

# DOVER

## St James The Apostle

Dover

Kent

*“To the glory of God and in grateful remembrance of the following men  
from the parish of St James the Apostle, Dover,  
who gave their lives in the Great War 1914-18”*

The parish of St James the Apostle, Dover, Kent suffered massive damaged during the years of Second World War, with virtually no building unscathed, the civilian casualty rolls sadly reflecting same. Resultant of the damage to that part of the town, the church had to be demolished due to it having been almost completely destroyed by the enemy.

### ROLL OF HONOUR

**BISH, EDWARD THOMAS.** Company Quartermaster Serjeant, L/6774.

“E” Company, 2nd Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment.

Died 19 September 1914. Aged 30.

Born Dover, Kent. Enlisted London.

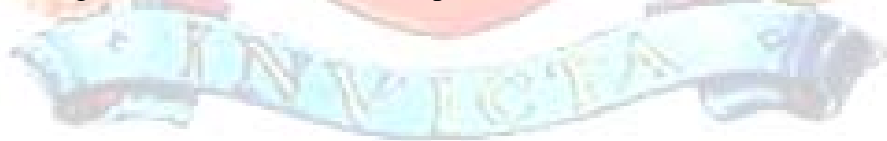
Son of Thomas and Alice Bish (née Goddard) of Dover, Kent.

Husband of Lydia N. A. Bish of 137, Hartington Road, Brighton, Sussex.

Buried St. Nazaire (Toutes-Aides) Cemetery, Loire-Atlantique, France. Grave Ref: A. 12.

Obviously a regular soldier, Edward would have been with the 2nd Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment when it had arrived at Le Harve, France onboard the SS Olympia and SS Agapenor on 13 August 1914. Edward had escaped death just over a week earlier during what in modern day parlance would be described as ‘friendly fire,’ as on 10 September whilst passing through the village of Preiz when within 750 yards of the Germans, British artillery shelled “B” Company as it led the battalion. 32 year old Captain Anthony E. Jemmett-Brown and 18 other ranks were killed during the shelling, plus 2 officers and 83 other ranks wounded. Private Thomas Swaine from Rye, Sussex was killed on 13 September as the battalion passed through Bourg, prior to the battalion going into billets at Moulins. Edward’s battalion left Moulins very early on the morning of the 14 September and advanced to Vandresse in support of an attack on high ground by the 2nd Brigade (to which they belonged), above Troyton (Cerny). At 0300 hours in pouring rain and a dense mist the attack was launched by the brigade. With commendable speed the 2nd Battalion, Kings Royal Rifle Corps actually made it to the top of the ridge, but they soon then found themselves facing very stiff enemy opposition, notably from those ensconced inside a sugarbeet factory. George and the rest of the 2nd Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment was brought forward from the rear to launch an attack on the factory. At about 0700 hours the 1st Guards Brigade arrived at Vendresse with

instructions to push on through the 2nd Brigade, but by that time it was patently clear that the German defenders of the ridge had stopped their retreat and were defiantly making a defiant stand despite mounting casualties. It then fell on the soldiers of the 1st Battalion, Loyal North Lancashire Regiment to try and render support to the 2nd Battalion, Kings Royal Rifle Corps, and for George's battalion to concentrate all its attention on the offending sugarbeet factory. Eventually after a hard fought engagement the three battalions involved in the attack on the ridge succeeded in capturing their respective assigned objectives and dug in to consolidate their newly won positions along the ridge, where they were subsequently engaged in fighting off enemy counter attacks throughout the day. Eventually the 1st Battalion, Coldstream Guards was also able to fight its way up the slope from Vendresse and then enter Cerny Village, but where they then found themselves surrounded by German infantry. Primarily due to the prevailing weather conditions, mainly the fog, both sides in the village initially took the other for allies. Fortunately it was the Coldstream Guards that were the first to realise the error and took full advantage of the element of surprise and opened fire on the enemy troops, putting most of them to rout and inflicting several casualties amongst their number. For fear of hitting their own sides personnel in the fog, who were still at close quarters with the Germans, the British artillery resisted firing, it being in stark contrast to the enemy gunners, who it would seem continued firing irrespective of the consequences, indeed the war diary entry of the 2nd Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment makes mention of capturing 250 prisoners that were moving forward under a White flag when they were fired on by their own side. At approximately 1300 hours the Germans launched a large and concerted counter attack which pushed both the 2nd Brigade and the 1st Guards Brigade back to where they had set off from in the morning, during the process taking the sugarbeet factory, the earlier capture of which had probably cost George his life. Also numbered amongst the 6 officers and 52 other ranks who forfeited their lives that day was the Commanding Officer of the 2nd Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment, 50 year old Lieutenant Colonel Ernest H. Montresor, who was veteran of the Nile Campaign 1884, Hazara, 1888, and the Second Boer War. The battalion stoically dug in and held their new positions under both enemy shellfire and frontal attacks by German infantry, until finally being relieved on 19 September by the officers and other ranks of the 1st Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment, following which a move was made to an outpost line in caves situated at Paissy. On the day of the relief, Edward succumbed to his wounds and died, but in view of his place of burial Edward probably died whilst receiving treatment at Number 4 British General Hospital, St. Nazaire, and had almost certainly been numbered amongst those wounded on 14 September 1914.



