



A Brief history of the fallen from the First and Second World War conflicts; commemorated on the Deanshanger War Memorial.



1930s photograph donated to DVHS by the Bird Family

The memorial was built in 1921 to commemorate the 15 men of Passenham and Deanshanger who fell in the First World War. It was unveiled by the Rt Hon Lord Penrhyn on 20 March 1921, costing £110.

Following the Second World War, additional inscriptions were added to commemorate the fallen in that conflict.

The memorial is recorded by the [Imperial War Museum](#). It is not the only War Memorial in the village. In the Conservative Club, there is also a memorial to those who died in the Boer War and there are 2 Rolls of Honour in the Community Centre.

The society has researched into the history of each of the names on the memorial.

G Brown despite an extensive search and contact with people in the village we have not been able to find out any information about G Brown. He was listed in the local newspaper as being one of the 80+ villagers who had signed up to serve during this conflict

We used the following sources during our research for this article

[Imperial War Museum Memorials](#)

[Ancestry.co.uk](#)

[roll-of-honour.com](#)

[Commonwealth War Graves Commission](#)

[Britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](#)

[Google Maps](#)

James John Aries



BORN 1884 in Fewcott, Oxfordshire

LIVED Residence in Deanshanger in 1901 – listed in census of that year

Enlisted Northampton in Jun 1903 and served in South Africa.
James is shown as being in Malta with the Regiment in the 1911 census. In the same year his parents were living in Deanshanger

Death 16/01/1916, Fort Pitt Military Hospital, Rochester, Kent Whilst off duty James was involved in a fatal accident during which he was run over by a bus He was 31 years old

Buried FORT PITT MILITARY CEMETERY, Kent. Grave 1358

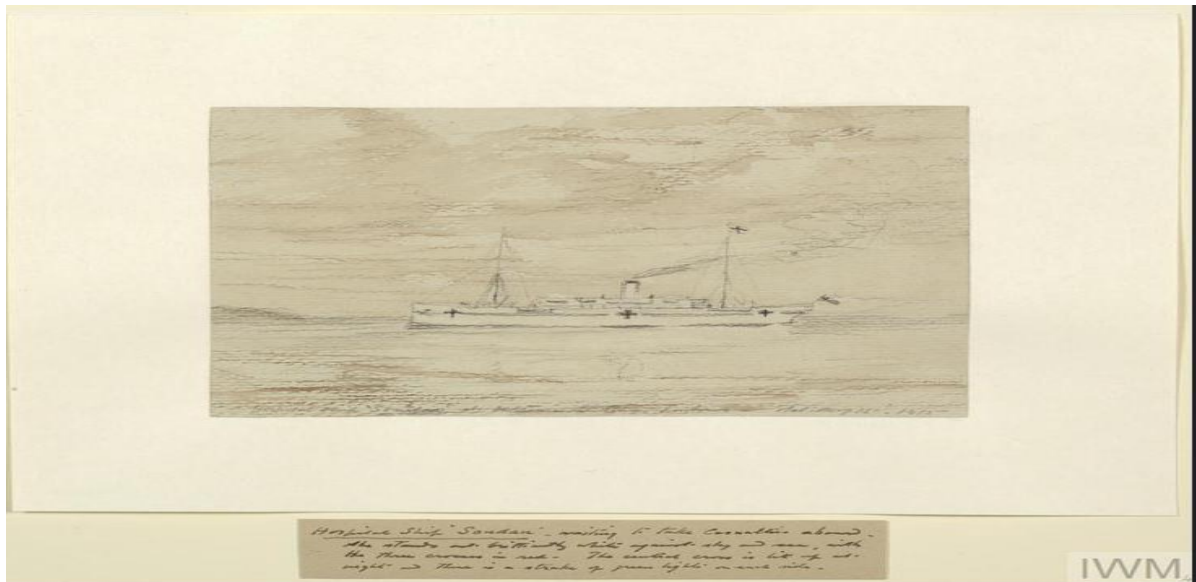
Rank & Regiment Private 7026, 3rd Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment

Father Joseph Aries, b. 1863, Marsh Gibbon, Buckinghamshire

Mother Zilpha Aries (nee Addison), b. 1860, Stoke Lyne, Oxfordshire

Notes James is named on the war memorial in Funtingdon, Sussex and Stony Stratford, Buckinghamshire as well as the memorial at Holy Trinity Church Deanshanger. In 1916 his parents were living at 9 York Road Stony Stratford at the time of his death. His wife Gertrude Annie Aries (nee Curtis) was living at The Orchards, Appleshaw, Andover. The couple were married at St Mary's Funtingdon in 1914. His brother William is also named on our memorial Another brother, Oliver Percy signed up to the Royal Flying Corp in 1914 and returned safely
The Aries family came from Fewcott, moved to Fringford, then on to Wicken and by the 1901 census they were living in Deanshanger. Joseph Aries is listed as a traction engine driver for a thrashing machine. They had 12 children, 9 were living with their parents in the village at that time.

