

Leeds & Broomfield



The parish church of St. Nicholas, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent contains tributes to the victims of the Second Boer War, Great War, Second World War, and the Korean War which are in the form of well cared for memorial plaques. Regretably as with virtually every other city, town, village or hamlet in the county of Kent and elsewhere, the commemorations of those from Leeds and Broomfield as shown above are incomplete. Casualties who were connected to the Leeds area as encompassed by the tributes in St. Nicholas Church, but who are not commemorated at the church, have been added below under the appropriate headings of “Lost Man” following the Great War commemorated casualties, and as “Lost Casualties” following the Second World War commemorated casualties. Our thanks are due to Patrick D. Scullion and Hannah L. Scullion for carrying out these updated commemorations of the Leeds and Broomfield, Maidstone, Kent casualties of wars, as shown below.

The Great War

1914 -1919

AVERY, HORACE EDWARD. Corporal, M2/183803.
955th Mechanical Transport Company, Royal Army Service Corps.
Died Sunday 20 October 1918. Aged 37.
Born Langley, Maidstone, Kent. Enlisted and resident Maidstone, Kent.
Son of John and Emily Avery.
Husband of Sarah Ann Avery (née Goodhew) of Old Mill Cottages, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.
Buried Ramleh War Cemetery, Israel. Grave Ref: Section Z. Grave 4.
At the time of the 1901 census, Horace was a boarder at Taradale Cottage, Hale Street, East Peckham, Kent, and was employed as a Traction Engine Driver. Horace's marriage to Sarah Ann Goodhew was registered in the Maidstone, Kent Registration District during the fourth quarter of 1901. The 955th Mechanical Transport Company, Royal Army Service Corps in which Horace was serving at the time of his death, was formed at Kantara, Egypt on Tuesday 17 April 1917 as the Ammunition Column (Mechanical Transport) for the 300th Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery. Surplus to army peacetime requirements, the unit was disbanded on Tuesday 11 February 1919. As opposed to having been killed in action or died of wounds, Horace's medal index card entry and also his entry in/on Soldiers Died in the Great War, both record him as "Died." Although it is only speculation on the part of the transcriber of these brief updated commemorations, but in view of his date of death it is of course possible that Horace had been one of the countless victims of the worldwide Influenza pandemic which prevailed at the time of his death, and which ultimately claimed more lives than those which were lost as the direct result of all the military actions undertaken during the years of the Great War.

BRATTON, ALBERT AUGUSTUS. Private, 42460.
2nd Battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.
Died Sunday 30 September 1918. Aged 22.
Born Kingsdown, Kent. Enlisted Maidstone, Kent
Son of Walter Bratton and Emily Jane Bratton (née Wood) of "The Hollies," Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.
Buried Haringhe (Bandaghem) Military Cemetery, Poperinghe, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Grave Ref: III.B.2.
Also commemorated on page 220 of Ireland's Memorial Records 1914-1918.
Formerly Private, T4/145772, Army Service Corps. Albert's birth was registered in the Dartford, Kent Registration District during the third quarter of 1897. At the time of the 1901 census, the Bratton family resided at Shooters Corner, Stansted, Sevenoaks, Kent. Head of the house was 31 year old Kingsdown, Kent native Walter Bratton, who was employed as an Agricultural Labourer.

COLLINS, EDWARD HARRY. Private, G/251.

6th (Service) Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).

Died Thursday 9 March 1916.

Born Leeds, Maidstone, Kent. Enlisted Woolwich, Kent.

Son of Edward and Ellen Collins (née Kemsley).

Commemorated on the Loos Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Panel 95.

Edward is commemorated on the Leeds parish tribute as HENRY COLLINS.

At the time of the 1901 census, the Collins family resided at Thorneberry Cottage, Lullingstone, Kent. Head of the house was 38 year old Sutton Vallance, Kent native Edward Collins, who was employed as a Farm Waggoner. Edward was serving as a Private in the 6th (Service) Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment) when he was posted to France on 1 June 1915.

COULTER, CHARLES WILLIAM. Driver, 33688.

54th Field Company, Royal Engineers.

Died Tuesday 22 October 1918. Aged 21.

Born Leeds, Maidstone, Kent. Enlisted Maidstone, Kent.

Son of John Edwin Coulter and Maud Coulter of Little Buds, Thurnham, Detling, Maidstone, Kent.

Buried Staglieno Cemetery, Genoa, Italy. Grave Ref: I.C.24.

On the 1901 census Charles is recorded as residing with his widowed aunt, 48 year old Langley, Maidstone, Kent native Elizabeth Coulter at Upper Street, Leeds. Charles was posted to serve in France as a Driver in the Royal Engineers on 26 May 1915; unfortunately the unit which Charles was serving at the time of being posted abroad is not shown on his medal index card. The 54th Field Company, Royal Engineers was part of the 7th Division during the years of the Great War. After initially serving in Belgium as part of the British Expeditionary Force in 1914, it then served in France the following year. It having just taken part in the Battle of Festubert 15-25 May 1915, immediately prior to Charles's posting to France, it is possible that he joined the 54th Field Company, Royal Engineers prior to its participation in the Battle of Loos 25 September - 5 October 1915. On being transferred to the Italian Front, prior to his death Charles's unit took part in the Battle of Piave 15-24 June 1918

CUSHION, ALBERT CHARLES. Private, 242207.

6th (Service) Battalion, King's Own Scottish Borderers.

Died Monday 25 March 1918. Aged 19.

Born Walworth, Surrey. Enlisted and resided Maidstone, Kent.

Son of William and Eliza J. Cushion of Lower Street, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.

Buried Peronne Communal Cemetery Extension, Somme, France.

Grave Ref: III.K.19.

Formerly Private, G/5826 Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).

Albert was baptised in the parish church of All Saints, Walworth, Surrey on 27 February 1903, at which time the Cushion family resided at 101, Backway Street, Walworth, Surrey, and his father William Cushion was employed as a Leather Dresser.

DOWN T. E.

DOWN, THOMAS EAGLES. Private CH/19201,
Royal Marine Light Infantry, H.M.S. Vanguard.
Died Monday 9 July 1917. Aged 21.

Born Holly Hill, Meopham, Gravesend, Kent 12 June 1896.

Husband of Lizzie Charlotte Down (née Thorndycroft) of 3 Lower Street,
Broomfield, Maidstone, Kent.

Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial, Chatham, Kent. Panel 25, as
shown above.

Thomas enlisted in the Chatham Division, Royal Marine Light Infantry on 29
September 1914.

A survivor from the Battle of Jutland in which she was part of the Forth Battle Squadron, H.M.S. Vanguard, a 19,560 ton St.Vincent class battleship was commanded by Lieutenant Commander Alan Charles Henderson Duke R.N, blew up and sank to the north of the Golta peninsula in Flotta, Scapa Flow at approximately 2320 hours on Monday 9 July 1917 with the loss of 843 lives. She went down as the result of a magazine explosion in one of the two magazines which served the 'P' and 'Q' turrets amidships. Following her loss an Admiralty Court of Enquiry was convened, with three possible causes tendered, they being: - (1) A spontaneous detonation of cordite, which had become unstable. (2) The cordite having caught fire from heating in an adjacent compartment. (3) Sabotage. To their credit Brian Budge from Kirkwall, and fellow enthusiast, Jonathan Saunders from Gillingham, Kent have carried out extensive research over a number of years into the loss of Robert's ship, and it as the result of their findings that the actual death toll and following information has been ascertained. The vast majority of those lost with H.M.S. Vanguard numbering 622, are commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Although no formal cause for the cordite explosion was ever found by the Court of Inquiry, the most likely explanation is that a fire in a coal bunker or other neighbouring area simply smoldered away undetected long enough to heat the cordite stored at an adjoining bulkhead to dangerous levels, which eventually triggered an explosive reaction. Although dwarfed by the losses such as the S.S. Lancastria off the coast of France in the Second World War, the loss of H.M.S. Vanguard remains Britain's worst disaster in Home Waters. The wreck-site of the ship is now thankfully designated as a controlled site under the Protection of Military Remains Act. Stoker Cox and Royal Marine Private Williams, survived the explosion, but the only officer to do so was the ships commander Lieutenant Commander Alan Charles Henderson Duke R.N, but sadly he succumbed on Wednesday 9 July 1917 of the extensive wounds that he had received when H.M.S. Vanguard had exploded. Fortunately, 15 of H.M.S. Vanguard's officers had not returned to the ship from a concert onboard H.M.S. Gourka, which was moored beside the battleship H.M.S. Royal Oak, whilst some of her ratings survived by virtue of the fact that they were on leave at the time of the loss of H.M.S. Vanguard. Belatedly, H.M.S. Vanguard was declared an official protected war grave in 1982.