**BRADLEY, GEOFFREY MONTAGU.** Lieutenant.

6th (Reserve) Battalion, Rifle Brigade attached to the 2nd Battalion, Welsh Regiment.

Died 22 December 1914. Aged 21.

Son of Edwin and Emmeline Mary Bradley of Leyburne House, Dover, Kent.

Commemorated on the Le Touret Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Panel 44 and on the civic war memorial Dover, Kent.

B.A. Scholar of Jesus College, Cambridge, and the former Captain of Cambridge University Shooting Eight. MIC entry shows service in both of the above regiments.

Geoffrey's father was a Director of the Dover Corn Merchants Bradley Brothers, who for several years were primarily located at the Custom House Quay and Strand Street Dover, Kent. It is thought that the company was later merged to become the much larger Bradley, Taylor & Youngman, probably resultant of competition from the giant international milling and animal feed consortiums.

**BUSHELL, ALBERT GEORGE.** Petty Officer Stoker, K/443.

Royal Navy, H.M.S. Vanguard.

Died 9 July 1917. Aged 27.

Born Dover, Kent 31 October 1889.

Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 23.

**CLARK, JOHN JACK.** Private, 28828.

11th (Service) Battalion, (Lonsdale) Border Regiment.

Die 25 November 1917. Aged 20.

Born and enlisted Dover, Kent.

Son of Frederick and Rachel Clark of 4, Russell Place, Dover, Kent.

Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.

Panel 85.

Formerly Private, G/86931, Middlesex Regiment.

**CLAW, SYDNEY THOMAS.** Able Seaman, 186777.

Royal Navy. (RFR/CH/B/9334). H.M.S. "Aboukir."

Died 22 September 1914. Aged 34.

Born Hougham, Dover, Kent 25 June 1880.

Son of Andrew Edward and Jane Claw of 18, Trevanion Street, Dover, Kent.

Husband of Emily Ann Claw of 7, Trevanion Place, Dover, Kent.

Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 2.

Sydney's family is possibly shown on the 1901 census as residing at 21 Trevanion Street, Dover, Kent with 46 year old Dover Fisherman, Andrew as the Head of the house.

Although Andrew's wife is recorded on the census with the Christian name Jean as opposed to Jane as shown above. Although Sydney is not shown as being with the family at the time of the census in April, he would have been 20 years old at the time and had probably already left home, he might have already have been serving in the Royal Navy.

Sydney's brother Serjeant, 39617, Walter E. Claw of the 27th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery served abroad on active service, and thankfully survived the Great War. Early in the Great War the Royal Navy maintained a patrol of old Cressy class armoured cruisers which was called 'Cruiser Force C' in an area of the North Sea known as the Broad

