

**Fight the Good Fight!**

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## IN REMEMBRANCE OF THOSE WHO FELL



**1<sup>st</sup> August, 1915  
to  
31<sup>st</sup> October, 1915**

### **August, 1915**

- |                                      |                              |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 01. Hamilton, Frank Gordon           | 16. Brown, Stephen James     |
| 01. Waldren, Herbert Noel            | 16. Falle, Bertram Vernon    |
| 05. Alexandre, Alfred                | 16. Le Sueur, Philip Clement |
| 06. De La Haye, Josue Blampied       | 19. Collet, Charles Herbert  |
| 07. Beaumont, Louis Paul Jules       | 20. Falla, Raymon Hodder     |
| 07. Travers, Hugh Eaton Frederic     | 21. West, Robert Edgar       |
| 08. Brouard, Edwin                   | 22. Phillips, Martin Oliver  |
| 08. Houel, Henri Marie Auguste Louis | 23. Chevery, James Walter    |
| 09. Guppy, John Sidney               | 26. Shaxton, Percy J         |
| 09. Thompson, William Henry          | 28. Blackburn, Stanley       |
| 15. Le Brun, Frank                   | 29. Cauvain, Louis Joseph    |
| 15. Barker, William                  | 29. Periot, Jean Baptiste    |
| 15. Nelis, James Edward Thornhill    |                              |

### **September, 1915**

- |   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 01. Le Gall, Joseph                       | 25. Jehan, William                   |
| 04. Lavaulee, Eugene Pierre               | 25. Lainé, Wilfred Peter             |
| 04. Lihou, Joseph Thomas                  | 25. Le Moel, Joseph Marie            |
| 05. Harvey, Harold Joseph                 | 25. Napier, Guy Greville             |
| 06. Gaslonde, Pierre Aimable Celestin     | 25. Noel, Henry Levi                 |
| 07. Harrison, Cecil Henry                 | 25. Osmand, George James Frederick   |
| 08. Bougourd, W Albert                    | 25. Richardson, Ruskin John Robert   |
| 08. Hilliard, Gerald Williams             | 25. Riou, Gustave Joseph             |
| 08. Ricou, Raymond Robert                 | 26. Brochard, Jean François Désiré   |
| 09. Beauvir, Emile                        | 26. Le Brun, Georges Emile           |
| 09. Thornton, Leslie Irvine Lumsden       | 26. Le Maitre, Jean Marie            |
| 10. Bounds, Benjamin George               | 26. Le Poidevin, Frederick John      |
| 11. Croft, Sir Herbert Arthur             | 26. Marsh, Albert Victor             |
| 15. Bynam, Frederick Ernest               | 26. Smith, Charles James             |
| 17. Gillon, Marie Charles Philippe Edmond | 26. Whetham, Charles Edward          |
| 23. Waldthausen, Charles Adolphe          | 26. Young, Martin Courtland de Bude  |
| 23. Williams, William Samson John         | 27. Bullock, John Thomas             |
| 25. Allen, Percy Herbert                  | 27. Gaslonde, Auguste Victor Aimable |



## IN REMEMBRANCE OF THOSE WHO FELL



**1<sup>st</sup> August, 1915  
to  
31<sup>st</sup> October, 1915**

### **September, 1915 (Continued)**

- |                                     |                                  |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 25. Ayres, John Nicholas            | 27. Pouilleul, Jean Marie Joseph |
| 25. Brunker, William                | 28. Drinkwater, James W          |
| 25. Cattin, Marius François         | 28. Jago, Mathurin Marie         |
| 25. De La Mare, Horace Reginald     | 28. Kerboeuf, Jean Marie         |
| 25. Doyle, Patrick                  | 28. Morin. François Jean         |
| 25. Dunlop, Kenneth Strickland      | 28. Nicholson, Gordon Trevor     |
| 25. Faulknor, Robert Sylvester John | 29. Attewell, Arthur             |
| 25. Garde, Philip                   | 29. Devitt, Michael John         |
| 25. Hamblen, Herbert George         | 30. Wakeham, Albert              |
| 25. Heath, Edmund Griffith          |                                  |

### **October, 1915**

- |                                   |                                    |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 01. Lucas, John W                 | 12. Groizard, Joseph John          |
| 02. Polldore, Frederick William   | 13. Brown, Philip Kennish          |
| 02. Warne, Richard Henry          | 13. Garel, Eugène                  |
| 03. Richecoeur, François Jacques  | 13. Latham, William Bowley         |
| 03. Whitmore-Searle, Bertram      | 13. Renouf, Francis (Frank) George |
| 04. Connan, Toussaint Marie       | 14. Noel, Alfred Felix             |
| 04. Machon, William George        | 14. Philipson, Ernest Clyde        |
| 05. Boustouler, Yves Marie        | 15. Stoney. George Butler          |
| 08. Lloyd, Charles Edward         | 15. Thackeray, Frederic(k) Rennell |
| 09. Grady, William                | 20. Eustace, Adolphe Albert        |
| 09. Pasquire, Leonard Edwin       | 20. Reid, James                    |
| 10. Byerley, James Alfred William | 23. De Ste Croix, Arthur Nicholas  |
| 10. Woonton, George Samuel        | 27. Vaslet, Alfred                 |

Hello All

That this Journal runs to around 60 pages is a bit of a surprise, a month ago, I was not sure that I had a third of that figure lined up. But, members of the Group move in mysterious ways, so I must say thank you at the outset.

Although they were not comparable in terms of the formality of the events themselves, it was very good to note two that engaged Island youth. The first, reported by Liz Walton, was the Guernsey ACF re-badging ceremony. The linkage between today's ACF and 'yesterday's' RGLI is a smart move, and provides a tangible historical background for its members that is immediately recognisable courtesy of the Museum, the place names, and not least those that served.

Similarly, Ian Ronayne's account of the 2015 Joint Jersey Schools Battlefield Tour reflects the opposite end of the historical trail when Islanders were actually called on to do what they had prepared for, and in many cases, by paying the ultimate price. Both events provide a good opportunity for improving historical awareness, but it would be interesting to gauge whether a 'going forward' solution from the ACF's position to one that is 'working backwards' from the School Tours would be more or less successful in achieving and then sustaining that improvement.

The other events of particular note were those which Alan Cross has written about, namely the Commemorative Dinner, and a few days later, the Commemorative Service along with the Re-enactment March in Guernsey. As much as both events were important in terms of remembering the departure of the Guernsey Contingent one hundred years previously, it was only right and proper that representatives from the Republic of Ireland, including the Irish Army, were invited, given that the Guernseymen had fought alongside the Irishmen's forefathers in the Royal Irish Regiment.

The relationship within Ireland, north and south, as well as with the rest of Britain has proved to be fractious over the last century, but events such as that at Glasnevin Cemetery a year ago, and in Guernsey back in March, are small, yet important building blocks towards a better understanding of each other in the British Isles. In his article, Alan also reminds us of another piece of British military history, in that as part of the process that saw the Irish Free State being established in 1922, the Royal Irish Regiment was disbanded, as were the Connaught Rangers, the Leinster Regiment, the Royal Munster Fusiliers, the Royal Dublin Fusiliers, and the South Irish Horse. All were Regiments with men of great courage and a fine tradition of service to the crown.

### **The Front Cover**

What better than to beat the living daylight out of each other on a two month sea cruise when you cannot get at the Germans! Thanks to the notes on the back of the original photograph, we know that this fight took place looking forward on the after well deck of the RMS Orontes on the 11<sup>th</sup> January, 1917, and was the final of the (?) Middleweight Championships. The chap on the right was a Sgt Coldwell, while the winner was Gunner David Hocquard on the left. We look a little further into David and his family in 'Faces Remembered: Au Revoir' It is likely that he had a slight health advantage over Kenneth Coldwell who had previously been sent home to Australia for discharge having been diagnosed as dangerously ill with pneumonia!

## **Guernsey Army Cadets' Re-Badging Ceremony** **By Liz Walton**

Wednesday the 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2015 was the date when Guernsey's Army Cadet Corps became the Guernsey Army Cadet Corps (RGLI). The re-badging ceremony took place on a beautiful evening at Castle Cornet in the presence of His Excellency, the Lieutenant Governor of Guernsey Air Marshall Peter Walker, the Bailiff of Guernsey Sir Richard Collas and the States of Guernsey's Chief Minister Jonathan Le Tocq. Also present were families of the cadets, veterans and members of the Royal British Legion plus a few invited guests including CIGWSG members Mark Bougourd and myself.



The ceremony took the form of Changing the Guard outside the Castle's Royal Guernsey Light Infantry Museum. The Old Guard consisted of members from the Guernsey Military History Company, led by CIGWSG member Russell Doherty. They marched past the Lieutenant Governor, who took the salute, then formed up outside the Museum. They were followed by the New Guard consisting of members of the Guernsey Army Cadet Force led by Cadet Sgt Simone Coe.

The New Guard were formed up to face the Old Guard and both Guards were inspected by the Lieutenant Governor accompanied by his Aide de Camp. After the Changing of the Guard His Excellency gave a short speech recalling the bravery of the men of the RGLI in battles such as Cambrai, the Lys and Passchendaele. He also mentioned those who did not come home after the Great War. He told the cadets to wear their new badges with pride in memory of the proud history of the Royal Guernsey Light Infantry.



The order then came to remove hats, which were then replaced with those bearing the new badge modelled here by Cadet- Sgt Roe.



With the conclusion of the formal part of the evening the cadets marched off then both guards returned to mingle informally and have photographs taken.



### **Eight Nine Two Seven Albert Hill – A Battle with Regimental Numbers and Battalion Organisations**

**Introduction:** This article originally resulted from a gentleman in Jersey who, with his wife, made contact and wanted to know more about her grandfather, Albert Hill, who had served as a member of the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, South Staffordshire Regiment's Corps of Drums. Thanks to an old family photograph, we were able to pick him out in the picture below, and he is the little chap immediately seated on the Drum Major's left.



The contact also knew his regimental number, 8927, which initially appeared strange when compared with the other personal details that were provided, and so it was necessary to progressively 'bracket' the number both upwards (8928, 8929...) and downwards (8926, 8925...) until the details of other men that could help were found.

But, in doing so, it also helped in the research to have had an understanding of the Army's organisation and the administrative changes that tried, with a varying degree of success, to ease problems with the different regimental numbering systems. Furthermore, in attempting to understand the system(s), it must be remembered the Army functioned on 'foibles'! If there was a problem, ten men would come up with ten solutions and then some! Thus, the following paragraphs are hopefully able to shed some light on regimental numbering while using Albert's service as a case study.

**South Staffordshire Regiment Battalions:** Following the Army's Cardwell/Childers reforms of 1881, the infantry regiments that later went to war in 1914 were created from the old Regiments of Foot. Where these Regiments already had two Battalions, amalgamation was unnecessary. But other Regiments of single Battalion strength were brought together so that the 'new' Regiment would consist of two Battalions, and possibly more in a few cases such as the Royal Fusiliers and the Middlesex Regiment. At the same time, these units became affiliated to a particular area of Great Britain for recruiting and the 'new' Regimental 'home', the Depot, would be lodged in a town broadly central to that area, that for the DCLI was at Bodmin and the East Surrey's at Kingston-upon-Thames being two such examples.

This saw the creation of the new South Staffordshire Regiment from the 38<sup>th</sup> and the 80<sup>th</sup> Regiments of Foot, with the 38<sup>th</sup> becoming the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion and the 80<sup>th</sup> becoming the 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Depot was at Lichfield. The old Regiments of Foot numbering would also determine the precedence that the 'new' Regiments would have. The new South Staffordshire Regiment was thus preceded in seniority by the Hampshire Regiment which was formed from the 37<sup>th</sup> and 67<sup>th</sup> Regiments of Foot, and in turn followed by its junior, the Dorsetshire Regiment, consisting the 39<sup>th</sup> and 54<sup>th</sup>.

