

This is not a complete record of all those that fell during the two wars, with some of the fallen having no information available whatsoever. However there are 222 names from within the district that I have been able to provide a narrative for and this booklet hopefully will provide a lasting memory for future generations to view and understand the lives behind the names on the various memorials around Launceston. It has not been easy piecing together the fragments of information particularly from the first world war where many records were destroyed in the blitz of the second world war, but there are many resources now available that do make the research a little easier. Hopefully over time the information that is lacking in making this a complete story will be discovered and I can bring all the records up to date.

Of course there have been many people that have helped and I would like to thank Peter Bailey, Claudine Malaquin, Dennis Middleton, Jim Edwards, Martin Kelland, Grant Lethbridge Morris and Michael Willis for their invaluable help in compiling this homage plus the resources that are freely available at Launceston Library.

My hope is that the people will find this a fascinating story to all these souls that bravely gave their lives in the service of their country and that when we come to remember them at the various remembrance services, we will actually <u>know</u> who they were.

Roger Pyke 28th of October 2014.

## Launceston's Fallen from World War One

#### **William Henry ADAMS**

William was born in 1886 at 14 Hillpark Cottages, Launceston to Richard and Jane Adams. He had two Sisters and a Brother. In the 1911 census he is living at Woodbine Cottage, Launceston with his wife Ellen (nee Hill) having married on the19th of September 1910. Like his Father, William worked as a Mason. In 1915 he joined the Royal Engineers Pioneer 335th Road Construction Company (Regimental No 240305) as a reservist and was mobilized on the16th of February 1917. At the time of his enlistment he was living at 3 Hendra Cottages, Launceston. He received multiple gunshot wounds on the 23rd of April 1917 which ended his war as he was discharged on the 15th of January 1918 as being no longer fit for military service. These wounds were so severe that he died just six days before the armistice on the 5th of November 1918 and he was buried at Launceston Cemetery. He left behind three children Sydney, Freda and William.

### **Stanley BARTLETT**

Stanley was born in 1891 the youngest of 5 Children to Richard and Mary Jane Bartlett at Langore, St. Stephens, near Launceston. His Father worked as a general Labourer but died just after Stanley was born. The family had moved to Bridge Cottage, Newport by1901. By the time of the 1911 census, Stanley was the only child living at home with his Mother who now worked as Laundress. Stanley was listed as a Wood Sawyer, however on the 23rd of April 1911 he arrives in St John, New Brunswick, Canada. In the 1911 census of Canada he is listed as a boarder, living in Lynn Creek, British Columbia, Canada. He is single and his occupation is teamster. He was conscripted on the 12th of June 1918 with the Canadian Engineers (Regimental No. 2024216) as a Sapper. He was listed as Height 5ft 8 3/4 inches, Complexion - Fair, Eyes - Grey, Hair - Reddish. No distinctive marks. He died of TB on the 23rd of October 1918 and was buried at Prince Rupert (Fairview) Cemetery, British Columbia, Canada, plot B.T. 1.43. P.1. His next of Kin was his sister, Laura Causley address St Thomas, Launceston, the Mother of Launceston's renowned Poet, Charles Stanley Causley, who wrote a poem called 'Uncle Stanley in memory of Stanley.

#### **Dudley Charles BENNETT**

Dudley was born 1897 to Daniel and Gertrude Bennett at Lowestoft, Suffolk. His Father was a Baptist Minister which brought the family to Launceston sometime between 1902 and 1911 taking up residence at Melrose, St. Thomas Road. On leaving school Dudley, became a Chemists Assistant.

Dudley enlisted with the Royal Army Medical Corps (Regimental No. 74133) in 1915 at Bodmin but was transferred to the London Regiment on the 15th of May 1916 (Regimental No 702247) serving in the 23rd Battalion. He saw service in France for 6 months in 1916 before embarking to

Salonika in December 1916 until June of 1917 whereby he his Battalion were transferred to Egypt on the 15th of June 1917.

He was killed in action in the Egyptian theatre on the 7th of November 1917. He is buried at the Jerusalem Memorial, Yerushalayim. Israel.

## **T BENNETT**

The only information I can find is a Sergeant Major Bennetts was wounded in April 1918.

## **Charles BICKLE**

Charles was born in 1887 at Newmoor, Polson Bridge, Launceston to William and Mary Bickle.

His Father worked as a Dairyman. By the 1911 census he was married to Alice (nee Davey) and living in Westgate Street with his one year old son William and listed as being a farmer. They eventually set up home at 3, Holborn Terrace, Launceston.

He joined the DCLI 6th Battalion as a Private (Regimental No. 33619). He died of his wounds sustained in battle probably at 'Passchendaele' at Etaples, France on 11th of September 1917. Etaples was a large area containing over 11 Hospitals which was some distance from any danger from the enemy.

He is buried at Etaples Military Cemetery XXV. P. 3. . Alice passed away in 1964 still living in Launceston.

#### **George Thomas BRENDON**

Born to George and Mary Brendon in 1887 in High Street, Launceston. His Father was a watch-maker/jeweller. On leaving school George followed into his Fathers business. He joined the R.A.S.C (Regimental NO. 016368) but transferred to the Lincolnshire regiment being part of the 8th Battalion (Regimental no.41720). George was KIA on the 31st of July 1917 the first day of the 3rd Battle of Ypres, better known as 'Passchendaele'. His name is commemorated at Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial.

## **Albert John BRENT**

Albert was born 1874 to Peter and Mary Ann Brent at St. Thomas Hamlet, Launceston. His Father was a Farmer and General Labourer. Albert started his working life as a Brick makers Apprentice but in 1894 joined the D.C.L.I 3rd Battalion (Regimental No 2311). But on the 30th of March 1895 he was found to have been serving with the Royal Navy and was discharged. By the 1901 census he is shown as serving with the Royal Navy aboard the Cruiser HMS 'Undaunted' as a stoker. Ten years later he is still single and serving aboard HMS Carnarvon. As yet I have not found any details to his war record.

## **John BRIDGEMAN**

John was born in 1886 to William and Sarah Bridgeman at Launceston. His Father was a Stone Mason and the family (John was the eldest of 3 Children Louise, William and Irene) lived at Northernhaye Place, Tower Street, Launceston. By 1911 John was working as a General Labourer. He enlisted at Exeter with the Devonshire Regiment (Regimental No. 16299) finally reaching the Rank of Lance Corporal. He arrived in France on 11 October 1915, and died of his wounds at the 25th General Hospital at Hardelot on 18 January 1918, aged 31. At the time of his death he was listed as living at Christow, Devon.

He is buried in the Neufchatel-Hardelot (Neufchatel) Churchyard, Neufchatel-Hardelot, Departement du Pas-de-Calais, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France, Plot: 18. He was awarded the Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

## **Fred Harvey Longman BRIGHTON**

Fred was born in 1890 at 4 Devon View, Launceston to Truman and Agnes Brighton. The youngest of eight sons, six of whom served in the war with only two surviving. Truman Brighton was an auctioneer but died on the 17th April 1900 leaving the sum of £368 19s 8d to Agnes. Fred moved to London with his Brother Richard and they both worked for Cooks, 16 Stamford Street, Southwark as a wholesale Manchester warehouseman.

Fred joined the 10th Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment) as Lance Corporal Regimental No. Sth/920 and was killed in action on the 23rd April 1917. Taken from the Battalion's war diary:

21 April 1917 - Battalion moved via Athies to trenches. Two Companies in front line approx between points H II.b.68 and H 5 b.4.5. One company in support approx between points H II, a. 88 and H 5a.88, in position at 11.30pm.

Several patrols sent out to reconoitre and try to connect with other brigades. [At this point the Battalion was situated behind Cuba Trench close to Chili Trench.] Battalion occupied Cuba Trench about 9.30am 23 April 1917.

He is buried at Chili Trench Cemetery, Gavrelle.

## **Richard BRIGHTON**

Another of Truman and Agnes Brighton's Sons, Richard was born in 1884 at Werrington which was in the county of Devon at the time. He first started working as a Draper but on moving to London worked for Cooks, 16 Stamford Street, Southwark as a wholesale Manchester warehouseman along with his Brother Fred. By the outbreak of War, Richard had married Annie Victoria Brighton, and was living at 4, Brockenhurst Rd., Addiscombe, Croydon. He first joined the East Kent Regiment (Regimental No. 5453) but transferred to the Cheshire Regiment 11th Battalion (Regimental No. 243050) He was killed in action on the 20th April 1918. His body was never recovered.

The 20th April was described in the Battalion War Diary as being quiet and the men were in camp on the road between Mont-des-Cats and Godersvelde. It is, of course, possible that in the chaos of the preceding days, many men had been attached to another unit and were killed in further fighting.

## **Truman BRIGHTON**

Another Son of Truman senior and Agnes Brighton to perish, Truman was born in 1878 at a Cottage in Newport, Launceston. By the 1911 census he was living at 109 Haviland Road, Boscombe, Bournemouth and working as a Builders Merchant assistant which he was still occupied in at the time of his enlistment in 1915. He was living with his wife Elizabeth (Nee Harris, whom he married in 1911) at 29 Wheaton Road, Bournemouth at that time they had two Daughters, Nora and Kathleen. He joined the Royal Garrison Artillery (Regimental No107816) on the 10th December 1915. He served with the 336 Siege Battery, receiving two separate postings with the B.E.F in France. On the 29th June 1918 he was gassed and was invalided back to England on the 17th of August 1918. On the 4th of February 1919 he was officially demobbed but never recovered from his injuries and died in March 1920 at Christchurch, Hampshire.

## **Thomas Stanley BRIGHTON**

Thomas, the fourth son of the late Truman and Agnes Brighton to fall, was born in 1881 at St. Stephens, Launceston. At the age of 20 he was working as a Printers apprentice still living with his widowed Mother, but a further 10 years on he had moved to 53 Mill Hill Rd, Norwich and his occupation was listed as a compositor. It is from here that he joined the Norfolk Regiment 1/4th Battalion (Regimental No 200634). He was killed in action on the 19th April 1917during the 2nd battle of Gaza in Palestine. He is buried at Jerusalem Memorial Jerusalem, Yerushalayim (Jerusalem District), Israel, Plot: Panels 12 to 15.

At the outbreak of the First World War, Palestine (now Israel) was part of the Turkish Empire and it was not entered by Allied forces until December 1916. The advance to Jerusalem took a

further year, but from 1914 to December 1917, about 250 Commonwealth prisoners of war were buried in the German and Anglo-German cemeteries of the city.

## **Thomas Albert BROWN**

Thomas was born in April 1899 to William and Mary Ann Brown at Launceston. On enlisting at Launceston with the Princess Charlotte of Wales's (Royal Berkshire Regiment) (Regimental No. 38738), he went on to serve with 2/4<sup>th</sup> Battalion as a Private. He was reported as missing on May the 11<sup>th</sup> 1918, but is listed as having died in France on the 14<sup>th</sup> of November 1918, just 3 days after the armistice. He is buried at the Niederzwehren Cemetery, Germany.

#### **Charles Henry Russell BUCHAN**

Charles was born at Stoke Damerell in 1891 to William and Helen Buchan. His Father was a Steam Engine Fitter. On leaving school he became a Carpenter's apprentice whilst still living with his parents at Devonport, Plymouth in 1911. He married Beatrice Trethewey at Tavistock in 1912 so it's quite likely that they moved into the Launceston area to live.

He enlisted with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry 1/4th Battalion at Launceston, which is his only recorded connection with the town. (Regimental No 4545). He was killed in action in Mesopotamia on the 27th October 1915. He is buried at Amara War Cemetery, Al `Amarah, Maysan, Iraq Plot: I. A. 4.

### **Douglas Ophia Edward Gordon CAVEY**

Douglas was born in 1890 at Race Hill, Launceston to William and Emma Cavey. His Father was the Caretaker at the Launceston Telephone Co. in 1911. In 1912 he married Gertrude Rice. He was working for Doctor's Thompson, Gibson and Budd as a Dispenser prior to enlisting in the Royal Army Medical Corps (Regimental No 8224) in August 1914 at Devonport. He was acting sergeant when he was struck by shrapnel from a nearby shell burst whilst helping to clear battlefield causalities in France on the 30th August 1917. He died of his wounds the same day.

## Frank Bate CLARKE

Frank was born in 1896 the only child of Florence Rosina Clarke who was a Dressmaker working from Madford Lane, Launceston. By the age of 14, Frank was working as a Stationers Errand Boy living at home with his Mother and Grandmother at Southgate Place, Launceston. At the outbreak of war he was working for Treleavens outfitters in Southgate Street.

He was a Lance Corporal with the DCLI 1/4th Battalion (Regimental No 201337) and left England for India in October of 1914 serving there for 14 months before being transferred to Aden. He was the transferred to Egypt in February 1917 and its whilst serving in Egypt that he contracted and died of Malaria on the 3rd April 1917. He is buried at the Kantara War Memorial Cemetery, El-Qantarah el-Sharqiyya,

Al Isma'iliyah, Egypt, Plot: C. 48.

## **Lewis COLE**

Lewis was born in 1896 to Thomas and Nellie Cole at Stoke Climsland, Near Callington. His Father was a House Painter and by the 1901 census had moved his family to Bush Park, Launceston. Lewis was artistic in nature and has a long association with the Launceston science and art school. In 1911 the family is living at 5 Garcia Terrace Launceston and Lewis having left school was working as an Architect's Clerk with Messrs Wise and Wise in Launceston. Having served his time with Wise and Wise he moved to Wales to take up a position as an Architect. He enlisted as a Private with the Glamorganshire Yeomanry in Cardiff (Regimental No. 3051) but later transferred to the Royal Welsh Fusiliers 9th Battalion (Regimental No 75300). He was killed in action after a piece of shell struck him after it had exploded near his dugout the 18th of April 1918 in France.

(Regimental No 75300). He was killed in action on the 18th of April 1918 in France.

## **Cecil COOMBE**

Cecil was born in 1883 at Kensey Cottages, Launceston to Thomas and Ann Coombe. His Father was a Millwright. By 1901 the family had moved to Carlton House, Newport, Launceston and Cecil was working as a Gardener. In January 1911 he married Ivy Lane and they moved to Abbotsfield Cottage Lodge, Courtfield Rd, Mutley, Plymouth, where Cecil continued his trade as a Gardener. Cecil at first joined the Devon Regiment (Regimental No 315697) but was transferred to the Princess Charlotte Of Wales's (Royal Berkshire Regiment) as a Private 220226. He was killed in action in Belgium on the 31st July 1917.

His body was never identified and his name is commemorated on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Ypres (Ieper), West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium.

#### **Ernest COUCH**

Ernest was born in 1865 to Frederick and Amelia Couch at Southgate Street, Launceston. He was one of 7 Children. He followed into his Father's Tailor business taking over when his Father passed away before the 1901 census. In 1911 he is found living on his own in Madford Lane, Launceston and still working as a Tailor.

Ernest served with the Royal Defense Corps as a Private (Regimental No. 8409) having enlisted on the 28th of September 1914. Due to illness, he was discharged from service on the 24th of September 1918 (392. xvi King's Regulation Sick). He died on the 10th August 1919. He is buried at Launceston Cemetery. He was the Husband of L. B. Couch, Woodview, Plymouth Road, Buckfastleigh, Devon.

## **Archibald CUDLIPP**

Archie was born in 1892 in Launceston to Charles and Mary Cudlipp. His Father was a Wheelwright and worked from Northgate Street. Archie took up General Labouring as a living. He joined the Devonshire Regiment 10th (Service) Battalion as a Private (Regimental No 20819),

enlisting at Newton Abbott. He was killed in action whilst fighting in the Balkans on the 10th February 1917. His final resting place is unknown but he is commemorated on the Doiran Memorial, Doirani, Regional unit of Kilkis, Central Macedonia, Greece.

#### **Charles DAVEY**

Charles was born in 1892 at North Street, St. Stephens, Launceston to John and Caroline Davey. John Davey was a Coal Barker. In the 1911 census Charles is still living with his parents and working as a Domestic Groom. He joined the Devonshire Regiment 8th Battalion as a Private (Regimental No 45674). He was injured whilst fighting in France and died of his wounds on the 10th April 1917.

## Frank DOIDGE

Frank was born in 1894 at Hanalls Cottage, Wennington, Essex to Samuel and Mary Doidge. By the 1911 census he is living and working for his Uncle, John Tinney as a Stone Mason in Launceston. He married Mary Fanny Doidge before he enlisted with the 1st Devonshire Regiment as a Private (Regimental No 30656). He died on the 23rd of April 1917.

## **Stanley DOIDGE**

Stanley was born in 1897 to Richard and Elizabeth Doidge at 40, St. Thomas Road, Launceston. His Father was a Newsagent a trade that Stanley followed into. He joined the Royal Army MedicalCorps on the 8th November 1915 as a Private (No 80912). He served as an ambulance driver in France from the 26th July 1916 till his death of pneumonia on the 28th October 1918 and is buried at the Duisans British Cemetery, Duisans, Departementdu Pas-de-Calais, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France, Plot VIII. B. 43.

#### **Ernest Granger EVELEIGH**

Ernest was born in 1892 to Charles and Esther Eveleigh at Western Villas, Launceston. His Father was a Wholesale Stationer. He had 6 siblings. He was educated at Dunheved College and was a member of the Castle Street Church being a Sunday School Teacher for many years. On leaving school he joined his Fathers business as an assistant before taking up a position working in the City of London in 1914. It was on his way home for two week's leave, in 1915, that he came upon a recruitment centre and realising that many men were already fighting, decided to enlist there and then with the 1st London Regiment as a Private (Regimental No. 4587). He was instantly killed whilst on sentry duty in his companies trench by a shell that exploded near him on the evening of the 16th of July 1916.

#### **James S FITZE**



James was born in 1877 to William and Emma Fitze at 16 Duke Street, St. Stephens, Launceston. He had 3 elder Brothers and two elder Sisters. His Father was an agricultural worker. In the 1901 census he is working as a Boots Domestic at the Farley's Hotel, Plymouth but before 1902 he had already joined up with the Royal Army Medical Corps (Regimental No 15804) serving in South Africa during the Boer War. On one occasion he was taken prisoner. He spent a total of 5 years in South Africa. In the 1911 census he is shown as a cook being stationed at the Military Hospital, Fulford Road, York working in the isolation block.

By the time war had broken out, he had been promoted to the rank of Sergeant. He was serving at the 5th casualty clearing station on the 4th September 1914 when killed. He is buried at the Saint Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, Departement de la Seine-Maritime, Haute-Normandie, France, Plot: S. 1V. L. 6.

## **Lawrence Ching GEAKE**

Lawrence was born in 1888 to John and Jeanie Geake at St. Stephens, Launceston. His Father was a Mineral Water Manufacturer. He attended Shebbear College. He became a Gardener and in the 1911 census is shown as a visitor to Mr. Frederick Lintern, Little Rexon, Broadwood along with his wife Jessie and new born son Edward.

He joined the 8th Battalion Devonshire regiment in 1914 as a Private (Regimental No 10200) enlisting at Plymouth.

Like so many in the 8th (including two other Lanson Lads) he perished on the Loos Battlefield on the 25th September 1915.

## William John GIMBLETT

William was born in 1892 to William and Mary Gimblett at St. Stephens, Launceston. His Father was an Agricultural Worker but died in 1894. In 1911 he was working at High Hall Farm, Laneast for Mr. Whitford as a Carter.

He first joined the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry as Private 15599, but later transferred to the Somerset Light Infantry 8th Battalion as Private 15177.

He died (His left arm had been badly shattered and had been amputated) of his wounds sustained in battle on the 6th July 1916 and is buried at the Le Treport Military Cemetery, Le Treport, Departement de la Seine-Maritime, Haute-Normandie, France, Plot: Plot 2. Row O. Grave 2A.

#### **Walter GRAY**

Walter was born on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September 1889 at Dilton Marsh, Westbury, Wiltshire to John and Evelina Gray one of eleven children. His Father was a general Labourer. Walter enlisted with the Royal Marine Light Infantry (Service No. PLY/14099) originally on the 7<sup>th</sup> of September 1907 and was discharged by purchase in March of 1914 when he joined the Cornwall Constabulary (PC211) and was stationed at Launceston. He and his wife Islet lived at Hill Park, Launceston. He enrolled with the Royal Navy fleet reserve and as such his Police career was cut very short with the outbreak of war in August 1914. In the war he was serving with the 188th

Brigade Trench Mortar Battery as a Lance Corporal. He was killed by an accidental explosion on the 4<sup>th</sup> of August 1916 near Arras, France. His name is commemorated on the Arras memorial as well as the Stratton, Bodmin and Cornwall Constabulary memorials. He is buried at an isolated Grave about 1 1/2 Miles East of Aix Noulette and 3 1/4 Miles West of Lens.

### **Benjamin HARDY**

Benjamin was born in 1885 to Benjamin and Sarah Hardy in Hampshire. His Father was the Headmaster for Dunheved College from 1896 to 1929. Benjamin married Elizabeth and lived at no 6, Bolan Street, Bridge Road, Battersea, London, at the time of his death in 1918. He enlisted at Woolwich with the East Kent Regiment (Regimental No 4621) but later transferred to the Machine Gun Corps (Infantry) (Regimental No. 14643) serving with the 18th Battalion. He died of his wounds on the 25th of April 1918. He is buried at the St. Acheul French National Cemetery, Amiens.

## **George Henry HILL**

George was born in 1884 to Henry and Sarah Hill in Northgate Street, Launceston. His Father was a Chimney Sweep. George moved with his Mother to Harveys Lane, Launceston and was working as a Groucer/Storeman in 1901. George had married Mabel Woolridge in 1907 and by 1911 was living at Duntshill, Lifton, Devon, with their two children Cyril and Ivy. He was employed as a Motor Car Cleaner. At the time of his death the family were living at St. Ann's Chapel, Callington. He enlisted at Tavistock with the Devonshire regiment as a Private 25793 and served with the 9th Battalion attached to the 1st Battalion. He was killed in action on the 4th January 1917.

## **James HILL**

James was born in 1887 to William John and Eliza Jane Hill at Tiverton. The family moved to Launceston residing at 1 Tower Street. On leaving school James worked as a Baker for Thomas Bailey at Tower Street, Launceston before joining the Royal Navy. He was a Cooks mate 2<sup>nd</sup> Class (Service No. M/14846) on HMS Indefatigable, when she was sunk at the Battle of Jutland on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May 1916.

#### John Stuart HILL

John was born in 1895 to John and Selina Hill at Carlow, Ireland. His Father was a Corporal with the 60th Rifles Regiment before retiring back to his birthplace of Launceston (2 Treloar Terrace Tredydan Road) to work at a Steam Laundry. His Mother, Selina was born in Carlow, Ireland.

On leaving school, John took up an apprenticeship at a Hardware Business in Launceston. In May of 1915 he married Fanny Frances Hunt at Alresford, Hampshire.

He originally enlisted with the Duke Of Cornwall's Light Infantry (Regimental No 27179), but later transferred to the Dorset Regiment (Regimental No. 22342) 1st Battalion. He was killed in

action in France on the 14th of June 1918. He is also remembered on the Carlow War Memorial, Ireland.

## **George Chamberlain HOCKIN**

George was born in 1892 in Wynaad, Malabar, India to William and Caroline Hockin. His planter parents settled in 13 Castle Street, Launceston, Cornwall. He attended Marlborough College and then the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich as a Gentleman Cadet, he was commissioned in the 7th Gurkha Rifles as a Lieutenant. Mentioned in despatches in late July 1915 after being wounded. He was killed in ac-

tion on the 22nd of November 1915, aged 23, in action at Ctesiphon, Mesopotamia, in a charge on the Turkish trenches. Commemorated on Basra, Iraq, memorial, panels 55 & 67.

## **Edwin HOWE**

Edwin was born in 1892 to Henry and Annie Howe at Royal Marine District Depot, Deal, Kent. The Family first moved to Germansweek and then unto Launceston by 1911 residing at The Passmore Edwards Institute, St. Thomas Hill where Henry was the assistant Librarian and Caretaker whilst also being a Naval Pensioner (He had been a Drum Major with the Royal Marines). Edwin worked as a plumber. He joined the Navy and became a Plumbers Mate M/5729 aboard HMS Indefatigable. He was Killed or died as a direct result of enemy action on the 31st May 1916 at the Battle of Jutland. His body was never recovered and his name is commemorated on a plaque at Plymouth.

Indefatigable was sunk on 31 May 1916 during the Battle of Jutland, the largest naval battle of the war. Part of Vice-Admiral Sir David Beatty's Battlecruiser Fleet, she was hit several times in the first minutes of the "Run to the South", the opening phase of the battlecruiser action. Shells from the German battlecruiser Von der Tann caused an explosion ripping a hole in her hull, and a second explosion hurled large pieces of the ship 200 feet (60 m) in the air. Only two of the crew of 1,019 survived.

## John Henry HUTCHINGS



John was born in 1883 to Thomas and Amelia Hutchings at South Sydenham, Devon. His Father was a General Labourer. The family moved to North Petherwin, and in 1891 were living at Daws Cottage, North Petherwin. In 1909 he married Blanche Jane and they set up home at Tregoiffe, Linkinhorne where he worked as a Farm Labourer. The family was living at Hurdon, Launceston at the time of his death.

He first joined the Royal Vetenary Corps (A.V.C. 19884), but was transferred to the Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own (Yorkshire Regiment) as a Private (Regimental No 33969).

He was instantly killed when a shell exploded near a trench he was guarding on the 1st of January 1918 and is buried at the Mory Abbey Military Cemetery, Mory, Departement du Pas-de-Calais, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France, Plot: II. A. 9.

