



# THE CLARION



ARMISTICE CENTENARY EDITION  
1918 - 2018





**Father Kevin Morris, Vicar of St Michael and All Angels, Bedford Park writes:**

During these last four years of commemoration of the Great War there has been the opportunity to reflect on how it began, the horrendous battles, such as Gallipoli and the Somme, the alliances between nations, the rights and wrongs of political and military strategies, censorship, propaganda, the role of the Church of England, poetry and the impact the war made on our national society, particularly in terms of social disruption and the place of women.

It has also been an opportunity to recover a multitude of voices, many of which had been overlooked, ignored or silenced: the experiences of the ordinary soldier, nurses, prisoners of war, conscientious objectors, the civilian casualties, war correspondents, civilian workers, the Indians, Canadians, Australians and New Zealanders who contributed to the war effort and also the experiences of people belonging to the 'enemy nations.'

The memorials in nearly every town and village in Britain still bring home to us, in a very stark way, the huge sense of national bereavement and grief: a whole generation was depleted by mass slaughter. For those who survived, there were always the signs of the loss of sons and daughters, parents, brothers, sisters, husbands and wives, lovers, colleagues and neighbours. For many the continuing trauma of having seen friends butchered before their eyes ruined their lives and affected adversely the lives of their loved ones, many of whom remember the silence that seemed to envelop those who witnessed such atrocities.

Our World War I project at St Michael's set out to discover more about those who died in our local community, whose names are listed on our own memorials, to give them 'a voice.' It became important to us that during this centenary commemoration, they did not remain merely a list of anonymous names, but became individuals whom we could get to know, even at a distance of a 100 years. These were people who lived, worked and worshipped in our community. They were family, friends, neighbours, fellow worshippers whose loss was painful and difficult to comprehend.

There is something deeply Christian in attending to each name as significant and not merely as a statistic and I am grateful to David Beresford for the immense amount of detailed research he has done on each person listed on our war memorials. This has been such an important ministry among us and it has helped us to remember, in a profound and Christian way, the impact of war on a personal as well as a national level.

The painter and poet, David Jones, survived serving on the Front Line and in his great poetic evocation of the trenches, *In Parenthesis*, describes the survivors of one action getting ready for the next push.

*"But how intolerably bright the morning is where we who are alive and remain, walk lifted up, carried forward by an effective word".*

The generation that has passed walked forward with vision and bravery and held together the bonds of our society, our continent, our Commonwealth through a terrible century. May we learn the lessons they learned; and God save us from learning them in the way they had to.

# THE HISTORY OF THE PARISH OF BEDFORD PARK



The key to understanding the nature of the names recorded on the parish memorials lies in the history of the development of the Parish of St Michael and All Angels, Bedford Park. St Michael and All Angels started out life as a corrugated iron structure, a chapel-of-ease to alleviate congestion at St Nicholas, Chiswick. It was constructed in 1876 on the north side of Chiswick High Road, facing Chiswick Lane, where there were said to be “3,000 souls mostly of the poorer classes, 1,000 being very poor. Great numbers were laundresses, labourers in the market gardens and the local breweries.” Because of the recent extension of the District Railway, greatly increased population was expected - “new houses are likely to be cottages for the poorer classes.”

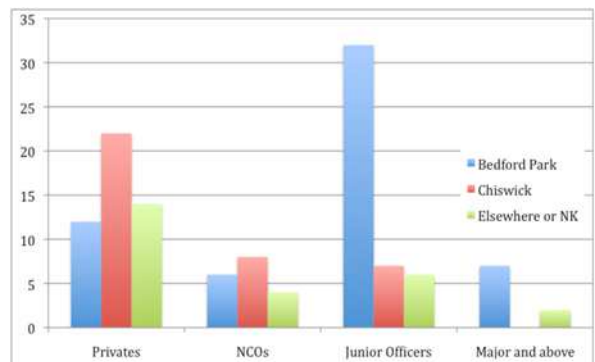
The area south of the railway extending to the north side of Chiswick High Road comprised densely packed artisanal dwellings, developed to serve the needs of the increasingly industrial parts of Chiswick. The boatyards, the breweries and the market gardens had been augmented by laundries and workshops, as well as a burgeoning commercial and retail sector.

In the meantime, however, in 1876, the first houses in the future Bedford Park were being constructed in The Avenue, the inspiration of the cloth merchant and aspirant property developer, Jonathan T Carr. He had married Agnes Fulton, the daughter of a civil engineer, Hamilton Fulton, who had purchased and lived in Bedford House with its surrounding land. Carr initially purchased 24 acres of this land from his father-in-law and in time a further 89 acres, some of which was leased from the Church Commissioners, from land that was a detached part of Ealing Parish.

