

**WHITEPARISH BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE
FOR THE FALLEN
OF THE GREAT WARS**

**This book was kindly donated by the family of the late
Major Philip Kitchen
who resided in Martins Rise**

A BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE FOR THE FALLEN OF WORLD WAR 1 AND WORLD WAR 2

'They shall not grow old as we that are left grow old,
age shall not weary them or the years condemn,
at the going down of the sun and in the morning,
we will remember them.'

The following researchers and residents of Whiteparish contributed to this book:

Mr Hugh Burnard

Reverend Jane Dunlop

Mr Adrian Felthem

Mr Michael Hayday

Mrs Sue Jones

Mrs Jane Legat

Mrs Fiona Nokes

Mr Sam Nokes

Mrs Janet O'Callaghan

Brigadier Derek O'Callaghan (Editor)

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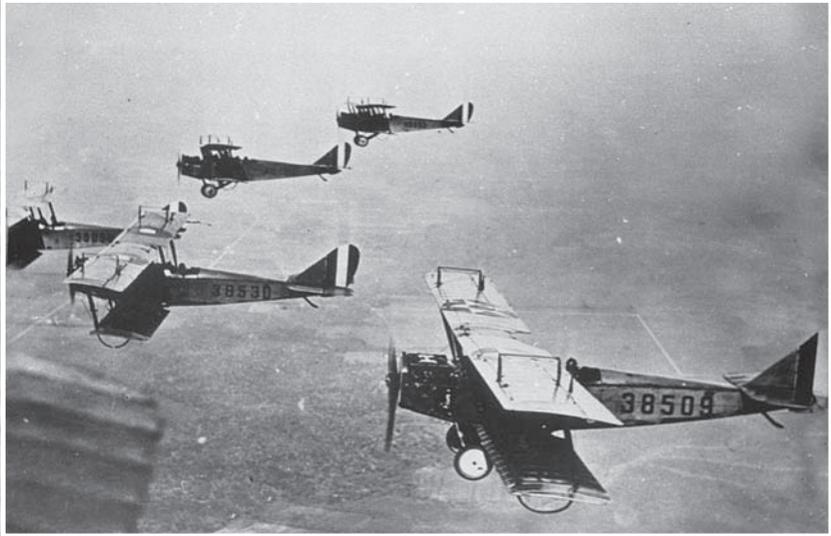
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WORLD WAR I





William Charles Elkins



Alfred Stone



Edgar John Runyard



Henry Bradford Maltby





HUMPHREY WARWICK ARDEN

Humphrey Warwick Arden was born in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada on the 13th May 1892, the second son of the Reverend William Henry Percival Arden and Emily Beatrice his wife. He was their only surviving child as his sister Gwendoline died in 1892 aged 2 and his brother Theodore died aged 1.

He was educated at Lynam's Preparatory School Oxford; Radley College where he was a prefect and Sergeant in the Officer Training Corps and Queen's College, Cambridge, where he graduated with Second Class Honours. He was a prominent oarsman while at Radley and stroked for the first eight twice at Henley. He also rowed twice in the University Trials and stroked his College boat to victory in the Wyfold Cup at Henley in 1912. After graduation he was a member of staff at Eagle House Preparatory School from 1914-1915.

Subsequently, he intended to take Holy Orders, but obtained a Commission on 23rd July 1915 in the Royal Artillery. He helped to train the 156th (Oxfordshire) Heavy Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery before going out with them as an Observing Officer on 11th June 1916. He was wounded at Messines on 6th June 1917, whilst restoring telephonic communications under heavy fire and died the same day at the Casualty Clearing Station in Baillcul.

His Commanding Officer wrote, *"His battery joined my group on the 24th May for this last battle, but I had several opportunities of learning of his worth, and had selected him to go forward on the 7th June with the attacking infantry... I have recommended that he be mentioned in Despatches for attending to a wounded man under fire on 2nd June, and for going across at the time he was wounded under heavy fire to restore the telephone communications. He was an admirable, brave young man, a valuable officer"* and another officer: *"His loss is a greatest calamity... He had the confidence, esteem, respect and devotion of every officer and man in the battery."*

His father was the Vicar of Whiteparish who also had a Calvary erected in Yoxhall, the Arden family home, in memory of his only surviving child. He was buried in Baillcul at the Communal Cemetery Extension North.



ROBERT JAMES COTTREL

Robert Cottrel was born in 1894 near Cranborne in Dorset. The only son of James and Emily Cottrel, née Holland. He had 4 sisters: Violet, Daisy, Evelyn and Florence.

His father held the post of Butler to Mr and Mrs Lawrence of Cowesfield Lodge and young Robert attended Whiteparish School.

After filling several jobs in the locality, he joined the RMSC and went to Buenos Aires. He then entered service in the USA in the household of Mr Pierpoint-Morgan and Mr Gould. At the outbreak of war he joined a munitions factory and then a gun factory in America. He later went to Canada where he enlisted in the Air Service as a Cadet. He received his flying training in Texas. In March/April 1918 he came back to the UK and joined 236 Squadron of the new RAF. As war ended the Squadron was stationed at Mullion in Cornwall.

On the 18th January 1919, he was flying his aircraft to Salisbury when his machine crashed and he died 15 minutes later.

His funeral was held on the 27th January 1919 and was featured in the Salisbury Journal for that week. The service was conducted by the Reverend Arden. Lieutenant Cottrel is buried in the churchyard at Whiteparish.



FRANK CHALK

Frank Chalk was born in 1895 at Walworth in Surrey at his mother's home. His parents were Thomas and Matilda Chalk and they farmed at Sansome's Farm, Hop Gardens, Whiteparish. He grew up and went to school in Whiteparish and at the outbreak of war was working on his parent's farm.

He had two brothers: Thomas was born in 1887 and Frederick in 1918. Both brothers emigrated to Brunswick Canada in 1923.

Frank enlisted in the First Battalion of the Duke of Cambridge Own (Middlesex) Regiment and was given the Service Number TF 266419. After training, he joined his Battalion at Devizes and by late 1918 was pursuing the retreating Germans through the Forest of Mormal and across the the Sambre River as part of the 33rd Division. He was injured in this his Battalion's last campaign of the War and died of his wounds on 29th November 1918, eighteen days after the Armistice, aged 23 years old.

He is buried at Terlingthun, the British Cemetery in Wimille, Belgium.



REUBEN SAMUEL COLLINS

Reuben was born in 1882 in Fareham in Hampshire. His parents Reuben and Emily Jane Collins, née Hescocock, lived in 2 Costers Court, Fareham but by 1901 they had moved and were living in nearby Costers Yard. By 1907 they had moved to Wiltshire and there he married a Whiteparish born girl, Emma Florence Lane who was 28. By 1911 they were residing in Surrey where Reuben worked as a bricklayer.

By the outbreak of war the Collins family were in Aldershot and Reuben volunteered for the Army and joined the Royal Engineers. He was posted to the 61st Field Company which was attached to 14th Light Division part of the first new “Kitchener Army Group” K1.

