

NOTABLE PEOPLE BURIED IN OXFORD CEMETERIES

NAME	BORN	DIED	CEMETERY	REMARKS
Sir Charles Umpherston Aitchison	1833	1896	Wolvercote	<p>Sir Charles did not inherit the title 'Sir'. It was awarded later, as a result of his achievements. He was not a member of the aristocracy and he did not go to one of our famous public schools. He attended the local High School in Edinburgh Scotland, where he was born, and then went to Edinburgh University, where he was considered a bright student. He first showed himself to be exceptional at the age of 23, when he took the competitive examination for the Indian Civil Service, as it was then called. There were 113 candidates for only 20 places. Sir Charles came 5th overall.</p> <p>He first came out to the Sub-continent at the age of 24, arriving in Calcutta in September 1856, as a Junior Civil Servant. The next year he was transferred to the Punjab, and was posted to Lahore in March 1858, when he was 26. In the next 20 years, he was gradually promoted, moving upwards through the ranks. He also wrote several books. His most extensive work was a collection of treaties, engagements and Sanads, which eventually spread to eleven volumes. In 1878 he was disappointed to be transferred to Burma, where he felt home-sick for the Punjab. Sir Charles therefore saw this great ambition of his achieved a year before the end of his term as Lieutenant-Governor. In 1888 he finally retired to England. By this time, he was in a fairly poor state of health, and he eventually died in 1896, at the age of 64.</p>

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Sir Isaiah Berlin	1909	1997	Wolvercote	<p>Sir Isaiah Berlin was a political philosopher and historian of ideas, regarded as one of the leading liberal thinkers of the 20th century. Born in Riga, then part of the Russian Empire, he was the first Jew to be elected to a prize fellowship at All Souls College, Oxford. From 1957 to 1967, he was Chichele Professor of Social and Political Theory at the University of Oxford. In 1967, he helped to found Wolfson College, Oxford, and became its first president. He was knighted in 1957, and was awarded the Order of Merit in 1971. He was president of the British Academy from 1974 to 1978. He also received the 1979 Jerusalem Prize for writings on the theme of individual freedom in society.</p>

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Edward Brooks	1883	1944	Rose Hill	VC winner on 28 Apr 1917. The citation reads: On 28 April 1917 at Fayet, near St. Quentin, France (France: A republic in western Europe; the largest country wholly in Europe) , Company Sergeant-Major Brooks, while taking part in a raid on the enemy's trenches, saw that the front wave was being checked by an enemy machine-gun. On his own initiative he rushed forward from the second wave, killed one of the gunners with his revolver and bayoneted another. The remainder of the gun crew then made off, leaving the gun, whereupon the company sergeant-major turned it on the retreating enemy, after which he carried it back to Allied lines. His courageous action undoubtedly prevented many casualties and greatly added to the success of the operation.
Lord Norman Crowther-Hunt	1920	1987	Wolvercote	Served in government as Minister of State in the Department of Education in 1974 and Minister of State at the Privy Council Office in 1976. Baron Crowther-Hunt was a noted Historian, Fellow and Lecturer in Politics at Exeter College, Oxford.
Lady Joyce Crowther-Hunt	1922	2005	Wolvercote	The Baroness Crowther-Hunt, DL, widow of the life peer Baron Crowther-Hunt (1920-87), died at the age of 83. She was the former Joyce Stackhouse, daughter of the Rev. Joseph Stackhouse, of Walsall Wood, Staffordshire; and married the then Norman Crowther-Hunt in 1944. The Baroness was a Deputy Lieutenant for Oxfordshire, and was President of Oxfordshire Guides. She was appointed Lazo Dama de Isabel la Catolica 1991.

