

# **COMBATANTS WHO SURVIVED THE FIRST WORLD WAR**

**BARBY LOCAL  
HISTORY  
GROUP  
JULY 2020**



## INTRODUCTION

The names of many of these men who served in the First World War have been obtained from the Absent Voters Roll of 1918 at Northamptonshire Record Office (Appendix), which lists those still in the services who were entitled to vote, and their peacetime abode.

Other names were taken from the Barby baptism registers 1886-1898 and the 1911 census for those men living in the village who would be of military age during the war. These names have been followed up where possible to discover if they served. We have also included a few who had later important connections with the village, such as Mr Barlow, headmaster of Barby School from 1943 to 1957.

Some WW1 service records are available at The National Archives (TNA); they have been digitised and also appear on [www.ancestry.co.uk](http://www.ancestry.co.uk). Sadly many were destroyed or badly damaged during the Second World War, so are not available for most of the men listed. The records of those killed were usually destroyed. Medal rolls and cards have been used but other information about the serviceman is needed to ensure the correct man is identified.

Other sources used are census returns, parish registers, birth, marriage and death indexes, Probate indexes, 1915 Valuation Survey and maps, 1939 Register, 1946 Voters Roll for Barby, trade directories, photographs, archives of Barby Local History Group, family trees on Ancestry, and personal documents, photographs, memories and information from local people and family members.

**Information on some men is unfortunately very scanty; it is very difficult to piece together their lives if they left the village, especially if their name is not uncommon. You may know of others from Barby that we have omitted. Perhaps they served at home so did not qualify for a medal. Please let us know if you can add any information. Thank you.**

## THE LISTED MEN

**A short biography is given of the following men, in alphabetical order:**

Thomas William BARLOW 1895-1966  
Richard BARRETT 1885-  
John George BATCHELOR 1880-1956  
William BERRIDGE 1898-1960  
Thomas Edward DICEY 1889-1980  
George William ELKINGTON 1898-1981  
David EMERY 1892-1952  
Eric James FOSTER 1884-1964  
Frederick FOSTER 1890-1976  
Samuel Russell FOSTER 1890-1934  
Albert Walter HADDON 1894-1948  
Edwin Samuel HADDON 1890-1957  
John Neal HALLAM 1885-1956  
Thomas Goodman HENSON 1894-1978  
Francis Leonard HORNER 1886-1962  
Walter Joseph HORNER 1886-1962  
Frederick Lawson HUMPHREYS 1895-  
Arthur Samuel MASON 1886-  
Joseph William MATTHEWS 1879-  
Sidney Thomas Ralph MIDDLETON 1875-1947  
Noel Boyes Elliott PITTOM 1894-1947  
Edwin PRESTIDGE 1887-1955  
George PRESTIDGE 1887-1954  
John Stephen PRESTIDGE 1870-1957  
Harold William PULHAM 1896-1977  
Albert Ernest RANDLE 1889-1974  
Arthur RANDLE 1897-1974  
George RANDLE 1887-1953  
Alfred ROBERTS 1881-1951  
Tom Lee ROBERTS 1883-1951  
Henry James ROWE 1892-1957  
John George ROWE 1884-1954  
John Thomas SALISBURY 1874-1953  
Sidney Thomas SMITH 1893-?1968  
Edward Richard (Dick) THOMPSON 1899-1969  
Henry WALKER 1886-

**Thomas William BARLOW**

**b 23 January 1895**

**d 8 October 1966, Burgess Hill, Sussex**

Thomas Barlow was Head of Barby School from 1943 until he retired in 1957. He and his wife Alice lived in Martin House (56 Rugby Road) with their daughter Julie.



He was born in Hughley Shropshire in 1895. In 1901 he was aged 6, with his grandparents Samuel and Mary Hayward at Presthope, Shropshire, and his parents absent. In 1911 he was at Swannington Road, Ravenstone, Leics, with his widowed mother Agnes Mary Barlow, aged 42, a district nurse, born in Presthope. He was 16, an errand boy at an engineering works.

He served in the First World War, initially in the Army. He then joined the Royal Flying Corps (RFC, later the RAF). He trained as a pilot in 1917, joining 59 Squadron and flying RE8 aeroplanes for the Observer Corps. These planes were used to take photographs of enemy trenches and pinpoint their artillery emplacements. Consequently they were very vulnerable to enemy fire as they flew low and in a straight line. He was wounded in France on 26 March 1918 and relinquished his commission as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant on 14 July 1918.

One former pupil recalls that, as a legacy of his time in the RAF, he always wore a large pair of leather gauntlets in winter; and his writing was very small and 'crabbed'. He was one of the few in the village who owned a car. He agreed to give one boy extra tuition to help him pass the 11+ in return for having his car serviced and repaired for twelve months by the boy's father. Another former pupil disagrees: his writing was perfectly normal and he never owned a car!

He married Alice N Roberts in Leicester in 1921; in 1939 he was a schoolmaster living with his wife in Kent. He died in Sussex in 1966.

**Richard BARRETT**

**b 1885, Barby**

Z 417 Rifleman 12<sup>th</sup> Rifle Brigade

Richard was the son of Selina Barrett who already had two other children when she married Joseph Howe in 1890 at Barby. Both Barretts and Howes were longstanding Barby families. He was baptised at St Mary's in 1889 and lived with his mother and stepfather in Kilsby Road north of *Boseworth Cottage*. Selina died in 1908 and was buried at Barby aged 56. In 1911 Richard was the only child at home with Joseph; he was then 25, a general labourer – he had been a bricklayer's labourer in 1901. Joseph Howe was buried at Barby in 1929 aged 79.

Richard must have enlisted early in the war as his regimental number is so low. His medal card below shows that he was posted to France in January 1916. It seems his name was wrongly engraved on the medals as Parrett, and they were returned for amendment.

Name.	Corps	Rate	Regtl. No.
BARRETT <del>PARRETT</del> Richard	RIF BRIG	Private	Z/417
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	M/102/234	444	Bd x M. with for adv. (name) C.R. 528/B. 13.5.22 - 6807/adv.
BRITISH	"	"	reissued 14.11.21 B. 4.15.6.22
15 STAR	M/102	154	CLZ.
Theatre of War first served in	(1) France		
Date of entry therein	26-1-16		

6807/adv.  
K. 1380

Nothing further is known of Richard.

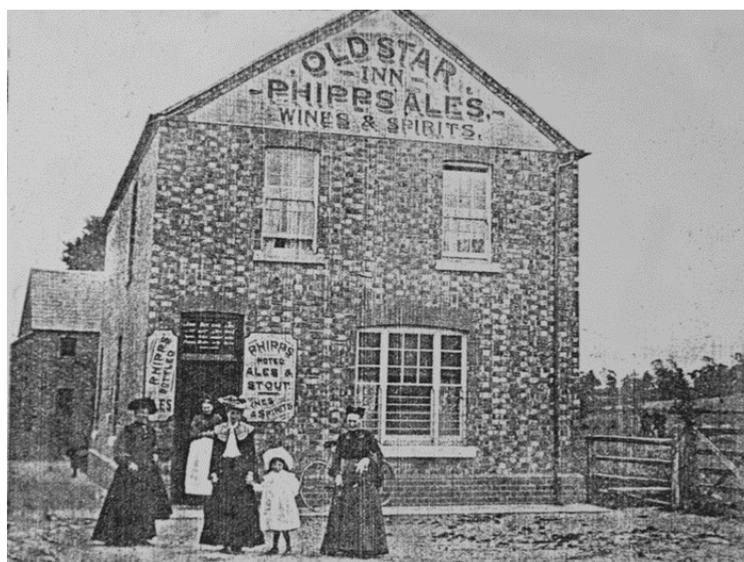
**John George BATCHELOR**

**b 1880, Barby**

**d 1956, Kilsby**

211969 Gunner Royal Field Artillery

John George was the son of John Batchelor (b Barby 1866) and Elizabeth HALFORD who came to run the *Old Star* public house in Barby c1895 after living a few years in Hillmorton. John was a carpenter & joiner by trade and took over the licence of the *Star* from his father.