The Division was formed of volunteers and was numbered the 8th (Light) Division, but as more regular army units became available to strengthen the Division, they were given precedence and it was renumbered as the 14th (Light) Division. Initially without equipment or arms of any kind, the recruits were judged to be ready by May 1915, although its move to the fighting front was delayed by lack of rifle and artillery ammunition. They embarked for France in May, providing much needed reinforcement for the regular and territorial divisions in Flanders.

The 14th Division moved into the front lines, amongst them Reuben, by now a sergeant. This was a responsible position in the army’s technical branch and Reuben must have been viewed as a man a cut above the average, capable of taking command of well-trained expert engineer troops.

14th Light Division was involved in some heavy fighting during the 2nd Battle of Ypres during Reuben’s short time at the front.

- Between the 30th and 31st of August the Battle of Hooge took place: The Hooge sector around the Chateau of Hooge was being held by 41st Brigade of 14th Division, which had taken over the area only a week before. At 3.15am, with dramatic suddenness, the ruins of the Stables were blown up, and jets of flame shot across from the German trenches. This was the first time in warfare that liquid fire flamethrowers had been used by the Germans against the British. And so this notable action became known as the “Liquid Fire Attack”. Immediately a deluge of fire of all kinds fell on the Brigade, and on all support positions. The ramparts of Ypres and the exits from the town were also shelled. The Germans achieved complete surprise, which resulted in intensive hand to hand fighting; eventually virtually all of the positions held by the Brigade were lost. Meanwhile, in the complex of trenches between Zouave and Sanctuary Woods scenes of extraordinary chaos and individual initiative were taking place as

bombing and counter-bombing took place, with even a spare group of Royal Engineers being thrown into the fray. Division rushed up reinforcements, and a new line along the edge of the woods was formed. At 11.30am, orders were issued for a counterattack by the 41st and 42nd Brigades. A feeble 45 minute bombardment preceded this. The 41st Division attack at 0245hrs, by the 6th DCLI, failed, with no man approaching closer than 150 yards to the new German positions; the 9th KRRC of the 42nd fared better and recovered some of the lost lines. The 43rd Brigade relieved the badly-hit 41st during the late afternoon and evening. During the night, another flamethrower attack was repulsed, but further efforts by the 14th Division on the 31st came to nothing against heavy German shellfire.

- On the 25th September 1915 a Second Attack on Bellewaardew was launched by the 3rd and 14th Divisions and it lasted until the following day. Bellewaarde was north of Hooge in the same sector of the frontline. The two divisions failed to break into the German lines, suffering heavy losses.

It is not known in which of these actions Reuben played a part. What is known is that by late 1915 he was in either Portsmouth or Gosport military hospital where he died on 7th December aged 33. His wife Emma returned to Whiteparish but they had no children. He is buried in Whiteparish All Saints church.



LEVI GEORGE DIBDEN

Levi George Dibden was born in Bramshaw in June 1889 and as he grew up became known as George rather than Levi. He was the son of Levi George Dibden who moved to Whiteparish from Bramshaw. His father was employed as a coachman and groom becoming a chauffeur in later life in Whiteparish. His mother Mary Jane had three sons Arthur, George and William who all went to school in Bramshaw. George left home and went to work in Hendon, Northwest London as a baker, where he met and married Francis Walker on the 24th November 1915, and the couple settled at Avalon Villa, Stanley Road, West Hendon, London.

He enlisted in the Royal Navy in 1916 and finally served on board Her Majesty's Torpedo Boat HMTB 19 as a 1st Class Stoker number k/37639. He died as a result of illness on board the boat on the 22nd October 1918. There had been an outbreak of Spanish fever at his base prior to his death. His boat had been launched by Thornycroft on 7th December 1907 as a follow-on build of Cricket Class coastal destroyers and was sold for scrapping in 1921.

He is buried in Gillingham (Woodlands) Cemetery in Naval Plot 4.202.



THOMAS CHARLES EVERSHERD

Thomas Charles Evershed was born on the 25th May 1879 in Chobham, the youngest son of George and Ruth Evershed of the High Street, Chobham. He was the youngest of four siblings Albert, George and Annie. His father was an agricultural labourer and Thomas became an assistant grocer.

He signed up for the Army and was allocated Army number 291149. After training in the United Kingdom, he was posted to the 8th Battalion of the Devonshire Regiment then stationed on Salisbury Plain. Whilst training in Wiltshire, he met Lavinia Emma Spare who lived at Church View in Whiteparish and married her in All Saints Church on the 1st February 1917.

The Battalion were subsequently posted to the Western Front and there they became engaged in the Battle of Ypres. Thomas was killed in action at the 3rd Battle of Ypres on the 4th October 1917 and is buried in the New Irish Farm Cemetery, Ypres, West Flanders, Belgium.



WILLIAM CHARLES ELKINS

Born 17th September 1899, William by 1911 was living with his parents in Whiteparish and although only 14, was already working as a woodman. His parents were John and Selina Bethiah Elkins of Hop Gardens.

The Elkins were an established Whiteparish family. In 1841 William's grandfather Charles at the age of 20 was living with his great grandfather John, an agricultural labourer aged 50 and his great grandmother Elizabeth.

His father was born in 1858 and christened in Whiteparish on 20th February 1859 and in 1860 resided with his parents at Green Houses, Whiteparish. John married Selina Bethiah Jarred, then 18, also of Whiteparish in 1881 and by 1891 they were living at the Green in Whiteparish. By 1901 and in 1911 the family had moved to "the Common" in Whiteparish. William was the 4th of 8 children. He was living in Hilperton near Trowbridge when he enlisted. It is very likely that he lied about his age as he was barely 18 at the time of his death and soldiers below the age of 19 years were not normally allowed to serve overseas.

William enlisted into the local county regiment, the Wiltshire Regiment. The Regiment like all infantry regiments of the regular army had 4 battalions, 2 regular, 1 training and a territorial battalion. After the appointment of Lord Kitchener a massive increase in numbers was undertaken with service battalions, serving for the duration of the war, being formed. William duly joined the first of these, the 5th (Service) Battalion, and began the intensive training which would make him a soldier.

The 5th Battalion of the Wiltshire Regiment was formed at Devizes in August 1914 and attached as Army Troops to 13th (Western) Division. In that year, they underwent three moves: Tidworth, then on to Chiseldon, reaching Cirencester where they joined 40th Brigade. 1915 saw brief stays in Woking and Bisley and then on 1st July 1915 the Battalion sailed from Avonmouth for Gallipoli, joining the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force.

Initially assigned to reinforce the forces at Cape Helles on 6th July 1915, the 13th Division landed at Anzac on the Gallipoli peninsula in late July 1915 in preparation for the August Offensive. Although all of its component infantry battalions arrived, the Division's artillery would not arrive for some months and so the Division were placed in reserve to the main breakout by the New Zealand and Australian Division, the 38th and 39th Brigades were sent in as reinforcements as the attack stalled.