GATLAND, SPENCER. Private, G/4978.

7th (Service) Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).

Died Thursday 13 July 1916. Aged 23.

Born Nuthurst, Horsham, Sussex. Enlisted Maidstone, Kent.

Son of Moses Gatland and Mary Ann Gatland (née Boniface) of Broomfield, Maidstone, Kent.

Buried Bernafay Wood British Cemetery, Montauban, Somme, France.

Grave Ref: F.4.

At the time of the 1901 census, the Gatland family resided at Fullers Lane, Nuthurst, Horsham, Sussex. Head of the house was 33 year old Lower Beeding, Sussex native Moses Gatland, who was employed as a Game Keeper. The four children of Moses and Mary Ann Gatland that were recorded as being at home on the night of the census, were recorded as having the surname Boniface, one of which was the eldest child, Nuthurst, Horsham, Sussex native 12 year old Frederick Wallace Boniface, who was employed as a Game Keepers Assistant. Frederick lost his life on 16 February 1917, whilst serving as a Gunner in the 155th Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery. Although Frederick is commemorated by the Commonwealth War Grave Commission, he is not commemorated on the Great War parish tribute in the parish church of St. Nicholas, Leeds. Frederick has been commemorated as one of the "Lost Men" at the end of those who have been commemorated at Leeds.



GOODWIN, CHARLES WILLIAM. Able Seaman, 206685.

Royal Navy, H.M.S. India.

Died Sunday 8 August 1915. Aged 33.

Born Chart Sutton, Maidstone, Kent 13 September 1882.

Son of Charles William Goodwin and Grace Goodwin (née Children) of Chart Hill, Chart Sutton, Maidstone, Kent.

Husband of Florence Annie Goodwin (née Munday) of Green Lane, Langley, Maidstone, Kent.

Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 9, as shown above, and on the Chart Sutton, Maidstone, Kent parish tribute which is located in the parish church of St. Michael.

At the time of the 1901 census, the Goodwin family resided at Alмеры Cottages, Chart Hill Road, Chart Sutton, Maidstone, Kent. Head of the house was 42 year old Sutton Vallenge, Kent native Charles William Goodwin (senior), who was employed as an Agricultural Labourer. Charles, who was not with his family on the night of the 1901 census, married Florence Annie Munday at Ramsgate, Isle of Thanet, Kent in 1900. The 7,940 ton armed merchant cruiser H.M.S. India on which Charles was serving at the time of his death, was torpedoed and sunk off Helligvaer Island, Bodo, West Fjord, Norway, by the German submarine U-22 which was commanded by 32 year old Kapitänleutnant, Bruno Hoppe (1882-1917). Charles was numbered amongst the 166 casualties which were suffered as the result of the sinking of H.M.S. India.



GRUBB W. B. W.

GRUBB, WALTER BOUSFIELD WATKINS. Lieutenant-Commander.

Royal Navy, H.M.S. Cressy.

Died Tuesday 22 September 1914. Aged 35.

Born Knockrobin, County Wicklow, Ireland 1 July 1879.

Son of Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander Grubb R.A. and Sarah Mary Grubb (née Watkins) of Elsfield House, Ashford Road, Hollingbourne, Maidstone, Kent.

Husband of Marguerite Evalina Fairlie Grubb (née Dunbar) of "The Gables," Crowborough, Sussex.

Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 1, as shown above.

Walter was educated at a school which was run by the Reverend Arthur Watson, and his wife Caroline G. Watson at The Grange, West Cowes, Isle of Wight. At the time of the 1901 census, Walter was serving as a 21 year old Lieutenant in the Royal Navy on H.M.S. Indefatigable at Barbados. He had joined the Royal Navy as a Cadet and trained at H.M.S. Britannia, Dartmouth from 1892 to 1895. On the completion of his studies at Dartmouth, Walter became a Midshipman serving on H.M.S. Trafalgar. In July 1898, Walter was promoted to the rank of Sub-Lieutenant. He was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in January 1901, and was made a Gunnery Lieutenant on 1 January 1907. In January 1909, Walter was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Commander. He was appointed the Gunnery Officer of Cressy H.M.S. in March 1914. At the church of St. James, Clapham Common, London on 22 April 1914, Walter married Miss Marguerite Evalina Fairlie Dunbar, who was the only child of Doctor James John McWhirter Dunbar of Headingham House, Clapham Common, London SW. At the time of Walter's death his wife resided at their home, 7 Prospect Row, Old Brompton, Kent. 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 Thursday 16 July 1914 the German submarine U-9 had become the first submarine in history to reload torpedoes whilst still submerged, and on Tuesday 22 September 1914, the same submarine under the command of 32 year old Kapitänleutnant Otto Weddigen who had commanded the U-9 since Saturday 1 August 1914, sighted

H.M.S.Cressy, H.M.S.Aboukir and H.M.S.Hogue all steaming North-North-East 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 peacetime, and were able to reload torpedoes 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. H.M.S.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, as the result of which 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 H.M.S.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 she quickly got underway on sighting a submarine 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 H.M.S.Cressy sinking her within a quarter of an hour. Survivors of the disaster were picked up by several nearby merchant ships including the Dutch vessels 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 uboat U-29 was rammed and sunk by H.M.S. Dreadnought in the Pentland Firth, Scotland, and all 32 submariners onboard perished, including Otto Weddigen who had been in command of the uboat since Tuesday 16 February 1915. In August 1902, Walter had been a recipient of H.M. King Edward VII Coronation Medal. On 4 June 1915, Marguerite Grubb gave birth to Walter's son, Walter Dunbar Watkins Grubb, in the Wandsworth Registration District. Walter (junior) died at Eastbourne, East Sussex in April 1984, aged 78.

HENTY, RALPH. Driver, 207755.

Royal Field Artillery.

Died Tuesday 30 October 1918. Aged 29.

Born Sutton Valance, Kent.

Son of William and Angeline Henty.

Husband of Rose Annie Ambrose (formerly Henty), (née Morgan) of Upper Street, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.

Commemorated on the Kirkee 1914-1918 Memorial, India. Face 2, and at St. Pauls Cathedral, London, also at Canterbury Cathedral, Kent.

At the time of the 1901 census the Henty family resided at Lower Street, Leeds. Head of the house was 50 year old Headcorn, Kent native William Henty, who was employed as a Farm Waggoner. Residing next door to the Henty family was William and Emmaline Alice Mannerings and their children, one of whom Herbert also fell in the Great War, and is one of the Leeds casualties that are commemorated in the parish church of St. Nicholas. Prior to enlisting in the army, Ralph had been a member of the bell ringing team at St. Nicholas's church, Leeds, which is the reason why he is commemorated in the Great War Memorial Book of Church Bell-Ringers who fell in the Great War 1914-1918, which is on display in a bookcase on the way up to the ringing chamber at St Paul's Cathedral, London, and is also commemorated in the Kent County Association of Change Ringers Roll of Honour, which honours the 81 Kent ringers who are known to have died in the Great War, and which is now in the safe keeping of Canterbury Cathedral, Kent.

