

# Durrington

## Roll of Honour



*Lest we Forget*

### World War I



22909 PRIVATE

**R. F. GILES**

**DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S (WILTSHIRE REGIMENT)**

**3RD NOVEMBER, 1916 AGE 23**

*In Jesu's Keeping*

*He Is Safely Resting*

## Reginald Frank GILES

Reginald Frank Giles was born at Wylde, Wiltshire to parents William & Emma Giles (nee Hibberd). Reginald's parents had married at St Mary's Church, Wylde, Wiltshire in 1874. Reginald's birth was registered in the district of Wilton, Wiltshire in the December quarter of 1892.

The 1901 Census recorded Reginald Frank Giles as an 8 year old, living with his family at Deptford, Wylde, Wiltshire in a 3 roomed dwelling. His parents were recorded as William Giles (Carter on a Farm, aged 52, born Hanging Langford, Wilts) & Emma Giles (aged 48, born Wylde). Reginald was one of 5 children listed in this Census were – Charles Henry (Carter on a Farm, aged 25), Beatrice Mary (Cook, aged 18), George (Carter on a Farm, aged 16), then Reginald & Ernest Sidney (aged 4). All the children had been born at Wylde.

The 1911 Census recorded Reginald Frank Giles as an 18 year old Labourer, living with his married sister & her family in a 3 roomed dwelling at Durrington. His sister's & her family were listed as Ellen Louisa Baker (aged 33) & William George Baker (Labourer, aged 35). Ellen & William had been married for 3 years with 2 children, both living, Winifred Bessie Baker (aged 2) & Phillis Mary Baker (aged 1).

Reginald Frank Giles enlisted at Wylde with the Wiltshire Regiment – Duke of Edinburgh's. He was given the rank of Private & a service number of 22909. Private Giles's records show that at the time of his death he was attached to 6th Battalion, Wiltshire Regiment.

Pte Reginald Frank Giles was killed in action on 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 1916, aged 23 years.

### **War Diary - 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion Wiltshire Regiment**

*Location: France, In the Trenches*

*Entry: 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> During relief enemy artillery were very active causing some 30 casualties. State of trenches very bad indeed. During this tour in trenches enemy artillery continually shelling. On the 3rd, 2nd Lt. Greene was killed. Our total casualties were 13 other ranks killed, 43 wounded and 1 Missing. On the night of 5/6 Battalion were relieved by 7<sup>th</sup> South Lancs Regt and proceeded to billets in AVELUY Remarks R.21*

