**John Stephen Raymond Lake**

John Stephen Raymond Lake, born in Watford in 1882, was the eldest son of Reginald John and Mary Beatrice Lake and grandson of George Lake of Bushey House in Bushey High Street. He was one of eight children and lived in the family home ‘Beodiceworth’, Alexandra Road, Watford. His father was a barrister. At the time of the 1911 census John was 29 and a stockbroker. He served in the South African Campaign and when war broke gained a commission. He fought on the Western Front and rose to the rank of Captain with the 1st battalion of the South Wales Borderers. He was killed in action on 16 June 1916, aged 34 and is remembered with honour at Loos British Cemetery. His name and that of his brother Reginald St George Lake, who was killed in action in November 1916, are on the side of their grandfather’s grave in Bushey churchyard.