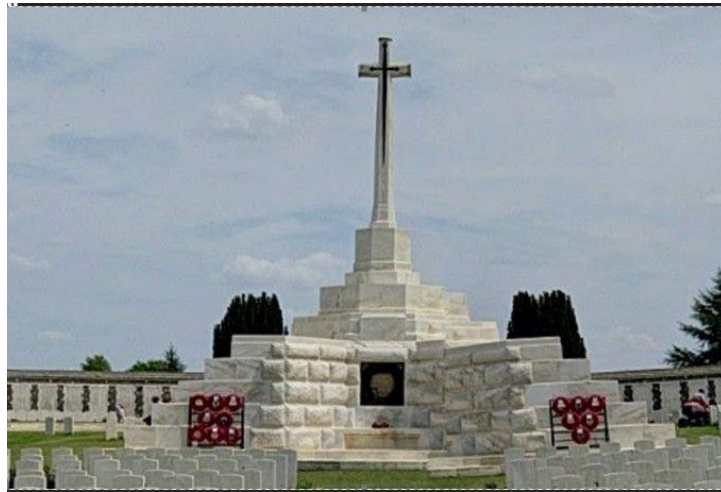
William Aries



Sketch of HMSH Soudan at sea near Gallipoli, in 1915, by Herbert William Hillier, courtesy of Imperial War Museum ART 4322

Born	1885 in Fewcott, Oxfordshire
Lived	Residence in Deanshanger in 1901 – listed in the census of that year
Enlisted	London
Death	22/08/1915, Died of wounds whilst in action at Gallipoli, Turkey after being recovered to HMSH Soudan, aged 29
Buried	Site of burial not known but he is commemorated on HELLES MEMORIAL, Turkey. Panel 80 to 84 or 219 and 220
Rank & Regiment	Private 10128, 2nd Battalion, South Wales Borderers
Father	Joseph Aries, b. 1863, Marsh Gibbon, Buckinghamshire
Mother	Zilpha Aries (nee Addison), b. 1860, Stoke Lyne, Oxfordshire
Notes	Also listed on the Roll of Honour for Stony Stratford, Buckinghamshire. Had enlisted with Battalion by 1911 as is shown in the Census as being in Chatham with the Regiment. Also, in the census of that year, his parents were living at 9 York Road Stony Stratford and at the time of his death. His brother, Oliver Percy, also signed up, into the Royal Flying Corp in 1914

Fred[erick] Charles Eden Barby



Photograph of Tyne Cot Memorial, near Passchendaele, by Richard Allway, via Google Maps

Born	b. 1895 in Passenham Parish, Northamptonshire most likely in Deanshanger village
Lived	Residence in Little London, Deanshanger in 1911 with parents
Enlisted	
Death	28/12/1917, Killed in Action
Buried	Commemorated on TYNE COT MEMORIAL, Zonnebeke, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Panel 52 to 54 and 162A
Rank & Regiment	Private 202218, 4th Battalion, Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own (Yorkshire Regiment)
Father	Eden Barby, b. 23/05/1868 in Deanshanger, Northamptonshire
Mother	Caroline Stones, b. 1872 West Bromwich, Staffordshire
Notes	Parents living in High Street Deanshanger at the time of his death

