

To the memory of the men and women of Hickling
who served this country in
World War 1

“OUR HONoured DEAD”



and

“THEY ALSO SERVED”

Introduction

The purpose of this book is to commemorate the men and women of Hickling Norfolk, who served in His Majesty's Armed Services during the two world wars. It is divided into two sections; "Our Honoured Dead" and "They Also Served".

The first section deals with "Our Boys" who lost their lives, some buried far from home, some returned to be buried in St. Mary's Churchyard, some men were never recovered, but were commemorated on memorials both in Hickling and farther afield, where they fell. The second section records the stories of the survivors, those who returned home, in some cases after suffering terrible wounds, and in many instances suffering the privations of armed conflict and even being held prisoner of war.

Our grateful thanks to all those who have so willingly given information, photographs etc and without whose help we could not even have begun to commemorate the lives of these brave men and women.

Helen & Tony Cornwell
Hickling Local History Group

“OUR HONoured DEAD”

“The Village War Memorials bearing the names of those who died in the two World Wars, 1914-1918 and 1939-1945, are on the wall of the north aisle of the Church..... It will be noted that the First World War memorial in the Church carries the dates 1914 -1919; perhaps in recognition of the tombstone to Gunner Lamb, in the Churchyard, which shows the date of his death on 29th March 1919. This memorial also has the name of Hickling blanked out, an action understood to have been carried out at the beginning of the Second World War, (when milestones and road-signs were widely removed to confuse an enemy).

Many who died in the wars are buried or commemorated elsewhere, and each name on the War Memorials no doubt carries a poignant story. The Commonwealth (formerly the Imperial) War Graves Commission has duties “to mark and maintain the graves of the members of the forces of the Commonwealth who died in the two world wars, to build and maintain memorials to the dead whose graves are unknown, and to keep records and registers.” Information obtained from the Commission is given here in the order that the names appear on the War Memorials in the Church.”

from - “History of the Churchyard” by Ivor Kemp.

Hickling Local History Group

World War I

Entries from the register of The Commonwealth War Graves Commission

- ❖ HERBERT SMITH, Vere. 2nd Lieutenant, 3rd Bn. Rifle Brigade, 22nd March 1915. Age 22. Son of Norman and Christine L. Herbert Smith, of 107, Ashley Gardens, Westminster, London. (At La Chappelle-d'Armentieres Old Military Cemetery, Nord, France).
- ❖ GIBBS, Wilfred. Able Seaman, S.S. Indian Monarch. (*This information not recorded by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission*) Born 1888, died 1915, son of Robert William Gibbs and Elizabeth Gibbs (née Chapman), of Stubb Road, Hickling.
- ❖ BELL, Flowerday. Private, 1st Bn., Norfolk Regiment. 21st May 1915. Age 34. Son of the late John and Marie Bell; husband of Jessie Warnes (formerly Bell) of Council Cottages, Hickling. (At Ypres – Menin Gate – Memorial, Ieper, West Vlaanderen).
- ❖ GIBBS, Edward. Lance Corporal, 1st Bn. Essex Regiment. 13th August, 1915. Age 20. Son of Edward and Edith Gibbs of Hickling. (At Helles Memorial, Turkey).
- ❖ DYBALL, Frederick. Private, Essex Regiment, formerly Norfolk Regiment, Lost at sea. 13th August, 1916. (At Helles Memorial, Turkey).
- ❖ WRIGHT, William Walter. Private, 9th Bn. Norfolk Regiment. 18th Sept. 1918. (At Brie British Cemetery, Somme, France).
- ❖ CHAPMAN, Hezekiah William. Petty Officer, HMS “Pembroke”, Royal Navy. Died as a result of an accident at sea on board HMS “Liffey”. 5th July 1916. Age 34. Naval Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. Son of Jethro Chapman, of Hickling; husband of Emma Phoebe Macdonald (formerly Chapman) of Great Yarmouth. (At Great Yarmouth New Cemetery).
- ❖ DEFEW, Fredrick. Private, 1st Bn. Machine Gun Corps (Inf.). 2nd August 1916. (At St. Mary's Churchyard, Hickling).
- ❖ NUDD, Alfred. Private, 1st Bn. Norfolk Regiment. Killed in action 4th September 1916. Age 21. Son of John and Ellen Nudd, of Hickling. (At Delville Wood Cemetery, Longueval, Somme).
- ❖ GIBBS, William George Kerrison. Lance Corporal, 1st Bn. Essex Regiment, formerly Norfolk Regiment. 20th October 1916. (At Heilly Station Cemetery, Mericourt-l'Abbe, Somme, France).
- ❖ PRATT, Herbert Henry. Deck Hand, HM Drifter “Launch Out”. Royal Naval Reserve. Killed in action with TBDs in Straits of Dover 26th October 1916. Age 24. Son of William and Ann Eliza Pratt, of Hickling. (At Chatham Naval Memorial, Kent).

- ❖ MASON, Otto Cecil. Deck Hand, H. M. Trawler “Sisters Melville”, Royal Naval Reserve. Killed by mine explosion near Aldeburgh 13th Feb., 1917. (At Chatham Naval Memorial, Kent).
- ❖ LAMBERT, Arthur (Albert) Henry. Private, 2nd R.M. Bn. R.N. Division, Royal Marine Light Infantry. 25th February, 1917. (At Dernancourt Communal Cemetery Extension, Somme, France).
- ❖ MILLS, Horace F. Private, 7th Bn. The Queen’s (Royal West Surrey Regiment). 30th September 1916. Age 23. Son of Mrs E J Linkhorn, of Stubb Rd., Hickling. (At Blighty Valley Cemetery, Authuille Wood, Somme).
- ❖ FOX, Harry Norton. 2nd Lieutenant, 1st Bn. Norfolk Regiment. 23rd April 1917. Age 23. Son of Josiah and Frances Fox, of Town Street, Hickling. (At Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais).
- ❖ BECKETT, Harold Oxley. Leading Signaller, “H.M.S. Derwent”, Royal Navy. Killed by mine explosion in English Channel 2nd May 1917. (At Chatham Naval Memorial, Kent).
- ❖ CHASE, George Robert. Private, 13th Bn. Essex Regiment. 13th November 1916. Age 23. Son of Charles and Sarah Chase, of Hickling. (At Thiepval Memorial, Somme).
- ❖ DURRANT, Charles. Private, 1st Bn. Essex Regiment. 14th April 1917. Age 29, Son of Frederick and Mary Ann Durrant, of Hickling. (At Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais).
- ❖ NUDD, Robert Thomas. Leading Deck Hand, 12/SD. H.M.S. Victory, Royal Naval Reserve. 31st January 1918. Age 23. Son of Thomas Nudd, of Stubb Mill, Hickling. (At St. Mary’s Churchyard).
- ❖ BEALES, Clarence Orlando Bernard. Corporal, 7th Bn. Norfolk Regiment. Killed in action 9th March 1918. Age 22. Son of the late Albert and Jane Beales, of Hickling; husband of Elizabeth F.M. Beales, of Deal. (At Anzac Cemetery, Sailly-Sur-La-Lys, Pas de Calais).
- ❖ GIBBS, Walter J. Stoker 2nd Class, H.M.S. Pembroke. Royal Navy, 20th April 1918. Age 18. Son of John and Elizabeth Gibbs, of The Green, Hickling. (At St. Mary’s Churchyard, Hickling).
- ❖ FOX, James J. 2nd Lieutenant, 12th Norfolk Yeo. Bn., Norfolk Regiment. 11th September 1918. Age 23, son of Peter and Thirza Fox of Hickling; husband of Emma Elizabeth Fox of Broad View, Hickling. (At Strand Military Cemetery, Comines-Warneton, Hainaut).
- ❖ TURNER, Arthur Victor. Private, 1st Bn., Northamptonshire Regiment. 10th July 1917. Age 23. Son of Richard Frank and Emma Marie Turner, of Hickling. (At Nieuport Memorial, Nieuwpoort, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium).
- ❖ DURRANT Roland Charles. 2nd Hand, HM Drifter “Breadwinner”, Royal Naval Reserve. 29th October 1918. Age 23. Son of Charles and Caroline Mary Durrant, of Sunflower Cottage, Stubb Road, Hickling. (At Belfast City Cemetery, County Antrim).
- ❖ LAMB, Angus Henry. Gunner, 2nd Reserve Bde. Royal Garrison Artillery. 29th March 1919. (At St. Mary’s Churchyard, Hickling).

