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| DUESBURY, Harry. Leslie | Lance Corporal | 39277 | 02/03/1919 | 26 | The Loyal North Lancashire Regiment United Kingdom | | HERTFORD (ALL SAINTS) CHURCHYARD |
| <p>Harry was born 30th Oct 1892 in Cambridshire. He was the son of Harry Dexter Duesbury and Agnes Duesbury and attended Hertford Grammar School from 1903-1905.</p> <p>In 1915 he lived at 47 Fore St, Hertford and was employed as a gas works manager. He married Dorothy Jackson 29 (1888-1968) in Nov 1913 in Wandsworth and had one son, Basil b 1914.</p> <p>According to Kelly's directory his father was secretary and manager to the Hertford Gas Light Co Sunnyside, Gashouse Lane in1912 and was still there 1926. They had a telephone with the number, Hertford 6!</p> <p>He enrolled into army reserve on 8th Dec 1915 and was mobilized on the 22nd Jan 1917. On the 27th Jan he passed his lorry driver's test. Attendance was not a strong point! On the 24th April 1917 he was deducted 7 days pay for being awol for 3 days. On the 12th Sept 1917 he was deducted a further 2 days pay for the same reason. He embarked for India on 9th Oct 1917, arriving in Bombay 4th Dec 1917, and Bangalore three days later on the 7th of Dec. He was appointed Lance Corporal 2nd class signaller whilst there. He returned to England on the 18th Jan 1919.</p> <p>He died whilst on demob furlough of influenza/ bronchio-pneunonia at Sunnyside, Gashouse Lane (Mead Lane) 2nd Mar1919.</p> <p>His medals were sent to 47 Fore St at end of 1919.</p> <p>In his will he left £106 8s to his wife.</p> <p>On the grave surround are the names;</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Harry Dexter Duesbury died 26 March 1958 aged 90;</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Also his son (Harry Leslie's), Basil died in Burma 27 March 1945;</p> <p style="text-align: center;">And Agnes Duesbury died 15 April 1957 aged 89</p> | | | | | | | |



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| FITZJOHN, ERIC GEORGE | Leading Seaman | 231743 | 18/02/1919 | 32 | Royal Navy H.M.S. Commonwealth United Kingdom | In North- East quarter | HERTFORD (ALL SAINTS) CHURCHYARD |
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Eric was born on the 9th of Nov1886, the son of Joseph John and Ellen (née Day), Fitzjohn of 93, Star St., Ware.

He was baptized 3rd Aug 1887.

In 1891 he was living at 83b St Andrew St. His father was a carman. He had two elder brothers, Joseph 9 and Arthur 7, an elder sister, Emily, 5 and a younger brother, Leonard,1. He was known as Felix in the census.

In 1901 he was living at 22 Bircherly St Hertford. Joseph and Arthur were no longer living at home and he had another younger brother William 7. The father was a general labourer in Hertingfordbury and his sister was a sorter. His mother is not mentioned. I think she died in 1898.

In 1911 he was at sea on board HMS Triumph.

He died from disease in1919 in the naval hospital at Invergordon.
On his grave are the words;

“also Joseph July 10th 1915,
William Sept 27 1918.
Killed in action”

His father died in Ware in 1933.
Hertfordshire Record 1/3/19

Leading Seaman Eric George Fitzjohn who died at the Naval Hospital Invergordon on the 18th ult was buried with military honours in All Saints' churchyard on Monday last. The bier was drawn by a party of naval bearers from his sister's (Mrs Graves) home in Bircherley St and a firing party was provided by the Grammar School OTC, and the Last Post was sounded by their buglers. This is the third brother lost by Mrs Graves during the war. Joseph of the Beds reg and William Frederic RFA, both falling in action. Mrs Graves herself is a widow with five young children and much sympathy is felt for her hard case . the deceased had been for 14½ years in the navy serving latterly on HMS Commonwealth.



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| GRAY, HORACE | Sapper | 551000 | 04/04/1917 | 37 | Royal Engineers 525th Field Coy. United Kingdom | 2nd Quarter, 1st Row 4th Grave. | HERTFORD (ALL SAINTS) CHURCHYARD |
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Horace was born in 1880. His parents were William (39) builder, and Sarah Ann Gray (38).

In 1881 he had one elder brother George (19) assistant builder, and four elder sisters; Lizzie (14), Alice (8), Kate (5) and Mabel (30).

By 1901 Horace was a carpenter/ joiner living at 4 New Zealand cottages, Hertford Heath. He was living by himself.

By 1911 he was now 31 and living at 73 Bengoe St. He had married Annie Eliza Gray (née Ruffles) (33) 2Q 1901 and they had one son, Horace William, born 1902. He was now a building contractor.

He was a member of Hertford Town Council for 4 or 5 years prior to the outbreak of the War. He enlisted into the Royal Engineers at Chelsea. They lived at Roslyn Villa Ware rd. He died at Richmond hospital on the 4th Apr 1917 following, an explosion of high explosives at a Munitions Works in Hatfield on the 4th April 1917, aged 37. In his will he left £2818/13/7 to his wife.