The 7th Gloucesters and the 8th Royal Welsh Fusiliers were sent to support the Wellington battalion of the New Zealand Infantry Brigade when it made a decisive assault on Chunuk Bair on the morning of 8th August.

Battalions of the Division, including the 5th Wiltshire, formed the core of the force (known as 'Baldwin's Brigade'), were sent to capture Hill Q on 9th August but were not in position in time and so spent the day encamped on a small plateau beneath Chunuk Bair known as 'The Farm'. When the Turks counter-attacked on the morning of 10th August the Division's troops on Chunuk Bair and at The Farm, about 3,000 men, were decimated. William Elkins was one of those killed in this fierce fighting on 10th August. He is one of the many Gallipoli dead whose body was never found.

He is commemorated on the Helles Memorial, panel 156 to 158.



WILLIAM GEORGE GILBERT

William Gilbert was born at Dinton in 1892. His parents were George Thomas and Emily Gilbert who had moved and were farming at Tichbourne Farm, Redlynch by 1911. Before the war William worked as a carter on the farm and married Florence Kate of Whistley Cottage, Potterne on 31st July 1915 at Whiteparish in All Saints Church.

William enlisted at Andover in 1917 and joined the Hampshire Regiment as a Private in the 15th Service Battalion and was given the service number 31607.

As part of the 41st Division, his Battalion took part in the battle of Messines which commenced at 0310hrs on the 7th June 1917. At 0700hrs the 41st Division passed through St. Eloi and took Hill 60. By 1515hrs the Messines Ridge was taken. Unfortunately, William was badly injured and died of his wounds on the 27th July 1917 aged 25 years old. One of 24,562 casualties on the day.

He is buried at Dickebusch New Cemetery Extension in Belgium in Grave 11.A.16.

His wife Florence Kate remarried after the war and died in 1980.



FRANK GOULDING

Frank Goulding was born in 1881 to Joshua and Hannah Goulding née Light, at the Malhouses Whiteparish. Frank was the older brother of Walter. Both boys attended Whiteparish Village School. His father was a gardener by trade. By 1901 Frank was a handyman in the Garden at Melchet Park living away from home over the coach house in Melchet Park. By 1911, aged 21 he was back home with his parents and working as a carter on a farm whilst Walter was a bricklayer also living at home and living in the Street.

He joined the Merchant Navy as a Mercantile Marine and worked as a store keeper. On May 30th 1918 he was part of the crew of SS AUSONIA, on a voyage from Liverpool to New York, in ballast with no passengers but a crew of 130. The ship was a converted liner which was used as a defensively armed troop-ship.

On that day, when at some 620 nautical miles West and Southwest of Fastnet and dispersed purposely from the convoy; a German submarine U-62 attacked firing a torpedo in to the engine room. Unluckily it was only one of two successful engagements made by the U-Boat during its total service. The ship sunk with a loss of 44 crew, amongst them Frank who was recorded as having drowned. Ten lifeboats were lowered and all got away safely although downstream two of the lifeboats became separated and their crews were lost. From the lifeboats the crew witnessed the submarine emerging and firing a number of rounds into the ship to ensure its sinking. There was also one women on board and she was Theresa Edgar the stewardess. According to Miss Edgar the U boats came along side the lifeboats searching for the Captain but couldn't find him; he having removed his uniform. When the U Boat crew saw a women they shouted "*You have a woman with you. Clear away*", and with that the encounter with the enemy was over.

His death is commemorated at the Tower Hill Memorial and his death is record as drowning so it is most likely that he was one of the unfortunate crew members who having survived the initial attack went to one of the two lifeboats that became isolated and were lost in poor weather conditions.



FRANK JERRED

Frank Jerred was born in 1886 in Whiteparish to parents John of Whiteparish and Mary from Farley, who were living together in the Street. He had a brother William, twin sisters Alpha Ida and Beta May and his youngest sibling was Annie. At this time, the family benefitted from Parish relief although his father's profession was a gardener. Frank and his siblings attended the village school but he had graduated to being a dairy boy at a local cattle farm by 1901. By then his father had retired and the twin sisters are no longer shown in the family residence: Alpha Ida died in May of 1916 in Devizes and is buried in the Village church and her twin was working in Wimbledon as a cook.

Frank joined the Royal Marine Light Infantry sometime before the 1911 census because at that period he is recorded as serving aboard HMS Vulnerable as a Private with a service number PO15184.

By 1914 Frank was serving on HMS Good Hope and on the 1st November that year was serving as a store man when the ship was attacked by a German naval squadron under the command of Vice Admiral Maximilian Spee. After eluding a large number of Japanese, British and Australian ships on its way, Spee encountered a British Squadron commanded by Sir Christopher Craddock. The Germans with their newer lighter ships took rapid action opening fire almost immediately on contact. Craddock's crew were unable in this time even to return fire before they were hit and sunk within half an hour. One of the other ships in the Squadron, HMS Monmouth was also sunk by the Germans whilst trying to escape. No fewer than 1600 British sailors were lost that day as both ships lost all hands. It was the Navy's biggest loss in more than a century.

Frank Jerred lost his life being recorded as Killed in Action. His death was registered on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial Panel 6. His mother who had survived her husband was still living in the Street and was duly notified.



CHARLES KING

Charles King was born in Plaitford in 1899 and by 1911 lived at Dean Road in Whiteparish. His father Edward was born in Shanklin on the Isle of Wight and he married Agnes who resided in Stock Lane, Landford. They had eight children and Charles was the second son with four brothers and three sisters: Edward John, Olive Emily, Edith Daisy, Ernst Frederick, Reginald Frank, Phyllis Amey and Philip Cecil and they all attended the village school. His father was a road man and worked for the Rural District Council.

Charles enlisted in the Royal Marine Light Infantry in the Chatham Division on the 23rd August 1917 and after training was allocated the number CH/21522. His final role in the Infantry was as an Officers Steward and he died on the 30th March 1919 after discharge having been invalided out of the Corps but his illness and the cause of death is unknown.

He is buried in Whiteparish (All Saints) Graveyard.



HERBERT NOBLE

Herbert Noble was born in 1875 in Whiteparish, the son of Henry Noble and Agnes Noble née Chalk and went to school in the village. By 1901 he was residing in Poole and at the age of 18 was a bricklayer living in a boarding house. This may reflect a search for work or perhaps a family holiday.

In December 1902, Herbert married Fanny Bacon of Fordingbridge, Hampshire and settled into the local community, not too far from his birthplace. By 1911, Henry and Fanny were living in a four roomed house in Hungerford, in the New Forest, south of Fordingbridge, with their two daughters Ivy, aged 4 and Ena, aged 10 months.

