First World War Centenary

CORBY

Those who “served & returned”

On the following pages are details of those who served during the First World War and returned home.

All of those detailed had a connection with Corby. They were born in Corby, lived and/or worked in Corby at the time of their enlistment or Corby was the family home they returned to after the War.

The purpose of each piece is to provide details of each person’s military service but also some background detail on them and their civilian life. It is not intended to be a comprehensive family history.

The information obtained is from a variety of sources all publically available. It is assumed correct at time of production. If it is felt there is an inaccuracy in anything transcribed or that there is additional information others may find of interest please let Corby Borough Council know and amendments can be made.

Many local men died during the First World War. These stories relate to those who returned home, however few if any of them were the same men who left for war. Many returning servicemen had physical or mental scars that were to remain with them for the rest of their lives.

Hopefully the lists compiled for each of the nine villages within modern day Corby Borough, provide information on the cross section of men, and a few women, who undertook military service during the War and assist in providing an insight into the impact this had on the local community.
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Thomas Aldwinckle

Thomas Aldwinckle was born in Corby in 1878. His father was Harry Aldwinckle from Rothwell, his mother Sarah Aldwinckle (nee Bailey) of Corby. Harry and Sarah were married in Corby in 1877.

Thomas Aldwinckle’s mother Sarah Aldwinckle (nee Bailey) died in 1883. His father Harry Aldwinckle remarried in 1886 to widow Harriet Barnes.

Thomas Aldwinckle married Harriett Hester Eades of Grays in Orsett, Essex in 1899.

In 1901 Thomas, Harriett and their son Thomas Jnr. were living in East Street, Grays, Essex. Thomas was employed as a porter at the local docks.

Sometime prior to 1911 Thomas Aldwinckle had joined the merchant navy.

In 1911 Harriett was still living in East Street. The census indicated that Thomas was a “fireman away at sea”. The census indicated that Thomas and Harriet had six children by 1911, although one had died in infancy.

Thomas Aldwinckle’s brother Harry who was also in the merchant navy was killed in 1918 when the ship he was serving on was torpedoed by a German submarine.

In 1925 Thomas Aldwinckle’s father Harry Aldwinckle and stepmother Harriet Aldwinckle were living in Blockhouse Road, Grays. Thomas Aldwinckle’s father Harry Aldwinckle died in 1926.

By 1930 Thomas and Harriett were living in Montreal Road, Chadwell St. Mary, Essex.

In 1939 Thomas Aldwinckle’s stepmother Harriet E. Aldwinckle was living in Bridge Street, Thurrock with her son Herbert and family. Harriet died in 1943.

Harriett H. Aldwinckle (nee Eades) died in 1952.


Military Service

Thomas Aldwinckle’s career in the merchant navy is currently unknown. According to his medal card he continued to serve in the merchant navy during the First World War.
Thomas Silsby Austin

John Thomas Austin was born in Burton Latimer in 1861. In 1886, he married Alice Silsby from Bozeat.

They had a son Percy (b. Burton Latimer 1884) and daughter Mary (born Burton Latimer 1888).

The family were living in Corby when Eliza (b.1891), Harry (b.1892), Thomas Silsby (b.1896), Alfred (b.1898) and James (b.1899) were born.

In 1901 they were living in Main Street, Corby. John was working as an “ironstone labourer”.

The children resident were Percy, Harriet, Eliza, Harry, George, Thomas Silsby, Alfred & James.

George (b.1894) died in 1902. Another son, Joseph was born in 1902 and it is recorded that Alice and Lucy Austin were born in 1904.

Percy Austin joined the army in 1907. His occupation was listed as “labourer”. There is reference in Percy Austin’s Service Record, to a daughter, Ellen Stretton of Cottingham being born in 1906.

Prior to 1911 daughter Harriet had taken the position of cook at the Old Radford Vicarage, Nottingham.

By 1911 the family were living in Thorngate Street, Kettering. John Thomas Austin was still employed as an “ironstone labourer”. Daughter, Mary Austin was recorded as having returned home.

Harry Austin was working as an “ironstone labourer”, whilst Alfred Austin’s entry in the 1911 Census was “rough stuff hand”. Their sister Eliza was working in a clothing factory, whilst brother Thomas was a “shoe finisher”.

There is reference to Harry Austin residing in Sheep Street, Kettering in 1915.

Military Service

Percy Austin

Percy Austin joined the Northamptonshire Regiment in 1907. He served in the 3rd Battalion (8638) before transferring to the 2nd Battalion. He was promoted to Corporal.

Corporal Percy Austin was killed whilst serving in France/Flanders on 14th March 1915.
Percy Austin is remembered on the Le Touret Memorial and the Corby War Memorial.

**Harry Austin**

Harry Austin enlisted in Kettering, serving as a Private in the Northamptonshire Regiment 1/4th Battalion (3826).

Private Harry Austin was killed in action in Gallipoli on 22nd September 1915.

He is buried at the 7th Field Ambulance Cemetery in Turkey.

Harry Austin is remembered on the Kettering War Memorial.

**Alfred G Austin**

Served as a Private in The Queen’s (Royal West Surrey Regiment) 10th Battalion (39397). He served in France/Flanders.

Private Alfred Austin was killed on 4th August 1917.

Alfred Austin is remembered on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial.

**Thomas Silsby Austin**

Thomas Silsby Austin was born in Corby on 4th October 1895. He was baptised on 9th February 1896.

**Military History**

Thomas Austin enlisted in Burton Latimer on 11th December 1915. He was living at London House, Burton Latimer. His occupation was “finisher (boot trade)”. He was in the Army Reserve until 15th June 1916 when he was mobilised in Northampton.

Initially he was posted to the Royal Fusiliers but was soon transferred to the Machine Gun Corps (10th August 1918) in Grantham.

On 16th January 1918 he embarked from Southampton arriving in Basrah (Mesopotamia) on 22nd February 1918. He served in Mesopotamia until January 1920. He had been posted to the 18th Machine Gun Battalion in February 1919.

Thomas Silsby Austin was discharged from the Army on 16th February 1920.
Ernest Bailey

Ernest Bailey was born in Corby in 1895. His father was William Bailey, his mother Sarah Ann Bailey (nee White) both of Corby. William and Sarah had married on 5th August 1867.

In 1901 William and Sarah were living in Stanion Lane, Corby with their children Charles, Frederick, Rose, Herbert and Ernest. William Bailey was an ironstone labourer. William and Sarah had four older children no longer at the family home. Son Charles Bailey was also an ironstone labourer, whilst Charles and Herbert were both brickyard labourers.

An older brother John William Bailey had died in 1896.

In 1911 widow Sarah Ann Bailey was still living in Stanion Lane with her children Charles, Frederick and Ernest. Charles and Frederick were both furnace labourers; Ernest Bailey was a bricklayer’s labourer.

When Ernest Bailey attested for the Army in 1916 he was employed as a “shunter”.

In 1925 Ernest Bailey was employed as an engine driver by Lloyd’s Ironstone Co. He was living at Woodbine Cottages, High Street, Corby.

Ernest Bailey died in an accident at the iron works in April 1925. He was seriously injured across his stomach and back and taken to Kettering Hospital. Unfortunately his injuries were too great and he died.

Military History

Ernest Bailey attested in Kettering on 12th February 1916. He was a Guardsman (33993) in the Grenadier Guards. He was posted to the Army Reserves.

On 27th April 1918 he was mobilised at Northampton and joined the Grenadier Guards. On 1st June 1918 he was transferred to the 5th Reserve Battalion Guards Machine Gun Regiment (6093). He was also to serve in the 4th Battalion Guards Machine Gun Regiment.

On 11th February 1919 he was transferred to the Guard’s Depot, Caterham, Surrey. He was retained in military service on 6th May 1919 but was transferred to the Army Reserve on 15th October 1919.
John Thomas Bailey

John Thomas Bailey was born in Corby on 4th February 1879. He was baptised on 9th March 1879 in Corby. His father was John Thomas Bailey Snr., his mother Lizzie Jane Bailey (nee Streather). John and Lizzie married on 12th July 1869 in Corby.

In 1881 John and Lizzie were living in Corby with their children Arthur, Edward, Henry, Julia and John Thomas. John Thomas Bailey Snr. was a railway labourer.

In 1891 the family were living in Main Street, Corby. John and Lizzie had four more children Mary Jane, Robert, Herbert and Harriet. Arthur and Henry Bailey were “masons” whilst Edward Bailey was a labourer.

John Thomas Bailey married Sarah Rebecca Merriman of Leicester in 1905.

In 1911 John and Sarah were living in Church Street, Corby with their children Nellie (b.1906 Leicester) and Arthur (b.1910 Corby).

John and Sarah had at least two more children Doris and Lizzie once they moved to Leicester.

John’s mother Lizzie Jane Bailey (nee Streather) died in 1926.

In 1939 John, Sarah and family were living in Newmarket Street, Leicester. John was a bricklayer whilst Sarah was a housewife & shopkeeper.

John’s wife Sarah Rebecca Bailey (nee Merriman) died in Leicester in 1960.

Military Service

John Thomas Bailey attested on 10th December 1915. His civilian occupation was bricklayer. The family were living in Vernon Road, Leicester.

John Bailey was mobilised on 29th August 1916. He initially served as a Private (32285) in the Leicestershire Regiment, then as a Private (43544) in the Labour Corps.

John Bailey was in the United Kingdom until 23rd December 1916 when he disembarked in France. He was in France until 17th September 1917. Currently nothing further is known of his service record.
Joseph Henry Bailey

Joseph Henry Bailey was born in Corby abt. 1876. He was baptised in Corby on 9th July 1876. His father was David Bailey of Corby, his mother Sarah Ann Bailey (nee Dexter) of Caldecott. David and Sarah were married in Caldecott on 25th September 1871.

In 1881 at the time of the census John Bailey was resident with his grandmother widow Dinah Bailey and his uncle Frederick Bailey an agricultural labourer.

In 1891 David and Sarah were living in Weldon Road, Corby with their children Joseph Henry, Reginald Leonard, Beatrice, Frederick William Dexter and John’s uncle Frederick Bailey. David Bailey was a horsekeeper whilst Joseph Bailey was an ironstone labourer.

There is evidence that Joseph Bailey served in the Bedfordshire Regiment. On his enlistment paper at the start of the First World War, Joseph makes reference to a previous spell in the Regiment leaving on 24th April 1905 (time expired).

Joseph’s brother Frederick William Dexter Bailey served in the 3rd Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment. Frederick attested on 29th March 1901 and served as a Private (6179) from 10th May 1901. Further details of Frederick’s service record are currently unknown.

In 1901 David, Sarah, Reginald and Beatrice Bailey were living in Stock’s Lane, Corby. Joseph’s brother Reginald was employed as an ironstone labourer.

Joseph Bailey married Elizabeth Emily Jane Wills of Chudleigh Knighton, Devon in Corby on 15th May 1905. They had a daughter Dora Beatrice Bailey born in Rothwell in 1906.

Joseph’s father David Bailey died in 1906.

In 1911 Joseph, Elizabeth and Dora were living in High Street, Corby. Joseph was a shunter at the local iron works.

Sometime after 1911 the family relocated to Elizabeth’s home county Devon.

During Joseph’s war service his mother Elizabeth was still living in Stock’s Lane, Corby.

Joseph’s brother Frederick William Dexter Bailey of The White Hart Inn, Corby died in 1928.
Military Service

Joseph Bailey attested for the Army in Exeter on 24th August 1914. He was to serve initially as a Private (7706) in the 3rd Battalion, Bedfordshire Regiment.

Joseph was posted to the 1st Battalion on 3rd December 1914 on his arrival in France. Joseph Bailey served in France until 6th January 1915. He was transferred back to the 3rd Battalion on 20th March 1915. He was appointed Acting Corporal on 28th April 1915.

Joseph Bailey (46766) was transferred to the 2nd Battalion (Home Service) Garrison Battalion, Suffolk Regiment on 29th December 1916.

On 24th March 1917 Joseph was appointed to Acting Sergeant and transferred to the Army Reserve.

