

# Tadley and District History Society projectnews

issue  
4

Hospital Sunday, May 1922 – outside *The Fox and Hounds* public house, Mulfords Hill, Tadley

## Issue four

December 2003

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## About us

Tadley and District History Society (TADS) was founded in 1984 for people with an interest in local social history, and in the broader scope of history and natural history. Monthly evening talks are held on the third Wednesday of each month, except August, at 8.00pm in St Paul's Church Hall, Tadley. These meetings are open to visitors.

TADS is a member of Hampshire Archives Trust and The British Association for Local History.

TADS's projectnews is published three times a year by Tadley and District History Society. If you would like to receive regular copies, please contact Alan Cooke, Distribution Officer, at Tadley and District History Society, PO Box 7264, Tadley RG26 3FA, United Kingdom; telephone: 0118 981 4006; web: [www.tadshistory.com](http://www.tadshistory.com)

Comments and/or articles for possible inclusion in future issues of projectnews are welcome – please contact Carol Stevens; telephone: 0118 970 1578; email: [DGWard@bigfoot.com](mailto:DGWard@bigfoot.com).

Copy date for the next issue of projectnews is 18 February 2004.

At this time of year the nation honours those who gave their lives in the service of their country. In this issue of projectnews we highlight three of those named on the Tadley War Memorial. No information has been found about the initiation of the Tadley War Memorial project. It is probable that a committee was set up, as in other villages, but no reference has been found in parish council or church vestry records from 1918 to 1929 to the provision of a stone monument. The earliest reference so far found



Tadley War Memorial at the junction of New Road and Mulfords Hill, 1927-1963.

is a report in *The Hants and Berks Gazette* on 18 November 1922: 'The 10<sup>th</sup> Tadley Troop of Boy Scouts paraded to St Saviour's Church on Sunday last... After the service the troop paraded in front of the Memorial Cross in the school yard...'. This is believed to have been a temporary wooden cross stored at the school.

## Tadley War Memorial – soldiers from the Great War

Tadley War Memorial, now situated at St Paul's Church on The Green, lists 30 men from the locality who died during World War I. Of these, three are recorded as having been awarded gallantry medals for outstanding service. This does not mean that the others were not brave: just to be involved during that terrible conflict required considerable bravery.

Recommendations for gallantry awards were usually initiated by a junior officer of the front line unit to which the soldier belonged. The recommendation could arise from actions witnessed by the officer or from reports to him from senior NCOs and other soldiers. The recommendation would be passed up the chain of command. It is quite possible that some recommendations were never initiated because of the deaths of the witnesses, or because the documentation was lost in the disturbances and debris of front line battle conditions. Information about the three men who were awarded gallantry medals is listed overleaf.



Private William Monger.

TADS would be pleased to receive and later to publish any information about others named on the war memorial for World War I.

Mention also needs to be made of the addition of World War II names to the memorial, and the lack of names from other conflicts, of which there have been many, notably Korea, Malaya, Oman, Northern Ireland, Falklands, Gulf War (Kuwait), Bosnia and Gulf War (Iraq). Any information about local servicemen who were casualties of these would also be of interest.



Private William Monger's Commonwealth War Grave at Longueval Road Cemetery.

### Acknowledgements

Imperial War Museum.  
Commonwealth War Graves Commission.  
National Archives, Kew.  
*London Gazette*.  
*Soldiers Died in the Great War*.  
*Harmsworth New Atlas of the World*; Great War section.  
Private communication, Trevor Davies, Roberts Medals.  
Private communication, Bill Monger, Baughurst.  
Private communication, Iris Stanley, Heath End.

<b>Name</b>	Private William James Monger, Military Medal (MM).
<b>Service details</b>	Service Number 14263, 2nd Battalion, Hampshire Regiment; enlisted at Basingstoke.
<b>Died of wounds</b>	19 October 1916, aged 19.
<b>Buried</b>	Longueval Road Cemetery, Longueval near Albert. Michelin War Cemeteries map 52, section 10, number 81.
<b>Personal details</b>	Son of Mrs Alice Monger of Heath End, Baughurst.
<b>Awards</b>	Military Medal, gazetted on 23 September 1916. The letter accompanying this medal states that it was awarded for an action on 2 July 1916. The location of the cemetery and this date indicate that the action happened at the beginning of the Battle of the Somme, east of the town of Albert and between the villages of La Boisselle and Fricourt.

