

# EGERTON



St James Church War Memorial

The Great War  
1914 – 1919

## BALDOCK J

**Private G/6872 John Edward BALDOCK. 24<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Royal Fusiliers. Formerly (2653) Territorial Army Reserve.** Died Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March 1918. Born Egerton. Enlisted Canterbury. Resided Ashford. Buried in the Delsaux Farm Cemetery, Beugny, France. Grave reference III.B.5.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Ragged House Farm, Egerton

**Private 202469 Jesse BALDOCK. 4<sup>th</sup> Royal West Kent Regiment.**

The 1901 census gives –

Butchers Farm, Egerton

Frances	BALDOCK	76	Farmer	Eastling, Kent
Harriet		43	Mothers Asst	Pluckley
Jesse		31	Farm Bailiff	Pluckley
Rose		33		Pluckley
Frances A		9		Egerton
Jesse		7		Little Chart
Florence		5		Egerton
<b>John E</b>		<b>2</b>		<b>Egerton</b>

Lark Hill Cottage, Egerton

George	BALDOCK	44	Farm Labourer	Egerton
Rosa		39		Smarden
George		18	Wheelwright App	Bethersden
Ashley		11		Egerton

39, High Street, Egerton

James	BALDOCK	43	Wheelwright	Pluckley
Elizabeth		40		Charing
Amelia		19		Little Chart
Jesse		11		Pluckley
Ellie		3		Egerton



## **BATT G**

**Egerton**

**Private G/4335 Graham Padgham BATT. 1st Battalion, Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment). Formerly 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion.** Died 28<sup>th</sup> November 1918. Admitted to the Royal Hospital Chelsea, London (SM3E4204) on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1918. Born 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1896 at Bethersden, Ashford, Kent. Resided Britcher Farm, Egerton, Ashford, Kent. Son of Lewis Edward (farmer) and Elizabeth Batt (nee Padgham) of Bethersden, Ashford, Kent. At this time we do not know where Graham is buried although we hope to trace this in time.

Commemorated on Egerton civic war memorial, Ashford, Kent.

Before the outbreak of war Graham was employed in Bethersden as a Footman. Upon the outbreak of war he enlisted voluntarily for the duration of war into the Royal West Surrey Regiment 10<sup>th</sup> August 1914 at Dorking, Surrey. On 1 June 1915 Graham was recovered to the UK suffering from Appendicitis. On 15<sup>th</sup> July 1916 Graham was severely wounded. His service papers state Gun Shot Wounds to Right Ankle and Thigh recovered through the medical evacuation chain to the UK on 19<sup>th</sup> July 1916. On 16<sup>th</sup> July 1917 Graham was again wounded in action this time he lost 2 fingers on his left hand. Graham was immediately recovered via Etaples to Dover, England. His service papers record Fractured Thumb and Index finger as well as 2 digits on his left hand amputated. This injury was caused by a rifle bullet at Messines, Belgium whilst engaged on a bombing raid. On 18 November 1917 Graham was admitted to St Lukes War Hospital, Halifax. His service papers state that the amputations of his 2 fingers was carried out in France at a Casualty Clearing Station (CCS).

Graham was a specialist "Bomber" within his battalion.

Admitted to the Royal Hospital Chelsea, London (SM3E4204) on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1918. Discharged from the army 20<sup>th</sup> March 1918 (aged 25 years) at Hounslow, London. When discharged his service papers note – 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> fingers amputated left hand (indicating wounds in action). **Discharged no longer fit for war service (para 392 Kings Regulations)**. His commanding officer states he was honest, sober and industrious. Total army service was 3 years, 228 days. Total time on active service overseas was 1 year 267 days which entitled him to the 1914/15 Star, British War Medal and the Victory Medal. It was deemed he was permanently unfit for further service (active service or otherwise).

### Active Service dates in France / Belgium

1 June 1915 – 2 January 1915

24 June 1916 – 18 July 1916

26 October 1916 – 17 November 1917 (Messines, Belgium)

Graham was awarded a full army pension bullet wound left hand. Third and Fourth digits amputated. The pension service awarded a pension and found the injury to be attributable to active service.

The Ministry of Pensions personal effects card which was issued after his death states –

Chelsea no SM 3E4204. It appears he died at the Royal Hospital Chelsea, London on 28<sup>th</sup> November 1918 Seven months after being discharged from active service.

There are 3 people buried in the Egerton Churchyard –

<b>Ernest Taylor</b>	<b>BATT</b>	<b>died 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1942 aged 71 years</b>
<b>John Richard Cowell</b>	<b>BATT</b>	<b>died 10<sup>th</sup> December 1980 aged 75 years</b>
<b>Emily</b>	<b>BATT</b>	<b>died 14<sup>th</sup> September 1937 aged 72 years</b>

It would seem that the BATT family were well established in the Egerton area during the early 1900's -

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Britcher Farm, Egerton

**Stoker K/29157 Rowland BATT. HMS Inflexible, Royal Navy.**

Buffalo Cottages, Smarden

**Private 241900 Dan BATT. 4<sup>th</sup> Leicestershire Regiment.**

**Private 306900 Charles BATT. 6<sup>th</sup> Notts & Derby Regiment.**

Derinf Farm, Smarden

**Private 118737 Cyril Charles BATT. Machine Gun Corps.**

Buckman Green, Smarden

**Harold BATT. HMS Undaunted, Royal Navy.**

**Stoker 19354 Herbert BATT. HMS Edgar, Royal Navy**

The 6<sup>th</sup> Royal West Surrey Regiment was formed August 1914 at Guildford, Surrey (K1). It was attached to 37<sup>th</sup> Brigade, 12<sup>th</sup> (Eastern) Division. To Aldershot February 1915. Landed France May 1915. It remained on the Western Front for the remaining duration of the war. It was awarded battle honours at Loos (1915), Somme (1916) – Albert, Pozieres, Transloy Ridge. Arras (1917) – Cambrai. Victory Battles (1918) – Somme.

## BRAMSDEN E

**Lance Corporal 47616 Edgar Nevins BRAMSDEN. 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Suffolk Regiment.** Died Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March 1917 age 35 years. Born Bromley. Enlisted Long Buckley. Son of John Bramsdon of Stillington, Bromley, Kent. Husband of A.A Bramsdon of "The Grange", East Haddon, Northampton. Buried in the Vermelles British Cemetery, Vermelles, France. Grave reference V.A.29.

## BROWETT H

**Corporal 8415 Harry BROWETT. 18<sup>th</sup> (Queen Mary's Own) Hussars.** Died Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 1918 age 25 years. Born Kettering, Northamptonshire. Enlisted Lincoln. Resided Cheriton, Folkestone, Kent. Son of D.F and Lilly Browett of Thornton, Horncastle, Lincolnshire. Harry has no known grave. His name appears on the Pozieres Memorial, The Somme, France. Panel reference 5.