At that early stage, there were only 150 inhabitants of the new Bedford Park Estate. In due time the estate contained 490 houses occupying 113 acres.

Bedford Park initially attracted particularly “the cultured middle class”, helped by skilful advertising of it in the popular artistic magazines - with its public buildings it formed a compact self-contained village - ‘*Rus in Urbe*’ - somewhat lampooned in 1882 as “the home of the aesthetes”. Certainly ‘The Club’ was the centre “of cultural activity”. As the estate grew towards the end of the century, the social mix gradually changed, with families from trades and professions supplanting some of the more artistic and intellectual original pioneers of the ‘Colony’. However, it retained its appearance as a self-contained community.

In common with many Anglo-Catholic parishes, St Michael and All Angels developed a Mission Church to evangelise and serve the poorer areas of the parish, through a separately appointed Missioner. A Mission Room and Club Room for the Poor was established in a cottage at 9 Nutley Terrace (adjacent to Windmill Road), no longer extant from about 1894 and greatly rebuilt in about 1913. The Cadets and Boy Scouts used it for meetings.



The widely different demographic mix between the north and the south of the parish is fully demonstrated in the different people whose names became inscribed in the Bedford Park and Parish Memorials. The Parish Memorial rather more mimics the proportions of Officers and Other Ranks to be seen nationally, whereas the Bedford Park Memorial Seat, with its 70 per cent officer proportion in its 40 names, clearly emphasises the ‘Garden Suburb’ nature of the middle-class culture-conscious estate residents. Many of those in the poorer part of Chiswick could often count three generations living in the area.

## THE PARISH AND CHURCH IN THE WAR

The St Michael's magazines 1915 -1918 are a chronicle of lost youth, of decimated families, of self sacrifice, of optimism in the face of appalling news and of 'getting on' with parish life. The following extracts provide a poignant snapshot of how the life of St Michael's and its parishioners was affected by the war. The Vicar, Father Jacob Cartmel Robinson, wrote most of the copy for the magazine.

In early 1915 the mood was upbeat and in **February 1915** he wrote: "All this knitting which goes on everlastingly, what a sight it is! In the home, in the theatre, in the train, in the lift – there it is! You cannot get away from it ... "Tommy" at the front must feel a bit pleased, I fancy, when he thinks of all those women and girls mothering him." In **June 1915** - "a word should be said for our choir ... nearly all the adults are serving their country, either as soldiers, constables or on relief committees ...and yet the music is very good, is it not? Bravo choir!" In **July 1915** - "among the wounded at the front, I see, are Oliver Thornhill, the son of our esteemed sidesman, now doing duty as a special constable, and Harry Lindsey, a Server. Both are doing well, I believe. Bedford Park is having its due share of killed and wounded, but we are proud of our fighting men." And "There are to be no Parish Treats this year in London. Well a day! What will the mothers and the children think? They will not like it, perhaps, but it is good for them, as for all of us, to know that great things are happening, involving the sacrifice of England's best manhood, and that it is not well with a nation that can take its pleasure or do its business 'as usual' just now."



As the war progresses the mood darkens. The Vicar and the family of his predecessor Revd Alfred Wilson (who had died in 1909) were not immune from bad news from the front. In **September 1915** "young Cartmel Robinson is reported wounded in the Dardanelles..." In the same edition there is a report of the death in the hospital at Armentières of Second Lieutenant Lawrence Wilson: "Mrs Wilson and the family have our sincerest sympathy. They have paid a heavy toll in the defence of their country, this being the second son killed in battle" (their son, Harold had been killed in 1900 at the battle of Spion Kop in the Boer War). "It is presumptuous to offer comfort under such circumstances, and yet it is something for them to know that he was very highly esteemed by those who knew him in life, and that the Parish where he lived as a boy now honours him in death." The Wilsons were to pay an even higher price.

In **May 1918** the vicar reports that: "Mrs Wilson... has lost another son in the war - Edgar, the doctor - who was mortally wounded while attending a soldier on the field of battle. This makes the third boy who has given his life in the service of his country, A fourth is in the fighting on the front. All this makes a heavy burden to which may be added the loss of her husband and partial blindness. Our united prayer is that God of his mercy may be kind to her and spare her further suffering." Both Lawrence and Edgar Wilson are commemorated on special brass plaques in the south aisle of the church.



