



## Charles Alfred GIBSON

Private. 14<sup>th</sup> Bn. Durham Light Infantry

### At KES:

Charles came to KES in 1909 from his home in Maidstone. His father had died in 1906. His occupation was "tailor". When he left in 1913 he was described as "has a bad temper, grumbles - a bully". However, despite this he went to work as a page in the Wellington Club.

**Date of Death: 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1917**

**Place: France**

**Remembered on the Cambrai Memorial Louveral Nord**

Charles enlisted early in 1915 and served in the Dardanelles before transferring to the Durham Light Infantry and serving in France. He was killed, aged 19, during the Battle of Cambrai (20<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> December) and he has no known grave.

*"The Battle of Cambrai ranks as one of the most thrilling episodes of the whole war. Tanks at last came into their kingdom. The notion that the Hindenburg Line was impregnable was exploded"* Captain Stair Gillon:

Probably those who took part found it less thrilling. Third Army reported losses of dead, wounded and missing of 44,207 between 20 November and 8 December. Cambrai proved to be a failure.

## Obituary

### Obituary KES Magazine

...was killed in action on December 3<sup>rd</sup> 1917. "Gibby" joined the West Kent Regiment in October 1914 and saw service in Gallipoli in June 1915. After a time he was invalided home and in March 1917 went to France where he was transferred to the Durham Light Infantry as a sniper. He was a well known character at School ever to the fore when fun and mischief were involved, and his school fellows will mourn his loss at the age of 19. Our sympathy to his family and friends.