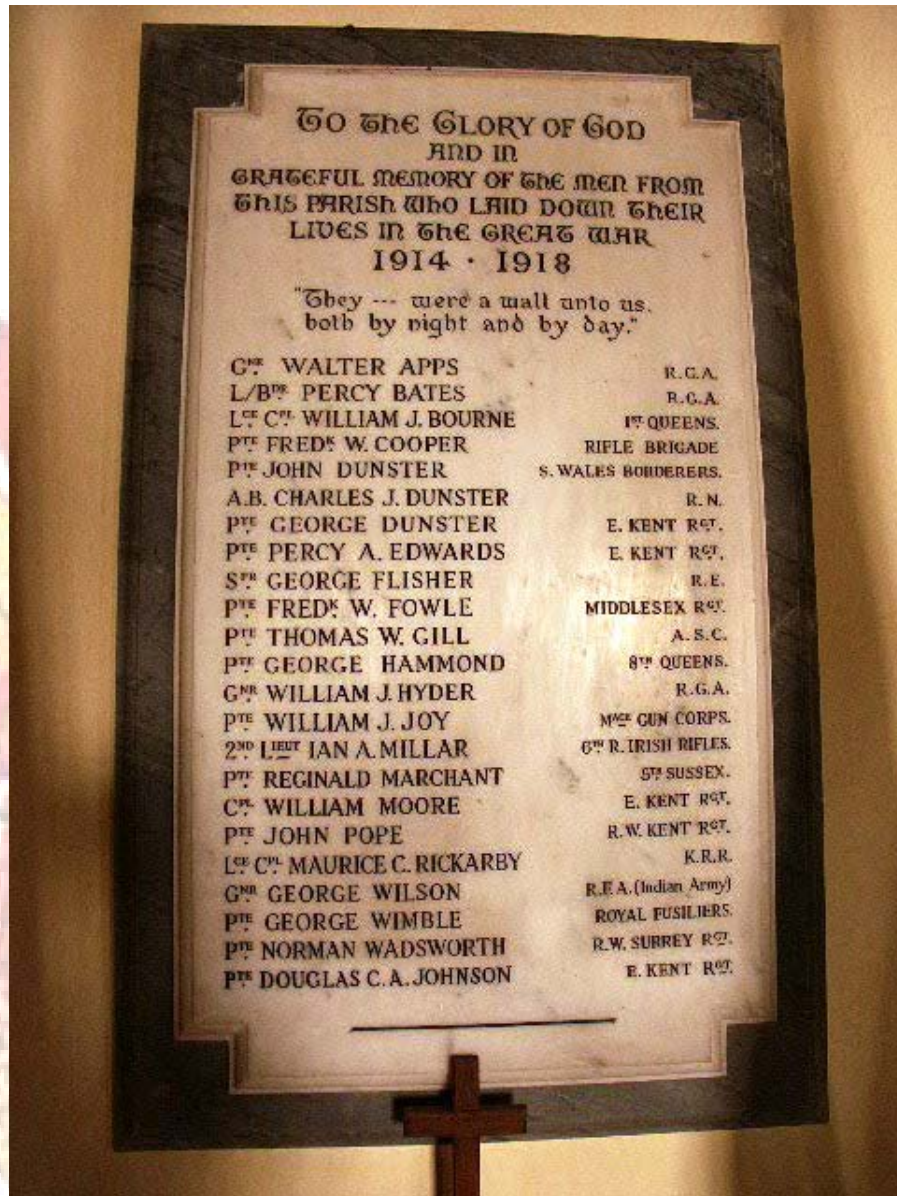


APPLEDORE



The Great War
1914-1919

APPS W

Gunner 72768 Walter Harry APPS. 14th Battery, Royal Field Artillery (RFA). Died Iraq 4th May 1917. Born Ashford. Enlisted Chatham. Resided Appledore. Son of John and Alice Apps of Moor Lane, Appledore, Ashford, Kent. Buried Basra War Cemetery, Basra, Iraq. Grave reference IV.K.16.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Heath, Appledore

Private 201213 George APPS. 5th Buffs (East Kent Regiment).

