and seven-year-old Eric.

Tuckey, Charles Ernest #



Charles was born in 1894 in Princethorpe, 8th child of Sarah Ann (née Borsley) and Thomas, the village butcher and sub-postmaster (his brothers Edmund and William also served); Charles was baptised on 25th November. He worked as a butcher and shop-keeper in his father's business. Sadly, his father died in September 1914 and his mother in 1916. Charles enlisted with the 1st Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Private 242325). He was wounded three times and then sadly killed in action on 4 October 1917, age 23, at Langemarck, Passchendaele in Belgium, and has no known grave. Charles is commemorated on the Tyne Cot memorial near Ypres (Panel 23-28 and 163A), the war memorial inside the parish church at Stretton-on-Dunsmore and the Princethorpe Roll of Honour. You can find out more about Charles in the booklet *Men of Princethorpe who died in the Great War* by Paul Waddoups (which includes a photo of him). His loss was mentioned in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (December 1917). The photo shows the memorial to Charles' parents Thomas and Sarah Ann in Stretton-on-Dunsmore churchyard.

Tuckey, Edmund Percy

Edmund was born in 1897 in Princethorpe to butcher Thomas Tuckey and Sarah Ann (née Borsley); his brothers Charles and William also served. In 1911 he was living with his family in Princethorpe and working in the family business as a butcher's errand boy. Sadly, his father died in September 1914 and his mother in 1916. Edmund was recorded as joining the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (*Rugby Advertiser* Sept. 1914). He went to France in 1915 as Private 177990. Later he was wounded and transferred to the Labour Corps as Private 450283. By 1939 he was married and living at The Green in Meriden, working as a farmer and master butcher. Edmund died in July 1977 in Coventry and is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour. There is a memorial to his parents Thomas and Sarah in Stretton-on-Dunsmore churchyard (see photo under C.E. Tuckey).

Tuckey, William Thomas



William was born in Princethorpe, son of butcher Thomas and Sarah Anne Tuckey (née Borsley), brother to Charles and Edmund who also served. In 1911 he was living at home and working in his father's business as assistant butcher. Sadly, his father died in September 1914 and his mother in 1916. William enlisted on 23rd September 1915 in the Army Service Corps (Supply Specialist 17278) being recruited for his trade expertise. He embarked for service in the Gallipoli campaign on 23th October 1915, arrived on the island of Lemnos and was stationed at Mudros port, a supply base for the campaign. He was evacuated with the expeditionary force in April 1916 from the Dardanelles to France and shortly afterwards was transferred to the 24th Company Labour Corps as Private 3037019. By 1939 William was a widower living at Stockton and working as a master butcher; he died on 28th

December 1973 in Stockton. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection. There is a memorial to his parents Thomas and Sarah in Stretton-on-Dunsmore churchyard (see photo under C.E. Tuckey).

Turrall, Albert

Albert was born in 1890 to agricultural labourer William and Mary Ann Turrall of Stretton-on-Dunsmore (his brother Alfred also served). He attended Stretton Elementary School. In 1911 he was a baker with Berry's in Wolston and later with Wilcox in Stretton. Albert enlisted on 12 January 1915 with the 2nd Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, Labour Corps (service number 646481) but transferred to the Welsh Regiment (Reg. no. 76552). He shipped to France in March 1915 and embarked for Salonica in November. He caught malaria in December 1917 and was treated in various hospitals and the Infantry Training Camp in Salonica. He sailed back to England arriving in Southampton in December 1918 and was discharged in 1919. By 1939 he was living in Plott Lane, in Stretton, with his family and working as a builder's labourer. Albert died in January 1972 at Plott Lane in Stretton.

Turrall, Alfred

Alfred was born in December 1884 to agricultural labourer William and Mary Ann Turrall of Stretton-on-Dunsmore (his brother Albert also served). He attended Stretton Elementary School, reaching Standard IV and leaving in 1898. He was an under waggoner on a farm in 1901, and a fitter's labourer in 1911 living with his parents on the Plott, Stretton. He joined the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Private no. 199488) then the Labour Corps (Reg. no. 646481). He was mentioned as serving in the Army Service Corps by the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News*, 6/8/1915 and the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (December 1917). Alfred died in January 1972 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore. A small photo of him no. 26 appeared in the *CWGN* on 6/8/1915.

