**William Harold Rosson**

William Harold Rosson, born in 1896, was one of nine children born to Joseph and Kate Rosson, two of whom died in childhood. Joseph Rosson, originally from Watford, was initially employed as a domestic coachman, living as a boarder at ‘Caldecote Cottage’, Caldecote Hill. By 1901 he and his wife and family had made their home at 2 Myrtle Cottages, Bushey Heath, just round the corner from The Alpine. At that time Joseph Rosson continued to work as a domestic coachman but, at the turn of the century, as motorized transport took over, like many others in similar circumstances, he was compelled to change his occupation. By 1911, he and his family were living at ‘Kestrel Grove Cottages’, Hive Road, Bushey Heath and he was employed as a domestic butler.

William was now 15 and worked as a domestic gardener. When war broke out he enlisted in Willesden as Private 3782 with the Middlesex Regiment 1st/7th battalion. He served on the Western Front and died of wounds on 18 June 1915, aged 18. He was buried at Merville Communal Cemetery in France. He is commemorated on the Bushey Memorial and at St Peter’s Church, Bushey Heath.

[](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Merville_Communal_Cemetery_16.JPG)