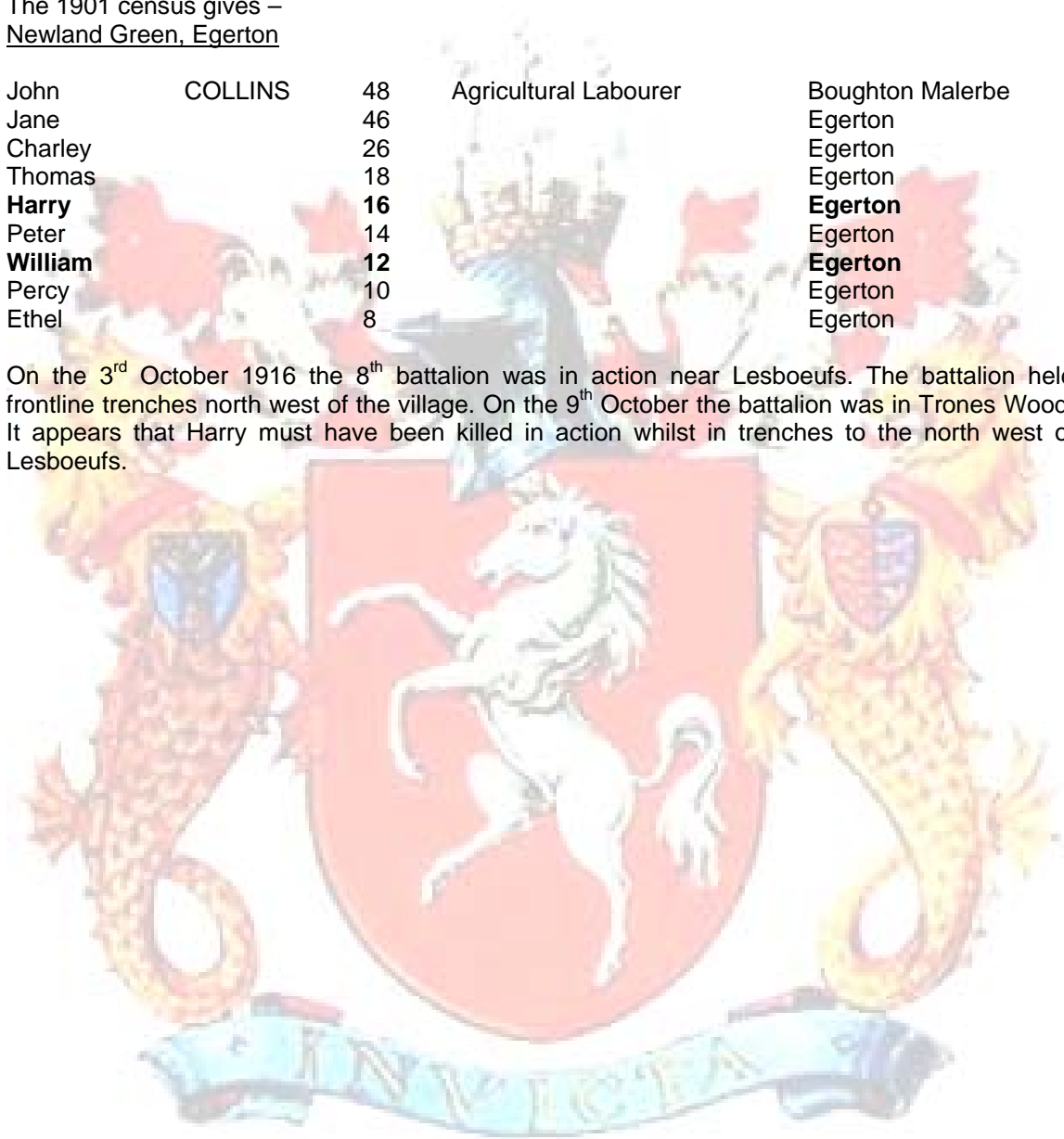
COLLINS H (brother)

**Private TF/6310 Harry COLLINS. 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Middlesex Regiment.** Died Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 1916 age 31 years. Born Egerton. Enlisted Ealing, London. Resided Newland Green, Egerton. Son of John William and Jane Collins of Newland Green, Egerton, Ashford, Kent. Buried in the Guard's Cemetery, Lesboeuks, Somme, France. Grave reference IX.A.5.

The 1901 census gives –  
Newland Green, Egerton

John	COLLINS	48	Agricultural Labourer	Boughton Malerbe
Jane		46		Egerton
Charley		26		Egerton
Thomas		18		Egerton
<b>Harry</b>		<b>16</b>		<b>Egerton</b>
Peter		14		Egerton
<b>William</b>		<b>12</b>		<b>Egerton</b>
Percy		10		Egerton
Ethel		8		Egerton

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1916 the 8<sup>th</sup> battalion was in action near Lesboeuks. The battalion held frontline trenches north west of the village. On the 9<sup>th</sup> October the battalion was in Trones Wood. It appears that Harry must have been killed in action whilst in trenches to the north west of Lesboeuks.