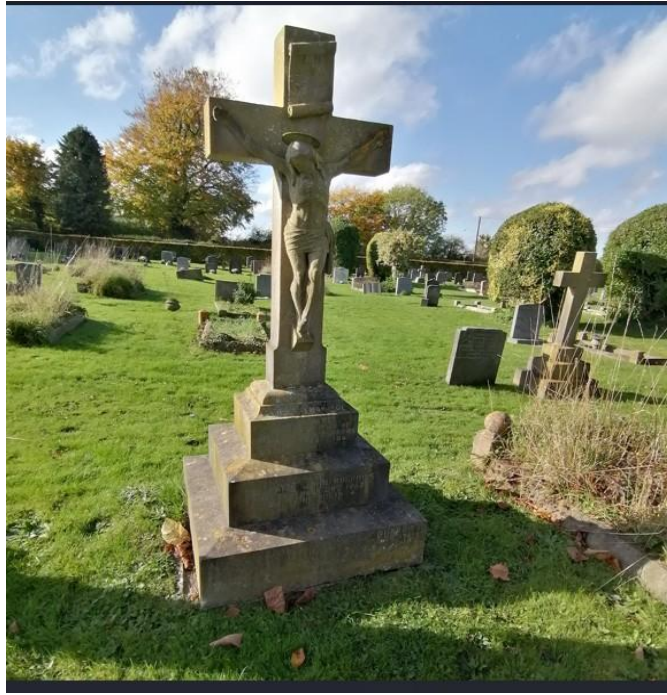
Joseph William Barby

DEPENDANT'S PENSION.		D.1
Name <i>Barby Joseph William</i>	Regimental No. <i>26394</i>	Case No. D.P. <i>188/13</i>
Regiment <i>1st Norfolk</i>	Rank <i>Pte</i>	<i>DD/1436</i>
Documents received from Paymaster <i>5.12.18</i>		
Date and cause of death <i>5.8.18</i>	<i>due to Wounds</i>	
Dependant <i>Mrs Eliza Barby</i>		
Address <i>Mount Mill, Deanshanger, Stony Stratford, Bucks.</i>		
Relationship <i>Mother</i>		
Pension <i>3/6</i>	a week from <i>18.2.19</i>	
Date awarded <i>9.1.19</i>	If refused { <i>R</i>	
Papers	reason	

Joseph's pension card from World War I Pension Ledgers and Index Cards, 1914-1923 via Ancestry.com

BORN	1890 in Wicken, Northamptonshire
LIVED	Mount Mill [cottages], Deanshanger
Enlisted	Northampton
Death	05/08/1918, Died from wounds at near Nord, France, aged 33
Buried	TANNAY BRITISH CEMETERY, THIENNES, Nord, France. Plot 5. Row B. Grave 6
Rank & Regiment	Private 26394, 1st Battalion, Norfolk Regiment
Father	William Barby, b. 1858 in Deanshanger, Northamptonshire
Mother	Eliza Horn, b. 1856 in Little Brickhill, Bedfordshire
Notes	1891 Census 5 April 1891 Buckingham Road, Wicken, Northamptonshire, aged 1. 1901 Census 31 March 1901 Mount Mill, Wicken Park, Wicken, Northamptonshire, aged 11. Joseph is also remembered on the Wicken War Memorial

Frederick Townlow Burrows



Taken by Vicky Thorpe in 2024, grave of Frederick and his parents in Holy Trinity Churchyard, Deanshanger

BORN	Wolverton, Buckinghamshire in 1891
LIVED	Home Farm House Deanshanger, Northamptonshire
Enlisted	Aylesbury
Death	13 December 1918 at Highfields, a farm in the village of Adstone, near Towcester. Diagnosed with Typhoid Fever in military hospital near Le Touquet, France in 1915, returned to Northamptonshire for recovery and then suffered from pleurisy from which he did not recover
Buried	Holy Trinity Churchyard, Deanshanger
Rank & Regiment	Private 2389 Oxon and Bucks Light Infantry
Father	Frederick John Burrows b. 1853 Passenham Parish
Mother	Annie Marie Pittam b. 1862 Neithrop, nr Banbury
Notes	The Burrows family had a threshing machine hire business in Deanshanger from 1870s until the First Word War

Arthur George Coningsby Capell



English brigade entering village of Neuve Chapelle, near Calais, after clashes of March 1915 - courtesy of Bridgeman Images DGA624237 G. Dagli Orti

BORN	1879 in Passenham
LIVED	Living in Passenham Rectory in 1891 with parents and sisters. In 1911 census he was in Malta with 2nd Northampton Regiment
Death	12/03/1915, Killed in Action at Neuve Chapelle
Buried	Commemorated on LE TOURET MEMORIAL, Pas de Calais, France. Panel 28 to 30
Rank & Regiment	Captain, 1st Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment
Father	Rev. George Marie Capell, b. 1845, Hanover Square, London
Mother	Annie Lowe b. 1832 Churchstow, Devon
Notes	Lt A G C Capell 2nd Battalion South Africa 1902, Served as Pte;13322 with 68 Company Imperial Yeomanry & Paget's Horse in South Africa before being appointed 2Lt with the 3rd Btn Northamptonshire Regiment in March 1902 serving in Boer War. In May he was promoted to 2Lt with 2nd Btn and gained the Queen's South Africa medal with Orange Free State clasp. Promoted to a Lt in Feb 1904 and to Captain in Nov 1910. Went to France with the 2nd Btn arriving at Havre on 5th November 1914 being in command of C Company. He had married Phyllis Deacon at Whatstandwell in Derbyshire on 20 October 1914

