

OLD HAMSEY CHURCH

Interior monuments

Obituaries

Sussex Agricultural Express,

Sussex Weekly Advertiser,

Brighton Gazette

Vault 5 SHIFFNER, Sir George 1842 Sussex Advertiser

Vault 5 SHIFFNER, Miss I. P. 1892 Sussex Agricultural Express

Wall plaque 6 SHIFFNER, 1918 Sussex Express

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War memorial MITCHELL, Ronald 1917 Sussex Express

Vault 5 Sir George SHIFFNER 1842

Sussex Advertiser — Monday 14 February 1842

On Thursday last, the remains of the late Sir George Shiffner, Bart., were removed from Coombe Place, and deposited in the family vault at Hamsey.

Vault 5 Miss I. P. SHIFFNER 1892

Sussex Agricultural Express - Saturday 06 February 1892

NEWICK

DEATH OF MISS I. P. SHIFFNER.

Our parish has just sustained a great loss in the death of this most charitable and self-denying lady. Miss Isabella P. Shiffner, who, although far advanced in years, had always enjoyed remarkably good health, was first taken unwell last Saturday week, when she was strictly ordered Mr. R. Gravely, her medical attendant, to keep to her bed. Since then she has been gradually growing weaker, and after having been unconscious for about two days, she passed peacefully away on Tuesday afternoon, at two o'clock. She would have been 93 years of age on the 27th of this month. Miss Shiffner will be greatly missed in this village. She was a devoted supporter of the church, was a liberal subscriber to all societies and movements whose objects were beneficial to the parish and, while she exercised a prudent discrimination in her almsgiving, she was especially mindful of the wants of the poor, and during the 32 years she had resided Ketches she had rendered useful assistance in the management of the charitable institutions of the parish. Up to within a short time of her death the deceased lady was possessed of surprisingly vigorous powers, both physically and mentally. The funeral will take place on Saturday next, at Hamsey old church, where there is a family vault, the deceased being the aunt of Sir George Shiffner, Bart., of Coombe Place.

Sussex Agricultural Express - Saturday 12 February 1892

NEWICK—HAMSEY.

FUNERAL OF MISS I. P. SHIFFNER.

The mortal remains of this much-esteemed lady were deposited in their last resting-place, in the family vault at Hamsey old church, on Saturday last. The corpse was conveyed by road from the deceased's residence at Ketches, Newick, on Saturday morning, arriving at its destination previous to 12 o'clock, which was the hour appointed for the funeral. The solemnity of the sad event was made the more impressive by the gloomy character of the interior of the now deserted sacred edifice, this ancient building—whose isolated, but picturesque, situation and grey, ivy-mantled tower so often excite the curiosity of strangers—being only retained as a kind of cemetery chapel to the newer church at Offham. The procession was met at the entrance to the churchyard by the Rev. F. R. Hepburn (rector of Chailey), who read the burial service in impressive tones. The vault being situated within the church, the whole of the service was performed inside the building, and at the close the hymn "For ever with the Lord" (Ancient and Modern) was sung by the choir of

Offham Church. The coffin was of polished oak with brass fittings, enclosing an inner one of lead, and bore the inscription:—

ISABELLA PHILADELPHIA SHIFFNER,
Died 2nd February, 1892,
Aged 92 years.

It was quite covered by large number of beautiful wreaths, while the entrance to the vault was neatly dressed with ivy. The funeral arrangements were satisfactorily carried out by Mr. Fuller, undertaker, of Lewes. Among the mourners and others who came to pay a last mark of respect to a dear friend, were the Rev. Sir George and Lady Shiffner, Captain Shiffner, Mr. Geo. Shiffner, Major Shiffner, General Keene, Capt. and Mrs. G. Ruck-Keene, Miss Ruck-Keene, Mrs. Henry Ruck-Keene, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Croxton Johnstone, Miss Hepburn (Chailey), Mrs. C. Powell (Newick), Mrs. F. Gravely (Newick), Mr. Rogers (the Point, Newick), Mr. R. Gravely (Newick, medical-attendant), Capt. Sclater (Newick Park), Rev. F. Sclater (Westmeston), Mr. Streatfeild (Uckfield), Mr. R. Scarlett, and Mr. H. Scarlett (Uckfield). There were also present Miss Chitty (the deceased's companion), and the family household at Ketches, as well a number of tradespeople and others from Newick, including Mr. F. Bannister, Mr. A. Hampten, Mr. W. J. Martin, Mr. J. Oldaker, Miss Pickett, and Mr. M. V. Wood. A good many of the heads of the principal families in the neighbourhood were unavoidably prevented from attending by sickness, but a large number of lovely wreaths were sent by relations and friends from all parts. As further tokens of respect and affection in which the deceased lady was held at Newick, it should be mentioned that a muffled peal was rung on the bells of the parish church on the evening of the funeral, while on Sunday the services were made especially commemorative of her death. The morning service commenced with "I know that my Redeemer liveth" (Handel), which was played on the organ as an opening voluntary by Mrs. Fuller. The hymns sung, which were all appropriate to the occasion, were "There is a blessed home," "The saints of God, their conflict past," and "On the resurrection morning" (A. and M. hymn book). Previous to the sermon, a letter to the congregation was read from the Rev. C. Powell, who, being confined to his room with an attack of influenza, was unable to take part in the Sunday services, as he was also unable to attend the funeral the day before.

