

STONE IN OXNEY



The Great War
1914 – 1919

BATES G.S.P

Private 2130682 George Samuel Peck BATES. 1st Battalion, Canadian Infantry (Manitober Regiment). Died during training on Wednesday 13th November 1918 aged 32 years. Son of William John and Elizabeth Bates of 3, The Poplars, Kenardington, Ashford, Kent. Buried in the Brandon Cemetery, Manitober, Canada. Grave reference L.12.B.H.S.16.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Teigh Farm, Stone

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





DAW A

Private G/2661 Alfred James DAW. 8th Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment). Died Monday 21st August 1916 aged 19 years. Born Stone. Enlisted Tenterden. Resided Stone. Second son of Walter and Jane Daw of The Crown Inn, Stone in Oxney, Kent. Buried in the Corbie Communal Cemetery Extension, Corbie, France. Grave reference plot 2 row B grave 111.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Crown Inn, Stone

Private 18957 Albert DAW. 13th Royal Sussex Regiment.

Luckhurst Cottage, Stone

Private 30103 Charles Ephraim DAW. 2nd Royal Irish Rifles.

Rose Cottage, Stone

Driver 199142 Alfred William DAW. Royal Engineers.

Before the outbreak of war Alfred was a member of the local church choir.

His commanding Officer wrote – “The circumstances of your sons death was particularly sad. We had taken the German trenches on the 18th August 1916. We were being relieved the day that Alfred lost his life. He was struck by shrapnel from a shell which landed right on top of his trench enclosure. He was severely wounded in the back. He passed away without ever regaining consciousness”.

On the 18th August 1916 the 8th battalion were in action all day near Guillemont and Leuze Wood. The battalion's objective that day was Machine Gun House. This engagement was known as The Battle of Deville Wood. Over 300 men were killed, missing and wounded.





DAW C.E

Private 18555 Charles Ephraim DAW. 2nd Battalion, Royal Irish Regiment. Formerly (30103) 2nd Battalion, Royal Irish Regiment. Formerly (13369) Royal West Surrey Regiment. Died Saturday 31st August 1918 aged 28 years. Born Stone. Enlisted Canterbury. Resided Stone. Son of Ephraim and Clara Elizabeth Daw of Stone, Ashford, Kent. Buried in the Bagneux British Cemetery, Gezaincourt, The Somme, France. Grave reference VI.E.17.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Luckhurst Cottage, Stone

Private 30103 Charles Ephraim DAW. 2nd Royal Irish Regiment.

Crown Inn, Stone

Private 18957 Albert DAW. 13th Royal Sussex Regiment.

Rose Cottage, Stone

Driver 199142 Alfred William DAW. Royal Engineers.



GILL F.B

Private G/9390 Frederick Bert GILL. 6th Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment). Died Friday 7th July 1916 aged 29 years. Born Stone. Enlisted Canterbury. Resided Stone. Son of James and Edith Gill of Wattle Corner, Stone, Ashford, Kent. Buried in the Boulogne Eastern Cemetery, Boulogne, France. Grave reference VIII.C.106.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Putland House, Stone

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

Station Road, Appledore

Private 29871 Frederick Harold GILL. Army Service Corps (25th Labour Corps Coy).

The 1901 Census gives –

The Street, Stone

James	GILL	28	Agricultural Labourer	
Edith		21		Wittersham

On the 1st July 1916 the 6th battalion was in the reserve line at Lavieville, it then marched to Millencourt. On the 3rd July 1916 the battalion was in action in the Ovillers Sector not far from Albert on The Somme. The battalion lost many men to murderous German machine gun fire. At least 280 men were killed, wounded or missing. Frederick was probably one of those wounded. He was removed to a Base Hospital at Boulogne but sadly succumbed to his wounds a few days later.





PELLETT H

Private L/9782 Henry (Harry) PELLETT. 2nd Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment. Died Tuesday 29th September 1914. Born Stone. Enlisted Chichester, Sussex. Son of James and Sarah Pellett of Stone, Ashford, Kent. Buried in the Vendresse British Cemetery, Vendresse, France. Grave reference II.J.14.

The 1901 census gives –
..... Farm Cottage, Stone

James	PELLETT	43	Waggoner Farm	Stone
Sarah		44		Wittersham
Herbert		11		Stone
Harry		7		Stone
James		5		Stone

The 2nd battalion was retreating from Mons in September 1914. On the 11th it was at Coincy. On the 12th at Paars. On the 14th it was at Vendresse in support of an attack on high ground above Troyon. On the 19th the battalion was under heavy fire and was dug in near Paissy. On the 20th it was at Pargnan. On the 25th September 1914 the battalion took over frontline trenches at Troyon.