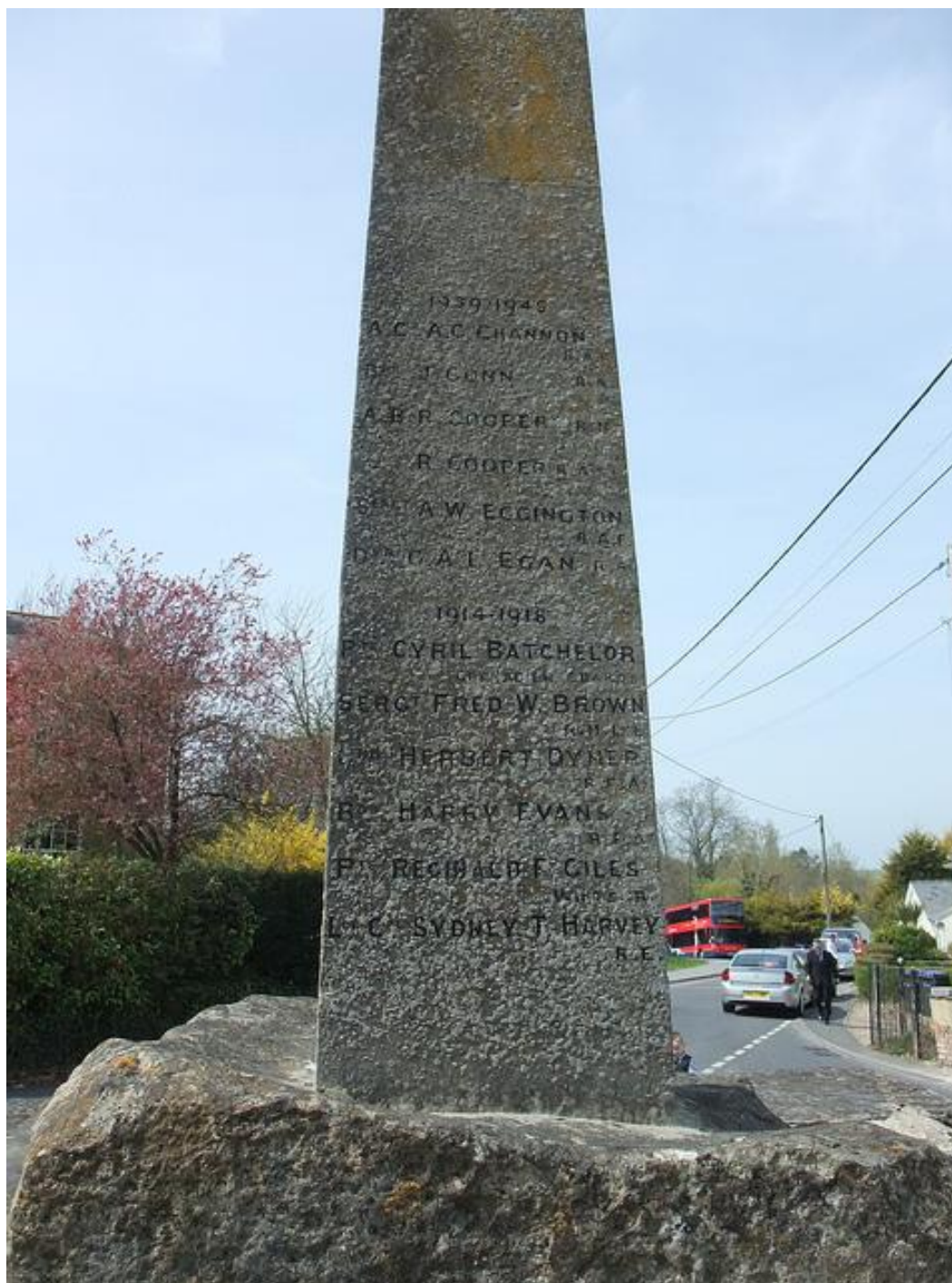
[\(The Wardrobe](#) – Home of the Infantry Regiments of Berkshire & Wiltshire)

Pte R. F. Giles is buried at Grandcourt Road Cemetery, Grandcourt, France – Plot D. 35. His death is acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. The CWGC lists Pte R. F. Giles as the son of William & Emma Giles of Deptford, Wylde, Wilts.

Pte Reginald F. Giles was entitled to the British War & Victory Medals. His Medal Index Card does not show when he had entered a Theatre of War.

R. F. Giles is remembered as a Casualty of WW1 in the Diocese of Salisbury Memorial Book for Durrington.

Pte Reginald F. Giles is also remembered on the Durrington War Memorial, Wiltshire.



(Photo courtesy of Ian King 2010)

## Grandcourt Road Cemetery, Grandcourt, France

Grandcourt is a village about 11 klms north-north-east of the town of Albert. The Cemetery is 1 klm south of the village, in the middle of a field.

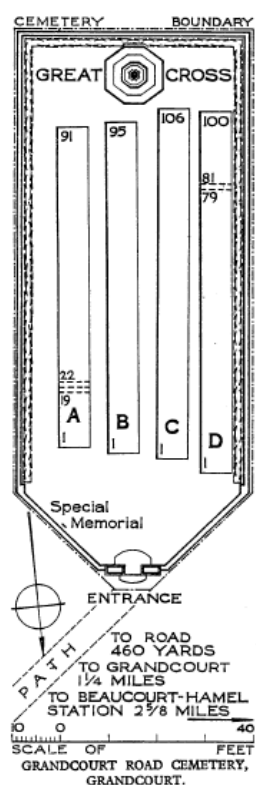
Grandcourt was reached on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 1916, by men of the 36<sup>th</sup> (Ulster) Division, but it was not taken until the night of 5/6 February, 1917 when patrols of the Royal Naval Division found it deserted. It was in German hands again from April to August, 1918.

Grandcourt Road Cemetery was made in the spring of 1917 when the Ancre battlefield was cleared.

The Cemetery now contains 391 burials and commemorations of the First World War. 108 of the burials are unidentified.



(Photo from CWGC)





*(Photo courtesy of David Milborrow)*