

No 31 September 2017

1. Lieutenant Wilfred Charles Ross Royal Flying Corps. Wilfred spent the Christmas of 1917 in the Manse on Netherside with his bride Constance Augusta. Connie was the daughter of Rev William Henry Mason the Primitive Methodist minister. The Rev Mason's son Arnold Henry was mentioned in the account of visits home published in the Bradwell News for August 2017. Wilfred was born in Leominster Herefordshire in 1896 where his father Ephraim was a boot manufacturer, a JP and a prominent Wesleyan. Wilfred's mother's name was Clara. Wilfred had joined the Royal Welsh Fusiliers as a 2nd Lieutenant but in 1916 Wilfred (actually then spelled with an 'i') received Royal Aviators Club Certificate No 3477 (the then equivalent of a pilot's certificate) and transferred to the Royal Flying Corps. In 19th February 1918 Wilfred was posted missing but was repatriated on 17th December the same year having been held as a Prisoner of War. A newspaper cutting in which the marriage of Wilfred and Connie in Ardwick in 1917 is described it is suggested that Wilfred had been studying medicine before he enlisted but no Dr Wilfred Ross is listed in the General Medical Council list of registered medical practitioners for the 1920s. He died in Hendon in 1979.
2. L/46598 Driver Alfred Edgar Bossingham Royal Field Artillery. Although the Bossingham family have had close connections with Bradwell no Bossingham was listed as living in the village in 1911, nor is Alfred's name included in the Roll of Honour in St Barnabas. 14 Year old Sheffield-born Alfred was living in Model Village Creswell according to the 1911 census. He was living at home with father and mother John William and Mary and was described as working below ground in a pit. He married Lillian Oldham in 1919 in Nottingham. Their daughter Mary E Bossingham was born in 1923, the birth being registered in Bakewell.