Turrall, Leonard Horace



Leonard was born in 1895 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to agricultural labourer Edward and Harriet Turrall (and actually registered as Horace Leonard at birth). He had seven siblings: Emma, Edward Henry, Walter, Sydney (who also served), Margaret, Clara and Alec. He attended Stretton Elementary School. By 1911 the family were living at 48 Providence Street, Coventry, where Leonard worked as an assistant groundsman on a golf course. Leonard enlisted on 4 Sept 1914 with the 70th Battalion, King's Rifle Regiment (reg. no. R/1344) but was discharged as medically unfit with heart problems in 6 Oct 1914. In February 1916 he joined the Royal Flying Corps (23178) as an acetylene welder and served until demobbed in September 1919. In 1931 he married Ellen Louise Waddoups. By 1939 he was living with his wife in Burnt Hurst Cottages, Princethorpe, and working as an aircraft welder in Coventry. Leonard died in 1949 in Warwick. This photo comes from a group photo in the Blundell/Truslove collection.

Turrell, Sydney E.



Sydney was born in Dunchurch in 1888 to agricultural labourer Edward Turrell and Harriet (née Clarke). By 1891 his family were living in the centre of Stretton-on-Dunsmore and he attended the elementary school in 1898-9. In 1901, age 13, he was living with his family in Princethorpe, no occupation was given so he may still have been at school. He had seven siblings: Emma, Edward Henry, Walter, Leonard (who also served), Margaret, Clara and Alec. By 1911 Sydney was living at 48 Providence Street in Earlsdon, Coventry; he was a bricklayer's labourer and his father a 'jobbing gardener'. Sydney enlisted with the Northamptonshire Regiment in February 1916 as Private 49851 in the 6th Service Battalion. He was shipped to France, landing at Le Havre in June 1916; he served in this Regiment until the end of the war. By 1939 he was married, living back in Providence Street, and working in the celluloid works at the Rex Motor Works in Earlsdon. Sydney died in 1957 in Coventry. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection and has 'Plott Lane' written on the back.

Twynham, James (senior)

James was born in 1867 in Hungerford Berkshire to John (who was a domestic groom) and Mary Twynham. The family moved to Hunningham and then by 1871 to Eathorpe. Later they moved to Princethorpe, and James married Mary Ann. By 1901 he was married and living at 66 Wykeham Road in Hungerford, working as a general labourer. In 1911 he was living with his family in Princethorpe working as a road labourer for Rugby District Council. He was a former serving soldier and National Reservist who was recalled to the colours in September 1914; he joined the Royal Warwickshire Regiment 7th Battalion (Reg. no. 3562) in October at Southam. He was promoted to Acting Corporal in December 1915 and transferred to 259 Protection Company Royal Defence Corps in April 1916 (No. 13697) guarding POW camps in the UK. He was discharged with chronic rheumatism and received an army pension in April 1919. James died in April 1951 recorded at Rugby. James senior is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour (his son James junior also served).

Twynham, James (junior) MM

James was born in 1896 in Leamington Spa to labourer James and Mary Ann Twynham. In 1901 the family were living in Berkshire but by 1911 the family were living in Princethorpe and James was working at Bluemels factory in Wolston. James enlisted as a Territorial in 1913 and was mobilised at the outbreak of war. Private James Twynham joined the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Reg. no. 2416) and disembarked in France with the British Expeditionary Force in November 1914. He was later promoted to Lance Sergeant. He was mentioned in despatches for 'conspicuous gallantry' in 1915 and awarded the Military Medal for bravery in the field in 1916 (*Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine*, June 1915). By 1939 he was living at 24 Castle Road, Newport, on the Isle of Wight, working as a time keeper for the Southern Vectis Bus Company and was appointed Air Raid Warden for the bus Depot. James (junior) died in Newport in 1972 and is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour (his father James senior also served).

Waddoups, Austin Joseph

Austin was born in 1879 in Aston le Walls, Northampton, to gardener's labourer John and Mary Ann Waddoups. By 1911 he was living in Princethorpe with his parents; his father was head gardener at the Priory, and Austin was working as an under-gardener. Austin served in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Reg. no. 6623) in 1917 but was discharged after one month with stone deafness; he served until the end of the war in the Labour corps. Austin died in 1951 in Princethorpe and he is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Waddoups, James Edmund



James was born in 1893 to farmer William and Edith Waddoups; he was working on his father's farm at Aston le Walls in 1911. By 1914 he was living at Priory Cottage in Princethorpe, working as a gardener for the Priory. James enlisted soon after the outbreak of war and arrived in Boulogne in May 1915 with the 5th (Service) Battalion Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry (Reg. no. 10114). Private J. E. Waddoups was slightly wounded shortly afterwards. He served in France until April 1918 when he was wounded again and sent home. He joined the Royal Defence Corps and was discharged in April 1919. James died in October 1971 in Banbury and is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Ward, Arthur