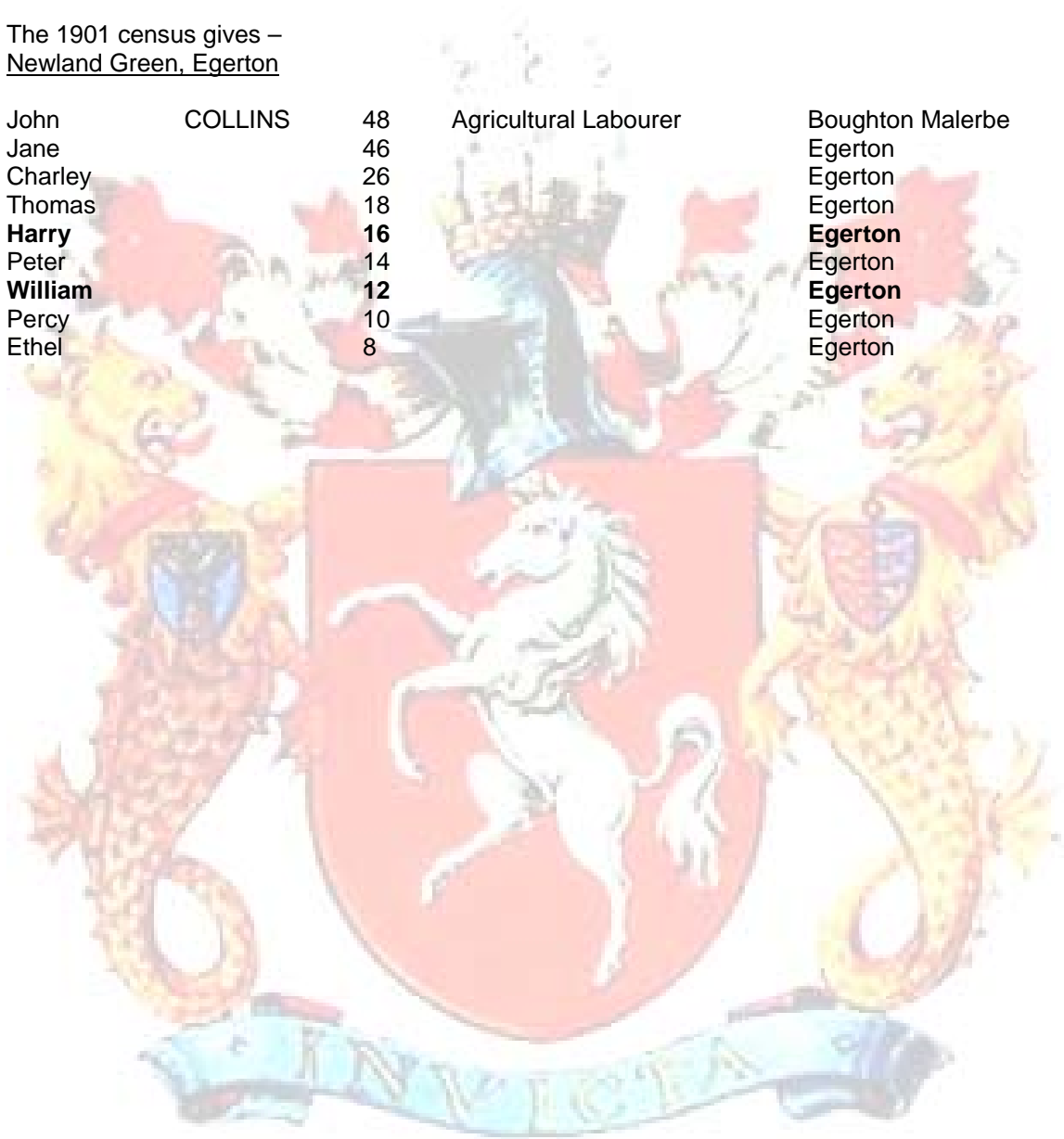


COLLINS W (brother)

**Private 157377 William COLLINS. 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Labour Corps. Formerly (79882) 29<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Middlesex Regiment.** Died Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November 1918 age 29 years. Resided Newland Green, Egerton. Son of John William and Jane Collins of Newlands Green, Egerton, Ashford, Kent. Buried locally in the Egerton (St James) Churchyard, Egerton, Ashford, Kent. Grave reference North West of Church.

The 1901 census gives –  
Newland Green, Egerton

John	COLLINS	48	Agricultural Labourer	Boughton Malerbe
Jane		46		Egerton
Charley		26		Egerton
Thomas		18		Egerton
<b>Harry</b>		<b>16</b>		<b>Egerton</b>
Peter		14		Egerton
<b>William</b>		<b>12</b>		<b>Egerton</b>
Percy		10		Egerton
Ethel		8		Egerton



## DUNGATE H

**Private G/9743 Herbert Charles DUNGATE. 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).**  
Died Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> August 1918 age 26 years. Born Egerton. Enlisted Ashford. Resided Egerton.  
Son of Charles and Mary A Dungate of Iden Farm, Egerton, Ashford, Kent. Herbert has no known grave. His name appears on the Vis-En-Artois Memorial, Haucourt, France. Panel reference 3.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

### Charing Heath

**Private 613300 George DUNGATE. 2/19<sup>th</sup> London Regiment.**

11, Forge Lane, Ashford

**Private 88827 Edward DUNGATE. 2<sup>nd</sup> New Zealand.**  
**Corporal 52878 Percy DUNGATE. 13<sup>th</sup> R.S.H, H.S.**  
**Private 88827 William DUNGATE. Royal Army Medical Corps.**

The 1901 census gives –

### Well Field, Egerton

Charles	DUNGATE	74	Carter on Farm Westwell	
Carrie		28	Housekeeper	Egerton

### Iden Farm, Egerton

Charles	DUNGATE	41	Labourer	Pluckley
Mary A		43	Laundress	Egerton
Alfred		18	Labourer	Egerton
Mary J		20		Egerton
George		16	Post Office Asst	Egerton
Carrie		11		Egerton
<b>Herbert C</b>		<b>8</b>		<b>Egerton</b>
William J		7		Egerton

The day that Herbert was killed his battalion was engaged in fighting around Amiens in France. On the 6<sup>th</sup> August it was holding frontline trenches north of the Bray-Corbie Road with Australian forces. The men were fighting knee deep in mud. A German barrage commenced at 0420 hours and many men were killed. The 8<sup>th</sup> August 1918 saw massive movement towards enemy positions. It was a misty day and casualties were heavy on both sides.



GORE G

**Lance Corporal G/4129 George GORE. 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).** Died Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1917 age 21 years. Born Hythe. Enlisted Maidstone. Resided Egerton. Son of John and Sarah Ann Gore of Brook Gates, Egerton, Ashford, Kent. Buried in the Regina Trench Cemetery, Grandcourt, France. Grave reference VII.D.3.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Brook Gates, Egerton

**Private 207526 Ashley GORE. Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment).  
Sapper 310987 Raymond Percy GORE. H.A (8 Corps) Royal Engineers.**

The 1901 census gives –  
Little Houses, Egerton

John	GORE	29	Agricultural Labourer	Hothfield
Sarah A		21		Ulcombe
John		5		Hothfield
<b>George</b>		<b>5</b>		<b>Hothfield</b>
Raymond		4		Hythe
Ashley		3		Egerton







## H. HANDS (RN)

**Chief Petty Officer Hubert Eric HANDS. Royal Navy (RN).** Died T.B 14<sup>th</sup> March 1919 at 11 Tredown Road, Sydenham, Kent (now London). Resided (1919) Ivy Dene, Newlands Park, Sydenham, Kent (now London). Born 4 Park Villas, Venner Road, Beckenham, Kent on 17<sup>th</sup> October 1888. Husband of D.M Hands of Ivydene, Newlands Park, Sydenham, Kent (now London). Son of George William Hands and Alice Gertrude Hands (nee Simpson) of Egerton, Ashford, Kent. Hubert's father was employed in 1888 as an Engineers Clerk.

Prior to the outbreak of war Hubert was Inspector of Motor Vehicles in the Board of Agriculture and worked in London.

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### DEATH CERTIFICATE

Jan-Mar Qtr, 1919, Lewisham, Vol 1d, Page 1708

Hubert Eric HANDS

Naval Pensioner

1. T.B

Death registered by his wife D.M Hands of Ivydene, Newlands Park, Sydenham, Kent on 17<sup>th</sup> March 1919.

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We have not been able to locate Hubert's service papers from the National Archives! His death certificate does however clearly record "NAVAL PENSIONER". On the balance of probability (also taking into account his name also appears on the Egerton War Memorial), this man's death was directly linked to his war service in the Royal Navy.

Hubert doesn't appear to have any close connection to Egerton other than his parents resided in the village after the end of the Great War. His parents obviously put their sons name forward for inclusion on the parish civic tribute which is not entirely surprising given the circumstances. Hubert came from the South East London area – Beckenham and Sydenham. No wonder no one from the Egerton Parish Council could help us when we asked them for known information about this casualty.

