

'The Baltic Exchange Roll of Honour 1914-1918'

In 2016 the Baltic Exchange kindly agreed to publish this work during the Centenary Remembrances of World War One. The intention was to try and honour and shed some light on the men of the Baltic Exchange who died during World War I and who appear on the Exchange's War Memorial. I was gratified that so many current and former members of the Exchange Staff were interested in the work. Since 2016 more information and photographs have come to light and are contained within this publication.

The Great War inflicted nearly 1 million military war dead on the British Empire. France's Military lost over 1.3 million. The Baltic's 'Roll of Honour' records 59 men who died in the Service of the British Empire and 2 who died fighting for France.

We try and 'Remember' them each November 11th but it is now impossible that anyone will personally remember anyone of the 61 names on the Memorial.

Some of those on the Memorial have stories which have been accessible and easy to research – others not so. However all deserve our continuing 'Remembrance'.

The impact of 61 deaths on the Baltic community can be imagined by those of us of an age to remember the old Baltic Floor and the close-knit 'day to day' relationships. Apart from loss of friends and colleagues the evidence suggests closures / decline and sales of companies as leading company members and sons of ship-owners were lost. A company called 'The Produce Brokers Co., Ltd' holds the unenviable record for the highest casualties amongst member companies, losing three of its representatives between 1916 and 1917.

The 'Great War' is now over a century ago and its details will slip from popular imagination and knowledge, but I hope the reader might be inspired to discover more about the battles and campaigns mentioned in the individual stories.

The research has led to some assumptions of connections and occurrences and I apologise for any inaccuracies that might have occurred due to these 'assumptions'.

My thanks again to the Baltic for allowing access to its Membership records for the period, and also Crispin Eccleston of the Exchange who has put me in touch with many who have provided further information.

Thanks also to Clive Harris and everyone at the 'Battle Honours' Tour Company for allowing me access to their Data Base of War Diaries. Also thanks to Vincent Stuart (A Volunteer at the Imperial War Museum) as well as Baltic retired members Derek Webb, Dave Ventham and Charles

Walton who contributed valuable information and to Rachel Robson for her original proof reading.

Since 1995 and to date (2021) - the Baltic's Roll of Honour to both World Wars exists in a modest form inside 38 St.Mary Axe, London EC3



In the old Exchange building the Memorial Glass, well known to current older and retired members, comprised of several stained glass windows designed by English artist John Dudley Forsyth. This was installed in 1922 over the main staircase leading to the Exchange's restaurants and

bars. It explicitly commemorated the 61 members of the Exchange who were killed during the Great War. The memorial was badly damaged in the April 1992 IRA bombing but was happily restored and is on display today at the Greenwich Maritime Museum.



The memorial formed a hemispherical half-dome about 9.8feet (3 metres) high with 240 panels divided into five sectors, with five rectangular windows of painted coloured glass, each of which features a personification of one of the virtues:-

Truth - Hope - Justice - Fortitude - Faith.

The dome is replete with classical and religious symbolism, featuring a winged figure of Victory.

The full story of the Glass can be accessed on Wikipedia.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baltic_Exchange_Memorial_Glass

We also now have information of two Baltic Members who survived the Great War. One is Reginald Haine - described as the 'Baltic Exchange megastar' by one retired member who was awarded the Victoria Cross at the Battle of Gavrelle in April 1917, and the other is Noel Turnbull awarded the Military Cross in 1918. – Please see below.

Ian Lauder (July 2022) ian.lauder@zen.co.uk



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Battlefield Memorials for the missing in World War I on which Baltic Exchange members are listed:-

Tyne Cot Memorial - within the Tyne Cot Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) cemetery in Belgium and is the largest cemetery for Commonwealth forces in the world, for any war, in which 11,956 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War are either buried or commemorated - 8,369 of these are unidentified. The Memorial on the back wall of the Cemetery bears the names 33,783 soldiers of the UK forces plus a further 1,176 New Zealanders, both officers and men, whose graves are not known and who fell in the Ypres Salient after 16 August 1917.

Ploegsteert Memorial - stands in Berks Cemetery Extension, and commemorates more than 11,000 servicemen of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died and have no known grave in the area from the line Caestre-Dranoutre-Warneton to the north and to Haverskerque-Estaires-Fournes to the south, including the towns of Hazebrouck, Merville, Bailleul and Armentieres, the Forest of Nieppe, and Ploegsteert Wood.

Thiepval Memorial - the Memorial to the Missing of the Somme, bears the names of more than 72,000 officers and men of the United Kingdom and Empire forces who died in the Somme sector before 20 March 1918 and have no known grave. Over 90% of those commemorated died between July and November 1916. The memorial, designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, was built between 1928 and 1932.

Arras Memorial - in the Faubourg-d'Amiens Cemetery in the Boulevard du General de Gaulle in the western part of the town of Arras. Here is commemorated almost 35,000 servicemen from the United Kingdom, South Africa and New Zealand who died in the Arras sector between the spring of 1916 and 7 August 1918, the eve of the so called 'Advance to Victory', and have no known grave. The most conspicuous events of this period were the Arras offensive of April-May 1917, and the German attack in the spring of 1918.

Menin Gate Memorial in Ypres (Ieper) bears the names of more than 54,000 officers and men whose graves are not known and who fought and died in the Ypres Salient prior to 16 August 1917. The site of the Menin Gate as a Memorial was chosen because of the hundreds of thousands of men who passed through it on their way to the battlefields. Servicemen who died after that date are named on the memorial at Tyne Cot. At 8pm each evening, traffic is stopped at the Menin Gate while members of the local Fire Brigade sound the Last Post in the roadway under the Memorial's arches.

Soissons Memorial - commemorates almost 4,000 officers and men of the United Kingdom forces who died during the Battles of the Aisne and the Marne of 1918 and who have no known grave.

Poziers Memorial - commemorates over 14,000 casualties of the United Kingdom and 300 of the South African Forces who have no known grave and who died on the Somme from 21 March to 7 August 1918. This was in a period of crisis in March and April 1918 when the Allied Fifth Army was driven back by overwhelming numbers across the former Somme battlefields, and the months that followed before the so called Allied 'Advance to Victory', which began on 8 August 1918.

Loos Memorial - commemorates 20,605 British officers and men who were killed from 25 September 1915 to the end of the war in November 1918 in the battle sector between the river Lys in French Flanders and the village of Grenay, near Lens, in Artois. The Loos Memorial to the Missing forms the rear and the two sides of Dud Corner Cemetery. The thousands of names of the servicemen missing in action with no known grave are inscribed on 139 stone panels attached to these side and rear walls.

Vis-en-Artois Memorial - lies on the straight main road from Arras to Cambrai about 10 kilometres south-east of Arras. The Memorial is the back-drop to the Vis-en-Artois British Cemetery, which is west of Haucourt village on the north side of the main road. This Memorial bears the names of over 9,000 men who fell in the period from 8 August 1918 to the date of the Armistice in the so called Allied 'Advance to Victory' in Picardy and Artois, between the Somme and Loos, and who have no known grave.

The Helles Memorial - stands on the tip of the Gallipoli Peninsula. It takes the form of an obelisk over 30 metres high that can be seen by ships passing through the Dardanelles.

The eight month campaign in Gallipoli was fought by British Empire and French forces in an attempt to force Turkey out of the war, to relieve the deadlock of the Western Front in France and Belgium, and to open a supply route to Russia through the Dardanelles and the Black Sea. The Memorial serves the dual function of British Empire/Commonwealth battle memorial for the whole Gallipoli campaign and place of commemoration for many of those Commonwealth servicemen who died there and have no known grave. The memorial bears more than 21,000 names.

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Interpretation Notes:

'Bn' – Abbrev for 'Battalion'. The 'Battalion', commanded by a Lieutenant-Colonel with a Major as second in command, was the basic tactical unit of the infantry of the British Army in the Great War of 1914-1918. At full establishment it consisted of about 1,000 men, of whom 30 were officers. It comprised a Battalion Headquarters and four Companies. Battalion HQ included the Regimental Sergeant-Major (RSM)

The 'Company' consisted of usually 5 officers and about 200/250 men and was commanded by a Captain. Company HQ included a Company Sergeant-Major (CSM) and a Company Quartermaster Sergeant (CQMS). The 'Company' consisted of 4 platoons of about 50/75 men commanded by a Lieutenant or Second-Lieutenant. In total the 4 'Platoons' consisted of about 8 Sergeants, 10/12 Corporals, 4 Drummers, 4 Batmen and about 200 Privates. Each 'Platoon' was subdivided into 4 Sections, each of about 16 men under a Sergeant or Lance corporal. The 'Section' consisted of 2 'Squads' of about 8 men commanded by a Corporal.

3 or 4 'Battalions' made up a 'Brigade' (Bde) commanded by a Brigadier-General with a Colonel (not usually a field commander) serving as a Staff Officer linking the Battalion and Brigade level. 4 'Brigades' made up a 'Division' of about 12000 men commanded by a Major General.

Five 'Divisions' made up an 'Corp' of about 60,000 men commanded by a Lieutenant-General and 5 'Corps' made up an 'Army' of about 300,000 men commanded by a General. Field Marshall Haig (Commanding the whole British Army between 1915 and 1918) commanded about 2 million men or 6 or 7 'Armies'. This was the basic organisation of the British Army during the Great War.

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The New Army or Kitcheners/Pals Battalions of World War I were specially constituted Battalions of the British Army comprising men who had enlisted together in local recruiting drives, with the promise that they would be able to serve alongside their friends, neighbours and colleagues ("Pals").

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CWGC – Abbrev for the 'Commonwealth War Graves Commission' (formerly the 'Imperial War Graves Commission' – IWG)

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"Gazetted" - In time of war, dispatches from the various conflicts are published in *The London Gazette*. People referred to are said to have been 'mentioned in dispatches'. When members of the armed forces are promoted, and these promotions are published here, the person is said to have been "Gazetted"

'Territorials' – Prior to World War I The 'Territorial Force' (TF) of part time soldiers was originally formed by the Secretary of State for War, Richard Burdon Haldane, following the enactment of the Territorial and Reserve Forces Act 1907 which combined and re-organised the old Volunteer Force with the Yeomanry. As part of the same process, remaining units of militia were converted to the Special Reserve. The TF was formed on 1 April 1908 and contained fourteen infantry divisions, and fourteen mounted yeomanry brigades. It had an overall strength of approximately 269,00

'HAC' – The Honourable Artillery Company was established by Royal Charter on 25th August 1537. Since the 17th century the Company has also been described as a Regiment. The nearest Territorial unit to the Baltic Exchange building.

Two HAC infantry battalions and five artillery batteries were mobilised for active service overseas during the First World War. After the outbreak of war, the existing half Infantry Battalion was brought up to full strength and became the 1st Battalion, serving in France and Flanders from 18 September 1914. The 2nd Battalion was raised in September 1914 and sailed for France on 1 October 1916; it saw active service in France, Flanders and Italy. The Reserve (or 3rd) Battalion supplied the other two Battalions with drafts from England.

The existing A and B Batteries of horse artillery were brought up to strength and sailed for Egypt on 9 April 1915, serving both separately and together there and elsewhere in the Middle East. The 309th (HAC) Siege Battery of the Royal Garrison Artillery and the two second-line horse artillery batteries, 2/A Battery and 2/B Battery, saw action in France and Flanders from April and June 1917 respectively. The three (later two) reserve batteries remained in England.

Information on two 'survivors' of World War 1 who were associated with or members of the Baltic Exchange.

1/ REGINALD HAINE VC (Victoria Cross) and MC (Military Cross)

Reginald Leonard Haine (1896-1982), known as 'Bill', was born at Earlsfield, Wandsworth, London on 10th July 1896.

He worked as a Chartered Accountant for the well known Baltic Exchange company - 'Andrew Low, Son & Co' who in 1920 were located at 15 Great St. Helens.



At the outbreak of War in August 1914 he was articled to a firm of accountants. He enlisted in the Honourable Artillery Company (HAC) on 28th August 1914, eleven months underage.

In 1973 he was interviewed by the Imperial War Museum about those early months and the link to hear this is here:-

<https://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/80000033>

Incredibly less than 3 weeks after joining up he found himself on the 18th September 1914 on a Steamer heading out of Southampton for St. Nazaire where, in his own words, he spent one month unloading ships and undergoing some cursory training. Then in late October early November he found himself in the front line in Belgium. This was during the desperate stages of the 'First Battle of Ypres' when a depleted and ragged British Army held the line in the increasingly

desperate attempts by the Germans to capture the city and break through to the Channel ports. An articulated clerk in August and in the thick of the fighting in just 2 months!

He was wounded on 16th June 1915 and rejoined his Battalion on 21st October. Promotion followed rapidly – Lance Corporal, Lance Sergeant and then Sergeant on 12th March 1916. He was promoted again to Company Sergeant Major on 15th November and was commissioned as Second Lieutenant on 7th December. He was appointed to command a Company on 13th April 1917.

On 28th/29th April 1917 near Gavrelle, France, when British troops were holding a salient which was being repeatedly counter-attacked by German forces, Second Lieutenant Haine organised and led six bombing attacks against a German strong point and captured the position, together with 50 prisoners and two machine-guns. The enemy at once counter-attacked and regained the lost ground, but Second Lieutenant Haine formed a "block" in his trench and for the whole of the following night maintained his position. Next morning he again attacked and recaptured the position. His splendid example inspired his men during more than 30 hours of continuous fighting.

Lieutenant General Sir William Congreve VC, the Commander of XIII Corps personally went to congratulate Bill and Alfred Pollard on their actions when the Battalion came out of the line on 1st May. The VC was presented by King George V at Buckingham Palace on 21st July 1917.



Here is the Victoria Cross citation and a picture of 'Bill' receiving the award from the King.

2nd Lt. Reginald Leonard Haine, H.A.C.

For most conspicuous bravery and determination, when our troops, occupying a pronounced salient, were repeatedly counter-attacked. There was an ever-present danger that if the enemy attack succeeded, the garrison of the salient would be surrounded.

2nd Lt. Haine organised and led with the utmost gallantry six bombing attacks against a strong point which dangerously threatened our communication, capturing the position together with fifty prisoners and two machine guns.

The enemy then counter-attacked with a battalion of the Guard, succeeded in regaining his position, and the situation appeared critical.

2nd Lt. Haine at once formed a block in his trench, and for the whole of the following night maintained his position against repeated determined attacks.

Reorganising his men on the following morning, he again attacked and captured the strong point, pressing the enemy back for several hundred yards, and thus relieving the situation.

Throughout these operations, this Officer's superb courage, quick decision and sound judgment were beyond praise, and it was his splendid personal example which inspired his men to continue their efforts during more than thirty hours of continuous fighting.



He was promoted to Lieutenant on 7th June 1918 and was seconded on probation to the Indian Army on 6th November. He served with the 1/35th Sikhs, before transferring to the Indian Army on 11th January 1919. He was awarded the Military Cross for his actions at Dakka, Afghanistan on 17th May 1919, when during the fighting near the summit of a hill he did everything he was able to collect the man for an attack on the enemy trenches in the face of heavy fire. He was presented with his MC at Buckingham Palace on 10th March 1920. Bill acted as Adjutant of 1/35th Sikhs as an acting Captain in May 1919, and left the Indian Army on 12th January 1920, and became a chartered accountant with the Baltic's Messrs Andrew Low, Son & Co.

He married in November 1923 and remained a member of the HAC being promoted to Captain in January 1928. In 1929 he was transferred to the Territorial Army (TA) Reserve of Officers.

During World War II, he served in the Home Guard and was Lieutenant Colonel and Commanding Officer of 58th Surrey (Purley) Battalion from 1st February 1941. He was a founder member of the VC and George Cross Association in 1956 and joined the Committee. He was also Chairman of the Baltic Exchange Branch of the British Legion.

Bill died at St Thomas's Hospital, Lambeth, London on 12th June 1982. His funeral was held at the Parish Church of St Mary, Eastbourne and he was cremated at Chichester Crematorium, where his ashes were scattered in the Garden of Remembrance. A memorial plaque was placed at the crematorium.

In addition to the VC and MC, he was awarded the 1914 Star with "Mons" clasp, British War Medal 1914-20, Victory Medal 1914-19 with Mentioned in Despatches Oakleaf, India General Service Medal 1908-35 with "Afghanistan NWF 1919" clasp, Defence Medal 1939-45, George VI Coronation Medal 1937, Elizabeth II Coronation Medal 1953 and Elizabeth II Jubilee Medal 1977. The VC is owned privately and is on loan to the Imperial War Museum, where it is displayed in the Ashcroft Gallery.

2/ OSWALD GRAHAM NOEL TURNBULL - Military Cross (MC)



Known as Noel Turnbull. Noel was a partner in the business, Turnbull, Scott and Company. – A well known and long standing Baltic Exchange company located at 24 St. Mary Axe. Noel had been elected a member of the Exchange in 1910.

Turnbull, Scott & Company had been Ship-owners since the 1880's mostly concerned in tramping work, but also had a steady grain trade from the River Plate. Two owned ships and one managed ship were lost to enemy action in the 1914-18 war.

Noel was to travel to France / Belgium in 1914, in support of the British Expeditionary Force while a member of the Royal Automobile Club, most probably transporting senior staff. He later transferred to the Royal Army Service Corps where he was to achieve the rank of Captain and was awarded the Military Cross for his service.

He became an officer in June 1915 and in May 1917 he was 'Mentioned in Despatches'.

His Brother was THOMAS LANCELOT GAWAIN TURNBULL who, as a member of the HAC was Killed in Action on the 15th April 1915 and is listed on the 'Baltic Roll of Honour' and his story is told further below.

Noel was notably known as a famous doubles tennis player in the post World War One period, his greatest achievement in that sport being

winning a gold medal in the 1920 Antwerp Olympics in Doubles Tennis along with his tennis partner Max Woosnam. He was also involved in numerous Davis Cup matches.

On the 25th April 1914 he married and during the course of the War he had two sons – In 1916 his second son 'Michael Thomas Turnbull' was born. Michael Thomas Turnbull became Chairman of the Baltic Exchange between 1973 and 1975.

Noel was born on 20 December 1890 in Highgate, London and died in Whitby, North Yorkshire on 17 December 1970. His address on his death was shown as Fifield House, Fifield, Berkshire.

Baltic Exchange Roll of Honour

1

ALBURY, EWART ALFRED CAMPBELL

Rank: Corporal / Service No: 422648

Date of Death: 31/05/1918

Age: 20

Regiment/Service: London Regiment 10th Bn.

**He is buried in the CWGC Cemetery at Valenciennes (St.Roch)
Communal Cemetery, Grave Reference V. B. 3.**

**Born in Clapton in East London - Son of Frederick Alfred and Florence
Marian Albury, of 25, Kenninghall Rd., Clapton, London.**

**Last listed in The Baltic 'List of Members' in 1917 as a Clerk for 'W.F
Vince' of 22 Leadenhall Street.**

**The 10th Battalion County of London Regiment were a territorial unit
whose headquarters were located in Hackney. Their unofficial title was
the '1st Hackney Rifles'. Ewart Albury is recorded as having enlisted in
Stratford, East London.**

**The exact circumstances of his death remain unknown but his Battalion
War Diary for 31 May 1918 records that there was '*considerable gas
shelling from 2.30 am to 3.30 am*'. The Battalion is listed as being
located at Baizieux between Amiens and Albert close to the furthest
extent of the advance of the German 'Michael' offensive during the
Spring of 1918.**

**The location in which he is buried (Valenciennes) actually remained in
German hands from the early days of the First World War until 1-2
November 1918, when it was entered and cleared by the Canadian Corps
who set up a Casualty Clearing station here and a cemetery. After 1919
graves from other burial grounds were moved to this cemetery.**

ARNOLD, HERBERT OSCAR

Rank: Corporal / Service No: 552323

Date of Death: 30/11/1917

**Regiment/Service: London Regiment (Queen's Westminster Rifles)
16th Bn.**

**Listed as living at 'Fern Lodge' Orpington and enlisting in Westminster.
Administration of his Will was given to his sister Nora Marie Arnold.**

**He is buried in the CWGC Hermies Hill British Cemetery, Grave
Reference IV. D. 14. Hermies is a town in the Department of the Pas-de-
Calais, approximately 3.5 kilometres south of the road (D930) from
Bapaume to Cambrai. The cemetery here was begun in November 1917
during the Battle of Cambrai.**

**There is no trace of Herbert Arnold in the lists of Baltic Members from
1913-1917.**

**The Queens Westminster Rifles was a 'Territorial' unit the details of
which are described in more detail below in regards to the entry below
for Edward Bovill**

**On the 30th November 1917 the 56th London Division of which the
Westminster Rifles were members were close to Moeuvres. On that day
the Germans began their counter attack during the Battle of Cambrai
and broke into the Westminster Rifles trenches .It is likely Herbert
Arnold died in this attack.**

BEAVON, DONALD JAMES

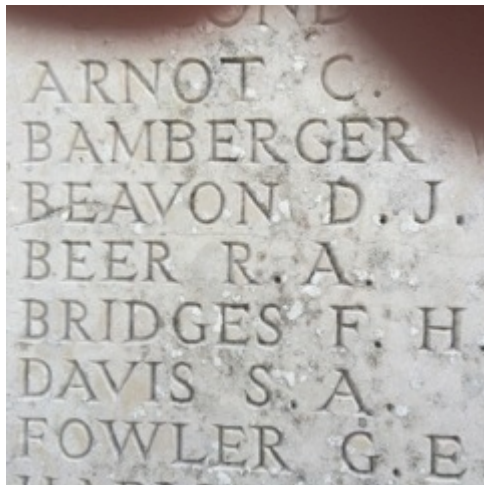
Rank: Second Lieutenant

Date of Death: 27/08/1917

Age: 28

Regiment/Service: Gloucestershire Regiment 4th Bn. (2/4th Battalion – A Territorial Battalion)

No known grave – He is commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial near Ypres, Panel Reference Panel 72 to 75.



Son of Alfred and Alice Maud Beavon; husband of Jessie Sarah Beavon, of 4, Seagry Rd., Wanstead, Essex.

Last listed in The Baltic 'List of Members' in 1916 representing 'Payne & Routh' of 87a/88a Leadenhall Street. Elected a member of the Exchange in 1909

Killed in Action during the Passchendaele offensive (Third Ypres) at Gallipoli Farm near Gravenstafel, located just north of Zonnebeke in Belgium. This was during a Brigade attack that day. The attacks were described as *'minor operations which were costly and inconclusive'*.

The Battalions War Diary for 27 August 1917 describes the 'operation' it was involved in that day as *'a difficult one owing to the dark night and heavy rain which made the going very bad'*. The Diary further describes *'heavy shelling and casualties'*.

Donald Beavon was one of 3 Officers and 180 other ranks of this Battalion killed that day.

BOURCHIER, ARTHUR GEORGE EVELYNN

Rank: Second Lieutenant

Date of Death: 09/05/1915

Age: 24

Regiment/Service: Royal Berkshire Regiment 2nd Bn.

No known grave – He is commemorated on the Ploegstreet Memorial near Ypres, Panel Reference Panel 7 and 8.



The Royal Berks were a regular army unit but it appears (see below) Arthur Bouchier went to France as part of the territorial unit the Queens Westminster Rifles.

Last listed in The Baltic 'List of Members' in 1914 as a Clerk for 'Meyer Elias' of 151/3 Palmerston House, Old Broad Street.

