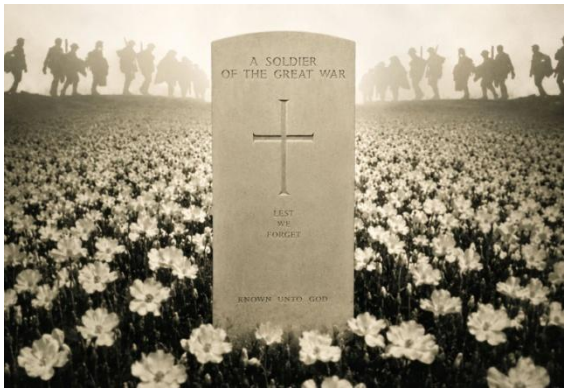






Charlie “Charles" Joiner

1893 - 1915

Civilian Research

Field Name	Field Data	Source of data
Casualty Name	C Joiner Charlie “Charles” Joiner His birth was actually registered as Charlie and appears on censuses as Charlie but on CWGC as Charles and newspaper reports Probate - Charles	School plaque Harrow Observer obituary and E, W & Slough obituary as Charles and 1901 and 1911 censuses – he was recorded as Charlie on both GRO as Charlie Probate (see below)
Date of Birth	C1893 Registered in the March Qtr 1893 Amersham reg district (means he could have been born	GRO index to births

	late Dec 1892 thru to end of Mar 1893) Haven't found a baptism	
Date of Death (from Spreadsheet)	24/4/1915 The date given in the first obituary (HO) is incorrect. Also the obituary differs from the CWGC regarding the regiment he was in	CWGC and letter from comrade – see below
Age at death (from Spreadsheet	22 says HO	Harrow Observer obituary
Marital Status	Assuming single based on obituary	
Children (if any)		
Occupation prior to Call up	In 1911 he was a civil servant working for the Board of Agriculture	1911 census
Parents	Mr Herbert Joiner and Mrs Emily Joiner	Harrow Observer obituary and 1901 census
Listed Address(s)	146 Vaughan Rd, Harrow with his uncle William Joiner. His parents and siblings were now living in Slough St Hilda's Road, Harrow	1911 census 1901 census
Parents /Fathers occupation	Licensed victualler in 1911 Greengrocer in St Ann's Road, at one time	1911 census, Slough newspaper obituary Harrow Observer obituary and occupation in 1901 census
Brothers and Sisters	Lily Joiner, Florence Joiner, Ralph Joiner (all older), Herbert Joiner, Bessie Joiner, Ronald Joiner, Phyllis Joiner, Ray Joiner (all younger	1901 and 1911 census
Years at John Lyon School	Received a scholarship to JLS	Harrow Observer obituary
University (if any)		
Obituary	See below	Harrow Observer obituary and Windsor, Eton & Slough Express
Additional sources of data		
War Memorials:	John Lyon School, plaque as C Joiner	https://memorials.iwm.org.uk/memorial/11204
	John Lyon School, sundial as C Joiner	https://memorials.iwm.org.uk/memorial/11318
	Slough War Memorial, St Mary's Church, Slough (that's where his family were living	https://memorials.iwm.org.uk/name/79411