William Joseph Dumbleton



William's grave in Holy Trinity Churchyard, Deanshanger, taken by Vicky Thorpe in 2024

BORN	1899 Potterspury, Northamptonshire – living in Mill Lane Stony Stratford in 1901
LIVED	Stollage Lodge, Deanshanger, Northamptonshire – 1911 census
Enlisted	Bletchley, Buckinghamshire.
Death	21/03/1917, Died in hospital of a disease (the family record that this was black fever - reference is family history notes from Joan Crossan nee Dumbleton) . His parents lived on The Green, Deanshanger and then moved to 5 Church Terrace
Buried	close to West end of church in HOLY TRINITY CHURCHYARD, DEANSHANGER
Rank	Private TR8/10010, 7th Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment
Father	Robert Dumbleton b. 1870 Stony Stratford
Mother	Minnie Wise b.1867 Potterspury
Notes	Believed to be eldest of 8 children. His father was employed at Wolverton works.

William Henry Foddy

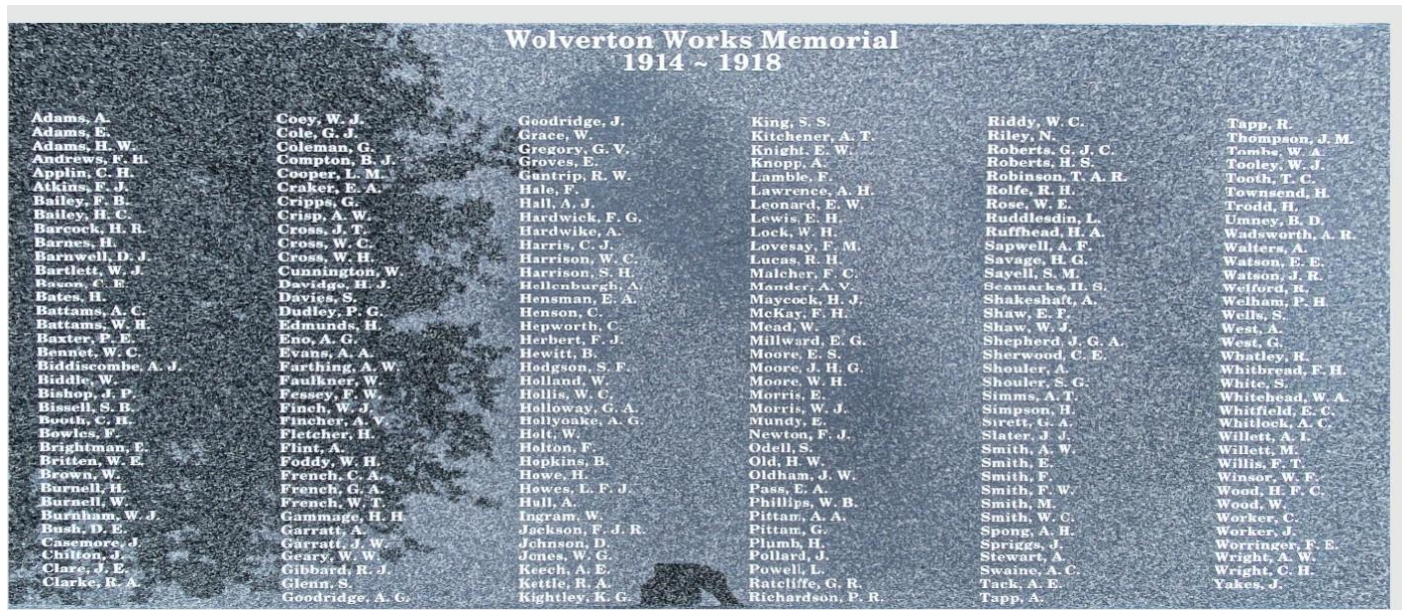


Image from Imperial War Museum War Memorial Site - Wolverton Works Memorial

BORN	Deanshanger, Northamptonshire
LIVED	1911 Census records William as living in Deanshanger with parents
Enlisted	Bletchley, Buckinghamshire
Death	05/11/1917, Died of wounds received on 04/11/1917 near Ainse, France, aged 21
Buried	PREMONT BRITISH CEMETERY, Aisne, France. Grave III. B. 5
Rank & Regiment	Corporal 54886, 6th Battalion, Machine Gun Corps (Infantry), Formerly 19878, Northamptonshire
Father	Arthur Henry Foddy b.1871 Deanshanger
Mother	Sarah Elizabeth Evans. b.1870 Foscot, Nr Bledington, Oxon
Notes	William's pension record card records his mother as living opposite the Post Office [in the high street] at the time his pension is awarded