Fourteens. On 16 July 1914 the German submarine U-9 became the first submarine in history to reload torpedoes whilst still submerged, and on 22 September 1914 the same submarine under the command of Commander Otto Weddigen who had commanded the U-9 since 1 August 1914, sighted H.M.S.Cressy, H.M.S.Aboukir and H.M.S.Hogue all steaming NNE at 10 knots without zigzagging, although the patrols were supposed to maintain a speed of 12 to 13 knots and zigzag, the old cruisers were unable to maintain that speed and the zigzagging order was widely ignored mainly due to the fact that there had been no enemy submarines sighted in that area of the North Sea at that stage of the war. Otto Weddigen and his crew later the same day put into practice under wartime conditions what they had perfected in peace, and were able to reload beneath the waves. Otto Weddigen maneuvered the U-9 to attack the three cruisers, and at approximately 0625 hours fired a single torpedo at H.M.S.Aboukir which struck her on her port side. Aboukir rapidly suffered heavy flooding and despite counter flooding developed a 20 degree list and lost engine power. It was soon clear that she was a lost cause and Captain Drummond ordered her to be abandoned, although only one boat had survived the attack so most crew had to jump into the sea. At first Captain Drummond thought that H.M.S.Aboukir had been mined and signaled the other two cruisers to close and assist with the rescue of his crew, but he soon realised that it was a torpedo attack and ordered the other cruisers away, but too late. As H.M.S.Aboukir rolled over and sank only half an hour after being attacked, Otto Weddigen fired two torpedoes at H.M.S. Hogue that hit her amidships and rapidly flooded her engine room. Captain Nicholson of H.M.S. Hogue had stopped his ship to lower boats to rescue the crew of H.M.S.Aboukir, thinking that as he was the other side of Aboukir from the enemy submarine he would be safe. Unfortunately the U-9 had managed to maneuver around H.M.S.Aboukir and attacked H.M.S.Hogue from a range of about only 300 yards, and it only took H.M.S.Hogue ten minutes to sink as the U-9 headed for H.M.S.Cressy which was commanded by Captain Johnson. H.M.S.Cressy had also stopped to lower boats but quickly got underway on sighting a submarine's periscope. At about 0720 hours Otto Weddigen fired two torpedoes, one of which just missed but the other hit H.M.S.Cressy on her starboard side. The damage to H.M.S.Cressy was not fatal but the U-9 then turned round and fired her last torpedo as a coup de grace which hit Cressy sinking her within a quarter of an hour. Survivors of the disaster were picked up by several nearby merchant ships including the Dutch Flora and Titan and the British trawlers JGC and Corainder before the Harwich force of light cruisers and destroyers arrived. Flora returned to Holland with 286 rescued crew who were quickly returned to Britain, even though the neutral Dutch should have interned them. In all 837 men were rescued but 1459 died, many of whom were reservists or cadets. On 18 March 1915 the German submarine U-29 was rammed and sunk by H.M.S. Dreadnought in the Pentland Firth, all 32 submariners onboard perished including Otto Weddigen who had been in command since 16 February 1915.

**CLITHEROE, ALFRED WALTER.** Private, 267162.  
1st/7th (Robin Hood) Battalion, (Territorial Force).  
Sherwood Foresters (Nottingham and Derbyshire Regiment).  
Died 24 April 1917. Aged 36.  
Born and resided Dover, Kent.  
Son of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Clitheroe of 8, Woolcomber Lane, Dover, Kent.  
Buried Canadian Cemetery No.2, Neuville-St. Vaast, Pas de Calais, France.  
Grave Ref: 3. B. 28.

**COVENEY, ALEC JOSEPH.** Private, 613077.  
1st/19th (County of London) Battalion, (St Pancras) London Regiment.  
Died 29 September 1916. Aged 23.  
Born and enlisted Dover, Kent.  
Son of Mrs. Emily Manser Coveney of 2, Arthurs Place, Dover, Kent.  
Commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Pier and Face. 9 D.  
Formerly Private, 2974, 2/4th Battalion, (Territorial Force)  
The Buffs (East Kent Regiment). A brother of the following casualty. At the time of the 1901 census the Coveney family was residing at 52 Clarence Street, Dover, Kent with 37 year old Dover native and Undertaker Alfred Coveney as the Head of the house. In addition to the parents and the two boys lost in the Great War, three other sons and two daughters were also in residence, all nine occupants being Dovorians. Having gone into support trenches on 27 September at Bazentin-le-Grand, the following day Alec's battalion was in the 'Flers Line' south east of Eaucourt l'Abbaye prior to being more engaged on the day Alec lost his life during bombing attacks by the battalion along the Flers Line and Flers Support. Of the casualties inflicted on the battalion as the result of the attacks, 39 other ranks lost their lives on the same day as Alec, and in addition to which others later died of their injuries.