The Old Star before WW1, probably with members of the John Batchelor family

BLHG P02/137

In 1903 he married Alice Kezia Rowe at Kilsby; they had 6 children and some of their descendants still live in Barby. Despite having a wife & five children at the time, which would have exempted him from service, John joined the army in 1916, and the licence for the pub was temporarily transferred to his wife. He went missing in action in Belgium in the final stages of the war and his distraught wife begged the Rector to try to find out what had happened to him. He was eventually located; he had been injured & gassed, and when sufficiently recovered returned home in 1919 where he continued running the pub. The couple left in the 1930s and went to Kilsby where they lived with Alice's sister Gertrude Postle in a large house, now demolished, known as *The Banks*. John died in 1956.

**William BERRIDGE**

**b 9 April 1898, Barby**

**d 2 February 1960, Birmingham**

Served in the Royal Navy

William was born on 9 April 1898, the son of George and Mary Ann (Annie, née Harris). He was baptised on 12 June; his father was a groom. His only brother George was killed in France in 1915 and is commemorated on St Mary's memorial window (qv [www.barbylhq.org.uk/LocalTopics/Barby's](http://www.barbylhq.org.uk/LocalTopics/Barby's) World War I Casualties).

William joined the Royal Navy as an Ordinary Seaman towards the end of the war on 8 March 1917 when he was almost 20 so his service was short, and seems to have been on home bases. He was 5ft 10ins tall with fair hair and blue eyes. He was demobilised in May 1919.

**J68361** *Portsmouth* **J68361** *P*

Name in full: *William Berridge*  
Date of Birth: *9 April 1898*  
Place of Birth: *Barby, Northants.*  
Occupation: *Factory Worker*

Date and Period of Engagements	Age	Height		Chest	Hair	Eyes	Complexion	Wounds, Scars, or Marks
		Ft.	In.					
<i>8 March 1917. Hostilities.</i>	<i>17.8</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>10 1/4</i>	<i>34 1/2</i>	<i>Fair</i>	<i>Blue</i>	<i>Sallow.</i>	

Ship, &c., served in	List	No.	Rating	Period of Service		If Discharged, whether and for what cause	Sub-ratings			Character & Ability		Remarks
				From	To		Rating	From	To	C.	Date	
<i>Victory.</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>427</i>	<i>Ord. Sea.</i>	<i>8 May 1917</i>	<i>6 Aug 17</i>							
<i>St. Vincent</i>	<i>52</i>	<i>568</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>7 Aug 17</i>	<i>7 Aug 17</i>							
<i>Victory I</i>	<i>1576</i>	<i>2413</i>	<i>AB.</i>	<i>10 May 1919</i>	<i>4 Aug 19</i>	<i>Shore on Demob.</i>						
							<i>det. 19</i>	<i>27.8.18</i>	<i>V.D.</i>	<i>21.12.17</i>	<i>Sat</i>	
									<i>TR</i>	<i>31.12.18</i>	<i>Sat.</i>	
												<i>PAID WAR GRATUITY</i>
												<i>RR 7300</i>

TRAGED WAR GRATUITY BY 30.11

William moved to Birmingham where he married Freda Mary Smith in 1935. They do not appear to have had any children. In 1939 they were in Erdington; he was a metal cleaner (heavy work). He died at the same address, Hidson Road, in 1960 aged 61; administration of his estate was granted to his widow.

**Thomas Edmund DICEY**

**b 16 Feb 1889, Barby**

**d 1980, Salisbury WIL**

441899 Area Art Empl Coy

Thomas was the son of Thomas Dicey, a carpenter, and Eliza DUCKETT, who were married in 1877 at Ladbroke WAR, Eliza's home village. He was born in 1891 and baptised at St Mary's that March. He had four siblings, George, Mary, Rose and Emily. Emily, a schoolteacher, married Albert Haddon (see below) of *Manor Farm* when both were of mature years.

The Diceys lived opposite the *Arnold Arms* in a house known as *Laburnum Villa* (now 17 Rugby Road and much altered), where Thomas carried on his business in the attached workshops.

In 1916 he married Elizabeth HAIL at Barby, probably about the time he was conscripted. They had two children baptised at Barby: Stella in 1917, and Joseph in 1920, who told us they moved to Rugby when his sister won a place at Rugby High School.

In 1939 Thomas was a carpenter, living with his wife at 8 Catesby Road, Rugby. He died in 1980 at Ringwood HAM aged 89. (Probate index)



Mrs Eliza Dicey outside Laburnum Villa c 1910  
BLHG P17/022A

## **George William ELKINGTON**

**b 4 Jun 1898, Barby**

**d 1981, Barby**

46483 A/M RAF

George was born in Barby in 1898 to Joseph Elkington and Florence (née HARDY), who married at Barby in 1897. In 1901 he was aged 2 with parents and younger brother Joseph, father Joseph a joiner machinist. By 1911 they had moved to Higham on the Hill Leics to Lindley Lodge Farm, father a cowman, but moved back to Barby as George was listed on Barby's absent voters roll in 1918. He joined the RFC at the end of the war.



George became a gardener after the war, and worked at Ashby Lodge before it was sold in the 1920s, then for Rugby School (1939 register). He became a member of the Barby Home Guard during the Second World War and was a keen member of the British Legion.

He married Dora Kate EAGLESTONE in 1926 at Barby. He and Dora were living in *Bosworth Cottage* in 1946 (electoral roll), they later moved to a bungalow in Rectory Lane. George was a long serving member of the Parish Council, and the seat on The Green is dedicated to him. He died in 1981.

[For more on George and the Elkington family, see [www.barbylhg.org.uk/Local Topics/The Elkington Family of Barby](http://www.barbylhg.org.uk/Local%20Topics/The%20Elkington%20Family%20of%20Barby).]

**DAVID EMERY**

**b 25 February 1892, Barby**

**d 1952, Barby**

Stoker in the Royal Navy

David was born at Barby, the eldest child of Joseph Emery, a house carpenter, and his wife Anna (née Matthews). They were married at Kilsby in 1891. Anna was born in Kilsby where David was baptised on 1 May 1892; his father was a house carpenter.

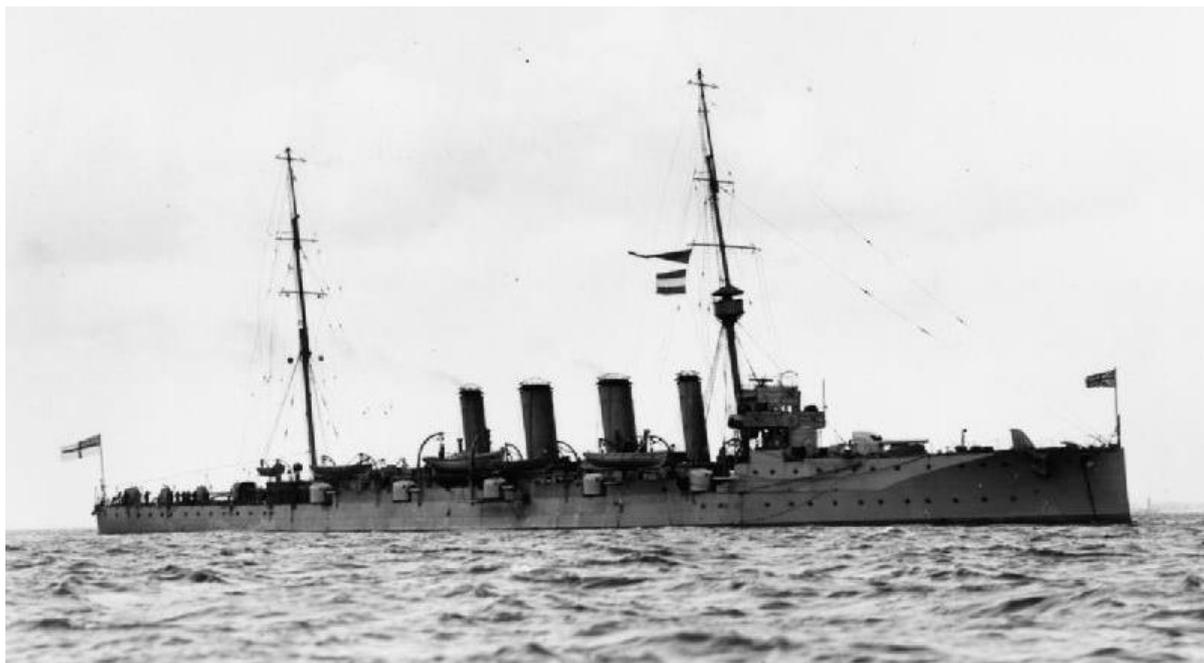
The family was living in Barby in 1901 with 5 children including David. By 1906 they had moved to Kilsby. They had a further 4 children including twin girls by 1911, and Joseph was then a hedge layer and cutter.