On the outbreak of war, Herbert enlisted in Holton Heath. Herbert's army service record is one of the many to have been lost when the records office was fire bombed in World War II, however medal records show that he had two service numbers. This is not unusual in the first war as unique numbering was not introduced until 1920. The first number associated with Herbert Noble was 26292 and located him with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry Regiment. The service battalions of this regiment, having been formed in Cornwall moved to Salisbury Plain and Andover at the end of 1914 and it is possible that Herbert might have been assigned to one of these battalions. The other and final number given to Herbert was 59190. It is therefore highly probable that early in his military service, Herbert was transferred to the 1st Garrison Battalion of the Devonshire Regiment. Garrison Battalions were usually made up of men who were not fit for regular infantry service so it is likely that Herbert was transferred to this unit due to some slight infirmity.

The 1st Garrison Battalion Devonshire Regiment was formed at Weymouth on 8th August 1915 and was moved to Egypt in 1915. In 1917 they moved to Palestine. Henry did not travel with the main body because on 15th April 1917, he was on the troopship Arcadia. The ship with a company of 1,335 troops and crew was proceeding from Salonika to Alexandria, and was in the southern Aegean, 26 miles N.E. of Milo. The troops had just completed boat-drill when a submarine, the German UC-74, approached unseen and discharged a torpedo which inflicted such extensive damage that the vessel sank in six minutes. Fortunately the troops had recently exercised boat drill which imparted steadiness and confidence and 1,058 were rescued, either through their own efforts or by the escorting Japanese destroyer, which behaved heroically in stopping to rescue survivors despite the U Boat's presence. The number drowned was 277 and, had it not been for the sudden capsizing of the vessel, many more would have been saved. Those lost included 19 army

officers and 214 other ranks, as well as ten naval ratings and 34 members of the crew. A considerable amount of wreckage and spars was sucked down and this, coming to the surface with great force, killed many who were swimming in the water.

Sadly, Herbert Noble was amongst those lost without trace. He is remembered on the Mikra Memorial near Salonika in Greece. He left behind his two young daughters and wife Fanny in Fordingbridge.



HARRY THOMAS SPARE

Harry Thomas Spare was born on the 7th September 1879 to Thomas and Lavinia Emma Spare, then living in the Street, Whiteparish. He was the youngest of four children Emily, Fanny and William being his siblings and all the children were educated in the Village school. His father was a painter and originally came from Downton, his mother came from Whiteparish and had been a domestic working in Nether Wallop before marrying. Harry followed his father in to the painting trade after leaving school and for some time after his father died, helped keep his mother in the Village where she worked as a dressmaker in their new home in Newton, Whiteparish.

In May 1912 he sailed for Quebec in Canada on the Ascania and continued to work there as a painter. He enlisted on the 11th November 1914 in the Canadian Forces as a Private in the 26th Battalion, New Brunswick Regiment and was given the service number 69875. The Battalion was authorised on the 7th November 1914 and embarked for Britain on the 15th June 1915. After training in Britain at Shornecliffe on the coast of Kent, they set sail for France and disembarked there on the 16th September, where they fought as part of the 5th Infantry Brigade, 2nd Canadian Division in Flanders.

It is most likely that he was involved in the battle of Mont Sorrel, specifically the battle of Hill 62; which was a localised conflict between 3 divisions of the British Second Army supported by Canadian units including the 5th Brigade and three Divisions of Germans.

He died 16th June 1916 and is buried at the Menin Gate (Ypres) Memorial, Belgium. The Menin Gate is one of four memorials to the missing in Belgian Flanders which cover the area known as the Ypres Salient.



ALFRED STONE

Alfred Stone was born in around 1884 in Whiteparish, the eldest of five children at the time of the 1891 census. He was then 7 years old, a scholar, living with his parents Henry and Rose Stone. Henry, an agricultural labourer and Rose of Waterditch, Hampshire were all living in Romsey Road, Whiteparish.

By the census in 1911 Alfred was boarding as a single man, now aged 29, with Thomas Pope, a railway pensioner in Barford Lane, Downton and working as a domestic groom.

He enlisted at the recruiting office in Andover in 1914. He was posted to the 5th Reserve Regiment of Cavalry. These regiments were formed when the army mobilised in August 1914. Most of them had two or more of the active cavalry regiments affiliated to them and the reserve supplied drafts of trained men to affiliated regiments. Men who enlisted into the cavalry either as volunteers or conscripts, served with the cavalry reserve for basic training. The 5th Reserve Regiment of Cavalry trained men for the 1st and 2nd Dragoons, and Alfred was given the rank of Private in the Household Cavalry and Cavalry of the Line, regimental number 17159. He spent his short time in the war in training in Tidworth, and died on 15th January 1915, aged 33 of unknown causes.

His death was registered in the Andover District Newspaper and his grave is in Tidworth Military Cemetery.



WALTER STONE

Walter Stone was born in Whiteparish, Wiltshire in 1896. He was the son of Harry, a coppice woodman, and Rose Stone. In the 1901 census Walter was listed as the seventh of eight children aged 5 and by the 1911 census he was aged 15 and lived on the Common as a single woodman, making spars.

In 1914 Walter enlisted in Salisbury and joined the Duke of Edinburgh's (Wiltshire) Regiment, and was given the regimental number 13901.

He served in the Western European Theatre during the war and his duty of location was France and Flanders.

He was wounded on 19th May 1916 whilst serving with the 1st Battalion in trench warfare near La Targette and died of his wounds on 28th May 1916 in France, aged 20. His place of burial is at Aubigny Communal Cemetery Extension, Pas de Calais, France.

From March 1916 to the Armistice, Aubigny was held by Commonwealth troops, and burials were made in the Extension until September 1918. Various Casualty Clearing Stations used this cemetery 42nd buried there throughout the war, the 30th in 1916 and 1917, the 24th and 1st Canadian in 1917 (during the capture of Vimy Ridge by the Canadian Corps) and the 57th in 1918.

The Extension now contains 2,771 Commonwealth burials of the First and Second World Wars. There are also 227 French burials made prior to March 1916, and 64 German war graves.



EDGAR STURMY

Edgar Reginald Sturmy commonly called Ednie, was born in 1895 in Broadchalk and in 1911 was living with his parents George and Amelia, and his two sisters Hetty and Jessy in Whiteparish at Moor Farm Cottages. His father worked as a dairymen as did he from the age of 16. Subsequently, he became a casual labourer again in the local area.

He signed up for the Army on the 21st August 1914 and, after basic training in Wiltshire, was sent to the Dorset Regiment as a Private and given the Regimental Number 10309. During his training he met Annie Alice Legg and they married at Melcombe Regis on the 23rd March 1918. At this time his military role was Home Defence.

He was subsequently transferred to a Home Service Labour Company, became a driver and was then posted to the 2nd Battalion Middlesex Regiment in April 1918. Three weeks later he was transferred to the 1st/4th Battalion, Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) as a battlefield replacement and was given a new Regimental Number W33663. His Regiment formed part of the 49th West Riding Division, which was employed at the Battle of the Selle, which in itself was key to the Final Advance in Picardy. He was wounded 'dangerously' and died subsequently of those wounds on 11th October 1918 age 22.