HART S.C / HART C.S

## **Tunbridge Wells Equitable Friendly Society War Memorial**

**Sergeant Mechanic 220626 Sydney Charles (known to most as Charles Sydney) HART. Royal Air Force (RAF). Formerly (LMRH) Royal Naval Air Service.** Died \_\_\_\_\_ & Pneumonia Septic (Cardiac Failure) 4 days 21 July 1919 aged 26 years at Kent County Orphalmic Hospital, Maidstone, Kent. Born Shadoxhurst 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1893. Resided Water Villa, Water Lane, Egerton, Ashford, Kent. Husband of T.F.J Hart of Water Villa, Water Lane, Egerton, Ashford, Kent. Son of Thomas George Hart (Farm Labourer) and Mary Ann Hart (nee Spain) of Kingsland, Egerton, Kent.

Charles had close links to the villages of Shadoxhurst and Egerton.

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### DEATH CERTIFICATE

Charles Sydney HART  
September Qtr, 1919, Maidstone, 2a,766

1. -----
2. Peumonia Septic (Cardiac Failure) 4 days

Death registered by his wife T.F.J Hart of Water Villa, Water Lane, Egerton, Ashford, Kent 21<sup>st</sup> July 1919.

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Before the outbreak of war Sydney was employed in the Ashford area as a Coach Joiner and Wheelwright.

Enlisted into the Royal Naval Air Service (RNAS) 13 September 1916 for the duration of the war and went to HMS Pembroke Chatham for basic training. On 23 February 1917 Sydney was sent to HMS Daedalus at this time he was still serving in the RNAS. Later in 1917 he went to RFC Cranwell (27 Wing) for specialist air mechanic training.

In April 1917 Sydney was promoted to 1<sup>st</sup> Class Air Mechanic (Royal Naval Air Service). On 6 July 1918 Sydney was posted to 27 Wing, Royal Air Force at RAF Cranwell. On 10 July 1918 Sydney was promoted to Sergeant in the newly formed Royal Air Force (RAF).

When Sydney was discharged from the Royal Air Force his home address was recorded as –

Water Villa  
Water Lane  
EGERTON  
Ashford  
Kent

On 10 May 1919 Sydney was examined by a RAF medical officer and his service papers state – A1 fit. He was there still serving at this date. He appears to have died only 2 months later following discharge!

National Archives lists him as a RN man –

**F20626 Sydney Charles HART. RN.** Born Ashford (Kent). REF: ADM188/601 . 03 January 1893.

Sydney's name was referred to in the Kentish Express as being an Shadoxhurst man who lost his life in the Great War. Then we found his name on the now lost Tunbridge Wells Equitable Friendly Society war memorial. This used to hang in the branch office in Regents Place (now demolished).

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

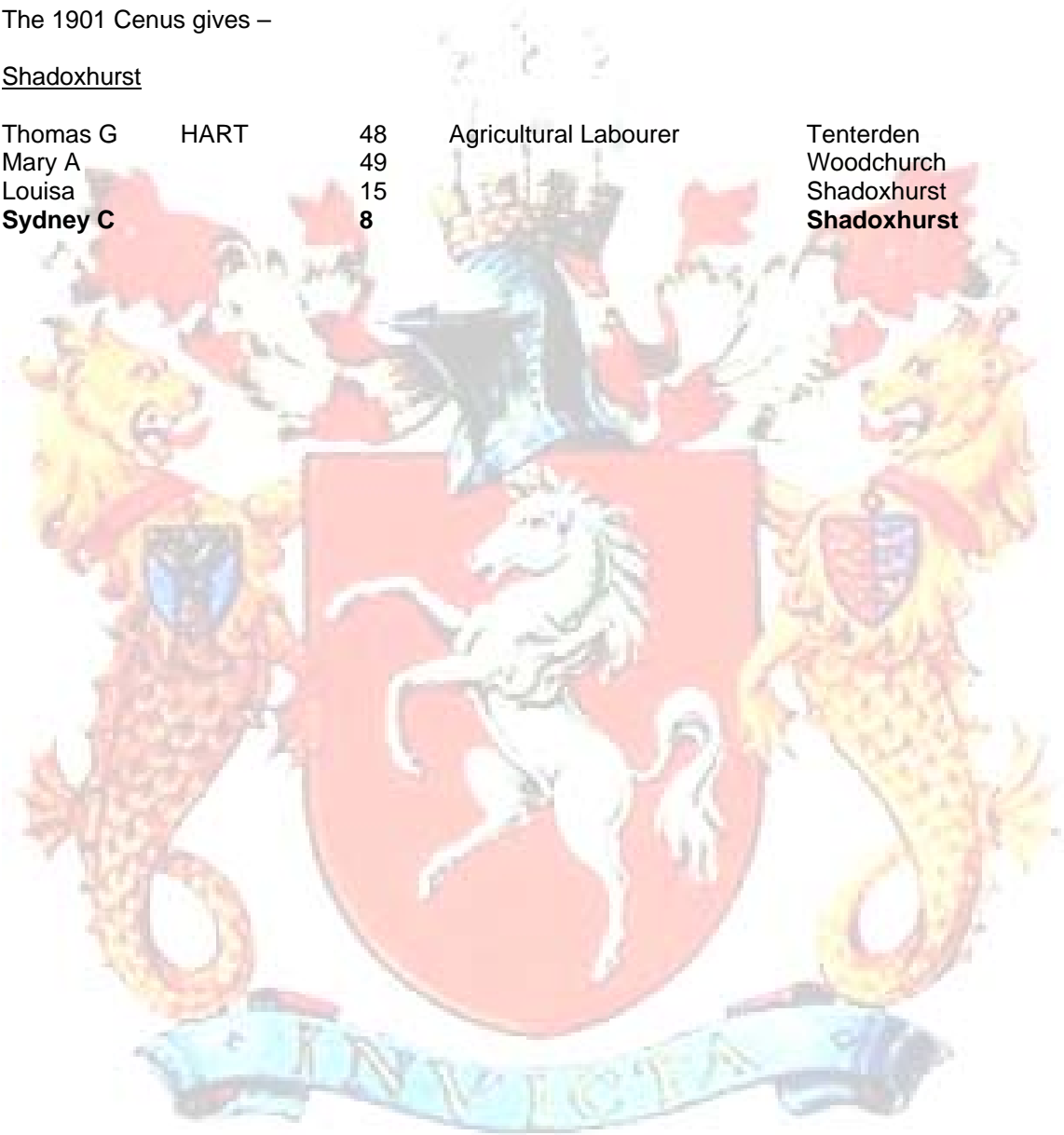
Kingsland, Egerton

**L.M.R.H 220626 Sydney Charles HART. Royal Air Force.**

The 1901 Census gives –

Shadoxhurst

Thomas G	HART	48	Agricultural Labourer	Tenterden
Mary A		49		Woodchurch
Louisa		15		Shadoxhurst
<b>Sydney C</b>		<b>8</b>		<b>Shadoxhurst</b>





