



In Remembrance. Veteran's Graves St Mary's Church, from World War I and II

Private Joseph Wicks of Hurst Green, who has a Commonwealth War Grave headstone close to the Community Centre entrance. The Oxted Branch Standard Bearers dip the standards on Remembrance Sunday at his grave site.

Joseph was born in Godstone in 1858 to William Wicks and Sarah Hyder. He was one of 9 children. He attested in Aldershot on 19 February 1878 into the 24th Regiment of Foot, "The South Wales Borderers" and spent 12 years serving in South Africa, Gibraltar, Natal and Mauritius. He was awarded the Zulu Medal with Clasp. Posted home on 27 February 1884 he was finally discharged on 20 February 1890. During this period he met Emily Wales, they married in Oxted Parish Church on 30 November 1889 and produced eight children.



On the outbreak of WWI in 1914, he enlisted into the Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment, 2/4 Battalion, but because of his age was transferred to the 680 Agricultural Company of the Labour Corps. He was 56 so it is remarkable that he was accepted. He died at home on 23 July 1921 age 65. His son Joseph also joined "The Queen's" and was killed in France 1917.



In what is known as the "North Part" of St Mary's Church, the fenced area adjoining the community centre, the graves of WWI casualties can be found:

Private Linden W H

Service number 123818, born 1884, died 14/04/1921, aged 37
He served with the Royal Army Medical Corps, which provided medical services to all army personnel. He died of wounds attributed to the war.



Private Ellis James Baker

Service number 25017 died, 05/04/1918 in Tipperary, Ireland of wounds received in December 1917. (Grave is in the corner next to the fence nearest the church).

Served with 14th Battalion The Worcestershire Regiment. A pioneer battalion trained for building redoubts, emplacements and other fieldworks. They were under command of the 63rd Royal Naval Division. They saw action at many locations including The Somme and Paschendale, and in December 1917 were in Havrincourt Wood.



Air Mechanic 1st Class William Alfred Charles Easter.

Service number 235264, died 22/04/1918, aged 23.
He served at Redcar aerodrome in the Royal Naval Air Service as ground crew to the flying school. He died in a flight test accident involving an Avro 504 that spun to the ground after an engine failure. The RNAS became the Royal Air Force 1st April 1918.



Private William Charles Knight.

Service number 2003, died 23/07/1916, aged 31.
He served with 7th Battalion The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment). It is assumed that he died from the result of wounds received during the attack on Longueval on the 13th July where 150 men were wounded.



In what is known as “The Extension” to the church Cemetery on the north side of Court Farm Lane are those who died in World War Two:

Major Edward Herbert Brockes,

Service number 106274, died 17/09/1945

Indian Army and Civil Service WW1.

Royal Army Ordnance Corps. His father was the founder of Oxted Newsagent's H.E. Brockes & Sons which became Paydens.



Major Leonard Varnhan Stribling.

Service number 148245, died 13/07/1945.

He served with 15 Battery, 17 Medium Regiment, Royal Artillery.

They were under Command of the 8th Army during the Italian Campaign.

Married Nov 1944.



Lance Serjeant Neville Richard Janion

Service number 7809954, died 28/10/1943, aged 49.

He served with 2nd Battalion The Manchester Regiment. Wounded in France during WW1.

Re-Enlisted for WW2, Invalided from service and died at home.



Sapper Arthur James Pearson

Service number 1909537, Died 19/08/1940, aged 20.

He served with 262 Field Company, Royal Engineers. Part of the BEF in France attached to 37 Infantry Brigade with 12 Division. Evacuated from Boulogne. Killed by CO gas poisoning in a bomb crater at Bridge near Canterbury. Another Sapper died trying to rescue him. He was from Merle Common.



There were also graves of three German Airmen shot down in September 1940. One German Sailor. These are most likely to have been moved to the German War Grave at Cannock Chase.



Oxted, War Memorial Cross.

Wars Commemorated:

**First World War 1914-1918, Second World War: 1939-1945
(South East Asia 1945-1946)**

Inscription:

In honour of those who served- in sympathy with those who suffered- in proud and loving memory of those who fell in the Great Wars 1914-1919 1939-1945 You are reminded that this is sacred ground"

The following from this Parish of Oxted gave their lives. 1914-1918

Allen.A.S.	Fisher. M.	Jenner T.C.	Robinson W. De H.
Baker. C.E.	Gardiner E.A.	Knight W.C.	(MC)
Baker. E.I.	Gibson E.D.	Longley. C.	Roffey. H.W (MM)
Baker. G.	Gibson. M.R.	Lovelock. H.W. (MM)	Russell.A.
Barrie. A.	Habgood.A.	Luff.W.	Sharam.A
Bashford. T.H.	Habgood. C.	Madge.W.	Simmonds. L
Bentley. F.J.	Habgood.W.H.	Malyan. E.	Smith.A.
Bell. E.V.	Hammond. R.W. (MC)	Malyan. S.	Staplehurst. A.
Bonnell. R.	Hartnup. F.	Marchant. C.	Stedman. A.
Brown. J.M.	Hartnup. J.R. (MM)	Moorey. F.A.	Thomas. B.
Burt.W.J.	Heath. H.	Morgan. F.	Thornton. G.
Calloway. C.M.	Hoare.W.G.	Newing. C.	Trinder. C.
Canfield.W.	Holman. F.G.	Newman. I.	Trinder. J.
Chapman. D.	Hooker. J.	Nunn. H.B.	Veasy. I.S.
Church. L.	Howden.J.	Nunn. I.B.	Wicks.W.
Cooper. C.E.	Humphrey. F.	Outrim. C.E.	Young. E.C.
Cowlard. C.	Humphrey. R.H.	Parkhurst.A.L.	Young.T.A.
Cox. G.	Illman. H.	Pocock. G.	
Creasy. A.	Ingram. J.	Pocock.W.	
Easter.W.A.C.	Jacobs.A	Reynolds.W.	

1939-1945

Arthur. B.	Dickinson.A.	Ould. F.E.	Wickham W.P.
Brotherton-Ratcliffe. E	Ferguson. J.	Pearce.F.A	Winkle P.F.V.
Baines.V.C.	Gillingham.A.G.	Pearson A.J.	
Brown.P.F.C.	Greenfield.A.W.	Pentecost.A.	<u>Civilian Casualties</u>
Bunn. A.V.	Hall.F.C	Robison. N.	Brice.A.J
Bunn. S.J.	Hall. L.D	Sales. B.	Brice. H.M. Miss
Coatman. R.A.	Haynes. T.K.	Seal. R.G.	Bryan. F.J.
Coatman.R.A.	Howard.A.J. (MM)	Simmonds. H.L.	Lancaster. J. Mrs
Creasy. D.H.	Jeffries. R.M.H.	Simmons. G.F.	Lancaster. R.A.
Critter.A.	King.W.	Sparrow.H	Luxford. F.E. Miss
Curran. R.H.	Leary.A.	Stribling. L.V.	Mammatt. J.E.M. Mrs
Deacock. V.A.	Malden. P.B.	Tompkins. J.S.	Mammatt. P.M. Miss
Day. H.A.	Ould.A.T.	Waghorn. K.W.	Mammatt.W.M. Miss