



Compton War Memorial

COMPTON WAR MEMORIAL

1914—1918

The year 2014 marked a century since the outbreak of the Great War and all those who fought and lived to tell the tale have now gone. Compton men who died in the conflict are listed on the village war memorial and their names will be familiar to many local residents.

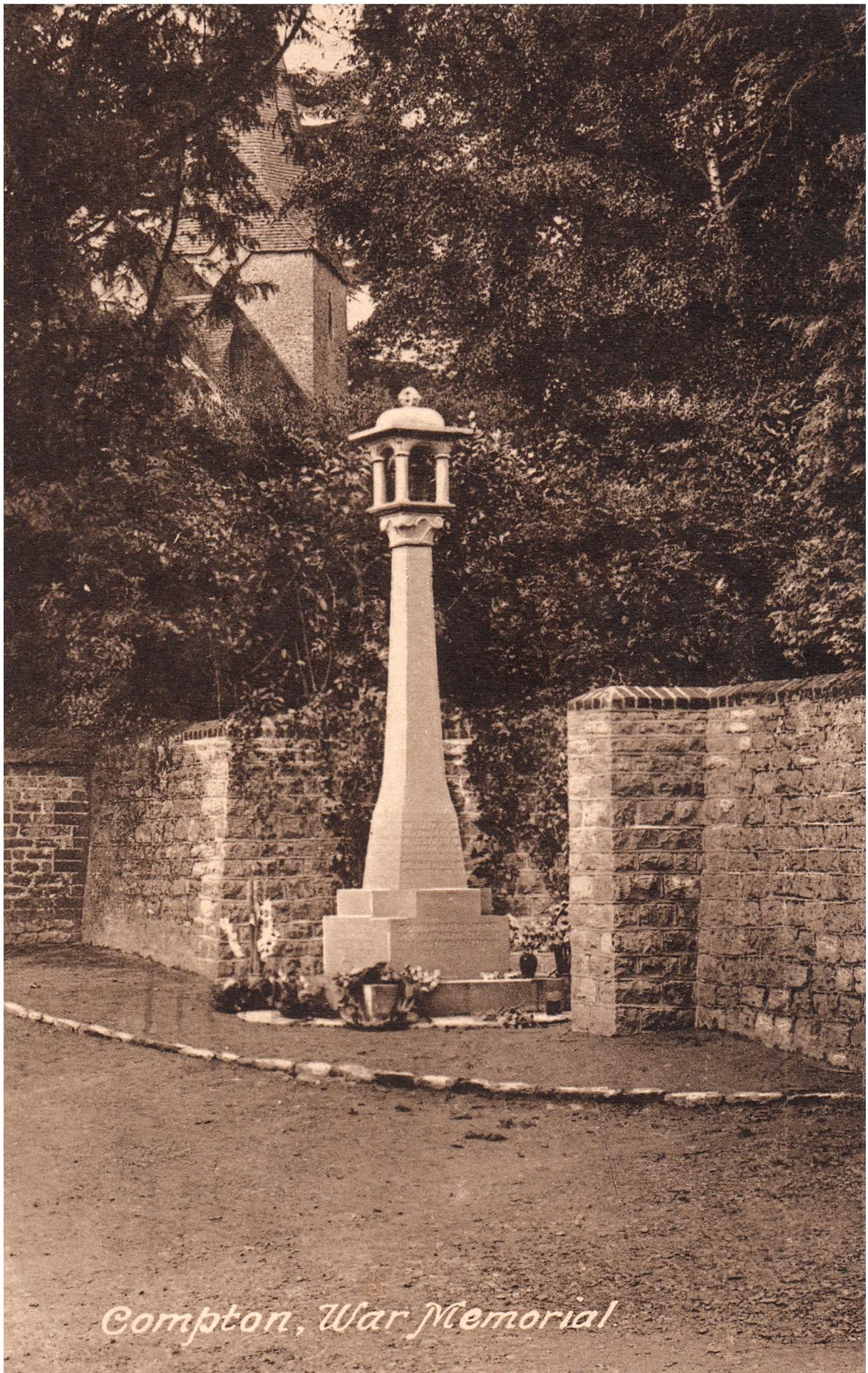
In 1914, these ordinary men were snatched from their families, friends and familiar surroundings to be plunged into a world of mud and death that was more horrific and shocking than most of us can possibly imagine. Twenty-five years later, a different war was to break out that produced yet more names to add to the village memorial.

But they were not just names, they were people. Who were these Compton men who fought and died? Where did they live and what did they do before going off to war? And, indeed, where did they fight and die to preserve our freedom? As personal memories of them fade, it is important that we record who they were and ensure that they do not become just names on a memorial.

Philip Gorton carried out extensive research into the lives of these men and was greatly helped by Andy Bailey of Rudgwick. Thanks also go to Gail Naughton, Hilary Calvert, Louise Boreham and Wendy Maddox who provided useful internet links and information.



