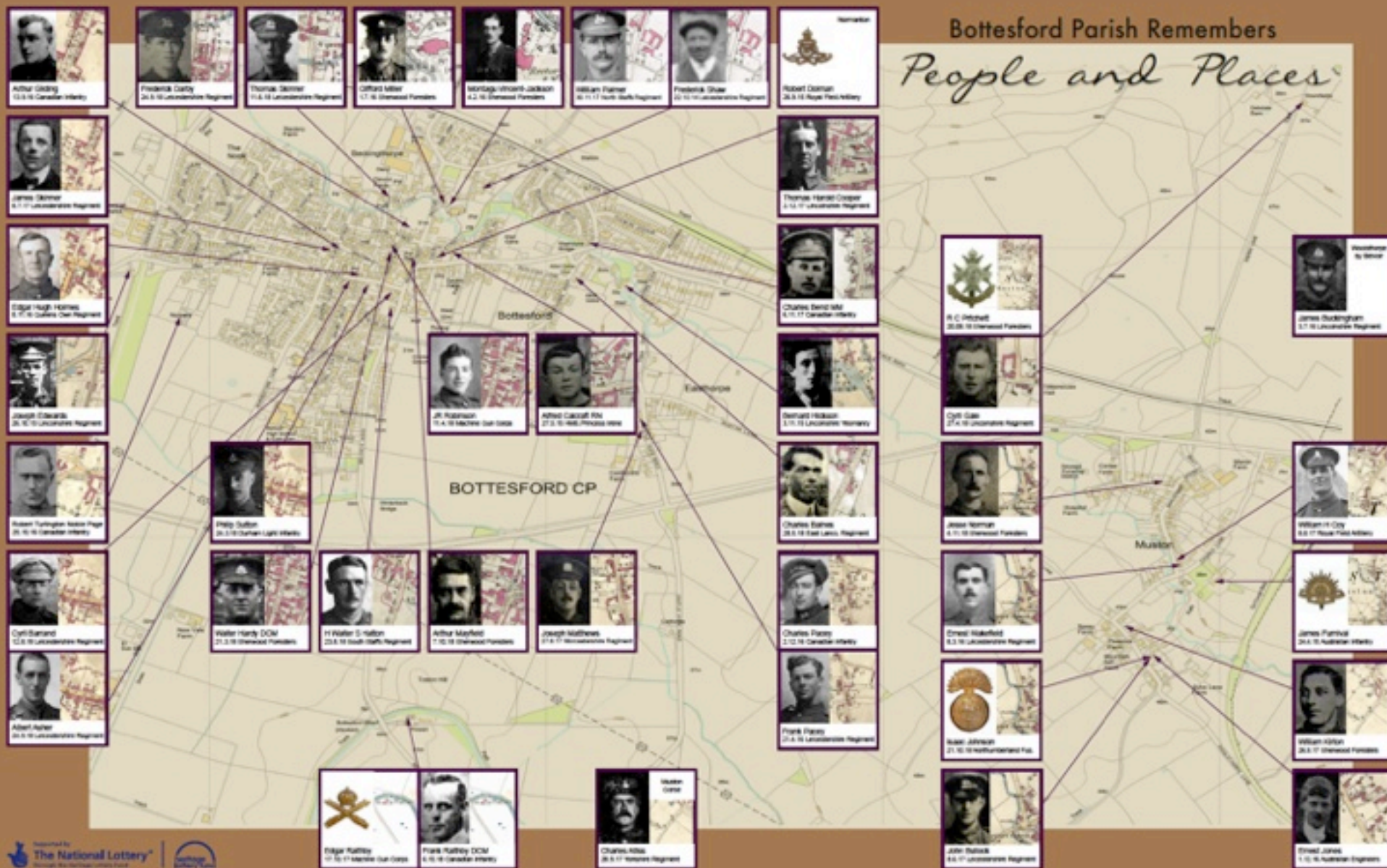


People and Places





Private Charles Pacey on his only home leave in Easthorpe, ten months before he was killed in action, December 1916.

Old cottages on The Green, Bottesford, where Thomas Skinner lived (no.15 on map).



