



Then & Now



The Royal Sussex Regiment was a line infantry regiment of the British Army that was in existence from 1881 to 1966. The regiment saw service in the Second Boer War, and both World War I and World War II.



**THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED TO THE
MEMORY OF ALL THOSE WHO HAVE
MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE IN
PURSUIT OF PEACE AND FREEDOM.**

*Greater love hath no man than this, that a
man lay down his life for his friends*

John 15:13

I N T R O D U C T I O N

Following a successful bid, the Heritage Lottery Fund awarded Bognor Regis Town Council funds to deliver a project called "Then & Now" to commemorate the World War One Battle of Boars Head.

On the 30th June 1916 in less than 5 hours, 17 officers and 349 men of the Royal Sussex Regiment were killed with another 1100 wounded or missing. Eleven of those men came from the Bognor Regis area. Because of the large number of losses and casualties sustained from the participating battalions, the 11th, 12th and 13th, the Battle of Boars Head is now referred to as "The Day Sussex Died".

The aim of the project was to honour those 11 brave local men and to try and find out as much as possible by creating a picture of who they were, what they did and how that day affected their families along with the impact it had on the Town.

Working with local historians, children from two local schools, St Mary's Roman Catholic Primary School and Arundel Church of England Primary School, researched each of the 11 men and put together a collage of work which was displayed at the Town Hall and then at the local library. Historic England also offered further funding and assisted with the educational element and coordination.

Attempts were made to try and find any living relatives of the 11 Bognor men. Relatives of Lance Corporal Lucas of the 12th Battalion and Lance Corporal Paige of the 13th Battalion got in touch and shared the information they had. Some of the family members undertook further research at the Chichester Records Office with the assistance of the local historians.

On the 100th anniversary, 30th June 2016, two separate commemorative services took place to mark the occasion.

The first took place at the Bognor Regis Memorial Hospital where the WW1 Roll of Honour is housed. The service was presided over by Rev Graham Reeves, the hospital Chaplain and attended by the Town Mayor, Cllr. P Dillon; the Deputy Lord Lieutenant, Mr Roger Turner; and a representative for the Royal Sussex Regiment, Mr Nigel Taggart and all laid commemorative wreaths. Other Town Councillors, the Friends of Bognor Hospital and members of the public also took part.

The second service was held at the Bognor Regis Town Hall War Memorial. This was an opportunity for the schoolchildren who had contributed to the project to take part and two representatives from each school laid commemorative wreaths alongside the Town Mayor and Deputy Lord Lieutenant. The Rev Tim Crooks held a small service and the remaining schoolchildren each laid a wooden cross.

This book has been produced as a tribute to all the brave men who fought during the World War One conflict but especially those from the 11th, 12th and 13th Battalions of the Royal Sussex Regiment.