According to his service record he was released from the Army for employment at H.M. Factory Avonmouth (this was a factory manufacturing mustard gas). There is also reference to Joseph Bailey being employed on the staff of the Barnwell & Cherry Hinton Hospital.

On 18th October 1917 Joseph Bailey was discharged from the Army being no longer physically fit for war service.
Noel Martin Barratt

Noel Martin Barratt was born in Bulwick on 25th December 1894. His father was Robert Barratt from Bulwick, his mother Catherine Barratt from Scotland.

In 1901 Robert, Catherine and their children Robert jnr., Noel and Janet were living in Deenethorpe. Robert Barratt was an under gamekeeper on an estate whilst Catherine was a laundress.

Robert jnr. and Noel enrolled at Deene School in October 1900.

Noel is recorded as leaving the school in February 1908 when the family left the village. The Barratt family moved to Lodge Green, Corby.

In 1911 the family were still living at Lodge Green. Robert was a gamekeeper whilst his sons Robert jnr. and Noel were under gamekeepers.

Noel Martin Barratt married Lily Parker on 24th December 1919.

In 1939 Noel, Lily and family were living in Finsbury Road, Stockport. Noel was employed by the railway in engineering & maintenance work.

Noel Martin Barratt died in 1980.

Military History

Noel Martin Barratt served as a Private (40179) in the 1/4th Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment.

He served in Gallipoli from 29th July 1915.

Noel Martin Barratt left the Army on 23rd April 1919.
Frank Bates

Frank Bates was born in Finedon on 25th December 1889. His father was Enoch Bates of Heyford, his mother Elizabeth Bates (nee Desborough) of Finedon. Enoch and Elizabeth married in 1882.

In 1891 Enoch, Elizabeth and their children Harry, Arthur and Frank were living in Hills Yard, Finedon. Enoch was an ironstone labourer.

By 1901 the family had moved to Corby and were living in Stocks Lane. With Enoch and Elizabeth were their children Arthur, Frank, Walter & Willie. Walter (aged 3) and Willie (aged 3 months) were both born in Corby. Enoch Bates still worked as an ironstone labourer, whilst his son Arthur Bates was an agricultural labourer.

Some time prior to 1911 Frank Bates joined the Army. In 1911 he was a Private in the 2nd Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment. At the time of the census the 2nd Battalion were stationed at Floriana Barracks, Malta. Also in Malta at that time were Percy Austin (Corby) & William Coles (Cottingham) both of whom were to be killed during the First World War.

Frank’s father Enoch Bates died locally in 1932.

In 1939 Frank Bates was living in Franklin Fields, Corby with his widowed mother Elizabeth Bates. Frank was employed as an ironstone labourer.

Frank Bates died in 1948; his mother Elizabeth Bates (nee Desborough) died in September 1949.

Military History

Frank Bates was a professional soldier serving in the 2nd Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment. His service record has not survived so it is unclear when he originally enlisted or whether he was still serving in the Army when war broke out, however a medical record suggests he may have been mobilised about April 1915.

During the First World War, Frank Bates initially served as a Private (16551) in both the 1st Battalion and 6th (Service) Battalions, Northamptonshire Regiment. He served on the Western Front.

Whilst with the 6th (Service) Battalion Frank Bates was wounded at Carnoy during the Battle of Albert (Somme Offensive) and was admitted to hospital on 5th July.
1916. Frank suffered gunshot wounds to the upper extremities and was transferred to a hospital ship in Calais on 9th July 1916 for transfer back to the United Kingdom.

The Northampton Mercury of 11th August 1916 includes Bates, 16551 Pte. F. (Corby) among its list of wounded men serving in the Northamptonshire Regiment.

On 11th October 1917 Frank Bates was transferred to the Royal Army Service Corps where he served as a Private (R/366747).

Frank Bates was discharged from the Army on 18th June 1918.
Harry Hill

Harry Hill was born in Corby on 26th September 1893. He was baptised in Corby on 8th July 1894. His father was John Bell Jnr. from Corby, his mother Mary Bell (nee Hill) from Liverpool. John and Mary were married on 29th November 1891 in Lancashire.

In 1901 John, Mary and their son Harry were living in Weldon Road, Corby. John Bell was an ironstone labourer.

In 1911 John and Mary were still resident in Weldon Road. John’s older brother Lewis Bell, an ironstone labourer, was resident. The Bell family also had two boarders Alfred Hubbard and William Croft.

Harry Bell married May Taylor in Yorkshire on 26th September 1918.

When Harry Bell enlisted in October 1918 he was employed as an assistant manager in a grocers in Sheffield. Harry and May were living in Woodhead Road, Sheffield.

In 1939 Harry, May and family were living in Carden Avenue, Leeds. Harry was a pork butcher’s assistant.

Military Service

Harry Bell served in the Royal Air Force. His service number was 303259. Harry joined on 2nd October 1918.

Harry Bell was discharged on 26th April 1919.
Walter Belson was born in Leicester on 27th September 1884. His father was Thomas Belson from Newmarket, his mother Mary Belson from Londonderry.

In 1891 Thomas, Mary and their children Thomas, Florence, Mary Louise, Ernest, Walter and Mary were living in Carlisle Street, Leicester. Thomas was a dyer by trade, Mary a washerwoman.

By 1901 Florence, Mary Louise and Ernest were all employed in the shoe trade, whilst Walter (age 14) was an assistant gardener.

Walter’s father Thomas Belson died in 1902.

Walter’s sister Mary Louise Belson married Richard Duroe in 1910. Mary Louise Duroe was eventually to move to Corby.

By 1911 Thomas jnr., Florence, Ernest, Walter and Mary were living in Tyrrell Street, Leicester. Thomas was a tram conductor with the Leicester Corporation, Florence a shoe machinist, Ernest a labourer, Walter a drayman with the railways and Mary a corset machinist.

Sometime after 1915 Walter Belson moved to Corby and was employed as a blast furnaceman. He returned to Corby in 1919 after the war.

**Military History**

Walter Belson first enlisted in the Army in Leicester on 30th December 1902. He was to serve as a Private (9098) in the Northumberland Fusiliers.

Initially he was in the 4th Battalion (until 21st January 1903), then the 3rd Battalion (until 8th April 1903) then the 1st Battalion (from 12th December 1903).

Whilst he was with the 3rd Battalion he was stationed in South Africa (8th April – 11th December 1903).

From the 12th December 1903 to 5th April 1906 he was stationed in Mauritius.

After returning to the United Kingdom he was transferred to the Army Reserves (from 7th April 1906).

On 5th August 1914 he was mobilised and rejoined the 3rd Battalion, Northumberland Fusiliers. From 5th August to 18th September 1914 he was in the United Kingdom.
He arrived in France on 19th September 1914 and was back in the United Kingdom from 7th November 1914. He had suffered a gunshot wound on 1st November 1914.

Walter Belson returned to France from 1st June 1915 to 20th June 1915. On 29th December 1915 he left the Army having completed his years service (time served).

On 8th May 1917 Walter was called-up and was posted to the 3rd Battalion (50941), but on 17th November 1917 he was transferred to the Labour Corps.

Walter served as a Private (502913) in the 487 Agricultural Company from 17th November 1917, in the 436 Agricultural Company from 4th January 1919, then returned to 487 on 7th January 1919. He was appointed Acting Lance-Corporal on 20th February 1919.

Walter was discharged from the Army on 18th April 1919, to return to Wade’s Cottages, Corby.

According to references on his service papers, Walter’s brother Ernest Belson served in the Bedfordshire Regiment and his brother Thomas served in The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).
Arthur Robert Bradshaw

Arthur Robert Bradshaw was born in Corby 6th October 1884. He was baptised in Corby on 12th October 1884. His mother was Rose Bradshaw of Corby.

Rose Bradshaw married Thomas Allen of Polebrook abt. 1889.

In 1891 Thomas, Rosanna and their children Maurice, Arthur Robert and John were resident in Kettering. Thomas Allen was an ironstone labourer.

At the time of the 1901 Census Arthur Bradshaw was with the Northamptonshire Regiment in Northampton.


In 1911 Arthur, Emma and their children Arthur Robert jnr., Cyril Herbert and Leslie Albert were living in Barnwell Street, Kettering. Arthur Bradshaw was employed in the shoe trade.

Sometime in 1911 Thomas Allen died.

Arthur’s mother Rosanna Allen (nee Bradshaw) died in 1916.

In 1939 Arthur, Emma and family were living in Withington Street, Salford. Arthur was a gardener’s labourer.

Arthur Robert Bradshaw died on 18th November 1944. He was resident in Barrfield Road, Salford.

Military History

Arthur Robert Bradshaw joined the 3rd Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment as a Private (6051) when he was 17 years old. The family were resident in Grange Road, Kettering. Arthur was employed in the shoe industry for Messrs. Mobbs & Lewis ltd. of Kettering.

In January 1901 he left the militia and joined the Army proper (6308) posted to the 2nd Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment. Unfortunately Army life obviously did not suit Arthur and he deserted in July 1901. According to his service record he re-joined the Regiment on 16th February 1906. He was discharged on 4th April 1906.

When war broke out Arthur Bradshaw re-enlisted on 11th August 1914. Arthur, Emma and family were living in Silver Street, Broughton.
Arthur served as a Private (10145) in the Northamptonshire Regiment. Whilst with the Regiment he served in both the 3rd & 1st Battalions at various times.

Arthur’s first tour of duty on the Western Front was from 20th September – 15th November 1914 with the 1st Battalion. Arthur suffered a gunshot wound to the head on 10th November 1914; he returned to the United Kingdom.

He briefly re-joined the 3rd Battalion before joining the 1st again in France from 9th June – 7th July 1915. Arthur was in France again from 1st November – 12th December 1916.

His final tour of duty in France was the lengthiest. He joined the 1st Battalion on 16th July 1917. Arthur was stationed in France until 5th May 1919.

On 18th May 1918 he was transferred to the Military Foot Police and promoted to Lance Corporal (12/16105).

Lance Corporal Arthur Robert Bradshaw left the Army on 4th June 1916. His record states he was suffering with chronic bronchitis. His home address was given as Barnwell Street, Kettering.

One of Arthur’s sons, Cyril Herbert Bradshaw, was killed during the Second World War (23.03.44) in Italy serving with 102 Field Company, Royal Engineers.
Herbert Bradshaw

Herbert Bradshaw was born in Great Oakley on 28th June 1879. His father was Joseph Bradshaw of Corby, his mother Hannah Elizabeth Bradshaw (nee Coulson) from Yorkshire. Joseph and Hannah married in 1873 in Whitby.

In 1881 Joseph, Hannah and their children Emma, Joseph, Alfred and Herbert were living in Corby. Joseph Bradshaw was a general labourer.

In 1891 Joseph and his son Albert were both labourers. Joseph and Hannah had another daughter, named Hannah.

Herbert's father Joseph Bradshaw died before 1901.

In the 1901 Census Hannah and her sons Alfred and Herbert were living in Workhouse Row, South Road, Corby. Alfred and Herbert are both labourer's, Herbert in the local brick works.

By 1911 Herbert, a builder’s labourer, was still living with his mother in Workhouse Row.

Herbert's mother Hannah Elizabeth Bradshaw died in 1928.

In 1930 Herbert and his sisters Emma and Hannah were still living in South Road. Herbert was a “furnisher & general dealer”.

Herbert Bradshaw died on 12th June 1953.

Military History

Herbert Bradshaw served as a Private (27721) in the Northamptonshire Regiment.

Herbert was called-up on 29th August 1916 and was posted to the 6th Battalion on 14th December 1916. His civilian occupation was detailed as “engineer”.

Herbert served in France from 10th December 1916 to 1st February 1917.

On returning from France Herbert was stationed in the United Kingdom for the remainder of his service.

Herbert Bradshaw was discharged from the Army on 24th August 1917 deemed no longer physically fit for war service.
Alfred Burrows was born in Corby on 24th January 1888. He was baptised on 11th August 1888. His father was John William Burrows of Ketton, his mother Mary Ann Burrows (nee Humphrey) of Geddington. John and Mary had married in 1879.