Vault 6 & Wall plaque 22 Sir John HUTTON COOPER 1828

Brighton Gazette – Thursday 25 December 1828

We regret to announce the death, yesterday, of Sir Hutton Cooper, Bart., aged 63, after an illness of three weeks.

Brighton Gazette – Thursday 01 January 1829

The remains of Sir Hutton Cooper, Bart., were interred yesterday at Firle. Near Lewes. [This is certainly a mistake, it should be Hamsey not Firle]

Sussex Weekly Advertiser, dated 05 January, 1829; page 3:

The remains of Sir Hutton Cooper, Bart. were removed hence, and interred in a new vault, in Hamsey Church, near Lewes, on Wednesday, as early as half-past ten in the morning. The funeral was attended by Doctor Cooper (brother of the deceased), Colonel Dalrymple, Colonel Broughton, Sir G. Shiffner, Bart. and the Rev. G. Shiffner. The solemn procession displayed a hearse and six, with the usual insignia and emblazonments; divers outriders, with sable trappings; two mourning coaches and four; the family carriage; and, the carriages of Sir

F. Baker, Bart. Colonel Dalrymple, the Hon. Mrs Herbert, Mrs Chaplin, and Sir George Shiffner. The deceased was a representative in parliament, for Dartmouth, and a Groom of the Chamber to the Duke of Clarence. Lady Cooper is related to Sir Sir George Shiffner. The funeral was furnished by Mr. S. Ridley.

Wall plaque 6 Sir John SHIFFNER 1918

Sussex Agricultural Express - Friday 04 October 1918

SIR J. B. SHIFFNER, BART

KILLED IN ACTION.

Readers will regret learn that official news was received on Wednesday by Lady Shiffner, 57, Brunswick-square, Brighton, stating that her husband, Second-Lieutenant Sir John Bridger Shiffner, Bart., was killed in action in France on September 24th.

Decreased, who was 19 years of age last August, was educated at Wellington College, and privately under the tuition of Mr. Bent, Parkfield, Haywards Heath. In 1915 he joined the London Scottish Cadet Corps, to which he was attached about twelve months, and afterwards passed through Sandhurst. He joined the Royal Sussex Regiment last May, and during September was drafted France, where remained at the base for about ten days. He entered the fighting line on September 23rd, and, sad to relate, made the supreme sacrifice the following day.

The Baronetcy was created in 1818, and deceased, who was sixth of the line, succeeded his father in April 1914. In July last he married Sybil Helen Gibbons, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sills Clifford Gibbons, of Scaynes Hill. Sir J. B. Shiffner formerly resided at Coombe Place, and later at Bevern Bridge House, Chailey, and quite recently removed to Brighton.

The greatest sympathy extended to Lady Shiffner, also the Dowager Lady Shiffner, who for the past six months has been a nurse at the Royal Pavilion Red Cross Hospital, Brighton, and is at present engaged in the artificial limb department the same institution.

Sussex Agricultural Express - Friday 01 November 1918

GALLANT HAMSEY MEN.

HOW SIR JOHN SHIFFNER DIED.

Information as to the manner in which Second-Lieutenant Sir John Shiffner, Bart., Royal Sussex Regiment, met his death in action, at the age of 19 years, was conveyed in message from his Colonel, which was read on Saturday at St. Peter's Church, Hamsey, at memorial service for the deceased officer, another officer, and eleven men from the parish who lost their lives while they were serving King and country.

