

# In Memory of

# Private BERTIE BIRD

6th Bn., Machine Gun Corps who died aged 19 on Tuesday, 22nd October 1918.

Private BIRD was the son of James and Emily Bird, of Little Cornard, Suffolk.

Remembered with honour MONT HUON MILITARY CEMETERY, LE TREPORT, Seine-Maritime, France.



In the perpetual care of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

### In Memory of

## **BERTIE BIRD**

Private 155502 6th Bn., Machine Gun Corps who died on Tuesday, 22nd October 1918. Age 19.

Additional Information:

Son of James and Emily Bird, of Little Cornard, Suffolk.

### **Commemorative Information**

Cemetery:

MONT HUON MILITARY CEMETERY, LE TREPORT, Seine-Maritime,

France

Grave Reference/
Panel Number:

VIII. M. 7A.

Location:

Le Treport is a small seaport 25 kilometres north-east of Dieppe. The Cemetery is 1.5 kilometres south of the town. Go towards the centre of Le Treport and then follow the Littoral/Dieppe sign. The

Cemetery stands on the D940.

Historical Information:

Le Treport was an important hospital centre during the war. By July, 1916 it contained three General Hospitals (the 3rd, 16th and 2nd Canadian), No. 3 Convalescent Depot, and Lady Murray's B.R.C.S. Hospital; the original Military Cemetery was nearly filled, and it became necessary to use the new site at Mont Huon. The 7th Canadian, 47th and 16th U.S.A. General Hospitals arrived later. The hospitals were closed in March, 1919. There are now over 2,000, 1914-18 war casualties commemorated in this site and 7 from the 1939-45 War. The Cemetery covers an area of 7,851 square metres.

Display Record of Commemoration

### No. 155502, Pte. BERTIE BIRD

Bertie Bird was born in Boxted, Suffolk in 1899 (1901 Census), and was the fourth child of James and Emily Bird. The Bird family had moved to Rectory Road, Little Cornard by 1908, because, according to Little Cornard's school punishment book, Bertie received three cuts of the cane, for continually being late, in March of that year.

Bertie first enlisted in mid 1917, in Ipswich, and was given the No. 324976 in The London Regiment, before joining the Machine Gun Corps, in late 1917. He was a member of the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Machine Gun Corps, which were part of the 6<sup>th</sup> Division. As the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion, MGC formed part of the Divisional Troops, Bertie would have taken part in most of the actions that the Division were involved in. These actions included, the Battle of St. Quentin (Somme 1918), 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> phases of the Battle of the Lys (9<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> April 1918), the Advance through Flanders (August/September 1918), 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> phase of the Battles of the Hindenburg Line (12<sup>th</sup> September) and the Battle of the Selle (17<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> October 1918).

It was during the Battle of the Selle that Bertie was wounded, he was transported to the seaport town of Le Treport, 25 kilometres northeast of Dieppe, which was a very important Hospital centre during The First World War. Bertie died from wounds received, on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 1918, and he is buried in Mont Huon Military Cemetery, Le Treport, he was 19 years old.

There are 2,128 Commonwealth burials of the First World War in Mont Huon Cemetery.

Bertie was entitled to the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.