In 1891 John, Mary and their children John jnr., Jane, Mary, Sarah, Alfred, Mary and Arthur Samuel were living in Corby. John William Burrows was a labourer.

In 1901 Alfred Burrows was living in Stocks Lane, Corby with his uncle, aunt and family, William and Mary Ironmonger. William Ironmonger was a coal dealer and Alfred was a “coal carter”.

Alfred’s brother Arthur Samuel Burrows enlisted in the Northamptonshire Regiment in 1906. Arthur was to become a professional soldier.

Alfred Burrows joined the local militia, Northamptonshire Regiment (7750) on 21st December 1906.

Alfred followed his brother into the Regular Army on 15th February 1907. He enlisted for 12 years. His civilian occupation was labourer working for Mr Rice of Corby.

He was to serve as a Private (8420, 50644) with the 1st Battalion and 3rd Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment.

Alfred Burrows served in India from 6th November 1907 to 15th March 1911.

He was in Devonport from 15th March 1911 to 7th October 1913. During this period, at the time of the 1911 Census, Private Alfred Burrows of the 1st Battalion visited George Rice and family in Northampton. George Rice was a plumber and Alfred’s previous civilian employer.

Alfred Burrows married Kate M. Thompson in Devonport on 6th September 1913.

From 8th October 1913 to 14th February 1914 he was at Blackdown.

Alfred Burrows was transferred to the Army Reserve on 14th February 1914.

When war broke out he was mobilised at Northampton on 5th August 1914. He was posted to the 3rd Battalion. He was posted to the 6th Battalion on 14th September 1914.

He was posted to the 8th Battalion on 10th March 1915.
Kate Burrows gave birth to twins, Frederick and Katherine, on 20th March 1915 in Devonport. Unfortunately both children were to die within a few months.

On 1st September 1916 he was posted to the 28th Training Reserve Battalion. Alfred was promoted to Sergeant. He was to serve in the United Kingdom for the duration of the war.

On 11th February 1918 Sergeant Alfred Burrows was posted to the 3rd Battalion.

On 23rd April 1919 Alfred Burrows was transferred to the Army Reserve and was discharged on 31st March 1920. He had served 12 years and 67 days.

In 1939 Alfred and Kate Burrows were living in Gloucester Street, Plymouth. Alfred was a skilled labourer (boiler maker).

Alfred’s brother, Arthur Samuel Burrows, was killed in action serving with the Northamptonshire Regiment at the Battle of Aubers Ridge on 9th May 1915. Arthur is commemorated on the Corby War Memorial.
Albert Butterworth

Albert Butterworth was born in Corby on 20th June 1880.

His father was Albert Butterworth of Corby, his mother Mary Butterworth (nee Scott) of Mansfield.

In 1901 Albert and family were living in the George Hotel, Bank Street, Barton upon Humber, Lincolnshire. Albert was the “hotel keeper”. With Albert and Mary were their children Albert jnr., May, Mary, George, Harold and Cecil Scott. All of the children were born in Corby between 1881 and 1894. Also resident was a servant Rose Gadsby.

In 1911 Albert was living with his wife Margaret (b. Derby) in Forester Street, Derby. Albert was a coachman for an undertaker. Albert and Margaret had a young son, Norman Albert Butterworth. Albert’s brother Harold Butterworth (b. Corby 1887) was living with them. Harold was employed as an insurance agent for the Pearl Insurance Company.

Albert’s parents Albert and Mary Butterworth were living in Victoria Crescent, Burton-on-Trent in 1911. Albert was an “out of business” publican.

In 1911 Cecil Scott Butterworth (Albert’s brother) was a drapery salesman. He was boarding, with several other drapery salesmen, at the Midland Drapery Boarding House, Park Street, Derby.

Albert’s other brother George Butterworth was resident in Sheffield in 1911. George also worked in the drapery business for a John Atkinson

Military History

Albert Butterworth joined the Royal Navy on 21st November 1917. He was to serve with the Royal Naval Air Service (service no. F41922). His civilian occupation was motor driver.

With the formation of the Royal Air Force on the 1st April 1918, Albert transferred to the RAF and served as an Air Mechanic (241922).

He was transferred to the RAF Reserve on 13th April 1919 and deemed discharged on 30th April 1920.

Albert’s brother Cecil Scott Butterworth served as a Private (39348) in the 2nd Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment.
Whether Albert’s other brothers Harold and George served in the war is currently unknown.
Cecil Scott Butterworth

Cecil Scott Butterworth was born in Corby in 1893. He was baptised in Corby on 15th August 1893.

His father was Albert Butterworth of Corby, his mother Mary Butterworth (nee Scott) of Mansfield.

In 1901 Albert and family were living in the George Hotel, Bank Street, Barton upon Humber, Lincolnshire. Albert was the “hotel keeper”. With Albert and Mary were their children Albert jnr., May, Mary, George, Harold and Cecil Scott. All of the children were born in Corby between 1881 and 1894. Also resident was a servant Rose Gadsby.

In 1911 Cecil Scott Butterworth was a drapery salesman. He was boarding, with several other drapery salesmen, at the Midland Drapery Boarding House, Park Street, Derby.

Cecil’s parents Albert and Mary Butterworth were living in Victoria Crescent, Burton-on-Trent in 1911. Albert was an “out of business” publican.

Cecil’s brother George Butterworth was resident in Sheffield in 1911. George also worked in the drapery business for a John Atkinson.

In 1911 Albert Butterworth (Cecil’s brother) was living with his wife Margaret (b. Derby) in Forester Street, Derby. Albert was a coachman for an undertaker. Albert and Margaret had a young son, Norman Albert Butterworth. Cecil’s other brother Harold Butterworth (b. Corby 1887) was living with them. Harold was employed as an insurance agent for the Pearl Insurance Company.

After the war, on the 19th January 1921, Cecil Scott Butterworth married Edith Annie Bailey (b. Corby 1897). They had two children, George C. Butterworth born in Corby on 18th March 1924 and John M. Butterworth born in Corby on 4th December 1931.

Military History

Cecil Scott Butterworth served as a Private (39348) in the 2nd Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment. Full details of his service record are currently unknown.

Cecil’s brother, Albert Butterworth (b. Corby 1880) served during the war. He was originally in the Royal Navy (F41922) serving with the Royal Naval Air Service but was transferred to the Royal Air Force (241922) on 1st April 1918. He served as an Air Mechanic.
Whether Cecil's other brothers Harold and George served in the war is currently unknown.
Joseph Edward Chapman

Joseph Edward Chapman was born in Corby in 1879. He was baptised on 9th March 1879. His father was Joseph Chapman of Corby, his mother Mary Ireland Chapman (nee Norriss) from Norfolk. Joseph and Mary married in 1878. Mary Norriss was Joseph’s second wife, his first wife Ann having died in 1876.

By the time of Joseph’s birth the sons from his father’s first marriage had left home except George Thomas Chapman. Joseph Edward’s older siblings (step-brothers) were Meadows Charles, Francis Curzon, Herbert, Alfred and George Thomas.

In 1881 Joseph and Mary were living in Main Street, Corby with their children George Thomas, Ada, Thirza, Annie and Joseph Edward. Joseph Chapman was a grocer & chandler, assisted by his son George Thomas. The Chapman family had a domestic servant Ann Porter from Lincolnshire.

In 1891 Ada and Thirza were dressmakers. The Chapman’s had two more children Laura and Florence. They continued to employ a domestic servant, Annie Robinson of Corby.

Joseph Edward Chapman joined the Army in 1900. He was living in Corby and employed as a joiner. He served with the 1st Kings’ Dragoon Guards. Joseph served in the South African War.


At some point Joseph’s wife Elizabeth died.

Joseph Edward Chapman married Elizabeth Jane Cleveley of Birmingham on 7th August 1916. The family were living in Eva Road, Birmingham.

Joseph’s mother Mary Ireland Chapman (nee Norriss) died on 25th April 1928. Mary was living in High Street, Corby.

Joseph’s wife Elizabeth Jane Chapman (nee Cleveley) died in June 1944 in Birmingham.

Joseph Edward Chapman died on 21st April 1965. He was living in Court Lane, Erdington.

Joseph’s daughter Thirza Chapman died in 1989 in Birmingham.
Military History

Joseph Edward Chapman first enlisted in the Army on 9th August 1900. Joseph was to serve with the 1st Kings’ Dragoon Guards. His service number was 4917.

Joseph was based in the United Kingdom from August 1900 until January 1901. He arrived in South Africa on 8th January 1901 and was stationed there until December 1902. Joseph served in the South African War.

Joseph was discharged from the Army at his own request on payment of £18.

Joseph obviously remained in South Africa as he married in Pretoria in 1905 and the couple had a child born in Johannesburg in 1906. It is currently unknown when Joseph returned to the United Kingdom.

Joseph Edward Chapman re-enlisted on 13th May 1916 in Birmingham. His civilian occupation was wheelwright. Joseph was a widower by this time. Joseph remarried in August 1916 (Elizabeth Cleveley).

Joseph initially served as a Gunner (146559) with the Royal Field Artillery but was transferred to the Royal Garrison Artillery (157691).

Joseph reported for duty in Woolwich on 19th May 1916. He was at No. 4 Depot RFA. Joseph was trained as a Wheeler.

Joseph was in the United Kingdom until September 1917. His service record states he was attached to the 51st Company RGA and stationed in India from 24th September 1917. His record also mentions Mesopotamia. Whilst in India Joseph was appointed to the rank of Wheeler-Sergeant.

Joseph was in India in 1919 prior to his transfer to the Army Reserve on 10th December 1919 and his return to the United Kingdom.
Joseph Frederick Chapman was born in 1875 in Hartwell, South Northamptonshire. He was baptised in Hartwell on 31st January 1875. His mother was Elizabeth Chapman.

Joseph Frederick Chapman married Harriet Agnes James on 1st November 1897 in Northampton.

In 1901 Joseph, Elizabeth and their daughter Edith were living in All Saints, Northampton. Joseph Chapman was a blacksmith.

On Joseph’s service record he listed 5 children – Edith (1899), Frederick (1901), Winifred (1907), Sarah (1908) & Vera (1911).

At the time of the 1911 Census Joseph Chapman was boarding with Walter & Lavinia Johnson in Weldon Road, Corby. Joseph was still employed as a blacksmith.

When Joseph Chapman joined the Army in 1914 he was resident at “Ferndale”, Weldon Road, Corby.

Military History

Joseph Frederick Chapman was 40 years old when he attested in Kettering on 23rd November 1914. He was initially in the Army Service Corps (TS/1477) but was transferred to the Royal Field Artillery on 26th December 1914.

Joseph was to serve as a Shoeing Smith (89340) in the Royal Field Artillery. He was posted to C Battery, 79th Brigade, RFA.

According to his service record he was initially at Woolwich, then Swanage (April 1915), Corfe Castle (May 1915), Okehampton (June 1915) then Winchester.

Joseph Frederick Chapman was discharged from the Army on 30th June 1915 in Winchester, his “services were no longer required”. 
Walter Chapman

Walter Chapman was born in Corby in 1877. He was baptised in Corby on 14th October 1877. His father was William Chapman from Corby, his mother Frances Gray Chapman (nee Streather) from Corby. William Chapman was a carpenter.

In 1881 William and Frances were living with their children Ellen, Charles William, John, Sarah, Ernest, Walter and Albert in Corby.

Walter's mother Frances Chapman died in 1884.

Widower William Chapman married widow Mary Marshall (nee Lattimer) in 1887.

In 1891 the family were living in Church Street, Corby. With William and Mary were William's children Charles (an office clerk), Walter (a carpenter's boy) and Albert. Mary's son Lewis Marshall (an engine cleaner) was also resident.

Mary Chapman died in 1891 leaving William Chapman a widower a second time. Mary was buried in Corby on 8th November 1891.

In 1901 Walter Chapman was boarding with George and Ann Thompson in Crispin Street, Rothwell. Walter Chapman was now a fully trained carpenter. His brother Albert was visiting at the time of the census possibly due to Walter's impending marriage.

Walter Chapman married Laura Buckley in Rothwell on 8th April 1901.