Jane Turner
Contemporary photographs by Agnieszka Czabak and Helen Turner



Compton, War Memorial

Extract from The Surrey Advertiser

**Compton
War Memorial Unveiled
Designed by Mrs. G.F. Watts
April 1922**

In the presence of two or three hundred spectators, Compton's unique war memorial was unveiled on Sunday afternoon by Brigadier-General F.C. Longbourne, CMG, DSO.

The first part of the service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev A.B. Gwynn) in the church. Special accommodation was reserved for the ex-Servicemen, Boy Scouts, under Scoutmaster E. Bowyer, and Girl Guides, under Miss Bubb, who afterwards preceded the congregation to the gate of the churchyard, where the memorial has been erected. The service was of extreme simplicity. Dedication by the Rector followed the unveiling, and after the hymn "Think, O Lord, in Mercy" had been sung, four buglers of the "Queen's" Regiment sounded the "Last Post" and the "Reveille". The proceeding terminated with the National Anthem.

On the two sides nearest the road the base of the memorial bears the names of the eleven (*sic*) men whose sacrifice is commemorated: Michael Chapman, George Maurice Gillett, George Horlock, William Hounsome, Arthur Cyril Lawson, Andrew Boyer Marchant, Thomas Marshall, Albert Harry May, Henry Pink, Walter Pink, Sydney Pink, William Rogers, George Henry Hall Scott, Jesse Stovold, and St Thomas Stovold. On the front is inscribed this message:

"IN HONOURED MEMORY OF THE MEN OF COMPTON WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES
IN THE GREAT WAR, 1914-1918."

Beneath the remaining names people are reminded that:

"THROUGH THE AGES ONE CLEAR FLAME OF SACRIFICE HAS BURNED,
AND BY ITS LIGHT MEN SEE GOD."

Among those present at the ceremony were Mrs. G.F. Watts, Mr. & Mrs. Hagart Speirs, Mrs. and Miss Longbourne, Mr. & Mrs. Etger (?), Mrs. and the Misses Gwynn, Mrs. Livingstone, Mr. and Mrs. S. How, Mrs. Harker-Taylor, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Nesbit, Messrs F.G. Norris, W.K. Darley, P.J. Sparrow, F.A. Kellam, C. Lymposs, A.F. Jackson, F. Betser, and A. Bullen.

An especially gratifying feature is the unanimity with which Mrs. Watts' scheme has been accepted by the parish as a whole. Now that the memorial is completed and the public are able to see and judge for themselves, nothing but praise for the beautiful design and the skillful execution is heard.





Extract from The Surrey Advertiser

COMPTON

COMPTON'S WAR MEMORIAL

SATISFACTORY FINANCIAL RESULT

The cost of the village war memorial lamp, which was erected in April, was £164 3s. 7d. and the committee are now in the happy position of having a balance in hand of £6 6s. 8d, the total subscriptions having amounted to £170 10s. 3d. These figures were presented by Brig.-Gen Longbourne, treasurer to the fund, at a meeting in the schools on Monday evening, Mr. S How occupying the Chair. Satisfaction was expressed at the result which attended the appeal for funds, and special thanks were accorded Mrs. Watts, who designed the memorial, Brig.-Gen Longbourne, and Mr. F.G. Norris, chairman of the committee. On the proposition of Mr. Norris, seconded by Brig.-Gen Longbourne, it was decided that the village should be responsible for the care of the lamp, which should be lit every night during the winter months, and with this object in view a small sub-committee was appointed, consisting of Miss Weir, Mrs. Terry, Mr. S How and Mr. A.J. Johns.



The Compton War Memorial was worked by A. and G. Avery of Farncombe at Limnerslease under the supervision of Mrs. G.F. Watts, who designed it. It is of Grey York Stone.



MICHAEL CHAPMAN
GEORGE M GIDDENS
GEORGE HORLOCK
WILLIAM HOUNSOME
A CYRIL LAWSON
ANDREW B MERCHANT
THOMAS MARSHALL
ALBERT HARRY MAY

IN HONOURED MEMORY
OF THE MEN OF COMPTON
WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES
IN THE GREAT WAR
1914-1918

**IN HONOURED MEMORY
OF THE MEN OF COMPTON
WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES
IN THE GREAT WAR
1914 - 1918**



MICHAEL CHAPMAN MC

Captain, 4th Battalion, Grenadier Guards, 4 Guards
Brigade, 31 Division.

Michael Chapman was the son of Sir Arthur W Chapman and Lady Agnes, née Mangles. Agnes is recorded as living at Poyle House and Poyle Park, Seale, between the 1850s and the 1870s and she was baptised in 1850 at Poyle Park. Michael was born in Florence, Italy, in 1880. He married Lilian Margaret Abbott Macintosh on 24 September 1906 in St Nicholas church, Compton. Lilian was a ward of George Frederick and Mary Watts and living at Limnerslease in Compton.

