

Sturry



TO THE GLORY
OF GOD AND
IN GRATEFUL
REMEMBRANCE
- OF OUR -
GLORIOUS DEAD
1914 - 1918

C. BAKER	R. COURT
W. BAKER	P. DIVERS
W. BENTLEY	C. ELVEY
A. BOURNE	W. FACC
A. BOURNE	J. FARRIER
L. BOWLER	J. CAMBRILL
E. BUBB	H. GAMMON
S. CHAMPS	L. HILLS

The Great War
1914 - 1919

The civic war memorial at Sturry, Canterbury, Kent, is located in the churchyard of the parish church of St. Nicholas, and as can be seen from the accompanying photographs it is in excellent condition. Within the church is a private memorial plaque in memory a Great War Nursing Sister. The Lady Chapel in the north aisle of St. Nicholas contains a Book of Remembrance, and the War Memorial tablet recording the names of the local casualties of the Second World War, including the Sturry civilian parishioners who died. Civilian casualties mostly occurred on Tuesday 18 November 1941, when a parachute mine dropped from an enemy aircraft destroyed much of the village High Street.

BAKER, GEORGE WILLIAM. Private, T/2434.
1st/5th (Territorial Force) Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).
Died 7 January 1916. Aged 18.
Born Rochester, Kent. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent. Resided Broad Oak, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Son of William and Lydia Caroline Baker of Mayton Lane, Broad Oak, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Buried Amara War Cemetery, Iraq. Grave Ref: XXXI. B. 10.

BAKER, WILLIAM A. Driver, 59566.
9th Battery, 34th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery.
Died 20 July 1918.
Born Sturry, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent.
Buried St. Amand British Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France. Grave Ref: IV. B. 20.

BENTLEY, WILLIAM GEORGE. Private, 58405.
6th (Service) Battalion, Northamptonshire Regiment.
Died 29 September 1918. Aged 19.
Born Sturry, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent.
Son of Mr. Jesse Bentley of Owls Hatch, Herne, Herne Bay, Kent.
Buried Unicorn Cemetery, Vend'huile, Aisne, France. Grave Ref: I. A. 6.

BOURNE, ARTHUR PRINCE WALES. Private, G/17532.
2nd Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment.
Died 1 September 1916. Aged 18.
Born and enlisted Canterbury, Kent.
Son of Ernest Albert and Agnes Bourne of 2, Maypole Cottages, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Pier and Face 7 C.

BOURNE, ALBERT ERNEST. Private, G/43945.
17th (Service) Battalion, (1st Football) Middlesex Regiment.
Died 13 November 1916. Aged 21.
Born Sittingbourne, Kent. Enlisted West Ealing, Middlesex. Resided Canterbury, Kent.
Son of Ernest and Agnes Bourne of Buckwell Cottage, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Buried Serre Road Cemetery No 2, Somme, France. Grave Ref: II. D. 4.

L. BOWLER. No clear trace.

BUBB, ERNEST JOHN WILLIAM. Private, G/3047.
6th (Service) Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).
Died 13 October 1915. Aged 19.
Born and resided Sturry, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Whitstable, Kent.
Son of James and Mary Ann Bubb of Mill Road, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Commemorated on the Loos Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Panel 15.
Ernest was killed in action at 'The Quarries' near Hulluch, under heavy fire during a fresh British attack which was mounted during the Battle of Loos, the objective designated to the brigade (37th) split between the German positions of 'Gun Trench' and 'The Quarries' was subjected to a heavy artillery bombardment prior to the infantry battalions pressing home their attacks, following ranging shots being fired by the British gunners, who also had been designated set targets primarily bombarding the ensconced enemy defenders and the massive wire entanglements guarding the positions, before the infantry left the 'safety' of their trenches the guns fired from exactly noon for an hour, following which until 1350 hours gas and smoke was used to create a smoke screen of approximately 1,200 yards for an hour, which was increased in density by the use of more smoke ten minutes before zero hour for the infantry assault. At first it appeared that all was going according to plan, as the 7th (Service) Battalion, East Surrey Regiment had managed to reach 'Gun Trench' without too much trouble and thankfully with less casualties than had been originally envisaged, but on their left flank the 6th (Service) Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment) was subjected to an immense amount of fire power from an enemy trench which was both unseen and unknown prior to the attack getting underway, which had resulted in the trench not being shelled by the artillery before the infantry had attacked, with the catastrophic result that the German wire at that point remaining virtually untouched, after covering about one hundred yards the battalion was brought to a halt, but not before over 400 officers and men in the battalion became casualties within the short space of just a few tragic minutes, of the thirteen officers which had led their men into the fray of the battalions first major engagement of the war, ten lost their lives, as did one hundred and seventy five other ranks, amongst the massive number of wounded some men later died, two being later that same day.

CHAMPS, SIDNEY CHARLES. Chief Stoker, 163578.

Royal Navy, (RFR/CH/A/2058). H.M.S. "Hawke."

Died 15 October 1915. Aged 41.

Born Sturry, Canterbury, Kent 1 June 1872.

Son of Charles Edwin and Mary Ann Champs of Westbere Butts, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 4.

Of all the vessels of any nation that were lost during either of the two world wars without a doubt the loss of H.M.S. Hawke, has been the easiest to ascertain 'facts' by the transcriber for inclusion on this or any other website. One of the sixty survivors of the sinking of H.M.S. Hawke was Royal Naval Reservist, and peacetime Postman, Joseph Edward Cooke of Parracombe, Barnstaple, Devon. One of Joseph's grandsons Kenneth Cooke, is like his late grandfather a former member of the Royal Navy, and has been a long time friend of the transcriber of these brief commemorations. On several occasions in the past Ken has helped in explaining obscure nautical phrases, and also provided other information appertaining to the Royal Navy. About thirty years ago Ken furnished the transcriber with data appertaining to the loss of H.M.S. Hawke, including a copy of a newspaper interview that his grandfather had given after his safe return to Parracombe. The newspaper cutting is incredibly accurate and consistent with that of other data which has been accessed from books and the internet. Commanded by 40 year old Captain Hugh P.E.T. Williams, R.N. who was a recipient of a Royal Humane Society Medal. H.M.S. Hawke was a 7,770 ton armoured cruiser of the Edgar class, which at the time of her loss was operating as part of the 10th Cruiser Squadron assigned to the Northern Patrol. H.M.S. Hawke was laid down on 17 June 1889, and had been launched at Chatham, Kent on 11 March 1891, which meant that she was one of the oldest ships still in service with the Royal Navy at the time of her loss. She had been re-commissioned in February 1913 with a nucleus crew, and had come up to her full complement at the commencement of the Great War. On 15 October 1914 H.M.S. Hawke was being used as a training ship and had many young naval cadets on board, and was sailing in company with H.M.S. Theseus. When the ships were approximately sixty miles off the coast of Aberdeen, H.M.S. Hawke turned to intercept a neutral Norwegian collier, shortly after doing so both ships were attacked by the faster German submarine U-9, which was commanded by Kapitänleutnant Otto Weddigen, who had been tracking the ships for some time. When he commenced his attack Otto Weddigen fired his first torpedo at H.M.S. Theseus, but fortunately it had missed her. Quickly turning his attention to H.M.S. Hawke, Otto Weddigen then fired a torpedo which struck her amidships near the magazine. The initial detonation which shook the ship violently was followed by a second terrific explosion, which resulted in a large number of the crew of H.M.S. Hawke being killed. From when she was first hit, H.M.S. Hawke sank in less than minutes, and as such it was only possible to launch one of the ships cutters which was the mail dory, which perchance had been lowered before the torpedo had hit the ship. Captain Hugh Williams, 26 officers and approximately 500 ratings were lost with the sinking of H.M.S. Hawke, but 4 officers and 60 men

