

ELMSWELL WAR MEMORIAL



Bury Post Friday 10th August 1917 pg6

In the Parish Church of St John the Divine at Elmswell on Sunday evening there was a crowded congregation, the occasion being the unveiling and dedication of Elmswell Roll of Honour. During the singing of the second hymn at evensong a procession was formed to the Roll of Honour which has been placed in the interior of the wall of the south aisle of the sacred edifice. It has been erected by subscriptions of the parishioners of Elmswell, having been artistically designed and executed by Messrs AR Mowbray and Co of Oxford. It consists of three oak ornamental panels on which are the names of those who comprise the illustrious roll. The centre panel has inscribed upon it the names of seventeen soldiers of Elmswell who have made the supreme sacrifice, being either killed or who have died for their King and country. Surmounting this panel is the sacred monogram "I.H.S." beneath which is the text "greater love hath no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends" – St John XV13. Then follows the names in alphabetical order: Prvt TE Abbott Northumberland Fusiliers, November 8th 1914; Prvt HV Elliston, Suffolks, January 26th 1916; Prvt HG Farrow Suffolks February 16th 1917; Prvt CG Gould Suffolks September 1914; Prvt FW Gould, Suffolks August 13th 1915; Lc Corp AJ Clarke Suffolks May 18th 1916; Prvt G Howe June 27th 1916; Prvt G Howard Suffolks February 15th 1915; Prvt A King Suffolks; Prvt T Mulley Suffolks; Lc Corp GV Mulley; Prvt AE Manning Suffolks September 25th 1915; Prvt HF Manning Suffolks April 23rd 1917; Prvt ASB Pryke Suffolks July 19th 1916; Prvt SF Salmon Suffolks; Prvt H Howard Australians December 7th 1916; 1st AM WB Pryke RFC January 19th 1917 RIP. Beside the central panel are two others containing 109 persons belonging to Elmswell who are serving their country. The procession from the chancel to the south aisle included the Rev JR George Rector of Elmswell and the Rev JD Sayer; Lieut. HW Hawkins of the Middlesex Regt; the Churchwardens Messrs Mark Harrison and DW Collens and the surpliced choir. The Roll of Honour which has been draped with the flags of the Allies having been unveiled by Lieut. Hawkins, the Rector recited dedicatory prayers and then read the names of those who have given their lives. The National Anthem was then sung. The Rev JD Sayer preached the sermon, selecting his text from St Luke XXIV 26 'Ought not Christ to have suffered these things and to enter unto His Glory.' There was a collection amounting to £3 3s 8d for the Suffolk Prisoner of War Fund. Miss Mary Gedge who presided at the organ played appropriate volunteering's.



Thomas Edward Abbott

Private 245 Thomas Edward Abbott was born in Stowmarket c1883. He enlisted with the 1st Northumberland Fusiliers in Ipswich. He served in France & Flanders from 5th August 1914 and died on 8th November 1914 aged 31. He is remembered on the Ypres Menin Gate Memorial Panel 8&12 and on the Elmswell War Memorial. He was the son of Robert and Emma Abbott, of Botany Bay, Elmswell.



William Bridges

Bury Post Friday 16th March 1917 pg7, Mr Bridges of Elmswell has protested against the name of his son being included in the Roll of Honour for Elmswell unless it be placed in a public place. History of the Suffolk Regiment Lieut Col CCR Murphy 2nd Battalion pg133 On September 25, the opening day of the battle of Loos, the 2nd Suffolks were part of an attack from Railway Wood to Sanctuary Wood. This action became known as the second attack on Bellewaarde and was part of the subsidiary operation designed to distract the attention of the enemy and hold him to his ground.



Private 12942 William Bridges was born in Elmswell c1898. He enlisted in the 2nd Suffolk Regiment in Elmswell. He served in France & Flanders 27th July 1915 and was killed in action on 25th September 1915 aged 17. He is remembered on the Ypres Menin Gate Memorial Panel 21 and on the Elmswell War Memorial. He was the son of William and Eliza Bridges, of Elmswell.



Arthur James Clarke



Bury Free Press Saturday 1st July 1916 (DEATH OF AN OLD ELMSWELL BOY) The death of Lnce Corp Arthur Jas. Clarke No 7699 D Co 9th Battn Suffolk Regt occurred 'somewhere' in France on May 16th last. He was wounded in action and died on the way to the dressing station. He was born and brought up in Elmswell and was a grandson of the late Mr Charles Clarke, of that village; until he enlisted he was entirely brought up by his aunt and uncle Mrs and Mr James Sanson, Hawk End Lane Elmswell, his mother having died the day he was five years old. Deceased was in his 28th year and has served his King and country for over 8 years. He spent 6 years in Egypt and came from there to France soon after the outbreak of war. He and two of his comrades who lived in the adjoining village to this were all wounded at the same time and died so that they are buried in graves that are side by side 'somewhere in France.'