KENYON, PATRICK. Private 17029,

"A" Company, 8th (Service) Battalion, York and Lancaster Regiment.

Died Saturday 1 July 1916. Aged 35.

Born Bray Village, Dublin, Ireland. Enlisted and resided Sheffield, Yorkshire.

Son of James Henry Kenyon.

Husband of Shirley Augusta Kenyon (née Cheeseman) of Lower Street, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.

Buried Blighty Valley Cemetery, Authuille Wood, Authuille, Somme, France.

Grave Ref: V. C. 30.

Also commemorated on page 379 of Ireland's Memorial Records 1914-1918.

Patrick enlisted in the army 'For the Duration of the War,' on 12 November 1914.

When he enlisted, Patrick stated that he was 34 years and 1 month old, and that he was residing at 29, Spring Street, Sheffield, Yorkshire. After being attested to serve in the York and Lancaster Regiment, on 12 November 1914 Patrick was posted to the 8th (Service) Battalion, and on 16 December 1914 he was appointed an (unpaid) Lance Corporal, and to the rank of Corporal on 11 March 1915, but reverted to a Private on 3 October 1915. Patrick married Miss Shirley Augusta Cheeseman at the parish church of St. Nicholas, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent on 7 August 1915, at which time he resided at 35, Bright Road, Chatham, Kent. On 27 August 1915, Patrick was posted to France for service with the British Expeditionary Corps. Following Patrick's death at Ovillers, Somme, his widow resided at "Bugle Horn House," Rooks Lane, Otham, Maidstone, Kent.

KING, REGINALD WILLIAM. Lance Corporal, 391834.
9th (County of London) Battalion, London Regiment (Queen Victoria's Rifles).
Died Thursday 27 September 1917. Aged 24.
Born and resided Leeds, Maidstone, Kent. Enlisted London.
Son of William King and Frances Elenor King of Kings Cottages, Upper Street, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.
Buried Tyne Cot Cemetery, Zonnebeke, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.
Grave Ref: VIII.E.10.
Formerly Private, 4983, 9th (County of London) Battalion, London Regiment (Queen Victoria's Rifles). Reginald is commemorated on the Great War memorial plaque in St, Nicholas Church, Leeds, as being a member of the Queens Rifles. At the time of the 1901 census, the King family resided at Windmill House, Leeds. Head of the house was 31 year old Leeds, Kent native William King who was employed as a Farm Labourer.

KNELL, FELIX HENRY. Private, TR/138140.
Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment) 53rd (Young Soldier) Battalion.
Died Friday 5 July 1918. Aged 18.
Born Maidstone, Kent.
Son of William Henry Knell and Louisa Alice Knell (née Hine) of Upper Street, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.
Buried St. Nicholas Churchyard, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.
Grave Ref: North-West of Church.
At the time of the 1901 census, the Knell family resided at 26, Waterlow Road, Maidstone, Kent. Head of the house was 30 year old Leeds, Kent native William Henry Knell, who was employed as a General Labourer. As Felix was only 10 months old when the above census was conducted, the address where the family was living was probably also the actual location of Felix's birth.

The following three casualties commemorated below were brothers.

LATTER, ARTHUR JAMES. Private, 633332.
20th (County of London) Battalion, London Regiment (Woolwich and Blackheath).
Died Sunday 1 October 1916. Aged 18.
Born and resided Leeds, Maidstone, Kent. Enlisted Maidstone, Kent.
Son of Henry Latter and Elizabeth Latter (née Crouch) of Upper Street, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.
Buried Warlencourt British Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France.
Grave Ref: VII. G. 12.
Formerly Private, 3586, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment). Arthur is commemorated on the Great War memorial plaque in St, Nicholas Church, Leeds as being a member of the Royal West Kent's, his former Regiment. At the time of the 1911 census, the Latter family resided at the Square, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent. Head of house was 64 year old Horsmonden, Kent native Henry Latter. Henry's 60 year old wife Elizabeth was a native of Leeds, Kent.

LATTER, EDWIN FRANK. Private 3878,
3rd (Reserve) Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).
Died 26 February 1919. Aged 29.
Born and resided Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.
Son of Henry Latter and Elizabeth Latter (née Crouch) of Upper Street, Leeds,
Maidstone, Kent.
Buried St. Nicholas Churchyard, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.
Grave Ref: North-West boundary.
At the time of being posted to serve in France with the British Expeditionary
Corps on 11 August 1915, Edwin was serving as a Lance Corporal in the
Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment). Prior to his death Edwin was
transferred as Private, 464925, to serve in the 680th Agricultural Company,
Labour Corps.

LATTER, JOHN. Private, 27088.
4th (Territorial Force) Battalion, King's Own Shropshire Light Infantry.
Died Wednesday 19 April 1918. Aged 37.
Born Leeds, Maidstone, Kent. Enlisted Chatham, Kent. Resided Broomfield,
Maidstone, Kent.
Son of Henry Latter and Elizabeth Latter (née Crouch) of Upper Street, Leeds,
Maidstone, Kent.
Buried Denain Communal Cemetery, Nord, France. Grave Ref: B. 52.
Formerly Private, 5365, 3/6th (Territorial Force) Battalion, The Sherwood
Foresters (Nottinghamshire & Derbyshire Regiment), and Private, 245735, Royal
Engineers, also Private, 26115, King's Own Shropshire Light Infantry.

MANNERINGS, HERBERT WILLIAM. Sergeant 9939,
2nd Battalion, East Surrey Regiment.
Died Friday 12 March 1915.
Born and resided Leeds, Maidstone, Kent. Enlisted Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey.
Son of William Mannerings and Emmaline Alice Mannerings of Lower Street,
Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.
Commemorated on the Menin Gate, Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Panel 34.
At the time of the 1901 census, the Mannerings family resided at Lower Street,
Leeds. Head of the house was 49 year old Langley, Kent native William
Mannerings, who was employed as an Ordinary Farm Labourer. The next door
neighbours of the Mannerings family were the Henty family, amongst whom was
11 year old Ralph Henty who also fell in the Great War. Herbert enlisted in the
Army Reserve (Special Reservists) for 6 years at Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey
on Tuesday 28 December 1909, at which time he stated that he was born at
Leeds, Maidstone, Kent, and was aged 18 years and 1 month, and said that he
was employed as a Labourer. Herbert's time spent as a member of the Army
Reserve (Special Reservists) was of only a short duration, as he enlisted as a
regular soldier for 7 years with the Colours and 5 years in the Reserve on
Tuesday 1 February 1910, having by that time served for 126 days. When he
enlisted as a regular soldier, which again was at Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey,

Herbert stated that he was 18 years and 5 months old, employed as a Labourer, and that he was a serving member of the 3rd (Special Reserve) Battalion, East Surrey Regiment, in which he had served as Private, 6673. Herbert was posted to the 1st Battalion, East Surrey Regiment on Tuesday 22 February 1910, and passed his 3rd class Army Education Certificate on Tuesday 8 August 1911. He served for a year until being posted to the 2nd Battalion of his regiment on Wednesday 29 November 1911, and served in that battalion until he was killed in action. During his time spent serving as a regular soldier in the 2nd Battalion, East Surrey Regiment, Herbert received a number of pay increments in recognition of his qualifications. On Tuesday 15 April 1913 he received his first Good Conduct Badge, on Thursday 29 May 1913 Herbert qualified as a 1st class shot, and on Sunday 13 July 1913 he successfully qualified as a 1st class Machine Gunner. He had been appointed to be an (unpaid) Lance Corporal on Saturday 19 October 1912, and qualified at an examination for the rank of Corporal on Tuesday 8 April 1913, he then again qualified as a 1st class shot on Saturday 2 May 1914. Herbert passed his 2nd class Army Education Certificate on Tuesday 19 May 1914. At the commencement of the Great War, Herbert's battalion was stationed at Chaubattia in Northern India, unlike many other battalions that were serving in India at the time, Herbert's was not recalled to England, and carried out defensive duties in the Meerut area. With the situation in Europe escalating, the battalion left India on the SS Malda, which arrived at Devonport on 23 December 1914, and the following day Herbert was promoted to the rank of Corporal, and to an Acting Sergeant on Monday 22 February 1915.