The 1901 census gives –
Moor Lane, Appledore

John	APPS	40	Labourer	Warehorne
Alice		38		Tenterden
Walter		10		Tenterden
Mary		7		Tenterden
George		3		Appledore
John		2m		Appledore

Walter died of disease in Mesopotamia.

BATES P

Lance Bombardier 160415 Simeon (Percy) BATES. 1st Reserve Brigade, Royal Garrison Artillery (RGA). Died 6th May 1918 aged 38 years. Born Appledore. Enlisted Lydd. Son of Mrs E Bates of Appledore, Kent. Buried locally in the Appledore (SS Peter and Paul) Churchyard, Appledore, Ashford, Kent. Grave reference – North East of church.

This man is listed as P Bates. It seems likely that he preferred to use his second Christian name by those knew him.

He is probably related to this man with a very similar name who also came from the Appledore area – **Private 2130682 George Simeon Percy BATES. 1st Canadian Infantry (Manitoba Regiment).** Died Wednesday 13th November 1918 aged 32 years.

George's name appears on the Bilsington and Stone war memorials.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Teigh Farm, Stone Cum Ebony

Private 424319 Percy Archibald BATES. Canadian M.T, Army Service Corps.

BOURNE W.J

Lance Corporal G/10448 William James BOURNE. 6th Battalion, Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment). Died 30th June 1918. Born St Mary's Cray, Kent. Enlisted Maidstone. Resided Frittenden. Son of William and Charlotte Bourne of Weaversden Cottages, Frittenden, Kent. Formerly (1901) Monks Farm, Appledore, Ashford, Kent. William has no known grave. His name appears on the Pozieres Memorial, Pozieres, Somme, France. Panel reference 58 and 59.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Heath, Appledore

Driver George Wilson BOURNE. 82nd Battery, Royal Field Artillery.
Private 20601 Horace Albert BOURNE. 1st Berkshire, Royal Horse Artillery.

The 1901 census gives –
Monks Farm, Appledore

William BOURNE	62	Farmer	Woodchurch
Charlotte	56		Appledore
Edwin	30	Labourer	Appledore
Henry	14		Appledore
Kate	12		Appledore
Ethel	1		Appledore

On the 30th June 1918 the 6th battalion was in frontline trenches near Bouzincourt, The Somme, France. The battalion objective was the Bouzincourt Spur. Zero hour was 09.35 hours and the advance was made under a creeping barrage. The 6th Queen's attacked on the right and the left was covered by the 6th West Kent's. On the 2nd July 1918 the battalion was relieved by the 6th battalion The Buffs.

COOPER F.W

Rifleman B/201384 Frederick William COOPER. 4th Battalion, Rifle Brigade. Formerly 13th Battalion. Formerly (S/4161909) Army Service Corps (ASC). Died Sunday 1st September 1918 aged 28 years. Born Appledore. Son of William Cooper of Oak House, The Heath, Appledore, Kent. Buried in the St Sever Cemetery Extension, St Sever, France. Grave reference R.II.O.22.

Soldiers Died Great War gives his battalion as the 13th whilst the CWGC give it as 4th Battalion. There were 37 deaths in the Rifle Brigade on this day according to Soldiers Died. The vast majority of whom were killed in action with the 1st Rifle Brigade.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Street, Appledore

Rifleman 201384 Frederick William COOPER. 13th Battalion, Rifle Brigade.

DUNSTER J

Private 40228 John DUNSTER. 11th Battalion, South Wales Borderers. Died Friday 24th August 1917 aged 26 years. Born Appledore. Son of John and Mary Dunster of Black Cottages, Appledore, Kent. Formerly (1901) Brown Cottage, Appledore, Ashford, Kent. John has no known grave. His name appears on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, Belgium. Panel reference 65/66.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Heath, Appledore

Private 487622 Harry DUNSTER. Labour Corps.
Private 228816 William DUNSTER. 11th Royal Fusiliers.