Singling out just a few of the contemporary comments about those whose deaths were reported almost monthly in the magazine: **July 1916** - "we have lost one of our best and dearest lads in the War – Kenneth Hallward" (his father was the Choir Treasurer and his mother Treasurer of the High Altar Flower Fund). "A wreath hangs over his vacant seat in the choir and will remain there until we put up the permanent memorial in the Church to him and his companions who have given their lives for their country in this war." "Following on the death of Father Stevens' brother (Fr. Stevens was the St Michael's curate) - the comely lad who reminded us of 'David' being ruddy and fair of countenance - comes the sad news from France of the death of Alexander Robinson, the only son of our Churchwarden. He was one of the most regular and devout Servers at the altar, and had a promising career in front of him, having done well at University and taken a good degree in Science though so young." In **October 1917** the magazine reported the presentation of a Bishop's throne by Mr and Mrs Robinson in memory of their son. He died on the Somme aged only 21. "It stands where Lieut. Robinson used so often to have his place among the Servers before he went out to the War ...it is a fitting memorial to a good son, a good soldier and a good Christian." This chair can still be found in the Sanctuary on the north side of the High Altar.



And lastly in **January 1918** comes news that "during the past month Dunkley, Bavin, Taylor and Tolson have all been reported killed. Tolson used to come out with us carolling. Taylor's father often helped with his violin in the Masses...and Dunkley, dear Dunkley, most earnest of the Servers at the Altar and a famous swinger of the thurible – how we shall miss his cheery face. To think he is gone! A staunch churchman and helpful in Services even on the field of battle, as we learned from a Chaplain. Goodbye Dunkley and God be with you!"

A touching conclusion came in **August 1918** when the vicar sought the donation of precious stones to decorate a memorial chalice in memory of "friends fallen in the War". In what can only be a plea to that generation of women whose chances of a happily married future had died with their husbands and sweethearts, Father Jacob wrote: *"There must be a number of ladies who have gems in their possession of whose future disposal they are in doubt. They could not do better than give them, and so preserve them for sacred use, in the commemoration of those who have shed their blood in the great sacrifice."*

Although aged 61 at the outset of the War, in **June 1915** the Vicar volunteered: *"I have joined the United Arts Corps, and drill three or four times a week. I might be of some use in case of a raid, or at least release a younger man for foreign service. Anyhow, I felt that my action might help some others to form a decision, for I am in favour of universal service...."*



He also became chaplain to the St Michael's Cadet Company and attended all its annual camps. By 1918 he had become Lieutenant Colonel of the 10th Cadet Battalion, Middlesex Regiment, presiding at all its monthly 'Drumhead' services on Stamford Brook Common. In the meantime,

his sons volunteered. The eldest, Harold, was in the African Field Force, Jacob in the Connaught Rangers serving in Gallipoli, (where he was wounded) and Eirik joined the Queen's Bays. All of them survived the War.

In **September 1915**, the Parish magazine reported that Mr Arthur Smart, the Sacristan and lay sub-deacon, had volunteered – the vicar wrote: *"I don't know what we shall do without him one feels proud of being associated in work with men like Smart, so robust, sensible, reverent and unflinching....as Smart is giving up his business at the call of his country and leaves behind a wife and children, we ought to show our appreciation of his good work. As he said to me 'I am an old soldier, and I felt I ought to go when they asked for men'. He has already risen to be a Corporal. When they asked his occupation, he replied 'Sacristan at St Michael's, Bedford Park'. I wonder if the recruiting officer knew exactly the nature of such work."* A testimonial was subscribed for the Smart family and the individual donors (together their donations!) were listed in the following months' magazines. Smart, in the Royal Field Artillery, wrote regularly from the front, as did many of the St Michael's soldiers,

but his letters are particularly evocative and moving. In May 1916 he wrote to his wife: *"This letter is written under gunfire. There is a battle on and its realities speak more than tongue or pencil could tell ... night and day continuous fighting and the spirit of the troops wonderful... I expect you and the children will be going to Mass tomorrow, Ascension Day. I shall think of you ... I must stop; the guns distract me; they are booming away louder than ever"*.

In **February 1918** a letter from Smart was entitled *"Intercession Services at the Front Line"*. This described a short service in a 'hole dug in the side of a winding road over the hill'. He concluded: *"Prayers finished, which included those for two of the company's beloved comrades laid to rest that very afternoon. We sang, kneeling, 'O God our help in ages past' a prayer sung in earnestness and reverence. Many men in the days to come will call to mind the night in the hole in the road ... Here you see the way the evening hour was spent on the Western Front, right forward in the firing line, on the night of Epiphany when any moment might be our last on earth."*

When he returned after the War's end, Mr Smart



resumed his sacristan duties. He had brought with him a brass thurible or censer 'salved' from a ruined French church, which, after recent restoration,

is still used during the Requiem Mass on Remembrance Sunday.

The Curate for most of the War period was Rev. Thomas Stevens. His younger brother was 2nd Lt Walter Stevens, who was killed in the early stages of the Battle of the Somme in 1916.