Bottesford High Street looking towards the Rutland Arms: on the right is the house (end on) where Philip Sutton lived (8 on map) and the terrace where Albert Asher (9) lived; opposite is the cottage where Edgar Holmes (10) lived.



Children in Main St, Muston, c.1900. Behind are cottages, since demolished, where Ernest Wakefield (2 on map) and William Coy (3) lived.



WWI Heritage Walks

Bottesford Parish 1st World War Centenary Project

Walk into history—Follow the streets of the old villages of Bottesford and Muston, in the Vale of Belvoir. In 1914, they were filled with the sounds of horses and farm animals, of children laughing and villagers gossiping, before everything changed, and so many left to join the war effort. Years of hardship and distress followed, as the world of Edwardian England came to feel like a lost dream.

The maps show the streets as they were in 1914. They indicate where, to the best of our knowledge, the families of men remembered on the War Memorials and the Chapel Roll of Honour lived. Seven of the men had emigrated before the war broke out, and then enlisted and returned: five in the Canadian Infantry, two in the Australian forces.

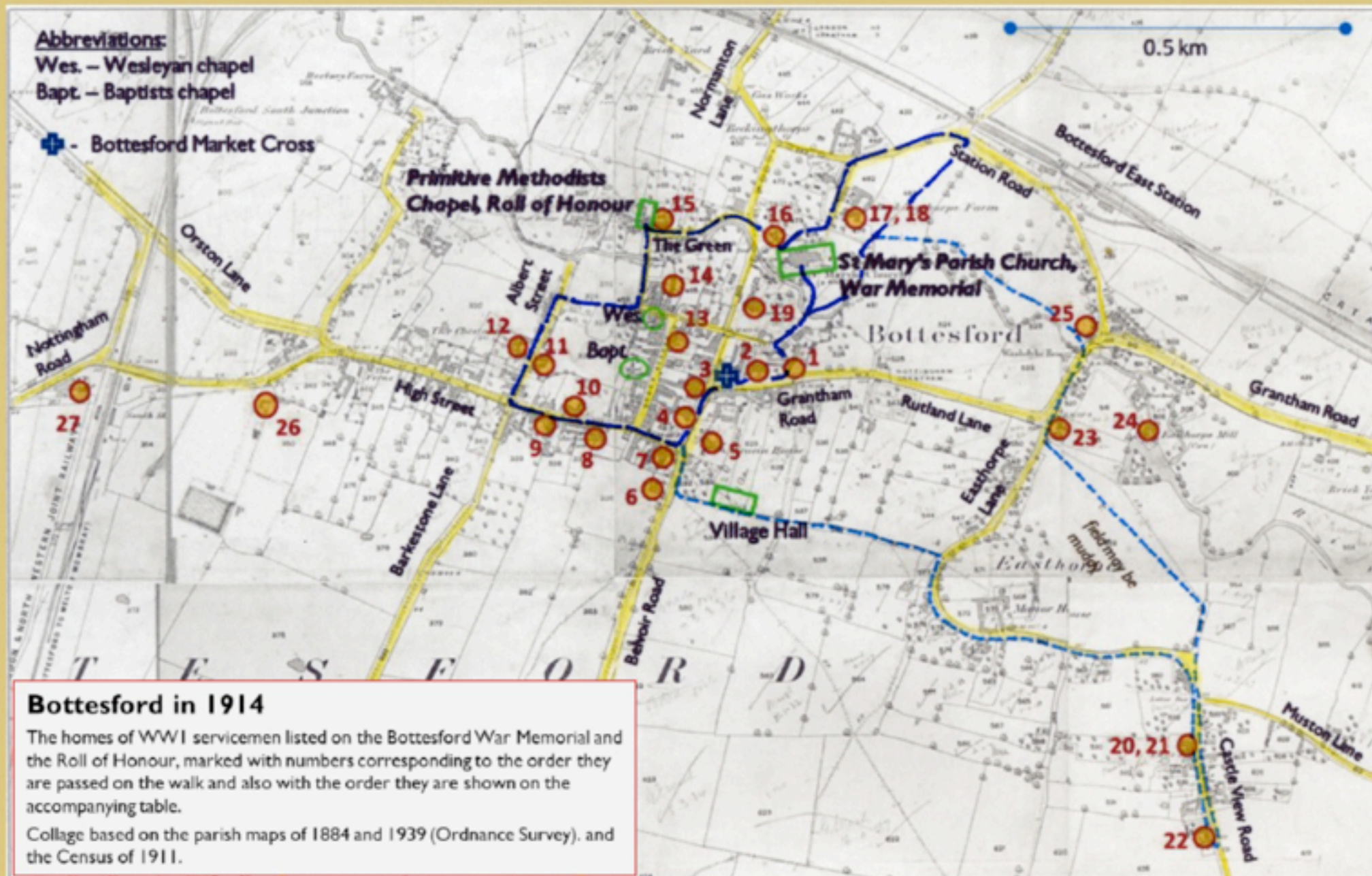
With so many men risking their lives, there were Flag Days, Gymkhanas, egg collections and other efforts to raise money and send home comforts to the troops. Local members of the Red Cross produced bandages, dressings and surgical gowns, all of which were in short supply.

