

**The Fallen
of the
Cheshire Village
of**

FARNDON





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of the
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of
FARNDON**



Men of the Farndon Memorial

Farndon War Memorial Inscription:

**IN PERPETUAL MEMORY OF THE THESE
MEN WHO DIED FOR THEIR COUNTRY
1914 - 1918**

World War One

**Driver Herbert DAVIES
Thomas W EDGE
William EDGE
John GAUTERIN
Albert INCE
Henry L INCE
Joseph JONES
Lewis MARTYN
Frank E MOSCATE
Godfrey F OWEN
Arthur PARKER
Samuel PUGH
John SHAW
Joseph J STRETTON
James WEAVER
Thomas WEAVER
Charles N WILLIAMSON
Reginald (Robert) THELWALL**

World War Two

1939 - 1945

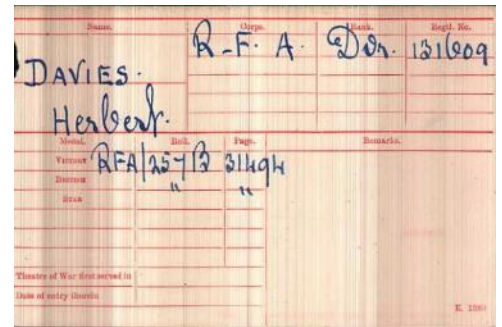
**Edward Carstairs Parker JERVIS
Ernest Mark Cecil MAPLES
John YOUDE
Colin Douglas LOUGHLIN
Douglas Cecil HILL**

WORLD WAR ONE

Driver Herbert Davies

82nd Small Arms Ammunition Col. Royal Field Artillery

Herbert Davies was the son of William Davies and his wife Elizabeth of Farndon. He was born in 1890 in Rowley Hill, a farm in Kings Marsh, just to the east of the village, and was baptised on 13 July 1891 at St Chad's in Farndon. William died while Herbert was an infant, and the family moved to Farndon High Street. After a period on the Western Front, Herbert served in the Salonika Campaign in Greece, where he died aged twenty-eight on 28 November 1917. He is buried in Salonika (Lembet Road) Military Cemetery. His medal record card is pictured.



Private Thomas William Edge

10th Battalion (Shropshire and Cheshire Yeomanry)

Thomas Edge was the son of William and Phyllis Edge of Clutton, Chester and lived in the local village Post Office. His father William, as well as earning his living as a farmer, was also the village post master, and his father before him also ran the shop while dealing in cattle on the side. He joined the 1st Cheshire Yeomanry, which later merged with the 1/1st Shropshire Yeomanry to form the 10th Shropshire and Cheshire Yeomanry Battalion. Thomas Edge was killed in action aged twenty-two in the battle around Loos on 22 August 1918. His body was never found, but he is remembered on the Loos Memorial (pictured).

Private William Edge

14th Cheshire Regiment /8th Battalion, South Lancashire Regiment

William Edge was the son of John and Mary Edge, of Bridge House, Farndon. When the war came, he enlisted with the 14th Cheshire Regiment. While in France, he was transferred to the 8th (Service) Battalion, South Lancashire Regiment, and served on the Somme before moving to the Ypres Salient in Belgium, where he was killed in action on 8 June 1917 aged 25. The body of William Edge was never found and he is commemorated on the Menin Gate, Ypres, Belgium (pictured).



Private John Gauterin

Cheshire Yeomanry, 2nd Battalion, South Lancashire Regiment

When the war came, the men of the Gauterin family heeded the call. Brothers, Arthur, John, Ernest and Fred all served, as well as their in-laws, the Clubbes from nearby Churton. They were also in the unusual situation of facing their German cousins on the opposite side. John, a stableman, joined up in October 1914 in Chester with two good friends, Bob Tilston from Holt, and Charlie Williamson from Churton. John fought with them on the Somme in the summer of 1916, before he died of wounds on 15 Oct 1916 aged 23. His grave was subsequently lost, but today John is remembered on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme.

Private Albert Ince

7th Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment),
Formerly 945, Welsh Horse Yeomanry

Private Albert Ince was the son of Thomas and Elizabeth Ince, of Barton Road, Farndon. He was the brother of Henry L Ince who was killed in action in Greece in 1918, who is also on the Farndon Memorial. Albert ('Bert') was a member of the Farndon Brass band and is pictured here in his uniform. He fought in the horror of Passchendaele, part of the Third Battle of Ypres, which is where he lost his life on 12 October 1917 aged 31. His body was never found and he is commemorated on the Memorial Wall at Tyne Cot cemetery, Belgium.