## **Claude Samuel JONES**

Claude was born one of eight children to Charles and Ellen Jones in 1888 at St. Thomas Road, Launceston. His Father was a Licensed Hawker. By 1901the family had moved to Wooda Road, Launceston and Claude was now working as an Errand Boy. He emigrated to Quebec, Canada on the 7th of July 1910, departing aboard the Royal Edward from Bristol. At that time he was listed as a Compositor. He served in the war as a Private in the Canadian Infantry 12th Battalion (Regimental No 7753). He died on the 4th of July 1916 at Shorncliffe of a diabetic coma. He is buried at Launceston Cemetery.

## **Ernest JONES**

Ernest was born on the 6th of June 1887 to Charles and Ellen Jones at St. Thomas Road, Launceston. On leaving School Ernest worked first as an Errand Boy. He emigrated to Canada in the 1900's probably along with his Brother Claude (See above). In 1915 he married Ada Mary Longman at Toronto, York, Ontario, Canada. They set up home at 208 George Street, Toronto with Ernest working as a bricklayer.

Like his brother Claude, also served with the Canadian army enlisting in November 1914. On his enlistment form it stated that he had previously served with the D.C.L.I for 5 years. His regimental No was 404867 serving with 44th Battalion. He was killed in action on the 3rd of June 1917 whilst attacking La Coulotte. He is buried at the Villers Station Military Cemetery, Villers-aubois, France.

### **Douglas Eckley LANGDON**

Douglas was born at Huelva, Spain on the 3rd of April 1884 to William and Eleanor Langdon of Kensey Launceston. He was educated at Ipswich Grammar School and in April 1900 began an apprenticeship at the works of Saxby and Farmer, Chippenham.

In 1903, he entered the service of the Great Western Railway as improver for four years in their locomotive works at Newton Abbot, Devon and passed through the fitting, erecting, machine shops, and drawing office. During the period of his apprenticeship and subsequently, he attended Technical schools at Bath, Chippenham, and Newton Abbot.

In September 1907 he entered the service of the Buenos Aires and Pacific Railway in the drawing office at Junin, Argentina, and in the following February he was sent as assistant shed foreman to Villa Mercedes.

Two years later he became assistant to the Divisional Locomotive Superintendent at Justo Dorset until the following January, when he was promoted to take charge of the Company's running-shed at Beazley.

On the outbreak of War in August 1914 he immediately applied for and obtained leave to go home, and on the day following his arrival in London he enlisted in A Company of the Public Schools and Universities Corps then just forming (afterwards 18th Batt. London Royal Fusiliers). He was offered a Commission in the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry in May 1915, and in September 1916 he was promoted Acting Captain abroad.

In March of the same year he was sent out at night with a small party to repair the wire in front of their trenches, and was hit below the knee by a rifle bullet.

After being in the Red Cross Hospital at Rouen for eight weeks he returned to his battalion at the front.

On the night of the 22nd-23rd April 1917 he took his Company into action and was killed instantly while clearing the enemy out of some ruined houses. In this action all the officers of the Company were killed or wounded. He was thirty-three years of age.

He was elected a Graduate of this Institution in 1908, and an Associate Member in 1911. He is buried at the Sucrerie Cemetery,

Ablain-Saint-Nazaire, Departement du Pas-de-Calais, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France, Plot: I. A. 18.

## Frederick George T LETHBRIDGE

Frederick Lethbridge was born in 1880 in Plymouth to William and Rosetta Lethbridge. His Father was a mineral Water Manufacturer. In the 1911 census he is living with his Wife Emma and one year old Son William (who went on to serve with the Royal Navy in WW2) at 1 Northern Haye Court, Launceston, and is employed as a Mason's Labourer. What is not clear is that he joined the Royal Ordnance Corps in 1902 so it's assumed that he served the regulated 3 years and was recalled from the reserve list on the outbreak of war. He was 5'3" tall.

He eventually rose to the rank of Staff Sergeant (Regimental No 01429) serving with the 13<sup>th</sup> special Company. He died on the 14<sup>th</sup> of June 1919 whilst serving in Afghanistan. He is buried at the Bannu Cemetery, Pakistan and is also commemorated on the Delhi war memorial.

### William Mervyn Johnes LLEWELLYN



William or Mervyn as he was known, was born on the 5th of May 1898 to Thomas Johnes Llewellyn and Ann Elizabeth Llewellyn in Westgate Street, Launceston. His Father, a Welshman, was a Solicitor and had moved to Launceston to become the Magistrates Clerk but by 1914 was the Mayor and Chairman of the Launceston Rural District Council. Mervyn attended Upcott House preparatory school, Okehampton,

Devon and the from May 1913 to December 1916 he attended Sherborne School (School House); scholar; 6th form; Prefect; Head of School House; 2nd XV rugby football team.

After leaving Sherborne in 1917 he went to Sandhurst.

He joined the South Wales Borderers 1st Battalion as a 2nd Lieutenant in December 1917, joining the 3rd Battalion and going to the 1st Battalion in France in April 1918. Slightly wounded in June 1918, but as his regiment was short of officers he remained at duty. On the 17th of August 1918 at Cambrai, he along with a Sergeant and Lance Corporal set of on a dangerous scouting mission in an attempt to gather intelligence enemy. It was in darkness that they set off, but unfortunately they were seen. Both Mervyn and the Sergeant were killed, with the Lance Corporal being taken prisoner.

Mervyn's obituary appeared in 'The Shirburnian', February 1919:

'2nd Lieut. William Mervyn Johnes Llewellin, South Wales Borderers (a 1913-16), who was reported missing in August, was killed instantaneously on August 17th, by a German bomb while on patrol with two soldiers. One of the two was killed also, and the other taken prisoner: the latter has now returned home and reported the facts. Mervyn Llewellin came to the School House in May 1913, having been delayed for two terms by serious illness. His school life was a splendid struggle against ill health and a remarkable victory. He would never admit to the slightest feeling of illness until he was absolutely compelled to do so, and insisted on doing everything in work and play that the healthiest boy could do whenever possible. Before he left he reached the Upper VIth, was head of the School House, and in the 2nd XV. On leaving school he went to Sandhurst in January, 1917, and was gazetted to the South Wales Borderers in December of that year, joining the 3rd Battalion and going to the 1st Battalion in France in April, 1918. He was slightly wounded in June, but, as the regiment was short of officers, he remained at duty.'

He is buried at the Saint Mary's Advanced Dressing Station Cemetery, Haisnes, Departement du Pas-de-Calais, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France, Plot: XI. F. 20. The same Cemetery as Rudyard Kipling's Son John Kipling is buried.

## **Herbert John LUKE**

Herbert was born on the 18th April 1888 to John and Johanna Luke at Lane End Cottage, Washaway, Bodmin. His Father was a Navy Pensioner and Rural Postman. By the 1911 census, Herbert was a Police Constable with the Cornwall County Constabulary working at Camborne. It's probable that between 1912 and 1914 he received a transfer to the Launceston area, although there is no documentation to prove that. He enlisted with the Military Police Corps in June 1915 as a Private (No 1522). He served with the Military Foot Police being attached to XV Corps HQ in France and Flanders. He married Gertrude Mary Phare at Launceston in 1916 whilst on leave, and they set up home at Tresmeer. He died on the 13th April 1918 at No. 23 Casualty Clearing Station of his wounds sustained in battle two days previous. He is buried at the Lapugnoy Mili-

tary Cemetery, Lapugnoy, Departement du Pas-de-Calais, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France, Plot: IX. B. 14A. He is also commemorated on the Cornwall Constabulary memorial at Bodmin.

## **Robert William Digory MADDEVER**

Robert was born in 1893 to William and Margaret Maddever at 15 Duke Street, St. Stephens, Launceston. His Father was a General Carter (Timber Haulier). His Father died in 1911. He was educated at Horwell Grammar School and Camelford Grammar School and went on to become a school teacher. According to reports he was a keen athlete being associated with Launceston Football, Cricket, Tennis and Bowling clubs. He first volunteered for active service with the Cornwall territorials on the 24th April 1915 and gained rapid promotion being made Quartermaster Sergeant on the 16th December 1915. He obtained a commission and was made 2nd Lieutenant of the Somersetshire Light Infantry on the 20th of July 1917 with whom he fought with in France and Flanders from the 10th September 1917. He died near Ypres on the 22nd of October 1917 of wounds he received in action the same day. He is buried Tyne Cot and is commemorated at the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium.

## **Samuel John MARKS**

Samuel was born in 1897 to John and Mary Marks at St.Stephens, Launceston. His Father was a Wood Ranger (Woodman). They moved to Hurdon Down in 1901 where the family settled. By 1911 Samuel was joined by 4 Brothers and 1 Sister.

He enlisted with Devonshire's at first (3rd Devon Bte 4th Wessex Bde) at Tavistock in 1914 but had transferred to the Royal Field Artillery by 1916 as a Driver (Regimental No 1300). He died of his wounds on the 24th August 1916 at Salonika, Greece.

### **William Earle MARTIN**

William was born in 1880 at Wishworthy, Lawhitton, Launceston to Elizabeth Martin. There is no information prior to the 1901 census so there are no details on his Father except that he had died prior to 1901. William worked on the family farm at Wishworthy from leaving school. He first joined the Suffolk Regiment (Regimental No 28956) enlisting at Exeter, but transferred to The Royal Engineers Pioneer Corps (Regimental No 358567) He died of his wounds sustained in action on the 1st of May 1918.

#### **Harry MAUNDER**

Harry was born in 1878 to Joseph and Selina Maunder of Race Hill, Launceston. 'Happy Joe' was a Groucer Porter in 1891 but soon went into Rope Manufacturing starting what is now Maunder and Sons at Scarne, Launceston. Harry first enlisted at Plymouth with the Devon R.G.A (Regimental No 1549) but transferred to the Royal Garrison Artillery as a Gunner with the 117th siege Battalion (Regimental No 138350). He was badly wounded in in the left leg on Christmas Day 1916, by a hand grenade thrown into his dugout and he was operated on to re-

move a piece of shell, however he died of his wounds on the 7th February 1917. He is buried at the Saint Sever Cemetery extension, Rouen, Departement de la Seine-Maritime, Haute-Normandie, France, Plot: O. V. B. 7.

#### William MAUNDER

Another Son of Joseph and Selina Maunder, of Laurel Cottage, Race Hill, Launceston, who perished in the war. William was born in 1892 at Laurel Cottage, Launceston and by this time, Joseph had made the step into Rope manufacturing. William followed into his Father's Rope Making business. William enlisted with the DCLI as a Private (Regimental No 24457) serving with the 1st Battalion. He was badly wounded in the back during action on the 2nd of August 1916 and although he was evacuated to Rouen Hospital, William succumbed to his wounds a couple of days later.

He is buried at the St. Sever cemetery, Rouen, the Second Part M to Z.

#### **Charles MEDLAND**

Charles was born in 1883 to Edward and Grace Medland at Boscastle, Cornwall. His Father was a Mason. They moved to live at Chapple, Launceston before 1890. Charles followed his Father's trade and worked as a Mason. Around 1910 Charles married Mary Emma 'Emmie' and they had two children Joseph and Charlie. They set up home also at Chapple. Charles enlisted with the DCLI as a Private (Regimental No. 540) and saw action during the Boer War in South Africa continuing his service there after peace was resumed. He was transferred to the Devonshire Regiment (Regimental No. 315796) serving with the 15th Battalion (Territorial). He rose to the rank of Sergeant. He was injured in battle and was evacuated to England although his injuries were critical. His Wife and Mother were advised to immediately travel if they wished to see him before he died, making it just before he passed away at Herne Bay on the 25th of May 1917. He was buried at Launceston Cemetery after a full military service.

## **Richard MEDLAND**

Richard was born in 1893 to Edwin and Grace Medland at St. Thomas, Launceston. His Brother Charles also perished in the war (above). His Father was a Wall Mason/Builder. Richard became a Carpenter on leaving school. He emigrated to Canada on the 22nd of April 1913, arriving at Maine aboard the 'Megantic' from Liverpool. On the of 2nd January 1915 he enlists with First Canadian Mounted Rifles (Saskatchewan Regiment) Private No 108375 in Vegreville, Minburn, Alberta, Canada.

Richard Returned to Launceston around August of 1915 and married Alfreda Mary Moses, (they have a son Harry O. Medland born towards the end of 1916). Like so many in his Battalion, Richard was killed on the 5th of June 1916 during the Battle of Mont Sorrel. He is remembered on the Ypres Menin Gate Memorial.

The Battle of Mont Sorrel (Battle of Mount Sorrel, Battle of Hill 62) was a localized conflict of World War I between three divisions of the British Second Army and three divisions of the German Fourth Army in the Ypres Salient, near Ypres, Belgium, from 2 June 1916 to 14 June 1916.

In an effort to pull British resources from the observed build-up in the Somme, the XIII (Royal Württemberg) Corps and the 117th Infantry Division attacked an arc of high ground positions defended by the Canadian Corps. The German forces initially captured the heights at Mount Sorrel and Tor Top before entrenching on the far slope of the ridge. Following a number attacks and counterattacks, two divisions of the Canadian Corps, supported by the 20th Light Division and Second Army siege and howitzer battery groups, recaptured the majority of their former positions

## John MORTON

John was born in 1878 to Thomas and Mary Morton in Launceston. His Father was a Farm worker but he died before 1891. On leaving school, John became a Cowboy. But by 1901 he was working as a Florist.

He emigrated to Canada but returned with the 31st Calgary Battalion. He was killed when a shell hit his dug out in June 1916. He left a Widow who was living at Ilfracombe at the time of his death.

## **Bertram Churchward MURTON**

Bertram was born in 1897 to S. Churchward and Grace Murton at Werrington, Devon. His Father was a Gardener on the Werrington Park Estate, but by 1915 had moved to Church Street, Launceston.

He enlisted at Launceston with the DCLI 6th Battalion as a Private (Regimental No 26763). He died on the 16th of September 1916 after a battle at Geudecourt. His name is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Thiepval, Departement de la Somme, Picardie, France, Plot: Pier and Face 6 B

## John NORTHMORE

John was born in 1871 to James and Sarah Northmore at St. Stephens, Launceston. His Father was a Labourer. He joined the Royal Navy straight from school and rose to Chief Petty Officer 139490 (R.F.R.Dev A.3229). He married Ida Bailey in 1905 and they set up home at St. Stephens, Launceston. He joined the Nelson Battalion Royal Naval Division (5th Battalion) and was killed in action on the 3rd of May 1915 fighting at Gallipoli, Turkey

The 63rd (Royal Naval) Division was a United Kingdom infantry division which served during the First World War. It was originally formed as the Royal Naval Division at the outbreak of the war, from Royal Navy and Royal Marine reservists and volunteers who were not needed for service at sea, and fought at Antwerp and at Gallipoli. In 1916, following heavy losses among the

original naval volunteers, it was transferred to the British Army as the 63rd (Royal Naval) Division, re-using the number from a disbanded Territorial Force division. As an Army unit, it fought on the Western Front for the remainder of the war.

His name is commemorated at the Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Canakkale, Turkey, Plot: Chief Petty Officer, Royal Navy. Age: 44.

## John Stanley ORCHARD

John was born on the 11th of December 1886 at The Week Inn, Week St Mary, Cornwall to Thomas and Mary Orchard. His Mother died in 1900 probably in child birth. His Father having remarried to Jane Walkey in 1904, moved the family to run the Launceston Arms Hotel, Exeter Street, Launceston.

Wireman 2nd Class M/13340 John Stanley Orchard was killed in action on 31 May 1916, when his ship the battle cruiser Queen Mary blew up and sank at Jutland. He was 19 years of age, had no known grave and is commemorated on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial.

HMS Queen Mary participated in the largest fleet action of the war, the Battle of Jutland in mid-1916. She was hit twice by the German battlecruiser Derfflinger during the early part of the battle and her magazines exploded shortly afterwards, sinking the ship. Her wreck was discovered in 1991 and rests in pieces, some of which are upside down, on the floor of the North Sea. Queen Mary is designated as a protected place under the Protection of Military Remains Act 1986 as it is the grave of 1,266 officers and men.

#### **William OWEN**

William was born in 1892 at Langore, Launceston to William and Mary Owen. His Father was a Quarry Labourer. On leaving School, William became an Apprentice Painter. With his wife Bessie he set up home in Tower Street, Launceston. He joined the DCLI as a Private (Regimental No 260014/33664) serving with the 1st/5th Battalion. He died at home of injuries sustained in battle on the 12th of August 1917. He is buried at Launceston Cemetery.

## **George Frederick OXENHAM**

George was born around 1884 to Frederick and Emily Oxenham at Heavitree, Exeter. His Father, being born at Tetcott, was a Coachman/Groom.

He enlisted with the Devon shire Regiment at Teignmouth, Devon as a Private (Regimental No. 2955) in 1915 serving first in Asia before transferring to the 16th (Royal 1st Devon Yeomanry and Royal North Devon Hussars) Battalion (Regimental No 345310). He was killed on the 2nd of September 1918. His body was never identified but his name is commemorated at the Vis-en-Artois British Cemetery, Haucourt, Departement du Pas-de-Calais, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France, Plot: Final resting place unknown. Name listed on the Vis-en-Artois Memorial, Panel 4.

## **Thomas Henry PELLATT**

Thomas was born in 1880 to Lewis and Rosina Pellatt at Stoke Damerell, Devon. His Father was a mariner born in Kent. Thomas married in 1907 to Jane Worden of South Petherwin. By the time of the war he was Artificer Engineer with the Royal Navy aboard the HMS Exmouth (Service No 270310). He died of heart failure on the 5th January 1916.

## **Charles Alfred PHELPS**



Charles was born in 1876 to Henry and Alice Phelps at Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. His Father was a Railway Signalman. At the age of 14 he went and worked as a General Labourer for a retired Baker Mr. Huxham and his wife at Chaceley. He married Mary Jane Buckley and they had 7 Children. He joined the DCLI at around 1893 serving in many countries including South Africa where three of his Children

were born. On leaving the DCLI he and his family moved to St. Thomas Road, Launceston where he became the commissionaire at the Launceston Picture Theatre, Northgate street. On the outbreak of War, he was re-enlisted with the DCLI (Regimental No. 5981) as Company Sergeant Major.

He was killed by shell fire on the 31st July 1915. His name in commemorated at the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Ypres (Ieper), West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium, Panel 20.

FALLEN IN THE FIGHT (Extract from the Cornish and Devon Times)

#### COMPANY-SERGT-MAJOR PHELPS

Sympathy will be extended to Mrs. Phelps, St Thomas, Launceston, in the sad news which has reached her that her husband, Company-Sergt-Major Phelps, 6th DCLI\* was killed in action near Hooge on 30 July. The sad intelligence comes after a long period of suspense and anxiety for Sergt Phelps over several months, though at one time it was reported, sadly without foundation – that he was wounded and in hospital.

The news now comes through the inquiry department of the Red Cross who write that they have received a report, dated 9th November, from Corpl Hilliard, 11569, now on leave in France, who states that Sergt Phelps was killed by shell fire in Sanctuary Wood, near Hooge. It was, Corpl Hilliard says, impossible to remove him at the time as there was so many lying about, but later they were able to bury the dead.

Company-Sergt-Major Phelps was of course well known to many of our readers having been for a considerable time the popular commissionaire at the Launceston Picture Theatre. Previously, he had been in the Army, serving in the South African and other campaigns and rejoining soon after the outbreak of the present war to one of the newly-formed DCLI battalions. A smart soldier, and a man of the friendliest disposition, his death in the service of his King and country is keenly regretted by his many acquaintances.

#### **Edwin PHILP**

Edwin was born in 1892 to George and Elizabeth Philp at Marshgate, Boscastle. His Father was an Agricultural Labourer. By 1911 he was working for his Uncle John Tinney (Frank Doidge another of the fallen previously mentioned also worked here) a Monumental Mason of Church Street, Launceston as a Stone Mason. He joined the DCLI as a Private (Regimental No. 19854) Serving with the 2nd Battalion in 1915. The 2nd Battalion were part of the 82nd Brigade that fought Near Kosturino, north of Lake Doiran, Salonika. He was killed in action in the Balkans on the 8th December 1916. His body was never found but he is commemorated at the Doiran Memorial, Doirani, Regional unit of Kilkis Central Macedonia, Greece, Plot: Final resting place unknown. Name listed on the Doiran Memorial.

### **Herbert POOLE**

Herbert, or Bertie as he was known, was born in 1883 to Charles and Sarah Poole at Lee, Kent. His Father was a Gardener. On leaving School, Herbert became a Photographers Assistant in Sevenoaks, Kent. He moved to Launceston around 1906 and ran a Photographic Business whilst lodging with a Mrs. Hoskin at St. Thomas Hill.

He enlisted at Launceston and joined the D.C.L.I in October 1914 but was later transferred to the Norfolk Regiment (Regimental No. 30063). He served with the 2nd Battalion as a Lance Sergeant. He was killed in action in Mesopotamia on the 24th February 1917. His name is commemorated on the Basra Memorial, Al Basrah, Iraq, Plot: Panel 10.

#### Harold RAYMOND



Harold was born in 1896 to John and Elizabeth Raymond at 16 Hill Park Cottage, Launceston. His Father was a Bill Poster. By 1911 Harold had become a Tailors Apprentice. He joined the DCLI 1ST/5TH Battalion as a Private (Regimental No.240637). He was instantly killed in France on the 23rd of August 1917 when a shell fell close by to his companies position and a fragment pierced his head. He was buried where he fell, but was later reinterred at the Wieltje Farm Cemetery, Ypres,

West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium. Plot: B. 10.

## **Percy SANDERCOCK**

Percy was born in 1882 to Richard and Elizabeth Sandercock at Wooda Lane, Launceston. His Father was a Royal Navy Pensioner having served with the Royal Marines who had seen action during the Zulu wars but in 1891 was working as a Porter. Percy attended the Launceston National school and the Wesleyan Sunday School.

By the 1911 census, Percy was living in Salcombe and working as a Bus Driver. He married a Miss Wills in June 1916 at Kingsbridge. He enlisted at Newton Abbot with the Devonshire Regiment 9th Battalion as a Private (Regimental No. 21146). He was killed in action on the 2nd of April 1917 in France. He is buried at the H. A. C. Cemetery, Ecoust-St. Mein, Ecoust-Saint-

Mein, Departement du Pas-de-Calais, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France, Plot: IV. K. 5.

#### William John SAVAGE

William was born in 1894 at Langore, St. Stephens, Launceston. His Father was William Savage who came from Wells, Somerset but there is no information on his Mother. By the 1911 census he was living at Church Street, Launceston working for Mr. Nathaniel Reed as a Grocer's Assistant.

He originally enlisted with the DCLI (Regimental No.1928) at Launceston but sometime later was transferred across to the Worcestershire Regiment 3rd Battalion as a Private (Regimental No. 202657). He was killed in action at Flanders on the 10th of April 1918. His body was never recovered but his name is commemorated on the Ploegsteert Memorial, Comines-Warneton, Hainaut, Belgium, Plot: Panel 5.

### **Jack Richard SHARP**

Jack was born in 1895 to Charles Orchard and Louisa Sharpe at Islington, London. His Father was a Journalist and in 1904 was the Editor for the Cornish and Devon Post in Launceston. Jack had attended Dunheved College (now Launceston College) by 1911 the family had moved to Plymouth.

On leaving school, Jack began work in the National Provincial Bank at the Brixham branch where he was still working as a Bank Clerk when he enlisted at Paignton in 1914.

He was Acting Bombardier (No. 748) of the 2nd Devon Battery, the 4th battalion, the Wessex Brigade; attached to the 15th Division Signal Company. He died on the 15th of August 1916 in a drowning accident whilst on a steamer travelling up the Euphrates River.

#### **Richard Stanley SILLIFANT**

Richard was born in 1900 to Richard and Hannah Sillifant at Lana Cottage Tetcott, Nr.Launceston. His Father was a Stone Mason. Richard served with the Lancashire Fusiliers 1/5 Battalion (T.F.) as a Private (Regimental No. 53196) He Died of his wounds sustained in action at Flanders on the 23rd of October 1918. At the time of his death his Parents were living at 30 Tower St., Launceston, Cornwall. He is buried at the Awoingt British Cemetery, Awoingt, Departement du Nord, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France, Plot: I. C. 1.

### John Balhatchet SLEE

John was born in 1890 to William and Elizabeth Slee at Church Street, Launceston. Elizabeth died in 1894. His Father worked at the Launceston Savings Bank and was also Collector of taxes. By 1911 William had remarried Sophie and was a Bookseller and Stationer with John following into his Father's business. For several years John was the Hon. Secretary for the Constitutional

club of Launceston and was also a keen member of Launceston's Operatic Society and St. Thomas Church Choir

He initially enlisted with the R.F.A (107806) as a Lieutenant but later transferred to the DCLI 7th Battalion. He was slightly injured by a gunshot wound to his cheek but recovered and returned to the front. He was wounded on the 24th of March 1918 more seriously and taken to a field hospital which in turn was heavily shelled and John was killed. His body was never identified but his name is commemorated at the Pozieres Memorial, Pozieres, Departement de la Somme

Picardie, France, Plot: Panel 45.

## **Samuel Thomas SLEEMAN**



Samuel was born in 1882 at Coombe Brye Farm, Broadwoodwidger to Samuel and Mary Sleeman. His Father was a Farmer. On leaving school, Samuel worked at home on his Father's Farm as a Carter. His Mum later moved to Wooda, Launceston. He initially enlisted with the Devonshire Regiment (Regimental No. 7701) in 1904 but later transferred to Somerset Light Infantry as a Corporal (Regimental No. 8064) serving with the 8th Battalion 'C' company. In 1916 at Hackney, London he married

Gertrude Stayton but they never had any Children.