The three eldest children were all in work, David was a carpenter aged 19, his brother a milkman and his sister a servant. Four children were at school, and the two youngest at home, so it is small wonder that David decided to leave home and join the Royal Navy. He enlisted on 14 May 1912 for 12 years, his trade being given as "case maker". He was 5ft 6ins tall, with brown hair and grey eyes. The home stations and vessels on which he served are listed on his service sheet reproduced below.

Ships, &c., served in.	List and No.	Rating.	Sub-ratings.			Badges.	Period of Service.	
			Rating.	From	To		From	To
Pembroke	12 <sup>44</sup> 3197	Sto II				11.11.15	12 May 12	22 Oct 12
Gibraltar	15a <sup>2</sup> 93	"				1	29 Oct 12	4 Dec 12
Newcastle	5a <sup>11</sup> 90	"				1	5 Dec 12	
"	"	Sto I				1	4 Aug 13	
"	"	Actg. Sto				1	11 May 16	25 June 16
Pembroke II	15 <sup>57</sup> 2118	"				1	26 June 16	17 Nov 16
Alorah (Calana)	15 <sup>57</sup> 15	"				1	2 Nov 16	
"	"	Lily Sto				2	11 May 17	30 June 17
"	15 <sup>11</sup> 1046	"					1 July 17	5 Nov 17
Pembroke II	15 <sup>24</sup> 3520	"					6 Nov 17	3 March 18
Albion	5a <sup>2</sup> 22	"					14 March 18	31 March 19
Pembroke II	15 <sup>4</sup> 5776	"					1 Apr 19	5 Aug 19
Orea	5 <sup>11</sup> 60	"					6 Aug 19	20 May 20
Pembroke II	15 <sup>24</sup> 7468	"					21 May 20	16 Feb 21

From David Emery's record of service ADM/188/896 (TNA)

At the outbreak of the First World War, David was serving on *HMS Newcastle*, which was stationed in the Far East on the China and Pacific station, being involved in operations during the Shanghai Rebellion in 1913. When war broke out she bombarded Yap, prior to voyaging to Valparaíso to search for the armed merchant raider *Prinz Eitel Friedrich*. In late January 1916, *Newcastle* captured the German ship *Mazatlan*, which was then operating as the American ship *Edna*. In 1917 she was reassigned to the East Indies and in 1918 she was again moved to operate off South America (Wikipedia).



HMS Newcastle

David was invalided out in 1921 as being asthmatic. In 1924 he married Louisa M Eaglestone in Barby; she was the sister of George Elkington's wife Dora, and born in Barby in 1895 to Jim and Agnes Ann Eaglestone. They were still living in the village in 1939, where David died in 1952. Louisa died in 1971.

**Eric James Foster**

**b 29 September 1884, Barby**

**d 29 Oct 1964**

Rfn Z415 Rifle Brigade

Eric was the eldest son of John Foster and Jane HARDY and brother of Samuel



Russell Foster (see below). He was born at Barby in 1884 and baptised on 2 April 1885. He was listed as a builder's carter in 1901; in 1911 he was aged 28, a contractor's labourer, living with his two brothers and widowed father. He married Dorothy Nellie Batchelor at Barby in February 1918, and worked for British Thompson Houston (BTH) at Rugby. When their first child was born and baptised later that year, he was said to be "late a soldier". Dorothy's father later became licensee of the *Arnold Arms*.

His Army record has not survived, but his medal card shows that he enlisted and joined the Rifle Brigade as No Z415 early in the war, probably at the same time that other Barby men joined up as their Army numbers are adjacent or very near.

Campaign :— **1914-15.** (A) Where decoration was earned.  
 (B) Present situation.

Name	Corps	Rank	Reg. No.	Roll on which included (if any)												
(A) <b>FOSTER</b>	<b>Rifle Bde.</b>	<b>Pte.</b>	<b>Z415</b>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>MEDAL</th> <th>ROLL</th> <th>PAGE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>VICTORY</td> <td>11/102</td> <td>86</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BRITISH</td> <td>Do</td> <td>Do</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15 STAR</td> <td>19/16</td> <td>154</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	MEDAL	ROLL	PAGE	VICTORY	11/102	86	BRITISH	Do	Do	15 STAR	19/16	154
MEDAL	ROLL	PAGE														
VICTORY	11/102	86														
BRITISH	Do	Do														
15 STAR	19/16	154														
(B) <b>E.J.</b>	—	—	—													

Action taken **Discharged**

**THEATRE OF WAR.** (1) **France**  
*Serv. list 4/242.*

**QUALIFYING DATE.** **1.4.15.**

(6 34 46) W234—HP5530 500,000 4/19 HWV(P240) K608 [OVER.]

He was sent to France on 1 April 1915, thus qualifying him for the 1915 Star as well as the Victory and British War Medals, and was discharged "disabled" on 10 April 1916, probably as a result of wounds (Army Pension Ledgers).

He and Dorothy had three children, Gladys, Dorothy and Eric who all appear with their parents in 1939 at Barby. Then Eric's occupation is given as steel furnaceman, probably still at BTH. He died at 145 Ashlawn Road, Rugby in 1964; Dorothy died in 1982.

## **Frederick FOSTER**

**b 6 Sep 1890, Barby**

**d 1976, Daventry RD**

859899 Private Machine Gun Corps

Fred was the only child of John Joseph Foster (b 1864 Barby) and Kate Drinda ANDERSON, who married at Barby in 1887. His father was an agricultural labourer at his birth, and a bricklayer's labourer in 1901 and 1911. Frederick was still at home near the *Arnold Arms* in 1911, a waggoner by trade. The family was living next door to the two Barby school mistresses, Miss Harrison and Miss Featon, who lived in Shakespeare Terrace. He was very distantly related to Eric and Samuel Foster.

Frederick was conscripted in 1916; his height was 5'5" but there are no further details from his service record, except that his wife lived in *Chapel Row* during the war. In 1912 Frederick had married Julia BUCKLEY at Barby on 17 July. He and Julia had a son, Donald, baptised at Barby in Jan 1918 when his father is described as "a soldier in France". No other children were born to them in the local area. In 1939 he was a coal carter living at 18 Princes Street, Rugby, with his wife and aged father Joseph.

## **Samuel Russell FOSTER**

**b 1890, Barby**

**d 1934, Barby**

240695 Pte 11<sup>th</sup> Bedfordshire Regt

Samuel was the youngest of the seven children of John Foster and Jane HARDY who married at Barby in 1880, both widowed. Jane's daughter Florence Hardy was the mother of George Elkington (see above) and the families were close. The Fosters lived at *Black Horse Cottage* beside the public house of that name.

In 1911 Samuel, aged 21, was a contractor's labourer living with his father and brothers. In 1914 he married Emma SOUTHAM at Kilsby; his brother Richard had married her sister Florence in 1911.



Wedding day 1914

BLHG P17/021

Samuel and Emma lived in Shakespeare Terrace in Rugby Road. Samuel died in 1934 aged 44; he was buried at Barby on 24 November.