He is buried at the Vis en Artois, Harcourt, Nord Pas de Calais.

At the time of his death his parents were residing at Spring Cottage, Lockerley, Romsey, Hants; and his wife Annie Sturmy, at 2, Caroline Place, Weymouth.



WALTER STRIDE

Walter John Stride was born in 10th April 1887 to Sidney William Stride (born 1851) and Fanny (born 1857). He was their youngest child and had 2 older sisters and 4 brothers: Ellen Stride (1877), Fanny M Stride (1878), Charles Stride (1881), William J Stride (1883), John Stride (1884), and George Stride (1886).

The family farmed 60 acres of land on Cowesfield Common and lived in Golden's Farm on Common Road, Whiteparish. Walter's father died in the Autumn of 1888 and his mother continued to run the farm with the help of her sons. In the 1911 Census, Walter was recorded as being single and still working on the farm alongside his brother, John. In the spring of 1913 he married Edith May Stride née Gould of Manor Farm Cowesfield.

The following year he enlisted in Salisbury and after training was sent as a Private to D Company of the 5th (Service) Battalion Duke of Edinburgh (Wiltshire) Regiment and given the Military number 25893. The Battalion formed at Devizes in August 1914 as part of K1 and attached as Army Troops to 13th (Western) Division. They first moved to Tidworth, then to Chisledon, moving again to billets in Cirencester where they joined 40th Brigade in the same Division. The following year they moved on to Woking in February and then on to Bisley.

Fully trained they sailed from Avonmouth for Gallipoli on 1st July 1915. They landed at Cape Helles on the 17th July but moved to Anzac Cove area the following month where they suffered heavy casualties from a Turkish attack on 10th August and later they moved to Suvla Bay area. The Battalion was evacuated from Gallipoli to Egypt due to severe casualties from combat, disease and harsh weather.

A month later, after a short period of rest and recuperation they were deployed to Mesopotamia and engaged in various actions against the Turkish Army; where they took many prisoners and pursued the enemy to Baghdad and captured it. There followed a number of significant battles most importantly the Second and Third Actions of Jabal Hamrin and at Tuz Khurmatli which occurred during April 1917.

It was later that year Walter died of Pneumonia on 28th December 1917 in hospital in Mesopotamia (Baghdad) age 30. He was buried in the Baghdad (North Gate) War Cemetery. His brother, John Stride, died in 1960 aged 76 and his headstone is in Whiteparish Church graveyard.



EDGAR JOHN RUNYEARD (His name is incorrectly spelt on the Memorial)

Edgar Runyeard was born in Martin near Downton in the spring of 1887 and was the first child for Frederick John Runyeard, a farm “horse carter”, and his wife, Flora. Edgar had 4 sisters and 2 brothers: Beatrice born in 1888; Emma born in 1892; Fanny born in 1894; Daisy born in 1897; William born in 1899 and Walter born in 1903.

The family moved a number of times from Martin, living in West Dean at Dean Farm Cottage and Sherfield English at 2 Rowden’s Cottages, opposite the Hatchett Inn. Frederick worked for a tenant farmer, Mr Olden at Manor Farm, Pound Land, on behalf of Major Philpott. The family also lived in Cowesfield where his father managed the Deer Park which was on the Cowesfield House estate. By the 1901 Census the 14 year old Edgar was recorded as being a Farm Boy; by the 1911 Census he was no longer living with the family.

Edgar enlisted in the 3rd Signals Company of the Royal Engineers formerly as 7146 attached to the Wiltshire Regiment. Later he became a Sergeant with the Regimental Number 23324. He served in both France and Flanders. He was injured during a battle in Ypres and died from wounds on the 20th March 1916. Throughout the War the town of Poperinge, or “Pops” as the British soldiers called it, was used by the British Army as a gateway to the battlefields of the northern Ypres Salient. It was an important rail centre behind the front line and was used for the distribution of supplies, for billeting troops, for casualty clearing stations and for troops at rest from duty in the forward trench areas. There is some evidence to suggest that he died in a clearing station in this Belgium town. He was awarded the Military Medal for an act of gallantry and devotion to duty under fire or for an individual or associated act of bravery around this time. Two years earlier, he had been Mentioned in Despatches, which entitled him to wear an oak leaf on one of his medals, for another act of gallantry or service.

Edgar is buried at the Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery which was the location of one of the the largest cemeteries in Belgium because it catered for the Ypres Salient region. On 14th May 1919 his Mother made an application for the “1914 Star” for which Edgar was qualified. There is a picture of him mounted on horseback hanging in Sherfield English Church where he can also be found on their Roll of Honour.



CHARLES RUSSELL

Charles was born on the 11th August 1872 to James and Betsey Russell of Cowesfield, where they lived in a house on the Common on their father's earnings as a garden labourer. His father was of Whiteparish and his wife came from Newtown in Hampshire. Charles went to the local school as did his four siblings Jas, Charlotte, Ellen and Kate. Kate continued to reside in The Hop Gardens, Whiteparish.

At the age of 14 he became a farm labourer and subsequently moved to West Dean working in that role and was to be found living as a boarder with Charles Ghant, a farmer in West Dean in 1911.

He was still at this address at his attestation when he signed up in Romsey and joined as a Private Number 3/4671 in the 1st Battalion, Hampshire Regiment. He was killed in action on 1st April 1915 at the Second Battle of Ypres in Flanders. He is buried in the Lancashire Cottage Cemetery, Comines-Warneton, Hainau, Belgium which has the distinction of being one of those resting places that was in German hands for the period 10th April - 29th September 1918 and hence has a number of German graves as well.



ERNEST EDWARD YOUNG

Ernest Edward Young was born in 1886 to Frederick Young and his wife Eliza. He was the second of four sons, with Frederick born in 1884, Sidney in 1888 and William in 1890. The Young family lived in Nursling and Freemantle in Southampton before moving to Whiteparish, where their father became the publican in the New Inn (now the Parish Lantern) but unfortunately by the 1911 census Eliza had died.

In 1911, aged 25 and single, Ernest was living in St Denys in Southampton, boarding in a house owned by Mr and Mrs Ingham whilst working as a ship's fireman. He continued to serve in the Merchant Navy as a fireman when the war started.

He was serving on board the steamship HMHS "Glenart Castle" (Southampton) which had been requisitioned from the Union Castle Line in 1914 for use as a hospital ship. On the 26th February 1918, the Glenart Castle was leaving the Bristol Channel en route from Newport in Wales to Brest in France when she was hit and sunk by a torpedo fired from the German U-Boat UC-56. Ernest Young drowned as a result of this attack.