He was killed in action just after the Somerset's had been involved in the 2nd Battle of the Scarpe on the 28th of April 1917. He is buried at the Faubourg-d'Amiens Cemetery, Arras, Departement du Pas-de-Calais, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France, Plot: Bay 4.

#### **Claude SNELL**

Claude was born in 1885 to George and Mary Snell at Bathpool, North Hill, Launceston. His Father was in the Royal Navy at the time of his birth, serving on the HMS "Implacable". By 1901 George being a Naval Pensioner was working as a Rural Postman and Claude had become an Apprentice Millwright. George died in 1908.By 1911 he had joined the Royal Engineers Corps as an Electrician, (Regimental No. 14693) enlisting at Devonport, Plymouth. He rose to the position of Lance Corporal. It was whilst being attached to 'H' company of the Bombay Defence Light section (having served there since May 1915) that he lost his life at Sea on the Troop Ship Leasone Castle en route for Marseilles, when it was torpedoed by UB 51 (Ernst Krafft) to the West of Alexandria and sunk on the 25th of May 1918 with the loss of 83 men. He is buried at the Chatby Memorial, Alexandria, Al Iskandariyah, Egypt. His Mother Mary, had moved to 9, Higher Cleverfield, St. Stephens, Launceston, and it's probably due to this move that Claude appears on both the North Hill and Launceston Memorials as his Brother, George on the next page.

#### **George SNELL**

George was the brother of Claude (above) being born in 1891 at Bathpool, North Hill, Launceston to George and Mary Snell. By the He joined the Royal Navy in 1909 on a 12 year service period and in the 1911 census he is shown as being an Able Bodied Seaman with at Devonport, Plymouth. He transferred to the RNAS in early 1917 and in April of that year George was posted to RNAS Howden which was an airship station near York. The station covered the east coast ports to protect its shipping from U-boat attacks. On the first of April 1918 the RNAS was merged with the RAF just a month after George had been transferred to East Fortune a station near Edinburgh. This station had an airship base at Chathill, Northumberland and this was to be Georges final posting and he was now officially shown as a Corporal (314912) in the RAF working as an aircraft rigger. He died on the 18th of November 1918 after contracting influenza and double pneumonia at Wold House auxiliary Red Cross Hospital, near Diffield. He is buried at Nafferton All Saints New Churchyard, Driffield, Yorkshire.

## **George Neal SPRY**

George was born in 1894 to Daniel and Ann Spry at Boyton, Launceston. Boyton was in the county of Devon at this time. His Father was a Famer and Butcher and the family was living at London House Stowford in the 1901 census. By 1911 the family had moved to Market Street, Launceston and operated as Butchers which by this time George had joined. George married Elizabeth Medland (sister of Charles and Richard Medland) in 1915 at Launceston and in 1916 they had a Daughter Joyce. He enlisted with the Royal Engineer Corps at Launceston at the rank of DVR (Regimental No. 141221). He died when on board the "Transylvania" in the Mediterranean near Savona, Italy on the 4th of May 1917.

He appealed to the local tribunal to have his service enlistment cancelled but George's final tribunal appeal is turned down

On May 3 1917, the Transylvania sailed from Marseille to Alexandria with a full complement of troops, escorted by the Japanese destroyers Matsu and Sakaki. At 10 am on May 4 the Transylvania was struck in the port engine room by a torpedo fired by the German U-boat U-63 under the command of Otto Schultze. At the time the ship was about 2.5 miles (2.2 nmi; 4.0 km) south of Cape Vado near Savona, in the Gulf of Genoa. The Matsu came alongside the Transylvania and began to take on board troops while the Sakaki circled to force the submarine to remain submerged. Twenty minutes later a second torpedo was seen coming straight for the Matsu, which saved herself by going astern at full speed. The torpedo hit the Transylvania instead, which sank immediately. Ten crew members, 29 army officers and 373 soldiers lost their lives.

Many bodies of victims were recovered at Savona and buried two days later, in a special plot in the town cemetery. Others are buried elsewhere in Italy, France, Monaco and Spain. Savona Town Cemetery contains 85 Commonwealth burials from the First World War, all but two of them casualties from the Transylvania. Within the cemetery is the Savona Memorial which com-

memorates a further 275 casualties who died when the Transylvania sank, but whose graves are unknown.

## **Herbert Edward STARR**

Herbert was born in 1887 to Edward and Elizabeth Starr at Croydon, Surrey who had one further son, Harold. His Father worked as a Domestic Gardener. On leaving school Herbert worked as a Stores boy for a Dental Instrument Maker. By 1911 he was working as a Carpenter. In September of 1914 Herbert along with his Wife were voted in as the Workhouse Master and Matron at Launceston. They had been living in Shaftesbury. In 1917 the board of Guardians tried to claim an exemption on Herbert being called up but this was turned down by the Tribunal.

He first enlisted at Launceston with the Worcestershire Regiment (Regimental No. 37390) but transferred to the Somerset Light Infantry (Regimental No 35244) making the rank of Lance Corporal with the 1st Garrison Battalion in Jan 1917 formed at Plymouth. He died in India on the 12th of September 1919 and was buried the following day at Poona, Near Bombay.

#### **Charles STEED**

Charles or Charlie as he was known was born in 1887 to William and Elizabeth Steed at Landlake Mill, South Petherwin. His Father was a General Labourer but later became the live in Caretaker at Dunheved College. By 1911 he had married Mabel Grabham and was working as a Colliery Surface Labourer in Wales, living at 27 Hendrefadog Street, Tylorstown, Glamorgan. The couple had two children

He joined the Royal Horse Artillery and Royal Field Artillery as a Driver enlisting at Porth, Glamorgan (Regimental No. 230743). By 1918 the Family had moved to Taunton. He was killed by a stray shell whilst taking ammunition to the lines at Flanders on the 27th of September 1918. His body was picked up by American soldiers and buried behind the lines.

### **William Henry SYMONS**



William was born in 1883 to Henry and Margaret Symons in Launceston. His Father was a Solicitors Clerk. By the 1901 census he was living in Lambeth, London working as a Civil Service Clerk. He served with the Royal Army Medical Corps (Regimental No 1862). Henry was a martyr to duty with his commanding officer stating that Henry was a bright example of devotion to duty. He would regularly go into the front trenches to aid and rescue the wounded without much thought to his own safety. It was this devotion to duty that ultimately cost him his life when a shell burst near him seriously wounding him. He died of those wounds sustained

on the 5th of May 1916.

### **Harold Shipley TAYLOR**

Harold was born on the 24th of June 1876 to William and Edith Taylor at Kenley, Surrey. His Father is listed in the 1901 census as a Mining Engineer. Harold emigrated to Canada with his Brother Hubert between 1902 and 1911 and was listed as a Stationary Engineer when he enlisted

at Windermere, British Columbia on the 25th of January 1916 with the 2nd Canadian Regiment (Regimental No 687273 British Columbia Regiment 47th Battalion). Harold was killed in action (Battle of Hill 70) at Lens, France on the 22nd of August 1917. His name is commemorated at St Thomas Church and at the Vimy Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. His Parents were living in Illogan, Cornwall in 1911 so I would assume that they had moved to Launceston by the end of the war, which would be reason for his addition to the Memorial.

## **Sydney William THOMAS**

Sydney was born in 1898 at Starr Cottage, Coombe Martin to William and Ellen Thomas. His Father was a General Agricultural Labourer. He married Dorothy and set up home at 3 Clarence Terrace, Launceston.

Before joining up he worked for Shuker and Reed.

He initially enlisted in 1916 with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry (Regimental No. 30107) as a Private but was transferred to the 1st Battalion of the Wiltshire Regiment (Regimental No. 220042). He was killed in action at Flanders on the 7th of June 1917. His body was never identified but his name is commemorated at the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Ypres, West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium.

## **Harriet Dorothy Margaret THOMPSON**

Harriet was born in 1893 to Dr. William 'Willie' Fookes and Harriet Thompson at Launceston. Her Father was the local GP for Launceston, living at Penquite, Launceston. Harriet followed her Father into the Medical Practice and became a Nurse. With the onset of war she joined the Volunteer Aid Detachment and helped look after injured Soldiers. She unfortunately contracted TB from one on the soldiers she had been nursing and as the illness worsened, she returned home to Launceston to be looked after by her Father. She died in the September of 1918.

The Cornwall & Devon Post, dated 27 July, 1918, carried the sad news: "Death. Thompson, on July 22nd, at Penquite, Launceston, Harriet, Dorothy Margaret, only daughter of Dr and Mrs Thompson."

In the same edition: "Miss Thompson's Death. Great sympathy with the Mayor and Mayoress.

The residents of the borough of Launceston have extended very real sympathy to the mayor and mayoress in the death of their only daughter, at the early age of 26 years.

At the outbreak of war Miss Thompson enrolled as a helper in the Launceston V.A.D. Hospital, and while engaged as a nurse in a Brighton hospital some months since, she had a serious breakdown in health. Nurse Thompson came home to die. She had thus virtually given her life for her country. Her remains were laid to rest in St Stephen churchyard on Wednesday afternoon.

The funeral was one of the largest witnessed of recent years. The coffin, covered with the Union Jack, was placed on a bier and wheeled to the church by a St John Ambulance squad. Seven carriages fol-

lowed the bier. The procession was a long one. The attendance was so enormous that there was not room in the church for all."

There followed a long list of mourners- family, servants, Councillors, etc. The bearers were members of the St John Ambulance and British Red Cross Society, and former orderlies at the VAD Hospital, comprising – Messrs: JR Quick, SC Mutton, LP Symons, AS Keat, WH Philp and WT Mills; with Mr. CS Atkins in charge. Rifleman G Wicks, Croix de Guerre, blew 'Last Post'

## **Claude TUCKER**

Claude was born on the 17th of September 1893 to George and Edith Tucker at St. Austell. His Father, a Lezant man, worked for Pearl Assurance. (His brother Leslie, below, also perished in the war).

He served as a Leading Telegraphist (J.3757) aboard HMS Defense which was sunk on the 31st of May 1916 during the Battle of Jutland when two salvoes from German Ships detonated her rear magazine. The fire from the explosion spread to the ship's secondary magazines, which exploded in turn. There were no survivors. His name is commemorated on the Plymouth Naval Memorial, Plymouth, Devon, Plot: 13

## **Leslie Henry Harvey TUCKER**

Leslie was born in 1898 to George and Edith Tucker at St. Austell. His Father was an Agent for Pearl Life Assurance. By 1911 George had passed away and Edith had moved the family to 3 Bellevue, Westgate Street, Launceston. Leslie enlisted as a Driver with the Royal Horse Artillery and Royal Field Artillery Regiment (Regimental No. 238687). He died of his wounds on the 10th October 1917. He is buried at the Mendinghem Military Cemetery, Poperinge, West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium, Plot: VI. E. 7.

## **Edgar VOSPER**

Edgar was born in 1893 to Charles and Emma Vosper at Banham, Launceston. His Father was a farmer and Butcher which was a trade that Edgar took up on leaving school. He joined the Royal 1st Devon Yeomanry (Hussars) as a Private (Regimental No. 2486). He died of dysentery in Egypt on the 2nd of November 1915. He is buried at the Alexandria (Chatby) Military Cemetery, Alexandria

Al Iskandariyah, Egypt, Plot: B. 133.

### **Darrell Francis Stephen VOWLER**



Darrell was born in 1895 to Francis and Ellen Vowler at Kotagalle, Ceylon. His Father was listed as a Tea Planter which in reality meant that he owned Tea plantations in Ceylon. The family home was Edymead House, Launceston. Attended Oaklands Court preparatory school, St Peter's, Thanet, Kent and Sherborne School (School House) January 1910-December 1912; He then attended Sandhurst where he received

his commission for the Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment) as a Major serving with the Machine Gun Corps during the war. He was severely wounded whilst serving with the Canadians who were attacking Vimy Ridge and was evacuated to a hospital in England. He died on the 28th of February 1919 at Hazeley Down, Winchester after contracting influenza which led pneumonia. He was acting Lieutenant Colonel. He is buried at the Launceston Cemetery.

## John Arthur Geoffrey VOWLER



Darrell's Brother, John was born in 1897 at Kotagalle, Ceylon. He attended Oaklands Court preparatory school, St Peter's, Thanet, Kent and Sherborne School (School House) September 1911-December 1914; 6th form. He then entered Sandhurst in January 1915, and obtained his commission in the Leinster Regiment in June 1915. For WW1, Lieutenant in the Prince of Wale's Leinster Regiment

(Royal Canadians), 3rd Bn. (Reserve), attached to the Machine Gun Corps. Served in France. In April 1916 he was accidentally wounded in the head while cleaning a revolver, and was sent home. On his recovery he joined the Machine Gun Corps and was stationed for some time at Grantham, proceeding to France again at the beginning of May 1917. Early in July 1917 he was sent to hospital at Rouen suffering from debility. Then his old wound began to trouble him again and he was sent home to England in an extremely dangerous condition. He died in Netley Hospital on 19 July 1917 as the result of the bursting of an abscess on the brain. He is buried at Netley Church.

#### **Gustavis Lambert WEBBER**



Gustavis or Lambert as he was better known, was born in 1889 at Penzance to Alfred and Rosina Webber one of eleven children. His Father was a Cornwall Constabulary Inspector and moved around the county, finally ending up in Launceston by 1911 as a Superintendent, by which time Gustavis had left home and was working as an Ironmongery Shop Assistant. In July of 1913 he married Kate Osborne at the Wesleyan Church at St. Austell and they set up home at Trewoon, St. Austell having one Daughter Eileen.

He enlisted at Plymouth in April 1916 joining the Royal Garrison Artillery as a Lance Bombardier of the 61st Siege Battery (Regimental No 73528). He fought in many battles and was gassed in March 1918 but survived that only to be killed in action on the 29th of April 1918 and is buried at the Hazebrouck Communal Cemetery, Hazebrouck, Departement du Nord, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France, Plot: III. B. 16. He is also commemorated on the St. Mewan War memorial.

#### **Horace Robert WESTLAKE**



Horace was born at Landlake Farm in November 27th 1895 to William and Florence Westlake (Nee Harris who died in 1899). His Father was a farmer who remarried Anna Westlake in 1900. William's health declined over the coming decade and he died in 1911. The family had moved to Treniffle, Lawhitton but on William's death they moved to Western Road Launceston with Horace taking up employment with Mr. Bickle at Linnick Farm, South Petherwin, before taking up work at Falmouth.

Horace joined the Devonshire Regiment in 1914 as a Lance Corporal. His Younger brother, Cecil, served with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry and was captured by the Germans but survived the war.

Horace (Private 14662) served with the 8th Battalion. He was killed in action at the Battle of Loos on the 25th September 1915 aged just 19. The Devonshire Regiment were in action at the Battle of Loos and many, like Horace, including Lawrence Geake, lost their lives on the very first day of the offensive where the British used gas for the first time. Horace's body was never found and is likely to be one of the many at Loos Cemetery 'known only to God'. However a bible found on the Loos Battlefield by Private Pattison Walton of the 2nd Battalion Border Regiment, is actually Horace's. (Inside he wrote 'Found on the Battle Field on Sept 26 by Pte P Walton, 2nd Batt Border Reg. This bible belonged to one of the Devons who charged with us. Found on the field after the attack of Loos and Hulluch on Sept 26/9/15."). Mr. Walton presented the bible some 50 years ago to a lady in Surrey who has spent many years researching who the bible belonged to. It's been confirmed that it is in fact Horace's, given by the Wesleyan Sunday school in 1906.

#### **Arthur Henry WHITFORD**

Arthur was born in 1898 to Arthur and Jane Whitford at Race Hill, Launceston. His Father was a Tinplate Marker working for himself. By 1911 Arthur had 3 Sisters and 3 Brothers and the family were still living at the same address in Race Hill, Launceston.

Arthur enlisted with the DCLI rising to the Rank of Lance Corporal (Regimental No. 240210) serving with the 1st Battalion. He was killed in action at Flanders on the 4th of October 1917. His body was never recovered but his name is commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium.

### Frederick William WICKS

Frederick was born on the 26th October 1898 to Frederick and Annie Wicks (ne Tighe) at Raglan Barracks, St Aubyn, Devonport, Plymouth. His Father was a Bookbinder and Printer and originally came from Truro. His Mother Annie was from Dublin, Ireland. In 1911 they were residing in premises in Castle Street, Launceston with all 11 of Frederick juniors siblings. At the outbreak of War Frederick enlisted with the DCLI (the same Regiment that his Father had previ-

ously served with in 1890's) as a Drummer (Regimental No. 1707) serving with the 5th Battalion. He died at 1st Northern General Hospital on the 6th of June 1915 at the age of just 16 and is buried at Launceston Cemetery.

This concludes those that fell that are included upon the War Memorial, but there were other brave men not mentioned from Launceston, that also perished during the war and I have listed a few below.

## **Thomas Norman Howard JOHNSON**

Thomas was born in 1893 to Thomas and Ellen Johnson (nee Howard) at Rainhill, Lancashire. His Father, who came from Ireland, was a Clergyman, and in 1901 the Family were living at St. Catherines Hill, Launceston. The Family had arrived in Launceston in 1897 as Thomas Senior took up the position of Vicar for St. Thomas, a role that he played for 13 years. In the 1911 census Thomas junior is shown staying at the Scotts Waverley Hotel, Southport presumably visiting relations. In the June of 1913, by which time the family had moved to Weston Super Mare, Somerset, he enlisted with the Grenadier Guards but was then was discharged on 25th August 1913 with payment of £10. At the outbreak of war he enlisted with the Devonshire Regiment (Regimental No. 33633) serving with the 9th Battalion. He was killed in action at Yppres on the 7th of October 1917. His body was never recovered but his name is commemorated at the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium.

#### **Reinfred Atkins**



Reinfred was born in 1893 to Reinfred and Mary Atkins at Launceston. His Father was a Mason. By 1911, Reinfred senior had passed away and the family had moved to Plymouth and were residing at 39 Ashford Road with Reinfred working as a Baker. At the onset of war, Reinfred joined the Devonshire Regiment as a Private (Regimental No 10309) serving with the 8th (Service) Battalion. Like two others from Launceston, Reinfred was killed in action at the 'Battle of Loos'. His body was never recovered. But his name is honoured on the Loos Memorial.

### **Eric Augustine Bennetts**



Eric was born on the 28<sup>th</sup> of August 1895 at St. Agnes to Thomas and Annie Bennetts. His Father was a Clergyman and was the Vicar of Lewannick (Where Eric spent most of his childhood) up to 1914 when the family moved to Cape Town, South Africa. He attended Hazeldon Preparatory School, Tavistock, Devon before going to Sherborne School (The Green) from September 1909 to July 1913, he was a scholar in the 6th form. He won the Digby Maths prize in1913. He completed his

studies at a college in Cape Town. He originally was a Lance-Corporal in the Cape Town Highlanders, South African Defence Force (Signalling Instructor) but in the spring of 1916 he re-

turned to England to join the Royal Flying Corp (R36035) and became a Flight Sub Lieutenant in the Royal Navy Air Service. He was reported missing in September 1917 after his plane, a Sopwith Camel F1 biplane, collided with another British Sopwith, piloted by Philip Johnston, behind enemy lines and was confirmed as having died in February 1918. He is buried at the Cabaret-Rouge British Cemetery, Souchez, epartement du Pas-de-Calais, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France, Plot: XV. R. 22.

On the 26<sup>th</sup> of February 1918 a service of commemoration was held at Lewannick Church with the tributes being paid:

Floral tribute - "In loving memory of dear Eric from Commander & Mrs Watts Russel. From all at Pen Tamar."

Floral tribute - "In proud & loving memory of Eric & those who fell in the Great War from this Parish. Mrs & Miss Bennetts of Lifton."

Floral tribute - "In proud & loving memory of Eric Augustine Bennetts & all those who from this Parish fell in the Great War, from Rev. & Mrs W.T. Bennetts.

At the time of his death, his Sister, Evelyn Maud Bennetts, was living at Roydon Road, Launceston, the address he used as a place of residence. For this reason he is mentioned on the St. Stephens Church roll of honour.

### George Brown

George was born in 1884 at Launceston. He enlisted with the 2/8<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Lancashire Fusiliers (Regimental No. 307298).

He was killed on the 11<sup>th</sup> of November 1917 at Cambrai. He appears on the St. Thomas 'Roll of Honour'.

## **Edward Budge**

Edward was born in 1889 to William and Ann Budge at St. Thomas Hamlet, Launceston. His Father was a Butcher. It seems that the family had split by 1911 as William was an inmate at Launceston Workhouse and Ann was in service.

Before 1911 Edward had enlisted at Bedford with the Bedfordshire Regiment (Regimental No. 9202). He died of his wounds on the 18th of March 1915. He is buried at the Le Touquet-Paris Plage Communal Cemetery, Le Touquet-Paris-Plage, Departement du Pas-de-Calais, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France, Plot: I. B. 14.

## **Arthur Ellicott**

Arthur was born in 1895 to William and Hannah Ellicott (Both born in Launceston) at Cardiff. His Father was a Commercial Traveler and the family lived a various areas around Britain, fi-

nally moving to Kingston upon Thames, Surrey by 1911. On leaving school Arthur became an Apprentice Watchmaker.

He enlisted at the onset of war on the 21st of August 1914 with the East Surrey Regiment 7th Battalion (Regimental No 598). He is listed as being of pale complexion, with brown hair and grey eyes. He had distinctive marks of moles and a scar. His chest size was 33 inches and weight of 133 pounds. In 1915 he contracted malaria and passed away at home on the 28th of September 1915.

## W. G. Hearne

Private with the Devonshire Regiment serving with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion. Died 1914 at Ypres. Appears on the St. Thomas 'Roll of Honour'.

### William John Kent

William was born in 1885 to William and Emmeline Kent at Torquay. His father was a Police constable with the Devon county constabulary. His parents came to live at Truscott by 1914 with his father now serving with the Cornwall constabulary. William joined the Royal Field Artillery in 1905. He was given a commission in 1914 on the field of battle for conspicuous bravery. Now a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant and after a few days leave at Christmas 1915 where he married Bertha Ellacott at North Petherwin church, he returned to France. On the 11<sup>th</sup> of March his battery were ordered up to take part in the battle of Neuve Chappelle. On the morning of the 12<sup>th</sup>, a shell burst close to him, killing William and another soldier, and wounding eight others of his battery. He was buried on the spot he fell. William appears on the St. Stephens 'Roll of Honour'. His brother Frederick Thomas Kent also served during the war also being awarded a commission.

## **Benjamin Mayor**

Benjamin was born in 1886 to Joseph and Rosannah Mayor at St. Lukes, Lancashire. His father was a Cotton Overlooker. In 1911 Benjamin was working as a Grocery Warehouseman still living with his parents in Blackburn. He enlisted at Blackburn with the Royal Fusiliers serving with the 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Kings Royal Rifles (Regimental No. R/1714). He was killed at Ypres on the 28<sup>th</sup> of February 1916. He was interred at the La Belle Alliance Cemetery, West Vlaanderen Belgium. He appears on the St. Thomas 'Roll of Honour'.

### **Alfred Leslie Quintrell**

Alfred was born in 1893 to Alfred and Annie Quintrell at Kensington, London. Both his Parents were Cornish with his Father being employed as a Wheelwright/ Coach Builder. The family returned to live at St. Columb by the 1911 census with Alfred working as an Electrician. It was this line of work that brought Alfred to Launceston to work as the Operator at the Launceston Picture Theatre. He joined the Royal Navy in early 1915 and served upon 'HMS Black Prince' as a 2nd Class Wireman (Service No. M13988). He was killed in action on the 31st of May 1916 when the 'Black Prince' participating in the Battle of Jutland, was sunk with heavy loss of life. The circumstances under which she sank were mysterious for some years after. As the British had

lost contact and did not see the ship destroyed, they were unsure as to whether a submarine or surface ship was responsible for sinking the Black Prince. During the battle, the First Cruiser Squadron was deployed as part of a screening force several miles ahead of the main force of the Grand Fleet, but Black Prince lost contact with the rest of the Squadron as it came into contact with German forces, at about 17:42.

His body was never recovered but his name is commemorated on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial on Panel 20.

## **Percy Rooke**



Percy was born in 1899 to William and Sarah (nee Johns) at Sutcombe, Holsworthy, Devon. His Father was a General Labourer. On leaving school he worked for the Printers, Messrs W. S, Cater and Co. in Launceston.

He enlisted at Launceston with the Somerset Light Infantry (Regimental No. 40127) serving with the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion. By then the family were living at New Mills, St. Stephens.

He died of his wounds on the 24<sup>th</sup> of August 1918 and is buried at the Bienvillers Military Cemetery, Bienvillers-au-Bois, Departement du Pas-de-Calais, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France, Plot: XIX. F. 5.

## **Sydney Crymes Rundle**

Sydney was born in 1888 to John Kingdom and Hannah (nee Baker) Rundle at North Petherwin. His father was a farmer and Butcher and the family were living at Colhay fram, St. Stephens in 1911. He married Lillian Kate Bloye of Egloskerry in 1915. Sydney enlisted at Launceston with the Devonshire Regiment as a Lance Corporal (Regimental No. 30443) serving with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion. He was killed in action on the 24<sup>th</sup> of April 1918. He is listed on the St. Stephens 'Roll of Honour'

#### **Reginald Garfield Skinner**

Reginald was born in 1897 to Thomas and Annie Skinner at Oak Farm, Whitstone, Cornwall. His Father was a Farmer. In 1910 his Mother died. On leaving school, Reginald went to work on his Fathers farm as a Horseman.

He enlisted at Bude on the 15<sup>th</sup> of December 1915 with the Royal Garrison Artillery (Regimental No.7549) as a Gunner. He died of his wounds on the 26<sup>th</sup> of April 1917. At the time of his death the family was living at Tresmarrow, Launceston. It is not known where he is buried.

