

## The Boer War (1899-1902)

### Verbatim extracts from Deddington Deanery Magazine

(Courtesy of Mrs Jean Davis of Adderbury History Society)

#### June 1901 - Clifton

In memoriam - a very impressive service was held at the church on Sunday evening May 5th in connection with the lamented death in South Africa of Private **L. Vincent**, which was attended by a large number of members of the Cherwell Valley Lodge of Oddfellows to which he belonged. Appropriate hymns were sung and a special sermon preached. [Born 1880. Son of James and Emma Vincent of Clifton].

#### July 1901 - Clifton

Memorial service - a letter of thanks, with a contribution of 10s.6d towards the Church expenses, has been received by the vicar from the Cherwell Valley Lodge of Oddfellows, as a mark of their appreciation of the service in memory of the late Private **L. Vincent** on May 5th.

#### October 1901 - Deddington

In memoriam - Much regret has been felt and expressed in Deddington at the death of Private **Charles Thatchell** of the South African Constabulary who died in the Hospital at Kimberley, of pneumonia on August 22nd, at the early age of 22 years. Reference was made to the sad event by the Rev. H.J. Gulley in his sermon on September 1st and much sympathy felt for his sorrowing relations. [No birth/census records can be found: he may have been born elsewhere and resided between census surveys or his mother (maiden name not known) came from Deddington].

#### March 1902 - Hempton

War - **William Kettle** returned from the war on February 15th. He was met at the station by his father and Mr. Robertson, and in the evening the bells of the Parish Church rang to his honour.

#### November 1902 - Deddington

War - Most of our men have now returned home from South Africa. The last three to arrive were **George Bott** (see the book p.2 for his letters home) on August 24th, **Harry Harper** on September 7th and **William Williams** on October 17th, all of whom were honoured by the ringers with a peel. The only soldier not returned yet is William Penn.

#### December 1902 - Deddington

War - **William Penn**, the last of our soldiers, returned from South Africa on October 28th. He was honoured by the ringers with the bells and by the playing of the Drum and Whistle Band.

#### December 1903 - Clifton

Late war - the name of **Leonard Vincent** is inscribed on the Memorial recently erected in Oxford to the memory of the officers and men of the Oxfordshire Light Infantry who fell in the late South African war.

### From other sources

**George SMITH** (1868-1955) Sergeant.

Served in the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry. See George and Agnes Smith and family's story on page 44.