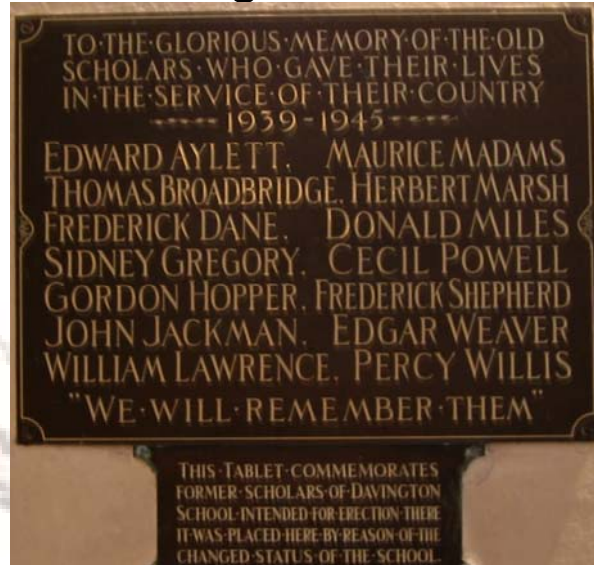


Faversham

Davington School



Commemorating the fourteen former pupils of Davington School, Faversham, who lost their lives in the Second World War, the memorial plaque pictured above was originally intended to be erected in the school. The school which the following casualties attended had started life in 1882 after the formation of a School Board, for the three parishes of Preston-next-Faversham, Davington and Oare. Davington school was designed by Benjamin Adkins who was the architect of many of the finest Victorian buildings within the Borough of Faversham. It was known for many years as North Preston School, because its site, though so close to Davington Church, was in the detached portion of the parish of Preston known as North Preston. Resultant of the changed status of the school, the decision was made to erect the memorial plaque in the nearby parish church of St. Mary Magdalene & St. Lawrence. By virtue of the fact that the memorial is located in the parish church, has resulted in some of the casualties being commemorated on both forms of remembrance just a few yards apart on the same wall of the church. The church which houses the memorial plaque is situated at a prominent position on top of Davington Hill and can be seen from many places around the Faversham area. The historic church serves the Church of England parish of The Brents and Davington, Faversham, which covers roughly a third of the town's population. Founded in 1153, St. Mary Magdalene & St. Lawrence is the oldest extant building in the Faversham area. It was noticed whilst carrying out the following brief transcriptions that six of the fourteen casualties are not at rest in 'some foreign field,' or have the sea as their final resting place, as they are buried within two locations within the Borough of Faversham, Kent.

AYLETT, EDWARD ROY. Leading Aircraftman, 1631301.
Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve. 2805 Squadron, Royal Air Force Regiment.
Died 21 April 1944.
Son of Edward Charles and Ellen Gertrude Aylett (nee Simmonds) of Faversham, Kent.
Buried Faversham Borough Cemetery, Ladydene, Whitstable Road, Faversham, Kent. Grave Ref: Section E. Grave 35.
Edward is also commemorated in the Faversham, Second World War Book of Remembrance, which is kept at the parish church of St. Mary of Charity, Faversham, Kent.

BROADBRIDGE, THOMAS GEORGE. Stoker 1st Class, C/KX 83568.
Royal Navy, H.M. Submarine Simoom.
Died 19 November 1943. Aged 31.
Born Faversham, Kent.
Son of Hendry George and Florence Mary Broadbridge (nee Bowsley).
Husband of Elisabeth Broadbridge of Dunoon, Argyllshire, Scotland.
Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 72, Column 1.
During the Great War Thomas's father had served as a Private in the 30th (City of London) Battalion, London Regiment.

DANE, FREDERICK ERNEST. Petty Officer, LT/JX 166321.
Royal Naval Patrol Service, H.M. Trawler Ellesmere.
Died 24 February 1945. Aged 39.
Born Faversham, Kent.
Son of Isaac James Dane and Elizabeth Ann Dane (nee Freeman) of Ludham, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.
Husband of Vera Gladys Dane of Ludham, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.
Commemorated on the Lowestoft Naval Memorial. Panel 16, Column 3.

GREGORY, SIDNEY PHILIP. Volunteer.
9th Kent (Faversham) Battalion, Home Guard.
Died 20 July 1940. Aged 24.
Born Faversham, Kent.
Son of Stanley Arthur and Hilda May Gregory (nee Philpot).
Husband of Rosina Doris Gregory of Preston.
Buried Oare (St. Peter) Churchyard, Faversham, Kent.
Grave Ref: north east of church.

HOPPER, GORDON RICHARD. Driver, T/132063.
Royal Army Service Corps.
Died 5 February 1940. Aged 23.
Born and resided Kent.
Son of Alfred and Celia Austin Hopper (nee Pilcher) of Oare, Faversham, Kent.
Buried Faversham Borough Cemetery, Ladydene, Whitstable Road, Faversham, Kent. Grave Ref: Section G. Grave 230.