By 1911 Walter and Laura had three children Frances, Emma and Winifred. They were living in Well Lane, Rothwell. A son Reginald Thomas Chapman was born in 1914 in Corby.

Military History

Walter Chapman served as a Sapper (414747) in the Royal Engineers. He attested in Kettering on 11th December 1915 and was transferred to the Reserves. Walter and family were resident in Oakley Road, Corby.

Walter was mobilised for service on 14th June 1916. He embarked from Southampton on 9th June 1917 and disembarked in Alexandria, Egypt on 20th June 1917. He was to serve in the Middle East for the duration of his service.

Walter Chapman was transferred to the Army Reserve on 26th April 1919.
Richard Thomas Victor Clarke

Richard Thomas Victor Clarke was born in Corby on 25th May 1897. He was baptised on 22nd June 1897. He was named Richard after his maternal grandfather Richard Cadbury JP of Birmingham. His father was Reverend Thomas George Clarke from Middlesex, his mother Jessie Clarke (nee Cadbury) from Birmingham. Thomas George Clarke was Rector of Corby.

In 1901 Richard was living at The Rectory, Corby with his father, mother and younger sister Irene Beatrice Clarke. The family had four servants.

From records we know he attended a school in Rose Hill, Surrey and Oundle School.

At Oundle School he was a member of the Officer Corps. From his mother’s diaries we know that he had a keen interest in the navy from an early age.

Following the war Richard continued his studies at Oxford.

Reverend Thomas George Clarke died in 1922.

Richard married Sybil Mary Barff (b. Croydon) in 1937.

In 1939 Richard and Sybil were living in Ipswich. Richard Clarke was a surgeon and physician.

He died in 1986 on the Isle of Wight.

Military History

Richard Thomas Victor Clarke was a 2nd Lieutenant in the Royal Marines from 24th March 1916 and also listed in the RNVR in March 1918 serving on HMS Nepean (a torpedo-boat destroyer).

Richard’s father was a Chaplain to the Northamptonshire Regiment during the war, whilst both his mother and sister undertook work for the Red Cross.
John Archibald Davis

John Archibald Davis was born in Leicestershire on 30th January 1897. Whilst his brothers and sisters are recorded as being born in Caldecott, Rutland John’s entry is just “Leicestershire”.

His father was John Davis from Leicestershire, his mother Annie Davis from Caldecott.

John Archibald Davis attended Caldecott Primary School from 23rd July 1900.

In 1901 John, Annie and children John Archibald and George were living in Dannett Street, Leicester. John was a coal merchant.

By 1911 the family were back in Caldecott. John was a labourer. With John and Annie were their children Archie (John Archibald), George, Sidney, James, Janet and Annie.

Military History

John Archibald Davis enlisted in Leicester on 16th June 1915. His civilian occupation was furnaceman with the Lloyd’s Furnace Company, Corby. On discharge from the Army a few years later his home address was given as Highfield House, Corby.

John Davis was to serve as a Gunner in both the Royal Field Artillery (32297) and the Royal Garrison Artillery (223251).

Gunner Davis (Royal Field Artillery) embarked for Le Havre from Southampton on 1st June 1916.

He was with the 159th Field Artillery. From 9th May 1916 he was attached to the 35th French Mortar Battery for instruction. Whilst with the battery he suffered a gunshot wound and was treated from 31st May – 2nd June 1916.

On 18th June 1916 he returned to the 159th.

From 3rd – 28th September 1917 he was attached to “O” Anti-Aircraft Battery.

On 20th January 1918 he was victim of a gas shell attack. He was initially treated by the 57 Field Ambulance unit before being admitted to hospital on 25th January 1918. He was transferred back to the United Kingdom on 30th January 1918.
The next few months saw John Davis being treated for the consequences of the gas shell attack. He was in Warden House Military Hospital from 30th January – 21st February 1918, then Shorncliffe Military Hospital from 22nd February – 2nd March 1918, Manor House Hospital, Folkestone from 2nd March – 1st April 1918 where he had a cyst removed from his face, then Shorncliffe again from 1st April – 3rd April 1918 and finally the Military Hospital, Eastbourne from 3rd April – 25th May 1918.

On 3rd July 1918 he was subject to a compulsory transfer from the 24th Reserve Brigade (RFA) to the Royal Garrison Artillery. On that day he was posted as Gunner to the Anti-Aircraft Defences of Tees Garrison, Middlesborough.

On the 4th February 1919 he was transferred from the 22nd Anti-Aircraft Company to the Army Reserve. His home address was given as Highfield House, Corby.
William Davis

William Davis was born on 24th November 1885. According to the 1911 Census his birthplace was Birmingham.


In the 1911 Census William Davis was living in Tunwell Lane, Corby with his wife Ada and children Gladys, Winifred and Lilian. William was a locomotive fitter working for the ironstone company.

When William enlisted in 1915 the family were living at Cardigan Farm, Corby. William was still employed as a fitter.

In the 1939 Register William and Ada were living in Stocks Lane, Corby. William was a locomotive fitter for Stewarts & Lloyds. With William and Ada were their children Gladys a clerk for a wholesale clothier, Lilian an “overlooker” for a wholesale clothier, Irene a clerk for the Ministry of Labour and William a carpenter. Also registered was Margaret Davis (b.1925). Margaret was at school.

Military History

William Davis attested for the Army in Kettering on 2nd February 1915. William was to serve initially as a Driver (61042, 251281) then a Sapper in the Royal Engineers.

William joined the RE in Aldershot on 4th February 1915.

He was a Driver with the 19th Siege Company, Royal Engineers. The Company embarked for France on 19th July 1915 as part of the British Expeditionary Force.

On the 30th November 1916 William Davis was posted as a Sapper and assigned to “dismounted duties”. He was a “Sapper (Fitter) Engine Superior”.

On 15th November 1918 William was promoted to Lance Corporal with a M.T. Company. On 8th March 1919 William Davis was transferred to the Army Reserve. He returned to Cardigan Farm, Corby.
Arthur Albert Dellow

Arthur Albert Dellow was born in Kettering on 14th April 1895. His father was Albert Dellow from Kettering, his mother Mary J. Dellow (nee Meeks) of Finedon. Albert and Mary married in 1891.

In 1901 Albert, Mary and their children Gertrude, Arthur Albert and Ernest were living in Clover Hill, Rockingham Road, Kettering. Albert was living “on own means”. Also living in Clover Hill was Benjamin Dellow and family.

In 1911 Albert, Mary, Arthur and Ernest were living in Station Road, Corby. Albert was a farmer. Arthur was employed as a truck lifter in the local brick works, whilst Ernest was a domestic gardener.

When Arthur attested on 9th December 1915 he was resident in the High Street, Corby. His occupation was as an ironstone labourer (shunter). He was a locomotive driver.

Arthur Albert Dellow died in Corby in 1920.

Military History

Arthur Albert Dellow attested on 9th December 1915. He was to serve as a Private (59820) in the 3rd Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment.

Arthur Dellow was mobilised for war service on 15th July 1918. He was posted to the 3rd Battalion on 17th July 1918.

Arthur suffered an ankle injury in November 1918.

He was transferred to the Army Reserve on 2nd March 1919.

Albert’s brother Ernest Dellow served as a Private (27705) in the Northamptonshire Regiment serving in the 3rd, 6th and 1st Battalions at various times. He was transferred to the Army Reserve on 7th May 1919.
Ernest Dellow

Ernest Dellow was born in Kettering on 16th September 1896. His father was Albert Dellow from Kettering, his mother Mary J. Dellow (nee Meeks) of Finedon. Albert and Mary married in 1891.

In 1901 Albert, Mary and their children Gertrude, Arthur Albert and Ernest were living in Clover Hill, Rockingham Road, Kettering. Albert was living “on own means”. Also living in Clover Hill was Benjamin Dellow and family.

In 1911 Albert, Mary, Arthur and Ernest were living in Station Road, Corby. Albert was a farmer. Arthur was employed as a truck lifter in the local brick works, whilst Ernest was a domestic gardener.

When Ernest enlisted in 1915 he was resident in the High Street, Corby. His occupation was as a rope runner.

Ernest Dellow died in Corby in 1985.

Military History

Ernest Dellow attested in Kettering on 11th December 1915. Ernest was to serve as a Private (27705) in the Northamptonshire Regiment.

Ernest Dellow was mobilised for war service on 28th August 1916. Ernest was posted to the 3rd Battalion on 30th August 1916.

On 13th January 1917 he was posted to the 1st Battalion on arrival in Calais, France. On 27th February 1917 he was posted to the 6th Battalion and served in “D’ Company.

Ernest was on leave in the United Kingdom from 24th January – 7th February 1918.

Ernest Dellow was wounded in the field on 25th April 1918. He suffered a gunshot wound to the right thigh and foot. He returned to the United Kingdom and was hospitalised.

He was posted to the 3rd Battalion on 7th October 1918 but on his return to France on 23rd November 1918 he was posted to the 1st Battalion.

Ernest Dellow was transferred to the Army Reserve on 7th May 1919.

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Ernest’s brother Arthur Albert Dellow served as a Private (59820) in the 3rd Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment. Arthur was born in Kettering but was a resident of Corby working in the iron works. Arthur was transferred to the Army Reserve on 2nd March 1919 but died in 1920.
William Victor Dickson

William Victor Dickson attested in Kettering in November 1915. According to his service record he was born abt. 1876 in Lewes, Sussex. His civilian occupation was shoehand. William gave his home address as Stanion Road, Corby.

On his service papers he gave the name of a dependant Hettie Kilner Gumpretch also of Stanion Road, Corby. Mrs Gumpretch was an actress, the wife of Benjamin Gumpretch of Manchester. The connection with William Dickson is unknown although Hettie’s son [Edward] Otto Gumpretch (9659) also enlisted in the Northamptonshire Regiment.

Military Service

William Victor Dickson served initially as a Private (22339) in the 3rd Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment. He joined the Army on 11th November 1915.

William Dickson was transferred to The Queen’s (Royal West Surrey Regiment) on 6th January 1916.

On the 1st September 1916 he was transferred to the 97th Training Reserve Battalion (T.R.10/32740).

William then served as a Private (474829) in the Labour Corps from 11th June 1917 on his arrival in France.

William served in the 191st Company from 4th December 1917, in the 21st Company from 17th March 1918 and the 282nd Company from 26th April 1918. William was promoted to Acting Lance Corporal.

William Dickson was transferred to the Army Reserve in January 1919. His home address was given as Aldershot.
George Richard Dixon

George Richard Dixon was born in Corby on 27th August 1897. He was baptised in Corby on 14th November 1897. His father was George Dixon of Corby, his mother Kathleen Mary Dixon (nee Dixon) of Glendon. George and Kathleen [Kate] married on 9th December 1896.

In 1901 George and Kate were living in Main Street, Corby with their children George Richard and Evelyn. George Dixon was a timber dealer.

By 1911 the family were living in The Jamb, Corby. George Richard Dixon was assisting his father in the timber business.

George Richard Dixon married Fanny Gertrude Buckby in 1925.

In 1939 George, Fanny and family were living in Station Road, Corby. George was a Mill Timber Worker and an ARP Warden. Fanny was a First Aider with the ARP.

George Richard Dixon’s father George Dixon died in 1949. His mother Kate Dixon died in 1952.

George Richard Dixon died in Corby in 1983.

Military History

George Richard Dixon initially served as a Private (27574) in the Northamptonshire Regiment. He attested in Kettering on 14th February 1916 and was transferred to the Army Reserve. George was mobilised in Northampton on 24th August 1916.

George Dixon arrived in Boulogne on 2nd December 1916. He was posted to the 2nd Battalion joining them in the field on 12th December 1916. His first tour of duty in France ended on 19th May 1917.

On the 19th July 1917 he was posted to the 3rd Battalion. George disembarked in Boulogne on 21st August 1917 and was posted to the 5th Battalion.

George Dixon was diagnosed with deafness and medically reclassified. George was transferred to the Labour Corps where he served as a Private (404029). His final posting was to the 250 Employment Company, Labour Corps.