**We are grateful to the family of William Monger for their kindness in lending photographs and medals. We would be interested in any similar artifacts relating to Henry Trusler and George Warren.**

<b>Name</b>	Sergeant Henry Trusler, Military Medal (MM) and Bar.
<b>Service details</b>	Service Number PO/17183; Royal Marine Light Infantry, 63rd Royal Naval Division.
<b>Died of wounds</b>	Monday 30 September, 1918, aged 22.
<b>Buried</b>	Sunken Road Cemetery, Boisieux St Marc, Pas de Calais, near Arras. Michelin War Cemeteries map 52, section 10, number 25.
<b>Personal details</b>	Born Woking, Surrey. Son of Thomas and Helen Trusler of 'Hillside', Tadley (Hillside Farm, Mount Pleasant).
<b>Awards</b>	Military Medal, gazetted 6 August 1918, probably for action at Aveluy Wood, Battle of Bapaume. (Note the citation describing the action for which a Military Medal is awarded is not published in the <i>London Gazette</i> , as are the citations for the DCM. The National Archive Record Office leaflet states that there is no known record of Military Medal citations.) Awarded Bar to the Military Medal, gazetted 11 February 1919, probably for action at Hindenburg Line and Canal du Nord, Battle of Cambrai.

<b>Name</b>	Company Sergeant Major George Warren, Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM) and Bar (which means that the DCM was awarded twice), Military Medal (MM).
<b>Service details</b>	Service Number 8048. 15th Hampshire Yeomanry Battalion, Hampshire Regiment; enlisted in Lewes, Sussex.
<b>Killed in action</b>	Wednesday 4 September 1918, during action at Ypres salient Vierstraat attack at Kemmel Hill 60, aged 30.
<b>Buried</b>	Voormezele enclosure No 3, near Ieper (Ypres). Michelin War Cemeteries map 51, section 5, number 56.
<b>Personal details</b>	Born at Thakeham, Sussex. (The Hampshire Regiment Museum records place of birth as Old Basing, Hampshire.) Son of Henry and Elizabeth Warren of Heath End, Baughurst. Local information reports that Henry's name was actually Emery.
<b>Awards</b>	Military Medal, gazetted 31 July 1917. First DCM, gazetted 26 January 1918, for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty (at 'Tower Hamlets', Passchendaele). When his company was ordered to return and hold the (battle) line, he dashed forward in the face of heavy machine gun fire and aircraft attack and regained the position. Later, he returned to the position after it had been evacuated, to find some of his men who were sniping, and reached it under intense machine gun fire. Throughout he showed tremendous courage. Second DCM, gazetted 3 September 1918, for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty (at Gommecourt, near Albert) when in charge of a fighting patrol. In spite of heavy rifle and machine gun fire, he sent back valuable information, which greatly assisted in the re-taking of a village. He also rendered valuable work when in charge of a ration party, when the enemy launched their second counter attack. His indifference to personal danger was magnificent.

## Tadley Tracks, Tadley Facts

### 8: Ramsdell and Ewhurst

**Distance** 3.7 Miles (6.2 km)

**Time** about 2 hours

**Start** By *The White Hart* public house, Charter Alley. (SU594576).

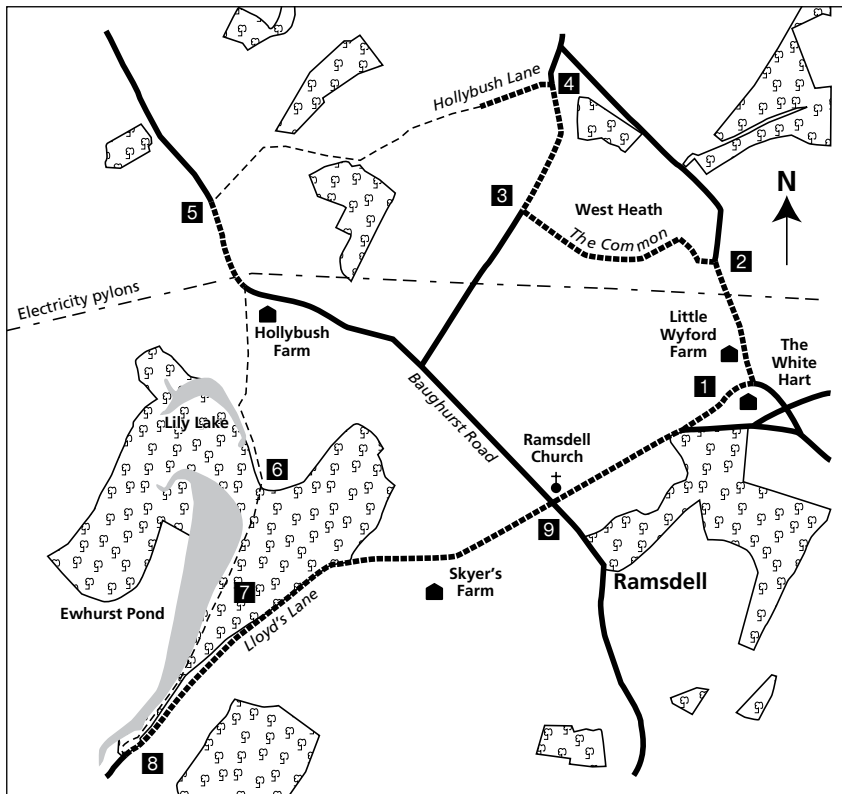
A very pleasant walk at any time of year, but especially so when the trees are in leaf and the beauties of Ewhurst woods and lake can be appreciated. Some of the paths can be muddy so wear suitable footwear. Dogs should be kept on a lead, especially while walking through **Ewhurst Park** estate.