In addition to the names mentioned on the War Memorials in the church, the following men, who have associations with Hickling, are listed by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission as casualties of war:

- ❖ DACK, George Seth. Lance Corporal, 24th Bn. Royal Fusiliers. 23rd August 1918. Age 24. Son of Robert George and Anna Dack, of Repps, Martham, Great Yarmouth; husband of Agnes Mary Dack, of Stubb Rd., Hickling, Norfolk. (At Gomiecourt South Cemetery – Pas de Calais.)
- ❖ REYNOLDS, C. E. Gunner, 7th Siege Bty. Royal Garrison Artillery. 21st June 1918. Brother of Mrs Sarah Ann Gibbs, of Stubb Road, Hickling. (At Longuenesse - St. Omer - Souvenir Cemetery, Pas de Calais.)
- ❖ TUNGATE, Arthur Elijah. Seaman/Cook, Steam Trawler “Sabrina” (Hull), Mercantile Marine. Drowned, as a result of an attack by an enemy submarine. 20th May 1915. Age 54. Son of the late George and Sarah Tungate; husband of Emmeline Tungate (née Nudd), of Hull. Born at Hickling. (At Tower Hill Memorial, London.)
- ❖ NUDD, Charles Henry. 3rd Hand, Steam Trawler “Fawn” (Grimsby), Mercantile Marine. Presumed drowned. 24th August 1919. Age 36. Son of Joshua and Charity Nudd, of Stubb Road, Hickling. (At Tower Hill Memorial, London.)

The following pages document the known personal histories of the men of this parish who died in defence of their country in

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Listed elsewhere than the Hickling Memorials.

The following men have associations with Hickling, but are not commemorated on St. Mary's War Memorial. They are listed by

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission

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Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Herbert Smith	Vere	2nd Lieutenant	3rd Bn. Rifle Brigade

Vere Herbert Smith, Son of Norman and Christine Louise Herbert Smith, of 107, Ashley Gardens, Westminster, London.

2nd Lieutenant Vere Herbert Smith, killed 22nd March 1915, aged 22.

Buried at La Chappelle-d'Armentieres Old Military Cemetery, Nord, France.

Memorial in St. Mary's Church, North Wall of Chancel:

Plaque (Rectangular) with White Column and Pediment Surround:

TO THE DEAR MEMORY OF
 NORMAN HERBERT SMITH
 13TH NOV. 1857 – 15TH APRIL 1920
 AND OF HIS WIFE
 CHRISTINE LOUISE
 19TH APRIL 1869 – 11TH NOV. 1947
 THE SOULS OF THE RIGHTEOUS
 ARE IN THE HAND OF GOD
 ALSO IN HONOURED MEMORY OF
 THEIR BELOVED ELDER SON
 VERE HERBERT SMITH
 2ND LIEUTENANT THE RIFLE BRIGADE,
 WHO FELL IN ACTION IN FRANCE
 MARCH 21ST 1915
 AGED 22 YRS.
 LAID TO REST AT CHAPPELLE D'ARMENTIERES
 HIS LIFE FOR HIS COUNTRY
 HIS SOUL TO GOD

The Herbert Smiths, whilst listed as living in London, spent much time in Hickling, and were staunch supporters of the church.

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Gibbs	Wilfred	A.B.	S.S. Indian Monarch

Wilfred Gibbs, Born 1888, son of Robert William and Elizabeth Gibbs (née Chapman), of Stubb Road, Hickling. He was the eldest of five children, his siblings being Walter, Thirza Mahala, William, and Sidney.

Died 1915.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission holds no information on Wilfred Gibbs or S.S. Indian Monarch

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Bell	Flowerday	Pte.	1st Bn. Norfolk Regiment

Flowerday Bell. Son of the late John and Marie Bell; husband of Jessie Warnes (formerly Bell) of Council Cottages, Hickling.

Private 16857 Flowerday Bell, killed 21st May 1915, aged 34.

Commemorated: Ypres – Menin Gate – Memorial, Ieper, West Vlaanderen, Belgium.

St. Mary's vicar, Arthur Adam Taylor Crosse, writes in the Waxham Deanery Magazines, July 1915:

“Then came the news that Flowerday Bell, of the Norfolk Regiment, had been killed in action in Flanders on May 22nd. It seemed impossible to realize that he was really dead; he had left us such a short time, and was so full of life and energy when he last came home on leave. He had been for seven years in the London Fire Brigade, and was a fine specimen of an athletic sturdy East Norfolk working man, very anxious to do what he could for his King and Country, and keen to get to the front as soon as possible. He leaves a widow and three little children, and an aged mother, for all of whom the deepest sympathy is felt.”

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Gibbs	Edward	Lance Corporal	1st Bn. Essex Regiment, formerly Norfolk Regiment

Edward Gibbs. Son of Edward and Edith Gibbs of Hickling.

Lance Corporal 20685 Edward Gibbs, killed 13th August, 1915, aged 20.

Commemorated: Helles Memorial, Turkey.

Edward Gibbs attended a recruiting meeting held in the school on Wednesday, December 2nd, 1914, and was thereafter enlisted.

Lance Corporal 20685 Edward Gibbs is believed to have lost his life when the ship, the "Royal Edward" was torpedoed & sunk on the 13th of August 1915. The troops she carried consisted mainly of reinforcements for the 29th Division, and detachments of the Royal Army Medical Corps. 1000 men were believed killed with 600 being rescued from the sea. On board with Edward was another Hickling man, Frederick Dyball who was also killed.