George Richard Dixon was transferred to the Army Reserve on 10th March 1919. His home address was given as Bridge House, Corby.
Harry Dixon

Harry Dixon was born in Corby in 1884. He was baptised in Corby on 26th March 1884. His father was Ganson [Gancy] Charles Dixon, his mother Susannah Dixon (nee Bailey). Gancy and Susannah married in 1859.

The couple had a number of children. Prior to Harry Dixon’s birth in 1884 their children included John Thomas (d.1863), Thomas William, Charles William (d.1863), Rosanna, William John, Mary Elizabeth, Percy, Phoebe, Charles Gancy, George and Susannah.

In 1891 the family were living in Stocks Lane, Corby. With Gancy and Susannah were their children William, Mary, Percy, Phoebe, Charles, George, Susannah, Harry and Walter (b.1887). William Dixon and his sister Mary Dixon were both born in Nottinghamshire; the other Dixon children were born in Corby.

Harry’s father Gancy Dixon and brothers William and Percy were all employed as ironstone labourers.

Harry’s mother Susannah Dixon (nee Bailey) died in 1900.

In 1901 the family were living in Lloyd’s Cottages, Corby. Widower Gancy Dixon was living with his sons Harry and Walter. At the time of the census his daughter Susannah Whitehead (nee Dixon) was resident. Gancy Dixon was now a foreman, whilst Harry worked as a “fireman steam elevator” and Walter was an “errand boy” at the ironstone quarry.

Harry Dixon joined the Army Service Corps in February 1903. Harry was to serve in the Army through to February 1911.

In 1911 Harry Dixon was boarding with his sister Susannah Whitehead (nee Dixon), her husband Samuel and their three children in The Grove, Corby. Harry was employed as a “steam navvy fireman”.

Harry Dixon married Blanche Edith Rabjohns in Harlesden on 24th July 1917. Blanche was originally from Gloucestershire. A son Charles Henry Rabjohns was born on 2nd November 1917.

Harry’s father Gancy Charles Dixon died in 1918.

Harry Dixon died in Corby in 1937.
According to the 1939 Register Harry’s widow Blanche Dixon was living in Bramston Road, Willesden. Her father Henry Rabjohns, a retired Great Western Railway (GWR) engineman was resident, together with her son Cecil W. Dixon (b.1924) an apprentice with GWR.

Blanche Edith Dixon (nee Rabjohns) died in Brent in 1965.

Military History

Harry Dixon joined the Army Service Corps (Drivers) in Northampton on 10\textsuperscript{th} February 1903. He reported for duty in Manchester on 16\textsuperscript{th} February 1903. Harry was to serve as a Driver (T/20628).

Harry Dixon had been a Private in the militia (3\textsuperscript{rd} Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment) from 17\textsuperscript{th} March 1902.

On 18\textsuperscript{th} October 1904 Harry Dixon extended his army service to 8 years.

Harry was in the United Kingdom from enlistment until 22\textsuperscript{nd} December 1904. Harry was then posted to South Africa where he served until 27\textsuperscript{th} January 1910.

Harry Dixon was transferred to the Army Reserve on 9\textsuperscript{th} February 1911 at the end of his 8 years of army service. He returned to Corby.

Harry Dixon was mobilised for war service on 6\textsuperscript{th} August 1914 reporting for duty at Woolwich. Harry was part of the Expeditionary Force to France from 12\textsuperscript{th} August 1914 to 29\textsuperscript{th} June 1915.

Harry was discharged from the Army on 9\textsuperscript{th} February 1916 with the termination of his first period of engagement.

On 22\textsuperscript{nd} May 1919 Harry Dixon re-enlisted in the Royal Army Service Corps for a further period of 4 years (EMT/44574). His discharge date would have been 21\textsuperscript{st} May 1923. His civilian occupation at the time was “engine fitter”.

Harry reported for duty at Mill Hill on 22\textsuperscript{nd} May 1919. Harry was posted to the RASC No.4 M.T. Depot Winchester on 13\textsuperscript{th} December 1919. Harry was promoted to Acting Sergeant on his arrival in Winchester.

On 27\textsuperscript{th} October 1920 Harry Dixon was discharged from the Army being no longer physically fit for war service. His disability was recorded as neurasthenia.

Harry’s home address was Bramstead Road, Harlesden.
Raleigh Garrod

Raleigh Garrod was born in Wellingborough on 11th May 1896. His parents were John Garrod of Wellingborough and Alice Francis Garrod of Wood Green, London.

In 1901 John, Alice and their children Doris, Alfred, Raleigh and Herbert were living in Wymington. John and Alice were resident in Victoria, Australia at one time as both Doris and Alfred were born there. John Garrod was an engineer at the waterworks in Wymington.

By 1911 the family had moved to Corby and were resident in Weldon Road. John Garrod was an engineer at the ironstone mine, whilst Raleigh Garrod was a “telephone attendant” at the same mine. Herbert Garrod was attending school.

Raleigh Garrod married Gertrude Stebbings in Wellingborough in 1926.

Raleigh Garrod died in 1978.

Military History

Raleigh Garrod served as a Private (M2/229636) in the Army Service Corps. His service record has not survived. The Northampton Mercury of 28th January 1916 records:-

_Pte. Garrod son of Mr. J. Garrod of Corby is seriously ill on No. 10 Stationary Hospital, St. Omer, France suffering from appendicitis._

Raleigh Garrod’s older brother Alfred Garrod also served as a Private (MT/117310) in the Army Service Corps (Mechanical Transport). He joined on 14th August 1915. Alfred was resident in Coventry at the time of his enlistment. His next of kin was his father John Garrod of “The Cottage”, Corby. Alfred served in France from 3rd September 1915 – 11th February 1916. During his period in France he was injured in a German gas attack. The effect of this was so bad that Alfred was discharged from the Army on 21st May 1916 being no longer physically fit for war service. Alfred and his family eventually settled in Australia.

Raleigh Garrod’s younger brother Herbert served in the Royal Air Force. Herbert was born in Wymington on 13th October 1900. He attended school in Corby. He joined the RAF on 24th September 1918 (service number 183504). His home address was given as 9 George Street, Wellingborough. His civilian occupation “fitter & turner”. His next of kin was his father John Garrod of “The Cottage”, Corby. Herbert Garrod was transferred to the RAF Reserve on 8th January 1919.
Frederick Incles

Frederick Incles was born in Deene on 23rd November 1876. His father was Morris Incles of Deene, his mother Ellen Incles (nee Snowden) of Corby. Morris and Ellen married in 1860.

In 1881 the family were living in Deenethorpe. Morris Incles was a mail cart driver at the time of Frederick’s birth.

Frederick’s father Morris Incles died in 1887. Morris was buried in Corby on 11th May 1887.

Morris and Ellen had a number of children.

Frederick Incles married Clara Glithero Langley in Corby on 11th July 1898. At the time of their marriage Frederick was an “engine cleaner”.

In 1901 Ellen Incles is running the General Shop in Corby. With Ellen were Frederick, Clara and their daughter Doris. There were also three boarders resident including Joseph Langley of Gretton.

Frederick’s mother Ellen Incles died in 1909.

By 1911 Frederick and Ellen were living in Weldon Road, Corby with their children Doris, Elsie, Charlie, George, Albert and Harold. Frederick Incles was an ironstone labourer.

Frederick’s wife Clara Incles died in 1931.

Frederick remarried in 1933 to Annie Lavinia Bailey of Pitsford. Annie had been married previously. Annie Lavinia Welch had married Frederick William Bailey in 1907. They were living in Havelock Street, Kettering in 1911. Frederick William Bailey died on 30th September 1928. Frederick & Annie Bailey were resident in The White Hart, Corby at the time of Frederick’s death.

In 1939 Frederick & Annie Incles were living at 31 Station Road, Corby. Frederick Incles was a digger driver.

Annie Incles died on 29th September 1950. Frederick & Annie Incles were living at 15 Station Road, Corby although Annie actually died in Oundle. Frederick Incles was a “fitters labourer” at the time of Annie’s death.

Frederick Incles died on 21st April 1954.
Military Service

Frederick Incles served as a Private (17242) in the 7th Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment. His full service record has not survived. He disembarked in France on 1st September 1915.

According to an article in 1915 he was taken as a POW –

Northampton Mercury 22nd October 1915

Incles, Pte. Fred.
Private Fred Incles, whose wife lives at Corby, is a prisoner at Munster Wessel Camp, Germany.

Frederick Incles was transferred to the Army Reserve on 11th March 1919
Arthur Cyril Ironmonger (known as Cyril) was born in Corby on 6th May 1897. He was baptised in Corby on 6th June 1897. His parents were Arthur Ironmonger (originally from Oxfordshire) and his mother Sarah Ironmonger (nee Langley) of Corby. The couple were married in Corby on 28th December 1891.

In the 1901 Census the family are recorded as living in Back Way, Corby. Arthur Snr. was employed as a “general labourer” at the local ironstone company. The couple had two children Arthur Cyril & Elsie Lillian.

Also included in the household were two boarders, John O’Sullivan (a stonemason from London) and Lewis Marshall (an ironstone labourer from Corby).

By 1911 Cyril Ironmonger was employed as an errand boy for a baker. Arthur and Sarah had another son George Edward Ironmonger. Arthur Ironmonger was still employed as an ironstone labourer.

Arthur Cyril Ironmonger married Charlotte Spendlove (b. 1896) in 1924. They had a daughter Joan Ironmonger born in 1924.
Cyril’s mother Sarah Ironmonger (nee Spendlove) died on 10th January 1935.

There is reference to Arthur Cyril Ironmonger in a local newspaper in 1936 as witness to a fatal accident to a fellow work colleague. Cyril was a “traffic foreman” for Stewarts & Lloyds Steelworks. He was living in Church Street, Corby.

In 1939 Cyril and Charlotte were still living at 14 Church Street, Corby. Cyril was still a traffic foreman at the steelworks.

Arthur Cyril Ironmonger died in Corby in 1966.

Military Service

Arthur Cyril Ironmonger is recorded as being a Gunner with the Royal Garrison Artillery (service no. 178524). His service record has not survived.

Corby Council wishes to thank Dr Ian Harding for the photograph reproduced above of Gunner Ironmonger.
Charles Henry Ironmonger

Charles Henry Ironmonger was born in Great Oakley on 5th May 1899. His father was William Ironmonger from Oxfordshire, his mother Sarah Jane Ironmonger (nee Humphrey) from Great Oakley. William and Sarah married abt. 1889. William Ironmonger was a coal dealer.

In 1901 William and Sarah were living in Stocks Lane, Corby with their children Maria, Dora, John Thomas William, Eva, Amy, Charles and Horace. Also resident at the time of the census was John’s cousin Alfred Burrows (b. 1888) a coal carter.

In 1911 William and Sarah were living with their children John Thomas William, Amy, Charles and Horace. John Thomas William Ironmonger was a furnace labourer. Also living with the family were two boarders, William Childs from Sudborough and Thomas Shellham from Wolverhampton.

After the First World War, Charles went to live in Leicester. Family references state that Charles worked for a furniture outlet, first as a driver then a salesman.

Around 1920/21 Charles went to Ireland and joined the Royal Irish Constabulary (family references suggest that Charles had been stationed in Ireland during his military service). He remained in the RIC for twelve months.

Charles returned to England and held various jobs before marrying Minnie Moore in Leicester in 1922. Later that year Charles and Minnie emigrated to Australia.

Charles and Minnie had two sons Frederick (b.1927) and David (b.1930).

Charles remained in Australia, mostly involved in farming. During World War 2 Charles enlisted in the Australian Army serving as a Private. Charles was a POW in Malaya (service number WX8327). He returned to Australia after the war.

Charles and Minnie divorced in 1946. Charles later remarried.

Charles Henry Ironmonger died in Augusta, Western Australia on 10th April 1987.

Military Service

Charles Henry Ironmonger enlisted on 5th May 1915. He was 16 years old but lied about his age.

He initially served in the 1st Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment (18415). He was promoted to Corporal.
He then served in the 11th Battalion, Essex Regiment (40968) then as a Corporal (34553) in the 10th Battalion, Scottish Rifles (Cameronians).