David Ford



View from Le Cateau Military Cemetery, Nord, France, looking north-west toward the village of Inchy

BORN	1890 Forest Hill, Oxfordshire (nr Headington)
LIVED	Little London, Deanshanger, Northamptonshire
Enlisted	Northampton
Death	17/02/1917, Died of wounds near the village of Le Cateau, Nord, France
Buried	LE CATEAU MILITARY CEMETERY, Nord, France. Grave V. C. 1
Rank & Regiment	Private G/87119, 16th Battalion, Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex Regiment), Formerly G/30921, Northamptonshire Regiment.
Father	Henry Ford b 1824 Elsfield Oxfordshire
Mother	Emma Smith, b 1864 Great Bourton, near Banbury, Oxfordshire
Notes	David's mother was a widow, at the time of his death living with her aunt and uncle Anna and William Bird and one of his sisters, in the village. His eldest sister was a live in servant at Bridge House, for Rupert Roberts' family

William Franklin

CREDITS														CHARGES						Date of Authority	To whom Authorised	Amount Authorised		
Soldier's Name	Regiment, Rank, No.	Date and Place of Death	Account and Date	£ s. d.			£ s. d.			Account and Date	Date of Authority	To whom Authorised	£ s. d.											
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	Pte.						-	11	1	" "		Sis: M. Harriet Webb	-	11	1									
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William's War Gratuity – From Ancestry.com

BORN	1880, Passenham Parish, Northamptonshire
LIVED	Maltings Row, Deanshanger, Northamptonshire in 1911 census. Living with his mother, brother and 2 of his sisters
Enlisted	Northampton
Death	28/09/1916, Killed in action in France
Buried	Commemorated on THIEPVAL MEMORIAL, Somme, France. Pier and Face 10 D
Rank & Regiment	Private 28441, 10th Battalion, Essex Regiment
Father	William Franklin b. 1844 Westbury, nr Brackley, Northants. Died prior to 1911 census
Mother	Emma Franklin, b 1845 Hanwell, Oxon. Died December 1911
Notes	The extract from the Army Registers of Soldiers' Effects shows that William's war gratuity was shared between his brother and 4 sisters. Both parents had died prior to William so he would have been the main wage earner for the household, along with his brother George, who worked at the foundry. This gratuity would have been a help to support the family after the loss of William

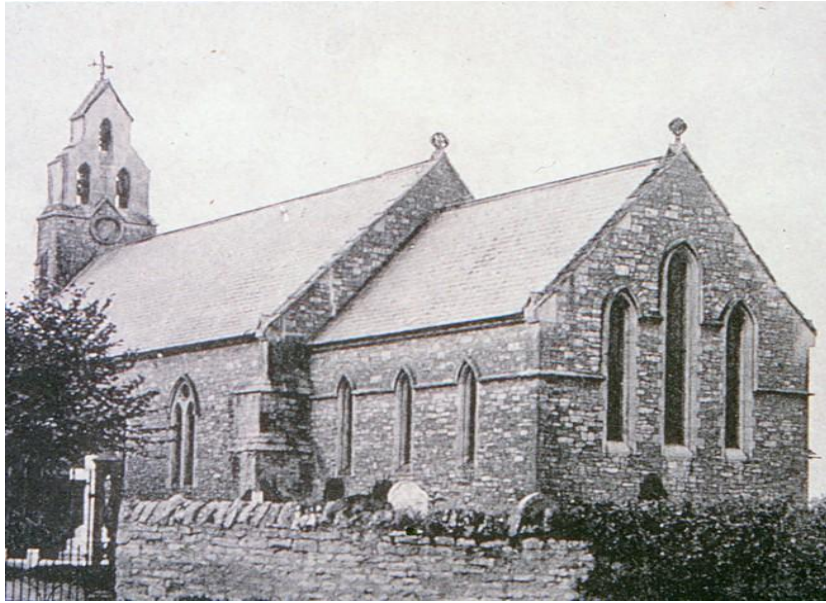
Albert Grant



Clip from Google Maps showing the position of the Basra Memorial on a modern-day map. Albert must have felt a long way from home particularly being in captivity. Lawrence of Arabia was in Basra in 1916, which was a key port and centre for the British Mesopotamian campaign

