

Grave of the Month

JOHN W.T. ALLEE (1886-1920)

John Allee was a local businessman, well known at Newbury Cattle Market. He ran brickworks, a sand and gravel pit and was a cattle trader. Before World War 1 he worked in Mesopotamia, on drainage works for the Euphrates (Iraq, Syria, Turkey). He spoke fluent Arabic. He was married to Mabel and had two young children.

On the day he died, while with his father, choosing cattle for Guildford cattle market, he was knocked over and killed by an Austin car, driven by local Gerald Garlick. He died at Guildford County Hospital.

The inquest found cause of death manslaughter and the case was taken to trial by jury. The wealthy Garlick was defended by a celebrity lawyer and found not guilty.

Mabel claimed damages and was awarded £1000 each for herself and both children. She died aged 37 in 1925.

In 2019 the **Allee family** banded together and had the grave, with its truncated column, professionally restored. For some of the family it was the first time they had met!