Note: The comrades mentioned were Private Thomas James Bloomfield of Wetherden and Drummer Thomas Frank Fisher of Woolpit who are buried at La Brique Military Cemetery No.2, graves I W 13 and I W 12 respectively.

Private 7699 Arthur James Clarke was born in Elmswell c1888. He enlisted in the 9th Suffolk Regiment in Ipswich. He served in France & Flanders from 16th January 1915 and was killed in action on 16th May 1916 aged 28. He is buried at La Brique Military Cemetery No.2 Grave I. W. 15 and is remembered on the Elmswell War Memorial. At the time of the 1911 Census he was serving with the 1st Suffolk Regiment in Egypt.



Herbert Victor Elliston

Stowmarket Post Thursday 9th March 1916 pg5 THE LATE PRIVATE VICTOR ELLISTON Elmswell mourns yet another of her brave lads – Private Victor Elliston of 2nd Battalion of the Suffolk Regiment. Although Victor Elliston did not lay down his life on the battlefield, yet we may truly say that he gave his life for his country. In the early days of this awful war, he with many of his comrades of the 2nd Suffolks, was taken prisoner near Le Cateau and was sent into Germany for confinement in the camp at Doeberitz. It appears from a postcard written by his Company Sergeant Major, that some kind of an accident occurred on the night of January 24th, at 11pm and the poor lad was fatally injured, and died at 3o'clock on the following afternoon. He was an ardent member of the now defunct company of the Church Lads' Brigade in this parish, holding the rank of lance corporal. He left the ranks of the Lads' Brigade to join the Army, consequently he had several years of training before war broke out. He was a bright, intelligent young man who appeared to have the making of a fine soldier in him. He had just reached the age of twenty five years, his birthday falling in December. We were looking forward to welcoming him home again at the end of the war for he must have had some interesting, if trying experiences to relate, but it was not to be. May God console and comfort his sorrowing parents. (From Elmswell Parish Magazine)



Private 8292 Herbert Victor Elliston was born in Elmswell c1889. He enlisted in the 2nd Suffolk Regiment in Ipswich. He served in France & Flanders from 15th August 1914 and died on 26th January 1916 aged 26. He is buried at Berlin South Western Cemetery, Grave XIX. B. 5 and is remembered on the Elmswell War Memorial. He was the son of Henry George and Susanna Elliston, of Hall End Lane, Elmswell



Albert Edward Farrow

Bury Free Press Saturday 4th August 1917 pg3 AN ELMSWELL FAMILY'S TRAGIC WAR RECORD Prvt. Albert Edward Farrow, the youngest son, enlisted the same time as his brother in the Northampton Regiment, but did not leave England until he was called up for active service at the outbreak of the present war. He was taken prisoner on November 13th of last year and died on March 16th 1917 at the age of 31. Much sympathy is felt for Mr and Mrs Farrow in their great trouble. By special request the names of these heroes are not to be placed on the roll of honour in the church.



Private 9725 Albert Edward Farrow was born in Elmswell c1886. He originally enlisted as 3249 in the RAMC in Stowmarket, then later transferred to the 3rd Suffolk Regiment. He served in France & Flanders from 21st August 1914 and died of wounds whilst a prisoner of war on 16th March 1917 aged 31. He is buried at Cologne Southern Cemetery, Grave X. B. 10 and is remembered on the Elmswell War Memorial.



Frederick William Farrow

Bury Free Press Saturday 4th August 1917 pg3 AN ELMSWELL FAMILY'S TRAGIC WAR RECORD Prvt. Frederick William Farrow enlisted in the Northampton Regiment in 1905. He was in India for nearly eight years and was on reserve when he was called to France at the outbreak of war. The sad news reached his parents that he was killed in action on May 9th 1915. Deceased was 32 years of age.



Private 7167 Frederick William Farrow was born in Elmswell c1883. He enlisted in the 1st Northamptonshire Regiment in Bury St Edmunds. He served in France & Flanders from 23rd August 1914 and was killed in action on 9th May 1915 aged 33. He is remembered on the Le Touret Memorial Panel 28 to 30 and on the Elmswell War Memorial. He was the son of Harriet Farrow, of Mill Lane, Woolpit, Bury St. Edmunds, and the late Henry Farrow.