## John Sloman

John was born in 1896 to John and Elizabeth Sloman at Tredidon, St. Thomas, Launceston. His Father had a varying career mainly as an Agricultural Labourer but also as a Gardener something that John was helping with as a Garden Domestic with the family living at Woodlands, South Hill in 1911. He had attended both Coads Green Sunday School, and School. The family had also lived at Tregillis, South Petherwin. By the time of his death in 1916 the family had moved to Warra Farm, Yeolmbridge. He enlisted at Cardiff with the Royal Horse Artillery and Royal Field Artillery as a Gunner (Regimental No. 105088). He was killed in Action on the 18th of October 1916 at the Battle of the Somme. His body was never identified but his name is commemorated at the THIEPVAL MEMORIAL and on the North Hill War Memorial.

#### John Towl



John (or Jack as he was known) was born on the 10th of March 1883 to John and Annie Towl at Trebursye, Near Tregadillett. His Father was a General Labourer. By the 1901 census, Jack was working for a Mr. Weeks at Sheers Barton, Lawhitton as an Ordinary Farm Labourer. He joined the Royal Navy on the 17th of November 1902 as a Stoker (Service No.301983) and his first ship was HMS Prometheus. He rose to Stoker 1st class by the outbreak of War in 1914 serving upon the light cruiser HMS Cordelia. He saw many naval engagements including the Battle of Jut-

land. He was killed on the 22nd of December 1917 when his ship, HMS Valkyrie, hit a mine just of the Dutch coast and sunk. He was buried at St. Thomas Church, Launceston.

### **William Watters**

William was born in 1890 to Abraham and Maria Watters at Launceston. His Father died when William was still at a young age and his Mother remarried to Fred Osbourne. By 1911 he is working as a Waggoner for a Confectionary Company and living with family at Tower Street, Launceston. He married Caroline Haines in 1916 at Launceston and they had one child. He served with the Worcester Regiment as a Private. He was killed in action on the 28th of April 1918.

# Launceston's Fallen from World War Two

### **Bernard Victor Hiram Bulmer**

Air Craftman 1<sup>st</sup> class: He was killed whilst flying in Sunderland I, L5799 KG-D of No 204 Sqn, which was shot down in combat with a He 111on the 8 Apr 1940. His Father was born in Liverpool and married Mabel. Bernard was born in 1920 at Totnes, Devon before the family moved to take over the Northgate Inn, Launceston, Bernard attended Launceston College. He joined the RAF straight from school serving a three year apprenticing as a wireless electrical mechanic. He

was a keen sportsman winning the RAF heavy weight apprentices championship plus whilst in Launceston winning many swimming trophies.

## **Kenneth William Cock**

Kenneth was born in 1919 to Frederick William and Annie Cock at Launceston. He enlisted with the Royal Navy (Service No. D/KX 91135) as a Stoker First Class. He was serving aboard 'HMS Ardent' when it was sunk on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June 1940. His body was never recovered but his name is commemorated on the Plymouth Naval Memorial Panel 41 column 1.

HMS Ardent was detached from Ark Royal on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June, and joined Acasta in escorting Glorious back to Scapa Flow. En route, the three ships were discovered by the German warships Scharnhorst and Gneisenau. Ardent and Acasta laid a protective smokescreen to hide the British ships, and engaged the German ships with her 4.7 in (120 mm) main armament, which proved to be ineffective at the range of the targets. Despite coming under heavy fire from the much larger guns of the Germans, Ardent carried out a torpedo attack. She managed to score a single hit with her 4.7 in (120 mm) gun, but was struck repeatedly by enemy shells. Ardent eventually capsized with the loss of 10 officers and 142 ratings. Acasta and Glorious were also sunk in the engagement.

## **Lionel Decieco**

Lionel was born in 1915 to Lionel and Cicily (nee Jones) Decieco at Launceston. (*His Father was born in Sant'Elia, Caserta, Italy in 1892 and moved to Penzance before 1914, serving during WW1 in the Reserve Heavy Battery (Regimental No 1905), Territorial Force Rank Gunner. He Got 14 Days Restricted Privileges on 9/7/1918 For Stealing Potatoes. He Was Discharged On 13/3/1919. His Number Was Changed When He Moved Over To Royal Garrison Artillery.)* 

Lionel junior was a gunner with the Royal Artillery (Regimental no 826423). He was killed on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 1940 at Dunkirk and is buried at

Marquise Communal Cemetery, Marquise, Departement du Pas-de-Calais, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France, Plot: Plot 1. Row A. Grave 13.

Lionel had married and his widow was Phyllis Mary Decieco, of Crowborough, Sussex and they had one son.

## **Francis John Duke**



Francis was born in September 1916 to Mr. And Mrs. G. Duke at Tower Street, Launceston. He went to work for Mr. Stanley Parsons as a Baker and Roundsman and was very well known because of this. He was also a member of Launceston's Brotherhood. He married Winnifred Ellacott of Hatherleigh in 1938 at Launceston. He enlisted with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (Princess Louise's) (Regimental No. 5440993) in March 1940 seeing consider-

able service in Ireland before his posting on the continent. He was killed in action on the 24<sup>th</sup> of January 1945. He is Buried at the Venray War Cemetery, Venray, Venray Municipality, Limburg, Netherlands, Plot: III. F. 3.

## **Geoffrey William Geake**

Geoffrey was born in 1913 to Mr and Mrs Lawrence Geake (His Mothers maiden name was Lintern) at Tavistock. By 1942 the family had moved to Duke Street, St. Stephens, Launceston. He enlisted with the Royal Navy serving as an Able Seaman (Service No. D/JX185481). He was serving aboard 'HMS Jupiter' when she was sunk off the north Java coast in the Java Sea on 27 February 1942, at 2116 hours, by a mine laid earlier in the day by the Dutch minelayer *Gouden Leeuw*. Initially, the explosion was thought to be caused by a Japanese torpedo. Geoffrey was killed in the explosion. His body was never recovered but his name is commemorated on the Plymouth Naval Memorial Panel 65 column 1.

## Frank Albert Henry Gillard

Frank was born in 1924 to Frank Hawkins and Alice Maud Brown (nee Bennett) Gillard at Launceston. His Father is listed as being the Master of public assistance institution.

He enlisted with the Royal Navy as a Sick Berth Attendant (Service No. D/MX 111010). He was serving aboard 'HMS Loch Gorm' when he died on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of December 1945.

At the time of his death the family were living at Pages Cross House, Launceston. He is buried at Launceston Cemetery, plot G. G. Grave 161.

### Noah J Goodman

Noah was born in 1925 to Mr and Mrs S. Goodman at Trelawney Terrace, Launceston. His Mothers maiden name was Skitmore. Before the war he had been working for Treleavens outfitters, Southgate Street. He married Ethel Beckett of Knottingly, Yorkshire in 1942 and they had two Daughters, Pat and Sandra and living at 42 Tower Street, Launceston. He enlisted with the Royal Marines (Service No. PLY/X 108680) and died on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 1944 aboard a Gunboat LCS(L).252, which was taking part in operation Infatuate the 'Walcheren Landings' and was lost in battle off the coast of Belgium.

Operation Infatuate was the codename given to an Anglo-Canadian operation during the Second World War to open the port of Antwerp to shipping and relieve logistical constraints. The operation was part of the wider Battle of the Scheldt and involved two assault landings from the sea by the 4th Special Service Brigade and the 52nd (Lowland) Division. At the same time the 2nd Canadian Infantry Division would force a crossing of the Walcheren causeway.

His body was never recovered.

# **Thomas Charles Hawkins**

Thomas was born in 1913 at East Stonehouse, Plymouth. (His Mothers maiden name was Huggins). He was a talented musician being able to play both the Violin and piano proficiently and was always in demand for concerts. He was also a member of the Brotherhood.

He enlisted with the Royal Marines in 1933 (Service No. PLY/X 1028). He was a gunlayer (the person who controls the angle of elevation of a gun), serving aboard 'HMS Neptune'.

On the night of 19 December 1941 the Cruiser 'HMS Neptune' ran into an uncharted minefield in the Mediterranean off Tripoli, and sank with the loss of 764 officers and men. Just one man was rescued by an Italian torpedo boat, after 5 days in the water. Thomas was reported as missing on January 1942 presumed dead. His body was never recovered but his name is commemorated on the Plymouth Naval memorial, Panel 59 Column 3. At the time of his death his mother was living at Hendra, Dunheved Road, Launceston. In his will he left £150 12s. 3d. to Ellen Bray (Wife of Stanley Bray).

### E. R. Harris

No information available.

### **William Alfred Harris**



William was born in 1914. His Mothers maiden name was Ball. He enlisted with the Duke of Cornwalls Light Infantry (Regimental No 5442008) as a Private. He was killed in action whilst attending the wounded at Normandy on the 27<sup>th</sup> of June 1944. His Mother at the time of his death was living at No. 8 Angel Hill and he was residing next door at No 9 with his wife Ethel. He is buried at the Bayeux War Cemetery, Bayeux, Departement du Calvados,

Basse-Normandie, France, Plot: XXIV. E. 16.

# **Cephas Nicholas Harry**

Cephas was born in 1925 to John Robert and Emmeline Florence (nee Nicholas) Harry at Launceston. His Father was a Tailor and outfitter of 6 Westgate Street, Launceston He was a Telegraphist with the Royal Navy (Service No. P/JX 501362) serving aboard During the Second World War Frederick served as Able Seaman D/JX 422876 with His Majesty's Landing Craft Flak 37, a converted landing craft used as an anti aircraft gun platform. On 1st November 1944 the vessel participated in amphibious invasion by Royal Marine and army personnel on the Dutch island of Walcheren (the same operation that Noah Goodman lost his life in), then held by the Germans (Operation Infatuate). During the attack the vessel was lost and many men killed

including Cephas. His body was never recovered but his name is commemorated on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial panel 84 column 3. He left to his Father a sum of £171 4s 6d.

# **Thomas Holman Hender**

Thomas was born in 1907 to Herbert Holman and Alice Mary (nee Finch) Hender at Launceston. The family were a long line of Tanners working at premises in Newport, Launceston. Thomas married Vera Thomas at Camelford in 1934. He was a keen member of the North Cornwall Motor Club and regularly took part in the London to Lands End motor trials held each Easter. Before he joined up he had been a member of the 3<sup>rd</sup> (Castle) Battalion of the Home Guard. He enlisted with the Royal Army Ordnance Corps (Regimental No. 10591508) as a Private. He was killed in action on the 28<sup>th</sup> of October 1944. He is buried at the Eindhoven (Woensel) General Cemetery, Netherlands, grave 197. He left a sum of £14432 16s 7d. to his Widow and Wyndham Finch Hender his elder Brother. At the time of his death his residence was Pennygillam, Launceston.

#### **Gerald Hillman**

Gerald was born in 1920 to Ernest and Mabel Hillman at 22 Westgate Street, Launceston. His Father worked as a Civil Servant. Gerald enlisted with the Royal Navy and served aboard 'HMS Anking' as a Leading Supply Assistant (Service No. D/MX 63628). HMS Anking, was sunk by Japanese gunfire at 06:30 on 4th March 1942, A squadron of Japanese heavy cruisers, led by Admiral Kondo, engaged the convoy containing HMS Anking. The squadron consisted of Atago, Takao and Maya, each armed with ten 8-inch guns, and two destroyers, Arashi and Nowaki. The cruisers opened fire while remaining outside the range of the escorts guns. 'HMS Anking' sank in less than 10 minutes with the loss of one officer and 25 ratings Gerald was one of those that died. His body was never recovered but his name is commemorated on the Plymouth Naval Memorial, panel 71 column 3. He left a sum of £211 18s 9d to his Father Ernest.

# **Coder Reginald Studley Hole**

Coder as he was known, was born in Peverall, Plymouth. He attended Public Central School in Plymouth before moving with his family to 18, St. Thomas Road, Launceston in June 1941 due to the firm that his Father worked for moved from Plymouth to Launceston due to the bombing. He first worked for Shuker and Reed as a clerk before joining the indoor staff of the head office of the Launceston G.P.O. as a temporary S. C. and T. He was a member of the A.T.C and Launceston Brotherhood as well as being a keen footballer.

He joined the Royal Navy in 1944 (Service No. D/JX 731408). The family received official notification that he was missing in April 1945 and later that month it was conformed that he had died on the 20<sup>th</sup> of March 1945 when his ship 'HMS Lapwing' was attacked and sunk by a German U-Boat (<u>U-968</u>). His body was never recovered but his name is commemorated on the Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 94 column 2.

Official records show 158 sailors died on March 20th, 1945, on board the HMS Lapwing, which was just a day's sail from the Russian port of Murmansk when it was torpedoed without warning by the German submarine U-968.

# Roger Walter Hayman

Roger or Walter as he was known, was born in 1883 to John and Jane Hayman at Bradworthy, Devon. Before the first world war he had been a Farm Labourer but then enlisted with the Devonshire Regiment (Regimental No. 7495). He survived the war and with his wife Lilian Marian (nee Hocking) settled to live at 5 Tower Street, Launceston. He was killed by enemy bombing of the Royal Naval Armament Depot at Bull Point, Plymouth on the 29<sup>th</sup> of April 1941 aged 58.

### **Arthur John Jago**

Arthur, or 'Bobby' as he was known, was born in 1924 to Albert and Elsie Irene (nee Callard) Jago at St. Claire, Launceston . His Father was a Postman and Arthur followed into this profession on leaving school. He was a regular attendant of the Launceston Brotherhood and had received two awards for making full attendance for two years. He joined the local Post Office Home Guard before enlisting with the Royal Navy in January 1944 as an Ordinary Seaman (Service No. JX398524). Just five weeks before his death he had come home on leave and many thought he had looked very fit and were very surprised to learn of his death at a Royal Navy Hospital in North Wales on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of May 1944. He was buried at Abererch (ST. CAWRDAF) churchyard, Wales with full military honours.

#### **Archie Edward Jury**

Archie was born in 1911 to Edward and Louisa Jury at Windmill Cottage, Launceston. His Father worked as a Mason. In 1934 he married Elsie May Browning in Launceston. He joined the Royal Navy (Service No. D/KX 79574) as a Leading Stoker serving aboard HM Submarine Tempest. He was killed on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February 1942. He was mentioned in dispatches and although his body was never recovered his name is commemorated on the Plymouth Naval Memorial

HMS Tempest sailed from Malta on the night of 10 February 1942 to patrol the Gulf of Taranto. On the evening of the 11th Tempest was signalled that the Italians were aware of a submarine in her vicinity and that it should be assumed that her patrol had been compromised. On the 13th, Tempest was sighted on the surface by the Italian destroyer Circe. Tempest crash dived and Circe began depth charging the area, eventually resulting in oil being seen on the surface. Tempest's battery tanks had burst filling the boat with chlorine gas and the vessel was forced to surface, whereupon she was hit by gunfire from the Circe. The crew abandoned the submarine, and 23 of the crew of 62 were picked up some 3 hours later by the destroyer. The Italians attempted to board the abandoned vessel but were unable to, due to rough seas. Instead, the Italian destroyer opened fire, scoring more than a dozen direct hits, but failing to sink the Tempest. Finally the Italians attempted to take the submarine in tow. Two members of the destroyer's crew boarded the submarine and prepared the tow. As Circe manoeuvred to take up the tow, Tempest

suddenly started to sink, forcing those on board to jump into the sea. The submarine slipped beneath the waves stern-first, with the bows disappearing vertical.

# **Ronald Phillip Dell Jury**



Ronald was born in 1920 at St. Thomas Road, Launceston to Thomas and Emily (nee Cruch) Jury. In 1942 he married Barbara Joyce Evely at Launceston and they lived at Shooting Park, Race Hill, Launceston. He worked a Gardener for Mr. Peter at Trenance, Launceston and was also a member of the Launceston Cottage Garden Society being very successful at the various shows around the district.

He enlisted as a Bombardier with the Royal Artillery (Regimental No. 997470) serving with the 4th Air landing Anti-tank Battery. He was killed in action on the 24<sup>th</sup> of March 1945. He is buried at the Reichswald Forest War Cemetery, Kleve, Klever Landkreis, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany, Plot: 38. F. 4.

# **Philip Witheridge Manning**

Philip was born in 1914 to Philip John and Anne Ethel (nee Witheridge) Manning at Penzance,

Philip married Freda May Abbott in 1940 at Launceston. He enlisted with the Royal Armoured Corps (Regimental No. 7912029)

11th, Hussars (Prince Albert's Own) as a trooper.

He was killed in action at Sollum,12 kilometres from the Libyan border on the 7<sup>th</sup> of August 1941 and is buried at the Halfaya Sollum War Cemetery, Egypt, Plot: 15. C. 4.

At the time of his death he was listed as residing at No.16 Riversdale Road, West Cross, Mumbles, Swansea. He left a total of £124 3s. 10d. to his wife. His name is also commemorated on the Mumbles war memorial.

#### **John Henry Marks**

John was born in 1911 at Launceston to Edward and Hilda Marks. They lived at Trewarlett Cross. He joined the regular army in the early 1930's serving in India with the Devonshire Regiment as a Lance Corporal (Regimental No. 5616020), before returning to civilian life and marrying Gwendoline F. Dawe at Launceston in 1938. They had two daughters Joy and Shirley and lived at Prockters Place, Launceston. His brother, Bert, was a Corporal in the RAF. As a Reservist he was recalled to the colours before the outbreak of war and was drafted to Malta where he served for three and a half years and came home without a scratch from the terrible blitz that Malta had experienced in the war. He was then sent to Scicily serving with Montgomery's Eighth Army. On Christmas Eve of 1943 he home on leave before joining the preparations for D-Day. Just the following day after his wife received notification of his death a letter arrived from

John telling her that he was quite well and looking forward to coming home on leave. The letter was written on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 1944, just two days before he was killed on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

# Richard Henry Maunder

Richard was born in 1914 to Richard and Jessie (nee Hocking) Maunder of Mount Madford, Launceston. Richard senior was a Rope manufacturer with his father Joseph in what is now Maunder and Sons at Scarne. He enlisted with the RAF serving as a Pilot Officer (Service No. 48170) He was killed in action serving in Egypt on the 21<sup>st</sup> of May 1942. He is buried at the Heliopolis War Cemetery, Cairo,

Al Qahirah, Egypt, Plot: 1. E. 3

### **Stanley Gordan McLaren**



Stanley or Gordon as he was known, was born in 1923 to Stanley George and Lucy McLaren (nee Bickle) at Launceston. He married Marjorie Bickle (who was a Wren) of Chelmsford Street, Silksworth, Durham in 1943 at Tunstall, Durham. Before the war Stanley worked for Pearl Assurance Company.

Gordon joined the RAF as a Flight Sergeant (Service No. 1607034) serving with 140 squadron (Royal Air Force was a Second World War photoreconnaissance squadron that operated between 1941 and 1945). He is listed as

failing to return after an operation on the 14<sup>th</sup> of September 1944. His body was never recovered but his name is commemorated on the Runnymeade memorial in Surrey, panel 220.

# William John Moyse

William was born in 1918 to William and Maud Moyse at Launceston. His Father was a Police Constable. He married and set up home with his wife Mabel, at 2 Western Terrace, Launceston.

He enlisted initially with the Duke of Cornwalls Light Infantry but was transferred to the Royal Engineers (Regimental No. 5438227) serving with the 561 Army Field Company as a Sapper. He was killed in action on the 26th of August 1945. He is buried at the Klagenfurt War Cemetery, Klagenfurt, Carinthia (Kärnten), Austria, plot 1 A 10.

**Charles Wilfred Parish** (the memorial has his initials displayed as G. W.)

Charles was born in 1916 to Eli and Florence Parish at Launceston. He married Laura Mary Davey in 1942 and they set up home at 7 Duke Street, St. Stephens, Launceston. He enlisted with the Durham Light Infantry (Regimental No. 5443235) as a Private. Serving with the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion in Belgium he was killed in action on the 10<sup>th</sup> of September 1944 and is buried at the Geel War cemetery.

In his will he left his effects to the sum of £151 14s. 6d. to his wife.

#### **Selwyn Fernley Parsons**

Selwyn was born in 1914 to John and Beatrice (nee Butler) Parsons at Launceston. His Father was a Farm Labourer living at Hurdongate, Launceston. He enlisted as a Private with the Royal Army Ordnance Corps (Regimental No. 13063156). He died at sea on the 5<sup>th</sup> of July 1941. He is commemorated on the Brookwood (1939-1945) Memorial, Brookwood, Woking Borough, Surrey, Plot: Panel 19, Column 2.

## **Philip Smythe Raddall**

Philip was born in 1921 to Thomas Frederick and Mary S (nee Smythe) Raddall at Launceston. His Father was a Commercial Traveller and the family resided at Southgate Arch, Launceston. Philip enlisted with the RAF as a Sergeant (Air Gunner) (Service No. 646713) serving with 218 (Gold Coast) squadron. He was killed in action on the 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1943 and is buried at the Hanover War Cemetery, Hanover, Lower Saxony, Germany, Plot: Joint grave 12. B. 15-16.

(Niede A series of four major operations against Hanover Over a four week period began on the 22/23<sup>rd</sup>, at the hands of over seven hundred aircraft. It would prove to be a difficult city to hit, and stronger than forecast winds in the target area pushed the marking and bombing onto the south-eastern outskirts, where little damage was inflicted. Two 218 Squadron Stirlings were among the twenty six missing aircraft, and a third crashed in England after struggling home with severe flak damage. The flight engineer and both gunners had abandoned EJ105 over Germany, but one of the gunners failed to survive the descent, while his colleagues were taken prisoner. F/S Duffy managed to regain the Suffolk coast despite an engine fire, but the Stirling crashed soon afterwards, killing those left on board. EF139 was hit by bombs from above, an ever-present risk for the lower flying Stirlings, and crashed in the target area, killing Sgt Spencer and four of his crew. Finally, BK700 also crashed in Germany, and there were no survivors from the crew of P/O Colquhoun).

#### **Richard Thomas Sandercock**

Richard was born on the  $20^{th}$  of August 1908 to Charles and Elsie Sandercock at Launceston. His Father served with the Royal Engineers

(Regimental No. 176725) in Salonika during world war one. Richard married Winifred Kate Duance at Launceston in 1933 and they had one Son Tony and one Daughter Jennifer and lived at 5 St. Thomas Road, Launceston.

He enlisted with his Fathers Regiment the Royal Engineers (Regimental No. 5433982) serving as a Lance Sergeant with 7<sup>th</sup> Bomb Disposal Company. He died on the 30<sup>th</sup> of April 1941. He is buried at Launceston Cemetery ,Plot B. B. Grave 153.

# Fred Sargent

Fred was born in 1902 to Lewis and Ellen (nee Wheeler) Sargent at Launceston. His Father was a Cartman for a Mineral Water Manufacturer. He served his apprenticeship with Mr. Rockey, Butcher of Launceston but left Launceston in 1924. He Married and with his Wife had one Son

and one Daughter. He was already in the Army reserve and joined up at outbreak of War in August 1939.

He enlisted at Portsmouth (where he was living) with the Royal Army Ordnance Corps as a Warrant Officer Class I (Regimental No. 7580190) serving in North Africa and Sicily and was also in the Dunkirk evacuation of 1940. He died in a accident in Italy on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December 1944. He is buried at the Cesena War Cemetery, Cesena, Provincia di Forli, Emilia-Romagna, Italy, Plot: II. G. 7.

### **George Thomas Slade**



George was born in 1916 at Holsworthy to Francis Charles and Gladys Madeline (nee Horwell) Slade of the square, Holsworthy. His father had served with the Devon Regiment in world was one. He first learnt his trade with Messrs Whitlcok of Holsworthy and went on to work for Messrs Prockter and Kent of Launceston. He was married to Sylvia Bant in 1942 at Lawhitton and had been living with his wife at No 4, Higher Cleaverfield, Launceston. They had one daughter. He enlisted with the Wiltshire Regiment (Duke of Edinburgh's) (Regimental No. 5441934) as a

Corporal. He was killed in action in Italy on the 9<sup>th</sup> of May 1944. He is buried at the Beach Head War Cemetery, Anzio, Provincia di Roma, Lazio, Italy, Plot: XIV. G. 4.

In May 1944, the Wiltshire Regiment reached Italy and was placed under the command of 78th Division. The Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry was to support 36th Infantry Brigade, with one squadron in support of each of the brigade's three infantry battalions. In May–June 1944 it took part in the advance on Rome, working its way up in close country between the central mountains and the sea to the west. At one point, 78th Division withdrew but outlying elements of the regiment did not get the message and continued forwards. The Corps HQ diary for 23 June records 'RWY water truck reports Vaiano clear of enemy'.

(George's Brother Sapper Charles Slade of the Royal Engineers was a POW of the Japanese).

#### Eric John Sullock



Eric was born in 1919 to John Thomas and Doris Maud (nee Doney) Sullock at Launceston. His Father worked as an Agricultural Labourer. Prior to the war, Eric worked for Mr. Stanley Robbins, Butcher, of St. Stephens Hill. Eric was highly thought of by customers and his employer who held him with high esteem. He was also a highly regarded member of the Launceston Brotherhood.

He joined the Royal Navy on the 13<sup>th</sup> of June 1940 and became a Leading Steward (Service No. LT/LX 29290) serving with the Royal Navy patrol service aboard 'HM Trawler Bredon'. He died on the 8<sup>th</sup> of February 1943. His body was never recovered but his name Is commemorated on the Lowestoft Naval Memorial panel 13 column 2. His Majesty's Trawler Bredon (Pennant Number T223) was a Hill class naval trawler that served as an anti-submarine escort trawler during the Second World War. She was sunk by U-521 on 8 February 1943 while

off the Canary Islands. Only 2 souls from her complement of 43 survived. Eric's body was never recovered.