Family references suggest that he served briefly in Ireland whilst with the Scottish Rifles; he served at least two tours of duty in France.

Charles Henry Ironmonger was discharged from the Army on 11th March 1919.
Charles Herbert Ironmonger was born in Darlaston, Staffordshire on 29th October 1877. His father was Matthew Ironmonger from Lincolnshire, his mother Emma Ironmonger (nee Webb) from Oxfordshire. Matthew and Emma had married in 1864 in Headington.

In 1881 Matthew, Emma and their children William, Arthur, Matthew, Harry, Charles H. and Emma were living in Walsall Road, Darlaston, Staffordshire. William Ironmonger was a labourer.

By 1891 the family had relocated to Corby and were living in Stanion Lane. Matthew was an ironstone labourer. With Matthew and Emma were their children John, Arthur, Matthew, Harry, Ellen and “James H.” [Charles H.].

John, Arthur and Harry were also ironstone labourers. Matthew jnr. was a groom.

By 1901 Matthew Ironmonger was working as an agricultural labourer. Sons Matthew jnr. and Herbert [Charles Herbert] were ironstone labourers. Daughter Ellen Ironmonger was also resident. The Ironmonger’s had a boarder, widower Edward Spriggs an ironstone labourer from Weldon.

Charles Ironmonger attested for the Royal Regiment of Artillery (Royal Garrison Artillery) on 21st August 1903. His next of kin were listed as Matthew Ironmonger (father) and his brothers William, John, Arthur, Matthew & Harry.

Charles was to serve as a Gunner (15649). He initially served in No. 32 Company RGA and was then posted to No. 56 Company.

According to his service record he was based in the United Kingdom until September 1904. From 22nd September 1904 to 5th April 1906 he was posted in Mauritius. From 6th April 1906 until his discharge on 11th September 1906 he was back in the United Kingdom. He was discharged on medical grounds. Charles had served a total of 3 years and 22 days in the RGA.

In 1911 Herbert Ironmonger was living in The Nook, Corby. He was an ironstone labourer. There were 3 boarders living with him.

In 1939 Charles H. Ironmonger was living in the Chapel House, Church Street, Corby. He was employed as a general labourer.
Charles Herbert Ironmonger died in 1946.

**Military Service**

Charles Herbert Ironmonger served as a Gunner (286354) in the Royal Garrison Artillery. He served in No. 495 Siege Battery, RGA.

From information in a newspaper article of 1923, Charles joined the RGA on 20th September 1917. Charles was demobilised in July 1919. The article states he was seriously wounded and granted a disability pension of 10s. a week. He returned to Corby and resumed his boot repair business.
John Thomas William Ironmonger

John Thomas William Ironmonger was born in Corby on 3rd January 1893. His father was William Ironmonger from Oxfordshire, his mother Sarah Jane Ironmonger (nee Humphrey) from Great Oakley. William and Sarah married abt. 1889. William Ironmonger was a coal dealer.

In 1901 William and Sarah were living in Stocks Lane, Corby with their children Maria, Dora, John Thomas William, Eva, Amy, Charles and Horace. Also resident at the time of the census was John’s cousin Alfred Burrows (b. 1888) a coal carter.

In 1911 William and Sarah were living with their children John Thomas William, Amy, Charles and Horace. John Thomas William Ironmonger was a furnace labourer. Also living with the family were two boarders, William Childs from Sudborough and Thomas Shellham from Wolverhampton.

John Thomas William Ironmonger married Evelyn Esther Dixon on 11th November 1922.

In 1939 John, Evelyn and family were living in 13 Lloyds Road, Corby. John Ironmonger was a coal merchant.


Military Service

John Thomas William Ironmonger served as a Private (18671) in the Grenadier Guards. He enlisted on 10th September 1914. He disembarked in France on 24th May 1915.

Although his service record has not survived his medal entry indicates he served with the 2nd Battalion. His Silver Badge citation states that he also served with the 5th (Reserve) Battalion, which was based in the United Kingdom.

John Ironmonger was discharged on 14th December 1918. His Silver Badge No. was 487885.
Bert Langley

Bert Langley was born in Corby on 8th November 1897. His father was William Thomas Lattimore Langley of Corby, his mother Elizabeth Langley (nee Jarvis) from Cottingham. William and Elizabeth had married on 5th April 1891.

In 1901 William and Elizabeth were living in Streathers Yard, Corby. William was an ironstone labourer. With William and Elizabeth were their children William jnr., Maud, Edith, Charles, Bertie and John Cecil.

Elizabeth Langley died in 1910.

In 1911 William was still living in Streathers Yard with his children William jnr., Edith, Charles, Bert, Cecil, Ernest, Horace and Reggie. Edith had assumed the role of housekeeper following the death of Elizabeth the previous year. William, William jnr. and Charles were all ironstone labourers. Bert Langley was employed as an errand boy at a local public house.

Military History

Bert Langley attested in Kettering on 14th February 1916. His civilian occupation was butcher; his home address Rockingham Road, Corby. He was mobilised and joined the Army Service Corps in Bath on 18th March 1917. He served as a Private (S/310179). His specialist role was “butcher”.

On 16th April 1917 he sailed from Southampton to Le Havre. On the 15th July 1917 he joined the ASC’s 13th Field Butchery unit before being posted to the 19th Field Butchery unit on 20th August 1917.

According to his service record Bert Langley was in France from 16th April 1917 to 18th February 1918 then again from 6th March 1918 to 23rd October 1919. There is reference on his file to Bert undergoing a medical examination conducted on 17th October 1919 in Germany.

Bert Langley was transferred to the Army Reserves on 21st November 1919.

It is suggested from photographic evidence that one of Bert’s brothers, John Cecil Lattimore Langley (b.1895), also served during the war although his service details are currently unknown.

Whether William (b.1891), Charles Henry (b.1895) or Ernest (b.1901) served is also currently unknown.
Vincent William Munns

Vincent William Munns was born in Market Harborough district in 1887.

In 1908 he married Elizabeth Jane Arberry. Elizabeth was born in Somerset, her father was from Taunton, her mother from Great Bowden.

Vincent and Elizabeth had two children prior to the war, William Charles Munns (b. 1909) and Walter James Munns (b. 1911) both born in Great Bowden.

In 1911 Vincent and family were living in Cecil Street, Kettering. Vincent was employed as an engine driver at an iron works. At the time of the census Elizabeth and sons were visiting her parents in Nottingham.

Sometime before May 1915 Vincent and family moved to Woodland View, Corby. Vincent's occupation in 1915 was “engineer”.

Military History

Vincent William Munns enlisted in Kettering on 12th May 1915. He initially served as a Private (2927) in the Royal Army Medical Corps Territorial Force. He was with the 3/1st Home Counties Field Ambulance unit until 15th July 1915 when he was posted to the 2/1st Lowland Field Ambulance unit.

Private Munns was in the United Kingdom until 22nd January 1917 when he sailed from Southampton to Le Havre for his first spell in France. He was back in the United Kingdom on leave from 27th October 1917 until the 6th November 1917.

Private Munns was given a new service number 493643 in 1917.

He was in France from 7th November 1917 to 15th October 1918. In May 1918 he suffered damage to his foot when assisting moving timber supports in a trench; one being passed down into the trench was mishandled, dropped and hit Vincent’s foot. No permanent disability was recorded.

His final spell in France was from 31st October 1918 until 17th February 1919.

Private Munns was transferred to the Reserves on 18th March 1919 and deemed discharged on 31st March 1920.
Ernest Josiah Payne

Ernest Josiah Payne was born in Corby in 1883. He was baptised on 14th October 1883. His father was Josiah Payne from Corby, his mother Mary Jane Payne (nee Bailey) from Corby. Josiah and Mary had married in 1876.

In 1891 Josiah and Mary were living in Rockingham Road, Corby with their children Charles, George, Ernest, Arthur and Frances. Josiah was a railway labourer. Ernest’s brother Charles was a labourer.

By 1901 the family were living at Dag Lane, Corby. Josiah was a railway platelayer, Ernest was an agricultural labourer and Arthur a painter’s apprentice.

Ernest Josiah Payne married Emily Mary Swain in Nuneaton on 20th May 1907.

In 1911 Ernest and Emily were living in Orchard Street, Nuneaton with their daughter Olive Mary Payne (b.1908). Ernest was a bricklayer. A lodger, George Ladkin a baker was resident with the family.

Military History

Ernest Josiah Payne attested for the Army on 11th December 1915. He went into the Army Reserve but was mobilised on 29th May 1918.

Prior to mobilisation he was employed as a munitions worker in Coventry.

Ernest served as a Private (428541, 66327) with the 4th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment but was transferred to the Labour Corps (663270) on 3rd October 1918.

Ernest was transferred to the Army Reserve on 19th February 1919.
Alfred Jeremiah Saunders Summers Peerless

Alfred Jeremiah Saunders Summers Peerless was born in Deene on 24th April 1878. His father was Alfred Peerless of Tunbridge Wells, Kent and Annie Peerless (nee Spencer) of Slate Pits Lodge. Alfred and Annie married in 1880. Alfred and Annie were to have a number of children.

In 1881 Alfred, Annie and their children Alfred and Alice were living in Corby. Members of Annie’s family were boarding with them. Alfred Peerless was a platelayer for Midland Railway.

In 1901 Alfred J S S Peerless was boarding with the Middleton family at Wakes Farm, Brinsworth, Rotherham. Alfred was a railway engine stoker.

Alfred J S S Peerless married Mary Garner, originally from Glamorgan, in Brinsworth on 27th December 1904. Alfred and Mary had a daughter in 1905 (Marjorie Doris) and a son in 1907 (Leonard Saunders).

In 1911 Alfred, Mary and their children were living in Duncan Street, Brinsworth. Alfred Peerless was a railway engine stoker for Midland Railway.

Alfred and Mary had another daughter Frances Alice born in Rothwell in 1913.

By 1915 the Peerless family had moved to Corby.

Alfred’s mother Annie Peerless died in 1918.

In 1939 Alfred and Mary were living in West View, Corby. Alfred worked for Stewarts & Lloyds. Their son David Peerless (b.1924) was also registered at the property; David was employed as an “office boy”. David Peerless died in 1942 aged 17 years.

Alfred’s father Alfred Peerless died in 1944.

Alfred Jeremiah Saunders Summers Peerless died in 1957.

Military Service

Alfred J S S Peerless served as a Sergeant (103410, WR/286974) in the Royal Engineers.

Alfred attested in Kettering on 7th June 1915. On his service record he states he had previously served 2 years in the Sherwood Foresters (Volunteers). His occupation was given as an engine driver & fitter.
Alfred was mobilised on 14th June 1915. Alfred was to serve in the United Kingdom until 20th January 1916. He served in the 276th Railway Company, Royal Engineers.

Alfred was then in the Egyptian Expeditionary Force from 21st January 1916 to 13th June 1919. He arrived back in the United Kingdom on 28th June 1919.

His record details that he was highly regarded as a “Driver & Loco Foreman”.

Alfred Peerless transferred to the Army Reserve in July 1919.

Alfred’s brother James Peerless (b. Corby) served as a Sergeant in the 6th Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment. James Peerless was killed in action on 20th March 1916. He is commemorated on the Corby War Memorial.
Charles Cornwallis Anderson Pelham Welby

Charles Cornwallis Anderson Pelham was born on 30th September 1876 in Sudbrook, Lincolnshire. His father was Evelyn Pelham whose own father was Charles Anderson Worsley Pelham, 2nd Earl of Yarborough. Charles Pelham’s mother was Harriett Francis Hutton.

In 1881 Charles Pelham was living at Caythorpe Hall, Lincolnshire. His father Evelyn Pelham was Deputy Lieutenant of Lincolnshire. Also resident were Charles Pelham’s brother Cecil Henry and sister Adelaide Muriel. The family had 17 servants.

In 1891 at the time of the census, Harriett and her children Charles, Adelaide, Florence, Reginald, Eleanor and Alfred were staying with relatives John & Catherine Welby at Allington Hall nr. Grantham. Another child Muriel had died in infancy in 1889.

