

Horace Barrett

Baptised 9th April 1893

Died 13th May 1915 Age 22

Royal Berks Reg 2nd Bn Pte 15793

Wimereux Communal Cemetery

Horace Barrett was the second child of Charles James and Elizabeth Barrett. The Barretts had been in East Hanney since the beginning of the nineteenth century as bricklayers and masons. Charles James and his brother John P. Barrett had been born in Brentford and Slough respectively, but the family had returned to East Hanney. J.P. Barrett later moved to West Hanney and set up his building business.

Charles and Elizabeth were married in 1890 and also moved to West Hanney. Elizabeth was born in West Hanney. She was the daughter of David Cox, a labourer, and the widow of James Dunsden who had died aged 35 the previous year. Charles and Elizabeth had 12 children between 1891 and 1906. Two sons died young and a daughter in her teens.

Horace appears as an eight year old on the 1901 census. By the 1911 census he was a farm labourer.

No record can be found of when Horace enlisted. His younger brother Walter, (who was in Abingdon Isolation Hospital at the time of the 1911 census) and was a ploughboy, also enlisted but returned from the war (see group photograph).