The principle of two regular Battalion Regiments enabled the British Army to maintain a presence throughout the Empire with each Regiment having one Battalion overseas, while the other was located in Great Britain (including Ireland). As a general rule, the overseas Battalion was maintained at full strength with frequent reinforcements from the home Battalion. Often because of distance, this meant that the home Battalions were normally below strength with drafts en-route to wherever the overseas Battalion was garrison. Meanwhile, the returning troops, many of which were time expired, could not return until their replacements had arrived and in India and some other garrisons, there was only one changeover per year!

Generally, a Depot would be involved in recruitment as has been mentioned, the initial kitting out of a recruit and teaching rudimentary drill, and discharging a man from the service when his time was up. More comprehensive training in infantryman skills was largely carried out by the 'home' Battalion. The principle for mobilisation was that reserves would be called up, travel to the Depot to be re-kitted, and sent to whichever unit was appropriate at the time.

This situation which existed for the South Staffordshire Regiment at the outbreak of the Great War was reflected in the fact that the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion was overseas at Pietermaritzburg in South Africa while the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion was at Aldershot from where they would deploy to France within 10 days as part of the BEF's 2<sup>nd</sup> Division, and would then remain in France throughout the War.

Meanwhile, the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion would leave South Africa in late August, 1914, arrive in Southampton on the 19<sup>th</sup> September, before joining the 7<sup>th</sup> Division along with 'overseas'



Battalions from other Regiments to head for Zeebrugge, landing there by the 7<sup>th</sup> October, 1914. They would stay in France until late-November, 1917 when they were ordered to Italy, remaining there until the Armistice at least.

The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalions were generally (and unsurprisingly) termed Regular Army Battalions, however, prior to the Great War, each infantry Regiment had a number of other types of Battalion which had resulted from the Haldane Reforms of 1908. In the case of the South Staffordshire Regiment, it had two Reserve Battalions, the 3<sup>rd</sup> (Reserve) and the 4<sup>th</sup> (Extra Reserve) at Lichfield in 1914, these having evolved from Militia and Volunteers units, and two Territorial Force (TF) Battalions, the 5<sup>th</sup> and the 6<sup>th</sup> at Walsall and Wolverhampton respectively.

The Great War would see the two TF Battalions expand into six, the 5<sup>th</sup> evolving into the 1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> and similarly the 6<sup>th</sup> into the 1<sup>st</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>. The 1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> would both deploy to France in March, 1915 while the 2<sup>nd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> would undertake Home Defence duties, with some of it in Ireland. The remaining two TF Battalions were Reserve Battalions for the other four and would eventually be amalgamated into the 5<sup>th</sup> (Reserve) Battalion in 1917.

As is widely known, Lord Kitchener's demand for the rapid expansion of the British Army in 1914 saw the creation of 'Pals' or 'Kitchener' Battalions, under the umbrella term of 'New Army'. The South Staffordshire Regiment were to have five, the 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalions, and indeed, the first three did go to France, but the 10<sup>th</sup> and the 11<sup>th</sup> became Second Reserve Battalions before being swept up into the Training Reserve that was established in September, 1916. The 11<sup>th</sup> was formed in Jersey in October, 1914, probably from the overspill of men from the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion.

Two other Battalions were formed, but are only mentioned here for completeness. The 12<sup>th</sup> (Labour) Battalion was formed in June, 1916 yet was soon disbanded to become the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> Companies in the Labour Corps, while the 1<sup>st</sup> Garrison Battalion were formed in January, 1917 and sent to India.

**Regimental Numbering Systems:** In 1881 the Army introduced a new numbering sequence which, for the infantry, was regimentally based. This also meant that it recognised the date of enlistment. Thus a man who was in the 1st Battalion and had enlisted on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 1885 and given the number 1234, say, might be followed by someone in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion who had enlisted on the next day having been allocated 1235. This process was managed by the Depots, however, this appears not to have applied to the TF Battalions and the Militias/Volunteers who had continued afterwards with their own Battalion based numbering system.

The consequence was that after 1908, there was a risk that there could be several men in the same Regiment with the same number, and at the outbreak of the Great War this very soon became a problem as part of the Army's expansion. Various Regiments would seek their own solutions to the matter, particularly with their New Army Battalions. The four Hull Pals Battalions, for example, who would become the East Yorkshire Regiment's 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalions, prefixed their numbers with 10/-, 11/-, etc., while men of the 16<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment had the prefix of PS/- to show that they were the 'Public Schools' Battalion. While some detail can be deduced from some numbering conventions, it is best to do so knowing the Regiment as well. (Courtesy of 'The Long, Long Trail' website, a list of known alphabetic prefixes is contained on pages 57 to 59 to highlight the matter).

What of the South Staffordshire Regiment, did they have the problem of one number the same for a number of men, and how did they handle it? To which the answer is yes, and seemingly not very well, for there appears to have been the use of the same starting point at the same time for at least four different 'units'. Given that one swallow does not make a summer, equally one number does not provide the complete answer, or does it?

Using the South Staffordshire Regiment's regimental number 8920, one finds four men with that number, and, referring the Medal Rolls and the associated Index Cards, the following emerged:

- William P Arnold, entered France on the 4<sup>th</sup> October, 1914 with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, and it is safe to suggest that his number was derived from the Regular list maintained by the Depot. As an aside, he was later transferred to the Lincolnshire Regiment, and then to the DCLI, rising to Sergeant.
- Joseph Alfred Bird, entered France on the 5<sup>th</sup> March, 1915 with the 1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, and it is safe to suggest that his number came from the TF list. While still serving with that Battalion in 1917, his number changed to 200467 as part of an Army wide move to distinguish those serving in TF Battalions. Incidentally, not long after that, he was commissioned into the North Staffordshire Regiment.
- George William Pearce also entered France on the 4<sup>th</sup> October, 1914 with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, but, given that William P Arnold was the Regular, George could not have been. However, the Medal Roll shows that his number was prefixed by 3/- and this indicates that he came from the Regiment's 3<sup>rd</sup> (Reserve) Battalion. Curiously, he died four days later on the 8<sup>th</sup> and is buried in Boulogne.
- The last man with the number 8920 was George Pugh, entering France on the 17<sup>th</sup> December, 1914 to join the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion as a reinforcement. Similar to George Pearce's entry, the Medal Roll shows that his number was prefixed by 4/- and this implies that he came from the Regiment's 4<sup>th</sup> (Extra Reserve) Battalion in Jersey. He was KIA on 29<sup>th</sup> May, 1915 and is commemorated at Loos.

It is tempting to conclude that, in 1914, four lists were running, namely the Depot list, the one for the TF and one each for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Battalions. One swallow does not indeed make a summer, but there are other examples such as Harold Ashley with 3/8919 and Frank Hill with 4/8928 to consider.

**Albert Hill:** What of Albert Hill who, family information and pictorial evidence can verify, served as a Drummer with the 4<sup>th</sup> (Extra Reserve) Battalion during its stay in Jersey and who had the regimental number 8927? His Medal Index Card notes an entitlement to the British War and Victory Medals only, so he could have only gone to France on or after 1<sup>st</sup> January, 1916. Indeed, he would marry in Jersey in August, 1916.

We can discount the Depot List, because Ernest Cooper was issued with that number in February, 1911! Furthermore, Ernest went to France with the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion in October, 1914 and was taken Prisoner by the Germans later that year. Similarly John E Evans, with the same number, went to France on the 16<sup>th</sup> January, 1915, after the deployment of the Regular Battalions, and before that of the TF Battalions. Thus he must have been a reinforcement from a Reserve Battalion, and since Albert Hill was with the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, John Evans had to have been with the 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Technically then, Albert Hill's number in the Medal Roll should have been 4/8927.

However, the Medal Roll does help in another way, in that it notes that he served with both the South Staffordshire Regiment's 1<sup>st</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalions, and the obvious conclusion must be that he went as a reinforcement for the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion sometime during or after his stay in Jersey, and was later transferred to the 7<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion. Unfortunately the dates and reasons for these moves are not known, while there is no annotation on the Medal of the Theatre of War entered. As to the location of the two Battalions on and after the 1<sup>st</sup> January, 1916, they were located as follows:

### 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion

- January, 1916                      In France
- November, 1917                  Moved to Italy
- Armistice                              In Italy

### 7<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion

- January, 1916                      In Imbros
- February, 1916                      To Egypt
- July, 1916                              To France
- Armistice                              In France

The Battalion's War Diaries would give far more detail as to their location on a particular date, but regrettably would not go to the depth of information regarding individual private soldiers. There is a family account of a subsequent transfer by Albert to the Hampshire Regiment having taken place by September, 1918, but this cannot be confirmed. Apart from the Medal Roll and the Index Card, there is nothing in terms of a Service Record.

**In Conclusion:** Albert's case was quite interesting discounting his military service, and a few rather colourful stories about his family did surface, and my contacts have now acquired access to Ancestry and so will be doing further family history research as a result. Yet, trying to make sense of his regimental number was just as interesting. But is the 'method' that was applied fool-proof? To quote from a pamphlet on the topic of Regimental Numbering that my friend Peter Donnelly, Curator of the King's Own Royal Lancaster Regimental Museum, wrote back in 2001:

*'It is not an exact science and the details provided apply to the KORL Regiment only, and not necessarily to other Regiments'.*

It would be nice to think otherwise, but the reality is that Regimental Numbering Systems varied from Regiment to Regiment in 1914-1918, and were further complicated by the expansion in Battalions necessitated by the War.

### **Animal Numbering**

Let us not forget that animals were also numbered, each one being assigned a number by the War Office! War dogs would have theirs tattooed inside their left ear, while horses and mules would have theirs branded on their hind feet, the thousands on the offside hind foot, the hundreds, tens and units on the nearside hind foot.

## **CWGC Non-Commemorations**

There are two developments regarding the Non-Commemoration listing since the last Journal. The first is that the 'In from the Cold Team' were contacted, and after looking at the material, regretfully felt that a case to justify Philippe George Baudains dit la Gerche's commemoration could not be made. The second is the preparation and submission of a case to the CWGC for Albert Handford being commemorated. Albert, who we discovered from the Shipping Boarding Cards as having travelled to Jersey on board the SS Alberta after demobilisation, was born in Devon, but had previously married a Jersey lady, Mabel Bretel, in the Island some two years previously. In June, 1920 he was awarded a 100% disability pension as he had contracted Pernicious Anaemia. In December of that year he died, while his service file subsequent refers to Mabel as his widow. The Superintendent Registrar's Office very kindly provided us with a Death Certificate, the cause of death being Pernicious Anaemia, and the time from discovery to submission was less than three weeks.