**COVENEY, EDWARD POTTER.** Private, 290487.  
2nd Battalion, Bedfordshire Regiment.  
Died 22 March 1918. Aged 22.  
Born, enlisted and resided Dover, Kent.  
Son of Mrs. Emily Manser Coveney of 2, Arthurs Place, Dover, Kent.  
Buried Chapelle British Cemetery, Holnon, Aisne, France. Grave Ref: IV. A. 18.  
The following is (verbatim) the 2nd Battalion, Bedfordshire Regiment war diary entry for the day Edward died, it being the second day of the German Spring Offensive 1918:-  
"Verlaines Early in the morning a few Germans worked into "C" Coys position, from a Sunken Road just in front of our wire. "A" and "C" Coys were heavily shelled all day and at about 2 p.m. the enemy attacked in large numbers. "C" Coys position was taken and some of our men taken prisoner. The remnants of "A" and "B" Coy hung on till surrounded by large numbers of enemy. They fought very well and only a few got back. By 4 p.m. the enemy could be seen advancing on either side of STEVENS REDOUBT. At 5 p.m. Orders were received to withdraw. The withdrawal was carried out at once, but there were a number of casualties as the withdrawal had to be made across open country and the enemy machine gun and shrapnel fire was very heavy. The Battalion withdrew to VERLAINES via GERMAINE - FORESTE - VILLERS ST CHRISTOPHE and HAM.

Billeted in VERLAINES for the night. Casualties:- Lieut. A. P. Methuen, Wounded. Lieut.D.D.Warren, Wounded. Captain F.A.Sloan, Wounded. Capt.H.B.Jones, R.A.M.C., Missing. 2nd Lieut.F.E.Thompson, Missing.”

**ELLENDER, ALBERT GEORGE.** Leading Stoker, K/4464.

Royal Navy. H.M.S. “Formidable.”

Died 1 January 1915. Aged 29.

Born Dover, Kent 23 January 1886.

Son of Joseph William and Elizabeth Ellender of 1 Strond Street, Dover, Kent.

Husband of Mabel Charlotte Ellender of 43, Liverpool Street, Dover, Kent.

Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 11.

A brother of the next casualty commemorated.

Albert’s 15,250 tons pre-Dreadnought Battleship, was sunk by two torpedoes fired from the German submarine U-24 commanded by Rudolf Schneider, when she was about 20 miles off Start Point, Devon at 0200 hours on 1 January 1915. The first torpedo hit the number one boiler port side; a second explosion caused the ship to list heavily to starboard. Huge waves thirty feet high lashed the stricken ship, with strong winds, rain and hail, sinking it in less than two hours. Captain Arthur N. Loxley R.N, his second-in-command, Commander Charles F. Ballard R.N, and the signaler stayed at their posts throughout, sending flares and rockets off at regular intervals. There was no panic, the men waiting calmly for the lifeboats to be lowered. Someone played ragtime on the piano, others sang. The ships Chaplain was said to have risked his life going below to find cigarettes to distribute amongst the crew. Suddenly the ship gave a tremendous lurch, the Captain shouted “Lads, this is the last, all hands for themselves, and may God bless you and guide you to safety.” He then walked to the forebridge, lit a cigarette and, with his terrier Bruce on duty at his side, calmly waited for the end, in true Royal Naval tradition. Only 199 men were saved out of the ships complement of about 750, H.M.S. Formidable was on exercises at the time of her loss and has the sad distinction of being the first British battleship to be sunk in the Great War. On 26 October 1914 Rudolf Schneider was also in command of the U-24 when he carried out first of the attacks on an unarmed merchant ship without warning. The ship being the SS Admiral Ganteaume, which Rudolf Schneider torpedoed but was unable to sink the ship, which was later successfully taken in tow and made it safely to port.

**ELVERSON, RONALD WHIDBORNE.** Lieutenant.

9th (Service) Battalion, East Surrey Regiment.

Died 25 September 1918.

Born Kennington, London c1891.

Commemorated on the Vis-En-Artois Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Panel 6.

At the time of the 1901 census the Elverson family was residing at 12 Victoria Park, St. James, Dover, Kent with 51 year old retired (Infantry) Major Hamilton J. Elverson, a native of Kingsbury, Middlesex as the Head of the house. Other family members present were Ronald’s mother 50 year old Anna Eliza Elverson from Hanley, Staffordshire, 18 year old James Elverson who is shown on the census as being a Lieutenant of Artillery Militia, and a native of Guildford, Surrey. Ada M. Iverson was aged 13 and had been

born in Ireland. In addition to the family members five servants and a Colonel (retd) George A. Crawford R.A. were also in residence.

