

# Cromhall War Memorial

1914-1919 ( official end of the war)

Sergt. Maurice Selby.      Sergt. Frank L.  
ElliottL/Cpl. Cyril BridgemanPte. Henry C.  
BartonPte. Frank BartonPte. Albert Beard  
Pte. Alfred ClarkPte. Gilbert ColeA.B.  
Henry J. Cullimore

Pte. Edgar DyerGunr. Leonard EacottPte.  
Stephen EaleyPte. Harold HallSapr. Albert  
PerrettPte. Wallace PrattPte. William  
PritchardPte. Gordon RumboldPte. James  
TrotmanPte. Reginald Vigar

William Henry Oliver (not listed on the memorial)

20 names

**Sergeant Maurice Selby**

3132. 10th. Bn. Gloucestershire Regiment who died on 25  
September 1915, Commemorated on Loos Memorial. France.

A Boer War hero

Wounded and taken prisoner by the Boers, served with the army in India. Maurice worked as a coal miner in South Wales and joined up at the outbreak of war. Blacksmith in 1901 census, Old Smithy, Bibstone, Cromhall. Son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Selby

**Sergeant F. Elliot**, M2/147597, 94th Field Ambulance Royal Army Medical Corps who died on 12 April 1918, commemorated on Outtersteene Communal Cemetery Extension, Bailleul, Belgium.

Sergeant Elliot had been a quarry worker and was noted for his 'fine physique' He was a sports instructor in the army

Despite the records the Gazette of the day said he was buried in St. Andrews graveyard, Cromhall after a big funeral with many mourners. He had worked as a Gardener at 'Ashmead' Cam.

His family lived at The cottage in Talbots End now called Talebrockes in 1911 census

**Wheeler H.C. Barton** TS/78679, 661st. H.T. Coy., Army Service Corps who died on 23 May 1916 Age 45

Son of Mr. And Mrs. Edwin Barton, of Cromhall, Charfield, Glos; Husband of Susan Barton, of Bay Tree Cottage, Malvern Wells, Worcs. Commemorated at Greenwich Cemetery, London

Died of measles in England, Father of Frank Barton, Ivy Cottage, Heath-end

**Pte. Frank Barton**

Francis Samuel, Private, 16809, 11th Worcestershire Regiment, killed in action 25/04/1917 age 20.

Son of Susan Barton, of Baytree Cottage, Malvern Wells, Worcs, and the late Henry Charles Barton. who also served. and fell in 1916. Commemorated on the Doiran Memorial, Greece. This memorial has him listed as Frank.

Frank died in the Salonica Force Expedition in Greece. This is a 'forgotten war' which was intended to limit the war in the Balkans.

**Pte Albert Beard**

24409 7Bn. Gloucestershire Reg. Albert pumped the organ in St. Andrews and is remembered on a plaque behind the organ. He died in the ill-fated campaign of Kut in 'Mesopotamia', Iraq. on 4 Feb 1917, 20 years old. He is commemorated in the Amara Cemetery near Basra, Iraq

He lived on Cromhall Common, father Albert was a quarryman. Albert worked as a cowman at the Dibbles Farm in Cowship Lane and had been an under-gardener, possibly at Heathend House.

### L/Cpl. Cyril Bridgeman

Killed in action, July 8th.1916, Aged 23,  
Named on Thiepval Monument To The Fallen, The Somme,

Well Cottage Heathend, Gardener, Tortworth Court and in Croydon.

### Pte Alfred Clark

Alfred was very badly wounded in action, carried three miles to a German dressing station by a British POW but died the next day, 21 March,1918 at 21 years of age. Buried at Heilly Station Cemetery, Mericourt L'Abbe, France  
Woodend, Office Boy for F.W.Fry, auctioneer, W-U-E and later a clerk at Bristol Tramways.

