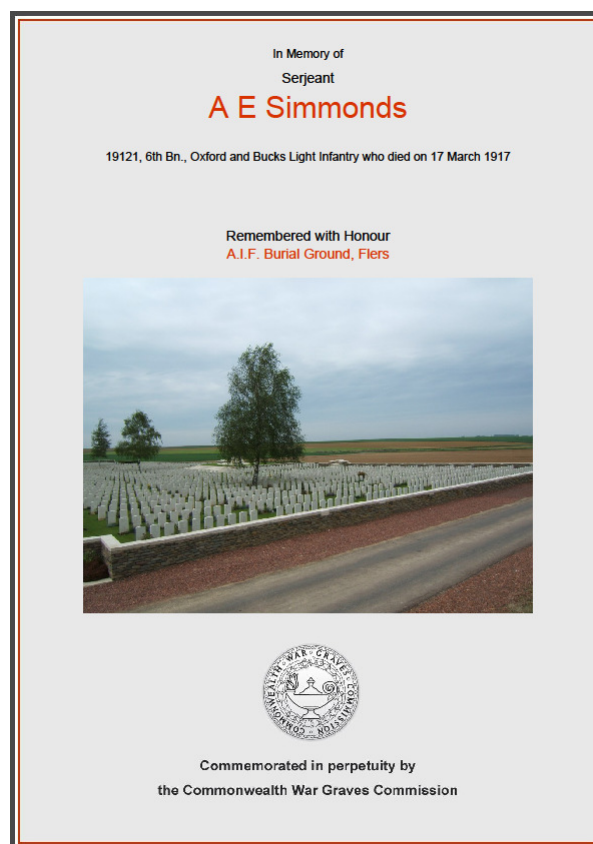


## SERGEANT ARNOLD EDWARD SIMMONDS 1886-1917

Arnold was born in 1886 at Hampton Lucy, Warwickshire, the fourth son of John & Mary Simmonds. He joined the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Oxford & Bucks Light Infantry and was killed on 17<sup>th</sup> March 1917, and is remembered with Honour at the A.I.F. Burial Ground, Flers in France, and also honoured on the Great War Roll of Honour in Hampton Lucy Church

After school he became a gardener, working around Hampton Lucy in 1901, Burghley Gardens, near Stamford in Lincolnshire in 1911, and then as a foreman in the gardens at Sudeley Castle.



His obituary was in the Stratford Herald newspaper on April 20<sup>th</sup> 1917 page 3

### “SERGEANT ARNOLD SIMMONDS”

*Killed in action – Great regret was felt in Hampton Lucy on hearing the death of Serjeant Arnold Simmonds, youngest son of Mr & Mrs John Simmonds, much respected inhabitants of this place, who was killed in action in France on March 17<sup>th</sup>. He was 31 years of age, an old pupil of Hampton Lucy School under the present headmaster and formerly a member of the choir. Before joining the army he was employed in the gardens of Sudeley Castle as foreman. He was a smart intelligent young man, with very ambitious aims. He is one of the very brave young fellows who have given their lives for the salvation of their country. He joined the*

*Oxford & Bucks L.I. nearly two years ago, and before going to France acted as an instructor at Portsmouth. Several sympathetic letters have been received by his parents from his officers and friends testifying to his capabilities and popularity, and deeply regretting his death. A Memorial Service was held in the Church by the Rector the Reverend O. Mordaunt on Thursday evening, the 12<sup>th</sup> inst., and at the conclusion the organist played the Dead March. The first to fall from his school was Lance Corporal George A. Morris, Oxford & Bucks L.I. 17<sup>th</sup> July 1915 an account of whose death has been previously reported*

## **OXFORDSHIRE AND BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY RECORD 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion**

- Sept 1914 Formed at Oxford as part of the Second New Army (K2) and then moved to Aldershot to join the 60<sup>th</sup> Brigade of the 20<sup>th</sup> Division.
- Mar 1915 moved to Larkhill, Salisbury Plain
- 22.07.1915 Mobilised for war and landed at Bologne after trench familiarisation and training engaged in various actions on the Western Front including;
- 1916 The Battle of Mount Sorrel, The battle of Delville Wood, The Battle of Guillemont, The Battle of Flers-Courcelette, The Battle of Morval, The Battle of Le Transloy.
- 1917 The German Retreat to the Hindenburg Line, The battle of Langemarck, The Battle of the Menin Road Ridge, The Battle of Polygon Wood, The Cambrai Operations. ([Sergeant Arnold Simmonds was killed in action 17<sup>th</sup> April 1917.](#))
- 1918 The Battle of St.Quentin, The Action at the Somme crossings, The Battle of Rosieres
- 15.02 1918 Disbanded at La Clytte and remaining personnel transferred to the 2/4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion and 14<sup>th</sup> Entrenching Battalion.

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