

11 November 2018



# Early hints of the struggle ahead

Almost 50 men from Malpas were serving in His Majesty's Forces by November 1914.

Many returned four years later but three of them were among the earliest fatalities of the conflict.

**George Allman** of Cross o'th Hill was killed in action, aged 28, at the first Battle of Mons in Belgium in August, only 20 days after the British declaration of war.

He had enlisted originally in 1904 and in 1914 was recalled from the reserves.

Malpas-born **Sydney Barlow** (29) was killed in action in France, in the first Battle of Ypres, in October 1914. He had joined-up in 1907 and

served in India for five years.

And his death was followed days later, in November, by that of Boer War veteran **Hugh Sandbach**, aged 36

from Cuddington.

He died while in command of a volunteer force of British settlers formed to repel the German invasion of Tanzania.

---

## Reward for their service thwarted

Another three men who were involved in the early stages of the conflict did not survive to its end.

**Douglas Wolley Dod** of Edge Hall was already serving by October 1914 but was killed in action, aged 18, in France in September 1915.

**James Crump**, who was born in Hampton, arrived on the Western Front in November 1914 and was there until October 1918, when he was killed in action.

And **Patrick Gavin** of Church Street (or Patrick Gavien in some records) disembarked on the continent with the British Expeditionary Force in June 1914. He died, at a still unknown location, shortly before the Armistice was signed.