Arthur was born in 1883 to woodman Joseph and laundress Anne Ward living in Princethorpe. He attended Stretton Elementary School, reaching Standard III and leaving in 1895. By 1901, following the death of his father, Arthur was living at 43 Queens Street in Coventry with his grandmother, working as a mechanical draftsman. In 1911 he was living in Ryton on Dunsmore with his widowed mother and brother, working as a labourer. Arthur enlisted under the Lord Derby Scheme in December 1915: he was allowed to continue working, but expecting to be called up at a later date. Arthur was mobilised in February 1917, joining the Army Service Corps as Private 287684, Motor Transport. He trained as a driver then joined 4th Motor Company ASC. He embarked for France on 17th May 1917 on the SS 'Huntsland' sailing from Portsmouth to Rouen. Arthur was in France until January 1919 serving in 1st Motor Repair Shop, 5th Auxiliary Petrol Company and 1st Water Tank Company during that time. He was demobbed at Woolwich Depot in February 1919. By 1921 he had married war widow Harriet Gilbert and was living with her and his stepson in Coventry. In 1939 Arthur was living at 2 Tenerife Road in Coventry working as a lorry driver; he died on 14th August 1944 in Coventry.

Ward, Charles



Charles (known as Charlie), was born in 1890 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to farm labourer Charles and Harriet Ward (brother to Harry). In 1901 the family were living in Stretton and Charles was attending

Stretton Elementary School. In 1911 Charles and his wife Elizabeth were living in Walsgrave-on-Sowe (near Coventry) and he was working as a builder's labourer. Charles joined the army and was serving as a private in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment in 1918 (mentioned in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* in September 1918). By 1939 he was living at 17 Tulliver Street in Coventry, working as a cyanide hardener. Charles is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour; he died in 1952 in Coventry. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection.

Ward, Ernest Joseph

Ernest was born in Princethorpe in 1893 to agricultural labourer Joseph and Hannah (his brother Sidney also served). He attended Stretton Elementary School. In 1901 he was living with his family at Brickyard, next to Asylum Farm in Stretton-on-Dunsmore. In 1911 he was living at 1, Sunnyside, Nuneaton with his family working as a labourer at a brick works. Ernest enlisted on 25th August 1914 in Nuneaton with the Kings Shropshire Light Infantry (giving his occupation as collier). He embarked for France on 20th May 1915 and on 11th September was injured by a shell exploding close by him in a trench. He was treated for concussion and then shell shock at 42 Field Ambulance, 17 OCS then at 16 General Hospital, Treport and transferred to hospital in England. He was discharged from the Army to Sunnyside Hospital, Stockingford, Nuneaton on 18th December 1917. He was the only local man formally recorded as having shell shock, but was diagnosed as only suffering from 30% shell shock when his disability pension was calculated. By 1939 he was living in Nuneaton, working as a building sub-contractor's labourer. Ernest died in August 1977 in Coventry.

Ward, Sidney #

Sidney was born in Princethorpe on 11 December 1879 to agricultural labourer Joseph and Hannah Ward. He reached standard V at Stretton-on-Dunsmore elementary school, which he left in May 1892. Sidney worked as a bricklayer's labourer, married Sarah from Princethorpe and had a son (also called Sidney) in 1903. Sidney senior enlisted in 1914 with the Oxfordshire & Buckinghamshire Light Infantry and served as a Private. Sadly, he was killed on 15th May 1915, age 37; he has no known grave and is commemorated at the Le Touret Memorial, on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour and on the war memorial in Ryton on Dunsmore churchyard. You can find out more about Sidney in the booklet *Men of Princethorpe who died in the Great War* by Paul Waddoups. A small photo of him no. 20 appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915. We have not been able to trace his widow in the 1921 census.

Warren, Arthur

Arthur was born on 25 April 1878 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to agricultural labourer Homer and laundress Emma Warren (uncle to George, Homer, Isaac and John who all served). He reached standard V at Stretton elementary school, which he left in July 1890. He worked as an agricultural labourer and joined the 4th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment in 1894 (as Private 5757) and was discharged by purchase in January 1895. In January 1900 Arthur enlisted again with the 6th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, and again purchased his discharge in Sept 1907. By 1911 he had joined the Metropolitan Police, was married and living at 135 Trafalgar Road in Gillingham, Kent. He returned to Warwickshire to live at 6 Stanley Terrace in Coventry where he worked as a labourer at Rudge Whitworth Ltd. Arthur re-joined the Colours on 5th August 1914 in the 7th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment as Private 1816. He went to France with his Battalion in March 1915 and served there until June 1916. He returned to England and was discharged from the Army as 'being no longer fit for military duty'. However, he re-joined the Metropolitan Police, serving with them until he resigned with a pension at the end of October 1927. By 1939 he was a police pensioner living at 27 Jersey Road in Rochester. Arthur died in Chatham Hospital in December 1964.