Extract from 'The Tablet' – The International Catholic News Weekly of 24 May 1915

Second-Lieut. Arthur George Evelyn Bouchier, killed near Ypres on the 9th of May, went to the Front on November 1 last with the Queen's Westminster Rifles, and obtained a commission in the 2nd Royal Berkshire Regiment only last March. He was

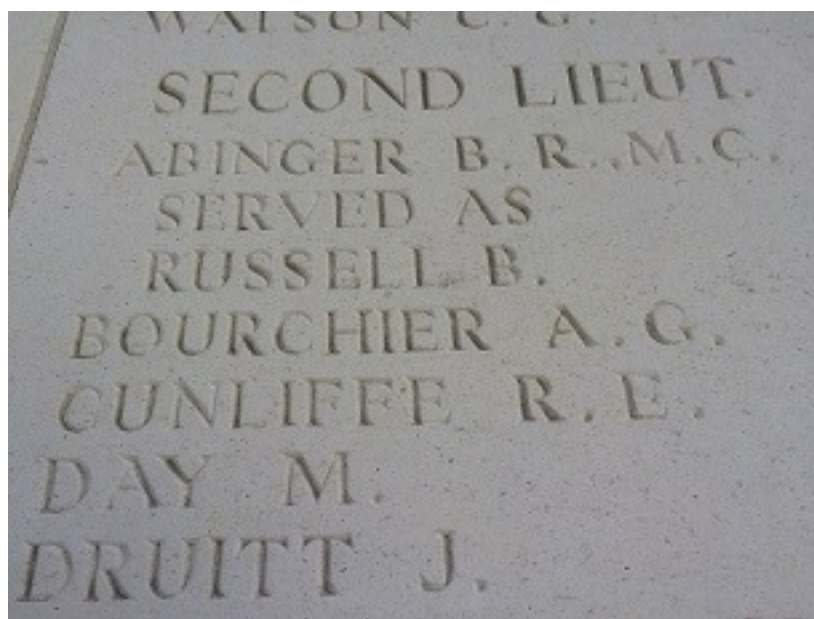
wounded on April 12 while superintending a bomb-throwing experiment, and had only just (8 May 1915) rejoined his regiment from the hospital at Boulogne when he was killed while leading his platoon in an attack. Mr. Bouchier was the elder son of Major A. C. F. Bouchier, Indian Army (retired), and Mrs. Bouchier, of Quainton Cottage, Chesham, Bucks, and grandson of the late Major General Sir George Bouchier, K.C.B., R.A. On his mother's side he was a great-grandson of Sir Hugh Wheeler, K.C.B., who was killed in the Indian Mutiny. He was twenty-four years of age; he became a Catholic when he was fourteen, and was educated at St. Edmund's College, Old Hall, Ware, Herts. His brother, an old choir-boy of Westminster Cathedral, is at present a lieutenant in the Royal Scots, preparing also to go to the Front.

And from 'Wisden on the Great War' – The Lives of Crickets Fallen 1914-1918

Arthur Bouchier 'was a very useful club cricketer. During one week's play in Devonshire in 1914 he scored 61, 42, 113 not out, 135 not out, 105 and 97.'

The Second Battalion of the Berkshires were involved in a confused raid on German trenches near Bac St Maur near Armentieres south of Ypres on 9/10 May 1915 where losses were incurred. It is feasible this is where Arthur Bouchier lost his life. If his body was recovered it was never identified.

His name on the Ploegstreet Memorial,



5

BOVILL, EDWARD HENRY

Rank: Second Lieutenant

Date of Death: 01/07/1916

Age: 29

Regiment/Service: London Regiment (Queen's Westminster Rifles)

1st/16th Bn. (A Company)

**No known grave. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial
Panel Reference Pier and Face 13 C.**



Edward Henry Bovill was the eldest son of John Henry and Mary Constance Bovill, of 'Buckland Cop' Buckland, Betchworth, Surrey. He was born in April 1887 and educated at Summerfields School Oxford, Harrow and Pembroke College, Cambridge

Edward was listed in The Baltic Exchange 'List of Members' in 1915 . Elected a member of the Exchange in 1914 for 'Bovill and Sons' (described as 'a wealthy City corn merchant') of 50 Mark Lane

Edward was not a son of the proprietor but clearly a family connection existed between him and the senior member of the Company Alfred Bovill (elected a member of the Exchange in 1880). Also listed as a

member is Alfred's son, Merric Warren (elected a member of the Exchange in 1912). Both of these are still listed as members in the 1920 Baltic 'List of Members'.

The 1/16th (County of London) Battalion (Queen's Westminster Rifles), The London Regiment were a territorial unit with Headquarters at 58 Buckingham Gate when war broke out in August 1914. They were part of the 4th London Brigade, 2nd London Division. They were mobilised and moved to the Hemel Hempstead area, being billeted in Leverstock Green in the late summer and early autumn of 1914, where they are commemorated with a stained glass window in the local church. They moved to France on the 3rd of November 1914, landing at Le Havre to join 18th Brigade, 6th Division. On the 10th of February 1916 they transferred to the newly reformed 169th Brigade, 56th (London) Division which concentrated in the Hallencourt area.

Edward became an Officer on 9 August 1915 and went to the front in March 1916. In July 1916 his battalion were destined for action on the Somme taking part in the diversionary attack at Gommecourt on the 1st of July.

Edward Bovill was killed on that day which was the first day of the Battle of the Somme. The 1st of July 1916 was also the worst day for casualties ever recorded for the British Army. Over 57,000 men became casualties that day, of which over 18,000 were killed.

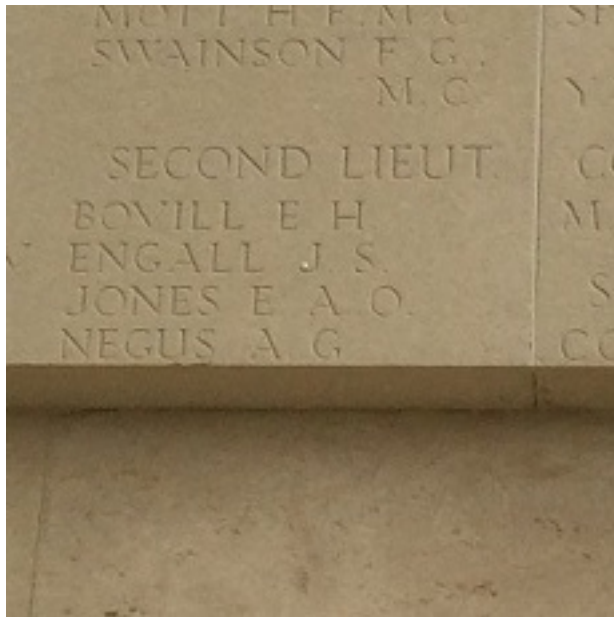
The attack on Gommecourt on the 1st of July is best described in *Martin Middlebrooks* book '*The First Day on the Somme*', but suffice to say the 56th London Division in conjunction with the 46th North Midland Division were supposed to surround the village of Gommecourt (At that time the most western point of the 1916 'Western Front').

Middlebrook describes the Westminster's as leading the attack to the rear of Gommecourt village to meet up with the North Midlanders. However the North Midlanders never made the 'Rendezvous' and the Westminster's had to retreat.

Edward Bovill had, although already wounded in the face as he left the British front line that that day, kept the attack going despite the loss of most of his senior officers and was one of the last to leave the German trenches, finally being killed on his return to the British Parapet, being hit by a bullet as he stepped into the trench and possible safety. He died before medical aid could help him and his body was subsequently lost in later fighting.

In the abortive diversionary attack at Gommecourt, the Queens Westminster Rifles suffered over 500 casualties losing 28 Officers and 475 men killed or wounded.

Edward Bovill's name on the Thiepval Memorial



Edward Bovill is also commemorated on the war memorial in Buckland Surrey together with his younger brother, 2nd Lt. J Eric Bovill of the 6th Dragoon Guards (The Carabiniers), who had died earlier on 23 January 1916.

The Buckland War Memorial's dedication to the pair reads:-

**1914-1918
'IN MEMORY OF THE MEN OF BUCKLAND
WHO FELL IN THE GREAT WAR'**

**2ND LT. EDWARD HENRY BOVILL - QUEENS WESTMINSTER RIFLES
2ND LT. JOHN ERIC BOVILL - 6TH DRAGOON GUARDS**

The following Page is from the Harrow Memorials of the Great War

2ND LIEUTENANT E. H. BOVILL

London Regiment (T.F.)

The Head Master's 01st-06th

Aged 29

July 1st, 1916

ELDER and only surviving son of John Henry Bovill (O.H.), and of Mary Constance Bovill, of Buckland, Betchworth, Surrey. His younger brother, 2nd Lieutenant J. E. Bovill, whose memoir appears on the following page, was killed in France on January 23rd, 1916.

Pembroke College, Cambridge, B.A. 1910 ; afterwards in business.

2nd Lieutenant Bovill was gazetted to the London Regiment in July, 1915, and went to the Front in March, 1916. On the 1st July he was wounded in the face the moment he got out of our trenches in the early morning, but continued to lead his men the whole day and was one of the last, if not the last, to leave the German trenches, out of which they were forced by sheer weight of numbers. His Regiment was cut to pieces, and he was shot dead late in the evening, just as he was getting back to our trenches.

His Colonel wrote :—

"After the early morning of Saturday last he was one of the very few Officers left in this Battalion, and, though wounded in that early morning, he most gallantly led and stayed with his men the whole day. He bore himself all that day as what he was—a very gallant gentleman."

A brother-officer wrote :—

"He led his Platoon as far into the German lines as anyone, and, though wounded, went on still leading what was left of his Platoon and was seen fighting with the utmost bravery in the German third line, firing his revolver, and throwing bombs. I believe his Platoon would have followed him anywhere."

BRISTOWE, STANLEY**Rank: Private****Service No: 206****Date of Death: 18/06/1915****Age: 22****Regiment/Service: Honourable Artillery Company (HAC) 1st Bn.**

He was the eldest son of Percy Robert and Elizabeth Frances Mary Bristowe of 'Roundwood', Hutton, Essex. He was born in Bromley on 29 May 1893. He was educated at Charterhouse.

He enlisted on 7 September 1914 at Armoury House in the City of London and went to France with the Battalion on 20 January 1915.



He is recorded as dying in hospital in St. Omer through illness contracted on active service and is buried in the CWGC Longuenesse (St.Omer) Souvenir Cemetery Grave Reference. Plot I. Row A. Grave 159.

The HAC was a Territorial unit and in September 1914 the 1st Battalion followed the British Expeditionary Force to France and fought in the 1st Battle of Ypres.

Stanley is last listed in The Baltic 'List of Members' in 1915 as a Clerk for 'Fr & A. Delcomyn' of 1 Fenchurch Avenue'

The Battalion War Diary for 5 -16 June 1915 records it as being in the Front Line near Hooze in Belgium on the Menin road. This was one of the most dangerous places on the Western Front.

St. Omer was the General Headquarters of the British Expeditionary Force from October 1914 to March 1916. Lord Roberts died there in November 1914. The town was a considerable hospital centre with the 4th, 10th, 7th Canadian, 9th Canadian and New Zealand Stationary Hospitals, the 7th, 58th (Scottish) and 59th (Northern) General Hospitals, and the 17th, 18th and 1st and 2nd Australian Casualty Clearing Stations were all stationed there at some time during the war. St. Omer suffered air raids in November 1917 and May 1918, with serious loss of life.

CLOW, FREDERICK HENRY STANLEY

Rank: Sergeant

Service No: 14299

Date of Death: 09/09/1916

Regiment/Service: Northamptonshire Regiment 1st Battalion.

Born 1894 in Hoxton and enlisted in Westminster.

**No known grave. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial
Panel Reference Panel Reference Pier and Face 11 A and 11 D.**

Frederick Henry Stanley Clow is last listed in the Baltic 'List of Members' for 1915 working as a Clerk for John Chapman & Co of 101 Leadenhall Street. This Company is absent from the list of members for 1916.

**The Northamptonshire Regiment was a regular army unit.
On 9 September 1916 during the Battle of the Somme they took part in an attack on the infamous 'High Wood' (described by those who took part as "... *ghastly by day, ghostly by night...*")**

A Mine Crater was exploded under the German lines just inside High Wood and on 9 September 1916 it was the 1st Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment's task to occupy it. It is recorded that they were bombed out of the crater after just 90 minutes. Frederick Clow was killed and if his body ever recovered it was not identified. Details of the 1st Northants attack that day are detailed in the book '*The Hell they called High Wood*' by Terry Norman.

The Battalion War Diary records 4 Officers and 135 other ranks as casualties that day.

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COATES, HAROLD EDWARD

Rank: Major

Date of Death: 03/05/1917

Age: 33

Regiment/Service: The King's (Liverpool Regiment) 13th Bn.

No known grave . He is commemorated on the Arras Memorial Panel Reference Bay 3.

He was the son of William Henry Coates, of 11, Eaton Rd., Birkenhead, and Mary Coates. Harold Edward was born on 30 October 1883 and educated at Cloughton Collegiate School on the Wirral and the Birkenhead Institute.



He volunteered in September 1914 joining the Wiltshire Regiment in September 1914 and was 'Gazetted as 2nd Lieutenant to the 15th Liverpool battalion on the 18th December. Further promoted to full Lieutenant on 7 October 1915, to Captain on 8 April 1916 and eventually to Major from 11 March 1917. He served on the Western front from September 1916 when he also transferred to the 13th Battalion of the King's Regiment (Liverpool) Regiment.

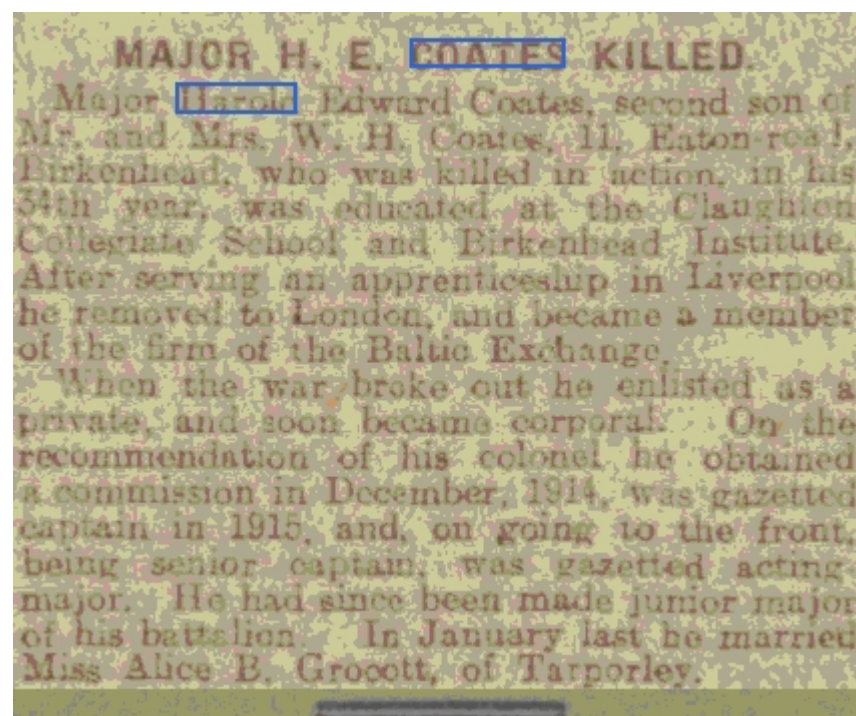
He was married to Alice Bithell Coates (maiden name Grocott) and he had only married on 10 January 1917 at Bunbury Parish Church in Cheshire, close to Alice's home.

Last listed in The Baltic 'List of Members' in 1916 as a Clerk for 'Thornett & Fehr' of 27 Leadenhall Street

In April and May 1917 the 13th 'Kings Liverpool' (A 'Pals' Battalion) took part in the 'Battle of Arras' seeing action at the date of Harold Coates death in actions at the 'Scarpe' (Third Battle). On 3 May 1917 the

Battalion attacked from a village called Monchy-Le Preux to try and reach the 'Wotanstellung', a major German defensive fortification. The Battalion's War Diary for that day records a total of 305 casualties.

Kind thanks to the Alun L Hughes of the Birkenhead Institute Old Boys for supplying his photograph and other articles from a local paper of the time.



gloriously completed at the post of duty. — *Cont.*

COATES, HAROLD EDWARD, Major, 13th (Service) Battn. The King's (Liverpool Regt.), 2nd s. of William Henry Coates, of 11, Eaton Road, Birkenhead, General Broker, by his wife, Mary, dau. of the late William Lupton; *b.* Birkenhead, co. Chester, 30 Oct. 1883; educ. Cloughton Collegiate School, and Birkenhead Institute; subsequently entered the employ of an eminent firm of General Merchants, whom he represented on the Baltic Exchange; joined the Wiltshire Regt. as a Private in Sept. 1914, after the outbreak of war; was gazetted 2nd Lieut. 15th Liverpool Regt. 18 Dec. following; promoted Lieut. 7 Oct. 1915, Capt. 8 April, 1916, and Major 21 May, 1917, antedated as from 11 March; served with the Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders from Sept. 1916, when he transferred to the 13th Battn.; acted as Major from Nov. 1916, to 19 Jan. 1917, and was killed in action to the east of Monchy-le-Preux 3 May following. Buried where he fell. He *m.* at Bunbury Parish Church, 10 Jan. 1917, Alice Bithell, dau. of Edward Albert Grocott, of Haughton, Tarporley, co. Chester.

CODLING, ALBERT VICTOR**Rank: Rifleman Service No: S/37699****Date of Death: 04/04/1918****Age: 19****Regiment/Service: Rifle Brigade 9th Bn.****He is buried in Villers-Bretonneux Military Cemetery Grave Reference IV. D. 2.****Son of Ellen R. Underwood (formerly Codling), of 16, Grafton Rd. South, Plaistow, London.****Albert Victor Codling was part of the Exchange Staff.****The Rifle Brigade (Prince Consort's Own) was an infantry rifle regiment the British Army formed in January 1800. The 9th Battalion was mainly made up of volunteers from the outbreak of World War I.****9 April 1918 saw the limit of the German advance of their Spring offensive (The German code named 'Kaiserslacht' offensive launched against the British front on 21 March 1918)****The Battalion War Diary for the 4 April records that it was located at the 'Bois de Blangy' between Amiens and Villers-Bretonneux as at 6am, a bombardment in which it suffered 30/40 casualties followed by an enemy attack at 10am in which a further 197 casualties occurred.****Albert was a member of the Exchange Staff. In the 1901 Census his family is listed as living at 40, Corporation St West Ham.****His Brother, William George Codling, was killed in action 11 days later on 15 April 1918 fighting with the 7th London Regiment.**



COLE, CYRIL CHARLES

Rank: 2nd Lieutenant according to Baltic Roll of Honour and the 'National Archives' but the CWGC records he is a Captain in the newly formed Royal Air Force (RAF) at the Air Ministry but formerly Essex Regiment. This probably refers to his Army Rank as according to the 'National Archives' he was a member of the 13th Battalion Essex Regiment attached simply attached to the RAF (*The Baltic's Roll of Honour War states 12th Essex Regiment*).

Date of Death: According to the 'National Archive' 14 November 1918 – however according the CWGC his date of death is recorded as 2 November 1918.

Age: 28

Born on 18 May 1890.

He is buried in the 'City of London Cemetery and Crematorium, Manor Park London' - Grave reference 197. 90112

Cyril is last listed in the Baltic 'List of Members' for 1917 working as a Clerk for 'Harris Bros & Co' of Exchange Chambers, St Mary Axe.

Cyril joined up on 7 June 1915 (Taking the Oath at Lincolns Inn) and was selected for Officer training with the 'Inns of Court 'Officer Training Corp' (OTC). Records give his home address as 4 Park Road, Wanstead Park, Essex. He was discharged in Berkhamstead from the OTC '*On Appointment to a Commission*' on 20 August 1915 with a character reference of '*Very Suitable*'! . Next of kin listed as his wife Gracie Louise Cole.

His medical inspection report on joining the Officer Training Corp (OTC) lists him as being 5ft 10ins with a '*Good*' physical development. On joining the OTC he requested a '*desire*' on being commissioned to join a '*Newly formed Battalion of (a) South Eastern County Regiment*'. This he did and despite the Baltic Roll of Honour stating that he was a member of the '*12th Essex*' the official record states he joined the '*13th Battalion, Essex Regiment*'.

The '*13th Essex*' was known as 13th (Service) Battalion (West Ham) known as the 'West Ham Pals Battalion' It was formed at West Ham on 27 December 1914 by the Mayor and Borough and moved to Brentwood

in May 1915. In August 1915 it moved to Clipstone Camp in Nottinghamshire.

The Battalion landed in Boulogne on 17 November 1915 and was 'disbanded' in France on 10 February 1918 . The Battalion fought on the Somme in July 1916 and suffered particularly badly at Delville Wood and Guillemont. After the disbanding of the Battalion Cyril was 'attached' to the 'Royal Air Force' (RAF) which was had only been formed in April 1918. It is particularly poignant that Cyril died on or around the Armistice date of 1918.

His cause of death is not listed – however the likelihood is Death due to the Spanish Flu epidemic of late 1918.

CUTHBERT, GORDON

Rank: Captain

Date of Death: 25/04/1915

Age: 38

Regiment/Service: Middlesex Regiment 1st/8th Bn.

No known grave – Commemorated on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial Panel Reference Panel 49 and 51.



Born on 14th August 1874 and the son of Henry Westell Cuthbert of Charlton, Staines and educated at Clifton College Bristol. Husband of Eleanor Cuthbert.

He joined the London Rifle Brigade in 1894 and was made a 2nd Lieut of the 2nd Volunteer Brigade of the Middlesex Regiment in 1900 and entered the Territorial Reserve in 1908. he rejoined the Middlesex Regiment 8th battalion on the outbreak of War in August 1914 and proceeded to Gibraltar for garrison duty until February 1915. In March 1915 he was on the Western Front

He is last listed in The Baltic 'List of Members' in 1914 for representing 'Cuthbert and Hall', 7 Fenchurch Street. Elected a member of the Exchange in 1903. The 1914 'List of Members' indicates he was a Partner in the Company with one Archibald Hall (Elected as a member of the Exchange in 1888).

The 1916 'List of Members' shows that 'Cuthbert and Hall' was still in existence after the death of Gordon Cuthbert and was still operational into the 1920's. In 1915 Archibald Hall had taken on one William Jesse Witney who had been elected a Member of the Exchange the same year. The Company retained the name 'Cuthbert and Hall'.

The 1/8th Middlesex Regiment was a Territorial Unit. In April 1915 the Battalion's four Companies were in Reserve in the Ypres Salient when the 2nd Battle of Ypres began on 22 April 1915 when the German Army used Chemical Weapons (Chlorine Gas) for the first time in their attack. The Middlesex were involved in the desperate fighting to save Ypres.

He was killed leading a 'storming party' which retook a trench near Ypres that had been vacated by another battalion owing to gas.

Captain Gordon Cuthbert was killed at this time and his body, if ever recovered, was never identified.

Apart from his wife Eleanor he left three children aged 10 / 7 and 4.

Gordon Cuthbert's name on the Menin Gate.



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DEWAR, JAMES EVAN

Rank: Second Lieutenant

Date of Death: 08/10/1916

Regiment/Service: London Regiment (London Rifle Brigade) 5th Battalion.