Private Henry L. Ince

2nd Battalion, Cheshire Regiment

Private Henry 'Harry' Ince was the son of Thomas and Elizabeth Ince, of Barton Road, Farndon. He was the brother of Albert Ince who was killed in the Third Battle of Ypres, Belgium in October 1917. Harry enlisted with the Cheshire Regiment and served in the Salonika Campaign in Greece. Conditions were appalling with more men suffering from disease and illness than from military action. Harry went down with malaria, only to recover and be sent back into action, where he suffered fatal wounds and died a couple of weeks later in hospital in Salonika on 1 October 1918, aged 23. He is buried in Salonika (Lembet Road) Military Cemetery.

Sergeant Joseph J Jones

16th Battalion, Royal Welsh Fusiliers

Sergeant Joseph Jones was the son of Margaret Catherine and the late Thomas Jones, of Deva Terrace, Farndon. He enlisted with the 16th Battalion, Royal Welsh Fusiliers and participated in their capture of Mametz Wood, where he was badly wounded during the final assault on the wood on 11 July 1916. He was moved behind the lines to a military hospital in Rouen, where he died aged only 23 years old. Joseph was buried in the nearby St Sever Military Cemetery.



Driver Lewis Martyn

64th Field Company Royal Engineers

Lewis Martyn was the son of Wallace Martyn, who lived on the High Street in Farndon village with his third wife Emma Martyn, Lewis' step-mother. Lewis was born in Sale, Manchester in 1885. Wallace was a Police Sergeant and due to the demands of his job, moved house several times in the North West. Lewis worked as a joiner in the village and when he signed on for the war, he joined the Royal Engineers as a sapper. He fought on the Somme before moving north to Belgium, where he was killed in action on the Ypres Salient on 26 May 1918 aged 33. Lewis Martyn is recorded on the memorial panels to the missing at Tyne Cot Cemetery, Belgium, although on the memorial gravestone in Farndon Churchyard (pictured), the Martyn family have recorded that Lewis was interred at La Roukloshille in France. It is likely the grave site was lost after the area was captured by the enemy.

4th Battalion Tank Corps



South African Mounted Rifles (attached to the Royal Irish Regiment).

1st Battalion Auckland Regiment, New Zealand Expeditionary Force

[illegible]

73rd Coy, Labour Corps, formerly 8th Labour Company, King's Liverpool Regiment

Samuel Pugh was the son of James and Sarah Pugh of the hamlet of Barton, near Farndon. When Samuel was old enough, he moved into the Barton Road farm of neighbour Charles Fatherson, to work as a waggoner, where his older brother Thomas, aged twenty-three, was already working as a cowman. When the war broke out, he was posted to the Cheshire Yeomanry. But on 19 February 1915, after a total of 131 days service, he was discharged as 'no longer being physically fit for further war service'. However, once greater demands were being made upon recruitment into 1917, Samuel was conscripted, and he was posted to the 8th Labour Company, King's Liverpool Regiment. He was killed in action aged thirty-four on 25 July 1917 on the Ypres Salient, Belgium, during the preparations for the Third Battle of Ypres. He was buried in Mendinghem Military Cemetery, Ypres.

Private John Shaw

**'D' Company, 9th Battalion Cheshire Regiment,
formerly 3rd Cheshire Yeomanry**

John Shaw was the son of Walter and Elizabeth Ann Shaw of Crewe Hall, a large farm in Crewe-by-Farndon, a hamlet just to the south of Farndon. When the war came, John continued his work, looking after the dairy herd on the farm, but when conscription was introduced in January 1916, he was posted into the 3rd Cheshire Yeomanry, then later to the 9th Cheshires. He was badly wounded in the Battle of Messines, but despite being shipped back to the base hospital in Rouen, France, he died on 30 July 1917. He was buried in the nearby cemetery of St Sever Cemetery. Sergeant Joseph Jones of Farndon was also laid to rest in this cemetery. A tablet to his memory was placed in Crewe-by-Farndon Methodist chapel.



Private Joseph James Stretton

17th Battalion, The King's Liverpool Regiment

Joseph James Stretton was born in Liverpool on 15 August 1895, the son of Albert Stretton and Sarah Ann Cartwright (nee Baines), but his link with Farndon actually goes back to his paternal grandparents, Joseph James Stretton, a coachman, and Elizabeth, a domestic cook, who were live-in servants in Belmont House. When the war came, Joseph signed on in Liverpool and was enlisted into the 17th Battalion, The King's Liverpool Regiment - one of the Old Pal's regiments. He took part in the action in the Battle of Arras, which is where he lost his life on 26 April 1917, aged twenty-one. The precise circumstances are unknown and his body was not recovered, but he is remembered on the Arras Memorial to the Missing in the centre of the town.

Lance Corporal Reginald Thelwall

47th Battalion Canadian Infantry, Formerly 68th Regiment, Earl Grey's Own Rifles

Reginald (*Robert*) Thelwall was the son of Dr William Thelwall, a surgeon who was born in Farndon and lived at Bridge House, at the bottom of the High Street facing the River Dee. In 1904 Reginald decided to emigrate to Canada and settled in Prince Rupert north of Vancouver, working as a teamsman on a farm. When war broke out, he enlisted in 1915 in the Canadian Infantry and fought on the Somme, Ancre Heights and Ancre Valley in 1916. The Division moved to Arras where Reginald was killed in action on 1 May 1917 aged 30, and is remembered with honour on Vimy Ridge Memorial. His Thelwall ancestors and cousins were pioneer settlers in New Zealand – founding a settlement called Farndon. Several, with the Parker brothers who were also out there, fought in WW1.



Private James Weaver

13th Battalion Cheshire Regiment

The Weaver family lived in Barton Wells in the hamlet of Barton, a mile or so east of Farndon village. Situated on the sharp rise near the Cock o' Barton Inn, the family had a direct lineage in Barton going back to the mid 1600s. By his early teens he was labouring on a local farm, but when the war broke out he joined the 13th Battalion Cheshire Regiment. James died on 15 May 1916 aged twenty-one, and given the date of his death it is likely that he lost his life during the battle on Vimy Ridge to the north east of Arras, the first action involving the 13th Battalion. He is buried in Ecoivres Military Cemetery, four miles north west of Arras in France.



Private Thomas Weaver

2nd Battalion Cheshire Regiment

At the age of eighteen, after a few teenage years as a farm labourer, Tom junior decided on a life in the army. He signed on for nine years for the Cheshire Regiment on 11 January 1906. He served in India for several years and when war broke out, his battalion were brought home in November 1914, then despatched to France in January 1915. He was killed in action shortly afterwards on 17 February, aged twenty-eight, in The Second Battle of Ypres. His body was never recovered and his name was recorded on the Menin Gate in Ypres (pictured), in company with 55,000 others who were never found. Frank, brother of James and Thomas, survived the war, as did their cousin Alfred.

Private Charles Norman Williamson

Cheshire Yeomanry, 2nd Battalion South Lancashire Regiment

Charles Williamson came from Churton village, just to the north of Farndon. He was the son of local publican Samuel Holland Williamson, who resided at The Red Lion Inn on the main road through the village, now a private residence. Charlie was an early volunteer when the war started, joining up with his village pals John Gauterin and Bob Tilston. They managed to stay together and fought on the Somme. On 21 October 1916, while his section was under fire, Charlie was tasked with taking a message to a neighbouring flank, but as he started off, he was hit by a bullet in the chest and killed instantly. He was only twenty-one. Today he lies in the isolated Grandcourt Road Cemetery - a grave that has been visited by several Farndon villagers.



Laid to rest in Farndon church yard



Sergeant Joseph Easter

Machine Gun Corps (Infantry)

In the churchyard of St Chad's, Farndon, there is a solitary CWGC designed headstone standing very much alone. The name on the stone is that of Joseph Easter. He was the son of John Jesse and Maria Easter of Little Eaton, Derbyshire, and the husband of Phoebe Margaret Easter of 36 Elmwood Street, Fishergate, York. Joseph was a career soldier having joined the army on 10 June 1902 and posted to the 5th (Royal Irish) Lancers. After serving 10 years he secured a position as a chauffeur to Captain J.H. Leche, the country squire of Carden Park where he lived in a cottage with his wife and young daughter. In 1914 he joined up again and served for the entire war. He was badly gassed in 1916 and by 1919 the war had taken its toll on his health. He died at home in Carden Park aged 36 on 22 September 1920.

Private Thomas John Harrison

Labour Corps

Thomas Harrison was born in Farndon in 1880 to parents Alfred Edwin Harrison and Mary Elizabeth Harrison (nee Rogers). The Harrison family were grocers and ran the village shop next to the Nag's Head Inn (now Lewis's Café) on the High Street. Thomas served with the Labour Corps, probably into 1919. Thomas may have become ill during this time when the flu pandemic was sweeping across Europe. Now back in Cheshire, he died on 28 December 1919 aged thirty-nine and was brought to Farndon to be buried in St Chad's Churchyard. A family headstone marks his grave, instead of a Commonwealth War Grave marker.



WORLD WAR TWO

Sapper Douglas Cecil Hill

142 Field Park Troop Royal Engineers

Douglas Hill, the son of Albert Edward and Martha Hill, of Farn-don, was killed in action on 25 April 1941 in Greece. He was only twenty-one. He has no known grave and is recorded on the Athens Memorial.