### Pte Gilbert Cole

Died in Rouen Hospital, France of gas poisoning May 14th.1915 .  
Buried at St. Cemetery Extension, Rouen, France.  
Quarryman , Heathend

### A.B. Henry J. Cullimore

Able Seaman, Royal Navy, Died 24 Nov.1919, Aged 22 Buried in Budapest War Cemetery, Hungary

CULLIMORE, Henry J, Able Seaman, J 28699, ML.434, motor launch,  
Died 24 November 1919 in an accident, (fire) on the river Danube. The record in the War Cemetery records that he drowned.

The Royal Navy Danube Patrol was an occupation force monitoring the defeated enemy.



His brother, Sergeant Alfred Cullimore was awarded the Distinguished Conduct medal . He served in the signals corps of the Gloucestershire Regiment and served in China. Son of Frank Cullimore, Shepherd, of the Wire Mill, Abbottside in 1901 census, Fiddler's Bottom, Cromhall

### Pte Edgar Dyer

Service No: 21170

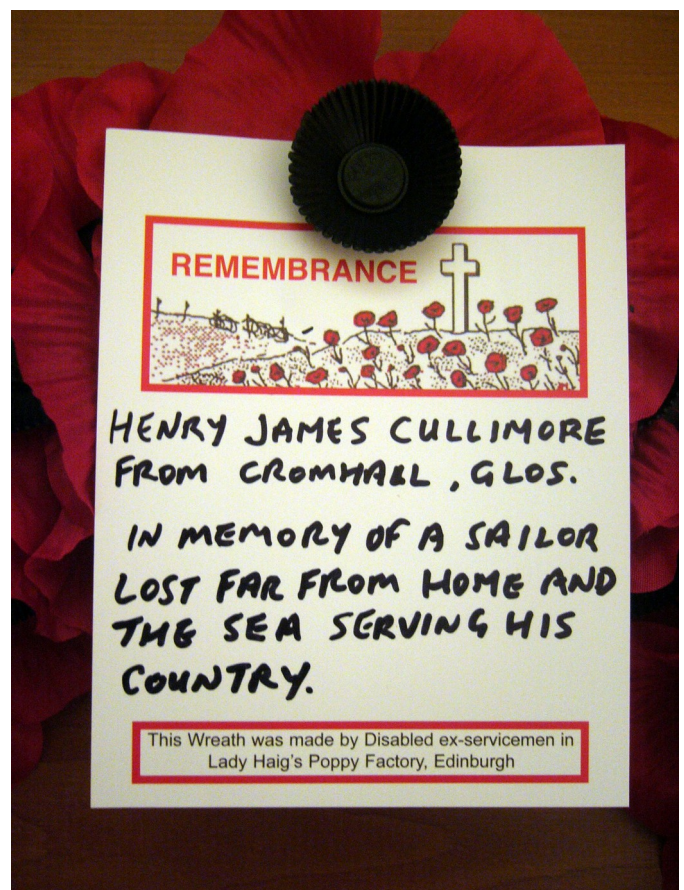
Date of Death: 11

October 1918 Age: 27

Regiment/Service: Duke

of Cornwall's Light Infantry

transferred to (128263) Labour Corps



Grave Reference In North-East part.  
Cemetery [CROMHALL \(ST. ANDREW\) CHURCHYARD](#)

Son of Joseph and Sarah Jane Dyer, of the Red  
Lion, Cromhall

Edgar served at Ypres, was gassed and  
wounded in the hand, was transferred to the  
Labour Corps, contracted Tuberculosis and  
moved to hospital in England.

At his funeral, in St.Andrews, Cromhall four of his  
friends, gunners from the Royal Field Artillery, were  
bearers,  
W.Eacott, W. Jobbins, J.Niblett and J. Taylor.

**Leonard Robert Eacott**

65011,13th.Division Ammunition Col. Royal Field  
Artillery

Who died on 27 February 1915, aged 24.

Son os John and Charlotte Eacott of Cromhall,  
Husband of Alice Rebecca Eacott, of Bibstone  
Cottage,  
Cromhall, Charfield , Glos.

Commemorated at Aldershot Military Cemetery.

The Eacotts had farmed at Longcross Farm (in  
1901 census)

But by this time John Eacott had died, his  
widow, Charlotte had moved to Bibstone  
Cottages.

