



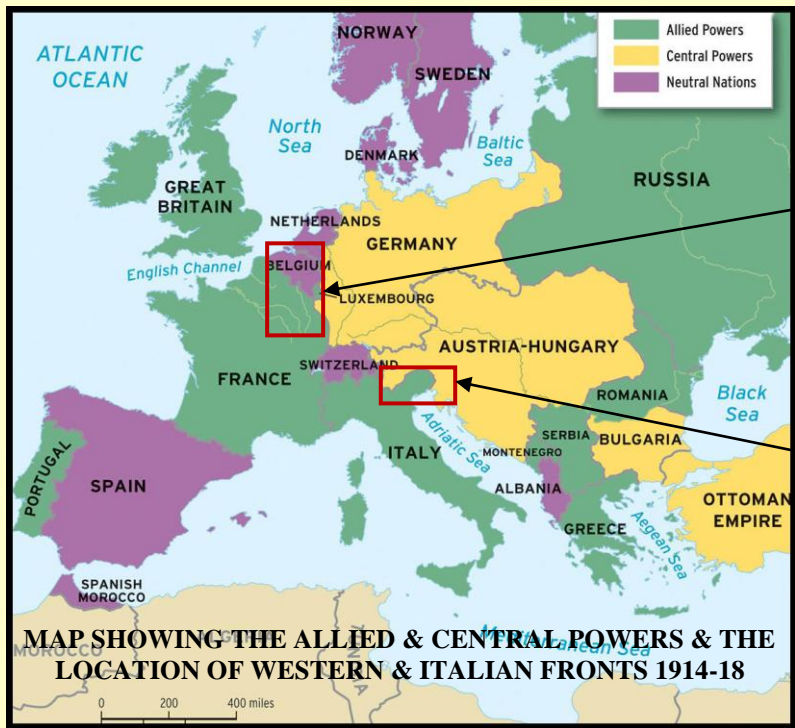
SWANBOURNE WAR MEMORIAL AND MEMORIAL GARDENS



Many men from Swanbourne, as in most communities, volunteered or were drafted into the armed forces during the First World War. A significant number did not return home. After the war, the Parish Council arranged a meeting in June 1919 to discuss erecting a war memorial. Unusually, it was decided to record not only the names of those who had died on active service, but also all those who had served during the war as well as those who were injured or taken prisoner. The Third Lord Cottesloe, who had himself served in the war, provided land opposite the church for the erection of the monument, which was unveiled on 20th September 1920. Unfortunately, the limestone chosen for the memorial has weathered to the point whereby some names are illegible, though the stone has now been treated to make it more stable. However, we do have a full list of the names, and research recently undertaken has uncovered something of the stories of those who died. Their stories are part of the Swanbourne History Website. Below is a comprehensive list of the names on the memorial with some of the additional information that we have researched. The gardens are being developed during the WW1 Centenary period as a place for rest, remembrance and reflection.

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SWANBOURNE SERVICEMEN WHO DIED WHILE SERVING ON THE WESTERN FRONT

- 4th August 1914 - **WAR BEGINS** as Britain declares War on Germany, starting at 11 p.m.
- 6th January 1915 - John Henry HIGGINS (Scots Guards) wounded. Died 10th or 17th January 1915 in France.*
- 25th September 1915 - Nimrod BOUGHTON (Ox & Bucks Light Infantry) goes missing in Belgium. His body never found.
- 25th September 1915 - T. F. H. FREMANTLE (Ox & Bucks Light Infantry) died from wounds on 17th October 1915 in France.
- 5th June 1916 - George Thomas LEONARD (13th Btt. Quebec Reg., Canada) killed in Belgium.
- 4th May 1917 - Thomas ELMER (Royal Fusiliers) killed in France.
- 26th October 1917 - William George CURRELL (Canadian Infantry, Central Ontario Reg.) killed in Belgium.
- 30th October 1917 - Ernest PRICE (Royal Engineers) killed in France. His body never found.
- 27th April 1918 - Herbert William GURNETT (3rd Btt. Worcestershire Reg.) killed in Belgium.
- 11th Sept 1918 - William ALDERMAN (18th Btt. Gloucestershire Reg.) killed in France.

* Recently discovered name omitted from the War Memorial.

SWANBOURNE SERVICEMEN WHO DIED WHILE SERVING ON THE ITALIAN FRONT

- 29th October 1918 - Thomas COX (Ox & Bucks Light Infantry) killed in Northern Italy.
- 1st November 1918 - John Henry LEONARD (1st Bucks Btt. Ox and Bucks Light Infantry) killed in Northern Italy.
- 11th November 1918 - **WAR ENDS** as an armistice is declared, starting at 11 a.m.