Finally, the Vicar's successor in 1934, Rev. Lewis Smith, had volunteered while a theology student. He served with distinction in 6th Royal West Kent Regiment and was awarded an MC for his actions at Monchy-le-Preux: *"For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty when in command of a raiding party. On completion of the task, he personally superintended the withdrawal which was carried out in good order. He showed considerable powers of leadership"*. He died in 1953, while still Incumbent at St Michael's.

Reviewing these extracts brings to life those names that are commemorated in many places in St Michael's - and meaning to the words

**"We will remember them"**

**Cathie James**

## VIOLET B A L LONG OBE Died at sea 3 August 1918

**Violet Beatrix Alice Lambton Way** was born on 30 April 1883, in Newcastle on Tyne, the fourth of five children of Colonel Wilfred FitzAlan Way and Henrietta Mary Ross. He had served in the 4/ Somerset Light Infantry, latterly in India, before retiring from service in the 1890s. In the census record of 1901, Violet was living with her parents and younger siblings in Portsmouth, together with her elder married sister, **Florence Edith Victoria Leach**, whose husband, Henry Burleigh Leach, was serving in the South Africa War with the Northumberland Fusiliers as a Captain. (He subsequently served in command of 1/South Wales Borderers at Ypres as a Lieutenant Colonel). In her late Victorian military environment Violet seemed to have had a carefree time, mainly based on the family home in Portsmouth, attending social events, military sports meetings and bicycling, riding and tennis.

Violet was only just 18 when she married Captain William Edward Long (ten years her senior) at St George's Church, Hanover Square in 1901. William ('Bill') Long was the son of Colonel William Long CMG, Somerset's Deputy Lieutenant and JP, of Clevedon, Somerset and Congresbury, Bristol, a prominent Somerset figure. 'Bill' held commissions with the 4th Hussars and the Somerset Light Infantry, was wounded in the Boer War and also saw service in Penang, Malay States and elsewhere, accompanied by his young wife until he was transferred to the Reserve of Officers in about 1908.

The couple had two daughters, Felicite Annette Cynthia, born in 1905, and Violet Maud Edith in May 1911. It seems it was in about 1911 that the family moved to London, initially in Battersea at Overstrand Mansions and to Bedford Park in about 1913, firstly in Bath Road and then at 4 Abinger Road, which Violet called "The Shanty"!



M<sup>rs</sup> Long OBE. Deputy Controller in Chief QM AAC. who was drowned by the torpedoing of the Warilda in the English Channel. 3.viii.18. IWM



Recalled early for service in the War, 'Bill' served in the Remount Service, rising to the rank of Major. Violet was determined on serving the war effort. Initially, she trained in first aid and maternity nursing in a voluntary civilian capacity, forming a local Voluntary Aid Detachment (VAD) and serving the local poor in Chiswick. She undertook first aid classes in St Michael's Parish Hall.

The Women's Legion was launched in 1915, and Florence Burleigh Leach, her sister, volunteered and soon rose to a senior administrative position. In 1917, the various women's voluntary bodies, Women's Legion, St. John Ambulance Brigade, VAD and First Aid Nursing Yeomanry (FANY) were reorganised into a paid government service, the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, and the first WAACs went to France on 31 March 1917. Mrs. Florence Burleigh Leach became its second Chief Controller and appointed her sister Violet as her deputy, latterly Chief Controller for Administration. Both sisters were appointed to the Order of the British Empire in 1918.

Chief Controller Violet Beatrix Alice Lambton Long née Way OBE died at sea in the English Channel on 3 August 1918. The Ambulance Transport Ship *HMAT Warilda*, in which she was travelling on return from an inspection of WAAC units serving American troops in France, was hit by a torpedo from a German U-boat and sank.

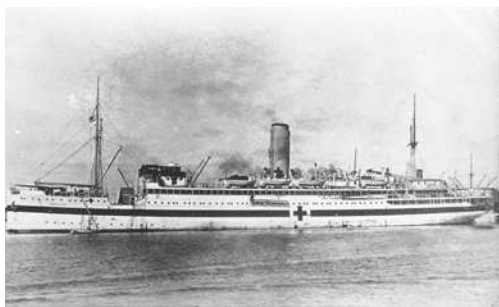
The circumstances of Violet's death, only three months before the end of the war, is described below. She was 35. Both Felicite Annette Cynthia and Violet Maud, cared for after their mother's death by their aunt Florence, subsequently married and had families that thrive to this day. Their father died in Malaga only in 1961.

Apart from the St Michael's Memorial, Violet is commemorated at Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton and on the Women of Empire Memorial in York Minster (*below*).



