

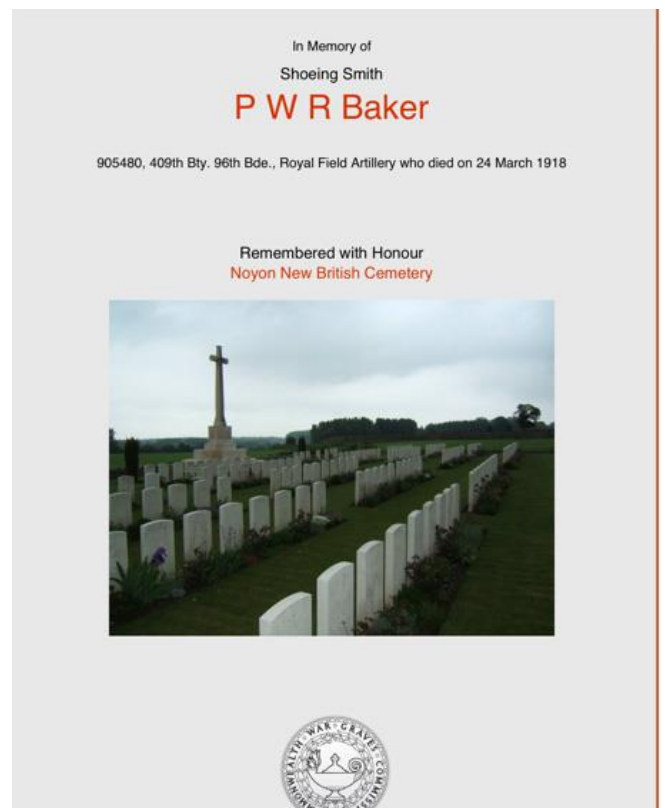
Philip William (Robert) Rixon Baker



Philip Baker was born in Richmond on 23rd November 1891. He was the eldest of four children born to William Baker, a laundryman and his wife Harriet Emma, nee Rixon, Philip's siblings were Arthur, born in 1893, Ernest, born in 1895 and Olive born in 1896. The family lived at 20 Evelyn Road, Richmond. Philip was living with his family in 1901 but by 1911 had moved away from home and was working as a potman in a licensed victuallers in Westminster. In 1913, Philip married Harriet Muriel Ellen Eves in the Brentford Registration district. They had two children Arthur Ernest, born in the Brentford district in 1913 and Dorothy born in the Brentford area in 1918.

Although Philip and Harriet lived in the Brentford area, Philip seems to have enlisted in Eastbourne. He joined the Royal Field Artillery in the Territorial Force as a shoeing smith. He died of wounds on 24th March 1918 and is buried in Noyon New British Cemetery. Noyon New British Cemetery was not created until after the Armistice and contains graves from the battlefields and other burial grounds. Around 108 graves in the cemetery are marked by headstones inscribed "Buried near this spot" indicating that bodies were identified collectively rather than individually. Philip's gravestone is one of these (*see below*).

Philip's widow remarried in 1919 and remained in the Hounslow area, dying in 1967. Phillip's younger brother Arthur Frederick Baker, died in the Battle of the Somme and is buried at Thiepval. As the family were Richmond-based, Arthur's name is on the Richmond Memorial, as also is Philip's. Philip was also included in the All Saints Memorial Chapel, Church Street, Isleworth.



The certificate is included with the permission of the CWGC.