# **Cyril Roy Tickle**

Cyril was born in September 1920 to Mr. and Mrs. William Tickle (Mother nee Lane) at Launceston. His Father worked as a Printer. Cyril attended Launceston College and on leaving went to work for a Bank in Exeter. He was a Gunner with the Royal Artillery (Regimental No. 1461340) serving with 151 Battalion, 51 Light AA Regiment. He was reported as being taken prisoner at Dunkirk in October 1940. However it was later confirmed that he had been killed in action on the 26<sup>th</sup> of May 1940. His body was never recovered but his name is commemorated on the Dunkirk Memorial panel 15. He left the sum of £833 6s. 7d to his Father William of 5 Shilson Terrace, Launceston.

#### **Arthur William Thomas**

Arthur was born in 1921 to William and Mabel Thomas at 16 Dutson Terrace, Launceston. Arthur joined the Royal Navy as an Able Seaman

(Service No. D/JX 152278) He was serving aboard 'HMS Furious' when he died on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November 1940. He is buried at Bootle Cemetery.

# **Harold Charles Walters**

Harold was born in 1908 to Henry and Lily Walters at Launceston. His Father was a Postman. He was married to Evelyn May Wakem. He enlisted with the Royal Artillery (Regimental No. 1714625) as a Gunner. He died on the 21<sup>st</sup> of January 1944 after a short illness. He is buried at Launceston Cemetery, Plot H. H. Grave 161.

### **Basil Frederick Percy Bamsey Wingfield**

Basil was born in 1905 at Launceston to Frederick Percy and Lily Ivy (nee Sandercock) Wingfield. He was married to Gwendoline Francis Wingfield and had one Daughter Marlene. He was a Chief Electrical Artificer with the Royal Navy (Service No. D/MX 47709).

He died on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December whilst serving aboard 'HMS Prince of Wales'. His body was never recovered but his name is commemorated on the Plymouth Naval Memorial.

On the 25th ofOctober 1941, Prince of Wales departed for Singapore to join Force Z, a British naval detachment. She docked there on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December with the rest of the force, and at 2:11 on the10th of December Force Z was dispatched to investigate reports of Japanese landing forces at Kuantan. On arriving there they found the reports to be false. At 11:00 that morning Japanese bombers and torpedo aircraft began their assault on Force Z.

In a second attack at 11:30 one torpedo struck Prince of Wales on the port side, wrecking the outer propeller shaft and causing the ship to take on a heavy list. A third torpedo attack developed against HMS Repulse, a Renown-class battlecruiser in Force Z, but she managed to avoid all torpedoes aimed at her.

A fourth attack by torpedo-carrying Type 1 "Bettys" sank Repulse at 12:33. Six aircraft from this wave attacked Prince of Wales, with three of their torpedoes hitting the ship on the starboard side, causing flooding. Finally a 500 kg bomb hit the catapult deck, penetrated through to the main deck and exploded, tearing a gash in the port side of the hull. At 13:15 the order was given to abandon ship and at 13:20 Prince of Wales sank; Vice-Admiral Tom Phillips and Captain John Leach were among the 327 fatalities as was Basil.

Prince of Wales and Repulse were the first capital ships to be sunk solely by air power on the open sea (albeit by land-based rather than carrier-based aircraft), a harbinger of the diminishing role this class of ships was subsequently to play in naval warfare. The wreck lies upside down in 223 feet (68 m) of water, near Kuantan, in the South China Sea.

This concludes those names on Launceston's War memorial below are the men from or had a connection to 'Lanson' that are not on the memorial.

# **Gerald Ivor Callow**



Gerald was born in 1925 to John and Flossie Callow at Langore, St. Stephens. On leaving school he was employed by Messrs. Miller and Son, florists, etc. and later he went to the Admiralty to work. He was a keen sportsman and was well known in singing circles having been a member of the Truscott Methodist Church Choir for some time and was also a valued member of the Sunday School. He had been a prominent member of 1559 Squadron, A.T.C., and the training he received stood him in good stead on joining the R.A.F. as a Air-Gunner (Service No.3032826). He

had just been promoted to Sergeant and had been due to come home on promotion leave just a couple of weeks before he was killed in a flying accident whilst on active service on the night of the 26th of August 1944. He was buried at Truscott Chapel, St. Stephens.

# Altarnun's Fallen from World War One

# **George Trehane Deacon**

# **Reginald Hocken Lashbrook**



Reginald was born in 1921 to John Henry and Lilly (nee Moon) Lashbrook at 7, Tavistock Road, Launceston. His Father worked for the Railways and had been the Station Master at Ashwater Station in 1911.

He enlisted with the Royal Navy as a Sick Berth Attendant (Service No. D/MX 69442) at 'HMS Drake' Devonport. He died on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March 1941 after falling 120 feet at a quarry near Lifton Park. He is buried at Launceston Cemetery, Plot D. D. Grave 153.

<u>Raymond Ancil Rotherham</u> (although his only connection to the town was through him being at Launceston Hospital where he died)

Raymond was born in 1913 t Albert Arthur and Sarah Jane (nee Ancil) Rotherham at Evesham, Worcestershire. He married Iris Elizabeth Lycett in 1938 at Stratford upon Avon.

He had initially enlisted with the Devonshire Regiment but was subsequently transferred to the Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment) (Service No. 5616705) serving with the 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion as a Corporal. He died on the 8<sup>th</sup> of August 1941 at Launceston Hospital and is buried in Launceston Cemetery, Plot H. H. Grave 158.

# **Bob Treleaven**

Bob was born in 1922 to James Horswell (who had served in the first world was with the motorised machine gun corps) and Kathleen Elizabeth (nee Colwill) Treleaven at No 7, Dunheved Road, Launceston. The family ran the successful Outfitters Treleaven's in Southgate Street, Launceston. His Father died in 1939 just after the outbreak of war.

He was a member of the RAF Volunteer Reserve (Service No. 141464) and served as a Aircraftman first class from 1941 in India and Persia. He died at Tehidy Sanatorium after contracting a serious illness in Persia on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March 1946 and is buried at Launceston Cemetery, Plot I.I. Grave 193.

### **Eric Wickett**



Eric was the son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Wickett of the Square and Compass, Tregadillett in 1920. He was serving with the RAF as a corporal when he was killed in an accident in 1943.

George was born in 1883 to John and Eliza Deacon at Rosehill Villa, Altarnun. His Father was a Carpenter. The family moved to live at Chapel Road Cottage, Egloskerry by 1901 and George was working as a Domestic Gardener. The family were living at Killicoff by the 1911 census, but George was now living in Falmouth and working in the Civil Service.

He enlisted with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry 1st Battalion (Regimental No. 7860) serving with 'A' company.

He was killed in Action on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December 1914 by a bullet. He is commemorated at the <u>Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial</u>, Ypres (Ieper), West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium and also on the Egloskerry and Falmouth war memorials.

Extract of a letter to Mrs Deacon from a stretcher bearer of A. Co. 1st DCLI:-

We were all quiet in our trenches (at 2 pm. on December 5<sup>th)</sup> when two shots rang out, and I was called for, to find your son badly hit. I did my best for him but I am sorry to say that he was dead within five minutes from the time he was wounded. We buried George during the night, as it was not safe to do so during the day. You can rest assured that he was buried with a suitable honour for a soldier. We have placed a cross on his grave with a suitable inscription, with his name and regiment in print. Yours very sincerely, TE Bendle.

# **Alfred Hodge**

Alfred was born 1899 to Thomas and Christiana Hodge at Jolls Ground, Trewint, Altarnun. His Father worked as an Ordinary Agricultural Worker. He enlisted at Launceston with the Princess Charlotte of Wales's (Royal Berkshire Regiment) as a Private with the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion (Regimental No. 34703). He was killed in action on the 30<sup>th</sup> of November 1917. His body was never identified but his name is commemorated on the Cambrai Memorial Louverval, Departement du Nord, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France

Plot: Panel 8.

### **William Thomas Jeffery**

William was born in 1889 in Launceston. He enlisted with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry (Regimental No. 26327) serving with the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion. He was killed in action on the 16<sup>th</sup> of August 1917. His body was never identified but his name is commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial. He is also listed on the Roche War Memorial. At the time of his death he had been living at Roche.

### Eli Pethick

Eli was born in 1891 to Joseph and Elizabeth Pethick at Trewint, Altarnun. His Father was a

Manganese Miner in 1891 but by 1901 was working as an Ordinary Agricultural Worker. Eli joined the Royal Navy (Service No. J1209) on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March 1909 on a 12 year service period. He was serving aboard the Submarine 'HMS Maidstone' (D2) as an Able Seaman which was lost in the North Sea on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December 1914.

D2 was built by Vickers, Barrow and was launched on the 25<sup>th</sup> May 1908. D2 put to sea on the 24th, under the command of Lieutenant Commander Head. The submarine failed to return. It is believed that she was sunk on, or around, the 25th of November, following an encounter with a German Torpedo Boat. near Borkum Island, Germany. 26 crewmen killed were killed there were no survivors.

At the time of his death his Parents were residing at 6, Dunnis Terrace, Lower Compton, Plymouth. His body was never recovered and he is commemorated on the Plymouth Naval Memorial, Plot: 2.

### **Charles Shepherd Symons**

Charles was born in 1892 to William and Nora Symons at North Petherwin. His Father was a Farmer.He joined the Devonshire Regiment as a Private (Regimental No. 345310) 5th (P.O.W.) Battalion (Territorials). He was killed in action on the 24<sup>th</sup> of August 1918. His body was never identified but his name is commemorated on the Vis-en-Artois Memorial, Panel 4, British Cemetery, Haucourt, Departement du Pas-de-Calais, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France.At the time of his death his Parents were residing at Woodovis, Tavistock, Devon

#### John Turner

John was in 1879 to John and Thomasine Turner at Webbs Cottage, Hendra, Altarnun. His Father was a Mason. John joined the Royal Navy as a Chief Stoker (Service No. 282625). He was serving aboard 'HMS Dartmouth' when he died on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March 1915. He is also named on the Bolventor war memorial.

# **Thomas Courtice Venning**

Thomas was born in 1879 at Chillaton, Devon to John and Selina Venning. His Father was a Farmer, farming a smallholding at Higher Treween. By 1911 he was working for Henry Michells at Trebullom Farm, Altarnun as a Waggoner. He was a member of the Wesleyan Chapel being

also a Sunday school teacher, and Band of Hope at Altarnun. He enlisted at Launceston with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion (Regimental No 26543). He was killed in action by shell fire at the <u>Battle of Arras</u> on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May 1917 and is buried at the Wancourt British Cemetery, Wancourt, Departement du Pas-de-Calais, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France Plot: I. C. 5.

In 1917the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion fought in The German retreat to the Hindenburg Line, The First and Third Battle of the Scarpe at Arras, The Battle of Langemark and The First and Second Battle of Passchendaele.

The **Battle of Arras** (also known as the Second Battle of Arras) was a British offensive during the First World War. From 9 April to 16 May 1917, British, Canadian, South African, New Zealand, Newfoundland, and Australian troops attacked German defences near the French city of Arras on the Western Front. There were major gains on the first day, followed by stalemate. The battle cost nearly 160,000 British casualties and about 125,000 German casualties.

# **William Warring**

William was born in 1882 to John and Margaret (nee Couch) Warring at Rosemayne Farm, Altarnun. His Father worked for Mr. James Smale as an Agricultural Labourer. At the time of the 1911 census, William was working for Mr. Edward Baker, Trezibbet Farm, Altarnun as a Waggoner. William enlisted at Hilsea, Hampshire with the Dorset Regiment (Regimental No.18403) but was transferred to the Duke of Edinburgh's (Wiltshire Regiment) 2nd Battalion (Regimental No. 26626). He was killed in action on the 9<sup>th</sup> of April 1917 as Thomas Venning above, at the Battle of Arras.

The 2nd Battalion spent the first three months of 1917 around Arras. On the 9th April they took part in the attack on the Hindenburg Line very few men reached the objective and those that did found that the German wire was undamaged. On the 11th April they came out of the line weaker by 16 officers and 363 other ranks.

He is buried at the Neuville-Vitasse Road Cemetery, Neuville-Vitasse, Departement du Pas-de-Calais, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France, Plot: C. 21.

# **Edwin John Whale**

Edwin was born in 1894 to John and Mary (nee Downing) Whale at Penpont, Altarnun. His Father was a Carpenter & Joiner working for himself. On leaving school he went to work as a General Work Domestic for Mr. John Kittow of Tredaule House but in July 1911 he joined the Royal Navy as a Boy Servant, (Service No. L2947) however he contracted syphilis and was invalided out the following year in July 1912. At the age of 19 he emigrated to Canada arriving at Halifax, Nova Scotia aboard the 'Hesperian' on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April 1913. On the18th of February 1916 he enlisted with the Canadian Infantry (Saskatchewan Regiment, Regimental No. 886399) serving with the 28<sup>th</sup> Battalion. On his enlistment form he was showing as working as a Farmer living in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. His sister, Mrs. Mary Jane Downing was listed as his next of kin and his residence as being Shobrooke, Crediton, Devon. He was killed in action on the 21<sup>st</sup> of August 1917 in the Battle for Hill 70.

The **Battle of Hill 70** was a localized battle of World War I between the Canadian Corps and five divisions of the German Sixth Army. The battle took place along the Western Front on the outskirts of Lens in the Nord-Pas-de-Calais region of France between 15 August 1917 and 25 August 1917. The primary objective of the assault was to inflict casualties and draw German troops away from the 3rd Battle of Ypres, rather than to capture territory.

To achieve this objective, the Canadian Corps executed an operation designed to first occupy the high ground at Hill 70 quickly and then establish defensive positions from which combined small arms and artillery fire, some of which used the technique of predicted fire for the first time, could be used to repel German counterattacks and inflict as many casualties as possible. A later attempt by the Canadian Corps to extend its position into the city of Lens itself failed. Both sides suffered high casualty rates and

Lens remained under German control. In both the German and the Canadian assessments of the battle was that it succeeded in its attritional objective.

The battle consisted of extensive use of poison gas by both sides, including the newly introduced German Yellow Cross shell containing the blistering agent sulfur mustard. Ultimately, the goals of the Canadian Corps were only partially accomplished. The Canadians were successful in preventing German formations from transferring local men and equipment to aid in defensive operations in the Ypres Salient but failed to draw in troops from other areas

His body was never identified but he is commemorated on the Vimy Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. He is also remembered on the Shobrooke War Memorial.

#### George Whale

George, the younger Brother of Edwin, was born in 1897 to John and Mary (nee Downing) Whale at Penpont, Altarnun. Both his Parents had passed away by 1911 and he was living with his eldest Sister Mary Downing and her Husband John Downing at the School House, Shobrooke, Crediton. He enlisted at Bodmin initially with the Hampshire Regiment (Regimental No 34059) but was subsequently transferred to the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry 1st Bucks Battalion (Regimental No.33547). He was killed in action in Italy fighting against the Austrians on the 29<sup>th</sup> of October 1918.

At the end of September the British and French Corps were withdrawn to prepare for an offensive on the Piave, leaving only the 48th Division and the 24th French Division on the Plateau to engage the attention of the enemy.

On the night 28th/29th October, the Austrians vacated their front-line system on the Asiago Plateau, and retired to a prepared position 3,000 yards in rear at the foot of the mountains that rose on the northern edge of the Plateau. For three months they had been working on this line in anticipation of the coming winter, and had given it the name of Winter Stellung. The front line thus vacated was at once occupied by the Allied troops, the 48th Division being in the centre, with the 24th French Division on the right, and 20th Italian Division on the left.

He is buried at the Barenthal Military Cemetery, Asiago, Provincia di Vicenza, Veneto, Italy Plot: Plot 2. Row A. Grave 8.

# Altarnun's fallen from World War Two

### Joyce Chapman

The only Joyce that I can find any information on was the daughter of William and Florebce Chapman and she was born in 1931. Along with her parents she was killed presumably by enemy bombing on the 5th of November 1942 whilst living at 1, Mons Cottage, Church Crockham. Her father was a Leading fireman at Fleet fire brigade.

# **Anthony McDiarmid**

Anthony, or Tony as he was known, was born 1919 to Arthur Hallam and Esther McDiarmid at West Farm, Altarnun. He had emigrated in 1939 to Australia from Southampton aboard the 'Moreton Bay' arriving in Sydney. He was listed as being a groom. He enlisted with the AIP serving with the Infantry (Service No. NX31697). On the 22nd of June 1942, some weeks after the fall of Rabaul to the Japanese, a large number of Australian prisoners including Tony were

embarked from Rabaul's port on the SS Montevideo Maru. Unmarked as a POW ship, she was proceeding without escort to the Chinese island of Hainan, when she was sighted by the American submarine USS *Sturgeon* near the northern Philippine coast on the 30th of June. Not realising that the ship was carrying POW's Sturgeon fire four torpedoes which sank the ship in less than 11 minutes. Tony drowned and his body was never recovered.

# **Howard Phillips**



Howard was born in 1923 to William and Elizabeth Phillips at Altarnun. He enlisted with the Queens own Royal West Kent Regiment (Regimental No. 5349383) serving with the 1st Battalion as a Lance Corporal. He was later promoted to Sergeant. He died on the 14th of December 1944 of his wounds sustained whilst fighting in Italy and is buried at St. Nonnas Church, Altarnun.

# **Bolventor's Fallen from World War One**

#### John Bray



John was born in 1894 to Thomas Francis and Ellen Bray at Altarnun. He enlisted with the Dorset Regiment (Regimental No. 19973) serving with the 5th Battalion. He died of his wounds on the 8th of October 1917 whilst in Flanders and is buried at the Dozinghem Military Cemetery, Belgium. At the time of his death his residence was St. Neot.

# **George Albert Hooper**



George was born in 1886 to Thomas and Betsy Hooper at Dewymeads, Bolventor. On leaving school he worked as a Miner at Trevadda Mine. He enlisted in February 1916 at Bodmin with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry as a private (Regimental No. 240883) serving with the 1st and 5th Battalions. He was sent to Bournemouth for training and once there he was transferred to the Cornwall Pioneers Transport division. He finished his training at Falmouth and Tidworth. He embarked for France in May 1916 coming home for fourteen days leave in November 1916. He fought in many heavy battles during his time on the front.

He contracted broncho phenmonia on the 2nd of July 1918 and became seriously ill and died on the 4th of August 1918 at the 54th Casualty Clearing Station. He is buried at the Aire Communal Cemetery, Belgium.

#### **Thomas John Hooper**

Thomas was born in 1890 to Thomas and Fanny Hooper at St. Neot. He enlisted at Liskeard with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry as a private (Regimental No. 202854) serving with the 7th Battalion. He was killed in action on the 10th of September 1917 whilst fighting in Flanders. His body was never identified but his name is commemorated on the Tyne Cot memorial, Belgium. He left a widow Charlotte Jane Hooper.

# **Boyton's Fallen of World War One**

# **Frederick Furse**



Frederick was born in 1895 to Thomas and Ellen Furse (nee Barriball) at Launceston. He was one of 8 children. His Father was an Agricultural Labourer. In 1911 the family were living at Carey Moorgate Cottage, St. Giles on the Heath.

Frederick initially enlisted at Launceston with the D.C.L.I. (Regimental No.15802) but was later transferred to the Princess Victoria's (Royal Irish

Fusiliers) serving with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion (Regimental No. 13661). He served in Egypt and the Dardanelles where he contracted dysentery and rheumatic fever. He was in hospital for 10 months first in Malta the later at Netley Hospital in England. After some r and r at home he returned to his unit in France in June 1916. He was killed in action on the 26<sup>th</sup> of August 1916. He is buried at the Railway Dugouts cemetery, Ypres (Ieper), West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium, Plot: Valley Cottages Cem. Mem. E. 2.

## **Frederick Hicks**

Fred was born in 1894 at Poundstock. On leaving school he went to live with his elder brother, Mr. E. Hicks who was a Blacksmith living in Boyton. He worked at the Vicarage from 1912.

Fred enlisted with the DCLI (Regimental No. 17131) in December 1914 and after a period of training he went to France with the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion in May, 1915. He died of his wounds sustained in battle on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September 1916.

# P. E. Hicks

Enlisted with the Devonshire Regiment as a Lance Corporal serving with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion. He was killed in action on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October 1916. In a letter to a Mrs. Bryan dated the 16<sup>th</sup> of November his commanding officer wrote "*L.Cpl. Hicks went over the top with the Battalion on October 4th he was reported as being 'wounded' but I was not near him at the time and can give no further information, and can find out no definite news about him. He is a thoroughly fine man, and I only hope he is safely in hospital and that his wife has heard from him by now"* 

### **Sidney Lawrence**

Sidney was born at Curry Lane, Boyton in 1892 to William and Grace Lawrence. His Father was an Agricultural Labourer. By 1911 he was working for Mr. Thomas Benoy of Landhillock, Week St Mary as a Waggoner.

He enlisted at St. Columb, Cornwall with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry as a Private (Regimental No. 10295) serving with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion. He probably was already a serving Sol-

dier at the outbreak of War considering that his death occurred so early in the fighting.

He was killed in action on or before the 10<sup>th</sup> of September 1914 at the Battle of Marne. His body was never identified but his name is commemorated on the La Ferte-sous-Jouarre Memorial, La Ferte-sous-Jouarre, Departement de Seine-et-Marne, Île-de-France, France. At time of his death his residence was detailed as being at Week St Mary.

'The Germans' triumphant advance through France was halted, and they were pushed back to the Aisne River, taking up the line which broadly remained the front until early 1918. The Battle of the Marne prevented the Germans from conquering France in the first six months of the War.'

#### **Walter Lawrence**

I believe this to be Walter, the Brother of Sidney above. He was born in 1900 at Boyton. I cannot find any military service information.

# J May

Enlisted with the Devonshire Regiment as a Private (Regimental No. 33297) serving with the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion D company.

# John Metherell

John was born in 1882 to Edward and Caroline Metherell somewhere in Cornwall. In 1891 his Father was farming at Higher Newton Farm, Boyton. I can find no record of his military service.

#### **Claude Richard Parnell**

Claude was born in 1889 to Francis and Honer Parnell at Boyton Bridge, Boyton. His Father was a Farm Labourer but by 1901 was listed as being a Thatcher.

Claude enlisted at Launceston with the Royal Garrison Artillery (Regimental No. 86885) as a Gunner Signaller serving with the 168<sup>th</sup> siege Battalion. He died of his wounds sustained in battle before the armistice. He is buried at the <u>Saint Sever Cemetery Extension</u>, <u>Rouen</u>, <u>Departement de la Seine-Maritime</u>, <u>Haute-Normandie</u>, <u>France</u>, <u>Plot: S. III. CC. 22</u>.

### **Walter Parnell**

Walter was born in 1885 to Robert and Mary Ann (nee Dawe) Parnell at Tallastone, Boyton. His Father was a Farm Labourer. On leaving school, Walter went to work for Mr. John Rowe at Higher Hornacott, Boyton as a Horseman. By 1911 he had moved to Torquay and was boarding with William and Jane Braund at 7 Marchwood Terrace, Mudges Hill, Torquay. His given profession was Jobbing Gardener. He enlisted at Newton Abbott as a Private with the Devonshire The Battle of Broodseinde was fought on 4 October 1917 near Ypres in Flanders, at the east end of the Gheluvelt plateau, by the

damaged ground. The British had to move their artillery forward into the area devastated by shellfire and soaked by the return of heavy rain, restricting the routes on which guns and ammunition could be moved, which presented German artillery with easier targets.

# **Harold John Sleeman**

Harold was born in July 1896 to Frederick and Ann (nee Kinsman) Sleeman at Bradbridge Cottage, Boyton. His Father was a Woodman. He enlisted at Launceston initially as a Private with the Worcester Regiment (Regimental No. 5216) but later transferred to the Princess Charlotte of Wales's (Royal Berkshire Regiment) (Regimental No. 30699) serving with the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion. He was killed on the 29<sup>th</sup> of July 1918 at the **Battle of the Tardenois**.

He is buried at the Südwestfriedhof der Berliner Synode (Berlin South Western Military Cemetery), Stahnsdorf Potsdam-Mittelmarker Landkreis, Brandenburg, Germany, Plot: XX. D. 1.

# **Boyton's Fallen from World War Two**

### **Maurice Sewell Peters**

Maurice was born in 1917 to Charles and Ruth Peters at Launceston, they later moved to The Beeches, Boyton. Maurice enlisted with the DCLI (Regimental No. 5438316)in 1938 serving as a Sergeant. As often was the case during either war, men were transferred to other regiments and this was the case for Maurice as he was seconded to the Force Maritime Regiment of the Royal Artillery. There was a need for qualified men to man the guns on merchant ships and it was in this role that Maurice was employed in doing. His ship that he was serving aboard was lost at sea on Monday the 2nd of November 1942. His body was never recovered but his name is commemorated on the Plymouth Naval Memorial.

#### **Donald Stuart**



Donald was born in 1918 to Major and Mrs. W. J. (nee Ward) Stuart at Plymouth. The family later moved to reside at Floden Tor, Boyton. He enlisted with the DCLI in 1938 but was subsequently transferred to the Somerset Light Infantry serving as a Lieutenant (Regimental No.217367) of the Airborne Division. He was killed in action at Arnhem spearheading the assault under Colonel Snow for control of Arnhem bridge on the 1st of October 1944. He is interred at he Airborne Regiment Cemetery at Oosterbeek

Regiment (Regimental No. 42684) serving with the 1st Battalion.