George Farrow

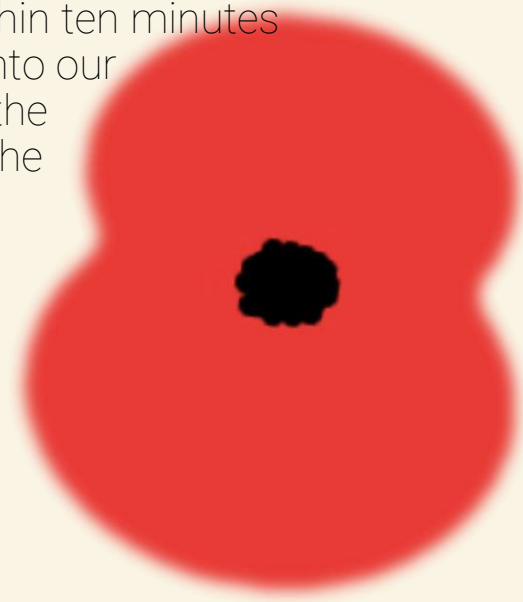


Bury Free Press Saturday 4th August 1917 pg3 AN ELMSWELL FAMILY'S TRAGIC WAR RECORD It is our very painful duty to have to place on record the tragic facts of the war's toll on the family of Mr and Mrs Henry Farrow of School Road Elmswell. The parents named have sustained deplorable loss during the war as their three only sons are numbered amongst the killed and missing. Prvt George Farrow, the elder of the three sons, had served eight years in the Royal Fusiliers and seven years in the reserve when war broke out. He was fighting in France for just over a year when he obtained his discharge, and came home to Elmswell. The photo of him here reproduced was taken when he was officer's servant in Gibraltar. He had also seen service in Malta, Egypt, Bermuda and West Indies, and before returning to England he went to South Africa to re-inter the dead after the Boer War. In April of this year he again enlisted in the 2nd Suffolks. The following month he married and a fortnight later was sent to France. On the 12th July his parents received the alarming news that he had been missing since June 11th and he has not been heard of. He was 39 years of age last March. History of the Suffolk Regiment by Lieut Col CCR Murphy 2nd Battalion pg222 On June

12 after attack practice the battalion took over trenches near Monchy-le-Preux, moving the following night into their assembly positions for an attack on Infantry Hill. On June 14 at 7:30am the attack was launched. Within ten minutes Hook trench had been captured and an hour later the remainder of the trench system on the hill fell into our hands. After a certain slackening in the situation the enemy counter-attacked at about five o'clock in the evening, the garrisons of Hook, Tool and Long trenches being subjected to a violent bombardment. The casualties in the battalion between June 13 and 18 amounted to 250.



Private 36443 George Farrow was born in Elmswell c1878. He enlisted in the 2nd Suffolk Regiment in Bury St Edmunds. He served in France & Flanders and was killed in action on 15th June 1917 aged 39. He is remembered on the Arras Memorial Bay 4 and on the Elmswell War Memorial.



Henry George Farrow



Suffolk Chronicle & Mercury Friday 6th April 1917 pg5 ELMSWELL MAN'S DEATH IN HOSPITAL The above is the photograph of Pte George Henry Farrow, Suffolk Regiment, the only son of Mr and Mrs Farrow, Fox and Goose Cottage, Elmswell, who died from bronchitis on 16th February last, in No.11 Hospital, France, after four days' illness. The deceased, who was 26 years of age, was prior to the war employed as a baker with Mr H Green of Redgrave.



Private 20248 Henry George Farrow was born in Elmswell c1891. He enlisted in the 9th Suffolk Regiment in Bury St Edmunds. He served in France & Flanders from 29th December 1915 and died on 16th February 1917 aged 26. He is buried at Etaples Military Cemetery Grave XXI. F.7 and is remembered on the Elmswell War Memorial. He was the son of Henry James and Rosa Farrow, of Fox and Goose Cottage, Woolpit but was a native of Elmswell.



Nelson Percy Farrow



Bury Post Friday 14th June 1918 pg5 **ELMSWELL SOLDIER MISSING** Mr and Mrs Fred Farrow, of Hawk End Lane, Elmswell, have received information that their son, Corpl Nelson Percy Farrow, No. 20873, of the 12th Suffolks, has been missing since March 21st, 1918. Mrs Farrow last heard from her son on March 16th, when he was quite well. Mr and Mrs Farrow have two sons still serving in France, one in Salonika, and one in Egypt. *Bury Free Press Saturday 13th July 1918 pg3* **ELMSWELL SOLDIER A PRISONER OF WAR** Mr and Mrs Fred Farrow, Hawk End Lane, Elmswell, have received news that their son, Cpl Nelson Percy Farrow, No 20873, 12th Suffolks, is a prisoner of war. Mr and Mrs Farrow last heard of their son in the early part of March, and they received official news that he was missing on March 25th, and later received a postcard from Cpl Farrow dated 5-6-18 stating that he was quite well and in camp at Parchim, Germany. His photo which we reproduce is a good one and will be recognised by very many of his comrades.



