APPLEBY, ERNEST WILLIAM
Private Canadian Army Military Police.
Ernest was the second son of Isaac and Elizabeth Appleby of Streatfield Farm, Fords Green, Nutley. His brothers were Horace, Herbert and Thomas, and sister, Edith. He was born in 1887 and attended Nutley village school. He married Fanny Mary Tench in Danehill church. She was the school teacher there. Soon after they went out to Parys, Orange River Colony, South Africa. In 1905 their eldest son, John was born there. They returned to England in 1908 and then emigrated to Canada in 1909. They homesteaded at Stocks, Alberta and in 1917 moved to Victoria, British Columbia. Their sons were John (Jack), Rex (died in 1907), James and Frank. In 1918 Ernest died in a war munitions factory accident.

The British Colonist newspaper, Victoria, Vancouver Island reported the following.

May 21 1918 - Killed in an accident at James I, BC, E.W. Appleby, aged 41, n/o Sct, a returned soldier. Died of burns received while attempting to clear up with water some high explosive that had fallen on the floor. Immediately the water touched the acid there was an explosion. Deceased leaves a wife and it is believed children, residing in Victoria, for whom the police are now in search. He had only recently received his discharge from the army.

The membership of local br/o Army and Navy Veterans in Canada has passed 400 mark. Immediately after the announcement was made with information that the first death among the membership had taken place, an announcement followed saying that War Veterans would act as pallbearers.

Fanny and her sons returned to Alberta where she taught in school. All three sons entered the teaching profession, and Frank then entered politics and became a central figure in the Alberta Legislature.

CALLAGHAN, MICHAEL JAMES.

Date of Death 16/02/1916 Age 23.

Commemoration Quarry Cemetery, Vermelles, France.

Michael was born in Clonmel, County Tipperary, Ireland. He was married to Jane and had a daughter, Nancy and son, James. The family lived at Pippingford Park, where he worked. He enlisted at Horsham. He was killed in the heavy fighting at the Hohenzollen Redoubt, France. His widow remarried William Rivers, widower, in 1918. The family lived in the lodge house at the entrance to Pippingford Park until her death in 1936. Michael’s son James worked at Pippingford Park until he was called up for second world war service. He never returned to Nutley. Nancy married and moved to Forest Row.
CHAMPNEYS, JOHN DALRYMPLE.
Date of Death 22/11/1915 Age 26.
Commemorated Hannescamps New Military Cemetery, France.

Born in 1889 the second son of Sir Francis Henry Champneys, 1st. Bart, M.D. and Lady Virginia Julian Champneys of Littlemead, Nutley. A brother Montague born in 1878, died in 1894. He had a younger brother Weldon and a sister Margaret.

The deceased soldier who was attached to the Liecestershire Regiment was 26 years of age and was the elder surviving son of his parents.
In Nutley he was held in high esteem, taking a considerable interest in the social life of the village. He was a keen cricketer and was possessed with an excellent voice.
Taken prisoner of war by the Germans but died the following day...
He was a barrister, educated at Rosewall School, held a foundation scholarship. He matriculated at Balliol College Oxford, took honours in the Final School of Law.
Entered at the start of the war as Second Lieutenant and soon became a full Lieutenant”.
He had been reported missing soon after his death but his parents were only officially notified by the War Department in early June. Communications between the German and British War Departments was poor.
In memory of his life a simple wooden cross is mounted on the wall inside Nutley Church.

CHATFIELD, WILLIAM CHARLES.
Private 1st. Bn. The Queen’s (Royal West Surrey Regiment.) G/7220.
Date of Death 29/07/1916 Age 21.
Commemorated Dernancourt Communal Cemetery, France.

William was the elder son of William George and Harriet Annie (nee Carr) Chatfield. He was born in 1893 and had a younger brother Alfred, born in 1901. Both sons were baptised in Nutley Church. The father’s occupation was given as a labourer. His parents married in Nutley Church in 1890. The 1891 Census has William’s parents living in Powder Mill Cottage, Nutley. He enlisted at Dorking. William was killed in a bombing incident. A Mills bomb exploded prematurely in a practice session and fatally wounded him and two comrades.
William’s father died, date unknown, and his mother had remarried a William Henry Wheeler in 1906.