Age: 29

He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial Panel Reference Pier and Face 9 D.



Born on 1 December 1886 in Putney, the youngest son of at least six children of James and Edith Dewar of 1 Colinette Road, Putney.

Educated at Parkfields School, Haywards Heath and afterwards at Haileybury College (1901 – 1904). James was a well-known member of the London Rowing Club and rowed in the London eight at Henley and also competed for the Diamond Sculls in 1910 and 1911.

He married Phyllis Catherine Cooke in 1911 and lived at 41 Rusholme Road, Putney and had two children Catherine born in 1912 and James born in 1914.

James enlisted as a Private (8053) in the Inns of Court Officer Training Corp (OTC) on 1 December 1915. He served in the 3rd and 6th Companies and gained promotion to lance corporal. He was gazetted to the 5th Battalion London Regiment on 7th July 1916.

Last listed in the Baltic 'List of Members' for 1916 working as a Clerk for Capel, Cure & Co., Ltd Fenchurch House, 5 Fenchurch Street.

It also appears he was a member of Lloyds as he appears on the Lloyds War Memorial. He is also remembered on the Haileybury College War Memorial.

Killed on the Somme during the latter stages of the Battle in actions near Lesbœufs in what became known as the 'Battle of Transloy Ridges'. On 8 October 1916 the London Rifle Brigade is listed as attacking a German trench line called 'Hazy Trench' but, by nightfall, the attack had failed completely. James Evan Dewar's body if ever recovered was never identified.

The Battalion War Diary for the day complains of *'lack of equipment in the trenches', 'orders hastily written', 'maps almost non existent'* and that *'the morning was wet and the ground in a very heavy condition'*. 'Zero' (Going over the Top to attack) was scheduled for 3.30pm. The attack was not successful.

The Diary further records that James Dewar joined the Battalion as reinforcement only on 1 October 1916 – Eight days later he listed as missing.

The ferocity of the fighting for 'Hazy Trench' is recalled by a reproduction of a 'Daily Telegraph' report from October 1916 .

HAZY TRENCH.

SIX TIMES LOST AND WON.

FROM PERCEVAL GIBBON.

BRITISH HEADQUARTERS (FRANCE), TUESDAY.

Since Monday of last week the fighting east of Les Bœufs has ebbed and flowed between our positions below the village and the line of that German trench which, upon the trench-maps, was labelled Hazy. Six times, in the eight days and nights of the struggle, the tide of the attack lapped its crumbling parapet, and even overflowed it in places, but each time the stubborn Bavarians who held it came back and made it their own again. One by one we took and absorbed into our line the gunpits Zenith, Spectrum, and Dew-drop; only Hazy, upon the crest of the low ridge whence one can look forth to Le Transloy, held out. Yesterday our troops went up the slope again to take Hazy; Machine-gun and rifle fire from the crest of the ridge met them; but Hazy was due to be taken this time, and there was no check. A machine-gun which threatened to hold up a portion of them from its nest in a crater was rushed and its crew killed; and at the head of the slope there was fierce bayonet fighting, till the enemy was driven back - except for those who stayed permanently. But Hazy Trench, which they had gone to occupy, had vanished. There was no trench there. There was nothing - not even such a string of shell-holes as remained of Rainy when it was taken last week. There was the bald crown of the hill, upon which the giant shells had danced for a week like raindrops on a roof; there was the smirched and violated earth that had boiled in black geyser-spouts in the explosions; but there was no Hazy Trench. The bombardment had blown it literally out of the earth.

So, having adventured some way down the further slope, bayoneted a few more Germans who reared up from shell-holes to do battle for their lives, they returned to their own lines. There was no trench to occupy and hold; the guns had forestalled them. The fight was over. Thus Hazy Trench has eluded us; the fight which began last Monday week has ended with the winning of every one of its set objectives. Our line, which looked upon the map like a tangle of red thread, has shrugged itself forward and fallen again to a general parallel with the great German trench system which stands before Le Transloy.

The price we have paid has not been excessive by the standards of war, and we know that the Germans have lost heavily. We know it by the best of proof - by the number of their dead which lay upon the slopes in the rain till our burial parties put them out of sight, as well as from the accounts of prisoners who have fallen into our hands, dazed and unmanned, from trenches stamped under by our bombardment.

DIDIER, LEOPOLD

Date of Death: 8 August 1915

Age: 26

Record from the French Ministry of Defence 'Memoire Des Hommes':-

Mort pour la France le 08-08-1915

Leopold Auguste Joseph Didier

Carrière Gradesergent

Unité352e régiment d'infanterie (352e RI)

Mention Mort pour la France

Sépulture

Lieu de sépulture Vic-sur-Aisne (02 - Aisne, France)

Nom du site de sépulture Nécropole Nationale 'VIC-SUR-AISNE'

Type de sépulturetombe individuelle

Carré de la tombeA

Numéro de la tombe81

Last listed in the Baltic 'List of Members' for 1915. Elected as a member of the Baltic Exchange in 1914 representing 'Compagnie Universelle du Canal Maritime Suez' of 3 Whittington Avenue, London.

Leopold was born in Laeken Belgium on the 16th December 1888 - a residential suburb in north-west Brussels. Records indicate he was a reservist in the French Army as early as 1908.

He died of war wounds on 8 August 1915 at Attichy commune in the Oise Department in Northern France.

The 'City Press' of 14 August 1915 has the following article

'A Member of the Baltic'

Information has been received at the Baltic Exchange of the death of M.L.Didier, the London agent of the Suez Canal Company. He left London on August 2nd 1914, joined his regiment on the 3rd, and was in the battles on the Alsace frontier earlier this month. He received the 'Croix de Guerre' and the 'Medaille Militaire' and was twice mentioned in despatches. M. Didier who was a member of the Baltic Exchange had been in the service of the Suez Canal Company for many years and only last year was appointed agent in London.

DONAGHY, ROBERT ANDREW

Rank: Second Lieutenant

Date of Death: 28/05/1918

Age: 27 or 28

Regiment/Service: Royal Garrison Artillery North Riding Heavy Battery.

Robert was born in 1890 in Dalston.

No known grave - He is commemorated on the Soissons Memorial

Last listed in the Baltic 'List of Members' for 1917 as a member representing Charles Weis & Co., Ltd of 22 St. Mary Axe. Elected as a Member of the Exchange in 1911.

At the end of April 1918, five divisions of British Empire forces (IX Corps) were posted to the French 6th Army to rest and refit in this area following the German offensives on the Somme and Lys. Near Soissons, on 27 May 1918 they found themselves facing an overwhelming German attack which, despite fierce opposition, pushed the Allies back across the Aisne to the Marne. The British Army suffered 15,000 fatal casualties. Robert Andrew Donaghy died in this offensive and if his body was ever recovered it was never identified.

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DRUGHORN, WILLIAM FREDERICK**Rank: Private / Service No: STK/76****Date of Death: 15/07/1916****Age: 19 or 20****Regiment/Service: Royal Fusiliers 10th Bn.****Buried in Poziers British cemetery, Ovillers-La Boisselle Grave
Reference III. H. 13.**

He is last listed in the Baltic 'List of Members' for 1915 working as a Clerk for 'Fred Drughorn Ltd' of 85 Gracechurch Street. The senior of the Company is listed as J.F Drughorn who was elected a member of the Baltic Exchange in 1898. This was Sir John Frederick Drughorn, 1st Baronet (1 August 1862 – 23 February 1943) who was a Dutch born English Ship-owner

William Frederick is recorded as being born in Amsterdam in Holland 1896. In the 1911 Census he is recorded as living in Beckenham.

The 10th (Service) Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers was formed in City of London in August 1914 after Kitchener's call, at the outbreak of war, for volunteers. It was a locally raised Battalion and had the unofficial title of the 'Stockbrokers' – a 'Pals' Battalion made up of City employees. Recruiting began on 21 August 1914 under Major the Hon. R. White at the suggestion of Sir Henry Rawlinson, Director of Recruiting. In a letter dated 12 August 1914, he wrote: *'Many City employees would be willing to enlist*

if they were assured that they would serve with their friends'. By 27 August had received 1600 'City' volunteers into its ranks. In a History of the Battalion a gentleman called Leigh Wood assisted who had 'links with the Baltic Exchange'

Williams service number indicates he volunteered in the early part of the War.

The Battalion was inspected on 29 August by Lord Roberts in Temple Gardens and marched to the Tower of London's dry moat for a parade (known as Tower Ditch), to be sworn in by Lord Mayor, Sir W. Vansittart Bowater and proceeded to Colchester for training.

Throughout their service the original members of the Battalion called themselves 'Ditchers' because they had joined up in Tower ditch.

William was killed on the Somme when the 10th Battalion attacked Pozieres village from the South West on 15 July 1916.

The book *'The Stockbrokers Battalion in the Great War A History of the 10th (Service) Battalion Royal Fusiliers'* by David Carter records that the morning of the 15th July was 'looking to turn fine with early mist clearing'

The Battalion's War diary records that *'The 10RF moved forward at 9am...as they attacked Pozieres'* however the diary further records that *'forming up for the attack was not possible due to heavy machine gun fire and shelling which caused the Battalion to return to its original positions'*.

The record of *'Soldiers Died in the Great War'* show that 4 Officers and 64 other ranks died in this failed attack.

William Frederick's father was born in Amsterdam as the oldest son of the shipping agent Johannes Jacobus Drughorn (1839–1867) and Frederica Christina Kessler, both from Amsterdam.

At the age of 20, already in charge of his father's business, John Frederick Drughorn married Roosje Moses Piller. (Born 1863, Purmerend Holland). The couple had three children in Amsterdam but divorced in 1908. Roosje Moses Drughorn (William's Mother) was a victim of the Holocaust and was murdered in the Sobibor extermination camp in Poland in 1943 aged 80.

John Frederick Drughorn was a director of Fred Drughorn, Ltd, the Anglo-Brazilian Line, Ltd, and the British and Continental Estates, Ltd. In 1915, he was convicted in England of trading with the enemy. Apparently his vessels had transported Iron Ore from Sweden to Holland (Both neutral) but the Iron Ore's final destination was Germany. He was fined a minimal amount and apparently changed his name during the trial.

Despite that history and the death of his son at the hands of the German Army, in 1922, he successfully purchased a baronetcy (of Ifield Hall in Sussex) as part of the Lloyd George Honours scandal. He died in February 1943, aged eighty. He had a surviving daughter, but no surviving sons and the baronetcy died with him

DUNCAN, HERBERT RICHARD

Rank: Lieutenant

Date of Death: 26/04/1919

Age: 39

Regiment/Service: Royal Army Service Corps (RAMC)

He is buried in Peterculter Churchyard, Aberdeenshire Grave Reference 40.

Herbet was the son of Mr. W. T. and Mrs. S. E. Duncan, of Rydal Mount, Heath Road, Weybridge, Surrey.

Herbert Duncan is last listed in the Baltic 'List of Members' for 1918 working as a Clerk for Mann & Cook of 7 St.Michael's Alley Cornhill.

The Royal Army Service Corps (RASC) was a corps of the British Army responsible for land, coastal and lake transport, air despatch, barracks administration, the Army Fire Service, staffing headquarters' units, supply of food, water, fuel and domestic materials such as clothing, furniture and stationery and the supply of technical and military equipment.

What the circumstances are of Herbert Richard being in Aberdeen in 1919 as part of the RAMC are, as yet, unknown. His 'Death Certificate' indicates that he died of 'Pulmonary Tuberculosis'. His Death Certificate describes his Father William's profession as 'Merchant'. The Certificate also indicates that Herbert's rank to be '2nd Lieutenant' and confirms that he was not married.

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DUXBURY, ANDREW MARSHALL

Rank: - Commonwealth War Graves Commission record his rank as Lieutenant – The Baltic War Memorial lists his rank as Captain

Date of Death: 30/03/1918

Age: 26

**Regiment/Service: Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry 1st Bucks. Bn.
Attached to the 6th Bn.**

Awards: Military Cross

**No known grave – He is commemorated on the Poziers Memorial Panel
Reference Panel 50 and 51.**

**Son of Mrs. Ellen Duxbury, of 6, Leaside Mansions, Muswell Hill,
London, and the late Rae Duxbury.**

**Records indicate Second Lieutenant Andrew Marshall of the 6/Oxford &
Bucks Light Infantry was awarded his Military Cross on 1 January
1918.**

**Last listed in the Baltic 'List of Members' for 1918 working as a Clerk
for 'Andrew Weir & Co' of 21 Bury Street.**

**The 6th (Service) Battalion was disbanded in France on 15 February
1918 with some troops going to 2/4th Battalion . This Battalion was in
the forefront of the 'Kaiserslacht' offensive which was launched
against the British front on 21 March 1918. At the end of March the
Battalion were involved in counter attacks against the Germans near
Villers Bretonneux. After a week of heavy fighting in early April all that
were left of the 2/4th Oxfords were withdrawn for rest and
reorganisation west of Amiens – Andrew Duxbury was not with them
having presumably been killed and his body lost in the counter attacks.**

EDWARDS, WILLIAM

Rank: Captain

Date of Death: 28/03/1918 (Died of wounds)

Regiment/Service: Army Service Corps (R.A.S.C) Attached 7th Bn. 'The King's Shropshire Light Infantry'

Buried in Doullens Communal Cemetery Grave Reference: III. A. 16.

After his Death his Estate was not settled until 1934 and lists his address at the time of his Death as Beech House, Dane Street, Bishops Stortford, Hertfordshire.

After the German offensive of March 1918 - which threatened to split the British and French Armies apart - Doullens was the scene of the vital conference in the same month which saw Marshal Foch take supreme command of the Allied forces which some would argue prevented an Allied defeat.

It was also from March 1916 the base of the British Empires 19th Casualty Clearing Station and was followed quickly by the 41st, the 35th and the 11th. By the end of 1916, these had given way to the 3rd Canadian Stationary Hospital (which stayed until June 1918) and the 2/1st Northumbrian Casualty Clearing Station whose medical units buried their dead, until April 1918, in the communal cemetery.

In March and April 1918 the German advance and the desperate fighting on this front threw a severe strain on the Canadian Stationary Hospital and it Captain William Edwards was one such casualty from this fighting. He died of Wounds.

He is last listed in the Baltic 'List of Members' for 1917 working as a Clerk for Webb & Kenward, Ltd of Holland House, Bury Street.

The 7th (Service) Battalion of the Kings Shropshire Light Infantry (KSLI) was a war-raised Service Battalion (Pals Battalion) formed in Shrewsbury in September 1914, landed at Boulogne on 28 September 1915 and served entirely on the Western Front.



***Men of the 7th Kings Shropshire Light Infantry "just out of the trenches"
near Arras, March 1917.***

The 7th suffered more casualties than any other KSLI Battalion, with 1048 killed in action or died during the war, and earned more battle honours than any other KSLI battalion.

7th Battalion Battle Honours:

France and Flanders 1915 ; France and Flanders 1916 ; France and Flanders 1917 ; France and Flanders 1918 ; Mount Sorrel; Somme 1916* ; Albert 1916 ; Bazentin ; Delville Wood; Arras 1917* ; Scarpe 1917 ; Arleux ; Ypres 1917 ; Polygon Wood; Somme 1918; St.Quentin ; Bapaume 1918 ; Arras 1918 ; Lys ; Estaires ; Hazebrouk ; Bethune ; Albert 1918 ; Bapaume 1918 ; Canal du Nord ; Selle.

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FIGG, DONALD WHITLEY

Rank: Lieutenant Colonel

Date of Death: 05/03/1917

Age: 31

Regiment/Service: London Regiment 24th Bn. and Royal Fusiliers

Awards: Distinguished Service Order (D S O), Chevalier of the Legion of Honour. (France).

**He is buried in Hem Farm Military Cemetery, Hem-Mocacu Grave
Reference: I. G. 9. (Hem-Monacu is a village about 13 kilometres south-east of Albert, a little south of the road from Albert to Peronne and north of the River Somme)**

Donald was the son of William and Maria Figg, of "Ridgecrest", Earlswood Common, Surrey. He was born on 17 March 1886 and lived at 'The Garlands', Redhill, Surrey. He attended Mill Hill School between 1899 to 1902.

He is last listed in the Baltic 'List of Members' for 1916 working as a Clerk for J.H.Vavasseur & Co., Ltd of 15/16 America Square.



D. W. FIGG.

He was commissioned on 13 August 1914 in the 24th (County of London) Battalion, The London Regiment (The Queen's), Territorial Force described at the (2nd Sportsman's)..

Donald was killed by a sniper's bullet at Clery on the Somme on 5 March 1917.

Donald Figg's citation for his award of the DSO was listed in the 'The Times' of 5 July 1915 as follows:-

'For conspicuous and continuous gallantry on the night of 25th-26th May 1915, and following day at Givenchy, when, after taking part in an assault on a trench, he led repeated rushes with bombs into a German work, and when most of the bombers were killed continued the attack single-handed. His extraordinary bravery and disregard of danger enabled the dangerous flank he commanded to hold its own against constant assaults by the German bombers and riflemen. On May 26th, when his line was enfiladed by rifle and very heavy shell fire, his determination held his men to their ground until relieved four hours later. For seventeen hours his conduct was a brilliant example to the hard-pressed men around him, and more than anyone in the battalion he contributed to the successful retention of the position won'

His rank at this time was 'Second Lieutenant'

It seems for the same action he was awarded the Chevalier of the Legion of Honour by France on 24 February 1916 when his rank is described as 'Temporary Captain'. This was published in the 'London Gazette Issue 29486' and states 'Legion of Honour, Croix de Chevalier. The President of the French Republic has bestowed the decoration of the Legion of Honour, Croix de Chevalier, with the approval of His Majesty the King, on this Officer, in recognition of his distinguished service during the campaign'

The Distinguished Service Order (DSO) was instituted on 6 September 1886 by Queen Victoria. The DSO was awarded to Donald Whiteley Figg for meritorious or distinguished service during wartime.

The order was established for rewarding individual instances of meritorious or distinguished service in war. It was a military order, until recently for officers only and normally given for distinguished services during active operations against the enemy.

It is typically awarded to officers ranked Major (or its equivalent) or higher, but the honour has sometimes been awarded to especially valourous junior officers.

After his death, writing to his parents, a Lieut - Colonel Carr who was on earlier active service with Donald wrote:-

'It was with great grief that we heard of the death of your son Donald and I wish to let you know how we all - officers and men - deeply sympathise with you and your family in your great trouble.

I am sure it is superfluous for me to tell you how much he was loved and admired by all ranks in the battalion. It has been my privilege to serve with him both before and during the war, and he was one of the finest soldiers and best men I ever met.

We were awfully sorry to part with him when he got his promotion several weeks ago, but we were pleased that he received this distinction, which his merits deserved, and looked forward to his getting higher promotion in the profession of a soldier he had adopted.

He has made the supreme sacrifice and we can only hope and pray that it may not have been in vain. Your son was a really good Christian man without – if I may say it – being aggressively so, and I am sure that he exercised great influence for good amongst those who came into contact with him. He was a model that I wished all my subalterns to follow, and I am sure that his fine example has inspired some of them to become better soldiers and men.

I am saying so much what he has done for us, because I do hope it may be of some comfort to you in your sorrow to have this assurance, that not only had he contributed largely to the distinction this battalion has won, but he has assisted greatly in keeping up the good 'tone'.

I have lost a comrade and friend. I have lost many in this war, but his loss has effected me more deeply than I can attempt to tell you.

'Dulce at decorum est pro patria mori'. Many of us can say 'I thank God for every remembrance of him'.

He died serving with the Royal Fusiliers having being transferred only a few weeks before his death.



FISHER, THOMAS**Rank: Private****Service No: 513852****Date of Death: 01/07/1917****Regiment/Service: London Regiment (London Scottish) 1st/14th Bn.****He is buried in Wancourt British Cemetery - Grave Reference: I. B. 41.****Husband of J. Fisher, of 23, Natal Rd., Thornton Heath, Surrey.****Enlisted in Croydon****He is last listed in the Baltic 'List of Members' for 1917 working as a Clerk for 'Black, Moore & Co' of 5 East India Avenue.**

The London Regiment was first formed in 1908 in order to regiment the 26 Volunteer Battalions in the newly formed County of London. The London Scottish had been originally founded in 1859 as part of a volunteer force sponsored by 'The Highland Society of London' and the 'Caledonian Society of London' and was named 'The London Scottish Rifle Volunteer' In 1914 they were 14th County of London Regiment consisting of 1st/14th and 2/14th Battalions of the London Regiment and were and are still based in Westminster . - Before the Great War they were an unusual battalion of the British Army as to join the unit a soldier had to be either Scottish, or of Scottish descent. He also had to pay a joining fee; the money being used for regimental funds. Before 1914 this fee was ten pounds, an enormous sum; it was done to ensure that the men who joined the rank and file of the regiment were from Middle Class families and not the back streets of London. It was a popular regiment and on the outbreak of war was almost a full establishment; unusual for Territorial battalions which were normally under-strength. It was also one of the best equipped; the regimental funds ensured that the London 'Jocks' were the only battalion in the army with the latest Vickers Machine Guns for example. It marched to war in September 1914 and fought at Messines on Halloween 1914; becoming the first Territorial infantry battalion to see action in the Great War.

The 1st/14th's Battalion War Diary for June 1917 describes an attack on it during its time in the front line near the village of Guimappe just south east of Arras. This was on 28 June and the Diary records a small attack by 20/30 Germans on 'C' Company holding a small outpost in what looks like a trench raid. In this attack 10 Casualties are reported as 1 missing and 9 wounded and no other casualties are recorded around

the date of Thomas Fisher's death. Although the Diary does not mention Thomas Fisher by name, it seems therefore likely he could well have been one of the wounded in this small action, succumbing to those wounds just a few days later and then being buried in Wancourt which is a village about 8 kilometres south-east of Arras and also the next to the village of Guimappe.



GEORGE, WILLIAM KING**Rank: Captain****Date of Death: 25/01/1915****Age: 33****Regiment/Service: Gloucestershire Regiment****3rd Bn. attached. "D" Coy. 1st Bn.****Buried in Guards Cemetery, Windy Corner, Cuinchy Grave Reference: I. J. 19.****William was the son of Mr. and Mrs. S. King George, of The Brackens, Ascot, Berks; husband of Noelle George.****He is last listed in the Baltic 'List of Members' for 1914 working as a Clerk for Mann, George & Co., of 23 Lime Street.****Captain George was killed in action on 25 January 1915 near La Bassee.**

The main 'Battle of La Bassée' was fought by German and Franco-British forces in northern France in October 1914, during reciprocal attempts by the opposing armies to envelop the northern flank of their opponent, which has been called the 'Race to the Sea'. In early November 1914 'stalemate' was reached here and both sides 'dug in' to form what became part of the Western Front. However in late January and early February 1915, German and British troops conducted raids and local attacks in actions known as the 'Affairs of Cuinchy' On 25 January a large German attack occurred here. The German infantry reached the Allied strong-points behind the support line but could not advance further. A hasty counter-attack at Givenchy drove the Germans back and re-captured the British trenches, taking 72 prisoners and killing 135 German soldiers.

