

# Bell Ringers Memorial Extension

## 1914-1918

**Able Seaman CHARLES HENRY BALLARD**, Great Totham, Essex. Died 01/11/1914 age 29. Royal Navy H.M.S. "Monmouth." Service No. 215387. PLYMOUTH NAVAL MEMORIAL Panel 1 Son of Thomas Henry Ballard, of Comer House, Great Totham, Witham, Essex, and the late Eliza Ballard. Born: Maldon, Essex.

**Private GEORGE HENRY BARRICK**, Great Dunmow, Essex. Died 11/06/1918 age 33. Labour Corps 170 Labour Coy. Service No.474633. Commemorated in the United Kingdom Book of Remembrance, kept at the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) Offices at Maidenhead, England. This book commemorates United Kingdom casualties of the two World Wars who were not formerly recorded by the CWGC and the location of whose graves is not known. Born 1885. One of three boys, all surviving at the 1911 census. Son of Benjamin Barrick and Mary Ann Barrick (née Smith). Husband of Ada Frances Barrick (née Clarke), whom he married on 02/02/1914 at Great Dunmow, of Stanford-le-Hope, Essex. At the time of the 1911 census he was working as a journeyman baker. He conducted the first peal rung at Great Dunmow, Plain Bob Minor, on 15/12/1909. He died at Orsett, Essex, but, as mentioned, the location of his grave is unknown at present. Born: Great Dunmow, Essex. Enlisted: Unknown. Resided (1911 census): Church Street, Church End, Dunmow, Essex.

**Serjeant EDWARD PIUS BENDIX**, Prittlewell, Essex. Died 13/10/1917 age 25. Royal Field Artillery "C" Bty. 162nd Bde. Service No.L/22938. Commemorated at Larch Wood (Railway Cutting) Cemetery, Belgium, Grave V A 25. Born 15/12/1891. The eldest of three children of Gustav Pius Bendix and Annie Bendix (née Hodge) of 366 Camden Road, London. He worked as a clerk in a shipping office before enlisting, possibly in the company in which his father was a partner, Messrs Lindsey, Bendix & Co. He was chairman of the Prittlewell Cricket Club and also an active member of the Southend Harriers and Westborough Football Club. He rang at least one peal, on 06/11/1911, of Plain Bob Major at Prittlewell. He joined 5th Company, Essex and Suffolk Royal Garrison Artillery (RGA) at Shoeburyness in 1910, and re-enlisted with the Territorial Force with 3 Company, Essex and Suffolk RGA in 1914. Between January and June 1915, 33rd Division's artillery was formed, which is most likely when he was attached to the ammunition column of 33rd Division, and later volunteered to "C" Battery, 162nd Battery, Royal Field Artillery (RFA). He served during the Somme Offensive and participated in the Battle of Bazentin Ridge and the attacks on High Wood in 1916. He later fought during the Arras



Offensive at the First and Second Battles of Scarpe, and later along the Hindenburg Line. His division was brought to the front for the Battle of Menin Road Ridge (20/09/1916 – 26/09/1916) and the Battle of Polygon Wood (26/09/1916 – 27/09/1916). He died of gas poisoning at Larch Wood Cutting. His commanding officer wrote, "He was a volunteer with the battery from the ammunition column. He was a brave man, he did his duty and met his death without fear. At the time he was bending over one of his men who had been hit to see if he could give assistance and was quite regardless of his own safety at a time when the position was being heavily shelled". Born: Kentish Town. Enlisted: London. Resided (1911 census): 176 North Road, Prittlewell, Essex and later, in 1916, he is recorded as living at 12 Elmwood Road, Chiswick.  
*Bendix E. P., Prittlewell, Essex, photograph of family; he is standing, right*

**Private JOHN WILLIAM BROCKHURST**, Hornchurch Essex. Died 02/11/1917. Essex Regiment 1st/7th Bn. Service No. 302463. Commemorated at Gaza War Cemetery XXIX.F.4 Israel and Palestine (Gaza). Born 1893. Son of William John Brockhurst and Alice Maud Mary Brockhurst (née Dear) of 1 Ash Villa, Abbs Cross Road, Hornchurch. At the time of the 1911 Census he was working as a Grocers Assistant. Born Hornchurch, Essex

**Serjeant ERNEST EDWARD HARRIS**, Great Dunmow, Essex. Died 08/08/1918 age 21. Essex Regiment 10th Bn. Service No.12748. Commemorated at Vis-En-Artois Memorial, France, Panel 7. Born fourth quarter of 1896. One of three children, all surviving at the 1911 census. Son of Thomas John Harris and Sarah Harris (née Gypps) of Rosemary Lane, Dunmow, Essex. At the time of the 1911 census, he was working as a tailor's apprentice. His cousin, Private Arthur Gypps, Royal Army Medical Corps, also a bellringer, died on 16/10/1917, and is buried in Canada Farm Cemetery, Belgium. Born: Takeley, Essex. Enlisted: Chelmsford. Resided (1911 census): Rosemary Lane, Dunmow, Essex.

**Lance Corporal STANLEY PERCY HOWLAND**, Great Dunmow, Essex. Died 21/10/1916 age 21. Gloucestershire Regiment 2nd/5th Bn. Service No.5888. Commemorated at Merville Communal Cemetery Extension, France, Grave I A 31. Born 1895. Son of George and Rosina Howland, of North Street, Great Dunmow, Essex. He worked as a butcher journeyman before enlisting. Born: High Roding, Essex. Enlisted: Chelmsford. Resided (1911 Census): North Street, Great Dunmow, Essex.