John Hill, a fisherman on Swansea Castle, remembered "I saw the Hospital Ship with green lights all around the saloon. She had her red side lights showing and a mast-head light, and also another red light which I suppose was the Red Cross light". At 0400hrs, Glenart Castle was hit by a torpedo in the No. 3 hold. The blast destroyed most of the lifeboats, while the subsequent pitch of the vessel hindered attempts to launch the remaining boats. In the eight minutes the ship took to sink, only seven lifeboats were launched. Rough seas and inexperienced rowers swamped most of the boats.

Only a few survivors were reported. 162 people were killed including the Captain, Bernard Burt, eight nurses, seven RAMC medical officers and 47 medical orderlies. Evidence was found suggesting that the submarine may have shot at initial survivors in an effort to cover up the torpedoing of a hospital ship. The body of a junior officer was recovered from the water close to the position of the sinking. It was marked with two gunshot wounds, one in the neck and the other in the thigh. The body also had a life vest indicating he was shot while in the water.

After the war, the British Admiralty sought the captains of U-Boats who sank hospital ships, in order to charge them with war crimes. Kapitanleutnant Wilhelm Kiesewetter, the commander of UC-56, was arrested after the war on his voyage back to Germany and interned in the Tower of London. He was released on the grounds that Britain had no right to hold a detainee during the Armistice.

WORLD WAR II





Robert Charles Beauchamp



Eric Arthur Walter Gallop



Arthur George Stokes



Edward James Mortimer Whittle





ROBERT CHARLIE RALPH BEAUCHAMP

Robert Beauchamp was born in June 1924 in Whiteparish, the son of Charlie and Hilda Kate Beauchamp, née Brown. He had one brother Walter and one sister Barbara who both attended Whiteparish School, where he was very popular. He was a keen sportsman and played cricket for Whiteparish.

When WW2 started in 1939 he was working on a farm at West Grimstead and was exempted from Military Service. He was a good shot and joined the Local Defence Volunteer, the forerunner of the Home Guard.

He was determined to join up and moved to a job at Downton where he would not be exempted, and at 18 years old volunteered for the Army, joining the 10th Battalion of the Gloucestershire Regiment after training in 1942, and was allocated the service number 14401225.

He left home on his 18th birthday 28th June 1942 when his Regiment went to Burma to fight the Japanese. In Burma his Regiment was attached to the Chindits, who were specialist troops employed to fight in small groups behind enemy lines, where they played havoc with communications and logistic routes as well as attacking enemy forces.

On the 18th August 1944 he was shot through the thigh by a Japanese patrol. Unfortunately his comrades were unable to evacuate him back through enemy lines for medical attention and he died on the 19th August 1944, just 20 years of age. He ultimately died from the shock of the injury and blood loss but was still laughing and talking right up until the end, according to his companion who was later evacuated together with Ralph's body.

He is buried at Taukkyan War Cemetery in Burma. His sister Barbara remained in the village.



GEOFFREY FRANK BENNETT

Geoffrey Frank Bennett was born in 1916 the son of William and Kate Bennett living in Stone Cottage, on the Green, Whiteparish where his father worked as a bricklayer. His family moved to a house on the hill in Hop Gardens and from there he attended the village school. He subsequently became a conductor on Reg and Bill Bailey's bus service operating out of Whiteparish. He was a keen footballer as was his older brother Maurice.

Geoffrey signed up in February 1941 and was sent to Bovington Camp to undergo training at the 52nd Training Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps. From there he was posted to the 7th Hussars who manned tanks, probably through his understanding of mechanics. With them he travelled to Egypt and 5 months later they embarked for India/Burma and arrived there on the 27th January 1942. His Regiment formed part of the 7th Armoured Brigade which was moved to Rangoon in Burma and were emplaced in an attempt to prevent further Japanese expansion from Siam. They subsequently became actively involved in the retreat through Burma to India during that year. They were equipped with the American Stuart Honey light tanks and were involved in a number of battles.

Their first encounter was at Payagyi where their previous desert war experience paid dividend albeit the countryside was difficult to negotiate in tanks and their casualties were mainly associated with hand held weapons. When it became clear that Rangoon was doomed they were instructed to take up defensive positions to its north in Prone where a further battle ensued whilst holding a delaying defensive position. It then became clear that the oilfields to the north around Yenaungyaung were vulnerable and attractive to the Japanese and again the 7th Hussar defensive action was recognised. A final revised defence of Burma led to a new deployment and the 7th Hussars were ordered with all speed to Meiktila, 70 miles north-east of Yenaungyaung. On the 25th, east of Meikfa, they surprised an enemy armoured and mechanised column and 'shot it up' with considerable loss to the Japanese. Geoffrey Frank Bennett went missing during this skirmish, and was presumed dead.

He is buried in Myanmar, Burma.



ERIC ARTHUR WALTER GALLOP

Eric Arthur Walter Gallop, leading stoker P/Kx 85470 HMS Jersey, Royal Navy was born on the 18th October 1916 in Sandown on the Isle of Wight to parents Arthur and Isobel Gallop and was one of the youngest of 8 children. Eric always intended to make the Royal Navy his career and was a cadet before joining the Navy as soon as he was old enough. He was known to be serving on the battleship HMS Barham in 1938 and was then transferred to HMS Jersey in 1939. HMS Jersey was damaged by torpedoes from the German destroyer Erich Giese off the Haisborough sands but he survived. On the 7th December 1939 Eric was transferred to HMS Javelin while Jersey was repaired on the Humber.

It was around this time that Eric met Dolly (Dorothy) Andrews. Dolly was a domestic help working at a local country house run by a Miss Nelson. It was not known where they met but Eric would spend time with Dolly's family at White's Farm, Newton Lane, Whiteparish.

On completion of HMS Jersey's repairs it left the Humber heading for Plymouth to rejoin the 5th Flotilla. However, it hit a mine on the 11th October 1940 sustaining sufficient damage to warrant urgent repairs, which were carried out in London Docks before carrying on to Plymouth, where they arrived on the 29th October.

Eric returned to HMS Jersey at Plymouth where it was part of the 5th Flotilla but not before he had married Dolly in the spring of 1940. The marriage had taken place in Whiteparish All Saints church and the reception was held at the old village hall.

On the 18th January 1941 Jersey was nominated for temporary service in the Mediterranean with Force H to carry out special operations one of which was a successful attack on the port of Genoa on the 9th of February, returning safely to Gibraltar 3 days later.

HMS Jersey was briefly back in Portsmouth for repairs to her steering gear on the 3rd March 1941 but was sent back to the Mediterranean Command in Malta to join newly formed Force K, arriving on the 28th April. On May 2nd 1941, HMS Jersey was entering the Grand Harbour after an unsuccessful search when it detonated a mine that had been laid by Italian aircraft the night before. Eric was one of 35 crew members who perished in the ensuing explosion.

He is commemorated on Portsmouth Naval Memorial.

He was never to see his daughter Valerie, who grew up with her mother in Whiteparish, and moved in to Salisbury with her husband and son.