Dernancourt Communal Cemetery is located in a village 3 kilometres south of Albert.

Field Ambulances used the Communal Cemetery for Commonwealth burials from September 1915 to August 1916, and again during the German advance of March 1918. It contains 127 burials of the First World War.
The XV Corps Main Dressing Station was formed at Dernacourt in August 1916 when the adjoining EXTENSION was opened. The extension now contains 2,162 Commonwealth burials, 177 of which are unidentified.
COLEMAN, PERCY.
G/1647.
Date of Death 05/03/1916 Age 26.
Commemoration Bethune Town Cemetery, France.

I have been unable to discover evidence that this soldier is linked to Nutley. There were Coleman families living in Nutley and Fairwarp at this time, but no records of a Percy. The next of kin details from the War Graves give his parents address in Somerset.

HARDING, FRANK.
Stoker 1st. Class H.M.S. “Goshawk”.
Royal Navy K/36544.
Date of Death 04/10/1917 Age 19.
Commemoration Brest (Kerfautras) Cemetery, France.

I could find no details of Frank until I researched the archives of the Sussex Express newspapers. His death was reported in the October 12th.1917 edition. He was the adopted son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Tribe of Coffee Hall, (Royal Oak), Nutley. Whilst aboard his ship off the west coast of France he developed an infection, and was transferred ashore to the hospital in Brest, where he died. He was buried in Brest (Kerfautras) Cemetery.

John Tribe was a postman and lamplighter until the war.

HARDING, JOHN CHARLES.
Private 7th. Bn. Lincolnshire Regiment.
52173.
Date of Death 06/09/1918 Age 19.
Commemorated Varennes Military Cemetery, France.

Born in 1899 John Charles was the younger son of Henry and Barbara Ellen (nee Allen) Harding of Fords Green, Nutley. He had an elder brother, William, born in 1896 and a sister Annie born in 1897. His father was a tailor journeyman. Parents Henry and Barbara married in Nutley Church and the children probably attended the village school. He was in the midst of fierce fighting in the second battle of the Somme. The Germans had recaptured Albert in March 1918 and the British eventually recovered it August 1918. He enlisted at Eastbourne and no more is known of his life in Nutley.
HAZELDEN, WILLIAM.
61379.
Date of Death 10/04/1917 Age 20.
Commemorated Orange Trench Cemetery,
Monchy - Le - Preux,
France.

Information from the book “Soldiers Died in the Great War” give William's birthplace as Maresfield. He resided in Nutley and enlisted in Uckfield. From the 1891 census the family were living at Misbourne Farm and William's father was a farmer. Previously the family had lived at Marlpits where the children had been born. William was baptised in Nutley church in 1887 and his father’s occupation at that time was a labourer. I could find no more details of his life.

Orange Hill and Orange Trench were features of the country south of the river Scarpe, through which Commonwealth forces fought their way in April 1917, during the Battle of Arras, and again in August 1918. Orange Trench Cemetery was made after the fighting of 9 - 11 April 1917 and the 118 graves are of soldiers killed in April and May 1917.

MARCHANT, WILLIAM NEVILLE.
C/9240.
Date of Death 27/08/1918 Age 27.
Commemorated Ligny - Sur - Canche British Cemetery, France.

Neville was the second son of nine children of Thomas and Fanny Marchant of Little Claylands Farm, Nutley. In 1901 the children were Bessie, Thomas, Neville, Doris, Elsie and Denis? Father’s occupation was given as beerhouse keeper. Neville was baptised in 1891, father’s occupation given as a labourer. A younger sister, Edith Ellen was baptised in 1902, father’s occupation given as publican. I could find no other baptism records. Neville was husband to Margaret and the War Graves Commission gave Littlemead, Nutley as her address when Neville was killed. Bearing in mind that the information obtained from relatives often did not take place until the twenties she may have resided elsewhere in 1918. The cemetery was begun at the end of August 1918 and contains 80 graves.
MOORCOCK, FREDERICK ARTHUR.
Date of Death 03/05/1917 Age 22.
Commemoration Arras Memorial, France.