OTHER SWANBOURNE SERVICEMEN WHO DIED AFTER RETURNING TO ENGLAND

- 11th April 1916 - Frederick PITKIN (13th Btt. Royal Warwickshire Reg.) died of asthma and pneumonia in Dorset, UK.
- 29th May 1916 - George Henry TURVEY (57th Co. Machine Gun Corps) died of cancer and heart failure in London, UK.**
- 18th July 1918 - William Thomas HINTON (1st Btt. Middlesex Reg.) died of influenza at home in London, UK.
- 30th October 1918 - Frederick James KEEN (3rd Btt. Leicestershire Fusiliers) died of pneumonia, Hull, UK.

**Name omitted from War Memorial.



For WW1 Servicemen SCAN ME



KILLED IN ACTION – 2nd Lieut. T.F.H.FREMANTLE (photo above), Private William ALDERMAN (photo below left) and Private Ernest PRICE (photo below right) were 3 of 15 servicemen who died while serving.



SWANBOURNE MEN WHO SERVED AND SURVIVED WORLD WAR 1 (P=prisoner W=wounded)

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ALDERMAN, Alfred | DAWES, Claude |
| ALDERMAN, Arthur | ELMER, Arthur |
| ALDERMAN, Frederick (W) | ELMER, William E |
| ALDERMAN, George Andrew | ENDELL, Albert John (W) |
| ALDERMAN, George Henry (W) | FEATHERSTONE, Henry Peverell (W) |
| ALDERMAN, Sidney James | FEATHERSTONE, John Forrest |
| ALDERMAN, William Charles | GURNETT, Charles Herbert Arthur |
| ASH, Edward (W) | GURNETT, Walter |
| ASH, Newman Ernest | HARDING, Frederick Lawrence |
| ASH, William Newman | HARDING, Jack |
| BONHAM, Edward Charles | HIGGS, Robert William |
| BOUGHTON, Charles William | HOLDOM, Leslie John |
| BROOKS, George Richard | HURST, Frederick George |
| COLGROVE, Edwin Hugh (W) | HURST, Isaac Thomas (W) |
| FREMANTLE, Thomas Francis | JORDAN, Alfred Thomas |
| FREMANTLE, Cecil R. | JORDAN, George Henry |
| FREMANTLE, John Walgrave Halford | KEEN, Robert Charles |
| FREMANTLE, Walter (Royal Navy) | KIBBLE, William Edward Watkins |
| DANCER, Alfred William | LEONARD, James |
| DANCER, John | MORBY, Henry |
| DAVIS, Herbert Thomas (P) | PRICE, John |

- PRICE, William Thomas
ROADS, Jesse Frederick (W)
ROADS, Thomas Sydney
ROWE, Alfred (P)
ROWE, Thomas Arthur (W)
SAWYER, George Rupert
SHEFFIELD, Frederick Arthur
SHEFFIELD, William Charles
TURVEY, Leslie Robert (W)
TURVEY, Walter James
WALKER, Charles William
WALKER, George William (P)
WALTERS, Frank Charles
WILLIS, Cornelius (W)



Photographs of George Walker (left) and Alfred Rowe (right). Both became POW's

PHOTOGRAPH FROM THE WW1 VETERANS' PARTY WHICH WAS HOSTED BY THE THIRD LORD COTTESLOE IN 1920



This photograph shows some of the Swanbourne servicemen who survived WW1 attending a party hosted by Lord Cottesloe in Swanbourne in 1920.

- The 11 back row Servicemen:-
1. Albert ENDELL
 2. George ALDERMAN
 3. Alfred ROWE
 4. Frederick ALDERMAN
 5. William ALDERMAN
 6. William KIBBLE
 7. Edwin ("Rex") COLGROVE
 8. Leslie HOLDOM
 9. Alfred DANCER
 10. John DANCER
 11. George BROOKS
- The 7 Servicemen in the middle:-
12. Charles DAWES
 13. William ASH
 14. George ALDERMAN Snr.
 15. Newman ASH
 16. Harry HATCH (attributed name; not from Swanbourne)
 17. Leslie TURVEY
 18. Unidentified
- The 3 front row Servicemen:-
19. Charles BOUGHTON
 20. Edward BONHAM
 21. Isaac HURST

MEMORIAL ADDITIONS:- The names of two Swanbourne Servicemen who died in WW2 were added to the main War Memorial and the Plaque in the church after 1945:- **BRADSHAW, G.A.** served in the RAF as a Flight Sergeant. **RAMSEY, F.H.** was a Private in the Beds and Herts Regiment. A famous Battle of Britain fighter ace originating from Swanbourne was **Anthony BARTLEY DFC** (1919-2001). For WW2 SCAN ME

