

# **Codford St. Peter**

## **Roll of Honour**



*Lest we Forget*

### **World War I**



**M/14272 CARPENTERS CREW**

**ALFRED HENRY FORD**

**ROYAL NAVY**

**31ST MAY, 1916**

Alfred Henry Ford was born at Codford St. Peter, Wiltshire to parents Walter Roxbee & Louisa Ford (nee Simper) on 21st January, 1896 (According to Royal Navy & Royal Marine War Graves Roll). His birth was registered in the district of Warminster, Wiltshire in the June quarter of 1896.

The 1901 Census records Alfred Henry Ford as a 5 year old living with his family at Main Road, Codford St. Peter, Wiltshire. His parents were recorded as Walter R Ford (Carpenter & Builder, aged 40) & Louisa Ford (aged 41). Five children were recorded – Lewis Stanley (aged 12), Herbert Sidney (aged 9), Ethel Mildred (aged 6), then Alfred, Kathleen Naomi (aged 2) & also included was Edith Mary Miness (General Domestic Servant, aged 19). All the children & their father – Walter were born at Codford St. Peter. Louisa Ford was born at Fovant, Wiltshire.

The 1911 Census records Alfred Henry Ford as a 15 year old, still at school, living with his family at Victoria Cottages, Codford St. Peter, a 6 roomed dwelling. His parents were recorded as Walter Roxbee Ford (Carpenter & Joiner, aged 51) & Louisa Ford (aged 51). Six children were recorded – Lewis Stanley (Carpenter & Joiner, aged 22), Herbert Sidney (Carpenter & Joiner, aged 19), Ethel Mildred (aged 16), then Alfred, Kathleen Naomi (aged 12) & Ernest Walter Ford (aged 9).

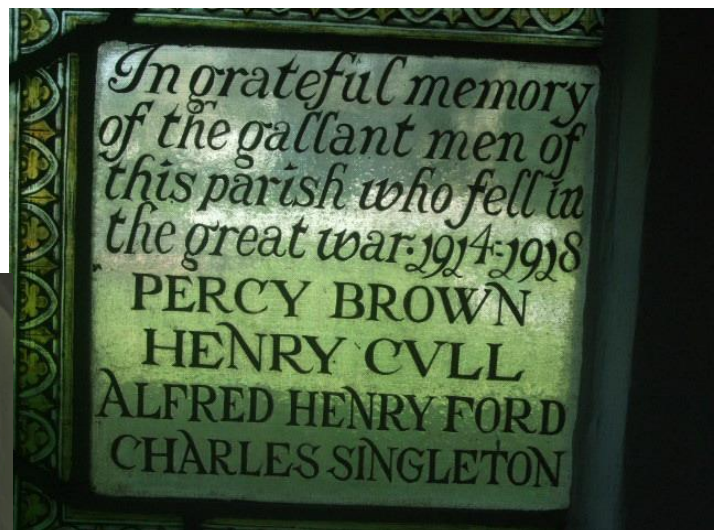
Alfred Henry Ford of Royal Navy – Carpenters Crew M/14272 was killed on 31st May, 1916, aged 20 years, aboard HMS *Invincible*. His death was a direct result of enemy action during the Battle of Jutland which was fought in the North Sea near Jutland, Denmark.

Alfred Henry Ford is remembered on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial located in Hampshire as he has no known grave. His death is acknowledged by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Alfred Henry Ford as the son of Mrs L. Ford of Codford St. Peter, Wiltshire.

A. H. Ford is remembered as a Casualty of WWI in the Diocese of Salisbury Memorial Book for Codford St. Peter.

Alfred Henry Ford is remembered on the WWI Stained Glass Memorial window in St. Peter's Church, Codford, Wiltshire.

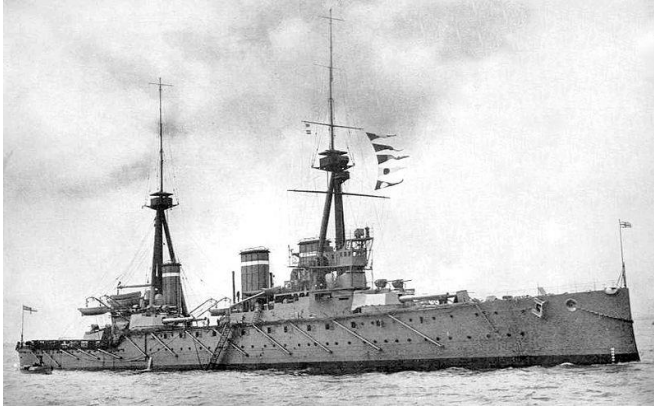
Stained Glass Window Memorial for WWI in Codford St. Peter's Church (Photo courtesy of Romy Wyeth) →



← Codford St. Peter - North Aisle Window designed by F. C. Eden, 1920 - War Memorial Window depicting Saints Michael and George (Photo by Rex Harris 2011)

## HMS Invincible

HMS Invincible was a battlecruiser of the British Royal Navy. She was launched on 13th April, 1907.