HENRY BRADFORD MALTBY

Henry Maltby was born in Pimlico London on 5th August 1886 and became the 4th child of Lieutenant Commander Gerald Rivers (1851-1922) and Hersey Maltby, née Elliot, (1854-1918). He was the second son and perhaps due to the naval tradition within his family, his maternal grandfather was Admiral Sir George Elliot, the young Henry entered the Royal Navy on 15th September 1901 and prospered reaching Lieutenant by August 1908. At the outbreak of the Great War he was posted to the battleship HMS Erin, which was then awaiting acceptance into the Turkish Navy for whom she had been originally built. Henry and HMS Erin joined the Grand Fleet at Scapa Flow in September 1914 where they remained for virtually the whole war. They were involved in the only main fleet action of the war, the Battle of Jutland, but suffered no casualties. On 13th May 1917 he was transferred to the scout cruiser HMS Fearless as Gunnery Officer. It was the lead ship of the 12th Submarine Flotilla and was involved in the notorious Battle of May Island on 1st February 1918. In this incident, which was kept secret until the late 1990s, 104 sailors were killed when Fearless and her companions were involved in a number of collisions during which two submarines were lost and Fearless damaged. Despite this experience Henry was strongly recommended for promotion and became a Lieutenant Commander in 1920.

As the war drew to a close Henry married Aline Doris Saunderson of Redlynch. They married on 23rd February 1918 at St Mary Boltons, Brompton, London. They had 4 children, 3 girls born in 1919, 1921 and 1923 and a boy in born in 1928. Henry continued his naval career serving mostly on light cruisers on the America and West Indies station. He was promoted to Captain on 31st December 1927 and his first command was HMS Dispatch. He then commanded the 1st Minesweeper Flotilla from September 1929 to September 1930 before being appointed to command the shore establishment in Bermuda, HMS Malabar. By 1933 the Navy Board recommended that he should no longer hold sea appointments as he had no staff experience. He served on depot ships until being appointed Superintendent of Sheerness Naval Dockyard in 1935, a post he held with distinction until 1937 when he returned to Bermuda for a year as Captain in Charge Bermuda. He was placed on the retired list in 11th January 1939.

However, by 28th August 1939, just before the outbreak of the war, he was appointed Commodore 2nd class tasked with commanding merchant ship convoys. His first convoy was HX 5 (Halifax - Liverpool) as Vice Commodore on 17th October 1939. His fourth convoy was HX54 from Halifax to Liverpool. The convoy was escorted by the Armed Merchant Cruiser HMS Jervis Bay. The convoy was intercepted by the German Pocket Battleship Admiral Scheer on 5th November 1940. He ordered a sharp turn away from the enemy and the 37 ships of the convoy dispersed at their highest speed. The Captain of

Jervis Bay, Edward Fegen, set a course straight towards the German warship to draw its fire, guns blazing even though outgunned and outranged. Although Admiral Scheer went on to sink five merchant ships, Jervis Bay's sacrifice bought enough time for most of the convoy to scatter, and the remaining ships escaped. Captain Fegen was awarded a posthumous Victoria Cross and his whole crew were lost.

Henry on board SS Jumna led Convoy OB 260 out of Liverpool on 16th December 1940. The convoy dispersed on 19th December 750 miles west of Lands End. Meanwhile another German Surface raider had broken out into the Atlantic; the Heavy Cruiser Admiral Hipper which attacked a troopship convoy WS5A. This convoy had a strong escort including two aircraft carriers and a trio of cruisers with six destroyers. Berwick, the largest of the cruisers, engaged Hipper and drove her off, sustaining some damage. Hipper broke off the action and ran for safety in Brest but en route she chanced on SS Jumna on Christmas day and sank her. There were no survivors.

Rear Admiral Henry Bradford Maltby aged 54 is remembered on the Liverpool Naval Memorial and in Whiteparish All Saints Church.



PATRICK BRUCE BINE OGILVIE

Patrick Bruce Bine Ogilvie was born on 14th January 1910 in Renfrewshire, Scotland. The second son, and youngest of three children of Herbert and Audrey Bine Ogilvie. His sister Winifred was born in 1903 and brother Brian in 1908.

Patrick was educated at Cargilfield Preparatory School in Edinburgh. During this time, Patrick's parents moved from Scotland and came to live at The Maltings, Cowesfield Green, Whiteparish. Patrick then went on to Charterhouse School and then to Pembroke College, Cambridge, where he graduated with a BA in 1931. In the same year he started at the University of Glasgow as a doctoral researcher in botany and continued in this post between 1931 and 1933. He gained a GU degree but didn't complete his PhD. Patrick was a talented athlete who competed in the pole vault and long jump, and was awarded Full Blues at Glasgow University in 1932. As a pole vaulter he won a UK (AAA) Championship, eight Scottish championships and represented both his universities. He also held, with a 12ft 3ins clearance, the Scottish record until July 1950. He represented his country at the 1934 British Empire Games.

In 1934 Patrick Ogilvie joined the RAF via Cranwell and whilst serving met and married Audrey Mellish Clark from Cambridge, in April 1937, but the marriage was cut short when Audrey died in December 1938. Subsequently, Patrick married Pamela Lavender Bellairs on 6th July 1939 in a quiet ceremony, at Dinton Church, Wiltshire. They had two daughters, Audrey born in 1940 and Louisa Patina born in 1942. These two daughters were aged four and two when their father was killed in 1944, after which they spent much of their childhood with their paternal Grandmother, Audrey Ogilvie, affectionately named by them as 'Tiny' and lived in The Maltings, Cowesfield Green, Whiteparish.

During the Second World War, Patrick had a distinguished career in various flying roles. He was mentioned in despatches 3 times. In March 1941, as a Squadron Leader he was awarded the Distinguished Service Order, in recognition of gallantry displayed in flying operation as he had completed 15 daylight reconnaissances, often under difficult conditions, obtaining excellent results. Later this year, Patrick was also promoted to the rank of Wing Commander. The Distinguished Flying Cross was awarded to Patrick on 9th January 1942 for his role, flying with 15 Squadron in the bomber raid on the German pocket battleships Gneissau and Sharnhorst, anchored at Brest in France. In July 1944, Patrick gained the rank of Group Captain in the service of the 34 (Photographic Reconnaissance) Wing, Royal Air Force. On 11th December 1944, in command of 34 Wing, he took off in a Spitfire to report on the weather over the North Sea, not to return, and was presumed killed in active service at the age of 34.

He is remembered on the Air Forces Memorial or Runnymede Memorial, Englefield Green, Egham, Surrey.

Runnymede is a memorial dedicated to some 20,456 men and women from the British Empire who were lost in air operations during World War 2. Those recorded have no known grave anywhere in the world, and many were lost without trace. Patrick Ogilvie is also remembered in the Memorial Chapel at Cargilfield Prep School, Edinburgh.

Excerpt from The Glasgow Herald and The London Gazette 1st April 1941 headed:

“DSO for Scots Airman; Squadron Leader Ogilvie Honoured”

‘The King has approved the appointment of Companion of the Distinguished Service Order to Squadron Leader Patrick Bruce Bine Ogilvie in recognition of gallantry displayed in flying operations against the enemy.