The 1901 census gives –
Brown Cottage, Appledore

John	DUNSTER	36	Labourer	Appledore
Mary		34		Appledore
George		16	Farm Boy	Appledore
Jane		11		Appledore
John		9		Appledore
Nelson		7		Appledore
Eliza		79	Charwomen	Kenardington
George		23	Labourer	Appledore

DUNSTER C.J (brother)

Able Seaman 222764(PO) Charles John DUNSTER. HMS “Victory”. Royal Navy (RN). Died Thursday 13th September 1917 aged 34 years. Son of Frederick Thomas and Elizabeth Dunster of 1 New Rents, Appledore, Kent. Buried locally in the Appledore (SS Peter and Paul) Churchyard, Appledore, Ashford, Kent. Grave reference – North East of church.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Heath, Appledore

Private 487622 Harry DUNSTER. Labour Corps.
Private 228816 William DUNSTER. 11th Royal Fusiliers.

HMS Victory was a Portsmouth shore based establishment (as it still is).

DUNSTER G (brother)

Private G/9626 George DUNSTER. 7th Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment). Died Wednesday 7th March 1917 aged 38 years. Born Appledore. Resided Appledore. Son of Frederick Thomas and Elizabeth Dunster of 1, New Rents, Appledore, Kent. Buried in the Etaples Military Cemetery, Etaples, France. Grave reference XXII.A.14A.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Heath, Appledore

Private 487622 Harry DUNSTER. Labour Corps.

Private 228816 William DUNSTER. 11th Royal Fusiliers.

The 7th Buffs were in the early part of March 1917 in the vicinity of the Zollern Redoubt and Miraumont. It is recorded that no incident of great importance took place. George died of wounds so it seems likely that he died of wounds he received in an earlier battle near to Miraumont on The Somme, France. The 7th battalion were engaged in offensive operations in this area throughout February 1917.

EDWARDS P.A

Private L/9876 Percy Albert EDWARDS. 2nd Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment). Died Tuesday 28th September 1915. Born Appledore. Enlisted Canterbury. Son of Thomas and Mary A Edwards of Lower Heath, Appledore, Ashford, Kent. Percy has no known grave. His name appears on the Loos Memorial, Loos, France. Panel reference 15 to 19.

The 1901 census gives –

Lower Heath, Appledore

Thomas	EDWARDS	44	Labourer	Ivychurch
Mary A		44		Stone
Edith		13		Brenzett
Percy A		12		Brenzett
Alfred W		9		Brenzett
Edward G		6		Appledore
Leonard		3		Appledore

On the 27th September 1915 the 2nd battalion arrived at Vermelles in France. The battalion was engaged in offensive operations in and around the Hohenzollern Redoubt and The Dump. The day that Percy was killed his battalion was attacking near Fosse 8 a few miles from Loos.

FLISHER G

Sapper 195261 George Edward FLISHER. III Corps Headquarters, Signals Sub Section, Royal Engineers (RE). Died Thursday 18th July 1918 aged 31 years. Born Ivychurch, Kent. Enlisted Chatham. Son of George John and Matilda Mary Flisher of Ivychurch, Kent. Buried in the Pernois British Cemetery, Pernois, France. Grave reference II.F.21. .

FOWLE F.W

Private G/23226 Frederick William FOWLE. 18th Battalion, Middlesex Regiment. Died Tuesday 16th April 1918 aged 25 years. Son of Albert and Sarah Fowle of Court Lodge Road, Appledore, Kent. Born Appledore. Enlisted Canterbury. Frederick has no known grave. His name appears on the Ploegsteert Memorial, Hainaut, Belgium. Panel reference 8.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Street, Appledore

Private 51220 Albert FOWLE. 4th King's (Liverpool Regiment).

GILL T.W

Driver T4/059162 Thomas William GILL. 208th Company, Royal Army Service Corps. Died Saturday 14th December 1918 aged 25 years. Son of William Gill of Station Road, Appledore, Kent. Buried in the Mikra British Cemetery, Kalamaria, Greece. Grave reference 965.

Thomas lost his life in the Salonika campaign.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Putland House, Stone

Private 240371 Albert GILL. 5th Buffs (East Kent Regiment).

Street, Stone

Gunner 255504 William John GILL. Royal Field Artillery.

It is highly likely that poor Thomas died of disease. Over half of casualties on the Salonika front were as a consequence of illness or disease. Malaria was the biggest killer.