JOHN JACKMAN. No trace. John is also commemorated on the Davington parish tribute, but not in the Faversham, Second World War Book of Remembrance, which is kept at the parish church of St. Mary of Charity, Faversham, Kent. As John has no CWGC commemoration possibly he died after 31 December 1947, it being the cut-off date for Second World War commemorations. An alternative explanation being that he served in the armed forces using an alias. John might also be numbered amongst the thousands of Commonwealth casualties of both world wars who still have no form of CWGC commemoration, and will now be subjected to more in-depth research by us, with the view to redressing the latter category should that be found to be the case.

LAWRENCE, WILLIAM JAMES. Stoker 2nd Class, C/KX 97108.

Royal Navy, H.M.S. Keith.

Died 1 June 1940. Aged 19.

Born Faversham, Kent.

Son of Arthur John and Emily Ellen Lawrence (nee Ede) of Faversham, Kent.

Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 38, Column 3.

On the day that William died, his ship was commanded by Captain Edward Lyon Berthon, R.N., who was also the Officer Commanding the 19th Destroyer Flotilla. The ship was sunk by German Stuka dive bombers off Dunkirk, France. At the time of her loss H.M.S. Keith, a 'B' class destroyer was participating in the evacuation of members of the British Expeditionary Force from France. Captain Berthon survived the loss of H.M.S. Keith, but on 23 October 1941, 47 year old Captain Edward Lyon Berthon, D.S.O. and Bar, D.S.C., R.N., was lost whilst in command of H.M.S. Cossack

MADAMS, MAURICE. Warrant Officer (Wireless Operator/Air Gunner), 1399974.

Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

Died 25 June 1946. Aged 22.

Son of Ada Emily Madams (nee Batty) of Faversham, Kent.

Buried Faversham Borough Cemetery, Ladydene, Whitstable Road, Faversham, Kent. Grave Ref: Section E. Grave 10.

Also commemorated in the Faversham, Second World War Book of Remembrance which is kept at the parish church of St. Mary of Charity, Faversham, Kent.

MARSH, HERBERT WALTER. Private, 14409211.

2nd Battalion, King's Shropshire Light Infantry.

Died 17 June 1944. Aged 19.

Born and resided Kent.

Son of Herbert T. and Ethel May Marsh (nee Gregory) of Faversham, Kent.

Commemorated on the Bayeux Memorial, Calvados, France.

Panel 16, Column 2.

Also commemorated in the Faversham, Second World War Book of Remembrance which is kept at the parish church of St. Mary of Charity, Faversham, Kent.

MILES, DONALD WILLIAM. Sergeant (Air Bomber), 1335238.

Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

Died 23 January 1943. Aged 20.

Son of William John and Elizabeth Dorothy Miles of Faversham, Kent.

Buried Faversham Borough Cemetery, Ladydene, Whitstable Road, Faversham, Kent. Grave Ref: Section E. Grave 16.

Also commemorated in the Faversham, Second World War Book of Remembrance which is kept at the parish church of St. Mary of Charity, Faversham, Kent.

POWELL, CECIL WILLIAM. Private, 14880172.

Parachute Regiment, Army Air Corps.

Died 4 August 1945. Aged 19.

Born and resided Kent.

Son of Cecil Baden-Powell and Alice Caroline Powell of Oare, Faversham, Kent.

Buried Faversham Borough Cemetery, Ladydene, Whitstable Road, Faversham, Kent. Grave Ref: Section E. Grave 47.

SHEPHERD, FREDERICK GEORGE. Private, 6288936.

2nd Battalion, The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment).

Died 9 June 1940. Aged 21.

Born and resided Kent.

Son of Walter Henry and Sylvia May Shepherd of Davington, Faversham, Kent.

Buried St Martin-Osmonville Communal Cemetery, Seine-Maritime, France.

Grave Ref: Centre of cemetery, near crucifix.

Also commemorated in the Faversham, Second World War Book of Remembrance which is kept at the parish church of St. Mary of Charity, Faversham, Kent.

WEAVER, EDGAR ALFRED. Second Hand, LT/JX 181715.

Royal Naval Patrol Service, H.M. Trawler Juniper.

Died 18 June 1940. Aged 44.

Husband of Harriet Jessie Weaver of Davington, Kent, Faversham, Kent.

Commemorated on the Lowestoft Naval Memorial. Panel 1, Column 3.

WILLIS, PERCY FREDERICK. Fusilier, 6290355.

8th Battalion, Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment).

Died 9 May 1943. Aged 28.

Born and resided Kent.

Son of William James Willis, and Gertrude Jane Willis of Faversham, Kent.

Husband of Marjorie Doris Willis of Faversham, Kent.

Buried Enfidaville War Cemetery, Tunisia. Grave Ref: III. A. 11.

Also commemorated in the Faversham, Second World War Book of Remembrance which is kept at the parish church of St. Mary of Charity, Faversham, Kent.