survived. Although only designed to carry 29 people, the sole ships cutter which had got away, eventually contained 49 sailors who were picked up about five hours later by a Norwegian steamer, all of whom were later transferred to a trawler and safely landed at Aberdeen. In addition to those who survived in the ships cutter, another 15 of the crew clinging to a raft were spotted and picked up by a passing ship, and were all landed at Grimsby, Lincolnshire. Joseph Cooke commented that after he had plunged into the icy waters of a heavy sea, he had swam for about three quarters of a mile before being picked up by the cutter, and whilst swimming he had passed the life raft at which time it had about 150 clinging to it, and that he was later informed that only 15 of their number had survived. Joseph also made mention that shortly after firing the torpedo which sunk H.M.S. Hawke, the German submarine briefly surfaced to see the effects of its discharge, disappearing again beneath the waters immediately. H.M.S. Theseus had been under strict Admiralty orders not to attempt to pick up survivors, as on 22 September 1914 there had been the well documented disaster involving three other Royal Navy ships, they being H.M.S. Cressy, H.M.S. Aboukir and H.M.S. Hogue, all were sunk by Kapitänleutnant Otto Weddigen with the U-9. The following is a brief account (verbatim), of the events on 14 October 1914, written by a crewman of the U-9, relevant to the sinking of H.M.S. Hawke. "I gazed at the little picture of the upper ocean. The distant three cruisers were some wide space apart, but were converging, and were steering for a point and that point was apparently in the vicinity where we lay. No wonder the Commander thought they must want a torpedo. We imagined they were bent on joining forces and steaming together, but it presently became apparent that they intended to exchange signals, drop a cutter in the water, and deliver mail or orders, and then go their respective ways. We steered at full speed for the point toward which they were heading, our periscope showing only for a few moments at a time. The Cruisers, big armoured fellows, came zigzagging. We picked one, which afterward turned out to be H.M.S. Hawke, and maneuvered for a shot. It was tricky work. She nearly ran us down. We had to dive deeper and let her pass over us; else we would have been rammed. Now we were in a position for a stern shot at an angle, but she turned. It was a fatal turning, for it gave us an opportunity to swing around for a clear bow shot at 400 metres. We dived beyond periscope depth, ran underwater for a short distance, and then came up for a look through our tall, mast-like eye. The Hawke had already disappeared. She sank in eight minutes. Only one boat was in the water. It was the mail dory that had been lowered before the torpedo explosion. At the rudder the boat officer hoisted a distress signal on the boat's staff. That little dory with half a dozen men aboard was all that was left of the proud warship."

COURT, REGINALD. Officer's Cook 1st Class, 211074.

Royal Navy, H.M.S. "Vanguard."

Died 9 July 1917. Aged 33.

Born Canterbury, Kent 15 October 1884.

Husband of Minnie E. A. Court, of Kinross, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 25.

Reginald enlisted in the Royal Navy as a Boy entrant.

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 commanded by Lieutenant Commander Alan C.H. 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.

DIVERS, PERCY JOHN GORE. Lance Corporal, 325522.

Queen's Own Worcestershire Hussars (Worcester Yeomanry).

Died 1 October 1916.

Born Westbere, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Worcester, Worcestershire. Resided Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Son of Jesse and Matilda Divers (nee Garland).

Commemorated on the Jerusalem Memorial, Israel. Panel 3.

ELVEY, GRAYSON HARRY. Driver, 97673.

37th Divisional Ammunition Column, Royal Field Artillery.

Died 3 November 1916.

Born and enlisted Canterbury, Kent.

Buried Carnoy Military Cemetery, Somme, France. Grave Ref: W. 18.

W. FAGG. No clear trace.

FARRIER, JOHN HENRY. Private, G/9687.
6th (Service) Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).
Died 17 October 1917.
Born and resided Fordwich, Kent. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent.
Son of Mrs. S. A. Farrier of High Street, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Buried Bancourt British Cemetery, Pas De Calais, France. Grave Ref: VI. G. 1.

GAMBRILL, JOHN. Chief Stoker, 167791.
Royal Navy, H.M.S. "Hawke."
Died 22 September 1914. Aged 42.
Born Sturry, Canterbury, Kent 23 March 1873.
Son of Edward and Harriet Gambrill of Sturry; Canterbury, Kent.
Husband of Edith L. Gambrill of 36, Greenfield Road, Gillingham, Kent.
Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 4.

GAMMON, HARRY. Private, G/20121.
6th (Service) Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).
Died 9 April 1917. Aged 19.
Born and enlisted Herne, Kent. Resided Sturry; Canterbury, Kent.
Son of Henry and Harriet Emma Gammon.
Commemorated on the Arras Memorial, Pas De Calais, France. Bay 2, and on the Herne, Kent civic war memorial.

L. HILLS. As commemorated on the Sturry civic war memorial is probably:-
HILLS, LEOPOLD WILLIAM. Lance Corporal, 269610.
Hertfordshire Regiment.
Died 15 January 1918.
Born Faversham, Kent. Enlisted Luton. Resided Canterbury, Kent.
Son of William and Eliza Hills
Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Panel 153.
Formerly Private, 5683, Essex Regiment.
At the time of the 1901 census, 11 year old Leopold was residing with his family at 6, Union Street, Faversham, Kent. William's 39 year old father was recorded by the census enumerator as being the Head of the house, and was a Foreman Joiner. All the family were natives of Faversham, Kent.

HOGBEN, WALTER. Serjeant, L/8413.
2nd Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).
Died 8 February 1915. Aged 28.
Born River, Dover, Kent. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent. Resided Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Son of Mr. and Mrs. C. Hogben of 2, Chislet Park Cottages, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Commemorated on the Menin Gate, Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Panel 12.

INGLETON, HUBERT JOHN. Lieutenant.