Sheila Green

Project Officer - Bognor Regis Town Council 2016



Historic England



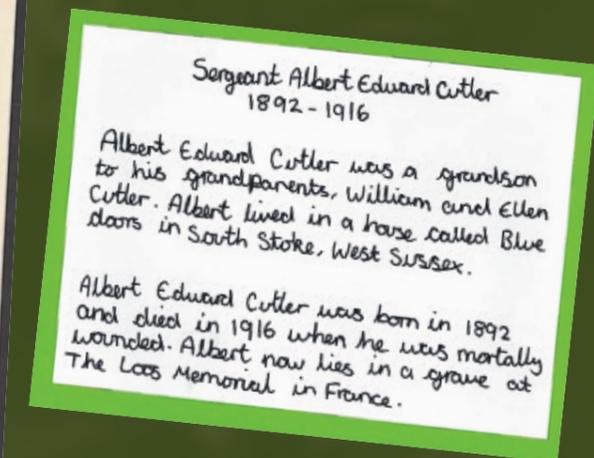
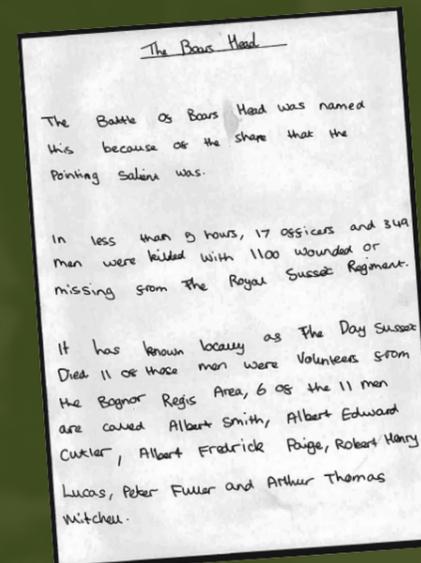
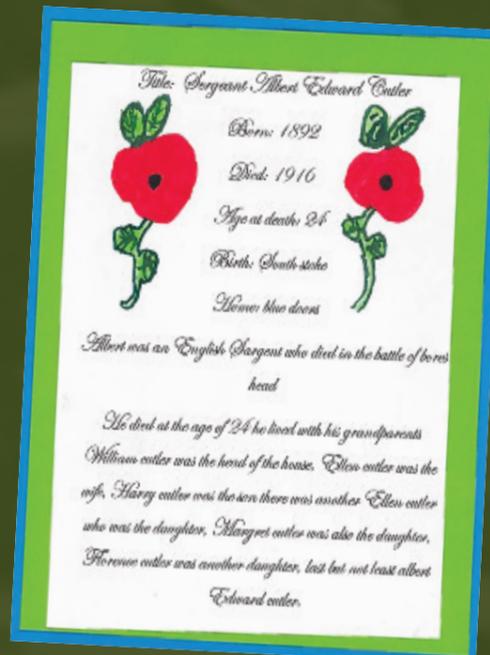
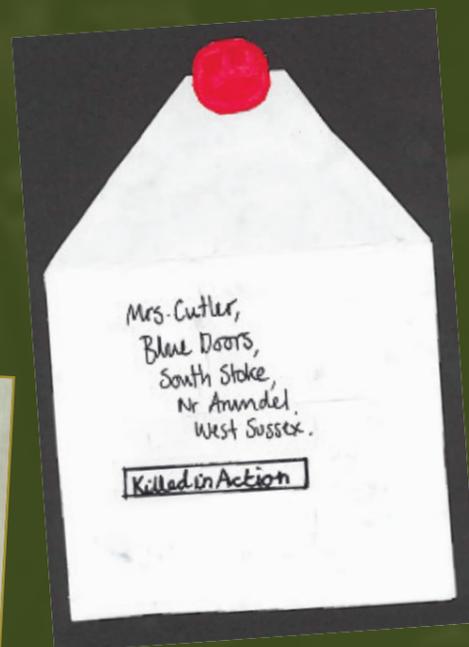