Michael was awarded the Military Cross on 1st February 1918 “for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He carried out several difficult reconnaissances with great contempt of danger under heavy shell fire. Though twice wounded, he remained at duty until the battalion was relieved”. He was 36 years old when he was killed in action on 12th April 1918 at Gars Bruggha Farm, near Merris, France. There is no known grave but he is remembered on Panel 1 of the **Pleogsteert Memorial in Belgium**. He is also listed on the memorial at Seale.



GEORGE HORLOCK

Private, 2nd Battalion, The Duke of Cambridge's Own
(The Middlesex Regiment), 23 Brigade, 8th Division.
Army no. G/44077.

George was the seventh of eight children of Albert and Mary Jane Horlock who, in 1891, were living in Compton Street. Ten years later, the family had moved to Withies Lane and George was employed as a gardener's boy. He joined the 7th Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment as a Private in March 1915 when he was 28 years old although military records show that he was in 2nd Battalion at the time of his death. He died of his wounds on 15th October 1918, aged 31, and is buried in the **Duisans British Cemetery**, Etrun in grave VII B 79.



WILLIAM HOUNSOME

Sergeant, 1st Battalion, The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment) 19 Brigade, 33rd Division. Army no. G/2174.

William Hounsome was born in 1896, son of James and Louisa Hounsome. James was an agricultural labourer and, in 1901, the family were living on the common in one of the cottages next to the school, probably in one of the pair that was demolished in the 1960s. William joined the 1st Battalion, the Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment, in September 1914. He was killed in action on 21st September 1918 in the fighting at St Quentin Canal, one of the battles of the Hindenburg Line. He was 22. He is buried in grave III B 17 at **Villers Hill British Cemetery** at Villers-Guislain.

This village was occupied by Commonwealth forces from April 1917 until the German counter attacks (in the Battle of Cambrai) at the end of November 1917. It was lost on 30th November and retained by the Germans on 1st December, in spite of the fierce attacks of the Guards Division and tanks. The Germans finally abandoned the village on 30th September 1918, after heavy fighting.



Compton
Guildford
10. 4. 15

Dear Walter

Just a line in answer to your letter which I was very pleased to get I see you are having a nice little time of it it must be a lively show what is your car is it a 4 seater have you still got the Briton how long will you be stationed there Dick Goddard was home on Sun in his kit he's in the B. B. C. Harry Denyer is home again he as finished his 6 months but is going to rejoin I tell that Bill Parsons was up at Bert's learning to drive I saw Mother this morning and told her I'd heard from you she wanted to know if you got your overalls alright I suppose you havn't seen her - Harold down there he was in West. Park Hospital you seem to have some pretty Ladies around there Beware of the Pocksy ones it must be a lively show Bert and I went to Woking Easter Mon to see a friend of his it is pretty quiet around here now no one at all to get about with. Sun Ted. is down at Southend did you find your young Lady alright Hearty Congrats on the engagement hope you will have many Happy times together it is a great for you to look forward to what does her people think of it well I must close now as its nearly bed time so La. La for the present

I remain Yours Sincerely
G. Horlock

Letter from George Horlock to Walter Henry Batchelor (Philip Gorton's grandfather) before George was sent to the Front.

GEORGE MAURICE GERALD GILLETT

Captain, 6th Battalion, The Leicestershire Regiment,
110 Brigade, 21st Division

George Gillett was born in Compton. He was the son of Rev. Hugh Gillett, Rector of Compton from 1877 to 1912, and of the Hon. Mrs. Gillett of Thornbury House, Thornbury, Gloucestershire. When in Compton, the family lived at The Grange in the Avenue, which was then the Rectory house. He was killed in action on 26th September 1916, fighting at Morval during the Battle of the Somme. He was 33. His body was never recovered and he is commemorated on pier and face 2C and 3A of the **Thiepval Memorial** that commemorates the missing of the Somme.

The Thiepval Memorial contains the names of more than 72,000 officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20th March 1918 and have no known grave. Over 90% of those commemorated died between July and November 1916.

On 1st July 1916, supported by a French attack to the south, thirteen divisions of Commonwealth forces launched an offensive on a line from north of Gommecourt to Maricourt. Despite a preliminary bombardment lasting seven days, the German defences were barely touched and the attack met unexpectedly fierce resistance. Losses were catastrophic and with only minimal advances on the southern flank, the initial attack was a failure. In the following weeks, huge resources of manpower and equipment were deployed in an attempt to exploit the modest successes of the first day. However, the German Army resisted tenaciously and repeated attacks and counter attacks meant a major battle for every village, copse and farmhouse gained. At the end of September, Thiepval was finally captured. The village had been an original objective of 1st July.

