



# Cotgrave Remembers 1914 to 1918

**JOHN CARRINGTON, ARTHUR HARRISON, JOHN HAYES, SYDNEY HENSON,  
WALTER HENSTOCK, WILLIAM HERAPATH, JOSEPH HIND, SAMUEL LACEY,  
HERBERT MARSHALL, CECIL MOULDS, GEORGE MIDDLETON, ERNEST REEVE,  
ARTHUR SIMPSON, FRANCES WOOLLEY**

**On 4 August 1914 at 11 pm Great Britain declared War on Germany. That War was to last for more than 4 years, claimed the lives of 700,000 British servicemen and leave 2 million more with severe injuries. None of those who fought in the war remain alive today but their memory lives on through memorials in almost every City, Town and Village in the Country.**

## COTGRAVE WAR MEMORIAL UNVEILED

**Grantham Journal 3 July 1920**

'Despite the unfavourable weather there was a large assembly at Cotgrave cemetery on Sunday night to witness the unveiling of a monument erected by the inhabitants of the village to the memory of the men of the parish who fell in the great war.

The memorial is a beautiful piece of work in Stonecliffe stone and has three arches leading to a bronze tablet bearing the names of the twelve men who made the supreme sacrifice. At the head of the pillar is a cross bearing a wreath and sword of bronze.

The monument was designed by Colonel A W Brewill and has cost £240. The amount was raised by parish subscription.

Addresses were given by Revs T P Dale, W Jones and J P Hales Rector of the Parish, who served with the forces in France during the whole of the War, he took his text from Ecclesiastics "their name shall live forever".

**He said that he felt convinced that the inhabitants would never forget the debt they owed to their local soldiers who died in order that they themselves might pursue the even tenor of their way.**

**The memorial should bring two great thoughts home to them 'unselfishness' and 'unity', and it was a fine thing to see three clergymen of different denominations sinking their differences and standing there united in Christ's work.**

**He hoped that the parents of the coming generation would show their children the monument and explain what it stood for to them.**

The Comrades of the Great War band played selections before the service and accompanied the singing of the massed choirs. The 'Last Post' was sounded by buglers Mills and Job of the Sherwood Foresters. A number of wreaths were placed on the memorial during the service.



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## Colston Bassett, Owthorpe & Cotgrave

### GREAT WAR PROJECT

CBOC Great War Project was set up in 2014 to research, record and display the short lives of those named on the memorials of Colston Bassett, Owthorpe and Cotgrave (CBOC) as having died as a result of the Great War 1914 - 1918. The project intends to provide a lasting memory of those who gave their lives by presenting them as individuals and not simply as names on memorials.

This Commemorative Edition of Cotgrave Connections contains the details of the 14 young men who fought and died: John Carrington, Arthur Harrison, John Hayes, Sydney Henson, Walter Henstock, William Herapath, Joseph Hind, Samuel Lacey, Herbert Marshall, George Middleton, Cecil Moulds, Ernest Reeve, Arthur Simpson and Francis Woolley. The average age of these 14 men at the time of their death was 24, the youngest being 17 years old and the eldest 34. While 13 died on the Western Front, one, Arthur Harrison died in Italy. 3 have graves in Cotgrave All Saints Church Cemetery, 4 have graves on the Western Front and 7 have 'no known grave' but are commemorated on Memorials in France and Belgium.

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information in this Commemorative Edition it is inevitable that mistakes will have been made. Those able to help improve the accuracy or provide additional information should contact Cotgrave Town Council. The results of the research are summarised on the following pages and can be seen in greater detail on the web site [www.CBOCGWP.co.uk](http://www.CBOCGWP.co.uk).

## MEMORIAL WINDOW IN ALL SAINTS CHURCH

### HEROES HONOURED AT COTGRAVE

*Nottingham Evening Post*  
*Monday July 20<sup>th</sup> 1920*

'In the presence of a large congregation at Cotgrave Parish Church yesterday Rev J P Hales (Rector) dedicated the 3 light east window in memory of those who served in the Great War.

The window which was subscribed for by the parishioners depicts the crucifixion with the figures of St Mary and St John the Evangelist on either side, and with angels holding shields and scrolls in the tracery. The window lends itself admirably to the subject chosen, is full of interest and is richly coloured. The inscription on a scroll across the base of the window reads – "To the glory of God and the honour of all those from the parish who served in the war, 1914-1918." The window was designed and the work carried out by Messrs G F Gascoyne and Son, Nottingham.'



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## ROLL OF HONOUR

The Roll of Honour on the North wall of All Saints Church in Cotgrave lists the names of the 14 soldiers who gave their lives in the war 1914 to 1919. The Roll also lists the names of those who 'Served' during the war and survived. Many of the surnames are shared by both lists showing the commitment that Cotgrave families had to repelling the German threat.

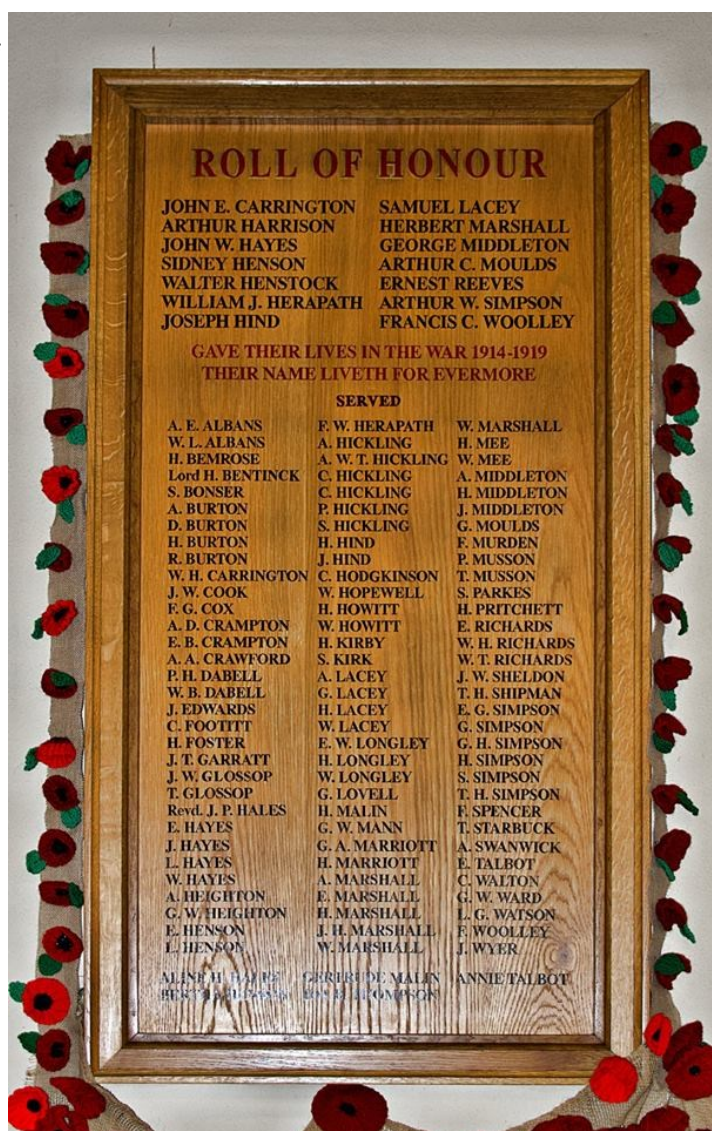
The names on those who 'served' are from all walks of life from Lords to farm labourers. The Roll includes both men and women. Three examples are:



Lord Henry (Cavendish) Bentinck was the Member of Parliament for Nottingham South during the first World War. "He was a man of outstanding character with a handsome presence and remarkable learning. This he combined with a charm and simplicity of character which made him loved by all."