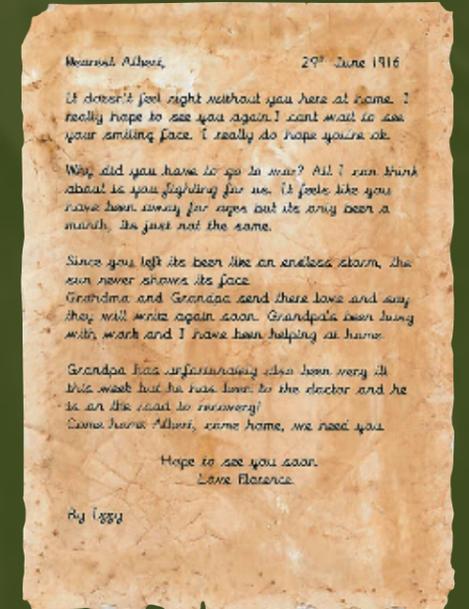
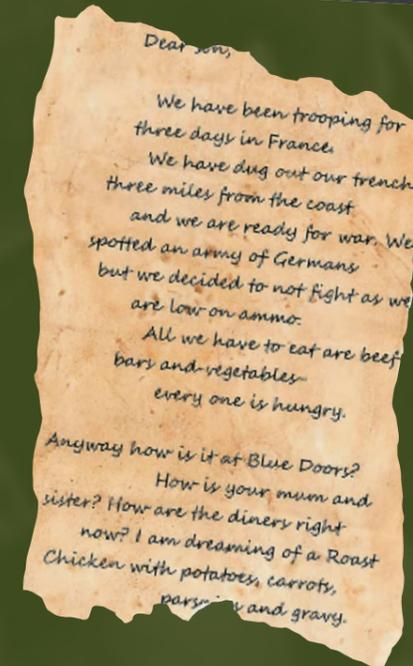
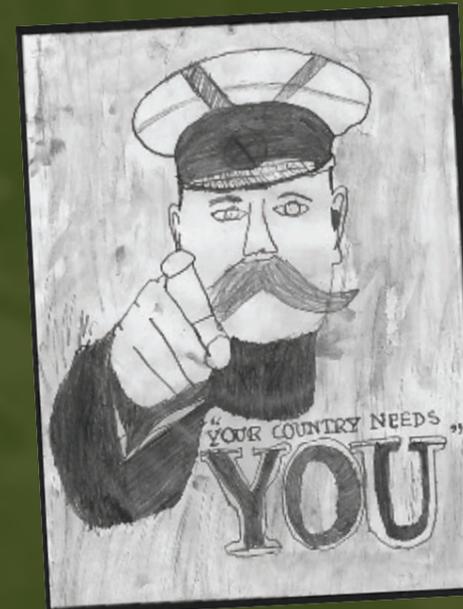
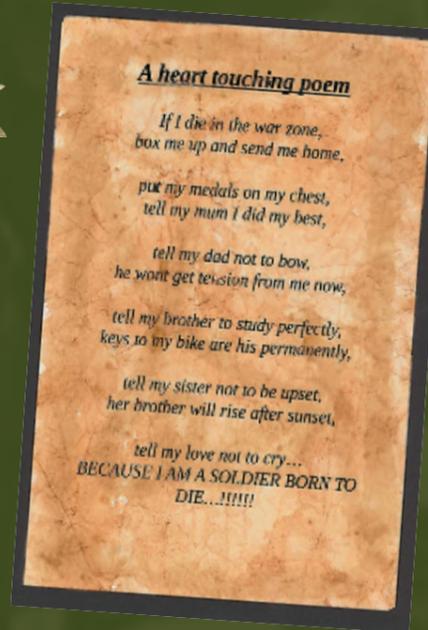
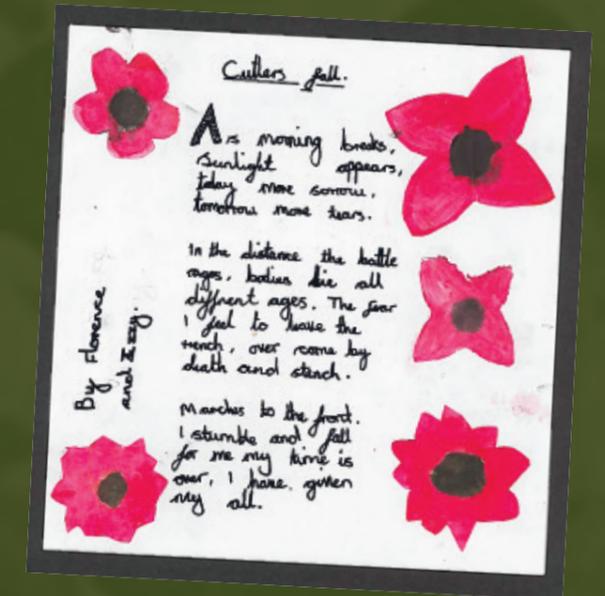
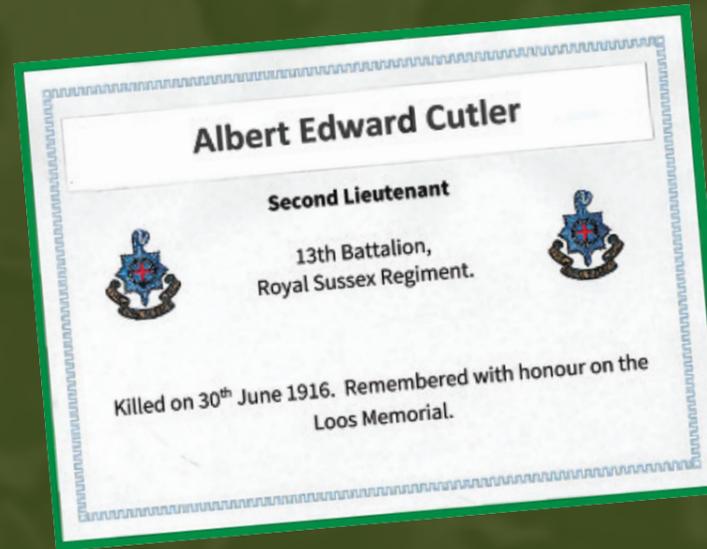
Albert Edward Cutler