He was killed in action at the 'Battle of Broodseinde' on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October 1917 aged 33.His body was never identified but his name is commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium. He was residing at Babbacombe, Devon at the time of his death.

The Battle of Broodseinde was fought on 4 October 1917 near Ypres in Flanders, at the east end of the Gheluvelt plateau, by the British Second and Fifth armies and the German Fourth Army. The battle was the most successful Allied attack of the Battle of Passchendaele. Using "bite-and-hold" tactics, with objectives limited to what could be held against German counter-attacks, the British devastated the German defence, which prompted a crisis among the German commanders and caused a severe loss of morale in the German Fourth Army. Preparations were made by the Germans for local withdrawals and planning began for a greater withdrawal, which would entail the loss to the Germans of the Belgian coast, one of the strategic aims of the British offensive. After the period of unsettled but drier weather in September, heavy rain began again on 4 October and affected the remainder of the campaign, working more to the advantage of the German defenders, who were being pushed back on to far less

# Broadwoodwidger's Fallen from World War One

# **Walter Hampton Bridgeman**



Walter was born in 1899 to Richard and Rebecca Bridgeman at Downacary, Broadwood (St. Giles). His father was a farmer and on leaving school Walter worked on his fathers farm. Walter enlisted whilst underage with the Devonshire Regiment (Regimental No. 205160) serving with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion. He rose to the rank of Sergeant. He was killed in action on the 27<sup>th</sup> of May 1918 in France.

#### Frank Burnett



Frank was in born in 1892 to John and Sarah Ann Burnett at Ashwater. His father worked as a gamekeeper. In 1911 he is living with his brother-in-law John Newbery at Ashwater and working as a Timber Sawyer. He enlisted at Devonport joining the Scots Guards (Regimental No. 8578). He soon rose to the rank of Lance Corporal but was killed in action on the 18<sup>th</sup> of December 1914.

# **John Thomas Palmer**



John was eldest of four sons (all four served during the war) born to John and Emma J. Palmer being born in 1891 at Dubbs Cottage, Broadwood. His father was a farm labourer, but died at the age of 30 in 1899. On leaving school John worked as a Farm Labourer. He enlisted with the Devonshire Regiment (Regimental No.3961) serving with the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion. He died whilst serving in India on the 12<sup>th</sup> of April 1916. He is buried at the Kirkee War Cemetery,

Poona, India.

### **Thomas Sleeman**

Tom was born in 1882 to Samuel and Mary Ann Sleeman at Broadwood. His father was a farmer. By 1901 Tom was working for Mr. Alex MacBeth at Fernhill, Broadwood as a Carter. He enlisted at Exeter initially with the Devonshire Regiment (Regimental No. 7701) but was transferred to the Somerset Light Infantry (Prince Albert's) (Regimental No. 8064) as a Corporal serving with the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion.. He was killed in action on the 28<sup>th</sup> of April 1917 in France.

#### William JamesTubb

William was born in 1881 at Colchester. His father was a Colour Sergeant in the 3rd Battalion of the Devonshire Regiment. Enlisted in the Devonshire Regiment 9 June 1898 aged 17 years and 2 months (Regimental No. 5036) serving as a Private with the 1st Battalion. He was killed in action on the 30<sup>th</sup> of October 1914 aged 31. His widowed mother was then living at Ashmill, Broadwood.

# Egloskerry's Fallen from World War One

#### **George Trehane Deacon**



George was born in 1883 to John and Eliza Deacon at Rosehill Villa, Altarnun. His Father was a Carpenter. The family moved to live at Chapel Road Cottage, Egloskerry by 1901 and George was working as a Domestic Gardener. The family were living at Killicoff, Egloskerry by the 1911 census, but George was now living in Falmouth and working in the Civil Service.

He enlisted with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry 1st Battalion (Regimental No. 7860) serving with 'A' company.

He was killed in Action on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December 1914 by a bullet. He is commemorated at the <u>Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial</u>, Ypres (Ieper), West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium.

Extract of a letter to Mrs Deacon from a stretcher bearer of A. Co. 1st DCLI:-

We were all quiet in our trenches (at 2 pm. on December 5<sup>th)</sup> when two shots rang out, and I was called for, to find your son badly hit. I did my best for him but I am sorry to say that he was dead within five minutes from the time he was wounded. We buried George during the night, as it was not safe to do so during the day. You can rest assured that he was buried with a suitable honour for a soldier. We have placed a cross on his grave with a suitable inscription, with his name and regiment in print. Yours very sincerely, TE Bendle.

### **Herbert James Eliott**

Herbert was born in 1895 to John and Mary Elliott at Keywood, Whitstone. His Father was a General Labourer. He enlisted with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry as a private (Regimental No. 240791) serving with the 1/5th Battalion. He died of his wounds at home in Egloskerry on the 15th of June 1918.

#### **Jack Arthur Alfred Evans**

Jack or James as he appears in the official records was born in 1900 to Arthur and Catherine Evans at Great Warley, Essex. His father was a farmers son. He initially enlisted as a Private with the Somerset Light Infantry (Regimental No. 40585) but was transferred to the Princess Charlotte of Wales's (Royal Berkshire Regiment) (Regimental No. 48559) serving with the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion. He was killed whilst attending a wounded soldier on the 25<sup>th</sup> of May 1918.

### **Frank Francis**



Frank was born in 1896 to Fredrick Tanton and Frances Francis (nee Westcott) at Badharlick

Farm, Egloskerry and was the eldest of six children. His Father was a Farmer. Frank went to Horwell Grammar School and on finishing his education he joined his Father working on the farm. In March 1915 he volunteered (enlisting at Teignmouth) to be a Trooper in the Royal 1<sup>st</sup> Devon Yeomanry, being subsequently transferred into the Devon Infantry (Regimental No. 45741). He was sent to France in December 1915. He was killed when a shell landed by his post on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October 1917. His

name is commemorated on the <u>Tyne Cot memorial</u>, Zonnebeke, West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium.

Mr. Tom Banbury, writing to Mr. Francis, said death was due to shock. Unfortunately he was not near and did not see him. He was a great favourite with the Yeomanry boys and was a noble lad in the line, and if anyone had done his bit in this terrible war, he had platton officer, Second Lieutenant F. Wills, writing from a London hospital after expressing sympathy, said Pte. Francis was with him at the time of his death. The whole of his post was knocked out including himself. "Your son was killed instantaneously by the concussion" said the officer" and he was not marked in any way whatever, poor boy. We were all taken by surprise, as things were fairly quiet when the Boche suddenly shelled us. I am ever so sorry. He was a good boy and he was only telling me 'about half an hour before how you had employed a man in his place for whom you had obtained an exemption. Once again I offer my deepest sympathy and hope that you will bear up under the loss of so good a boy".

#### **Maurice Gilbert**

Maurice was born at Tremaine in 1899 to Emmanuel and Tryphena Gilbert (nee Fry). His Father was a Farm Labourer. Maurice enlisted with the Territorial Reserve but transferred as a Private in the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry 7th Battalion (Regimental No 29705 Formerly 8/10124, T. Res. Battalion). He was reported as being missing in March and confirmed as having died of a gunshot wound to the head in August.

From the August 18th Church monthly bulletin:

It is officially reported from Germany, through our War Office, that Maurice died in Hospital on March 30<sup>t</sup> 1918, as the result of a gunshot wound to the head.

There is no known grave for Maurice but his name is commemorated on the Egloskerry War Memorial.

#### **Thomas Penhorwood**

Thomas was born in 1888 at Egloskerry to Lewis and Martha Penhorwood (nee Lundrey). His

Father was an Agricultural Labourer. By 1911, Thomas was a Police Constable boarding with Sgt. Albert Johns and his wife, Evelina at Newquay Police Station house. He enlisted at the outbreak of war in 1914, at Newquay with the Royal Army Medical Corps (Regimental No. 1970) serving with the 25th Field Ambulance. He embarked for France on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November 1914.

Thomas was killed in Action on the 10<sup>th</sup> of May 1915 at Aubers Ridge probably by shell fire in helping retrieve the wounded from no mans land. He is buried at the <u>Sailly-sur-la-Lys Canadian Cemetery</u>, Sailly-sur-la-Lys, Departement du Pas-de-Calais, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France. Plot: II. C. 69.

# Mr. J. Rickard recorded the Battle at Aubers Ridge:

The battle of Aubers Ridge was a British contribution to the Allied spring offensive of 1915. It was fought over the same ground as the battle of Neuve Chapelle, 10-13 March 1915, but failed to achieve even the temporary successes of that battle.

The British attack was to be launched by General Sir Douglas Haig's First Army. It was intended to send in two attacks, to the north and south of Neuve Chapelle, with the hope that the two attacking forces could meet up behind the German front lines. Haig had requested extra artillery to increase the strength of the 40 minute bombardment planned for the morning of 9 May, but all available artillery reserves had been sucked into the fighting at the second battle of Ypres, still raging just to the north.

# Egloskerry's fallen from World War Two

#### **Gavin David Colville**

Gavin was born in 1922 at Chertsey, Surrey to Norman and Marjorie Colville. His father had served in the first World War and owned Penheale Manor and Estate. He enlisted with the RAF as a Sergeant (Service No. 929677) serving with 40 Squadron. He was initially reported as missing but was killed in action on the 2nd of November 1941 whilst fighting at Tripoli, Libya. He is buried in the Municipal cemetery at Tripoli.

# **Laneast's Men that Served in World War One**

# Frank Pethick Ayers (Ayres)



Frank was born in 1896 to Charles Henry and Elizabeth Ann Ayers at Davidstow. His Father was a Farm Labourer and with his wife was a Bible Christian. On leaving school Frank went to work also as a Farm Labourer. He enlisted in November 1915 with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry as a Private (Regimental No. 24020). He arrived in France in the August of 1916. He was killed when a high explosive shell hit his dug out. His body was never identified.

# **Thomas Henry Ayers (Ayres)**

Thomas was the younger brother of Frank being born in 1898 to Charles and Elizabeth Ayers at Churchtown, Tresmeer . His Father was an Agricultural Labourer with the family living at Badgall, Laneast in 1911. He served with the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry.

### **Robert Charles Boreham**

Robert was born in 1896 in London to Robert and Rosina (nee Fairbank) Boreham of 62, Queen's Rd., Plaistow, London. In 1911 he was working as an Indoor Boy for Mr. H. E. Harvey at the Barton, Laneast.

He enlisted at Launceston initially with the Worcestershire Regiment (Regimental No. 5213) but was later transferred to the Machine Gun Corps. (Regimental No.65778) swerving with 202<sup>nd</sup> Company (Formed at Grantham. Joined 59th Division, but moved in March 1917 to 66th Division. Moved into 66 Battalion MGC on 11 March 1918.).

He was killed in action at the Battle of Poelcapelle, a phase of the Third Battle of the Ypres on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October 1917 aged 21.He is buried at the <u>Dochy Farm New British Cemetery</u>, Langemark-Poelkapelle, West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium.

### **George Buckley**

George was born in 1890 at Gunnislake. In the 1911 census he shown as working for Mr. Charles Dawe at Wolleux, Laneast as a Waggoner. He enlisted with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry serving with the 3rd Battalion.

#### C. Bowden

There is no information available except that he was a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant.

# **Matthew Dennis Chapman**

Matthew or Dennis as he was known, was born in 1898 to William and Annie (nee Elizabeth Annie Mules) Chapman at Downend, Laneast. His Father was a Butcher and Farmer although by 1911 he was working as a Registrar.

He enlisted at Launceston with the Somerset Light Infantry (Regimental No. 28252) serving with the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion and the 262 Infantry Battalion. He died of his wounds, possibly sustained in the Battle of the Selle, on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 1918 just 10 days before the armistice, aged 20. He is buried at the <u>Querenaing Communal Cemetery</u>, Querenaing, Departement du Nord, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France.

#### John Coombe

Quite possibly John Coombe who was born in 1880 to John and Grace Coombe as the family were residing in Laneast in 1891. He enlisted at Hayle with the Duke of Cornwalls Light Infantry (Regimental No.24204) serving with the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion. He was killed in action on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March 1918. His body was never identified but his name is commemorated on the <u>Pozieres Memorial</u>, Pozieres, Departement de la Somme, Picardie, France, Plot: Panel 45.

# T Day

No information available except that he served with the Royal Navy.

# J Hawke

There is little information available other than he was a Private with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry and was residing at Midlanes, Laneast at the time of the war.

#### **Claude Harvey**

Claude was born on the 12th of January 1895 to Richard and Emma J. Harvey at Trelaske Barton, Lewannick. His Father was a Agricultural Labourer. On leaving school he first went to work for a Mr. James Richards of Tregrenna Farm, Altarnun as a cowboy but by 1913 he was working as a fitter for East Cornwall Garage Launceston. He enlisted with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry reserve 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion as a Private (Regimental No. 1387) in 1913. He was embodied on the 4<sup>th</sup> of August and was transferred to the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion (Regimental No. 201170) and embarking for India aboard the 'S.S. Caledonia' on the 11<sup>th</sup> of December 1914. On the 17<sup>th</sup> of May 1917 he was transferred to the Machine Gun Corps (Regimental No. 94603) serving with the 260<sup>th</sup> Company. He contacted Malaria in August of 1917 and spent 11 days in hospital. He service for the war was spent in India, predominantly in what is now known as Pakistan. Like so many people in 1918 he contacted Influenza and spent 20 days fight the virus. He embarked for England on the 27<sup>th</sup> of October 1919 and was de-mobbed on the 24<sup>th</sup> of January 1920. At that time he was shown as residing at Trewithey, North Hill but in 1924 he is living at

Landue Barton, Lezant. He possibly was married twice, once in 1926 to Winnifred Landry and again in 1932 to Elsie Northey. He died in 1979.

# Frederick Jenkin

Fred was born in 1881 to George and Mary Jenkin at Pipers Pool. His Father was a Carpenter.

In 1911 he was living at Trekenner, Laneast with his Siblings Issac, Percy, Mable, and Anna and working as a Farmer and Carpenter. On the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1914 he married Laura Treglown at Newquay.

He enlisted at Launceston on the 29<sup>th</sup> of February 1916 with the Royal Engineers 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion Tank Corps. (Regimental No. 307360). He was then posted to Army Reserve on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 1917 and it wasn't until 9<sup>th</sup> of June 1917 that he first joined for duty. He arrived in France on the 8th of July 1918 where he saw his first action. He survived the War and was discharged on the 1<sup>st</sup> of February 1919.

# John Edward Baron Lethbridge

John was born on the 7<sup>th</sup> of February 1891 to Edward and Ada Lethbridge at Tregeare House, Tregeare. His Father was a Justice of the Peace in Launceston and also a large landowner. He joined the Devon Yeomanry and achieved the rank of Major. He survived the war and lived until 1972.

# James Christopher Baron Lethbridge

James (Brother of John above) was born on the 7<sup>th</sup> of February 1894 to Edward and Ada Lethbridge at Tregeare House, Tregeare. His Father was a Justice of the Peace in Launceston and also a large landowner. He enlisted with the 1<sup>st</sup> Devon Yeomanry serving as a Lieutenant and then with 20 Hussars serving as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant fighting in Egypt. He survived the war and eventually achieved the rank of Major. He died in December 1980.

#### H Parnell

There is no information available.

# **George Wesley Penhale**

George was born on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1895 William and Anna Maria (nee Nottle) Penhale at Trespearne, Laneast. On leaving school George worked at home on his Fathers farm.

There is very little information of George's military career other than he enlisted with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry as a private (Regimental No. 34705).

In December 1919 he married Clara Lilian Chapman at Launceston and the two children one, a

Son, George D Penhale dying at only 3 months old in 1922. George died at Tavistock on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April 1972 at the age of 76.

# **William Owen Nottle Penhale**

William was born on the 13<sup>th</sup> of August 1893 to William and Anna Maria (nee Nottle) Penhale at Trespearne, Laneast (he was George's elder brother). William enlisted as a Private with the Royal 1<sup>st</sup> Devon Yeomanry (Regimental No. 1999) on a 5 year service period. The best part of his career was spent in this country although from the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September to the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April 1916 he saw service at Gallipoli. He returned back to England via Alexandria, Egypt and was demobilised on the 27<sup>th</sup> of April 1916 having fulfilled his 5 year contract of service. Although he was liable for a recall at any time during the war, he never saw service again and continued working on his Fathers farm. In 1916 he married Mabel Ann Higgins at Camelford and they had three children. William died in 1974 at Launceston.

# **Albert A Pethick**

Albert was born in 1892 to Job Frank and Eliza (Nee Thomas) Pethick at Badgall, Tresmeer. His Father was an Agricultural Labourer. On leaving school, Albert worked as a Waggoner on a Farm but in 1914 was working for the London and South West Railway as a Plate Layer working out of Tresmeer.

He enlisted at Launceston in 1914 with the Duke of Cornwalls Light Infantry as a Private (Regimental No. 24462) serving with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion. He was killed in action at the 'Battle of Arras' on the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 1917. His body was never identified but his name is commemorated on the Arras Memorial at Faubourg-D'Amiens Cemetery, Arras.

The Battle of Arras (also known as the Second Battle of Arras) was a British offensive during the First World War. From 9 April to 16 May 1917, British, Canadian, South African, New Zealand, Newfoundland, and Australian troops attacked German defences near the French city of Arras on the Western Front. There were major gains on the first day, followed by stalemate. The battle cost nearly 160,000 British casualties and about 125,000 German casualties.

#### W Stephens

There is no information available.

# **George Venning**

George was born in 1885 at Week St Mary to George and Elizabeth Venning. His Father was an Agricultural Labourer. On leaving school, George went to work at Tregunnon Farm, Altarnun for Mr. Henry Herring as a Carter. He married Alice and in 1911 they were living at Badgall with their new born Son Alfred J. Venning with George working as a Farm Labourer. He enlisted at Launceston on the 11<sup>th</sup> of December 1915 initially with the Royal Berkshire Regi-

(Regimental No. 95800) and lastly to the Middlesex Regiment (Regimental G/52637) serving with the 5th Battalion 160th Late Company. He was demobilised as not being fit for war work on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March 1919 after spending 28 days in hospital.

# **Laneast's Men that Served in World War Two**

# W. Hutchings

No information available.

# **Thomas John Sleep**

Thomas was born in 1907 to Thomas and Annie Sleep at Egloskerry. His father was a Farm Labourer and in 1911 the family were living at Halwill Cottage, Davidstow. There is no further information available.

# Leslie J. M. Sleep

Leslie was born in October 1914 at Launceston, his mothers maiden name was Morris. He married Stella Davey in 1948 also at Launceston. There is no further information available.

# The First World War in Lewannick

(Thanks to Sally Hewitt whose research this is based on)



# **ERIC A. BENNETTS**

Sub Lieutenant, Royal Naval Air Service.

Son of Rev. Bennetts (vicar to 1914), spent childhood in Lewannick.

Came back from parents in S. Africa in spring 1916 to join flying corps.

September 1917 - reported missing, fallen with plane behind German lines. Plane rammed by another British aeroplane. February 1918 - death confirmed.

26/2/18 service of commemoration. (Trigg Major magazine)

Floral tribute - "In loving memory of dear Eric from Commander & Mrs Watts Russel. From all at Pen Tamar."

Floral tribute - "In proud & loving memory of Eric & those who fell in the Great War from this Parish. Mrs & Miss Bennetts of Lifton."

Floral tribute - "In proud & loving memory of Eric Augustine Bennetts & all those who from this Parish fell in the Great War, from Rev. & Mrs W.T. Bennetts.

#### **William Frederick Bettess**

William was born in 1889 to Cecilia Bettess at Trewen. In 1911 he is living with his mother and stepfather Joseph Congdon at Polyphant and working as a Stonemason. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April 1912 he married Emma J Maunder at Lewannick and they set up home at Bovey Tracey, Devon. Working then as a Gardener. He enlisted at Newton Abbot with the Devonshire Regiment (Regimental No. 315012) as a Lance Corporal but was later transferred to the Wiltshire Regiment (Duke of Edinburgh's) (Regimental No. 203106). He was killed in action on the 27<sup>th</sup> of October 1917. He is buried at the Torreken Farm Cemetery, Belgium. His wife had moved to Bathpool by the time of his death.

# **John Thomas Brown**

There is no information available as to when or where John was born the only that he served with the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Devon Regiment as a Sergeant.

Floral tributes -"In loving memory of dear cousin J. T. Brown from Ellen."

"In loving memory of Dad from Beatie."

"In loving memory of John Thomas Brown, 8th Devon Regt, from his loving wife Jane Brown."

### **Ernest Cox**

Ernest was born in 1895 at Kings Cross, London. Came to Cornwall after leaving school and in

1911 he was working for Mr. James Daniel at Trelaske Barton, Lewannick as a 'Boy of all Work'. He was a regular with the United Methodist Church. He was one of the first to volunteer at the first recruiting meeting held in the schoolroom at Lewannick. Enlisted with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry as a Private (Regimental No. 200809) serving with the 1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Battalions. He served initially in India and then Palestine where he was killed in action on Thursday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November 1917. He is buried at the Jerusalem war cemetery. He had been engaged to be married.

# **Alfred Henry Dawe**

Alfred was born in 1895 to Joseph and Emily Dawe at Trevadlock, Lewannick. His father was a farmer in Trevadlock. In 1901 the family are living in Wyddial Bury, Wyddial, Royston, Hertfordshire. On leaving Leys school Alfred went to University at Cambridge to study science. He enlisted with the King's Royal Rifle Corps and was acting 2nd Lieutenant. On the 11<sup>th</sup> of April 1917 he was leading his company as acting Captain and, with another company, succeeded in taking a strongly fortified village. He then went forward to select a suitable spot on which to consolidate their position when he was killed instantaneously. He was serving with the 13<sup>th</sup> Battalion at the time. His body was never identified but his name is commemorated on the Arras Memorial Bay 7. He was the nephew of Elizabeth and Jane Dawe of Trevadlock who gave the land for the War Memorial in Lewannick.

# **Harry Down**

Harry was born in 1898 at St. Issey to George and Elizabeth Down. His father was a Horseman working for Mr. George Venning at Upton Barton in 1901 but by 1911 they had moved to Tinney Hall where George worked as a Farm Labourer. The family were United Methodists. He enlisted as a Private at Launceston on the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1916 initially with the Devonshire Yeomanry (Regimental No. 220287) 3<sup>rd</sup>/1<sup>st</sup> Battalion before transferring to the Cheshire Regiment (Regimental No. 72165) on the 12<sup>th</sup> of April 1918. He served with the 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion in France and was reported missing on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May 1918. On the 9<sup>th</sup> of September it was confirmed that he had been that in all probability killed in action or died of wounds on or soon after May 31st, 1918 by Major Hodrington. He is buried at the Chambrecy British Cemetery, Morne, France. Grave I E 7

Floral tribute - "In loving memory of dear Harry from his loving Father, Mother, brother & sisters."

## **Charles Wilfred Eales**

Charles was born in 1893 to the Rev. Henry William Eales and his wife at Durham. His father was the Vicar of Lewannick. He attended Weymouth College before taking up an apprentice-ship in Electrical Engineering. He enlisted with the Devonshire Regiment Royal engineers as a Lieutenant rising to 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant. He was killed in action near Cambrai as his unit were attempting to break the Hindenburg Line near the Canal du Nord on the 27<sup>th</sup> of September 1918.

# Frank Jasper

Frank enlisted with the 1st Battalion of the Worcestershire Regiment (Regimental No. 36436) as a Private. He died on the 4<sup>th</sup> of March 1917. His body was never identified but his name is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France Pier and Face 5 A and 6 c.

#### **Thomas Kent**

Thomas was born in 1888 to John Wills and Mary Jane Kent at Higher Trevell, Lewannick. His father was a Agricultural Labourer. Thomas enlisted with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry as a Private (Regimental No. 240906) serving with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion. He died on Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup> of November 1917 and is buried at Trevadlock Cross Wesleyan Chapelyard.

Interred Floral tribute - "In ever loving memory of dear Tommy, from Father, Mother, Will and Annie."

# **Maurice Blandford Lock**

Maurice was born in 1894 to James and Emma Lock at Milverton, Somerset. His father was a Domestic Coachman working for Hannah Wrangham of Bowden Derra, Polyphant. He enlisted as a Private in March 1915 with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry but was attached to the Hampshire Regiment when he embarked with his unit in December 1915 for Mesopatania. He died of fever in Basra, Mesopatania, aged 23.

#### Samuel Marks

Samuel was born in 1897 to John and Mary Marks at St.Stephens, Launceston. His Father was a Wood Ranger (Woodman). They moved to Hurdon Down in 1901 where the family settled. By 1911 Samuel was joined by 4 Brothers and 1 Sister.

He enlisted with Devonshire's at first (3rd Devon Bte 4th Wessex Bde) at Tavistock in 1914 but had transferred to the Royal Field Artillery by 1916 as a Driver (Regimental No 1300). He died of his wounds on the 24th August 1916 at Salonika, Greece. And is buried at the MIKRA BRITISH CEMETERY, KALAMARIA, Grave ref 1666

### John Martyn

John was born in 1891 at Lewannick to William and Annie Martyn. His father was the Postmaster and Groucer for the village. Educated at Lewannick and Shebbear College, he then worked for four years in Weston-Super-Mare with Messrs T. Salisbury and Sons . He then went to London and worked in the warehouse of Messrs Cook, Son and Co. St. Paul's Churchyard. Volunteered in Aug 1914 but rejected because of dental problems. In November 1914 he

was accepted for foreign service with the London Regiment (Regimental No. 820419) serving with the 1st and 6th Battalions after 18 months training and duty on E. coast then rejected because of varicose veins . Had operation in Colchester Military Hosp & left for foreign service on the  $19^{th}$  of May 1917

Died of wounds received in Belgium (Trigg Major magazine September 1917). Date of death 14/8/1917. 1891 census -

Floral tribute - "To our dear John, ever fondly remembered by Father, Mother, Ethel, Walter & Annie."