**GIBBONS, RICHARD GEORGE EDWARD.** Carpenter.

Mercantile Marine Reserve. H.M. Yacht, James Fletcher.

Died 2 November 1918. Aged 39.

Husband of E. A. Gibbons, of 10, Guildford Town, Dover.

Buried St. James's Cemetery, Dover, Kent. Grave Ref: T. I. 13.

In view of Richard's trade it was obvious that he had like many men of his era, 'followed in his fathers footsteps' as can be seen by the 1881 census entry for the Gibbons family and household, at which time they were residing at 35 East Cliffe, Guston, Dover, Kent:-

Richard GIBBONS. Aged 32. Born Dover, Kent. Carpenter.

Henrietta Maria GIBBONS. Aged 23. Born Dover, Kent.

Lodging House Keeper.

Richard George Edward GIBBONS. Aged 1. Born Dover, Kent.

Maria COLLINS. Aged 17. Born Hougham, Kent.

General Servant.

Theresa MALTRUSS. Aged 39. Born Germany.

Lodgers Nurse, Nurse to the Reverend Agassie.

Katharine COLLINS. Aged 14. Born Dover, Kent.

Nurse Maid, Nursemaid to Agassie.

**GOULD, REUBEN.** Serjeant, L/7328.

1st Battalion. Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment),

Died 22 July 1916. Aged 35.

Born Bethnal Green, London. Enlisted London, Middlesex.

Husband of Mrs. C. E. Cheeseman (formerly Gould) of 6, Woolcomber Lane, Dover, Kent.

Buried Caterpillar Valley Cemetery, Longueval, Somme, France. Grave Ref: XIV.

Having arrived at Hérisart from Outrebois near Doullens on 14 July 1916 to play its part in the Battle of the Somme 1916, the 1st Battalion. Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment) first moved to Franvillers then Méaulte, prior to occupying trenches situated between Bazentine-le-Grand and Longueval on 19 July, and on the following day ordered into the forward trenches at High Wood with 'A' and 'B' Companies being located in the south corner of the wood which runs in the direction of the actual village of Longueval. On the day that Reuben died the battalion took part in attack on Wood Lane, during it was on the left flank of a fellow 13th Brigade, 5th Division battalion, it being the 14th (Service) Battalion, (1st Birmingham) Royal Warwickshire Regiment. At 0952 intense enemy machine gun fire enfiladed the attacking force, which with rapidly mounting casualties brought the attack to a standstill, and resulting in virtually all of the officers being either killed or wounded to varying degrees. After what must have seemed like a partially long stressful day and night, the battalion was eventually withdrawn at dawn the following morning. Following the withdrawal it afforded the chance to take a roll call and enter the battalion casualty roll, which recorded killed in action, wounded and missing totaling 421 all ranks. Of the casualty roll figures for 22 July 1916, 8 officers deaths and

132 other ranks deaths are shown, but it would seem inevitable that probably a substantial number of those that had been wounded later succumbed to them.

**GREEN, RICHARD WILLIAM.** Private, 31249.

50th Company, Machine Gun Corps (Infantry).

Died 13 November 1916.

Born Dover, Kent. Enlisted Folkestone, Kent. Resided Shorncliffe, Kent.

Buried St. Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, Seine-Maritime, France.

Grave Ref: O. I. R. 2.

Formerly Private, G/8525, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).

Possibly Richard is the same Richard W. Green who as a 12 year old was residing at 13 Trevanion Street, Dover, Kent at the time of the 1901 census. Richard's 35 year old widowed mother was the Head of the house and also had two daughters.

**GRIGSBY, JOSEPH W.** Sapper, 148874.

Royal Engineers.

Died 9 December 1918.

Buried Dar Es Salaam War Cemetery, Tanzania. Grave Ref: 7. J. 4.

The cemetery where Joseph is at rest was created in 1968 when the 660 Great War graves at Dar Es Salaam (Ocean Road) Cemetery had to be moved to facilitate the construction of a new road. As the burials in the former African Christian, Non-Christian and Mohammedan plots had not been marked individually, they were reburied in collective graves, each marked by a screen wall memorial. (Memorial Gardens "B", "C" and "D"). During the early 1970s, a further 1,000 graves were brought into this site from cemeteries all over Tanzania, where maintenance could no longer be assured.