Warren, George James



George (nickname Jack) was born in 1889 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to agricultural labourer Homer and Elizabeth Warren (brother to Homer, Isaac and John, and nephew of Arthur Warren). In 1901 he was living with the Oldham family in Stretton, his widowed mother having married Thomas W. Oldham. He attended Stretton Elementary School. In 1911 George was working as a bricklayer's labourer when he enlisted with the Territorials. He served with the 1st Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment from the outbreak of war in France. He was a specialist marksman and promoted to Sergeant. George was wounded three times (and was mentioned as having been wounded in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* June 1915). On recovery he returned to active service in the Labour Corps in Italy but was eventually discharged from the Army as 'sick' in 1919. He is presumably the 'Staff Sergeant Warren' who helped to organise a muster of de-mobilised men on the day the memorial tablet was dedicated in Stretton Church (*Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine*, December 1919). By 1939 he was married, living in Coventry and working as a silk weaver. George died in January 1963 at Baginton. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection. A smaller photo no. 4 appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915.

Warren, Homer Charles



Homer was born on 4 May 1886 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to agricultural labourer Homer and Elizabeth Warren, brother to George, Isaac and John, and nephew of Arthur Warren. He reached standard V at Stretton elementary school, which he left in January 1898. He married Rose Overs in Wolston 30 May 1914 where he lived and worked as a polisher at Bluemels. Homer enlisted with the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry in September 1914 (Reg. no. OX/13095). He was discharged on 28 September 1914 but re-enlisted at Rugby on 9th March 1916 in the Berkshire Regiment (the uniform shown in the photo) and transferred to the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry (reg. no. 26878) in March 1916. He was shipped to France on 7th May 1916 (and served there until 1919). On 9th May 1917 he transferred to 4th Platoon, 156 Labour Coy Royal Engineers (no. 93489). He was examined on 7th March 1919 at Le Cateau and then returned to the UK and was demobbed at Chiseldon Depot. by 1939 he was living with his wife and daughter Irene at 8 New Council Houses, Bartlett's Hill, Rugby and working as a general labourer. Homer died in April 1954 in Warwick. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection. A smaller photo no. 29 appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915.

Warren, Isaac Henry



Isaac was born in 1890 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to agricultural labourer Homer and Elizabeth Warren, brother to George, Homer and John, and nephew of Arthur Warren. He attended Stretton Elementary School. In 1901 Isaac was living with his family in Stretton. Before the war, in November 1908, Isaac enlisted in Coventry with the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Private no. 1140) 3rd Reserve Battalion. He was discharged after home service on 28th February 1911. Later that year he was working at a factory in Wolston, living with his stepfather Oldham's family, following the re-marriage of his widowed mother. In September 1914 he re-enlisted with the 2nd King's Royal Rifle Corps, 2nd Battalion Labour Corps. He is mentioned as having been wounded in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (June 1915). He was wounded again, admitted to hospital on 29 September 1916, and discharged on 17 November 1916. By 1939 he was living at 6 New Council Houses, Rugby and working as a metal polisher. Isaac died in Rugby in October 1942. This photo come from the Blundell/Truslove collection.

Warren, John Thomas



John was born on 4 Aug. 1887 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to agricultural labourer Homer and Elizabeth Warren, brother to George, Homer, and Isaac, and nephew of Arthur Warren. He reached standard VI at Stretton elementary school, which he left in Jan. 1900. John enlisted before the war in 1905 with the Coldstream Guards (Reg. no. 5363) but was discharged as physically unfit (loss of his right eye in 1906). In 1911 he was living in Church Hill in Stretton and working as a bricklayer's labourer. He married Edith Sarah Tew in April 1915 and re-joined the army on 14th February 1916 in the 30th Railway Labour Battalion (Reg. no. 496379). On 16 December 1917 he was transferred to 620th Labour Company. He was twice posted to France before finally being discharged as being no longer physically fit for war service in March 1918 because of the earlier loss of his right eye (a glass eye was fitted on 9 July 1917). In 1939 John was a patient at the Coventry & Warwickshire Hospital, Stoney Stanton Road in Coventry; his occupation was listed as a builder's labourer. He died in April 1957 in Coventry. This photo come from the Blundell/Truslove collection. The *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* reported six members of the Warren family serving the King (March 1917) so there is probably another member of the family that we have missed.

