

# ARTHUR ANDERSON

- Arthur Anderson was born in 1894 in Tithby (Nottinghamshire). In 1901 aged 6 he was recorded as living in Chancery Row Colston Bassett with his family (parents, 2 brothers, 5 sisters); in 1911 his family had moved to Brickyard Cottage Cropwell Bishop but Arthur aged 16 was a “living in” General Servant (Domestic) in Colston Basset Hills Farm (farmer Mr. J. Marriott).
- Arthur was the first man from Colston Bassett to volunteer (in August 1914 and as a regular soldier) enlisting in the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire & Derbyshire Regiment), which had just returned from overseas duties and was transferred to France on 5<sup>th</sup> November 1914, landing at Le Havre.
- As part of the 1915 Allied spring offensive the Battalion participated in the first large scale organised British offensive of World War I - the Battle of Neuve-Chappelle (10-13 March 1915). This aimed to take the village of Neuve-Chapelle and began with an intense 35 minute artillery bombardment. Initial successes were made, particularly where the German barbed wire was destroyed. The village was captured on the first day, but communication difficulties and strong German counter-attacks made it hard to capitalise on these and the offensive was halted 3 days later.
- Arthur Anderson was wounded in the head and taken to the Duchess of Westminster’s Hospital, (No. 1 British Red Cross Hospital) in Neuve-Chapelle where he died of his wounds on 13<sup>th</sup> March 1915 (aged 20).
- Private Arthur Anderson’s last resting place is in Grave I.B.6 in the Communal Cemetery at Le Touquet-Paris Plage, Pas de Calais, France.



🌹 Pte Arthur 🌹  
ANDERSON  
12340  
1<sup>st</sup> Battalion  
Sherwood Foresters  
Died: 13<sup>th</sup> Mar 1915



Silent Soldier  
Location:  
5 Church Gate  
Colston Bassett

# **ALBERT WILLIAM BIRKIN**

- Albert Birkin was born in 1893 in Sneinton. In 1901 aged 7 Albert was living with his family (parents and 3 sisters) in Southwell Rd Nottingham. In 1911 aged 17 he had moved to live with his family (now 4 sisters) in Edmonthorpe Lodge Colston Bassett and was employed as an Agricultural Worker on his father's farm.
- In Sept. 1914 (one of the first to answer the country's call) Albert enlisted in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment) (possibly because this was Sir Edward Le Marchant's Regiment),
- The Battalion sailed in March 1915 as part of the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force (MEF) to the Dardenelles, Turkey, landing at Gallipoli on 25<sup>th</sup> April 1915 and engaging in actions at the Battles of Krithia and Acha Baba Heights, finally evacuating to Egypt on 8<sup>th</sup> January 1916. In March 1916 the Battalion moved to France, landing at Marseilles. Albert fought in the Battle of the Somme (1<sup>st</sup> July – 18<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1916) and in particular in the Battle of Albert (1<sup>st</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> July 1916).
- Albert Birkin was seriously wounded on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1914 in fighting near the village of Beaumont-Hamel, dying of his wounds on 4<sup>th</sup> July 1916 (age 22).
- Lance-Corporal Albert William Birkin is buried in Grave VIII.C.95, Boulogne Eastern Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France.



L/Cpl Albert William  
BIRKIN  
G/1559  
2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion  
Royal Fusiliers  
Died: 4<sup>th</sup> July 1916