Reverend John Percy Hales was the Rector of All Saints during the War. He was also the chaplain to 8th Battalion The Sherwood Foresters and accompanied them to the Western Front in 1915. He was twice Mentioned in Despatches and was awarded the Distinguished Service Order before, we believe, he became a prisoner of war in 1918. He often sent post cards to his wife Margaret, son George and daughters Aline and Helen back at the Rectory in Cotgrave. Aline is also one of the names on the Roll of Honour of those who 'served' probably for her work in the Red Cross. John Percy continued in the church after the war being awarded an OBE and finishing his career as Archdeacon of Newark.

Hayes is a name that appears 5 times on the Roll of Honour, all are from the same family which lived at 8 Gripps Cottages on the Owthorpe Road. John William lost his life fighting with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion The Sherwood Foresters in September 1916 but his younger brother Ernest was luckier. Ernest enlisted into the Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry in 1916 and served throughout the War reaching the rank of Corporal. He won his first Military Medal in 1918 on the Western Front another in 1919 and yet another in 1920. Very few soldiers managed to win 3 Military Medals.



Photograph courtesy of Russ Hamer

## COTGRAVE in 1914

What sort of place was Cotgrave in 1914 at the beginning of the First World War? No-one living then is alive today, so we must rely on written records such as Census Returns, Parish Records, Trade Directories and Military Records to provide the details of names, marital status, housing, occupation etc. Some of these sources are inaccurate or incomplete, but taken together, they do allow us to gain a general idea.

The population of the village at that time was about 650 (compared to over 7000 today) and was significantly smaller than it had been at the end of the previous century. This downward trend was a result of the movement of people from the countryside into larger towns and cities – following the industrial revolution. In Cotgrave's case it represented a move from a lace and stocking industry based on a small-scale village workforce to a factory-based activity in the City of Nottingham. However in 1914 there were still thirteen Cotgrave people involved with the lace trade.

By far the dominant source of employment was, of course, farming. Roughly 80% of the male population was engaged in some aspect of agriculture at that time. In Cotgrave there were fifteen farmers and just over ninety farmworkers; the numbers having changed little over the previous 50 years. These were largely 'tenant farmers' on land almost entirely owned by the Manvers family. (This remained the case until the extensive Manvers Sale in 1941). At least 7 of the 14 names on the War Memorial were employed on the land as Labourers, Ploughmen, Horsemen, Carriers and even one gardener at Cotgrave Place (Now the Nottinghamshire Golf and Country Club).

Francis James the owner of Cotgrave Place was well off and able to support an extensive household. Several of the tenants on the larger farms were in a similar position, as was the Rector, who owned 550 acres which had been awarded by the Cotgrave Enclosure Act of 1790. Thus, the Rector was a relatively wealthy man and the incumbent in 1914, John Percy Hales, living in the Old Rectory (in Rectory Lane) ran a household supported by no less than six servants. But we can only guess at the living standards of the average farm worker – it must have been much closer to subsistence.



Typical Cotgrave households lived in small cottages such as those at the Shepherds (where the pub is today), those beside Main Road and in Chapel Yard (near the present Methodist Church) and at the Gripps (some way up the Owthorpe Road). Herbert Marshall lived at No 3 Gripps Cottages, John Hayes at No 8, Joseph Hind at number 10, and George Middleton at No 13. On leaving the Regular Army 10 years before 1914 Samuel Lacey moved back to live with his parents at 6 Gripps Cottages.

### Gripps Cottages.

There were 16 of these cottages at the Gripps which were probably built around the turn of the century. They were built roughly where the Diamond pub used to be. They pumped water from the well outside and had about three toilets to serve all the residents. Nevertheless, they had 4 rooms, one more room than the cottages in Chapel Yard.

Census records suggest that at the beginning of the nineteenth century the average village household contain something like seven members, 10 years later this had dropped to four. However, averages can be misleading.

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In several cases, houses in Chapel Yard and Gripps Cottages were occupied by up to 10 people, ten people in only three or four rooms! Clearly, the less well-off were struggling to survive in over-crowded conditions. Little wonder that some young men were only too happy to volunteer for military service, even before war broke out, and girls went into 'service'.

As well as farming there were various provision merchants, such as butchers, bakers, grocers and a small number of self-employed workers such as plumbers, decorators and gardeners. These latter were relatively new occupations, suggesting that people in general had sufficient money to pay a professional rather than being obliged to do the work themselves. Not so for those living in the Chapel Yard or Gripps Cottages. There was no longer a miller in Cotgrave and the brickyard just off Owthorpe Road had also been abandoned. There was no Post Office, and letters were handled by a couple, Walter and Winifred White, he being a Plumber and Painter, she being a Grocer. Letters from the Western Front appear to have been handled fairly swiftly and there was a telegraph service as new technology had, eventually, penetrated even the wilds of the country!

Further evidence of the spread of technology is various references to Engine Drivers and Engine Cleaners, in one instance to a Traction Engine Driver. It is well known that steam power was making inroads into agriculture, particularly with regard to ploughing and harrowing but was that what these 'Engines' were for? They could well refer to the railways which, by this time, had distributed their tracks widely about Nottingham, the nearest station to Cotgrave being Plumtree from where our 14 would have left to go to war. Nevertheless it was clear that horse power still played an important part in village life and there were several 'Horsemen' and four 'Blacksmiths' listed among Cotgrave's workforce. The Grantham Canal was still very much alive in 1914 and one individual referred to himself as a 'Canal Labourer'.

A 'Hospital Nurse' and a 'Maternity Nurse' lived in Cotgrave at that time. Although we cannot be sure that the Maternity Nurse worked locally, she too may have worked in a hospital, the implication is that there was an increasing provision of 'care' on an official basis. It is significant that a number of old Cotgrave residents claimed to be living on pensions and one or two younger people living on 'Parish Relief'.

One apparent oddity is the number of people working as 'Bootmakers' – no less than six! Did farm workers really wear out their boots as rapidly as this suggests? There were also three 'Tailors' which, at first sight, would seem rather a lot if they supplied only Cotgrave's population - but supposing most men owned a Sunday suit, made by a local craftsman, the number doesn't seem unduly generous. Similar remarks apply to the female equivalent; seamstress.

Most of our 14 names would have attended the local Cotgrave school opened in 1863 (Today the Church of England Primary School) which looked after ninety-four pupils, with no less than six school teachers, including one music teacher. In its earlier years the school had also contained the village library. There was more than adequate provision for the education of Cotgrave's young people.

Finally in addition to the long-established All Saints Church, there were two Methodist Chapels in Cotgrave, the Bingham Road establishment opened in the early 1900s, together with a Primitive Methodist Chapel, opened in 1852. This latter was situated at the end of Church Lane, close to All Saints. It is clear that church attendance was remarkably high during the nineteenth century and probably remained so up to the beginning of the First World War - the churches really were a very centre of village communal life so precious to our brave soldiers.