### **Accepted**

Norcott, Gerald \*  
Dustan, John  
Cudlipp, Herbert  
Blanchet, Jean  
Warne, Alfred  
Bailey, Alwyn C  
Leopold, Archibald  
Cheney, Walter A  
Le Morzédec, Henri  
Mutton, Harold C \*  
Poingdestre, Alfred  
Jouanne, Auguste F  
Syvret, Edward H  
Lihou, Joseph T  
Le Breton, Wilfred J  
Whittle, Thomas J D'A  
Orange, Walter  
Ellis, John  
Marquis, Jack H \*  
Lander, Charles HR \*  
Asser, Verney – Non-CI  
Burton, Garnet C  
Helman, John W  
Le Noury, Walter  
Logan, Lionel H  
Ounan, Thomas P  
Turner, William A  
Godfray, Edwin de V  
Rundle, Cubitt S  
Vautier, Alfred P \*

### **Being Progressed**

Breban, John  
Quinquenel, John (Jean)  
Lindsey, Samuel WT  
Le Messurier, Ira

### **Pending**

Owen, Guy  
De Ste Croix, Harold P  
Tite, Winter JS  
Troy, Edward J  
Baudains dit la Gerche, PG

### **TBA**

Touzel, Walter H  
Ferrer, Armand  
Anderson, Frank B

### **Not for Submission**

Surguy, Sidney  
Pirouet, Charles A  
Syborn, George T  
Le Cocq, Clarence E  
De Caen, Raymond  
Malzard, Snowdon  
Mourant, Sydney A

### **With the CWGC**

Marquand, Clarence D  
De Gruchy, Alfred  
Anstee, Laurence WL  
Ruff, William C  
**Handford, Albert H**

### **Rejected by CWGC**

Vibert, John E  
Adams, Frank H

\* With assistance from  
the 'In from the Cold'  
Project Team

## **A Reminder: The Jersey Archive**

For the fourth year in a row, Jersey Heritage, is holding its 'What's your Street's Story' series of Saturday morning talks at the Archive between 10.00 and 13.00 on the dates

shown below. You can directly add any or all of the dates to your Tablet, Laptop or PC, by visiting the following link:

<http://www.jerseyheritage.org/whats-on/what-s-your-street-s-story->

If you wish to attend, please book by ringing 01534 833300, or emailing: [archives@jerseyheritage.org](mailto:archives@jerseyheritage.org)

### Schedule of Jersey Archive Talks for 2015

16 <sup>th</sup> May:	St Aubin's Harbour
20 <sup>th</sup> June:	Trinity Village
18 <sup>th</sup> July:	Le Hocq/Pontac
15 <sup>th</sup> August:	St Ouen's Village
19 <sup>th</sup> September:	Cheapside/Kensington Place
17 <sup>th</sup> October:	Halkett Place
<b>21<sup>st</sup> November:</b>	<b>Military (Surely a 'Must'?)</b>
19 <sup>th</sup> December:	TBC

### Unknown Islanders

Following recent research for the previous item, we now have a list of 27 Unknown Islanders buried in the cemeteries shown below:

#### Guernseymen:

Outtersteene Cemetery	II.E.32	II.H.53	II.H.60	IV.A.44	IV.A.50
	IV.A.53	IV.E.28	IV.E.30	IV.E.31	IV.E.32
	IV.E.34				

Trois Arbres	II.K.11	II.K.26	II.K.27	II.L.2	II.L.4
	II.L.5	II.M.26	II.M.31	II.M.35	II.O.24
	II.O.25	II.O.27			

#### Jerseymen:

Bazentin-Le-Petit	A.3	Poelcapelle	XXII.D.20
Cerisy-Gailly French	II.A.6	Outtersteene Cemetery	II.H.59

If you are visiting a cemetery and you spot an Unknown Islander, do please advise of the cemetery and grave details.

### The Buffs and the Green Howards

Have you ever puzzled over some regimental titles in the British Army? Most Regiments, e.g. the Hampshires, the Devonshires or the Somerset Light Infantry, reflect their association with part of Britain, while a few others appear strange. Take the Buffs and the Green Howards, technically the East Kent Regiment and the Yorkshire Regiment respectively.

The background to their names is the same and harks back to the days when commissions were purchased, and regiments and their colonelcies were paid for and equipped by wealthy individuals who saw it as the means of social advancement. In the case of these two fine Regiments, each was 'owned' by and named after a Colonel

Howard at the same time. Because it would have confused the rest of the Army to have dealt with two Howard's Regiments, the regiments were identified as the Buff Howards and the Green Howards, this resulting from the colours of the facings on the men's redcoats. In time the Buffs dropped the Colonel's name, while the Green Howards retained theirs, no doubt avoiding being known as the Greens, or the more derogatory 'Vegetables'!

### Recent Events in Guernsey By Liz Walton

The 1500 Guernsey Poppies project has really taken off. The aim is to create a handmade poppy for each man lost in the Great War, with cornflowers for the French losses. We already have over 1,000 poppies while are receiving more and more invitations to create displays at various local events.



One recent outing was to the National Trust of Guernsey's Viaer Marchi (or traditional market) at Saumarez Park. Russell Doherty and the Guernsey Military History Company had a fully operative field kitchen plus other displays at the event too. Their food – a choice of pork and beans or beef curry - was very popular with visitors even though it was a very hot evening. (**Editor:** I am not surprised at that price!)

The poppies also attracted a lot of attention. Although we were given a prime site facing the main arena, we have asked to be closer to Russell's display next year if we are invited back. Lots of our visitors were surprised to discover how many Guernsey men were lost and most also did not know about the French connection. Yet, others were more interested in the craft side of it and, as a result, we gained some new stitchers.



The second event was of more serious note. The commemoration of the 30,000<sup>th</sup> Last Post ceremony at Ieper's Menin Gate which took place on the 9<sup>th</sup> July was regarded as a worldwide event. The local ceremony was held at Guernsey's Fire Station, the reason for this being that the buglers in Ieper have always been local volunteer firemen. Also the building used to be the Town Arsenal and the Guernsey Militia were stationed there.

On yet another fine summer evening Guernsey's Bailiff, along with representatives of the Royal British Legion, the Guernsey Military History Company, the Parish of St Peter Port and a number local politicians assembled outside the Fire Station. The event was also open to the public but unfortunately few came along to what was a very moving event.

The fire engines had been moved out into the road and the area in front of the building was scattered with poppy petals. A small display of handmade poppies was created on a display board and around the lectern. Proceedings opened with the Bailiff addressing the assembled company, then Cadet Sgt Simone Coe read Laurence Binyon's 'For the fallen'.

Then at 19.00 hours Guernsey time (20.00 hours in Ieper) the standards were lowered and the Last Post was sounded. The timing was such that it was simultaneous across all of the places taking part. After a minute of silent contemplation, the Reveille was sounded and the standards were raised. The ceremony ended with a blessing from the Reverend Dave Knight.



Guernsey's commemoration of the 30,000<sup>th</sup> Menin Gate Last Post ceremony at Ieper





Guernsey's commemoration of the 30,000<sup>th</sup> Menin Gate Last Post ceremony at leper

## Faces Remembered: Au Revoir

The sea! Down the centuries, it has been the means to a much better life and opportunities, to discover new lands, to seek adventure, to serve the crown, or to provide a living, even though it was often illicit, for the Jerseyman! Jersey schooners, fishing boats and their crew members would be seen on every ocean and sea, setting up businesses and communities on the far shores of the Empire in places like Canada or Australia. John Hocquard was one of those Jerseymen who would venture out.



CAPTAIN HOCQUARD

We know that John was born in Jersey on the 4<sup>th</sup> June 1853 in the parish of St Helier and died in Australia on the 6<sup>th</sup> February, 1941, and cremated that same day! John's parents were John Hocquard and Nancy Rachel De La Haye. He did not have any siblings and would leave his home at a young age to go to sea. Surviving a sinking in 1872, and a stay amongst the Maoris in New Zealand, he decided to settle in Australia. By the time of the Great War, John Hocquard had risen to become a Captain although he was now 'beached', having settled in Stockton, New South Wales, Australia, and having become a wharfinger. The Australian newspapers of the time note that he was much involved in water sports such as sailing and swimming, and he had been awarded a Royal Humane Society medal for saving lives. John would marry Sarah Ann Newberry in 1886, and between them, they had eight children. Sadly, one of the children, John Roger, would die as the result of an accident, aged about four in 1892, at Lismore, NSW.

The three youngest boys (St Helier (b.1897), Gordon (b.1899), Clive (b.1900)) would be too young to serve, but four of John and Sarah's children were not, and these were:

- Annie Elsie Hocquard, born 1886
- Genevieve Nimmo Hocquard, born 1891
- David Stanley Hocquard, born 1893
- Harold Hocquard, born 1895.

In the family, Genevieve would be also known as Vera while David was more commonly called Stan. Genevieve and David will be used throughout.

(Note: It is possible that John Hocquard was a widower when he married Sarah. There are newspaper entries that an Agnes Ann (née Paton) Hocquard died in March, 1882, aged 25 years 3 months, and she had been married to a John Hocquard. This is to be confirmed).

When war arrived, the Hocquard family was living in Carlisle Street in Stockton, at a house called "Au Revoir"!

With the arrival of the Great War, the dominions would quickly respond to Great Britain's call for help. In Australia this would see the creation of the Australian Imperial Force with the first units being sent via Egypt to take part in the landings at Gallipoli as part of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) along with New Zealand units, and alongside the British and the French.



**Harold**, a six-footer, would be the first to enlist as a Gunner with the service number 508, doing so on the 1<sup>st</sup> July, 1915 when the Dardanelles campaign was in full swing, and having had his parents give written agreement to his enlistment. After some four months training he would be embarked on HMAT A69 Warilda as part of the Second Reinforcements for the Siege Artillery Brigade on the 8<sup>th</sup> November. Based upon other data for this period, the Warilda probably docked at Plymouth in early-January, 1916, and from there Harold would have gone to Stowlangtoft in Suffolk for further artillery training. Then sent to France, he joined 55<sup>th</sup> Siege Battery, 36<sup>th</sup> (Australian) Heavy Artillery Group on 17<sup>th</sup> April, 1916.

Subsequent details are unknown as the unit's War Diary does not appear to be available, but Harold died of wounds at 48<sup>th</sup> Field Ambulance on the 27<sup>th</sup> April, 1917. Originally buried at St Laurent Blangy, he was later exhumed in 1924 when that Cemetery was deemed unsuitable as a permanent one, and then was re-interred in Cabaret Rouge.

The next to enlist was **Annie**. A Nursing Sister, she did so, aged 30, on the 25<sup>th</sup> September, 1916, however, she would spend the next seven months in Australia before embarking on board HMAT A38 Ulysses at Sydney on the 9<sup>th</sup> May, 1917, a few days before her parents had received the dreaded 'Regret to inform you' telegram about Harold. One wonders when she found out. Disembarking at Plymouth on the 29<sup>th</sup> July, she spent the next fourteen months in Britain, being moved between hospitals at Croydon, Southall and eventually Dartford, where the 3<sup>rd</sup> Australian Auxiliary Hospital was lodged. She was at Dartford between the 16<sup>th</sup> February and the 26<sup>th</sup> September, 1918 when she was sent to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Australian General Hospital, by then based at Abbeville. Her stay at Dartford was marked by two events, the first being a dose of influenza in early July. The second was that her brother David turned up on the 21<sup>st</sup> August, having been diagnosed as suffering from myalgia.

Staying in France until March, 1919, Annie would return to Britain and embark on HMAT A63 Karoola on the 6<sup>th</sup> May, to disembark on the 28<sup>th</sup> June and then to be demobilised a month later.



**At Au Revoir, a letter from Harold at the Front  
(Annie in uniform is on the left, while Genevieve is on the right.  
Sarah Hocquard is holding the letter while the young lad is called Walker?  
The date is not known, but it is sometime between 30<sup>th</sup> September, 1916 and 9<sup>th</sup> May, 1917)**



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

E02602

**No 3 AGH at Abbeville**

**David** followed Annie's enlistment two weeks later on the 8<sup>th</sup> October, 1916, was given the service number 31100 to find himself a Gunner and part of the 12<sup>th</sup> Reinforcements for the 5<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Brigade. However, he headed off to Britain much earlier than Annie did, embarking on the RMS Orontes on the 19<sup>th</sup> December, 1916 and landing at Plymouth on the 17<sup>th</sup> February, 1917. As the Front Cover shows, there was time for boxing matches.

He initially found himself at Parkhouse Camp, near Shipton Bellinger on Salisbury Plain and then was transferred to 338<sup>th</sup> Siege Battery at Bordon on the 1<sup>st</sup> March, and then training at Stowlangtoft as Harold had been the year previously. France beckoned on the 12<sup>th</sup> July, to be followed by a transfer to 55<sup>th</sup> Siege Battery a week later. But, on the 12<sup>th</sup> December, 1917 he would report sick, to be admitted to hospital with tonsillitis. Sent back from the 21<sup>st</sup> CCS, via an Ambulance Train to Rouen, he would head back on New Year's Eve to the 2<sup>nd</sup> War Hospital in Northfield, Birmingham for treatment and where he spent the next three weeks before being returned for duty in England.



