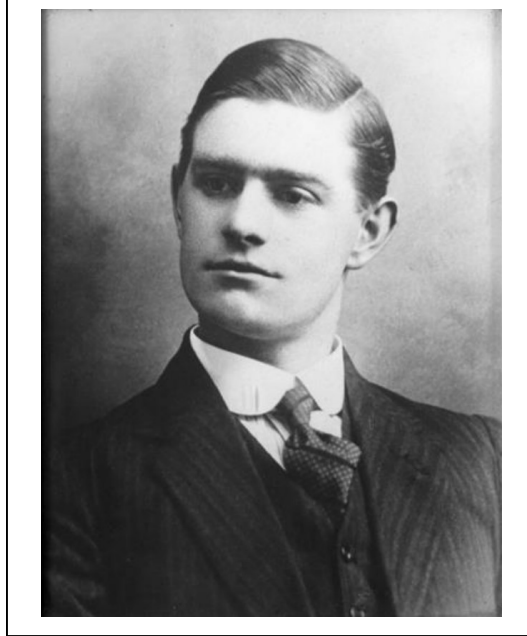


WALTER STEPHEN SPRINGETT

1892 – 1916

London Regiment 13th Kensington Battalion



Surname/Christian name: Walter Stephen Springett.

Rank/Service No: Pte 7794

Regiment/Unit: London Regiment (13th Princess Louise's Kensington Battalion).



Date of Death: 5th October 1916

Age: 23

Type of Casualty: Killed in action

Theatre of War: Battle of the Somme.

Born/Year: Horsmonden 1892

Enlisted/Attestation: Dartford, Kent.

Son of/Address: Stephen John and Eliza Springett, of Tabor's Cottage, Horsmonden, Kent

Buried/Commemorated/Memorial: Walter was buried in one of the hundreds of small grave sites scattered around the Somme battlefields at Map ref. 57c.T.17. c.5.8 which can be found by looking up the British Army WW1 Trench Maps.

He was exhumed with 9 others and reburied at nearby Guards Cemetery, Lesboeuifs, at Map Ref, 57c.T.3. d.2.2. This task was carried out by the 3rd Labour Company on the 29th Aug 1919.

Personal Inscription: His CWG headstone bears a personal inscription, "**His was not to reason why but to do and die.**" Submitted by Mr. Stephen John Springett, Tabors Cottages, Horsmonden, Kent
The information regarding Walter's headstone and grave location can be seen on the CWGC site and on Walter's CWGC Certificate.

Relevant Military Record/Diary of Events:

The Service Records for Private Springett were destroyed by fire when the Army repository in Wandsworth was hit during a German air raid in 1940 when approximately two thirds of the records were destroyed.

WAR DIARY/INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

The 1/13th London Regiment (1st Kensington Battalion) were part of the 168th Brigade, 56th Division. Fighting on The Somme.

War diary pages show 1st to 5th October 1916 leading up to Private Walter Springett's death date, 5th Oct.

The officer adjutant didn't include any action, just movements - This was in the front line near the village of Neuve Eglise area of Somme.

A full transcription of the first 5 pages of the Diary is attached separately to this document.

On the last page, in the margin, the Bn. Adjutant has mentioned that up to midday of the 5th Oct. the casualties were 10 Other Ranks killed and 11 Other Ranks wounded, but no mention of how the Bn. received the casualties.

SOLDIERS EFFECTS

Documents/Images that relate to pension and personal effects

Record No.	Registry No.	Soldier's Name	Regiment, Rank, No.	Date and Place of Death	CREDITS			CHARGES			Date of Authority	To whom Authorised	Amount Authorised			No. of List in which advertised		
					Account and Date	£	s.	d.	Account and Date	£			s.	d.	£		s.	d.
384307	301900	Springett Walter	1/13 th Lon Reg 7794	5.10.16 London 11/16	4	17	3	4	17	3	2nd Lt	21-3-17	Yaxdale eg. Stephen	4	17	3		
		Stephen late 1/13 th Lon Reg Pte											4/10/19	Adj. today Stephen	3	-	-	PT
						3	-	-										

W. G. A. U.
Effects 7/10 18.1.19
Transfer 5/3/19
Regd. Paid 25/6/56
Serial no 12548

A. F. W. 5070 SENT
DATE 25-6-19

Other Relevant Documents:

Medals/Awards Received: British War and Victory Medals.
Memorial Scroll and Plaque.

War medal and Scrolls documentation.

Name.		Corps.	Rank.	Regt. No.
SPRINGETT Walter. S		13 Lond R	Pte	7794
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.	
VICTORY	TP13/101 B	58		
BRITISH	-do-	do		
STAR				
Theatre of War first served in				
Date of entry therein				

K. 1380

British War and Victory Medals Memorial Plaque and Scroll



Additional personal and family information:

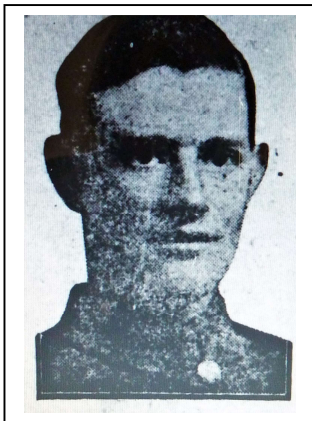
Children of Stephen John and Ann Springett: Sidney Kentmere Springett 1891, Walter Stephen 1892, Edward John 1895, Frank William 1899 (also died in WW1), Edith Ellen 1901, Alice Maud 1903, Gladys Adelaide 1904, James Arthur 1907, Winifred May 1909.