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Charles Sydney Gibbes	1876	1963	Headington	Gibbes's was noted for his command of languages and he decided to teach English overseas. He began teaching English to various aristocratic households in St Petersburg and became a teacher at the Imperial School of Law. In 1908, he was invited by Imperial Family to teach English to the Great Duchess. In 1913, he taught English to the nine-year-old Tsarevich, Alexis.
Elizabeth Jennings CBE	1926	2001	Wolvercote	Elizabeth Jennings was born in Boston, Lincolnshire and read English at St Anne's college, Oxford. Her first book was awarded a Somerset Maugham Award, and many other distinctions followed, including the W H Smith Award, 1987 and a CBE.
The Right Honourable Frederick Alexander Linderman 1 st Viscount Cherwell	1886	1957	Wolvercote	A scientist, born in Baden-Baden, SW Germany, he was brought up in England, but went to university at Berlin and the Sorbonne. In 1914 he became director of the Experimental Physics Station at Farnborough, where he evolved the mathematical theory of aircraft spin, and tested it in a daring flight. In 1919 he became Professor of Experimental Philosophy at Oxford, and later Director of the Clarendon Laboratory. A close friend of Churchill, he became his scientific adviser in 1940. He was created a Baron in 1941, and was Paymaster-General on two occasions (1942-5, 1951-3).
William Richard Morfill	1834	1909	St Sepulchre's	William Richard Morfill was an Oxford University Lecturer and was the author of 'A Brief History of Russia'. In the Michaelmas Term of 1870, he gave the first Ilchester course of lectures on the ethnology, early history and popular traditions of the Slavonic nations. In December 1889, Morfill was appointed Reader in Russian and other Slavonic Languages, becoming the first holder of an academic post in the Slavonic field in a British University. Morfill's death was a great loss to the field of Slavonic studies at Oxford, and, indeed, Great Britain.

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Sir James Murray	1837	1915	Wolvercote	Murray was appointed Editor of the OED in 1873 and continued as Chief Editor until his death. The first part of the dictionary –A to Aunt- appeared in 1879. Although he estimated that the dictionary would be completed by 1891, it was not in fact finished until 1928. Sir James Murray received many honorary degrees, including one from Oxford in 1914 and was the Romanes Lecturer at the University in 1900. Sir James formerly resided at 78 Banbury Road, Oxford.
Professor David Patterson CBE	1922	2005	Wolvercote	David Patterson was born in Liverpool in 1922. His parents were part of the great wave of Jewish emigration to the West which followed the pogroms of 1881. Professor David Patterson is the Emeritus Founder President of the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies and an Emeritus Fellow of St Cross College, Oxford. He was the Cowley Lecturer in Postbiblical Hebrew at Oxford University from 1956-1989, and prior to that a lecturer in modern Hebrew at Manchester University, from which he has a BA in Semitic languages with first class honours, as well as an MA and PhD. He is the author of many books and articles on modern Hebrew literature and modern Jewish history. As a scholar of modern Hebrew literature, David Patterson's crowning achievement was the establishment in 1972 of the Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies (now the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies) within Oxford University. Within 15 years of its inception the centre had become one of the leading institutions for the study of Hebrew and Jewish subjects in the world, with a wide range of interests from the Dead Sea Scrolls to Yiddish literature. It is truly remarkable that a single individual, and a gentle and modest one at that, could achieve such a revolution in an institution so traditional and averse to change as Oxford University. In recognition of his achievements with the centre, Patterson was appointed CBE in 2003.

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Professor Sir Dimitri Obolensky	1918	2002	Wolvercote	Professor Obolensky was born Petrograd on 1st April 1918 and died at Burford, Oxfordshire on 23 December 2002. He was a Fellow, Trinity College, Cambridge 1942-48; Honorary Fellow 1991-2001; Lecturer in Slavonic Studies, Cambridge University 1946-48; Reader in Russian and Balkan Medieval History, Oxford University 1949-61; Professor of Russian and Balkan History 1961-85 (Emeritus); Student, Christ Church, Oxford 1950-85 (Emeritus); FBA 1974; Kt 1984.
Sir William Schlich	1840	1925	Wolvercote	Sir William Schlich, a 19th-century English forester, is remembered for his efforts to advance forestry education and practices. From 1867 to 1885 he was a member of the Royal Indian Forest Service, working to establish British timber reserves in its colonial possessions. He is known for having the greatest impact on British forestry in the early years of the last century. Schlich advocated the idea of systematic forest management on public and private estates for which he prepared management plans. To advance modern forestry practices Schlich wrote a five-volume work, The Manual of Forestry, that discussed silviculture, forest protection, and forest management. Throughout his distinguished career Schlich went on to publish numerous papers on the emerging field of forestry. Education played a large role in Schlich's life. He established the forestry department of the Royal Indian Engineering College at Coopers Hill, and he founded the School of Forestry at Oxford in 1905. These two institutions have been instrumental in the training of the majority of British foresters who have served throughout the world.

