

Faversham

NatWest Bank



The impressive memorial plaque above is located in the NatWest Bank, 13 Market Place, Faversham, Kent, ME13 7AF, At the time that Harold Magee worked at the bank, it would of course have been known as the National Westminster Bank. 13 Market Place, Faversham was designed by Benjamin Adkins who was the architect of many of the finest Victorian buildings within the Borough of Faversham.

MAGEE, HAROLD ARTHUR GRISDALE. Lieutenant, 140885.
172 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery.
Died 18 November 1943.

Born Manchester, Lancashire. Resided North West London.

Commemorated on the Brookwood Memorial, Surrey. Panel 2. Column 2.

Harold's birth was registered in the Barton-upon-Irwell District of Salford, Lancashire, during the second quarter of 1917. Harold's mothers' maiden name was Grisdale, as was his last Christian name. The Brookwood Memorial, Surrey, commemorates nearly 3,500 men and women of the land forces of the Commonwealth who died during the Second World War that have no known grave, the circumstances of their death being such that they could not appropriately be commemorated on any of the campaign memorials in the various theatres of war. Harold's entry in/on the Army Roll of Honour-World war II, records his death as having occurred in the North African war theatre, at which time Harold's regiment was in Italy. 172 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery in which Harold served was formed from the 3 Defence Regiment, Royal Artillery in January 1942. Following its formation the 172 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery was engaged in a Home Defence role within the United Kingdom for a year, prior to being deployed to Tunisia as part of the 46th Infantry Division, 10 Corps in

January 1943, at which time it consisted of 153, 154 & 155 Batteries. During Harold's regiments' first major engagement with the enemy at the 'Battle of Sidi Nsir,' approximately 12 miles from Hunt's Gap, 155 was detached from the regiment having been annihilated. In February 1943 Harold's regiment took part in the second phase of the muddy and costly Tunisian battle of Hunt's Gap. Following 'Operation Torch' the allied invasion of Sicily, the 172 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery was basically in a reserve role, prior to taking part on 'Operation Avalanche' at Salerno, Italy in September 1943. Despite checking several books etcetera, the transcriber of this brief commemoration has thus far been unable glean any tangible information appertaining to Harold's army service or demise.

