



## **Francis Markham RIDDLE**

**Private. 8<sup>th</sup> Bn. Royal Fusiliers**

### **At KES:**

Francis was born in Hampstead and came to KES in 1899. He was 1 of 6 children and his father had died. He was described as good and went into the Band. His younger brother Oswald was also at KES. When he left in 1904 he went into service and by 1911 was a Footman.

**Date of Death: 7<sup>th</sup> July 1916**

**Place: France**

**Remembered on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme**

Joined up in 1914 and married Florence in May 1915 in North Camp Farnborough. As with so many killed in action during the Battle of the Somme he has no known grave.

Comprising the main Allied attack on the Western Front during 1916, the Battle of the Somme is famous chiefly on account of the loss of 58,000 British troops (one third of them killed) on the first day of the battle, 1 July, which to this day remains a one-day record. The attack was launched upon a 30 kilometre front, from north of the Somme river between Arras and Albert, and continued until 18 November, at which point it was called off.