## INDIVIDUAL STORIES

To relate the individual stories of the 14 soldiers would take up more pages than are available in this magazine. Rather than provide an inadequate summary of each individual there follows, firstly the detailed story of Guardsman Samuel Lacey, the first of the 14 to lose his life and secondly a less detailed account of the other 13 soldiers. This is not in any way intended to denigrate or prioritise the contribution of these men but to allow readers to learn more about life in those times, in the space available.



### **GUARDSMEN SAMUEL LACEY - Died 26 October 1914 during the first Battle of Ypres aged 34**

The story of Samuel Lacey starts in the Autumn of 1890 when, at one of the cottages in Chapel Yard, close to the old Methodist Hall in Cotgrave, Emma Lacey gave birth to her 5th child, a boy who was to be known as Samuel.

Samuel's father Henry, who originated from Shelford, initially worked as an agricultural labourer and later as a roadman for the local Council. Emma, his mother had been born and raised in Cotgrave.

Ten years after Samuel's birth he had grown into a dark haired boy with brown eyes. He went to school, almost certainly at the school funded by Lord Manvers, now the Church of England School close to the church in Cotgrave. By this time his family expanded by younger sisters Elizabeth, Alice, May and Sarah, the younger brothers William and Thomas. With 2 adults and 13 children the little 3 room cottage in Chapel Yard would have been overcrowded had not Samuel's 3 elder teenage brothers, Arthur, Harry and George, moved out to live elsewhere. Arthur his eldest brother had joined the Sherwood Foresters, the local Infantry Regiment.

On leaving school Samuel worked as a farm labourer, as did most of the young men in this area at that time. At the age of 18 he decided to try a military career and on 4 September 1907 in Nottingham he followed his brother Arthur into the Sherwood Foresters. It is interesting to note that Samuel declared his age as 18 years and 4 months when he was attested. In fact he was just 17, however being 5 feet 8 inches tall with a girth of 36 inches he probably looked a little older.

After his initial training he was posted to the 1st Battalion on 31 December 1907. However, after just 7 months with the Sherwood Foresters Samuel transferred to the Grenadier Guards where George, another of his brothers was serving. The reason for his transfer is not obvious but Guards did get 1 penny additional pay each day, which was a pay rise of 8%; not to be sniffed at.

It was a military full house for the Lacey boys with George and Samuel in the Grenadier Guards, Arthur in the Sherwood Foresters and Harry, Samuel's third brother serving in the Royal Marines. After 2 years with the Grenadier Guards, Samuel decided a military career was probably not for him and having completed 3 years with the colours, he left the service and moved to the Reserve from which he could be called back to the colours, should the situation dictate.

Samuel moved back to live with his parents in Cotgrave. Henry and Emma had now moved from Chapel Yard to number 6 Gripps Cottages halfway up the Owthorpe Road. There were 16 of these cottages which were probably built around 1905. They were built roughly where the Diamond pub used to be. They pumped water from the well outside and had about three toilets to serve all the residents. Nevertheless, they had 4 rooms, one more room than the cottages in Chapel Yard, which was important for the Laceys as Samuel now had one more sister, Lenna. However by this time four of his sisters, now in their teens, had moved from the family home into service.

In 1912 Samuel met Rosa Blanche Cartledge and they were married at All Saints Church during that year. Rosa was the same age as Samuel and was born in Burton Joyce, although one year before they married she was in service in Skegness. One wonders how they first met.

It is interesting that The Rector at that time, Reverend JP Hales officiated at the marriage. He was later to serve as a Chaplain to the Sherwood Foresters and his name is shown, with that of his daughter, on the Roll of Honour on the South wall of All Saints church, as 'having served'.

During the 2 years after Samuel and Rosa's wedding dark clouds rolled over Europe and on 5 August 1914, the day after Britain declared war on Germany, Samuel was mobilised along with tens of thousands of soldiers on the Reserve. He was mobilised into the 1st Battalion of the Grenadier Guards, the Battalion he had left 4 years earlier.

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Samuel's Battalion trained hard and 2 months later were in Lyndhurst Camp in the New Forest awaiting orders to move across the channel as part of the 7th Division under General Capper. The 7th was the last remaining reserve of Regular troops and was made up from units drawn from all over the Empire. These units had handed over their duties to members of the growing Territorial Force.

Capper's Division sailed on 4 October and disembarked at Zeebrugge on 7 October as planned, but by this time things had changed and the 60,000 strong Belgium Army was now withdrawing from Antwerp which was shortly to fall to a vastly superior German force. As a consequence Capper set off with his 12,000 men, not towards Antwerp, but towards Bruges in order to cover the flank of the withdrawing Belgians. From Bruges the Division moved to Ghent and from Ghent to Ypres arriving on 14 October, 7 days after setting off from Zeebrugge. During that time they had marched over 100 miles.

The first British troops to arrive in the fateful town of Ypres were greeted by the local population as saviours and were fed and watered extremely generously. Samuel would have had no need to use any of his pay, which at that time amounted to a humble 1 Shilling and 1 Penny per day. However their feasting was short lived as news came of major German forces advancing from Antwerp and of a new German Army mobilising further to the north and moving into Belgium.

On Sunday 18 October The Gordon Highlanders, The Border Regiment, The 2nd Battalion of the Scots Guards and Samuel's 1st Battalion of the Grenadier Guards, all Battalions of 20 Brigade, were ordered to advance from Ypres and capture Menin on the Belgium/French border 12 miles away. There was a sense of excitement as the infantry soldiers geared up for action and the following morning they advanced against only light resistance which was easily dealt with.

However they never got to Menin as the enemy were in far greater numbers than expected and were fully prepared to counter the offensive. By the end of this, the first day of the First Battle of Ypres, British troops were back where they had started from and had taken a significant number of casualties.

On the second day of the battle it became obvious that the 7th Division was fighting against huge odds and the enemy had the advantage. The previous day's orders to advance were reversed and all battalions were to 'hold the line which would be strongly entrenched'.

For Samuel and his comrades this was an order most difficult to fulfil as they had no heavy spades and many of the lighter implements had been lost in the fighting and there was no wire to be had in Ypres. Nevertheless the day was saved by the arrival of the British First Corps under General Haig which had at last completed its move from the Aisne where it had been replaced by French troops.

For the next 20 days the battle raged around the villages, hills and plains surrounding Ypres. Passchendaele, Hooge, Polygon Wood and Messines were all taken and retaken with enormous casualties on both sides. However, Ypres, which would have provided the Germans with a straight drive to the channel coast and Calais, was never taken.

On 26 October Samuel's Battalion was fighting alongside the Scots Guards and the 1st Battalion of the Staffordshire Regiment close to Kriseke in the face of a massive German attack.

The Germans called out 'retire' in English and caused confusion amongst the British troops. Men of the 1st Staffordshire Regiment retired which enabled the Germans to get in behind the Scots and Grenadiers and to wipe out their forward companies. It may well be that Samuel was killed in this action but we will never know as he has no known grave. His military papers simply say 'Killed in Action 26 October to 8 November 1914'.