Silent Soldier  
Location:  
Edmonthorpe Lodge  
Colston Bassett

# JOHN ALFRED FAULKS

- John Alfred Faulks was born in 1890 in Colston Bassett. In 1901 aged 11 he was still living in Colston Bassett with his parents and 3 brothers. In 1911 aged 21 he remained in Colston Bassett (now with 2 brothers and 1 sister) and was working as a Wheelwright.
- Alfred volunteered in Sept. 1914 (one of the first to answer the country's call), enlisting (In Nottingham) into the 12<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion, Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment) (Sir Edward Le Marchant's regiment).
- The Battalion landed in France on 1<sup>st</sup> September 1915 and was soon involved in front line activities at the Battle of Loos (25<sup>th</sup> Sept – 8<sup>th</sup> Oct 1915) in a joint French/British offensive which resulted in heavy losses. In 1916 the Battalion was moved to Wulverghem near Ypres in Belgium and was subjected to a German chlorine/phosgene gas attack on 30<sup>th</sup> April. Involvement in the Battle of Mont Sorrel (2<sup>nd</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> June) followed and in particular the actions associated with the loss and recapture of high ground east of Ypres (Tor Top (Hill 62)).
- Alfred Faulks was killed in action on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1916 (aged 26).
- Corporal John Alfred Faulks was originally buried in the grounds of a Chateau near the battlefield, but was later re-interred in Grave II.C.48, Berks Cemetery (Extension), Hainaut, Belgium.

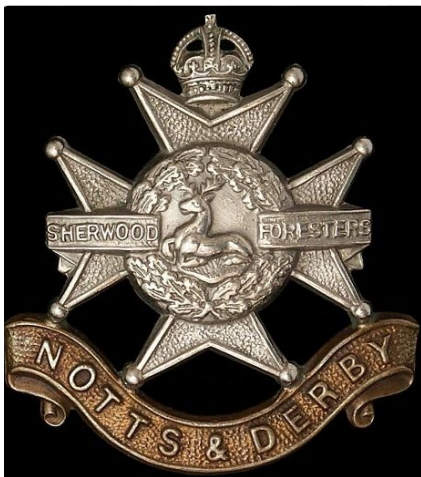


Cpl John Alfred  
FAULKS  
1370  
12<sup>th</sup> Battalion  
Royal Fusiliers  
Died: 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1916

Silent Soldier  
Location:  
St John's Church  
Colston Bassett

# JOHN WILLIAM GREEN

- John William Green was born in 1890 in Colston Bassett. In 1901 aged 10 he was living in the Martin's Arms public house/farmhouse with the rest of his family (parents, 1 brother and 1 sister). In 1911 aged 20 he was still living at the Martin's Arms with his widowed mother, 1 brother and 2 sisters; he was working as a Cowman on its farm.
- John joined the 10<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment) enlisting in Newark.
- The 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion was originally raised (at Derby) for Home Service duties but was mobilised for war and landed in Boulogne, France on 14<sup>th</sup> July 1915. It was engaged in several actions on the Western Front: 1915: front line service in the southern area of the Ypres salient, 1916: the Battles of Albert (1<sup>st</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> July) and Delville Wood (14<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> July), 1917 (in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battle of Arras): the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Battles of the Scarpe (9<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> April), (23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> April).
- John Green was killed in action on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1917 (aged 26).
- Private John William Green has no known grave; he is commemorated in Bay 7 of the Arras Memorial, Faubourg D'Amiens Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France.

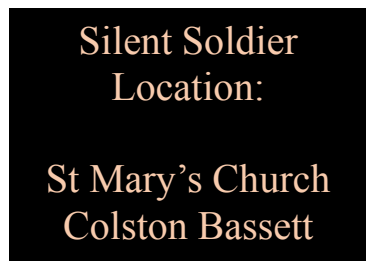
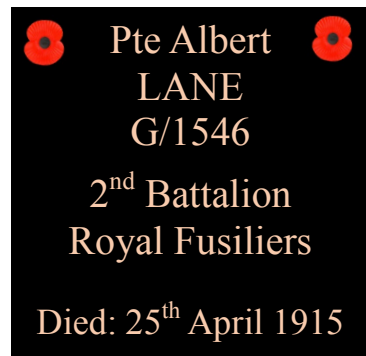


Pte John William  
GREEN  
49398  
10<sup>th</sup> Battalion  
Sherwood Foresters  
Died: 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1917