	when he died) as Charles Joiner	

Military Research

JLS WWI RoH	JOINER C.
CWGC Reference	https://www.cwgc.org/find-records/find-war-dead/casualty-details/1616568/charles-joiner/
Age	22
DoD	24-Apr-15
Rank	Pte
Regiment	London Regiment (Queen Victoria's Rifles) 1st/9th Bn
	Ypres Menin Gate
CWGC in process of uploading image of headstomes which will give us his age, hopefully.	Service # 3857 Rifleman Charles Joiner (officially recorded under the rank of Rifleman, though often colloquially referred to as Private, Service Number 3857) was killed in action on April 24, 1915, during the brutal fighting at Hill 60 near Ypres, Belgium.He was serving with the 1st/9th Battalion, London Regiment (Queen Victoria's Rifles). Charles died at Hill 60, a highly strategic, man-made earthen hill lock located near Zillebeke just southeast of Ypres, Belgium. The Queen Victoria's Rifles (QVR) were thrown into a desperate, close-quarters defense of Hill 60. British forces had captured the hill on April 17 using massive underground mines, but the German Army launched relentless, devastating counter-attacks to seize it back. By April 20–24, the QVR trenches on the hill were subjected to non-stop, heavy artillery bombardments, continuous waves of hand grenades, and intense machine-gun fire. Charles was killed during the peak of this horrific holding action, just as the wider Second Battle of Ypres was erupting across the sector. He was only 22 years old.

Story of Sacrifice

Charles “Charlie” Joiner (c.1893–1915)

“Charlie Joiner won a scholarship to John Lyon School before becoming a civil servant and later joining the Queen Victoria’s Rifles during the WW1 War. He was killed by a shell during fighting at Ypres on 24 April 1915, aged 22, and was buried behind the firing line by members of his section.

Civilian Life

Charlie was born in Amersham around 1893. His name was registered at birth as Charlie, and this was also the name recorded in the 1901 and 1911 censuses, but later military, probate and newspaper records generally used Charles. He was the son of Herbert and Emily Joiner and grew up with a large family of brothers and sisters. His father worked as a greengrocer in St Ann’s Road, Harrow, and was later a licensed victualler in Slough. Charlie was educated at Greenhill Boys’ School, where he won a scholarship to John Lyon School, Harrow. He attended the Lower School of John Lyon and completed his education there. By 1911, Charlie was living at 146 Vaughan Road, Harrow, with his uncle William Joiner, while his parents and siblings were living in Slough. He was working as a civil servant for the Board of Agriculture. John Lyon School recorded that he was a gifted student and had obtained a position in the Civil Service before leaving school.

