

Banstead Remembers

A memorial service will be held at All Saints Church for



2nd Lieutenant Clive Garton

of Banstead Wood

1st Rifle Brigade

Died of Wounds at Blangy, France

Aged 19

Clive was a university student who gave up his studies to join the Army. He was mortally wounded at Eterpigny on 2nd September 1918 and died in a field hospital at Blangy later that same day.

Serjeant Ernest Mingay

of Nork Park

12th Somerset Light Infantry

Killed near Moislains, France

Aged 26



Ernest was a gamekeeper who lived and worked on the Nork Estate. He fought in the Palestine campaign in 1917 before going to France the following year. He was killed while fighting on the Somme.

SUNDAY 2nd SEPTEMBER

at All Saints Church, Banstead

10:50am: a short service of remembrance will be held

11:00am: a church bell will be tolled 100 times

The churchyard flag will be raised to half mast at 7:30am and lowered at 5:30pm

Please come and remember the sacrifice our village made in the Great War.

We will remember each one

The Hundred Days: Day 26

Ernest Eustace Mingay was born on 29th April 1892 at Roestock, near St Albans, Hertfordshire, and grew up in Colney Heath. He was in his mid-teens when the family moved to Woodburn Green, Bucks. His father was a gamekeeper and Ernest followed in his footsteps. After the birth of their sixth child, in 1910, the Mingays moved south to Tilford, near Frensham, Surrey. Ernest followed them south and came to work and live on the Nork Estate as a gamekeeper for the Colman family of Colman's Mustard fame.

He joined the Army on 7th September 1914 but remained on the Home Front for three years. Just before he left England, he married a Sutton girl, Florence Stay, at St Barnabas Church, Sutton, on 24th February 1917. Ernest left his bride and his country behind a week later and sailed for Egypt, where he joined the 12th Somerset Light Infantry and fought in the Palestine campaign. When that was won, his battalion went to France.

Edward Clive Garton was born at Banstead Wood on 3rd February 1899. He was the fourth son of Charles and Juliet Garton. The Gartons made their money in sugar and brewing and were great local benefactors. Clive attended Eton and gained a place at Oxford in 1916 but applied for a cadetship shortly afterwards. After nearly a year at Sandhurst, he was commissioned in the Rifle Brigade. He went out to France in July 1918.

On 8th August, Day 1 of the Hundred Days, the Allies took the first step to victory with the Battle of Amiens. They then began a series of attacks, one every few days, constantly shifting the point of focus, probing for a weak spot. 2nd September was Day 26. Zero Hour was 5:30am. Ernest Mingay's battalion went into action on the Somme. They were met with machinegun fire as they left their trenches but pressed on. After capturing the village of Haut-Allaines, they advanced up gently sloping open ground, towards Moislains, and were met with fire from the village and their right flank. Fierce counterattacks pushed them back but they fought on to gain their objective, only to be driven back. They advanced once more and reached their objective again only to be pulled back to a more defensible position, just 500 yards from their starting point. Ernest was killed. He was 26.

At Eterpigny, 20 miles to the north, Clive Garton's battalion went over the top and captured a major German defensive line. They then met "*the most terrific and accurate machinegun fire*" and took severe casualties. They could go no further. Clive was wounded and died later that day. He was 19.