

**In Memory of  
Rifleman FREDERICK ARTHUR MOBEY DCM  
553388, 16th Bn., London Regiment  
(Queen's Westminster Rifles)  
who died, age 19, on 10 November 1918  
Son of Mrs. E. Swan, of Chapel Square, Faringdon, Berks.  
Remembered with honour  
Faringdon and Faringdon Baptist Church War Memorials  
and  
ETAPLES MILITARY CEMETERY**



**Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission**

During the First World War, the area around Etaples was the scene of immense concentrations of Commonwealth reinforcement camps and hospitals. It was remote from attack, except from aircraft, and accessible by railway from both the northern or the southern battlefields.

In 1917, 100,000 troops were camped among the sand dunes and the hospitals, which included eleven general, one stationary, four Red Cross hospitals and a convalescent depot, could deal with 22,000 wounded or sick.

In September 1919, ten months after the Armistice, three hospitals and the Q.M.A.A.C. convalescent depot remained.

The cemetery contains 10,771 Commonwealth burials of the First World War, the earliest dating from May 1915. 35 of these burials are unidentified.

Hospitals were again stationed at Etaples during the Second World War and the cemetery was used for burials from January 1940 until the evacuation at the end of May 1940.

During Early November 1918 the 1st/16th, as part of the 169th Brigade, 56th London Division advanced south of Valenciennes before being withdrawn from the front line on the 7th of November. During this period they were involved in the capture of Saultain (3rd), Sebourg (4th) and actions at Angreau (5th) and La Grande Honnelle (6th). Rfm Mobey was fatally wounded at some time during this period but to have reached Etaples by rail would have meant that he survived for a few days and that his wounds were such that it was thought that he had some chance of recovery. Others more clearly fatally wounded were looked after in the Moribund (meaning near death) Ward usually situated not far from the front lines, until they succumbed to their wounds. Formerly 6595 19th London (St Pancras).

*Faringdon Advertiser 21 June 1919*

Mrs S Swan of Chapel Square, Gravel Walk, Faringdon, has received from the Officer i/c Infantry Records, London, the medal which was awarded to her son. Pte. F. A. Mobey 553388 of the 1/16<sup>th</sup> London Regiment, for Distinguished Conduct in the Field. Pte. Mobey joined the army in June 1916 and died on November 10<sup>th</sup> 1918 of wounds received in action in France on November 8<sup>th</sup>. He had been twice previously wounded.