4th (Extra Reserve) Battalion, Lancashire Fusiliers, attached to the 1st/8th (Territorial Force) Battalion, Lancashire Fusiliers.

Died 2 November 1918. Aged 30.

Son of John Sneller Ingleton, and Miriam Elizabeth Ingleton (nee Foster) of Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

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

Grave Ref: S. V. G. 11.

JONES, CHARLES HENRY. Private, G/9590.

6th (Service) Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).

Died 4 August 1916.

Born Broad Oak, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent. Resided Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

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

KEARNEY, WILLIAM JAMES. Serjeant, 30084.

14th (Service) Battalion, The King's (Liverpool Regiment).

Died 14 September 1915. Aged 40.

Born Rawalpindi, India. Enlisted Aldershot, Hampshire. Resided London.

Son of Mrs Castle of 17, High Street, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Husband of E. J. Kersey (formerly Kearney), of 84, Miles Road, Epsom, Surrey.

Buried Millencourt Communal Cemetery Extension, Somme, France.

Grave Ref: F. 68.

William had served in the South African Campaign (Second Boer War).

KEEM, W. As commemorated on the Sturry civic war memorial is possibly the following casualty, who it would appear has been erroneously remembered by the use of the wrong surname.

KEEN, WILLIAM. Private, 9610.

2nd Battalion, The Loyal North Lancashire Regiment.

Died 4 November 1914.

Born and enlisted Canterbury, Kent.

Buried Tanga Memorial Cemetery, Tanzania.



MARSH, EDWARD CHARLES. Leading Stoker, K/21398(CH).

Royal Navy, H.M.S. "Africa."

Died 15 September 1918. Aged 23.

Born Canterbury, Kent 23 December 1894.

Son of E. J. and Caroline E. Marsh of 3, Church Lane, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Freetown (King Tom) Cemetery, Sierra Leone. Grave Ref: 1. D. 18.

The ship that Edward served on was of particular significance to Kent, as when H.M.S. Africa was launched from No.8 Slip, at Chatham Dockyard on 20 May 1905 she was destined to be the very last battleship to be launched there. With the ever increasing size of naval battleships, they became too large to be launched safely into the river Medway. At the time of Edwards's death, almost 600 of the 779 ships compliment of H.M.S. Africa were struck down by the world wide Influenza pandemic. Freetown, Sierra Leone was major coaling centre for ships of the Royal Navy, and in August 1918, H.M.S. Mantua had docked at the port to refuel, at which time it was carrying approximately 200 people infected with Influenza, who passed the virulent infection on to workers at the port. When Edward's ship arrived at Freetown, the virus was then passed from the port workers, to the crew of H.M.S. Africa with devastating results.

NEAVES, ARTHUR JESSE. Private, TR10/184018.

53rd (Training Reserve) Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment.

Died 5 November 1918. Aged 18.

Born Sturry, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Maidstone, Kent.

Son of John and Rose Neaves (nee Keen) of Station Cottage, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Buried Sturry (St. Nicholas) Churchyard.

Grave Ref: Between West gate and Church tower.

PEEL, GEORGE. Private, G/5118.

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

Died 26 September 1915. Aged 16.

Born and resided Sturry, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Margate, Isle of Thanet, Kent.

Son of James and Susannah Peel of Sturry Court Farm, Canterbury, Kent.

Commemorated on the Loos Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Panels 15 to 19.

POOLEY, BERTIE. Private, 493.

2nd Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

Died 19 December 1914.

Born and resided Shatterling, Wingham, Kent. Enlisted Shorncliffe, Kent.

Son of Isaac and Harriett Pooley (nee Waters).

Commemorated on the Ploegsteert Memorial, Comines Warneton, Hainaut, Belgium. Panel 2 or 3.

POUT, PERCY JOHN. Able Seaman, 206679.
Royal Navy, (RFR/CH/B/9745). H.M.S. "Gaillardia."
Died 22 March 1918. Aged 35.
Born Sturry, Canterbury, Kent 7 June 1883.
Son of Frederick and Lucy Ann Pout of "Broadoak," Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 28.

PRETTY, WILLIAM. Serjeant, 11803.
3rd Battalion, Grenadier Guards.
Died 8 October 1917.
Born Sprowston, Norfolk. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent.
Buried Etaples Military Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France. Grave Ref: XXVII. F. 1.

STEWART, WILLIAM THOMAS. Bombadier, 317228.
1st/1st Kent Heavy Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery.
Died 10 July 1917. Aged 37.
Born Sturry, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Faversham, Kent.
Son of David and Mary Ann Stewart of Hawe Farm Cottage, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Buried Vlamertinghe New Military Cemetery, Vlamertinghe, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Grave Ref: IV. A. 10.

S. TURNER. As commemorated on the Sturry civic war memorial, is probably the following local casualty who was possibly known by all and sundry as Sydney.

TURNER, JOHN SYDNEY. Private, 2515.
3rd/1st West Kent Yeomanry (Queen's Own).
Died 5 September 1916.
Born London. Enlisted Sutton Coalfield, Warwickshire. Resided Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Buried St. Sever Cemetery, Rouen, Seine-Maritime, France. Grave Ref: B. 23. 4.



The Great War

1914 -1919

Lost Men & Woman

ANDERSON, JAMES EDWARD. Rifleman, Z/1278.

12th (Service) Battalion, Rifle Brigade.

Died 20 September 1917. Aged 32.

Born Sturry, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Islington, Middlesex 2 September 1914.

Resided Camden Town, Middlesex.

Husband of Lottie Castaline Anderson (nee Love), of "Jesmond Dene," Jotman's Lane, South Benfleet, Essex. Formerly of 12, Marquis Road, Camden Town, London, NW1.

Father of Irene Grace Anderson, and Dorothy Emily Anderson.

Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Panel 145.

Following his basic training and duties in the United Kingdom, James was posted to the 1st Battalion, Rifle Brigade on the Western Front on 2 March 1916. Only twelve days after being posted to France, James was admitted as a patient to the 17th General Hospital at Rouen, where he remained for a period of five days. When James rejoined his battalion he became a member of "C" Company, in which he was serving when he received a gunshot wound to his neck on 1 July 1917, which necessitated his evacuation back to England, via the 24th General Hospital at Etaples, Pas de Calais. Following treatment in England, James went back to the Western Front having been posted to the 12th (Service) Battalion, Rifle Brigade, and was serving in that battalion when he was posted as missing in action, prior to his death being confirmed later.

ASPEY, ALBERT. Private, 34195.

14th (Service) Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

Died 14 April 1918.

Born and enlisted Bradford, Yorkshire. Resided Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Son of George and Mary Aspey.

Buried Cabaret-Rouge British Cemetery, Souchez, Pas de Calais, France

Grave Ref: XXIV. AA. 24.