Attacks north and east continued throughout October and into November in increasingly difficult weather conditions. The Battle of the Somme finally ended on 18th November with the onset of winter.

In the spring of 1917, the German forces fell back to their newly prepared defences, the Hindenburg Line, and there were no further significant engagements in the Somme sector until the Germans mounted their major offensive in March 1918.



ARTHUR CYRIL LAWSON

Second Lieutenant, 7th (Service) Battalion, The Rifle Brigade
(The Prince Consort's Own), 41 Brigade, 14th Division.

Arthur Lawson was born in Madras (now Chennai) in South India and was a student at Wellington College. He joined up in August 1914 shortly after the declaration of war. He was the son of Arthur E Lawson and Mrs. Lawson of Barcroft, Cranleigh and his connection with Compton is as yet unknown. He was probably wounded during the battle of Arras and he died of his wounds in England on 6 July 1917. He was 20 years old and is buried in grave E 2 174322 in **Brompton Cemetery**, part of which is a dedicated military cemetery.

ANDREW BOYER MARCHANT

Sergeant, 1st (City of London) Battalion, (Royal Fusiliers),
London Regiment, 167 Brigade, 56th Division.
Army no. 229274. He was formerly with The Queen's
(Royal West Surrey Regiment). Army no. 2272.

Andrew Marchant was born about 1888/89. In 1901 he was living with his parents, William and Jane, and brother Harvey at Norney, near Shackleford, where his father was an estate nurseryman. He was married to Mabel Brickett on 2 March 1913 and was a skilled modeler at the Potters' Arts Guild in Compton. Of the many potters who left to join up, he was the only one to be killed. He joined the Queen's Regiment in September 1914 but was posted to 7th Battalion Royal Fusiliers where he was a Sergeant when he was killed in action on 30th December 1917, aged 29. Where he died is not noted and his body was never recovered. He is commemorated on pier and face 9D and 16B of the **Thiepval Memorial**. He is also listed on the Shackleford memorial.

THOMAS RICHARD MARSHALL

Private, 6th Battalion, The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment), 37 Brigade, 12th Division. Army No. G/207.

Thomas was the son of Thomas and Mary Anne Marshall (previously Pink) who lived at the brickyard between Compton and Binscombe. Before the war he probably worked in the brickyard with his father. Thomas was born on 30th April 1899 and joined the 6th Battalion the Queen's (West Surrey) Regiment at Stoughton Barracks in Guildford when he was 17 years old. He arrived in France on 1st June 1916 and was killed in action on 5th August that same year at Pozières Ridge whilst attacking a German garrison in the Thiepval area during the Battle of the Somme. He has no known grave but is remembered on pier and face 5D and 6D of the **Thiepval Memorial**. He was the half brother of Sidney, Henry (Harry) and Walter (George) Pink, who all perished in the war.

* * * * *

Mary Marshall was previously married to George Pink. After she was widowed, she married Thomas Marshall.

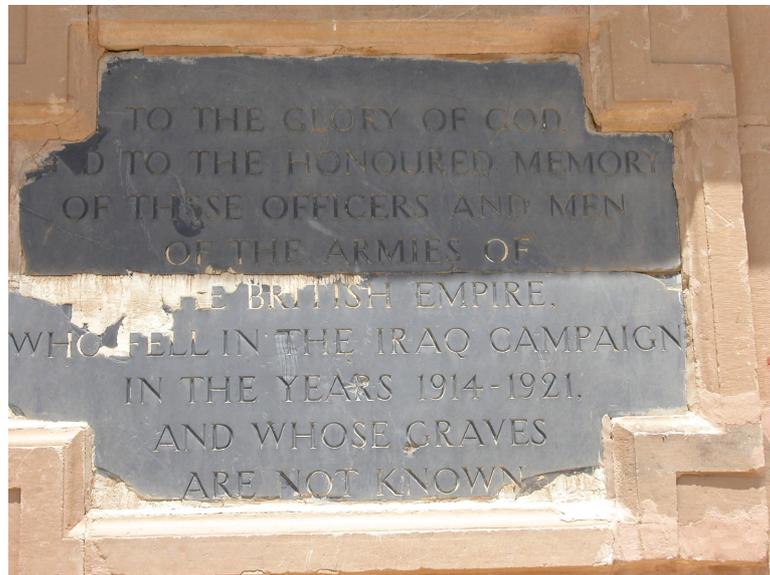
Mary had a total of 17 children, only two of whom lived to old age. In the Great War she lost three sons (Henry, Sydney and Walter Pink), and a fourth son, Thomas Marshall Jnr., who was their half-brother. She died aged 42 in 1900 and hence did not know of the loss of Thomas but she had already suffered a great deal in her short life. William Viney Pink, another son, lived the rest of his life at 2 Puttocks Cottages, Withies Lane. He was in his 80s when he died and is buried in Compton cemetery, just below the Chapel. The Pink children did not get on with their step-father, Thomas Marshall, and after consulting a solicitor, the eldest brother Viney and sister Mabel worked to keep the family together. The eldest sister, Annie May, kept house, looking after the younger brothers - Harry, Walter (George) and Sydney. Young Thomas Richard Marshall was not allowed to go with them and remained with his father.