Samuel was one of the 25,000 British soldiers killed or missing during the First Battle of Ypres. Two more major battles were fought over the same ground before the war came to an end. By then 54,000 British and Commonwealth soldiers, who had no known grave, died in fighting around Ypres; they are commemorated on the memorial at the Menin Gate in Ypres. One of those 54,000 names is Samuel Lacey.



**Pte. S. Lacey, 1st  
Grenadiers, ex-City  
of Nottm. Police force  
of Cotgrave, killed in  
action October 27.**





### **PRIVATE GEORGE MIDDLETON—Died 13 May 1915 aged 22**

George was born in 1893 in Edmonton, Middlesex to William Middleton from Tollerton and his wife Sarah Ann. When George was born William lived in London where he worked as a Brewers Drayman in Edmonton and then Greengrocer in Chingford.

By 1915 the Middleton family had moved back to Nottinghamshire and lived at 13 Gripps Cottages on Owthorpe Road.

We are currently unsure about George's early life and exactly when and where he was attested into the Army. We believe him to have been a regular soldier serving in the Royal Welsh Fusiliers before 1914.

His Unit, 2nd Battalion Royal Welch Fusiliers returned from India and arrived at Portland just after the outbreak of WW1. George landed in Rouen, France on or about 13 August 1914 where his Battalion was to be employed as Lines of Communications Troops under command of the 19th Independent Brigade attached to 6th Division. The Brigade remained as Lines of Communication Troops until 31 May 1915, one day after George died.

While he was unlikely to have been involved in any particular battle at the time of his death war diaries do show that many casualties occurred at that time due to sniping and shell fire in the area of Armentieres where we believe George was serving. Hence why he is buried in the communal cemetery at Bois Grenier, 3 Kilometres south of the town.



### **GUARDSMAN JOSEPH HIND—Died on 27 September 1915 during the Battle of Loos aged 22**

Joseph was born in Cotgrave in 1894 to George and Jane Hind who originally lived in Breaston, Derbyshire. In about 1890 they moved to Cotgrave to live in Chapel Yard. Later they moved within Cotgrave to 10 Gripps Cottages on the Owthorpe Road where at the age of 17 Joseph lived with 5 of his siblings while working as a Carriers Labourer.

In 1912 at the age of 18 Joseph was attested in Nottingham into the Grenadier Guards. After his basic training at the Guards Depot he joined the 3rd Battalion serving in Wellington barracks on Birdcage Walk. He continued to serve in London until 27th July 1915, when his Battalion moved across the channel as part of the 2nd Guards Brigade of the newly formed Guards Division.

The Guards Division was to form part of the Reserves for the autumn offensive of 1915 on the flat ground near Loos which was dominated by slag heaps and colliery towers held by the German troops. The battle started before there were sufficient stocks of ammunition and heavy artillery and to counter this Chlorine gas was to be used, the first use of poison gas by the British Army.

Five days before the battle started Joseph had set off with his battalion marching from St Omer and covering about 20 miles each night. On the eve of the battle they were about 8 miles from the front line behind the first line of the reserve divisions. That night they moved closer to the front although they were constantly held up by crowded roads and ground sodden by floods, progress was now slow. The battle started at 6.30 am but by noon the forward reserves were still not in place and it wasn't until 8 pm that evening that the Guards Division reached its 'start point' at Noeux les Mines.

That night and the next day the Guards Division moved forward to try to exploit the success on the first day in breaking into the deep enemy positions near Loos and Hulluch. However the reserves had been held too far back to allow the exploitation and the German troops had reorganised and reinforced their defences.

Joseph is remembered at the Loos Memorial from the sides and rear of Dud Corner Cemetery, located in the Pas-de-Calais department of France. The memorial lists 20,610 names of British and Commonwealth soldiers with no known grave and the cemetery contains the graves of 680 soldiers.







## **Lance Corporal WILLIAM JAMES HERAPATH—Died 14 October 1915** **during the Battle of Loos aged 17**

William was born in 1898 in Kensington to James Herapath, a printer compositor, and Rebecca (nee Malin) a Cotgrave Girl. By the time William was 2 his father James had died and Rebecca with her 4 children had moved to Cotgrave to live with her father John Malin and her mother Mary in Mill Town End. William attended the Church school and in 1911 lived with his mother and brother Fredrick in a cottage on Main Road, Cotgrave. After leaving school he became an under gardener at Cotgrave Place (where the Nottinghamshire Golf Club is today).



**William and his brother Fredrick  
at school in Cotgrave circa 1906**

On 19 May 1913 William was attested into the Territorial Force in Cotgrave to serve for 4 years with the 8th Battalion The Sherwood Foresters. His Regimental number of 1822. It is interesting that on the attestation form his age is written as 17 years although we know that he was actually only 15 at that time. Soon after attestation William was discharged for the Territorial Force on medical grounds due to a rupture.

Not to be left behind on 19 November 1914 William was once again attested into the Territorial Force this time at Newark once again to serve for 4 years with the 8th Battalion The Sherwood Foresters. His new Regimental number of 3253. His age was now shown as 18 and his medical inspection showed him to be almost 6 feet tall with a girth of 35 inches.

He was rapidly promoted to Lance Corporal and moved to France arriving in Rouen on 29 June 1915. His battalion, 1/8 The Sherwood Foresters, was deployed to the area of Loos where the autumn 'Big Push' started on 25 September. William was Killed in Action on 14 October 1915 aged 17 although exactly where and when is not known and his body was never found. As with Joseph Hind his name is commemorated on the Loos Memorial.

On a happier note his elder brother Fredrick William whose name appears on the Roll of Honour went to France with the same Battalion as Joseph in 1915. He later joined the Machine Gun Corps, survived the war and died in Nottingham in 1961. Interestingly enough we believe that Fredrick's son William became a prisoner of war in WW2.

## **PRIVATE SIDNEY HENSON— Died 3 September 1916 at the** **Battle of the Somme aged 22**

Sidney was born in Cotgrave in 1894 to George Henson and Fanny Rose Whitby. George was a Farm Labourer and Sidney, together with his brother, Evelyn, worked as Ploughboys. In 1911 George and Fanny Rose were living at Scrimshire Lane, Cotgrave and had 7 children.



Both of Sidney's brothers, Evelyn and Leslie and his sister, Bertha, saw service in WW1 and their names appear on the Roll of Honour in All Saints Church. Bertha married her husband Walter Kirk, at Etaples, France, whilst they were both on active service. No doubt Bertha was a nurse.

Sidney enlisted into the Army in Derby on 11 Dec 1915 at the age of 21 and was immediately put on the Army Reserve. He was mobilised into the Duke of Wellingtons (West Riding) Regiment in March 1916 and after his training moved to 1/7 Battalion in France on 30 July. 1/7 Battalion Duke of Wellingtons were part of the 147 Brigade in the 49<sup>th</sup> Division and fought through the battle of the Somme.

At 4.30 in the morning on 3 September 1916, just 5 months after Sidney had joined the Army, he was in a front position in Thiepval Wood. At 5.10 his Battalion attacked the German positions. The battle raged all day and into the evening with very heavy artillery shells constantly falling on the British. The Battalion casualties for that day were 1 Officer and 15 Other ranks killed and 3 officers and 99 other ranks wounded. Sidney was almost certainly one of those killed.

