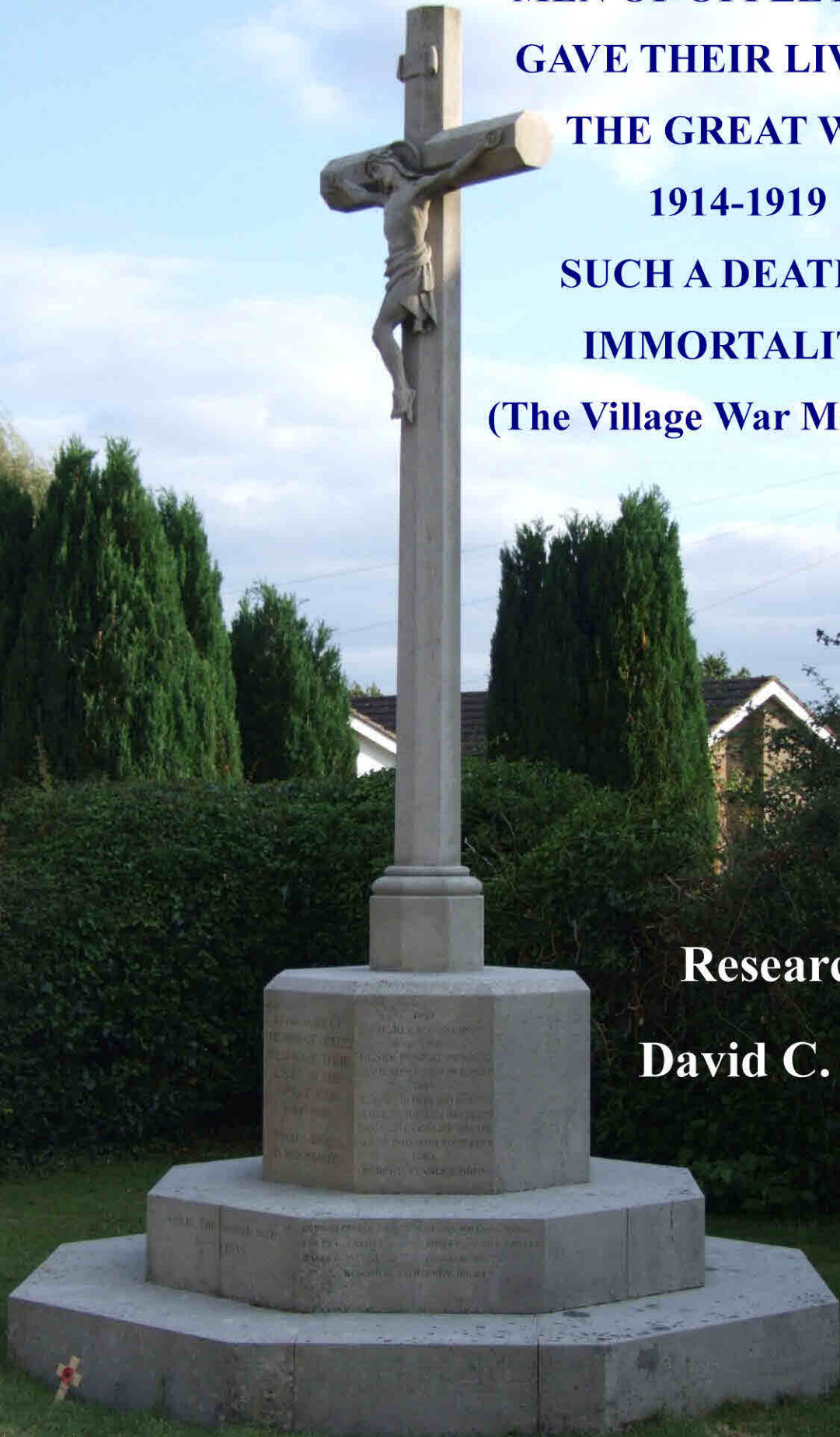


**IN MEMORY OF THE
MEN OF OFFLEY WHO
GAVE THEIR LIVES IN
THE GREAT WAR
1914-1919
SUCH A DEATH IS
IMMORTALITY
(The Village War Memorial)**



**Research by
David C. Baines**

THE VILLAGE WAR MEMORIAL

Situate King's Walden Road opposite the Church Lych gate. The memorial consists of a slender Crucifix on three octagonal bases. It is constructed of Portland Stone and is approximately four metres high. The figure of Christ was taken from a carving in Worcester Cathedral.

It was unveiled on 7th March 1920 by Viscount Hampden the Lord Lieutenant of Hertfordshire and dedicated by the Rev. E.P. Gatty, the Vicar of the Parish. The cost of the memorial was £215 and it was designed and built by Messrs Farmer & Brindley of London.

Details of the Church War Memorials are contained in the Section dealing with other memorials within the church.

Upper Octagon 1914/19

6 o'clock.