MILNER, ALBERT WILLIAM ALFRED. Private, G/4334.
8th (Service) Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).
Died Sunday 26 September 1915.
Born Leeds, Maidstone, Kent. Enlisted and resided Maidstone, Kent.
Son of John and Catherine Milner.
Husband of Nellie Milner (née Kelly) of Priory Cottage, Knightrider Street, Maidstone, Kent.
Commemorated on the Loos Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Panel 97.
At the time of the 1901 census, the Milner family resided at Back Street, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent. Head of the house was 35 year old Langley, Maidstone, Kent native John Milner, who was employed as an Ordinary Agricultural Labourer. Albert enlisted in the army for 3 years with the Colours on Monday 9 November 1914. When he enlisted, Albert stated that he was 19 years and 224 days old, and that he was employed as a Farm Labourer. After being attested, Albert was posted to serve in the 8th (Service) Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment), and remained in the same battalion until his death. On Saturday 17 July 1915 Albert married Miss Nellie Kelly, but following their marriage, Albert and Nellie only spent a short time together, as Albert was posted to serve in France on Monday 30 August 1915. Following his death, Albert was initially posted as 'Wounded & Missing,' but on Wednesday 6 December 1916, the Army Council decided that for official purposes it could be assumed that he had died on or since Sunday 26 September 1915.

MORGAN, HORACE. Private, 24865.

37th Company, Machine Gun Corps (Infantry).

Died Friday 30 November 1917.

Born Leeds, Maidstone, Kent. Enlisted Maidstone, Kent.

Son of Horace Morgan and Eliza Morgan (née Page).

Commemorated on the Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, Nord, France. Panel 13.

Formerly Private, 3880. Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment). At the time of the 1901 census, the Morgan family resided at Upper Street, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent. Head of the house was 38 year old Leeds, Maidstone, Kent native Horace Morgan, who was employed as a Road Foreman. At the time of his posting to France on 22 June 1915, for service with the British Expeditionary Corps, Horace was serving as a Private in the Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment). The 37th Company, Machine Gun Corps (Infantry), in which Horace was serving at the time of his death had been formed in the 12th (Eastern) Division early in 1916, and it later became one of the companies which constituted the 12th Battalion, Machine Gun Corps (Infantry), on 1 March 1918. On the day before Horace fell, the enemy massed a force in the area of Villers Guislain, south of his Divisions area. On 30 November at 0645hours, heavy shellfire began to fall and by 0745am the Divisional H.Q. was already out of touch with its forward units. The failure of an attack on 24 November now became all too apparent, as the Germans had invisibly assembled a considerable attacking force in the canal valley. A hard and confused fight followed as the German infantry advanced, the Division falling back across the recently won ground. By the end of the day the line had held at La Vacquerie.

POPE, FRANCIS JOHN. Private, 460162.

44th Battalion, Canadian Infantry (New Brunswick Regiment).

Died Wednesday 25 October 1916.

Born Sandway, Lenham, Maidstone, Kent 26 August 1892.

Son of George Thomas Pope and Sarah Pope (née Day).

Commemorated on the Vimy Memorial, Pas de Calais, France, and on Great War memorial plaque, which is located in the parish church of All Saints, Ulcombe, Maidstone, Kent, also on page 149 of the Canadian First World War Book of Remembrance.

At the time of the 1901 census, the Pope family resided at Chegwell Manor Farm, Hollingbourne, Maidstone, Kent. Head of the house was 54 year old Pluckley, Ashford, Kent native George Thomas Pope, who was a Farmer and Employer. Francis emigrated to Canada in March 1913, he sailed from Liverpool, Lancashire onboard the 9,674 ton Canadian Pacific Line ship "Lake Manitoba," which arrived at St. John, New Brunswick, Canada on Friday 28 March 1913. Prior to emigrating to Canada, Francis had been a Fruit Grower, which is what he intended to do in Vernon, British Columbia, Canada. He enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force at Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada on Saturday 5 June 1915. When he enlisted, Francis stated that he was employed in Farming, and named his mother Sarah Pope as his next of kin, who was residing at Chegwell Manor Farm, Hollingbourne, Maidstone, Kent.

RANDALL, SIDNEY HERBERT. Private, L/8418.

2nd Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).

Died Tuesday 31 October 1916.

Born Leeds, Kent. Enlisted Maidstone, Kent.

Son of Mrs. Emily West of Spring Cottage, East Malling, Maidstone, Kent.

Buried Baghdad (North Gate) War Cemetery, Iraq. Grave Ref: XXI. Q. 45.

The 1901 census shows Sidney employed as a Yard Boy working with cattle, and living with his grandparents Samuel and Mary Randall at Upper Street, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent. Sidney was serving as a regular soldier in the Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment), at the time of his posting to the Asiatic war theatre on 6 February 1915.

SAGE, ALBERT. Private, L/8200.

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

Died Wednesday 28 October 1914. Aged 28 years.

Born Leeds, Kent. Enlisted Maidstone, Kent.

Brother of W Sage of Ash Bank, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.

Commemorated on the Le Touret Memorial, Pas de Calais, France.

At the time of the 1901 census, the Sage family resided at Ash Bank, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent. Head of the house was Albert's 56 year old widowed mother Ann Sage, who was a native of Hollingbourne, Maidstone, Kent. The then 15 year old Albert was recorded by the census enumerator as being employed as a Shephard Boy on a Farm. Albert was serving as a regular soldier in the 1st Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment), at the time of his posting to France on 15 August 1914.

SMITH, NEBUCHADNEZZAR. Private, G/4143.

10th (Service) Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment) (Kent County).

Died Friday 19 January 1917. Aged 37.

Born Boughton Malherbe, Lenham, Maidstone, Kent. Enlisted Maidstone, Kent.

Resided Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.

Son of George and Jane Smith.

Husband of Elizabeth Skinner (formerly Smith), (née McMahon) of Upper Street, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.

Buried Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Poperinghe, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Grave Ref: X. D. 26.

Nebuchadnezzar enlisted in the army for 3 years with the Colours on 19 October 1914. When he enlisted, Nebuchadnezzar stated that he was 33 years and 306 days old, employed as a Farm labourer, and that he had previously served in the 5th (Territorial Force) Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment). Having been attested to serve in the Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment), Nebuchadnezzar joined the regiment at the Regimental Depot, Maidstone, Kent on the day of his enlistment. On 4 November 1914 he was posted to the 8th (Service) Battalion of his regiment, and was posted to serve in France with the battalion on 30 August 1915. On 1 October 1915, Nebuchadnezzar received a

bullet wound to his right heel, for which he initially received treatment at the West Riding Casualty Clearing Station. After more treatment for his wounding, Nebuchadnezzar was discharged from the 2nd Stationary Hospital at Abbeville, Somme, France on 22 February 1916. He was taken off the strength of the 8th (Service) Battalion and posted to the 10th (Service) Battalion on 3 January 1917. Prior to his death, the military authorities had ascertained that Nebuchadnezzar's wife was cohabiting with another man whilst he was serving in France. As the direct result of the cohabitation, some of the official documentation etcetera appertaining to him was sent to Mrs Lillian Florence Sandford at St. Marys Farm, Headcorn, Kent, and later it was sent to her at Tong Villa, Headcorn, Kent. Lillian was a sister of Nebuchadnezzar and the legal guardian of his two children. Other official correspondence was addressed to Nebuchadnezzar's widow at Upper Street, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent. Nebuchadnezzar died of gunshot wounds to his thighs and abdomen at 2330 hours on 19 January 1917, whilst he was receiving treatment for his wounds at the 3rd Canadian Casualty Clearing Station.