Sidney's name appears on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme. The memorial bears the names of more than 72,000 officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20 March 1918 and have no known grave. Over 90% of those commemorated died between July and November 1916.



**LANCE SERGEANT JOHN WILLIAM HAYES died 16 September 1916 at the Battle of the Somme aged 30**

Born in 1886 John was the eldest child of Derbyshire born William, a non-domestic gardener, and Sarah a Cotgrave girl. In 1901 he was living with his 6 siblings in 8 Gripps Cottages in Cotgrave and was employed as an agricultural labourer.

By 1911 John had joined the Regular Army in the 1st Battalion of the Sherwood Foresters and was serving with them in India as an Assistant Armourer. In November 1914 the Battalion was sent to France without any chance to adjust to European conditions. As a result the men suffered badly in the first 4 winter months of 'Trench Warfare'. John, by now a Lance Corporal, was no exception and was taken into the 4<sup>th</sup> Stationary Hospital on 6<sup>th</sup> December for one week.

In 1915 the Battalion took part in 2 major battles - Neuve Chappelle and Loos. John was promoted for his bravery under fire but was wounded on 15th May 1915 and returned to England. He convalesced in Sleaford and was returned to his unit shortly afterwards.

By the time the battle of the Somme started on 1 July 1916 John had moved to the 2nd Battalion of the Sherwood Foresters. On 16 September 1916, 5 years after joining the Army and at the age of 30, John, now a Lance Sergeant, was killed during an attack with his battalion near Guillemont, France. He is commemorated at the Thiepval Memorial.



John's younger brother Ernest joined the Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry in 1916 and like his brother fought on the Western Front. Ernest was awarded the Military Medal in 1918 and later 2 bars to the medal. He survived the war and died in Nottingham in 1938. He is buried in Beeston.

**THE THIEPVAL WAR MEMORIAL**

The Thiepval War Memorial bears the names of more than 72,000 officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20 March 1918 and have no known grave. Over 90% of those commemorated died between July and November 1916.





## ARTHUR WALHEAD SIMPSON died 17 September 1916 at the Battle of the Somme aged 19



Arthur, was born in 1897 the son of Thomas and Mary Jane Simpson of Vine Cottage Cotgrave. Prior to his death he had 6 siblings, Daisy, Ethel, Doris, Violet, Edna and Sydney. On 7 November 1914 Arthur enlisted into the 7th Battalion of the Kings Royal Rifle Corps in Nottingham. He enlisted in the same Regiment and on the same day as Ernest Reeve, who is also remembered on the Cotgrave Roll of Honour. Their Army numbers are sequential.



Arthur lived in Vine Cottage next door to the Rose and Crown public house where Ernest was the son of the landlord. Frank Wooley, another of Arthur's friends and also named on the Cotgrave war memorial, enlisted into the Kings Royal Rifle Corps one week later.

Vine Cottage  
Cotgrave  
Nottingham

Dear Sir, Mrs & Mr  
Sept 24 1916  
9.11 a.m.

I regret to say that on the 20<sup>th</sup> inst I received notification from the War Office that my son Arthur W. Simpson No 6578 D. Co. K. R. Corps. had died of wounds received in action on 15<sup>th</sup> inst.

I believe my son was sent to an Officer of D. Co. and therefore should be grateful if you would kindly hand this letter to his ~~late~~ Master and kindly ask him to be good enough to have his "effects" forwarded to me. My son has several pounds due to him as pay, as he drew very little during his 14 months at the front. I shall therefore be grateful to do what you can on my behalf as I am only a Farm Labourer and have a wife & family of little children.

Hoping you will come safely home without a scratch & in good health & strength. Thanking you in anticipation of favourable reply.

Yours Obediently  
Tom Simpson

After some months in UK Arthur deployed with his battalion to France on 3 August 1915. He was a lively soldier and is believed to have been the batman/runner for the Officer Commanding D Company. His liveliness got him into trouble on more than one occasion resulting in fines and even a short period of detention.

On 15 September 1916 Arthur was seriously wounded with multiple gunshots during the battle for Delville Wood. He was evacuated from the battle area and was treated at the 14th Casualty Clearing Station. Whilst being evacuated on No 3 Ambulance train on 17th September 1916, he died from his wounds. He is buried at Etaples.

Arthur's niece, who was also born in Vine Cottage and now (2018) lives in Cotgrave, remembers her mother talking about her uncle. She remembers the story of Arthur's effects being returned to her grandmother after her grandfather wrote the letter, shown opposite, to the MOD.

She continues to cherish the 1914 Christmas box, photograph above, with its message from The Princess Mary.

The letter above, written in outstanding hand writing, is from his Father to the Army in 1916, just 6 days after his son died.





**RIFLEMAN ERNEST REEVE died 5 November 1916 at LeTransloy**  
**aged 21**



The name Ernest Reeve does not appear on the Cotgrave War Memorial but is inscribed on the Role of Honour in All Saints Church as 'Ernest Reeves'. Ernest was born in 1895 the son of Harry and Elizabeth Reeve, the Landlord and Landlady of the Chase Tavern in Saint Annes in Nottingham.

In 1911 at the age of 17 Ernest worked in the hosiery business. He had 6 brothers and sisters. Sometime later his father became publican at the Rose and Crown Inn at Cotgrave and the subsequently the Red Lion at Radcliffe on Trent.

On 7 November 1914 at the age of 20 Ernest enlisted into the Kings Royal Rifle Corps in Nottingham. He enlisted on the same day and at the same time as Arthur Simpson who is remembered on the Cotgrave War Memorial. However after training at the Depot in Winchester they did not go into the same battalion.

After training he moved to the 16<sup>th</sup> Battalion KRRC to France on 3 August 1915 and served until he was wounded by a gunshot wound to the hip on 12th January 1916. He was returned to England for treatment on 17th January where he remained until 20th June when he returned to the Western Front.

He was reported wounded and missing on 5th November 1916 during an attack on the Boritska and Hazy trenches at Le Transloy near Bapaume and was later confirmed as killed in action on that date.

Ernest is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial and on the St Anns Virtual War Memorial.

**PRIVATE HERBERT MARSHALL - Died December 1915 aged 33 buried in**  
**Cotgrave Cemetery**



Herbert Marshall was born in 1883 in Cotgrave to George and Anne Marshall. He went to school in Cotgrave and by the age of 18 had moved to Bournemouth where he worked as a domestic groom at the boarding house of Miss Elizabeth Ager. The boarding house consisted of letting apartments rented to people of independent means and so Herbert is likely to have gained considerable experience there.

By 1911 Herbert was 28 and had moved to West Bridgford where he lived at 9 Midlands Cottages. He had married Anne Mary from Leicester and they now had a son Arthur Henry who was 10 months old. Two more children were to follow in November 1912 and June 1914.

Herbert was a horse driver for a chemical manufacturer. Interestingly enough he and his wife had a lodger John Williams Hayes who was also a horse driver for the chemical manufacturer. Despite having exactly the same names as another soldier on the Cotgrave War Memorial, there appears to be no connection.

