**Bernard Owen Atkins**

Bernard Owen Atkins was the son of Owen and Mary Ann Elizabeth Atkins of 78, Pinner Road, Oxhey. His father moved from Croydon in Surrey, where he worked as a coachman and domestic servant to Harrow Weald and then to Oxhey, where he was employed as a domestic gardener. Bernard had an older sister, Daisy, and a younger brother, John. In 1911, when Bernard was 16 and John a year younger, they were both working as errand boys. Owen enlisted at Hertford as Private 36226 in the Royal Berkshire Regiment, 6th Battalion and died of wounds on 5 October 1916, aged 22. He is commemorated at Puchevillers British Cemetery and on the St Matthew’s Church Memorial in Oxhey.