Silent Soldier  
Location:  
The Martin's Arms  
Colston Bassett

# ALBERT LANE

- Albert Lane was born in 1888 at No 6 The Drift, Harlaxton near Grantham. In 1901 aged 12 he was still living in Harlaxton with his family (parents, 1 brother and 1 sister), but in 1911 he had moved to Horsham in Surrey where he was employed as a Gardener. It is possible that he subsequently moved to Colston Bassett to continue work as a Gardener.
- Albert originally enlisted in the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Royal Fusiliers (at Hounslow) in Sept. 1914, one of the first to answer the country's call. He was later transferred to the 3<sup>rd</sup> and eventually the 2<sup>nd</sup> (City of London) Battalion (Sir Edward Le Marchant's regiment).
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Royal Fusiliers became part of the 86<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade of the 29<sup>th</sup> Division. In March 1915 the Division joined the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force (MEF) for the Gallipoli campaign, embarking at Avonmouth on 16<sup>th</sup> March 1915.
- Albert Lane was killed in action during the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the Dardanelles Archipelago beach landings (on 'X' beach, Cape Helles) on the 25<sup>rd</sup> April 1915 (aged 27).
- Private Albert Lane's name is on the Helles Memorial (on the tip of the Gallipoli peninsular near Sedd el Bahr, Turkey) commemorating servicemen who died during the campaign and have no known grave. He is also commemorated on the Harlaxton War Memorial.



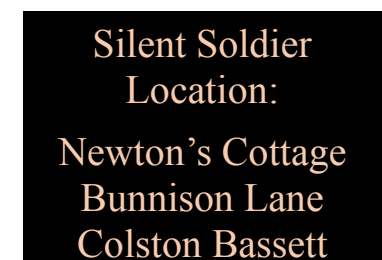
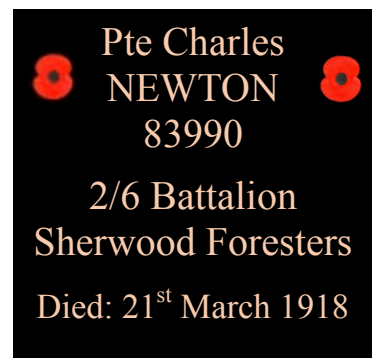


# CHARLES NEWTON

- Charles Newton was born in Colston Bassett in 1897. In 1901 aged 4 he was living in Bunnison Lane with his family (parents, 2 brothers and 3 sisters). In 1911 aged 14 he was still in Colston Bassett and working as a Day Boy (Domestic).
- Charles Newton enlisted in 2/6 Battalion Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment) - known as the 'High Peak Rifles' - raised at Chesterfield in Sept. 1914. In 1915 it joined 176<sup>th</sup> Brigade, 59<sup>th</sup> Division. From April 1916 – Jan. 1917 it was moved to Ireland to help quell the Easter Rising (including manning a barricade opposite rebel HQ (the General Post Office)). In Jan. 1917 the Battalion returned to England and embarked for France on 25<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1917 landing at Boulogne.
- The Battalion entered the front line in March 1917 engaging the Germans as they retreated to the Hindenburg Line. In Sept. the Battalion joined the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ypres Offensive (the Battle of Passchendaele), taking part in the Battles of the Menin Road Ridge (20<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1917), Polygon Wood (26<sup>th</sup> Sept. – 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct. 1917), and the capture of Bournal Wood (23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1917) during the Battle of Cambrai. In 1918 the German Spring Offensive opened the 1<sup>st</sup> Battle of the Somme, 1918 with the Battle of St Quentin (21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1918), beginning with a heavy German artillery bombardment along the 40 miles of front line (over 3,500,000 shells fired in 5 hours).
- Charles Newton was killed on 21<sup>st</sup> March 1918 (aged 21).
- Private Charles Newton has no known grave; he is commemorated in Bay 7, Arras Memorial, Faubourg D'Amiens Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France.