ALBERT HARRY MAY

Sapper, Electrical & Mechanical Company, Royal Engineers. Army no. 259085. He was formerly with 2nd Battalion, The Royal West Kent Regiment. Army no. 10102.

Albert was born in Guildford in 1896, the son of Henry and Emma May of Artington. He enlisted in the Royal West Kent Regiment at Guildford and later transferred to the Electrical and Mechanical Company, Royal Engineers. He died, probably from illness, in Mesopotamia on 16th May 1918 and is buried in grave V C 15 in the **Basra War Cemetery**, Iraq. His connection with Compton is not yet known.



Basra War Cemetery





HENRY PINK
WALTER PINK
SYDNEY PINK
WILLIAM ROGERS
GEORGE HENRY HSCOTT
JESSE STOVOLD
ST THOMAS STOVOLD

THROUGH THE AGES ONE CLEAR
FLAME OF SACRIFICE HAS BURNED
AND BY ITS LIGHT MEN SEE GOD

HENRY JAMES PINK

Gunner, 260th Siege Battery,
Royal Garrison Artillery.
Army no. 195538



Henry (Harry) was born in 1888, the son of George and Mary Anne Pink. His mother was widowed in 1895 and she married Thomas Marshall who lived at the brickyard (see entry for Thomas Marshall). Harry married Bertha of Rowledge, Farnham, Surrey and they had two sons, Reginald (b. 1914) and Henry Arthur (known as Harry, b. 1916). Harry Snr died on 22 February 1919, probably from the Spanish Flu epidemic. He was 31. He is buried in Grave I A 9 of **Belgrade Cemetery**, Namur, Belgium. (*Henry Arthur, his younger son, a Corporal in the Royal Engineers 9th [Airborne] Field Company, Army no. 1870901, died on 20 September 1944, aged 28 years. He is remembered in Arnhem Oosterbeek War Cemetery, Netherlands.*)



Harry Pink with his wife Bertha and sons Reg and Harry



SYDNEY PINK

Private, 116th Battalion (Central Ontario Regiment),
Canadian Infantry. Army no. 2537366.

Sydney was born in 1890, the son of George and Mary Anne Pink. His mother was widowed in 1895 and she married Thomas Marshall who lived at the brickyard (see entry for Thomas Marshall). He died just one week before the Armistice on 29th October 1918, aged 28. He was killed capturing Raillencourt during the battle of the Canal du Nord and is buried in grave A 36 at **St Olle British Cemetery**, Raillencourt. His adopted regiment indicates that, like so many people in the early part of the century, Sydney had emigrated to Canada. (He was christened Sidney but enrolled in the Canadian Army as Sydney.)



SIDNEY PINK

WALTER GEORGE PINK

Private, 23rd (Service) Battalion, (1st Sportsman's), The Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment), 99 Brigade, 26th Division.
Army no. G/42289.

Walter was born in 1889, the son of George and Mary Anne Pink. His mother was widowed in 1895 and she married Thomas Marshall who lived at the brickyard (see entry for Thomas Marshall). His wife was Alice A Pink, 56 Tantallion Road, Balham. They had no children. Walter died from his wounds on 25 February 1917, aged 28. He is buried in grave VI A 22 at **Dernancourt Communal Cemetery Extension**, south of Albert.



Wendy Maddox, whose paternal grandmother was Mabel Ellen Pink, sister of Harry, Walter George, Sidney and William Viney Pink, provided the information about the Pink brothers, with their photographs.

Reminded by her cousin, Wendy related the following story about the War Memorial:

“The lamp used to be lit and one year the local Girl Guides placed bluebells in jars on the memorial as several of them had lost their father in the War. Local residents, who were better off, moved them to the back of the Memorial and put theirs in the front. The mothers all collected at the Memorial and said their men were not at the back during the war, they were "at the front", so they moved the bluebells to the front of the memorial again, where they belonged. Nothing more was said about it.”



WILLIAM ROGERS

In September 1914 William joined the Royal Sussex Regiment, Labour Corps. Regimental Numbers: 765, 149603. No further information has yet been found.