Black Horse Cottage adjacent to the pub with Shakespeare Terrace beyond

BLHG P02/080

**Albert Walter HADDON**

**b 13 April 1894, Barby**

**d 1948, Barby**

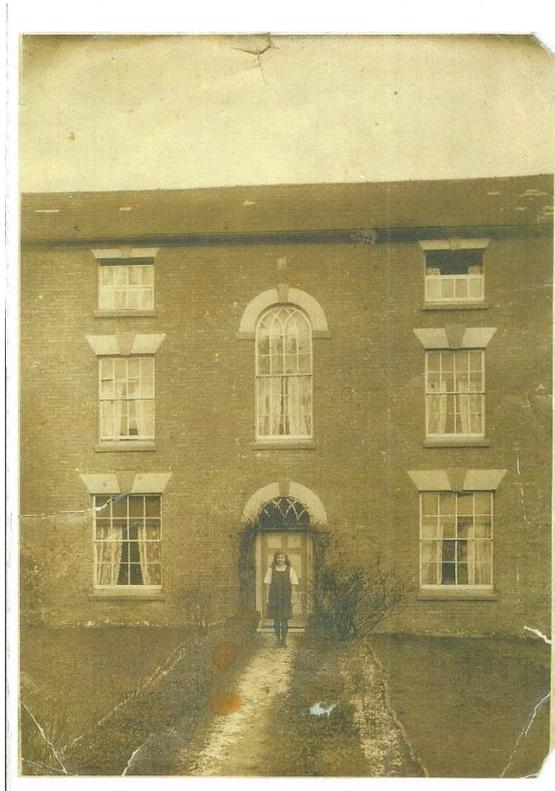
10341 Gunner Royal Garrison Artillery

Albert was the 2<sup>nd</sup> youngest of 8 children of Albert Haddon & Jane Alice COLEMAN of *The Lawn* in Kilsby Road. His father was a butcher and farmer. In 1911 Albert was a farmer's labourer, probably working for his father.



He enlisted on 2 Sep 1914, very soon after war had been declared. In July 1915 he embarked at Devonport and served at Gallipoli Aug-Dec 1916. He was then sent to the British Expeditionary Force in France, sailing from Alexandria to Marseilles. He was demobilised in Mar 1919 (service documents).

In 1943 he married Emily Jane DICEY, a school teacher, daughter of Thomas Dicey carpenter of Barby; her brother Thomas (see above) served in WW1.



*Manor Farm in the 1920s BLHG P17/003*

Albert died suddenly in 1948 and was buried at Barby aged 53. He lived at *Manor Farm* in Ware Road (now demolished), and during WW2 employed prisoners of war from the camp which was opposite his farm. Guenther Rosenkranz, who was there as a prisoner after the war remembers the shock of Albert's sudden death, and his kindness to those who worked for him (see Guenther's memoirs on this website). Albert's wife Emily died in 1970 at Barnstaple in Devon aged 77.

### **Edwin Samuel HADDON**

**b 1890, Barby**

**d 1957, Barnet RD**

Trooper 3643 1<sup>st</sup> Life Guards Household Cavalry

Edwin was the second son of Charles Haddon and his wife Mary Ann Hannah Liddington, born on 3 July 1890. He is distantly related to Albert Walter Haddon (see above).

He was in Barby with his family in 1901, when his father was a farm stockman. In 1911 he was 24, a footman to Lady Margaret Jenkins at *The Hall*, East Carlton, Market Harborough. By 1914 he was a butler living in London as he enlisted in the

Household Cavalry at Hyde Park Barracks on 20 November 1914 (Army Service Records). He served in the 1<sup>st</sup> Life Guards,. He caught both influenza and measles in 1915. He was promoted to Lance Corporal in May 1918 and was demobilised in 1920. He appears not to have served abroad.

In 1933 he was living with his wife and mother-in-law at 7 Cavendish Street, Westminster (electoral roll). In 1939 he was a civil engineer living in Wembley, Middlesex, with his wife Ruby née SHUREY whom he married in Marylebone in 1920. They moved to Harrow around 1954; Edwin died in 1957 at Kenton MDX, Ruby died in 1974 in Hendon RD.

Army Form B. 2063.

## SHORT SERVICE.

(Three years with the Colours.)

### ATTESTATION OF

No. 3623 Name Edwin Haddon Corps Household Cavalry

Questions to be put to the Recruit before enlistment.

<p>1. What is your name? .....</p> <p>2. In or near what Parish or Town were you born? .....</p> <p>3. Are you a British Subject? .....</p> <p>4. What is your Age? .....</p> <p>5. What is your Trade or Calling? .....</p> <p>6. Have you resided out of your Father's house for three years continuously in the same place or occupied a house or land of the yearly value of £10 for one year, and paid rates for the same, and, in either case, if so, state where? .....</p>	<p>1. <u>Edwin Samuel Haddon</u></p> <p>2. In the Parish of <u>St. Mary</u> in or near the Town of <u>Rugby</u> in the County of <u>Warwick</u></p> <p>3. <u>Yes</u></p> <p>4. <u>24</u> Years <u>9</u> Months</p> <p>5. <u>Butcher</u></p> <p>6. <u>Yes - 201, Pall Mall Place W.</u></p>
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You are hereby warned that if after enlistment it is found that you have given a wilfully false answer to any of the following seven questions, you will be liable to a punishment of two years' imprisonment with hard labour.

<p>7. Are you, or have you been, an Apprentice? if so, where? to whom? for what period? and, when did, or will, the period of your Apprenticeship expire? .....</p> <p>8. Are you Married? .....</p> <p>9. Have you ever been sentenced to imprisonment by the Civil Power? .....</p> <p>10. Do you now belong to the Royal Navy, the Army, the Royal Marines, the Militia, the Special Reserve, the Territorial Force, the Army Reserve, the Militia Reserve, or any Naval Reserve Force? if so to what unit and Corps? .....</p> <p>11. Have you ever served in the Royal Navy, the Army, the Royal Marines, the Militia, the Special Reserve, the Territorial Force, the Imperial Yeomanry, the Volunteers, the Army Reserve, the Militia Reserve, or any Naval Reserve Force? if so, state which unit, and cause of discharge .....</p> <p>12. Have you truly stated the whole, if any, of your previous Service? .....</p> <p>13. Have you ever been rejected as unfit for the Military or Naval Forces of the Crown? if so, on what grounds? .....</p> <p>14. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated? .....</p> <p>15. Are you willing to be enlisted for General Service? .....</p> <p>16. Did you receive a Notice, and do you understand its meaning, and who gave it to you? .....</p>	<p>7. <u>No</u></p> <p>8. <u>No</u></p> <p>9. <u>No</u></p> <p>10. <u>No</u></p> <p>11. <u>No</u></p> <p>12. <u>Yes</u></p> <p>13. <u>No</u></p> <p>14. <u>Yes - 201, Pall Mall Place W.</u></p> <p>15. <u>Yes</u></p> <p>16. <u>Yes</u> Name <u>W. J. ...</u> Corps <u>Clyde, 1st B. Coy.</u></p>
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17. Are you willing to serve upon the following conditions provided His Majesty should so long require your services? .....

For a term of three years, unless War lasts longer than three years, in which case you will be retained until the War is over. If employed with Hospitals, depots of Mounted Units, and as Clerks, etc., you may be retained after the termination of hostilities until your services can be spared, but such retention shall in no case exceed six months. If, however, the War is over in less than 3 years, you will be discharged with all convenient speed.

17. Yes

I, Edwin Samuel Haddon, do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements made.

Edwin Samuel Haddon SIGNATURE OF RECRUIT.

W. J. ... SIGNATURE OF WITNESS.

#### OATH TO BE TAKEN BY RECRUIT ON ATTESTATION.

I, Edwin Samuel Haddon, swear by Almighty God, that I will be faithful and bear true Allegiance to His Majesty King George the Fifth, His Heirs and Successors, and that I will, as in duty bound, honestly and faithfully defend His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, in Person, Crown, and dignity against all enemies, and will observe and obey all orders of His Majesty, His Heirs, and Successors, and of the Generals and Officers set over me. So help me God.

#### CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE OR ATTESTING OFFICER.

The Recruit above named was cautioned by me that if he made any false answer to any of the above questions he would be liable to be punished as provided in the Army Act.

The above questions were then read to the recruit in my presence.

I have taken care that he understands each question, and that his answer to each question has been duly entered as implied to, and the said recruit has made and signed the declaration and taken the oath before me at Hyde Park Barracks on this Twenty-fifth day of November 1914.

W. J. ... SIGNATURE OF THE JUSTICE.

If any alteration is required on this page of the Attestation, a Justice of the Peace should be requested to make the alteration under Section 5 (4), Army Act. The Recruit should, if he requires it, receive a copy of the Declaration on Army Form B. 2063.

**John Neal HALLAM**

**b 1885, Halam NTT**

**d 1956, Amersham BKM**

200789 Gunner RGA

John was the son of Richard Franklin Hallam & Susan NEAL, born at Halam, Notts, where his father was an inn waiter. By 1901 his father was a waiter and market gardener and John was a nurseryman's clerk, both probably working for Richard's brother William who owned nurseries in Halam.

By 1911 John was a gardener aged 23, and had recently moved to Barby with his wife and small son Frank. As John's mother Susan came from Daventry, maybe family contacts had told him of work available here. In Kelly's Directory for 1928, he is listed as gardener to Rev Mitchison.

He married Emma Eliza CLATWORTHY in Shardlow NTT RD in 1908, and three further children were born in Barby where they lived in Shakespeare Terrace. His son Frederick was baptised in 1918 while John was still in the Army.

John presented Lady Horne with a box of chocolates at the unveiling of the Barby War Memorial in 1920.

In 1939 he was a newsagent and gardener aged 85, living at *Southwell* in Westwood Road, Rugby, with his wife, his married son Frank, a bus driver, son Edgar, a motor ferry driver, and daughter Winifred.

He died at Amersham BKM aged 71 in 1956.

**Thomas Goodman HENSON**

**b 27 November 1894, Brownsover WAR**

**d 1978, Stoke Golding LEI**

20392 Pte 6<sup>th</sup> Essex Regt

Thomas's father Daniel Dyke Henson was a butcher and grazier born in Spratton NTH; his mother Elizabeth Rose née GOODMAN was born in Hillmorton. They were living in Brownsover when Thomas was born, but by 1901 had moved with their four children to Ivy House Farm in Barby where three more children were born. In the 1915 Valuation Survey, Daniel is listed as the owner occupier of the farm, working 50 acres of which he rented 12 from Thomas Bosworth.



*Ivy House Farm in 1999 BLHG P04/038*

In 1936 Thomas married Winifred Alice WRIGHT in Hinckley RD. In 1939 he had a butcher's shop in Station Road, Hinckley, where he was living with his wife and two sons, Reginald and Raymond. He died in 1978 at Stoke Golding (Probate Index).

Daniel Henson bought the *Crown Inn* in Kilsby Road after it closed as a public house in the 1930s, and used it as a farmhouse and yard. This was later run by Thomas's brother Herbert and his wife Beattie who moved to *York Cottage* in Rugby Road after they retired.

**Francis Leonard HORNER**

**b 1 Nov 1891, Melchbourne Beds**

**d 1976, Rugby RD**

502864 Pte 428 Agricultural Co



Francis was the brother of Walter Joseph Horner (see below) and the son of Benjamin Green Horner and his wife Julia Rebecca TINGEY; he was born at Melchbourne Beds on 1 Nov 1891. By 1911 the family had moved to Kilsby, where Benjamin was a shepherd.

After his return from the War, Francis married a member of a very longstanding Barby family, Winifred FLAVELL, daughter of William the licensee of *The Crown Inn*, at Barby in 1920. His occupation is given as policeman. They had one daughter who died an infant. He later worked for British Thompson Houston (BTH) in Rugby as a metal polisher and grinder. In 1939 he and Winifred were living at 180 Percival Road, Rugby. He died in Rugby in 1976 aged 85; Winifred died in 1981.

**Walter Joseph HORNER**

**b 1886, Hail Weston, Hunts**

**d 1962, Watford Herts**

Pte 9850 Bedfordshire Regt

Pte 21045 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Border Regt

386617 Pte 32<sup>nd</sup> Labour Company

Walter was the brother of Francis Leonard Horner (see above). He was the son of Benjamin Green Horner and Julia Rebecca TINGEY who moved to Melchbourne Beds shortly after his birth, then by 1911 to Kilsby where his father was a shepherd. Walter was then a platelayer on the London & North Western Railway (LNWR), although he had worked as a farm labourer for William Olorenshaw of Kilsby until 1908.

Walter's extensive service record survives. He enlisted in the Bedfordshire Regiment in 1911 and served in South Africa 1913-14. He was described as "sober, honest, willing, hardworking, clean and tidy ". His regiment returned to Britain and he was posted to France on 6 October 1914. He received a shrapnel wound, returned to Britain and transferred to the Border Regiment in Nov 1915. He served in France from Jan 1916 to Sep 1918, but was transferred to the Labour Corps in Sep 1917. He was demobilised in Feb 1919. He received the Victory and British War medals and the 1914 Star.

He married Elsie Leah WORSTER at Kilsby in 1919, they moved to Barby where they had three children, Olive, Christopher and Terence, all baptised in the parish church; he was still working on the railway.

In 1946 Walter's father Benjamin was living in *Barby Cottage* in Kilsby Road with his daughter Laura Horner; he must have come to join family in his old age as he was buried at Barby in 1949 aged eighty-six.

Walter died at Watford HRT 27 Sep 1962 (Probate index); Terence was his executor.

### **Frederick Lawson HUMPHREYS**

**b 1895, Warley Worcs**

27915 Sapper 199<sup>th</sup> Royal Engineers

Frederick was the son of Henry Humphreys and Harriet, a farmer at *Red Hall Farm* in Quinton Worcs in 1901. By 1911 they had moved to Upton in Leicestershire, where Frederick was a baker's assistant aged 16.

On the 1918 electoral roll, Henry and Harriet's address is given as *Tiltups Holt Farm*, Barby, as is their son's home address. The farm is on the back lane to Braunston.

He was not awarded the 1914 or 1915 Star, so must have been conscripted from 1916 onwards.

Nothing further is known about Frederick except that he was possibly farming in Brixworth in 1939.

### **Arthur Samuel MASON**

**b 1886, Kilsby**

14777 Pte 7<sup>th</sup> Royal Berks

Arthur was born at Kilsby in 1886, the only child of William Mason and his second wife Jane LIDDINGTON, although his father, a farm labourer who died in 1899, had a large number of other children with his first wife.

In 1901 Arthur was a farm servant with Arthur C Clarke, grazier, at Gilmorton Road, Lutterworth. By 1911 he had moved to Barby, a farm labourer boarding with John Charles Haddon near the *Arnold Arms*.

Arthur must have enlisted as he was awarded the 1915 Star; his medal card notes that he was posted to France on 19 September 1915.

Nothing further is known.

### **Joseph William MATTHEWS**

**b 1879, Barby**

3609 Corporal 4<sup>th</sup> Royal Warwickshire Regt

Joseph was born at Barby in 1879, but not baptised here. He was the youngest of five children of James Matthews, labourer, and his wife Martha. They were living at Kilsby in 1881, 1891 and 1901 by which time Joseph's mother had died and he and his sister Rose were the only children at home. Joseph was the only child born in Barby; his father was born in Kilsby, his mother in Clifton on Dunsmore.

In 1903 he married Sarah Elizabeth Hannah NORMAN at Dunchurch, and in 1911, aged 31, he was a roadman for Warwickshire County Council living at Willenhall, Coventry, with his wife and 2 children.

No more is known of him.