6



# **ERNEST PARNHAM**

- Ernest Parnham was born in 1896 in Shelford Nottingham. His grandfather and father had both been born and lived in Colston Bassett (initially at 6 Chancery Row). When Ernest was born his father had moved to Shelford Nottinghamshire working as a Farm Waggoner. In 1911 his family (parents 3 daughters and a son) had moved to Pasture Lane, Hose Leicestershire but Ernest (aged 15) was living and working as a Servant for Mr. H. C. Hunt, Mayfield House Hose.
- Sometime between 1911 and 1915 Ernest joined the 11<sup>th</sup> Battalion Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment).
- The 11<sup>th</sup> Battalion was raised in Derby in 1914 and became part of 70<sup>th</sup> Brigade in 23<sup>rd</sup> Division. After training they proceeded to France on 27<sup>th</sup> August 1915. In 1916 they saw action during the 1<sup>st</sup> Battle of the Somme (June - November 1916) taking part in the Battles of Albert (1<sup>st</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> July), Bazentin Ridge (14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> July), Pozieres (23<sup>rd</sup> July – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept.), Flers-Courcelette (15<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept.) - which involved the first organised appearance of British tanks on the battlefield - Morval (25<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> Sept.), and the Battle of Le Transloy (1<sup>st</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> October 1916)
- Ernest Parnham was killed in action on the 1<sup>st</sup> October 1916 (aged 20).
- Private Ernest Parnham is buried in Grave IV.F.9 at the Adanac Military Cemetery, Miraumont, France.

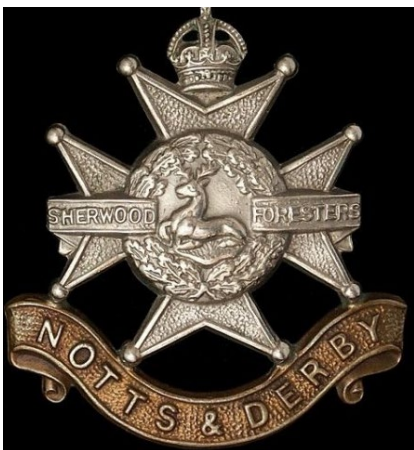




 Pte Ernest   
**PARNHAM**  
32216  
11<sup>th</sup> Battalion  
Sherwood Foresters  
Died: 1st Oct.1916

Silent Soldier  
Location:  
6 Church Gate  
Colston Bassett

# THOMAS PARNHAM

- Thomas Parnham was born in 1880 in Colston Bassett. In 1891 aged 11 he was still resident in Colston Bassett with parents, 1 brother and 1 sister. In 1901 aged 21 he was living as a boarder in Urban Rd, Carlton, Basford working as a Railway Labourer. Thomas married in 1902 and by 1911 aged 31 he was living in Station Rd Carlton with wife and 5 children, employed as a Crane Fitter's Labourer.
- Sometime between 1914 and 1915 Thomas joined the 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment) part of the 51<sup>st</sup> Brigade in the 17<sup>th</sup> (Northern) Division, XV Corps, 4<sup>th</sup> Army.
- The Division was initially selected for Home Defence duties, but was mobilised for war and landed in Boulogne France on 14<sup>th</sup> July 1915. The 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion was engaged in several actions on the Western Front including: 1915 - front line service in the southern area of the Ypres salient (trench actions at Sanctuary Wood and The Bluff), 1916 - the Battle of the Somme and in particular the Battles of Albert (1<sup>st</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> July) and Delville Wood (15<sup>th</sup> July – 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1916).
- Thomas Parnham was killed in action on 6<sup>th</sup> August 1916 (aged 36).
- Private Thomas Parnham's last resting place is Grave XXII.Q.10, Delville Wood Cemetery, Longueval, Somme, France. He is also commemorated on the Carlton War Memorial.



 Pte Thomas   
PARNHAM  
15816  
10<sup>th</sup> Battalion  
Sherwood Foresters  
Died: 6<sup>th</sup> Aug. 1916