The message from the Colonel, with reference to the late Sir John Shiffner, was as follows: "We attacked, and the Company he was with did magnificently. At the end of the attack I met him at the final objective, and he was the only officer of his Company left unwounded. I put him in charge and left him to consolidate the position. Shortly afterwards the enemy counter-attacked, but were repulsed by the bravery of our men, who rushed out and fought, although outnumbered by about six one. I think he must have lost his life in that brilliant phase of the fighting. I have no hesitation in saying that he must have led his men well. When I met him at the end of the attack I was particularly struck with his utter disregard of danger."

The other Hamsey men in memory of whom the service was held were Captain A. C. Charrington, Arthur Skerritt, Walter Sandells, George Smith, Ronald Mitchell, Charles Mitchell, Albert Banfield, Arthur Collins, Edmund Gordon Payne, Findon Sandells, Samuel Ralph Norman, and Richard Parker.

Among those present at the service, which was conducted the Rector (the Rev. E. Shiffner Best), were: The Dowager Lady Shiffner, Mr. Henry Shiffner (brother of deceased), Major and Mrs. Tidmarsh (brother-in-law and sister), the Misses Shiffner (aunts), Mr. Edward Shiffner, Mrs. Croxton Johnson, Mrs. Gibbons, and Captain A. R. Best, with tenants and servants. Owing to a bad cold Lady Shiffner was unable attend. Colonel C. A. Hankey, Major Beynon, Captain L. A. Baker, Lieut. M. Woodward, Second-Lieut. P. P. Thorpe, and Second-Lieut. H. A. Goodacre, with six warrant and non-commissioned officers, represented the Royal Sussex Regiment, while on behalf of the 1st Volunteer Battalion of the Regiment Captain H. Haynes and Lieut. R. Burfield attended. The congregation also included: Lord Monk Bretton, Lieut. Ivor Grantham, Royal Sussex Regiment (representing his father, Major W. W. Grantham), the Rev. H. W. Farrar (Rector of Barcombe), Mrs. H. J. Powell, the Misses Perfect, Mrs. Herbert Whitfeld, Mr. F. B. Whitfeld, J. P., Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Knight, Messrs. W. E. Nicholson, F. J. Cornwell, A. Cook, J. Kenward, J. G. Harmer, H. Harmer, F. Moffatt-Smith, J. P., J. W. Bennett, J. Aylwin, G. Martin, J. Horton and F. Thomas.

At the commencement the service the "Dead March" in "Saul" was played by Master K. Billingham. Subsequently the hymns, "Oft in danger, oft in woe," and "On the Resurrection Morning," were sung, and the service concluded with the National Anthem.

The letter quoted above was read by the Rector during an address, in the course of which he said those who had laid down their lives could be remembered as they were at home—full of life, spirits, and energy, with the world in front of them. They had gone hence nobly, dying in defence of their homes and the altars of their God. Their example should encourage those who remained at home to continue to do their duty.

THE LATE SIR JOHN SHIFFNER – MEMORIAL SERVICE AT OFFHAM CHURCH

A memorial service for 2nd Lieut. Sir John Shiffner, Bart., of Coombe who was killed in action in France while serving with the Royal Sussex Regiment, on September 24th was held at St Peter's Church, Offham, on Saturday afternoon. The deceased baronet was only 19 years of age, and a verse by R. L. Stevenson printed on the service paper appropriately summed up his brief life.

"Doomed to know not Winter, only Spring, a being Trod the flowery April for a while. Took his fill of music, joy of thought and seeing, Came and stayed and went, nor ever ceased to smile."

The service was also held in memory of other Hamsey officers and men who have laid down their lives for their country in the present war, and whose names were read out at the commencement of the service as follows; Capt. A. Craven Charrington, Arthur Skerritt, Walter Sandells, George Smith, Ronald Mitchell, Charles Mitchell, Albert Banfield, Arthur Collins, Edward Gordon Payne, Findon Sandells, Samuel Ralph Norman and Richard Parker.

There was a large congregation, the service being conducted by the Rev. E. Shiffner Best (Rector of Hamsey). Among the relatives present were the Dowager Lady Shiffner (mother), Mr Henry Burrows Shiffner (brother), Major and Mrs Tidmarsh (brother-in-law and sister), Mrs Gibbons, the Misses E. and N. Shiffner, Mr Edward Shiffner, Mrs Croxton Johnson and Capt. A. R. Best. Lady Shiffner was prevented by a heavy cold from attending the service. The following officers represented the Royal Sussex Regiment: Col. C. A. Hankey, Major Beynon, Capt. L. A. Baker, Lieut. M. Woodward and 2nd Lieuts. P. P. Thorpe and H. A. Goodacre, six warrant officers and non-commissioned officers also attending. Capt. H. Haynes and Lieut. H. Buried represented the 1st Volunteer Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment. Among those also present were Major Lord Monk-Bretton, C.B., Mr F. B. Whitfield, Mr F. Moffat Smith, Mr and Mrs E. C. Knight, Mrs H. J. Powell, the Misses Perfect, the Rev. H. W. Farrar (Rector of