### **Sydney Perry**

Sydney was born in 1895 at Trewinnoe Farm, Lewannick. It appears that he could have been orphaned as he was living with Francis and Susan Mitchell at Millpool fram, Linkinhorne from the age of 5 onwards. He enlisted with the Duke of Cornwalls Light Infantry as a Private (Regimental No. 17268) serving with the 1st Battalion. He died of his wounds sustained in battle on the 21st of July 1916 at the age of 21.

#### William Rowe

William was born in 1896 to John and Eliza Rowe at Lowednack, St. Ives. His father was a farmer living at Dingleys farm, Lewannick. On leaving school William worked at home with his father. He enlisted with the Oxford & Bucks Light Infantry as a Private (Regimental No. 266915) serving with the 1/1st Bucks Battalion. He embarked for France on the 13<sup>th</sup> of August 1915 and was wounded in battle 10 days later. He recovered but was reported as missing eventually being confirmed as being killed in action on Wednesday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August 1916. His body was never identified but his name is commemorated on the Thiepval memorial.

# Lewannick's Fallen from World War Two

### Reginald E. C. Kirrage

Reginald was born in 1914 at Lambeth, London. His Mothers maiden name was Wayman. Reginald married Celia Russell at Elham, Kent in 1939. He enlisted with the Duk of Cornwall's Light Infantry as a Sergeant (Regimental No. 5436439). He was killed in action on the 18th of April 1943 whilst serving in North Africa.

# Lawhitton's Fallen from World War One

# **Thomas Coombe**

Thomas was born on the 17<sup>th</sup> of May 1895 to John and Betsy Coombe in Lawhitton Village. His Father was a Carpenter. On leaving school, Thomas went to work for Mr. Thomas Weeks at Sheers Barton, Lawhitton as a Farm Labourer. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February 1914 he joined the Royal Navy as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Stoker (Service No. K.22023) for a 12 year service period. On the 30<sup>th</sup> of July he was posted to 'HMS Monmouth'.

Thomas drowned when the Monmouth was sunk at the <u>Battle of Coronel</u> with no survivors on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 1914. His body was never recovered.

HMS Monmouth and HMS Good Hope; Monmouth was the lead ship of a class of armoured cruisers of 9,800 tons. They were sunk in the Battle of Coronel in 1914. Built in 1901; armed with 14 – 6 inch quick-firing guns – served in the China Station 1906-1913; sent to Reserve Fleet in January 1914: sent to 4<sup>th</sup> Cruiser Squadron (West Indian Squadron – Admiral Christopher Cradock. The Battle of Coronel, off the coast of Chile, 1 November, 1914; outdated, inexperienced crew, quickly overwhelmed, Monmouth was hit by a \*.2 inch shell from SMS Gneisenau, which penetrated the thin armour of the forward gun-turret causing a huge fire and great damage forward; more serious hits and put out of action. The Gneisenau then turned its attention to the Good Hope. The Monmouth was then attacked by the newly arrived light cruiser SMS Nurmberg (Kapitan zur See Karl von Schonberg) which fired seventy-five 4.1 inch shells at close range. Monmouth and Good Hope were both sunk with a combined loss of 1,570 lives. No survivors from either ship. {Jim Edwards}.

His name is commemorated on the Plymouth Naval Memorial.

### **William Earle MARTIN**

William was born in 1880 at Wishworthy, Lawhitton, Launceston to Elizabeth Martin. There is no information prior to the 1901 census so there are no details on his Father except that he had died prior to 1901. William worked on the family farm at Wishworthy from leaving school. He first joined the Suffolk Regiment (Regimental No 28956) enlisting at Torquay in December 1915, but transferred to The Royal Engineers Pioneer Corps (Regimental No 358567) He died of his wounds on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1918 sustained in action on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April.

#### William John Thomas

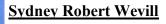
William was born in 1894 to Alfred and Bessie Thomas at 2 Greystone Bridge Cottage Dunterton, Devon. His Father was a Stone Quarryman, possibly at Greystone Quarry, and trade that William took up on leaving school. In 1911 the family were living at Gaddiford, Lawhitton. He enlisted at Launceston with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry (Regimental No. 23493) serving with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion. He was killed in action on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October 1917.

### **Edgar VOSPER**

Edgar was born in 1893 to Charles and Emma Vosper at Banham, Launceston. His Father was a farmer and Butcher which was a trade that Edgar took up on leaving school. He joined the Royal 1st Devon Yeomanry (Hussars) as a Private (Regimental No. 2486). He died of dysentery in Egypt on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of November 1915. He is buried at the Alexandria (Chatby) Military Cemetery, Alexandria

Al Iskandariyah, Egypt, Plot: B. 133.

# Lawhitton's Fallen from World War Two



Sydney was born in 1924 to Frederick and Edith Wevill at the Village, Lawhitton. Bob as he was known, after leaving school served his apprenticeship at Messrs. Prouts Garage, Launceston. Before the war he was a regular bell ringer at Lawhitton church. He was a member of the A.T.C. and also the Lawhitton Homeguard before he joined up with the Royal Navy in 1942 as a Leading Motor Mechanic (Service No. P/MX 98286). He was wounded whilst serving aboard the 'HM Mo-

tor Torpedo Boat 439' just off the Dutch coast in the autumn of 1943. (The boat along with others was on an anti E Boat patrol to seaward of the east coast convoy route.) He was taken to hospital in Uxbridge but died of his wounds on the 27th of January 1944 at the age of 20. He was buried a week later at Lawhitton parish church.

# **Lezant's Fallen from World War One**

With thanks to Paula & Dave Kennington 2008 and Jim Edwards

# **Samuel Lee Abbott**

Samuel was born on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1892 at Launceston to Alfred and Mary Jane Abbott. His Father was a Blacksmith moving the family from Rilla Mill in 1901 to Wooda Bridge, Lezant in 1911. Samuel first started work as a General Labourer, but obviously learnt his Fathers trade. He emigrated to Canada in 1912 arriving in Maine on the 12<sup>th</sup> April aboard the 'Ascania'. He worked as a Blacksmith for a couple of years before enlisting on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September 1914 at Valcartier, Canada with the 10th Battalion, Canadian Infantry (Alberta Regiment (Listed as Canadian Forestry Corps on memorial), (Regimental No. 19837). Passed fit 5th September 1914, enlisted Height 5 feet 5½ inches, girth 35 inches, complexion dark, eyes grey, hair dark brown; He was a Wesleyan. He died (possibly through illness) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December 1918 ages 26 and is buried at St. Briochus Church Lezant.

#### **Leonard Heywood Bray**

Leonard was born in 1894 to Thomas and Emma Bray at Landue Mill, Lezant. His Father was a Agricultural Worker. By 1911 Thomas had passed away and the family had moved to Tredown Cottages, Lezant with Leonard working as a Farm Labourer. He enlisted at Holsworthy with the Royal North Devon Hussars Yeomanry as a Private (Regimental No. 930) At the time he was residing at Beaworthy, Devon. He was killed in action at Gallipoli, Turkey on the 29<sup>th</sup> of April 1915 aged 22. He is buried in the GREEN HILL CEMETERY, Turkey. Plot I. Row A. Grave 19.

# **Thomas Charles Budge**

Thomas was born in April 1897 to Harry and Jane Budge at Lezant. (Listed as Charles Thomas on the memorial) Private 20872, 1/6th Battalion, Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry. Killed in action 19th October 1917. No known grave. Commemorated on TYNE COT MEMORIAL, Zonnebeke, West-Vlaanderen, Belgum. Panel 80 to 82 and 163A.

# **Henry Doney**



Henry was born on the 27<sup>th</sup> of July 1892 in California, USA to Harry and Bessie Doney. His Father was a Fruit Grower at Chilsworthy in 1901, but by 1911 was Dairy Farming at Treburley with Henry working on the farm. In 1913 Henry emigrated to Canada, arriving in Halifax, Nova Scotia aboard the 'Royal Edward' on the 8th April 1913. He enlisted on the 9<sup>th</sup> of January 1915 at Edmonton, Alberta, Canada as a Sergeant with the Canadian Infantry (Alberta Regiment 432571) 49<sup>th</sup>

Battalion. He was killed by a shell explosion when leading his men into an attack in the vicinity of Passchendaele on the 30<sup>th</sup> of October 1917.He is buried at the Poelcapelle British Cemetery, Langemark-Poelkapelle, West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium, Plot: IX. E. 11.

#### William T Hodges

William was born in 1878. He was married to Beatrice Hodge and they resided at Devonport, Plymouth. William was a Leading Seaman with the Royal Navy (Service No. 186532) and was serving aboard 'HMS Nymph' when he fell ill and died on the 31<sup>st</sup> of October 1915. He is buried at the Ford Park Cemetery, Plymouth.

#### **Ernest Jasper**

Ernest was born in 1893 at Ruses Mill, Lezant to John (Barber) and Mary Jasper. He worked as a Waggoner and horseman for his stepbrother Thomas Jasper who was the miller at Ruses Mill. Ernest would have been conscripted in late 1916 and reported for training with his training unit the Hampshire Regiment 13th (Service) Battalion as a Private 8/4864. Ernest fell ill during his training and was admitted to the Red Cross hospital at Littleham, Exmouth. Ernest's illness of broncho pneumonia was aggravated by measles and he passed away on the 28th February 1917.

He is buried at the Wesleyan Chapel, Coads Green.

#### **Wilfred Lane**

Wilfred was born on the 23rd of March 1893 at No 4 Roundhill Coattage Lezant. Son of Charles and Annie Lane, of Lezant Cornwall. His Father was an Agricultural Labourer. By 1911 Wilfred was working for Mr. Albert Evans at Undertown Farm, Lezant as a Waggoner. He emigrated to Canada in 1913 at the same time as Henry Doney, arriving in Halifax, Nova Scotia on the 8<sup>th</sup> of April 1913. He was a Farmer by trade. He enlisted and passed fit on the 13<sup>th</sup> of September 1915 at Winipeg, Manitoba, Canada as a Private (Regimental No 82977)3 with the 44th Battalion, Canadian Infantry (New Brunswick Regiment). Height 5 feet 2½ inches, girth 35 inches, complexion medium, eyes blue, hair brown; Methodist.

He had been reported as missing but it was confirmed that he had been killed in action on the 3rd of June 1917 aged 24. He is buried in LA CHAUDIERE MILITARY CEMETERY, VIMY, Pas de Calais, France. Plot V. Row B. Grave 13.

#### Walter Lee

Walter was born on the 13<sup>th</sup> of December 1894 at Abbotsham, Bideford to Samuel and Emily (nee Glover) Lee. His Father was an Agricultural Labourer and moved his family around to where he could find the work. By 1911 the family are residing at Watergate, St. Mellion and Walter is working as a Labourer working in a fruit garden. The family moved again around 1914, having been living at the Sportsmans Arms at Treburley to Lower Larrick, Lezant.

Walter joined the Royal Navy as a Stoker 1st Class (Service No. K/16772) on the 13<sup>th</sup> of November 1912 for a 12 year service period. After his initial training he joined the crew of 'HMS Indefatigable' on the 17<sup>th</sup> of June 1913. The Indefatigable was sunk during the Battle of Jutland and he died on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May 1916 aged 20. No known grave. Commemorated on PLY-MOUTH NAVAL MEMORIAL, Devon. Panel 16.

Indefatigable was sunk on 31 May 1916 during the Battle of Jutland, the largest naval battle of the war. Part of Vice-Admiral Sir David Beatty's Battlecruiser Fleet, she was hit several times in the first minutes of the "Run to the South", the opening phase of the battlecruiser action. Shells from the German battlecruiser Von der Tann caused an explosion ripping a hole in her hull, and a second explosion hurled large pieces of the ship 200 feet (60 m) in the air. Only two of the crew of 1,019 survived.

## William Osborne

William was born in 1897 to Thomas and Emma Osborne at Lawhitton. His Father was a Carpenter working on his own account. On leaving school, William went to work for Mr. John Wills of Trelinnoe Farm, South Petherwin as a Farm worker. He enlisted at Bodmin with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry as a Private (Regimental No.240696) serving with the 1st/5th Battalion. He was killed in action during the German spring offensive at the Somme on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March 1918 aged 21. At the time of his death his Parents were residing at Penscombe

He is buried at the Wesleyan Chapel, Coads Green.

#### **Charles Roberts**



Charles was born in 1886 to George Henry and Henrietta Roberts at Newbridge Inn, Lezant. His Father was a Carpenter working on his own account. On leaving school, Charles worked for his Father as a Carpenter's Apprentice. By 1911 he is still living with his parents at Wooda Bridge, Lezant and working as a Carpenter and Wheelwright. He enlisted at Launceston with the Royal Army Service Corps. (Regimental No.TS/10556) on the 5<sup>th</sup> of January 1916 serving with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Depot Company as a Wheeler. Whilst beginning his service at Woolwich he caught cerebrospinal fever and was admitted to the Royal

Herbert Hospital on the 9<sup>th</sup> of April. He never recovered and died on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April 1916 aged 30. He is buried at the Greenwich Cemetery, London.

#### **Elias Sanders MM**



Elias was born in 1895 to George and Mary Sanders at Wooda Bridge, Lezant. (The family were next door neighbours to Charles Roberts above). His Father worked as a General Agricultural Labourer. On leaving school, Elias went to work for Mr. Thomas Bickell at Hexworthy Farm, Lawhitton as a Farm Labourer. He initially enlisted at Launceston with the Royal Field Artillery (Regimental No.164212) but was later transferred to the Yorkshire Hussars (Alexandra, Princes of Wales' Own) as a Private (Regimental No. 42460) serving with the 9<sup>th</sup> Battal-

ion. He was awarded the Military Medal. He was killed in action on the 20<sup>th</sup> of September 1917. His body was never identified but his name is commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Panel 52 to 54 and 162A.

#### **John Steed**

John was born in 1886 to Thomas and Elizabeth Steed at Trekenner, Lezant. His Father was an Agricultural Labourer. On leaving school, John went to work for Mr. Richard Martyn at the Glebe Farm, Lezant as a Farm Worker. By 1911 he was working for his Father on the family's farm at Pengloss, Treburley. John enlisted at Launceston with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry as a Private (Regimental No. 240943) serving with the1st Battalion. He was killed in action on 22nd the September 1918 aged 32. His body was never identified but his name is commemorated on theVIS-EN-ARTOIS MEMORIAL, Pas de Calais, France. Panel 6.

#### Lezant's Fallen from World War Two

## Richard Haig

Richard was born in 1902 to Robert Haig and his wife. Richard joined the Royal Navy as a stoker (Service No D/K 65336). He eventually made Leading Stoker. It was whilst serving at 'HMS Cochrane II' (HMS Cochrane II was the Rosythe supply and accounting base for tenders between 1940 and 1945) that he died on the 4th of June 1941. He left a widow Amy.

## Percy John Rowe

Percy was born in 1910 to Edward and Edith Rowe at Lezant. His father was a General Carpenter and the family lived at Tredown Cottages, Lezant. Percy joined the Royal Navy as an Able Seaman (Service No. D/JX 128324). It was whilst serving aboard 'HMS Prince of Wales' that Percy lost his life. The Japanese had landed in northern Malaya. *Prince of Wales, Repulse* and four destroyers were sent to attack the invasion force. After finding no targets, the British ships were returning to Singapore when, late in the morning of the 10th of December, they were attacked by a strong force of Japanese high-level bombers and torpedo planes. With no friendly planes to protect them, both heavy ships were hit several times. *Repulse* sank at about 1230. *Prince of Wales* capsized and followed her to the bottom less than an hour later. His body was never recovered but his name is commemorated on the Plymouth Naval memorial.

# Lifton's Fallen from World War One

(with thanks to the Devon Heritage org)

## **William Gimblett**

15177 Private William John Gimblett of the 8th Battalion, the Somerset Light Infantry; formerly 15599 of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry. Son of William and Mary Jane Gimblett of Launceston. Born in Launceston, Cornwall in 1891. Died 6 July 1916 aged 25.

## **Albert Gloyne**



30559 Private Albert Gloyne of the 2nd Battalion, the Devonshire Regiment. Son of William and Mary Gloyne. Born in Hennock in 1891. Died 24 July 1917 aged 26.

## **Samuel Higgins**

20914 Acting Corporal Samuel Higgins of the 1st Battalion, the Devonshire Regiment. Son of Samuel and Ann Higgins. Born in Lifton in 1894. Died 23 April 1917 aged 23.

#### H. Jackson

Merchant Marine Apprentice aboard SS Treveal (St Ives). Son of the late Isaac and Ellen Jackson. Born in Lifton in 1898. Died 4 February 1918 aged 20 when SS. Treveal was sunk by Uboat Hans Rose.

#### John Jordan

46072 Private John Thomas Jordan of the Machine Gun Corps. Son of George and Florence Jordan. Born in Lifton in 1886. Died 5 May 1917. Was the local baker.

#### **Richard Nelson Bendyshe**

Lt-Col Richard Nelson Bendyshe of the Royal Marine Light Infantry, Commanding officer of Deal Battalion, RN Division. Son of Nelson and Charlotte Bendyshe; husband of Eleanor Bendyshe. Born in Ontario CA 18 January 1866. Died 1 May 1915 aged 49 under terrible circumstances.

He and his 2<sup>nd</sup> in command were going along the line checking on the men after a skirmish. Richard Bendyshe was still looking relatively smart in spite of his participation in the fight, but his 2nd in command had been in the thick of the battle and his clothes and appearance were in

a terrible state. An injured marine caught sight of him, failed to recognise him and took him to be a spy. He picked up his rifle and fired but the bullet missed "the spy" and hit Richard Bendyshe, killing him instantly.

#### **James Henry Bradshaw**

13747 Private James Henry Bradshaw of the 4th Battalion, the Coldstream Guards. Son of James and Emily Bradshaw of Ivy Cottage, Lifton. Born in Lifton in 1889. Died 23 August 1918 aged 30

# **Arthur Chubb**

15652 Private Arthur John Chubb of the 1st Battalion, the Devonshire Regiment. Grandson of Joseph Chubb = parents not traced. Born in Whitchurch in 1897. Died 24 July 1916 aged 19.

#### Albert J. Dyer

11390 Sergeant Albert J. Dyer of the 7th Battalion, the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry. Son of John Dyer; husband of Annie Dyer of London. Born in Penzance in 1882 but lived in Lifton. Died 2 April 1918 aged 36. Awarded the DCM.

## William Arthur Herbert Galloway



65050 Driver William Arthur Herbert Galloway of the Royal Horse and Royal Field Artillery. No information about his parents available. Lived in Lifton. Died of wounds 14 December 1915 age unknown.

## Frederick James Knight

8835 Private Frederick James Knight of the 2nd Battalion, the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry. Son of John and Grace Knight. Born in Lifton in 1888. Died 14 March 1915 aged 27.

#### **Arthur Langman**

15650 Lance Corporal Arthur Langman of the 1st Battalion, the Devonshire Regiment. Son of John Langman and his late wife Elizabeth. Born in Milton Abbot in 1897. Died 23 April 1917 aged 19.

#### **Edwin Martin**

PLY/1426 Private Edwin Martin of the 1st RM Battalion, the Royal Naval Division, the Royal

Marines Light Infantry. Son of Edwin and Elizabeth Martin of Lifton Down. Born in Werrington (now Cornwall) in 1886. Died 3 June 1918 aged 32. Awarded the MM.

#### **William Gliddon Martin**

86410 Gunner William Gliddon Martin of the Royal Horse and Royal Field Artillery. Believed to have been orphaned as a child and brought up by an uncle and aunt. Born in Kelly in the December Quarter of 1892. Died at home of natural causes 3 June 1915 aged 23.

#### **William Stanbury**

William was born in 1891 to Richard and Maria Stanbury at Lifton. His father was a General Labourer. He married Eva Stanbury of Milton Abbot and worked as a Gardener at Lifton Park. He was secretary to the Lifton reading room and a great supporter of Lifton football club.

William enlisted with the Royal Field Artillery as a Gunner (Regimental No. 931766) serving with the D battery 282nd Army Field Brigade. He was killed instantaneously on the 24<sup>th</sup> of October 1917 aged 27.

# Lifton's Fallen from World War Two

#### William Henry Baker

William was the son of Henry James and Agnes Elfrida Baker of No. 15, The Crescent, Lifton. He joined the Royal Navy as an Able Seaman (Service No. D/SSX 28383). He was aboard 'HMS Repulse' when she was sunk by Japanese aircraft on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December 1941 when they attempted to intercept landings in British Malaya. William survived this and was landed at Singapore.

He was then put aboard 'HMS Li Wo' which was an auxiliary patrol vessel of the British Royal Navy, which was sunk on 14 February 1942 by Japanese warships as she single-handedly attacked an enemy convoy during the Malayan Campaign, becoming the most decorated small ship in the Royal Navy. His body was never recovered but his name is commemorated on the Plymouth Naval Memorial.

#### Randolph Henry Bevan



Randolph was born in 1908 to Henry and Mary Beatrice Bevan at Fore street, Lifton. His father was an Estate Carpenter. He enlisted with the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (Regimental No.10553339) as a Craftsman. He was killed whilst serving in Burma on the 19<sup>th</sup> of March 1944.

#### **Ronald Davey**

Ron was born in 1917 to Charles and Ethel Davey of Fore street, Lifton. His father was a Labourer. He joined the Royal Navy as a Shipwright 4<sup>th</sup> Class (Service No. D/MX 59472) and was serving aboard 'HMS Hermes' on the 8<sup>th</sup> of April when warning of an approaching Japanese fleet was received and 'Hermes' sailed that day for the Maldives with no aircraft onboard. She was spotted on the 9<sup>th</sup> of April near Batticaloa by a Japanese scout plane and attacked by several dozen dive bombers shortly afterwards. With no aircraft cover the carrier and her escorting destroyer were quickly sunk by the Japanese aircraft. Most of the survivors were rescued by a nearby hospital ship although 307 men from Hermes were lost in the sinking including Ron. His body was never recovered but his name is commemorated on the Plymouth Naval Memorial.

# **Leonard Edgar Littlejohns**



Len was born in 1920 to Mr. And Mrs. J. (Nee Northam) Littlejohns at Plympton. On leaving school Len went to work for Ambrosia creamery, Lifton before joining up with the Royal Navy as a Supply Assistant. He was aboard 'HMS Prince of Wales' when she was attacked and sunk by Japanese aeroplanes on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December 1941 near Singapore. Len was one of the lucky survivors that was rescued and landed at Singapore. However, he was placed aboard the Depot ship 'HMS Anking' which was evacuating to Australia when it was attacked and sunk by Japanese Cruisers just off Java on the 4<sup>th</sup> of March 1942. Len wasn't a second

time lucky and he drowned. His body was never recovered but his name is commemorated on the Plymouth Naval Memorial. At the time of his death, his parents were living at No. 5, Lower Cleaverfield, Launceston.

#### William E. Pring

No information available.

#### Percy Richards.

Percy was born in 1911 at South Headdon, Hollacombe, Holsworthy.to Mr and Mrs. T. V. Richards (mothers maiden name was Werren). On leaving school he initially worked on his fathers farm as a farm assistant but on the 28<sup>th</sup> of November 1927 he enlisted at Holsworthy with the Royal Tank Regiment RAC (Regimental No. 7879621). On his application he had stated that he was older than he actually was putting his birth year as 1909. He was serving in Libya when killed in action when an enemy plane attacked his position on the 15<sup>th</sup> of January 1943. He left a widow who was residing at Broad street, Lifton. His mother was residing at Gunnislake at the time of his death.

# North Hills Fallen from World War One

North Hill history group have put together a great website which lists all their fallen with great detail at http://www.northhillhistory.co.uk/warmemorial.htm#fallen

# North Hills Fallen from World War Two

## **Leslie Daniel**

No information available

#### **William Evans**

No information available

# **Leslie Kenneth Maunder**

Leslie enlisted with the Gordon Highlanders as a Private (Regimental No. 14757641). He was killed in action on the 26th of March 1945. He is buried at the Reichswald Forest War Cemetery, Germany.

#### Harry Wakem

I believe this to be Harry Buckingham Wakem who was born in 1901 at Trebartha , North Hill to William and Jane (nee Buckingham) Wakem. His death occurred on the 13th of April 1940 and he is buried at North Hill Parish Church. I have been unable to find any information on his military service.

# North Petherwin's Fallen from World War One

## **Samuel Banbury**

Samuel was born in 1883 to Samuel and Mary (nee Bray) Banbury at Kilford, North Petherwin and was the eldest of 5 children. His Father was a Farmer. On leaving school, Samuel joined his Father to work on the farm. He initially enlisted at Launceston with the Duke of Cornwalls Light Infantry (Regimental No 24021) but was subsequently transferred to the Duke of Edinburgh's (Wiltshire Regiment) (Regimental No 28058) serving with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion. He was killed in action on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September 1918 at the Battle of Epehy as the Allies were now pushing the Germans back.

After a lot of fighting and general reorganization the battalion ended up a Thiepval at the end of July remaining there throughout August. On the 24th August attacked Miraumont Ridge then five days later led the advance towards Beaulencourt which was captured on the 1st September. They continued the advance beating of a determined attack on the 11th, followed by an attack on the 18th. The battalion were in action nearly every day.

His body was never recovered but his name is commemorated on panel 9 of the Vis-en-Artois Memorial.