Waters, George J.

George was born in 1899 in Princethorpe to gardener Joseph and Mary Waters (elder brother to John). In 1911 he was living in Princethorpe with his widowed father and family and attending school. He joined the Royal Warwickshire Regiment in 1915 and served in France with the 2nd Battalion as Private 11623. By 1939 he and his wife were living at 143 Keith Lucas Road in Cove near Farnborough Hants, working as an electrical fitter's mate. George died in December 1976 at 29 Gooden Crescent in Farnborough and he is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Waters, John Joseph

John was born in 1893 in Princethorpe to gardener Joseph and Mary Waters (younger brother of George). In 1911 he was living with his widowed father & family in Princethorpe and working as a farm labourer. He joined the Royal Warwickshire Regiment before the war started. He embarked for France on 22nd August 1914 as Private 2497 in the 1st Battalion but later transferred to the 2nd Battalion. John was reported 'missing in action' in June 1915, but survived, though wounded. He recovered and transferred to the 10th Battalion and ended his service in the 1/8th Battalion. He is mentioned in the *Stretton-on-Dunsmore & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* for June 1915. John died in Rugby in 1976 and is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Watson, William Donald Paul, MC

William was born in 1872 in Paddington, London to Clarence and Mary Louise Watson. He was educated at Charterhouse and Brasenose, Oxford. In 1891-94 he was a lieutenant with the Wiltshire Regiment and between 1894-98 a lieutenant in the Royal Scots Greys. In 1911 he was living at The Woodhouse, Princethorpe as a company director with his wife, son and 8 servants. He re-joined the Army in 1917, serving as temporary captain in the 2nd Dragoon Guards in France. He was awarded a Military Cross and promoted to Major. He subsequently changed his surname to Watson-Gandy. In the 1930s he was living in Gates Villa Rd, Kalk Bay, Cape Province, South Africa. William died on 8th July 1947 at False Bay Hospital, Simonstown, South Africa; he is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Wells, Stephen



Stephen was born in Marton in 1885 to agricultural labourer William and Joyce Wells (his brother Walter also served). In 1891 he was at school and living with his family in Marton. In 1901 he was working as a baker's assistant to Herbert Allibone in Marton. In 1911 he was living in Stretton-on-Dunsmore, married to Emma with two daughters, and subsequently worked at Courtaulds in Coventry as a silk spinner. Stephen enlisted as a Territorial before the war, on March 19th 1913, at Coventry. When war broke out, he was called to the Colours, joining the 7th Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Private no. 27924) on 5th September 1914. He embarked with the British Expeditionary Force for France on 23rd March 1915. He was wounded in action in late 1915. He returned to France in 1916 and was seriously wounded in action on the Somme on 10 December 1916 by shrapnel and contracted erysipelas (a severe bacterial skin infection). Stephen was treated in field hospitals in France and subsequently transferred to Waverley Auxiliary Hospital, then to Cambridge. After being returned to the Regimental Depot on light duties he was discharged from the Army in December 1917 as 'no longer physically fit'. He was mentioned as recuperating well in the *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* (December 1917 & May 1918); see also the *Rugby Advertiser*, December 1916. By 1939 he was living in Ryton and working as an artificial silk weaver; Stephen died in January 1960 in Rugby. This small photo of him comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection; it is a copy of photo no. 41 that appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915.

Wells, Walter



Walter was born in 1886 in Marton to agricultural labourer William and Joyce Wells (his brother Stephen – who later lived in Stretton-on-Dunsmore – also served). In 1891 Walter was at school and living with his family in Marton. In 1901, age 14, he was living in Rokeby Street Rugby with his elder sister Joyce and brother-in-law Frank Porter. Walter enlisted with the 1st Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment in 1904. Between then and 1912 he served with the 1st Battalion as part of the 12th Infantry Brigade in Pershwar, Bombay and Aden and was promoted to Corporal. His Battalion was in Portsmouth when war was declared. Walter embarked for France with the British Expeditionary Force on 19th September 1914 and served as a Lance Corporal (Reg. no. 9962). Walter was badly wounded in action on 20th December 1914, shipped back home and sadly died from his wounds in Broadwater Auxiliary Hospital in Ipswich on 29th December 1914, aged about 28, (*Rugby Advertiser*, December 1916). He is buried in Old Ipswich Cemetery. This small photo of him comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection; it is a copy of photo no. 42 that appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915.