Formerly Private, 989, 9th Lancers.

AXTEN, JOHN FREDERICK. Private. 9245.

"D" Company, 2nd Battalion, King's Shropshire Light Infantry.

Died 12 April 1915. Aged 25.

Born St. George's, Shrewsbury, Shropshire. Enlisted Lichfield, Staffordshire.

Resided Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Son of Frederick and Mrs. Axten (step-mother), of 38, Boundary Road, Hove, Sussex.

Commemorated on the Menin Gate, Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Panel 47.

BATES, MADELINE ELSIE. Sister.

Voluntary Aid Detachment, British Red Cross Society.

Died 22 December 1917. Aged 35.

Born at Waltham Abbey, Essex.

Daughter of William John and Annie Maria Bates of "Southover," Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Buried St. Mary the Virgin Churchyard, Hall Lane, Shenfield, Essex.

As can be seen on the photograph of the memorial plaque, it shows her Christian names inscribed on it in reverse order to that as at her CWGC commemoration.

Atop the memorial plaque is the badge of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, and is inscribed as under:-

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF/ ELSIE MADELINE BATES/ WHO WAS KILLED WHEN ON/ LEAVE, AFTER DEVOTED/ SERVICE TO HER COUNTRY/ IN FRANCE DECEMBER 1917/ THIS TABLET IS ERECTED/ BY HER COMRADES OF THE/ MILLICENT SUTHERLAND/ AMBULANCE, CALAIS.

At the time of the 1891 census Madeline was residing with her family at Woodford, Essex. Ten years later Madeline was working as a Drapers Assistant, residing at 11-13, Queen Street, Ramsgate, Isle of Thanet, Kent. Head of the house was 27 year old Charles S. Pierson, a Draper, who was probably her employer. Suffering from shell shock, Madeline was on home leave and staying with one of her brothers when she lost her life. As soon as she heard the first explosion of the five bombs dropped by the Germans on Shenfield, Madeline rushed to the verandah to see what was happening, and suffered a bomb splinter to her head from one of the subsequent explosions. It would appear that Madeline was the only death which occurred during or resultant of the raid. Madeline served on the Western Front with the Millicent Sutherland Ambulance, which was the No. 9 British Red Cross Hospital - Duchess of Sunderland Hospital that was financed and run by Millicent Duchess of Sutherland.

BENTLEY, ERNEST. Corporal, 751.

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

Died 8 October 1916. Aged 28.

Born Sturry, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Sheerness, Isle of Sheppey, Kent.

Resided Queenborough, Isle of Sheppey, Kent.

Husband of Una M. Hicks (formerly Bentley), of 21, Stanley Avenue, Queenborough, Isle of Sheppey, Kent.

Buried Dartmoor Cemetery, Becordel-Becourt, Somme, France.

Grave Ref: II. D. 33.

DIXON, GEORGE. Private, 7492.

2nd Battalion, South Wales Borderers.

Died 21 August 1915. Aged 35.

Born Cardiff, Wales. Enlisted Pontypridd, Montgomeryshire, Wales.

Husband of Edith L. Cooper (formerly Dixon) of 10, North View, Island Road, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Commemorated on the Helles Memorial, Turkey. Panel 80 to 84 or 219 and 220.

DUNN, FRANK. Private, 535043.

1st/15th (County of London) Battalion, London Regiment (Prince of Wales' Own Civil Service Rifles). Posted to the 2nd/12th (County of London) Battalion, London Regiment (The Rangers).

Died 26 September 1917. Aged 40.

Born Sturry, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Winchester, Hampshire.

Son of John and Harriett Dunn (nee Buss) of Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Husband of Elizabeth E. Dunn of 34, Honeybrook Road, Clapham Park, London.

Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Panel 152.

FRANCIS, GEORGE. Private, G/18434.

11th (Service) Battalion, (Lewisham), Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).

Died 20 September 1917.

Born Sturry, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent. Resided Lower Harges, Canterbury, Kent.

Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Panel 106 to 108. Regretably George is not also commemorated on the Lower Harges, Canterbury, Kent civic war memorial.

Formerly Private, 3234, East Kent Mounted Rifles.

FULLER, WILLIAM ROBERT. Private, 202106.

1st/5th (Territorial Force) Battalion, North Staffordshire Regiment.

Died 14 June 1917.

Born Preston-next-Wingham, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent. Resided Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Son of Frederick and Susan Fuller (nee Ralph).

Buried Maroc British Cemetery, Grenay, France. Grave Ref: II. C. 18.

At the time of the 1901 census, William was a 14 year old Waggoner's Mate employed on a farm, and residing with his family at Deerson, Preston-next-Wingham, Canterbury, Kent. Woolwich native 43 year old Frederick Fuller was recorded by the census enumerator as being the Head of the house, and was employed as a Farm Waggoner. It would seem likely that William had worked with his father every day on the same farm.

GARDNER, LEONARD. Private, 54151.

20th (Service) Battalion, (5th City), Manchester Regiment.

Died 7 February 1919. Aged 25.

Born Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Son of Cuthbert William and Emma Gardner (nee Richardson).

Husband of D. Gardner of 100, Godinton Road, Ashford, Kent.

Buried Brookwood Military Cemetery, Surrey. Grave Ref: VI.E.4A.

Leonard was wounded in France whilst serving with his battalion, and because of the severity of his wounding; he was evacuated back to the United Kingdom. Eventually Leonard became a patient at a Military Hospital in Surrey, where he subsequently died of his wounds.

GREEN, STANLEY. Private, G/11912.

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

Died 22 July 1916. Aged 22.

Born Broad Oak, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent.

Son of Frederick Paul Pierce Green and Elizabeth Green of 2, Woodlawn Cottages, Rough Common, Canterbury, Kent.

Buried Caterpillar Valley Cemetery, Longueval, Somme, France.

Grave Ref: XV. F. 14.

GRIFFITHS, FREDERICK WILLIAM. Private, 128.

"B" Company, 1st/4h (Territorial Force) Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).

Died 17 September 1917. Aged 43.

Born Holy Trinity, Bournemouth, Hampshire. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent. Resided Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Husband of the late Sarah Ann Griffiths (nee Pooley).

Buried Maala Cemetery, Yemen, Grave Ref: C. 148.

At the time of the 1901 census Frederick was employed as a Stone Mason, and resided at Canterbury Road, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent as the Head of the house with his wife Susan who was a Sturry native, and their two children.

HADLUM, DAVID FRANCIS. Private, L/7750.

1st Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).

Died 3 February 1915. Aged 29.

Born Sturry, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent. Resided Gillingham, Kent.

Husband of Evelyn Hadlum of "Rivelin," Rutland Road, Skegness, Lincolnshire.

Buried Cite Bonjean Military Cemetery, Armentieres, Nord, France.

Grave Ref: IX. B. 20.