Born in 1895 in Peckham, London, Frederick was the elder son of William James and Emma Moorcock. A brother Percy was born in 1909 but died aged two. The family came to Nutley when his father became the Minister at Forest Hall. The family lived at Forest View, now renamed “Pastors”.
He attended Nutley village school and was such a gifted child that he won a scholarship to Cambridge.
Early in the war he enlisted in the East Anglian Field Ambulance of the Royal Medical Corps. Memories of the late Mrs. Alice Tester recalled how when he came home on leave he took the children's service in the chapel.
Another son, Sidney was a gunner in the Royal Canadian Garrison at Halifax, while another son Alec, was discharged from the Royal Navy as a result of an accident to his hip, for which he was successfully treated at the Royal Sussex County Hospital.
He then enlisted into the army, and the youngest son, Thomas joined the East Surreys.
Horace was married and lived at Newhaven in 1914.
From the date of his death it would appear that he had been buried in a small isolated cemetery, and then reburied in Ypres Extension, after the Armistice.
His widow Mrs. F. Moore lived at 15, Clifton Terrace, Railway Road, Newhaven.

He was in the front line and saw action in the Dardanelles. In July 1916 he was commissioned and then in 1917 he was recommissioned into the King's Own Light Infantry.
In the Sussex Express newspaper 11th. May 1917 he was reported wounded and missing. Not until April 1918 was a letter received by his parents from the War Department to say that they perceived his death. He has no grave but his name is on the Arras Memorial.

MOORE, HORACE.
14052.
Date of Death 31/03/1916 Age 26.
Commemoration Ypres Town Cemetery Extension, Belgium.

Horace was one of seven sons of Pharez and Margaret Moore of Lower Brickfield Farm, Nutley. The family moved to Nutley in the early 1900 years. Father, Pharez had been a shepherd on the Downs, but ill health forced him to leave his work there.
In February 1902 he had rescued two children from the icy water of Friston pond, and as a result he caught pneumonia. He was presented with an award from the Royal Humane Society for gallantry.
His health never recovered and he died in 1910 and is buried in Nutley Churchyard.
In August 1914 five sons were serving. Frederick Moore of H.M.S. “Etropa” with 12 years service already, Pharez Moore of H.M.S. “Agincourt”, serving on the Royal Yacht “Alexandra” prior to the war, Private Horace Moore, 2nd. Battalion Grenadier Guards, Private Herbert Moore, Royal Marines and Gunner Albert Moore, Royal Marine Artillery, H.M.S. “Dominion”.

MOORE, THOMAS.
Private East Surreys.

The War Graves Commission could find no details. From family memories, Thomas was married with a daughter and lived at Halland, close to the old forge.

PECKHAM, ARTHUR NYTON A.R.I.B.A.
Indian Army Reserve of Officers.
Date of Death 14/02/1918 Age 36.
Commemoration Bagdad (North Gate) War Cemetery, Iraq.

Arthur was the second son of the Reverend Harry John Peckham and Edith Peckham. He came to Nutley when he was one year old in 1882 when his father was appointed the Vicar of Nutley Church. A brother Walter was born in 1883 and the youngest brother, Charles in 1886. Richard the eldest brother, born in 1877 became a captain in the 95th.
Battery Royal Field Artillery but was drowned in a yachting accident in the Portland Race in 1909. Arthur attended AA Schools and Balliol College Oxford. In 1903 he was articled to the architect Thomas Edward Collcutt and from 1905 was his assistant. In 1909 he became the assistant to architect William Henry Harrison. He then travelled to Italy and stayed a year, then to India where he qualified as an architect in 1913. His address in 1914 was the Central Hotel, Simla, India where his parents visited before the outbreak of the war. His death was first recorded in the Sussex Express on the 1st. March 1918. On 15th. March 1918 a full report amounting to many inches was written and I will extract from this.