BORN	1891 Nether Heyford, Northamptonshire
LIVED	High Street, Deanshanger, Northamptonshire
Enlisted	Bicester, Oxfordshire. Listed in the census as being in India in 1911 with 1st Oxon & Bucks Light Infantry
Death	31/10/1916, Died in Mesopotamia, age 28, in captivity
Buried	Commemorated on BASRA MEMORIAL, Iraq. Panel 26 and 63
Rank & Regiment	Private 8922, 1st Battalion, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry.
Father	James Grant. B 1865 Nether Heyford, Northamptonshire
Mother	Ellen Grant. B.1867 Syresham, Northamptonshire
Notes	Albert was one of 8 siblings. His father worked at the carriage works in Wolverton. Two brothers, Percy and Ernest also served, with the Wiltshire Regiment, during the conflict and returned home. Percy worked at the carriage works and Ernest for E & H Roberts

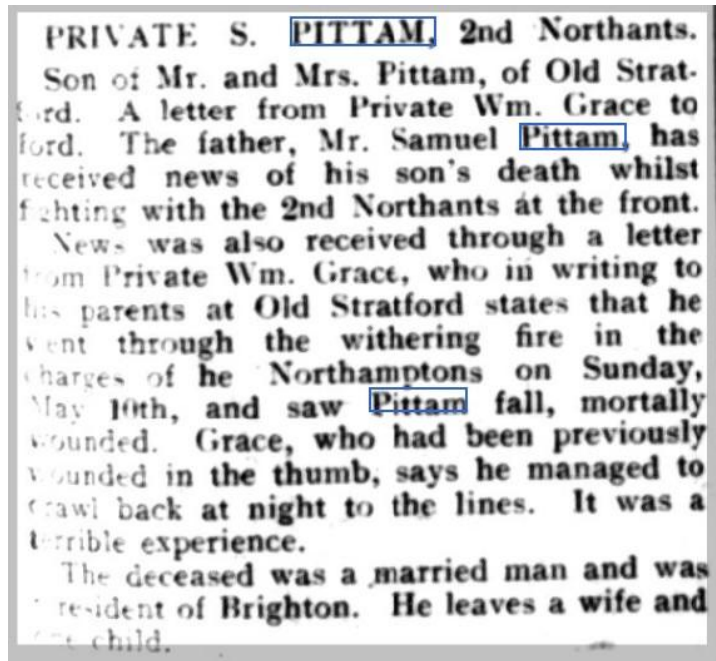
Bertram Henson



Black & White Postcard image of Holy Trinity Church, Deanshanger

BORN	1878 Deanshanger
LIVED	Little London, Deanshanger
Enlisted	Bertram enlisted with the Militia in 1899. He served in South Africa from December 1902 to May 1904, he then transferred to the reserve army. He served with the Northampton Regiment from 1902 until 1914 and then transferred to reserve army.
Death	Bertram died in March 1920, at home in Deanshanger, from carcinoma of the stomach. His brother, William Smith, was present at his death
Buried	Holy Trinity Churchyard, Deanshanger (grave position not known)
Rank & Regiment	Private 6615
Father	[Cornelius] George Smith, b 1861 Deanshanger
Mother	Sarah Henson, b 1860 Deanshanger
Notes	Bertram had 4 brothers, all served and all survived: Percy Arthur James Smith, Oxford Light Infantry Ebenezer Harry George Smith, Royal Engineers, Railways division William Lovesay Smith, Royal Engineers, Railways division Alvin John Smith, 19th Hussars

Samuel Pittam



From Wolverton Express Newspaper, 21 May 1915, courtesy of The British Newspaper Archive

BORN	1881 Old Stratford, Cosgrove parish, Northamptonshire
LIVED	Old Stratford, Wombwell, Near Barnsley and Brighton
Enlisted	Towcester, Northamptonshire
Death	09/05/1915, Killed in action in France & Flanders
Buried	AUBERS RIDGE BRITISH CEMETERY, AUBERS, Nord, France. Grave III. B. 10
Rank & Regiment	Private 7095, 2nd Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment
Father	Samuel Pittam, b 1849 in Potterspury
Mother	Louisa Webster b.1844 Potterspury
Notes	Married Kate Burnell, in 1907, 1 step daughter. He is also remembered on the memorial of St Mary's Church, Wombwell

