

## Remembering those who gave everything for freedom

# Lives lost, but not forgotten

**T**IME hasn't dimmed interest in the sacrifices made by so many so long ago, and this year two readers have researched the lives given so freely for our freedom in the First World War.

Keith Holford, of Chinley, bought a postcard of an un-named war memorial with a Buxton photographer's imprint. Tracking it down as Longnor War Memorial, he then uncovered another mystery - a mention on a memorial in the village graveyard of a local man killed

in action while serving in the Canadian Infantry, Private William Kidd, of Wiggininstall.

Mr Holford has now successfully campaigned to have Pte Kidd's name added to the Longnor memorial in time for this weekend's Remembrance Day service.

For the full story of Mr Holford's fascinating research into Pte Kidd's story, see our website [www.buxtonadvertiser.co.uk](http://www.buxtonadvertiser.co.uk).

Another reader, retired headteacher Graham Conway, of Buxton, researched two of the names from the Buxton Cenotaph, a pair of colleagues who had taught at Buxton College and fought in The Great War. What he discovered showed



**A LESSON TO ALL:** Buxton College teachers who gave their lives - left, Lt Lawson, and right, 2nd Lt Knight.



**LONGNOR WAR MEMORIAL:** The name of Pte Kidd (below) will be added to the village memorial (above).

the real lives behind the long list of the dead.

Lieutenant Harry Sackville Lawson was appointed headmaster at the school in January 1911, and when war broke out he was 37-years-old, married to Janet, with four young children.

Nevertheless, in 1915 he could no longer resist his obligation to serve and enlisted into the Royal Field Artillery.

Initially "engaged in lecturing", in 1917 he volunteered for service at the front. Harry was killed in action on February 5, 1918.

The *Buxton Advertiser*, in reporting his death, stated: "It seems he had been working night and day preparing a new position for his battery, and had practically finished.

"He slept in the afternoon and then went out with another officer to make a final inspection of the po-

sition. They had only just arrived when they were both hit. His colleague was able to crawl away to send help. The last he saw of him was a cheery smile."

Second Lieutenant Raymond Edward Knight held the post of 'School Master', teaching English and History at The College. Raymond enlisted into the Gloucestershire Regiment as a Private, landed with his Battalion at Boulogne on March 29, 1915, and was commissioned on October 16, 1915.

Whilst still a Corporal he was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal.

His citation read: "For conspicuous gallantry on the night of August 3-4, 1915, near Hebuterne".

Raymond was wounded on July 21, 1916, during an attack North East of Ovillers and died of wounds the following day.