West, George Samuel

George was born in Crick (Northants) around 1890 to farm bailiff George and Sarah West. In 1901 and 1911 he was living at Stretton Lodge farm in Princethorpe with his parents and younger sister Gladys, latterly working as a farm labourer. George attested at Rugby on 8th December 1915, occupation farm waggoner working for Mr Ivens, Stretton Lodge Farm. This was under the Lord Derby scheme so his enlistment was delayed by his occupation. On 8th June 1917 he joined the 96th Training Reserve and in July the 1/4th Battalion as Private 37771. He was posted to India on 28th August. In April 1918 he ‘had many teeth extracted by local dentist. Very roughly...nerves completely upset. Suffered from jaw pains, dizziness and septic mouth for three weeks.’ He was diagnosed as suffering from neurasthenia, broadly classified as shell shock, ‘as a result of his experience and his suspicion of dentists in India’. George was sent back to England in early August 1918. En route he was treated for worsening symptoms at 19th General Hospital, Alexandria. Treatment continued in England at the Maudsley Hospital, Denmark Hill and at Money Hill near Birmingham which specialised in treatment for shell shock patients. He was discharged from the Army on 21st September 1918. By 1939 he was living at 9 Pilkington Road, Coventry, working as a wood sprayer. George died in Coventry in October 1976.

Whitehead, John



John was born in Stretton-on-Dunsmore in 1897 to bricklayer Richard and Mary Anne Whitehead. In 1901 he was living at Church Hill Terrace in Stretton with his parents and working as a bricklayer; by 1911 he was still living there with his widowed father Richard. He married Lily Beatrice Beasley on 11th April 1914. John enlisted on October 1st 1916 joining the 13th (Service) Battalion Devonshire Regiment (no. 100665) in November. By early 1917 he was in the Plymouth Garrison. He sailed to France on 27th February having been transferred to the 168th Labour Company, 3rd Devonshires, after suffering a corneal ulcer. In 1918 he was in hospital in Rouen and Trouville with a severe chill. He served in France until demobbed in February 1919 (his photo shows two overseas service stripes on his right lower sleeve). By 1939 he was working as a bricklayer and living with his wife in the Old School House in Stretton (this would be either 64 or 66 Brookside). John died in October 1960 in Nuneaton. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection.

Wilcox, Austin Harris



Austin Harris was born in Stretton-on-Dunsmore in 1898 to William (baker & boot dealer) and Charlotte Ann Wilcox (his brother Frank also served). In 1911 he was still at school, living in Stretton with his parents and two sisters – Ivy and Marjorie – probably in what is now Brookside Stores. In September 1914 he joined C squadron of the Warwickshire Yeomanry Reserve (private 311062). He embarked for service in Egypt on 11th September 1915. The Squadron was reinforced by troops who had been evacuated from Gallipoli. Initially serving as part of Desert Mounted Corps, they retrained becoming ‘B’ Battalion Machine Gun Corps. He (along with Charles Brookes and Alfred Falconbridge) had a narrow escape on the way back to Marseilles: the HMT ‘Leasowe Castle’ was torpedoed on 27th May 1918 north-west of Alexandria by U-Boat 51. Most of the crew were rescued by other ships, returned to Alexandria and re-kitted; all survivors were each given an Egyptian £1 (subsequently rather meanly deducted from their wages). Austin embarked for France again on June 14th, via Malta, arriving at Taranto, Italy on 21st June 1918 and then moved by train to Etaples. In August his unit became 100 Battalion (Warwickshire Yeomanry & South Notts Hussars) Battalion Machine Gun Corps; he was promoted to Lance-Corporal and served the remainder of the war in France. He was ‘disembodied’ on 14th March 1919 and worked as a baker after the war. By 1939 he was farming at ‘Falconhurst’ Farm in East Ashford in Kent. Austin died in October 1984 at Aldington in Kent. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection.

Wilcox, Frank Borsley

Frank was born in 1893 to William (baker & boot dealer) and Charlotte Anne Wilcox in Stretton-on-Dunsmore (his brother Austin Harris also served). In 1911 he was working as an assistant baker with James Buckingham at 40 Spon Street, Coventry. He was listed in the *Rugby Advertiser* as having joined the Worcestershire Regiment in 1914. However, this may have been a mistake as he joined the Warwickshire Yeomanry in 1915 as Private 310431. He was promoted to Lance Corporal, but was discharged in January 1918 with chronic epilepsy ‘aggravated by his war service’. He survived the war and became the master baker in Stretton with his mother. By 1939 he was living with his widowed mother at Paddox House, Knob Hill, in Stretton-on-Dunsmore. The Wilcox family eventually owned a considerable amount of property in Stretton (including the shop - now Brookside Stores - The Knob, Yew Tree Farm and The Castle); Frank died in November 1972 when he was living at 26 High Field Street in Leicester. A small photo of him no. 37 appeared in the *Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News* on 6/8/1915.

