



WORLD WAR I
FECKENHAM

Feckenham Soldiers in WW1

(street by street)



**41 men left the village to defend their country
28 returned**

*Research as at 28.08.16 2016
Much more work still needs to be done
to identify precise house numbers and family relationships*


Information and/or offers of help would be very welcome.

Kathy Gee / Liz Atkins (locations)
Richard Pearce (military service)
Steve Fletcher (family history)

Alcester Road



	Soldiers - red text = fallen .	Certainty Green = certain. Amber = probable. Red = good guess
The Waldons	<p>[I'm assuming that 'The Glebe' was at that time part of the Waldrons and that Albert Arthur Farley was Arthur Henry Gutch's coachman]</p> <p>The Waldrons Soldier(s): Gunner Edward Gutch, 301044 Royal Garrison Artillery, 4th Highland Brigade</p> <p>Occupation in 1911: Needle manufacturer, born 1884. Edward Henry Blakesley Gutch was the oldest son of Arthur Henry (needle manufacturer, born 1851) and Sarah Jane (born 1850) who had had three children of whom 2 survived. His sibling had left home by 1911. There were three servants in the house – Maud Wearing (cook domestic), Elsie Roberts (parlour mid) and Nellie Dyson (aged 15, between maid).</p> <p>The Glebe Soldier(s): Albert Edward Farley, Royal Navy, F10212</p> <p>Occupation in 1911: Cycle Finisher, born 1893. Albert Edward was the son of Albert Arthur Farley (coachman, born 1869) and Eliza (born 1870). He was living at 'The Glebe' with his sister Alberta Florence (born 1891, a needle labourer) and Phyllis Ruby (born 1910).</p>	<div style="background-color: #d9ead3; height: 100%;"></div> <div style="background-color: #fff2cc; height: 100%;"></div>
31 Alcester Road	<p>Soldier(s): Clifford Frank Masters Occupation in 1911: Tool maker, cycles, born 1897.</p> <p>Grandson of Joseph (shoe maker born 1846) and Ann, (gloveress, born 1847). Of their seven children, five survived of which only Laura Jane (born 1875, gloveress) lived at home – possibly the mother of Clifford.</p>	
21? Alcester Road	<p>Soldier: Private Albert Fisher, TR5/1933, 6th Battalion Training Reserve, Royal Artillery, Died: 2nd February, 1917</p> <p>In 1911: We know very little about Albert. In 1911 he had left home, possibly to live in Astwood Bank where he was buried.</p> <p>Albert Fisher was accidentally omitted from our printed walk leaflet in 2015.</p>	