**HILLS G**

**Private G/43717 George Ernest HILLS. 17<sup>th</sup> Battalion (1<sup>st</sup> Football), Middlesex Regiment.** Died 13<sup>th</sup> November 1916 aged 30 years. Born Pluckley, Kent. Enlisted Purfleet, Essex. Resided Ashford. Son of Mrs W Hills of The Street, Egerton, Ashford, Kent. Buried in the Serre Road Cemetery Number 2, Somme, France. Grave reference I.F.15.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Little Houses, Egerton

**Private 113739 Charles William HILLS. Machine Gun Corps.**

The Street, Egerton

**Private RTS/4876 Daniel HILLS. Remount Service, Army Service Corps.**

The 1901 census gives –  
Barlings Hole, Egerton

William HILLS	55	Carter on Farm	Brabourne
Elizabeth	43		Bethersden
William	19	Carter on farm	Lympne
<b>George</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>Labourer on farm</b>	<b>Pluckley</b>
Thomas	11		Charing

On the 7<sup>th</sup> November 1916 the 17<sup>th</sup> battalion was in the Redan Sector. On the 9<sup>th</sup> it marched to North Camp. On the 13<sup>th</sup> November the battalion was in action on the Redan Ridge. The battalion's objective was Pendant Copse and they were supported by 2<sup>nd</sup> South Staff's. The attack was a failure because the wire remained uncut. The battalion was withdrawn to Legend Trench. On the 15<sup>th</sup> November the battalion went to Maily-Maillet and the next day marched to Louvencourt. It appears that George was killed in action on the Redan Ridge which was high ground located near the village of Beaumont Hamel in The Somme, France.

### KAY- ROBINSON H.T

**Lieutenant Colonel Hugh Thomas KAY-ROBINSON DSO and 2 bars. 12<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment. Attended 13<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment.** Died 26<sup>th</sup> April 1918. Born Egerton. Youngest son of Reverend William Kay-Robinson of Walwyn's Castle, Pembrokeshire, South Wales. Husband of Evelyn Kay-Robinson of 1 Cecil Court, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. Hugh has no known grave. His name appears on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonebeke, Belgium. Panel reference – 86 to 88.

Awarded the Distinguished Service Order (DSO) for bravery Three times! A remarkable feat...

Hugh was the commanding officer of his battalion the 12<sup>th</sup> Royal Sussex Regiment when he was killed in action.

### KING H

**Corporal 74569 Harry KING. 88<sup>th</sup> Battery, 14<sup>th</sup> Brigade, Royal Field Artillery (RFA).** Died Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 1917 age 23 years. Born Marden. Enlisted Canterbury. Resided Egerton. Son of William and Susan King of Rose Farm, Doddington, near Sittingbourne, Kent. Buried in the Bethune Town Cemetery, Bethune, France. Grave reference VI.E.40.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Burscombe, Egerton

**Gunner 123169 Thomas KING. Heavy Trench Mortar Battery, Royal Field Artillery.**

### MILBURN C

**Sergeant 77163 (Formerly 0196) Colin MILBURN. 19<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Canadian Infantry (Manitoba Regiment). Formerly (8 years) 18<sup>th</sup> Hussars.** Died Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May 1915 age 34 years. Born 30<sup>th</sup> June 1881 in London. Son of William and Alice Milburn of 5 Higher Terrace, Torquay, Devon. Formerly of 15, Howard Road, South Tottenham, London. Colin has no known grave. His name appears on the Vimy (Canadian) Memorial, Vimy Ridge, France.

Colin served in the 18<sup>th</sup> Hussars when he was still in England. He served with the Hussars in South Africa during the Boer War 1899-1902. Before the outbreak of war in 1914 Colin was employed as a Clerk in Canada. He enlisted in the Canadian army on the 11<sup>th</sup> November 1914 and came to the aid of his father country very quickly.

## PEARSON C

Tunbridge Wells Equitable (Ashford)

**Private 3204 Charles Henry PEARSON. 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment. Formerly (26953) Bedfordshire Regiment.** Died Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February 1917 age 32 years. Born Egerton. Enlisted Luton, Bedfordshire. Son of George Pearson of Week's Farm, Egerton, Ashford, Kent. Charles has no known grave. His name appears on the Thiepval Memorial, The Somme, France. Panel reference 11A and 11D.

Charles name appears on the (now lost) Tunbridge Wells Equitable Friendly Society Roll of Honour. It's location is not known but it did hang in the Ashford branch for many years.

## ROBERTS F

**Lance Corporal D/14597 Frank ROBERTS. 6<sup>th</sup> Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers).** Died Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1918 age 25 years. Son of Philip and Rosa Emma Roberts of Myrtle Villa, Bedlam Lane, Egerton, Ashford, Kent. Buried in the St Sever Military Cemetery, Rouen, France. Grave reference S.II.MM.14.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Bedlam Lane, Egerton

**Private 177543 Arthur ROBERTS. Labour Corps.  
Private 13411 Frank ROBERTS. Dragoon Guards.**

Newland Green, Egerton

**Gunner 79328 Henry ROBERTS. Royal Garrison Artillery.**

The 1901 census gives –

Egerton Forstal, Egerton

Philip	ROBERTS	35	Agricultural Labourer	Egerton
Rosa E		33		Egerton
Percy P		12		Egerton
Arthur E		11		Egerton
Stephen T		8		Egerton

Bedlam Lane, Egerton

Philip	ROBERTS	62	Farmer	Egerton
John		35	Farmers Son	Egerton
Annie		30		Egerton
Charles		27	Farmers Son	Egerton
Alfred	ROBERTS	61	Agricultural Labourer	Egerton
Anney		57		Ulcombe
Spenser		16		Headcorn



## ROSS A

**Private M2/ 117427 Albert Purdie ROSS. Mechanical Transport (MT), Army Service Corps (ASC).** Died in the UK 13<sup>th</sup> December 1916. Born Glasgow. Enlisted Edinburgh. Resided Penicuik.

Soldiers Died Great War Lists over 100 A Ross's none of whom have any obvious Kent connection. The vast majority were from Scotland (unsurprisingly with a name like Ross). Albert Purdie (above) is the only identified possibility although the records do not show any link to Egerton or indeed Kent.

