**William Robert Croucher**

William Robert Croucher, born in Watford in 1879, was the eldest son of Robert and Harriet Croucher. His father was a general labourer, living initially at Watford Field. William was one of eight children, three of whom died during childhood. As the family increased, they moved to 5 Lower Paddock Road, Oxhey.

William was employed as a road labourer and by 1915, he was married to Annie Elizabeth and living at 2, Prospect Place, Chalk Hill, Bushey. He enlisted that year at the age of 34 as a Gunner 50183 in the Heavy Battery of the Royal Garrison Artillery. He served with the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force and died on 7 August 1915. He is remembered with honour at the Lancashire Landing Cemetery in Turkey. He is commemorated on the memorial at St Matthew’s Church, Oxhey. His younger brother, George died at home in 1920, after serving on the Western Front.