[Frank Ernest] Sidney Taylor



Photograph taken by Graham Thorpe, September 2025

BORN	1891 Wicken, Northamptonshire
LIVED	2 Park View, Deanshanger (Now Folly Road)
Enlisted	
Death	Discharged 24 Feb 1919 with a Disordered Action of the Heart attributable to effects of action. Died 18 May 1920
Buried	St John the Evangelist Church, Wicken
Rank & Regiment	Private 228726, Royal Army Service Corps
Father	George Taylor b 1862 Deanshanger
Mother	Margaret Barby b 1862 Wicken
Notes	Married Beatrice Lillian Tompkins at Little Horwood in 1912

Charles Whitehead



Photograph of the war memorial in the churchyard of St James & St John, Akeley

BORN 1889 Akeley

LIVED Akeley and Old Stratford

Enlisted Bletchley

Death 31st March 1916 Killed in Action

Buried Essex Farm Cemetery. Leper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Grave I.J.4

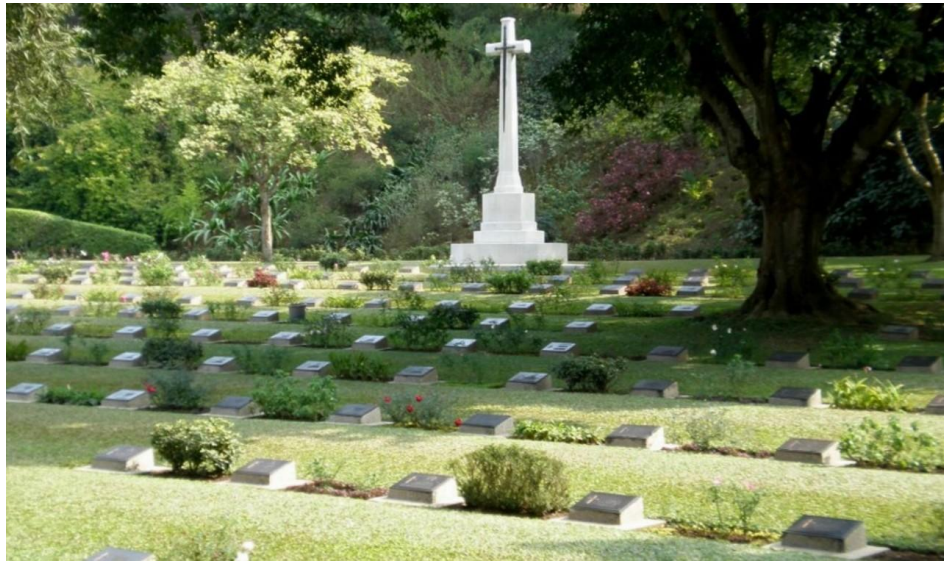
Rank & Regiment Private 20728 Oxon & Bucks Light Infantry, 6th Battalion

Father Samuel Whitehead b. 1863 Leckhampstead, Buckinghamshire

Mother Amelia Dunkley, b. 1862 Akeley, Buckinghamshire

Notes Charles's parents lived at Toll-Gate lodge at the time of his death. This was situated on the road into Passenham. Charles is also remembered on the Old Stratford Memorial

DOUGLAS ERNEST FRENCH



Gauhati War Cemetary, Assam, India, from FindaGrave.com

BORN	1919 Stony Stratford
LIVED	73 Clarance Road, Stony Stratford and worked for McCorquodale
Death	27 January 1944, airplane crash at Masimpur Near Silchar during a transit flight from Kumbhirgram to New Delhi via Alipore, India
Buried	Gauhati War Cemetary, Assam, India
Rank & Regiment	137332 Flying Officer - Sergeant Observer; 45 Squadron
Father	Ernest James French b 1887 Old Stratford
Mother	Lillian Sarah Gardener, b 1889, Flore, Northamptonshire
Notes	Married Frances May Wootton in December 1940. Frances was living at 4 Puxley Road Deanshanger at the time of their marriage. Douglas is also remembered on the Stony Stratford memorial

Lorraine James George James



Photograph of S.S. Hai-Ching from Harrison Forman Collection Hong Kong

BORN	10 January 1916, Islington, Middlesex
LIVED	Boswell House, Deanshanger
Death	2 October 1943, drowned when vessel S.S. Haiching (Hong Kong) was hit by enemy fire
Buried	No known grave. Commemorated on TOWER HILL MEMORIAL, London. Panel 54
Rank & Regiment	3rd Engineer Officer
Father	James Wynn James b. 1891, Highgate, Middlesex
Mother	Elene Rosa Hughes b. 1884, Holloway, Middlesex