We know little about Herbert's military career, but we do know that the South Notts Hussars, a mounted cavalry unit, was formed in 1908 as part of the Territorial Force. 'A' Squadron had a drill station in Plumtree and it is likely that this is where Herbert initially served. We do know that he was discharged on 3 February 1915 aged 30 as medically unfit, having been kicked by a horse. His address at that time was given as 3 Gripps Cottages, Cotgrave.

His wife fought for a pension for a long time, claiming that after having been kicked by the horse he had been taken into hospital and had been given the 'hot bath' treatment, as a result on 9 December 1916 he had taken Pleurisy and died. After receiving the assistance of Sir Jesse Boot and Sir Robert Bentinck the local MP she won her case by a narrow margin in February 1917. Herbert's gravestone is in Cotgrave All Saints church cemetery.



### **SERGEANT ARTHUR HARRISON –Died 13 July 1918 in Italy aged 32**

Arthur Harrison was born in 1886 the son of George and Charlotte Harrison who lived in Sheldon cottages on Sheldon Farm, Stragglethorpe where George was employed as a Waggoner. Arthur was baptised in All Saints on 1 November that year. He had 6 brothers and sisters.



In 1901 at the age of 15, Arthur worked on the farm and 2 years later he started work for the British Postal Service. By the time he was 25 he was lodging with Mr and Mrs Beet and their 2 daughters at 23 Milland Crescent in the Meadows and was working as a railway engine stoker.

Exactly when Arthur volunteered to join the Army is uncertain but we know that his unit, 11 Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, served on Western Front from August 1915 to November 1917 when they moved to Italy. It is likely that Arthur moved to France with his Battalion and he would have been involved in many terrible battles in 1915, 1916 and 1917.

In November 1917 his unit was sent as part of 23 Division to relieve the Italians on the Asiago Canove line which was under serious threat of breaking to the Austrians. On 18 December 1917 Arthur was Mentioned in Despatches for his bravery.

Later in June 1918 he spent a short time in 39 Casualty Clearing Hospital with influenza. A few weeks after his return to duty on 6 June his unit attacked from Grappa to Canove and Arthur was most likely wounded during the battle of Asiago. Arthur died of wounds on 13 July 1918 and is buried in Cavalletto British cemetery, Italy.

### **PRIVATE JOHN EDWIN CARRINGTON—Died 8 October 1918 near Cambrai aged 20**



John was born in 1898 in Scarrington the son of Frederick and Sarah Carrington, he had 8 siblings. At the age of 13 he was living with all the family in Shepherds House Cottages, where the Shepherds pub is today.

John worked as a horseman for a Mr Pell on a Home Pierrepont estate farm close by until enlisting into the 4th Battalion of the Leicestershire Regiment on 23 Feb 1916 at the age of 18. He was immediately placed on the Army Reserve.

In May 1918 John undertook a medical when he was mobilised and this showed him to be fit and healthy young man just short of his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday. Why there had been a delay of 2 and ½ years between enlistment and mobilisation we are unsure. Something we continue to research today.

On 18 September 1918, after his training, John travelled from Dover to Calais where he joined the 1/4th Battalion of the Leicestershire Regiment on 23 September. At that time his battalion was part of the 46th North Midlands Division. Just two weeks later he was killed in action on 8 October and his grave is in Montbrehain British Cemetery close to Cambrai.

The battle for Montbrehain was one of the attacks on the German Hindenberg line and was mainly fought by the Australian and Canadian Divisions with the 46<sup>th</sup> (Lincolnshire and Leicestershire) Division on the flank. It is most likely that John died during this battle.

John's estate amounted to £4 exactly and was sent to his father Fredrick in February 1919.





## **CORPORAL CECIL ARTHUR MOULDS—DIED 25 April 1918**

### **aged 28 and is buried in Cotgrave Cemetery**

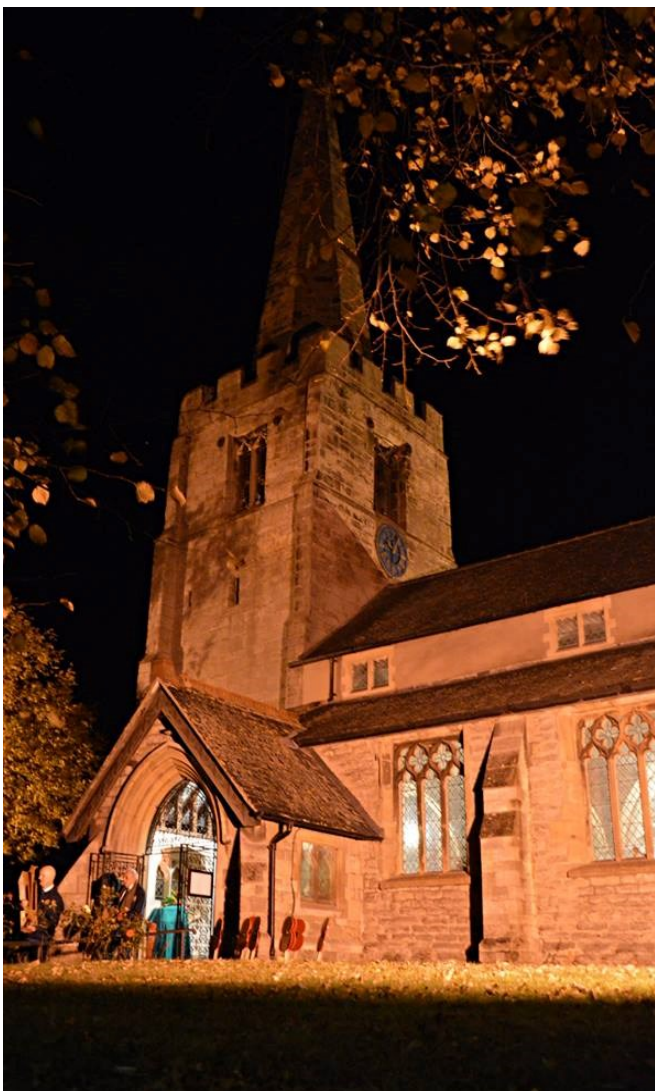


Cecil was born in Sproxton, near Melton Mowbray on 7 Feb 1890 the son of Archibald Moulds and Elizabeth (nee Burnham). When Cecil was christened his father was a traveller working on farms in Leicestershire. In about 1905 he moved his family to Cotgrave, where he worked as a Gamekeeper.

In 1911, aged 21 Cecil worked as a general clerk in the Lace Industry and lodged with Mr and Mrs Eldred at 3 Park Row, Nottingham, close to the Nottingham General Hospital. In that year he enlisted in the Territorial Force in the Royal Army Medical Corps.

He married Gertrude Marriott on the 4th June 1914 in All Saints Church, Cotgrave. Gertrude was born in Bingham and lived in Cotgrave with her father, mother and siblings. Two of her brothers, Harry and George are shown in the 'Roll of Honour' in All Saints Church Cotgrave.

On 22nd May 1915 Cecil, then aged 25, having risen to the rank of Corporal in the Territorial Force, enlisted in the Regular Army in the Royal Army Medical Corps as a Corporal Clerk. At that time he and Gertrude were living at 5 Aubrey Avenue, Sneinton, Nottingham.