By 1891 Charles Pelham was living at Cross Hill, Brixworth. His profession was noted as Hunt Secretary.

By 1903 Charles Pelham had taken the position of Land Agent and was working from the Cardigan Estate Office in Corby, a position he was to hold up to enlisting for the First World War.

Charles Pelham’s father Evelyn Pelham died in 1908.

In 1911 at the time of the census Charles Pelham was recorded as visiting Greenfield Lodge, Market Harborough. He was still employed as a Land Agent for the Cardigan Estate.

Charles Pelham’s mother Harriett died in 1913.

On 25th September 1914 the Northampton Mercury recorded:-

“Mr C.A.Pelham, of Shire Lodge, Corby agent for the Cardigan estates, has been appointed to a commission in the 12th Reserve Cavalry Brigade, and he leaves to take up his position at once. This regiment is composite of the 11th and 3rd Hussars, and it is interesting to note that the first of the two was the one which the late Lord Cardigan led in the charge of the Light Brigade…”

In 1921 he was recorded as resident of Berkeley House, Lower Benefield.

In Kelly’s Directory of 1930 Charles was at Brocklesby and in 1937 at Allington Hall.
In 1937 Charles Pelham was appointed as a Magistrate for Kesteven, Lincolnshire. In addition, the London Gazette announced that the King had granted Charles Cornwallis Anderson Pelham permission to use the surname Welby in addition to and after that of Anderson Pelham. From that point Charles full title was Charles Cornwallis Anderson Pelham Welby.

In 1939 Charles was living at Allington Hall with 4 servants. He was described as a “Land Agent retired”. Charles was also a senior warden in the ARP.

In 1945 Charles Cornwallis Anderson Pelham Welby was appointed as a Commander of the Royal Victorian Order (CVO) in the King’s Birthday Honours List.

On 5th October 1959 Charles Cornwallis Anderson Pelham Welby of South Luffenham Hall nr. Oakham died.

Military History

Initially Charles Pelham served as a 2nd Lieutenant in the 11th (Prince Albert’s Own) Hussars. This was amalgamated with the 3rd Hussars to form the 12th Reserve Regiment of Cavalry. Charles was appointed Lieutenant in the Hussars Special Reserve.

In May 1916 it was recorded that Charles was serving under the Air Ministry. Charles was to be promoted to Captain and serve in the Royal Flying Corps and its successor the Royal Air Force.

After the war in July 1919 Charles Pelham was awarded the Order of the Star (Chevalier) by Romania for his war service in France.

Charles Pelham returned to Northamptonshire after his war service.
Francis William Redshaw was born in Wootton Wawen, nr. Stratford on Avon, Warwickshire on 29th August 1891. He was baptised on 11th October 1891. His father was William Redshaw of Rockingham, his mother Ellen Redshaw (nee Bailey). William and Ellen married in Corby in 1890.

In 1891 William and Ellen Redshaw were living in Wootton Wawen (at the bottom of Round Hill). William was an agricultural labourer (shepherd).

By 1893 when William and Ellen’s first daughter (Gertrude May) was born the family had returned to Corby.

In 1901 William and Ellen were living in Back Way, Corby with their children Francis William, Gertrude May, Evelyn Annie, Harold Edgar and Violet Elsie. William Redshaw was working as a labourer in Corby Brickworks.

In 1911 the family were in Tunwell Lane. William Redshaw was now working as an ironstone labourer, whilst Francis William Redshaw was a furnace labourer. Harold Redshaw was working as an errand boy for the “shoe trade”. William and Ellen had another son George Samuel Redshaw.

When Francis William Redshaw attested for the Army in 1914 he was working as a blacksmith’s striker.

Francis William Redshaw married Beatrice Howard (b.1899) of Lancashire in 1919. According to a family reference, Francis William Redshaw served as a police constable after the war in the Merseyside area.

Francis Redshaw’s father William Redshaw died in 1927.

By 1939 Francis and Beatrice were living in Mill Street, Liverpool. Francis was employed as a “licensee”. With the couple were registered their children Janet (b.1921), Harold (b.1925) and Barbara (b.1929).

Francis Redshaw’s mother Ellen Redshaw (nee Bailey) died in 1950.

Francis William Redshaw died in Liverpool in 1951.

Military History

Francis William Redshaw served as a Private (15152) in the 6th Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment.

Francis Redshaw attested in Kettering on 7th September 1914. The following day he attended the Regiment’s Depot in Northampton.

According to his service record Francis served in France as part of the British Expeditionary Force from 26th July 1915 to 25th April 1916.

There is reference in his service record to Francis William Redshaw being wounded on 28th December 1915.

The Northampton Mercury of 14th January 1916 reported –

Redshaw, Pte. William, 6th Northamptonshire Regiment. The parents of Private Redshaw, who live at Corby, have learned that he has been wounded in the chin by a piece of shell.

Francis Redshaw returned to the United Kingdom on 26th April 1916. On the 27th May 1916 Francis was discharged from the Army due to sickness. His Silver Ward Badge was issued on 5th December 1916 (72346).
William Robinson

William Robinson was born in Corby in 1897.

When he enlisted in 1915 he was living in Streathers Cottages, Back Way, Corby. His occupation was ironstone labourer.

Military History

William Robinson enlisted in Kettering on 5th May 1915. He served as a Private (18393) in “D” Company, 3rd Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment.

On 8th January 1916 at Strood, Kent William Robinson was discharged from the Army being “no longer fit for War Service”. He had suffered with ill health for a few months; the Army doctors identified the cause. William had tuberculosis. He was 19 years old.
A Rowlatt

There is reference in the Surrey Recruitment Register to the following soldier –

A Rowlatt b.1893
Occupation – Police Constable
Attested – 11th January 1917 Kingston, Surrey
Unit – Royal Engineers
Service Number – 26558
Notes – Police Station, Corby nr. Kettering

Currently it has not been possible to find further information regarding this soldier.

Police Constable A. Rowlatt was stationed in Corby but it is not known why he did not enlist locally.
Francis Rowlatt

Francis [Frank] Rowlatt was born in Corby. He was baptised on 8th November 1885. His father was William Rowlatt, his mother Mary Rowlatt both of Corby.

In 1901 William and Mary were living in Main Street, Corby. William was a railway platelayer. With William and Mary were their children George, John, Alfred, Francis, Walter, Arthur, Bertie and Herbert. George Rowlatt was an ironstone labourer, John Rowlatt was working on a farm, Alfred Rowlatt was a brickyard labourer whilst Frank was a bricklayer’s labourer.

In 1911 the family were living in Station Road, Corby. Frank was a bricklayer.

Military History

Francis [Frank] Rowlatt was deemed enlisted into the Army on 2nd March 1916. He joined on 19th February 1917 in Northampton. His home address was High Street, Corby, his occupation bricklayer.

Frank served as a Private (204513) in the 7th (Reserve) Battalion, Duke of Cambridge’s Own (Middlesex Regiment).

Frank had suffered ill-health since 1913. This manifested itself during his early months in the Army and he was hospitalised with pneumonia.

Frank was discharged on health grounds on 30th June 1917.
George Rowlatt

George Rowlatt was born in Corby on 12th March 1881. He was baptised in Corby on 5th June 1881. His father was James Rowlatt of Corby, his mother Hannah Rowlatt (nee Johnson) of Bythorn, Huntingdonshire. James and Hannah married in 1866.

George had two older sisters Sarah Ellen & Rosie Annie.

In 1891 James, Hannah and their children James, Lydia and George were living in Tunwell Lane, Corby. James Snr. was a painter & glazier, Hannah was a dressmaker whilst son James Jnr. was unemployed.

In 1901 James Jnr. had joined his father as a painter & glazier whilst George Rowlatt was a bricklayer. Staying with the family at the time of the census was James & Hannah’s granddaughter Nellie Gray.

George Rowlatt married Clara Caroline Smith of Stanion on 22nd September 1910.

In 1911 George & Clara were living in South View, Tunwell Lane, Corby. George Rowlatt was still a bricklayer.

George’s father James Rowlatt died in 1913.

On 19th September 1913 George & Clara had a daughter Marjorie Rowlatt.

George’s mother Hannah Rowlatt (nee Johnson) died in 1919.

In 1939 George & Clara were still living in South View. George was a foreman bricklayer. Registered with them was their daughter Marjorie Mason (nee Rowlatt), her husband Arthur Mason and granddaughter Thelma.

Military History

George Rowlatt enlisted in Kettering on 11th December 1915. George was to serve as a Sapper (183849) in the Royal Engineers and later as a Private (308915) in the Tank Corps.

After enlistment George Rowlatt was transferred to the Army Reserve. George was mobilised for war service on 26th June 1916 at Chatham. On 15th August 1916 he was transferred back to the Army Reserve.

George was mobilised again on 20th February 1917 at Newark. On the 18th February 1918 he was transferred to 4th Carrier Company, Tank Corps.
On 12th June 1918 Private George Rowlatt embarked at Southampton for France, landing in Le Havre the following day. He was to serve in France until early 1919.

On 24th January 1919 he left for the United Kingdom, to Purfleet for demobilisation.

George Rowlatt was transferred to the Army Reserve on 23rd February 1919. His home address was still South View, Corby.
Andrew Lawrence Noel Russell

Andrew Lawrence Noel Russell was born in Corby on 16th November 1887. He was baptised in Rockingham on 25th December 1887. His father was George Alexander Russell from Scotland, his mother Helen Hunter Russell from Warwickshire. George Russell was a land agent.

In 1891 George, Helen and their children Andrew and Elizabeth were living at Shire Lodge, Corby. Two servants, Catherine Hope a nurse and Mary Hodson a cook were also resident.

Andrew Russell attended Rugby Public School and was boarding there in 1901.

In 1911 he was boarding at Rugby House, Lancaster Road, Kensington. He was an architectural student. Clergyman, Charles Stuart Donald, was head of the household. Law student William Moger was also resident together with housekeeper Emma Moss.

After the war, Andrew Russell established an independent architectural practice based in London (1919).

Andrew Russell died in Surrey in 1969.

Military History

Andrew Russell served as a Private (PS/36) in the 16th (Service) Battalion (Public Schools), Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge’s Own).

The 16th Battalion was formed in London on 1st September 1914. Andrew Russell enlisted on 4th September 1914.

The battalion came under the command of the 100th Brigade of the 33rd Division.

Private Andrew Russell together with his battalion landed in Boulogne on 17th November 1915.

Private Russell served in France until 4th July 1916 by which time the battalion had left the 33rd Division and had been transferred to GHQ Troops (February 1916) then transferred again in April 1916 to the 86th Brigade of the 29th Division.

Private Russell’s service record shows he was based in the United Kingdom from 5th July 1916 to 6th March 1918. His record also states that he was transferred to the Army Reserves (Class W) on 22nd December 1916 and was in receipt of an Army
Pension. His pension was 12/6 from 13th January 1917 to 3rd April 1917 then 13/9 for 95 weeks thereafter.

There is reference to Andrew Russell suffering a gunshot wound during his war service but no further details are currently available.
John William Sandford was born in Leicestershire on 31st October 1877. His father was John Sandford, his mother Mary Sandford. John Sandford was a railway station master.

In 1891 the family were living in Shardlow, Derbyshire.

By 1901 John William Sandford was employed as a railway goods clerk and boarding with the Barnett family in Wigston Magna.

In 1911 John William Sandford was residing at home with his widowed mother Mary. He was still employed as a railway clerk, his younger brother Ernest was employed as a railway telegraphist.

By 1915 John William Sandford was living in Oakley Road, Corby still employed by the railway.

John William Sandford married Mary Ellen Thornton in Blaby in 1916.

After the war John Sandford returned to Leicestershire. In 1939 he was living in Winchester Road, Blaby still a railway clerk.

Military Service

John William Sandford attested for the Army on 26th November 1915. He gave his home address as Oakley Road, Corby. Occupation railway clerk.

He was mobilised on 4th August 1916. He was to serve as a Sapper (193646,258785) in the Railway Operating Division, Royal Engineers.