**Sidney Thomas Ralph MIDDLETON**

**b 23 December 1875, Barby**

**d 1945, St Cross Hospital, Rugby**

29116 Private 2<sup>nd</sup> Essex Regt

Sidney was the youngest of the six children of John Middleton (b Kilsby 1839, d 1881) and Mary SALISBURY (b Barby 1844). His father died very soon after his birth on 23 December 1875.

He lived with his widowed mother at *Chapel Row* (known as *Davis's Cottages* in 1901), and was a carpenter by trade, working on a private estate according to the 1911 census, probably *Ashby Lodge*.



Chapel Row & Chapel on right c 1925 (BLHG P02/92)

In 1912 he married Ada Elizabeth WATERS in Lutterworth RD; she was born in Barby in 1880 and died in 1924, buried at Barby aged 44. The following year he married Daisy DOBNEY at Grantham LIN, but there seem to be no children from either marriage. He was a carpenter living with Daisy in Barby in 1939.



*BLHG P02/58*

Sidney died 21 March 1945 at St Cross Hospital (Probate index), and was buried at Barby 26 March aged 66. He was living in *Albany Bungalow – The Old Smithy* above – now 31 Kilsby Road. Daisy was buried at Barby in 1963 aged 74.

**Noel Boyes Elliott PITTOM**

**b 13 Dec 1894, Barby**

**d 1947, Weston Favell, Northants**

Pte 1459 Northamptonshire Yeomanry

L/Cpl P6682 Military Mounted Police

Noel was born on 13 December 1894 in Barby and baptised at St Mary's on 20 Jan 1895, the son of Thomas Pittom, a farmer, and Mary Barker WINN. They lived at *Ashleigh House* in Ware Road. He attended Oundle School where he was a pupil in 1911.

He enlisted in the Northamptonshire Yeomanry on 16 November 1914 when he was 19, 6ft tall and an auctioneer's pupil. In 1917 he was transferred to the Military Mounted Police and promoted to Lance Corporal. He was sent to Italy in November 1917 until August 1918 as can be seen from the record below, and was demobilised in 1919.

Army Form B. 108. **Casualty Form Active Service** Regimental Number *1439*

Rank *(Pte)* Regiment or Corps *Northants* Christian Name *George Robert Elliot*

Surname *Pittom* Age on Enlistment *19* years *11* months

Enlisted (a) *16/11/14* Terms of Service (a) *4 Yrs* Service reckons from (a) *16/11/14*

Date of promotion to present rank..... Date of appointment to lance rank.....

Extended (.....) Re-engaged (.....) Qualification (b).....  
or Corps Trade and Rate.....

Occupation *Group Clerk* Signature of Officer.....

Date	From whom received	Record of promotions, reductions, transfers, casualties, etc., during active service, as reported on Army Form B. 23, Army Form A. 36, or in other official documents. The authority to be quoted in each case.	Place of Casualty	Date of Casualty	Remarks Taken from Army Form B. 23, Army Form A. 36, or other official documents
		Embarked .....			
		Disembarked.....			
		<i>Northants Coy Embodied</i>			
		<i>M.M.P. Transferred under Act</i>			
		<i>14/33 of 1916</i>			
		<i>appointed 1st Lt</i>			
		<i>Embarked Yorkstone</i>			
		<i>16-11-17 Baso</i>			
		<i>2-2-18. Tenants</i>			
		<i>20-2-19. M.L.O. Home</i>			
		<i>To 48th Division</i>			
		<i>Transferred to UK</i>			
		<i>for demobilization</i>			
		<i>16-11-17. 15/15</i>			
		<i>9 B.</i>			
		<i>Major</i>			

(a) In the case of a man who has re-engaged for, or enlisted into Section D, Army Reserve, particulars of such re-engagement or enlistment will be entered.  
(b) Signaller, Shoeing-Smith, etc.

In 1929 he married Elsie Miller in Northampton RD; they appear in the 1939 Register at Greenway, Weston Favell, with their children Thomas and Sarah. Noel was an auctioneer, valuer and estate agent.

He died 12 November 1947; Elsie on 5 September 1981, both at Weston Favell.

[For more on the Pittom family,

see [www.barbylhq.org.uk/LocalTopics/ThePittomsofBarbyNorthamptonshire.](http://www.barbylhq.org.uk/LocalTopics/ThePittomsofBarbyNorthamptonshire.)]

## Edwin PRESTIDGE

b 1877, Barby

d 1955, Yorkshire

5979 Yorks & Lancs Regt

Edwin was the son of Stephen Prestidge, farm labourer, and Elizabeth Ann BARRATT. His brother John and nephews George & Joseph Prestidge all served in the war.

Stephen Prestidge lived on the corner of what is now Pittoms Lane and Ware Orchard, the house is shown on the left of this photo taken in 1908. Edwin was living here with his parents in 1881 and 1891.



Arnold Arms & the Prestidge's cottage 1908 BLHG P17/016

Edwin's service record states that he enlisted at Pontefract in the Yorks & Lancs Regiment for 4 years as a regular soldier in 1900; height 5'5", weight 116lbs, brown eyes, black hair, occupation nursery labourer. He was probably inspired by his brother John who had enlisted in the same regiment in 1888.

He served in India at Poona & Agra. He signed on for a further 4 years, then was placed on reserve and re-enlisted in 1912. He was a shoeing smith and served in France in 1915.

In 1907 he married Annie Teresa KELLY at York; in 1911 he was aged 34, living with his wife and daughter at Kirk Hammerton Yorks. Annie died in 1913, and in 1914 Edwin married Esther SPERRITT at York Register Office.

After demobilisation in 1919, he went to live at Kirk Hammerton, and died in Yorkshire in 1955.

**George PRESTIDGE**

**b 31 July 1887, Ashby St Ledgers**

**d 1954, Barby**

5171 Pte 19<sup>th</sup> Middlesex

George was the brother of Joseph, who was killed and is commemorated on St Mary's memorial window (see [www.barbylhg.org.co/LocalTopics/Barby's World War I Casualties](http://www.barbylhg.org.co/LocalTopics/Barby's%20World%20War%20I%20Casualties)).

George was the eldest son and second of the six children of George Edwin Prestidge & Jane SEYMOUR, with siblings Ada, Kate, Fred, Joseph, Edith. His father was a brother of Edwin and John Prestidge. George was born in 1887 at Ashby St Ledgers, but baptised at Barby, his father a farm labourer. His parents were at various addresses in Barby right up to 1911 when they were living at *Brook Farm* on the Hillmorton road.



*North end of Kilsby Road BLH G P2/060*

George married Gladys M Walden (b Dec 1893) in 1922 at Market Harborough. In 1939 they were living in Barby; he worked for the LMS railway on signals and telegraph equipment. In 1946 he was living with his brother Fred in one of the cottages at the northern end of Kilsby Road, beyond the brick cottages on the right in the photo above. He was buried at Barby 26 Oct 1954 aged 67.

**John Stephen Prestidge**

**b 25 Jan 1870, Barby**

**d 1955, Barby**

202717 Rifle Brigade, 361982 Labour Corps

John was one of the ten children of Joseph and Elizabeth Ann Prestidge, brother of Edwin (see above), and uncle of George (see above) and Joseph, who was killed. He was born in 1870 and baptised at St Mary's on 8 May.

He was with his family in Barby in 1881 aged 11, and joined the Army in 1888 for seven years, being enlisted in the Yorks and Lancs Regt as Pte 2827. His occupation was given as labourer. In 1891 he was with the regiment at Robertbloose Barracks, Tanshelf near Pontefract. He was a good soldier, receiving two good conduct badges and an increase in pay of 1d and 2d each time. He served in England and Ireland, and having served his time, was recalled to the Army as a reservist in 1899 when the Regiment was sent out to South Africa to fight in the Boer War. He married Annie Elizabeth Richardson at York in 1893.

In 1911 he was a coachman living with Annie in the same place, Kirk Hammerton, as his brother Edwin. He re-enlisted on 19 June 1915 and joined the Rifle Brigade. He was then 45 and living in Barby. His service record notes that his conduct was very good. He served in Egypt in 1916 for 3 years and was transferred to the Labour Corps in 1917 on account of his age. He was assigned to duty as a batman at the POW camp at Belbeis, and demobilised in 1919.