HALLIDAY, WALTER. Lance Corporal, G/6363.

"B" Company, 1st Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).

Died 18 May 1916. Aged 32. (please see below).

Born Chartham, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted and resided Canterbury, Kent.

Son of the late Charles and Elizabeth Halliday.

Husband of Bessie E. Sloggett (formerly Halliday), of 7, Leopold Road, Ramsgate, Isle of Thanet, Kent.

Buried Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.

Grave Ref. VI. D. 39.

Walter's place of birth as shown above was as at his SDGW entry, but his CWGC commemoration shows him to have been a native of Sturry, Kent. Checking the 1901 census showed 14 year old Walter employed as a Mill Boy, and as having been born at Chartham, Canterbury, Kent. At the time of the census, the Halliday family resided at Canterbury Road, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent. As Walter's birth was registered in the last quarter of 1887, it would also appear that his age as shown on his CWGC commemoration is also erroneous.

HAWKINS, BENJAMIN THOMAS. Private, S/10274.

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

Died 3 May 1915.

Born Wingham, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Ramsgate, Isle of Thanet, Kent. Resided Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Commemorated on the Menin Gate, Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Panel 12. Regretably Benjamin is not also commemorated on either the Wingham, Canterbury, Kent civic war memorial, or on the Great War memorial plaque located in the parish church of St. Mary, Wingham, Kent.

HOLNESS, FRANK EDWARD. Serjeant, L/8887.

1st Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).

Died 4 March 1915. Aged 24.

Born Sturry, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent. Resided Chislet, Canterbury, Kent.

Son of Mr. W. J. and Fanny S. Holness of 11, Gordon Cottages, Sea Street, Herne Bay, Kent.

Buried Cite Bonjean Military Cemetery, Armentieres, Nord, France.

Grave Ref: IX. C. 70.

Regretably it was noticed that Frank is not commemorated on the Herne Bay, Kent civic war memorial.

HOMERSHAM, ARTHUR DOUGLAS. Private, G/18799.

1st Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).

Died 27 June 1917. Aged 20.

Born and resided Sturry, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent.

Son of Arthur Henry and Rosa Matilda Homersham (nee Pritchard) of Grove Villa, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Buried Philosophe Cemetery, Mazingarbe, Pas de Calais, France.

Grave Ref: I. S. 15.

At the time of the 1901 census the Homersham family resided At Addiscombe Villa, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent, where Fordwich, Kent native, 26 year old Arthur Homersham (senior) was recorded by the census enumerator as being the Head of the house, and employed as a Hurdle and Lathe Maker.

IVORY, HARRY JOHN. Serjeant, 10690.

4th (Extra Reserve) Battalion, The King's (Liverpool Regiment).

Died 6 July 1916. Aged 24.

Born Newington, Kent. Enlisted Sheerness, Isle of Sheppey, Kent. Resided Sittingbourne, Kent.

Son of Minnie Rose Ivory of Tile Lodge Farm, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Husband of Grace Ivory of 30, Harbour Street, Ramsgate, Isle of Thanet, Kent.

Buried Cambrin Churchyard Extension, Pas de Calais, France. Grave Ref: O. 21.

KENT, GEORGE. Serjeant, 295359.
4th Battalion, Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment).
Died 6 December 1917. Aged 34.
Born Sturry, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Putney, Middlesex. Resided East Sheen.
Husband of Lilian Kent of 10, Cotton Street, Range Bank, Halifax, Yorkshire.
Buried Boulogne Eastern Cemetery, Boulogne-sur-Mer, Pas de Calais, France.
Grave Ref: VIII. I. 127.
Formerly 2574, City of London Yeomanry.

MOUBRAY, CYRIL LLOYD. M.C. Second Lieutenant.
76th Field Company, Royal Engineers.
Died 9 October 1918. Aged 24.
Born Lake County, Florida, U.S.A.
Son of the late Mr. A. R. Moubray, R.N.R., and Mrs. Louisa A. Moubray of
Vernon Cottage, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Buried Forenville Military Cemetery, Nord, France. Grave Ref: B. 3.
A brother of the next casualty briefly commemorated below. At the time of the
1901 census the Moubray family resided at Les Pagiots, St. Peter Port,
Guernsey, Channel Islands, where Louisa Moubray a 45 year old widow and
native of India, was recorded by the census enumerator as being the Head of the
house and a Greenhouse Keeper.

MOUBRAY, ARTHUR RUSSELL ST. JOHN. M.C. Major.
200th Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery.
Died 2 July 1918. Aged 27.
Born Lake County, Florida, U.S.A.
Son of the late Mr. A. R. Moubray, R.N.R., and Mrs. Louisa A. Moubray of
Vernon Cottage, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Buried Crouy British Cemetery, Crouy-sur-Somme, France. Grave Ref: III. B. 1.

PALMER, THOMAS JOHN. Private, G/6149.
1st Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).
Died 21 September 1915.
Born Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Portsmouth, Hampshire. Resided Sturry,
Canterbury, Kent.
Buried La Brique Military Cemetery No.1. West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.
Grave Ref: F. 8.

PEEL, ALFRED. Bombadier, 33461.
"D" Battery, 50th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery.
Died 4 November 1918. Aged 34.
Born Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Leeds, Yorkshire.
Son on Son of George and Marian Peel of Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Buried Terlincthun British Cemetery, Wimille, Pas de Calais, France.
Grave Ref: VII. C. 13.

POWELL, BERTIE MATTHEW. Private, 55632.
1st/6th (Glamorgan) Battalion, (Territorial Force) Welsh Regiment.
Died 18 April 1918. Aged 22.
Born and enlisted Canterbury, Kent.
Son of Albert and Mary Ann Powell (nee Hopper) of 2, Spring Lane Cottages, Sturry Road, Canterbury, Kent.
Husband of Rose Styles (formerly Powell), (nee Goldsmith), of 1, Mayton Cottages, Broad Oak, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Commemorated on the Loos Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Panel 77 or 78, and on the Canterbury, Kent, civic war memorial.
Formerly Private, 32285, Norfolk Regiment.
At the time of the 1901 census the Powell family resided at 8, Wells Cottages, Sturry Road, Canterbury, Kent.

SIMS, WALTER JAMES. Private, 103446.
4th Battalion, Machine Gun Corps (Infantry).
Died 28 March 1918.
Born Sturry, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent.
Son of Walter and Louisa Sims (nee Holt).
Buried St. Nicolas British Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France. Grave Ref: II. D. 4.
Formerly Private, S1/125864, Royal Army Service Corps.

SKINNER, HENRY THOMAS. Private, G/5854.
1st Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).
Died 24 June 1917. Aged 21.
Born Sturry, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent. Resided Deal, Kent.
Commemorated on the Loos Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Addenda Panel, and on Great War memorial plaque located in the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Kent, which was built in 1924, as a permanent memorial to those from the town and surrounding area, who lost their lives during the years of the Great War.

