

## **We Will Remember Them** **The Great War (July 28, 1914 – November 11, 1918)**

*Compiled and Submitted by Mayor Shelley Hart*

On November 11, 1918 – 100 years ago this month, the armistice to end the First World War was signed at 5:00 am on Marshal Ferdinand Foch's train in the forest near Rethondes in France. Six hours later the armistice came into effect, ending the Great War. Beforehand, Canadian troops were fighting their way into Mons, where British troops had been forced to retreat in August 1914. Private George Price, a Canadian soldier, was killed by a German sniper moments before the ceasefire came into effect.

Eighteen “boys” from East St. Paul paid the ultimate sacrifice in the Great War. A cenotaph in their honour is located in Memorial Park at the corner of Birds Hill Road and Agar Avenue. They are honoured on the cenotaph for their service to country, but before they ever set foot on a battlefield, they lived ordinary lives like the rest of us. They were farmers, labourers, carpenters, one was a blacksmith and many were market gardeners, an occupation that has become synonymous with East St. Paul. They all left those lives behind, to fight for the freedom we enjoy today.



The cenotaph was originally dedicated on September 13, 1925, by Rev. R. W. Ridgeway of St. Thomas' Anglican Church and Rev. J. W. McAlpine of Birds Hill United Church. It was unveiled before a crowd of approximately 100 people including families of the fallen, East St. Paul Reeve W.J. Dawson and a number of other dignitaries.

A plaque on the cenotaph identifies the East St. Paul residents who lost their lives in the Great War. There are seventeen names on the plaque but there are eighteen names listed on the Manitoba Historical Society website. The missing eighteenth name, Private Walter Chudleigh, was confirmed via the Veterans Affairs Canada website.

In memory of the lives lost 100 years ago this month we honour the fallen:

William A. Bowen, Private, 78th Battalion, Canadian Infantry, Railway Foreman

Herbert G. Bowen, Private, 78th Battalion, Canadian Infantry, Farmer

Bertie W. Brown, Private, 78th Battalion, Canadian Infantry, Carpenter

Kenneth Campbell, Private, 8th Battalion, Canadian Infantry, Labourer

Walter S. Chudleigh, Private, 4th Battalion, Canadian Infantry, Clerk

Alexander Gallie, Gunner, 1st Siege Battery, Canadian Garrison Artillery, Market Gardener

Edward Garvie, Private, 27th Battalion, Canadian Infantry, Market Gardener

James A. George, Sapper, 2nd Tunneling Company, Canadian Engineers, Labourer

Henry W. Hoddinott, Private, 8th Battalion, Canadian Infantry, Farmer

R. Jones

Albert Knowles

Andrew A. Osypa, Private, 5th Battalion, Canadian Infantry, Farmer

Archibald N. Peters, Private, 8th Battalion, Canadian Infantry, Farmer

James Peterson, Corporal, 90th Battalion, Canadian Infantry, Labourer

Thomas W. H. M. Reid, Private, 8th Battalion, Canadian Infantry, Blacksmith

Frederick J. Sargent, Private, 16th Battalion, Canadian Infantry, Teamster

Reuben Roy Taylor, Private, 78th Battalion, Canadian Infantry, Market Gardener

George Watson, Private, 1st Armoured Regiment, Royal Canadian Dragoons, Farmer

