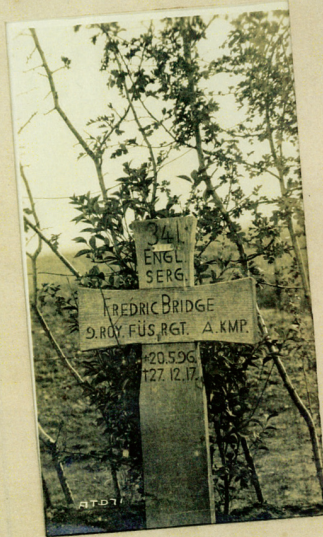




Sgt Frederick Johnson Bridge (right), of the Royal Fusiliers, died on 27 December 1917, aged 24, and is buried at Caudry British Cemetery in France.

J. Appleby

I made four poppies. My grandad Jack Ireland lost two brothers, George Alfred in 1918, and Joseph Thomas in 1915, at the Battle of Loos. My grandma Gladys Gooding lost her cousin, Alfred, who was serving with the Garrison Royal Artillery on the Western Front. He was 26 years old and recently married. The fourth poppy is for my grandad's other brother, Maurice, who died in 1942 serving in the Second World War. 'My great-grandparents Joseph and Emily had seven sons and lost three to war, the oldest being only 28 when he died. This is just one family out of millions but the effect on family members and relationships continues to this day.'

Jill Bishop



'My grandson Charlie placed our wreath on the Great War memorial altar in St Cuthbert's Church, Wigton, Cumbria. The altar is dedicated to the 29 former pupils from Charlie's school, St Cuthbert's, who died in the war. Charlie has always liked to see his great-great-great-uncle's name, Bertram Carrick, on the memorial.'

Margaret Burfield

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The Director-General of Graves Registration and Enquiries
Begg to forward as requested a Photograph of the Grave of:—
Name Bridge
Rank and Initials Sgt. F.
Regiment Royal Fusiliers
Position of Grave Caudry
German Military Cemetery
Nearest Railway Station Caudry
All communications respecting this Photograph should quote the number (149/14319) and be addressed to:—
Director-General of Graves Registration and Enquiries,
War Office,
Winchester House.



'My late father, Farrell Tully, enlisted in the Irish Guards in January 1915 and fought in battles at Ypres, Neuve Chapelle and the Somme.'

Muriel Lynch

I knitted my poppies in memory of my maternal grandfather, Robert ('Sharkey') Hendry from Broxburn, West Lothian. Robert served in France with the Cameron Highlanders and later for the Royal Engineers during the First World War. He was the first local boy from Broxburn to receive the Military Medal and the people of the town presented him with another medal in November 1917 to show their appreciation of his valour and bravery. He remained an army man all his life and wouldn't allow my grandmother to do any of his laundry! Thank you for this opportunity to honour my grandad and all the other young men who fought in what they believed was 'the war to end all wars.'

Anna Paterson

'My mother's brother, Bert, was killed at 19 – his younger brother at just 18. My Uncle Walter, who was newly married, also died, at the Battle of the Somme.

My Auntie Lizzie (in the centre of the photo, right) and her daughter, Amy (top left), worked in munitions, and I can remember being taken from my bed to be shown an airship flying over London. Also, seeing my mother fainting on getting the telegrams telling of her husband and two brothers, killed within three weeks of each other.'

Ann Chapman

Ann (pictured above, left), of Slough, Berkshire, says she enjoyed making an astonishing 100 poppies – to mark the centenary of the end of the First World War, but also to celebrate a more personal centenary: her 100th birthday, which will fall on 30 November.



Monday 3 June 1917

Dear Brother and Sister,

We get plenty of fireworks displays... we are in the front line at present, but shall be out on Wednesday night. We shall have been in the trenches 25 days, but then we shall go out of the trench for six days rest. We are having lovely weather at present but it is rather too hot for my liking.

What do you think about the war yet, do you think it will be over this year? Well, I hope so. I thank you for the parcel which was just to my tooth, we all tuck in with one another when a parcel comes. I had a letter from the wife at the same time... and she says that I never say where we are. If I wrote and told her they would only rub it out or I might get in trouble... What sort of a holiday have you had thus Whitsuntide? I hope you enjoyed yourselves, in spite of the war, which is spoiling everybody's enjoyment...

Andrew

P.S. Just as I finished this letter our big guns are sending iron foundries at the Germans, just to digest their dinner with. If the Germans start shelling us we give him 20 back to every one of his, so you see he gets the worst of it.



'This is a letter from my grandfather, Private Andrew Dunlop Dyer of the 2/5th Battalion, East Lancashire Regiment. He was an ordinary Lancashire lad, a cotton weaver, married, a father to two sons. He wasn't high ranking in the army but yet he, like many, many others, did his 'duty' and paid the ultimate price. It is a simple letter, trying his best to be upbeat about the situation. But nine days after that letter was written, he was killed in the trenches, aged 39. He is buried in the British Cemetery at Béthune in Northern France, which I visited a few years ago. It is a beautiful resting place and he is surrounded by his fellow comrades.'

Karen Harwood

'My grandmother lost two brothers in the First World War – my great-uncles. And my grandfather was one of the lucky ones who came home from France.'

Norma Jones

We Remember Them



'I have been both humbled and privileged to make these poppies. Both my grandfathers served in the First World War and, thankfully, both returned home. My dad remembered his father instructing him to 'look after mother'. Quite an undertaking for a small boy.'

Liz Ward

'In memory of my great-uncle, Leo Hunter, who died at Ypres.

'Lest we forget!'

T. Hunter

'In tribute to my grandad, William Smith, and my great-uncle, George Smith. Both fought in the First World War.'

H. Garside

'For my uncle, William Richards, who never came back.'

Barbara Aldford

'In memory of Andrew P. McLaren, who died in 1918 and his cousin David Wooton, who lost his life in 1914.'

Josephine McLaren

'In remembrance of our grandfather, John Richards, who died on 14 March 1918 of shell gas, leaving a widow with two little girls, one of whom was our mother, then aged two.'

Joyce Haimes

'In memory of my uncle, George Stirling, killed in action in April 1917 at Ypres.'

Joan Oliphant

'My husband Neil and I are taking a battlefield tour in Flanders and Ypres later this year in remembrance of our grandfathers, who fought in the Great War.'

Susan Shippin