Wills, William George Patman

William was born in 1889 at Hardwick in Buckinghamshire to gamekeeper William and Gertrude Wills. By 1901 he was living in Stretton-on-Dunsmore at Knightlow Hill with his family. In 1911 he was living in Rugby with his grandfather and brother and recorded as a 'disengaged general labourer'. He was working as a gardener when he attested in Warwick on 26th September 1914 for the Royal Warwickshire Regiment. He was discharged two months later as 'not being likely to become an efficient soldier'. On 26th November 1917 William enlisted again at Rugby and joined the Royal Garrison Artillery, Royal Citadel, Plymouth. He was posted to 3rd Fire Command at Drake's Island, Plymouth as Gunner 183663. He was discharged on 8th October 1918 suffering from valvular disease of the heart and gastritis. By 1939 he was widowed and living with his son in Oswestry working as a general labourer. William died in February 1965 in Rednal, Shropshire.

Windsor, William Henry

William was born in 1881 in Long Itchington to Thomas (a labourer at the cement mill) and Emma Windsor; the family lived in Green End. In 1901 he was working as a carter at Heath Farm, Ryton, and by 1911 he was living in the Plott, Stretton-on-Dunsmore, with his wife Jane and 7-year-old son Walter, working as a plate metal polisher; sadly Jane died in 1916. He joined the Royal Flying Corps in July 1917 as Air Mechanic 3rd Class (no. 86533) and was promoted to Leading Fitter on 19th March 1918. The *Stretton & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine* mentioned him (September/October 1917). He was discharged from the RAF on 30th April 1920. In 1918 William married Elizabeth (née Lawrence) at Montrose in Scotland and died there at Angus in February 1952; he is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Wing, Benjamin George

Benjamin was born in Princethorpe in 1875 to blacksmith Thomas and Martha Wing. By 1901 he was married and living at 1, Court 1, 37 Adelaide Street in Coventry and working as a brewer. In 1911 he was still living there and working as a fitter's labourer. In December 1914 Benjamin was living at 232 Grange Road, Longford, Coventry and working as a factory stoker when he enlisted, joining the Army Service Corps. After training Driver T/3 Wing, 028833 529 (Horse Transport) Company embarked for France in July 1915 on the SS 'Onward' from Folkestone to Boulogne. Benjamin was transferred to 2nd Company 18th Divisional Train in December 1916. On 22nd May 1917 Driver Wing, returning from salvage duty, felt unwell, fell off his waggon seat, was run over by a passing lorry and spent some time in hospital. On July 24th 1917, whilst grooming in the stables, he was kicked in the ribs and badly injured by one of his horses. He was treated in a number of Army hospitals in France and then invalided to England on 17th September 1917, spending further time in hospital being treated for cracked ribs and bronchitis. On recovery he was placed on the Army Reserve and demobbed in April 1919. His Service Record reveals a sturdy individualist: he was punished for slackness, insolent language and insubordination to a variety of NCOs. Both accidents prompted Courts of Inquiry to confirm that the injuries were accidental. By 1939 he was married, living back at 232 Grange Road and working as a general labourer. Benjamin died in March 1953 in Coventry. Sadly, his son, Benjamin Wing junior, an Air Raid Warden, was killed in an air raid on 9th April 1941 during the second world war.

Wing, Raymond Walter #

Raymond was born in 1899 in New Bilton, Rugby, to Walter and Rosa Wing. In 1911 he was still at school, lodging at 6 Red Lane in Coventry with his widowed father who was working as a labourer in the cement works. On leaving school, Raymond worked as a clerk at the Midland Daily Telegraph and then at cycle manufacturer Clarke, Cluley & Co. in Coventry. His long-term landlady Mrs Marsh later noted that 'he was highly esteemed by all'. Raymond enlisted in Coventry in 1917 with the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Private 331276) but later transferred to the 35th Battalion, Machine Gun Corps (No. 132690). Raymond went to France on 8th April 1918 and sadly was killed in action shortly afterwards on 24 April, aged about 19. He is buried in Varennes Military Cemetery in France. (His father Walter Wing also served.) You can find out more about Walter and Raymond in the booklet *Men of Princethorpe who died in the Great War* by Paul Waddoups