TOMSETT, ERNEST ALFRED. Lance Corporal, G/24664.
7th (Service) Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).
Died Wednesday 14 February 1917. Aged 30.
Born Chart Sutton, Maidstone, Kent. Enlisted Maidstone, Kent. Resided Hollingbourne, Maidstone, Kent.
Second son of Alexander Bonny Tomsett and Mary Ann Tomsett (née Relf) of 8, Almery Cottages, Chart Hill Road, Chart Sutton, Maidstone, Kent.
Husband of Edith Grace Tomsett (née Eungblut) of "Fairview, Dumpton Park, Ramsgate, Isle of Thanet, Kent.
Commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Pier and Face 11 C, and on the Chart Sutton, Maidstone, Kent parish tribute which is located in the parish church of St. Michael.
At the time of the 1901 census, the Tomsett family resided at Almery Cottages, Chart Hill Road, Chart Sutton, Maidstone, Kent. Head of the house was 59 year old Loose, Maidstone, Kent native Alexander Bonny Tomsett, who was employed as an Agricultural Labourer. Ernest married Edith Grace Eungblut in 1906.

WENHAM, JAMES. Private, G/6366.
2nd Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).
Died Sunday 17 December 1916. Aged 41.
Born and resided Leeds, Maidstone, Kent. Enlisted Maidstone, Kent.
Son of Mrs. S. E. Wenham of East Hall Cottages, Boughton Monchelsea, Maidstone, Kent.
Buried Struma Military Cemetery, Kalokastron, Greece. Grave Ref: VII. A. 12
James was posted to France on 5 October 1915, for service with the British Expeditionary Force, as a member of The Buffs (East Kent Regiment). As James's regimental number is that of a soldier of one of the Home Counties Service Battalions, it is almost certain that on 5 October 1915 he had been serving in either the 6th, 7th, or 8th Service Battalions of his regiment, all of which were serving service with the British Expeditionary Force at that time.



WOOD, WILLIAM. Corporal, G/23855.
1st Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).
Died Friday 26 October 1917. Aged 20.
Born Langley, Kent. Enlisted Maidstone, Kent.
Son of Charles and Mary A Wood of Upper Street, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.
Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Panel 106, as shown above.
The 1901 census shows William living with his parents Charles and Mary Ann Wood in Upper Street, Leeds, Kent.

The Great War

1914 -1919

Lost Men

BRADFORD, HARRY T. Private, G/5752.
Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).
Died Monday 3 September 1917.
Born West Farleigh, Maidstone, Kent. Enlisted Maidstone, Kent. Resided South Darenth, Dartford, Kent.
Son of Harry Bradford and Eliza Bradford of Millstead Cottages, Upper Street, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.
Husband of Sarah Bradford (née Coshall).
Buried All Saints Churchyard Extension, Ulcombe, Maidstone, Kent.
Grave Ref: B. H. 3.
Commemorated as a soldier of The Buffs (East Kent Regiment) on Great War memorial plaque which is located in the parish church of All Saints, Ulcombe, Maidstone, Kent.
At the time of the 1901 census, the Bradford family resided at Wooley Farm, East Sutton, Maidstone, Kent. Head of the house was 47 year old Sussex native Harry Bradford (senior), who was employed as a Farm Waggoner. The then 15 year old Harry (junior) was recorded by the census enumerator as being employed as a House Boy. Harry's marriage to Sarah Coshall was registered in the Dartford, Kent Registration District during the third quarter of 1914. He enlisted in the army 'For the Duration of the War' on 16 February 1915. When he enlisted, Harry stated that he was 29 years old, employed as a Labourer, and resided at Warmlake Farm, Sutton Vallence, Maidstone, Kent. He also stated that he had previously served for 7 years as a member of the 3rd (Reserve) Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment). He was posted to France on 11 October 1915 with the 8th (Service) Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment), for service with the British Expeditionary Force. Having been evacuated from the Western Front and sent back to England, from 17 June 1916, Harry spent 7 days at the 3rd Northern General Hospital, Sheffield, Yorkshire, receiving treatment for Trench Fever, and was then transferred to a Military

Convalescent Camp at Blackpool, Lancashire. On 12 July 1917, Harry attended an Army Medical Board at Maidstone, Kent, which deemed him to be "No longer physically fit for war service." The Army Medical Board confirmed that Harry's discharge would be confirmed at a date 21 days after it sat to consider Harry's case. When Harry was discharged from the army on 5 March 1917, his home address was at 9, Darenth Vale Terrace, South Darenth, Dartford, Kent.

GATLAND, FREDERICK WALLACE. Gunner, 86042.

155th Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery.

Died Friday 16 February 1917. Aged 29.

Born Nuthurst, Horsham, Sussex. Enlisted Maidstone, Kent. Resided Hollingbourne, Maidstone, Kent.

Son of Moses Gatland and Mary Ann Gatland (née Boniface) of Broomfield, Maidstone, Kent.

Husband of Mabel Verina Gatland (née Rideout) of Naccolt Farm, Wye, Kent

Buried Erquinghem-Lys Churchyard Extension, Nord, France.

Grave Ref: II. A. 19.

Commemorated on the Hollingbourne, Maidstone, Kent civic war memorial.

At the time of the 1901 census, the Gatland family resided at Fullers Lane, Nuthurst, Horsham, Sussex. Head of the house was 33 year old Lower Beeding, Sussex native Moses Gatland, who was employed as a Game Keeper. The four children of Moses and Mary Ann Gatland that were recorded as being at home on the night of the census, were recorded as having the surname Boniface. 12 year old Frederick was the eldest child, and recorded by the census enumerator as being employed as a Game Keepers Assistant. Frederick married Miss Mabel Verina Rideout at the parish church of St. Gregory and St. Martin, Wye, Ashford, Kent on 3 October 1912. He had stated that he was employed as a Game Keeper when he enlisted in the army 'For the Duration of the War,' on 8 December 1915. At the time of enlisting, Frederick had also stated that he was 27 years and 54 days old, and that he resided at Woodcock Cottage, Hollingbourne, Kent. Having been placed on the Army Reserve on 9 December 1915, Frederick was mobilized on 24 May 1916, and was initially posted to the No.1 Depot (Heavy and Siege), Royal Garrison Artillery at Derby. On the completion of his training at Derby, Frederick was transferred to the 155th Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery on 3 June 1916. Frederick was serving in the 155th Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery when it had embarked at Southampton on 29 August 1916 for service in France, and arriving at the French port of Harve the following day. When it went to France, Frederick's Battery was armed with four 6" Howitzers, and joined 32nd Heavy Artillery Group on 3 September 1916. It transferred to 5th Heavy Artillery Group on 5 October 1916; to the 52nd Heavy Artillery Group on 1 November 1916; to the 71st Heavy Artillery Group on 24 November 1916. It was moved back to the 52nd Heavy Artillery Group on 6 January 1917; and following Frederick's death it went to the 69th Heavy Artillery Group on 25 March 17. On 3 January 1918 the battery joined the 36th Brigade, Royal Garrison Artillery, which it then served with it for the remainder of the Great War.

HAYES, THOMAS LEWIS. Private, 823364.

1st Battalion, Canadian Infantry (Western Ontario Regiment).

Died Thursday 3 May 1917. Aged 32.

Born Leeds, Maidstone, Kent 13 October 1884.

Son of John and Eliza Hayes.

Husband of Mrs Mary Hayes of 235, Talbot Street, London, Ontario, Canada.

Commemorated on the Vimy Memorial, Vimy Ridge, Pas de Calais, France, and on page 253 of the Canadian First World War Book of Remembrance, Thomas is also commemorated on the Cobham, Kent civic war memorial.

At the time of the 1901 census the Hayes family resided at Rams Green Cottages, St. Marys Hoo, Isle of Grain, Kent. Head of the house was 39 year old Leeds, Kent native John Hayes, who was employed as an Agricultural Labourer. When Thomas had enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force at London, Ontario, Canada 2 December 1915, he resided with his wife at 379, Forbe Street, London, Ontario, and had stated that he was employed as a Labourer.