Cecil did not serve overseas and we believe he remained in Nottingham until 25 October 1916 when he was discharged with 'sickness' as no longer physically fit for National Service Duty. He was issued with his War Badge to show that he had served and became an Army Pensioner. The war badge was to identify young men who were no longer able to serve, thus preventing them from being harassed by those who would call them cowards.

We can only imagine the seriousness of his illness because less than 2 years later, on 25 April 1918, Cecil died in Cotgrave, aged 28. The cause of death was certified as Tuberculosis and Haemoptysis. His grave is in all Saints Church Cemetery.

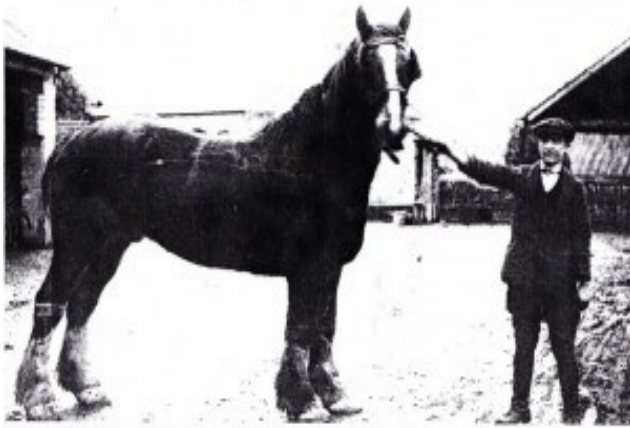


**CORPORAL FRANCES WOOLEY—DIED 23 October in 1918 in Artois**  
**aged 23**



Frances, known as Frank, was born in Whissendine, Rutland in 1896 the son of John and Francis (nee Birch). He was baptised in Pickwell near Melton Mowbray and at the age of 4 was living with his family in Eastwell close to Harby.

10 years later all the Woolleys had moved to Main Road Cotgrave by which time Frank had 5 siblings: Fred, Florence, Arthur, John and Doris. For many years Frank was brought up by his aunt, his mother's sister, Mrs Annie Ecob (Nee Birch), in Upper Broughton.



Frank was obviously a talented farm worker and won the Farming Boy Under 18 award in 1912 while working for Mr Armitage at Cotgrave Place.

On 14 November 1914 Frank was enlisted into the 2nd Battalion of the Kings Royal Rifles, a unit of 2 Brigade in the 1st Division. After basic training he joined his Battalion on the Western Front in May 1915. We know little more about Frank's progress through the ranks but assume that he served with his Battalion through the battle of Loos in 1915 and The Somme in 1916. He was promoted to Lance Corporal in June 1917 and Corporal in July 1918.

In December 1916 Frank's luck ran out and he was wounded in the back and returned to UK to the Northern General Hospital in Leicester in Jan 1917.

In March of that year he was transferred to the Woodcote Convalescent Hospital in Sutton Coalfield before moving back to the Winchester Depot.

He returned to France in July 1917 and almost immediately transferred to 21<sup>st</sup> Kings Royal Rifles who had been warned for a move to Italy with the 41<sup>st</sup> Division. On 17 November They moved by train, arriving and taking up a position behind the river Piave, North West of Treviso. In March of that year he was transferred to the Woodcote Convalescent Hospital in Sutton Coalfield before moving back to the Winchester Depot.

In March 1918 when action on the Italian Front had reduced 21 Kings Royal Rifles was disbanded and Frank returned to his original Battalion, 2 Kings Royal Rifles. During his time in Italy he was promoted to 'Kings Corporal' an unofficial honorary rank given those who had served valiantly.



Frank continued to fight with his Battalion until 23 October 1918 when he was killed by a shell at the battle of the River Selle which had started on 17th October 1918. This battle was part of the pursuit of the German forces through Picardy and Artois.

He is remembered on the Vis en Artois Memorial in France and also on both Cotgrave and Upper Broughton War Memorials.





## **PRIVATE WALTER HENSTOCK—DIED 17 May 1920 aged 22 and is buried in Cotgrave Cemetery**

Walter's grave is in All Saints Church Cemetery and his name is on the war memorial as an addition. His name also appears on the War Memorial in Jacksdale, Nottinghamshire where he lived for some time.

Walter was born in Cotgrave in 1897 to George Henstock and Mary Smith. George worked variously as a Groom, Bricklayer's Labourer, Carrier and Cottager, with son Walter being employed as a Farm Ploughboy when he was 13. George and Mary lived at 11, Gripps Cottages and between 1891 and 1912 had 13 children.

By the time Walter was 29 he had moved to Jacksdale where he lived in Back Lane with his sister Mabel and her husband George. He was enlisted during his time in Jacksdale and described his employment as 'Lettering Ovens' for a firm in Pinxton, Nottinghamshire.

On 23 February 1916 Walter began his Army Service as a conscript and went immediately to the Army Reserve. After initial training he was mobilised on 18 May 1916 and was posted to 2/6 Battalion South Staffordshire Regiment on 25 May. 2/6 Battalion was a Second Line unit predominantly used for Home Defence.

On the 25 February, 1917, he was posted to France where he fought with the 59th (2nd North Midland) Division. One year later on 21 March, 1918 he was reported missing in action during the battle of Saint Quentin, becoming a Prisoner of War until his release and repatriation on 30 November 1918.

In He served on the Reserve until February 1920 when he re-enlisted into the Lincolnshire Regiment as a regular Soldier, but his career was short-lived as he died in the 4th Northern General Hospital, Lincoln, on 17 May from Acute Pulmonary Tuberculosis, possibly as a result of his lack of nutrition whilst a Prisoner of War. His body was returned to his home town of Cotgrave, where he was buried at All Saints Church, Cotgrave on 20 May, 1920, aged just 22.

Walter was not married but had a girlfriend to whom he intended to propose. He had bought the ring and on deployment left it with his sister Bessie for safekeeping. Walter never did get engaged and the ring was handed down through Walter's family.

Ethel May, Walter's sister-in-law, moved to Cotgrave in 1924 where in 1939 she married Cyril, one of Walter's brothers. Cyril died in 1974, leaving Ethel a widow. In 1975 she married Ted another of Walter's brothers who was himself a widower. Ted died in 1982 but Ethel survived him and continued to live in Cotgrave until the age of 96.



**The War Memorial in Jacksdale**



Walter's grave in All Saints church cemetery was originally marked with a wooden cross showing his name, Regiment and number. Later the cross was replaced with a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone which remains a lasting memory to Walter.