JESSE STOVOLD

Corporal, 7th Battalion, The East Surrey Regiment,
37 Brigade, 12th Division. Army no. 1148

Jesse was born in 1887. He was the son of Henry and Caroline Stovold who lived in a cottage next door to the Harrow, which has since been demolished. Henry was a farm labourer and Jess was one of six children living in this tiny, four-roomed home on census day 1901. At that time he was working as a bricklayer's labourer but when he joined up in September 1914, he was 27 years old and working as an attendant. According to the Roll of Honour in Compton church, Jess joined the 7th Battalion the East Surrey Regiment, which conflicts with the Essex Regiment listed as his in the Surrey Recruitment Registers. He was killed in action on the eighth day of the Battle of the Somme on 8th July 1916, aged 29. He has no known grave and is remembered on pier and face 6B and 6C of the **Thiepval Memorial**, Somme, France.



ST THOMAS STOVOLD

Private, D Company, 6th Battalion, The Queen's (Royal
West Surrey Regiment), 37 Brigade, 12th Division.
Army No. G/878

Thomas was Jesse's elder brother, the husband of Katherine M R Avenell (formerly Stovold), of Hazel Cottage, Peasmarsh. He was killed on the third day of the Battle of the Somme on 3rd July 1916, aged 29. He is buried in grave I H 1 at the **Ovillers Military Cemetery**. The battalion lost 78 men killed in action on this day.



GEORGE HENRY HALL SCOTT

Captain, C Company, 7th Battalion, The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment), 55 Brigade, 18th Division.

George Hall Scott was born in Northumberland, the son of Sir Henry Hall Scott and Henrietta his wife of Stratton Street, Piccadilly, London. She was living at Down Place, Compton, at the time of her son's death. George was educated at Charterhouse and became a mining engineer. He was a captain in "C" Company, the 7th Battalion of the Queen's Royal (West Surrey) Regiment. He joined up at the outbreak of war, arrived in France in July 1915 and was killed in the attack on Montauban on the first day of the Battle of the Somme, 1st July 1916, aged 34 years. He is buried in grave VIII R 3 at **Dantzig Alley British Cemetery**, Mametz, France.

In St Mary's Church, Lesbury, Northumberland, there is a brass plaque: "*In honoured memory of George Henry Hall SCOTT, Captain C Company, 7th Battalion, The Queen's Regiment, who fell near Montauban in the first attack of the battle of the Somme, 1st July 1916, this brass is erected by his fellow officers. Pristinæ virtutis memor*". There is also a stained glass window in memory of him and his father who died in 1911. He was a native of Northumberland.

Captain Scott was a keen sportsman and spent much of his time salmon fishing and deer stalking when at his family's Highland residence *Eilannreach*, on the west coast of Scotland, opposite Skye. His mother, Lady Scott, commissioned the Glenelg War Memorial, just north of *Eilannreach*, to commemorate her son and son-in-law Captain Roland Stuart Hebler, who was also killed. Interestingly, this Memorial was designed by Louis Reid Deuchars who was Mary Watts's tutor of the Compton Chapel evening modeling classes, before becoming a sculptor. It was his largest work. The group represents Peace (a Cameron Highlander, because it's Cameron country) and Victory (winged figure), coming to the aid of Stricken Humanity represented by the kneeling female. The bronze group was cast by Alexander Parlanti of Parson's Green Lane, Fulham. (This is the same company that cast the first bronze of G.F. Watts's *Physical Energy*.)

(With thanks to Dr Louise Boreham, granddaughter of Louis Reid Deuchars, for this information and for the photograph of the Glenelg War Memorial).





Glenelg War Memorial, Scotland
Designed by Louis Reid Deuchars



EDGAR MARTIN RUNDLE

Master at Arms, HMS Defence, Royal Navy.
RN no. 154037

Edgar Joined the Royal Navy in February 1896. He was the Master at Arms on *HMS Defence* when it was sunk on 1st June 1916 at the Battle of Jutland with the loss of 903 lives. He was 41 and is remembered on panel 17 of **Plymouth Naval Memorial**.

“Both the Defence and Warrior had already hit the doomed Wiesbaden. Still Admiral Arbuthnot, in spite of straddling salvos, held on till within 5,500 yards of his prey he turned to starboard. Both ships were now in a hurricane of fire, which the Germans were concentrating with terrible effect to save their burning ship, and there quickly followed another of the series of appalling catastrophes which so tragically distinguish this battle from all others. Four minutes after crossing the Lion's bows, the Defence was hit by two 12 inch salvos from SMS Friedrich der Grosse, Admiral Scheer's flagship. HMS Defence was not designed to stand up to this sort of punishment. The German shells may have ignited the cordite charges in the ammunition tubes or simply penetrated to the magazines. The ship exploded and the Admiral and his flagship disappeared in a roar of flame”.

Edgar Rundle is not listed the on the war memorial but is named on the Roll of Honour in St Nicholas Church, Compton.



SOME FALLEN FROM COMPTON WHO ARE NOT ON THE WAR MEMORIAL

ALFRED ERNEST FRY

Private, 11th (Service) Battalion, The Essex Regiment,
53 Brigade, 18th Division. Army no. 15105.