Barcombe), Mr W. E. Nicholson, Lieut. Ivor Grantham (5th Royal Sussex Regiment), Mr J. Kenward, Mr J. Aylwin, Mr J. G. Harmer, Mr H. Harmer, Mr J. W. Bennett, Mr J. Horton, Mr F. Thomas, Mr G. Martin, Mr A. Cook, &c., many tenants and workmen on the Coombe estate being present. Major W. W. Grantham was unavoidably prevented from attending. The service opened with the "Dead March" in Saul, expressively played by Master K. Billingham, of Lewes, organist at the church. The hymns were "Oft in danger, oft in woe" and "On the Resurrection morning," the choir being augmented by several boys from St Anne's Church Choir, Lewes. Psalm xlvii. was read and the Nunc Dimittis was chanted. The Rev. E. Shiffner Best gave a brief address from the text Wisdom iii. (which chapter was read as the lesson): "In the sight of the unwise they seemed to die and their departure is taken for misery and their going from us to be utter destruction: but they are in peace ... They shall be greatly rewarded for God proved them and found them worthy for Himself." He said it was not their place to sorrow for those who had laid down their lives for their country in the cause of right. They remembered them as they were to them, full of life and spirits and energy with the world in front of them. It seemed an awful thing that they should be cut off in their youth. But it was not for them to grieve, they could not imagine them to have made a higher or nobler sacrifice than to have died facing fearful odds in the cause for which they stood. They had laid down their lives for their homes and their country and for the righteousness in the world. They had trodden in the steps of their Saviour Who gave His life on the Cross to free mankind and to free the world, and they could with confidence leave them in His keeping. The Rev. Gentleman read an extract from a letter sent by the Colonel of the regiment respecting Sir John Shiffner's death as follows: " On September 24th we attacked and the Company he was with did magnificently. At the end of the attack I met him at the final objective and he was the only officer of the Company left us wounded. I put him in charge and left him to consolidate the position. Shortly afterwards the enemy counter-attacked, but were repulsed by the bravery of our men, who rushed out and fought him although outnumbered by about six to one. I think he must have lost his life in that brilliant phase of the fighting. I have no hesitation in saying that he must have led his men well." They were, concluded the preacher, honouring the bravery, courage and self-sacrifice of those who had died, literally for them. They left them in the keeping of their Saviour, from Whom they would find their truest source of comfort. Might the memories of those men inspire them to do their duty and be ready for the sacrifices to which they might be called. The service closed with a verse of the National Anthem.

Wall plaque 13 Captain John SHIFFNER 1814

Sussex Advertiser - Monday 02 May 1814

DIED.

In France, to the inexpressible grief of his relatives, of the wounds he received in the late unfortunate sortie of the garrison of Bayonne, Captain and Lieutenant J. B. Shiffner, of the 1st battalion of the 3rd Regiment of Guards, son of G. Shiffner, Esq. of Coomb Place, one of the members for this Borough. The deceased was a young man of tried bravery, having been engaged in every battle that has been fought by the gallant Wellington within the last five years.

Sussex Advertiser - Monday 16 May 1814

The servant of the late Capt. Shiffner, who fell in the unfortunate affair before Bayonne, as mentioned in a former Paper, is returned to Coombe-Place, and states, that his master was killed by a Musket-Ball, which entered near the Groin, and perforated the bladder. This gallant young man, it seems, expired about twelve hours after he received his wound, and placidly resigned himself into the arms death, apparently without pain, which cannot fail of affording

some consolatory reflections to his afflicted Relatives. Capt. Shiffner's remains were interred in the Garrison.

War Memorial Ronald MITCHELL 1917

Sussex Express - November 1917

OFFICER DIES FROM WOUNDS.

The many friends of Lieutenant Ronald Walter Mitchell, Yeomanry, attached to The Buffs, will learn with regret that he was wounded on November 6th, and has since passed away. He was one of four sons of the late Mr. R. A. H. Mitchell, and great sympathy is extended to his mother and sister, who reside at Hamsey House, Hamsey, a former residence of Lord Esme Charles Gordon-Lennox. Lieutenant Mitchell, who was a great favourite with all who had the pleasure of his friendship, was a keen cricketer, and often played for the Hamsey team.