Sergeant SD657 South Stoke, Sussex



Southdown's Battalion, the Royal Sussex Regiment, 39th Division
Killed in Action on 30 June 1916.

Although this soldier was not a local resident, he was well known in the town as 'a smart young Police Officer' who had served in Bognor for some considerable time. When War was declared he enlisted at Bognor, fighting and dying alongside many local men. His death was reported in the Bognor Observer. Remembered with Honour on Loos Memorial.



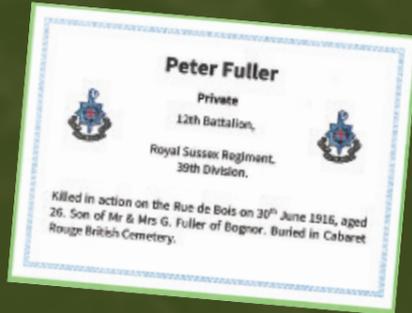
Peter Fuller

Private SD1331 The Nook, Felpham, Bognor

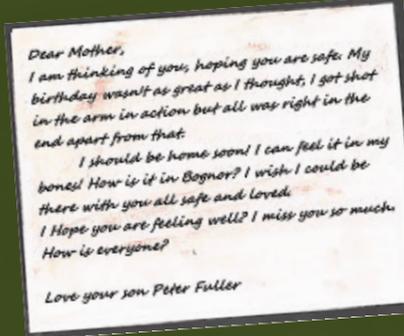
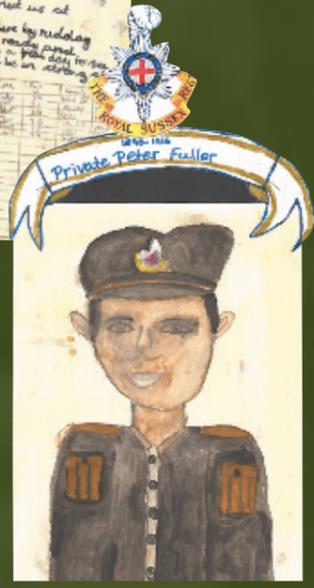
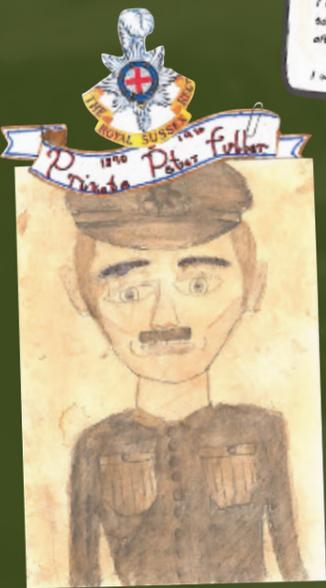
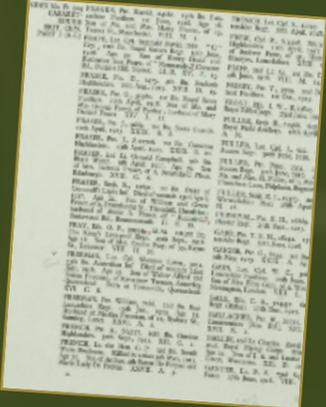
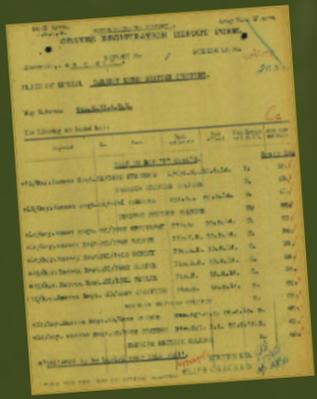
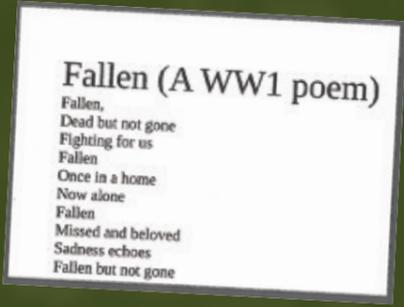
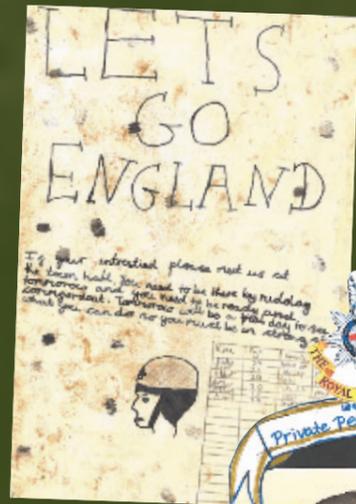
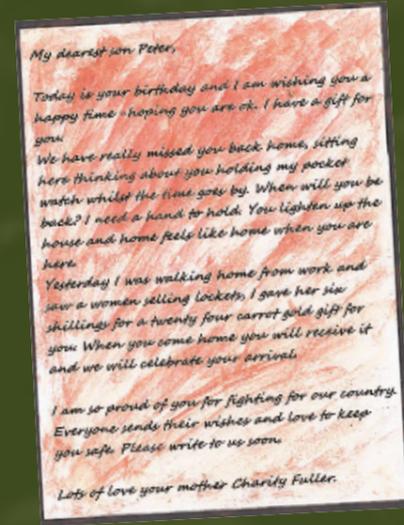
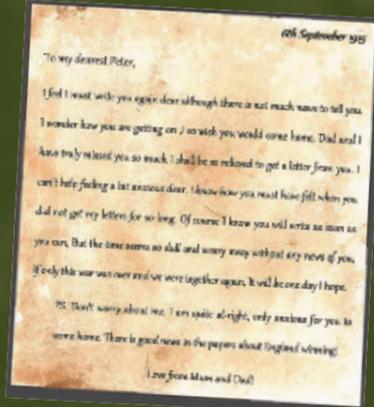
12th Battalion, the Royal Sussex Regiment, 39th Division
Killed in Action on 30 June 1916
Aged 26

Buried in the Cabaret-Rouge British Cemetery, France

One of seven children born to farm labourer George and his wife, Charity, Peter was born in Sea Lane, Ferring. At this time Peter's father was employed as a shepherd. Peter volunteered at Bognor into 12th Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment and was reported as missing on 30 June 1916. The next six months must have been the worst his parents had experienced, as they did not know whether he was missing, dead or possibly a prisoner of war. It was not until January 1917 that they received notification he had been killed in action on that day.



This is Peter Fuller's grave in Cabaret-Rouge British Cemetery in France.



Henry Charles Scott MM

Lance-Corporal SD3225 15 Steyne Street, Bognor



Trenches
Boar's Head
24th June 1916

Dear Mother,
I wish I was home to see you, the sun lights the sea,
Bognor is a good place to be in if it is very sunny but not if it is hotting.

I am still in the trenches, I go nearly steadily, steady and
working, I go full of me every week and I would like
to go home.

I have killed a man, I feel sad and sorry and I feel sorry
for him because he was a son and might have been.

I want to come home.

Love Henry
(Henry Scott, Letter home)
Written by Jacob, age 8

My Letter Home
By Jacob, age 8

Dear Diary,
I wish I was home to see you, the sun lights the sea,
Bognor is a good place to be in if it is very sunny but not if it is hotting.

I am still in the trenches, I go nearly steadily, steady and
working, I go full of me every week and I would like
to go home.