Alfred was the son of Robert and Henrietta Fry of Shackleford. He was killed in action near Doullens on 26 September 1915, aged 21. He is remembered on panel 85 to 87 of the **Loos Memorial**.



OWEN WILLIAM HATCH

Private, 106th Company, The Labour Corps. Army no. 63120.
He was formerly with the 36th (Labour Battalion, The Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment)). Army no. 33146.

Owen was the son of Thomas and Harriet Hatch and the husband of Ellen Hatch. He died of his wounds on 14 October 1917, aged 36. He is buried in grave I E 8 **Duhallow ADS Cemetery**.





1922

The BUILDING was erected
by the SURREY Branch of the
BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY
in memory of SURREY V.A.D.s
who Gave Their Lives
for their Country.

ADDIS, Florence
ATKINSON, Winifred E. de Meane
ARNOLD, Margaret Trevelyan
BOLTON, Edith
BRIDGE, Jessie
BURGESS, Mary Ann
CLIBBENS, Gertrude L.
DAVIS, Mildred
DAVIS, George Philip
EDE, Dorothy
GLOVER, Florence
GORDON, Julia
HEATHCOTE, Marion Joyce
HILL, Margaret
LONG, Emma Elizabeth
MATHIAS, Florence
MORRISON, Gladys
PRIOR, Eva Graham
PONDER, Mary
REEVE, Frances Ellen
SPIERS, Muriel
TELFORD, Dorothy
WOOD, Ina Hamilton
WRENCH, Edith
YOUNG, Mildred

MEMORIAL TO SURREY VADS

Farnham Road Hospital, Guildford

This half-size statue of a nurse in VAD (Voluntary Aid Detachment) uniform was sculpted in terracotta by Thomas Wren at Mary Watts's Potters' Arts Guild in Compton. The building on which it is located, at the Farnham Road Hospital, Guildford, is a nurses' home which was given by the Surrey Branch of the Red Cross as the memorial to the Surrey VADs who lost their lives in WW1.

Small replicas of the statue were made at the Pottery to be given to the families of those who had died and they could also be bought direct from the Pottery.

The memorial was designed by Clough Williams Ellis (who was also the architect of three cottages in Withies Lane, Compton). It lists the names of 25 VADs and was unveiled in 1922.

Names of the nurses listed on the Memorial

Florence Addis	Marion Joyce Heathcote
Winifred E de Mesnie Atkinson	Margaret Hill
Margaret Trevenen Arnold	Emma Elizabeth Long
Edith Bolton	Florence Mathias
Jessie Bridge	Gladys Morrison
Mary Ann Burgess	Eva Graham Prior
Beatrice L Clibbens	Mary Ponder
Mildred Davis	Frances Ellen Reeve
George Phillip Davis	Muriel Spiers
Dorothy Ede	Dorothy Stevenson
Florence Glover	Ida Hamilton Wood
Eliza Gordon	Mrs Wrenn
	Mildred Youle



The Fallen from World War 2 1939—1945



This plaque was placed behind Compton War Memorial listing the men of Compton who died in the Second World War.

WILLIAM HAROLD CLIFF HODGES

Captain, 78 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery. Army no. 89502

Son of William and Joan Cliff Hodges of Hascombe, William was a Captain in the Royal Artillery. He was killed in action in Italy on 16th January 1944. In 1918, his parents lived at Hillsleigh, Nightingale Road in Godalming. He is buried in grave III B 19 at **Minturno War Cemetery**.

At the end of October 1943 in Italy, the Allies were facing the German winter defensive position known as the Gustav Line, which stretched from the river Garigliano in the west to the Sangro in the east. It was not until 17 January 1944 that the Garigliano was crossed, and Minturno taken two days later. The cemetery was started in January 1944, but it came under German small-arms fire and could not be used again until May 1944. The burials are mainly those of the heavy casualties incurred in crossing the Garigliano in January.

William's name does not appear on the War Memorial but he is commemorated in a window in St Nicholas Church, Compton.



THOMAS WILLIAM JUPP

Warrant Officer (Pilot), Royal Air Force. RAFVR no. 909889

Tom was the son of William A and Alice E Jupp who owned and ran the grocery and baker's shop opposite The Harrow (now Lynams). William had intended that his son should carry on the business after him but when Tom was killed in the war whilst serving in the RAF, he lost heart. He sold the shop and bakery business to George and Doris Ellis in 1949.

Tom was killed in an aeroplane crash on 20 September 1942. He was 23. He was flying from RAF Millom which was, at that time, no. 2 Observer Advanced Flying Unit. His plane was an Avro 652 Anson 1, registration no. N4869, which crashed at Muncaster Fell Mountain. He is buried in grave 424 at **St Luke's Churchyard, Haverigg, Millom.**



JOHN RICHARD FREDERICK BOND

Captain, 4 Field Squadron, Royal Engineers. Army no. 95198.