**HOBBS, RICHARD.** Bombardier, 358471.

170th Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery.

Died 1 November 1918. Aged 36.

Born Swingfield, Folkestone, Kent. Enlisted Dover, Kent.

Son of Richard and Mary Hobbs of Selsted, Dover, Kent.

Husband of Annie Hobbs of 15, Stanhope Road, Dover, Kent.

Buried Vendegies Cross Roads British Cemetery, Bermerain, Nord, France.

Grave Ref: B. 5.

Richard is also commemorated on the village tribute to the fallen at Swingfield, Folkestone, Kent which is in the form of memorial plaques, located in the Lych gate of the parish church of St. Peter's. Probably also the casualty commemorated on the Dover, Kent civic war memorial as R. H. Hobbs. The cemetery where Richard is at rest was made by the British XVII Corps early in November 1918. There are now nearly 580 Great War casualties commemorated in the cemetery, but Richard is numbered amongst the only forty eight identified casualties.

**JOHNSON, MONTAGUE WILLIAM.** Private, 76402.

2nd/6th Battalion, (Territorial Force), Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment).

Died 5 May 1918. Aged 23.

Born and resided Dover, Kent. Enlisted Ashford, Kent.

Son of the late Richard Stephen and Isabel Alice Johnson of Dover, Kent.

Buried Rumaucourt Communal Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France. Grave Ref: 53.

Formerly Private, 014129, Army Ordnance Corps. Red Cross data shows that Montague died whilst a prisoner of war.

**KING, THOMAS EDWARD.** Petty Officer, 233788.

Royal Navy. H.M.S. "Gaillardia."

Died 22 March 1918. Aged 29.

Born Dover, Kent 10 May 1888.

Son of Herbert and Evelyn King of Dover, Kent.

Husband of Emily Minnie King of 5, Woolcomber Lane, Dover, Kent.

Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 28, and on St. Mary's parish church war memorial Dover, Kent.

Thomas's ship was a 1,250 tons Aubrietia Flower Class convoy sloop which was built by Blyth Ship Builders to replicate (as much as possible) a merchant ship, and was in use as a minelayer and 'Q-ship.' On 22 March 1918 in the North Sea, off the Orkney Islands she was carrying out buoying operations in the newly laid Northern Barrage between Scotland and Norway which was aimed at interrupting the passage of German submarines into the North Atlantic. It is thought that she was blown up and sunk by one of the barrage mines, but an element of doubt regarding her loss remains however, as it was suggested that in fact she was torpedoed.

**MOWLL, SYDNEY EDWARD.** Private, 147800.

5th Battalion, Canadian Infantry (Saskatchewan Regiment).

Died 6 June 1916. Aged 25.

Born Dover, Kent 30 December 1890. Enlisted Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, 10 July 1915. Resided Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

Son of Emily Maud Mowll of 5 St. John's Road, Dover, Kent

Buried Railway Dugouts Burial Ground, Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.

Grave Ref: VI. D. 20.

Prior to enlisting Sydney worked as a Clerk for the Timothy Eaton Company Ltd in Winnipeg, and is commemorated on bronze memorial which was designed as a tribute to the 315 men of the Eaton company who died as a result of service in the Great War. 3,327 of Eaton's staff enlisted in the war. The original plaque was unveiled in Toronto on 15 November 1923 by Mrs. Timothy Eaton, and on 26 November 1923 an identical memorial was unveiled in the company's Winnipeg store. Sydney is also commemorated on page 139 of the Canadian First World War Book of Remembrance. At the time of enlisting Sydney was a serving member of the 100th Winnipeg Militia and had previously served in the 34th Ford Gary Horse. Sydney is also commemorated on page 139 of the Canadian First World War Book of Remembrance.

**SCARLETT, EDWARD.** Engine Room Artificer 1st Class, 271096.

Royal Navy. H.M. Submarine E24.

Died 27 March 1916. Aged 33.

Born Dover, Kent 22 July 1881.

Son of the late Edward and Maria Scarlett of Dover, Kent.

Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 17.