HAMMOND G

Private G/3068 George HAMMOND. 8th Battalion, The Queen's (West Surrey Regiment). Formerly (3848) The Buffs (East Kent Regiment). Died Friday 11th August 1916. Born Appledore. Enlisted Ashford. Resided Appledore. Buried in the Peronne Road Cemetery, Maricourt, France. Grave reference III.D.6.

On the 10th August 1916 the 8th battalion moved into trenches at Talus Boisee. The total strength of the battalion in the frontline was only 382 men. Two companies were kept in reserve by the 55th Division.

HYDER W.J

Gunner 76479 William John HYDER. 147th Siege Battalion, Royal Garrison Artillery (RGA). Died Saturday 7th July 1917 aged 31 years. Born Appledore. Enlisted Ashford. Resided Appledore. Son of John Edward and Sarah Hyder of 2, West End Cottage, Appledore, Kent. William has no known grave. His name appears on the Arras Memorial, Arras, France. Panel reference Bay 1.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Near The Cross, Kennardington

Private 202276 Alfred HYDER. 5th Buffs (East Kent Regiment).
Private 527791 Harry HYDER. 2nd Royal Fusiliers.

The 1901 census gives –
West End, Appledore

John	HYDER 45	Labourer	Appledore
Sarah		40	Appledore
William		15	Appledore
Henry		11	Appledore

The 147th Seige Battery was attached to the 43rd Brigade in the 2nd Army. It consisted 6 x 6 inch howitzers.

JOY W.J

Private 108049 William John JOY. Headquarters (Grantham) Company, 1st Battalion, Machine Gun Corps (MGC). Died Wednesday 10th December 1919 aged 19 years. Resided (1918) near to the Appledore Railway Station. Son of Ernest James and Edith Jane Joy of Rye Sussex. Buried in the Appledore (SS Peter and Paul) Churchyard, Appledore, Ashford, Kent. Grave reference – North east side of church.

William's name also appears on the Kenardington war memorial plaque.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Near The Station, Appledore

Private 108049 William John JOY. Machine Gun Corps.

JOHNSON D.C.A

Private G/591 Douglas Claude Allen JOHNSON. 6th Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment). Died 13th October 1915 aged 21 years. Born Appledore. Enlisted Ashford. Son of George and Eleanor Johnson of "Veness House", Appledore, Ashford, Kent. Douglas has no known grave. His name appears on the Loos Memorial, Loos, France. Panel reference 15 to 19.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Street, Appledore

Private Ewart George JOHNSON. 192nd M.T, 13th Australian Field Ambulance. Army Service Corps.

P/12651 Richard Symon JOHNSON. Military Foot Police.

Douglas was killed when his battalion attacked frontline enemy trenches at Hulluch. The 37th Brigade were given a smoke screen and went over the top at 1300 hours. The 6th Buffs were assisted by 7th East Surrey's. Very few men returned and almost all the officers were wiped out in this attack. Over 400 men were killed or wounded.

MARCHANT R

Private TF/201997 Reginald James MARCHANT. 4th Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment. Formerly 5th Battalion. Drowned at sea on the Troopship SS "Transylvania" Friday 4th May 1917 age 19 years. Born Fairlight, Hastings. Enlisted Hastings. Son of Albert and Emily Bertha Marchant of Church Farm, Fairlight, Sussex. Reginald has no known grave. His name appears on the Savona Memorial, Italy.

Reginald was drowned at sea whilst en route to Salonica, Greece with his battalion in the Troopship "Transylvania". It was sunk by enemy torpedo attack off the coast of Cape Vado, Italy. There were no survivors.

MILLAR I.A

Second Lieutenant Ian Arthur MILLAR. 6th Battalion, Royal Irish Rifles (RIR). Died Saturday 30th September 1916. Buried in the Struma Military Cemetery, Greece. Grave reference II.B2.

Ian died of wounds in Salonica, Greece.

MOORE W

Corporal G/115 William (Willie) MOORE. 6th Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment). Died Thursday 3rd May 1917 aged 27 years. Born Appledore. Enlisted Ashford. Resided Appledore. Son of Jane Moore of Victoria Cottage, The Heath, Appledore, Kent. Willie has no known grave. His name appears on the Arras Memorial, Arras, France. Panel reference Bay 2.