John was the son of Major-General Richard L Bond, CB, CBE, DSO, MC, and Isabell H R Bond, of The Dykeries, Eastbury Lane, Compton. He was killed in action on 21 December 1941 in the attack on Benghazi, aged 21. He is buried in grave 2 E 14 at **Benghazi War Cemetery**.



HENRY PAUL EGERTON HODGSON

Captain, 4 Divisional Engineers, Royal Engineers.
Army no. 50845

Henry was the son of Colonel Philip E Hodgson, DSO, and Dorothy M H Hodgson of Godalming. He was killed in action on 31 May 1940, aged 28. He is buried in plot 1 row A at **De Panne Communal Cemetery**.

The British expeditionary Force suffered many casualties in covering the withdrawal to Dunkirk. De Panne village was the site of the final General Headquarters of the BEF in 1940, and there was a Casualty Clearing Station on the beach, which was an embarkation point for the evacuation. From 27 May to 1 June 1940, the Germans strove to prevent the embarkation of the troops by incessant bombing, machine-gunning and shelling. The first German troops reached the village between 2pm and 3pm on 31 May, and after heavy fighting, the commune was completely occupied by about 9am on 1 June.



STEWART WORTHINGTON LENTON

Sergeant (Pilot), 85 Squadron, Royal Air Force.
RAF no. 564249

Stewart was the son of Charles Worthington Lenton, and his wife Eliza, who was gardener to Mrs Mary Watts of Limnerslease, Compton, where they lived in the Gardener's Cottage. Charles died in 1930 of cyanide poisoning, aged 45, and is buried near the Lych Gate in Compton Cemetery.

Stewart's mother, Eliza, lived at Tyrone Cottage, The Street, Compton, from 1935 (last recorded there in 1945) and Stewart was with her from 1935 to 1938, when he married Luci I P Crane of Sutton Bridge, Lincolnshire. Eliza died in 1967.

Stewart died when he crash-landed as a result of engine failure on 6 March 1940, aged 36. He is buried in plot 5 row G grave 25 at **Peronne Communal Cemetery Extension**.

In September 1939 the squadron moved to France with the Air Component of the BEF. The squadron suffered heavily during the Battle of France, losing all but four of its aircraft in the twelve days between the start of the German offensive and its return to Britain.

Stewart's aircraft was a Hawker Hurricane Mk1 Serial number L 1978, VY-X, engaged on an affiliation exercise with Lysanders. The aircraft suffered engine failure on take-off and crashed attempting a down-wind landing at Mons-en Chaussée at 9.45am



EPHRAIM ALEXANDER SMITH

Corporal, 4th Battalion, The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment).
Army no. 6088430

Ephraim was the son of Harry and Annie E Smith, and the husband of Winifred E Smith of Compton. He died on 23 October 1943, aged 28 and is remembered on face 4 of the **Athens Memorial**.

It is probable that Ephraim died on the island of Leros where part of his battalion was trying to prevent a German invasion. However, *HMS Eclipse*, an E class destroyer, exploded a mine off the Island of Kalymnos. When she was sunk, *HMS Eclipse* was carrying over 200 soldiers from the 4th Battalion, The Buffs, to reinforce the island of Leros. An estimated 119 crew and 134 soldiers died in the sinking. In either case, the Athens Memorial is where one would expect to find his name.



BURIALS IN COMPTON CEMETERY

EDWIN GEOFFREY DAWES

Lieutenant Colonel, Royal Artillery. Army no. 31540

Edwin was the son of Lilian N and Nicholas B Dawes, and the husband of Sheelah D Dawes of The Limes, Compton. He died on 15 November 1946, aged 41 and is buried in sec A grave 116A, **Compton Cemetery**.

Edwin had followed an Army career, like his father and grandfather before him. He joined the Royal Artillery as a Second Lieutenant when he graduated from the Royal Military College on 28 January 1925.

FREDERICK RONALD HOUSE

Lance Corporal, The Gloucestershire Regiment.
Army no. 5190593

Frederick died on 8 December 1940 at Southmead Hospital, Bristol. He was 34. He is buried in sec H grave 171, **Compton Cemetery**.

He has a military memorial and yet his death is recorded as a civilian. He had probably been discharged as no longer being fit for active service and died from his injuries. His regiment had played a key role in the evacuation from Dunkirk.

The terracotta poppies placed around Compton War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday 2014 were made by residents of Compton and local schoolchildren, under the guidance of the Learning Department at Watts Gallery as part of their Art for All learning programme.



**Compton War Memorial
Remembrance Sunday - 9th November 2014**

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

Robert Laurence Binyon
(1869-1943)