Moors Lane

	Red text = fallen. Certainty: Green = certain. Amber = probable. Red = educated guess	Certainty
2 Moors Lane	<p>Soldier(s): William Summers, 527352</p> <p>In 1911: Bricklayers labourer, born 1887, living with his widowed mother Louisa (born 1865 in Inkberrow), the eldest of the five children still living at home (Clara, John, Daisy, Louisa). In total the family had six surviving children (of eight births).</p>	
3-5 Moors Lane	<p>Soldier: 190015 Private E. Dolphin of 38th Battalion, Canadian Infantry, (Eastern Ontario Regiment) Died: 18th November 1916</p> <p>It is not clear how Edgar and John Dolphin found their way on to the war memorial. Research suggests that John died before the war and Edgar was mistakenly added instead of his brother Egbert.</p> <p>John Henry C. Dolphin was born in the middle of 1873 in North Piddle, Edgar Ernest Alfred Dolphin was born in the middle of 1878 in Alcester, and Egbert Wakeman G. Dolphin was born in the middle of 1878 in Feckenham to David & Mary Ann Dolphin.</p> <p>In 1881 David was a carpenter and originally from Ludlow and Mary Ann was from Hanbury, the family were living in Moors Lane, Feckenham. Egbert, Edgar and John had two brothers; Thomas W. Lloyd, Stephen D. Morris and an elder sister Emma L. J.</p> <p>On 17th January 1900 a private 6846 John Dolphin enlisted for 1 years' service into the York and Lancaster Regiment at Pontefract. He gave his next of kin as Mr David Dolphin of Feckenham and his profession as a shunter. He served in South Africa from 17th February 1900 until 17th May 1901, and was discharged from the Army on 25th May 1901.</p> <p>The 1901 census states that the family had moved onto the Alcester Road, Feckenham, but there was only Eva, their youngest daughter living with David & Mary Ann. Edgar & wife Sarah were living in Rotherham, he was a labourer at a railway wagon yard, as was his brother Benjamin who was lodging with them.</p> <p>In 1905 John & his wife Alice, (who were married in Rotherham in autumn 1901) with their young family; Avis Gertrude and baby John Leslie, set off for Canada. They sailed from Liverpool on the liner "Vancouver" arriving in Montreal on 10th May, on their way to St Thomas, Ontario. On 7th July 1906 the liner "Empress of Ireland" arrived in Quebec with a passenger recorded as Edgar Dolphin aged 27 bound for St Thomas. (If it was Edgar he would have been aged 30 not 27. Egbert would have been 27 in 1906.)</p> <p>Within 12 days of the "Empress of Ireland" arriving, John Henry Dolphin died of heart failure. According to the Canadian 1911 census an "Agbert" Dolphin, brother-in-law aged 30, was living with the Dolphin family: a widow named Allice 35, and children Avis 8, John 6, Reenie E 5, at number 25 4th Avenue, Elgin, Ontario. Back in England Edgar had moved back in with his parents in Moors Lane, and was working as a domestic gardener.</p> <p>On 28th February 1916, Egbert Dolphin of 46 William Street, St Thomas enlisted in the Canadian over-seas Expeditionary Force, and received the service number 190015. On his attestation papers he names his mother Mary Ann Dolphin of Feckenham as his next of kin. It also states his date of birth as 30th June 1877. Unfortunately 190015 Private E. Dolphin of 38th Battalion, Canadian Infantry (Eastern Ontario Regiment) died on the 18th November 1916, aged 39 and is buried in Regina Trench cemetery, Grandcourt (on the Somme), France. Egbert had only been in the Canadian Army for nine months before he was killed. After taking into account his time doing initial military training and getting from Canada to France he would not have seen very much of the war before his death. The part of the cemetery in which he is buried was completed after the armistice when smaller battlefield cemeteries were concentrated into Regina Trench cemetery. He would have probably died on one of the following battlefields of the Somme: Courcellette; Grandcourt or Miraumont.</p> <p>On 19th October 1957, aged 81, an Edgar Ernest Alfred Dolphin, of Ashton-under-Hill, near Evesham died.</p>	

	<p>Edgar & John Dolphin are remembered on the Feckenham War Memorial and Egbert & John Dolphin are remembered on Feckenham School Memorial board.</p> <p>If all of my assumptions are correct and there is not another John Dolphin who could be on the Feckenham Memorial I wonder why John & Edgars names are on it. John died of heart failure in Canada in 1906 and Edgar lived a long life, dying in 1957. I also wonder why Egbert's name was never put on the memorial, both Egbert's and John's names are recorded on the school memorial. What did Edgar think about his name being on the memorial? <i>(Research: Richard Pearce)</i></p>	
<p>4-8 Moors Lane</p>	<p>Soldier(s): John Walter Brookes In 1911: Cycle polisher, born 1881. He lived at home with his father Wilson Colin (born 1852, Wheelwright) mother Elizabeth (born 1843) and his sister Beatrice born 1891, Needle Labeller). Four other adult children had left home.</p>	
<p>5-7 Moors Lane (Next door to Dolphins)</p>	<p>Soldier(s): Arthur Thomas Peak(e) Occupation in 1911: Farm Waggoner, born 1891. Arthur was the son of Arthur (born 1864, a road man for the council, born in West Bromwich) and Mary Ann (born 1865 in Birmingham) who had had four children. In 1911 only Arthur lived at home with his sister Elsie May (born 1909)</p>	