Corporal 20873 Nelson Percy Farrow was born in Elmswell. He enlisted in the 12th Suffolk Regiment in Bury St Edmunds. He served in France & Flanders and died on 28th May 1918. He is buried at Ontario Cemetery, Sains-Les-Marquoin Grave I. E. 15 and is remembered on the Elmswell War Memorial.



William George Farrow



Suffolk Chronicle and Mercury Friday 22nd November 1918 pg4 Pte WG Farrow, 2nd Suffolk Regiment, nephew of Mr and Mrs J Cooper, New Road, Elmswell, was killed in action on August 30th; he volunteered for service on September 1st 1914 and went out to France on July 28th 1915.



Private 12956 William George Farrow was born in Elmswell c1893. He enlisted in the 2nd Suffolk Regiment in Elmswell. He served in France & Flanders from 27th July 1915 and was killed in action on 30th August 1918 aged 25. He is remembered on the Vis-En-Artois Memorial Panel 4 and on the Elmswell War Memorial.



Charles George Gold

Bury Post Friday 16th October 1914 pg8 **ELMSWELL KILLED IN ACTION** Great regret and sorrow was felt in the parish on Monday morning when the sad news was received from the War Office that Private Charles George Gould (7,159) 1st Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment, was killed in action at Moulin, France, on September 17th. He was the eldest son of Mr and Mrs Charles Gould of Elmswell. Deceased was well known and highly esteemed. He was only 29 years old, and unmarried, and prior to the order for mobilisation, on August 5th, he was employed in Middlesex as a gardener. Here he was much liked and respected by all who he came in contact with. Private Gould was for many years a member of the village church choir. Great grief is felt by his early death. Nothing had been heard of him since landing with the British Expeditionary Forces in France until the official intimation of his death, for his country's sake. It will be remembered that during a counter attack by the German 53rd Regiment, on portions of the Northamptons, on Thursday, September 17th, a force of some 400 of the enemy were allowed to approach right up to the trench occupied by a platoon of the Northamptons owing to the fact that they had held up a white flag and their hands and made gestures that were interpreted that they wished to surrender. The Northamptons, who had charged the enemy, were stopped, and when they were actually on the parapet of the trench held by them the enemy picked up their rifles and fired on our men at point blank range. The Northamptons were ordered to fix bayonets, but at such short range the enemy scored heavily. The greatest sympathy is felt in the parish for the bereaved parents, and much anxiety is felt in the village of the news of six other Reservists who joined the Northamptons on mobilisation, some of whom the friends have received no information since landing in France.



Private 7169 Charles George Gould was born in Elmswell c1886. He enlisted in the 1st Northamptonshire Regiment. He served in France & Flanders from 13th August 1914 and was killed in action on 17th September 1914 aged 28. He is remembered on the La Ferte-Sous-Jouarre Memorial and is on the Elmswell War Memorial. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Gould, of Elmswell



Frederick William Gold

Bury Post Friday 27th August 1916 pg8 ELMSWELL DIED OF WOUNDS RECEIVED IN ACTION On Friday last great regret and sorrow was felt in the parish when the sad news was received that Private Frederick William Gould 2382 of the 6th Essex Territorial Machine Gun Section had died at Alexandria from wounds received in action at the Dardanelles on August 15th. He was the second son of Mr and Mrs Charles Gould of the parish. Deceased was well known and held in highly esteemed by all with whom he came in contact. His upright and honest bearing and winning way and smile brought him many friends. He was for 17 years a member of the village church choir and one of the most devout and enthusiastic workers until two years ago on his removal from the village to take up new duties as a tram driver at Plaistow, Essex. Here also he became a zealous worker as a Sunday School teacher at St Mary's Church, Plaistow and soon made friends. He was in his 26th year and was unmarried. On Lord Kitchener asking for recruits for his New Army he was one of the first to volunteer to the call of duty. On Sunday last a very impressive memorial service was held in the Parish Church and a great many of the congregation assembled to honour one who had so often been one of their member, and who had laid down his life for his King and Country, and righteousness, and to express their sincere sympathy and sorrow with the bereaved parents and family, who thus have lost two sons and brothers for their country in eleven months. The eldest son was killed



in action on September 17th last in France. Suitable hymns, Psalms and prayers were used and the Rector spoke words of hope and comfort to the bereaved and commended the brave conscientious warrior to the love of God to progress in clearer air of peace and rest of Paradise. At the conclusion of the service at Evensong, the 'Dead March' in 'Saul' was most impressively played upon the organ by Mr W. Brinkley, the organist, the congregation meanwhile reverently remained standing.



