**Walter Carpenter**

Walter Carpenter, born in Bushey in about 1881, was the fourth of five children born to Walter and Emily Carpenter. His father, also born in Bushey, was a coachman. The family lived on Chalk Hill for some years, before moving to Fearnley Stables, Chiswell Green, near St Albans and, by 1901, to 263 Watford High Street. Walter by that time was 20 and working as a domestic gardener. His father died on 1906 and the following year Walter married May Elizabeth Hood, also born in Bushey, the daughter of the publican of The Anchor in Watford High Street. Walter and May lived in Roma Blakehall Road, Carshalton, where they had a son, Laurence, born in 1909.

Walter enlisted as a volunteer in the Bedfordshire Regiment in September 1914 and served as Private 13926. He proceeded to France the following year. In 1916 Walter and May moved to 6 Chalk Hill, Oxhey. Walter was killed in action on 23 April 1917 at Vimy Ridge, aged 36 and is remembered with honour at the Arras Memorial.

[](http://www.cwgc.org/dbImage.ashx?id=12651)