**Ewhurst Park** [570 568] Ewhurst Park estate lies to the south of the route of the Roman Portway. Remains of a Roman villa have been discovered on the estate, and, nearby, countless coins of the Emperor Constantine unearthed. Ewhurst is mentioned in the Domesday Survey when it was held by Hugh de Port and had '2 villagers, 2 smallholders, a Woodland & 5 pigs'. The spelling at that time was Werste meaning 'yew wood', probably on a hill. A wood called Ewhurst Wood still exists in the parish. The medieval village was deserted by the time Ewhurst House was built in the eighteenth century.



**Christ Church, Ramsdell** was erected in 1867. It is constructed of brick and flint with dressings of Bath stone, and has a tiled roof. The style is Early English. Inside, the interesting and ornate roof decorations are said to be the work of the daughters of the first Vicar of the Church. The stained glass windows are chiefly in memory of various members of the Fuller family.



- 1 From the pub walk northwards on the Charter Alley to Baughurst road past *Little Wyford Farm*. This is a quiet road with pleasant views across country.
- 2 After about a quarter of a mile turn left into *The Common*. More enclosed than the main road, with woodland on both sides of the road, *The Common* is a very quiet lane. Follow the lane for about half a mile until you reach a T-junction.
- 3 Turn right at the T-junction and after another quarter of a mile turn left into *Hollybush Lane*.
- 4 Walk westwards along *Hollybush Lane*. At the end of the lane, walk ahead along an earth track. The track, which is often muddy, leads by fields and copses, finally bearing left and eventually reaching the *Baughurst to Ramsdell road*.
- 5 Turn left onto the road and after about a quarter of a mile, beyond the electricity pylons and where the road bends to the left, turn right onto a gravel track between *The Gables* (a modern chalet bungalow) and *Hollybush Farm*. Walk along the track towards distant woods – you are now on the **Ewhurst Park estate** (keep an eye open for deer hereabouts). On reaching the trees turn left, just before the humpbacked bridge and follow the marked footpath around the edge of *Boathouse Copse*, which is on your right.
- 6 After about a quarter of a mile the path enters a wood (*Lloyd's Copse*). Follow the path round to the right and soon you will see a lake (*Ewhurst Pond*) on your right. When the track emerges from the wood it crosses an open field, climbing away from the lake, still on the right. The path is well defined.
- 7 Once across the field, enter a narrow copse which lies between the lake and the *Ramsdell road*. At the far end of the copse the path ends at the *Ramsdell road*.
- 8 Turn left onto the road and walk towards *Ramsdell*. This is a quiet road with pleasant views across country. After about three quarters of a mile the buildings of *Skyers Farm* (originally 17th century), are close on the right hand, and in another quarter mile reach *Ramsdell crossroads*.
- 9 Walk over the crossroads and into the road opposite which leads to *Charter Alley*. On your left at the crossroads is **Ramsdell Church**. About a quarter of a mile along the road, on the right-hand side is the turning off to the old *Ramsdell brickworks*. Just after the turn the main road bears right. Turn left off the main road here, onto a narrow lane which brings you back to *The White Hart* public house.

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For more in-depth information see  
*Around Tadley – fact and fable*.

