

## POPULATION & LOSSES in World War One

The population of Birchington at the outset of WW 1 was 2522. From these, 474 people went to serve their country, both in Britain and in Europe. This amounts to 18.8% of the villagers, or almost one in 5 people.

Of those 474 people who volunteered or were drafted into the various services, 67 made the ultimate sacrifice. This means that 14% of those who left the village did not return, in other words, one in 7.

When looking at the whole population, that proportion of people killed drops to 2.7%, but this also means that 1 in 37 members of the whole village community gave their lives for their countrymen's safety.



Almost every resident in the village turned out for the dedication of Birchington's War Memorial in March 1920. Everyone had either lost a member of their family or a neighbour, fiancé or friend in that devastating conflict.