It was not until early April that he returned to France, and this time to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Siege Battery.

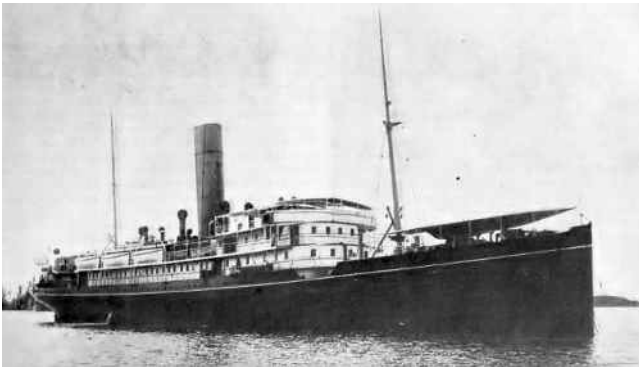
Some four months later, he again reported sick, and after a brief admission and discharge, was readmitted with acute myalgia being diagnosed. Another Ambulance Train ride followed with David being briefly admitted to 20<sup>th</sup> General Hospital at Camiers. Within a couple of days, on the 12<sup>th</sup> August, 1918, he found himself at Boscombe and from there was transferred to Dartford nine days later.

There was no further service in France for David, for after nearly two months at Dartford he was sent to Weymouth and then on the 8<sup>th</sup> November, 1918, with Rheumatism the diagnosis, he embarked for Australia on the SS Gaika, the view being that a change of climate would prove beneficial. Arriving at the end of 1918, he was demobilised on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 1919.

The last of the four siblings to enlist, was **Genevieve**, and she would do so on the 11<sup>th</sup> May, 1917, most likely knowing that Harold had died. She embarked at Melbourne on the 12<sup>th</sup> June, on board the RMS Mooltan disembarking just over a month later on the 19<sup>th</sup> July, 1917 at Suez. Her eventual destination was Salonika, embarking at Alexandria on board the SS Osmanieh on the 12<sup>th</sup> and disembarking on the 14<sup>th</sup> August, 1917.



**RMS Mooltan**



**SS Osmanieh**

Genevieve's mode of travel to Salonika nearly proved less than fortunate on both counts. After disembarking the nurses destined for Salonika and elsewhere in the Middle East theatre, the Mooltan sailed off, only to be sunk off the Tunisian coast on the 26<sup>th</sup> July, 1917. Most of the 554 crew and passengers were fortunately rescued by their escort ships, two Japanese destroyers, with only two dead.

Meanwhile, the Osmanieh which was a requisitioned transport had, less than two months previously, been the target of an unsuccessful torpedo attack. However, this ship's luck would run out when it struck a German mine just outside of Alexandria Harbour on the 31<sup>st</sup> December, 1917 with the loss of 199 crew members and passengers, the latter including 8 nurses.

In Salonika, Genevieve would be taken onto the 50<sup>th</sup> General Hospital's strength, the Hospital being in the city of Kalamaria. But, illness befell her just two months later in the shape of appendicitis. She was sent to the 43<sup>rd</sup> GH which was nearby for treatment and then, later, convalescence. Further hospitalisation and convalescence follows in January, 1918, and in June she was assigned to 42GH in the city of Salonika before returning three months later to 50GH. Then, on the 20<sup>th</sup> October, 1918 she was again admitted to 43GH with diarrhoea. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> she was placed on the 'Seriously Ill: Dysentery List'. At this point, telegrams start to wing their way back to Mrs Hocquard in Stockton, providing progress reports on her daughter's condition. It was not until the 16<sup>th</sup> November that a 'Condition Improving' report was provided, to be followed on the 27<sup>th</sup> that Genevieve had been removed from the Seriously Ill List'. In January, 1919 she is reported as being a convalescent. In mid-February she was sufficiently fit to return to England on HMT Kursk, and to be attached to the Hospital at Dartford on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March after having had a few weeks leave.



**No 3 AAH, Dartford (Date Unknown)**

Undoubtedly she would very soon meet up with her older sister Annie, while both would have shared the same cabin on the Karoola as it headed out to Australia. The return was certainly not part of a relaxing world cruise for the ship was also carrying cot-bound soldiers whether injured or ill, Annie and Genevieve were part of a medical team tasked to attend those men. It would be interesting to know whether the two nurses ever visited their father's birthplace during the period before their voyage back to Australia.

Reading some of the newspaper reports, they became local celebrities in the Stockton area, even to the point of frequently enduring renditions of 'She's a jolly good Sister', and judging a Shirley Temple baby show competition in April, 1936!

The **post-War period** was one of difficult adjustment, not least due to the fact that the family had lost Harold in 1917. His file in the Australian National Archive suggests that John and Sarah were not talking to each other in the early 1920s as both were writing to the military authorities requesting the same item yet seemingly unaware that the other had already received it. There is also confusion in that John, at least, wrote from both 103 Mitchell Street and 103 Carlisle Street. The latter street no longer exists in Stockton, while 103 Mitchell Street is no longer there either.

Sadly, in late 1928 there was a more serious event that went further than the over simple reference in one newspaper to a 'Family Squabble'. The outcome was that John appeared in court for throwing scalding water over Annie during an argument. In what we might regard as lenient treatment, even recognising that he was 75 years old, he was required to pay £60 in damages to his daughter. A more amusing appearance in the courts followed in 1933 where he was to answer charges of slandering a couple who had owed him money. In this, the result was that he had to pay a farthing in damages to each injured party!

In 1929 John Hocquard left on his travels which took him to Italy, Spain, England and France. Speaking to the local newspaper on his return, he said that he was much impressed with French post-War recovery and the work being carried out in the (then) IWGC Cemeteries and that the graves were in perfect order. He had brought back photograph albums, and not surprisingly, these included some of Harold's grave.

Yet, there were several more voyages for John, in 1934, 1936 and 1938, which saw him return to Jersey each time. Into his early-80s, he did seem to be still in very good health, all the while travelling unaccompanied. Certainly Sarah's name did not appear on any of the passenger manifests, and she was still alive in July, 1948, being described in one newspaper as an octogenarian.

As for **Stockton**, like towns and cities throughout Australia, it would remember its dead, and on ANZAC Day in 1922 the town had its War Memorial erected on the seafront where Hereford Street meets Mitchell Street. Harold as listed on the front of the Memorial as shown in the picture, but curiously his three siblings are also listed, their war service being recognised. The Hocquard family were very much part of the community and left their mark on Stockton's history.



**Acknowledgements:** Thanks goes to a number of family descendants, but primarily to David's daughter, Yvonne Hocquard Burns who first made contact back in 2008.

**Review of the Guernsey Society, December 2014**  
**WW1 Centenary Edition**  
**By Steve Foote**

At the end of 2014, the Guernsey Society published a special edition of its three-times-a-year magazine, The Review, to mark the centenary of World War I. This special edition is nearly three times the normal size of The Review, and includes a wide range of articles on different aspects of WW1, as seen through the eyes of Guernseymen. The inspiration for the edition came as a result of the Battlefield Tour organised by the Society in 2013, which was made up of a number of descendants of Guernseymen who fought in the war, as well as the Bailiff, Sir Richard Collas, who has contributed a preface to this edition.

The introduction from this edition (reproduced below) provides a more detailed summary of the contents, while copies are available for sale to non-members through Guernsey bookshops, and from the Guernsey Society web site ([www.guernsey-society.org.uk](http://www.guernsey-society.org.uk)), priced £10.00.

**Introduction:** In September 2013, as part of its 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations, the Society organised a WW1 Battlefield Tour, following in the footsteps of the Royal Guernsey Light Infantry. During the tour we were able to visit the sites of many of the locations where the Regiment bearing the Island's name had fought valiantly and lost so many men. We were fortunate that a number of the tour participants had close relatives who had been involved in many of the actions we were discussing, and were able to bring a fresh insight into what the text books and the tour guide were able to tell us. The combination of those personal stories, set against the backdrop of this world conflict, brought home to the tour participants not only the overall context of their actions, but also the impact that the wounded men had on their generation when they returned.

The RGLI in which over 2,500 Guernseymen fought, was the only regiment bearing the island's name, and yet it is believed that around 8,000 islanders fought in this war in some capacity or other. Therefore, as a way of marking the centenary of WW1, we have tried to bring together a number of personal stories of islanders who fought in it, some within the RGLI, and a number of others who took part in other units.

We start with the story of the RGL, as told through our experience last September during the Battlefield Tour, and illustrated by some of the moving accounts of the Guernseymen who served in it, and whose relatives were on the tour. Second Lieutenant Thomas de Jersey Lainé, who lost his life on the first day of the Battle of Cambrai; Major William Foote, who was in command of the RGLI defending Les Rues Vertes and the three members of the Stranger family, who died in the defence of Le Doulieu.

The RGLI was not however, the first Guernsey unit to serve at the front, the first Militia volunteers were sent to join the 16<sup>th</sup> (Irish) Division in 1915, and spent most of 1916 at the front with them before many of them returned to join the RGLI when it was formed. Their story includes that of Society founder member Second Lieutenant Barry Jones, who was injured in a grenade training incident, and Second Lieutenant George B Foote, who suffered gas poisoning as a result of the German actions at Hulluch.

Many other Guernseymen made a contribution to the war in a wide range of other ways. Major Weir Williams of the Hampshire Regiment was part of the invading force in Gallipoli, brought to life by his diaries. Sir Donald Banks, our founder, fought in the 10<sup>th</sup> Essex Regiment for the duration of the war, and co-wrote his battalions' official history, here we



are able to include an excerpt from his unpublished memoirs to relate his experience of the Somme, and how his WW1 experience inspired the Greetings Telegram. A Guernseyman who had emigrated to Canada in 1910, joined the overseas Canadian Expeditionary Force but died on his return to Canada from the after-effects of poison gas.

At the start of the war, the RAF did not exist, and flight was in its infancy, we have eyewitness accounts from Guernseymen who served in its two forerunners, Air Commodore Henry Le Marchant Brock's account of his experience in the Royal Flying Corps, and Sir Donald's brother, Captain Maurice Banks who served with the Royal Naval Air Service. Ralph Durand, the novelist and Priaulx Librarian who wrote the first account of the German Occupation of Guernsey, started the war with the Royal Fusiliers and finished it working for MI5 in Italy, he used his experience in the war for one of his novels, from which we include an excerpt.

If you would like to find out more about the RGLI in the war, we can recommend Liz Walton's new book on the subject, published by the Guernsey Museum to mark the centenary, a review of which is included here, and if you are interested in joining our next Battlefield Tour, there is an account of the 2013 experience by David Le Conte, and details of how to register for the next tour in September, 2015.

We hope you enjoy this special edition.  
Stephen Foote and Michael Paul

### **Help needed in the Intelligence Department**

One puzzling element in the 1919 JRoH&S was the reference to a small number of men from Jersey who had served in the 'Intelligence Department', and whose surnames were French sounding, this suggesting that their service in intelligence might be required if they were French speakers. Well, that was the theory. There were four, namely:

- George Alfred Langlois (1<sup>st</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Manchester Regt)
- Henri Victor Langlois (Ex-RASC) (GS/95496)
- John Edward Le Brocq (Not known) (GS/95780)
- John Fleury Le Cornu (Ex-MGC) (GS/95674)

Then, going through the various records, it was discovered that three out of these four had transferred to the Royal Fusiliers, moreover, to that Regiment's 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion. The names of four other men followed, the records that they had also transferred to join 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion, and they are listed below:

- Maurice Lucien Béghin (Ex-RFA) (GS/96858)
- Emile Victor Carvenec (Ex-RAOC) (GS/95582)
- Francis Joseph Le Flohic (Ex-RGA) (GS/95596)
- Richard John Silvester (Ex-S Staffs Regt) (GS/95599)

There appears to have been a pattern developing (George Langlois excepted), and it seems very likely that the four additions also served in the 'Intelligence Department', and we recognise Maurice Béghin's name, as he had received the Royal Victoria Medal from King George V in August, 1918, an occurrence quite likely connected to the sovereign's personal security whilst in France at that time. But, who or what was the 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Royal Fusiliers?

