

# Compton Chamberlayne

## Roll of Honour



*Lest we Forget*

### World War I



58944 SERJEANT

**William TURNER**

ROYAL FIELD ARTILLERY

24<sup>th</sup> MAY, 1918 AGE 37

*WE HOPE TO MEET*

*AGAIN IN HEAVEN*

## **William TURNER**

William Turner was born in Birmingham, Warwickshire in early 1881 to parents John & Harriet Turner.

The 1881 Census records William Turner as a 2 month old living with his parents – John (father, aged 36, a coach iron filer) his mother Harriet (aged 39, a church cleaner). Also listed were 3 older siblings – Joseph, aged 15, Sarah Ann, aged 9 & Charles, aged 3. The family were living at Newhaven St, Birmingham.

The 1891 Census records William Turner as a 10 year old scholar at The Blue Coat School, Birmingham. The School was a Charity School for Boys and girls & was located at St Philip's Churchyard, Colmore Row, Birmingham.

The 1901 Census records William Turner as a 19 year old general labourer living with his father – John Turner, aged 59, a Tin Plate worker. They lived at Tower St, Birmingham.

William Turner married Isabel H Bailey in the district of Wilton, Wiltshire in the June quarter of 1911.

(The 1911 Census records Isabel Harriet Bailey, aged 28 & born at Compton Chamberlayne, as a domestic servant for a Commander of the Royal Navy at Lymington, Hants. The 1901 Census records *Isabell* H Bailey as a domestic servant, aged 18, for a Civil Engineer at Trowbridge, Wiltshire. The 1891 census records Isabel H Bailey, as an 8 year old, living with her parents Thomas W & Leah Bailey & older brother Ernest M Bailey at Compton Chamberlayne.)

Serjeant William Turner, service number 58944, was enlisted with the Royal Field Artillery.

He was killed in action on 24<sup>th</sup> May, 1918, aged 37 years. Serjeant Turner is buried in Plot II. K. 11 of the Aire Communal Cemetery, France and is acknowledged with a Commonwealth War Graves Headstone.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission lists Serjeant William Turner as the son of John and Harriet Turner, of Birmingham; husband of Isabel Turner, of No 3, Well Cottage, Compton Chamberlayne, nr Salisbury, Wilts.

### **Aire Communal Cemetery, France**

The Communal Cemetery of Aire is located 750 mtrs north of the town. The burials in Plot I are from the period of March 1915 to February 1918. The burials in Plots II, III and IV relate to the fighting of 1918, when the 54<sup>th</sup> Casualty Clearing Station came to Aire & the town was, for a while, within 13 klms of the German lines.

The Aire Communal Cemetery contains 894 Commonwealth Burial of the First World War with a few French & German war graves. There are also 21 WW2 burials.

A photo of Serjeant William Turner's Headstone at the Aire Communal Cemetery, France.



*(Photo kindly supplied by [British War Graves](#))*

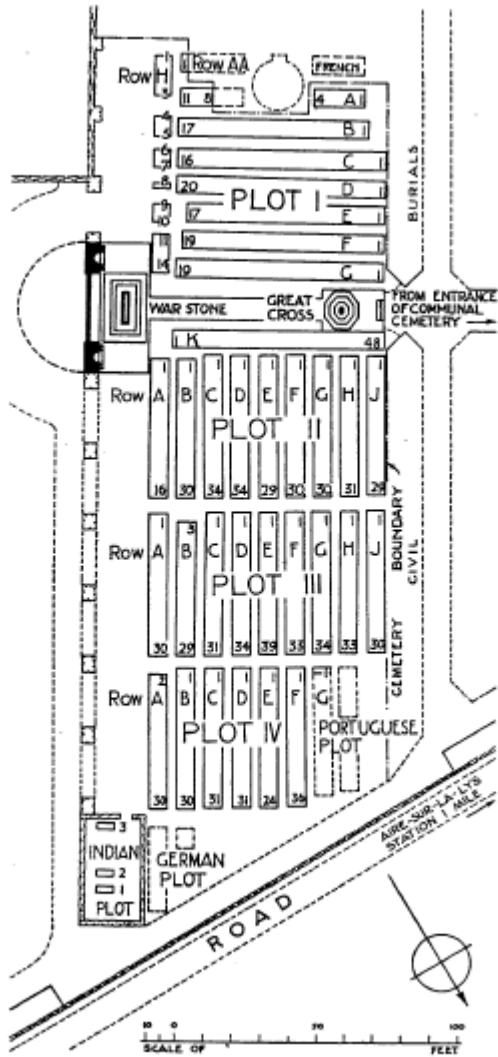
## Aire Communal Cemetery Photographs



*(Photographs used with permission from [In Memory](#) by Pierre Vandervelden)*



*(Photos Courtesy Chris & Jean Cosgrove (Scot.))*



GROUND PLAN OF THE BRITISH PLOTS IN AIRE COMMUNAL CEMETERY.