I have killed a man, I feel sad and sorry and I feel sorry
for him because he was a son and might have been.

I want to come home.

Love Henry
(Henry Scott, Letter home)
Written by Jacob, age 8

Diary entry of
Henry Charles Scott
by Morgan Mullar
age 8

Diary Entry
By Morgan, age 8

13th Battalion, the Royal Sussex Regiment, 39th Division
Killed in Action on 30 June 1916 Aged 34
Buried in the St Vaast Military Cemetery, France

Henry Scott lived with his wife and two children and worked for Messrs Reynolds & Co of the High Street. The only son of general labourer William and his wife Eliza, of Belmont Street, Bognor, Henry grew up in St Johns Street with his three sisters and enlisted at Bognor in December 1914. Lance Corporal Scott soon made his mark, being awarded the Military Medal for erecting wire entanglements and cutting the German wire for a raid on the succeeding night; he was engaged in this work with an Officer for nearly four hours at great risk. As a result of the work the raid was successfully achieved with the loss of only a few wounded and none killed. Henry Scott did not live to receive his Military Medal, which was forwarded to his widow, or to hear of his promotion to Lance Corporal. Back in Bognor his widow received the following letter from Major Roberts, of the Royal Sussex Regiment:

'I have just seen that your husband has been killed in action. I am sure you will forgive me writing to you but I must write to tell you how grieved I was to hear of his death and also to tell you of the high respect I had for his personal qualities as a soldier. It may interest you to know that on three occasions your husband was in my Platoon and on three occasions we went out on reconnaissance together. He proved to be perfectly cool and absolutely without fear and so was of the greatest assistance. I am also glad to hear that his gallantry has been officially recognised, though it is bitter luck to know that he did not receive his well merited award. On this occasion your husband and I were again together and spent the whole night cutting the enemys barbed wire and you can judge the nature of the work when I mention that the enemys sentry group were within twenty feet of us the whole time and we could hear them coughing and talking. Only the long grass saved us from being discovered. On the next night when we raided the enemy your husbands good spirits quite buoyed us all up and made us feel confident in ourselves while the enemys trenches were entered and I had the misfortune to be wounded. I remember that Private Scott helped n carrying me to our trenches again. It is for these reasons that I have written to tell you how very sorry I am and to ask you to accept my sincere sympathy in your loss.'

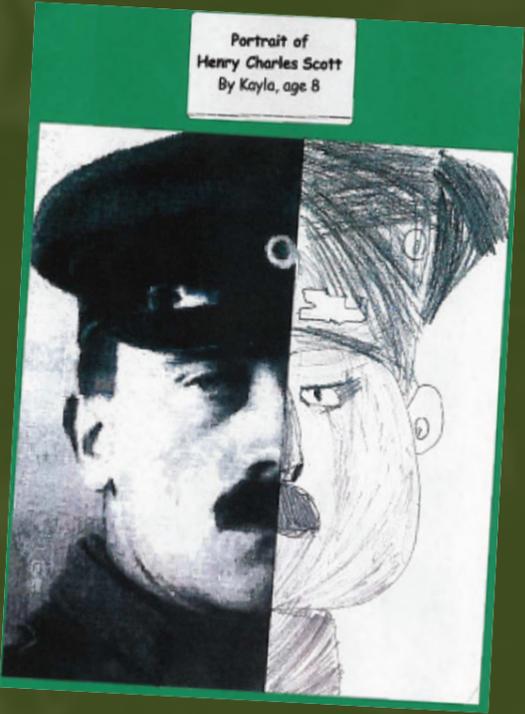
GENERAL REGISTER OF BORN, MARRIED, DECEASED, AND BURIED IN THE REGISTRY DISTRICT OF BOGNOR, DISTRICT OF BISHOPSTOEPE, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, ENGLAND, IN THE QUARTER ENDING 30 JUNE 1916.			
REGISTRY DISTRICT	PARISH	RESIDENCE	DESCRIPTION
Bognor	St. John's	15 Steyne Street	Henry Charles Scott, 34, killed in action on 30 June 1916.