John Sandford served in France from 11th October 1916.

John William Sandford was transferred to the Army Reserve on 4th April 1919.
Walter Edward Stimson

Walter Edward Stimson was born in Corby on 12th July 1891. His father was Walter Stimson, his mother Lucy Stimson (nee Hercock) both originally from Rutland.

In 1901 Walter, Lucy and their children Walter Edward, William Harold, Dorothy, Constance Lucy and Horace Vincent were living in Lloyd’s Cottages, Corby. Walter was employed as a blacksmith at the local iron works.

In 1911 the family were still living in Lloyd’s Cottages Walter, Lucy, Walter Jnr., William, Constance, Horace and daughter Vida Mary Stimson. Walter Stimson Snr. was still working as a blacksmith. Sons Walter Stimson Jnr. (engineer store-keeper) & William Stimson (wagon labeller) were also now working at the local iron works/quarry.

After the war Walter Stimson pursued a managerial career with Corby steelworks.

Walter’s father Walter Stimson Snr. died in 1922.

Walter Edward Stimson married Barbara May F. Knaggs (b.1912 Holbeck, Yorkshire) in 1936 in Bridlington. In 1939 Walter & Barbara were living in Lewis Road, Kettering. He was employed as an engineer at Corby steelworks. Also resident was Barbara’s mother Emily Maud Knaggs (nee Appleby).

Walter Edward Stimson died in 1959.

Military History

Walter Edward Stimson (12898) served in the 6th (Service) Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment. The Battalion landed in France on 26th July 1915.

On 30th October 1917 Walter Stimson was offered a commission as 2nd Lieutenant in the 3rd (Reserve) Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment. Walter returned to the Western Front and was eventually posted to “D” Company, 1st Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment.

Walter’s brother William Harold Stimson served as a Private in the 6th (Service Battalion), Northamptonshire Regiment. William was awarded the Military Medal in March 1918.

Note – Additional material supplied by Mr R.Linden.
William Harold Stimson was born in Corby on 23\textsuperscript{rd} November 1894. He was baptised in Corby on 13\textsuperscript{th} January 1895. His father was Walter Stimson, his mother Lucy Stimson (nee Hercock) both originally from Rutland.

In 1901 Walter, Lucy and their children Walter Edward, William Harold, Dorothy, Constance Lucy and Horace Vincent were living in Lloyd’s Cottages, Corby. Walter was employed as a blacksmith at the local iron works.

In 1911 the family were still living in Lloyd’s Cottages Walter, Lucy, Walter Jnr., William, Constance, Horace and daughter Vida Mary Stimson. Walter Stimson Snr. was still working as a blacksmith. Sons Walter Stimson Jnr. (engineer store-keeper) & William Stimson (wagon labeller) were also now working at the local iron works/quarry.

William’s father Walter Stimson died in 1922.

William Harold Stimson married Ivy P. Riches (b.1906) in Bedford in 1933.

In 1939 William, Ivy & family were living in Miller Road, Bedford. William was employed as an “Electrical Installation Inspector”.

According to a family reference William Stimson assisted with the work of the Telecommunications Research Establishment (TRE) and the Radar Research and Development Establishment (RRDE) during the Second World War, both of which were located at Malvern College in the 1940’s.

William Harold Stimson died in Bedford on 11\textsuperscript{th} February 1974.

\textbf{Military History}

William Harold Stimson served as a Private (14579) in the 6\textsuperscript{th} (Service) Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment. His service record has not survived however it is known that he was awarded the Military Medal. The Battalion, including Pte. Stimson, arrived in France on 26\textsuperscript{th} July 1915.

A report in the Northampton Mercury of 29\textsuperscript{th} March 1918 records that Pte. W.H.Stimson (Corby) was awarded the Military Medal. William’s medal card confirms the award.

William Harold Stimson was transferred to the Army Reserve on 23\textsuperscript{rd} March 1919.
William’s brother Walter Edward Stimson initially served in the 6th Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment reaching the rank of Sergeant. In October 1917 he was given a commission as 2nd Lieutenant in the 3rd (Reserve) Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment before being posted to the 1st Battalion.

*Note – Additional material supplied by Mr R.Linden.*
Bernard James Stretton

Bernard James Stretton was born on 8th August 1890 in Swinstead, Lincolnshire. His father was John W. Stretton of Cottestock, his mother Elizabeth Stretton of Bulwick,

In 1891 John, Elizabeth and their children Ellen and Bernard were living in Swinstead. John Stretton was a gamekeeper.

By 1901 the family were living in Chilton Candover, Hampshire. John Stretton was still employed as a gamekeeper. With John and Elizabeth were their children Ellen, Bernard, William, Averil Agnes, John, Ernest and Arthur.

In 1911 John Stretton was a farm labourer resident at Cardigan Farm Lodge, Cottingham & Beanfield Lawns. With John and Elizabeth were children William (a blast furnace labourer), Ernest, Arthur, Cyril and Charlie.

By 1911 Bernard James Stretton and his younger brother John Stretton were employed as farm labourers by widow Ellen Kirkham and family at Shire Lodge Farm, Corby. Bernard was to work for the Kirkham family for over 6 years in total.

When Bernard Stretton joined the Army he was employed in Corby Ironworks.

Bernard James Stretton married Loreina Dixon in 1927.

In 1939 Bernard, Loreina and their two sons Ronald & Anthony were registered as living at The Laurels, South Road, Corby. Bernard was employed as a “gas controller blast furnace”. Bernard was also registered as an Air Raid Warden.

Bernard James Stretton died in 1968.

Military History

Bernard James Stretton enlisted in the Northamptonshire Regiment on 12th March 1912 and was to serve in the Militia. His civilian occupation was furnace labourer.

Private (3/9470) Bernard James Stretton was mobilised for war service on 8th August 1914. He was posted to the 2nd Battalion on 14th October 1914.

Bernard Stretton was part of the British Expeditionary Force in France from 4th November 1914.
On 22\textsuperscript{nd} January 1915 Bernard Stretton suffered a gunshot wound to his left shoulder. This was serious enough for him to be invalided back to the United Kingdom on 5\textsuperscript{th} February 1915.

On 30\textsuperscript{th} April 1915 Bernard Stretton was posted to the 3\textsuperscript{rd} Battalion. On 27\textsuperscript{th} August 1915 Bernard was discharged from the Army due to wounds received in action.

Bernard’s home address after the war was Furnace View, Corby.

Bernard Stretton was awarded the Silver War Badge (60305) on 14\textsuperscript{th} November 1916.
Harry William Townsend

Harry William Townsend was born in Corby on 15th April 1889. He was baptised in Corby on 12th May 1889. His father was Frederick Townsend from Eaton Socon, Bedfordshire his mother Mary Townsend (nee Selby) from Mepal, Cambridgeshire. Frederick and Mary married on 27th June 1888 in Corby. Mary was living in St. Neots at the time of the marriage.

In 1891 Frederick and Mary were living in Station Road, Corby. With them were their two sons Harry and Frederick Selby. Frederick Townsend was a Prudential Insurance Agent.

In 1901 the family were living in Main Street, Corby. Frederick Townsend was now a coal agent. Boarding with the family was Herbert Lygo from Gretton, a railway porter.

In 1911 the family were living in Pains Villas, Oakley Road, Corby. Frederick was a foreman in a coal yard, Harry was working as a clerk in the ironstone mine whilst Frederick Selby was a grocer’s assistant.

Harry William Townsend married Caroline Rebecca Hart in 1923.

In 1939 Harry and Catherine Townsend were living in Milton Road, Little Irchester, Wellingborough. Harry was still a clerk at an ironstone mine.

Caroline Townsend (nee Hart) died on 16th June 1944. Harry William Townsend died in 1976.

Military Service

According to a family source, Harry Townsend served in the Royal Army Medical Corps during the war, including a posting in Malta.

Harry’s brother Frederick Selby Townsend (b. Corby) served in the Duke of Cambridge’s Own (Middlesex Regiment. Frederick was killed in action on 26th July 1917 on the Western Front. He is commemorated on the Corby War Memorial.
Cyril Andrew Ward

Cyril Andrew Ward was born in Kettering on 15th April 1893. He was baptised on 11th June 1893. His father was Thomas Ward from Brixworth, his mother Ellen Ward from Loddington.

In 1901 Thomas and Ellen were living in Princes Street, Kettering with their children Cyril and Doris. Thomas was a brewer’s drayman.

Thomas and Ellen had another son Wilfred born in 1902.

By 1911 the family were living in Isham. Thomas Ward was a publican at The Lilacs Inn. Cyril was employed as a clerk at an ironstone mine.

Cyril Ward married Effie Frost on 15th September 1915. They had a son Geoffrey Frost Ward born in Corby on 27th November 1916.

In 1939 Cyril, Effie and family were living in Tichborne Street, Leicester. Cyril was employed as a builder’s labourer. Cyril Ward died in Leicester in 1974.

Military Service

Cyril Andrew Ward joined the Army on 24th January 1917. Initially he was a Private (G/39525) in the 3rd Battalion, The Queen’s (Royal West Surrey Regiment).

On 6th March 1917 he was transferred to the Machine Gun Corps. He served as a Private (87738) in the Corps.

From June 1917 he served in Egypt, landing in Alexandria. He joined the 3rd (Indian) Divisional Machine Gun Battalion. During his stay in the Middle East he contracted malaria.

Cyril left Port Said on 17th January 1919 and returned to the United Kingdom. He was transferred to the Army Reserve on 7th March 1919. His home address on his demobilisation was Shire Lodge, Corby.
Lewis Herbert Wells

Lewis Herbert Wells was born in Southwell district, Nottinghamshire in 1882.

On 25th January 1904 he married Fanny Barker in Basford, Nottinghamshire.

Lewis and Fanny had two children prior to the war, Ivy Alice Wells (b. 1904) and John Richard Wells (b. 1912). Another son, William Herbert Wells was born in 1915. All three children were born in Corby.

Given the birth dates of their children, Lewis and Fanny had moved to Corby by 1904. Lewis Wells was a blacksmith.

In 1911 Lewis, Fanny and daughter Ivy were living in Station Road, Corby. This was to remain their home for at least the duration of the war.

Military History

Lewis Herbert Wells enlisted for the Royal Engineers on 21st February 1916. He was to serve as a Driver (221924) with the 42nd Signal Company. Lewis Wells was in the Reserves until he was mobilised on 3rd January 1917.

On 22nd April 1917 he arrived in France and joined his unit, 42nd Signal Company, in the field on 16th June 1917.

Driver Lewis Herbert Wells was transferred to the Army Reserve on 17th May 1919. The family were still resident in Corby.

Lewis Herbert Wells died in Corby in 1956.
Herbert Wilson

Herbert Wilson was born in Corby in 1877. He was baptised on 27th October 1877. His father was William Wilson of Corby, his mother Lydia Ann Wilson (nee Lattimore) also of Corby.

By 1881 the family had moved to Blaston. With William and Lydia were their children John, George, William and Herbert, all born in Corby. Two lodgers were with the family John Hales and John Swift. William Wilson was a farm labourer.

By 1891 William Wilson was working as a carter. Herbert was a farmer’s boy.

By 1901 William, Lydia, Herbert and lodger John Hales had moved to Lodddington. William was still a carter, whilst Herbert was a bricklayer.

Herbert’s mother Lydia Ann Wilson died in 1903.

Herbert Wilson married Maria Martin in 1904. The couple had a son William Benjamin Wilson in 1906; they were to have another son Herbert in 1916.

By 1911 widower William Wilson was a farm labourer. Herbert, Maria and William Benjamin were living with William in Lodddington. Herbert was still a bricklayer. Lodger John Hales was still with the family.

During the war Herbert’s home address was the Manor House, Lodddington.

Herbert’s father William Wilson died in 1920.

Herbert Wilson died in 1953.

Military History

Herbert Wilson served as a Sapper (263330) in the Royal Engineers. He enlisted on 5th June 1916 and was mobilised for war service in Northampton on 5th April 1917. He served with the 405 (Highland) Field Company.

He was discharged from the Army on 5th May 1919.