This is where it becomes even more perplexing. As was soon discovered, a 10<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion was formed as a 'Pals' unit, some say the first such, in August, 1914 while it would recruit some 1600 men within the week. These men, drawn from the clerks, messengers and other office workers employed in the City of London were collectively known as the 'Stockbrokers' Battalion'. The Battalion received appreciable support from the Lord Mayor and the upper echelons in the City, and the military, given the existence of the 'old boys' network. The men's regimental numbers were prefixed 'STK'. Reaching France and Flanders in July, 1915, the Battalion would be 'in the fighting line' until the Armistice. Knowing these facts, an 'Intelligence Department' did not readily sit with the Battalion's role whilst the Jersey men would have had an 'STK' number as opposed to the 'GS' numbers shown by their names above.

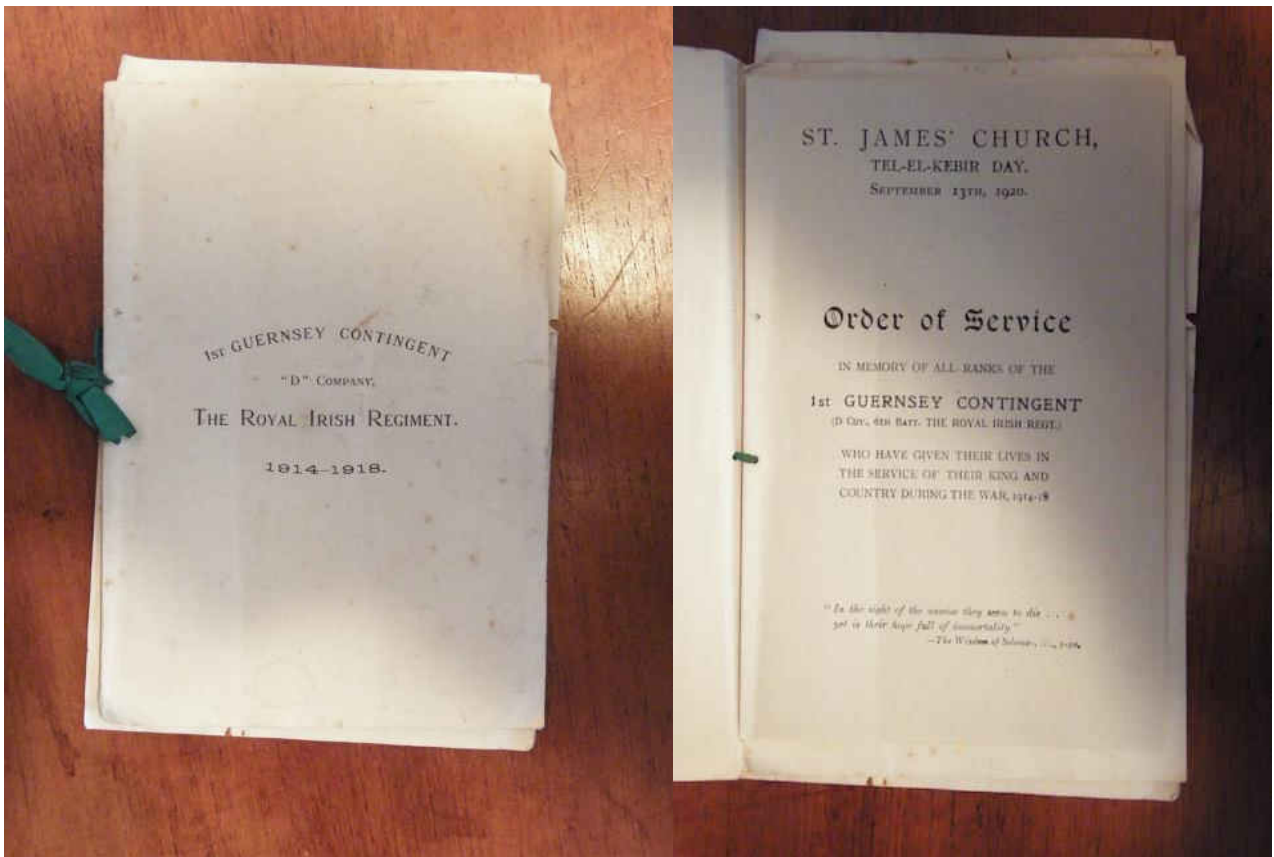
Then by chance, I recently attended a talk up at Penrith on the 'Stockbrokers' Battalion' given by a gentleman with the name of David Carter. David has written a book on the Battalion (published in February, 2014 is available from Pen and Sword Books for £25.00), and can be regarded as an expert on the matter. 'Ah yes' he said when the question was put to him, '10 IB! Very little is known about them other than that it was set up by ten ex-police inspectors' who sought to address intelligence gathering. Continuing, David advised that the 10<sup>th</sup> (Intelligence) Battalion's, i.e., '10 IB's', role fell outside the remit of the Military Foot Police and the Military Mounted Police, both of those corps generally more concerned with policing the battle and rear areas. Meanwhile, the curators at the Royal Fusilier and Intelligence Corps Museums are as much in the dark as we are. It would be interesting to know whether those men wrote accounts of their service and if those have, by chance, been passed down to their families today? A job for the CIFHS?

**The Service of Commemoration for the First Guernsey Service Contingent  
Held at the Town Church, St Peter Port  
By Alan Cross**

To remember the departure of the first Guernsey Contingent for Ireland and then later for France and Flanders in 1915 took place on the 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2015, with a commemorative march from Les Beaucamps to the Town Harbour by some two hundred cadets. Led by a Colour Party from the Irish Defence Force, drummers from the Elizabeth College Drum Corps, Russell Doherty's Guernsey Military History Company and the Airedale terrier representing Roy, the original mascot of 'D' Company, 6<sup>th</sup> Royal Irish Regiment, on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March, it culminated in a parade and inspection at the White Rock by His Excellency, the Lieutenant Governor of Guernsey, Air Marshal Peter Walker. It was pleasing to see that a large crowd of onlookers had gathered to witness this historic event.

When the parade was dismissed, the participants made their way to the Town Church for a memorial service, officiated by the Priest in Charge, the Reverend John Guille.

The Order of Service drew inspiration from the memorial service for the fallen of 'D' Company, 6<sup>th</sup> Royal Irish Regiment held at the Church of St James-the-Less on the 13<sup>th</sup> September, 1920. I am grateful to Mrs Frances O'Sullivan, (niece of Corporal Thomas de Jersey of 'D' Company, killed in action with the RGLI on the 20<sup>th</sup> November, 1917, and daughter of Lieutenant Frank de Moulpied Lainé RGLI, who died in 1922 of wounds sustained on 13<sup>th</sup> April, 1918) for permitting me to photograph her copy of the order of the memorial service (The cover and frontispiece is shown overleaf).



The Battle of Tel-El-Kebir on 13<sup>th</sup> September, 1882 is one of the Royal Irish Regiment's proudest battle honours. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion took part in the storming of the Egyptian entrenchments after General Sir Garnet Wolseley's daring advance by night against Arabi Pasha's unsuspecting defenders, an action which led to the securing of Egypt for the British Empire and hence the guaranteeing of its supply lines to and from possessions in the east, most importantly of course, India.

The Town Church had been most beautifully decorated by Liz Walton and her helpers with their handmade poppies, including the impressive wreath surrounding the badge of the Royal Irish Regiment pictured above.

The service opened with the presentation and laying up in the sanctuary of their colours by the three-man strong colour party of the Irish Defence Force, drawn from the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade Cavalry Squadron, Lieutenant Eoin Carroll, Sergeant Marcus Aherne and Sergeant Martin Ormond, pictured overleaf, at the start of the march.

The items from the 1920 memorial service repeated in the Service of Commemoration were:-

- The lesson 'Let us now praise famous men' from the Book of Ecclesiasticus, Chapter 44, Verses 1-4 and 7-15. It was read by Mr Peter Campbell, grandson of Captain David Campbell, MC, of the 6<sup>th</sup> Royal Irish Rifles, who saw active service in Gallipoli and Salonica.
- Two prayers read by a representative of the Guernsey Sporting Club.
- The hymn 'For all the saints who from their labours rest'.
- The National Anthem, which concluded both services.



In addition the Irish connection was reflected by a reading of the poem, 'A Soldier's Grave', by Francis Ledwidge, a Lance Corporal in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, who having survived Gallipoli, Serbia and Arras was killed by shellfire at Passchendaele on the 31<sup>st</sup> July, 1917, aged 29. The reader was Mr David Sheil, a descendant of Francis through his paternal grandmother, Margaret Ledwidge.

A pivotal moment in the service was the presentation and laying up of three symbolic artefacts at a WWI wooden cross, a grave marker for Eric D'Auvergne Collings, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, the Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment. The grave marker was positioned under the central crossing of the church, and the presentations were made by cadets who had taken part in the march.

The artefacts were:

- An RGLI jacket which had belonged to Private Nicholas John Hubert who was a mule handler with the 'Transport Section' in the 1<sup>st</sup> (Service) Battalion.
- A WWI British infantry helmet.
- Three WWI service medals of Lieutenant George Bernard Foote, a Sergeant with the First Service Contingent who was later commissioned into the Royal Munster Fusiliers in 1916. The medals are the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal 1914-20, and the Victory Medal 1914-19.

This part of the ceremonial ended with the presentation of a lighted candle, brought through the nave in token of remembrance of the men of the First Guernsey Service Contingent. A Paschal candle, it symbolised the Christian hope of life after death.



After the service many of the participants repaired to Warwick House, the home of the Guernsey Sporting Club, for refreshments, an opportunity to mingle with colleagues and new friends and a chance to share reflections on the significance of the day. It was a fitting and harmonious end to memorable centenary events, which served to remind us all of the debt we owe to the brave men who fought and too often gave their lives to defend the freedoms which we can all too easily take for granted. The photograph left shows Lieutenant Eoin Carroll with Russell Doherty in front of the portrait of the Club's founder, Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Hutchesson, MC.

### Philatelic Matters

Looking ahead, the UK Post Office will be releasing an 'Animals in the Great War' issue in September, while a further Guernsey issue will be released in November, but as yet there has been no preliminary artwork displayed by either Postal Authority. Given that, it seems at present that the UK's issue will be a commemorative sheet of adhesive animal pictures with stamps attached rather than a newly designed issue. Guernsey's issue will, I believe, follow last year's still featuring further Islanders.



Meanwhile, Jersey released the above set (with an accompanying miniature sheet not shown here) on the 4<sup>th</sup> August, and which Jersey Post advised that '... this issue focuses on the idea of change' and that 'The Great War was the first conflict to embrace the need for dramatic change in order to achieve the upper hand'.

Straining every sinew in my body to be polite, I have to say that Jersey has again been let down by a conceptual statement and an ensuing design that bears no relation to the contributions of Islanders during the Great War, and that the blurb 'The Great War...' is a

load of twaddle! First, in no way does any of the artwork in those six stamps scream out Jersey! The artwork could equally be used for the UK, Canada, or any Commonwealth member. Liechtenstein could use it at a push even! It is not unique. Secondly, a design house in England was used again, and one wonders whether there are any in Jersey that could have been used.

The statement ‘...the first conflict to embrace the need for dramatic change...’ is totally wrong. We have seen change being embraced in conflicts long before the Great War, be it gunpowder, the machine gun, rockets, shrapnel, and even the submarine long before the U-Boats menaced the seaways during the Great War. As to whether it was ‘dramatic’, that is a rather subjective statement, but clearly technical advance would lend itself to tactical advantage on occasion. The tank for example had been in the mind of inventors for many hundred years, not least for one Leonardo da Vinci, but it only evolved when the technology and materials at last caught up with the idea. The same with the aeroplane.