Willie was killed in the Battle of The Scarpe. This was a sub-battle of the large scale Battle of Arras of 1917. His battalion attacked an enemy trench system known as Devils Trench. The final objective was Keeling Copse which was taken briefly and then lost. A number of officers were killed on this day together with 220 men killed or missing and a further 128 wounded. The 6th battalion was decimated during the Battle of Arras.

POPE J

Private G/4784 Joseph John (John) POPE. 1st Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment). Died Sunday 18th April 1915. Born Appledore, Kent. Enlisted Whitstable. Son of Joseph and Louisa Pope of Tannyard House, Appledore, Ashford, Kent. Joseph has no known grave. His name appears on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Leper, Belgium. Panel number 45 and 47.

Joseph may have been known by local people as John Pope.

The 1901 census gives –
Tannyard House, Appledore

Joseph	POPE	30	Bootmaker	Hamstreet
Louisa		33		Walworth, London
John J		5		Appledore
Annie		4m		Appledore

On the 16th April 1915 the 1st battalion moved forward from Vlamertinghe and Ouderdom and took part in the capture of Hill 60 outside Ypres. Joseph appears to have been killed at or near Hill 60. This hill is a famous landmark and many hundreds of men still lay beneath it (including poor John).

RICKARBY M.C

Lance Corporal 505135 Maurice Charles RICKARBY. 13th Battalion, London Regiment. Formerly (93659) 5th Battalion. Formerly Kings Royal Rifle Corps (KRRC). Died 9th September 1918 aged 26 years. Born Abingdon Berkshire. Enlisted Finsbury London. Resided Folkestone. Son of Arthur and Jane Rickarby of Canterbury, Kent. Husband of Gladys Rickarby of Appledore, Kent. Buried in the Terlincthun British Cemetery, Wimille. Grave reference III.D.21.

Maurice's listing on the village war memorial plaque states he was serving in the King's Royal Rifle Corps when he died.

WADSWORTH N

Private G/21213 Norman Arthur WADSWORTH. 7th Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment). Formerly (27834) Middlesex Regiment. Died Thursday 28th September 1916. Born Hornsey Middlesex. Enlisted Ashford. Resided Appledore. Son of T.A Wadsworth of 16 Woodland Way, Palmers Green, London. Norman has no known grave. His name appears on the Thiepval Memorial, The Somme, France. Panel reference 5D and 6D.

The day that Norman was killed his battalion was at Thiepval Chateau in The Somme, France. The battalion moved into captured positions at the Schwaben Redoubt the next day under extremely heavy machine gun fire. Norman was probably killed at Thiepval taking enemy trenches in and around the Schwaben Redoubt.

WILSON G

Driver 57428 George WILSON. 82nd Battery, Royal Field Artillery (RFA). Died Gallipoli Turkey 20th October 1916. Born Ashford. Enlisted Tenterden. Buried in the Baghdad (North Gate) War Cemetery, Baghdad, Iraq. Grave reference XXXI-X-39.

George's entry on the memorial states that he was serving in the **Indian Army** when killed. It is possible that the 82nd Battery, RFA was attached to an Indian Division hence the confusion. The 82nd Battery operated 12 inch howitzers that were mounted on railway platforms. Alternatively his family reported his unit wrongly. Sometimes family members reported their lost ones as belonging to disbanded or non existant units. The last possibility is that the above man is not the correct man. Sometimes soldiers who serving in Indian units were entirely forgotten!

The only other possibilty with a Kent connection listed on Soldiers Died Great War is this man – **Private 16398 George WILSON. 9th Battalion, Royal Fusiliers.** Died 23rd June 1917. Enlisted Dublin. Resided Canterbury.