The Royal Edward was built in 1908, of 11,117 grt. She was torpedoed by German U-boat UB 14, 6 miles West from Kandeliusa, Aegean Sea in position 36.13N, 25.51E. She was carrying troops and government stores from Avonmouth & Alexandria to Mudros. She was owned by Canadian Northern Steamships Ltd of Toronto.

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Dyball	Frederick	Pte.	Essex Regiment, formerly Norfolk Regiment

Private 20601 Frederick Dyball, Lost at sea. 13th August, 1915.

Commemorated: Helles Memorial, Turkey.

“Frederick Dyball attended a recruiting meeting held in Hickling school on Wednesday, December 2nd, 1914, and was thereafter enlisted.”

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“His King and Country called him,
The call was not in vain,
On Britain’s Roll of Honour,
You’ll find this Hero’s name”.

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Wright	William Walter	Pte.	9th Btn. Norfolk Regiment.

William Walter Wright, Born in Walthamstow and enlisted in Norwich.

Private 24900 William Walter Wright, killed 18th Sept. 1918.

Buried / Commemorated: Brie British Cemetery, Somme, France.

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Chapman	Hezekiah William	Petty Officer Torpedo Coxⁿ	HMS "Pembroke" Royal Navy

Hezekiah William Chapman. Husband of Emma, and son of Jethro & Hannah Chapman, of Hickling, one of twelve children.

Petty Officer 197307 Hezekiah William Chapman died as a result of an accident at sea on board HMS "Liffey". 5th July 1916, aged 34.

Buried at Great Yarmouth New Cemetery.

Awarded: Naval Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

HMS Liffey was a River Class destroyer built in September 1904. This class marked the break between torpedo boats and true destroyers and set the destroyer programmes of Britain and other major naval powers until 1916. The class served the Royal Navy well and was used during WWI for patrol and escort duties. Due to their higher silhouette which made them more visible they were less suited for surprise torpedo attacks. The River Class destroyers were built by various boat yards including Palmer, Yarrow, Hawthorn Leslie, Laird, Thornycroft and White.

HMS Liffey was broken up in 1919.

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Defew	Frederick	Private	1st Bn. Machine Gun Corps (Inf.).

Frederick Defew.

Private 16315 Frederick Defew, killed: 2nd August 1916.

Buried: St. Mary's Churchyard, Hickling. Grave Reference: 300

The entry in the Churchyard Survey Records reads:

“Headstone: Plain Oval, Decoration - Regimental Badge and Cross.”

(Grave provided and maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission)

16315 PRIVATE F. DEFEW

MACHINE GUN CORPS

2ND AUGUST 1916”

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Nudd	Alfred	Pte.	1st Bn. Norfolk Regiment

Alfred Nudd. Son of John and Ellen Nudd, of Hickling.

Private 17109 Alfred Nudd, killed in action 4th September 1916, aged 21

Buried / Commemorated: Delville Wood Cemetery, Longueval, Somme, France.

Private 17109 Alfred Nudd attended a recruiting meeting held in the school on Wednesday, December 2nd, 1914, and was thereafter enlisted.

St. Mary's vicar, Arthur Adam Taylor Crosse, writes in the Waxham Deanery Magazines, November 1916:

“A Memorial Service for the late Alfred Nudd was held on Sunday, October 1st, and a very large congregation was present to pay a last token of respect to the memory of one who was held in high esteem. The musical parts of the Burial office were very reverently and sympathetically rendered by the choir, and a bugle party of the Norfolk Regiment sounded the “last post” at the end of the service. I heard from a Norfolk officer that Alfred Nudd showed great bravery in the engagement in which he was killed, and remained unflinchingly with his machine gun to the last; and it will be a comfort to his mother to know that he was buried after the engagement.”

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Gibbs	William George Kerrison	Lance Corporal	1st Bn. Essex Regiment, formerly Norfolk Regiment

William George Kerrison Gibbs.

Lance Corporal 20809 William George Kerrison Gibbs, killed: 20th October 1916.

Buried: Heilly Station Cemetery, Mericourt-l'Abbe, Somme, France.

St. Mary's vicar, Arthur Adam Taylor Crosse, writes in the Waxham Deanery Magazines, November 1916:

“We are very sorry to hear that Corporal William Gibbs, (East Field) Norfolk Regiment, attached to the 1st Essex, has been wounded in France, and is now at a base hospital. He has seen a great deal of strenuous service, being sent first to Gallipoli, and having some terrible experiences there, being among the last to leave the Peninsula; then he went to Egypt, and from there was sent to France, where he has been in the thick of the fighting for many months. Those who know him will feel confident that he has all the qualities of a fine soldier, and we wish him a speedy and complete recovery, and hope soon to see him back on leave in Hickling;”

and in December 1916:

“It is with great sorrow that we received the news that Lc.-corporal William G. K. Gibbs, Norfolk Regiment; attached to the 1st Essex, had died on October 20th of wounds received in action in France. He was severely wounded in the chest, but was making some progress, and hopes were entertained of his recovery. Pneumonia, however, set in, and he gradually sank and died, and he was reverently laid to rest in a little Churchyard near the casualty clearing station. William Gibbs was a fine example of Norfolk manhood, and a very attractive personality. He bore an unblemished character, was a good Churchman, a regular communicant, and very keen on his soldiering. He was an only son, and our most heartfelt sympathy goes out to his sorrowing father, mother and sister. Their great consolation must be the memory of his good brave life and gallant death, and the hope of reunion in the better land.”

In February 1917 he writes:

“The sum of £2 6s. has been sent to the Belgian Red Cross, as the result of the offerings in Hickling Church on November 26th, when a memorial service was held for the late W. G. K. Gibbs and H. H. Pratt, of this parish.”

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Pratt	Herbert Henry	Deck Hand	HM Drifter “Launch Out” R. N. R.

Herbert Henry Pratt. Son of William and Ann Eliza Pratt, of Hickling.

Deck Hand 8567DA Herbert Henry Pratt, killed in action with Torpedo Boat Destroyers in Straits of Dover 26th October 1916, aged 24.

Commemorated: Chatham Naval Memorial, Kent.

St. Mary’s vicar, Arthur Adam Taylor Crosse, writes in the Waxham Deanery Magazines, December 1916:

“A few days later we received the equally sad news that a gallant sailor, Herbert Pratt, had been killed in action, in the Channel raid on October 26th. He was serving in the R.N.R. fleet of steam drifter mine-sweepers and patrol boats. He was a fine upstanding fellow, tall and straight and the last time I saw him I thought he looked the very picture of a British sailor. He bore a high character, and was liked by all. He was the youngest son of his widowed mother, and a most good and thoughtful son too. To that mother, who lost her husband only six months ago, we offer our tender sympathy in this added sorrow. She will always be comforted by the remembrance of her boy’s goodness to her, and by the knowledge that he died at his post of duty, and is in God’s gracious care and keeping till the Great Day. We offer our sympathy to all the brothers and sisters of the deceased sailor. Two of his brothers are serving in the R.N.R.”