HEATHFIELD, JOHN. Private, 56978.

1st Battalion, West Yorkshire Regiment.

Died Saturday 22 December 1917. Aged 19.

Born Broomfield, Kent. Enlisted Pluckley. Resided Ulcombe, Maidstone, Kent.

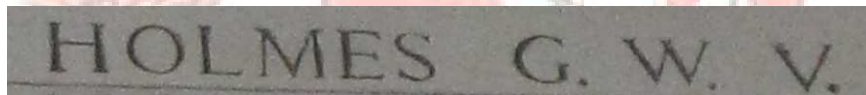
Son of Frederick Heathfield and Elizabeth Heathfield of Roseland Cottage, Ulcombe, Maidstone, Kent.

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

Grave Ref: P. V. B. 2A

Commemorated on the Headcorn, Ashford, Kent civic war memorial, and in the parish church of All Saints, Ulcombe, Maidstone, Kent.

At the time of the 1901 census, the Heathfield family resided at Boy Court, Ulcombe, Maidstone, Kent. Head of the house was 39 year old Headcorn, Kent native Frederick Heathfield, who was employed as a Farm Stockman.



HOLMES, GEORGE WILLIAM VERNEY. Private, G/4679.

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

Died Monday 3 May 1915. Aged 29.

Born Hadlow, Kent. Enlisted Maidstone, Kent. Resided Thurnham, Bearsted, Maidstone, Kent.

Son of Richard and Lavina Holmes of Ware Street, Thurnham, Bearsted, Maidstone, Kent.

Husband of Gertrude Cecilia Dorothy Tolhurst (formerly Holmes), of Caring Farm, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.

Commemorated on the Menin Gate, Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Panel 14, as shown above.

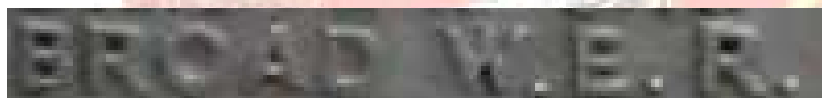
At the time of the 1901 census, the Holmes family resided at Weaving Street Boxley, Maidstone, Kent. Head of the house was 39 year old Hadlow, Kent native Richard Holmes, who was employed as an Agricultural Labourer.

The Second World War

1939 -1945

ANDREWS, ALBERT. Sapper, 2126253.
254 Field Park Company, Royal Engineers.
Died Tuesday 1 February 1944. Aged 33.
Born and resided Kent.
Husband of Francis Elizabeth Mary R. P Andrews of Doddington, Kent.
Buried Minturno War Cemetery, Italy. Grave Ref: I.B.2.
Albert is not commemorated on the Doddington, Kent civic war memorial.

BOUCHER, ROBERT ALEXANDER COMYN. Lieutenant, 293694.
2nd Northamptonshire Yeomanry, Royal Armoured Corps.
Died Wednesday 19 July 1944.
Born Australia. Resided Kent.
Son of Richard Thomas Comyn Boucher and Ethel Phyllis Clara Boucher of Leeds Abbey, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.
Commemorated on the Bayeux Memorial, Calvados, France.
Panel 10. Column 2.
Robert was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Royal Armoured Corps on 19 September 1943. At the time of the 1931 Australian census, Robert's parents resided at Stoneyrises, Lal Lal, Ballaarat, Victoria, where his father Richard Thomas Comyn Boucher was recorded as being a Farmer. Born on 19 August 1897, Richard died in May 1984 aged 86.



BROAD, WILLIAM ERNEST RICHARD. Stoker 1st Class, C/KX 109258.
Royal Navy. H.M.S. Curacoa.
Died Tuesday 20 October 1942. Aged 30.
Son of Mr and Mrs Richard Broad.
Husband of Nellie Dardanelles Broad (née Hudson) of Milton Regis, Sittingbourne, Kent.
Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 61. Column 3, as shown above.
William's marriage to Nellie Dardanelles Hudson was registered in the Milton, Kent Registration District during the second quarter of 1939. H.M.S. Curacoa on which William was serving at the time of his death, was a 4190 ton Ceres class light cruiser which was launched on 5 May 1917, and commissioned on 18 February 1918. She was refitted and rearmed as an Anti-Aircraft cruiser from August 1939 until April 1940. At the time of her loss on 2 October 1942, H.M.S. Curacoa was engaged in convoy escort duties in close attendance with the liner Queen Mary, which at the time was in use as a troopship, and carrying over 10,000 American 29th Division troops across the Atlantic to train in the United Kingdom in preparation for D-Day. While both ships were zigzagging, H.M.S.

Curacoa, commanded by Captain John Wilfred Boutwood, D.S.O., R.N, crossed the Queen Mary's bow with insufficient clearance when both vessels were off Donegal, Ireland and heading for the River Clyde. The Queen Mary sliced into her at a speed of 28 knots cutting the light cruiser in two, which then separated by about 100 yards, and sank instantly. Despite the impact of the collision, the Queen Mary did not falter or slow down for fear of attack by German submarines, although she had a 40 foot gash in her bow resultant of the collision. Captain Cyril Gordon Illingworth, who was the Master of the Queen Mary, was under strict orders to not stop for any reason, but the ships crew and the American soldiers onboard threw lifebelts to the men who were struggling in the water, which undoubtedly saved many lives. 102 officers and ratings were picked up by a number of other vessels which were also in close attendance escorting the Queen Mary. Several of the men rescued later succumbed to their injuries including William. Amongst those who fortunately survived the tragedy of the loss of H.M.S. Curacoa was the ships Captain, who also survived when he was commanding the Royal Navy Algerine class minesweeper H.M.S. Fantome, when she was mined off Bizerte, Tunisia on Thursday 20 May 1943.

BRYANT, DENIS MICHAEL. Midshipman.

Royal Navy. H.M.S Hood.

Died Saturday 24 May 1941. Aged 18.

Born 14 June 1922.

Son of Denis H Bryant and Phyllis M S Bryant (née Lowe).

Commemorated on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial. Panel 45. Column 2.

Denis is also commemorated in the Hood Chapel, at the Church of St John the Baptist, Boldre, Hampshire.

Denis's birth was registered in the Milton, Kent Registration District during the third quarter of 1922. Denis was a pupil at Sutton Valence School, Maidstone, Kent from 1931 to 1939. On the completion of his education at Sutton Valence, Denis then went to the Dartmouth Naval Collage, where he trained in 1939 and 1940, and joined H.M.S. Hood later in 1940, which was destined to be the only ship he served on. For comprehensive information appertaining to Denis's ship, please see the excellent website www.hmshood.com, it being that of the H.M.S. Hood Association, which also includes a superb photograph of Denis.

LUCAS, LILIAN ADA. Leading Wren, CH/15766.

Womens Royal Naval Service. H.M.S. Dover Castle.

Died Sunday 12 September 1943. Aged 23.

Daughter of Thomas Carey Lucas and Mary Lucas of Leeds, Maidstone, Kent. Buried Woodlands Cemetery, Gillingham, Kent.

Grave Ref: 1496 Naval Reservation.

Commemorated on the Second World War memorial plaque in St. Nicholas Church, Leeds as Ada L. Lucas. Lilian died of illness as opposed to being the result of any form of enemy action. Her death was registered in the Chatham, Kent Registration District during the third quarter of 1943.

MOSELEY, ERIC HARRISON. Driver, T/84928.

507th Ambulance Company, 44th Division, Royal Army Service Corps.

Died Tuesday 6 August 1940. Aged 27.

Born and resided Kent.

Husband of Minnie Rose E. Moseley (née Taylor) of Lenham, Maidstone, Kent.

Buried Becklingen War Cemetery, Soltau, Niedersachsen, Germany.

Grave Ref: 26. D. 2.