In March 1941 this officer undertook an important daylight reconnaissance and obtained the most valuable results. In the execution of this task Squadron Leader Ogilvie displayed exceptional navigational skill throughout the flight of over 1100 miles. As commanding officer of the unit Squadron Leader Ogilvie has set a splendid example, both in the air and on the ground, and his courage and determined leadership have been outstanding. He has completed 15 daylight reconnaissance’s often under difficult conditions, obtaining excellent results on many occasions.’



ARTHUR GEORGE STOKES

Arthur George Stokes was born on the 22nd February 1911, in Woodford, the son of Arthur and Alice Mary Stokes née Chant. His father came from the hamlet of Salterton in Wiltshire and worked there as a farm labourer; and his mother hailed from Whiteparish from a well established village family. By 1911 the family lived at 'Scotland' in Upper Woodford. Arthur had one sister Alice Elsie Kate who was born in Whiteparish and was 4 years older, as well as a younger brother Frederick who was born in Woodford and was 1 year younger. However by 1939, the family had progressed sufficiently for them to have taken up residency in Whiteparish, where his father was the landlord of the Fountain Inn.

From this safe haven Arthur George joined the Army and was sent to the Royal Artillery where he was to be posted to the 85th Anti Tank Battalion. The newly formed regiment spent some 14 months training for an invasion of Norway but was suddenly posted to Basra. They sailed from Glasgow on the SS Narkunda bound for Durban SA in mid-October 1941. Once again their task was changed on arrival. Hastened by news of Pearl Harbour, they set sail for Singapore on 24th December 1942 unaccompanied arriving at Singapore on the 13th January 1942. The boat arrived in Singapore Harbour to a reception of some 20 Japanese fighter-bombers. When finally docked, the Regiment was billeted at an old Indian Army Barracks, Birdwood Camp, near Chingi, and given 12 hours shore-leave.

On 14th January, the 85th moved 50 miles north to Jahore Baru, Malaya, to delay the advancing Japanese. By 5th February under huge pressure the Regiment was withdrawn back to Singapore Island to an RAF base at Seletar, which had, by then, suffered heavy bombardment. A new defensive position on the Halifax Road was to be their last stand. On 15th February General Percival signed a formal surrender to General Yamashita at the Ford factory Singapore, commencing ceasefire at 1500hrs. British orders were for all allies to move to Cemetery Road ("safety in numbers"), but at 1530hrs, after the ceasefire, a small force of Japanese bombers attacked the Regiment. For the rest of the day, survivors smashed/de-activated any useable armaments, to avoid them falling into Japanese hands.

Next day, British and Allied forces were marched, as POWs, to Roberts Barracks, near Chingi. After a few months, the more healthy POWs including Arthur George were moved to work on the Burma-Siam railway. The journey there by train involved being squashed in to cattle carriages and in very hot conditions and deprived of ration and sanitation many died. Very harsh conditions also prevailed in their jungle work place: dysentery, malaria,

malnutrition, beri-beri and tropical ulcers were common causes of death. Also the slightest infringement of the strict discipline imposed by the Japanese and Koreans could also result in death.

He was sent to Kanchanaburi prisoner of war camp, begun in 1942, to service construction of the notorious Burma-Siam railway between Bangkok and Rangoon. More than 16,000 British, Dutch, Australian and American POWs, together with many thousands of impressed Malay and Burmese, perished in its construction, "one man dying for each sleeper laid". The worst months of the construction period, with heaviest fatalities, was between mid spring to mid-October 1943. It is assumed that Arthur succumbed to disease and died on 15th August 1943.

He is buried Kanchanaburi War Cemetary, Thailand.



EDWARD JAMES MORTIMER (LOFTY) WHITTLE

Edward James Mortimer (Lofty) Whittle was born on the 11th May 1914 in Lambeth. The son of Frederick George Mortimer Whittle, who was a Clerk of Auctioneers and Estate Agents, and May who had a total of 4 children the others being Edward, Frederick and Katerine.

He was educated locally in Lambeth and subsequently joined the RAF where he became a navigator. In the summer of 1838 he married Phyllis Grace Burden of Yew Tree Farm, Whiteparish whilst serving as a Corporal at RAF Boscombe Down in 88 Squadron. They married in All Saints Church and she was given away by her father Herbert William Burden a local dairy farmer.

He became a Sergeant Observer soon after and as number 563211 in 88 Squadron he crewed Fairy Battle P2251s, which were single engine light bombers. The aircraft was slow and vulnerable. It carried a crew of 3, which was made up of Pilot, Air Gunner/Radio Operator & Bomb Aimer. Just how vulnerable the aircraft was would become tragically clear after the start of the German Blitzkrieg in the West. The Battle was used to make desperate low level attacks on the advancing German troops. This reduced its vulnerability to the German fighters, but massively increased the numbers being shot down by anti-aircraft fire and even small arms fire. The pattern was set on 10th May 1940. On the first day of the German assault, 32 Battles were sent out to attack advancing enemy troops and 13 were lost. The next day seven out of the eight Battles dispatched were lost. Lofty was a crew member of one of those seven aircraft lost on the 11th May. Together with the pilot Fl Lt A J Madge and the gunner Corporal Collier they were shot down between Vaux sur Sure and Bercheux (Luxembourg) two small towns on the Bastogne to Neufchatel road. His two comrades survived and were interned as POWs.

He was buried Juseret (Bercheux) New Communal Cemetery and his wife Phyllis went to live in Chesterfield, Derbyshire then returned to Salisbury where she died in November 1987.

The Soldier

If I should die, think only this of me:
That there's some corner of a foreign field
That is for ever England. There shall be
In that rich earth a richer dust concealed;
A dust whom England bore, shaped, made aware,
Gave, once, her flowers to love, her ways to roam,
A body of England's, breathing English air,
Washed by the rivers, blest by suns of home.

And think, this heart, all evil shed away,
A pulse in the eternal mind, no less
Gives somewhere back the thoughts by England given;
Her sights and sounds; dreams happy as her day;
And laughter, learnt of friends; and gentleness,
In hearts at peace, under an English heaven.

Rupert Brooke, 1887 - 1915

CLASS OF 1895



School master: Mr Faulkner

Top row:	Chant	Fred	Alford	?	Golding	Giles	Guile	?	Hayter	Sims		
4th row:	Chalk	Stride	Hallett	?	?	Lane	?	Stride	Biddlecombe	Lampard	Forthyce	
3rd row:	Werral	Stride	?	Biddlecombe	?	Hayter	?	?	Alford	?	Simmond	Wassel
2nd row:	Chant	Stone	Stone	Drake	Sims	?	?	Drake	?	?	Hayter	
Front row:	Haye	Savage	Beauchamp	?	?	Noble	?	Chant	Thorn	Wassel		