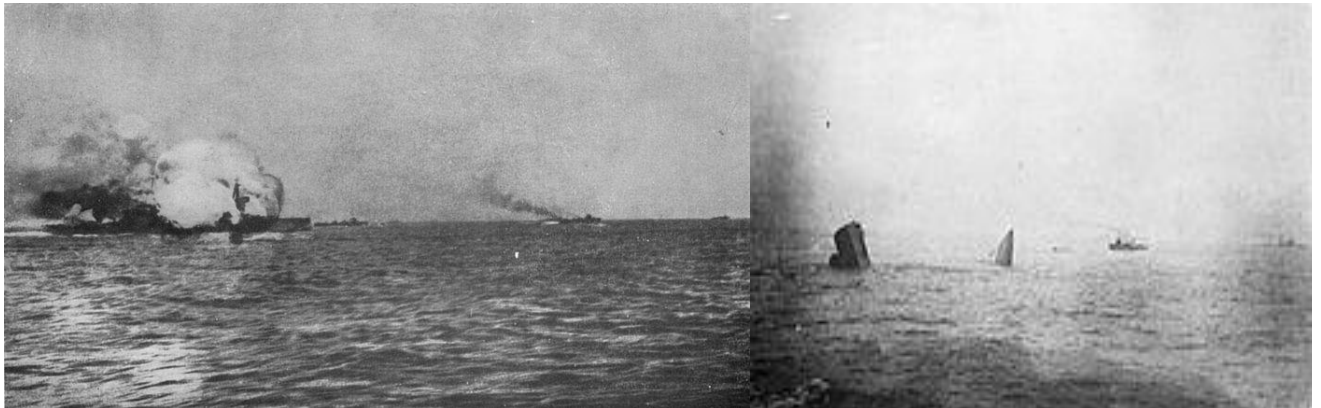
The ship was the flagship of the 3rd Battlecruiser Squadron during the Battle of Jutland. The squadron had been detached in May 1916 from Admiral Beatty's Battlecruiser fleet a few days before the battle, for gunnery practice with the Grand Fleet of the Royal Navy. The squadron led the advance of the Grand Fleet from Scapa Flow, which came close to catching the German High Seas Fleet.

The Battle of Jutland took place on 31st May, 1916, in the North Sea, near Jutland, Denmark. It was the largest clash of battleships in history with over 250 ships from the Grand Fleet & the German High Seas Fleet taking part. HMS Invincible damaged a light cruiser & a battlecruiser – Wiesbaden & the Pillau & scored eight direct hits on German Lutzow, which caused the German ship to withdraw from the battle & eventually sink. The Invincible was exposed to fire from the Lutzow & the Defflinger. She was hit 3 times - one hit on the midships Q turret, the eventual explosion causing the ship to sink in two halves.

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HMS Invincible sank with a loss of around 1,026 of her crew – only 6 men survived (some sources state 5, others 7) & were rescued by a nearby destroyer HMS Badger. The final outcome was a loss for the British of

3 battlecruisers, 3 armoured cruisers & eight destroyers, compared with the German loss of a pre-dreadnought (Unarmoured) battleship, a battlecruiser & four light cruisers.



HMS Invincible & the explosion

Two shattered halves temporarily standing on the seabed

## The Wreck of HMS Invincible

The wreck of HMS Invincible currently lies under nearly 200 feet of water in the North Sea & was first located by the Royal Navy in 1919. On the 90th anniversary of the battle, in 2006, the UK Ministry of Defence announced that the 14 British vessels lost in the Battle of Jutland were being designated as protected places under the Protection of Military Remains Act 1986.

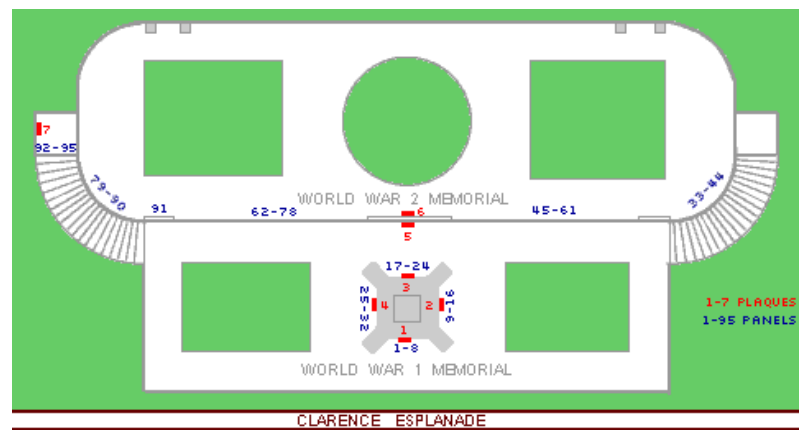


Location of wreck of HMS Invincible from [wrecksite](#)

### Portsmouth Naval Memorial

The Portsmouth Naval Memorial is situated in Southsea Common, overlooking the Promenade in Hampshire. It lists 24,600 identified casualties – 10,000 sailors from WWI and almost 15,000 from WWII.