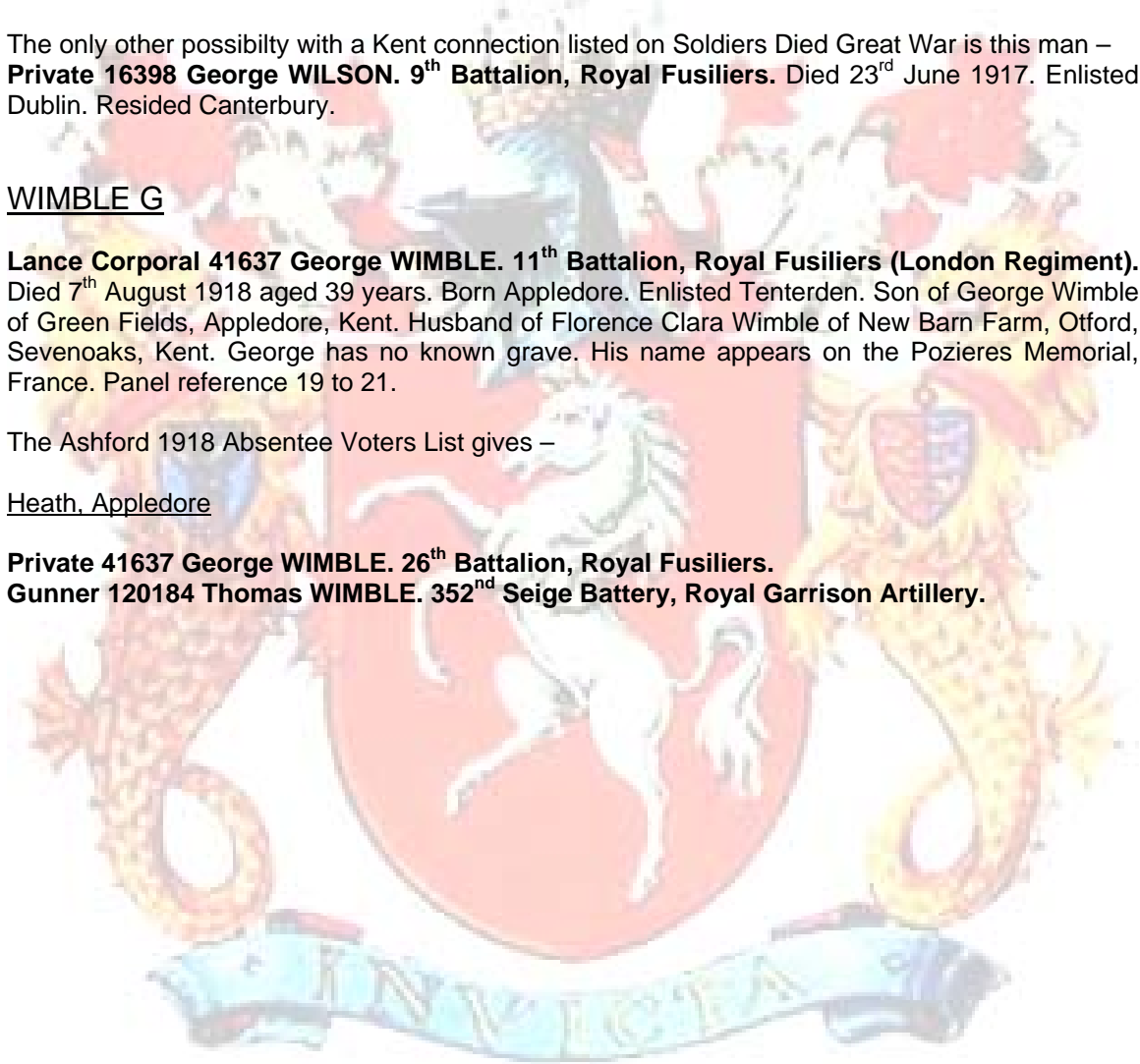
WIMBLE G

Lance Corporal 41637 George WIMBLE. 11th Battalion, Royal Fusiliers (London Regiment). Died 7th August 1918 aged 39 years. Born Appledore. Enlisted Tenterden. Son of George Wimble of Green Fields, Appledore, Kent. Husband of Florence Clara Wimble of New Barn Farm, Otford, Sevenoaks, Kent. George has no known grave. His name appears on the Pozieres Memorial, France. Panel reference 19 to 21.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Heath, Appledore

Private 41637 George WIMBLE. 26th Battalion, Royal Fusiliers.
Gunner 120184 Thomas WIMBLE. 352nd Seige Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery.