### THE SINKING OF HMAT WARILDA

His Majesty's Australian Transport *Warilda* was a 7,713-ton vessel, built in Glasgow. She was designed for the East-West Australian coastal service, but following the start of the First World War, she was converted into a troopship. Re-converted into a hospital ship in 1916 she was put to work transporting patients across the



English Channel. From then until August 1918 she made over 180 trips from Le Havre to Southampton, carrying approximately 80,000 patients in all.

Chief Controller Violet Long had taken over a contingent of staff to France to work with the American Expeditionary Forces and to gather information for a report to her sister on how the QMAAC's service with the Allied forces was progressing. With her work completed, she managed to get a berth back to England on board *Warilda* with her orderlies.

The sea was smooth and visibility was about half a mile, so there could have been little difficulty in recognising that she was a hospital ship. At 01.35 am a German U-boat fired a single torpedo at the hospital ship with no warning. The torpedo hit the ship aft on the starboard quarter, disabling the *Warilda's* starboard propeller; but the port engine could not be shut down because the engine room had been flooded, and the steering gear blown away, so the ship continued moving in a circle at about 15 knots, almost full speed. The escort ships tried to take it in tow, but failed.

Characteristically, Violet was the last woman to leave the ship, having made sure the two QMAACs in her care were safely off. As Violet boarded the lifeboat it lurched and capsized and she fell into the sea. Violet was badly injured and trapped by ropes from the ship under the water line. Despite the best efforts of those who came to her aid, she could not be saved and her body could not be recovered. The ship sank after about two hours.

### THE WAY SISTERS AND WAAC



### Florence Leach née Way and Violet Long née Way

Florence started her war career as a cook in a new Military Cookery Section of the voluntary Women's Legion. She became Officer in Charge of the Legion's Cookery section in 1916. In 1917 the Legion became part of the new WAAC. In February 1918 she became Controller in Chief and appointed her sister Violet her Deputy. By the end of the war, 57,000 women had enlisted and 9,000 had served on the Western Front. She was appointed CBE in 1918 and DBE in 1919.

After her sister's death, she became close to Violet Maud, her niece, and witnessed her marriage in 1938. She died at the age of 81. *The Times* noted: "No one who has known her can forget her personal charm, her exceptional good looks and her graceful bearing; even in old age she carried herself beautifully straight."

## BROTHERS IN ARMS

No less than eleven families from Chiswick and Bedford Park were devastated, having lost more than one of their sons to the War whose names are recorded on our memorials.

### The Gould Family

Other than the first Vicar Alfred Wilson's family, who lost Edgar and Lawrence (and a third, Harold in the Boer War), **Mrs Jane Gould** lost three of her four boys: George (33), Alfred (26) and Jack (28). It was she that was selected to lay the official wreath in honour of the Chiswick Fallen at the unveiling of the Civic Memorial on Turnham Green in 1921. The family lived for a long time at 59 Windmill Road. All were baptised at St Michael's.

**George** joined the Navy in 1901 as a 17 year old Boy 2nd Class. He rose to Able Seaman, and served in the Mediterranean Fleet, latterly aboard *HMS Black Prince* until 1912. Thereafter he served ashore until 1915 when he was discharged due to sickness, with a long service pension, so was not officially recorded as War Dead when he died in about 1917.

Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
GOULD	NORF. R.	PL	3/8016
Jack Henry			
Metal	Roll	Page	Remarks
VICTORY	4/1/02 188	1483	R. A. 27-7-16
BRITISH	4/1/3 183	192	
15 <sup>th</sup> STAR			
Theatre of War first served in	11 <sup>th</sup> France		
Date of entry therein	11-3-15		

**Jack** Gould volunteered early as a Private in the Norfolk Regiment, serving in Flanders in 1915. He died at Longueval in the Somme on 27 July 1916 in a fierce bombardment and his body never recovered. He is commemorated at Thiepval.



**Alfred** rose to the rank of Lance-Corporal in 7/ The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment. It was south east of Arras at Fontaine-lès-Croisilles on 31 May 1917 during the successful capture of two German advanced posts he was killed. He is buried at Wancourt British Cemetery near Arras in France.

### Cadet Families



Arthur L and N Denys Row lived in Richmond, two of the three children of a deceased schoolmaster. They both died in 1918. **Arthur** had served as a Private in the Devon Light Infantry before the war but transferred to the Royal Field Artillery in 1914 and earned a Military Medal, becoming a Corporal. He applied for a commission in the infantry and was gazetted 2/Lieutenant in 1918 in 1/Royal Berkshire Regiment. He lost his life during a forward reconnaissance sortie on 1 June 1918. He lies at Warlingcourt Cemetery. His headstone reads: "Farewell dear heart for a while farewell. Pride of my heart. Mother". **Denys** became 18 only in January 1918. He would not have joined 1/The Queen's Own until July, only a raw recruit. He died in heavy fighting against strong machine gun defences in the '100 Days' allied advance. He lies at Gouzeaucourt New Cemetery. Their distraught mother emigrated to South Africa with her daughter, who had met and married a returning soldier from Durban.