Private 2382 Frederick William Gould was born in c1889. He enlisted in the 6th Essex Regiment in Plaistow, Essex. He served in France & Flanders and died of wounds on 15th August 1915 aged 26. He is buried at Hill 10 Cemetery Grave V. G. 4 and is remembered on the Elmswell War Memorial. He was the son of Annie Louisa Gould, of The Bower, Elmswell, and the late Charles George Gould.



George Howard

Private 9893 George Howard was born in Haughley c1878. He enlisted in the 1st Suffolk Regiment in Elmswell. He served in France & Flanders from 16th January 1915 and was killed in action on 18th February 1915 aged 37. He is remembered on the Ypres Menin Gate Memorial Panel 21 and on the Elmswell War Memorial.



Harry Howard



Private 95 Harry Howard was born in Haughley c1883 and was educated at Haughley Parish School. He enlisted in the 59th Australian Infantry, A.I.F. in Melbourne Australia on 21st August 1914 having previously served for two years with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry. He embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board HMAT A20 Hororata on 19 October 1914 and served in the Dardanelles and France & Flanders and died of wounds (gun shot wound to the thigh and right ankle) in the Colchester Military Hospital at 9.25pm on 7th December 1916 aged 33. He is buried at Elmswell Cemetery and is remembered on the Elmswell War Memorial. He was the son of Henry and Sophia Howard, of High Town Green, Rattlesden. He was a Wharf labourer living at Heidelberg Road, Fairfield Park, Victoria at the time of his enlistment.



Charles Frank Howe



Private 20380 Charles Frank Howe was born in Milden c1887. He enlisted in the 8th Norfolk Regiment. He served in France & Flanders and was killed in action on 16th August 1917 aged 30. He is remembered on the Tyne Cot Memorial Panel 34 to 35 and 162A and on the Elmswell War Memorial. He was the husband of Sarah Jane Howe, of 74, Arch Cottage, Victoria Road, Diss, Norfolk.



Frederick William Gold

Bury Post Friday 14th July 1916 ELMSWELL PRIVATE GEORGE EDWARD HOWE KILLED Elmswell is mourning yet another of her brave lads, Private George Edward Howe of the 8th Battalion Suffolk Regiment, who fell in action on 27th June. Joe Howe, as all his friends called him, had been a member of the choir of the Parish Church for nearly fourteen years. He was loved by all who knew him for his genial character and kindly disposition. He was always a willing helper in any movement connected with the Church, and he was a keen supported of the local branch of the Church of England Men's Society. For Joe Howe compulsion had no meaning. He sprang to arms the moment the call came, being one of the very first from this village to enlist after the outbreak of the wear. He offered himself willingly and freely for the sake of King and country and did not tarry behind until he was dragged like a sheep to the slaughter under the coercion of compulsion. He is the third member of the Church choir to lay down his life for his country. Such young men are worthy of the highest honour because they willingly gave themselves to defend and save the Empire. His death brings the number of 'killed in action' from this parish up to eleven. The service at the Church on Sunday morning last took the form of a memorial service for the fallen hero. The Rector, in his sermon, alluded to the many good qualities of the deceased,

and after the Blessing had been pronounced, the organist, Miss May George, played the 'Dead March' in 'Saul' the congregation standing meanwhile. There was a numerous attendance, including many of the near relatives and friends of the deceased soldier. Such gallant young men can ill be spared from our village community. His Company Commander in notifying his parents of his death wrote that 'He was a splendid soldier, and was liked by officers and men alike. The only consolation I can give you is by saying that he suffered no pain and died immediately. He will be sorely missed by all the officers and men alike.' May he rest in peace!



Private 12974 George Edward Howe was born in Elmswell. He enlisted in the 8th Suffolk Regiment in Elmswell. He served in France & Flanders from 17th August 1914 and was killed in action on 27th June 1916. He is buried at Carnoy Military Cemetery Grave F28 and is remembered on the Elmswell War Memorial.