Droitwich Road



	Soldiers - red text = fallen .	Certainty Green = certain. Amber = probable. Red = good guess
Orchard Cottage, Droitwich Road	<p>Soldier: 21370 Private Alexander Pretty, 4th Battalion Worcestershire Regiment, died 6th August 1915 aged 23. (The first village man to die in the war.)</p> <p>Alick was born to Charles and Jane Pretty during the early months of 1892 in Bradley Green, one of six sons and three daughters. On the 1911 census it was recorded that Charles and three of his sons worked as hay cutters, Alick was a domestic gardener and his sister Mary worked in the needle trade. His elder sister Elizabeth had just married and his elder brother was boarding in Headless Cross, working as a farm labourer. Charles, Jane and the remaining seven children were living in a four roomed house on the Droitwich Road in Feckenham (next door to the Forest public house).</p> <p>Alick enlisted into the Armed Forces in late 1914 or early 1915. After his training he was sent to the Balkans as a member of 4th Battalion of the Worcestershire Regiment, arriving there on 15th July 1915. The Battalion had just started a rest period on the island of Lemnos, so Alick's first experiences of war were of good food and rest and relaxation for two weeks. By the end of July the Battalion had returned to the Gallipoli peninsula via "W" beach and a night march across country to Gully Beach on the 28th. Even now the troops were not in the front line and spent the next few days on fatigues and bathing in the sea when not working or being shelled. On the morning of 6th August the Battalion were involved in a battle to capture trenches South of Krithia village, after moving up Gully Ravine from Gully Beach. By the following morning, having briefly gained and then lost the trenches, the attack had cost the Battalion 16 officers and 752 other ranks. Alick was one of those casualties, his body was never found. His name is inscribed on the Helles memorial to the missing located on the peninsula, one of the nearly 21,000 names on it.</p> <p>In September 1915, Alick's family received the news that he was missing in action. It was not until March 1916 that they were sent official information that he had been killed on August 6th 1915. He is remembered on the Helles Memorial to the missing, Turkey and on the Feckenham War Memorial and Feckenham School Memorial board.</p>	
6 Droitwich Road	<p>Soldier: Alexander Reeve, (probably brother of Ernest) 10143 Royal Field Artillery</p> <p>Occupation in 1911: Cycle fitter, born 1872, married for 8 years with three children but listed as living alone.</p>	




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8 Droitwich Road	<p>Soldier: Ernest Reeve, (father), Private E Reeve 6th Worcestershires Occupation in 1911: Chimney Sweep, born 1874, married to Ruth, 15 years married with four children living out of five.</p> <p>Soldier: Howard William Reeve (son), 52200, 12th Cavalry, Machine gun squadron Occupation in 1911: Coachman, born 1897.</p>	
Chesterfield House, Droitwich Road	<p>Soldier: Private Cecil Norman Burrow, M2/149228, 626th Military Transport Company, Army Service Corps. Died: 22nd July 1918 (The last soldier from the village to die)</p> <p>Cecil Norman Burrow was born in Tibberton, late in 1891 to Thomas and Amy Burrow. By 1901 the family had moved to Feckenham and were living in a house on the Alcester Road. Thomas, (39) originally from Ombersley was a farmer and Amy (41) had been born in Bromsgrove. Cecil (9) had two elder brothers Hubert (12) and Geoffrey (10), and a younger sister Dorothy (5).</p> <p>In 1911, Cecil (19) was working on a farm in Yatton, near Ross-on-Wye, Thomas, Amy and Dorothy were still living in Feckenham on the Droitwich Road, Thomas still a farmer and Dorothy now 15 years old was a drapers apprentice.</p> <p>Cecil's service papers were lost/burnt in the bombing during World War two and so very little can be found about his service career. Private M2/149228 C.N. Burrow of the 626th MT Company, Army Service Corps died 22nd July 1918 aged 26. He is buried in Lumbo British Cemetery in Mozambique. Cecil is remembered on the Feckenham War Memorial and the Feckenham School Memorial board. <i>(Research: Richard Pearce)</i></p> <p><i>Ernest and William 'Burrows' were also listed at this address but we wonder whether they are the same two men as Ernest and William Reeves (see 8 Droitwich Road). More research is needed.</i></p>	
Brook House, Droitwich Road	<p>Soldier: 25486 Private Alfred George W Gould, 9th Battalion, The Loyal North Lancashire Regiment. Died: 7th June 1917</p> <p>Alfred George W. Gould was born in Feckenham in the spring of 1881 to William Charles and Francis Elizabeth Gould. William from Redditch, was a senior partner in the family needle and fish hook business, Francis was from Feckenham, the family were living in Brook House, on the Feckenham Road.</p> <p>On the 1891 census Alfred is at the College School, in Bromsgrove, along with his brother Norman and another 50 school boys. By 1901 Alfred is working in Ladywood, Birmingham as a draper's assistant. During the May of 1908 his brother Francis Douglas starts a 12 year engagement with the Navy, sees out</p>	