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Henry Sweet	1845	1912	Wolvercote	<p>Henry Sweet (1845-1912) was a philologist, and is sometimes also considered to be an early linguist. He specialized in languages related to English (Anglo-Saxon, Old Icelandic and West Saxon). Sweet also published on larger issues of phonetics and grammar in language, but his work on the Germanic languages is more widely remembered. Some of Sweet's works are still in print and continue to be used as course texts at colleges and universities.</p> <p>Some of the books he wrote are Handbook on Phonetics (1877), Oldest English Texts (1885), Primer of Old Icelandic (1888), and he edited several books for the Early English Text Society. He never managed to get a position with a college, which disturbed him greatly; he had done poorly in school, he had annoyed many people through bluntness, and didn't take every effort to gather official support. George Bernard Shaw described Henry Higgins (a character in Pygmalion) to be a largely accurate portrayal of Sweet in the preface to that play.</p>
Lily Sophia Tawney	1867	1947	Wolvercote	<p>Miss Lily Sophia Tawney (1867–1947) was the first ever woman to be Mayor of Oxford. She was the daughter of Archer Robert Tawney, Esq. (born in Dunchurch, Warwickshire in 1818) and Emma (born in Bloomsbury, London in 1828). Her paternal grandfather, Richard Tawney of Dunchurch, was a descendant of the Tawney brewing family which had produced four Mayors in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Miss Tawney resigned from the council in 1942, and died on 14 October 1947 following an operation in the Acland Hospital, Oxford.</p>

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John Ronald Reuel Tolkien	1892	1973	Wolvercote	J. R. R. Tolkien spent nearly all his adult life in Oxford, first as an undergraduate at Exeter College, later as a Fellow of Pembroke College and Professor of Anglo-Saxon (1922-45), and finally as a Fellow of Merton College and Professor of English Language and Literature (1945- 59). Between 1953 and 1968 he lived at 76 Sandfield Road, Headington, where there is a plaque. His books <i>The Hobbit</i> (1937) and <i>Lord of the Rings</i> (1955) describe a fantasy world of his own invention with its own mythology and language.
Henry Michael John Underhill	1855	1920	Wolvercote	Henry Underhill was a founding member of the Oxfordshire Natural History Society and Field Club (later to become the Ashmolean Natural History Society). This society was formed in 1880 and met regularly at the University Museum. From the 1880s to the 1890s, Underhill was an active member of the Oxfordshire Natural History Society, as Secretary, Treasurer and finally President in 1893. His first lectures to the Society were on Natural History: 1887 <i>Spiders</i> , 1888 <i>Insect Eyes</i> and 1889 on <i>Microscopic Organisms from Ponds</i> . By the late 1880s, Underhill began producing hand-painted Magic Lantern Slides on broader topics. His slides of folktales were shown during entertainments for the Oxford Ragged School, the Congregational Church Sunday School and The Band of Hope. In 1914, the outbreak of the First World War affected both the University and the City of Oxford. Underhill's business in the High Street began to suffer. However, he continued to photograph buildings and landscape during outings with family and friends to local places of interest. Some of his last photographs in 1919 show views of Wayland's Smithy and the White Horse at Uffington. He died, age 65, unmarried.

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Sir Edward Maitland Wright	1906	2005	Wolvercote	<p>Edward Maitland Wright was born on 13th February 1906 at a small village near Leeds, where his father owned a factory making Wright's Washall Soap. Sir Edward Wright was the former principal and vice-chancellor of Aberdeen University. He became one of the country's most distinguished mathematicians, despite being largely self-taught. During his academic career, Wright worked in the area of Analytic Number Theory, a branch of number theory which uses real and complex analysis to investigate the properties of integers and prime numbers, and was co-author with GH Hardy, his tutor at Oxford, of Introduction to the Theory of Numbers (1938). He was one of the first to work on difference differential equations and later applied analytic methods to graph theory. Apart from a gap during the war, he published steadily from 1930 until 1981.</p>