The Battalion War Diary for 25 January 1915 describes the German attack is described in graphic terms. In the trenches close to Givenchy Les La Bassee 'At 7.30 am a rocket was sent up (from the German lines) which apparently was to signal for the infantry to attack' ...'We were able at once to bring effective rifle fire to bear on them, causing many of them to retire to their trenches but large numbers still came on being eventually brought to a standstill 40 to 50 yards off our trenches' ...At this time Captain Richard and Capt George both belonging to D Company were killed'

Cuinchy is a village about 7 kilometres east of the town of Bethune . The Cemetery is about 1 km north-west of the village on a cross roads known as Windy Corner, and the first burials were in January 1915.

GOLDS, GORDON BREWER

Rank: Second Lieutenant

Date of Death: 01/07/1916

Age 28/29

**Regiment/Service: The King's (Liverpool Regiment)
18th Bn.**

Born 1887 in Worthing

**Commemorated in Dantzig Alley British Cemetery, Mametz - Vernon
Street Cemetery Memorial**

**Last listed in the Baltic 'List of Members' for 1915 working as a Clerk for
Samual Sanday & Co of Exchange Chambers, St Mary Axe.**

**Gordon Brewer Golds was killed on the first day of the Somme, almost
certainly in the first 'waves' of the attack that day.**

**The 18th Battalion The King's (Liverpool Regiment) - also known as the
2nd Liverpool 'Pals' Battalion were, on the 1st July 1916, tasked together
with 19th Manchester in capturing the village of Montauban on the
extreme right of the British line. The task was successful (one of the rare
British success stories that day) however the 2nd Liverpool Pals suffered
grievous losses from heavy machine-gun fire during its advance.**

**Gordon Brewer Golds was initially buried in a Cemetery called Vernon
Street Cemetery in the valley between Carnoy and Maricourt at a place
called 'Squeak Forward Position', but his body was 'lost' during
subsequent shellfire. His name is listed on a special Memorial in
Dantzig Alley Cemetery (so named after a German trench around which
the cemetery was started).**



GORDON, ADRIAN CHARLES

Rank: Lieutenant Colonel

Date of Death: 12/12/1917

Age: 26

Regiment/Service: Royal Field Artillery 235th Brigade.

Awards: D S O and Mentioned in Despatches

He is buried in Ruyaul Court Military Cemetery Grave Reference: G. 10.



He was the son of Charles Wood Gordon and Florence Gordon.

Gordon is last listed in the Baltic 'List of Members' for 1917 as a member representing R.Gordon & Co of 36 Lime Street. He was elected as a full Member of the Exchange in 1909.

Adrian Charles Gordon was born at Enfield on 4 July 1891- the son of Charles Wood Gordon (described in records as a 'Shipowner'), and his wife Florence Gordon.

He was educated at Bishop's Stortford School.

In early in 1915 he went to France as Major.

He was mentioned in Despatches, and was created a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order [*London Gazette*, 4 Nov. 1915]: which was described as follows:

"Adrian Charles Gordon, Major, 16th County of London Battery, 6th London Brigade, Royal Field Artillery, Territorial Force.

For conspicuous gallantry, ability and resource at Maroc 25 Sept. 1915, when he got close up to the German lines to reconnoitre, and although under heavy fire, captured 12 Germans, after shooting one man with a

revolver. On the afternoon of the same day he again went up to reconnoitre the enemy's second line under very heavy fire. On the following day Major Gordon rendered valuable service at Loos by reorganizing men who had become detached and taking them to the firing line."

The following record is taken from a publication called the *"Truth,"* of 10 November 1915:

"Of all the brave deeds done at the Battles of Loos, one of the bravest was that of Major Adrian Charles Gordon, Commanding the 16th County of London Territorial Force, who while reconnoitring on 25 Sept 1915, close up to the German lines, cut off 12 German soldiers, who were holding a trench, and after shooting one of them, ordered the others to hold up their hands and file past him as his prisoners. If ever a D.S.O. was well earned, it was by Major Gordon."

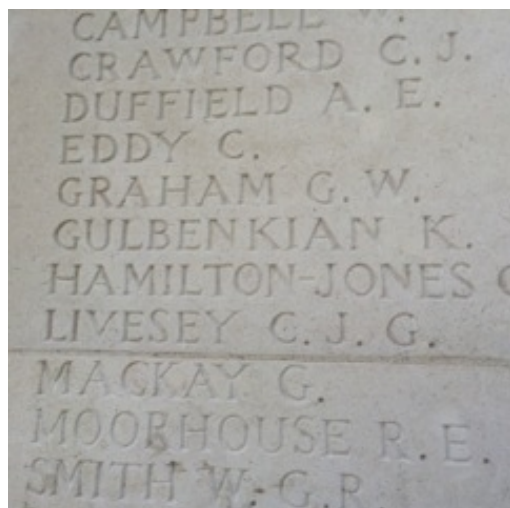
He was made Lieut.-Colonel in 1916. Lieut.-Colonel Gordon fell in action on the 12th December 1917. The Chaplain of the Brigade wrote as follows to his widow:

"He was one of the finest commanding officers that any brigade could have. He had all the qualities which go to make the ideal leader of men, and they would have followed him anywhere. He died just after the accomplishment of the greatest achievement in his military career, after having done something with his brigade which it will be given to few artillery officers to be able to do. His name has been on everybody's lips in this Division, and not in this division alone. Further honours would certainly have come to him in the near future"

His Brigade's War Diary records that on 12 December 1917 it was in position between Havrincourt and Flesquieres near Cambrai when on this date 'At 4pm Lt.Col. Gordon was killed by an odd shell and was buried on the 13th December in Ruyaul Court'

Ruyaulcourt Cemetery lies 500 metres north of the village in the Department of the Pas-de-Calais 11 kilometres east of Bapaume on the D7 and 19 kilometres south-west of Cambrai.

GREEN, HENRY MORRIS**Rank: Captain****Date of Death: 04/08/1916****Regiment/Service: Royal Fusiliers 9th Bn .****Henry is buried in Tincourt New British Cemetery - Grave Reference: VIII. F. 11.****He is last listed in the Baltic 'List of Members' for 1916 working as a Clerk for Shaw, Adams & Co 78 Gracechurch Street.****As well as the Baltic Exchange War memorial he is also remembered on a memorial at Abbey Road Baptist Church West Hampstead****Captain Henry Morris is another casualty of the 'Somme'. The 9th Royal Battalion is on 4 August 1916 (The date of his death) recorded as making a frontal assault on a trench called 'Ration Trench' located between villages called Poziers and O villiers north of the town of Albert . The 9th Royal Fusiliers are listed as losing 12 officers and 285 other ranks that day and it seems likely Captain Green was one of the officers.****Tincourt is a village about 7 kilometres east of Peronne on the Somme and the cemetery was only begun in June 1917. After the Armistice it was used for the reburial of soldiers found on the battlefield, or buried in small French or German cemeteries. The original 'Grave Registration document' shows an initially unidentified British Soldier being identified as Captain Green and it is likely his body was found in the post war clearances of the battlefields to be buried in Tincourt after the Armistice.**

GULBENKIAN, KRIKOR G**Rank: Second Lieutenant****Date of Death: 20/09/1917****Age: 26****Regiment/Service: Middlesex Regiment 23rd Bn.****Memorial – Tyne Cot Memorial / Panel Reference: Panel 113 to 115.**

Son of Garabed and Marie Gulbenkian, of 2, Holland Park Avenue, Notting Hill, London.

He is last listed in the Baltic 'List of Members' for 1916 working as a Clerk for 'Gulbenkian Bros & Co., of 17 Gracechurch Street. The Company is listed in 1917 as having just one member a Badrig Gulbenkian (Krikor's brother?) who was elected a member of the Exchange in 1913.

Second Lieutenant Krikor (Kriber) Serovpe Gulbenkian was born in 1891, at Kensington, the son of Ottoman Armenian parent Garabed, described as a 'Commission Merchant,' and Marie Gulbenkian, of Talas and Constantinople, respectively. Gulbenkian received his education at St Paul's School before entering his father's business. At the time of the 1911 census, Krikor was working as a clerk to his father while living with his family at 2 Holland Park, Notting Hill.

Gulbenkian enlisted on the outbreak of war with the Germany in 1914, joining the Middlesex Regiment as a 1st class signaller. After being recommended for a commission in February 1917, Gulbenkian trained as an officer in Britain before returning to the Western Front as a second lieutenant on 1 September 1917. His death came just nineteen days later, on the 20 September in the 'Third Battle of Ypres' (commonly known as the 'Passchendaele offensive) while serving with the 23rd (Service) Battalion (2nd Football), The Middlesex Regiment.

The 23rd (Service) (2nd Football) Battalion was formed in London by the Rt. Hon. W Joynson Hicks MP. on 29 June 1915 and was so named due the large proportion of professional footballers in its ranks.

The action that Krikor Gulbenkian was involved with was called 'The Battle of the Menin Road Ridge', sometimes called "Battle of the Menin Road", this was the third British general attack of the 'Third Battle of Ypres'. The battle took place 20–25 September 1917.

His Battalion's War diary for the 20 September describes an attack it took part in near an area called 'Mountsorrel' east of Ypres. *At 5.40 am (Zero Hour for the attack) Corps move out under barrage. After stiff fighting with heavy casualties the Battalion captured and consolidated its position'*

The exact circumstances of Krikor's death are unknown and his body if ever found was not identified.

HAIN, EDWARD

Rank: Captain

Date of Death: 11/11/1915

Age: 28

Regiment/Service: Royal 1st Devon Yeomanry (Territorial Force)

Buried in Hill 10 Cemetery Grave Reference I. F. 18.

Hill 10 Cemetery is in Turkey in the Gallipoli Peninsular.

The eight month campaign in Gallipoli was fought by Commonwealth and French forces in an attempt to force Turkey out of the war, to relieve the deadlock of the Western Front in France and Belgium, and to open a supply route to Russia through the Dardanelles and the Black Sea.

The Allies landed on the peninsula on 25-26 April 1915; the 29th Division at Cape Helles in the south and the Australian and New Zealand Corps north of Gaba Tepe on the west coast, an area soon known as Anzac. On 6th August 1915, further troops were put ashore at Suvla, just north of Anzac, and the climax of the campaign came in early August when simultaneous assaults were launched on all three fronts.

The aim of the Sulva force had been to quickly secure the sparsely held high ground surrounding the bay and salt lake but confused landings and indecision caused fatal delays allowing the Turks to reinforce and only a few of the objectives were taken with difficulty.

Hill 10 is a low isolated mound to the north of the salt lake, was taken by the 9th Lancashire Fusiliers and the 11th Manchesters on the early morning of 7 August 1915. The cemetery was made after the Armistice by the concentration of graves from isolated sites and from the 88th Dressing Station, 89th Dressing Station, Kangaroo Beach, 'B' Beach, 26th Casualty Clearing Station and Park Lane.

The Royal 1st Devon Yeomanry was in 1915 stationed in Colchester. In an attempt to break the deadlock in Gallipoli the 1st Devons were to take part in another landing at Suvla Bay on the North West coast of the Peninsular. On the 24 September 1915 the 1st Devons boarded the 'RMS Olympic' in Liverpool and sailed the next day for the Aegean. They arrived in Mudros on 1 October and went onto Suvla Bay landing on the 9 October 1915 and were initially set to digging trenches as the advance here had also stalled. In November they were in the firing line.

Captain Hain was killed on 11 November 1915 when a shell hit his dug-out. The following was published in the 'West Briton and Cornwall Advertiser 1915' :-

Following is an extract from a letter received by Mr John Pearce of Pare Avenue, St Ives from his son who is serving in Gallipoli:-

By the time this letter reaches you, you will have heard, and perhaps got over the shock of the news of the death of Captain Hain.

It is a terrible affair, and it cast a gloom over the whole regiment. We could not spare him, not only on account of his being so popular with all ranks, but also because he was a really clever soldier.

He was the pet of the officers and men, and every one of us would have done anything for him. Our (the Cornish) squadron felt it very keenly. Although he had not been with us for the past few months, he had spent most of his training with the Cornish squadron.

We had been in the trenches for eight days and were just going out for a rest. We had very few casualties whilst there – only one killed and one wounded. We were congratulating ourselves on this fact when we heard of the death of Captain Hain. He was in his dug – out, when a shell pitched right on top, killing him instantly.

I attended the funeral, there being only the colonel and one other officer with a few men of his own squadron (including myself). No more were allowed to come from the trenches.

He was born on 15 August 1887 the son of Sir Edward Hain, M.P., J.P., of St. Ives, Cornwall and Catherine Hain (Daughter of James Hughes of Whitehaven, Cumberland)

Captain Hains father was the proprietor of the 'Hain Steamship Company' which had been founded by his great grandfather in Cornwall.

Formally incorporated as a public company in 1901, the Hain Steamship Company can trace its roots back to 1816 when the Hain family of St Ives, Cornwall, acquired a part share in the fishing lugger *Dasher*. She proved so successful that the family purchased the schooner *Camilla* in 1838 and began trading with Mediterranean ports delivering cargoes of cured fish and returning with Greek and Turkish dried fruit.

In September 1901, the Hain Steamship Company was incorporated as a public company in Cardiff and by 1913, the number of ships in their service reached 36 with another five on order.

Edward Hain's father was Liberal MP for St Ives for 6 years until his resignation in 1906 and was knighted in 1912 for services to shipping.

Edward was educated at Winchester after attending Twyford School. He went up to New College, Oxford, in October 1906.



On leaving Oxford he went to South Shields to study ship construction and engineering. After a further period in the offices of his father's company in London and Cardiff he was appointed to the board of directors. On the outbreak of war, having joined the Cornish Squadron of the 1st Devon Yeomanry in 1912, he rejoined his regiment, being promoted Captain a fortnight later. He was mobilised at Bodmin and volunteered for overseas service

He married Judith Helen Wogan-Browne of Naas, Kildare in August 1913. There were no children.

His death was noted in the Illustrated London News of 25 December 1915 and the diary of a Captain R S Hawker in the national Army Museum can add to the article from the 'West Briton' (above) in which he describes that :-

On the on the morning of 11 November 1915 Hawker met 'Teddy' and they joked about getting a bath ...once their current relief was completed, Shortly afterwards Hawker heard shells dropping on 'Jefferson Post' and shouts that Hain and several others were killed.

The Hain Steamship Company suffered badly during the war. At the outbreak, two ships were berthed in German ports and another was trapped in the Black Sea and were requisitioned by the Russians . A further eighteen vessels were lost to enemy action.

Edwards father (also Edward) was devastated when his son was killed at Gallipoli. He never fully recovered from the loss and In June 1917 he suffered a severe breakdown during an air-raid on London. He returned to Cornwall to convalesce, but on 20 September 1917 died at the family home of 'Treloyhan' in Cornwall and is buried in the family plot at Barnoon cemetery, St. Ives.

'Treloyhan Manor' still exists today as a 'Christian Guild' Hotel the family having sold the property in 1928.

Elected a member of the Exchange in 1912 Edward 'Junior' is last listed in the Baltic 'List of Members' for 1915 as a member representing 'Foster Hain and Read' of Exchange Chambers St Mary Axe.

In 1907 the 'Hain Steamship Co's. fleet of merchant vessels had grown to a total of 34 vessels with an aggregate deadweight capacity of 179,000 tons. Edward Junior's death must have been a contributory factor to Sir Edward's own death as clearly he had hoped to hand on his business responsibilities to his son at the end of the war.

Only a few months after Sir Edward's passing, the Hain Shipping line was purchased by the P & O and British India Steam Navigation Companies, at a total cost of nearly £4,000,000. (P&O paid £80 for each existing £10 share).

Despite the takeover, the Hain Line's separate identity was preserved until the P&O Group was reorganised into operating divisions in 1971, the then 'Hain-Nourse' bulk carriers were transferred to the Bulk Shipping Division and the remaining tramps to the General Cargo Division. At that time they all ceased to carry 'Hain-Nourse' livery and to fly its flag. Hain-Nourse-owned ships were re-registered under the P&O name in 1972, and the company was ultimately renamed P&O Ferries Ltd in 1978.

In St.Ives Cornwall the Edward Hain Hospital was commissioned from a memorial fund set up by the Shipping line. It was established by converting a large private property in Albany Terrace and it opened in 1920. It joined the NHS in 1948 but in December 2020 it was announced the facility would close.

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HEWETT, GEORGE**Rank: Private****Service No: 203096****Date of Death: 02/06/1918****Age: 36****Regiment/Service: Essex Regiment 11th Bn.****Awards: Military Medal and the French Croix de Guerre**

George is buried in Esquelbecq Military Cemetery - Grave Reference: II. E. 5.

He was the son of George and Margaret Hewett, of 180, Moffatt Rd., Thornton Heath, Croydon, Surrey

George Hewett was a member of the Exchange Staff.

George Hewett was born 1882 in Battersea and is recorded as having enlisted in the Middlesex Yeomanry in August 1915, but by May 1918 had either been transferred or was attached to the 11th Battalion Essex Regiment.

He is recorded as having been awarded the French 'Croix de Guerre' for gallant conduct near Dickebusch, near Ypres on 28 May 1918 during the latter stages of the German Spring 1918 offensive.

The Book 'Croydon and the Great War' (published in 1920) has the following entry:-

**HEWITT, G., Pte., 11 Essex Regt.
b., '83 ; s., Mr. & Mrs. Hewitt, 180 Moffatt Rd., T. Heath.
Educ., Beulah Rd. Sch., T. Heath. Enl. in Middlesex Yeom.,
Aug., '15 ; proceeded to France, 29 May, '17 ; awarded M.M.
and French Croix de Guerre for gallant conduct nr. Dickebusch,
Ypres, 28 May, '18. D. of wounds recd. in France, 2 Jun., '18.
Buried, Esquelbecq.**

On May 28th The Allied line east of Dickebusch Lake was successfully re-established by French and British counter-attacks.

George died of Wounds on the 2 June 1918 at a Casualty Clearing Station at Esquelbecq (a village in France near the Belgian frontier, 24 kilometres north of Hazebrouck and the same distance south of Dunkirk) The cemetery here was opened in April 1918 during the early stages of the German offensive in Flanders, when the 2nd Canadian and 3rd Australian Casualty Clearing Stations came to Esquelbecq.

His award of the Military Medal (MM) was also for same action as it was awarded under notice in the 'LONDON GAZETTE' of 6 November 1918.



HOWE, ARNOLD EWART

Rank: Second Lieutenant

Date of Death: 30/10/1917

Age: 24

Regiment/Service: London Regiment (Artists' Rifles) "A" Coy.

He is buried in Poelcapelle British Cemetery - Grave Reference: XVIII. A. 17.

Poelcapelle British Cemetery is in Belgium located 10 kilometres north-east of Ieper (Ypres) town centre on the Brugseweg (N313), a road connecting Ieper to Brugge. The Cemetery was made after the Armistice when graves were brought in from the surrounding battlefields and smaller cemeteries

Last listed in the Baltic 'List of Members' for 1916 working as a Clerk for 'Howe Robinson & Co.' of 9 Bury Court, he was a son of John Foster Howe and Caroline Howe, of "Kingsley," Seaford, Sussex.

John Foster Howe (Arnold's Father) is listed in the same 1916 Baltic 'List of Members' as being the senior Member of the Exchange for 'Howe Robinson' having been elected to the Exchange in 1882 just a year before 'Howe Robinson' was founded in 1883, Howe Robinson of course still exists (2021).

The 'Artists Rifles' were a regiment the British Army Reserve. Raised in London in 1859 as a volunteer light infantry unit, the regiment saw active service during the Boer Wars and World War I. The unit's badge, showed the heads of the Roman gods Mars and Minerva in profile.

It was a popular unit for volunteers and was formed into three sub-battalions in 1914, and recruitment was eventually restricted by recommendation from existing members of the battalion. It particularly attracted recruits from public schools and universities and over fifteen thousand men passed through the battalion during the war, more than ten thousand of them becoming officers. The battalion eventually saw battle in France in 1917 and 1918. Casualties suffered by both members of this battalion and amongst officers who had trained with The Artists

Rifles before being posted to other regiments were 2,003 killed, 3,250 wounded, 533 missing and 286 prisoners of war. Members of the Regiment won eight Victoria Crosses (though none did so while serving with the Regiment), fifty-six Distinguished Service Orders and over a thousand other awards for gallantry

The 1/28th (County of London) Battalion (Artist's Rifles) was involved in the fighting at Passchendaele in October 1917 having been transferred to 190th Brigade in the 63rd (Royal Naval) Division. In October the Division was ordered to the Ypres Front and on 28 October the Artists Rifles '*Roll of Honour*' History describes that it '*left Camp for our first big fight*'. This was to continue the attack on the Passchendaele Ridge, which had been going on since July 1917.

The '*Roll of Honour*' goes on to describe 'the terrain near the village of Wallemolen, over which the attack was to be made, as *an 'almost impassable swamp*'. The action that day is also described in detail in the book '*From Bapaume to Passchendaele*' by Philip Gibbs who describes the ground as a '*slough of despond...shell craters ...over brimmed with water...broad deep lakes in which the litter and corruption of the battlefield floated*'.

Over this 'Artists' attacked German 'Pill Boxes' close to an area described as Albatross Farm. With machine gun fire raining down on them they were also caught by German artillery fire at their jumping-off line and made only slight progress in the deep mud. The '*Roll of Honour*' further describes '*On this day the Artists went into action 500 strong and suffered about 350 casualties amongst those being killed Lieutenant Howe...*'



HUNT, RALPH LESLIE

Rank: Second Lieutenant

Date of Death: 15/10/1916

Age: 28

Regiment/Service: Essex Regiment 11th Bn.

No known grave – Commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial Panel Pier and Face 10 D.

Son of Herbert Leslie and Eliza Hunt, of 24, Bushnell Rd., Upper Tooting, London.

He is last listed in the Baltic 'List of Members' for 1916 working as a Clerk for 'The Produce Brokers Co., Ltd., of Exchange Chambers St Mary Axe.

Ralph Leslie Hunt was killed during the latter stages of the Battle of the Somme in an action has been categorised as the 'Battle of LeTransloy' when the 11th Essex Battalion and the 2nd Durham Light Infantry were called on to attack Trenches called 'Cloudy and Mild' near the village of Guedeucourt on 15 October 1916. This was part of a long struggle for possession of the high ground overlooking the Bapaume-Le Transloy Road and attacks to take a series of German trenches called 'Rainbow-Cloudy- Misty-Zenith,' had been going on since the 7 October with what was described as only 'partial success'. The failure to make ground was attributed to *'want of surprise and fresh Germans troops'*.

The Essex's attack was unsuccessful and Ralph was one of their numerous casualties. The attack went 'Over the Top' at 5.35am on that day but the advance was caught over the brow of a rise with accurate distant machine-gun fire.