GRAVES REGISTRATION REPORT FORM.			
REPORT NO.	REGISTRY DISTRICT	PARISH	RESIDENCE
14 SEP 1916	Bognor	St. John's	15 Steyne Street
17/18/19/20/21/22/23/24/25/26/27/28/29/30/31/32/33/34/35/36/37/38/39/40/41/42/43/44/45/46/47/48/49/50/51/52/53/54/55/56/57/58/59/60/61/62/63/64/65/66/67/68/69/70/71/72/73/74/75/76/77/78/79/80/81/82/83/84/85/86/87/88/89/90/91/92/93/94/95/96/97/98/99/100			

INVESTIGATED WAR GAMES CORRESPONDENCE.			
NAME	REGIMENT	GRADE	STATUS
Henry Charles Scott	13th Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment	Lance Corporal	Deceased

First World War Centenary
The Battle of Boar's Head 30th June 1916

On the 30th June 1916 the Royal Sussex Regiment lost a total of 17 officers and 349 men killed in action, with a further 1,100 wounded or missing. Eleven Bognor men, all volunteers, were killed on that day.



I feel like an old soldier
because I've been in the trenches.

I always remind me of when I see
you - like to be with you.

I'm missing you so much
in the trenches.

Not always the same with you
and I miss you.

When I think of you I think
you were my best friend.

Dear Mother,
By Jacob, age 8

Dear Mother,
I wish I was home to see you, the sun lights the sea,
Bognor is a good place to be in if it is very sunny but not if it is hotting.

I am still in the trenches, I go nearly steadily, steady and
working, I go full of me every week and I would like
to go home.

I have killed a man, I feel sad and sorry and I feel sorry
for him because he was a son and might have been.

I want to come home.

Love Henry
(Henry Scott, Letter home)
Written by Jacob, age 8

Dear Diary,
I wish I was home to see you, the sun lights the sea,
Bognor is a good place to be in if it is very sunny but not if it is hotting.

I am still in the trenches, I go nearly steadily, steady and
working, I go full of me every week and I would like
to go home.

I have killed a man, I feel sad and sorry and I feel sorry
for him because he was a son and might have been.

I want to come home.

Love Henry
(Henry Scott, Letter home)
Written by Jacob, age 8

Dear Diary
By Morgan, age 8

Sign up to join
the Army, because
you're fighting for
your country.

Warwick

Dear Diary,
I wish I was home to see you, the sun lights the sea,
Bognor is a good place to be in if it is very sunny but not if it is hotting.

I am still in the trenches, I go nearly steadily, steady and
working, I go full of me every week and I would like
to go home.

I have killed a man, I feel sad and sorry and I feel sorry
for him because he was a son and might have been.

I want to come home.

Love Henry
(Henry Scott, Letter home)
Written by Jacob, age 8

Dear Diary
By Morgan, age 8

Henry Charles Scott MM
Lance Corporal
13th Battalion
Royal Sussex Regiment,
39th Division.

Killed in action on the Rue de Bois on 30th June 1916. Born and enlisted in Bognor. Next of kin Bognor resident. Buried in St Vaast Post Military Cemetery.

Albert Smith

Private SD3015 Address unknown



13th Battalion, the Royal Sussex Regiment, 39th Division
Killed in Action on 30 June 1916
Aged unknown
Buried in the Cabaret Rouge British Cemetery, France
Albert Smith was born in Bognor and enlisted in Chichester into 13th Battalion the Royal Sussex Regiment. On 23 July 1916 he was reported as missing, but he had in fact been injured and died of his wounds received on 30 June 1916,

Albert Smith
Private
13th Battalion
Royal Sussex Regiment.
39th Division.

Killed in action on the Rue de Bois on 30th June 1916. Born in Bognor and enlisted in Chichester. Buried in Cabaret Rouge British Cemetery.