Pilot Officer Colin Douglas Loughlin

14 Sqn. Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve

Colin Douglas Loughlin was the son of Edward Alexander Loughlin and Isabella Loughlin who were the licensees of The Greyhound public house on Farndon High Street in the years running up to the outbreak of the Second World War. Colin's brothers, Lesley and Edward, worked in the Broughton factory constructing Wellington bombers, while another brother Dennis also served in the RAFVR as a navigator on Sunderlands (Wick & South Wales), and survived the war. Pilot Officer Colin Loughlin was killed in action on 18 November 1941 in North Africa aged twenty-eight. He has no known grave and is remembered on the Alamein Memorial.



Sub Lieutenant Ernest Mark Cecil Maples

Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve

The son of Captain John Cecil Maples and Enid May Maples, of Grassgarth, Westmorland, Sub Lt Ernest Maples was posted to the USA to serve with HMS *Saker*. He was killed in an air crash on 25 May 1944 aged just nineteen. He is buried in St. Augustine National Cemetery Florida USA.



Captain Edward 'Ned' Carstairs Parker-Jervis

1st Battalion, Royal Welsh Fusiliers

Ned Carstairs was the son of Major Edward and Eleanor Parker-Jervis of Farndon. He fought at St. Venant, the centre of heavy fighting when delaying actions covered the withdrawal of the British Expeditionary Force to the coast during the Dunkirk Evacuation. He was killed in action on 27 May 1940 aged 29, and is buried in St Venant Communal Cemetery, in Pas-de-Calais, 10 miles north-west of Bethune.

Lance Bombardier John Youde

2nd Maritime Regiment, Royal Artillery

John Youde was the son of William and Sarah Jane Youde, of Farndon. He was killed in action on 2 March 1944 in Italy aged thirty. He is buried in Bari War Cemetery.

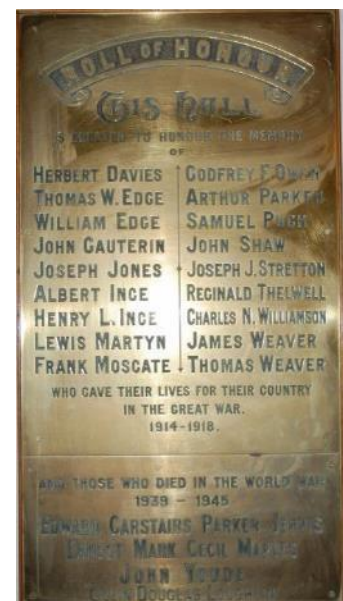


Not Forgotten – They Also Served

We remember too, the contribution made by at least a hundred local men who served during the First World War, and many more who served during the Second. In 1919, it was decided to present a medal of thanks to every man, or his family, a medal from the village as a token of thanks. On the front was engraved his initials, on the reverse 'Farndon's thanks 1914-1918'. Only one medal is known to exist, although there must be many more. Shown is the medal given to Private 45685 Robert Davies Evans of Crewe Lane, Farndon, born in 1895, who served with the 3rd Cheshire Regiment, and later as Private 64826 in the Machine Gun Corps.



The decision of how to remember those from local communities who had given their lives was largely left to local town and parish councils. There was also the problem of who to include, as in Farndon, the names of eighteen men were submitted – although this was not the full complement of men who did not return. Discussions began on how they should be commemorated - some villagers subscribed to the construction of a Memorial Hall, while others supported the erection of a cross in the churchyard. In the end both were constructed, together with the placing of a brass memorial plaque inside the hall.



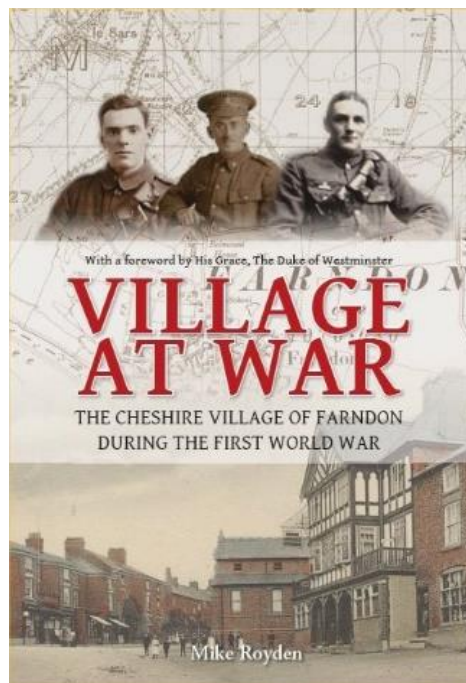


*They shall not grow old as we who are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We will remember them.*

Laurence Binyon CH (1869-1942), from *For the Fallen* (4th stanza)

Booklet compiled and written by Mike Royden and Peter Gauterin

All detail has been taken from



Village at War
– the Cheshire Village of Farndon
During the First World War
by
Mike Royden