

**Adams** William Henry

Attested 10/1/2/1915 under Derby Scheme  
Age 32. PO Sorting Clerk & Telegraphist Wife Gertrude, son  
Dennis b 1913

Army Reserve

Discharged 14.12.18

Probably W.H Adams photographer of Hazelmere, Coronation,  
Rd.

**Aldridge** Albert Victor

1918 absent voter (Bath Rd).

**Aldridge** Charles Hayel

Stroud News 28/5/1915:

*Rodborough men in the Forces*

Service record – Attested 01/12/1916, Lower Spillmans, age 26,  
Pinter, married.

**Aldridge** Harry

Stroud Journal 20/11/1914:

*ASC has served 2 with the colours and 10 years in the reserve. He received his recall to the colours at Port Bruton, South Australia, where he lives and is now on his way to this country. Of Swells Hill one of three serving sons of William.*

**Aldridge** Maurice

Stroud News 28/05/1915  
*Rodborough men in the Forces*

Stroud Journal 20/11/1914:  
*He has been in training at Chelmsford and is expecting very soon to go to the front. Of Swells Hill one of three serving sons of William. Enlisted in the 5<sup>th</sup> Glos about 6 months ago.*

Butterrow School log book, Jan 1915 – ‘Old boy’ visited school.

**Aldridge** Walter

Stroud Journal 20/11/1914:

*Private ... He recently enlisted at Chester and is a driver in the garrison Artillery. He is now in training at Great Yarmouth. Of Swells Hill one of three serving sons of William.*

**Allard / Allord** Raymond Ernest

Stroud News and Journal 19/11/1915:

*Enlisted. Reserve. Rodborough*

**Apperley J. Dennis**

Stroud News 07/07/1916:

*Of Frome Park Rd.  
Grouped up*

Stroud News 04/08/1916:

*Training with the Royal Berkshire Rgt. not far from Portsmouth, so it is a prospect of the brothers meeting occasionally... Chief cashier and secretary of Messrs Townsend & Co of Stratford Mills. Popular entertainer, member of Conservative Club, arranged the programme and acted as accompanist.*

Stroud News 01/09/1916:

*Writing to his friend Mr Harry Nicholls of Bath Rd, Mr Dennis Apperley of the Berks is in characteristically happy vein. He addresses his 'dear friend and neighbour' from Portsmouth and his communication is one of the cheeriest of the many cheery soldiers' letters it has been my pleasure to receive*

Stroud Journal 09/02/1917:

*... A clerk in the staff office at Portsmouth with the Royal Berks Regt.*

Stroud Journal 17/01/1919

*Others of the demobilised include Dennis Apperley, already busy back at Messrs. Townsend & Co's.*

**Apperley Harold**

Stroud News 07/07/1916,  
*Engine Room Artificer in the Navy*

Brother of Dennis and Hollis

**Apperley** Hollis

Stroud News 13/10/1916:

*Hollis Apperley E.R.A. R.N. had the pleasure of meeting his brother Dennis of the Royal Berks during the weekend. They both looked as fit as fiddles and are doing well in the sister services.*

Stroud Journal 09/02/1917:

*... on a torpedo boat destroyer ...*

1918 absent voter (Frome Park Rd).

**Apperley** James

Stroud and The Great War published by Stroud News 1920

*Serving with 5th Glos Rgt.*

Attended Kingscourt School (Log books Gloucestershire Archives)

**Apperly** Ernest Pace

Wycliffe and the War, published 1923:

*Commissioned Lieut. R.E. Capt. July 1916 Western Front. May 1916.*

**Arthurs** Albert Baker

1918 absent voter (Fircroft).

**Artus** Owen Leslie

Service record – attested 26/06/1916, Highclare, Bath Rd, age 18, clerk, single.

Stroud News 23/02/1917:

*Pte. Owen Artus second son of Mr S. Artus of Bath Rd, Rodborough is in the 13<sup>th</sup> Devonshire Regt. and stationed at Plymouth he has just returned to his depot after 72 hours' leave and he is expecting to proceed to France. Before he joined up three weeks ago was a clerk in the office of Messrs. Little and Whittingham. He has acquired height and weight and looks all a good soldier. A Rodborian by birth and association, he did well at school and was a chorister at Rodborough Church. Although very young, he may be relied upon to do all that is required of him in the Army.*

1918 absent voter (Bath Rd).

**Ashmead** Edwin

1918 absent voter (Rooksgrove).

