**William Frederick Mead**

William Frederick Mead, born in St Albans in 1898, was the son of Frederick and Alice Ellesmere Mead, one of eleven children, two of whom died in childhood. His father was a butcher and in 1901, when William was two, the family lived at 56 Clifford Street, Watford. Ten years later, William was still at school and the family was resident at 65 Chester Road, Watford.

When William enlisted in Watford as Private 23409 with the Essex Regiment he was living in Bushey at 36 Rosebery Road. He served on the Western Front and was killed in action on 1 April 1918, aged 19. He is remembered with honour at the Euston Road Cemetery, Colinscamps on the Somme. He is commemorated on the Bushey Memorial and at St James’ Parish Church, Bushey.