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	<p>the war and leaves the service in August 1920. Alfred is recorded on the 1911 census as being a boarder in Norwich working as an upholstery salesman.</p> <p>Alfred's service papers were lost/burnt in the bombing during World War two and so very little can be found about his service career. Private 25486 Alfred George W. Gould, 9th Battalion, The Loyal North Lancashire Regiment died on 7th June 1917 and is buried in Wulverghem – Lindenhoek Road Military Cemetery, in Belgium. He was the husband of Hilda who was living in Norwich, who was left £440.00 in his will.</p> <p>Alfred is remembered on the Feckenham War Memorial and possibly also on the War Memorial in Norwich, but I have yet to visit Norwich to see. <i>(Research: Richard Pearce)</i></p>	


High Street

	Soldiers - red text = fallen .	Certainty Green = certain. Amber = probable. Red = good guess
4a High Street	<p>Soldier(s): Edwin Harry Yates, 1st Worcesters Occupation in 1911: Branch Manager (Co-op store), born 1877 in Inkberrow, married to Drusilla Elizabeth (born 1877 in Feckenham). No children. In later years, the manager lived next door at The Steps. The Co-op and garage next door were demolished for the existing houses.</p>	
10 High Street	<p>Soldier: 830398 Bombardier Ernest Hicks, 341st Brigade, Royal Field Artillery Died: 12th August 1917</p> <p>In 1911: Ernest (born 1891, a printers press man) was living with his grandparents John (born 1845, a baker and grocer) and Julia (born 1846). The couple had had 9 children of which five survived. Their daughter Esther Harber (born 1878) was a shop assistant and living at no 10 with her parents and her three children, Cyril (see below) and Percival Frederick (born 1900) and Marion Elsie (born 1901).</p> <p>Ernest enlisted into the Territorial Forces on 4th August 1914 and became 2243 gunner Hicks of the 3rd Worcester Battery Royal Field Artillery. After training he disembarked in France at the end of March 1915. On 15th May 1916 Ernest, now a bombardier, made a declaration of re-engagement for a further four years on the understanding that if the war finished before that time he would be given the offer of a free discharge. Bombardier 830398 Ernest Hicks, 341st Brigade, Royal Field Artillery (territorial force), died from wounds 12th August 1917, aged 27. He is buried in Mendinghem Military Cemetery IV.B.40 near Poperinghe, Belgium.</p>	

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	<p>Ernest is remembered on the Feckenham War Memorial and Feckenham School Memorial board, he is also remembered on a family headstone in Feckenham church yard. <i>(Research: Richard Pearce)</i></p> <p>Soldier(s): Cyril Harber (cousin of Ernest Hicks) In 1911: Errand boy (grocer), born 1898</p>	
12 High Street	<p>Soldier(s): Lewis George Clarke Occupation in 1911: Lathehand (cycles), born 1870</p> <p>In 1911 Lewis was a widower and lived with his two daughters, Kathleen May, born 1897, whose occupation was listed as 'Housework', and Gertrude Mary, born 1898, who was still at school.</p>	
18 High Street	<p>Soldier: 31946 Private Edgar Thomas Hawthorne, 12th Battalion Hampshire Regiment Died: 24th April 1917</p> <p>In 1911: born 1897, errand boy in a needle factory. He lived with his parents Thomas (born 1871, needle fitter, labourer) and Elizabeth (born 1868, needle warehouse woman) and his younger brother, George Henry (born 1901).</p> <p>In 1901 the family were living in Noah's Green. In 1911 the family were living on the High Street, Feckenham. At some time the family moved to Woodside Avenue, Bromsgrove road, Webheath, probably prior to Edgar enlisting.</p> <p>Edgar's service papers were lost/burnt in the bombing during World War two and so very little can be found about his service career. 31946 Private Edgar Thomas Hawthorne, 12th Battalion Hampshire Regiment, died 24th April 1917, aged 29. He is remembered on the Doiran Memorial to the missing, in Greece. Edgar initially served as 27728 Private within the 12th Battalion of the Worcestershire Regiment.</p> <p>Edgar is remembered on the Feckenham War Memorial, Headless Cross War Memorial and Webheath War Memorial, there is also an Edward Hawthorne remembered on the Feckenham School Memorial board, who I must assume is the same person. <i>(Research: Richard Pearce)</i></p>	
22 High St	<p>Soldier(s): Frederick Harrison, 1st Worcesters Occupation in 1911: Farm Labourer, born 1891</p> <p>In 1911 Frederick was living with his sister, Bertha Kettle (born 1886) and her two children, Frederick Kettle (born 1907) and Elsie May (born 1910). Bertha had been married for 4 years, but no husband's name is given.</p>	