SMITH, WALTER JAMES. Drummer, 10954.
1st Battalion, South Wales Borderers.
Died 31 October 1914. Aged 28.
Born Sturry, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Chatham, Kent.
Son of William Henry Smith of 2, Pile Cottages, Preston, Faversham, Kent.
Commemorated on the Menin Gate, Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.
Panel 22.
Formerly Private, 8580, Royal Irish Fusiliers.

STENNETT, WILLIAM REGINALD. Lieutenant.

202nd Squadron, 61st Wing, Royal Air Force.

Died Saturday 4 May 1918. Aged 22.

Born Calcott, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Son of William and Edith Stennett of "Woodlands," Calcott, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Buried Dunkirk Town Cemetery, Nord, France. Grave Ref: IV. A. 14.

Prior to the formation of the Royal Air Force on 1 April 1918, by the amalgamation of the Royal Naval Air Service and the Royal Flying Corps, William had served as an officer in the former. William joined the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve as a Sub Lieutenant on 10 January 1916, and following his initial training he undertook the long Wireless Telegraphist course, which he successfully completed in September 1916. Following more training William became a Sub Lieutenant (Observer) R.N.A.S. on 30 May 1917, just prior to being passed out at Eastchurch, Isle of Sheppey, Kent, as an Observer in June 1917. William was wounded on 21 October 1917, whilst serving in No 2 Squadron, Royal Naval Air Service, whilst flying as the Observer in a DH 4 (N6389) flown by his Commanding Officer, Squadron Commander, Peregrine Forbes Morant Fellowes. On the day that he lost his life, William and his pilot Lieutenant J. P. Everett were engaged by a German aircraft piloted by Leutnant R. Spies, who shot them down over the north coast of France. William was killed in the resultant forced landing of their DH 4 (N5985) in the sea at Bray Dunnes, but his pilot fortunately survived. A native of St Kilda, Victoria, Australia, Peregrine Forbes Morant Fellowes (1883-1955), was twice awarded the Distinguished Service Cross during the Great War, and was also Mentioned in Despatches. He rose to the rank of Air Commodore, and was an A.D.C. to H.M. The King.

YATES, LESLIE RICHARD JOHN. Private, M2/050876.

Reserve Motor Transport Company, Army Service Corps.

Died 6 November 1918. Aged 23.

Born Faversham, Kent. Enlisted and resided Canterbury, Kent.

Son of Richard Yates of Faversham, Kent.

Husband of Kate Yates of 2, Maida Vale, Island Road, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Buried Treviso Communal Cemetery, Veneto, Italy.

Grave Ref: In North East part in a small plot.

YOUNGS, ALFRED BENJAMIN. Lance Corporal, S/10801.

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

Died 26 March 1918. Aged 21.

Born London. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent. Resided Broad Oak, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Son of Louisa Neaves (formerly Youngs), (nee Gregory), of 53, Marlborough Road, Margate, Isle of Thanet, Kent, and the late Benjamin Youngs.

Buried Hedauville Communal Cemetery Extension, Somme, France.

Grave Ref: A. 1.

The Second World War

1939 – 1945

Armed Service Casualties

BACON, ALBERT GEORGE BERTIE. Private, 6353808.

2nd Battalion, Parachute Regiment, Army Air Corps.

Died 8 March 1943. Aged 20.

Born Canterbury, Kent. Resided Kent.

Son of Albert Charles and Elizabeth May Bacon of Broad Oak, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Buried Tabarka Ras Rajel War Cemetery, Tunisia. Grave Ref: 1. B. 16.

Formerly served in the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment.

BAILEY, GERALD LESLIE DONALD. Sergeant, 930437.

Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve. 220 Squadron, Royal Air Force.

Died 31 October 1941. Aged 17.

Son of Sidney William Charles and Lilian Bailey of Canterbury, Kent.

Commemorated on the Runnymede Memorial. Panel 39.

BALSDON, DENYS FINLAY. Wing Commander (Pilot), 34065.

Royal Air Force.

Died 18 December 1941. Aged 28.

Born Torrington, Devon 1913.

Son of Percy Robert Balsdon and of Mabel Olive Balsdon (nee Finlay).

Husband of Phyllis Mary Balsdon (nee Adair) of Portpatrick, Scotland.

Buried Portpatrick Cemetery, Stranraer, Dumfries & Galloway, Scotland.

Grave Ref: Section A. Grave 206.

A regular pre-war R.A.F. officer, Denys was an R.A.F. and international hockey player. Denys had been the officer selected to be the first Operational Commanding Officer of 97 Squadron, Royal Air Force during the Second World War, and was Mentioned in Despatches.

CADDICK, JOHN. Lance Corporal, 4859846.

1st Battalion, Leicestershire Regiment.

Died 12 February 1942. Aged 23.

Born Staffordshire. Resided Canterbury, Kent.

Son of William John and Edith May Caddick.

Commemorated on the Singapore Memorial. Column 64.

CARTER, ROBERT EDWARD. Aircraftman 2nd Class, 1438981.
Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.
Died 11 October 1942. Aged 19.
Son of Joseph Victor and Emily Ellen Carter of Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Buried Sturry and Westbere Cemetery. Grave Ref: Section. E. Grave 126.

COOKE, BERNARD JOSEPH. Marine, CH/24009.
Royal Marines.
Died 26 August 1940. Aged 39.
Son of John and Mary Cooke.
Husband of Hilda Annie Cooke (nee Brenchley) of Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Buried Sturry and Westbere Cemetery. Grave Ref: Section. E. Grave 235.

GREEN, MICHAEL BAY. Flight Sergeant, 912299.
Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve. 118 Squadron, Royal Air Force.
Died 9 May 1942.
Son of Harold Ernest and Marjorie Byron Green of Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Commemorated on the Runnymede Memorial. Panel 74.

HOLMES, ALAN JOHN. Sergeant (Air Gunner), 1802916.
Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve. 207 Squadron, Royal Air Force.
Died 8 July 1944. Aged 19.
Son of William Albert Holmes, and of Nellie Leslie Holmes of Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Buried Marissel French National Cemetery, Beauvais, Oise, France.
Grave Ref: Grave 285.

