

Edgar Charles STRICKLAND

Born: 1889, Marks Corner, Northwood

Parents: Thomas Strickland and Maria Earley

Last known address: Marks Corner

Last known occupation: Labourer at a brickworks

Service number: 855318 **Regiment:** 1st/5th Hampshire Howitzer Battery,
Royal Field Artillery

Service history summary:

- enlisted: Newport – date unknown
- rank: Driver
- decorations: 15 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal

Died: 7th November 1916 **Age:** 27

Buried: [Baghdad \(North Gate\) War Cemetery](#)

Family/Descendants: Edgar Charles Strickland was born in 1889, the seventh of the 12 children of Thomas Strickland and Maria Earley. His name at birth was Charles Edgar but this seems to have been reversed between 1891 and 1901. Thomas was a labourer from Beaulieu in Hampshire and Maria a local girl from Marks Corner. They married in 1876 in a non-Anglican ceremony, possibly at the chapel in Marks Corner, and lived in the area from then on. Thomas died in 1907 but there is no record of Maria's death on the Island.

In 1914 Edgar married Emily Maude Knapp and they had a daughter, Frances Ellen, born in 1915. Following Edgar's death, Emily married Thomas Henry Grosvenor Pretty in 1919. In the 1920s they were living in Orchard Street in Newport. Emily died in 1962 and her husband in 1982. Frances married Raymond Vivian Gustar in 1946 and they had one son, born the following year. Raymond died in 1992 and Frances in 2010.

Northwood/Gurnard connection: Maria Strickland lived in Marks Corner all her life and all the children were born there. Most of the family worked at the local brickworks, including Thomas, Edgar and some of his brothers.

War record: Edgar probably signed up 1914 or early in 1915 as he was eligible for the 15 Star. He was included in the list of men from the 5th Hampshire Howitzer Battery, published in the *Isle of Wight County Press* on December 25th 1915, who left India on March 14th that year and arrived in Mesopotamia on the 22nd. Along with four other men from Gurnard and Northwood he died as a prisoner of war of the Turks following the defeat at the siege of Kut-el-Amara in April 1916.