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JAPP, WILLIAM NEVILLE

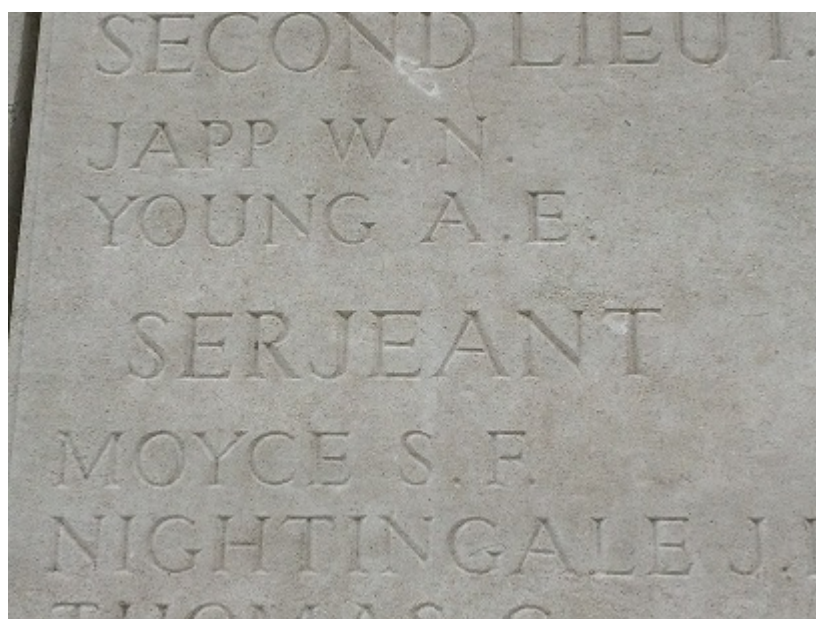
Rank: Second Lieutenant

Date of Death: 25/09/1915

Age: 23

Regiment/Service: London Regiment 1st/20th Bn.

No known grave – Commemorated on the Loos Memorial Panel 130 to 135.



Son of Mr F.V. Japp and Mrs. E. M. L. Japp, of Blackheath London

He is last listed in the 'Baltic List of Members' for 1915 as a Clerk for 'Japp, Hatch & co., Ltd of 27 Leadenhall Street.

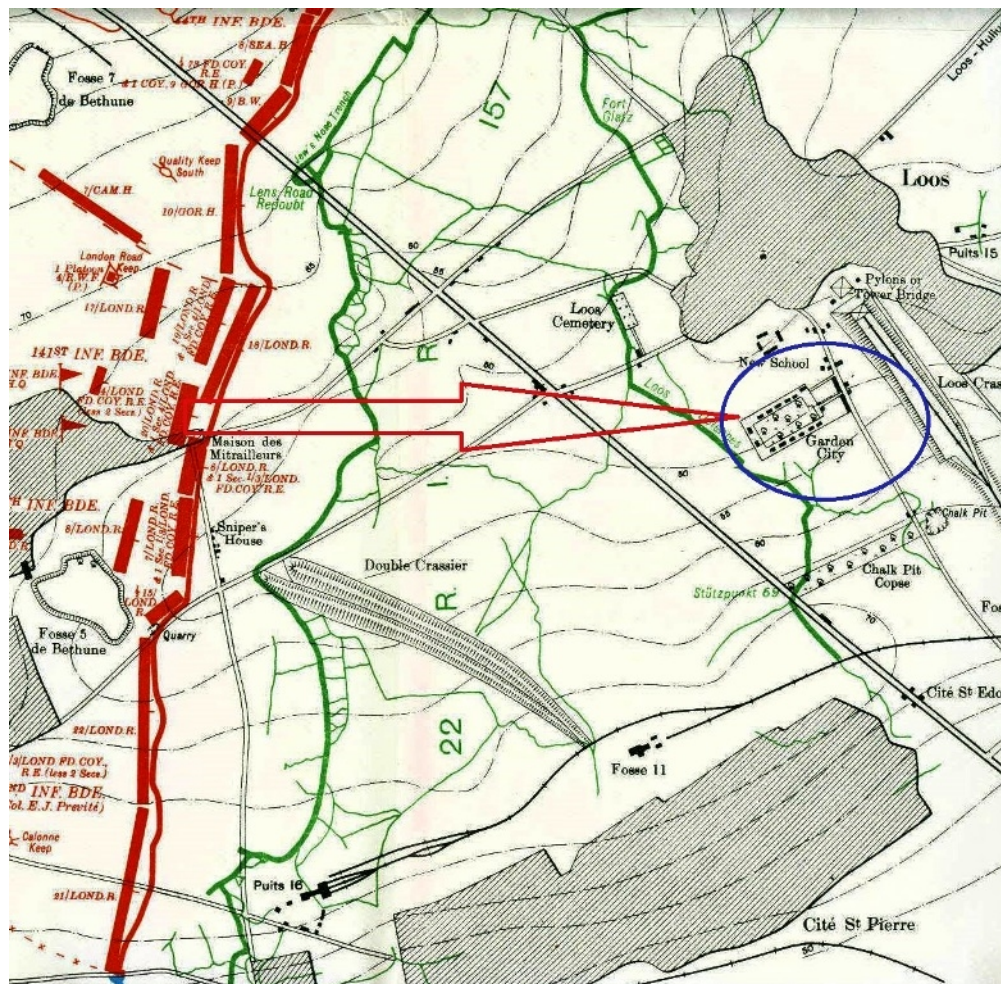
William's father either owned or jointly owned the company, as Francis Vivian Japp is listed in the Baltic list of members until 1919 as senior member for the Company. Francis Vivian Japp died on 4 December 1919 after which his widow seemingly moved to 10, Ellerker Gardens, Richmond, Surrey.

The 1/20th (County of London) Battalion (Blackheath and Woolwich) was a Territorial Unit based at the outbreak of War, in August 1914, at Holly Hedge House, Blackheath. Part of 5th London Brigade, 2nd London Division. It moved on mobilisation to the St Albans area and on 10 March 1915 it landed at Le Havre, becoming on 11 May 1915 part of the 141st Brigade in 47th (2nd London) Division.

William Neville Japp fell on the first day of the 'Battle of Loos' which was the largest British offensive mounted in 1915 on the Western Front.

The battle opened on the 25 September. In many places British artillery had failed to cut the German wire in advance of the attack. Advancing over open fields within range of German machine guns and artillery, British losses were devastating.

However before the Battle the London Division had trained over a course with every enemy trench marked out with tape and flags, and the actual assault on 25 September was carried out at the cost of fewer casualties than the other divisions. The 141st Brigade's attack that day was led by the 1/18th and 1/19th London's with William Neville's Battalion the 1/20th in reserve and passing through the initial attack. The 1/20th's objective was an area just south of Loos town called the 'Garden City', an enclosed chalk pit and a small copse.



Map showing the advance of the 1/20th London Battalion towards the 'Garden City' at Loos

The 'Garden City' was quickly taken. 'A' Company bombed their way into the chalk pit where they captured two German field guns, which a few weeks later were exhibited on Horse Guards Parade in London. Apart from a small group of Germans who held out in a corner of the copse for 48 hours, the brigade had taken all its objectives and the 1/19th (who had lost their CO killed) and 1/20th began consolidating the line under the command of Lt-Col Hubback of the 1/20th. The 47th Division then formed a defensive flank for the whole attack, which continued for several days.

The Battalion's war diary for the day records the 'Garden City' position noting a list of officers killed including Lt. Japp.

1/20th Battalions casualties for the attack and those few days are listed as 9 officers and 162 other ranks, the lowest of any of 47th Division's assaulting battalions.

William Neville Japp's body if ever recovered was not identified.

JARVIS, ALAN BISHOP**Rank: Captain****Date of Death: 10/08/1917****Age: 24****Regiment/Service: Royal Flying Corps (RFC) 1st Squadron and Middlesex Regiment****Buried in Harlebeke New British Cemetery - Grave Reference: XIV. D. 10.**

Harlebeke New British Cemetery is located 32 kilometres east of Ieper (Ypres) town centre on a road leading from the N8 Meenseweg, connecting Ieper to Menen, Wevelgem, Kortrijk and Zwevegem. The Cemetery was made after the Armistice when graves were brought in from the surrounding battlefields of 1918 and, in 1924-25, from German cemeteries or plots in Belgium

He was the 4th son of Ernest Frederic (a 'Hotel Keeper' but who had died when Alan was a child) and Emma Jarvis, of Albert House, Cromer, Norfolk. Alan was born on 16 December 1892 at 35 Vicarage Road, Cromer. His Baptism took place at St Peter and St Paul, Cromer on 5 February 1893.

Alan was educated at Gresham School in Holt Norfolk and after leaving joined Ship-brokers 'Hill & Cassap' of 8 Great St Helens for whom he is last listed in the 'Baltic List of Members' for 1913 as being a Clerk.

By the time of the 1911 census the 18 year old Alan Bishop Jarvis' listed occupation is as 'Shipbroker Clerk' and he was living 'as a visitor' at an address in Willesden.

He volunteered at the outbreak of war in August 1914 joining the Middlesex Regiment as a Private. He was made an officer less than three weeks later being promoted to 2nd Lieutenant on 21 August 1914 and was made a full Lieutenant on the 22 November 1914.

With the Middlesex Regiment he served at Gallipoli taking part in the Suvla bay landings in August 1915, but after a short time was invalided home only to return to Gallipoli in November 1915 where he served through this campaign until the evacuation of the Peninsula in early 1916.

He was then stationed in Egypt and for a time was part of the Imperial Camel Corp before being attached to the RFC as an 'Observer'.



He returned home in April 1917 and obtained his 'Wings' and on 16 July 1917 he went to France as a pilot on operational duties.

Alan Bishop Jarvis was killed in 'aerial action' on 10 August 1917, 10 miles behind enemy lines. It appears that he was found and buried by the Germans and his body was then moved in the 1920s to Harlebeke Cemetery.

An extract from the '*London Gazette*' of 21 June 1917 which appeared in the edition of '*Flight*' dated 28 June 1917, advised that Lieutenant A B Jarvis, Middlesex Regiment (Territorial Force), had been promoted from Flying Officer (Observer) to Flying Officer. His seniority in the RFC dated from 2 July 1916.

In the edition of '*Flight*' dated 18 October 1917 he is reported as being killed in action on 10 August 1917.

In a list of British machines that are claimed to have fallen into German hands during August 1917, published in Germany and reproduced in the

edition of '*Flight*' dated 1 November 1917, Captain A B Jarvis, the Pilot of a single seater 'Nieuport aircraft, serial number unknown, was reported as dead.

However up until January 1918, Captain Jarvis was still officially treated as missing. Only then, in an official casualty list printed in the edition of '*Flight*' dated 10 January 1918, did his status change from "*Previously missing, now reported killed*".

He is also remembered on the Cromer War Memorial.

JONES, LAWRENCE HENRY**Rank: Captain****Date of Death: 04/10/1917****Age: 25****Regiment/Service: East Surrey Regiment 2nd Bn. Attached to 1st Bn.****He is buried in Hooze Crater Cemetery - Grave Reference: XI. H. 10.****Lawrence was the son of Canon and Mrs. Gustavus Jones, 'The Rectory', Crayford, Kent.****Last listed in the 'Baltic List of Members' for 1914 as a Clerk for Wm Muller & Co (London) Ltd of Baltic House Leadenhall Street.****Hooze Crater Cemetery is 4 kilometres east of Ieper (Ypres) town centre on the Meenseweg (N8), connecting Ieper to Menen.****The Cemetery was begun by the 7th Division Burial Officer early in October 1917.****The War Diary of the 1st Battalion East Surrey regiment records their movement and action in the latter stages of the Passchendaele Offensive. The 1st battalion took part in what became known as the 'Battle of Broodseinde' which occurred on 4 October 1917. The attack aimed to complete the capture of the Gheluvelt Plateau by the occupation of Broodseinde Ridge.****The Battalion started moving up towards the front line on 1 October and amidst a list of officers going into action is listed 'Capt L. Jones (Commanding No.4 Company)'. They reached the front line just south of Polygon Wood on 2 October, which is described in the Battalions War diary thus: *'Trenches were almost non-existent and the men had to settle in shell holes and scrape whatever cover they could. This made organisation and control difficult especially in the Front Line where the enemy had better observation. The handicap was greater as many of the men were very inexperienced and without even the benefit of a period of training with the Battalion'. Rations came up but the ration parties journeys are described in the Diary as follows: 'Journeys could hardly have been more unpleasant and they suffered casualties nearly every time. The tracks to the front were littered with dead men and mules....'*****On the 3 October they received their orders for the attack on the ridge with 'Zero Hour' being 6am on 4 October. Lawrence Jones's Company (No.4) is ordered to move forward in close support of the 1st Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry (DCLI) at 'Zero plus 15'. The attack of Lawrence Jones Company is described in the Diary thus: *'The DCLI did succeed in reaching their objective with our Companies in close support'* however in the late**

afternoon *'the enemy threw in his counter attack and regained that part of ridge that had been won'*. Confusion follows as Units become mixed and a line is held against the counter attack. The Diary on the 5 October records that the East Surreys are to be withdrawn to take up a position of support but concludes on that day stating that *'Captain L. Jones was reported missing believed killed'...*

Missing he must have been until the battlefield was cleared, as a 1920 Imperial War Graves Registration document relating to Hooze Cemetery identifies an 'Unknown British officer' as 'Captain Lawrence Jones'.

+

KEAN, THOMAS**Rank: Rifleman****Service No: 4932****Date of Death: 24/07/1916****Age: 36****Regiment/Service: London Regiment (London Irish Rifles) 18th Bn.****He is buried in Leytonstone (St. Patricks) Roman Catholic Cemetery -
Grave Reference: A. 14. 1012.****He was the son of Thomas Rossiter Kean and Elizabeth Ellen Kean, of
Norwich Road, Forest Gate.****St Patrick's Catholic Cemetery opened in 1868 to cope with the
population expansion in Hackney in the 19th Century and it contains 147
Commonwealth war grave burials of the 1914-1918 war****Thomas Kean was last listed in the 'Baltic List of Members' for 1915 as a
Clerk for 'Harris & Dixon Ltd' of 81 Gracechurch Street.****The London Irish Rifles (LIR) was a volunteer Rifle Regiment with a
distinguished history. It was, and still is (2016), part of the London
Regiment, which today is the only Army Reserve Regiment in the
Guards Division.****During the First World War the LIR raised three Battalions, one of which
stayed in reserve in England, this being the 3/18th Battalion of which
Thomas Kean was a member. He enlisted in Chelsea.****The Battalion was formed in May 1915 and moved to Richmond Park
before moving in January 1916 to Winchester, providing reinforcement
drafts for its two front line battalions throughout the First World War.****Thomas Kean was at some point hospitalised while in Winchester and it
is unlikely he served at the Front before his death. He listed as having
'Died after Discharge'. It appears he was not married and his next of kin
for his Military burial in Leytonstone is listed as Miss E M Kean of 16
Norwich Road, Forest Gate, London E7 (Sister?)****+**

KOETTGEN, ERNEST ADOLPH AUGUSTUS**Rank: Private****Service No: 514762****Date of Death: 30/06/1917****Age: 44****Regiment/Service: London Regiment (London Scottish) 1st/14th Bn.****He is buried in Wancourt British Cemetery - Grave Reference: I. B. 37.****Ernest was the son of Mr. G. A. Koettgen, of 63, Belsize Park Gardens, South Hampstead, London.****He was educated at the University College School (UCS) Hampstead (1885-1891) and Jesus College Cambridge. A keen sportsman, he rowed for his college and was a keen member of the UCS 'Old Boys' Football Club.****Between 1898 and 1900 he acted as a 'Forest Officer' in the North Shan provinces of Burma, doing much exploration work.****PTE. E. A. A. KOETTGEN****Last listed in the Baltic 'List of Members' for 1916 as a member representing John Batt & Co (London) Ltd of 39 Old Broad Street, where he was firstly Company Secretary and then a Director. He was elected as a full member of the Exchange in 1900.****Information in regard to the 'London Scottish' are listed under Thomas Fisher's details and it's interesting to note that Ernest Koettgen's death**

is within one day of Thomas Fisher and that they are buried together in the same Cemetery. It's easy to surmise that they were both wounded in the German attack of 28 June 1917 listed in the Battalions War Diary and indeed are only buried four graves apart! - Where Thomas Fisher and Ernest Koettgen 'Baltic Brothers in arms' in the same Company? -

A Charity in his name is still functioning today. This being the 'The Gustav Adolph & Ernest Koettgen Memorial Fund' being a fund for:-

'British-born subjects who wish to educate themselves or to obtain tuition for a higher commercial career but whose means are insufficient for them to obtain such education or tuition at their own expense'



LAKE, FRANK GILBERT**Rank: Lieutenant****Date of Death: 31/07/1917****Age 34/35****Regiment/Service: Hertfordshire Regiment****Born 1882 in Minster, Kent.****No known grave – Commemorated on the Menin Gate in Ypres - Panel
Reference: Panel 54 and 56.****Frank Lake was last listed in the 'Baltic List of Members' for 1917 working as a Clerk for 'The Produce Brokers Co., Ltd.,' of Exchange Chambers St Mary Axe.****31 July 1917 saw the Hertfordshire Regiment (a territorial Infantry Regiment) take part in the opening battle of the 3rd Battle of Ypres (more commonly known as the 'Passchendaele' offensive).****Frank Gilbert Lake was the 8th son of James and Fanny. He was born in 1881 in Minster, Kent. He joined the Inns of Court Officer Training Corps (OTC), which was part of the London Territorial Force. In 1914 the OTC was located at a training camp in Berkhamstead, from which the majority of the men obtained commissions. Frank joined the 1st Battalion, Hertfordshire Regiment going to the front, at the very end of 1915. However, according to the Battalion war diary he seems to have moved to the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) at some point in 1916 or early 1917, as there is a record of him rejoining the Battalion on 24 April 1917 from the RFC.****On the opening day, 31 July 1917, the British Army's 39th Division mounted an advance towards the high ground of Pilckem Ridge north east of Ypres. The 1/1st Hertfordshires were employed in the third phase of the operation that day. Advancing over the 'River' Steenbeek near the village of St Julian towards the 'Langemarck Line' of German bunkers, the battalion suffered increasingly heavy casualties from enemy machine-gun fire. On reaching the enemy wire it was found to have been undamaged by the artillery bombardment and the battalion was forced to fall back under heavy fire and strong German counterattacks. Every officer was a casualty, eleven of whom including the commanding officer were killed, while the other ranks suffered 459 casualties**

A summarised description of their attack that day taken from the Battalion War Diary states that 'at about 3.50am the Battalion moved forward in 4 lines, but as it advanced from the Steenbeck towards the Langemark line (the Battalion's objective) casualties grew from sniper and machine gun fire. However the Battalion continued advancing. About half way to the objective some of No.3 Company (Coy) came upon a German strong point which they gallantly charged, capturing or killing most of the garrison and sending the remainder back as prisoners. On reaching the enemy wire this was found to be practically undamaged (except in one place) and very thick.

2/Lieut Marchington [Eric William Marchington MC] and a handful of men of No.3 Coy got through the only gap and got into the enemy trench & killed a lot of Germans. The remainder of the Battalion, being unable to get through the wire and suffering severe casualties from enfilade machine gun fire and with the Germans making a strong counter attack from their flank about this time, had to fall back having suffered exceptionally heavy casualties. The remnants of the battalion subsequently dug themselves in line with the 1st Cambs Regt. on the west side of the Steenbeck.'

The Battalion diary listed its many casualties that day including Frank Gilbert Lake as well as the Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Frank. Page D.S.O. and Bar, who led his men from the front. Page had been Mayor of Hertford in 1912.

Estimated casualties for the Battalion that day were well over 500, including 9 officers and 120 other ranks 'missing'.

Frank Lake's Body if ever found was not identified.



Frank Lake's name on the Menin Gate

LAWTHER, ARTHUR LEONARD**Rank: Second Lieutenant****Date of Death: 23/05/1916****Age: 25****Regiment/Service: Royal Field Artillery 22nd Battery. 8th (London)
Howitzer Brigade.****Buried in Barlin Communal Cemetery Extension - Grave Reference: I. J. 67. Barlin is located about 11 kilometres south-west of Bethune.****The Cemetery was, at the time of Arthur Lawther's death, used for burials by the 6th Casualty Clearing Station and it appears Arthur died of wounds.****Arthur was son of Marmaduke and Emily Lawther, of Woodford, Essex.****Arthur Lawther was last listed in the 'Baltic List of Members' for 1915 working as a Clerk for his father's company called simply 'Marmaduke Lawther' of 62 Leadenhall Street. Marmaduke had been a member of the Exchange since 1883.****He was promoted the rank of Second Lieutenant under a notice in 'The London Gazette' of 11 June 1915 as follows:-*****Bombardier Arthur Leonard d Lawther******From 2nd East Anglian Brigade******Royal Field Artillery******To be Second Lieutenant******Dated 12 June 1915*****Arthur's Division was stationed behind the Vimy Ridge section of the line in May 1916 when the Germans began to ratchet up their artillery and mortar activity from Vimy Ridge, directing their shells on the British front line and communication lines. Having observed intense Allied troop movements around Arras, in preparation for the Somme offensive, the Germans felt the time was ripe for an attack at Vimy.****On 21 May the German offensive began with a powerful bombardment lasting several hours, which focused on a narrow section of the front, the Germans firing deep into the Allies' lines. In relative terms, the bombardment was one of the heaviest of the Great War with 70,000 shells fired in four hours not only falling on the front trenches but back to the Divisional artillery positions too, some as far as 8 miles from the trenches.****It is likely that Arthur Lawther was wounded at this time.**

LION, NEVILLE ISIDORE

Rank: Lieutenant

Date of Death: 28/04/1917

Age 23

Regiment/Service: Royal Marine Light Infantry 1st R.M. Battalion. Royal Naval Division

No known grave – Commemorated on the Arras Memorial Panel Bay 1.

Born 17 June 1893, Neville Lion is last listed in the 'Baltic List of Members' for 1916 working as a Clerk for W.S.Williamson & Co., of Exchange Chambers St.Mary Axe.

In the 1911 Census of April 2nd that year he is listed as Neville Isadore Lion living at 126. Elgin Avenue, Paddington



He is listed as receiving his commission in the 'London Gazette' of 1 June 1915 making him a Second Lieutenant effective 22 May 1915. The 'Navy List' of 18 September 1916 has him promoted to a full Lieutenant on 22 May 1916.

Neville Lion was killed in action fighting with the Royal Marines Light Infantry (RMLI) during the Battle of Arras in 1917 in action at Gavrelle and it was here, on the day he died, the Royal Marines suffered their greatest ever losses suffering more casualties than they had ever before and since suffered in one day. The action of the 28th cost the

Division 23 Officers and 862 other ranks killed, wounded and missing primarily from 1st and 2nd Battalions RMLI

23 April 1917 saw the Royal Naval Division take its first steps in the Battle of Arras with its capture of the village of Gavrelle. Their attack on 28 April was to be a continuation of the Arras offensive. However, it was found that in the area they were attacking extensive barbed wire fences in front of the major defensive positions that they were scheduled to attack were still intact. This proved to be a major contributing factor to the very high losses, but despite this it appears that the first two waves of 1st RMLI got to their objectives. They were then hit hard by a massive counter attack and were engaged in severe hand to hand fighting. The Germans had a large number advantage, the attackers were either ejected or killed and the Royal Marines had to retreat to their starting lines. The record indicates that Neville Lions Battalion (1st RMLI) was basically wiped out, with remnants holding its jumping off trench with isolated pockets of men trapped behind the German counter attack. - Neville Lion's body if ever recovered was not identified.