Eric was a pre war member of the Royal Army Service Corps. His birth was registered in the Maidstone, Kent Registration District during the first quarter of 1914. Eric's marriage to Minnie Rose E. Taylor was registered in the Maidstone, Kent Registration District during the second quarter of 1934.

VAUGHAN, JOHN ANTHONY (TONY). Captain, 153655.

Royal Artillery. Attached 1st Anti-Tank Regiment, Royal Indian Artillery.

Died Friday 24 December 1943. Aged 23.

Born and resided Kent.

Son of Edmund John Vaughan and Minna Vaughan of Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.

Buried Imphal War Cemetery, India. Grave Ref: 8. B. 14.

John was a prewar member of the London Scottish (Donside). There were originally some 950 burials in Imphal War Cemetery, but after hostilities had ceased, the Army Graves Service brought in graves from two smaller cemeteries in Imphal and from isolated positions in the surrounding region. The cemetery now contains 1,600 Commonwealth burials of the Second World War.

WOOLGAR, JACK WATT. Lieutenant, 268857.

The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment).

Died between 13 and 14 July 1944.

Born and resided Kent.

Son of George Thomas Woolgar and of Elizabeth Adelaide Woolgar of Maidstone, Kent.

Buried Arezzo War Cemetery, Italy. Grave Ref: I.E.4.

Jack was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment) on 27 March 1943.

The Second World War

1939 -1945

Lost Men

HAYWARD, JACK MAURICE. Flying Officer (Pilot), 40111.

"K" Flight, 112 Squadron, Royal Air Force.

Died Wednesday 6 November 1940. Aged 21.

Son of Cecil John Hayward and of Margaret Olive Hayward, of Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.

Buried Keren War Cemetery, Eritrea, East Africa. Grave Ref: 3. B. 16.

Jack was a former pupil of Haileybury School, Hertfordshire where he is commemorated.

On Wednesday 6 November 1940 the British forces in Sudan launched an offensive to capture the Italian fort at Gallabat as well as occupy Metemma, which was just across the frontier. The only aircraft that the Royal Air Force could provide in way of support of the ground attacks was six Wellesley bombers, two Vincent's, six Gauntlet's, and ten Gloster Gladiators which were drawn from "K" Flight, 112 Squadron, Royal Air Force and No.1 Squadron, Royal South African Air Force, plus and four Hawker Hardy's of the Rhodesian Air Force. The Wellesley bombers were first into action bombing, Gallabat, with the Gloster Gladiators requested to over fly the area in large formations. Three Gladiators of 'K' Flight arrived over the advancing troops at low level. Jack was flying Gloster Gladiator K7977 whilst patrolling to the east of Metemma in the Gallabat area of Sudan, accompanied by 24 year old Flight Lieutenant (Pilot) Kenneth Howard Savage, of Ipswich, Suffolk, flying Gloster Gladiator L7614, and Pilot Officer (Pilot) Kirk who was the pilot of Gloster Gladiator K7969. They were patrolling to the east of Metemma when a formation of an estimated six or seven Fiat CR.42s from 412^a Squadriglia being led by their unit commander Capitano Raffi attacked them from out of the sun. The Gladiator pilots were taken by surprise; and Jack and Kenneth were both killed, and Pilot Officer (Pilot) Kirk was forced to parachute from his damaged aircraft. Flying Officer Jack Hamlyn evaded the initial onslaught by the Italian aircraft, but his Gloster Gladiator L7612 was badly damaged and he had to make a force-landing, eventually returning later to his base on foot. Fortunately, Jack Hamlyn survived the Second World War, having received the Distinguished Flying Cross on 19 September 1941. In July 1943 he was promoted to the rank of Squadron Leader.

LONG, STEVEN. Home Guard.

Died Sunday 29 September 1940. Aged 57.

Husband of Edith Long of The Lodge, Leeds Castle, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.

Steven was injured 27 September 1940, at South Lambeth Road, Lambeth, London, SW8, and died of his injuries whilst he was receiving treatment as a patient at the South-Western Hospital, Landor Road, Stockwell, London, SW9.

WEAIRE, GEORGE STANLEY. Civilian casualty.

Died Sunday 27 October 1940. Aged 51.

Born Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.

Son of James Stanley Weaire and Minnie Weaire of Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.

Husband of Mabel Weaire (née Lewis) of 78, Bessborough Road, Harrow, Middlesex.

George died with his wife as the result of enemy action, at their home 78, Bessborough Road, Harrow, Middlesex. At the time of the 1901 census, the Weaire family resided at Pier Avenue, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex. Head of the house was 39 year old East Grinstead, Sussex native James Stanley Weaire, who was an Own Account Grocer/Shop Keeper. When George was born, the Weaire family had resided at Lower Street, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent. Aged 25, George

married Miss Mabel Lewis who was the 24 year old daughter of Barman, Frederick Augustus Lewis at the parish church of St Mary, Harrow, Middlesex on 5 August 1914. When he got married, George was residing at Cunningham Park Road, Harrow, Middlesex, and was an Electrician, and his father was a Commercial Traveller. When James and Minnie Weaire lost their lives on 27 October 1940, their son James Stanley Weaire was serving as an Aircraftsman in the Royal Air Force.

The Korean War 1950-1953

BRISTOW, BRYAN JOHN. Private, 22177587.

1st Battalion, Middlesex Regiment.

Died Friday 22 September 1950. Aged 19.

Born 25 April 1931.

Son of Charles H and Mary C. Bristow (née Black) of Leeds, Maidstone, Kent.

Buried United Nations Memorial Cemetery, Busan, Korea.

Grave Ref: Plot 17. Row 9. Grave 790.

Formerly Private, Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment.

Commemorated on the Armed Forces Memorial, National Memorial Arboretum, Croxall Road, Alrewas, Litchfield, Staffordshire, and on the Roll of Honour in the Chapel of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, London, also in the United Kingdom Book of Remembrance which is held at the National Army Museum, Chelsea, London. Bryan's birth was registered in the Maidstone, Kent Registration District during the second quarter of 1931. At a moving ceremony which was held at Invicta Park Barracks, Royal Engineers Road, Maidstone, Kent on Wednesday 10 March 2010, the Lord Lieutenant of Kent, Allan Willett C.M.G. presented Kent's first Elizabeth Crosses. The Lord Lieutenant presented the Elizabeth Crosses and accompanying Memorial Scrolls to representatives of 17 service personnel from the county of Kent who lost their lives serving in Malaya, Korea, Aden, the Falkland Islands and elsewhere since 31 December 1947. Bryan's brother, Leeds resident, Maurice Michael Bristow M.B.E. was amongst those who were presented with the award in recognition of Bryan's death in Korea. Bryan was one of forty two members of his battalion who died in Korea between August 1950 and April 1951, and he was killed in action during the Battle of Baktong Bridgehead, which was fought from 16 September 1950 to 25 September 1950. The 1st Battalion, Middlesex Regiment and the 1st Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders were the first British troops to go to Korea as part of the United Nations forces. It is quite likely that Bryan was a National Serviceman at the time of his death, he was one of the forty two members of his battalion who died during the Korean War, Bryan's death was reported in The Times on 30 September 1950, which also reported the deaths of Privates F. Hayfield, D.C. Russell, K Tredget, and E.D. West who had also lost their lives whilst serving in the 1st Battalion, Middlesex Regiment. Bryan's brother Maurice Bristow had been appointed a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire in 1999, "For services to Leeds Castle and to the community in Leeds, Kent."

