

# War Memorial Self-Guided Trail



HILLINGDON  
LONDON

[www.hillingdon.gov.uk/history](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/history)


# War Memorial Self-Guided Trail

War memorials are a familiar part of the townscape of the borough. They are a poignant reminder of all those local people who lost their lives in the two world wars and other armed conflicts.

There are 72 war memorials currently recorded in Hillingdon. Of these, 21 are monuments in the community whilst the majority of the others take the form of windows, wall tablets or other structures in the borough's churches.

This self-guided trail covers a selection of the war memorials that can be found across Hillingdon. You will be able to visit, see them in their settings and view the names of those commemorated.

Further details about war memorials in the borough can be found at

 [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/history](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/history).

## Map

- 1 Harefield War Memorial
- 2 Northwood War Memorial
- 3 Eastcote War Memorial
- 4 Ruislip War Memorial
- 5 Uxbridge Peace Memorial
- 6 Polish Air Force Memorial
- 7 Harlington War Memorial
- 8 Hayes War Memorial
- 9 Yiewsley War Memorial
- 10 Yiewsley and West Drayton War Memorial

This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. LB Hillingdon 100019283 2020



## Harefield War Memorial

Harefield Green, Rickmansworth Road,  
Harefield, UB9 6PL

Harefield War Memorial is a stone obelisk with a raised laurel wreath on each side. It was designed by Frederic Herbert Mansford and dedicated on 17 July 1921.

Two Victoria Cross recipients - Robert Edward Ryder and Cecil John Kinross - born in Harefield are commemorated with paving plaques next to the memorial.

The memorial is situated on a Centenary Field (Harefield Village Green) which was designated in 2014 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War.



### On the memorial

Alfred Miles was born in Harefield in 1900. He was a Private in the 10th Tank Corps and was killed in action on 25 March 1918 at Logeast Wood near Grevillers, France. Only two of the seven tanks involved survived the action. He has no known grave but is commemorated on the Arras Memorial.

## Northwood War Memorial

Green Lane, Northwood, HA6 2QF

Northwood War Memorial is a stone cross on an octagonal column on a square stepped base.

In 1919 the Northwood War Memorial Committee decided to erect a cottage hospital and a memorial cross. The latter was designed by local man FD Bedford and sculpted by W Aumonier Jnr., a noted maker of war memorials. It was unveiled on 13 February 1921.

### On the memorial

Arnold Fairbairns lived in Murray Road, Northwood. He had a wife, Ethel, and one son. In 1916 he enlisted in the Bedfordshire Regiment and was then commissioned into the Yorkshire Regiment. Captain Fairbairns was killed in October 1918 whilst carrying a wounded man from another regiment after hearing his cries for help.



## Eastcote War Memorial

Field End Road, Ruislip, HA5 1TD

Eastcote War Memorial is a stone cross on a raised base. It was presented to the village of Eastcote by Benjamin James and Annie Hall.

### On the memorial

Tone Hippolyte Bayetto lived at the Old House, Lime Grove, Eastcote. He learnt to fly at Hendon and enlisted in the Royal Flying Corps in 1915. By 1917 he had been promoted to Captain and had destroyed an enemy aircraft. He died in a flying accident over Britain in 1918.



## Ruislip War Memorial

Eastcote Road, Ruislip, HA4 7AR

Ruislip War Memorial takes the form of a stone calvary on a square and stepped octagonal base.

### On the memorial

R Henry C Abercrombie lived at Ashberrie in Ruislip. He joined the army as a Private in 1914 and was promoted through the ranks to Sergeant by December the same year. He was killed whilst in command just before his 25th birthday in May 1915.



## Uxbridge Peace Memorial

The Old Graveyard, Windsor Street, Uxbridge, UB8 1AB

Uxbridge Peace Memorial is a granite column on a square base surmounted by a bronze winged angel holding a laurel wreath. She is an allegory of Victory.

The sculptor was Captain Adrian Jones who is most known for various horse subjects, including Quadriga on the Constitution Arch at Hyde Park.

The memorial was unveiled on 11 November 1924 by Lady Hillingdon.





## Polish Air Force Memorial

West End Road, Ruislip, HA4 6QY

The Polish Air Force Memorial is a significant monument to Polish airmen from the Second World War, comprising of a large stone obelisk with a bronze eagle. It is Grade II\* listed.

On 2 August 1940, 303 (Kościuszko) Squadron was formed at the Royal Air Force Northolt. 303 was only the second Polish Air Force fighter squadron to form in the UK. It would go on to become the most successful of all Allied squadrons in the Battle of Britain, credited by Fighter Command with 126 enemy aircraft destroyed in just six weeks.

The memorial was unveiled on 2 November 1948 and commemorates the 2,165 Polish airmen who lost their lives in the Second World War fighting alongside the Western Allies.

Find out more and follow the Polish Air Force trail at [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/polish-air-force-memorial](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/polish-air-force-memorial) and [www.hillingdon.gov.uk/polishtrail](http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/polishtrail).



## Harlington War Memorial

St Peter's and St Paul's Church, St. Peter's Way, Harlington, Hayes, UB3 5AB

Harlington War Memorial is a granite Celtic Cross.

It was designed by Charles Oldrid Scott and erected in 1920. Additional inscriptions were added after the Second World War and again after the Korean War to honour the Fallen of those conflicts.

### On the memorial

Three out of the four sons of James and Rosina Gibbs of Dawley were killed during the First World War. George was killed in action in 1917 at the Third Battle of Ypres on the Gheluvelt Plateau. His brothers, James and William, were killed one month apart in 1918 – William from wounds sustained at Cambrai and James at St Aubert.



## Hayes War Memorial

St Mary's Church, Church Road, Hayes, UB3 2LY

The war memorial takes the form of a wooden calvary with a bronze figure on a raised stone plinth with brick surrounding walls.

### On the memorial

Frederick A Hewens was the only son of a long established Hayes family who ran an engineering business. He joined up in 1915 serving in the Honorable Artillery Company before transferring to the Royal Flying Corps in 1917 as an instructor. He died from burns following an air accident in 1918.



## Yiewsley War Memorial

St Matthew's Church, High Street, Yiewsley, UB7 7QJ

The memorial is a stone cross on an obelisk with a raised wreath and sword motifs on a square base. It was unveiled in 1921.

### On the memorial

George Torrington lived in Horton Road and enlisted in 1915. He was awarded the Military Medal for conspicuous bravery in the field in 1917 and was twice mentioned in dispatches. In 1918, after volunteering to help a comrade who had fallen down a well, he died of spinal injuries sustained when the rescue rope broke.



## Yiewsley and West Drayton War Memorial

West Drayton Cemetery, Harmondsworth Road, West Drayton, UB7 9JP

This is an elegant stone memorial with armorials and a raised wreath within a low-walled area in front of the cemetery. It includes the famous words by Laurence Binyon: "They shall not grow old..."