Turning to the stamps themselves, that they are colourful and attractive is not in dispute, but their historical inaccuracy is, such that they reinforce and create inaccurate myths. The sub-title for the 73 pence stamp is Uniforms, and the stamp implies that the War saw the discarding of the redcoat for the khaki service dress. As many pictures of the BEF embarkation in 1914 testify, service dress was the norm, and indeed it had been introduced throughout the Regular Army in 1902. Territorials, Yeomanry and Militia would soon follow afterwards. Given that the word ‘khaki’ is Urdu, there should be no surprise that there was an Indian connection preceding 1902.

As for the 43 pence stamp, sub-titled Mechanisation, this tries to perpetuate the myth that the tank was originally meant to replace the cavalry, rather than, as Churchill had seen, to solve the problem posed by lines of trenches, barbed wire, machine guns and whatever else might have been ‘thrown’ at the infantry. As a broad tactic, not least at Cambrai, ‘break through’ was to be followed by ‘break out’, the infantry achieving the former, the cavalry the latter. Thus the role of the tanks (or Winston’s ‘Land Ships’) was to help the infantry not to replace the cavalry, which would offer greater mobility once the lines of the German defence were breached. It was only much later that the cavalry migrated to armoured vehicles that allowed them to undertake traditional roles such as reconnaissance or screening.

But Mechanisation was more than just a few more or less tanks or horses, it also enabled mobility and the logistics needed to keep an Army in the field. The Peacetime Establishment of Motor Transport of all types of vehicle for the Army (although it is not clear if this was solely for the units assigned to the BEF) in 1914 was 842 vehicles of which 727 were subsidised. Mobilisation was authorised, and this number swelled by another 643. When the Armistice ended the War, the total MT in France stood at 57460 of which just over 25% were motor cycles, suggesting their importance in the role of maintaining Communication (the 57 pence sub-title)?

One could continue in looking at the other stamps and questioning whether the topics and subjects depicted (Camouflage and Deception, Observation, Tactics) were dramatic game changers in the true historic sense. I think not. Clearly though, each topic had a part to play in a War that was also part of the much longer evolutionary life cycle of conflicts. But, picking holes in a few stamps, where the artwork has overridden historic accuracy, is not enough. The basic flaw of the stamps is that they do not address the fundamental issue. They do not scream out Jersey and its history!

## Somme Accommodation

Looking for some Bed and Breakfast accommodation for a few days on the Somme? During our recent trip we spotted the two English-owned and run properties below:

- **Beaumont Hamel View** ([www.beaumonthamelview.com](http://www.beaumonthamelview.com))
  - At 15 Rue de Lattre, Auchon-Villers, 80560.
  - It is about 300-400 yards from Avril Williams' Ocean Villas, heading towards Thiepval and in front of you as you negotiate the mild 'Z' bend.
- **Fifty6** ([www.number56.co.uk](http://www.number56.co.uk))
  - At 56 Rue de Bapaume, La Boisselle, 80300.
  - This is on the main Albert-Bapaume road, on the right heading north, and is easily noticeable with a 1/12 scale model Mark IV tank in the garden.

Both appear to have opened in the last year or two. However, we have not stayed at either, so cannot comment on quality and value for money in the shape of a review, but both are reasonably situated for access to the Somme battlefield, its cemeteries and memorials, with little trouble, and on the website at least, the rooms look presentable if a little small. Reviews would be welcome from any visitors in the future, as would any other accommodation finds.

### **The Guernsey Sporting Club and The Centenary of 'D' Company 6<sup>th</sup> Royal Irish Regiment By Alan Cross**

On Thursday the 4<sup>th</sup> March, 1915, 247 Officers, NCOs and men of the Royal Guernsey Militia took ship for Weymouth, from where they then travelled by train and boat to Dublin, and thence onwards to Fermoy in County Cork, Ireland to become D Company in the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion, the Royal Irish Regiment, for training in preparation for despatch to the front line in December.

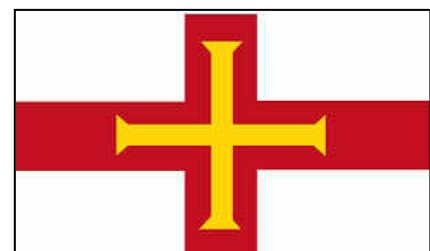
In CIGWSG Journal 53 (May, 2014), I outlined the story of the foundation of the Guernsey Sporting Club by the surviving members of D Company on their return to the Island in 1919 and 1920, and the establishment of its HQ in Warwick House, the Grange, St Peter Port, the building in which it still flourishes to this day. My intention at that time was to proceed quickly to publishing an account in subsequent Journals of the purchase of Warwick House on behalf of the Club members, and its formal opening on the 13<sup>th</sup> September, 1920, after a memorial service held at the garrison church of St James-the-Less.

What I did not know then was that I would soon become involved in Guernsey's 1914-1919 Commemoration Working Party, and be co-opted on to a sub-committee charged with organising suitable events to mark the centenary of the Militiamen's departure for Ireland.

The Club had previously agreed to commemorate 4<sup>th</sup> March, 1915 by holding a Dinner on the exact centenary, if possible, to which all the descendants of the men of D Company who had contacted me to help with background research and information would be invited, along with official representatives from Ireland, if at all possible, and those plans continued in addition to the sub-committee's brief. After discussion, the commemoration programme was therefore agreed as follows:

Wednesday, 4 <sup>th</sup> March, 2015	Commemorative Dinner at the Hotel 'Bella Luce' St Martin's, Guernsey.
Sunday, 8 <sup>th</sup> March, 2015	Re-enactment March from Les Beaucamps High School, the site of the former Militia Barracks and Arsenal, to the White Rock at the Town Harbour, following the exact route that was taken in 1915.  Parade and Inspection of the marchers by the Lieutenant Governor  Commemorative Service at the Town Church

The Club's involvement was greatest in the Dinner and the Service, whilst providing as much support as possible for the arrangements for the March and Parade, which were masterminded by Major (Retired) Bob Place, the Guernsey Ceremonial Parades Commander, Russell Doherty, Commanding the Guernsey Military History Company, and Graham Williams, the Civil Protection Officer.



The distinguished guests being welcomed by the President of the Guernsey Sporting Club, Mr Edward Jenkins (3<sup>rd</sup> right), and the Club Archivist, Alan Cross (3<sup>rd</sup> left)



The Dinner guests included the Bailiff of Guernsey, Sir Richard Collas (*1<sup>st</sup> left*), His Excellency the Irish Ambassador, Daniel Mulhall (*2<sup>nd</sup> left*), Mrs Mulhall (*4<sup>th</sup> left*), His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor of Guernsey, Air Marshal Peter Walker (*1<sup>st</sup> right*), Mrs Walker (*2<sup>nd</sup> right*) Also present was the Chief Minister, Deputy Jonathan Le Tocq, and a representative of the Irish Defence Forces, Commandant Patrick O'Connor, Officer Commanding the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade Cavalry Squadron.

The main group of guests, however, comprised the relatives and descendants of the men of D Company, as noted in the menu cards, as follows:-

- Grandson of Corporal Charles J Barnes, 6RIRegt 3155, KIA 9/09/16, the Somme – no known grave, Thiepval memorial
- Grandson of Private Percival Le Lievre 6RIRegt 3260, transferred to the RGLI 2/03/18, on the disbanding of 6RIRegt.
- Granddaughter of Private Leslie Searle, 6 RIRegt 3338, transferred to RGLI 2/03/18 on the disbanding of 6 RIRegt.
- Daughter-in-Law of Lieutenant George B Foote (below)
- Great-niece of Private William J Le Page 6RIRegt 3268, KIA 22/02/17, buried at Kimmel Chateau Cemetery
- Granddaughter of Private (Drummer) James A Langlois, 6RIRegt 3474, transferred to RGLI June, 1917, very likely one of the two stretcher bearers on 26/01/16, who dug the wounded Major George Le Page out of the collapsed trench wall and bore him back to the field dressing station where he died of his wounds.
- Descendant of family friends of Corporal John A De Garis MG Section, 6RIRegt 2156 transferred 1916 to 4RIRegt
- Great-great nephew of the father of Major George W Le Page, OC D Coy, 6RIRegt KIA 26/01/16, the first to be killed by enemy fire from the First Service Contingent.
- Son of Private Ernest D Mahy, 6RIRegt 3280
- Daughter of Sergeant George B Foote, originally of the First Service Contingent, commissioned into the Royal Munster Fusiliers in 1916 as Second Lieutenant, was badly gassed, and spent 18 months convalescing, mostly in Guernsey. Later transferred to the King's African Rifles to fight the German Colonial Army
- Son of Private Henry Neville, Royal Guernsey Militia, Nephew of Private Edward H Neville, 6RIRegt 2785, and of Corporal Albert WE Neville, RGLI 672, KIA 13/04/18, commemorated at Ploegsteert Memorial.
- Niece of Corporal, later Second Lieutenant Thomas de J Lainé, 6RIRegt 3250, wounded 21/02/16, transferred to RGLI, KIA Cambrai 20/11/17, no known grave, commemorated on Cambrai Memorial at Louveral. Daughter of Lieutenant F de M Lainé, MC, RGLI, survived Cambrai, Passchendaele and the Retreat to Lys, wounded 13/4/18 at Neuf Berquin, died of complications of his wounds in Guernsey, 1922.
- Grandson of Pte William F Hardyway, 6RIRegt 3234 then April 1917 RGLI 585
- Nephew of Private James W Quinn, 6RIRegt 3320, KIA, Hulluch, 15/04/16, buried at Bois-Carré, Haisnes.
- Son of Corporal George A Richards, 6RIRegt 3146, transferred to RGLI, wounded at Cambrai, November 1917, returned to front 1918 as Acting Sergeant.
- Great-grandson of Lance Corporal, later Sergeant George Walden, 6RIRegt 3358, awarded MM, 20/6/1916, wounded in Guillemont/Ginchy actions, September 1916 and transferred after convalescing to RGLI, April, 1917.

Before the dinner a Wind Ensemble from Elizabeth College played period music including the following items:

- *Killaloe* - by *RJ Martin, 1887* - the march of the current Royal Irish Regiment, the old Regiment having been disbanded in 1922 on the creation of the Irish Free State. We had been unable to discover the regimental march of the old Regiment in time for the dinner. I did, however, subsequently find in the Guernsey Weekly Press article of Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> March, 1915, where the departure from Guernsey of the First Service Contingent was recorded, that their regimental march was in fact *Garry Owen*, originally a drinking song from County Limerick, but later arranged in two versions by no less a composer than Beethoven. The tune had also been taken up by General Custer's 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry as their regimental march.
- *Alexander's Ragtime Band* – by *Irving Berlin, 1911*

The guests were then drummed into the dining room by the Elizabeth College Drum Corps.

Between the courses of the dinner the Elizabeth College Close Harmony Group entertained with a selection of pre-war and wartime songs, including old favourites such as *Pack up Your Troubles in Your Old Kit Bag*, *It's a Long Way to Tipperary*, and *Keep the Home Fires Burning*.