JUCKES, THOMAS ROLAND. M.C. Captain, 100294.
3 Parachute Squadron, Royal Engineers, 6th Airborne Division.
Died 28 June 1944. Aged 24.
Born Birmingham. Resided Kent.
Son of Ralph and Bethea Forrest Juckes of Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire.
Buried Ranville War Cemetery, Calvados, France. Grave Ref: IIIA. H. 9.
The Allied offensive in north-western Europe began with the Normandy landings of 6 June 1944. Ranville was the first village to be liberated in France when the bridge over the Caen Canal was captured intact in the early hours of 6 June by troops of the 6th Airborne Division, who were landed nearby by parachute and glider. Thomas's squadron, commanded by Major Timothy Roseveare, D.S.O., was part of the 3rd Parachute Brigade. Many of the division's casualties are buried in Ranville War Cemetery, and the adjoining churchyard. Thomas and his small party were detached from the main body of the squadron, and successfully blew up two bridges at Bures. Tim Roseveare always tried to make the annual pilgrimage to Normandy on 6 June, where he was welcomed at Troarn as its liberator. His name and the 3rd Parachute Squadron, Royal Engineers plaque have a prominent place of honour on the wall behind the town's war memorial, and part of the main street was renamed after Tim Roseveare (1914-2001).

MARSH, CHARLES LEONARD. Cook.

Merchant Navy, S.S. Lindenhall (West Hartlepool).

Died 7 November 1942. Aged 29.

Born 13 February 1913.

Husband of Nancy May Marsh of Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Commemorated on the Tower Hill Memorial, London. Panel 65.

Merchant Navy Discharge number: R144279.

Built in 1937, the 5,247 ton S.S. Lindenhall was torpedoed and sunk in the Atlantic Ocean whilst travelling from Rio de Janeiro to the United Kingdom, laden with a cargo of 8400 tons of ore on 7 November 1942. Charles was numbered amongst the 42 members of the ships crew of 48, who perished when his ship was sunk by the German u-boat, U-508 which was commanded by 26 year old Kapitänleutnant Georg Staats.

MURDOCH, THOMAS. Gunner, 1750465.

111 Heavy Anti Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery.

Died 15 May 1944. Aged 36.

Born and resided Dumfries, Scotland.

Husband of Dorothy May Murdoch of Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Buried Sturry and Westbere Cemetery, Grave Ref: Section E. Grave 215.

The 111 Heavy Anti Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery was a Territorial Army formation, which was formed in October 1940 as part of the 42 Anti Aircraft Brigade, 12 Anti Aircraft Division. The month after Thomas died, 111 Heavy Anti Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery, as part of the 2nd Army left the United Kingdom to take part in the North West Europe Campaign.

ROSE, RAYMOND. As commemorated on the Second World War memorial plaque in the parish church of St. Nicholas, Sturry is the following local casualty.

ROSE, HENRY RAYMOND JOHN.

Flight Sergeant (Wireless Operator/Air Gunner), 1802330.

Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve. 99 Squadron, Royal Air Force.

Died 21 January 1945. Aged 21.

Son of H. W. John Rose and Lily Rose of Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Buried Maynamati War Cemetery, Bangladesh.

Grave Ref: Collective grave 3. D. 19.

Civilian Casualties

A lone German aircraft dropped two parachute mines on the village of Sturry at 1900 hours on Tuesday 18 November 1941. One of the mines landed near some allotments causing only minor damage, injuries or loss of life. In stark contrast to that dropped near the allotments, was the second device which landed outside the Red Lion Public House, demolishing and damaging many of the houses in the centre of the High Street, killing fifteen people, and injuring several others. Various data sources checked show the date of the above raid as having taken place on a number of different dates, ranging between 18 and 22 November 1941. Of particular significance is an article which appeared in the Daily Herald newspaper dated Thursday 19 November 1941, which was entitled 'Death comes at night to the High Street.' Although the article reported the raid as having taken place on Wednesday, on a village in South East England, it would seem likely that the erroneous date entered was done on purpose, in much the same way that due to the necessity of wartime census restrictions, Sturry was not named. Another significant day that resulted in the loss of life to Sturry natives and residents during the Second World War was Saturday 31 October 1942. For some time prior to that date, a large scale daylight "Vergeltungsangriff" (Vengeance attack) had been planned for Canterbury by the Luftwaffe, because Adolf Hitler had ordered more attacks on England, in retaliation for the R.A.F. Bomber Command night offensives on Germany. Much to the disgust of the fighter pilots of Jagdgeschwader 26, aka the "Abbeville Kids," it fell to them to carry out the bombing raid on the city. With bomb racks and bombs mounted beneath their Fokker-Wolf FW 190A-4 fighter aircraft, a mixture of 68 'bombers' and escorting fighters were committed to taking part in the 'Canterbury Raid,' including 6 aircraft that were detailed to carry out a separate diversionary attack.

CADDICK, WILLIAM JOHN ADRIAN. Air Raid Warden.

Died Saturday 31 October 1942. Aged 54.

Resided at Wayside, Broad Oak, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

William died at Sturry Road, Canterbury, Kent, as the result of the air raid briefly mentioned above.

CAPPER, BARBARA VIOLET.

Died Tuesday 18 November 1941. Aged 4.

Daughter of Gunner Harold Edgar Capper, Royal Artillery, and V. A. Capper of 21 Military Road, Canterbury, Kent.

CAPPER, MURRAY ALEXANDER.

Died Tuesday 18 November 1941. Aged 18 months.

Daughter of Gunner Harold Edgar Capper, Royal Artillery, and V. A. Capper of 21 Military Road, Canterbury, Kent.

CASTLE, ROSETTA.

Died Tuesday 18 November 1941. Aged 65.
Born Faversham, Kent. Resided Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Daughter of the late E. and M. Broad of Faversham, Kent.
Wife of Albert George Castle of the Red Lion, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

COLLINS, JOHN EDWARD.

Died Tuesday 18 November 1941. Aged 12.
Son of Rose Ellen Collins of 1 Church Lane, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent, and of the late Leonard Thomas Collins.

ELLIOTT, DORA.

Died Tuesday 18 November 1941. Aged 51.
Widow of John Elliott of 6, Browns Cottages, Fordwich, Canterbury, Kent.

HAMPSHIRE, JOHN THOMAS. Firewatcher.

Died Tuesday 18 November 1941. Aged 57.
Born Wingham, Kent.
Son of Alfred and Matilda Hampshire.
Husband of Lydia Frances Hampshire (nee Bradley) of Taynters Close, High Street, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
John died with his wife who is the next casualty briefly commemorated. Mr. and Mrs. Hampshire were both killed at their home.

HAMPSHIRE, LYDIA FRANCES.

Died Tuesday 18 November 1941. Aged 57.
Born Preston next Wingham, Kent.
Daughter of William and Frances Bradley.
Wife of Hampshire of Taynters Close, High Street, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Please see last casualty briefly commemorated.

JOHNCOCK, AUDREY RAMA.

Died Tuesday 18 November 1941. Aged 9.
Daughter of Ernest Albert and Rosie Mabel Johncock of 12 High Street, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Audrey, her mother, father and brother who are the next three casualties briefly commemorated, all died together at their home 12, High Street, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

JOHNCOCK, ERNEST ALBERT. Home Guard.