The following extracts from a letter written by his father appeared in the Parish News and was copied by the newspaper.

“I take this opportunity of thanking you all most warmly on behalf of my wife and myself for your sympathy with us in our great sorrow. Although our dear son was not born in Nutley, he was only a little more than a year when he came. It was the only home he ever knew and he was most warmly attached to it. There will be some who remember him as a child, as a schoolboy, have heard him read the lesson in church, and may know he designed and carried out the latest additions to the church.

A keen volunteer from his boyhood at the outbreak of war he at once applied for a commission but the Public Works Department under which he was serving would not sanction him leaving until March 1915. When he was gazetted 2nd. Lieutenant in the Indian Army Reserve of Officers and after a period of training with the Yorkshire Regiment, he joined the Infantry on the north west frontier of India. Christmas 1915 he was sent to Mesopotamia.”

He served in Mesopotamia until his death which occurred as a result of a throw from his horse.

In Nutley Church a tablet and memorial window commemorate his eldest son, Richard, whilst another memorial window his son, Arthur.

**PENFOLD, JOHN BERRICK.**
SD/341.
Date of Death 18/09/1918 Age 27.
Commemoration Epehy Wood Farm Cemetery, France.

John was the elder son of Stephen and Catherine Betsy (nee Smith) Penfold. The 1901 census shows the family living at Sandpits. He had a younger brother, William and two sisters, Florence and Mabel. John was baptised in 1892 and his father’s occupation was given as a labourer.
At the time of his death the family were living at Hole Farm, Nutley. He was married but the only information I have is that Mrs. M.E. Penfold left Nutley after the war and lived at Havering, Limpsfield, Surrey. The Sussex Express newspaper 3 November 1916 showed a photograph of him with the caption “wounded”. There were no details and I could also find no report of his death. Epehy village was captured at the beginning of April 1917 but was lost on 22 March 1918. It was retaken in the Battle of Epehy on 18 September 1918.

POPE, GEORGE. 
SD/5347. 
Date of Death 09/09/1916  Age 23. 
Commemoration Thiepval Memorial, France.

The 1901 census shows George living at Misbourne with his widowed mother, Harriet and brothers and sisters. The children were Edmund, Annie, George, Ethel and James. From the book “Soldiers died in the Great War” he was born in Crowborough and enlisted in Uckfield. I could find no more details until the newspaper revealed more. The Sussex Express 29 September 1916 showed a photograph and some details. He had enlisted in February 1916 and had only been in France for two months before he was killed. It said that he was well liked in the village and took an active role. His mother had remarried and was now Mrs. A. Wickham living at Nether Farm, Nutley. George was fighting in the battle of the Somme which began on 1 July 1916 with the heaviest losses ever and ended on 18th. September 1916, with the onset of winter. No body was found and George is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.

SAYERS, ARTHUR BARNET. 
G/15974. 
Date of Death 14/10/1916 Age 25. 
Commemoration Euston Road Cemetery, Colincamps, France.

Arthur was the third son of Charles and Harriett Sayers of Elm Cottage, Nutley. He had five sisters, Lizzie, Fanny, Emily, Edith and Constance, and three brothers, William, George and Albert. Edith died when she was twelve years old. Born on 27th. July 1891 he was baptised in Nutley Church, and his father’s occupation was given as a gardener. When Arthur left school he went to work as a grocer’s assistant in Whitewood Stores. He also delivered the newspapers. On 20th. May 1914 he married Maud Frances Yeomans. After their marriage the couple lived at the
Homestead. (Cottages below Black Venn Farm close to Picketts Lane).
A son, Alfred, was born in 1915.
Arthur went to France soon after the war began and was in the fierce fighting in the first battle of the Somme.