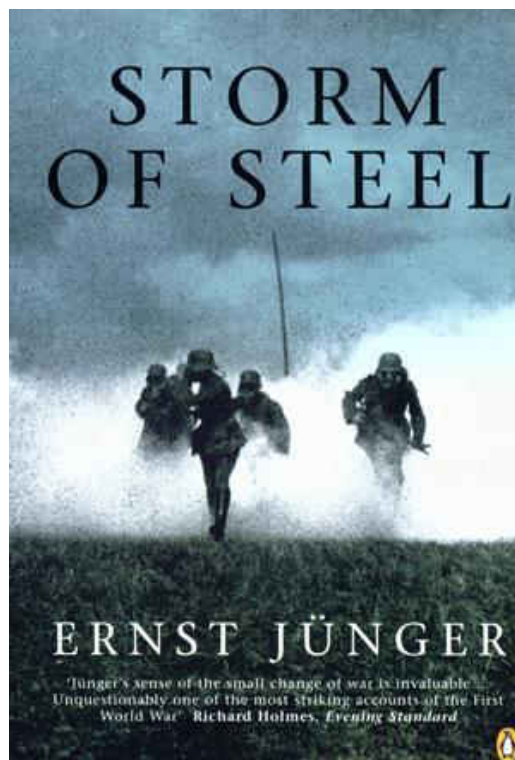
The Loyal Toast was proposed by His Excellency the Irish Ambassador, Daniel Mulhall, who called to mind the importance of this historic link between Ireland and Guernsey, and expressed his wish that it would be nourished not only during the commemoration of the sacrifices both Islands had made in the Great War, but also thereafter in the years ahead.

## Book Reviews

**(The) Storm of Steel**  
**By Ernst Jünger**  
**Translated by Michael Hofmann**  
**(Penguin Modern Classics, £7.99)**

This is widely regarded as a classic of the Great War, written in 1920 by Jünger, as he was then, a 25 year old German officer who had served with the 73<sup>rd</sup> Hanoverian Fusiliers Regiment throughout the greater part of the War. It was translated into English in 1929, while throughout it reflects the immediacy of a War not long finished.

The details of the 2004 Penguin version (on Amazon) have been used, however, the version that was reviewed was a 1994 Constable edition for which the Translator was not acknowledged, but had a useful Introduction by a Paddy Griffiths. As a result, there may just be one or two comments below that are not applicable to the Penguin edition.



The book is curious in a number of aspects, not least that it is a direct mirror-image of many British and French accounts of the everyday life and death for the 'trench-fighter' (his phrase). The mud, the occasional rat, the sniping, the frequent shelling by enemy and friend alike, the latter due to the 'drop shorts', poor and meagre rations, and of course, the bureaucracy of the endless reports required of officers. Every so often one has to pause and remind oneself that when he frequently talks of the enemy, he is talking of us, we fine sturdy British chaps! But, of course, he reminds one that there also existed a common enemy for both sides, the staff! Often an objective would be given 'from the map', with little or no appreciation of the immediate situation on the ground.

The book is clearly based upon a well maintained and detailed diary, although there were possibly a one or dates wrongly set down (a translator or publisher error quite possibly?). In a couple of instances in 1917, he mentions encounters between his men and British patrols where the officers commanding the latter were killed. Checking these out, he mentions the death of a Royal Munster Fusiliers officer on the 5<sup>th</sup> March, and this could only have been Second Lieutenant Oliver Chetwode Stokes from that Regiment's 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion. The other officer was most probably Lieutenant EE Lawford of the Indian Army in June. Of the German casualties, he frequently notes the names of those killed or injured throughout the War, sometimes in quite graphic detail. As to his own circumstances, he was hospitalised six or seven times through a total of twenty penetration wounds.

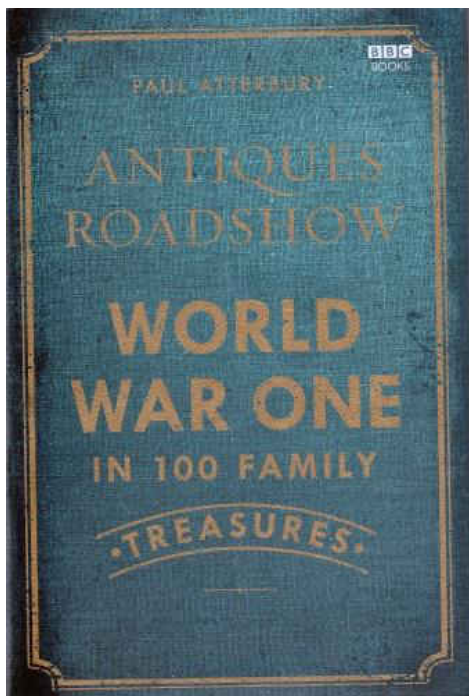
Notwithstanding the privations, hardships and never-ending risk to life and limb, one senses that Jünger derived a great deal of job satisfaction in commanding a platoon and then later a company, and every so often there is a phrase borrowed from the officer's instruction manual. He emphasised the need for good, firm leadership within his sub-units and looked to maintain morale among the men. A blind eye occasionally applied to minor infractions such as poaching pike from ponds where it was forbidden to do so, and it might not have been a coincidence for a newly caught fish turning up on his dinner table now and then!

Initially sensitive to his surroundings and militarily wet behind the ears, Jünger appears to have developed into a hard fighter over his four years of war, not least because his Battalion was one of a number of such units that had been assigned to storm trooper duties during the German spring offensive of March, 1918. British accounts tend to talk of German infiltration with the British positions being by-passed by the storm troopers only to be mopped up by follow-up German troops. Jünger indicates a more chaotic advance to an objective, which was often held up by small nests of resistance, and where the defenders were shown no mercy even if they had just surrendered. That the British streamed back in their many hundreds is not in dispute, nor is the fact that the Germans hit upon foodstuffs that they had not seen since before the War. For the Germans, living on a diet of 'green sausages' (gherkins to you and me), Christmas had arrived early!

There is a strong streak of what is best described as quasi-religious nationalism with a large dose of 'Prussianism'. In the final paragraph, he states that 'We stand in the memory of the dead who are holy to us, and we believe ourselves entrusted with the true and spiritual welfare of our people'. By 'We' he had meant the German youth and 'the dead' were those who had died fighting for Germany, the *Vaterland*. He had envisaged a German military resurgence although the Introduction indicates that he was not at all enamoured with National Socialism as the way forward. For all of his views after the cessation of hostilities, one does not discern laying blame on the civilians for the defeat, or that his views were anti-Semitic.

Looking at the other battles in which he was involved before the spring offensive, they did include Guillemont, Passchendaele and Cambrai. Did his path cross those of any Channel Islanders? It is unlikely at Guillemont, since he was medically evacuated from nearby Combles to St Quentin around the 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 1916. Cambrai is a better possibility, and it maybe that his company had encountered Captain Allastair McReady-Diarmid at Moeuvre on the 1<sup>st</sup> December, 1917. One should not conclude without mentioning that the 73<sup>rd</sup> Hanoverian Fusiliers Regiment, as strange as it may sound, wore the battle honour ribbon for 'Gibraltar'! This harks back to the period of the American War of Independence when the Spanish and the French had attempt to capture the 'Rock'. The Hanoverians, then allied through the crown, had provided three Battalions to the British to resist in a siege that ran from June, 1779 to February, 1783.

Finally, a recommendation? I would suggest that it is another book to buy. It is mildly hard to read, an issue that might be the result of too literal a translation, but as highlighted earlier, this might not apply to the Penguin edition. But, it provides a useful insight into the life of those who manned the trenches and dugouts across No Man's Land



**The Antiques Roadshow**  
**World War One in One Hundred Family Treasures**  
**By Paul Atterbury**  
**(BBC Books, £19.99)**  
**Review by Peter Tabb**

Anyone browsing my bookshelves will find several titles by BBC Television's *Antiques Roadshow's* resident expert Paul Atterbury and this is one such. However all the other books on my shelves feature Paul's enthusiasm for railways whereas in this 400-page tome, railways does not warrant a mention. Regular viewers of BBC One's *Antiques Roadshow* will recognise Paul Atterbury from his garish blazers. His specialities are 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century art and architecture albeit that he has also written widely on military history, railways, arts and travel. He has also curated exhibitions for the V&A Museum in London. What is more, he lives in a home that is made up of converted railways carriages.

When, last year, the *Antiques Roadshow* launched an appeal for contributions to their Great War specials at the Somme, the producers never predicted the number of people who would get in touch to tell their story. Hundreds of families brought an astonishing array of objects: old sets of heartfelt postcards; keepsakes given in friendships forged in the trenches, bizarre and beautiful items that were kept as trophies by superstitious soldiers; medical records, military documents, death pennies and certificates, and much more. And from each object, a person emerged: young officers who had patriotically joined up before the horrors of war became known; nurses who had found themselves the only women on the front line; soldiers fighting not only in France but as far afield as Egypt, India and Africa.

In all his writings, certainly in my experience, Paul Atterbury's enthusiasm for his subjects shines through. The book refines the host of responses received by the *Antiques Roadshow* team to that magic figure of 100 thus, wittingly or otherwise, making this a companion volume to the Imperial War Museum's *A History of the First World War in 100*

*Objects.* The essential difference between the two volumes is that Paul Atterbury's work is actually about people, whereas the IWM work is, literally, about objects.

Unusually this is not a book for reading, it is a book for dipping into, a researcher's goldmine.

Paul Atterbury paints a vivid picture of each person associated with each of the 'treasures', in a series of biographies, unearthing lives before 1914, their role in the war, and the wider history that was occurring around them. Brimming with personal detail, this is a unique record of 100 ordinary people in extraordinary circumstances whose lives were changed forever by the course of events during 1914 to 1918 and beyond.

Typical is the story of John Powis (1892–1951) a Conscientious Objector who would win a Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM) for bravery. 'Conchies' tend to get short shrift in most war histories and, indeed, the army tended to regard them as cowards in any case, often treating those who joined such units as the Royal Army Medical Corps or the Non-Combatant Corps, as expendable. Both of these Corps involved an acceptance of military discipline but without the obligation to bear arms. Although registered as a Conscientious Objector, John Powis joined the 137<sup>th</sup> Staffordshire Brigade of the 46<sup>th</sup> North Midland Division of the Territorial Force. He was attached to the Division's 3<sup>rd</sup> North Midland Field Ambulance, primarily as a stretcher bearer, a dangerous and demanding occupation with a short life expectancy and deemed, in the Army's view, suitable for 'Conchies'. He took part in the Battle of the Somme and specifically in the Division's attacks on Gommecourt village where the British suffered more than 6,700 casualties and it was in the aftermath of this slaughter that John Powis and the other RAMC soldiers struggled to save the wounded. On the 13<sup>th</sup> February, 1917, the London Gazette (29940) reported the award of the DCM to Sergeant John Powis 'for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He has performed consistent good work throughout, and has on many occasions shown great courage and coolness under fire.' An exceptional achievement for a Conscientious Objector. His 'treasures' were his DCM and his Honourable Discharge Certificate granted on the 7<sup>th</sup> April, 1919.

One of the most poignant 'treasures' is a commemorative handkerchief printed on tissue paper. The handkerchief is a souvenir printed in loving memory of the men, women and children killed in the air raid on London on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> June, 1917. Six-years-old Rose Tuffin, one of the children commemorated on the hankie, was killed when bombs from a Gotha G.IV heavy bomber crashed on to North Street School, Poplar. She was one of 18 children killed outright and many more were seriously injured including Rose's brother Bill. The bombing of Upper North Street School caused horror and outrage throughout the country and reinforced the popular view, originally engendered by the Zeppelin raids, that the Germans were baby killers. In all, that raid, which was carried out by 20 Gothas flying from their base in Belgium, killed 170 and injured 432 but inevitably the nation focused on the 18 dead children. A memorial, funded by public subscription, was unveiled at the Poplar Recreation Ground on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 1918, one of the first memorials to the Great War.

Perhaps the most unusual is a truncheon presented to Recruiting Sergeant Archie Ashton whose office was in Queen Street, Cardiff. One Conscientious Objector, known only by the initials DVD, having had his appeal rejected by a tribunal, was sent by Sergeant Ashton to a local factory involved in the manufacture of munitions. This man, using the materials and machinery available to him at the factory, made a brass truncheon, the traditional symbol of conscription, or press-ganging. Carefully and precisely made, it was stamped on the

front with the words 'CONSCIENCE 1916' and on the back with Ashton's name. Thus was an artefact of war turned into a symbol of peace. The truncheon stayed in Archie's personal possession until his death in 1958 and is still retained by his family.