Wing, Walter #

Walter was born in January 1871 in Stretton-on-Dunsmore to labourer Mark and Ellen Wing of Clay Pit Cottage. He attended Stretton Elementary School briefly (1878-9). In 1881 the family lived in Rugby where 13-year-old Walter was at school. In 1891 he was lodging in Rugby, working as an engine cleaner. He married Rosa Grant in 1891 and they had three children: Cecil (who died young) Ivy and Raymond; sadly Rosa died in 1900. By 1911 the widowed Walter was lodging in Red Lane Coventry, with his son Raymond, working as a foundry labourer. Walter enlisted in 1915 with the Royal Warwickshire Regiment (Private 266583). Sadly, Walter was killed in action on 27 March 1917 on the Somme, aged 47, and is buried at Tincourt New British Cemetery near Peronne, France. (His son Raymond Walter Wing also served.) You can find out more about Walter and Raymond in the booklet *Men of Princethorpe who died in the Great War* by Paul Waddoups and Walter is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour.

Wise, Walter William



Walter was born around 1889 in Beausale to agricultural labourer Richard Wise and Mary Ann (née Tilley). The family were living in Kenilworth in 1881, and in Bishops Tachbrook in 1891; he had siblings Ada, Alice and Frank. The family moved to Stretton-on-Dunsmore where Walter attended the elementary school in 1899 and more siblings were born (Emily, plus twins Daisy and David). In 1910 Walter married Florence Lily Blackmore and by 1911 he was living at 10 Aldbourne Rd Coventry and working as a labourer in a silk works (his father was by then a market gardener). Walter enlisted in the Royal Field Artillery (ref. L44296) on 10 May 1915 at 2 Depot Preston Lancashire and served in France as a driver/lance bombardier. He was discharged through sickness on 19 February 1919 and was a Silver Badge holder B/235594 (the Silver Badge was awarded to those honourably discharged due to wounds or sickness from military service and the badge worn on civilian clothes to prevent misunderstanding or harassment). By 1939 he was living with his wife in Coventry and working as an artificial silk spinner. Walter died in May 1960 in Coventry. This photo comes from the Blundell/Truslove collection and has 'To my Dear Mother & Father XXXX' written on the back.

Worswick, Richard Worsley

Richard was born in 1874 in Cotesmoor, Rutland, to Ellen Jane and William Worswick, a retired Major and landowner. In 1881 he was living with his parents and 12 staff at Samesfield Court, Herefordshire. Richard was educated at Beaumont College in Berkshire and Ampleforth. In 1891 he was living with his parents at 13 Thurloe Square in Kensington. By 1911 he was married and living on 'private means' at Frankton House, Frankton (near Stretton-on-Dunsmore). At the outbreak of war, he joined the Motor Ambulance Unit 1, British Red Cross and Order of St John, as Warrant Officer 329 Volunteer Driver. He crossed to France with his unit on 4th November 1914. Richard died on 4th February 1927 at his home, Acton Round Hall, Bridgenorth in Shropshire and he is commemorated on the Princethorpe Roll of Honour. (Richard's wife Gertrude was awarded the OBE for managing Catholic Clubs in France during the war. Richard's brother Basil Henry was a 2nd Lieutenant, 2nd King Edward's Horse who served in France from May 1915; sadly Basil was killed in the Guinness Factory during the Easter Rising in Dublin on 29th April 1916.)

Sources:

A wonderful collection of photos – mostly professionally-taken ones in cardboard mounts – came from the late Mr Blundell (who lived in Brookside) via the late Ted Truslove who very kindly donated them to Stretton-on-Dunsmore History Society. It is our intention to present the collection for safe keeping to the local Warwickshire Regimental Museum (or the Warwickshire Yeomanry museum) for safe keeping.

Coventry & Warwickshire Graphic News (CWGN), 6th August 1915, Coventry History Centre. This contained an article with small photos of 53 men from Stretton-on-Dunsmore and Ryton-on-Dunsmore, with a note of the unit they were serving with.

Men of Princethorpe who died in the Great War by Paul Waddoups, Princethorpe History Group booklet, 2018.

Military records (assorted)

Rugby Advertiser

Rugby Primitive Methodist Circuit Baptisms 1851-1915: Transcription, The Eureka Partnership.

Stretton-on-Dunsmore Elementary School Admissions Register, Warwickshire County Record Office (WCRO): CR 699/5.

Stretton-on-Dunsmore & Princethorpe Monthly Magazine, WCRO: DR485/230.

Stretton-on-Dunsmore School Logbooks, WCRO: CR 699/1-3.

Threads of the Great War by (Brian) Christopher Tompsett, unpublished MA Dissertation, Coventry University, 2005.