**Axford** Francis Albert

Stroud News 15/9/1916. Military Tribunals:

*Age 39. Married cowman and milk seller was appealed for by his employer, Frederick Thomas James of St Ringers Farm, Rodborough who said further withdrawal of labour from the farm would seriously affect its productiveness. He had lost 3 young men and his only son was in active service at the front with the Yeomanry. There was 20 cows in milk and the farm was 80 acres in extent, including 10 acres arable. There were 3 other men on the farm, but this was the only one who knew anything about cows or the milk business.*

*Lieut. Wood said they could not afford to lose a man like this. Taking the average of farms in the country, there was more labour on this farm than on most farms of its acreage. The appeal was refused.*

*In 1911 census lived at Hawarden Cottage, The Butts*

**Ayers family**

Stroud and The Great War published by Stroud News 1920:

*It was stated that Mr & Mrs Ayers (James R. & Annie) of Butterrow had six sons serving in the army*

Press report says 10 boys. 1911 census 11 children

Lived at The Laurels, Butterrow  
A 1930s directory lists Ayers J.R at Butterrow.

**Ayers** Albert Thomas

He was aged 40 in 1919.

Service record – Enlisted Stroud 09/12/1915, Woodbine Villas, Ebley, 336 days service, Glos and Worcs Regt

Stroud News 30/06/1916:

*Attested but retained at his civilian work for a few months. One brother not yet in uniform.  
Dept manager woollen goods*

Stroud Journal 03/01/1919:

*Has been hospital with an injured knee, sustained while playing football in France. Now moved from Boulogne to Glasgow.*

Stroud Journal 10/01/1919:

*Though sorry that Bert Ayers should have been so badly incapacitated with his knee, yet we are glad to see that this real sport is now back in Blighty, and we trust his stay here now will be a permanency. But why on earth send a man who lives in the South to a hospital in Glasgow. It seems absolute pig-headedness on the part of the authorities.*

Stroud Journal 04/04/1919:

*Bert Ayers lately demobilised from the army & still limping....Bert and his many brothers, we cannot be quite sure of their number, are a truly fortunate lot, in so far as they are one of the few families who have come through this war without the loss of one of them. And this is not because they have had soft snips or been*

*existing on home service or at the base. Each one of them...has been up the line nearly all the time...in the front-line fighting units in the trenches...*

**Ayers** Alfred John (Jack)

9<sup>th</sup> Worcs. Rgt.

Medal record card- served in the Balkans

Stroud News 03/11/1916:

*Bob & Monty Ayers sons of Mr & Mrs Ayers of Butterrow have written to their brother Jack who was brought back from the trenches to work on munitions on which he was employed before war broke out. They are both in the pink of condition though somewhat weary, a very natural position*

**Ayers** Arthur

4<sup>th</sup> Hussars

**Ayers** Robert George (Bob)

Stroud News 30/6/1916:

*Home from France where has been since Oct last. In 49<sup>th</sup> Canadian division. Emigrated to Canada 5-6 yrs ago. Farming. One of 5 soldier sons of Mr & Mrs Ayers of Butterrow, who also have 2 sons-in-law serving.*

Stroud News 3/11/1916

*Bob & Monty Ayers sons of Mr & Mrs Ayers of Butterrow have written to their brother Jack who was brought back from the trenches to work on munitions on which he was employed before war broke out. They are both in the pink of condition though somewhat weary, a very natural position.*

Stroud Journal 04/04/1919:

*Marriages: March 20<sup>th</sup> (1919) at Stroud Parish Church(by special license) Robert George Ayers, 49<sup>th</sup> Canadians, fifth son of James Richard Ayers & Mrs Ayers, he Laurels, Butterrow, Nr Stroud, to*



*Myrtle Trixie Tessible, second daughter of George & Olivia Osborne of Osborne House, Tower Hill, Stroud.*

**Ayers Harry**

No military references yet found

**Ayers Frederick**

Gloucester Citizen 16/02/1902

*Stroud Revision Court: In the lodger list for Rodborough a vote was claimed by Frederick James Ayers of Butter-row, who said he had nine brothers, five of the latter sleeping in an attic, and was allowed his vote because the house proved to be an old-fashioned edifice.*

No military references yet found

**Ayers Montague Thomas (Monty)**

10<sup>th</sup> Royal Fusiliers. Sergeant.

Stroud News 05/01/1917;

*Monty Ayers Corporal Royal Fusiliers, home on sick leave. Has been in France for about 18 months. Previously engaged in engineering with Messrs Waller & Co of the Pheonix Ironworks at the Thrupp.*

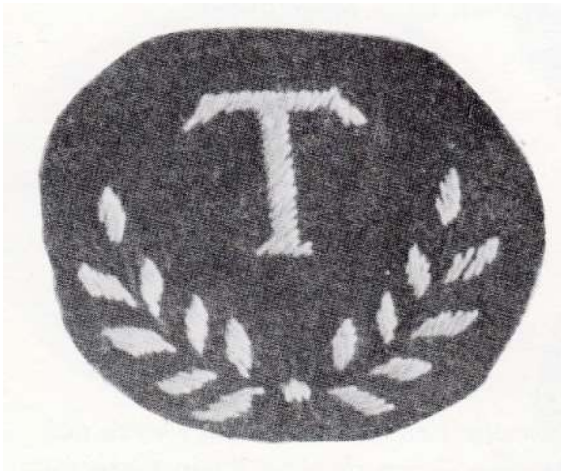
**Ayers Walter Charles**

Service record -attested 13/06/1916, age 27, postman, single, teeth defective.