The Sussex Express newspaper 26th. October 1916 reported his death. It gave the family details, including that he had worked at Whitewood Stores for 11 years. A comrade had written to the family to tell that Arthur had been struck by a machine gun bullet which severed a main artery, and he had died within two minutes. A photograph was with the report.
The cemetery was started after the 1 July 1916 attack and initially contained 501 graves, but after the Armistice more than 750 graves were brought in from small cemeteries in the surrounding area. Maud later remarried.

STREETER, STANLEY WALTER.
132615.
Date of Death  16/10/1918  Age 23.
Commemoration  Glageon Communal Cemetery
Extension, France.

Stanley was the youngest son of James and Dinah (nee Sayers) Streeter of Old Forge Farm, Nutley. He had two brothers, Frederick and William and they were all born at Pulborough. The Sayers family had moved to Nutley before 1880 and it would appear that James and Dinah lived with them at some time.
Stanley was the cousin of Arthur Barnet Sayers. Brother Frederick became the well known gardening broadcaster, first on radio and then on early television.
We have no idea how long Stanley was in France or where he served. Glageon village was in German occupation practically the whole of the war and there are over 300 graves in this site.
The War Graves Commission gave Littlemead, Nutley as the address of James and Dinah Streeter. This would probably have been in the twenties and possibly they were both working for the Champneys and living in. Old Forge Farm remained in family hands until after the second war.
TYLER, JESSE BENJAMIN.
G/8265.
Date of Death 26/09/1917 Age 27.
Commemoration Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium.

Jesse was the son of Benjamin and Hannah Tyler of Chestnut Cottage, Dodds Bottom, Nutley. He had three brothers, William, George and Jacob who also enlisted. He was married to Daisy (nee Walter) and they had three children. They lived at Sandhole, Dodds Bank, Nutley. He enlisted in 1915 into the Royal Sussex Regiment and was sent to France. Wounded in 1916 he was sent back to England to a hospital in Birmingham. A newspaper report said that he was recovering well. He was sent back to the front in 1917. The Sussex Express 12 October 1917 reported his death, followed by a fuller account on 2 November 1917. A photograph accompanied the report which stated that a shell burst where he and a comrade were, and that they had been buried alive. No remains were found. He left a widow and three children all under five. Jesse was killed during the third battle of Ypres which began in June 1917 and ended in November 1917 with the capture of Paschendaele.

He is commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial alongside the names of almost 35,000 officers and men. His widow later remarried.

WALLER, ALFRED.
SD/2129.
Date of Death 14/08/1917 Age unknown.
Commemoration Bus House Cemetery, Belgium.

From “Soldiers of the Great War” Alfred was born at Ditchling and enlisted at Bexhill. I could find nothing more from local records until a report of his death in the Sussex Express newspaper 7 September 1917. The report stated that the family lived at Spring House, Dodds Bank, Nutley and after Alfred left school he worked at Wood’s Nursery, Fairwarp. He had a brother in the Royal Field Artillery serving overseas, and his father was working at Maresfield camp. It did not say whether he was a soldier or a civilian. A letter was published from his Commanding Officer commending his bravery, and a letter from the Church of England Chaplain had also been sent to his parents.

Alfred was killed in the third battle of Ypres and the cemetery contains the graves of soldiers killed between June and November 1917 plus five graves added later. There are 206 First World War burials, 12 of them unidentified.
WICKHAM, WILLIAM.
PO/18806.
Date of Death 24/04/1918 Age 20.
Commemoration Nutley (St. James the Less) Churchyard.

William was the third son of Albert and Annie Wickham of Mount Pleasant, now renamed “Brackendale”. He had two sisters, Laura and Annie, and four brothers, Albert, Levi, Frank and Charlie. One younger child had died. He was baptised in 1897 in Nutley Church, his father’s occupation given as a bricklayer. The 1901 census gives the family living at Fords Green, his father a bricklayer, so they must have moved to Mount Pleasant after 1901. The children probably all went to the village school and nothing is known of William’s occupation. His brother Albert enlisted in the Royal Sussex Regiment and his brother Levi was also in the Royal Marines. By 1916 the three brothers were at the front. Albert who had enlisted soon after the war had begun was wounded in 1916 and sent back to England to recover.