## STEWART R

**Private 225059 Robert Alan STEWART. 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, London Regiment (Royal Fusiliers). Formerly (2567) West Kent Yeomanry.** Died Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 1918 aged 22 years. Born Lockurrock, Renfrewshire, Scotland. Enlisted Ashford. Resided Egerton. Son of James and Ann Stewart of Field Farm, Egerton, Ashford, Kent. Buried in the Aubigny Communal Cemetery Extension, France. Grave reference III.B.36.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Field Farm, Egerton

**Stoker 11 Andrew STEWART. HMS Pembroke, Chatham. Royal Navy.**





## WILLIAMS C

**Private L/10316 Charles (Chas) WILLIAMS. 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).**  
Died Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1915 age 21 years. Born Biddenden. Enlisted Dover. Resided Ashford. Son of James and Annie Williams of The Street, Egerton, Ashford, Kent. Chas has no known grave. His name appears on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Ypres, Belgium. Panel reference 12 and 14.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

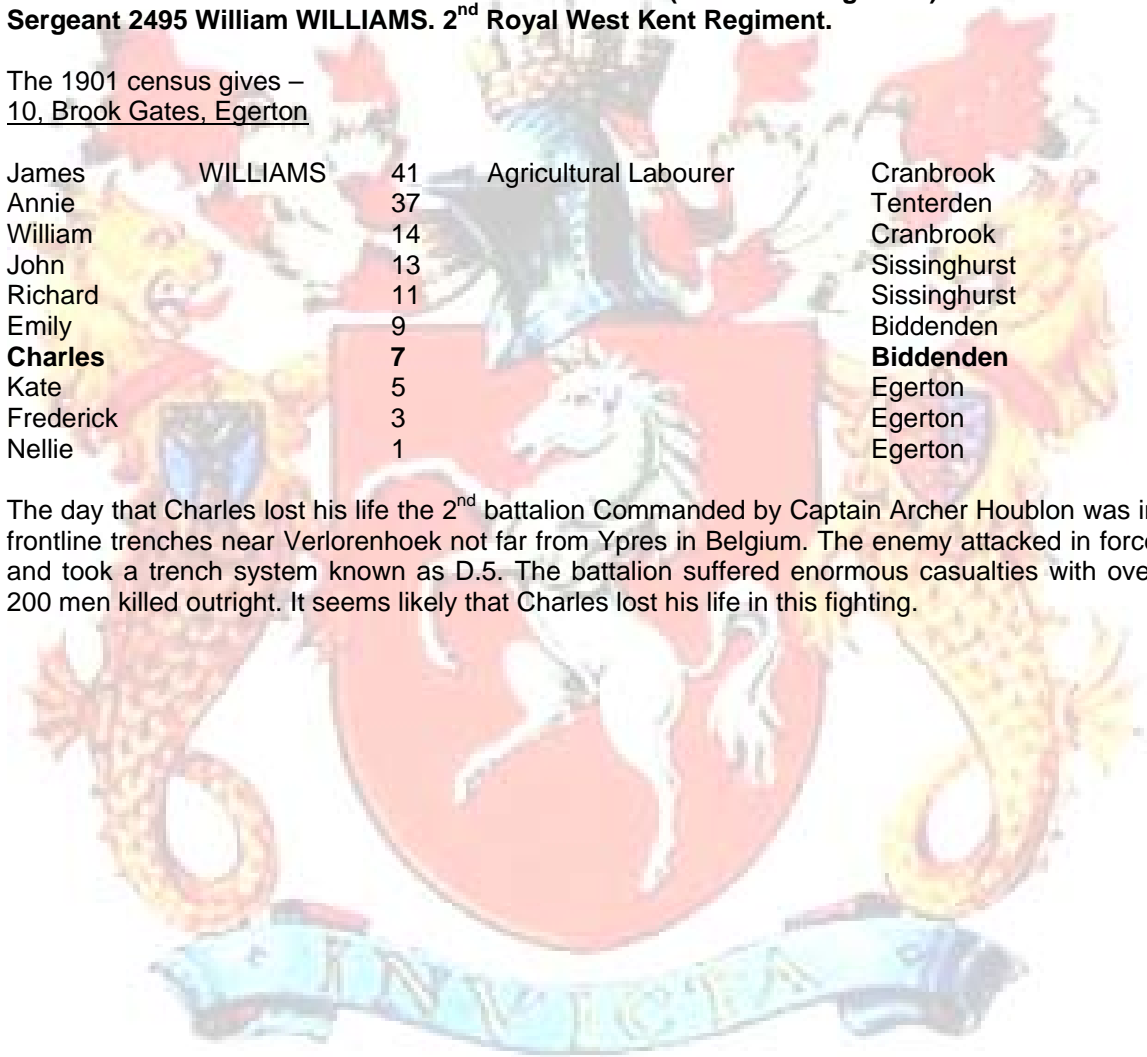
Painters Forstal, Egerton

**Private 10246 Frederick James WILLIAMS. 2<sup>nd</sup> Buffs (East Kent Regiment).**  
**Sergeant 2495 William WILLIAMS. 2<sup>nd</sup> Royal West Kent Regiment.**

The 1901 census gives –  
10, Brook Gates, Egerton

James	WILLIAMS	41	Agricultural Labourer	Cranbrook
Annie		37		Tenterden
William		14		Cranbrook
John		13		Sissinghurst
Richard		11		Sissinghurst
Emily		9		Biddenden
<b>Charles</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>Biddenden</b>
Kate		5		Egerton
Frederick		3		Egerton
Nellie		1		Egerton

The day that Charles lost his life the 2<sup>nd</sup> battalion Commanded by Captain Archer Houblon was in frontline trenches near Verlorenhoek not far from Ypres in Belgium. The enemy attacked in force and took a trench system known as D.5. The battalion suffered enormous casualties with over 200 men killed outright. It seems likely that Charles lost his life in this fighting.



# LOST MEN

## AUSTIN F

**Private 493197 Frank AUSTIN. 13<sup>th</sup> Battalion (Kensington Pals), London Regiment. Formerly (6193) 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Middlesex Regiment.** Died 5<sup>th</sup> September 1918 aged 23 years. Born Egerton. Enlisted Sevenoaks. Resided Egerton. Son of Mr R Austin of Monday Boys, Egerton, Kent. Buried in the Bac-Du-Sud British Cemetery, Bailleuval, France. Grave reference III.F.35.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Monday Boys, Egerton

**Private 242483 Ernest AUSTEN. 5<sup>th</sup> Royal West Kent Regiment.**

## AUSTIN S

**Private G/7830 Stephen AUSTIN. 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).** Died 29<sup>th</sup> August 1918 aged 27 years. Born Egerton. Enlisted Canterbury. Resided Egerton. Brother of Mrs Smith (nee Austin) of Honey Farm, Pluckley, Kent. Buried in the Peronne Road Cemetery, Maricourt, France. Grave reference II.F.15.

The day that Stephen died his battalion was in action all day near Morval. The battalion moved forward to Maurepus. Defensive positions were established to repel enemy attacks and raiding party's.

## BARTON J

**Private L/10388 John BARTON. 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).** Died 28<sup>th</sup> September 1915. Born Egerton. Enlisted Ashford. Resided Boughton Malerbe, Kent. John has no known grave. His name appears on the Loos Memorial, France. Panel reference 15 to 19.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Lenham House, Egerton

**Private 476193 Edgar BARTON. Labour Corps.**

On the 28<sup>th</sup> September 1915 the 2<sup>nd</sup> battalion was in action all day near Fosse 8 and the Hohenzollern Redoubt not far from Vermelles, France. At 0930 hours the barrage began and shortly afterwards the battalion went forward from their frontline trenches. The enemy poured fierce machine gun fire onto the battalion from Slag Alley and Miners Cottages. The fiercest fighting took part in Dump Trench. The battalion lost 360 men killed, wounded and missing. The majority of whom lost their lives around The Dump.