Full biographies of **G F and HG Hall, A and F B Kingston** and of the other families: **E T and F Adams, A P and W Atkins, B and R Barker, S W and T E Heath** all appear on [www.smaaawwi.org.uk/wwi](http://www.smaaawwi.org.uk/wwi) which includes the Bedford Park families **A C and H M Holland, H R and C W Schwaben** and **C E A and LT Wilson**.



# LIEUTENANT COLONEL GEORGE KOBERWEIN FULTON DSO



George Fulton's aunt, Agnes Fulton was the daughter of Hamilton Fulton, a "well-known engineer" who owned and lived at Bedford House, The Avenue, Acton Green. In 1872 she married Jonathan Carr. Jonathan Carr bought 24 acres of local land from his father-in-law in 1875 and developed the Bedford Park Estate (see page 3). In 1901, the couple and their son, Jonathan Fulton Carr, a barrister of 25, lived at Tower House, The Avenue, Bedford Park (now demolished).

Agnes' brother was another Hamilton Fulton, a solicitor, who married Rosa Koberwein and lived in The Close, Salisbury. Her father was an artist. Of their three children, the youngest was **George Koberwein Fulton**, who was born in Wiltshire on 29 September 1884.

George was educated at Marlborough College between 1898 and 1902 and then at Brasenose College Oxford, where he was the coxswain of the college boat. At the 1911 census he was living with his parents in The Close, Salisbury, and was an articled solicitor in his father's firm at 12 Rolleston Street, Salisbury. He married Eleanore MacKay (daughter of a doctor). He was aged 27 at time of their marriage, she was 22.

George Fulton volunteered early in the War - he was commissioned Lieutenant in the 8th Battalion, Wiltshire Regiment on 25 January 1915.

He proceeded to France with 6th Bn. Wiltshires in August 1916 and from that time he was almost continuously fighting until his death. He was promoted Lieutenant Colonel of 9th Battalion Cheshire Regiment on 10 December 1917. From 21 to 28 March 1918 during the German Offensive, he was in command when in action with the 51st Highland Division near the Bapaume - Cambrai Road and survived after many escapes with only three officers and a few men. This action was specially commended by the Commander in Chief. Lt. Col. Fulton was again engaged with his Battalion at Neuve-Église in desperate fighting against great odds, until he was killed during a personal reconnaissance on 14 April 1918. His body was never found. His name is on a panel at Tyne Cot Cemetery in Flanders (see below).



He was posthumously awarded the DSO: *"For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in handling his battalion in a most skilful manner. He set a splendid example of courage and disregard of danger, and was indefatigable in arranging the battalion dispositions, and personally supervising its movements. At all times when the situation was critical he was up in the front line encouraging his men and taking part in the fighting."* (Gazette 16 September 1918, page 10,866).

# WAR IN THE AIR

## Three of those Parish Fallen who sought service in The Royal Flying Corps (Royal Air Force after March 1918)

The service was formed in 1912, only nine years after the first manned flight by the Wright brothers. In 1914, flight remained difficult and dangerous. The father of one of our Fallen, Harold Piffard, an artist and illustrator, had an abiding interest in aero design that led him to build and fly his own machine at Shoreham Aerodrome in 1910. His son Harold (Rolly) did not follow him - he went to New Zealand with an uncle, dying at Messines in 1917 fighting with the 2/Canterbury Battalion, NZEF.

### 2nd Lieutenant Lancelot Gowar An Accidental Death



**Lancelot John Gowar**, born at 18 Newry Road, St Margaret's on Thames on 28 June 1898, was the only son of Herbert Meaden Gowar, an accountant. In 1911 the family moved to 30 Fairlawn Grove, Chiswick Park and then 42 Priory Avenue, Bedford Park. Lancelot was admitted to St. Paul's School, leaving in April 1914. He was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant in the RFC and began pilot training on a Maurice Farman "Shorthorn" as above. It was seriously underpowered for any job in France and was relegated to training. It was not all that different from the Wright Brothers' airplane. Very sadly, at 7 am on 1 May 1917, Lancelot Gowar met with a fatal accident. His aeroplane collided with a tree. He may well have been on one of his early solo flights - no other person was killed or injured in the crash. He is buried at Hanwell (City of Westminster) Cemetery.

