



**PRIVATE HERBERT JOSEPH HAWGOOD**

7<sup>th</sup> Battalion, The Queens (Royal West Surrey Regiment)

Service number 68540

26<sup>th</sup> April 1918 – died of his wounds at 47<sup>th</sup> Casualty Clearing station, Crouy near  
Amiens, France and buried at Crouy Cemetery

Crouy British Cemetery, Crouy-Sur-Somme, France

Born in Little Brington, 1899

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Father – Harry Hawgood (shepherd). Mother – Alice Lambert of Yardley Gobion

New Cottages, Little Brington

Sister – Drusilla (housemaid at The Hall, Long Buckby)

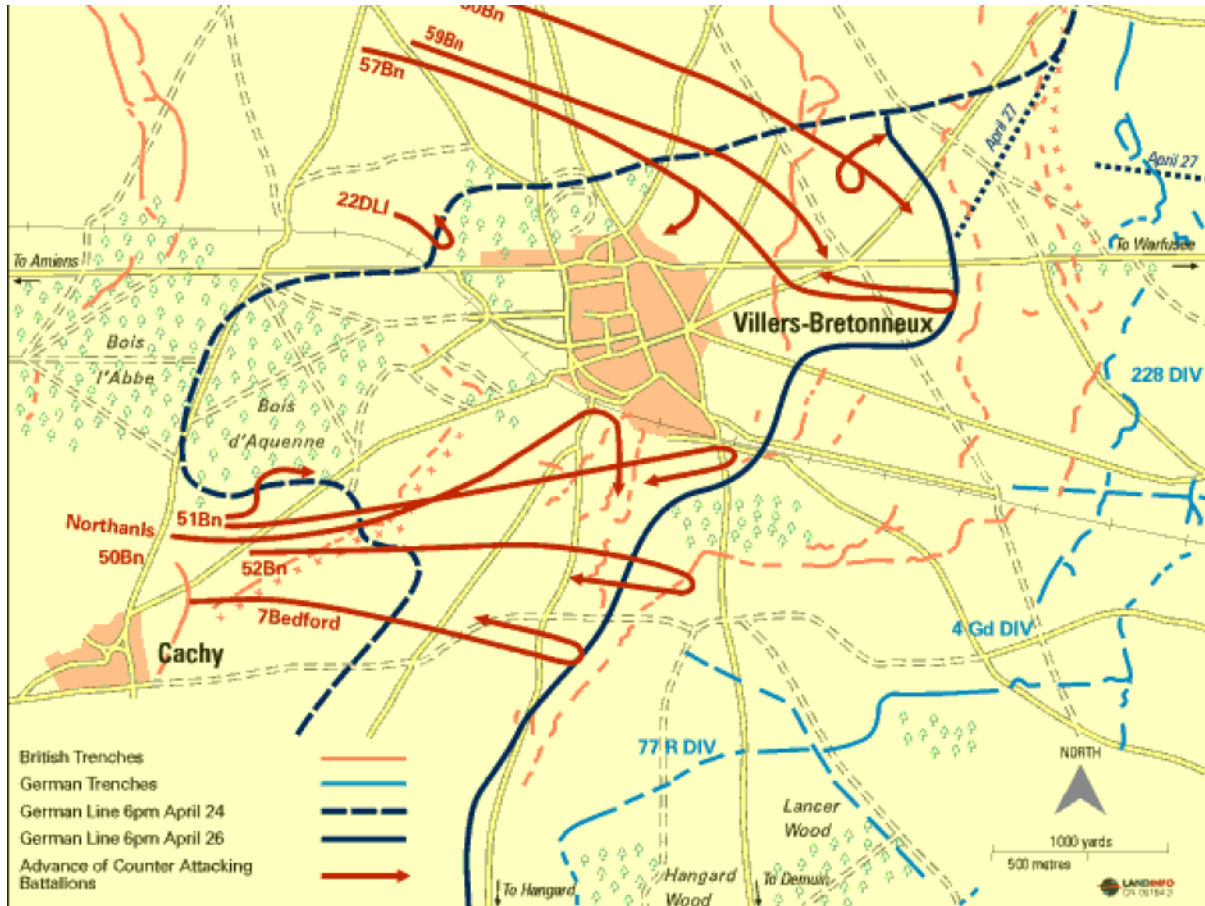
Little Brington School, left at 13 to work as a junior gardener on Althorp Estate

Enlisted and joined the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion at aged 18 but died within 9 months of service  
but within only three weeks in France.

There is a memorial plaque to him in Althorp Park.

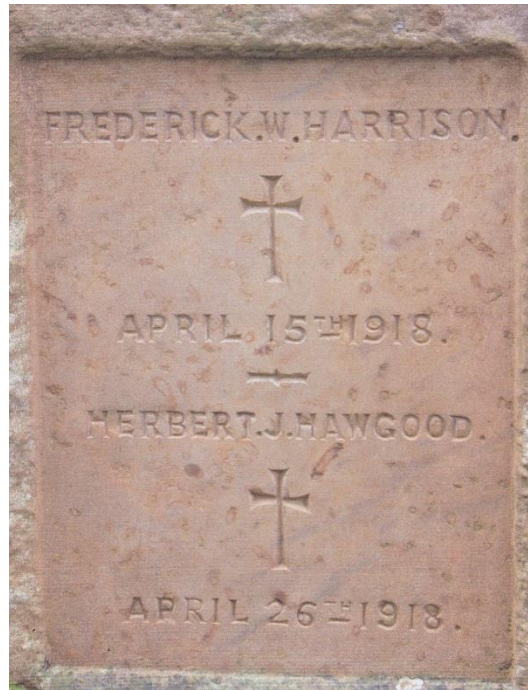
Victory Medal and British War Medal

Bert had been injured at the second battle of Villers-Bretonneux that had commenced in April 1918. This was one of the first battles to involve the use of tanks.



The Second Battle of Villers-Bretonneux took place during the Battle of the Lys, 24–27 April 1918, when an assault was launched against the Allied lines to the east of Amiens. It is notable for the first major use of tanks by the Germans, who deployed fourteen of their twenty A7Vs, and for the first tank-versus-tank battle in history.

The tank battle occurred when a group of three advancing A7Vs met and engaged three British Mark IV tanks, two of which were female tanks armed only with machine-guns. The two Mark IV females were damaged and forced to withdraw but the male tank, armed with 6-pounder guns, hit and disabled the lead A7V, which was then abandoned by its crew. The Mark IV continued to fire on the two remaining German A7Vs, which withdrew. The "male" then advanced with the support of Whippet light tanks which had arrived, until disabled by artillery fire and abandoned by the crew. The German and British crews recovered their vehicles later in the day. A counter-attack by two Australian and one British brigade during the night of 24 April partly surrounded Villers-Bretonneux and on 25 April the town was recaptured. Australian, British and French troops restored the original front line by 27 April.




Plaque in Althorp Park as a memorial to Herbert Hawgood


In Memory of  
Private

**Herbert Joseph Hawgood**

68540, 7th Bn., The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment) who died on 26 April 1918 Age 18  
Son of Harry Herbert and Alice Maude Mary Hawgood, of New Cottages, Little Brington, Northampton.

Remembered with Honour  
Crouy British Cemetery, Crouy-Sur-Somme





Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission