

WILLIAM HENRY BEARLEY

**Private,
2nd Battalion,
Princess Charlotte of Wales's (Royal Berkshire) Regiment,
112th Brigade, 2nd Division**

Killed in action during the Battle of the Aisne, Monday 27th May 1918.

William Henry Bearley was born in Stratford in 1899. His parents were **Alfred Bearley**, a railway platelayer, and **Louisa (nee Smith)**. He was the youngest child in a family of seven, having a brother and five sisters.

Louisa Bearley died early in 1901 and afterwards the family lived with Alfred's mother in Old Town, Stratford. They were in Bull Street in 1911 and William was still at school at the time. However his eldest sister **Gertrude** had been married the previous year to an Ettington man **Thomas Henry Edgington**.

Alfred Bearley died in 1912. It appears that his elderly mother then moved away to the Solihull area, possibly to one of her daughters, as her death was registered there in 1916. It is therefore quite likely that it was at that time, 1912 or shortly afterwards, that William came to live in Ettington with Gertrude and Thomas.

William's only brother **Albert James Bearley**, died in September 1917 while serving in the Royal Garrison Artillery in Belgium.

William was enlisted in March 1917 and he was killed on the first day of the Battle of the Aisne. He is commemorated on the **Soissons Memorial, Aisne, France**

Researched and provided by [Bob and Maureen Allso](#)
email: bobandmaureen64@btinternet.com