Died Tuesday 18 November 1941. Aged 45.
Born Temple Ewell, Dover, Kent.
Son of Albert E. and Minnie Johncock of Nelson Crescent, Napier, New Zealand.
Husband of Rosie Mabel Johncock of 12 High Street, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

JOHNCOCK, ROSIE MABEL.

Died Tuesday 18 November 1941. Aged 44.

Daughter of Herbert and P. Hambrook of Woodside, Ashford Road, Thanington, Canterbury, Kent.

Wife of Ernest Albert Johncock of 12 High Street, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

JOHNCOCK, ROY PHILIP.

Died Tuesday 18 November 1941. Aged 11.

Son of Ernest Albert and Rosie Mabel Johncock of 12 High Street, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

PEEL, JUNE EVELYN.

Died Tuesday 18 November 1941. Aged 10.

Daughter of Charles William and Doris Evelyn Peel of 4, Vale Cottages, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

PHILLIPS, PERCIVAL JAMES.

Died Tuesday 18 November 1941. Aged 6.

Son of Percival and Amy Phillips of Forge House, High Street, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

SMITH, IVY ETHEL.

Died Friday 7 June 1942. Aged 17.

Daughter of Amy Phillips (formerly Smith), of 1, High Street, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent, and of the late William Smith.

Ivy died at Claremont, Island Road, Sturry.

STRAND, WALTER. Leading Fireman.

National Fire Service.

Died Saturday 31 October 1941. Aged 30.

Husband of Mary Alice Strand of Goose Farm, Broad Oak, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Walter died at Sturry Road, Canterbury, Kent.

TAYLOR, VERA. As commemorated on the memorial plaque in the parish church of St. Nicholas, Sturry appears to be the following local casualty:-

CHAMBERS, VERA BLANCHE.

Died Tuesday 18 November 1941. Aged 35.

Resided at 2, Forge Cottages, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.

Daughter of the late Thomas Chambers.

Vera died at the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Wincheap, Canterbury, Kent.

WARD, WILLIAM EDWIN. Fireman.
National Fire Service.
Died Friday 7 June 1941. Aged 31.
Son of William and Harriet Ward, of 16, Sweech Gate Cottages, Broad Oak,
Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Husband of Ruby Ward of 11, Deansway Avenue, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
William died at Littlebourne Road, Canterbury, Kent.

The Second World War

1939 – 1945

Lost Casualties, Armed Service & Civilians

BRADSHAW, RONALD THOMAS. Flight Lieutenant (Flying Instructor), 44308.
206 Squadron, Royal Air Force.
Died Saturday 4 November 1942. Aged 34.
Son of Richard and Alice Anne Bradshaw.
Husband of Violet Ellen Margaret Bradshaw of Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Buried Heliopolis War Cemetery, Egypt. Grave Ref: 3. H. 7.

BRICKWOOD, ALBERT CHARLES. Lance Corporal, 7684080.
3 Divisional Provost Company, Corps of Military Police.
Died Friday 31 May 1940. Aged 38.
Born South West London. Resided Canterbury, Kent.
Son of Arthur and Anne Jane Brickwood.
Husband of Grace Janet Brickwood of Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Buried De Panne Communal Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.
Grave Ref: Special Memorial. Plot 1. Row A. Grave 27.
There are now 259 Commonwealth burials and commemorations of the Second World War in the above cemetery. 79 of the burials are unidentified but 7 casualties including Albert are known to be buried among them, but whose graves cannot now be precisely identified are commemorated by special memorials inscribed "Buried near this spot."

DODSON, FLORRIE MONA.
Died Saturday 31 October 1942. Aged 25.
Wife of Private, Norman Douglas Dodson, The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment), of Oxley House, Popes Lane, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Florrie died at Sturry Road, Canterbury, Kent.

GEE-WILLIAMS, PAUL. Lieutenant, 284554.
Royal Sussex Regiment, attached to the Royal Warwickshire Regiment.
Died Tuesday 1 February 1944.
Born Swansea. Resided Manchester.
Son of Thomas and Marion Gee-Williams.
Husband of Muriel Elsie Gee-Williams of Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Buried Minturno War Cemetery, Italy. Grave Ref: VIII. F.14.
Pre war member of the Royal Sussex Regiment.

GRIFFITHS, ALFRED WILLIAM. Fireman.
National Fire Service.
Died Saturday 31 October 1942.
Son of Frederick William and Sarah Ann Griffiths of Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Husband of Winifred Lavinia Griffiths of 42, Watling Street, Canterbury, Kent.
Alfred died at Watling Street, Canterbury, Kent.

HILL, LAWRENCE GRANDFIELD. Major, 112626.
Royal Artillery.
Died Monday 24 January 1944. Aged 45.
Born Middlesex. Resided Kent.
Son of William James Hill and Maud Emily Hill.
Husband of Olive Gladys Hill of Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Buried Brookwood Military Cemetery, Surrey. Grave Ref: 30A. B. 1.

PICKERSGILL, PAUL BERNARD. Flying Officer (Pilot), 41057.
211 Squadron, Royal Air Force.
Died Saturday 7 December 1940. Aged 21.
Son of Frederick Oliver Pickersgill, O.B.E., and Ethel Mary Pickersgill, of Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Buried Phaleron War Cemetery, Greece. Grave Ref: 5. C. 13.

ROBERTS, JOHN STENTON. Private, 4469986.
16th Battalion, Durham Light Infantry.
Died between 28 February 1943 and 1 March 1943. Aged 21.
Born and resided Sunderland, County Durham.
Son of John Thomas Roberts and Jane Stenton Roberts of Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Commemorated on the Medjez-el-Bab Memorial, Tunisia. Face 29.

SETTERFIELD, LILIAN MABEL.
Died Friday 18 December 1942. Aged 37.
Daughter of Alfred William Setterfield of Providence Place, Canterbury Road, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Lillian was injured during the air raid on 31 October 1942, at Sturry Road, Canterbury, Kent. On 18 December 1942 Lillian died whilst a patient at the Hurstwood Park War Emergency Hospital, Haywards Heath, Sussex.

STINGEMORE, FREDERICK. Private, 6288108.
4th Battalion, The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment).
Died Monday 10 June 1940. Aged 19.
Born Monmouthshire, Wales. Resided Kent.
Son of Harry and Emma Stingemore of Sturry, Canterbury, Kent.
Buried Eu Communal Cemetery, Seine-Maritime, France.
Grave Ref: British Plot, Grave 11.
Pre war member of The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment).

MOORE, FRANK ERNEST. Private, 10568008.
43 Divisional Workshops, Royal Army Ordnance Corps.
Died Sunday 7 June 1942.
Born and resided South East London.
Buried Sturry and Westbere Cemetery. Grave Ref: Section E. Grave 161.