Silent Soldier  
Location:  
St John's Church  
Colston Bassett



# ALFRED RICHARDS

- Alfred Richards was born in 1897 in Colston Bassett. In 1901 aged 3 he was living in Colston Basset with his parents, 2 brothers and 4 sisters. In 1911 aged 13 he was still living in Colston Bassett with his parents, 1 brother and 2 sisters (there were 8 children in total) working as a Farm Boy. He also worked on the railways as his name is commemorated on the Memorial at Attenborough station to staff members who perished in WW1.
- Alfred originally enlisted (at Newark) into the Sherwood Foresters (No. 268704) but was transferred into the 2/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion (Territorial Force) of the East Lancashire Regiment (a regiment formed in 1881 by a merging of the 30<sup>th</sup> (Cambridgeshire) and the 59<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> Nottinghamshire) regiments of foot) (probably as he could not accompany the Sherwood Foresters when they embarked for France, perhaps due to illness). Th East Lancashire regiment was mobilised for war and landed in Le Havre, France on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1917.
- The Battalion was on Home service until March 1917 when it was deployed to the Western Front. It was engaged in several actions in 1917 including: Operations on the Flanders coast and, during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battle of Ypres (Battle of Passchendaele), at the Battle of Poelcapelle (9<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1917). During 1918 action was seen at the Battle of St Quentin (21<sup>st</sup> Mar. – 23<sup>rd</sup> Mar.).
- Alfred Richards was captured by the Germans on 21<sup>st</sup> March 1918 and made a Prisoner of War. He was transferred to a Mannschaftslager (camp for enlisted men) in Altdamm near Stettin (now Szczecin, Poland), where he died of bronchitis on 24<sup>th</sup> November 1918 (aged 20).
- Private Alfred Richards' last resting place is Grave VVI.G.3, Berlin South-Western Cemetery, Stahnsdorf, Brandenburg, Germany. He is also commemorated on the grave headstone of George H Hurt (whose mother Lily was Alfred's sister) in the graveyard at St. Mary's Church.



9



🌸 Pte Alfred 🌸  
RICHARDS  
235146  
2/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion  
East Lancs. Regiment  
Died: 24<sup>th</sup> Nov. 1918

Silent Soldier  
Location:  
St Mary's Church  
Colston Bassett

## **ROBERT HENRY ROGERSON MM**

- Robert Rogerson was born in 1887 in Stainton, Co. Durham, where he still lived in 1891 with parents, 1 brother and 5 sisters. In 1901 aged 13 he was still resident in Stainton, with his widowed father and 4 sisters. In 1911 aged 23 he was working as a groom in the stables at Raby Castle, Staindrop, Co. Durham; possibly came to Colston Bassett to work on Le Marchant Estate.
- Robert originally enlisted (at Nottingham) in Sept. 1914 - one of the first to answer the country's call - into the 14<sup>th</sup> Battalion but later transferred into the 12<sup>th</sup> Battalion and finally the 22<sup>nd</sup> (Service) Battalion (Kensington) Royal Fusiliers (London Regiment) (Sir Edward Le Marchant's regiment). The 22<sup>nd</sup> Battalion was formed in Sept. 1914 at White City London by the Mayor/Borough of Kensington. In 1915 it moved to Clipstone Camp, Mansfield to join the 99<sup>th</sup> Brigade of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Division. It was mobilised for war in November 1915, landing in Boulogne, France.
- The Battalion was engaged in several actions on the Western Front. 1915 – Battle of Festubert (15<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> May), the Battle of Loos (25<sup>th</sup> Sept. – 8<sup>th</sup> Oct.). 1916 – the Battles of Delville Wood (14<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> July) and of the Ancre (13<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> Nov.), and other actions on the Ancre. 1917 - German retreat to the Hindenburg Line, and during 2<sup>nd</sup> Battle of Arras (9<sup>th</sup> April – 16<sup>th</sup> May 1917), Battles of the Scarpe (9<sup>th</sup> April – 4<sup>th</sup> May), and of Arleux (28<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> April).
- Private Robert Rogerson was gazetted in the *London Gazette* on 21<sup>st</sup> October 1916 for the award of the Military Medal for “Bravery in the Field”. He was killed in action on 29<sup>th</sup> April 1917 (aged 31).
- Lance-Serjeant Robert Rogerson's name is on Bay 3, Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France, commemorating servicemen from the UK South Africa and New Zealand who died in the Arras sector but have no known grave.