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33 High St	<p>Soldier(s): John Henry Hicks, RGA/21060, 12th Worcestershire T/Sgt 9th Worcesters Occupation in 1911: Assistant in butcher / baker business</p> <p>Soldier(s): Driver Albert Joseph Hicks, 87545 Royal Horse Artillery Occupation in 1911: Carter (bakers)</p> <p>In 1911, William Henry Hicks (aged 39, Baker and Butcher) lived here with his wife Agnes Ann (aged 44, assistant in business) and their five children of whom the two oldest went to war and returned.</p>	
43 High St	<p>Soldier: 201713 Sergeant F.W. Styler, 5th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment Died: 20th May 1917</p> <p>Frank Wilson Styler was born in Feckenham in the spring of 1882 to William and Fanny Styler. In 1901 William (52) was a butcher living with his wife Fanny (51) and family on the High Street in Feckenham; Fred (26) also a butcher, Lavina (25) a dressmaker, Frank (18) who was a pupil teacher and Percival (13) who also served in WW1 – see below.</p> <p>By 1911 William had died and Fanny (61) still living on the High Street, “by private means”, with her son Percival (23) a carpenter and joiner. Frank (26) was boarding in Handsworth and working as an assistant school master.</p> <p>Frank enlisted on 22nd March 1916 and had been promoted to Sergeant by that August. As 201713 Sergeant F.W. Styler, 5th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment he was injured and returned to a military hospital in Scotton, Yorkshire. Unfortunately he died there on 30th May 1917 from septic pneumonia, and his body was brought back to Feckenham for burial on Monday 4th June 1917.</p> <p>Frank is remembered on the Feckenham War Memorial and on the Feckenham School Memorial board (it is noted that he was once a teacher at the school). <i>(Research: Richard Pearce)</i></p> <p>Soldier: Private Percival Styler, 5002 Gloucesters, and 202047 7th Battalion Worcesters.</p>	
44 High St (not sure – 42-46)	<p>Soldier: RX4/145984 Private Stephen Rumsey, 8th Corps H.Q. Remounts, Army Service Corps. Died 9th April 1918 aged 42</p> <p>Stephen was born in 1874 in Newent, Gloucestershire. His father Stephen (snr) was a farm worker, his mother’s name was Mary. Stephen had two younger brothers: William & Richard, a younger sister Francis and another sibling whose name is unknown to us. The family including Stephen (jnr) are living in</p>	

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	<p>Feckenham in 1891 on the High Street. By 1901 Stephen has moved away working in London (I think), although the family are still living in Feckenham in 1911.</p> <p>In November 1902 Stephen marries Agnes Rutherford in Edinburgh, and have a son the following February. I'm not sure where Stephen or Agnes are in 1911 although there is a record of a Stephen Rumsey aged 39 and born in Gloucester working as a draper in Wellington, Salop, but he is recorded as being single.</p> <p>Stephen enlists in December 1915 and gives his address as Colchester and his previous employment as groom. He serves in the Army Service Corps (remounts) as private RX4/145984, and disembarks at Rouen on 27th March 1915. Stephen dies of wounds received in action on 9th April 1918 and is buried in Brandhoek New Military Cemetery in Belgium. Ruth gives birth to another child on 26th June 1918.</p> <p>I do not know why Stephen is not remembered on the Feckenham war memorial. I realise that he had not attended the school as a child and was also living away from the village when he enlisted, but he had lived and worked in Feckenham and the rest of his family were still living there when the memorial was made.</p> <p>Stephen is remembered on the Colchester War memorial and also on the West Kilbride War Memorial. (cf: <i>Richard Pearce</i>)</p>	
45 High Street	<p>Soldier: 35094 Private Enoch Parker, 2nd Battalion Worcestershire Regiment Died: 27th May 1917</p> <p>Enoch was born in late 1886 in Feckenham to Joshua and Emma Parker. Joshua was a farmer and his mother Emma was a grocer. In 1901 the family were living on the Square in Feckenham; Joshua (65) Emma (63), along with Brothers Edward (26) a cycle maker, Albert (23) a needle finisher and a sister Annie (28) a needle packer.</p> <p>In 1911 the family had moved to the High Street, Feckenham, Joshua now 76 is a grocer and has been married to Emma (70) for 50 years, they have had 15 children but unfortunately only nine are still alive. Enoch (25) still at home is working as a groom, his sister Annie is still packing needles and Edward is still in the cycle trade. Prior to enlisting Enoch was working on a farm.</p> <p>Enoch's service papers were lost/burnt in the bombing during World War two and so very little can be found about his service career. 35095 Private Enoch Parker, 2nd Battalion Worcestershire Regiment, died from wounds on 27th May 1917, aged 30. He is buried in Sunken Road Cemetery, Boisieux-St Marc, near Arras, France.</p> <p>Enoch is remembered on the Feckenham War Memorial and Feckenham School Memorial board, he is also remembered on a family headstone in Feckenham church yard.</p>	