*Howland, S. P., Great Dunmow, Essex, name on ringers memorial board in the tower at Great Dunmow*



**Private ERNEST HENRY (HARRY) LEWIS**, Goldhanger, Essex. Died 21/03/1918 age 24. Royal Berkshire Regiment 2nd/4th Bn. Service No.202529. Commemorated at Ugny- L'Equipee Churchyard, France, Grave near northwest corner of Church. Born second quarter of 1893. Son of Maurice Lewis and Emily Lewis of Church Street, Goldhanger, Essex. At the time of the 1911 census he was working as a horseman on a farm. He rang his first peal, of Minor in 7 methods, at Goldhanger, on 11/10/1911, conducted by John D. Buckingham. Born: Goldhanger, Essex. Enlisted: Chelmsford, initially in the Essex Regiment, Service No.2763. Resided: Witham, Essex.



*Lewis, E H, Goldhanger, Essex photograph in locket (from Barry Unger)*

**Corporal BEN GEORGE LOCK**, Walthamstow, St Mary's, Essex. Died 01/04/1918 age 24. Rifle Brigade 11th Bn. Service No.S/5846. Commemorated at Pozieres Memorial, France, Panel 81 to 84. One of four children. Son of Arthur John Lock and Annie Lock of 46 Bedford Road, Walthamstow, Essex. At the time of the 1911 census he was working as a clerk. Born: Melbourne, Australia. Enlisted: St Paul's Churchyard, London. Resided: Walthamstow, Essex.

**Lance Corporal GEORGE CHRISTOPHER SERVICE**, Tollesbury, Essex. Died 09 March 1917, age 31. Welsh Regiment, 16th Bn. Service No. 54886. FERME-OLIVIER CEMETERY Plot 3. Row B. Grave 8. Belgium. Son of George Christopher and Emily Service, of Tollesbury, Essex. His brother Arthur Edward Service also fell.

**Lance Corporal WILLIAM BENJAMIN ERNEST WAITE**, Great Dunmow, Essex. Died 11/07/1917 age 32. Machine Gun Corps (Infantry) 97<sup>th</sup> Coy. Service No.45451. Commemorated at Nieuport Memorial, Belgium. Son of Benjamin Waite of Bell Lane, Northchurch and the late Harriet Emma Waite. Husband of Rose Maria Waite of 10 Tring Road, Northchurch, Berkhamstead, Herts. Father of William Benjamin Waite, Eva Harriet Waite, Horace Leslie Waite and Alice Myrtle Waite. Born: Stonesfield, Oxford. Enlisted: Great Dunmow. Resided: Great Dunmow.

**Private WALTER EDWARD WALLIS**, Great Waltham, Essex. Died 05/10/1917 age 23. Worcestershire Regiment 1st/7th Bn. Service No.41385. Commemorated at Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium, Panel 75 to 77. Born October 1894. One of nine children. Son of David Wallis and Mary Ann Wallis (née Buck), of The Rose and Crown, Great Waltham, Chelmsford, Essex. He worked as a farm labourer before enlisting. A letter from the Imperial War Graves Commission in 1920 indicates that he was buried at a point northeast of St Julien, Belgium, but it would appear his grave was lost in subsequent fighting or his remains were not identified. Born: Great Waltham, Essex. Enlisted: Chelmsford, Essex. Resided (1911 census): The Rose and Crown Inn, Great Waltham.

## 1939-1945

**Aircraftman 2nd Class DOUGLAS A SMOOTHY**, Rochford, Essex. Died 01 September 1941, age 19. Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve. Service No. 1441078. Buried Rochford (St. Andrew) Churchyard. Son of Norman Arthur and Daisy Sarah Maria Smoothery (née Bayford), of Hill Cottage, East Street, Rochford. At the time of the 1939 Register he worked as a Butchers Assistant. He was commemorated in a peal at Prittlewell on August 7, 1945.

## Post-WWII

**Gunner RICHARD AMOS JAMES FURMINGER, R.A.** On August 2, 1979, after only eight days' service in the Province with his regiment, Richard Furminger, aged 19 and a ringer at St. Peter's, Colchester, became the 301st British soldier to be killed in Northern Ireland. He was acting as escort for a bomb disposal team when his vehicle ran over a 500 lb. bomb hidden in the road between Armagh and Moy. Coming as he did from a family with both Army and ringing associations, it was as natural for Richard to take up ringing as it was for him to follow in his father's footsteps in choosing the Army as a career. His father, Hubert (Dickie) Furminger, a member of the R.S.C.Y., is a well-known ringer in the Essex Association and beyond, and is now steeple-keeper at St. Peter's, Colchester. where Richard was a regular ringer before he left home to commence his Army training. When home on leave Richard always turned up at the tower and particularly for the Sunday service ringing. He was taught to ring at Prittlewell before the family moved to Colchester. The funeral, at which Richard was accorded full military honours, was held on August 10 at the Garrison Church, Colchester, followed by cremation at Colchester Crematorium. The church service included the singing of the ringers' hymn "Unchanging God, Who livest". Many local ringers were in the congregation, including Mr. George Eve, secretary, Essex Association. Memorial quarter peals were rung for Evensong on Sunday, August 5, at St. Peter's and St. Leonard-at-the-Hythe, Colchester, and also at Prittlewell, and a visiting band ringing a prearranged peal of Bristol S.M. on August 9 rang it half-muffled and dedicated it to the dead gunner.