In 1939 John and Annie, who had no children, were living in the council huses in Daventry Road which had been built after the war in the 1920s. John died in 1955, and Annie in 1966.

**Harold William PULHAM**

**b 17 May 1896, Kilsby**

**d 1977, Oswestry RD**

Z8 4<sup>TH</sup> Rifle Brigade

Harold was born at Kilsby on 17 May 1896, the son of Frederick W Pulham and Hannah PRESTON. They were both born near Stow on the Wold GLS, and married there in 1893.

He was with his parents at Kilsby in 1901; his father was a waggoner. By 1911 he was 14, a farm worker, and with his family had moved to *Hibberts Cottages* [now *Cleeves Cottages*], on the Welton Road. It is probable that he and his father worked at nearby *Ashby Lodge* which was owned by Major Hibbert.

His service record has not survived, but he must have enlisted at the very outbreak of war as his regimental number is so low, corroborated by the item below from the local newspaper. He was posted to France in July 1915 (medal card).

*Rugby Advertiser* 22 Jun 1918: "Mr and Mrs Pulham of Barby have received a letter from their son, Rfn H W Pulham, who has been missing since April 15<sup>th</sup> 1918, saying he is a prisoner in Philippopolis, Bulgaria. He joined the colours at the outbreak of the war, and served 12 months in France where he was wounded on July 1<sup>st</sup> 1916 (Battle of the Somme). He was transferred to Salonika in Nov 1916 where he served till reported missing. He was formerly employed at BTH Machine Assembly Department."

He was repatriated to Britain after the cessation of hostilities, arriving at Dover on 1 Dec 1918. (Red Cross Archives).

In 1921 he married Annie E MUSSON in Rugby RD; they had 2 children, William and Norah. In 1939 the family was living at 25 Bilton Hill, Rugby; Harold was an electrical fitter, probably still with BTH.



Guards, so in Jan 1916 he applied to transfer to the Royal Welsh Fusiliers and consent was given. Thus his service number was amended to 37481.

His medical history gives height and weight and that he was suffering from a hernia, but he was considered fit by the Medical Officer for garrison duties. A later medical examination in March 1916 notes "he is not likely to become an efficient soldier" so was discharged on the grounds of an enlarged heart.

He married Mary Frances Morgan at Hethe OXF on 21 April 1919 (parish register). In 1939 he and his wife were school caretakers living at 78 Clifton Road, Rugby with their three children Dorothea, Lucy and George. Despite the heart trouble, Albert was the ripe old age of 84 when he died in 1974.

### **Arthur RANDLE**

**b 8 June 1897, Barby**

**d 1974, Rugby**

Royal Garrison Artillery, Gunner 98679

Arthur Randle, the fifth son, was born in Barby in 1897, baptised at St Mary's on 19 September. He was still at school in 1911 aged 13. He joined the Royal Garrison Artillery late in 1915 when he was living with his father in Grosvenor Road, Rugby, and served on the Western Front. His early record has been burnt apart from the re-enlistment attestation, and that is very damaged. It does however confirm that he enlisted for a further period in 1919 after the hostilities had ceased, and that he was then at Mons in Belgium. He was discharged in 1920 with defective vision. He was awarded the Victory and British medals (medal card). He was 5ft 11ins tall with brown hair and dark eyes. His record states he was of "good character, steady, honest, sober and hardworking".

He married Florence M Thomas in Rugby RD in 1923. They had four children, Gwyneth (1923), Norma (1927) and Dorothy and Margaret, (twins, 1933). Florence died in 1939, and in the government Register compiled in September of that year Arthur was a widower, a waiter at *The Dun Cow* hotel, living at Coventry Road,

Dunchurch with his children. In 1941 he married Eileen Jackson, and died in Rugby RD in 1974.

**George RANDLE**

**b 1887, Barby**

**d 1953, Rugby**

Z416 2<sup>nd</sup> Rifle Brigade

George was the eldest son of George and Bertha, whose birth was registered in Dec Qr 1887 but no baptism found. His service record has not survived, but his experiences after the battle of Neuve Chapelle in January 1915 are quoted in the *Rugby Advertiser* in May, and seem to have been very dangerous. From these we know he was a private in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Rifle Brigade, and had been at the front since 19 January 1915. He was on leave at his home in Grosvenor Road, Rugby. He later wrote to Rev Mitchison, saying he had a narrow escape when three bullets went through his pouches, coat and trousers, but only one caught his leg with a slight wound. He also said his brother got through the action safely but doesn't give the name. Maybe it was John [Thomas] as [Albert] Ernest did not enlist until November 1915, and Arthur and Lewis were not awarded the 1915 Star.

It is not certain if the regimental number above is George's, but that medal card is the only one found for a Randle in the Rifle Brigade who went to France on 19 Jan 1915, although the surname is spelled Randall. The medal rolls were compiled by a different Army department from the Service Records and sometimes names were incorrectly spelled. George was awarded the British War and Victory medals as well as the 1915 Star. Z416 suggests George was one of a group of Barby men who enlisted together.

In 1939 George was living at 68 Windsor Street Rugby with his wife Lizzie and three children. He died in 1953.

## **Alfred Roberts**

**b 1881, Barby**

**d 1951, Queensland, Australia**

Sgt 3394 Royal Field Artillery (RFA)

Alfred was born in 1881 and baptised at Barby with his brother Tom (see below) on 16 September 1883. He was the eldest son of Alfred Roberts, carpenter and joiner, and his wife Gertrude (née BARKER) who married in 1876. They lived either in Church Walk or Chapel Row in the centre of the village.

In 1891 Alfred was aged 10 in Barby, not with his parents but with his paternal grandmother Cordelia Roberts and other members of her family. His father died 3 years later. Alfred enlisted in the RFA in 1900, and by 1911 was single, 27, serving as a sergeant with the 89<sup>th</sup> Battery RFA in Jullimdar, Punjab, India.

As a regular soldier his record is not on *Ancestry*, so no more has been found about his military service, his private life or when he may have gone to Australia. His service details are part of the archive of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, at the National Archives in London (WO97), and have not been seen.

He died in Queensland in 1951; his parents' names are given which confirms it is the same man.

## **Tom Lee Roberts**

**b 1883, Barby**

**d 15 Dec 1951, Gunnersbury Park, London**

11799 Royal East Kent Regiment (The Buffs)

22395 Queens Own (Royal West Kent) Regt

Tom was the brother of Alfred Roberts (see above), second son of Alfred and Gertrude. He was baptised at Barby on 16 September 1883 and had six siblings. His father died in 1894, and by 1901 Tom had moved to London, a butcher by trade. He was aged 17, boarding with Thomas Woodfield b Warwickshire and his family in

Lambeth, London, surely a family connection of his grandmother Cordelia Roberts née Woodfield. In 1911 he was in Wandsworth, aged 27, butcher, boarding with a family named Dring.

He married Rose BRINE 20 October 1915 at St Faith, Wandsworth, and enlisted on 12 August 1916, joining The Buffs as Private 11799. His army record survives. He was sent to France in October 1916, was gassed in July 1917, and hospitalised at Boulogne until sent back to England where he remained in hospital at Birmingham for a month. He was transferred to the Queens Own (Royal West Kent) Regiment, no 22395, spending another month in hospital with bronchitis in February 1919, no doubt aggravated by the gassing he experienced. On his demob that September the doctor noted he experienced shortness of breath after exertion. He was awarded the Victory and British War medals.

Tom died at Acton, Middlesex, on 15 December 1951; his will was proved by his widow Rose. They do not seem to have had any children.

**Henry James “Harry” ROWE**

**b 4 July 1892, Braunston**

**d 18 June 1957, Leicester**

20384 10<sup>th</sup> Royal Warwickshire Regt

Harry was born in Braunston in 1892 to Katherine Elizabeth Rowe, and baptised there that September.