## 100 years ago – Hants and Berks Gazette, Aug–Nov 1903

Date	Page	Village	Topic
1 August	6	Tadley	<b>Tadley Day celebrations</b> a revival of Revel Monday. [C]
1 August	8	Silchester	<b>Silchester Primitive Methodist Connexion</b> annual circuit meeting. [C]
15 August	6	Baughurst	<b>Annual Government School Report concert</b> Reading Temperance Prize Band in Mr James' meadow
15 August	7	Tadley	<b>Wootton &amp; Tadley School Board</b> special meeting to approve payment for Tadley School enlargement and agreement to borrow £422 for Ramsdale School. [C]
15 August	8	Ramsdell	<b>Ramsdale &amp; Ewhurst Garden Exhibition</b> in Holly Bush meadow. [C]
15 August	8	Tadley	<b>Funeral</b> of Miss Sarah Monger (age 21) at St Peter's Chursh. [C]
15 August	8	Pamber	<b>Funeral</b> of Miss Eliza Pether (age 87) of Ravenscroft Farm. [C]
15 August	8	Silchester	<b>Temperance Fete</b> in Mr G Ford's meadow. [C]
22 August	5	Baughurst	<b>School treat</b> for 120 National School children at Edward Allen's Manor Farm.
29 August	5	Mortimer	<b>Primitive Methodist Sunday School Red Letter Day.</b>
5 September	1	Silchester	<b>Death</b> on 29 August of John Bartlett (age 88) of Dial Cottage.
5 September	6	Ashford Hill	<b>Funeral</b> of the late Mrs T North (age 80).
5 September	6	Silchester	<b>Dr Langley</b> about again after recent bereavement.
12 September	5	Baughurst	<b>Great storm</b> of last Thursday night – local damage.
12 September	6	Baughurst	<b>Election</b> of Manager for National School on Parish Council. Mr Goodenough offered himself but no seconder; J Smith proposed and seconded.
19 September	7	Silchester	<b>Hampshire Field Club</b> visit to Silchester Calleva Atrebatum.
26 September	7	Tadley	<b>Final meeting of Tadley and Wootton School Board.</b>
10 October	8	Ramsdell	<b>Wedding</b> of Miss Emily Dove to Mr Frederick Whitear at Christ Church, Ramsdale.
10 October	8	Ewhurst	<b>The Duke of Wellington</b> had the honour of dining with the King.
17 October	6	Tadley	<b>Harvest Thanksgiving Service</b> at Congregational Church led by Pastor W Robilliard. Magic Lantern show on <i>37 Years Rescue Work Among Waifs</i> . [C]
24 October	8	Little London	<b>Harvest Thanksgiving</b> at Mission Church led by Revd Sweetapple. Thanks given to J Herbert Benyon (benefactor of the church) for recent renovations.
7 November	5	Silchester	<b>Report of 1903 Calleva excavations.</b> [C]
7 November	5	Silchester	<b>Wedding</b> of Miss Fanny Yates to Henry James Shering – names of attendees [C].
21 November	7	Tadley	<b>Primitive Methodist Chapel</b> Mission Services – with collections for Missions.
21 November	7	Baughurst	<b>Parish Council</b> letter to District Council re "...dangerous condition of wooden footbridge at Haughurst Hill and bad state of Dunkets Lane...". [C]
28 November	7	Silchester	<b>School Managers</b> appointed under new Education Act. [C]
28 November	7	Silchester	<b>Band of Hope</b> annual tea and entertainment (80 children, 40 adults). [C]

## 100 years ago – national and international, Aug–Nov 1903

Date	Topic
9 August	Pope Pius X crowned in Rome before a crowd of 70,000 people.
31 August	Reports of atrocities by all sides in the Balkans.
1 September	Macedonian rebels blow up Hungarian steamer killing 29 people.
8 September	In Monastir the Turks massacre 50,000 Bulgarians.
8 September	<i>The Daily Mirror</i> first published as a paper by women for women.
17 September	Turkish massacre of 10,000 Macedonians.
18 November	United States and Panama sign canal treaty.
21 November	The King and Queen of Italy pass through Basingstoke station en route to Windsor.
Literary works published during the year include: J M Barrie's play <i>The Admirable Crichton</i> , Erskine Childers' novel <i>The Riddle of the Sands</i> and Bertrand Russell's <i>Principia Mathematica</i> .	
Among those born at this time were Benjamin Spock (2 May) writer on the care of babies; Bob Hope (29 May) film star/comedian; Aram Ilich Khatchaturian (6 June) composer; George Orwell (born Eric Blair) (25 June) author and an unorthodox socialist; Amy Johnson (1 July) aviator; Alec Douglas-Home (2 July) prime minister 1963-1964.	
Among those who died were the artist Paul Gauguin (8 May); the artist James McNeill Whistler (17 Jul) aged 69 and Pope Leo XIII (20 July) aged 97 who was elected Pope in 1878.	

Articles marked [C] have been copied and archived by TADS for reference.