Doris May Lehrne



Photograph taken by Vicky Thorpe September 2025, Holy Trinity Churchyard, Deanshanger

BORN	1920 Deanshanger
LIVED	Deanshanger
Death	16 March 1949, Creaton Sanatorium, Northamptonshire
Buried	Holy Trinity Churchyard, Deanshanger
Rank & Regiment	Lance-Corporal in the ATS
Father	Rupert L C Ridgway, b 4 April 1893, Deanshanger
Mother	Frances M Dewick, b 13 July 1893 Stony Stratford
Notes	Doris was married to Frederick, who was a french polisher at LMS and served in the Navy during the conflict. They had a son, Nicholas, who was 2 years old at the time of her death.

Sidney James Perkins



Lincoln (Newport) Military Cemetery - photograph from Commonwealth War Grave Commission's website

BORN	December 1907, Steeple Claydon
LIVED	Woodman's Yard, Deanshanger
Death	5 August 1944, Lincolnshire
Buried	Lincoln [Newport] Cemetery. Sec. H. Grave 194 South.
Rank & Regiment	Gunner, 4806790, Royal Artillery 8 Res. A.A. Regt.
Father	William Joseph Perkins b 1879, Steeple Claydon
Mother	Louisa Harriet Nichols, b 1886, Akeley
Notes	Sidney was the eldest of 6 siblings. Their mother died in 1917, when Sidney was 10. In the 1921 census Sidney was working at Hurst Farm, Wicken and his father worked in the Smithy at E & H Roberts . Sidney married Marie Best in Darwen Lancashire in July 1941. The couple are believed to have had a daughter, Carol, born 1942

Donald Douglas Ratcliffe



SCGC Mendota, under construction, circa 1928. Renamed HMS Culver at beginning of WW2.
Photograph from US Coastguard website <https://www.history.uscg.mil/>

BORN	28th August 1920 in Old Stratford
LIVED	"St Clair" Deanshanger Road Old Stratford
Death	H.M.S. Culver - he died, off the coast of Ireland, when his ship broke in two and sank in less than a minute Saturday 31st January 1942 - there is an account of the incident at Ahoy - Mac's Web Log
Buried	No known grave. Commemorated on PORTSMOUTH NAVAL MEMORIAL, Hampshire. Panel 66, Column 1
Rank & Regiment	Ordinary Seaman P/JX 275706
Father	Eli Ratcliffe, b 1871, Potterspury
Mother	Alice Mary Wootton b 1879, Chelsea
Notes	Douglas is also remembered on the Old Stratford memorial. He was one of 9 children. His father worked for E & H Roberts

George Stephen Ratcliffe



Photograph of the 2nd World War Roll of Honour situated in Deanshanger Memorial Hall, © Graham Thorpe (WMR-98388), IWM

BORN	Born 5 April 1920 in Bradden, Nr Towcester
LIVED	32 Ridgmont, Deanshanger with widowed mother (1939 register)
Death	Killed in action Thursday 1st March 1945
Buried	REICHSWALD FOREST WAR CEMETERY, Kleve, Germany. Plot 62. Row E. Grave 5
Rank & Regiment	Private 5955820, 1st Battalion, Royal Norfolk Regiment
Father	Thomas Ratcliffe b 1885 Stony Stratford
Mother	Lilian Payne 1882 Daventry
Notes	Married Cynthia Catherine Willis, b 1922 Newport Pagnell, Buckinghamshire

CHARLES ALGERNON TAPP



photograph of Charles Algernon Tapp's commonwealth war grave in the extension of ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCH CEMETERY, POTTERSPURY taken by Vicky Thorpe October 2025

BORN	26th March 1904
LIVED	Towcester Road, Old Stratford
Death	5th August 1941 - Collapsed and died whilst on parade at Bury St Edmunds. He had been enlisted in the army for three weeks.
Buried	ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH CEMETERY EXTENSION, POTTERSPURY
Rank & Regiment	Private 13095804, Pioneer Corps attached I.T.C., Suffolk Regiment.
Father	Charles Edmund Tapp b.1871, Potterspurty
Mother	Beatrice Moores b.1871, Potterspurty
Notes	Married Violet Amelia. Worked for LMS Works. Also remembered on the Old Stratford memorial