**Frank Tingey Martin**

Frank Tingey Martin, born in Harrow Weald in about 1888, was the youngest child of James and Hannah Martin. He was baptised at All Saints’ Church, Harrow, on 18 November 1888. His father was a domestic gardener, working at one time as head gardener at ‘Waldoes’, a property linked to the Waldo family, who had been landowners in the area of Harrow and Pinner from the 1680s. Frank’s mother worked as a dairy woman and he had two sisters. He served a seven-year apprenticeship with G Palmers & Sons in Wealdstone. He remained single and, prior to 1913, served for two years with the 9th battalion of the Middlesex Regiment, from which he was discharged by purchase, not by pension.

In 1915 he enlisted with the 7th battalion of the Rifle Brigade at St Paul’s churchyard, Middlesex and served as Corporal B2070. His papers state: ‘If the war is over in less than 3 years, you will be discharged with all convenient speed’. He fought on the Western Front and was declared missing on 30 July 1915, later assumed killed in action. He is commemorated at Ypres at the Menin Gate Memorial, panel 46 -48 & 50.

Frank was a bell-ringer at St Matthew’s Church, Oxhey and there is a plaque in the doorway to commemorate him and John Stewart Macdonald.