Mercury obituary 14 April 1917:-
We deeply regret to announce the death of Councillor H Gray of Bengoe who lost his life last week as a result of an explosion of high explosives which were being experimented with in the course of his duties as a member of the Royal Engineers in England. Details of the accident are not available but at the inquest the coroner said that the fireman who went into the burning shed to rescue the deceased deserved the Victoria Cross. Mr Gray, who was the son of the late Mr William Gray, was 37 years of age and had been a Town Councillor for the Bengoe ward for the past 4 or 5 years. He had been engaged in business as a builder and contractor for some years, but when the war broke out he was at once eager to take his part in his country's service. For some time his business engagements prevented him from joining the colours, but eventually he got into the Royal Engineers and has been training in the local area for some twelve months. Mr Gray was a man of somewhat reserved disposition but in all his dealings he was looked upon as trustworthy and honourable. In the public discussions at the Town Council meetings he did not take a prominent part but his practical knowledge as a builder and surveyor stood him in good stead at committee meetings. In his youth Mr Gray was an excellent athlete. He leaves a widow and one son.

The funeral took place at All Saints Hertford on Tuesday afternoon with full military honours. An escort, firing party, bugler and bearers were provided locally. The mayor and corporation in state attended to pay a last tribute to their deceased colleague and an officer from the Royal Engineers represented the deceased's regiment. The service was conducted by the Rev C W Barclay, vicar of Little Amwell. He was buried beside his father.

On grave surround are the words;

"for King and Empire"
 "in treasured and unfading memory of
 William Horace Gray, son of the above, Jan 10 1952"
 "and a dear wife and mother, Annie E Gray March 20 1963 aged 87"
 "Reunited"

On his grave are the words "Forever in our thoughts from his loving sisters"

His obituary appeared in the Hertford Mercury on 8 Jan 21. A summary of it is as follows.

He joined the Herts Territorials and was soon transferred to a cycle corps and then to the East Surreys. He was injured at Albert; the lower part of his face was blown off by shell fire. He sustained nearly 20 operations over the next two years. He died in his sleep on the 26 Dec 1920. His cheery, warm hearted manner endeared him to all and he will be greatly missed at the hospital.

According to the funeral notice in the same edition of the newspaper the first part of the funeral service was held at St Joseph's, from which the cortege made its way to the churchyard. The coffin draped in a Union Jack was carried on a gun carriage with six black horses and preceded by a firing party of 14 men. The priest implored his hearers to attend church and try to lead good Christian lives. There were many in Hertford who did not practise that! (he said) There were three volleys from the firing party and the last post was played. Amongst the mourners were his sisters; Mrs Reed, Mrs Graves, Mrs Brown, Mrs Cook and Mrs Murphy. (compare with the names in the 1901 census)



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| MILES, WALTER | Private | 42511 | 12/11/1918 | 26 | Royal Scots 16th Bn. transf. to (475511) Clearing Office Labour Corps | On East boundary. | HERTFORD (ALL SAINTS) CHURCHYARD |
| <p>In the 1891 census, before Walter's birth, the family lived at 24G West Street, and there was a son John aged 14 (if accurate then he must have been Ellen's step son as she would only have been 11 when he was born)</p> <p>Walter was born in the 4th Q of 1892</p> <p>He was baptised on Dec 11. According to the Parish register the family was living at 28 the Folly</p> <p>In 1901 he lived at 39 Castle Street son of George and Ellen Miles. His father was a foreman in a warehouse</p> <p>In 1911 he lived at 93 Somerset Terrace, West Street, Hertford. Walter was a labourer in a leather factory.</p> <p>Recorded on his gravestone are the names of his parents; George Miles, died Jan 20 1927 aged 70 and Ellen Miles, died 20 Dec 1936 aged 70</p> <p>The death notice in the Herts Mercury, Nov 1918, is summarised as follows;</p> <p>Walter Miles died 12 Nov at Napsbury Hospital. St Albans, after a long and painful illness. The youngest and beloved son of Mr and Mrs G Miles, aged 26;</p> <p>Only a mother knows the sorrow,</p> <p>Only a mother knows the pain</p> <p>To know she has lost her darling son,</p> <p>She will never on earth see again.</p> <p>From his mother and father and only brother and sister in law, and fiancée (Miss D Lawrence)</p> | | | | | | | |



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|---------------------------|---------|-------|------------|----|---|--|
| PARCELL, Sidney | Private | 45637 | 28/02/1919 | 25 | Training Reserve 81st Bn. transf. to (427807) 693rd Coy. Labour Corps | HERTFORD (ALL SAINTS) CHURCHYARD |
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Sidney was born in Hertford in 1894, the son of William and Susan Parcell.

In 1901 he was 7 and lived at 6 Port Vale. He had a younger brother Reginald (5). His father (54) was a jobbing gardener, his mother (34) worked in a dairy (dairy business). The boys were at school.

In 1911 he still lived at the same address. He was a business assistant as was Reginald.

Obituary, Hertfordshire Record, 1 Mar 1919.