## DAY E.J

**Gunner 54147 Ernest John DAY. 22<sup>nd</sup> Reserve Battery, Royal Field Artillery (RFA).** Died 18<sup>th</sup> February 1915 aged 20 years. Born Egerton. Enlisted Maidstone. Resided Sissinghurst. Son of Horace and Sarah Day (nee Pile) of Ivy Cottage, Sissinghurst, Cranbrook, Kent. Brother of Myrtle Mary Day of Sissinghurst Vicarage, Cranbrook, Kent, and of Francis Mabel Jane Day of 33, Mountfield Road, Church End, Finchley, London. Commemorated and buried Greenwich Cemetery, Well Hall Road, Eltham, London, SE9. Ref: Screen Wall Commemoration. Ref: 3 "C." A. 107.

Commemorated on the Sissinghurst, Cranbrook, Kent, civic war memorial.

At the time of the time of the 1901 census the day family resided at 4, Spring Gate Cottages, Marden, Kent. Ernest enlisted in the army on 20 November 1914 at which time he was aged 20 years and 1 month, and stated that he was employed as a Gardener, residing at Ivy Cottage, Sissinghurst, Kent. After 91 days of army service Ernest died at midnight on 18 February 1915 of Cerebro Spinal Meningitis, whilst a patient at the Royal Herbert Hospital, Shooters Hill, Woolwich, Kent. Regrettably the request submitted by Ernest's family to have his body returned to Sissinghurst for burial, appears to have been ignored or overlooked by the military authorities. Greenwich Cemetery where Ernest is at rest contains 556 Great War burials. More than half of these graves are scattered throughout the cemetery, but 263 form a large war graves plot known as 'Heroes' Corner'. Here, two curved screen walls bear the names of casualties buried both in the plot, and also in unmarked graves in other parts of the cemetery.

## GOLDUP W.T

**Gunner 129170 William Thomas GOLDUP. "B" Battery, 223<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, Royal Field Artillery (RFA).** Died 16<sup>th</sup> November 1918 aged 22 years. Born **HEDGINGTON**, Kent. Enlisted Maidstone. Son of Charles and Polly Goldup of Holly Tree Cottages, Bekesbourne, Canterbury, Kent. Buried locally in the Bekesbourne (St Peter) Churchyard, Bekesbourne, Canterbury, Kent. Grave reference – North East of church.

William's name appears on the Bekesbourne war memorial near Canterbury.

Soldiers Died Great War lists William's birth place as **HEDGINGTON**, Kent. This sounds as though the transcriber may have mis-heard the word EGERTON. There is no such place as Hedgington in Kent.

## HARDING A.J

**Private L/10087 Alfred John HARDING. 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).** Died 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1916 aged 25 years. Born Egerton. Enlisted Ashford. Son of Alfred J. Harding of "Leacon Cottage", Great Chart, Ashford, Kent. Husband of Theresa M Harding of Little Singleton, Ashford. Alfred has no known grave. His name appears on the Thiepval Memorial, The Somme, France. Panel reference 11C.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Leacon Cottage, Great Chart

**Private 240482 Henry Ernest HARDING. 5<sup>th</sup> Buffs (East Kent Regiment).**

Alfred died on the third day of the 1916 Battle of the Somme.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916 the 6<sup>th</sup> West Kent's were in reserve trenches at La Boisselle in the Ovillers Sector on the Somme. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> July the battalion was moved into the frontline at Mametz in readiness for an attack on enemy held positions to the North of Fricourt. Casualties were heavy – 617 men had gone into avtion, 375 of them became casualties (many of whom were original members of the battalion who had enlisted at Purfleet in 1914).

## HART S.C

**Ashford (Tun Wells Equitable Plaque)**

**Sergeant Mechanic 220626 Sydney Charles HART. Royal Air Force (RAF). Formerly (LMRH) Royal Naval Air Service.** Died 21 July 1919. Born Shadoxhurst 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1893. Son of Thomas George Hart (Farm Labourer) and Mary Ann Hart (nee Spain) of Kingsland, Egerton, Kent. Not presently commemorated as a casualty of the war by the UK government. We intend to present his case to the MoD for a belated commemoration.

Before the outbreak of war Sydney was employed in the Ashford area as a Coach Joiner.

Enlisted into the Royal Naval Air Service (RNAS) 13 September 1916 for the duration of the war and went to HMS Pembroke Chatham for basic training. On 23 February 1917 Sydney was sent to HMS Daedalus and then RFC Cranwell (27 Wing) for specialist training.

In April 1917 Sydney was promoted to 1<sup>st</sup> Class Air Mechanic (Royal Naval Air Service). On 6 July 1918 Sydney was posted to 27 Wing, Royal Air Force at RAF Cranwell. On 10 July 1918 Sydney was promoted to Sergeant in the newly formed Royal Air Force (RAF).

When Sydney was discharged from the Royal Air Force his home address was recorded as –

**Water Villa  
Water Lane  
EGERTON  
Ashford  
Kent**

On 10 May 1919 Sydney was examined by a RAF medical officer and his service papers state – A1 fit.

National Archives lists him as a RN/RMLI man –

**F20626 Sydney Charles HART. RN / RMLI?** Born Ashford (Kent). REF: ADM188/601 . 03 January 1898.

Sydney's name was referred to in the Kentish Express as being an Shadoxhurst man who lost his life in the Great War. Then we found his name on the now lost Tunbridge Wells Equitable Friendly Society war memorial. This used to hang in the branch office in Regents Place (now demolished).

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Kingsland, Egerton

**L.M.R.H 220626 Sydney Charles HART. Royal Air Force.**

The 1901 Census gives –

Shadoxhurst

Thomas G	HART	48	Agricultural Labourer	Tenterden
Mary A		49		Woodchurch
Louisa		15		Shadoxhurst
<b>Sydney C</b>		<b>8</b>		<b>Shadoxhurst</b>

HOVER E.A

**Lance Corporal G/4888 Ernest Albert HOVER. 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).** Died 28<sup>th</sup> May 1915. Born Egerton. Enlisted Canterbury. Resided Crundale. Ernest has no known grave. His name appears on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Leper, Belgium. Grave reference 12 and 14.

The Ashford Absentee Voters List for 1918 gives –

Crundale

**Private 265708 Alfred William HOVER. 1<sup>st</sup> Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).**  
**Private 229740 Charles HOVER. 13<sup>th</sup> Royal Fusiliers.**

Ernest had a number of brothers serving in the colours – William in the Royal East Kent Yeomanry (REKMR), George in the Royal Engineers, Charles in the 1/1<sup>st</sup> KCB and Alfred in the 2/2<sup>nd</sup> KCB. (I am not aware what the KCB was).