The battalion was relieved by the 1st North Lanc's the next day early in the morning. It appears that Harry might have been wounded on the 14th September and then recovered to a Field Dressing Station where he later died of his wounds. The normal casualty clearing chain was not in operation in 1914 and this is why he remained in the area where he was wounded instead of being evacuated.



UNDERDOWN G

Private T/240388 George UNDERDOWN. 5th Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment). Died Wednesday 24th January 1917 in Iraq aged 21 years. Born Stone. Enlisted Tenterden. Resided Stone. Son of Thomas James and Fanny Underdown of Little Pramps Farm, Stone, Ashford, Kent. George has no known grave. His name appears on the Basra Memorial, Iraq. Panel reference 6.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Little Prawls, Stone

38523 Frederick UNDERDOWN. Royal Engineers.

The 1901 Census gives –
Little, Stone

Thomas	UNDERDOWN	32	Shepherd	Wittersham
Fanny		30		East Guildford
Leslie		8		Stone
George		5		Stone
Alice		3		Stone

The day that George died his battalion was near the Hai Stream near Kut in Iraq consolidating captured enemy positions.



WENHAM W.S

Trooper 2185 Wilfred Stephen WENHAM. 1/1st Royal East Kent Yeomanry (Mounted Rifles) (REKMR). Died 11th February 1915. Enlisted Herne Bay. Resided Ashton. Son of Frank and Caroline Wenham of Stone Green Farm, Stone. Buried in Canterbury Cemetery, Canterbury, Kent. Grave reference B.270.

Wilfred died in the Abbots Barton V.A.D Hospital Canterbury after a short illness.

The Ashford 1918 Absentee Voters List gives –

Stone Green Farm, Stone

270945 Cyril Frank WENHAM. Queen's Own, West Kent Yeomanry.
105078 Ernest Bernard WENHAM. Dragoon Guards.

Street, Appledore

151130 Frederick James WENHAM. Labour Corps.

The 1901 Census gives –
Mackley Cottage, Stone

Frank	WENHAM	35	Shepherd	Stone
Caroline		32		Stone
Cyril		7		Stone
Wilfred S		5		Stone
Ernest B		3		Stone
Frederick		9m		Stone

LOST MEN

COLYER G

Sergeant 9991 George COLYER MM and BAR. 1st Battalion, Border Regiment. Died Tuesday 20th November 1917. Born Stone Kent. Enlisted Gravesend. Resided Horton Kirby near Dartford, Kent. George has no known grave. His name appears on the Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, France. Panel reference 7.

George was awarded the Military Medal (MM) twice! It is very unusual for a man to be awarded the MM twice. Obviously George was a very courageous man...

FRAMPTON C.W

Private G/24386 Charles Walter FRAMPTON. 23rd Battalion, Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment). Formerly Private G/24033 Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment). Died 17th February 1917 aged 24 years. Born Stone, Kent. Enlisted Lydd. Son of Edward and Elizabeth Frampton of Scotney Court, Lydd, Kent. Commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France.

FRENCH R.R

Private 35318 Reginald Robert FRENCH. 13th (Forest of Dean) Pioneer Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment. Formerly (277481) Royal Engineers. Died 22nd March 1918. Born Stone, Kent. Enlisted Woolwich, London. Buried Peronne Communal Cemetery Extension, Somme, France. Grave reference – III.H.38.

RICHARDSON N.C

Rifleman 23433 Nigel Canning RICHARDSON. 2nd Battalion, New Zealand Rifle Brigade. Died 9th August 1917 aged 37 years. Son of George Canning Richardson and Emily Richardson. Husband of Margaret Joyce Richardson of Cherry Farm, Stone, Ashford, Kent. Buried in the Prowse Point Military Cemetery, Belgium. Grave reference III.A.22.

SMITH L.W

Private T/203081 Leonard Walter SMITH. 1st Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment). Died 9th April 1918 aged 20 years. Son of F.M Chacksfield of "Prawls Cottage", Stone in Oxney, Kent. Leonard has no known grave. His name appears on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, Belgium. Panel reference 17.

On the 9th April 1918 a German offensive started south of Ypres in Belgium. On the 30th May the 1st battalion was moved into frontline trenches at Zonnebeke. The battalion rendered assistance during this attack to a number of other units who were being overcome. It appears that Leonard died in this engagement close to or in Zonnebeke.