Harry Samuel Kerry

Private G/14856 Harry Samuel Kerry was born in Elmswell c1879. He originally enlisted as G16658 in the Royal West Kent Regiment in Bury St Edmunds, later transferring to the 1st (The Queen's) Royal West Surrey Regiment. He served in France & Flanders and died of wounds on 28th September 1917 aged 38. He is buried at Lijssenhoek Military Cemetery, Grave XXIV. D. 14A and is remembered on the Elmswell War Memorial. He was the husband of A. M. L. Kerry, of The Street, Elmswell.



Albert William King



Bury Free Press Saturday 27th July 1918 pg3 ELMSWELL MAN MISSING Mrs W King of Cross Street Elmswell would gratefully receive any information which could be supplied her concerning her husband R4687 W King AB, A. Coy 2nd Platoon Hood Battalion Royal Naval Division who has been officially reported as missing since March 24th. The missing soldier had been serving in France for a considerable period.



Able Seaman R/4687 Albert William King was born in Wetherden on 2nd April 1888. He enlisted in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve Hood Battalion, R.N. Division on 4th July 1917. He served in France & Flanders and was killed in action on 24th March 1918 aged 29. He is remembered on the Arras Memorial Bay 1 and on the Elmswell War Memorial. He was the husband of Mrs Maud King of Cross Street, Elmswell. His service record states "Fell and was buried near Royaulcourt."



William Albert King



Bury Free Press Saturday 27th November 1915 DEATH OF ANOTHER ELMSWELL LAD Lance-Corpl. Albert King, of the 7th Suffolks has met his death 'somewhere' in France. Deceased was wounded on November 1st, and his death took place at the base on November 8th, at the early age of 17 years as he would not have attained his 18th year until February next. Deceased was a son of Miss J. King, and grandson of the late Mr. Robert King, Hawk End Lane, who was one of the Indian Mutiny veterans. This lad, like some others of the village that have died fighting for their King and country, was a member of St John's Church choir, he having been a constant member for upwards of 10 years. He comes of a fighting race, as his grandfather served in the Indian Mutiny. One uncle served his time in the Suffolks. One has been sent home from the front wounded. Another uncle and brother are still in France and a cousin is 'somewhere' with the Navy. Great sympathy is felt in the village for relatives of deceased, as his aunt, Mrs T. Mulley, who brought him up, has lost her husband at the front since the war started.

Lance/Corporal 12972 William Albert King was born in Elmswell c1898. He enlisted in the 7th Suffolk Regiment in Elmswell. He served in France & Flanders from 4th October 1915 and died of wounds on 1st November 1915 aged 17. He is buried at Vermelles British Cemetery Grave I. D. 1 and is remembered on the Elmswell War Memorial. He was the son of Mrs. Jemima Vinson, of Abbey St., Thorpe-Le-Soken.



Albert Edward Manning



History of the Suffolk Regiment Lieut Col CCR Murphy 2nd Battalion pg133 On September 25, the opening day of the battle of Loos, the 2nd Suffolks were part of an attack from Railway Wood to Sanctuary Wood. This action became known as the second attack on Bellewaarde and was part of the subsidiary operation designed to distract the attention of the enemy and hold him to his ground.



Private 12970 Albert Edward Manning was born in Elmswell c1893. He enlisted in the 2nd Suffolk Regiment in Elmswell. He served in France & Flanders from 27th July 1915 and was killed in action on 25th September 1915 aged 22. He is buried at Maple Copse Cemetery Special Memorial A.7 and is remembered on the Elmswell War Memorial. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Amos Manning, of Oak Cottage, Hall Lane, Elmswell.



Gordon Victor Mulley



Bury Free Press Saturday 4th November 1916 pg3 ELMSWELL LAD KILLED AT SALONICA Mr and Mrs Mulley, 10 Hall Lane Elmswell have been informed that their son, Lc Corp Gordon Victor Mulley, was killed in action of Oct. 3rd at Salonica. He enlisted in July 1915 and was sent to Felixstowe where he was for a considerable period. Deceased was subsequently made Lance- Corpl. He had only been at Salonica six weeks when he was killed at the age of 19. Deceased was liked by all, as evidenced by the letters that Mrs Mulley has had from friends at the loss they have sustained. Mrs Mulley has got another son in France who has been there 18 months.



Lance/Corporal 20874 Gordon Victor Mulley was born in Elmswell c1897. He enlisted in the 1st Suffolk Regiment in Bury St Edmunds. He served in Salonika and was killed in action on 4th October 1916 aged 19. He is buried at Struma Military Cemetery Grave IV. C.7 and is remembered on the Elmswell War Memorial.