In February 1917 he wrote:

“The sum of £2 6s. has been sent to the Belgian Red Cross, as the result of the offerings in Hickling Church on November 26th, when a memorial service was held for the late W. G. K. Gibbs and H. H. Pratt, of this parish.”

Drifter “Launch Out” built 1909, 67 tons. Hired 1915. Sunk by gunfire from German destroyers in the Dover Strait 27 Oct 1916. She was part of the large fleet that maintained the net barrage across the Dover Strait to prevent German submarines passing westward into the Channel. They were also equipped to attack U Boats as well as maintain the barrage. Launch Out was in company with the drifters Young Crow, EBC, Ajax II, Mishe Nahama and IFS in the vicinity of 9a buoy along the barrage when they were attacked by the destroyers. Ajax II and Launch Out were sunk, EBC was damaged. Buoy 9a was at the southern end of the Sandettie Bank. The use of the name in modern times indicate that she may have been based at Pittenweem prior to being hired by the Navy.

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Mason	Otto Cecil	Deck Hand	H. M. Trawler “Sisters Melville”, R. N. R.

Otto Cecil Mason.

Deck Hand 1025DA Otto Cecil Mason, killed by mine explosion near Aldeburgh 13th February 1917.

Commemorated: Chatham Naval Memorial, Kent.

St. Mary's vicar, Arthur Adam Taylor Crosse, writes in the Waxham Deanery Magazines, March 1917:

“We have also received from the Admiralty the tragic news of the death of one of our sailors, Otto Cecil Mason, who, though recently living in Catfield, had his home in Hickling at the outbreak of the war. He was killed in the blowing up of H.M. Trawler, Sisters Melville, on February 13th.

Our deep sympathy goes out to his parents and to his wife, who only recently became a mother.”

It is believed that the H.M. Trawler, “Sisters Melville” was a “Q” ship.

“Q” ships were small armed vessels deployed in the roll of Submarine Hunter / Killers. Being small and with the appearance of an enemy trawler, they very often were able to lure a U Boat to the surface. The captains of U Boats were reluctant to expend their valuable Torpedoes on small vessels and would surface and attempt to sink smaller unarmed vessels by gunfire. The “Q” ships played a very valuable and often underestimated roll in protecting England’s Royal Navy and Merchant fleets. They were responsible for the sinking of quite a number of U Boats and damaging a great deal more. They were very often found in the area around our coastline and particularly in the Channel.

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Lambert	Arthur Henry	Pte.	2nd R.M. Bn. R.N. Division, Royal Marine Light Infantry

Arthur (Albert) Henry Lambert.

Private PO/1319(S) Arthur Henry Lambert, killed 25th February, 1917.

Buried / Commemorated: Dernancourt Communal Cemetery Extension, Somme, France.

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Mills	Horace F.	Pte.	7th Bn. The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment)

Horace F. MILLS. Son of Mrs E. J. Linkhorn, of Stubb Rd., Hickling.

Private G/21184 Horace F. MILLS, killed 30th September 1916, aged 23.

Buried / Commemorated: Blighty Valley Cemetery, Authuille Wood, Somme, France.

St. Mary's vicar, Arthur Adam Taylor Crosse, writes in the Waxham Deanery Magazines, February 1917:

“George Chase and Horace Mills are both reported “missing.” We hope it will turn out that they are prisoners of war. We offer our deepest sympathy to their parents in their present great suspense and anxiety. Though it is not well to underestimate the grave seriousness of the matter, let us thank God that there is still hope that they may be alive and well. We earnestly pray it may be so.”

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Fox	Harry Norton	2nd Lt.	1st Bn. Norfolk Regiment

Harry Norton Fox. Son of Josiah and Frances Fox, of Town Street, Hickling.

Second Lieutenant Harry Norton Fox, killed 23rd April 1917, aged 23.

Commemorated: Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France.

St. Mary's vicar, Arthur Adam Taylor Crosse, writes in the Waxham Deanery Magazines, June 1917:

“Second-Lieut. H. N. Fox, Norfolk Regiment, was killed in action in France. He was wounded, but managed to carry on for some time, when he was instantly killed by a bullet through the head. I had watched his career for many years; he was a promising boy, and hard work and a good intellect enabled him to fulfil the promise of his boyhood. He was unfortunate in failing to obtain a County Council scholarship from one school, but he went to the Paston School at North Walsham, and at once made his mark, both in work and games. After teaching for a while at Stalham, he went to the Borough Road College for teachers, and was doing excellently. He enlisted in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and saw much active service and fierce fighting in France; and in recognition of his good work he was awarded a field commission in the Norfolk Regiment. He was a fine soldier, and his colonel and brother officers speak most highly of his courage and the excellence of his work, and they most sincerely mourn his loss, as we all do here. He was a fine footballer, cricketer, and runner, and did not know the meaning of fear. We desire to offer our deep sympathy to his parents in their very great loss.”

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Beckett	Harold Oxley	Leading Signalman	“H.M.S. Derwent” Royal Navy

Harold Oxley Beckett.

Leading Signalman 194625 Harold Oxley Beckett, killed by mine explosion in English Channel 2nd May 1917, aged 35.

Commemorated: Chatham Naval Memorial, Kent.

Harold Oxley Beckett was born on 10th May, 1881, one of eleven children of Arthur and Emily Beckett, who had a butchery business in Hickling, on property now known (in 2006) as Black Horse Cottage. He married Agnes Elizabeth Soanes, of Gorleston, on 4th April, 1914, and they had one child, a daughter, Agnes Eileen, born in 1916. After his death, his widow returned to Gorleston. Their granddaughter, Lesley Nixey (née Beckett), has provided this photograph for the History Group.

St. Mary's vicar, Arthur Adam Taylor Crosse, writes in the Waxham Deanery Magazines, June 1917:

“Harold Beckett, who was a leading signalman on the destroyer, H.M.S. Derwent, lost his life by a mine explosion in the Channel. I first remember him a curly-headed little boy in our Sunday School, and he and I were always real friends. He joined the Navy at an early age, and was a fine type of a British sailor - genial, merry and full of pluck, and with a great gift of humour - and he will be missed by hosts of friends. He belongs to a family that have been long connected with this parish and Church. His father was much respected as one of our leading tradesmen, and was for many years parish clerk, and only resigned the office owing to ill health. Harold Beckett leaves behind him a widow and little daughter, and I know that there is no one in this parish who does not feel for them most deeply in this terrible bereavement. May God comfort all such whom war makes desolate and broken hearted.”



Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Chase	George Robert	Pte.	13th Bn. Essex Regiment

George Robert Chase. Son of Charles Edward and Sarah Anna Chase (née Trory), of Hickling.

Private 27855 George Robert Chase, killed in action 13th November 1916, aged 23.

Commemorated: Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France.