Military Life

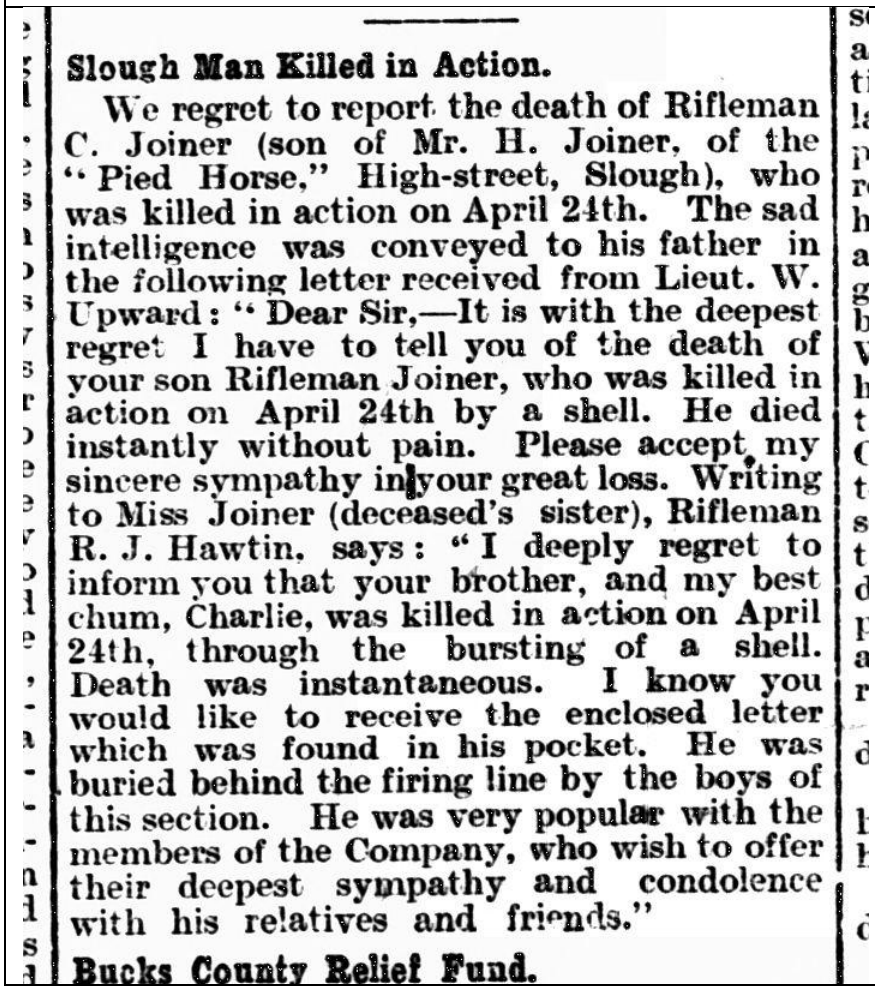
After the outbreak of the First World War, Charlie joined the Queen’s Westminsters, although the surviving military records identify him as Rifleman Charles Joiner, service number 3857, of the 1st/9th Battalion, London Regiment (Queen Victoria’s Rifles). In December 1914, while occupying flooded, muddy trenches at Rue du Bois opposite the German Saxon 107th Regiment, the 1/16th participated in the famous Christmas Truce, exchanging carols and conversation with enemy troops. In 1915, the battalion spent eight grueling months in the volatile Ypres Salient, occupying nearly every section of the northern line from the Ypres-Roulers railway line to Wieltje. Charles died at Hill 60, a highly strategic, man-made earthen hill lock located near Zillebeke just southeast of Ypres, Belgium. The Queen Victoria’s Rifles (QVR) were thrown into a desperate, close-quarters defense of Hill 60. British forces had captured the hill on April 17 using massive underground mines, but the German Army launched relentless, devastating counter-attacks to seize it back. By April 20–24, the QVR trenches on the hill were subjected to non-stop, heavy artillery bombardments, continuous waves of hand grenades, and intense machine-gun fire. Charlie was killed during the peak of this horrific holding action, just as the wider Second Battle of Ypres was erupting across the sector. A letter sent to his father by Lieutenant W. Upward stated that Charlie had been killed by a shell and died instantly. A fellow rifleman, R. J. Hawtin wrote to one of Charlie's sisters (we don't know which one.) He described Charlie as his best chum and reported that he had been buried behind the firing line by members of his section. Hawtin also forwarded a letter found on Charlie's body to her.

Charlie is commemorated on the Menin Gate at Ypres, indicating that the temporary grave mentioned by Hawtin was probably never identified subsequently. He is also recorded on war memorials at John Lyon School and St Mary’s Church, Slough.

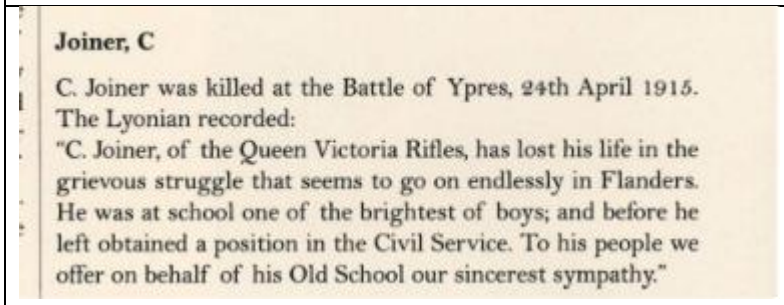
Notes and Clippings

CWGC https://www.cwgc.org/find-records/find-war-dead/casualty-details/1616568/charles-joiner/