Thomas Stone Lewis Mulley

Private 6657 Thomas Stone Lewis Mulley was born in Coombe c1882. He enlisted in the 1st Cheshire Regiment in Needham on 21st September 1901. He served in France & Flanders from 7th October 1914 and was killed in action on 7th June 1915 aged 33. He is remembered on the Ypres Menin Gate Memorial Panel 19 - 22 and on the Elmswell War Memorial. He was the husband of Mary Ann Mulley, of Hawkins Battery, Maker, Cawsand, Plymouth.



Albert Cyril Bruce Pyke



Bury Free Press Saturday 12th August 1916 pg3 ELMSWELL LAD'S DEATH AT THE FRONT Another of our brave Elmswell boys has been killed somewhere in France on the 19th of July Prvt Albert (Bertie) Pyke, aged 22 years, and younger son of Mr E Pyke Hawk End Lance, Elmswell. Deceased was amongst the first to join Kitchener's Army when the call came for volunteers. His relatives received the sad news from his Sergeant. In a letter he says: "Prvt A. Pyke was killed with a comrade instantly. He suffered no pain. I saw him buried behind the firing line. His sudden death came as a great shock to his comrades as he was a good soldier." Much sympathy is felt in the village for the father, sister and two brothers of deceased, the latter are both in the Army; one is in the RFC and one in the RAMC. This brings the number of killed in this village up to twelve.

Private 12929 Albert Cyril Bruce Pyke was born in Elmswell c1893. He enlisted in the 8th Suffolk Regiment in Elmswell. He served in France & Flanders and was killed in action on 19th July 1916 aged 22. He is buried at Quarry Cemetery, Montauban Grave II A 5 and is remembered on the Elmswell War Memorial.



Ernest Percy Pyke

Private 48217 Ernest Percy Pyke was born in Old Newton c1894. He enlisted in the 11th Royal Fusiliers in Bury St Edmunds. He served in France & Flanders and was killed in action on 10th August 1917 aged 23. He is remembered on the Ypres Menin Gate Memorial Panel 6&8 and on the Elmswell War Memorial. He was the son of Arthur and Sarah Pyke, of Grove Cottage, Elmswell.



William Bruce Pyke



Airman First Class 24456 William Bruce Pyke enlisted in the Royal Flying Corps. He served at home and died on 19th January 1917. He is buried at Elmswell Cemetery and is remembered on the Elmswell War Memorial.

Stowmarket Post Thursday 1st February 1917 pg8 ELMSWELL MILITARY FUNERAL – Full military honours were accorded at the funeral at Elmswell on Wednesday week of William Bruce Pyke, late of the Royal Flying Corps. The Rev JR George (Rector) officiated. The obsequies commenced in the parish church, where there was a large congregation, the deceased having been a member of the church choir. From the residence of the deceased's father to the village church blinds were drawn at the houses and other expressions of sympathy were to be seen. The procession was headed by the firing party consisting of a party of fourteen soldiers from the Suffolk Regiment, under the direction of Sergt Hardy. Next came the band of the Suffolk Regt. from the Depot Barracks at Bury St Edmunds; then the bier on which the coffin, which was covered by the Union Jack, surmounted by choice floral tributes. The deceased's father and sister were the chief mourners, deceased's brother, a soldier, being unable to be present. Many other relatives followed and in the procession there were also Mr DW Collen of the 'Heaven of Prosperity' Lodge, of which the deceased was a member: Mr H Flowers, stationmaster at Elmswell: Mr Cornish, Woolpit: Mr JW Mulley, Mr Cooper, Mr E Collett, Mr W Bridges, and Mr E Nicholls of Elmswell. Several members of the Flying Corps attended as did also a detachment of the Suffolk Regimental Depot from Bury St Edmunds. The band under the direction of Bandmaster Beale played Chopin's Funeral March and the Dead March in Saul. Three volleys were fired over the grave and buglers sounded the Last Post. The interment took place at Elmswell Cemetery in the presence of a large assembly. The deceased, who was 25 years old, had been formerly a chauffeur to the English Ambassador in Turkey; at the commencement of the war he went to Italy from whence he came to England, and in March 1915 joined the Royal Flying Corps. Recently he met with a motor accident in Devonshire where he died. The coffin containing the remains arrived at Elmswell the previous Tuesday.