Tabors Cottages were demolished in the 1930's and the Springett's moved to 20, Hoath Meadow in Horsmonden.

From the bricks of the demolished cottages, Stephen John Springett, a bricklayer, and his youngest son James, built a semi-detached cottage on the site completed in 1939 named "Steveanne" where Stephen and his wife Ann continued to live, along with daughter Winifred... Stephen died in 1964.

Other Articles of Interest:

Kentish Express, Saturday, 9 December, 1916
FOR THEIR COUNTRY
PORTRAITS OF FALLEN HEROES



"Mr and Mrs Springett, of Horsmonden, have received official notice of the death of their son, Private W. S. Springett, City of London Regiment, who fell at Morval in the battle of the Somme.

He was first wounded in the arm and was having his wound dressed, when a shell fell in the dressing station and killed nine men outright.

Private Springett was working with his father, a builder's foreman, on important Government contracts up to the time of his enlistment. His Commanding Officer spoke well of him, and his death is mourned by his comrades in arms.

His loss is keenly felt by all who knew him in Horsmonden and district."

Headstone Personal Inscription submitted by Walter's Father Stephen Springett.
Pte Springett's CWG headstone bears a personal inscription,
"His was not to reason why but to do and die."

Imperial War Graves Commission.						
No. of Contract _____ dated _____					Schedule "B" Page 15.	
Name and Address of Firm. _____					Name of Cemetery. GUARDS CRM. LES BOULES	
COMPREHENSIVE REPORT (B) HEADSTONE PERSONAL INSCRIPTIONS to be read in conjunction with COMPREHENSIVE REPORT (A) HEADSTONE MILITARY INSCRIPTIONS, together with TWO STANDARD LAYOUTS (the layouts to be used are quoted on the badge design).						
Badge Design No. and Layout.	Headstone No.	Line 1.	TEXT Line 2.	Line 3.	Line 4.	No. of Letters in Text.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
1240/2L	215	HIS WAS NOT TO KNOW	THE REASON WHY	BUT TO GO AND DIE	11-8	40
	210	(Mr. S.J. Springett, Tabors Cottage, Horsmonden, Kent.)				

Commonwealth War Graves Commission Entry

CWGC CERTIFICATE

In Memory Of

Private

WALTER STEPHEN SPRINGETT

Service Number: 7794

13th Kensington Bn., London Regiment who died on 05 October 1916 Age 23

Son of Stephen John and Eliza Springett, of Tabor's Cottage, Horsmonden, Kent.

HIS WAS NOT TO KNOW THE REASON WHY BUT TO GO AND DIE

Remembered with Honour

GUARDS' CEMETERY, LESBOEUF

II. Y. 7.



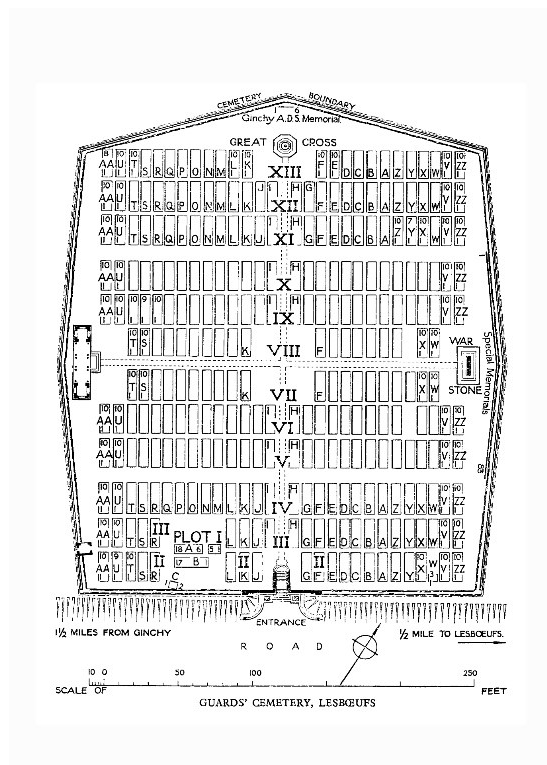
|||||
COMMONWEALTH
WAR GRAVES
|||||

COMMEMORATED IN PERPETUITY BY THE COMMONWEALTH
WAR GRAVES COMMISSION

CEMETERY



CEMETERY PLAN



United Kingdom War Memorials - Horsmonden Memorial Building



1922



Present Day



Oak War Memorial Plaque in Memorial Building

(Pt Walter Springett shown left block, row 3 no. 3)

St Margaret's Church Memorial Scroll



Private Walter Stephen Springett