Friday 7/5/1915 Harrow Observer	
KILLED IN ACTION.—It is with the greatest regret that we record the death of two of Harrow's youngest sons killed in action. Residents will remember Charles Joiner, son of Mr. H. Joiner, for some years a greengrocer in St. Ann's-road. He was educated at Greenhill Boys' School and won a Lyon scholarship and completed his education at the Lower School. On the outbreak of the War he joined the Queen's Westminsters, and was reported killed on Saturday. He was 22 years of age. The death was also announced, on April 25, of Private Reginald Potter, the youngest and dearly-loved son of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Potter, of Brooke-avenue, South Harrow. Soon after War was declared he joined the 12th County of London Regiment, and left England on Christmas Day. He was only 19 years of age, and was killed on April 24. V.A.D. HOSPITAL.—During the last fortnight	**KILLED IN ACTION.**—It is with the greatest regret that we record the death of two of Harrow's youngest sons killed in action. Residents will remember Charles Joiner, son of Mr. H. Joiner, for some years a greengrocer in St. Ann's-road. He was educated at Greenhill Boys' School and won a Lyon scholarship and completed his education at the Lower School. On the outbreak of the War he joined the Queen's Westminsters, and was reported killed on Saturday. He was 22 years of age. The death was also announced, on April 25, of Private Reginald Potter, the youngest and dearly-loved son of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Potter, of Brooke-avenue, South Harrow. Soon after War was declared he joined the 12th County of London Regiment, and left England on Christmas Day. He was only 19 years of age, and was killed on April 24.
	"reported killed on Saturday" is not date of death. Also the regiment reported here is not what is recorded by CWGC

8/5/1915 Windsor, Eton and Slough Express	
	**Slough Man Killed in Action.** We regret to report the death of Rifleman C. Joiner (son of Mr. H. Joiner, of the "Pied Horse," High-street, Slough), who was killed in action on April 24th. The sad intelligence was conveyed to his father in the following letter received from Lieut. W. Upward : "Dear Sir,—It is with the deepest regret I have to tell you of the death of your son Rifleman Joiner, who was killed in action on April 24th by a shell. He died instantly without pain. Please accept my sincere sympathy in your great loss. Writing to Miss Joiner (deceased's sister), Rifleman R. J. Hawtin, says : "I deeply regret to inform you that your brother, and my best chum, Charlie, was killed in action on April 24th, through the bursting of a shell. Death was instantaneous. I know you would like to receive the enclosed letter which was found in his pocket. He was buried behind the firing line by the boys of this section. He was very popular with the members of the Company, who wish to offer their deepest sympathy and condolence with his relatives and friends." **Bucks County Relief Fund.**

Probate 1915 (Ancestry) – this confirms date of death and that his father is now working as a licensed victualler	
JOINER Charles of 224 High-street Slough **Buckinghamshire** private in the 9th London Regiment died 24 April 1915 in France on active service Administration **Oxford** 17 July to Herbert Joiner licensed victualler. Effects £125.	**Probate 1915 (Ancestry) - this confirms date of death and that his father is now working as a licensed victualler** **JOINER** Charles of 224 High-street Slough **Buckinghamshire** private in the 9th London Regiment died 24 April 1915 in France on active service Administration **Oxford** 17 July to Herbert Joiner licensed victualler. Effects £125.

From the Centenary issue of the Lyonian, Pupils 2014	
 **Joiner, C** C. Joiner was killed at the Battle of Ypres, 24th April 1915. The Lyonian recorded: "C. Joiner, of the Queen Victoria Rifles, has lost his life in the grievous struggle that seems to go on endlessly in Flanders. He was at school one of the brightest of boys; and before he left obtained a position in the Civil Service. To his people we offer on behalf of his Old School our sincerest sympathy."	From the Centenary issue of the Lyonian, Pupils 2014 Joiner, C C. Joiner was killed at the Battle of Ypres, 21th April 1915. The Lyonian recorded: "C. Joiner, of the Queen Victoria Rifles, has lost his life in the grievous struggle that seems to go on endlessly in Flanders. He was at school one of the brightest of boys, and before he left obtained a position in the Civil Service. To his people we offer on behalf of his Old School our sincerest sympathy."