### Killed in Action over Vimy

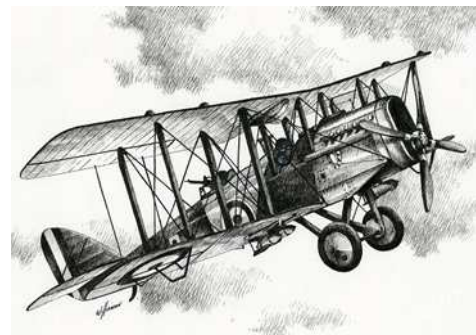
**Lieutenant Arthur W L Nixon** was born in Ireland in 1890. He was married to Dulcie Gertrude Doubleday, a parishioner at St Michael and All Angels Church on 28 April 1917 by Father Jacob Cartmel-Robinson. The Doubleday family lived at 2 Fairlawn Court Mansions. At that time, Arthur was training for an Observer role at Brooklands Aerodrome, which led him to active service in the Expeditionary Force on 15 May 1917 with 16 Squadron RAF in northern France. This had been at the end of the Second Battle of Arras, in the air above Vimy, where the Canadians had just achieved a significant victory.

Arthur's aircraft was shot down on 31 May 1917 within two weeks of starting his first active service. He was buried at La Chaudière Military Cemetery (below left).



### Test Flying

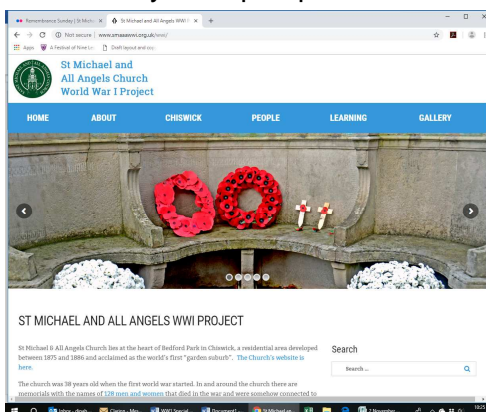
Above right is the memorial to **Lieutenant L F Derek Lutyens**, born 1894, the eldest son of Lionel C Lutyens of 26 Queen Anne's Grove, Bedford Park, and nephew of Edwin Landseer Lutyens, the celebrated architect of the Cenotaph and many other monuments to the Great War. Derek began his military career as a bombing officer in 10/Royal Fusiliers until late 1916 after the battle of Pozières in the Somme. He was then transferred to the General List. He entered the RFC in March 1917, training as a flying instructor. A qualified Mechanical and Electrical Engineer, he was chosen as a pilot in the experimental squadron at Farnborough. Derek was killed while on active service on a test flight in Surrey on 8 May 1918. He was accompanied by a civilian, D H Pinsent as engineer and observer on Airco D.H.4 A7671, undergoing pressure tests on the tailplane which failed. The plane crashed and broke up at Trimley. Mr Pinsent's body was never found.



Derek Lutyens was buried in the churchyard at St Michael and All Angels, Thursley where three generations of the Lutyens family had lived. It is thought that his uncle Edwin designed the memorial, possibly a forerunner of the many monuments he was subsequently to design. The funeral was taken by another uncle, Canon Frederick Mansfield Lutyens.

# ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS' WORLD WAR 1 PROJECT

When the First World War started, St Michael and All Angels was barely 38 years old. Bedford Park was London's first Garden Suburb and many had moved to the area for a better life. When the war started, the world changed, fathers, sons and brothers went away to fight. There are 128 names on our war memorials who lost their lives during The Great War. The men and women whose names are on the memorial in church were somehow connected with the local area and the church. It would take years of research, but finally, thanks to David Beresford and those who have assisted him we can now share their stories with the local and wider community and with children of all ages. There are local children who have a very personal perspective on this history, many of them live on the same street as someone who is named on the memorials; they can see the house that the person lived in, the street that they walked down and the park they probably sat or played in. Some children live in houses that the remembered person lived in. One child reflected that the deceased was 18 when they died fighting at the Battle of the Somme, which was the same age as his brother about to go to university. We now have a very local perspective on international history.



The Centenary of the Armistice is not the end of the WW1 Project for St Michael's. We have a website that will continue to be updated as more information is found. By visiting the Learning Pages on the website - [smaaawwi.org.uk](http://smaaawwi.org.uk) teachers can take advantage of our suggestions for themes and activities and support their schools' learning. We welcome class visits for tours inside and outside the church, and the clergy are always happy to lead assemblies or special services. David Beresford has developed fascinating exhibitions and presentations for the church and local community.



St Michael and All Angels Church is celebrating the award of ten silhouettes funded by the Armed Forces Covenant Trust Fund.

Our silhouettes represent our debt to our Armed Forces at the Centenary of the Armistice of the Great War 1914 - 1918. Some are grouped near the Parish Memorial Plaque; several represent specific members of our Church Community - two members of the Choir and a Server - in their accustomed places in the Sanctuary.