CONCENTRATION OF GRAVES (REGIMENTAL AND BATTALION)

BURIAL RETURN

No.	Regt.	Regt. Name	Regt. No.						
1	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
2	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
3	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
4	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
5	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
6	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
7	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
8	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
9	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
10	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13



*They fought bravely for the King's cause
and for the peace of our dear
motherland. They died for the
freedom of our country and the
happiness of our people. They
are now at rest in the
glorious fields of France.*

Dear mother and father
I have lost my arm, but don't
panic I will be alright I am
writing this to you in the
shack. I have to go and train
now, the training is very
hard work, I really hope I
will pass.

from Albert

Private Albert Smith
1890-1916

Albert Smith was the son of George and Jane Smith and is not known to have any siblings. He lived in a house with his mother, father, grandmother and a visitor. He was born in Chichester Sussex. Before he joined the army he worked as a stationary assistant. He joined the army at the age of twenty four.



13th June 1916
To my most darling Mother,
I have seen the most horrible
scenes ever in my life, many
unbearable. I am writing this
in an extremely hostile
environment, yet my only comfort
my darling is the only place that
I can feel safe and alone. At
night I can go into my
gutter with my precious day
I feel like I am over the fire of
war. All around me I hear and
hear friends are dying. My opinion
is just what I see.
Your loving son
Albert

THE ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT
PRIVATE A. SMITH
Private Albert Smith
1890-1916

Albert was the son of George and Jane Smith and is unknown to have any siblings. He lived in a house with his mother, father, grandmother and a visitor. He was born in Chichester Sussex. Before he joined the army he worked as a stationary assistant. He joined the army at the age of 24. He is remembered with honour at the Cabaret Rouge British Cemetery, France.

REGIMENTAL GRAVE REGISTRATION REPORT FORM

NAME OF GRAVE: [Handwritten Name]

REGIMENT: 13th Bn

DATE OF BURIAL: [Handwritten Date]

PLACE OF BURIAL: [Handwritten Location]

No.	Regt.	Regt. Name	Regt. No.						
1	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
2	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
3	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
4	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
5	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
6	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
7	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
8	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
9	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
10	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13

REGIMENTAL GRAVE REGISTRATION REPORT FORM

NAME OF GRAVE: [Handwritten Name]

REGIMENT: 13th Bn

DATE OF BURIAL: [Handwritten Date]

PLACE OF BURIAL: [Handwritten Location]

No.	Regt.	Regt. Name	Regt. No.						
1	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
2	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
3	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
4	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
5	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
6	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
7	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
8	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
9	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13
10	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13	13th Bn	13



Dear Darling Mother,
I have seen the most horrible scenes ever in my life. I am writing this letter in the most deserted place ever. Today all I can think about is home and all the amazing dinners that you cooked, they are much nicer than here, all we get is a bowl of porridge or bread with no butter.

And I miss being at work even with the stationary and also coming home to see my loving family.

Hope to see you soon

Yours Sincerely,
Albert

BOGNOR HOSPITAL SERVICE

BOGNOR TOWN HALL SERVICE



The Bognor and District War Memorial Hospital Roll of Honour for 1914-1919 includes the villages of South and North Bersted, Aldwick, Shripney, and Felpham. There are 324 names recorded on wooden panels in gold lettering with surnames and initials preceded by rank.

Wreaths were laid by The Town Mayor Cllr. P. Dillon, Deputy Lord Lieutenant Mr Roger Turner, Mr Nigel Taggart Representative for Royal Sussex Regiment.



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Little bit of text to fill space would look lot better 30 odd words?



Remembrance...

Remembrance...

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Bognor Regis Town Council would like to thank the following people for their help and time in bringing this project together:

Heritage Lottery Fund

Historic England
Lois Gyves

St Marys RC Primary School Bognor Regis
Vicky Foster-Lewis and the Pupils Year 3

Arundel CofE Primary School
Victoria Willavise and the Pupils Year 6

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Alistair Campbell
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Wendy Walker
Matthew Jones

Local Historians
Cliff Mewett
Sylvia Endacott

Rev. Tim Crooks

Bognor Regis Museum

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

The relatives of Lance Corporal Robert Henry Lucas and
Lance Corporal Albert Fredrick Paige

The Royal Sussex Regiment Association

The Royal Sussex Regiment

Circa 1915



Battle for Boars Head

30th June 1916

BATTLE OF BOARS HEAD - 30 JUNE 1916



BATTLE OF BOARS HEAD - 30 JUNE 1916