The day that Ernest died his battalion was in Poperinghe Belgium. The battalion lost 17 officers and 702 men during the period 22<sup>nd</sup> April to 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1915. It seems likely that Ernest was killed or mortally wounded on the 24<sup>th</sup> May 1915 when the 2<sup>nd</sup> battalion was in action with 9<sup>th</sup> Lancers and 3<sup>rd</sup> Royal Fusiliers in trenches at Bellewaarde Lake a few miles outside Ypres.

## JUKES A

**Private 11799 Arthur JUKES. 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Coldstream Guards.** Died 28<sup>th</sup> September 1915 aged 24 years. Born Egerton. Enlisted Woolwich, London. Resided Watringbury, Kent. Son of Harry and Ellen Jukes of Old Road, Watringbury, Maidstone, Kent. Arthur has no known grave. His name appears on the Loos Memorial, France. Panel reference 7 and 8.

Arthur was killed in action during the Battle of Loos.

## McGEE C

**Private S/39 Charles McGEE. 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).** Died 30<sup>th</sup> April 1915. Born Egerton. Enlisted Ramsgate. Resided Ramsgate. Buried in the Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension (Nord), France. Grave reference I.D.20.

The day that Charles died his battalion was in billets at Wittenhoek four miles to the south of Poperinghe in Belgium. Charles was obviously wounded earlier in the month and died of his wounds at a base hospital at Bailleul. The cemetery where he was buried was used almost exclusively by this base hospital.

## ROBBINS C

**Corporal 7194 Caleb ROBBINS. 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, York and Lancaster Regiment.** Died 20<sup>th</sup> July 1915. Born Egerton. Resided Tooting, London. Enlisted Doncaster, Yorks. Brother of Mrs Edith E Nethercote (nee Robbins) of 88, Hillingdon Street, Walworth, London. Buried in the New Irish Farm Cemetery. Grave reference Sp Mem 28.

## SMITH W.G

**Corporal L/8093 Walter George SMITH. "C" Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).** Died 25<sup>th</sup> December 1914 (**Christmas Day**) Aged 25 years. Born Egerton. Enlisted Canterbury. Resided Sittingbourne. Son of Walter George and Agnes Smith of Egerton, Kent. Buried Y Farm Military Cemetery, Bois-Grenier, France. Grave reference E.49.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

The Forstal, Egerton

**Private 50373 Charles William SMITH. 3<sup>rd</sup> Bedfordshire Regiment.**

The 1<sup>st</sup> battalion was not in action the day that Walter died. However it is recorded that Walter died in action. Perhaps he was killed by a shell in the rear area.

## SPOONER A.V

**Private T/240825 Albert Victor SPOONER. 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).** Died 22<sup>nd</sup> November 1917. Born Egerton. Enlisted Canterbury. Resided Tunbridge Wells. Son of Charles and Emma Spooner of Egerton, Ashford, Kent. Buried in the Tin Court New British Cemetery. Grave reference II.G.6.

The 1901 census gives –  
Egerton Cottage, Egerton

Charles	SPOONER	44	Gardener	Chichester, Sussex
Emma		42		Langley, Kent
Arthur		7		Sevenoaks
<b>Albert</b>		<b>5</b>		<b>Egerton</b>

The day that Albert died the 1<sup>st</sup> battalion were in action near Lateau Wood not far from Havrincourt south of Cambrai, France (Battle of Arras).





### STROVER F

**Private G/9267 Frank STROVER, 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).** Died Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July 1916. Born Monday Boys, Egerton. Enlisted Ashford. Resided Ashford. Buried in the St Souplet British Cemetery, France. Grave reference III.AA.25.

Frank may have resided at either 16 Apsley Street, Ashford or 88 New Street, Ashford.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

The Street, Egerton

**Private 645001 Herbert William STROVER. 20<sup>th</sup> London Regiment.**

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1916 the 6<sup>th</sup> battalion was in action at Ovillers on the Somme, The German wire was reached under murderous machine gun fire. 11 officers and 263 men were killed or wounded. The battalion did not go into frontline trenches until the 27<sup>th</sup> July when it again took up positions at Ovillers. Frank was probably wounded on the 27<sup>th</sup> July when in trenches at Ovillers near Albert. He died of his wounds the next day before he could be evacuated through the medical chain to a base hospital. His body was buried on the battlefield at Bohain and later taken to St Souplet where it was reburied.



## TAYLOR A.H

**Sergeant 9303 Albert Henry TAYLOR. "B" Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment.** Died 21<sup>st</sup> September 1914. Born Egerton. Enlisted Canterbury. Resided Brixton, London. Son of William and Sarah Taylor of Ospringe near Faversham, Kent. Buried in the Villers-En-Prayeres Communal Cemetery, Aisne, France. Grave reference B.3.

Albert was killed in the Battle of the Aisne 1914.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> September 1914 the 2<sup>nd</sup> Worcesters were at Tilleul Spur. On the 16<sup>th</sup> September the battalion moved into the reserve at Verneuil. On the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> the battalion was back in the line at Tilleul Spur. On the 20<sup>th</sup> September the battalion was in action all day. The battalion went forward to assist the 1<sup>st</sup> King's (Liverpool Regt) on the Tilleul Spur. On the 21<sup>st</sup> September the battalion was still in the frontline on the Tilleul Spur. In the evening the battalion withdrew to temporary billets at La Cour des Moines Farm having been relieved by 1<sup>st</sup> Coldstream Guards.

## WARD A.T

**Private L/9357 Alfred Thomas WARD. 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment). Attended 3<sup>rd</sup> Division Signals Company.** Died of disease Mesopotamia (Iraq) 6<sup>th</sup> June 1916 aged 28 years. Born Egerton. Enlisted Maidstone. Son of Fanny Ward of Langley Heath, Maidstone, Kent. Buried in the Amara War Cemetery, Amara, Iraq. Grave reference XXII.A.8.

From May 1916 onwards the 2<sup>nd</sup> battalion was in camp at Khamisiya several miles South East of Nasiriya with the mission of keeping the local arab population in check. Conditions were difficult and uncomfortable. Many men became ill through lack of water and the hot dry conditions.

## WHITE I.E

**Private G/805 Isaac Edward WHITE. 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).** Died 31<sup>st</sup> July 1917 aged 23 years. Born Egerton. Enlisted Devonport, Hampshire. Son of John and Catherine A White of "Hazeldene", St John's Road, Sevenoaks, Kent. Formerly Spring Cottage, Egerton, Ashford, Kent. Isaac has no known grave. His name appears on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Ypres, Belgium. Panel reference 45 and 47.

The 1901 census gives –  
Spring Cottage, Egerton

John	WHITE	45	Labourer	Ashford
Catherine A		39		Cirencester, Glos
Chrissie		14		Egerton
Kitty		11		Egerton
Amelia		10		Egerton
John		9		Egerton
<b>Issac E</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>Egerton</b>

On the 31<sup>st</sup> July 1917 the 10<sup>th</sup> battalion was in action all day at on the right of the Ypres-Commines railway and the Canal. Casualties were heavy due to heavy shelling. The battalion had been assigned the job of protecting the right flank of Hollebeke and clearing the ground to the East of Battle Wood (close to Hill 60).