His date of birth is given in the death index and tallies with his age of 23 years 11 months when he was conscripted in June 1916.

In 1901 he is aged 9 living with James Rowe (Katherine's brother) and his wife Ann near the *Star Inn* in Barby, and listed by the enumerator as their son. However in 1911 he is aged 18, a butcher, living with James and Ann Rowe but listed by James himself as his nephew.



His army record has survived, telling us at his attestation in 1916 that he married Rose Hilda GOODYER at Rugby in 1914, he was a carter and they had one child, William. He was living at Bridle Road, New Bilton. Henry was posted to France that November, then suffered "mild" wounds a couple of times in 1918. He was demobilised early in 1919 when he was awarded the Silver War Badge (see above) as he was no longer fit for military service. He was then living in Barby.

In 1939 he was a general labourer living at 42 Newton Lane, Wigston LE1 with his wife and four children. He died 18 June 1957 at that address (probate index).

Rose married Arthur Snowden in Leicester in 1962, and died there in 1973.

### **John George ROWE**

**b 23 March 1884, Braunston**

**d 1954, Barby**

90510 8<sup>th</sup> AAC RA dept

John was the son of James Rowe and Ann b Braunston in 1884. He had an older brother William, and was living with his parents at *Tiltups Holt* in 1891, on the back road between Barby and Braunston. He was a cousin of Harry Rowe (see above).

W1660-HP2653 200,000 H. M. & S. 5/18 H1491.  
13 MAY 1919 8 - MAY 1919  
Royal Warwickshire Regiment,  
The accompanying War Badge and Certificate  
No. B 157993 are forwarded herewith to  
203844 Mr. H. J. ROWE, H. J.  
in respect of his service  
as a soldier of His Majesty's Forces

The Badge will be worn on the right breast or on the right lapel of the jacket, but not in Naval or Military uniform.

Duplicates of the Badge and Certificate cannot be issued under any circumstances.

Receipt of the same should be acknowledged hereon.

Received *Badge*  
Signature *Henry James Rowe*  
Date *May 9th 1919*  
Address *Barby New Bilton*

(P. T. O.)

In 1907 he married Alice GAMMAGE at Barby on 13 November. By 1911 he was a baker's journeyman, with wife Alice and 3 small children living at Star Corner, next door to his parents James and Ann.

From his Service Record, he enlisted on 17 Nov 1915 aged 31yrs 8mths, height 5'9". As by then he had five children, he would have been exempt from serving. He served in the Middle East at Basra, Judea and Aden. He was hospitalised at Baghdad and invalided to India in 1917 suffering from fever and myalgia. He was demobilised in 1919 and returned from India.

In 1939 and 1946 he was living at *Star Cottages* with Alice. He was a builder's labourer. He died in 1954, and was buried at Barby aged 69, of *Star Cottages*. Alice was buried in 1952 aged 64.

### **John Thomas SALISBURY**

**b 28 October 1874, Barby**

**d 1953, Leicester**

191732 Gunner 14<sup>th</sup> Royal Garrison Artillery

John was the son of Thomas Salisbury (d 1899) & Elizabeth ("Betsey", née BARRETT), with siblings Adelaide, Gertrude, Ernest, Charlotte and Elizabeth. He was baptised at Barby in 1875, his father a sawyer.

In 1891 at the age of 16, he had spread his wings and moved to London, becoming under footman to Phyllis Nettleship in Clapham. By 1901 however he had returned to Barby, perhaps after the death of his father, and was a builder's carter boarding with Mary Smith near the *Arnold Arms*. By 1911 he had moved afield again, and was an asylum attendant at Leicester Borough Asylum.

He married Florence Edith SPOKES at Leicester in 1917. In 1939 he was a retired male nurse living with his wife at Groby Road, Leicester, and died in Leicester in 1953.

**Sidney Thomas SMITH**

**b 18 Dec 1893, Barby**

**d ?1968, Wellingborough**

R1352 10<sup>th</sup> Kings Royal Rifles B Coy

Sidney was baptised at Barby 25 Mar 1894, son of William Smith, a carpenter, and his wife Mary.

*Rugby Advertiser* 12 Jan 1918: "Corpl S T Smith KRRC is a prisoner of war in Germany, interned at Dulmen. His home is at Barby where he worked for Mr Thomas Pittom, and was also in the choir of Barby Church."

He enlisted in the Kings Royal Rifles on 15 September 1914, promoted to Corporal 1 Nov 1917 (Army service record). He was captured unwounded at Cambrai 30 November 1917 and interned at Dulmen (Red Cross Archives and service record). He was demobilised as "sound and healthy" on 11 March 1919.

He married Elsie Beatrice HARTWELL Mar Qr 1920 Rugby RD. In 1939 he was a fixer of railway signals and telegraph living with his wife and daughter Hazel at 47 Pytchley Road, Rugby. He possibly died in Wellingborough RD in 1968.

**Edward Richard "Dick" THOMPSON**

**b 1899, Barby**

**d 1969, Daventry RD**

31276 Yorks & Lancs Regiment

Dick lost a leg in the fighting. As he was listed on the Absent Voters Roll of March 1918, this must have occurred after its compilation.

He was the youngest son of 13 children of Joseph Thompson and Betty WALDEN, christened 29 December



1899; his father was the publican of the *Star Inn* at Barby before the Batchelors [see John G Batchelor].

By 1901 he was the only child still living with his parents, in a cottage next door to *Holly Lodge* in Daventry Road, his father a farm labourer. In 1910 he married Grace ARCHER (1891-1982) in Rugby and had four children, Phyllis, Kathleen, Ernest and Eric, all born in Barby. In 1911 he was an assistant butcher aged 23 with his wife Grace, living with his widowed mother Betsy next door to Albert Haddon, butcher at *The Lawn* in Kilsby Road.

Between the wars he lived at the north end of Kilsby Road in a cottage known as *Pittoms Orchard*, since demolished. In 1946 he was living at *Sunnyside* (now *Greys Orchard*) in Kilsby Road.

He died in Daventry RD in 1969 aged 80.

### **Henry WALKER**

**b 3 May 1886 Barby**

3692 Royal Army Service Corps

Henry was the son of Thomas Walker and Sarah Elizabeth SALISBURY, baptised at Barby 14 Nov 1886; his father was then a soldier, although by the time his brother was baptised three years later, Thomas was a labourer.

In 1901 Henry was a general farm servant in the home of his grandmother Rebekah Salisbury in *Derry Cottages*. By 1911 he was married and living in Newport Pagnell.

From Henry's service record, he was a farrier, and had been apprenticed at Barby to W Hopkins & Sons for 4 years, completing his apprenticeship in 1905. He was specially enlisted in October 1914 at Birmingham when he was 28 as a shoeing smith. He was posted to France 29 October 1914 as a shoeing smith and later a driver, but no further details of his service are given. He was demobilised in 1919

and went to live in Coleshill WAR where he had lived pre-war. The copy attestation made for pension purposes has noted that he was a casualty at some time, but no details.

He married Louisa COX at the Wesleyan Chapel at Woburn Sands on 20 November 1907, and at enlistment had three children, Ernest, Francis and Kathleen, born at Newport Pagnell 1908-1911.

In 1939 the family were at Parrfield Road, Meriden RD near Coventry; Henry was a cemetery caretaker, also a fireman.

## APPENDIX

### The men below were listed on the March 1918 Absent Voters Roll

BARRETT Richard

BATCHELOR John George

DICEY Thomas E

ELKINGTON George W

FOSTER Frederick

FOSTER Samuel Russell

HADDON Albert Walter

HALLAM John

HENSON Thomas Goodman

HORNER Francis Leonard

HORNER Walter

HUMPHREYS Frederick

MASON Arthur

MATTHEWS Joseph William

MIDDLETON Sidney

PRESTIDGE George

PULHAM Harold

ROWE Harry

ROWE John George

SALISBURY John

SMITH Sidney T

THOMPSON Edward Richard