MEDHURST, WILLIAM RICHARD**Rank: Second Lieutenant****Date of Death: 04/01/1917****Age 38****Regiment/Service: Machine Gun Corp.****He initially joined the Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment) 5th Bn in October 1914.****William was born on 31 May 1878 in New Cross.****He was the eldest son of Richard William Medhurst (described as a 'Ship owner and Merchant' who was deceased at the time of his son's death in 1917).****William was educated at Wicklam College, Brockley****He is last listed in the Baltic 'List of Members' for 1916 as a member since 1904 as an Agent or Broker for 'W.R Medhurst' of 15 Great St.Helens. It appears that he was a 'Sole Trader' as the Company is not in the list of members for 1917.****William Richard was the husband of Arabella Maud Medhurst. They resided at 202, Lewisham High Rd., Brockley, London and had a daughter, Kathleen Mary, who had been born in 1909.****The 1/5th Battalion Territorial Force is listed on the outbreak of war as being stationed at Bromley, part of the Kent Brigade of the Home Counties Division and then moved to Dover, Canterbury and then Sandwich. The Machine Gun Corps (MGC) was a Corp of the British Army, formed in October 1915 in response to the need for more effective use of machine guns on the Western Front. William was 'Gazetted' 2nd Lieut Machine Gun Corp on 15 October 1915 and served in France from 3 August 1916.**

He contracted appendicitis on active service and was returned to the UK where after an operation he died in a Military Hospital in Grantham.

He is buried in the UK at Brockley and Ladywell Cemetery at Brockley Road, Lewisham, where his name is recorded on the screen wall listing those whose graves have no headstone.

NICHOLSON, THOMAS MILLER

Rank: Private

Service No: T4/216354

Date of Death: 17/08/1917

Age: 26

Regiment/Service: Army Service Corps 802nd Mechanical Transport Company.

He is buried in the Lembet Road Military Cemetery, Salonika, Grave Reference:1140. The Cemetery is located at 192 Langada Street on the Serres highway approximately 2 km north of Thessaloniki

Son of Mary Jane Nicholson, of "Ermdale," Priest Lane, Shenfield, Essex, and the late Thomas George Nicholson.

He is recorded as being born in Streatham, residing in west Norwood and having enlisted in Kingston upon Thames.

Thomas Nicholson is last listed in the 'Baltic List of Members' for 1916 working as a Clerk for J.W.McCulloch & Co of 19-21 Bury Street.

Details of the circumstances of Thomas Nicholson's death are unknown.

It was at the invitation of Greece that Salonika (now Thessalonika) was occupied by three French Divisions and the 10th (Irish) Division from Gallipoli in October 1915. Other French and Empire forces landed during the year and in the summer of 1916, they were joined by Russian and Italian troops. In August 1916, a Greek revolution broke out at Salonika, with the result that the Greek national army came into the war on the Allied side.

The town was the base of the British Salonika Force and it contained, from time to time, eighteen general and stationary hospitals.

There are now 1,648 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in this cemetery..

The Army Service Corps numbered over ten thousand officers and a third of a million men, as well as employing huge numbers of labourers from China, India and Africa along with locals. The Army Service Corps became The Royal Army Service Corps in 1918 and the unit today is the Royal Logistic Corps.

The role of the Army Service Corp in the World War I was concerned with the supply and provision of food, petrol and lubricants, fuel and

light, hospital supplies and disinfectants as well as the conveyance of the above supplies, together with ammunition, engineer stores, ordnance stores and post, from railhead, or from base if no railhead exists, to all units of a field force.

The Sandham Memorial Chapel near Newbury in Berkshire belonging to the National Trust was built to honour the 'forgotten dead' of the First World War. It is also the only memorial in the UK for the Salonika campaign and shows murals and paintings by the war artist Sir Stanley Spencer painted from his experience in Salonika during his time there as a medical orderly.

PAYNE, CHARLES ARTHUR**Rank: Second Lieutenant****Date of Death: 15/10/1918****Age: 31****Regiment/Service: Army Service Corps 47th Div. Motor Transport Coy.****He is buried in Estaires Communal Cemetery and Extension - Grave
Reference: V. G. 28.****He was the son of Charles Arthur and Sarah Agnes Payne, of Forest Gate, Essex. Husband of Augusta Helen Payne, of 9, Vicarage Lane, Seven Kings, Essex.****Charles Arthur Frank Payne aged 31 on his death is last listed in the 'Baltic List of Members' for 1916 working as a Clerk for Fred. Drughorn Ltd., of 85 Gracechurch Street.****He was promoted the rank of Second Lieutenant under a notice in 'The London Gazette' of 2 October 1917.****Estaires is a town and commune in the Department of the Nord, about 11 kilometres west of Armentieres. The town was a Field Ambulance centre as early as November 1914, and later the 1st Australian Casualty Clearing Station was posted in it and the cemetery was used for British burials from the early days of November 1914 through to November 1918. Estaires was later "adopted" by the County Borough of Plymouth.****The 47th Divisional Motor Transport Company served with 47th (2nd London) Division, originally known as the 2nd London Divisional Transport and Supply Column. The 2nd London Division was part of the First Line Territorial Force formed in 1908. They saw action in The Battle of Aubers Ridge, the Battle of Festubert, the Battle of Loos and the subsequent actions of the Hohenzollern Redoubt, In 1916 they fought during The German attack at Vimy Ridge, and on the Somme in the Battle of Flers-Courcelette capturing High Wood, the Battle of the Transloy Ridges in which they captured Eaucourt l'Abbaye and the attacks on the Butte de Warlencourt. In 1917 they were in action in The Battle of Messines, the Third Battles of Ypres and the Cambrai operations where they captured Bournon Wood and fought against the German counter attacks. In 1918 they were in action on the Somme and the final advance in Artois including making the official entry into Lille on 17 October 1918.****Noting the date of death of Charles Payne on 15 October 1918, it is likely he was wound in this final advance of the Allies just a month prior to the Armistice although the exact circumstances of his death are unknown.**

PEARSE, KENNETH HERBERT

Rank: Second Lieutenant

Date of Death: 06/08/1915

Age: 23

**Regiment/Service: East Surrey Regiment 11th Bn. Attached 2nd Bn.
Hampshire Regiment**

**No known grave. He is commemorated on the Helles Memorial in
Gallipoli - Panel 118**

**The son of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Pearse, of "Brentor," Grange Rd.,
Highgate, London**

**He is last listed in the 'Baltic List of Members' for 1915 working as a
Clerk for 'Glover Brothers' of 57 Bishopsgate.**

**The 2nd Hampshire were in early 1915 initially allotted to fight on the
'Western Front' in France was dispatched to Gallipoli and embarked
from Avonmouth on 16 March 1915. Before they left, on 12 March, the
whole division passed in review of the King. W and X companies
embarked on the SS H.T. Aragon and Y and Z companies on the SS
Manitou with 26 officers and 993 other ranks. The vessels are recorded
as calling at Malta and arrived in Alexandria on 2 April 1915 before
moving to Lemnos on 24 April 1915. Y and Z Companies took part in the
initial landings on Gallipoli on 25 April 1915 attempting to land on the
Peninsular aboard the SS River Clyde. Books have been written about
this particular landing, which was a disaster for the British Army with
very heavy casualties. Suffice it to say, Kenneth Pearse either survived
this action or was one of the Hampshire's that did not take part that day.**

**Kenneth Pearse was killed on the first day of the Battle of Krithia
Vineyard which took place on Gallipoli between 6 and 13 August. The
actions here were originally intended as a minor action at Helles to
divert attention from the imminent launch of a planned major offensive
in August 1915 but instead, the British commander, Brigadier General
H.E. Street, mounted a futile and bloody series of attacks that in the end
gained a small patch of ground known as "The Vineyard".**

ATSON H.

EAST SURREY REGIMENT

CAPTAIN SECOND LIEUT.

THOMAS A. V. ARMITAGE G. D.

LIEUTENANT PEARSE K. H.

FALCON G. W. L.

HARDING C. S.

DUKE OF CORNWALLS L. I.

CAPTAIN SECOND LIEUT.

CARSON L. G.

PIGG, BERNARD WILLIAM**Rank: Second Lieutenant****Date of Death: 03/07/1916****Age: 27****Regiment/Service: Worcestershire Regiment 10th Bn.**

No known grave. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial Panel Reference Pier and Face 5 A and 6 C as well as the memorial at the Holy Trinity Church Sydenham



He was the son of Charles and Alice Maud Pigg, of 12, Lansdown Crescent, Cheltenham. He was born on 18th September 1888 in Cambridge, the younger of the two sons of Charles (a private tutor) and Alice Maud Pigg. They lived at 11 Queens Anne Terrance in Cambridge and later at 3 Prince's Garth, Forest Hill, London and later at 12, Lansdown Crescent, Cheltenham. He was christened on 20 October 1888. He attended the Perse School in Cambridge before winning a scholarship to the Tonbridge School in Kent in June 1902 where he was Captain of the School in his final year in 1907.

He is described on the Tonbridge School present day (2015) Website War Memorial as a fine cricketer who was captain of his school XI. Described as a *'Hard-hitting bat, who played some good innings.'*

On leaving Tonbridge he went to Jesus College, Cambridge, taking his degree in 1910. He played cricket for the college and had trial matches for Cambridgeshire. He also played cricket for Tonbridge. He was also a good golfer just missing out on his blue in 1910.

After a visit to the Argentine in 1910 he started work in the City, joining the Produce Brokers' Co. in September 1911 For the Baltic he represented the Exchange at Cricket, Football and Golf. He is last listed in the 'Baltic List of Members' for 1916 working as a Clerk for 'The Produce Brokers Co., Ltd.,' of Exchange Chambers, St Mary Axe.

He is recorded as living at Ingram House Stockwell (opened in 1905 as a residential club for young men) where he is described as taking a leading part in its life.

While working in the City he joined the H.A.C. (Honourable Artillery Company) on 3 February 1913 as Private 753. On the outbreak of war in August 1914 he had been a Territorial for eighteen months and was soon promoted to Sergeant and accompanied the Battalion to France on 18 September 1914. They went to the Front in November, but early in December Sergt. Pigg was invalided home, suffering from frostbite. On recovery he was granted a commission, dated 18 February 1915, as Temporary 2nd Lieutenant in the Service Battalion of the Worcestershire Regiment, in which his elder brother was serving. He left for the Front again in July, 1915 and served through that winter in the trenches.

The Battle of the Somme began on 1 July 1916 and his Battalion went into action on the 3 July when they were ordered to take the village of La Boisselle - a front line village held by the Germans on the old Roman road between Albert and Bapaume.

2nd Lieut. Pigg was in command of B Company and 'went over' that day at 3.15 am. The village and some German trenches 400 yards beyond were captured. The battalion took 153 prisoners, but following a severe bombardment and counter-attack by the enemy the Germans regained the east end of the village with a resultant British gain of only 100 yards.

Bernard William Pigg was killed age 27 in the attack. His character and actions that day were described as follows:-

" Before we started," writes a subaltern, " he was splendid, walking up and down under the shrapnel barrage encouraging the men." It is stated that when they reached a German trench some man, presumably a German disguised as a British officer, shouted to them to retire, and that 2nd Lieut. Pigg clambered on to the parapet and shot this man, but was himself hit. "

The Battalion suffered very heavily, especially his Company, which lost two-thirds of the men, and only three of the officers who "went over " returned unscathed. The ground they reached was not permanently captured till later, and no trace of him was ever found. He was reported "wounded and missing,"

No definite proof of his fate has was ever known but various men in the action that day declared they saw him killed.

His Company Commander wrote to his parents as follows:-

" Your son was the only officer left who came out with me last year, and I feel his loss very deeply. He was a good officer and companion and was marked for accelerated promotion"

His CO. wrote:-

" He was an excellent officer, quiet, but firm with his platoon ; always cool in every situation, and full of common sense. He was very much liked, both by the men and by all the officers of the regiment. His cheery good-nature and liveliness were a great asset to every one."

The Company Sergeant-Major, who had been with him since he joined the Battalion, wrote:-

"Though I have been through this campaign from Mons, I have never fought under a better soldier and gentleman, for he was both. I have seen him at duty and play, and I know he was loved and respected by all whom he came in contact with."

Thanks to the 'Tonbridge School' and Headmaster Tim Haynes for allowing the reproduction from the School's Memorial Website of much of the material for Bernard Pigg

RANDALL, ALBERT WILLIAM

Rank: Second Lieutenant

Date of Death: 08/08/1918

Age: 28

Regiment/Service: London Regiment (Royal Fusiliers) 3rd Bn.

No known grave. He is commemorated on the Vis-En-Artois Memorial Panel 10

He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Sutton Randall, of 8, Alexandra Rd., Leigh-on-Sea, Essex and Husband of Gertrude A. Randall, of 22, Salisbury Rd., Seven Kings, Essex.

He enlisted in August 1914.

Albert William Randall is last listed in the 'Baltic List of Members' for 1917 working as a Clerk for Wm Shyvers of 25 St. Mary Axe.

Albert was killed on the first day of the Battle of Amiens in the opening phase of the Allied offensive, later known as the Hundred Days Offensive, which ultimately led to the end of the War. The Allied forces advanced over 7 miles on the first day, one of the greatest advances of the war. The battle is also notable for its effects on both sides' morale and the large number of surrendering Germans which led Erich Ludendorff (Joint head of the German Army) to describe the first day of the battle as *"the black day of the German Army"*

The initial objective of the Royal Fusiliers (3rd Londons) that day was the capturing of Malard Wood just north of the village of Saily-Laurette on the Somme River after which they would pass through to take the vital Chipilly Ridge overlooking a bend in the River Somme and flanking the battlefield. 3rd Londons led in 'artillery formation' through the German barrage that fell. In the morning mist the battalion drifted 500 yards left of its intended line through the gullies. At 08.30, as the leading companies reached the far edge of Malard Wood, the mist began to clear and the battalion was brought to a halt by machine gun fire across the valley in front and so dug in at the edge of the wood. .

It is likely that Albert William Randall was killed in this action. His body, if recovered, was never identified. The Cemetery where many of the

Royal Fusiliers (3rd Londons) are buried from the action that day is 'Beacon Cemetery'

Here is an unknown soldier in that Cemetery from that action buried between two Royal Fusiliers and a picture of a Regimental aid post near Chipilly dated 10 August 1918



44.

ROLFE, ARTHUR LINDSAY

Rank: Lance Sergeant

Service No:120561

Date of Death: 10/10/1918

Age:26

Regiment/Service: Machine Gun Corps (Infantry) 60th Bn.

Born in Forest Gate and enlisted in Ilford.

**His buried in the Middle East in Ramleh War Cemetery Grave Reference -
Grave Reference Z. 62.**



Ramleh War Cemetery is located in Israel about 5 kilometers from Ben Gurion Airport. The cemetery dates from the First World War, when Ramleh (now Ramla) was occupied by the 1st Australian Light Horse Brigade on 1 November 1917. Field Ambulances, and later Casualty Clearing Stations, were posted at Ramleh and Lydda from December 1917 onwards. The cemetery was begun by the medical units, but some graves were brought in later from the battlefields and other cemeteries. It contains 3,300 Commonwealth burials of the First World War, 964 of them unidentified.

Arthur Lindsay Rolfe was the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Rolfe; husband of Doris Rose Moore (formerly Rolfe), of "Ovingdean," 8, The Ridgeway, Church End, Finchley, London.

He is last listed in the 'Baltic List of Members' for 1918 working as a Clerk for Fawcett, Coverdale & Co of Holland House, 32 Bury Street.

The Battle of Megiddo fought between 19 and 25 September 1918, on the Plain of Sharon in front of Tulkarm, Tabsor and Arara in the Judean Hills was part of the final Allied offensive of the Sinai and Palestinian campaign against the Turkish Army. What remained of the Turkish Army was routed here and General Sir Edmund Allenby's (The Commander in Chief of Allied forces in the Middle East) then pushed North capturing Aleppo in modern day Syria on 26 October 1918.

The date Arthur Lindsay Rolfe's death and the location of his burial indicate he was wounded at Megiddo or in actions shortly after and died of wounds at Ramleh.

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RUSH, EDGAR WILFRED

Rank: Corporal - Service No: 2841

Date of Death: 01/07/1916

Age: 28

**Regiment/Service: London Regiment (Queen's Westminster Rifles)
1st/16th Bn. (A Company)**

**No known grave. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial
Panel Reference Face 13 C.**

**Edgar Wilfred Rush was the son of the late James Walker Rush, of 9,
Silverdale Avenue, Westcliff-on-Sea, and Rose S. Rush his stepmother.**

**He is last listed in the 'Baltic List of Members' for 1916 working as a
Clerk for Arthur Margetson & Co of 59 Mark Lane.**

**Edgar was in the same Battalion and Company as Captain Edward Bovill
(see previous), and as both were members of the Baltic were therefore
probably known to each other. Both died in the same action at
Gommecourt on the first day of the Somme.**

**It is clear Edgar's body, if ever found, was not identified and, like
Edward Bovill, he is commemorated on Thiepval Memorial Panel Pier
and Face 13 C.**

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SAMUEL, GERALD GEORGE

Rank: Lieutenant

Date of Death: 07/06/1917

Age: 31

Regiment/Service: Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment) 10th Bn.

No known grave - remembered on the Menin Gate Memorial in Ypres Panel 45 and 47.) He is also remembered in the 'Jewry Book of Honour' as well as other memorials (see below)



Lt. Hon. Gerald George Samuel was born on 6 May 1886 in Marylebone. He was the son of Lord and Lady Bearsted, of 3, Hamilton Place, Piccadilly, London. The 'Jewry Book of Honour' lists Gerald as residing at the 'The Mote' in Maidstone Kent, the country estate of his father

The above picture is of Gerald George Samuel as a Schoolboy at Eton where he is also remembered on the School War Memorial with the following wording

'IN PROUD AND LOVING/ MEMORY OF/ GERALD GEORGE SAMUEL,/ LIEUTENANT QUEEN'S OWN/ ROYAL WEST KENT REGIMENT./ 2ND SON OF LORD BEARSTED OF MAIDSTONE,/ KILLED WHILE LEADING AN ATTACK/ AT MESSINES, JUNE 8TH 1917,/ AGED 31'

He is last listed in the 'Baltic List of Members' for 1916 working as a Clerk for 'Samuel M., & Co., Shell House, Bishopsgate.

Gerald George Samuel was the younger son of Marcus Samuel, 1st Viscount Bearsted (5 November 1853 – 17 January 1927), known as Sir

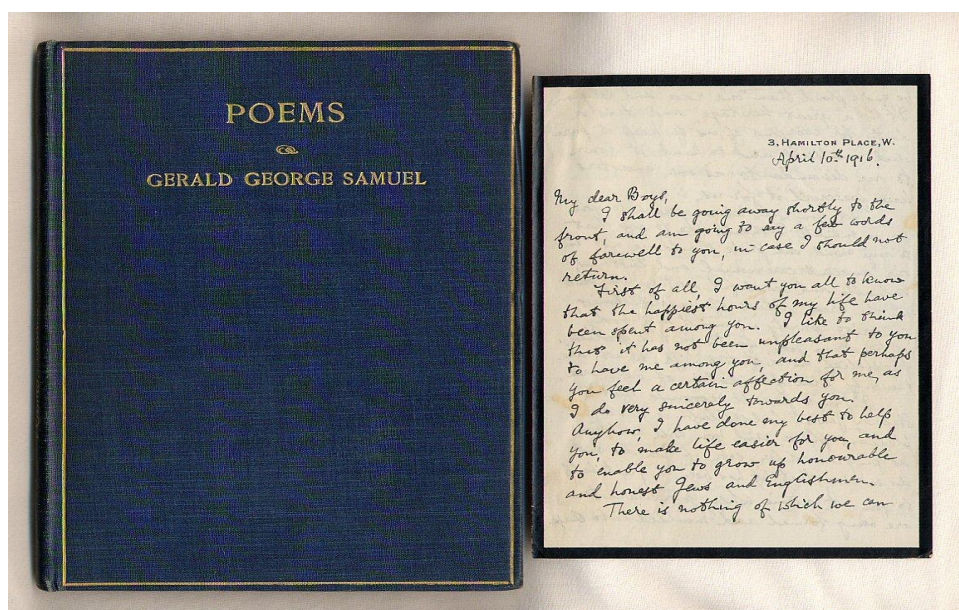
Marcus Samuel, Bt between 1903 and 1921 and subsequently as The Lord Bearsted until 1925, who was the founder of the Shell Transport and Trading Company, which later became a part of Royal Dutch Shell.

Marcus Samuel was born into an Iraqi Jewish family in Whitechapel. His father, also Marcus Samuel ran a successful import-export business, M. Samuel & Co., trading with the Far East, which Marcus carried on with his brother, Samuel is listed in the 1916 Baltic Membership book as a full member elected in 1898. Marcus Samuel realised the potential of the oil trade during a trip to the Black Sea in 1890, and ordered the construction of eight dedicated tankers the first of which was the 'Murex' His were the first such ships to satisfy the Suez Canal company of their safety, allowing him to ship his product to Bangkok and Singapore. In 1897 he formed Shell, after his first business, which sold and painted seashells.

On the outbreak of War Gerald George Samuel sought to enter the army, but was twice rejected for bad eye sight. However, he succeeded in obtaining a commission in the 10th Battalion of the Royal West Kent Regiment in October 1915. He went out with the Battalion to France, and was twice wounded in previous actions prior to being killed in action leading his Company at the Battle of Messines on 7 June 1917.

He had devoted his life to the welfare of working lads in the East End of London, and had built a Home for Orphans 'The Samuel and Myer Home'. On his death Gerald bequeathed the house and £10,000 for its maintenance to the Jewish Board of Guardians, on the condition that two or more gentlemen would live there supervise the home and look after the boys.

A touching farewell letter which he wrote to the boys in 1916, to be given to them only in the event of his death, together with the Poems was published after his death in 1917.



The Battle of Messines (7–14 June 1917) was an offensive conducted by the British and New Zealander Armies near the village of Messines and is famous for the 19 mine explosions which literally blew the Germans off the Messines ridge .

General Sir Charles Harrington Chief of Staff remarked to the press prior to the assault, *"Gentlemen, we may not make history tomorrow, but we shall certainly change the geography"*. The Battle of Messines marked the zenith of mine warfare on the Western Front.

Maidstone Museum records the 10th Battalion at Messines on 7 June 1917 *'taking the ridge in a bayonet attack, driving the Germans off and taking many prisoners'*

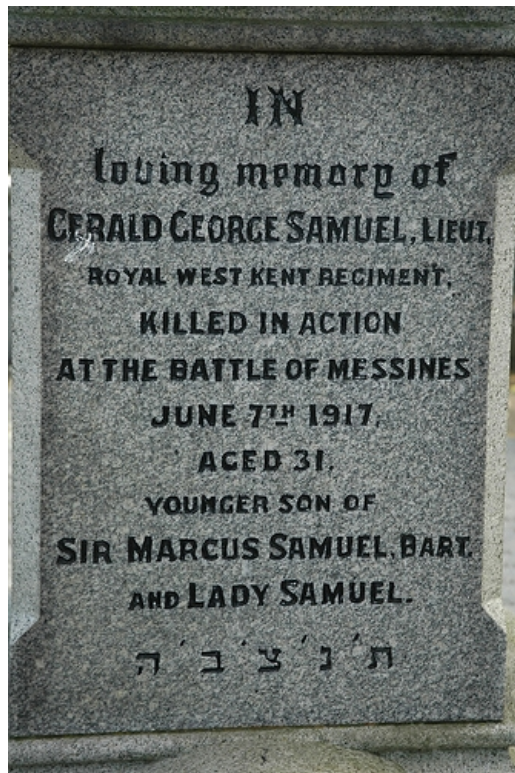
The battalions war diary for June 1917 indicates that on 1 June 1917 they were in training for the assault at Messine just south east of Poperinge in Belgium (Throughout the war a major supply base and rest centre for the British Army just East of Ypres).