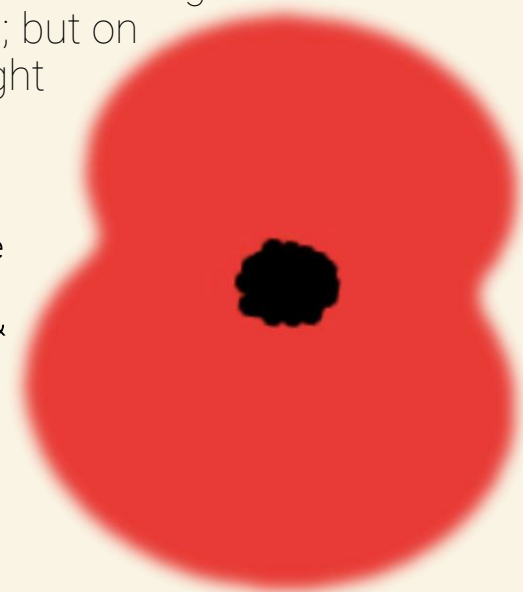
William James Robinson

Bury Free Press Saturday 8th September 1917 pg3 DEATH OF AN ELMSWELL BOY IN FRANCE Mr and Mrs H. Robinson, Hawk End Lane, Elmswell, have received the sad news of the death of their second son, Prvt William J. Robinson, 24253 2nd Batt. Suffolks, who has been missing since August 16, 1916, and the Army Council have been regretfully constrained to conclude that he is dead, and that his death took place on August 16th, 1916. Prvt. W. Robinson enlisted in January 1916, on his 20th birthday and was sent to France the middle of the following July. The eldest son of Mr and Mrs Robinson – George – is a baker in the ASC. He enlisted in May 1915 and was sent to Egypt, from whence he went to the Peninsula, when he was invalided home, having had fever and a poisoned arm. He is now at Holt, near Norwich, still with the troops, and following his trade. Much sympathy is felt in Elmswell for Mr and Mrs Robinson in their sad bereavement. Prvt. W. Robinson, prior to joining HM forces was porter at Elmswell Station, and was respected by the staff and fellow workmen. History of the Suffolk Regiment by Lieut Col CCR Murphy 2nd Battalion pg 184 After a fortnight's rest at Mericourt on the Somme the battalion moved up into the line south-west of Trones Wood near Maltz Horn farm, taking over some newly dug trenches. For the first

few days all was crush and confusion; the trenches were too narrow to move in or pass along. On August 16 orders were received to carry out an attack in cooperation with the French. Zero was fixed for half past five in the evening – an unusual hour. After heavy bombardment the battalion moved forward upon the heels of the barrage. On the right the attack was successful, some 250 yards of Cochrane alley being captured; but on the left it was brought to a standstill by heavy machine-gun fire and at night the battalion withdrew to its original line.



Private 24253 William James Robinson was born in Culford in January 1896. He enlisted in the 2nd Suffolk Regiment in Bury St Edmunds. He served in France & Flanders and died of wounds on 16th August 1916 aged 20. He is remembered on the Thiepval Memorial Pier & Face 1C&2A and on the Elmswell War Memorial.



Sidney James Bullet Salmon

History of the Suffolk Regiment by Lieut Col CCR Murphy 11th Battalion pg 249 On April 8th the 11th Battalion moved into its assembly positions half a mile south-east of Roclincourt. The next morning at half past five the guns began to roar and the battalion six hundred strong with twenty officers advanced to the attack on the first system of German trenches. The progress of the 11th Suffolk Regiment was checked but not delayed by hostile machine gun fire and within the allotted time the first goal was reached without loss. Shortly after eight o'clock battalion headquarters moved forward to the German second line where they established themselves in a dugout. Weather conditions were bad with occasional heavy snowstorms. (It is not clear how Pte Salmon was killed in this action).



Private 19617 Sydney James Bullet Salmon was born in Elmswell c1897. He enlisted in the 11th Suffolk Regiment in Bury St Edmunds. He served in France & Flanders and was killed in action on 9th April 1917 aged 19. He is buried at Roclincourt Valley Cemetery Grave IV. A. 9. and is remembered on the Elmswell War Memorial.



Donald Walker Warren

Sergeant 10718 Donald Walker Warren was born in Wetherden c1895. He enlisted in the 1st Cameronians Scottish Rifles in Bury St Edmunds. He served in France & Flanders from 15th August 1914 and was killed in action on 23rd June 1918 aged 23. He is buried at Belgian Battery Corner Cemetery Grave III. B. 11 and is remembered on the Elmswell War Memorial.



Sources Used

- Commonwealth War Graves website
- Soldiers Died (Naval & Military Press)
- Bury Post and Bury Free Press newspapers at
- Bury Record Office
- Suffolk County Council Roll of Honour
- Ancestry Library Edition for 1901 Census, Medal
- Cards & Service Records
- Australian War Records

Could you contribute further information to the Elmswell War Memorial Project?
If so please contact C. Clarke / C. Wiley C/O Stowupland High School
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