St. Mary's vicar, Arthur Adam Taylor Crosse, writes in the Waxham Deanery Magazines, February 1917:

“George Chase and Horace Mills are both reported “missing.” We hope it will turn out that they are prisoners of war. We offer our deepest sympathy to their parents in their present great suspense and anxiety. Though it is not well to underestimate the grave seriousness of the matter, let us thank God that there is still hope that they may be alive and well. We earnestly pray it may be so;” and in June 1917: “We have still no news of George Chase, who was reported missing on November 13th of last year; and our prayers and sympathy are with his parents in their increasing strain of anxiety and suspense.”

In April 1918 he wrote:

“It was pleasant to see that so many parishioners attended the Memorial Service on March 10th to pay a last tribute of respect to Private Charles Durrant, who died a prisoner of war in German hands, and Private George Chase, who was reported missing sixteen months ago, and was lately officially reported as killed in action. We sincerely mourn these two men, who were so well known to us all. This brings the number of men we have lost in the war to the total of twenty-two (a large number for a parish of this size). The choir rendered the solemn music of the burial office very sweetly and reverently, and the large congregation entered with full sympathy into the spirit of the service. Captain Knowles, of the South Lancashire Regiment, kindly sent over two buglers to sound the “Last Post.”

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Durrant	Charles	Pte.	1st Bn. Essex Regiment

Charles Durrant. Son of Frederick and Mary Ann Durrant, of Hickling

Private 41323 Charles Durrant, died 14th April 1917, aged 29.

Commemorated: Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France.

St. Mary's vicar, Arthur Adam Taylor Crosse, writes in the Waxham Deanery Magazines, June 1917:

“Charles Durrant, of the Essex Regiment, was reported missing on April 14th. We still hope we may have news of him as being yet alive, but we know how terrible is the waiting for news in such a case. May God strengthen and comfort those who watch and wait, and restore to us one whose loss would be deeply mourned by many.”

In April 1918 he wrote

“It was pleasant to see that so many parishioners attended the Memorial Service on March 10th to pay a last tribute of respect to Private Charles Durrant, who died a prisoner of war in German hands, and Private George Chase, who was reported missing sixteen months ago, and was lately officially reported as killed in action. We sincerely mourn these two men, who were so well known to us all. This brings the number of men we have lost in the war to the total of twenty-two (a large number for a parish of this size). The choir rendered the solemn music of the burial office very sweetly and reverently, and the large congregation entered with full sympathy into the spirit of the service. Captain Knowles, of the South Lancashire Regiment, kindly sent over two buglers to sound the “Last Post.”

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Nudd	Robert Thomas	Leading Deck Hand	H.M.S. Victory R.N.R.

Robert Thomas Nudd. Son of Thomas Nudd, of Stubb Mill, Hickling.

Leading Deck Hand 12/SD Robert Thomas Nudd, died in Royal Naval Hospital "Haslar", 31st January 1918, aged 23.

Buried at St. Mary's Hickling. Grave reference: 283

The entry in St. Mary's Churchyard Survey Records reads:

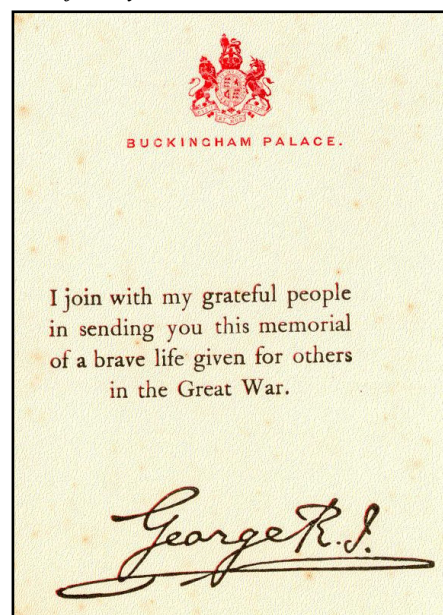
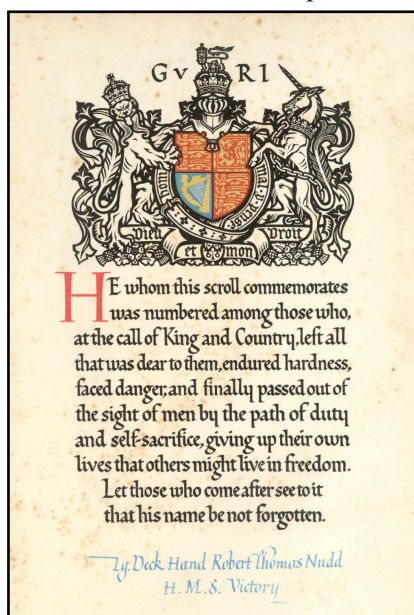
"Headstone: Plain Oval, Decoration - Naval Anchor, Cross.

(Grave provided and Maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission)

R. T. NUDD
LEADING DECK-HAND RNR 12 / SD
H.M.S. "VICTORY"
31ST JANUARY 1918
AGE 23

DEAR ARE THE MEMORIES
THAT NEVER WILL FADE
OF ONE WE LOVED DEARLY
BUT COULD NOT SAVE"

*Scroll signed by the King
and presented to the Nudd family*



Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Beales	Clarence Orlando Bernard	Cpl.	7th Bn. Norfolk Regiment

Clarence Orlando Bernard Beales. Son of the late Albert and Jane Beales, of Hickling; husband of Elizabeth F.M. Beales, of Deal.

Corporal 17095 Clarence Orlando Bernard Beales, killed in action, 9th March 1918, aged 22.

Buried / Commemorated: Anzac Cemetery, Sailly-Sur-La-Lys, Pas de Calais, France.

St. Mary's vicar, Arthur Adam Taylor Crosse, writes in the Waxham Deanery Magazines, June 1918:

“We have unfortunately more sad events to record this month. The death of Corpl. Clarence O. Beales, of the Norfolk Regiment, was a great shock and grief to us all. He was killed in France with many of his comrades by a shell which hit the house where he was billeted. He survived his mother by about ten days. He had been married only two days before returning to the front, and we feel very deeply for his young widow, who is well known to us all. Clarence Beales was a fine boy, liked and respected by all who knew him; he was a member of our Church choir, and we shall miss him very much. A special service held in his memory was attended by a large number of relatives and friends.”

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Gibbs	Walter J.	Stoker 2nd Class	H.M.S. Pembroke Royal Navy

Walter J. Gibbs. Son of John and Elizabeth Gibbs, of The Green, Hickling.

Stoker 2nd Class K/48981 Walter J. Gibbs, died 20th April 1918, aged 18.

Buried: At St. Mary's Churchyard, Hickling. Grave Reference: 180

The entry in St. Mary's Churchyard Survey Records reads:

“Headstone: Oval, Decoration - Naval Anchor in Circle, and Cross”.