After the First World War, an appropriate way had to be found of commemorating those members of the Royal Navy who had no known grave, the majority of deaths having occurred at sea where no permanent memorial could be provided.



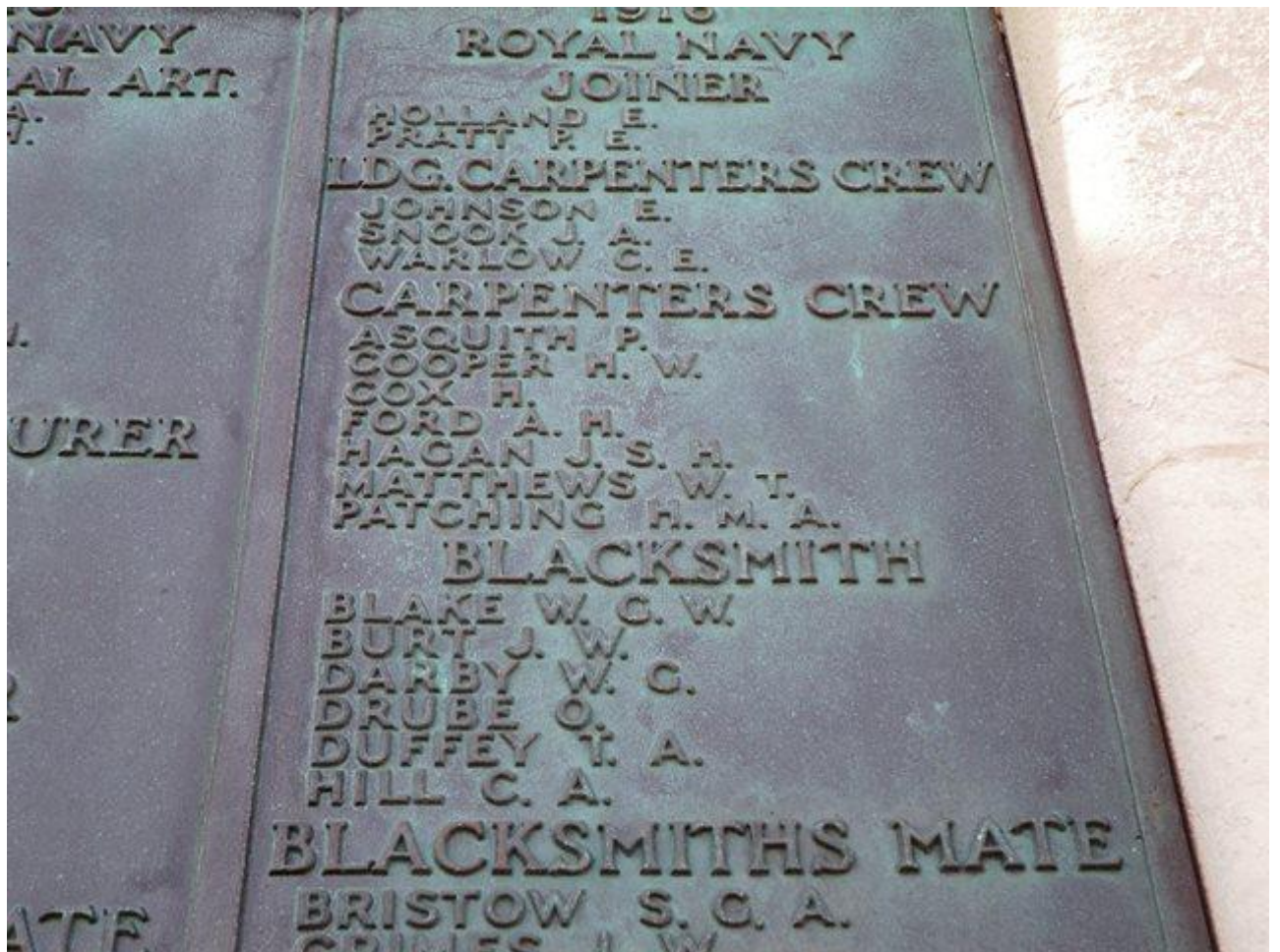
(Photos ©copyright Tim Backhouse/Geoff Allen)



(Portion of Panel 20)



Panel 20



Close Up of the Inscription for Arthur Henry Ford ©Ruth Appleby