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	(Cf: Richard Pearce)	
51 High St	<p>Soldier(s): Private Harry Watton 24252 11th Worcesters, 533374 Labour Corps Occupation in 1911: Cycle Brazier, born 1892.</p> <p>Harry was the eldest son of Albert (born 1892, a cycle hub turner) and Margaret (born 1869). They'd had 7 children of which 6 survived, all living at home in 1911: Florence (born 1897, needle label cutter), Marie (born 1899), Albert (born 1903), Winnie (born 1904) and Arthur (born 1908) were all at school.</p>	
53 High St	<p>Soldier(s): Sapper Harold Walter Elliott, 316501 Royal Engineers Occupation in 1911: Cycle hub driller , born 1892</p> <p>Harold was the oldest son and second child of Mary Jane Elliot (born 1861, widow, needle paperer). She'd had 4 children of which 3 were alive in 1911 and two were still living at home – Harold and Ada Mary (born 1888, pin sticker), . Harold was Doris Burleigh's uncle (no 60 High Street).</p>	
56 High St	<p>Soldier(s): T/Corporal Reginald Kear, 79493 Machine Gun Corps, motor branch Occupation in 1911: Cycle Handlebar maker</p> <p>Reginald was the oldest child of Walter (born 1868, police constable) and Emma (born 1865). He and his two younger sisters were living at home in 1911. The family may have originated in Kings Norton as all the children were born there.</p>	
60 High St	<p>Soldier(s): Driver Arthur Wilfred Hodges, 269882, Royal Garrison Artillery In 1911: Cycle polisher, born 1882, married to Frances Annie, born 1881. Married three years, no children.</p>	
68 High St	<p>Soldier(s): Private Thomas Archer, 25611, 14th Worcesters Occupation in 1911: Shoemakers Apprentice, born 1896.</p> <p>Thomas was the only child of Mark (born 1857, general labourer) and Rachel (born 1863) . They had a lodger, Alice Pretty (born 1884, fish hook paperer) who was born in Feckenham and may have been related to Alick Pretty (born 1893) of Droitwich Road who was the first man to die in the war from this village.</p>	



The Square


		Certainty
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1 The Square	<p>Soldier(s): Henry Davis, 19260 9th Worcesters (widower, aged 37 in 1911) Occupation in census of 1911: Cycle Enameller, born 1874</p> <p>Soldier(s): Private Harold Frederick Davis, 502724 606 ag Coy (Henry's eldest son, born 1899) Occupation in 1911: School (aged 12). We don't know when he enlisted. There were two further sons, Percy born 1902 and Sidney born 1904</p>	
5-7 The Square	<p>Soldier(s): Private Stephen Henry Styler, 30986, Worcester Regiment Occupation in 1911: Grocer's carter, born 1866</p> <p>Angela Fletcher says Stephen was her grandfather and that he lived at 10 Mill Lane, but the 1911 census puts him here on that night. However, Stephen was 48 when the war started so must have been one of the older recruits. He was married to Mary (born 1860) and according to the census, they had no children. Also in the house was Mary's father, William Bradley (born 1830).</p>	
15 The Square	<p>Soldier(s): Driver John Henry Dicks, 839410 Royal Field Artillery Occupation in 1911: Cycle sandblaster (aged 31)</p> <p>In 1911 he was living with his parents James (journeyman carpenter aged 61) and Elizabeth (Domestic nurse, aged 55) and their grandson Reginald aged 9 months.</p>	
19 The Square	<p>Soldier(s): Robert V Humphries, Occupation in 1911: Spring Maker, aged 17.</p> <p>In 1911, he was the 4th of 5 children living at home (three more had already left home) in the household of Alice Humphries, (born 1861, widow, laundress). His siblings were: Frank (born 1885, cycle fitter), Edith (born 1888, Needle packer), Gertrude (born 1891, Laundress) and Kathleen (born 1898, then still at school).</p>	

