

# Tylers Green Memorial Trees

In 2007, volunteers began looking into the history of the stately row of mature lime trees on Back Common. On the evidence of two half-buried plaques the trees were thought to have been planted around 1920, to commemorate the local men who were killed in the First World War.

There were eight trees and two obvious gaps in a very evenly-spaced line. This suggested that there had been ten trees, each representing three of the 30 men listed on the war memorial in St Margaret's churchyard. However, research into parish records and contemporary newspapers revealed that a total of 30 lime and beech trees were planted in groups around Tylers Green, but not until 1937.

### Species of memorial trees...

● Lime ● Oak ● Beech ● Copper Beech

Special trees and woods are found across the Chilterns. Since January 2006, a team of volunteers has been recording and researching them so they can be celebrated and managed sensitively and sustainably. For more information on special trees and woods go to [www.chilternsaonb.org/special](http://www.chilternsaonb.org/special)

In the Bucks Free Press of 5 November 1937 it was reported:-  
‘between thirty and forty ex-servicemen assembled on Tylers Green Common armed with picks, spades and forks, and planted trees which will be a memorial to fallen comrades as well as a commemoration of Coronation year’ (King George VI).

At a British Legion meeting in October 1937 Sidney Fountain's name was drawn from a hat containing all 30 names to determine that his plaque would be under the tree in St Margaret's churchyard.

The six missing trees have been replaced and 30 new plaques installed with help and support from the local community.

More details of these brave men can be found in the Remembrance Book in St Margaret's church porch.

The lime trees on Back Common in 2007. The common lime is often planted in avenues and other formal planting schemes as it is fast growing and has an impressive statuesque form.

Alfred Trendell of Hazlemere Road  
was killed in France in March 1916  
aged just 20.

Ernest Johnson's family received a Dead Man's Penny.  
The Government produced more than a million of these  
12cm discs made of gunmetal.

After the war, Mrs Kate Trendell visited the grave of her son Alfred. Ernest has no known grave but is remembered on the Thiepval Memorial. Although blinded, an older son Frederick survived.

Alfred's brother Ernest died four months after him on the first day of the Battle of the Somme which continued until November 1916. He was 18 years old.

Harry Dutton of Rays Lane served in the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry. The battalion war diary reports that a gas shell landed in Harry's trench at 4am on the 10th March 1917. By 10am eighteen men were dead but 'otherwise it was a quiet day'.

Horse chestnut planted in 1935 by the WI for King George V Silver Jubilee

Twelve red oaks were planted in 1960 by Penn Parish Councillors to replace diseased elms on Elm Road

Small leaved limes, planted in 1979, belatedly marked the Silver Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II and formed the avenue we see today

Red oak planted in 1953  
to celebrate the Coronation  
of Queen Elizabeth II

Planted in 1935, this English oak celebrates the Silver Jubilee of King George V

	Tree		Tree
Geoffrey Bartlett	27	Ernest Long	10
Ernest Bovingdon	5	Joseph Nicholas	26
Francis Coombes	23	Maurice Perfect	2
William Crabbe	20	Joseph Piggott	28
Frank Deadman	16	John Ricketts	14
Arthur Dover	9	Frank Rogers	7
Harry Dutton	11	Sidney Rogers	8
Frederick Eustace	3	Philip Rose	1
Sidney Fountain	24	Robert Saunders	29
Felix Fryer	6	Robert Scott	12
Daniel Hazell	15	George Smith	22
John James	13	Edmund Sturge	21
Ernest Johnson	4	Alfred Trendell	17
Bert Lewis	25	Ernest Trendell	18
Cyril Long	30	William Wheeler	19



Heritage  
Lottery Fund



In 2009, this living memorial was refurbished by the Special Trees and Woods Project, the Royal British Legion, Chepping Wycombe Parish Council, Penn and Tylers Green Residents Society and the Western Front Association.

