**Lawrence Philip Bell**

‘The death from wounds is announced of Corporal L P Bell, the only son of Mrs J B Bell, headmistress of the London Road Girls’ School, Bushey. Lawrence Bell was at the Middlesex Hospital before joining Scientific Section of the Royal Engineers at the end of June 1915. He was almost immediately sent to France. In September 1915, he was slightly wounded and badly gassed, being in hospital in France for many weeks with double pneumonia following on the gassing, but in the end he made a good recovery. In the spring of this year he was home on leave. Corporal Bell was a most promising young man; had he lived he would no doubt have made his mark in the chemical world. The family originally resided in Burton on Trent, where Mr J B Bell, the father, died. At the opening of the London Road School, Mrs Bell was appointed headmistress of the girls’ department, having previously been on the staff of Watford Field Girls’ School. Mrs Bell is very highly esteemed in Bushey, and much sympathy is felt for her in her terrible loss’.

Source: Watford Observer

Lawrence Philip Bell, only son of Mrs Alice Bell and the late Job Bullock Bell, served as Corporal 106159, Royal Engineers and is remembered with honour at Bertrancourt Military Cemetery and is commemorated on the Bushey Memorial and at St James’ Church.