# SUMMARY OF THOSE MEN FROM COTGRAVE WHO PERISHED IN, OR AS A RESULT OF, THE FIRST WORLD WAR

COTGRAVE WAR DEAD						
CIVILIAN BACKGROUND						
NAME	1911 OCCUPATION	DOMICILE	DOB	DOD	KIN	
CARRINGTON JOHN EDWIN	Horseman	Shepherds Cottages, C	1898c	02-Oct-18	Frederick and Sarah of Scarrington	
HARRISON ARTHUR	Railway Fireman	Meadows, Nottingham	1886	13-Jul-18	George and Charlotte Harrison of Stragglethorpe	
HAYES JOHN WILLIAM	Agric Labourer	8 Gripps Cottages, C	1886c	16-Sep-16	William and Sarah of Cotgrave	
HENSON SYDNEY	Ploughman	Scrimshire Lane, C	07-1894	03-Sep-16	George and Fanny Rose of Cotgrave	
HENSTOCK WALTER	Ploughman-Letterer	Cotgrave-Jacksdale	2-08-1897	17-May-20	George Edward and Mary Elizabeth of Cotgrave	
HERAPATH WILLIAM JAMES	Gardener Cotgrave Place	Main Road, C	1899?	14-Oct-15	Rebecca & late James Herapath of Cotgrave	
HIND JOSEPH	Carriers Labourer	10? Gripps Cottages, C	1894c	27-Sep-15	George and Jane of Cotgrave	
LACEY SAMUEL	Farm Labourer	Chaple Yard & Gripps, C	1880	26-Oct-14	Henry and Emma of Cotg, Husb of Rosa B Morris	
MARSHALL HERBERT	Ordinary Agricultural Labourer	3 Gripps Cottages, C	1883?	09-Dec-16	Husband of Annie May	
MIDDLETON GEORGE	NK	13 Gripps Cottages, C	1893	30-May-15	William and Sarah Ann of Edmonton, Middx	
MOULDS CECIL ARTHUR	Lace Industry Clerk	Park Row, Nottingham	7-02-1890	1918	Archibald and Elizabeth, Husb of Gertrude	
REEVE ERNEST	NK	Rose & Crown, C	1895	05-Nov-16	Harry and Elizabeth of Cotgrave	
SIMPSON ARTHUR WALLHEAD	NK	Vine Cottage, C	1897c	17-Sep-16	Thomas and Mary Jane	
WOOLLEY FRANCIS CHARLES	Farm Labourer	Main Rd, C	1895	23-Oct-18	John and Ruth	
MILITARY DETAIL						
NAME	UNIT	CWGC DETAIL	SVCE NUM	RANK	AGE at DEATH	
CARRINGTON JOHN EDWIN	1st Bn Leicestershire Regiment	Montbrechain A.15	58392	Pte	21	
HARRISON ARTHUR	11 Bn Northumberland Fusiliers	Cavalletto Brit Cemetery	19993	Sergeant	32	
HAYES JOHN WILLIAM	1st & 2nd Bn Sherwood Foresters	Thiepval P & F 10c, 10d, 11a	9983	L/Sgt	30	
HENSON SYDNEY	1/7th Bn Duke of Wellingtons Regt	Thiepval P & F 6a, 6b	4702	Pte	22	
HENSTOCK WALTER	2/6 Sth Staffs & Lincs Regts	Cotgrave Cemetery	65258	Pte	22	
HERAPATH WILLIAM JAMES	1/8th Bn Sherwood Foresters	Loos, P 87 to 89	3253	LCpl	17	
HIND JOSEPH	3rd Bn Grenadier Guards	Loos P 5 and 7	16152	Gdsman	20	
LACEY SAMUEL	1st Bn Grenadier Guards	Ypres M Gate, P 9 and 11	13704	Gdsman	34	
MARSHALL HERBERT	South Nottinghamshire Hussars	Cotgrave Cemetery, B30	1069	Pte	33	
MIDDLETON GEORGE	2nd Bn Royal Welsh Fusiliers	Bois Gren Com Centre, D14	10301	Pte	22	
MOULDS CECIL ARTHUR	Royal Army Medical Corps	Cotgrave Cenetry	23997	Corporal	28	
REEVE ERNEST	16th Bn Kings Royal Rifle Corps	NK	R6539	Rflman	NK	
SIMPSON ARTHUR WALLHEAD	7th Bn Kings Royal Rifle Corps	Etables 10.E.10A	R6538	Rflman	19	
WOOLLEY FRANCIS CHARLES	2nd Bn Kings Royal Rifle Corps	Vis-en-Artois, P9	R7182	Cpl	23	



## **THE GREAT PILGRIMAGE 90**



A decade after the end of The First World War, eleven thousand veterans and war widows made a great pilgrimage to the battlefields of the Somme and Ypres before marching to the Menin Gate in Ypres on 8th August 1928 for a Remembrance service.



Exactly 90 years later on 8 August 2018, more than two thousand Royal British Legion members carried their Standards and wreaths along the same route to the Menin Gate, to commemorate the beginning of the last 100 days of World War One, thus representing an entire generation that served defending their country.

The communities of Colston Bassett, Owthorpe and Cotgrave were represented at the event by two of their RBL members living in Cotgrave. Thomas Bee carried the Branch standard and Sam Mitchell the Branch wreath. The notice attached to the wreath had been selected by community vote at the Cotgrave Festival in June from entries provided by children from both Candleby Lane School and Cotgrave Church of England Primary school.



The winning entry was designed by Nathan Randall age 9.

## **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAYS**

The Centenary of each of the war years has been commemorated by remembrance services in churches in Colston Bassett, Owthorpe and Cotgrave. In Cotgrave a parade of the uniformed organisations has been held, marching from the Welfare to All Saints church. The parade has been supported over the years by the Corps of Drums of the Nottinghamshire Army Cadet Force and by the Nottingham 4x4.



Photographs courtesy of Russ Hamer



## THANK YOU

The Great War Project and 2018 Commemorations took a great deal of effort from many volunteers within the community. Their enthusiastic involvement in: the Great Pilgrimage 90, Children's' art competition, Poppy art, Growing Poppies, Knitting Poppies and displaying them, Decorating lampposts with Street Poppies, Decorating Pebbles, Producing the WW1 Exhibition, Researching and providing information and pictures about the soldiers, Providing articles, Making and Distributing the Silent Soldiers, supporting the Tour of Britain, organising and supporting the Remembrance Concert and collecting for the RBL was tremendous. There are too many to name individually but to all THANK YOU.



**Remembrance Concert**



**Tour of Britain**

Many thanks must also go to the many agencies that have supported the project and enabled it to become a success. Nottinghamshire County Council, Rushcliffe Borough Council, Cotgrave Town Council, Nottingham Post, Grantham Journal, CBOC Branch the RBL, U3A, Royal British Legion, Armed Forces Covenant, Commonwealth War Grave Commission, Inspire Cotgrave Library, Radcliffe Male Voice Choir to mention but a few.

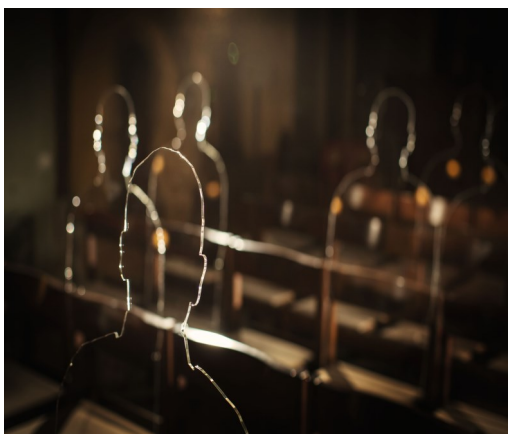




## COTGRAVE REMEMBERS 100 YEARS ON

### POPPIES and SILENT SOLDIERS

Over 4000 poppies were knitted by members of the local community and were placed into a display in All Saints Church along with an exhibition of World War One stories about Cotgrave soldiers. 14 'Silent Soldiers', one for each of the dead, were strategically placed as close to their original homes as possible.



"They shall grow not old, as we that 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."