Mill Lane




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1 Mill Lane	<p>Soldier(s): Private William Harold Brooks, 42659 Royal Berkshire Regiment In 1911, William lived here with his wife, Elizabeth and their daughter Mabel (aged 4) and son William (aged 2). Occupation in 1911: Waggoner on farm (aged 30) Barbara Baylis has more information.</p>	

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2 Mill Lane	<p>Soldier(s): Private Frederick William Shakels, 94522 Royal Army Medical Corps</p> <p>Occupation in 1911: At the date of the census Frederick was at school (aged 12).</p> <p>Oldest of the six sons of Arthur (born 1876, carpenter) and Martha (born 1878) Shakels (one child had also died). His siblings were: Arthur John (born 1902), James (born 1904), Frank (born 1907) Harold (born 1909) and Horace (born 1910).</p>	
6 Mill Lane	<p>Soldier: 27149 Private W. Styler, 1st Battalion Wiltshire Regiment Died: 24th March 1918</p> <p>William Styler was born in Feckenham in the summer of 1895 to Thomas and Elizabeth Styler. On the 1901 census William (5) is shown as being with his grandmother Rebecca Willies (63) and his uncles and aunties: Bertha (27) a needle sticker, Arthur (22) a boot hook needle maker and William (18) a needle brusher in Mill Lane, Feckenham. Three doors away Williams Father, Thomas (54) a needle stamper, and mother Elizabeth (44) a needle burnisher, were living with Williams's brother and sisters: Edgar (17) a cycle finisher, Annie (16) a needle burnisher, Emily (14) a needle header and Bertha (2).</p> <p>By 1911 William (15) is living back with his parents, working as a cycle enameller, next door to his grandmother and Uncle William. Thomas and Elizabeth have been married for 31 years and have had 15 children although nine have died already.</p> <p>William enlisted sometime before 20th November 1915, and served as a private in the 8th Battalion of the Somerset Light Infantry and later in the Worcestershire Regiment with regimental numbers: 33014 and 31406. By February 1918 he had changed regiments again and was now serving in the 1st Battalion Duke of Edinburgh's Wiltshire Regiment with a regimental number of 27149. On the 17th or 18th of February William made a statement regarding his will to the vicar of Feckenham. William left everything to his mother except a war savings certificate which he left to "Ethel". William is recorded as dying on 24th March 1918, but his body was never found, he is remembered on the Arras memorial to the missing.</p> <p>William is remembered on the Feckenham War memorial, he is also reported as missing on the Feckenham School Memorial board.</p>	

	Soldiers - red text = fallen .	Certainty Green = certain. Amber = probable. Red = good guess
8 Mill Lane	<p>Soldier(s): Private Ernest Watton, 9531, 6th Battalion Worcestershire Regt, Occupation in 1911: Farm Labourer, born 1875</p> <p>Ernest was listed as 'head' of the household. Also in the house on the night of the 1911 census was Rebecca Willis (aged 73, widow, also listed as 'head) and William Willis, aged 28, cycle finisher, possibly Ernest's brother.</p>	
9 Mill Lane.	<p>Soldier: Private Signaler Alfred William Owen, 17899 9th Worcesters Occupation in 1911: Cycle worker, born 1892</p> <p>William was the grandson of Thomas Kings (born 1827, farm labourer) and Jane Kings (born 1828). They had had 13 children of which only 7 were still living in 1911. William's brother was Frank Owen, the second man from the village to die in the war, whose sign can be seen in Astwood Lane (last older houses on right, beyond Yeates's Acre).</p> <p>William joined up in 1914, served in the 9th Battalion of the Worcestershire Regiment and saw service in Gallipoli and Mesopotamia.</p>	
10/12 Mill Lane	<p>Soldier(s): Thomas Styler, Occupation in 1911: Needle scourer, born 1885.</p> <p>Thomas was the son of Thomas (born 1851, farm labourer) and Myra (born 1852). Four of their five children were still living at home – Thomas, Mary (born 1889, grocer's assistant), Bertha (born 1892, needle sticker), Harry (born 1897, errand boy.) Harry was christened Stephen Henry Styler, Angela Fletcher's grandfather and he returned from the war as well.</p> <p>It's possible that the Stylers were renting from the Stanger's Lodge Refuge, which sold the property to W.H. Hicks in 1924. Bertha married Albert Hicks, the brother of John who returned injured from the war (see 33 High Street).</p> <p>Angela knows that Tom Styler (later?) lived with his sister Bertha Hicks and her husband Albert at 12 Mill Lane.</p>	

