**Joseph Samuel Demmery**

Joseph Samuel Demmery, born in 1884 in Stroud, Gloucestershire, was one of two children of Samuel Demmery, a shoemaker, and his wife, Emma Hunt. In 1911, Joseph was 27 and a schoolmaster employed by Middlesex County Council, boarding at ‘Glenroy’, 59 Wolseley Road, Wealdstone, Middlesex. He later moved to of ‘Selsley’ Caldicote Hill, Bushey Heath. He enlisted as Private 2526 in Gloucester with the Gloucestershire Regiment and served on the Western Front. On 25 March 1915, he made his last will and testament:

‘I leave all property, land, furniture, clothes etc. together with all monies to my sister, Ada Demmery; my bank book in the charge of J.H Whatmore Esq of Clovelly, Beresford Road, Harrow, Middx., together with receipts of various bills he has paid for me including two payment books of Cunningham Building Society. Should his accounts prove satisfactory as I feel they will, I wish the sum of £5 to be given to him for his painstaking care. The sum of £30 is also due to me from Philip Geo. May Esq of 1 Risingholme Terrace, Wealdstone, Middx. His receipt for same will be found among my papers. Certain monies will also be due from Arthur Foxall Esq tenant of Selsley, Bushey Heath, particulars of which enclosed. All monies etc. I leave in my sister’s hand to do as she pleases’.

He was killed in action on 1 December 1916. He is remembered with honour at the Adanac Military Cemetery, Miraumont in France, He is commemorated on the Bushey Memorial, at St Peter’s Church, Bushey Heath and on the memorial in the village of Letchmore Heath, Hertfordshire.