At 12.30 am on the night of the 6-7 June the Battalion moved up to the front line and formed up to attack in 3 waves. Its objective was to take Eikhof Farm just south west of the village of St.Eloi along a road called the 'Damm Strasse' . The first wave advanced to within 75 yards of the enemy front line and at 3.10 am the mines were exploded and the diary describes that at 3.13am the enemy front line was entered with no opposition and the advance continued with very little resistance reaching beyond the initial objective. The diary does not record Gerald's death, but it is clear that he was killed in this assault and if his body was ever recovered it was not identified.

His name on the Menin Gate

WILDMAN W. G.	JOSEPH F. J.	ARNETT A.
WILKES A. J.	CAPTAIN	ARNETT E.
WILLIAMS H. H.	FRASER F. G. M.C.	ALLEN C. H.
WILSON H. G.	TUFF C. T.	ALLEN J.
WOOD E.	LIEUTENANT	ALLUM A. J.
WRIGHT W.	BRADLEY P. W.	AMES E. T.
RE REGIMENT	PAYTON C. M.	ANSTEAD W.
PRIVATE	POLAND H. A.	APPLETON W. J.
ODD R. A.	SAMUEL G. G.	ARGENT J. E.
OMONDS J. J.	SECOND LIEUT.	ARNOLD C.
OWARDS G.	COSTIN H. W.	ASHMAN W.
OG G.F.S.	BAUBENEY G. R.	BACON A. C.
ERVED AS	DAVIES C. T.	BAKER A. E.
AGUE G.F.S.	DODGSON J. H.	BALDWIN W.
GAR H.	FENTON A. E.	BALKHAM H. G.
EX H.	FROST K.	BARDEN G. I.
TACE P.	GODFERY E.	BARKER C.
E G.	JOB B. C. K.	BARNDEN J.
KNEY C. T.	WAGHORN L. P.	BARRIE J.
F.	WALKER E. B.	BARTRAM R. J.
VER H.	WESTMACOTT F. C.	BASKETT H. G.
URY D.	WOODROFFE A. H.	BASSETT A.
H. A. R.		BATHURST A. L.
		BEAMES A.
		BEANEY J.

His Memorial at the United Synagogue Willesden Cemetery, Willesden,
London:-



SCHIFF, Martin Noel

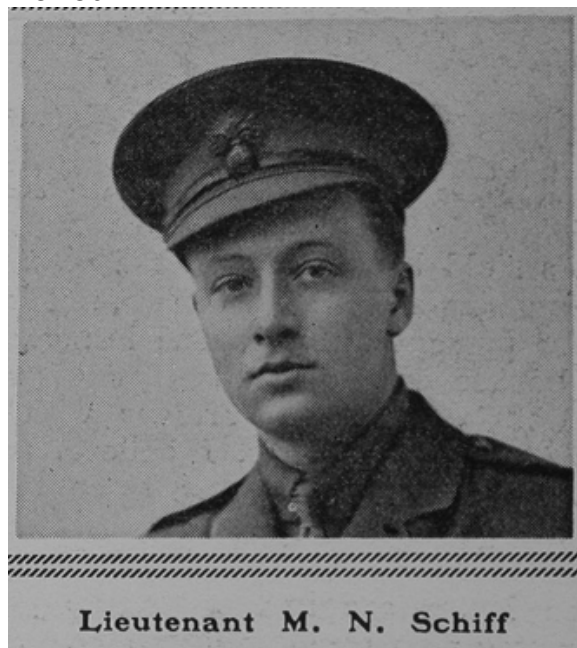
Rank: Lieutenant

Date of Death: 17/06/1916

Age 27

Regiment/Service: Scots Guards 1st Bn.

**No known Grave – Commemorated on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial
Panel Reference: Panel 11. He is also remembered in the 'Jewry Book of Honour'**



He is last listed in the 'Baltic List of Members' for 1915 working as a Clerk for Furness, Withy & Co of Furness House, Billiter Street.

Martin Noel was educated at Pinewood School, Farnborough and Uppingham and then entered the offices of Furness Withy and Co.

He joined the HAC as a Territorial soldier in 1910 and at the outbreak of war had the rank of Sergeant. At the outbreak of war he was commissioned and went to France with the HAC and was reported wounded in June 1915.

He returned to France in November 1915 after being 'Gazetted' 'to be Second Lieutenant (on probation) with the Scots Guards on 28 September 1915. This was reported in the 'London Gazette' of 15 September 1915 as follows:-

Scots Guards.

Martin Noel Schiff, from temporary Lieutenant, Honourable Artillery Company, Territorial Force, with seniority as from 26th August, 1914 (The date of his promotion from Sergeant in the 'HAC')

Martin was likely one of the 16 men of the 1st Battalion who died on the 17 June 1916, another 12, like him, have no known grave and are commemorated on the Menin Gate Memorial. The Battalion History states that they were in trenches opposite Hooze (near Ypres) and in Sanctuary Wood. From the first minutes of 17 June and throughout the day the Battalion was subjected to severe HE (Heavy Explosive) and shrapnel barrages. Although an attack was expected it never materialised.

The Battalion History states: "*The losses were heavy: 1 Officer killed and 2 wounded; 15 OR's killed and 25 wounded*".

Martin Noel was born in the USA. The Cincinnati Birth records have him being born on 21 December 1888, and was thus aged 27 years when killed in action. He is recorded as being the son of Charles (Carl) Gottlieb Samuele Schiff and Mary Ballard Schiff.

Charles (Martin Noel's father) had been born in Trieste (Then part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire) on 1 November 1838 and had died in London in August 1905. At that time and in 1916 the family resided at 22 Lowndes Square in London.

The remarkable history of the Martin Noel's family would require a separate book but suffice it to say Charles Schiff (Martin Noel's father) was part of a large Jewish family that originated in Germany. Charles was involved in shipping starting his career in Alexandria, with the Egyptian arm of the Wollheim & Co., family shipping business.

In the USA he was involved in the post Civil War railway reconstruction boom and married a Mary Burch. Mary (Martin Noel's Mother) was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee. She was the daughter of Col. John C. Burch, a leading southern politician who was the first such person to come to political prominence in the period following the Civil War of 1861-1865 and was later Secretary of the United States Senate. In the Civil War he served the Confederacy as a Staff Officer with the rank of Colonel.

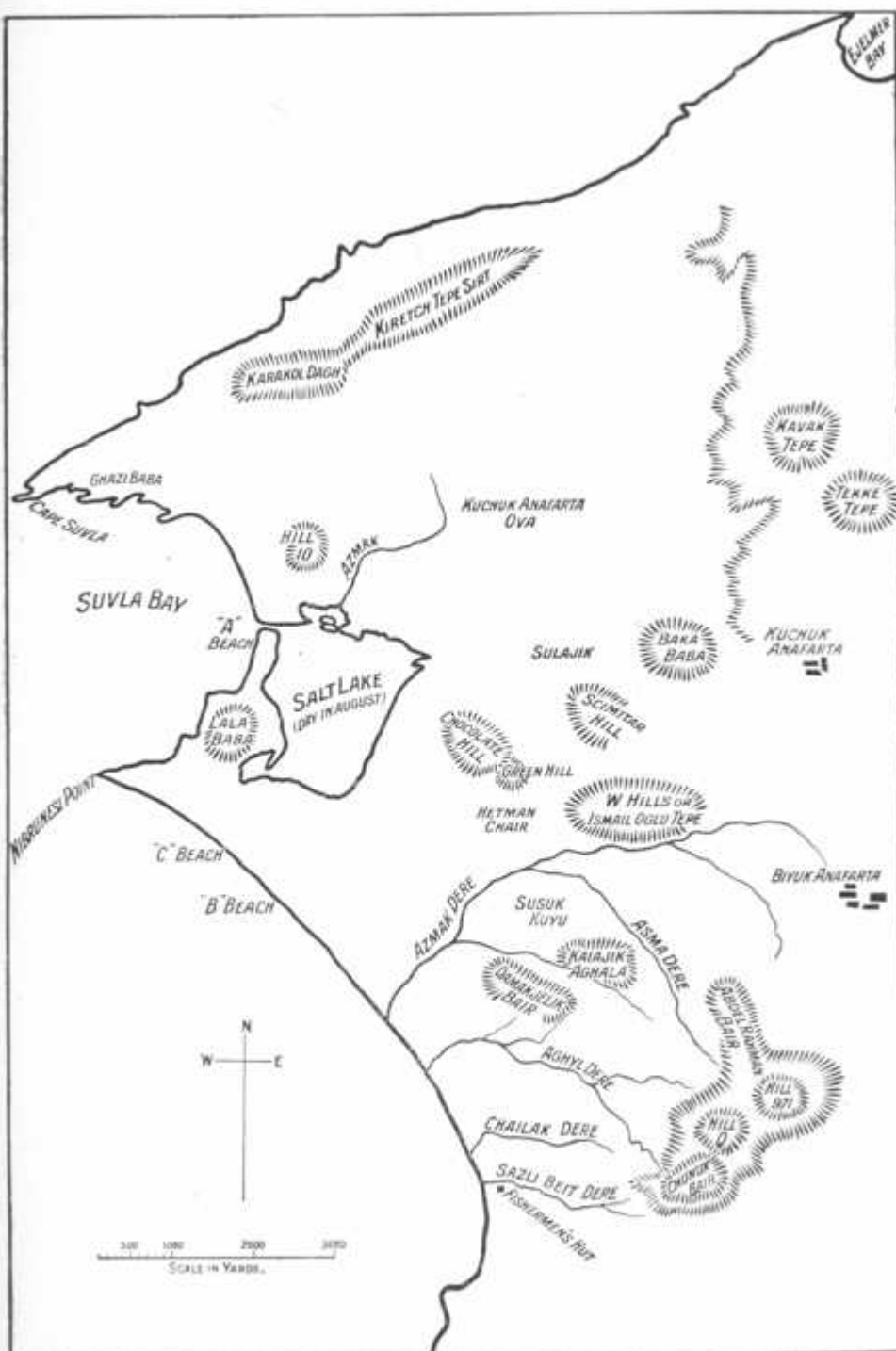
In the late 1890s Charles Schiff became involved as part of a new scheme, a company called Manchester Liners Ltd, with the purpose of providing shipping from Manchester via the Ship Canal to Canada. The Chairman was Sir Christopher Furness, whose shipping firm Furness Withy later employed Charles's younger son Martin Noel.

Thank you to Frank Gent and Chris Burch (Martin Noel's Great Nephew) for sharing their own family history.

Martin Schiff Remembered on the Menin Gate

ER. M. H. J. ER. H. R. LL. A. W. H. IGNE W. J. S. C. W. C. RD. W. R. S. AW. R. R. V. H.	OGILVY SIR G. N. 11TH BARONET SCHIFF M. N. STIRLING-STUART J. SECOND LIEUT. GIBBS R. G. M. COY. SGT. MAJOR DILWORTH W. R.	BARNETT J. T. BARR A. BARTON J. BATCHELOR J. M. BAXTER J. R. BEAN E. J. BEATTIE W. BEAZLEY R. BEECH E. BELL J. BENVIE A. BEST J. BIRD L. 2959 BIRD L. 12011 BLACKBURN H. BLACKSHAW C. W. BOYD J. BRADFORD F. W. BRADY T. BRAND J. BROWN C. F. BROWN G. BROWN J. 3516 BROWN J. 8425 BROWN J. E. BROWN J. R. BROWN R. BROWN T. BRYANT A. BUNN B. BURGE J. BURGESS S. S. BURNETT W. BURNS P., D.C.M. CADE A. E. CAINE R. CAMERON C. CAMERON G. CANNAN J. CARNIE T.
N. W. D.C.M. K. J. DGE G. J. W. Y. S. V. S. B. G. T. Y. J. NE. R. W. ON. A. ON. A. S. D. RCH. A. H. T. E. G. W. G. S. J. A. V. H. J.	SERJEANT BLACK J. C. BURROW L. P. ERRINGTON T. K. HOWCROFT T. MACKENZIE T. SMITH H. F. STUART A. LANCE SERJEANT BOYLE D. BRESLIN F. H. CARNIGHAN J. COOPER W. A. CULLEN P. FORREST A. McCARTNEY R. MacDONALD A. J. McSHANE H. PITT E. L. RANGER R. W. RICKETTS W. E. SMITH C. THOMSON J. CORPORAL KELLY B. KERR P. W.	

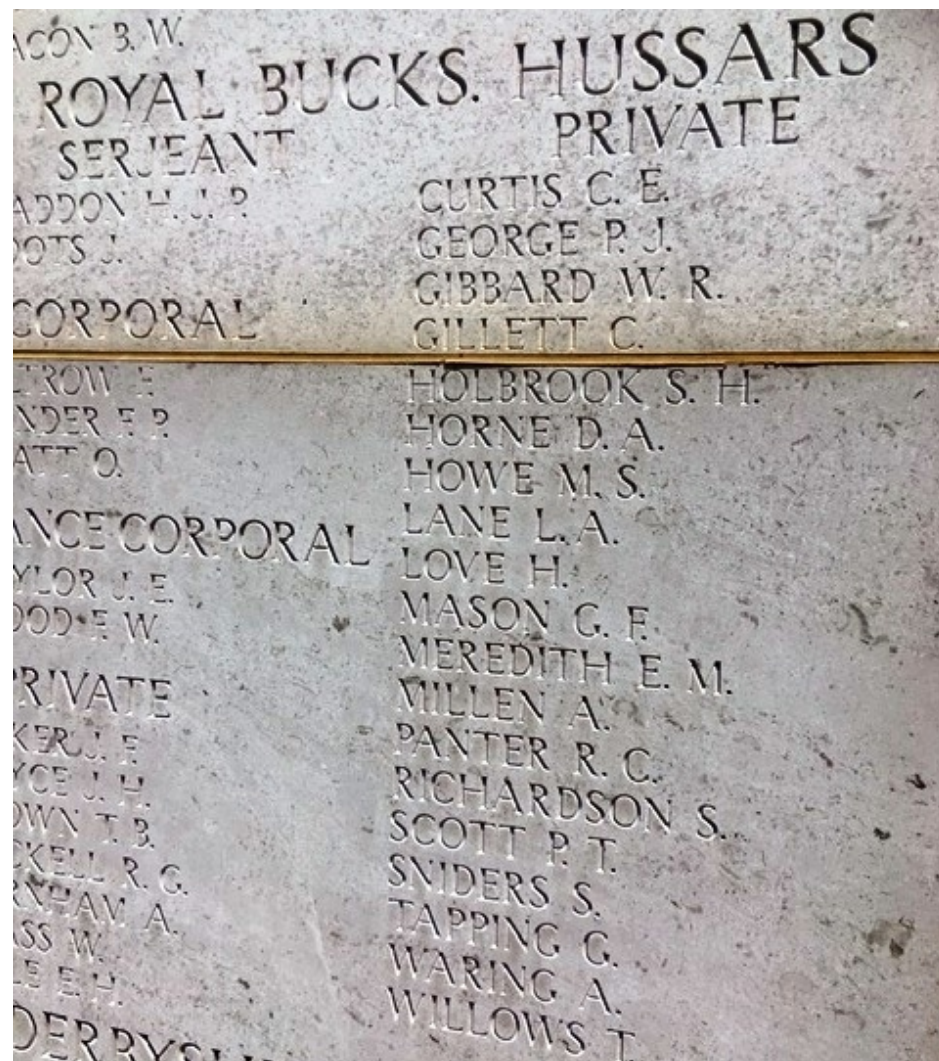
SCOTT, PERCY THEODORE**Rank: Private****Service No: 730****Date of Death: 25/08/1915****Age 20/21****Regiment/Service: Royal Buckinghamshire Hussars****No known Grave. He is commemorated on the Helles Memorial Panel
Reference : Panel 16 and 17.****Recorded as being born in 1894 in Dulwich, he is last listed in the 'Baltic List of Members' for 1914 working as a Clerk for Wm. H. Muller & Co (London), Ltd of Baltic House, Leadenhall Street EC3.****He worked for the same company as Henry Lawrence Jones (Above).****The Royal Buckinghamshire Hussars originated from a Volunteer Yeoman Cavalry unit from the 1790s which became in 1908 a Territorial Regiment becoming known as the Buckinghamshire Yeomanry (Royal Bucks Hussars). At the outbreak of World War 1 its Headquarters were in Buckingham with various Squadrons based in Aylesbury/High Wycombe and Chesham.****In August 1914, although not compelled to do so as 'Territorials', many members of the Regiment volunteered for overseas service. The 1/1st Royal Buckinghamshire Yeomanry was mobilized on 4 August 1914 and was based in Berkshire before moving in November 1914 to Norfolk on coastal defence duties.****In April 1915, still as Cavalry, the regiment moved to Egypt arriving in Alexandria on the 19th and 21st April and was posted to Cairo in the middle of May. The regiment was dismounted in August 1915 and moved as Infantry to take part in the Gallipoli Campaign leaving its squadron headquarters and two troops (about 100 officers and men) in Egypt to look after the horses.****They landed at "A" Beach, Sulva Bay on Gallipoli on 18 August 1915 (See Map below) and moved into bivouacs at Lala Baba on 20 August. On 21 August the Regiment advanced to a position called 'Chocolate Hill' via Salt Lake and Hetman Chair and took part in the attack on Scimitar Hill on 21 August 1915**



SKETCH MAP OF THE SUVLA AREA SHOWING THE LANDING BEACHES.
 The landing place most used in the later stages was near Cape Suvla, just inside Suvla Bay.

The Brigade of which the Royal Bucks Hussars were a part was commanded by Lord Longford and was in reserve for the final attack on Scimitar Hill. When the initial attack failed the yeomanry were ordered to advance in the open across a dry salt lake. Raked by shrapnel fire most of the other brigades in the attack halted but Lord Longford led his brigade in a charge which captured the summit of the hill. As he continued to advance, he was killed. His last words before his death were, reputedly to his other officers, *"Don't bother ducking, the men don't like it and it doesn't do any good...."*

Percy Theodore Scott is recorded as 'Died of Wounds' four days after this attack.



STRASS, EMILE ALBERT

Private - French Foreign Legion
Age 26

No burial record can be traced for Emile Albert.

He died on 14 September 1918 in the action that the Foreign Legion commemorates to this day.

At the end of summer 1918, the Germans withdrew to north of Soissons, to their positions constantly fortified since 1917 - the 'Hindenburg Line'. Many attempts were made to break this fortified line in this area but it was left to the Foreign Legion to succeed. The Foreign Legion Marching Regiment (*Régiment de Marche de la Légion Étrangère – R.M.L.E.*), under the orders of Lt-Col Rollet, were given the order to make a breach in this last big German defence line. On 14 September and after 12 days of constant heroic efforts and battles, the Legion took the plateau of Laffaux and dislodged the Germans, at the costs of 275 Killed in Action and 1,158 wounded in action.

The regiment was awarded its second *Légion d'honneur* and every year since the end of the Great War the 3rd Foreign Infantry Regiment, heir of the R.M.L.E, commemorates this high '*faits d'armes*'.

Emile is last listed in the 'Baltic List of Members' for 1918 working as a Clerk for Louis Dreyfus & Co., of Holland House, Bury Street and had been listed as such since 1914.

He was born in Calafat in Romania on 3 March 1892 and only became a naturalised French Citizen on 23 December 1916. He joined the French Foreign Legion in 1918 in Paris.

The French Military records describe his death as '*Tué à l'ennemi*'.
'Killed going forward to the enemy'.

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TAYLOR, WILLIAM SHOARD**Rank: Rifleman****Service No: R/18279****Date of Death: 28/07/1916****Age 21/22****Regiment/Service: King's Royal Rifle Corps 1st Bn.****Born 1894****No known Grave – Commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial,
Panel Reference: Pier and Face 13 A and 13 B.**

Recorded as being born and residing in Dalston there is no trace of William in the lists of Baltic Members from 1913-1917 which might suggest he had been employed at some point by the Exchange or member company. In the 1911 Census on April 2nd that year he was living at 69. Albert Road, Dalston, and his occupation is described as 'Junior Clerk'.

The King's Royal Rifle Corps (KRRC) origins were in the American colonies. In 1756, 62nd (Royal American) Regiment was formed to defend the thirteen colonies against attacks by the French and their Native American allies. In the Great War the KRRC was expanded to twenty-eight battalions but the 1st battalion was a 'Regular' unit and suggests that in 1914 William Shoard was already a full time soldier.

William Shoard died as a result of being involved in action during the Battle of the Somme at the infamous 'Delville Wood'...nicknamed 'Devils Wood' by the troops who took part. The Battle of Delville Wood (15 July – 3 September 1916) was a series of engagements on the Somme. By the end of July this one engagement and in one wood had caused massive casualties on both sides. The South African Brigade suffered greatly here in mid July and today the South African State Museum commemorating its participation in the Great War is located within the wood.

The KRRC - 1st Battalion is recorded on 23 July 1916 as marching to participate in the Somme battle and resting in bivouacs south-west of Fricourt village before moving up to the front line at Delville Wood on 24 July. The Battalion attacked the wood with the 23rd Royal Fusiliers on 27 July at 07-10am and are described as by 9am reaching their objective to hold a line about 50 yards inside the wood along a track way which still can be seen today called 'Princess Street'. High casualties are recorded during the enemy's subsequent counter attacks on 27 and 28 July.

William Shoard Taylor is recorded as 'Died of Wounds' on 28 July and his body was subsequently lost.

51.

THEILMANN, CARL ERIK

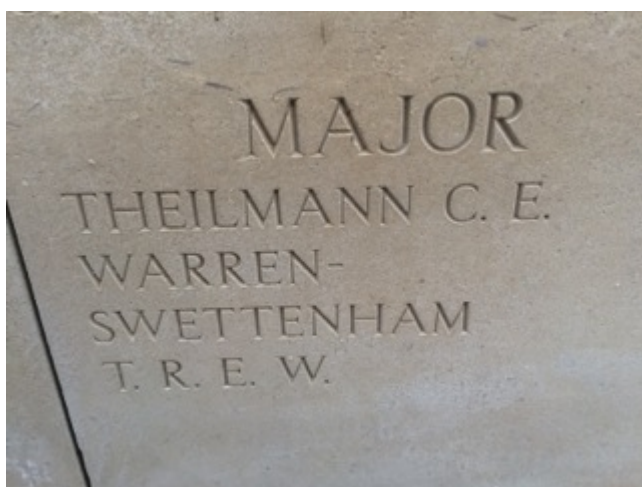
Rank: Major

Date of Death: 24/04/1915

Age: 41

Regiment/Service: East Yorkshire Regiment 4th Bn.

No known Grave –Commemorated on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial Panel 21 and 31 and the Leeds Corn Exchange War Memorial.



Husband of Mrs. R. G. Theilmann, of 67, Courtfield Gardens, Kensington, London.

Carl was listed in The Baltic Exchange 'List of Members' in 1914 as the sole member of 'Theilmann & Son', of Bishop Lane, Hull having been elected a full member of the Exchange in 1912.