Stroud News 10/11/1916: With the Colours

*I was pleased to welcome Mr Water Ayers, stationed at Plymouth, one of several soldier sons of Mr & Mrs Ayers of the Butterrow, Stroud. He has been in the army for five months and this is his first leave: he might have come home some months ago, but when relief was convenient he was unable to take advantage of it because he was in training in Ireland. Walter is a fine specimen of a gritty soldier and in the Royal Garrison Artillery he cannot fail to be of great value. Through the examination as a signaller – telegraphist and telephonist – he came out with honours and is*

*very keen on his work. Of course, the experience he gained while employed at the Stroud General Post Office, served him in good stead. He now sports the crossed flags and the laurel wreath with the letter T inset. Three or four of his brothers – I am not sure of the number – are on active service, two in France. The Ayers brothers are good fighters. Walter Ayers was grieved to learn of the passing of his Post Office colleague Walter Jones. He will get to rub shoulders with Maurice Halliday who went to Bristol on Friday and has been attached to the RGA at Plymouth.*



This badge T Wreath was worn upper right arm.

The crossed flags were separate, worn lower left cuff.



Soldier displaying T wreath and signaller's badges (not Walter Ayers - but these were the badges he sported)

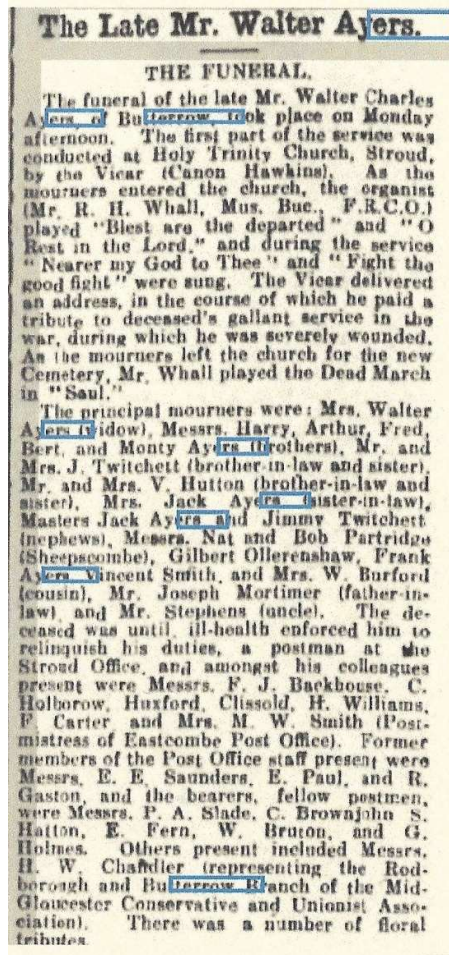
Walter was wounded in the lungs.

Died 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 1925, leaving widow and baby

Cheltenham Chronicle 03/01/1925:

*Poor Walter Ayers; He was veritably a victim of the terrible war. Four brothers joined the army with him and did their duty to King and Country faithfully and well. Two of his sisters also had soldier husbands, while two of the other members of the Ayers family- sons of Mr & Mrs James Ayers of the Butterrow, Stroud were engaged upon war work of such great importance that under no consideration would the Government release them for active warfare. What a fine record for one family. Walter was wounded in the lung and the agony he had for years endured, was known to none but himself, for he never complained, and he was ever cheery and bright. He will be sadly missed from many homely circles. His quiet and unassuming manner gained for him hosts of friends. He never once referred to his splendid war service, and those who knew him best were not surprised at it, for he was without doubt one of England's heroes – a man who did his bit and was proud to*

*keep the fact of it to himself. He has gone to his long rest – peace to the soul of a man who was a true Englishman, a soldier and above all, perhaps, a man. His friends were devoted to him, his colleagues at the Post Office at Stroud, where he served as a postman for many years, admitted him, and all who knew him were pleased to do so. At the age of 36 years he has crossed the border, leaving behind him on this New Year's Day nothing but a fragrant memory, the love of all who valued his friendship, and alas! a young widow and baby. Peace to his soul!*



**Gloucester Journal 10.01.1925**