The Award was made under the Armistice and Armed Forces Communities' **'Here but not Here'** programme, which makes awards to bring communities together to remember and to think about the Armed Forces today.



**Knitting poppies** A very big thank you to everyone who has knitted poppies for our Armistice Centenary and especially to Shirley Hudnott, whose contribution has been outstanding. We have collected over 500 and you will see them in the church in our Remembrance-tide exhibition from 10 November 2018



St Michael and All Angels, Bedford Park's WW1 Project was supported by a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

St Michael and all Angels, Bedford Park, Priory Avenue, London W4 1TX

## Contributors

David Beresford, Fr Kevin Morris, Cathie James, Tassy Russell, Fr Edward Barlow, Freddie Maud and many others



# OUR GLORIOUS DEAD

## Lest we forget

### 1914

**ATKINSON** Andrew  
**DOCKER** George  
**GUISE-MOORES** Clive  
**YORKE** Richard

### 1915

**ATKINSON** William  
**AUSTIN** Cyril  
**CLITHEROE** Joseph  
**GAMBLE** Richard  
**HAINES** Edwin  
**HAWARD** Hubert  
**NASH** Fountain (Peter)  
**OLIFF-LEE** Noel  
**PAUL** George  
**POPE** Herbert  
**SCHWABEN** Henry  
**STRAHAN** Geoffrey  
**TAVERNER** Harry  
**WEBB** Cyril  
**WILSON** Laurence

### 1916

**AUSTIN** Dudley  
**BARKER** Robert  
**BENNETT** Philip  
**CASTLE** Cecil  
**CLIFT** Maurice  
**COATSWORTH** Alfred  
**COLLINS** Lionel  
**DAVIES** John  
**DOWSETT** William  
**GILL** Arthur  
**GOULD** Jack  
**HALLWARD** Kenneth  
**HAMMOND** John  
**HAZEON** Cyril  
**HEATH** Samuel  
**HEATH** Thomas  
**HOLLAND** Archibald  
**KING** Alfred  
**LAX** Anthony  
**LOWE** Norman  
**MALLALUE** Maxwell

**NORMAN** Arthur  
**PAINES** Alfred  
**POGOSE** Ivor  
**ROBINSON** Alexander  
**STEVENS** Walter

### 1917

**ADAMS** Frank  
**ASHLEY** Robert  
**BOND** William Henry  
Hugh Cecil  
**CLERK** Alexander William  
**COLLIER** Hubert Charles  
deZoete  
**CRAIG** John Laurie  
**DUNCKLEY** Leonard  
**FLOOD** Brian  
**GEORGE** Hemming  
**GIBSON** aka TAYLOR  
Thomas Conrad  
**GOULD** Alfred  
**GOULD** George  
**GOWAR** Lancelot  
**GRAYSON** John  
**GREGORY** Reuben  
**GRUBB** George  
**HALL** George  
**LITTLE** Norman  
**LONGHURST** Harold  
**NEILL** Lyonel  
**NEWINGTON** Francis  
**NIXON** Arthur  
**PALLANT** Frank  
**PIFFARD** Harold  
**ROWE** Harvey  
**ROYAL-DAWSON** Oswald  
**SCHWABEN** Charles  
**SQUIRE** Thomas  
**STERNDAL-LE-BENNETT**  
Walter  
**STEVENSON** Carlos  
**WARD** Charles  
**WHITE** Arthur  
**WHITTICK** William  
**WHITTLE** Robert

**WOOLF** Joseph  
**WYATT** Henry  
**YOUNG** Charles

### 1918

**ADAMS** Edwin  
**BARKER** Bernard  
**BOURNE** Hurst  
**CARDER** Charles  
**CRIPPS** George  
**CROOKENDEN** Benjamin  
**FULTON** George  
**GOLDSMITH** Stanley  
**HALL** Henry  
**HAYBITTLE** Richard  
**KEMP** Kenneth  
**KINGSTON** Alfred  
**KINGSTON** Francis  
**KISTLER** Frank  
**LEEDER** Sidney  
**LONG** Violet  
**LUTYENS** Leonard  
**MAUNDER** George  
**MURLIS** Frank  
**LOW** Arthur  
**LOW** Norman  
**ROWLANDSON** George  
**SALE** John  
**SMYTH** Arthur  
**WEIR** William Thomas  
**WILSON** Charles

### 1919

**HOLLAND** Hugh

### 1935

**DIETERLE** Carl

### UNIDENTIFIED

**DANCE** Charles  
**JENKINS** C  
**LINDSAY** J W H  
**MCKWELL** Reginald W  
**MARLEY** W  
**WALSH** Garnet