#### **Samuel John Davey** (With thanks to Ron Mason)



Samuel was born in 1889 at Trecarne, Tintagel to Samuel and Kate (nee Glover) Davey. His Father was a Cattleman. The family moved to Egloskerry in 1901. On leaving school, Samuel went to work for Mr. Thomas Parkin at Higher Whiteleigh Farm, Maxworthy as a Cattleman. He enlisted at Launceston with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry (Regimental No. 15459) serving with the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion. He died of his wounds sustained fighting in France on the 20<sup>th</sup> of November 1917. There are no details on his resting place.

## **George Gilbert**

George was born in 1896 one of eight children, to Daniel and Mary Grace (nee Horrill) Gilbert at Petherwin Gate, North Petherwin. His Father was an Agricultural Worker. On leaving school George went to work for Mrs. Jane Dinnis at Hellescott, North Petherwin as General Farm Worker.

He enlisted at Tavistock as a Private with the Devonshire Regiment (Regimental No. 16639) serving in the 9<sup>th</sup> service Battalion. He died on the 26<sup>th</sup> of October 1917 aged 21. His body was never identified but his name is commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial (Panels 38 -40).

#### **Kenneth Reed Gubbin**

Kenneth was in 1894 to Francis and Catherine (nee Rogers) Gubbin at North Petherwin. His Father was a Restaurant Proprietor and Confectioner and the family were residing at 8 East Street, Taunton in 1901 but in 1904 Francis died. By 1911Kenneth had returned to Cornwall and was working as a Waggoner for Mr. Samuel Prout at Trebeath Farm, Egloskerry but by 1918 had passed away. His mother moved to Trillacott, North Petherwin.

Kenneth enlisted as a Private with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry (Regimental No 15587) serving with the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion in Greece. He rose in the ranks finally ending up as Quarter Master Sergeant. He died at the 29<sup>th</sup> stationary hospital Turin of Pneumonia on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December 1918 aged 24. There is no known resting place.

## **John Henry Hutchings**



John was born in 1883 to Thomas and Amelia Hutchings at South Sydenham, Devon. His Father was a General Labourer. The family moved to North Petherwin, and in 1891 were living at Daws Cottage, North Petherwin. In 1909 he married Blanche Jane and they set up home at Tregoiffe, Linkinhorne where he worked as a Farm Labourer. The family were living at Hurdon, Launceston at the time of his death.

He first joined the Royal Vetenary Corps (A.V.C. 19884), but was transferred to the Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own (Yorkshire Regiment) as a Private (Regimental No 33969).

He was instantly killed when a shell exploded near a trench he was guarding on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1918 and is buried at the Mory Abbey Military Cemetery, Mory, Departement du Pas-de-Calais, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France, Plot: II. A. 9. He is also commemorated on the Launceston and North Hill War Memorials.

## Alfred Martin

Alfred was born in 1898 at Tredidon, St. Thomas, Launceston to Samuel and Emma Martin. His Father was a Farm Labourer. In 1911the family were living at Tredundle, Egloskerry although by 1917 they were residing at Weston farm, North Petherwin.

Alfred enlisted at Launceston with the Devonshire Regiment (Regimental No 33295) serving with the 8<sup>th</sup> service Battalion. He died at home of his wounds sustained in battle on the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1917 aged 19. There are no details of his resting place, could his grave be in North Petherwin Churchyard.

#### William James Phillips

William was born on the 9<sup>th</sup> of August 1893 to Henry and Fanny (nee Rowland) Phillips at South Moor Cottage, Whitstone, Cornwall. His Father was an Agricultural Labourer.

He enlisted at Launceston initially with the Duke of Cornwalls Light Infantry (Regimental No. 18649) but he was later transferred to the Gloucestershire Regiment (Regimental No.40077) serving with the 12th (Service) (Bristol) Battalion. He died of his wounds on the 15<sup>th</sup> of November 1918 just 4 days after the armistice aged 25.He left a Widow, Mary A. Phillips (nee Banton) of Egginton, Derby and a Son, John Henry Phillips born after his death in 1919. He is buried at the St. Sever Cemetery, Rouen.

### **Harry Wills**

Harry was born in 1882 to Alexander and Thomasine Parkian (nee Hill) Wills at Jacobstow, Cornwall. His Mother died in 1886 and his Father remarried in 1887 to Mary Squance. His Father had been in the Royal Navy. In 1891 the family were living at Tredundle Gate, Egloskerry. By 1901, Harry was working for Mr. John Skinner at Darracott Farm, Boyton as a Horseman and by 1911 he was working for Mr. Richard Hawke at Bodgate Farm, North Petherwin as a Wagonner.

I cannot find any details on his military career or how he died although I suspect that he may have joined the Royal Navy.

# North Petherwin's Fallen from World War Two

## D. E. William

No information available.

#### **Maurice Cobbledick**

Possibly Maurice Cobbledick born in 1917. (Mothers maiden name was Martin). There is no information to back this up including any military service records.

# **South Petherwins Fallend from both World Wars**

(With Special Thanks to Peter Bailey)

#### **Harold Anson Gunner**

Harold was born at Stukeley, Huntingdonshire in August 1891 to John and Elizabeth Gunner. They lived at the Schoolhouse in South Petherwin with Harold's Father being the local Schoolmaster.

Harold first worked as a Civil service boy clerk but enlisted with the Royal Field Artillery in

February 1913 before the outbreak of World War 1 and served in the "A" Battery, 282nd Brigade. (First as a Bombardier rising to Corporal 1126).

He was killed in action when an enemy shell landed near his gun position on the 7 October 1916 during the Battles of Transloy Ridges, near Ginchy. He is buried at the *Guards' Cemetery*, Lesboeufs, Somme.

### **George Harris**

George was born in 1890 to Thomas and Eliza Harris (Nee Jenkin) of the village, South Petherwin.

On leaving school, George became an agricultural worker and in 1911 was working for the Langmans at Tregillis Farm, South Petherwin. George married Lily Hockin early in 1915 after enlisting with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry in August 1914 and served in the 8th Battalion (Private 14377).

George and his Battalion disembarked for France on the 22nd September 1915 but within two months they were sent to Salonika, Greece, where they were to fight the Bulgarians who had overrun Serbia.

He was wounded fighting in the Balkans and died on the 9th September 1916 of those wounds. He is buried in the SARIGOL MILITARY CEMETERY, KRISTON, Greece. Section A. Grave 75

He left a widow of Lilian Ann Harris, of Trecrogo Farm, South Petherwin.

## **Henry H Hocking**



Henry was born in 1893 at Tregillis, South Petherwin to Daniel and Mary Hocking. On leaving school he first worked as a Waggoner for the Langman's at Tregillis Farm then for Mr. Daniel at Tremail, South Petherwin.

Henry joined the Duke of Cornwalls Light Infantry at the outbreak of World War One and was a sergeant 14428.

Having completed training he was transferred to the 1st Battalion, one of the DCLI's regular Battalions, joining his unit in France in late July 1915. The 1st DCLI were part of the 5th Division and as such saw action in most of the major

battle on the western front. Henry was made a sergeant within 3 years.

He was Killed in Action at the Battle of the Lys near Flanders on the 20th of April 1918.

## **Harold Hodge**

Harold Hodge was born in 1892 at Thorveton, Devon to Thomas and Ellen Hodge. Thomas was a Carpenter and lived at Petherwin Water.

Harold joined the Royal Navy as a Boy 2nd Class in 1905. His service record survives and shows him to have made steady progress, qualifying for advancement early in his career (J/1248). His first Ship was the training ship HMS Impregnable where he learnt seamanship and Naval service customs. He the had short tours on HMS Donegal, HMS Hannibal, HMS Andromeda, HMS Monmouth, HMS Europa and finally in November 1912 HMS Conqueror the ship

that he would go to war with. HMS Conqueror served in many theatres of the War including the Far East and also the famous Battle of Jutland. Henry fell ill at Rosythe in Scotland and was taken to RN Hospital South Queensferry which had been opened to treat the casualties of the Battle of Jutland. Harry sadly passed away of Influenza/Meningitis on the 30th December 1918.

He was buried at St Mary's Churchyard, Torquay, Devon.

#### William Jasper

William Jasper was born in 1898 to Thomas and Alice Jasper at Treguddick Cottage, South Petherwin.

He joined the Royal Navy as a Stoker 2nd Class and served on HMS Dido and HMS Tornado (Service No. K/39952). HMS Dido served in home waters during WW 1 - 1914 as a Depot ship 3rd Submarine Flotilla, then later that same year as a Depot ship 3rd Destroyer Flotilla Harwich, 1915 - Depot ship 9th Destroyer Flotilla Harwich & 1918 -Depot ship 10th Destroyer Flotilla Harwich and as such never saw action. William joined HMS Dido on 30th October, 1917, and for an unknown period of time he was transferred to HMS Tornado. Due to being taken ill, he left that ship on 17th December, 1917 to return to HMS Vivid on 18th December, 1917, from where he was transferred to the Royal Navy Hospital at Chatham on 9th January 1918, where he died of pulmonary tuberculosis on 6th March 1918. (HMS Tornado was sunk by mines on the 23rd December 1917 off the Dutch coast).

He is buried in St. Paternus Churchyard, South Petherwin.

#### **Ernest Albert Jasper**

Ernest was born in 1893 at Ruses Mill, Lezant to John (Barber) and Mary Jasper. He worked as a Waggoner and horseman for his stepbrother Thomas Jasper who was the miller at Ruses Mill. Ernest would have been conscripted in late 1916 and reported for training with his training unit the Hampshire Regiment 13th (Service) Battalion as a Private 8/4864. Ernest fell ill during his training and was admitted to the Red Cross hospital at Littleham, Exmouth. Ernest's illness of broncho pneumonia was aggravated by measles and he passed away on the 28th February 1917.

He is buried at the Wesleyan Chapel, Coads Green.

#### **Frederick Jasper**



Fred was born at Lewannick in 1893 to Richard and Mary Jasper. On leaving School, Fred became a Waggoner at Honiton the Family Farm. On the outbreak of World War One he joined the Devonshire Regiment serving in the 9th (Service) Battalion as a Private 45757.

Fred was Killed in Action at Polygone Wood/Judge Copse Flanders on the 9 Oct 1917 at the age of 24.

He is buried at Zonnebeke, West Flanders (West-Vlaanderen), Belgium.

Fred was a committed Christian and like his friend Horace Westlake took his Bible to Battle.

They had both attended South Petherwin Methodist Chapel and its Fred's Bible that has helped identify Horace's Bible.

#### **Charles Medland**

Charles, or Charlie as he was known, was born in 1890 at Marshgate, near Camelford to Thomas and Ann Medland and later moved to Polinnick Cottage. After leaving school he worked as a farm labourer for Walter Smith at Egloskerry.

At the outbreak of World War 1 he joined the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry 6th Battalion Lance Corporal 17128.

After their training the Battalion landed at Boulogne in May 1915 as part of 43 Brigade, 14th Light Division. The Division saw action at Hooge and Bellewaarde in the Ypres salient and had the dubious honour of being the first to be attacked by flame throwers!

By August 1916 the 6th Battalion was in the line of attack on German trenches in and beyond the Northern edge of the Bois de Ville at Longueval, know to the soldiers as Devils Wood, and was the scene of fierce fighting and many casualties.

The area encountered intense German shelling and Charlie was Killed in Action on the 18 Aug 1916 quite likely due to the heavy shelling as his body was never recovered. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the missing. Thiepval Memorial

#### William Oswald Theobald

William was born at Cape Colony, South Africa to Eliza H L Theobald and the Rev L A Theobald in 1897.

His Father was a Methodist missionary whose early death prompted William's Mother, Eliza, to return to London with her three children. They arrived on the 'Tantallon Castle' in August 1897 and settled in the suburbs of Tooting.

William went to the Wesleyan College at Bath and on completion of his studies there, came to work on a farm in Cornwall (Believed to be within South Petherwin Parish) to gain agricultural experience.

On the outbreak of war he volunteered for the London Scottish, presumably to honour his Scottish Mother.

(Private 511055 of the 14th (County of London) Battalion (London Scottish) )

The forces in the Somme sector of the line were facing formidable defences and strong opposition. It was planned therefore to draw some of the defending German formations away from the Somme by carrying out a diversionary attack further north of Gommecourt. The defences here proved very difficult to break down and the London Scottish faced a daunting task. They attacked enemy trenches strongly held and protected by deep wire obstacles. As a consequence the casualties were high.

A letter from William's Platoon Sergeant to his sister Agnes read 'I find that your brother never left our trench. He was seen about five minutes before our charge and I fear he must have been hit by a German shell'.

William's body was never found but he is he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial

Thiepval
Department de la Somme
Picardie, France
Plot: Pier and Face 9 C and 13 C.

## **Harry Walters**

Harry was born in 1890 at what was known as School Hill, South Petherwin (what is now the main road leading up to the Post Office) to John and Ellen Walters. On leaving school he worked as a Farm Labourer.

On the outbreak of World War One he joined the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry as a Private 15664 but transferred to the Princess Victoria's (Royal Irish Fusiliers) as a Private 15769 in the 6th Battalion. He died of disease possible exposure at Salonika, Greece on the 4 Dec 1915 at the age of 25. He is buried at the Salonoka Lembeth Road Military Cemetery

#### **Horace Robert Westlake**



Horace was born at Landlake Farm in November 27th 1895 to *William and Florence Westlake* (Nee Harris who died in 1899). Before joining the Devonshire Regiment he worked at Linnick Farm, South Petherwin for Mr. Bickle. His Younger brother, *Cecil*, served with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry and was captured by the Germans and made POW.

Horace (Private 14662) served with the 8th Battalion. He was Killed in Action at the Battle of Loos on the 25th September 1915 aged just 19. The Devonshire Regiment were in action at the Battle of Loos and many, like Horace, lost their

lives on the very first day of the offensive where the British used gas for the first time. Horace's body was never found and is likely to be one of the many at *Loos Cemetery 'known only to God'*. However a *bible* found on the Loos Battlefield by Private Pattison Walton of the 2nd Battalion Border Regiment, is actually Horace's. (Inside he wrote ''Found on the Battle Field on Sept 26 by Pte P Walton, 2nd Batt Border Reg. This bible belonged to one of the Devons who charged with us. Found on the field after the attack of Loos and Hulluch on Sept 26/9/15."). Mr. Walton presented the bible some 50 years ago to a lady in Surrey who has spent many years researching who the bible belonged to. We have confirmed that it is in fact Horace's given by the Wesleyan Sunday school in 1906.

#### **Arthur Edward Wonnacott**

Arthur Edward Wonnacott was born in Daws House Lane in 1892, he was the son of Edward and Emily Wonnacott, his father was the local Policeman. He had a Sister Emily and Brother

Herbert. Arthur was a Sapper (19998) in the 5th Field Company, Royal Engineers.

He died on the 15th of January 1915 aged just 22. He appears on the Le Touret WW1 memorial in France and the St Breward War memorial. St Breward was probably his last address as the family were living there in 1911.

# South Petherwins Fallen from the Second World War

#### **Horace Frank Hicks**

Horace or Frank as he was known, was born in October 1906 to Robert and Minnie Hicks at Tregaller, South Petherwin. He had an elder brother Robert and elder sister Louisa. He was a keen Church bell ringer. Frank married Gwen Aunger in 1930 and together they had one child.

Frank joined the Pioneer Corp as a Private (No 13084952) at the outbreak of World War Two and served in 81 Company. Frank was Killed in Action on the Island of Sicily 23rd July 1943. Frank is buried at the Syracuse War Cemetery Italy

#### **Ronald Gordon Creber**

Ronald was born at Strand Cottage, South Petherwin and was one of seven Brothers and one Sister. Ronald was a Sergeant in RAF Volunteer Reserve and served with Bomber Command (Service No 1354856) in 103 Squadron and was a gunner on a Avro Lancaster. The Lancaster (JB747) was shot down and crashed at Zehrensdorf in February 1944 killing all the crew. Ronald is buried at Britischer Soldatenfriedhof, Berlin.

# **Tresmeer's Fallen from World War One**

#### William George Crabb

William was Albert's younger brother being born at Little Sitcott, St. Giles on the Heath in 1892. As Albert he was living at Treburtle in 1911 and was listed as being a Rabbit Trapper. He enlisted with the Devonshire Regiment (Regimental No. 45610) as a Private serving with the 8<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion. He was killed in action on the 9<sup>th</sup> of May 1917 whilst fighting in Flanders. His body was never identified but his name is commemorated on the Arras Memorial, Arras, Departement du Pas-de-Calais, Nord-Pas-de-Calais, France, Plot: Bay 4.

#### **Albert A Pethick**

Albert was born in 1892 to Job Frank and Eliza (Nee Thomas) Pethick at Badgall, Tresmeer. His Father was an Agricultural Labourer. On leaving school, Albert worked as a Waggoner on a

Farm.He enlisted at Launceston in 1914 with the Duke of Cornwalls Light Infantry as a Private (Regimental No. 24462) serving with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion. He was killed in action at the 'Battle of Arras' on the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 1917. His body was never identified but his name is commemorated on the Arras Memorial at Faubourg-D'Amiens Cemetery, Arras.

The Battle of Arras (also known as the Second Battle of Arras) was a British offensive during the First World War. From 9 April to 16 May 1917, British, Canadian, South African, New Zealand, Newfoundland, and Australian troops attacked German defences near the French city of Arras on the Western Front. There were major gains on the first day, followed by stalemate. The battle cost nearly 160,000 British casualties and about 125,000 German casualties.

# Warbstow's fallen from World War One

## **Walter Leof Buckingham**

Walter was born in 1891 to John and Lydia Buckingham at Trenannick Cottage, Trengune, Warbstow. His father was an Agricultural Labourer. On leaving school Walter went to work for Mr. Charles Spettigue at Youlstone Farm, Warbstow as a Farm Labourer. He enlisted at Launceston in 1915 with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry (Regimental No. 16530) serving with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion. He died of his wounds sustained in battle on the 30<sup>th</sup> of October 1917.

## **William Henry Gregory**

William was born in 1895 to William and Jane Gregory at Lanteglos, Camelford. His father was a General Labourer. On leaving school William worked with his father as a Labourer. William enlisted at Launceston with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry (Regimental No. 34059) serving with the 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Battalions. He was drowned at sea on the 4<sup>th</sup> of May 1917 after the Troopship 'SS Transylvania' was sunk off Cape Vado, approximately one kilometre off the coast near the town of Savona, near Genoa, in Italy, by an enemy submarine. His body was never recovered but his name is commemorated on the Savona Memorial, Italy. At the time of his death his parents were living at Blackwater, Tremaine, Egloskerry.

#### John Stapleton



John was born on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December 1888 to Jessie Ann Stapleton at Tremaine, Egloskerry. Jessie married Richard Joseph Sleeman in 1891 who then brought John up. Richard was a Mason. On leaving school John worked for Mr. William Gee at East Roose Farm, Otterham as a waggoner. In March of 1913 he set sail for Australia aboard the 'Themistocles' arriving in Melbourne. He then travelled to Sydney in September. He then set up residence at Delungra near Inverell, New South Wales, Australia working as an Agricultural Labourer. In December of 1915 he enlisted with the Australian Infantry Force (Service No. 5541) serving with the 55th Battalion as a

Lance Corporal. He was killed in action at Polygon Wood, France on the 26<sup>th</sup> of September 1917. His body was never identified but his name is commemorated on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial

#### **Frank Thomas**

No information available other than he served with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry.

# Warbstow's fallen from World War Two

## **Leonard Burden**



Leonard was born in 1913 to Mr and Mrs. Frederick Burden at Poundstock. He worked as a Carpenter and it was stated that he was a mild manner man who loved his home and his job, but he didn't shirk the responsibility for his country he enlisted with the Royal Artillery as a driver but just 6 weeks before D-Day he was transferred to the Gordon Highlanders as a Private (Regimental No. 14352957) serving with the 1st Battalion who were part of the famous 51st Highland division. He died of his wounds received at Normandy on the 23rd of June 1944 aged 31.

The Officer to whom he was batman, said "He was my batman, but to me he was a friend, a friend I shall miss, and as one of my men he can never be replaced. In the battlefield he did a wonderful job and his calm face in times of grave danger was marvellous to see".

He is buried at The Canworthy Water Methodist cemetery His wife Mary who on his death was residing at Fonson, survived him by 65 years. They had one child.

#### H. Gordon

No information available.

#### T. Smith

No information available other than he served with the Royal Navy.

# Werrington's Fallen from World War One

## **Claude Baskerville**

Claude was born in 1887 to William and Emma Jane Baskerville at Bullapit, Werrington. His Father was a Gamekeeper. Claude was living in the Camborne area with his wife, Margretta (nee Parnell) and two children and working as a Carpenter when he enlisted with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry as a Private (Regimental No. 26267) in June 1916. He embarked for France in October of 1916 and was involved in many battles. He was killed in action on the 12<sup>th</sup> of February 1917. His body was never identified.

#### **Samuel Brown**

Samuel was born in 1870 to George and Eliza Brown at Down Hayse, Werrington. His Father had been an Agricultural Labourer but was listed in the 1881 census as being an Afflicted Pauper with Eliza working as a Charwoman. Samuel joined the Royal Navy as a Stoker sometime in the 1880's. He left the Royal Navy in 1911 but was recalled at the onset of the war and served for 16 months in the West Indies. He returned to Devonport in September of 1916. He was taken unwell in May of 1917 and died at the Royal Naval Hospital on the 26<sup>th</sup> of May 1917. He was buried with full naval honours at Plymouth on the 29<sup>th</sup> of May 1917.

#### **Harry Samuel Jessup**

Harry was born in 1895 to Henry and Alice Jessup at Bradden, Towcester, Northants. His Father was a Coachman. On leaving school he came to Cornwall to work for Mr. Richard Carlyon Coode of Polapit Tamar House, as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Footman. He enlisted at London with the Grenadier Guards as a GDSN (Regimental No. 16340) serving with the 2nd Battalion. He was killed in action on the 25<sup>th</sup> of September 1916. His body was never identified but his name is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial .

## Jack Dunn Lillecrapp

Jack was born ion the 18th of October 1894 to John Burt and Ellen Vercoe Lillecrapp at Netherbridge farm, Werrington. His Father was a Farmer. He was educated first at Werrington School then Horwell boys Grammar School then finally at the Wesleyan Secondary School at Truro. He emigrated to Canada in the spring of 1913 and worked as a Rancher but with the outbreak of the War he enlisted with the Canadian Mounted Rifles 9<sup>th</sup> Division (Regimental No. 114836). Jack contracted Meningitis and was placed in Aldershot Hospital. He died on the 11<sup>th</sup> of January 1916 just a week after his Father passed away. He was buried at SS Martins and Giles Church, Werrington. He is commemorated on the Central Methodist and Truro School rolls of honour.

# **George Tucker**



George was born in 1897 to Thomas and Caroline Tucker at East Druxton Farm, Werrington. His Father was a Farmer. On leaving school he worked on his Father's farm at Pinslow, St. Giles. He enlisted with the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry as a private (Regimental No. 285191) serving with the 1/1st Bucks Battalion. He was killed in action at Flanders on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October 1917.

#### Wilfred J Vanstone

Wilfred was Charles's (above) elder brother born on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December 1888 at Plymouth. He joined the Royal Navy (Service No. 232533) in 1914 as a leading seaman and was serving aboard the 'HM Trawler Bombardier' when he died on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March 1919. It is presumed that his death was due to an accident as four other sailors perished that same day all listed as having drowned.

#### John Francis Williams

John was born in 1892 to John Charles and Mary C Williams at Caerhayes Castle, St. Austell. His father was the Squire of Werrington estate. He joined the Royal Navy in 1904 as a Cadet, he gained promotion to Midshipman in 1909 and to a Lieutenant in January 1913.

In February 193 he was appointed to the 'HMS Lord Nelson' before being transferred to 'HMS Russell'. When he was a Sub-Lieutenant of the St. George flotilla, he was awarded the silver medal of the Royal Humane Society on the 15<sup>th</sup> of July 1912, for gallantry in rescuing a stoker who fell overboard from a launch in the Stour, off Parkstone, on the night of the 28<sup>th</sup> of May 1912. He was killed when serving aboard 'HMS Russell' which hit a mine in the Mediterranean on the 27<sup>th</sup> of April 1916.

## **Robert Williams**

Robert was born in 1888 to John Charles and Mary C Williams at Werrington House. His father was the Squire of Werrington estate. His education was geared for a career in the army and after he left Cambridge he went straight to Sandhurst with the intention of qualifying for a commission in the Grenadier Guards. Owing to bad health, however, he gave up his studies and did not sit his final examination, it being then considered that he would not pass the medical test for entrance in the army. On leaving Sandhurst Robert commenced to study politics and after a time decided to follow his elder brother Charles into the political world and before he had been adopted as Conservative candidate for the Cleveland division of Yorkshire. When war broke out Robert offered his own services and his motor car for duty at the front, and in a civil capacity he did valuable work in conveying wounded soldiers to hospital and taking staff officers about. When he had worn one car out he returned home, and then went across to the front with another, which also wore out. On returning the second time Robert sought a commission with the Grenadier Guards and on April the 3<sup>rd</sup> 1915 he was gazetted to the regiment. He served with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion of the Grenadier Guards as a Second Lieutenant and was killed whilst in charge of a maxim gun section in October 1915 whilst fighting on the western Front.

# Werrington's Fallen from World War Two

## **Percival Edward Gott Coode**

Percival was born on the 11th of April 1910 to Richard Carlyon and Joan Sylvia (nee Gott) Coode in London. He married Ida Cicely Venetia Maitland He was a Major with the 5th Battalion of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry (Service No. 88173) and was killed in action at Cheux in the battle for Caen on the 28th of June 1944. He is interred at the Bayeux War Cemetery. At the time of his death his residence was Boscundle House, St. Austell.