On the morning of 21 March 1916 the submarine E24 which was commanded by Lieutenant-Commander George W.E. Naper R.N, on which Edward and another Dovorian, former boy sailor Charles Hood were serving, sailed from Harwich, Essex for mine-laying operations at Heligoland Bight. On the morning of 27 April 1916 whilst on surface passage in the North Sea off Heligoland, the submarine hit a mine and sank. In 1973 most of the hull of H.M. Submarine E24 was accidentally salvaged, and a year later in July 1974 what then remained of the wreck was raised from the seabed. From the wreck of the submarine the remains of 25 unidentified submariners were removed, which were interred in Hamburg Cemetery, Germany. Edward's submarine was the first of the E class to be built specifically for minelaying operations; she was launched by Vickers shipbuilders at Barrow in Furness on 9 December 1915 and completed on 10 January 1916. Pre 1974 various commentators had given two totally different reasons for the loss of the E24, the first being the mined version, and the other as having been torpedoed by an enemy vessel. When various military and civilian naval experts viewed the 1916 inflicted damage to the recovered E24, all independently agreed that her loss was as the result of having been mined.

**SEDDON, JOHN HUGH.** No clear trace.

**SERGEANT, FREDERICK WILLIAM BARTEN.** Trooper, 2145.

Household Battalion.

Died 11 October 1917. Aged 31.

Born and resided Dover, Kent. Enlisted London.

Husband of Bertha Agnes Sergeant of 5, Salisbury Road, Dover, Kent.

Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Panel 3.

The altar rails in Holy Trinity Parish and Garrison Church, Trinity Place, Windsor, Berkshire were put up in memory of those of the Household Battalion who fell in the Great War, and were unveiled on 6 October 1921 by Lieutenant Colonel W. Porter, M.V.O. Due to the confusion which Frederick's unit very often generates, which relatives of its former members, or others face when trying to glean information about same, it seemed prudent to add 'very abridged' details here. The Household Battalion was formed on 1 September 1916 at Knightsbridge Barracks, London, as an **infantry battalion** with its personnel drawn from the Household Cavalry Reserve Regiments. On 9 November 1916 the Household Battalion landed in France, and on 17 November 1916 it was attached to the 10th Brigade, 4th Division. After spending all of its time on the Western Front, it was disbanded in France on 10 February 1918. Following the disbandment drafts of both officers and other ranks were sent to various other units, but primarily to the Household Cavalry and regiments of the five Foot Guards. As if to help compound the confusion for relatives or other interested parties was the Reserve Household Battalion,

which was formed about September 1916, this battalion was stationed at Windsor until being disbanded early in 1918, prior to which it constantly supplied drafts to the Household Battalion in France. Having been asked for help at various times by a number of people and organizations regarding commemoration of a member of Frederick's unit it has become patently clear over recent years, following the introduction of the excellent and timesaving C.D., 'Soldiers Died in the Great War' on which the Household Battalion is shown as being: - "Household Cavalry and Cavalry of the Line. Including Yeomanry and Imperial Camel Corps." A gentleman residing in Surrey who made contact a few years ago requesting help/information, was horrified to learn that the information which he had paid to a professional full time researcher some time earlier turned out to be erroneous, and having from that time proudly told all and sundry that his grandfather had served during the Great War in the "Household Battalion of the Imperial Camel Corps."

**SERGEANT, HARRY VENNER.** Serjeant, 1443.

"D" Coy. 1st/15th (County of London) Battalion, London Regiment (Prince of Wales's Own Civil Service Rifles).

Died 13 October 1915. Aged 27.

Born Charlton, Dover, Kent. Enlisted Somerset House. Resided Fulham.

Son of Frederick John and Mary Ann Barten Sergeant of 20, Park Street, Dover, Kent.

Buried Dud Corner Cemetery, Loos, Pas de Calais, France. Grave Ref: V. G. 10.

**SMITH, THOMAS JOSEPH.** Private, GS/371.

2nd Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment.

Died 9 May 1915. Aged 26.

Born and enlisted Dover, Kent.

Son of Peter and Susannah Smith of 10, Woolcomber Lane, Dover, Kent.

Commemorated on the Le Touret Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Panel 20 or 21.

**TAYLOR, JACK.** Private, G/9192.

8th Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).

Died 18 August 1916. Aged 22.

Born, enlisted and resided Dover, Kent.

Son of Mr. F. Taylor of 66, St. James's Street, Dover, Kent and the late Mrs. F. Taylor.

Commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Pier and Face 5 D.

**WOOD, JAMES THOMAS.** Private, 40512.

7th Battalion, Bedfordshire Regiment.

Died 3 May 1917. Aged 40.

Son of George and Emily Wood.

Husband of Matilda Emily Wood of St. James's Parish Hall, Dover, Kent.

Born Chatham, Kent. Enlisted and resided Dover, Kent. (SDGW data)

(Please see below re James's correct place of birth).

Commemorated on the Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Bay 5.

Formerly Private, 29006, Essex Regiment.

On the day that James lost his life, the attack was supposed to take place at dawn with zero hour being set for 0345 hours but it was not light enough to attack until 0415 hours.

The supporting artillery barrage commenced badly, being irregular. It was noted that the James's battalion left their trenches before zero hour and "formed up splendidly," the advance started at zero hour, but unfortunately the battalion soon slightly lost direction with the men being extended at about 12 paces could scarcely see each other. The regiment on the left of the battalion also lost direction and crowded to the right, thus confusing the battalion's attack and in so doing causing a further loss of direction. Four tanks were to be used to attack the village Fontaine. One of them being unable to even start, another went only a short distance, another one made its way down 'Wood Trench' and then turned and came through the advancing lines of infantry. The tank debacle added even more to the confusion, and some groups retired back to the first line again. Those who made it back to the original start line following the confusion, were reformed at once by their officers and again advanced towards the assigned objectives. Unfortunately the artillery barrage had gone on and the battalion was held up at Fontaine Trench which was strongly defended, to compound matters more was that the wire was thick and undamaged. The battalion then came under heavy machine gun fire from 'Vis-en-Artois-Cherisy-Fontaine Trench' complex. Small detachments pushed forward to the angle which was formed by Fontaine Trench and Wood Trench. At this time the majority of the 55th Brigade had reached their first objective on the left, the position of the battalion by about 1000 hours was in front of Fontaine Trench with their right thrown back facing Wood Trench. At this time the Leicester's on the right had unfortunately not made good Wood Trench except a small portion at the western end, but some groups of the 55th Brigade reached a portion of their second objective. About 1130 hours the 14th Division situated further to the left commenced retiring, followed by the 55th Brigade and the Middlesex Regiment also some groups of the Bedfordshire Regiment, but about 1 company still remained in shell holes in front of both the Fontaine and Wood Trenches when at midday the troops on the battalions left had all got back to the starting trenches. At 1915 hours, a new Barrage commenced, and 2 Companies of the Northamptonshire Regiment attacked on the James's battalion frontage, in which elements of his battalion joined, and which was covered by rapid fire from the advanced troops, this however was not successful as the enemy put up an intense barrage and the wire in front which could not be forced. The whole lot fell back to original front line and held that during the night being relieved early in the morning by a battalion of the Northamptonshire Regiment taking over. In the past when transcribing various Medway, Kent area war memorials and those in the Canterbury, Kent area, it was noticed that in several cases casualties were recorded with Chatham data that as it transpired should have been Chartham, and vice versa. It would appear that the same applies to the SDGW entry for James re place of birth as can be seen from the 1881 census entry for the Wood family, at which time they resided at Chartham Hatch, Canterbury, Kent:-

George WOOD.	Aged 44.	Born Blean, Canterbury, Kent.
Emily WOOD.	Aged 43.	Born Wye, Ashford, Kent.
Beatrice WOOD.	Aged 17.	Born Chartham Hatch, Canterbury, Kent.
Margaret S. WOOD.	Aged 12.	Born Harbledown, Canterbury, Kent.
Herbert F. WOOD.	Aged 11.	Born Harbledown, Canterbury, Kent.
Anne M. WOOD.	Aged 8.	Born Chartham, Canterbury, Kent.
William G. WOOD.	Aged 6.	Born Chartham Hatch, Canterbury, Kent.
James T. WOOD.	Aged 3.	Born Chartham Hatch, Canterbury, Kent.

Frederic C. WOOD. Aged 8 months. Born Chartham Hatch, Canterbury, Kent.  
As can be seen from the above census details, Beatrice and Margaret Wood were employed as Paper Sorters which would almost certainly mean that they had been employed at Chartham Paper Mill, which was for many years the biggest employer of both males and females in the area.

“THE UNKNOWN”

