



Many years ago, young farmer, Madame Raymonde Cottel found a fork in a field at Sapignies, Pas de Calais.

In 2012 her daughter and son-in-law told Philippe Drouin of the Somme Remembrance Association about the fork and explained how Madame Cottel had always held on to it, asking "Who had it belonged to"?

With help from Philippe they were able to trace the fork back to Private Bertie Horne who was declared "Missing" in September 1916 after fighting at Lesbœufs.

Bertie is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, so Philippe suggested that they display the fork in the Visitor Centre at Thiepval.

On the 6th July, we were handed the fork by an emotional 86 year old Madame Cottel – pictured above with her daughter and son-in-law. We were able to show them a photo of Bertie, along with other information which had been added to the "Missing of the Somme" database by Pam and Ken Linge.