Leonard left a widow, Alice, and a child.  
Leonard died of measles in the Isolation  
Hospital Aldershot. 24 years old.

Leonard had a brother, Edgar in the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers and another, Walter in the Royal Field Artillery.

### **Pte. Stephen Ealey**

17792. 2nd.Bn. Gloucester Regiment, who died 10 May 1915

Commemorated on the Menin Gate Memorial, Ypres, Belgium. Stephen's family lived at Bibstone cottages.

### **Ypres Menin Gate Memorial**

Ypres (now Ieper) is a town in the Province of West Flanders. The Memorial is situated at the eastern side of the town on the road to Menin (Menen). Each night at 8 pm the traffic is stopped at the Menin Gate while members of the local Fire Brigade sound the Last Post in the roadway under the Memorial's arches.

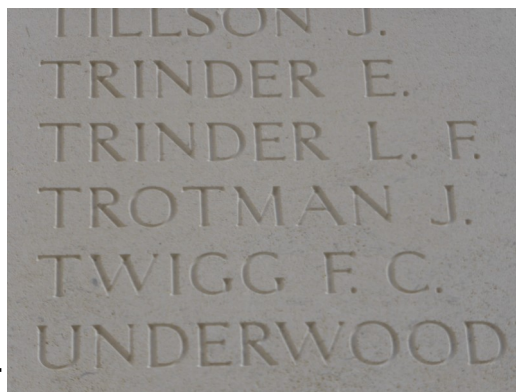
Stephen Ealey and James Trotman's names are in the Gloucestershire Regiments lists inside the gate.

The Salient was formed during the First Battle of Ypres in October and November 1914, when a small British Expeditionary Force succeeded in securing the town before the onset of winter, pushing the German forces back to the Passchendaele Ridge. The Second Battle of Ypres began in April 1915 when the Germans released poison gas into the Allied lines north





of



Ypres. This was the first time gas had been used by either side and the violence of the attack forced an Allied withdrawal and a shortening of the line of defence.

### **Pte. Harold Hall**

Harold served in the Gallipoli Campaign in Turkey, better known then as the Dardanelles Campaign. He was shot through the lungs and although he recovered from this wound he contracted tuberculosis and died in Chatham Hospital.

Buried in Cromhall St. Andrews Churchyard.  
Hundreds attended the funeral.

Pte 10768. George Harold HALL

Gloucestershire Regt, died 20 May 1918, aged 25

Born 1894 Son of George and Henrietta Hall, The Common, Heathend, Cromhall.

### **Sapper Albert George Perrett**

48241, 70th. Field Coy. Royal Engineers who died on 08 June 1916 aged 29.

Son of John and Hannah Perrett of Cromhall, Charfield, Glos. Buried in Bethune Town Cemetery, France.

The Battle of the Somme began on 1 June 1916. Albert was working as a glazier and plumber before the war for Tortworth Estate and Kendals the builders. Son of John Perrett, Licensee of The Royal Oak, Bibstone, brother of Bombardier Frank Perrett, Royal Horse Artillery, who was wounded at Mons.

Albert presumably died of wounds, in the casualty clearing station at Bethune, The Somme, France.

### **Pte. Wallace Reginald Pratt**

29067, 3rd. Bn. Worcestershire Regiment who died on 24 August 1916, aged 24, in the Battle of the Somme. Wallace died in action capturing the Leipzig Redoubt, near Thiepval, The Somme, France.

Son of Anais Pratt, Grandson of Daniel, A Woodman and Lime-burner, and Annie Pratt (nee Hobbs) of Aurland, Bibstone, Cromhall. Egg delivery man.





29067,  
C Company,  
12 Platoon  
3 Battalion,  
Worcester Regiment,  
B. E. F.

Dear All at home

Thanks very much for letter. It's the first I've had since I've left England, We keep on shifting and of course that throughs the letters out.

