

Albert Wilfred Herman

Born 31st May 1897

Died 26 December 1917 Age 20

Royal Dublin Fusiliers 1st Bn. Pte 41384

Unicorn Cemetery, Vendhuile

Albert Wilfred Herman (Bertie) was the youngest son of George and Pamela Herman. George and his first wife Ellen had five children, and after Ellen died in childbirth George married Pamela Forty, a cattle dealer's daughter from Lower Swell, Gloucestershire. George himself was a dealer and shopkeeper at Church Green House (Darden House). He also had a carrier service to Abingdon and Wantage.

The Herman family had been in East and West Hanney since the sixteenth century, but by the time George, his brothers and sister were all running various enterprises in the second half of the nineteenth century, they were the only ones left here.

In the 1901 census George and Pamela and all their children (Bertie was three) were still living at Darden House, but things were about to change as George was taken to Fairmile Hospital and Pamela moved to The Malt House.

In the 1911 census Pamela had the three youngest boys living with her and two boarders. The 1911 census was different to previous censuses as the householder completed it, rather than the enumerator. Pamela used the names she called the boys rather than their full names as previously: Fred was 20 and a carter on a farm, Reggie 15 was a baker, and Bertie 13 was at school.

George died in Fairmile in 1912. Bertie enlisted in Abingdon in the Training Reserve but no record remains of when he was sent to the front. His brother Reggie also enlisted and returned (see group photograph).