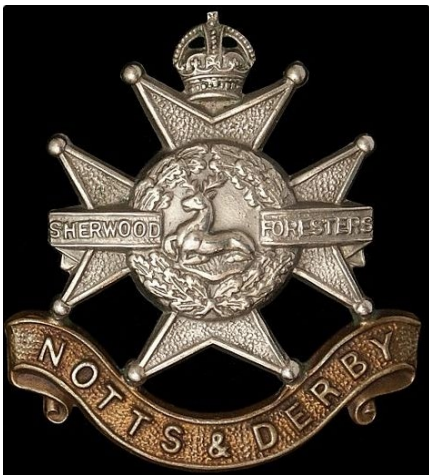
 L/Sgt Roger   
**ROBERTSON MM**  
 G/1556  
 22<sup>nd</sup> Battalion  
 Royal Fusiliers  
 Died: 29<sup>th</sup> April 1917

Silent Soldier  
 Location:

Village Hall  
 Colston Bassett

# AMOS SHAW

- Amos Shaw was born in 1896 in Sutton Nottinghamshire. In 1901 aged 5 he was living with his family (parents, 2 brothers and 1 sister) in Granby Nottinghamshire, and in 1911 aged 15 he was in Colston Bassett, boarding at the Martin's Arms public house and working as a Farm Hand on its farm.
- In 1915 Amos enlisted in the 17<sup>th</sup> (Welbeck Rangers) Battalion Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment).
- The 17<sup>th</sup> Battalion was raised in Nottingham on 1<sup>st</sup> June 1915 and embarked for France on 6<sup>th</sup> March 1916 landing at Le Havre. The Battalion first engaged the enemy in the Battle of the Boar's Head (30<sup>th</sup> June 1916) an attack near Richebourg l'Avoue suffering heavy casualties. The 17<sup>th</sup> saw further action during the Somme offensive (1<sup>st</sup> July – 18<sup>th</sup> November 1916) including fighting in the Battle of Guillemont (3<sup>rd</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1916).
- Amos Shaw was killed in action on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1916 (aged 21).
- Private Amos Shaw has no known grave and is commemorated on the Pier & on Faces 10C, 10D and 11A of the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France (known as the Memorial to the Missing of the Somme).



🌸 Pte. Amos 🌸  
SHAW  
32217  
17<sup>th</sup> Battalion  
Sherwood Foresters  
Died: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept. 1916

Silent Soldier  
Location:  
Village Sign  
Harby Lane  
Colston Bassett

# **BENJAMIN SHEPPARD**

- Benjamin Sheppard was born in March 1899 in Quadering Lincolnshire; in 1901 aged 2 he was living with his family (parents, 3 brothers and 5 sisters) in Melton Rd. Asfordby. In 1911 aged 12 he and his family were living in Colston Bassett with Benjamin attending the village school.
- Benjamin enlisted (at Mansfield) in the 2/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion (Territorial) Lincolnshire Regiment.
- The 2/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion was formed at Grimsby on 6<sup>th</sup> February 1915; it was part of the 177<sup>th</sup> Brigade, 59<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> North Midland) Division, which was first sent to Dublin, Ireland and was engaged in fierce fighting against Irish nationalist forces. They returned to England and embarked for France in February 1917, entering the front line south of the Somme, where they engaged the enemy as the Germans retreated to the Hindenburg Line (April 1917). Actions followed at the Battle of the Menin Road Ridge (20<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1917), the Battle of Polygon Wood (26<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1917), the capture of Broulon Wood (28<sup>th</sup> Nov. – 4<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1917) and at the Battle of Bailleul (13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> April 1918).
- Benjamin Sheppard received gas shell wounds and died on 15<sup>th</sup> April 1918 (aged 19).
- Private Benjamin Sheppard is buried in Grave I.B.10, Mont Noir Military Cemetery, Saint Jans-Cappel, Dept. du Nord, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France.



🌸 Pte. Benjamin 🌸  
SHEPHERD  
53229  
2/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion  
Lincolnshire Regiment  
Died: 15<sup>th</sup> April 1918

Silent Soldier  
Location:  
Colston Bassett School  
School Lane  
Colston Bassett