We came into the reserve trenches Saturday evening. We sleep and have our food in a dug-out. During the day at different times we go out trench-digging. We get plenty of shells over us all the time. We were a bit nervous the first going off, but we soon began to keep cool.

You ask about parcels, well you can send me some cake or anything tasty that will keep it will be a change I expect Grannie has sent me a parcel, only I dont expect I shall get it on account of our shelling. Dont send big ones.

Each time you write you must enclose a piece of paper & an envelope, because I cant get any here. Dont worry about me I shall be alright.

Tell Father I have been within 250 yds. of the German lines . Ask him if he thinks that is close enough. If he doesnt , I do .

I dont suppose you know what a Dug out is , well as near as I can explain to you , it is a wide trench with a roof over , and we have made it very comfortable , I will tell more next time

so Good bye with love from your

Wallace X

Sept 6th.      12 Platoon C Coy  
3 Worcester Regt.  
B. E. F.  
France

Dear Sir

I very much regret to say that Pte W Pratt fell in action on the 24 th. He played no small part in the wonderful attack which the Battalion made on that day. All the men in the Platoon with me express their sympathy with you in your great loss though he died the glorious death of a British soldier fighting for his king & Country. He helped to uphold the Regiment he belonged .

The parcel you sent him was divided among the platoon he was in as when a man gets wounded or killed the parcels are divided ,

Yours Truly

Cpl WR Strange

### **Pte. William Pritchard**

William Ambrose Private 41665, 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers, formerly 39183, Royal Army Service Corps,

killed in action 11 April 1918. Born in 1896 in Cromhall, the son of William, a Woodman, and Laura Sylvia nee Pick of Bibstone , Cromhall.

Born and enlisted at Cromhall and was in residence at Mountain Ash, Glamorgan, South Wales. Commemorated on the Tyne Cot

Memorial, Belgium

Longcross Cottages.

### **Pte. Sydney Gordon Rumbold**

241944 1st./5th. Bn. Gloucestershire regiment who died on 2 February 1917 aged 25.

Son of Sydney and Harriet Rumbold, of Heathend, Cromhall, Glos. Husband of F.A.Rumbold of 7 Haytor View, Old Way, Chudleigh, S. Devon.

Commemorated on La Neuville Communal Cemetery, Corbie.

Gordon died “in France of an illness’ according to a contemporary newspaper cutting. Possibly this was yet another death from a disease contacted in the hard conditions of the

trenches which took a toll of several Cromhall men.

Gordon was a stone quarryman and stone mason specialising in stone carving.

### **Pte. James Trotman**

8118. 1st. Battalion Gloucestershire Regiment who died on 22 October 1914.

James's short service number is a sign of how early in the war he had signed up. Remembered on The Menin Gate Memorial, Ypres, Belgium.

The British Army joined the War on 4 August 1914. James Trotman was already in the Volunteer Reserve at the outbreak of war and was called up immediately. The 1st. Battle of Ypres was one of the first actions in which the British Expeditionary Force were involved. James was from Bibstone.

### **Pte. Reginald Vigar**

Reginald Victor Pte 27968 9th Gloucestershire Regt died 23 October 1916. Born in 1898 in Cromhall the son of William Tucker Vigar, Farm Bailiff and Mary nee Parnell of Cromhall Buried at Pieta Military Cemetery, Malta.

Example Farm, now Whitfield Farm, Whitfield now in Falfield Parish.

Reginald may have died from wounds received on the front in Gallipoli, The Dardanelles Campaign.

### **William Henry Oliver,**



Died in active service, 1916

Lucy, w, 15 Sept 1917, \*9 [looks like 29 Maud, 8 Jan 1972, 63. ( I can't find them in 1911 census)

There are more stories of the men who served and survived although many of them were wounded mentally as well as physically by the noise and brutality of this conflict.

Many women must have served as nurses and in industries providing support for the War Effort. For a small village Cromhall made a costly contribution. Twenty men from the village died in the world-wide conflict which included the battles in Belgium and France, Mesopotamia, The Balkans, The Dardanelles and post war peace-keeping in Budapest.

## Lest we forget