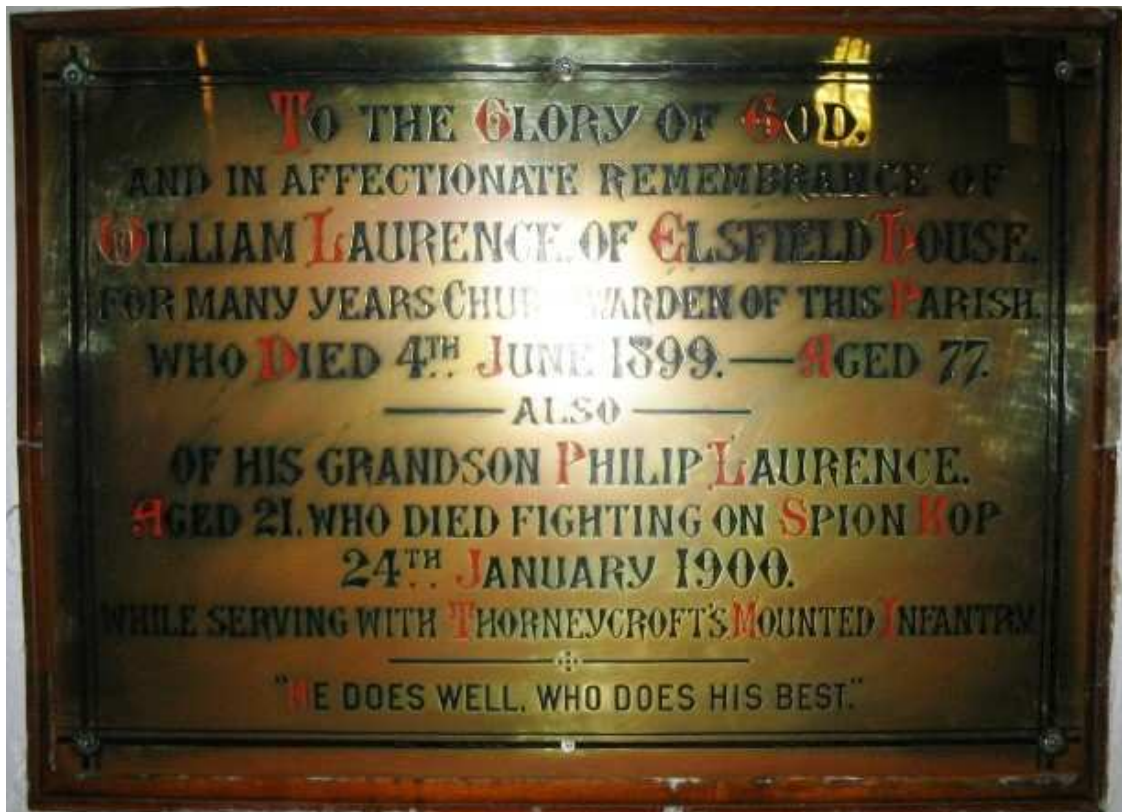
Second Boer War 1899-1902

LAURENCE, PHILIP. Trooper, 2718.

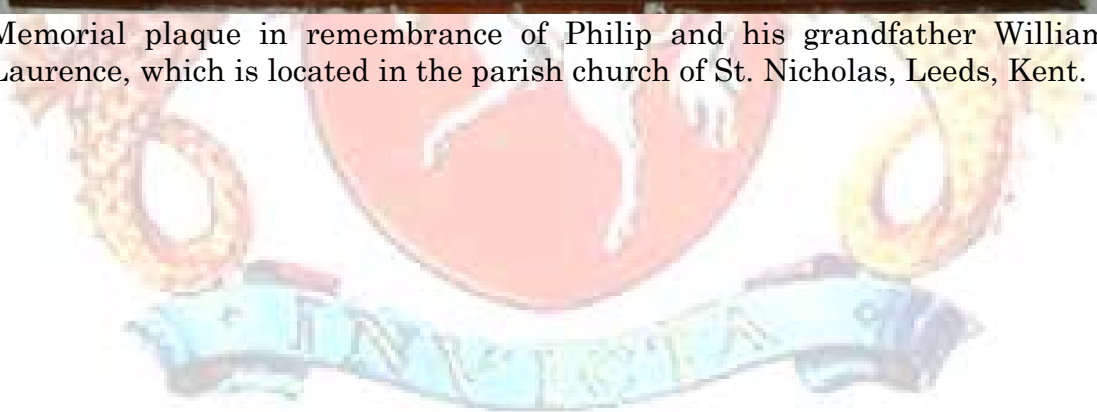
Thorneycroft's Mounted Infantry, Natal Field Force.

Died fighting at Spion Kop on Wednesday 24 January 1900. Aged 21.

Thorneycroft's Mounted Infantry in which Philip served was raised at Pietermaritzburg, Natal, South Africa on 16 October 1899 by Major Alexander W. Thorneycroft of the Royal Scots Fusiliers, and was comprised of 500 mixed personnel. They arrived at Mooi River on 18 November 1899, and fought with the relief force at the battles of Willow Grange, and Spion Cop, where it suffered 122 casualties out of 194 men. On the evening of Tuesday 23 January 1900, 1,700 British troops prepared to attack a hill known as Spionkop, on the Tugela River in Northern Natal, South Africa. The dubious 'honour' of leading the assault on the Boer forces was given to Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander W. Thorneycroft and his Mounted Infantry. Spioenkop means "Spy Hill" and it had been coined by the Dutch settlers due to the commanding views which it afforded. The following days witnessed a bloody battle between troops of the British Empire and the Boers. The bulk of the British soldiers were from the 2nd Battalion, Lancashire Fusiliers, the 2nd Battalion, Royal Lancaster Regiment and the 1st Battalion, South Lancashire Regiment. Capturing Spionkop meant that the British Army could relieve their fellow countrymen who were besieged by the Boers in the Natal town of Ladysmith. As the roasting hot first day of the battle came to a close, Lieutenant General Sir Charles Warren began to organise reliefs and supplies for the hard pressed infantry on the summit of Spion Kop. Still under artillery fire Lieutenant-Colonel Thorneycroft and his men were at the end of their tether. Regretably, Lieutenant General Warren had sent Lieutenant-Colonel Thorneycroft no orders of any sort during the day, other than his appointment in command, and he had sent no form of message to inform Lieutenant-Colonel Thorneycroft that substantial reinforcements were on their way, but it was not until 2100 hours that the reliefs began to climb the hill. Throughout the second day of the battle, Thorneycroft's Mounted Infantry had displayed great courage and had met with some successes. British army reports at the end of the battle, which raged for two days stated that there had been 332 killed, 563 wounded and 163 taken prisoner by the Boers, but these figures are still open to question, with some commentators claiming that the number of officers and other ranks who were wounded over the two days of the battle had in fact been approximately 1000. As can be seen when viewing the photograph of the memorial plaque below, that Philip was one of the grandsons of William Laurence of Elsfield House, Ashford Road, Hollingbourne, Maidstone, Kent, who for many years was the Church Warden of the parish church of St. Nicholas, Leeds, Kent. William Laurence died on 4 June 1899, aged 77. During his lifetime William, who had fathered 15 children had been a Magistrate, Wholesale and Retail Grocer, Cement Manufacturer, Paper Maker, and a Farmer. His many enterprises having provided sources of employment for several members of the local populace in the Leeds, Kent area.



Memorial plaque in remembrance of Philip and his grandfather William Laurence, which is located in the parish church of St. Nicholas, Leeds, Kent.





1939 - 1945

ALBERT ANDREWS, DVR. R.E. ITALY.

ROBERT ALEXANDER COMYN BOUCHER, LIEUT.
2ND NORTHANTS YEOMANRY CAEN.

WILLIAM ERNEST RICHARD BROAD, L.S. R.N.

DENIS MICHAEL BRYANT, MIDS. H.M.S. HOOD.

ADA LILIAN LUCAS, L.W. W.R.N.S. CHATHAM.

ERIC HARRISON MOSELEY, DVR. 44TH DIV. R.A.S.C. DUNKIRK.

JOHN ANTHONY VAUGHAN, CAPT. R.A. IMPHAL.

JACK WATT WOOLGAR, LIEUT. THE BUFFS. ITALY.

1950

RYAN JOHN BRISTOW, KOREA.