(Grave provided and maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission)

W. J. GIBBS
 STOKER 2ND CLASS R. N. K/48981
 H.M.S. “PEMBROKE”
 20TH APRIL 1918
 AGE 18

“PEACE PERFECT PEACE”

St. Mary's vicar, Arthur Adam Taylor Crosse, writes in the Waxham Deanery Magazines, June 1918:

“Walter Gibbs, who was a fine type of British sailor, died of pneumonia in the Naval Hospital at Chatham. His mother and sister were able to be with him, and it is a great comfort to them to have been able to cheer him in his last hours. He, like his soldier comrade, was a fine boy, and a credit to this village and the service which he joined. We offer to his parents our deep sympathy in this great sorrow.”

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Fox	James J.	2nd Lt.	12th Norfolk Yeo. Bn. Norfolk Regiment

James J. Fox. Husband of Emma Elizabeth Fox of Broad View, Hickling. Son of Peter and Thirza Fox of Hickling.

Second Lieutenant James J. Fox, died 11th September 1918, aged 23.

Buried / Commemorated: Strand Military Cemetery, Comines-Warneton, Hainaut, Belgium.

St. Mary's vicar, Arthur Adam Taylor Crosse, writes in the Waxham Deanery Magazines, December 1918:

“A Memorial Service for the late 2nd Lieut. James J. Fox, Norfolk Regiment, was held in the Primitive Methodist Chapel on Sunday, October 13th, amid every sign of respect for the memory of a brave officer and much valued friend.”

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Turner	Arthur Victor	Private	1st Bn., Northamptonshire Regiment

Arthur Victor Turner. Son of Richard Frank and Emma Marie Turner, of Hickling.

Private 43439 Arthur Victor Turner, died 10th July 1917, aged 23.

Commemorated: Nieuport Memorial, Nieuwpoort, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Durrant	Roland Charles	2nd Hand	HM Drifter “Breadwinner” R.N.R.

Roland Charles Durrant. Son of Charles and Caroline Mary Durrant, of Sunflower Cottage, Stubb Road, Hickling.

Second Hand CH/6089/DA Roland Charles Durrant, 29th October 1918, aged 23.

Buried: Belfast City Cemetery, County Antrim, Northern Ireland.

St. Mary's vicar, Arthur Adam Taylor Crosse, writes in the Waxham Deanery Magazines, December 1918:

“The news that Roland Charles Durrant, R.N.R., had died in Belfast Hospital of pneumonia, following influenza, came to us all as a great shock. He was a fine lad and a fine sailor, and had seen much service during the war. It seems doubly sad that having come safely through so much hard and heavy service at sea, he should lose his life just at the coming of peace. His mother, on receipt of the news of his critical condition, at once travelled to Ireland, but arrived too late to see him alive; she was able to attend his funeral. We were all fond of Charles Durrant, and held him in respect. We mourn him sincerely, and sympathise most deeply with his parents and many relatives and friends. We have paid a heavy toll in this war, having lost eight sailors and eighteen soldiers.”

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Lamb	Angus Henry	Gunner	2nd Reserve Bde. Royal Garrison Artillery

Angus Henry Lamb.

Gunner 210134 Angus Henry Lamb, died 29th March 1919, aged 24.

Buried: At St. Mary's Churchyard, Hickling. Grave Reference: 222

The entry in St. Mary's Churchyard Survey Records reads:

Headstone: White Marble Rounded, Decoration – Regimental Badge set in Cross,

(Grave provided and Maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission)

Inscription:

UBIQUE, QUO FAS ET GLORIA DUCUNT.

(EVERYWHERE WHERE RIGHT AND GLORY LEAD)

210134 GUNNER A.H. LAMB
ROYAL GARRISON ARTILLERY
29TH MARCH 1919
AGE 24

St. Mary's vicar, Arthur Adam Taylor Crosse, writes in the Waxham Deanery Magazines, June 1919:

“We have to add yet another name to our long Roll of Honour - pray God, it may be the last. Gunner Angus Henry Lamb, R.G.A., has died in Netley Hospital, and has been buried in Hickling Churchyard We all have many pleasant recollections of Angus Lamb - he was a fine boy, of high character and sterling worth, and a good son to his mother. He was taken ill the day before he should have sailed on his return journey to the United States, and though his mother went off at once to Netley, she arrived too late to see him alive. We offer to her and to the other members of her family our very deep sympathy.”

*The following men have associations with Hickling,
but are not commemorated on St. Mary's War
Memorial. They are listed by
The Commonwealth War Graves Commission
as casualties of war:*

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Reynolds	C E	Gunner	7th Siege Bty. Royal Garrison Artillery

C. E. Reynolds. Brother of Mrs Sarah Ann Gibbs, of Stubb Road, Hickling.

Gunner 38495 C. E. Reynolds, 21st June 1918.

Buried / Commemorated: Longuenesse - St. Omer - Souvenir Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France.

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Nudd	Charles Henry	Seaman, 3rd Hand	Steam Trawler “Fawn” (Grimsby), Mercantile Marine

Charles Henry Nudd. Son of Joshua and Charity Nudd, of Stubb Road, Hickling.

Seaman, 3rd Hand Charles Henry Nudd, presumed drowned. 24th August 1919, aged 36.

Commemorated: Tower Hill Memorial, London.

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Tungate	Arthur Elijah	Seaman, Cook	Steam Trawler “Sabrina” (Hull), Mercantile Marine

Arthur Elijah Tungate. Husband of Emmeline Tungate (née Nudd), of 41, Eastbourne St., Hull. Son of the late George and Sarah Tungate. Born at Hickling.

Seaman Cook Arthur Elijah Tungate, killed: 20th May 1915, aged 54.

“Drowned, as a result of an attack by an enemy submarine.” *(This information from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission may be incorrect, see below)*

Commemorated: Tower Hill Memorial, London.

Note:

Investigations into the Steam Trawler “Sabrina” of Hull, show the record of the Sabrina - H346 as being: “Built in hull in 1897 by Cook, Welton & Gemmell Ltd. A vessel of 179 tons, and 118.9 feet in length.”

Several records report that she was sunk - “Lost With All Hands”- by a mine 160 miles ENE from Spurn Light Vessel.

Many enemy mines were sown in the English Channel by submarine, and this may be the source of the confusion with the information held by the C.W.G.C.

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Dack	George Seth	Lance Corporal	24th Bn. Royal Fusiliers

George Seth Dack. Husband of Agnes Mary Dack, of Stubb Road, Hickling, Norfolk. Son of Robert George and Anna Dack, of Repps, Martham, Great Yarmouth.

Lance Corporal 34574 George Seth Dack, killed in Action: 23rd August 1918, aged 24.

Buried: Gomicourt South Cemetery – Pas de Calais, France.

George and his wife Agnes Mary lived with Agnes’s adoptive parents, the Gazes, in Hickling, in a farmhouse at the end of Stubb Road, which later fell down. They had one son, George Walter, born on 6th September, 1915 and later, after he was killed, their daughter Daisy was born in November 1918. Daisy married G. Shearing, and died in January 2005. Son George Dack, at this time, July 2006, is still alive and living in Norwich. There was a tribute to George Seth Dack in St. Mary’s church, which is recorded in the Deanery Magazines. His name was never entered on the war memorial, possibly because he had not set up his own home in Hickling, being away most of his married life in the army. He is, however, commemorated on Repps’ War Memorial. His widow is buried in Hickling Churchyard. Tragically, George’s brother, aged 19, was killed the following day – 24th August 1918, another brother being held as a prisoner of war by the Germans.