Astwood Lane

	Soldiers - red text = fallen .	Certainty Green = certain. Amber = probable. Red = good guess
12 Astwood Lane (beyond Yeates Acre)	<p>Soldier: S/11768 Private Frank Owen, 10th Battalion the Black Watch (Royal Highlanders)</p> <p>Died: 5th November 1916 (the second man in the village to die)</p>	

	Soldiers - red text = fallen .	Certainty Green = certain. Amber = probable. Red = good guess
	<p>Frank was born in Feckenham in early 1894. His father Alfred John (born 1872) was a bricklayer in 1911 and his mother Eva was a needle box paperer. His brothers & sisters were: William, Clifford, Albert, Wilson, Ida, Effie & Ethel. The family were living on Astwood Road, Feckenham in 1911. Prior to enlistment Frank worked in Astwood Bank, manufacturing fish hooks.</p> <p>Frank attempted to join the forces three times before being accepted into the Worcestershire Regiment on 14th September 1914, (regimental number 17323). He became ill during his training and was discharged from the army on 7th December 1914. After recovering from his illness he re-joined the forces on 21st October 1915 and was placed in the 10th Battalion of the Black Watch (Royal Highlanders) as S/11768 Private Frank Owen, serving in Salonika, Greece. Frank became ill with dysentery and was admitted into the 28th General Hospital in Salonika, he never recovered and died on 5th December. He is buried in Salonika (Lembit Road) Military Cemetery, Greece.</p> <p>His brother William, who also joined in 1914, served in the 9th Battalion of the Worcestershire Regiment. William saw service in Gallipoli and Mesopotamia. Frank is remembered on the Feckenham War Memorial as well as the Feckenham School Memorial board. <i>(cf Richard Pearce)</i></p>	
(?) 17 Astwood Lane	<p>Soldier(s): Private John Thomas Wright, 19566 1st Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry Occupation in 1911: School / drapers errand boy (born 1900)</p> <p>John was the fourth surviving child of James (born 1859, farm labourer) and Sarah (born 1861). The couple had 8 children of which 5 survived and 4 were living at home at the date of the 1911 census: Victor (born 1888, farm labourer), Emily (born 1893, needle sample packer), Stella (born 1898). Also in the house was Thomas Stanley, born 1909, a two year old 'boarder'.</p>	
Winfields, Astwood Lane	<p>Soldier: Sergeant Wilfred Slade, 78344, 219th Siege Battery, RGA, Died: 10th July 1917.</p> <p>Wilfred Slade was the son of Sarah (born 1852, widow, a charwoman who had borne 8 children of whom 7 survived). In 1911 her son Albert (born 1881, needle cutter) and daughter Catherine Lee (born 1889, dressmaker) were still living at home with her.</p> <p>Wilfrid was born in Feckenham early 1884. In 1901, his father, Thomas, was a cattle dealer. His brothers & sisters were: Edith; Thomas J; Margaret J; Albert; Frank & Catherine. Over the years the family lived in Inkberrow, Sambourne & Feckenham.</p>	

	Soldiers - red text = fallen .	Certainty Green = certain. Amber = probable. Red = good guess
	<p>Wilfrid married Hilda in 1910 – 1911 and they were living in Stetchford in 1911. He was a teacher at Feckenham School after being a student teacher at Saltley College.</p> <p>Wilfrid enlisted into the 8th Warwickshire Territorial's on 2nd December 1915 and was mobilised on 8th May 1916 into the Royal Garrison Artillery. Training at number three depot and then serving with 57 Co. as a gunner and Lance Bombardier before being posted to 219th Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery as a Bombardier. 78344 Sergeant Wilfrid James Slade, 219th Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery, died 10th July 1917, aged 33. He is buried in Coxyde Military Cemetery I.E.60, near Nieuport, Belgium.</p> <p>Wilfred is remembered on the Feckenham War memorial and Wilfrid is remembered on the Feckenham School Memorial board (<i>it is noted that he was once a teacher at the school</i>), Wilfrid James Slade is also remembered on a family headstone in Feckenham church yard. (<i>cf: Richard Pearce</i>)</p>	