IN MEMORY OF THE MEN OF OFFLEY WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN THE GREAT WAR
1914-1919 SUCH A DEATH IS IMMORTALITY

7.30 o'clock

1915 FREDERICK DYER FREDERICK HARPER EDWARD REGINALD GRAHAM-
HUGHES JOE WALKER
1916 SIDNEY THOMAS FLECKNEY BERTIE GEORGE MARLOW WILLIAM HARRY
MOODY
1917 HAROLD WALTER CAIN CHARLES DAVIS

4.30 o'clock

1917 CHARLES GOSLING JOHN MONK HENRY ERNEST PEARCE CECIL BERNARD
WILMOT
1918 GEORGE FREDERICK FLECKNEY ALBERT CHARLES MARLOW GEORGE
HERBERT NEGUS ALBERT JOSEPH TOMPKINS
1919 ROBERT STANLEY BIRD

Middle Octagon 1939/46

6 o'clock

AND IN THE WORLD WAR 1939-1946

7.30 o'clock

DERRICK O'FLAHERTY	CHARLES PILKINGTON
LEWIS HILL	MARK PILKINGTON
FREDERICK ROSE	WILLIAM HUMPHREY
WILLIAM CLARK	

4.30 o'clock

EDWARD GEORGE EWINGTON	LEWIS WILLIAM WEBB
ERNEST SAVILLE	HUBERT SAMUEL BUNKER
HAROLD WINCH	RONALD WATTS
KENDRICK SALUSBURY HUGHES	

First World War

Supplementary Information (S.5, S.27, S.39 & other Sources as noted)

BIRD ROBERT STANLEY. Pte in the Labour Corps No.160850. Died 22.1.1919 aged 20 at Grayling War Hospital, Chichester. He was buried at Offley, see Churchyard Memorial 081.

CAIN HAROLD WALTER Pte 1st Herts. Volunteered Sep 1914. Western Front 1915. Killed in action at Ypres 16 November 1917. Buried British Cemetery South of Ypres known as Bedford House Cemetery, Belgium. His actual grave location is Enclosure No.4, Plot I, Row F, Grave 8 (S.141). Entitled to 1914/15 Star, British War and Victory Medals. Address Angel Cottage, Offley. According to the Parish Magazine he was accidentally killed. He may also have been in the Buffs. According to "Soldiers Died" he was born Offley, Enlisted Hatfield. Resided Offley. Service No. 265748.

DAVIS CHARLES. Born Offley. Enlisted Luton. 48231. Pte. Killed in action 31.7.1917. Royal Fusiliers, 12th Battalion, 17th Brigade, 24th Division, II Corps, 5th Army. The Battalion was in the vicinity of Shrewsbury Wood north of Hollebeke which is south west of Ypres in Belgium. Their attack was partly successful but strong German opposition from snipers and from a strongpoint at Tower Hamlets made them withdraw to 500 yds east of the Bassevillebeck. The Battalion lost 9 officers and 170 other ranks that day. He is buried at Ypres Reservoir Cemetery, Belgium at Plot X, Row F, Grave 17 (S.141, 162 & 163).

DYER FREDERICK. L/Cpl 1st Northamptons No. 7356. Born Offley Enlisted Hitchin. Already serving at commencement of war he had served in India for three years. In Retreat from Mons and presumed killed in action on 9.5.1915. He had been missing for some time. Entitled to Mons Star, British War and Victory Medals. Address Garden Fields, Offley. He left a wife, Mrs S. Dyer, and three children. This is the same person as DYER EDWARD recorded on the Church War Memorial C15 (S.8v). See Churchyard Memorial 192 for his brother and his parents. He was 32 years of age and the first soldier from Offley to be killed. He had been in several engagements and on one occasion had part of his cap badge shot away (S.54). Remembered at Le Touret Memorial, France on Panels 28/9/30 (S.141).

FLECKNEY GEORGE FREDERICK. Pte. He was in the 9th Battalion Royal Sussex Regimental No. G.14538. He was born at Mangrove. Enlisted at Bedford. Killed in action 21.3.1918. He is remembered on the Pozieres Memorial in France on Panels 46 & 47. He was aged 22 years and was the son of George and Hannah Fleckney (S.141). The 9th Battalion was part of the 73rd Brigade, 24th Division, XIX Corps of the 5th Army on the first day of the great and last German Offensive. He was probably killed near Jeancourt north west of St Quentin in the 24th Division Battle Zone when men of the 9th Royal Sussex came up from reserve (S.164).

FLECKNEY SIDNEY THOMAS. Born Kings Walden. Enlisted Luton. 13164. Pte. Killed in action France or Flanders 4.6.1916. 1st Bedfords. He was reported missing after an engagement on the 4th June 1916. The Parish Magazine states 2nd Bedfords whereas elsewhere he is shown as 1st Bedfords. Unlikely to be the 2nd Bedfords as they were "resting" out of the line at the time (S.131). The 1st Battalion of the Bedfords were in and out of the front line at Roclingcourt near Arras and he was most probably killed during a trench raid. He was aged 23 years and the son of George and Hannah Fleckney. He is remembered on the Arras Memorial, France on Bay 5 (S.141).

GOSLING CHARLES. Brigadier General C.M.G. Born Offley June 1868 and educated at Eton. He was commissioned into the Royal Irish Rifles on the 22nd August 1888 and transferred to the King's Royal Rifle Corps the following November as a 2nd Lieut (S.39-1917 & S.53). He served nearly the whole of his service abroad. He was aboard the Royal Indian Navy Marine Troopship Warren Hastings when it was wrecked off the island of Reunion on the 14th January 1896. He was awarded the Silver Medal of the Royal Humane Society for twice attempting to save a man who had been washed overboard. Promoted to Lieutenant on 25th February 1891 and to Captain on 5th February 1897 (S.53). In Mounted Infantry during South