Agnes Dack’s Memorial reads:

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
 AGNES MARY DACK
 DIED 26TH JULY 1962
 AGED 67 YEARS
 ALSO HER HUSBAND
 GEORGE SETH DACK
 KILLED IN ACTION
 2ND BATTLE OF THE SOMME
 23RD AUGUST 1918
 AGED 24 YEARS



G.S. Dack Royal Fusiliers. Hickling

George Seth Dack

Pictured left with his wife Agnes and son George Walter.

Pictured above, front row - left, with some of his mates.

Picture courtesy of “The Sporting Life” November 1990.

St. Mary’s vicar, Arthur Adam Taylor Crosse, writes in the Waxham Deanery Magazines, December, 1918:

“The esteem in which the late Lc.-corpl. George Seth Dack, Royal Fusiliers, was held, in this parish was shewn by the large congregation which assembled on Sunday, October 20th, to commend his soul to the keeping of God, and to pay a last sad tribute of respect to his memory.”

“THEY ALSO SERVED”

This section commemorates the men and women of Hickling who served in His Majesty’s armed services and who returned home, in some cases after suffering terrible wounds and in many instances suffering the privations of armed conflict and even being held prisoner.

WALDO WELLINGTON ATHELSTAN BEALES, CPL. 1st Bn. Norfolk Regiment.....	Page 37
WILFERD CUBITT CHAPMAN, Yeoman of Signals RN	Page 38
CHARLES FREDRICK CHASE,.....	Page 39
ARTHUR JOHN GREEN CROSSE, 2 nd Lieutenant Royal Norfolk Rgt.....	Page 40
EDWARD CASTELLAIN CROSSE, 2 nd Lieutenant Royal Norfolk Rgt.....	Page 41
WILLIAM ALAN CROSSE, Royal Flying Corps.	Page 42
ALFRED NUDD, Royal Fusiliers	Page 43
AUBREY HERBERT SMITH,.....	Page 44

WW I

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Beales	Waldo	Cpl.	1st Battalion Norfolk regiment

Waldo Wellington Athelstan Beales, the tenth child of George and Annie Beales, born in 1896 at the Pleasure Boat Inn, Hickling which was kept by his parents from 1880 until 1911.

Waldo attended the village school and joined up at a recruitment meeting held in the village in 1914 at the age of 17. After an unfortunate incident and a period of isolation in a field hospital in Étapes, he was moved south to join the 1st Battalion of the Norfolk regiment at the Somme near Guillemont. It was here during the Battle of the Somme that he was seriously injured in both legs. After three weeks, he was repatriated to a hospital in the north of England. His injuries were so severe that he was unable to return to the front and after a period of convalescence he was discharged and returned home.

Waldo went on to own the village garage and ran a small boatyard by the Staithe. During WWII he drove the ambulance here in the village. He died in 1985.



Waldo later wrote an account of his time during WWI and this was published by the Hickling Local History Group in 2006 with the permission of his daughter Mrs. P. Deane, who still lives in the village.

(See copy in H.L.H.G Archives)

WW I

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Chapman	Wilfred Cubitt		R.N.

Wilfred Cubitt Chapman. Son of Jethro & Hannah Chapman, of Hickling, one of twelve children.

Wilfred had a distinguished naval career. In the First World War he was wounded in the Heligoland Bight battle. He transferred to the Royal Naval Air Service as an observer, and also served as a balloon observer. Later he went to the French Chasseur Alpine Regiment, and was awarded the Croix de Guerre with palm and diploma, the equivalent of two bars. With this regiment he was in the retreat from Antwerp, the battle of Nieuport, and at Neuve Chappelle. Again wounded, he returned to England and was placed in command of H.M.S. Princess Margaret, a minelayer. He later received the D.C.M. Then he went to H.M.S. Vindictive, and was in the St. George's Day attack on Zeebrugge. He was mentioned in dispatches three times.

After the war, he served as prison officer at Winchester naval prison, as an instructor at the officers' cadet school, and with the Admiralty Shore Signal Service. He joined the Coast Guard in 1935, and became deputy district officer at Yarmouth, then station officer at Gorleston, retiring in December, 1946.

Wilfred married and had two sons and two daughters. When he died in 1958 at the age of 73, he was living at Yarmouth Coastguard Station.

St. Mary's vicar, Arthur Adam Taylor Crosse, writes in the Waxham Deanery Magazines, December 1916:

"It is a great pleasure to announce that Wilfred Chapman, leading signalman, R.N., H.M.S. Princess Margaret, has been twice mentioned in despatches, and has been awarded the D.C.M. for gallant conduct and devotion to duty. We offer him the heartiest congratulations. He is one of seven brothers, and their record is a fine one. Mr. and Mrs. Jethro Chapman have every reason to be proud of their sons."

and in July 1918, he writes;

"The other good news is that the Croix de Guerre has been awarded to Wilfred Chapman, yeoman of Signals, R.N. He has already gained the D.S.M., and been twice mentioned in despatches. We are very proud of his record: he comes of a real sea-faring family, and he heads our list of war honours gained in this war. We congratulate him most heartily, and wish him much further success in his profession."



WW I

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Chase	Charles Frederick		

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Chase; sister Birdie.

The family lived at Bay Farm (now Bay Cottage). When the parents died the brother and sister carried on at the farm, neither of them marrying. Both were fond of children, and William Lambert recalls (at about 7 or 8 years of age) going to the farm and helping with the chores, feeding chickens and bullocks, hunting for eggs, feeding the pigs.

Charlie committed suicide in 1930, and it was then revealed that he had been for a long time in World War One in France and Belgium, had experienced much carnage and bloodshed, and been wounded. This played on his mind, and although he showed no outward sign of derangement, he eventually ended his life. Even people close to him had not known of the terrible conditions he endured. He was buried in St. Mary's churchyard 8th August 1930, aged 38. There is no memorial stone.

WW I

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Crosse	Arthur John Green	2nd Lieutenant	Royal Norfolk Regiment

ARTHUR JOHN GREEN (JACK), born 1896, son of Reverend Arthur Adam Taylor and Edith Rose Crosse. There were seven children, all born and raised in Hickling, as A.A.T. Crosse was the vicar of St. Mary's church. Jack was probably named after his great-grandfather, John Green Crosse, who was an eminent Norwich surgeon.