Bottesford has developed a great deal since then. Many of the old houses have gone, farmyards and fields given over to new housing, but the old streets are still easy to follow. Muston has changed less, and its streets are largely unaltered.

Please respect the privacy of the houses along your route, and take care crossing the roads and where the pavement is narrow or there is none.

To learn more about the lives of these WW1 servicemen, and others who returned after the end of the fighting, or to add your own memories and comments, please visit our interactive website:

www.bottesfordhistory.org.uk



A Heritage Walk around Muston

The village of Muston was deeply affected by the First World War. Eleven Muston men are remembered on the War Memorial in St John's churchyard. The locations of their homes are marked on the map, as shown in the accompanying table. Three of the locations lie off the map, and are included at the bottom of the table.

We suggest that you park close to the church and explore the quiet village streets. Refreshments can be had at the Old Forge Tearoom or the Muston Gap pub.

Muston Casualties:

- 1 James Richey Furnival, farmer after emigrating to Western Australia 1909, Sgt, Australian Infantry, d.30/4/1915, 36 yrs, KiA, Gaba Tepe, Gallipoli
 - 2 Ernest Wakefield, married with two children, had served with the Leicestershires in India from 1904 and then been a policeman, recalled in 1914, Pte, Leicestershire Regiment, d.8/3/1916, 29 yrs, KiA, Kut-al-Amara, Mesopotamia
 - 3 William Henry Coy, farm worker at Goodson's farm in Bottesford, Gunner, Royal Horse Artillery, d.8/8/1917, 22 yrs, KiA, Pilckem Ridge, Flanders
 - 4 Jesse Norman, a fitter in an ironstone mine, married with three children, Pte, Sherwood Foresters, d.4/11/1918, 38 yrs, missing, presumed KiA, Somme
 - 5 William Pollard Kirton, worked in a clothing warehouse, L/Cpl, Sherwood Foresters, d.26/9/1917, 21 yrs, KiA, Battle of Passchendaele, Flanders
 - 6 Ernest Jones, married, a painter and decorator, emigrated to Melbourne in 1912, Sapper, Australian Engineers, d.1/12/1916, 26 yrs, KIA, Somme
 - 7 Isaac Johnson, a platelayer, Pte, Northumberland Fusiliers, d.21/10/1918, 27 yrs, DoW at University College Hospital, London
 - 8 John William Bullock, a farm worker, married with a young family, L/Cpl, Sherwood Foresters, d.8/6/1917, 28 yrs, missing, officially declared dead in 1918, Somme
- James Buckingham, a farm worker, lived at Breeder Hills Farm, Pte, Lincolnshire Regiment, d.3/7/1916, 25 yrs, missing, body never found, Somme
- R C Pritchett, farm worker, brought up by Gale family at Downfields Farm, Pte, Sherwood Foresters, d. 20/8/1918, 18 yrs, KiA, Le Touret village west of Bethune, France
- Cyril Gale, farm worker, lived at Downfields Farm, Pte, Lincolnshire Regiment, d. 27/4/1918, 19 yrs, died of wounds and diphtheria at Le Cateau War Hospital whilst a prisoner of war, family finally informed in January, 1919

d—died; yrs—years; KiA—killed in action; DoW—died of wounds

Muston in 1914 - based on the Parish Map of 1884 (Ordnance Survey) and the Census of 1911.