The news that Mr S Parcell of Bengoe Farm had succumbed to pneumonia in the early hours of last Sunday came as a shock to the Bengoe community during the day. Mr Parcell was only 25 and had taken the farm over from the late tenant Mr E W Salmon about a year ago. He was very favourably known for his quiet industrious way and the greatest sympathy is felt for his young widow who is a native of Scotland. The deceased had done about 2 years service in a Labour battalion and the circumstances attending his demobilisation went far to hasten his untimely end. He attended at Bedford, on Sat 8th ult, to get his discharge papers and was obliged to pass the night in a draughty shed, lying on a concrete floor. He had leave to return for his urgent farm work duties next morning, but the night was the coldest of the year, and he returned partially frost bitten and much indisposed otherwise. On struggling on for a week he was forced to lie up, and the sad sequel came on Sunday. His brother Lieut. Reginald Parcell, RFA was recently home on leave, and the two brothers travelled together to Hatfield, one on his return journey to Cologne, the other to be demobilised at Bedford. Great sympathy is also felt for his parents Mr and Mrs S Parcell, Port Vale dairy. The funeral (private) of the deceased took place at All Saints churchyard yesterday, (Friday), afternoon.

Funeral announcement, Hertfordshire Record, 8 Mar 1919.

The Rev L Maclulich, curate of All Saints, took the service. There were many beautiful wreaths with expressions of deepest sympathy from, among others, the deceased's wife, his mother and father and his brother, Port Vale employees and many friends, a few friends in Bengoe, customers of Port Vale and George Street, Mr and Mrs Ranson, Mr and Mrs P Hoare and Stafford.

His will states. "Sidney of Bengoe Farm Bengoe, a private of 693rd Agricultural Coy. Labour Corps died 23rd Feb 1919, Administration London 29th April to Isabella Duncan Parcell, widow. Effects £793/17/5.

No 6 was still a dairy in 1943 (Kelly's Directory).

RFA = Royal Fleet Auxiliary.



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| PRIOR, FREDERICK WILLIAM | Air Mechanic 1st Class | 34976 | 06/11/1918 | 35 | Royal Air Force 32nd Training Depot Station | On East boundary. | HERTFORD (ALL SAINTS) CHURCHYARD |
| <p>Frederick was born in 1883 He was the son of Frederick Thomas and Annie Prior of Hertford; he had a younger sister Dorothy.</p> <p>In 1901 he lived at 6 Tamworth St. He was a carpenter's apprentice (aged 18). His father was 45 and his mother was 51, Dorothy was 9.</p> <p>In 1911 he lived in Horeham Road, Waldron, Sussex as a boarder. He was a joiner.</p> <p>He married Frances Alice Prior (née Clapham), of "Ivanhoe," Horeham Rd., Sussex in 1912.</p> <p>Frederick was an Air Mechanic, 1st Class, at the 32nd training depot station, of the RAF.</p> <p>He died of pneumonia at the Dundee War Hospital, Scotland, on the 6th November 1918, aged 35.</p> <p>His will contains the following " FW Prior of Horeham Road Waldron Sussex died at Dundee war hospital. Administration Lewes. To Frances Alice, widow ,effects £239/18s"</p> | | | | | | | |

showed a small piece of shrapnel lying in the axilla.

There was considerable haemorrhage from the graphial artery..was tied at the middle by Major Carline and the piece removed.

Very considerable haemorrhage occurred from the wound and an exploratory operation showed a small wound in the brachial artery below the point at which it had been ..It was tied. Later on in the evening severe haemorrhage occurred and after unsuccessful search to find the bleed...was amputated at the shoulder. The patient was very collapsed on the early morning..."

The regimental diary contains the following

"22-11-14 to 21-12-14. Bn remained at METEREN refitting and training, [Comment; 29-11-14. Private 2598 Walter George WALKER of Hertford dies in England from his wounds today]"

Hertford Mercury, obituary

Walter George Walker was buried with full military honours on Thursday in the presence of many thousands of spectators. The procession made its way from the deceased home in West Street to the church, the band playing Beethoven's Marche Funèbre and Handel's The dead march in Saul. The coffin draped in a Union Jack was carried on a gun carriage drawn by black horses and preceded by a firing party of 14 men. The deceased's cap and belt were placed on the coffin with a beautiful floral cross. The Rev C S Ramsford conducted the service and the congregation sang the hymn "Days and moments quickly flying" three volleys were fired over the grave and the Last Post was played.

This was the largest military funeral seen in years in Hertford and probably the first time a man who has died of wounds received in battle being interred in Hertford.



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| WATERS, WILLIAM | Private 2nd Class | 262908 | 16/09/1918 | 39 | Royal Air Force No. 1 School of Aeronautics | In North- West corner. | HERTFORD (ALL SAINTS) CHURCHYARD |
| <p>Not much information about William other than he served in the South African War and in Egypt.</p> <p>He married Florence Helene (Newman)Waters, 1st Q 1915 in Hertford.</p> <p>They lived at 17, Ash St., Ware Rd., Hertford.</p> <p>On his grave “also Stanley John Waters died 18th September 1918 Age 5 months.</p> <p>“Thy will be done”</p> | | | | | | | |