St. Mary's vicar, Arthur Adam Taylor Crosse, writes in the Waxham Deanery Magazines October 1914:

Men serving with His Majesty's Forces in England – Thomas William Johnson, 3rd Norfolks; Frank Norman Platten, 5th Norfolks; William Gibbs, 4th Norfolks; Vere Herbert Smith, 2nd Lieutenant, 5th Battalion Rifle Brigade; Arthur John Green Crosse, Public School Corps; William R. Gibbs, Lord Kitchener's army."

in June 1916 he writes:

"2nd Lieutenant A. J. G. Crosse, who is command of the Machine Gun Section of the 9th Norfolks in Flanders, has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant, under date August 28th, 1915."

in February 1917:

"The Military Cross has been awarded to Lieut. A. J. G. Crosse for conspicuous gallantry in action."

and in October 1917:

"Captain A. J. G. Crosse, M.C., 9th Norfolks, has been awarded a bar to the Military Cross, for conspicuous gallantry in action and devotion to duty."

After the war Jack was a rubber-planter in Malaya, and joined the Federated Malay States Volunteer Force. At the fall of Singapore in W.W.2. he was taken prisoner, and sent to Chungkai. He survived, but was with his brother Ned at his death in the same camp.

WW I

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Crosse	Edward Castellain	2nd Lieutenant	Royal Norfolk Regiment

EDWARD CASTELLAIN (NED), born 1897, son of Reverend Arthur Adam Taylor and Edith Rose Crosse. There were seven children, all born and raised in Hickling, as their father was the vicar of St. Mary's church. The name Castellain crops up in the Waxham and Happing Rural Deanery Magazines, and it may be that he was named after a godparent. April 1893 entry reads: "At the same time, Mrs. Castellain presented to the church some very handsome flowered damask curtains for the East end, and within the last month I have received from the same kind friend two handsome brass flower vases for the Communion Table."

Ned served in W.W.I. He was at the battle of the Somme (near Guillemont) in 1916, where he led a platoon of the Norfolk Regiment "over the top".

St. Mary's vicar, Arthur Adam Taylor Crosse, writes in the Waxham Deanery Magazines, February 1917:

"2nd-Lieut. E. C. Cross and Private Richard Futter have been mentioned in despatches for distinguished and gallant services and devotion to duty."

In the Second World War, he was a Captain in the Johore Volunteer Engineers (Service Number 152), Federated Malay States Volunteer Force. He was taken prisoner by the Japanese, and died in Chungkai camp, 17th December, 1942, aged 45. His brother Jack was with him. He is buried / commemorated at Chungkai War Cemetery.

WW I

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Crosse	William Alan Ferguson		Royal Flying Corps.

WILLIAM ALAN FERGUSON (BILLY), born 1900, son of Reverend Arthur Adam Taylor and Edith Rose Crosse. There were seven children, all born and raised in Hickling, as their father was the vicar of St. Mary's church.

St. Mary's vicar, Arthur Adam Taylor Crosse, writes in the Waxham Deanery Magazines, November, 1917:

"W. A. F. Crosse has joined the Boys' Section of the Royal Flying Corps, and is in training at the Technical School of Instruction, in Halton Park, near Tring, Bucks."

Billy went on to have a career in the army, in the Regular Army Inniskillin Dragoon Guards; Royal Ulster Rifles. He married twice and died in 1980.

WW I

Surname

Christian Name

Rank

Served with

Nudd

Alfred

Royal Fusiliers.

Alfred "Mate" Nudd served in WW1 with the Royal Fusiliers. He was born in a cottage on Hill Common in Hickling, the youngest of a family of twelve. He worked on the wherries, and as a reed cutter. He never married, went blind in later life, and lived in a hut in a field off Hill Common, making his way by instinct to the Pleasure Boat Inn in the evenings.



Alfred "Mate" Nudd

Here (left) on his 86th birthday in 1981, with his nephew Stanley Nudd, in front of his home, a wooden shed 8ft by 6ft at Hill Common.

WW I

Surname	Christian Name	Rank	Served with
Herbert Smith	Aubrey		

Aubrey Herbert Smith, a son of Norman and Christine Louise, of 107 Ashley Gardens, Westminster, London. The Herbert Smiths, whilst listed as living in London, spent much time in Hickling, and were staunch supporters of the church. Aubrey served with H.M. forces in WWI. His brother Vere was killed in the war, and is commemorated in St. Mary's church. There were other siblings, and the family came to Hickling for holidays, becoming great friends with the Crosses. They owned various properties in Hickling and it is known that in later life Aubrey lived at The Smea.

St. Mary's vicar, Arthur Adam Taylor Crosse, writes in the Waxham Deanery Magazines, July, 1915:

"It is pleasant to hear that good news has been received of Mr. Aubrey (Aubrey) Herbert Smith, from the internment camp at Ruhlebru near Berlin. He is in good health, and as comfortable as can be expected under the necessarily trying circumstances of such a life. We hope that his good British pluck and a fine constitution will enable him to win through to the day of liberation."

and in July 1918:

"We are very glad to hear that Mr. Aubrey Herbert Smith, who has been a prisoner of war in Germany since the beginning of the war, has been transferred to Holland to be interned there. We congratulate him and his parents on this happy change. He is in good health, and his pluck and grit have stood him in good stead during a long and weary time of imprisonment and hardship."

More Survivors of World War One

The following Hickling men also survived the war, and their stories will be told as and when the information becomes available and time permits.

SURNAME	FIRST NAMES	RANK	REGIMENT - SHIP etc	SERVICE
Amiss	Edward			
Applegate	Thomas			
Applegate	Thomas Junior			
Beales	Clarence			
Beales	Andrew			
Beales	Charlie			
Bishop	Frank Harold		Royal Artillery	Army
Bishop	Robert			
Bishop	Frank			
Bowes	Robert		Norfolk Regiment	
Brooks	Robert		Norfolk Regiment	Army
Bunn	Frank Leonard		Army Ordnance Corps	Army
Cator	James			
Chapman	Oliver Lionel		Grand Fleet	Royal Navy
Chapman	George Adam	Master at Arms	Grand Fleet	Royal Navy
Clark	Frederick	Gunner		
Disney	Alec			
Futter	Richard	Private		
Gibbs	Herbert Edward		Grand Fleet	Royal Navy
Gibbs	William R.		Lord Kitchener's Army	
Gibbs	Herbert		H.M.S. Cornwallis	Royal Navy
Johnson	Thomas William		3 rd Norfolks	Army
Markin	Harry			
Mason	Robert			
Monsey	Ernest			
Myhill	Oliver			
Neal	George Raymond			
Newman	Ernest		Grand Fleet, minesweeper	Royal Navy
Nicholls	Walter			

SURNAME	FIRST NAMES	RANK	REGIMENT - SHIP etc	SERVICE
Nudd	Walter		Grand Fleet	Royal Navy
Nudd	Reggie			
Platten	Frank Norman		5 th Norfolks	Army
Sloper	Edward			
Tillett	Alfred Edward		Veterinary Corps	Army
Turner	James			
Turner	Arthur		Northamptonshire Regiment, machine gun section	Army
Wallis	Walter		Motor Transport Service	Army
Woodrow	John		Grand Fleet minesweeper	Royal Navy
Wright	Harry			