

IN MEMORY OF ARTHUR ALLEN

DIED IN ACTION 13 APRIL 1916

Unknown Harbury connection
NO PLAQUE

Arthur Allen was a member of the Royal Fusiliers. Though his is the first name on the Harbury memorial, we can find no census evidence that he lived here.

He was born in 1889, to James and Sarah Allen of Upper Heyford, where they are recorded as living in 1891, 1901 and 1911.

By the time he signed up, Arthur was living at Whitemore Reans, Wolverhampton. Yet he is recorded on both the Harbury and Upper Heyford memorials, a man whose story we cannot exactly trace.

However, we can say that prior to the war he was a railway signalman at Dunstall Park, and that during the war, his name was recorded many times, commended on Medal Rolls. These cards, six altogether, bear the name 'Arthur Allen' in different handwritings, some more detailed than others, all painting a picture of a man who fought with bravery. Not much else is clear.

Arthur Allen was killed in battle at age 27, on 13 April 1916. He is remembered with Honour, his name inscribed on the Loos Memorial.

The War Graves Commission records that he was the son of a James Allen, of Western House, in Harbury, and it is this link that explains his name on the Harbury War Memorial. It has not been possible to establish who James Allen was, and whether he did live at Western House at the time (see also Frederick Young) or whether this was, in effect, an itinerant railwayman's postal collection address.



Harbury World War 1 Memorial Trail

Remembering the men of Harbury parish who fell during the first world war in service of their country.