LOST MEN

BARROW J

Private 33979 John (Job) BARROW. 7th Battalion, Cameronians (Scottish Rifles). Formerly (5803) Royal Sussex Regiment. Died 13th November 1917 aged 36 years. Born Heathfield Sussex. Enlisted Canterbury. Resided Appledore. Son of Job and Margaret Barrow. Husband of Maud Mary Barrow of "The Lodge", Pembury Road, Goudhurst, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. Buried in the Kantarra War Cemetery, Egypt. Grave reference E.96.

CARTER R.H

Mercantile Marine (Carpenter) Richard Henry CARTER. Merchant Navy, SS "Highbury" (London). Died 31st May 1917 aged 48 years. Born Appledore. Son of George and Mary Ann Carter. Husband of Jesse Carter (nee Wright) of 21, Cleopas Street, Liverpool. Richard has no known grave. His name appears on the Tower Hill Memorial, London.

Not to be confused with the R.H Carter from Kennington.

GORHAM F.J

St Mary's
Railway
Baptist
Marine

Corporal G/19203 Frederick James GORHAM. 6th Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment). Formerly C Company, West Kent Yeomanry. Formerly Kent Cyclist Battalion. Died Saturday 24th August 1918. Born Appledore. Enlisted Ashford. Husband of Grace Gorham of 19 East Street, Ashford, Kent. Son of James and Eliza J Gorham of Christchurch Road, Ashford, Kent. Buried in the Meaulte Military Cemetery, Meaulte, near Albert, Somme, France. Grave reference - F.32.

Soldiers Died 1914-1918 gives Frederick's date of death as 24th March 1918.

Frederick's name appears on his fathers grave in the old Ashford Cemetery, Canterbury Road, Ashford. His father James died 9th February 1941 aged 86. His mother Eliza died 13th January 1920 aged 63 years. Frederick's name appears on the Ashford Baptist Church war memorial which incorrectly lists his unit as the Kent Cyclist Battalion. In fact Frederick did serve in the Kent Cyclist Battalion before the outbreak of war.

Before the outbreak of war Frederick was working as a Machinist in the Ashford (SE&CR) Railway Yards. His name appears on the Ashford Railway Works Rolls of Honour. In his spare time Frederick served in the territorial force (Kent Cyclist Battalion). In August 1914 Frederick transferred from the Kent Cyclist Battalion to the West Kent Yeomanry. On 17th January 1917 Frederick was drafted into the 6th West Kent's. Frederick served in Italy before going to the Western Front where he met his death. He left a widow and 1 small child.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

19, East Street, Ashford

Frederick GORHAM. 6th Royal West Kent Regiment.

The 1901 census gives –
High Street, Appledore

James	GORHAM	46	Carter	Ivychurch
Eliza J		46		Orlestone
Caroline		24	Dressmaker	Orlestone
Frederick J		16	Bricklayer	Appledore
Christina M		7		Appledore

The day that Cpl Gorham died his battalion was engaged in heavy fighting near Becourt Wood close to Albert on the Somme battlefield. The 6th battalion sustained heavy casualties this day from heavy German machine gun fire. It seems likely that Cpl Gorham was killed during this action. It is recorded that Frederick was twice previously wounded before being killed.

SMITH H.J

Private G/9133 Henry Joseph SMITH. 1st Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment). Died 8th July 1917. Born Woodchurch, Kent. Enlisted Ashford. Resided Appledore. Son of Mr Joseph Smith of Woodchurch, Ashford, Kent. Buried in the Philosophe British Cemetery, Mazingarbe, France. Grave reference 1-T-15.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Heath, Appledore

Alfred Edward SMITH. No 4 Troop, 21st Lancers.
Private 202963 Frank Charles SMITH. 5th East Surrey Regiment.
448551 Percy Henry SMITH. A.E Coy, Army Service Corps.

The day that Harry died his battalion was resting at Monchy Breton about 12 miles from Mazingarbe. During the period 1st July until 15th November the battalion was not in action. It is unknown how Harry came to lose his life during this rest period.