The "Fallen Officers" columns of The Times - 3 May 1915

"was the head of the firm Thielmann and Son, corn and seed merchants founded by his father the late Mr Johnman H Thielmann of Rutland Villa, Sculcoates, Yorkshire, a Dane who, after fighting the Germans in Schleswig-Holstein, settled in Hull. Major Thielmann was 41 years of age and a fine linguist. Two years ago he was President of the Hull Corn Trade Association"

The East Yorkshire Regiment was an infantry regiment first raised in 1685 and the 4th Battalion of the East Yorkshire Regiment was raised in 1858 and was known for many years as the "Hull Rifles".

In World War 1 it became a unit of the York and Durham Infantry Brigade, Northumbrian Division, afterwards known as the 150th. Infantry Brigade, 50th. Division.

On 4 August 1914, the battalion, commanded by Lieut-Col. G.H.Shaw was mobilised at Hull, and proceeded to its first war station in Holderness. Shortly afterwards it was moved to Darlington, and thence to Newcastle, and it embarked for France on 17 April 1915.

On 18 April, it entrained for Cassel, and thence, on 19 April, marched to the Steenvoorde area in Belgium just in time for the 2nd Battle of Ypres when on 22 April 1915 the German Army used Chemical Weapons (Chlorine Gas) for the first time in their attack on the town. The 50th Division containing Carl Erik's Battalion was one of the divisions rushed up to stop the German advance.

The Battalion first "stood to arms" on 22 April, and proceeded by "bus" to Vlamertinghe on 23 April. The next day the men marched to the Yser Canal, and at 4 pm., from the chateau of Potijze, the whole brigade counter-attacked towards Fortuin, and through very heavy gun-fire drove the enemy back into St. Julien.

This counter-attack was carried out perfectly, and was successful, but at great cost, casualties being very heavy both amongst officers and men. Carl Erik was one of the casualties that day and was killed between the villages of Wieltje and Fortuin (Just to the North East of Ypres) and if his body was found it was never identified. He had been in Belgium for just one week.

The East Yorks Regimental journal gave the following obituary for Carl Erik:-

'Major Carl Eric Theilmann was born at Dulwich, 23rd October, 1873, and entered the 1st Volunteer Battalion 21st November, 1900, and was promoted Lieut. in 1902, and Captain on 1st January, 1907. With other officers he transferred to the Territorial Force on its formation in 1908, and was promoted Major on the increase of establishment after the war broke out, bearing date 13th September, 1914

He held a musketry certificate and, in addition, had qualified in 1909 as a first class interpreter in German. He took up rifle shooting about 1907 with much success and on several occasions obtained a place in County teams. In civil life Major Theilmann was head of a large firm of corn brokers, was a director of the Hull Pacific Club, and had served his term as President of the Hull Corn Trade Association. He was most deservedly popular with all ranks of the Hull Rifles, and his loss will be much felt, He had been married about 10 years and great sympathy is expressed towards his widow and two young children in their sad loss'

TURNBULL, THOMAS LANCELOT GAWAIN**Rank: Private****Service No: 1549****Date of Death: 15/04/1915****Age: 22****Regiment/Service: Honourable Artillery Company "B" Coy. 1st Bn.**

Thomas is buried in Dickebusch New Military Cemetery - Grave Reference - D. 9. The Cemetery is located in the village of Dikkebus, (A village near Ypres) in the Kerkstraat.

The cemetery was begun in February 1915 and was used until May 1917 by fighting units and field ambulances, with a few further burials taking place in March and April 1918.

The son of Reginald March Turnbull and Frances Clitheroe Turnbull of Broadlands Road, Hornsey, Middlesex., United Kingdom. Educated at Harrow and Trinity College Cambridge.

Thomas was last listed in The Baltic Exchange 'List of Members' in 1914 as a member representing 'Turnbull Scott & Co, of Exchange Chambers, St Mary Axe having been elected a full member of the Exchange in 1913. His father Reginald had been a member of the Exchange since 1899.

The CWGC website describes him as 'A native of London'. Thomas was born in the latter part of 1892 in Hornsey and was baptised on 5 February 1893 at Haringey, All Saints Church, Highgate. At the time of his Death he was recorded as living in High Barnet.

The book *A Shipping Venture: Turnbull Scott and Company 1872-1972* by. Anne and Russell Long; Hutchinson Benham Ltd.; 1974. P152 describes the following:

Turnbull, T., Pte (Private), 1915

In Dickebusch New Military Cemetery is the Commonwealth War Grave of 1549 Private Thomas Lancelot Gawain Turnbull, serving with the Honourable Artillery Company who died 15/04/1915.

Thomas Turnbull was a member of the family who ran the shipping firm of Turnbull Scott & Co. He and his brother Noel both: "volunteered for active service. Noel Turnbull served in the Royal Army Service Corps and was awarded the Military Cross. Tommie Turnbull joined the ranks of the Honourable Artillery Company and was mortally wounded at St.Eloi near Ypres in Flanders and died on 15 April 1915. His death at the age of 22 was a tragic loss to the Turnbull family and to the Company. He was a cheerful young man, much liked by his colleagues and a great favourite with his many friends and relations. His name appears in the Roll of Honour on the main staircase of the Baltic Exchange, of which he was elected a member in 1913".

Turnbull, Scott & Company been Ship-owners since the 1880's mostly concerned in tramping work, but also had a steady grain trade from the River Plate. Two owned ships and one managed ship were lost to enemy action in the 1914-18 war.

An Old Harrovian, Thomas was also a promising Cricketer as 'Wisden on the Great War: The Lives of Cricket's Fallen 1914-1918' states (the quoted letter from his officer to his family certainly shows times then were different to now!!!!)

Private Thomas Lancelot Gawain Turnbull (Honourable Artillery Company) was killed near Ypres on April 15, aged 22. A left handed, free hitting batsman, he was in the Harrow eleven in 1909 and two following years, being captain in 1911. In his first season he was given his colours on the strength of an innings of 131 v Old Harrovians, on his first appearance for the school immediately before the Lords match, and his selection was thoroughly justified, as in the Eton game he hit a hard for 40 on a rain - ruined wicket

An officer wrote to his family after his death

I have never met a better sportsman in the very best sense of the word. As you may imagine, conditions out here have, on occasion, been very trying indeed, but he was invariably cheerful and did his job in a most soldiery way - in short he was a white man.

From 24 March to 31 May 1915 the 1st Battalion, in France, were in trenches near St Eloi, on the Ypres Salient. They alternated with the Wiltshire Regiment, four days in and four days out. Casualties mounted steadily, attrition caused by shell fire, sniper fire and accident. Thomas is recorded as having 'Died of Wounds' in St. Eloi on 15 April 1915.

On 13 May 1915 – The Estate to Thomas Turnbull was completed with the Executors being Reginald March Kesterson Turnbull and Oswald Graham Noel Turnbull (Ship Owners). His estate was worth £17,780 a considerable amount at the time.

The following pages are from the Harrow Memorials of the Great War

PRIVATE T. L. G. TURNBULL

Honourable Artillery Company

Moretons 064-11*

Aged 22

April 15th, 1915

FOURTH and youngest son of the late Reginald March Turnbull, Shipowner, and of Frances Clitheroe Turnbull.

Monitor, 1910. Cricket XI, 1909-10-11 (Captain, 1911). Football XI, 1910. School Racquet Player, 1911.

Trinity College, Cambridge.

Private Turnbull joined the H.A.C. a few days after war was declared, and went to France in December, 1914. He was mortally wounded when moving up from the support to the firing trench, near St. Eloi, on the night of the 14th April, 1915. In crossing a stream by a plank he was hit close to the heart by a bullet which had wounded the man in front of him in the arm. He was carried to the nearest hospital and died in a very few hours. He is buried at Dickebusch.

An Officer in the H.A.C. wrote to his brother :—

"It is with the utmost possible regret that I write to tell you of the death of your brother. . . . Please accept the sincerest sympathy of the Captain and all Officers, N.C.O.'s and men of B Company, who feel they have lost a very gallant comrade."

A Private in B Company wrote :—

"I am afraid that I cannot express my feelings adequately in words, as poor Tommy was my very best friend out here, and his loss is absolutely irreparable . . . he was always so cheery and was the life and soul of the Section. . . . When we came down two days later I saw the R.A.M.C. orderly who was with him in hospital, and he was full of admiration for the great pluck he showed."

Another of the Officers wrote :—

"I have seen a great deal of him, and I can honestly say I have never met a better sportsman in the very best sense of the word. As you may imagine, conditions out here have, on occasion, been very trying indeed, but he was invariably cheerful and did his job in the most soldierly way—in short, he was a white man."



THOMAS LANCELOT GAWAIN TURNBULL

TURNER, ARTHUR LEONARD**Rank: Private****Service No: STK/261****Date of Death: 11/07/1916****Regiment/Service: Royal Fusiliers 10th Bn****No known Grave – Remembered on the Thiepval Memorial Panel****Reference Pier and Face 8 C 9 A and 16 A.****There is no record of an Arthur Leonard Turner in the ‘Baltic List of Members’ for 1913 to 1916. He was born and lived in Poplar.****His address in the 1911 Census of April 2nd 1911 is 403. East India Dock Road, Poplar and his occupation is stated as ‘Clerk Corn Trade’ – He was 25 at the time and single which would make him about 30 at the time of his Death.****Arthur Turner was a member of the same Battalion as William Frederick Drughorn and died on the Somme just four days before he did. As recorded for William Drughorn the 10th (Service) Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers was formed in City of London in August 1914 and was known as the ‘Stockbrokers’ Battalion.****The 10th Bn Royal Fusiliers came up to the Somme front line on 10 July 1916. However on 9 July their Battalion camp at Albert (behind the lines) was heavily shelled, and a grenade dump (50,000 hand grenades) detonated, wounding an officer, killing one man and wounding two others.****However in the front line death and desolation were everywhere. The Battalion moved into the village of La Boisselle which was level with the ground. The trenches were battered and exposed. Dead bodies lay about on all sides. At 9 p.m. on July 10th C and B Companies were pushed up in relief of the 13th Rifle Brigade, who, attacking towards Pozieres, had suffered from machine-gun fire and the battalion lay in advanced positions under heavy shell fire for two days. The men preferred attack when losses sustained went to pay the price of some tangible success, or at least to further an obvious purpose. The Battalion War Diary for 11th July notes that it ‘lost considerably from heavy shelling’ with six killed and one missing. It is likely Arthur Turner was killed and his body lost during this shelling while the Battalion awaited the order to attack Poziers village on 15 July 1916.**

WARREN, WALTER

Rank: Sergeant

Service No: 294 : London Regiment (Artists' Rifles) 28th Bn

Date of Death: 27/11/1914

Age: 37

Born on 11 July 1877 in Chelsea.

He was the 2nd son of Henry and Clara Warren, of Rockleaze, Stevenage, Herts. Educated at the City of London School.

He was a 'Territorial' soldier who had joined the Artists Rifles in 1900 and had volunteered for overseas service at the outbreak of war.

He is listed in the 'Baltic List of Members' for 1914 working as a Clerk for 'Alexander & Co', of 6 Bury Court.



He went to France with the 1st Battalion Artist Rifles on 26 October 1914 and was killed in action at Neuve Eglise in Belgium on 27 November 1914 and was thus the first member of the Baltic Exchange to be killed in World War I and the only member to be killed in 1914!

On the morning of the 27 November part of the Battalion were tasked with digging trenches (this was time of the beginning of trench warfare on Western Front). Shortly after commencing work they came under heavy German gunfire and Walter was immediately killed. He is buried in Nieuwerkerke (Neuve Eglise) Churchyard (which is located 12 Kms south of Ieper town centre) Grave Reference N.2.

His Colonel wrote to his parents thus *'Your son was splendid and had the goodwill and affection of every man in the Corps'*

A fellow Sergeant also wrote *'There was no one but spoke well of him and those of us Sergeants who were privileged to know him best feel the loss more than we can express. He was beloved by everyone, was always cheery, and always doing somebody a good turn'*

WATSON, REUBEN GEORGE

Rank: Private

Service No: 4072

Date of Death: 21/07/1916

Regiment/Service: Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry 1st/1st Bucks Bn.

**No known Grave – Remembered on the Thiepval Memorial Panel
Reference Pier and Face 10 A and 10 D.**

Born in 1889.

Last listed in the Baltic list of Members in 1915 working as a Clerk for J.A. Finzi & Co., of 23 Great St. Helens. His Will details gives an address of 28 Tarbert Road, East Dulwich leaving 'Effects' of £122 18s and 9d to his widow Winifred Annie.

During the Battle of the Somme the Battalion War Diary records that on 20 July 1916 it was ordered to attack the German lines near the villages of Ovillers and La Boisselle the following day. The attack was met with heavy machine gun fire and failed to take its objectives – amongst the 45 recorded as missing was Reuben Watson.

WHITAKER, LAWRENCE FREDERICK

Rank: Sergeant

Service No: 300102

Date of Death: 09/10/1916

Age 26/27

Regiment/Service: London Regiment (London Rifle Brigade)

Born in Forest Gate in 1889

**No known Grave – Remembered on the Thiepval Memorial Panel
Reference Pier and Face 9 D.**

**Last listed in the Baltic list of Members in 1915 working as a Clerk for
F.Green & Co, 13 Fenchurch Avenue**

**Lawrence Whitaker was in the same Battalion and action as Second
Lieutenant James Dewar and died just one day after him as the Battalion
awaited relief. The Battalion War Diary records that on 9 October, after
the unsuccessful attack on 'Hazy Trench', the Battalion was shelled
heavily and both Second Lieutenant Dewar and Sergeant Whitaker were
amongst the 94 of the Battalion missing during 8 and 9 October 1916.**

WHITE, HUGH

Rank: Lieutenant

Date of Death: 27/08/1918

Age: 42

Regiment/Service: Grenadier Guards 2nd Bn.

Buried in Caberet-Rouge British Cemetery, Souchez - Grave

Reference:VIII. L. 35.

Son of Hugh and Mary White, of Edinburgh; husband of Elsie Maude White, of Greystone Lodge, Sevenoaks, Kent.

Last listed in the Baltic list of Members in 1917 working as a Clerk for Harris Bros & Co., of Exchange Chambers, St. Mary Axe (The same Company as Cyril Charles Cole)

Hugh was killed during the Allies final 'Advance to Victory' and at the time of his death he was 2nd in Command of No3 Company of the 2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards.

On 25 August 1918 the Battalion moved up to take over the front line and was ordered on 26 August to continue the advance together with the 2nd Coldstream on their left to try capture the German trenches in and south of the villages of Ecoust and Longatte south of Arras. Zero hour on 27 August was 7 am and No3 Company led the advance at 7am.

Despite heavy machine gun fire, the German trenches were captured at the cost of many men including two officers mortally wounded. Hugh White's immediate superior Captain Cornforth MC (commanding no.3 Coy) decided to rush a trench called 'Banks Trench' and most of his party were cut down. But he gained access to the trench with only 3 men left. There they found a good supply of grenades which they used to clear the position for 500 yards, knocking out 6 machine-guns and taking 40 prisoners. Seven officers from the Battalion were killed mostly from No.3 Company (including Hugh White), and 5 wounded. The other ranks casualties amounted to 278. Despite losing all his officers and leading a heroic attack on Banks Trench, Captain Cornforth survived without serious injury and gained a bar to his MC.

WHITE, WILLIAM GURNEY

Rank: Second Lieutenant

Date of Death: 23/09/1916

Age: 28

Regiment/Service: Royal Field Artillery 281st Bde.

**William is buried in Grove Town Cemetery, Meaulte, near Albert, France
Grave Reference: I. E. 2.**

**He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Baglin White; husband of Dagny M.
White, of 102, Plaistow Lane, Bromley, Kent**

A native of Bromley Thomas was last listed in The Baltic Exchange 'List of Members' in 1916 as a member representing 'Webb & Kenward, Ltd., of 15 Seething Lane having been elected a full member of the Exchange in 1910.

The Battalion War Diary records the 281st Bde Royal Field Artillery as being in action on 21 September 1916 during the Battle of the Somme supporting an attack on Morval. On that day they were heavily shelled and the Battalions War Diary records Second Lieutenant White being 'killed' that day by this shelling. The CWGC records his death as being 2 days later and records indicate that he died of wounds and was buried in the rear at Meaulte near Albert. Perhaps the Diary was written up after his death and relates his death to the actual day he was severely wounded.

WILSON, GEORGE DOUGLAS**Rank: Lieutenant****Date of Death: 13/09/1916****Age: 45****Regiment/Service: Royal Field Artillery 2nd (London) Bde.****He is buried in St. Sever Cemetery, Rouen - Grave Reference Officers, A. 8. 2**

During the First World War, British Empire camps and hospitals were stationed on the southern outskirts of Rouen. A base supply depot and the 3rd Echelon of General Headquarters were also established in the city.

Almost all of the hospitals at Rouen remained there for practically the whole of the war. There were fourteen hospitals in total as well as a 'Convalescent Depot.' A number of the dead from these hospitals were buried in other cemeteries, but the great majority were taken to the city cemetery of St. Sever. In September 1916, it was found necessary to begin an extension to that cemetery. St. Sever Cemetery contains 3,082 British Empire burials of the First World War.

George Douglas was the son of George R. Wilson, of Oxton, Cheshire and husband of Mrs. E. H. Wilson, of Eltham Court, Eltham, Kent.

He is last listed in the Baltic Exchange 'List of Members' in 1916 as the sole member representing J & R Wilson & Co., of London House, New London Street. He was elected as a member of the Exchange in 1909. There is no trace of the Company surviving in the 1917 'List of Members'

The London Brigade of Royal Field Artillery was a 'Territorial' unit based in the City of London. The London Gazette of May 1911 announced that George Douglas Wilson was to become a 2nd Lieutenant of 2nd London Brigade, Royal Field Artillery. When war was declared on 4 August 1914, the City of London Brigade promptly mustered at Bloomsbury for mobilisation. By 1916 they were in France supporting the London Division in their actions on the Somme at Gommecourt in July and at Ginchy on 9 September.

George Douglas 'Died of Wounds' at hospital in Rouen on 13 September, 4 days after the action at Ginchy

The 'Stirling Observer' in Scotland of 23 September 1916 records that 'Douglas Wilson, Royal Field Artillery, late of Drumquhar, Blanefield, has died as a result of shell shock'.

A village called 'Strathblanfield in Scotland has a website 'Strathblanfield Remembers', a short history of George Douglas and his family exists:-

He was born around 1871 on Merseyside at Rock Ferry, then an upmarket community on the Wirral Peninsula. He was the son of George Wilson and his wife Jane. He was christened George Douglas, though he seems to have been known as Douglas, presumably to distinguish him from his father, who was an established ship-owner and export provision merchant in Liverpool trading under the name Wilson, Coltart & Co. The 1891 Census finds the family living at The Hermitage, a large house in Oxtan, Birkenhead, and it reveals that both of his parents were Scottish. It also shows that Douglas, now 20, had an elder sister Jane, aged 23, as well as a 13-year old sister Annabella.

It would appear that Douglas joined the family business as a partner. In August 1897 he married Elizabeth Harpin Harrison in the Wirral. By 1901, the couple had moved to Strathblane to run the Glasgow office, known as J.P.B. Wilson at 22 Oswald Street. At first the family rented Napier Lodge in Milndavie Road where their two daughters, Jean Gilroy Wilson and Elizabeth Madeleine Wilson were born in 1898 and 1901 respectively. At this time Napier Lodge is described as a 12-roomed house and the family employed a cook, a nurse and a waitress.

At the end of 1903, Douglas and his father dissolved their partnership by mutual consent as reported in the London Gazette of 22 January 1904. The business was carried on by Douglas and Frank Forbes Wilson in co-partnership.

The business became known as J & R Wilson and apparently had Offices in the USA and Australia as well as branches in Glasgow and Liverpool. The 1911 Census finds him Eltham Court, Kent with his wife, three children and six servants.

George Donald Wilson's Grave in Rouen



WITT, LEONARD STANLEY**Rank: Second Lieutenant****Date of Death: 02/05/1917****Age: 28****Regiment/Service: Royal Field Artillery "A" Battery. 104th Bde.****Cemetery: Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery Military Cemetery****- Grave Reference: X. A. 25.**

Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery is located 12 Kms west of Ieper town Belgium. During the First World War, the village of Lijssenthoek was situated on the main communication line between the Allied military bases in the rear and the Ypres battlefields. Close to the Front, but out of the extreme range of most German field artillery, it became a natural place to establish casualty clearing stations.

Leonard Witt was the son of William Charles and Sarah Henrietta Witt, who lived at "Kildare," Hardwicke Rd., Palmer's Green, London.

The parents also lost a younger son Claude William Witt who was killed in October 1917 also in Belgium.

Leonard was born in Clapham on 1 September 1888 and was educated at Clacton Grammar School.

He is listed in the 'Baltic List of Members' for 1916 working as a Clerk for 'Moxon, Salt & Co., of 101 Leadenhall Street.

He joined the HAC in 1911 and was mobilised for war at its outbreak in August 1914. He saw overseas service with the HAC in Egypt between February 1915 and May 1916. On his return to the UK a period of training at Exeter and Shoeburyness saw him 'Gazetted' as Second Lieutenant in the Royal Field Artillery on 2 September 1916. He was posted to the 'Western Front' on 3 January 1917 and died of wounds at No2 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station on 2 May 1917. Wounds received in action near Ypres the previous day.

His commanding officer wrote:-

'His first thought when wounded was of others, and typified the gallant, unselfish officer he was, as he shouted that no one was to come near him as he could reach himself, although he knew himself that he couldn't, but didn't want to risk his comrades. He will not be easily forgotten by any of us'

Another officer wrote to his brother :-

‘ Your brother and myself were the greatest of friends. His persistent good spirits and the fact that he was always jovial even under the most trying circumstances made him the very best fellow in the world. There was not a man in the battery who did not adore him and that speaks for itself’.

+

YOUNG, ROBERT**Rank: Gunner****Service No: 158137****Date of Death: 24/04/1918****Age: 30****Regiment/Service: Royal Garrison Artillery 298th Siege Battery.****Buried in Godewaersvelde British Cemetery, Belgium, Grave Reference: I. R. 11.****He was the husband of Elsie Mary Young (nee Hinde) of 53, Fairlop Rd., Leytonstone, London.****Robert is last listed in the Baltic list of Members in 1917 working as a Clerk for Runciman (London) Ltd, of Exchange Chambers, St Mary Axe.****Godewaersvelde is a village near the Belgian border, about 16 kilometres south-west of Ieper. The cemetery was begun in July 1917 when three casualty clearing stations were moved to Godewaersvelde. The 37th and the 41st were buried in it until November 1917, the 11th until April 1918, and from April to August 1918, during the German offensive in Flanders, field ambulance and fighting units carried on the burials.****Recorded as being born in South Shields - enlisted in London and living in Leytonstone****Exact circumstances of Robert's death are unknown but he died in the Second German Offensive of Spring 1918 which took place between 9 – 29 April 1918.****The situation for the British Army was so critical during this attack that General Haig (Commander in Chief of the British Army) issued his famous order of the day on 11 April less than 2 weeks before Robert Young was killed:-*****'There is no other course open to us but to fight it out. Every position must be held to the last man: there must be no retirement. With our backs to the wall and believing in the justice of our cause each one of us must fight on to the end. The safety of our homes and the Freedom of mankind alike depend upon the conduct of each one of us at this critical moment'*****(Signed) D. Haig F.M.****Commander-in-Chief /British Armies in France****General Headquarters****Tuesday, April 11th, 1918**