William was wounded in 1918 and also sent back to England to recover, but died of his wounds. He is buried in Nutley churchyard.

NUTLEY MEN LOST, NOT ON OUR MEMORIAL.

FAULKNER, ERNEST.
15588.
Date of Death 05/07/1916.
Commemoration Thiepval Memorial, France.

Ernest was the son of Mrs. Faulkner of Misbourne, Nutley. Information from “Soldiers Died in the Great War” list he was born in Fairwarp, enlisted in Longtown, Cumberland and resided in Uckfield. He is listed on Fairwarp War Memorial and his regiment is given as Royal Sussex. Information given after the war was not always correct. I am fairly certain that the above details are of our man. He was killed in the fierce fighting in the first Battle of the Somme and has no grave.
FAULKNER, WILLIAM.
   SD/3108.
Date of Death 30/06/1916.
Commemoration Loos Memorial, France.

William, son of Mrs. Faulkner of Misbourne, Nutley died on the date which he was reported missing. A letter from his officer stated that he was a splendid soldier and was a great loss. He is listed on Fairwarp War Memorial.

LEWIS, GEORGE FREDERICK.
Date of Death 22/10/1917 Age 32.
Commemoration Dozinghem Military Cemetery, Belgium.

George was the son of Mrs. Lucy Ridley of Whitehouse Farm. He had two sisters, Jessie and Annie and three half sisters, Grace, Julia and Frances. He enlisted at Lewes early in the war. In July 1916 he was wounded but returned to France in December 1916. The Sussex Express newspaper 9 November 1917 reported his death. A letter was sent from his colonel to the family giving a report.
George died in the third Battle of Ypres and was buried at Dozinghem where there are 3,174 graves. He is listed on Fairwarp War Memorial.

MAY, ERNEST WILLIAM.
   G/3753.
Date of Death 18/08/1916 Age 26.
Commemoration Thiepval Memorial, France.

Ernest was the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. May of Nutley. I found this soldier when I was viewing the 35mm. films of the Sussex Express newspaper archives. The newspaper 6 October 1916 contained an impressive report on the death of this soldier.
Death of a very brave soldier.

Lance Corporal Ernest May joined the colours at the beginning of the war and went to Chichester and Shoreham for training.
He was home on June 2nd, 1916 for seven days leave.
Back in the trenches, with a comrade he was taking a message to his colonel. In order to pass a wounded soldier he moved out of the trench and was shot in the chest. He told his comrade that he had been hit and died immediately.

Copies of four letters sent to his parents were written in the newspaper. These were from a lance corporal comrade, his sergeant, Lieutenant and Captain. All stated that he had been a very courageous soldier and was a great loss to the regiment.
His father was bailiff to Countess Muriel De La Warr at Old Lodge, Nutley.
His parents later moved to Bracknell, Berkshire.

Lance Corporal Ernest William May is listed on the Memorial Plaque in Colemans Hatch Church.

DEAD MAN’S PENNY

These commemorative plaques, or medals were presented to the next of kin of the men and women who died in the 1914 - 1918 War.
The medal was commonly known as the dead mans penny.
They were manufactured from bronze gunmetal at the Woolwich Arsenal and measured approximately four and a half inches in diameter.
In addition to the medal the family received an illuminated scroll in full colour and a printed letter from Buckingham Palace bearing the King’s signature.
In 1916 the government realised that a memorial to the fallen should be given to the families.
A competition was announced in 1917, with a prize of £250 to the winner for a design of the commemorative plaque.
The winning designer was Edward Carter Preston (1885 - 1965), a medalist, sculptor from Liverpool.
Production began in 1919, the cost to be taken from German Repatriation money.
A total of 1,150,000 were issued for losses between 4 August 1914 and 10 January 1920.
Many were returned to the government because families thought that the medal was an insult to the honour of their loved ones.

Researched by Mollie Smith  2007