# JOHN ALFRED WAGSTAFF

- John Wagstaff was born in 1884 in Colston Bassett. In 1891 aged 7 his family (parents and 2 brothers) still lived in Colston Bassett as did John but with his grandfather (Mr. M. Faulks). In 1901 John's family (now with 5 brothers) were living in Manor House Colston Bassett, John aged 17 was living with his grandfather in Bunnison Lane and working as a Joiner's Apprentice. In 1911 aged 27 John had moved to live and work with his uncle (Mr. W. Faulks) as a Cowman on Glebe Farm, Langar. In 1917 John married Mabel Dawn.
- John first enlisted in Sept 1914 (in Nottingham) into the 53<sup>rd</sup> South Nottinghamshire Hussars but was subsequently transferred to the 1/1<sup>st</sup> (Queens Own) Dorset Yeomanry, which in Sept. 1914 became part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> South Midland Mounted Brigade, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mounted Division.
- In 1915 the Brigade was deployed to Egypt then onwards to take part in the Dardanelles campaign serving as dismounted troops in the Battle of Gallipoli (17<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1915 – 9<sup>th</sup> Jan. 1916) and in particular the Battles of Sari Bair (6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> Aug. 1915) and of Scimitar Hill (21<sup>st</sup> Aug 1915). After evacuating from Gallipoli to Egypt they joined the 6<sup>th</sup> Mounted Brigade involved in the Action of Agagia (26<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1916), attacking with drawn swords across open ground. In Feb. 1917, they joined the Imperial Mounted Division and took part in the 1<sup>st</sup> (26<sup>th</sup> Mar.) and 2<sup>nd</sup> (17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> April) Battles of Gaza, transferring (June 1917) to the Yeomanry Mounted Division for the Battle of Beersheba (31<sup>st</sup> Oct.), 3<sup>rd</sup> Battle of Gaza (1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov.), and Battles of Mughar Ridge (13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> Nov.), Nebi Samwil (17<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> Nov.) and Jerusalem (17<sup>th</sup> Nov. – 20<sup>th</sup> Dec.)
- John Wagstaff died of disease on 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct. 1918 (aged 34).
- Serjeant John Alfred Wagstaff is buried in Grave B.90, Damascus Commonwealth War Cemetery, Syria.



13

Sgt. John Alfred  
WAGSTAFF  
281928  
1/1<sup>st</sup> Dorset Yeomanry  
(Queens Own)  
Died: 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct. 1918

Silent Soldier  
Location:  
Manor Farm  
Colston Bassett



# **GEORGE EDWIN MAYLOR WESTMAN**

- George Edwin Maylor Westman (usually known as Edwin) was born in 1885 in Colston Bassett. In 1891 Edwin aged 5 was living with his family (parents, 1 brother and 3 sisters) in Hall Lane where his father was a Coachman/Groom. In 1901 aged 15 he had moved to Freeland Lodge in Eynsham, Witney Oxfordshire working as a Hall Boy (Domestic). By 1911 aged 25 he had returned to live with his family in Colston Bassett and was working as a Poultry Farmer. Edwin was married to Ada Tarry in 1915.
- Edwin joined “A” Battery of the 176<sup>th</sup> Leicester (Howitzer) Brigade Royal Field Artillery after it was formed on 7<sup>th</sup> June 1915.
- The 176<sup>th</sup> Brigade RFA was one of 4 RFA Brigades in the 34<sup>th</sup> Division which went to France on 88<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> January 1916 and saw action in the Battle of the Somme (1<sup>st</sup> July - 18<sup>th</sup> November 1916) and in particular: the Battle of Albert (1<sup>st</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> July) including the capture of the Scots and Sausage Redoubts, the Battle of Bazentin Ridge (14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> July), and the Battle of Pozieres Ridge (23<sup>rd</sup> July – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept. 1916).
- Edwin Westman was killed in action on 17<sup>th</sup> August 1916 (aged 30).
- Gunner George Edwin Maylor Westman is commemorated on Special Memorial 4. Peake Wood Cemetery, Fricort, Somme, France. He is also commemorated on the headstone of his parents’ grave (James and Sarah Westman) in the graveyard at St. Mary’s Church.



Gunner Edwin  
WESTMAN  
L/7840  
“A” Bty. 176<sup>th</sup> Brigade  
Royal Field Artillery  
Died: 17<sup>th</sup> Aug. 1916

Silent Soldier  
Location:  
The Lodge  
Hall Grounds  
Colston Bassett