Other treasures include a damaged pocket camera damaged by a bullet that would have otherwise disabled its owner, a sailor's ditty box containing the owner's personal papers which detailed his service in many of His Majesty's Ships including Vice-Admiral David Beatty's flagship HMS *Lion* at the Battle of Jutland and a gold watch presented by his chapel to a soldier of the Royal Welch Fusiliers on his safe return to Wales after his time in a German prisoner-of-war camp. And 94 others, each with an enthralling story to tell.

Such was the diversity of the treasures, I found the book a fascinating and compelling read and yet another insight into the tragedy and triumph that was the Great War.

### More Victoriana

Delving once more into the Registers and the Book of Remembrance for Victoria College, one or two more puzzling stories emerge, and in this Journal, we look at three in the following order; William John Haley (3265), Ernest Frederick Lyons (2834), and Alfred John Goodwyn (2774).

We start with **William John Haley** (pictured below in the early 1940s it is thought) who was one of the United Kingdom's most influential newspaper editors and broadcasting executives of the mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century. He became the Managing Editor of the Manchester Evening News and, later, its sister paper the Manchester Guardian, and this was then followed by joining the BBC, first becoming the Editor-in-Chief, and after its Director-General between 1944 and 1952, with a Knighthood in 1946. The BBC was followed by his appointment as editor of The Times and by 1967 was its Chief Executive. A better and more detailed account of his life can be found in the 'Oxford Dictionary of National Biography' which charts his life between his birth in Jersey on the 24<sup>th</sup> May, 1901 and his death there on the 6<sup>th</sup> September, 1987.



However, we look at the time prior to 1919 and his career in the media. The ODNB refers to him as having 'left school at sixteen and served as a Wireless Telegraph Operator on a tramp ship during the last two years of the First World War'. The College Register states that he left in 1916, having entered the year before, so there is some corroboration, while the 'tramp ship' statement suggests that he was in the Merchant Navy.

Meanwhile, the 1919 JRoH&S listed him as him as a Senior Wireless Operator in the Royal Navy. There is no evidence at Kew of any RN service, while we know that the JRoH&S is littered with inaccuracies, however the Wireless Telegraph Operator role is not out of place. Before the War the Marconi Company had had some forty schools around Britain which were able to train young men to become competent WTOs in about 4-6 weeks mastering the intricacies of Morse code in the first week. The British government did take over many of Marconi's facilities at the outbreak, but the Company continued in

new premises. William Haley would have been more than capable of acquiring the necessary skills in a month or so.

But, there is another train of thought, albeit unproven. What if his 'tramp ship' (the NY Times incidentally referred to it as a 'tramp steamer') was in fact a 'Q-Ship'? A number were crewed by both Merchant and Royal Navy personnel, and that idea might explain the JRoH&S entry. Whichever service and type of ship, William Haley would have been reticent about talking of his war service, given that he was, as the ODNB says, 'a deeply shy man', while there appear to be no clues among the 'usual' sources. However, his papers from 1920 to 1986 are held in the Churchill Archive Centre at Cambridge University but, it is also unlikely that he harked back to the 'good old days' at sea. Yet, if anybody is interested, there are 54 boxes to go through?

Victoria College frequently welcomed pupils whose stay was comparatively brief, and who would not even leave an ink blot on its pages of history! **Ernest Frederick Lyons** was one such, attending for about three or four months at the beginning of 1904. Like many boys, Ernest's father Frederick had served in the Army, Frederick having become a Brigade Surgeon Lieutenant-Colonel in the RAMC, and it is no surprise to note that Ernest had been born in India. However, by 1904 Ernest's father had been dead four years, due to continuing health problems which had previously seemed to have affected his duties according to his superiors.

In 1901, the year after Frederick died, his widow Emily Pickering (née Crux) Lyons and Una May, their daughter, would be boarding at a residential hotel in Kensington, while Ernest was at school in Littlehampton. But, the College Register indicates that Emily and Ernest were at 104 Rouge Bouillon in St Helier in 1904, albeit that its actual entry is inaccurate. By 1911 he had become a Bank Clerk boarding in Forest Hill, London SE, but had joined the Territorial Force in the shape of the 28<sup>th</sup> (County of London) Battalion, the London Regiment (Artists' Rifles) earlier in 1909.

It was from that unit that 723 Lance Corporal EF Lyons was commissioned on the 17<sup>th</sup> September, 1914 (LG 28903) and assigned to the 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion, the Devonshire Regiment, a 'New Army' unit then being formed at Exeter. After a year spent training, the Battalion headed off to France, reaching Boulogne on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 1915. But the Battalion's stay was brief, and they had not as yet 'enjoyed' any time spent in the trenches, when at the end of October, new orders were given to transfer them to Salonika. Turning about, they headed off to Marseilles to board the boats to get them there, and amid the confusion, left their Battalion transport and machine guns behind, and which eventually arrived about four weeks later. On a personal note, Ernest's mother died at about this time.

The Battalion, and Ernest would remain in Salonika for the remainder of the War, at first consolidating positions on the hills that faced Bulgarian lines that had the benefit of being able to look down on the British. Sniping and the odd raid was the order of the day, and one particular raid in February, 1917 saw the Battalion incur 140 casualties. On the 24<sup>th</sup> April, 1917 a two Division attack went in, the 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion amongst the assaulting formations. This time, the Battalion which went in at the Petit Couronne with 650 men, could only muster a little more than 200 subsequently. Ernest was among the wounded.

Having risen to Captain, and in command of a Company, on the 5<sup>th</sup> September, 1918 he led a successful raiding party of 60 men on Bulgarian positions where the enemy bolted as soon as Bangalore Torpedoes appeared under the wire. It was probably for this raid that he was awarded the MC (LG 31095). At the end of September, 1918, fighting between

Bulgaria and the Allies ceased, and at this point, the Battalion was to advance on Turkey, a move slowed by an epidemic of influenza. However, before a planned attack went in at the end of October, Turkey had capitulated.

The 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion had now stopped fighting a war and for nearly a year would assume the role of policing. In May, 1919 they were sent to police Armenia, and now promoted Major, Ernest Lyons would command the Battalion for the next five months. All the while throughout this year demobilisation was under way, and it does seem that Ernest continued serving late that year.

However, he was again in uniform in February, 1921 (LG 32349) when he received a regular commission as a Lieutenant with the Middlesex Regiment, backdated in seniority to November, 1916. He would serve until the 12<sup>th</sup> February, 1935 (LG 34132), part of the period as an Instructor at the Small Arms School at Hythe, when he was placed on the Middlesex Regiment's Reserve of Officers List as a Major (Retired). Then, the final entry in the London Gazette (35023) informs us that he was removed from the List on the 28<sup>th</sup> December, 1940 due to ill-health.

Sadly he died nine months later, in a hospital at Penzance and The Times Obituary column carrying his name in its 'Fallen Officers' category. Should Ernest Lyons be commemorated by the CWGC as a WW2 casualty? Having recently discovered that the 'In from the Cold' Project's remit covers that War, they were contacted and advised that Ernest Lyons' death had been looked at in 2013, and that they had determined his status as being a retired officer with the cause of death, a fractured skull resulting from a fall, having no bearing in relation to a possible commemoration. But the location of his death remains curious, as he lived at Cranleigh in Surrey at the time. Would he have been on holiday in Cornwall in wartime?

The tragedy of Ernest Lyons' case is that there is no family to remember him, he did not marry, nor did his sister Una who died in 1966. But, perhaps the fact that, as an OV, his name being added to the JRoS will go some small way to seeing that his service will be better remembered.

The previous two men's service careers were reasonably simple to understand, but not so **Alfred John Goodwyn**. In his case, one finds that what had also originally started out as part of a simple housekeeping exercise to update a few Jersey Roll of Service entries with medal data suddenly became an enigma as to his wartime service. Listed in the College's Book of Remembrance, yet not the 1919 JRoH&S, he was a man who had been the Acting Commanding Officer of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, the Sherwood Foresters for an albeit brief period in 1917, but had, less than a year after assuming that role, enlisted as an Air Mechanic, Second Class, with the Royal Flying Corps.

However, a bit of family background first. Alfred was one of four siblings who had been born to an Old Elizabethan, Major Henry Edward Goodwyn, DSO, a Royal Engineer, and his wife Margaret (née Bateman), in Bangalore, India on the 28<sup>th</sup> December, 1889. There were two older sisters, Anne Mary, who was also born in Bangalore on the 9<sup>th</sup> June, 1884, and Margaret Eileen born in Burma sometime, it is thought, during 1886. There was also a younger brother, William Henry who was born in Bath on the 7<sup>th</sup> December, 1890. Meanwhile, Henry had been born in Ilfracombe on the 11<sup>th</sup> October, 1855 while Margaret came from Cork and was two years older than her husband.



The family probably came to Jersey in early 1903, with Major Goodwyn on Half Pay, initially due to ill health, and who would later retire with an Indian Army pension at the beginning of February, 1907. They settled in Lower King's Cliff, their house being known as Gul Marg, named after a hill station in India. Before moving to Jersey, the Goodwyns had lived at Monkton Combe on the outskirts of Bath, near to where both boys had boarded at Prior Park College, an independent Catholic school. It is not known where Anne was at this time, but it appears that Margaret was at a Catholic school in Dublin, and may have later become a nun.

Like his younger brother, Alfred would attend Victoria College soon after the family's arrival in 1903, with Alfred (OV 2774) leaving in 1906 and William (OV 2775) following two years later. It is very likely that Alfred would have been in the College's Cadet Corps, for he was commissioned (LG 28186) into the RMIJ's 3<sup>rd</sup> (South) Battalion on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 1909. But, the RMIJ was a stepping stone to bigger things, and on the 28<sup>th</sup> May, 1910 Alfred was accepted for a commission (LG 28378) into the British Army and the Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment) as a Second Lieutenant, and appointed to its 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, then in India.

The Regiment's Army Book 83 (Kew WO File 76/410), a list of the Battalion's officers of the time, shows that he spent the three to four months immediately after acceptance stationed at home, most likely with either of the 3<sup>rd</sup> (Reserve) or the 4<sup>th</sup> (Extra Reserve) Battalions, to learn his 'trade'. In due course he would join the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion at Secunderabad, arriving on the 8<sup>th</sup> September, 1910. The next two years were spent here until the Battalion moved to Bombay on the 6<sup>th</sup> December, 1912, but, before that move he was promoted (LGs 28683 and 28687) to Lieutenant on the 11<sup>th</sup> September, 1912.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion would remain in Bombay until the outbreak of the Great War, and at the end of August it would be ordered to return to the British Isles. Alfred was already there. According to the segment of regimental history by Colonel Harold Wylly that I have read, he, along with another four Officers, was at home on leave, and would not return to join the Battalion before it left India for Britain aboard the HT *Thongwa* before it sailed on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 1914. The ship arrived at Plymouth a month later to be greeted by the band of the 3<sup>rd</sup> (Reserve) Battalion and a number of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion's Officers that presumably included Alfred Goodwyn.

The next four weeks involved a reorganisation of the Battalion into the four company system, re-equipping the men with the SMLE, and training as part of the newly formed 8<sup>th</sup> Division. A few days of embarkation leave was followed by the Battalion's departure for France and Flanders on board the SS *Cardiganshire* on the 5<sup>th</sup> November, 1914. Colonel Wylly states that Alfred was on board as one of the platoon commanders in 'C' Company. Incidentally, another OV, Major Lionel St Helier Morley, would also be serving in the Battalion, as Officer Commanding 'D' Company, and later for a brief period before injury in 1915, command the Battalion.

Given that it is impossible for a regimental history to note the activities of every Officer in detail, the history now appears to 'lose' Alfred Goodwyn at Le Havre, where the *Cardiganshire* berthed, until January, 1917.

Generally, regimental histories for the Great War tend to have been drawn from the various Battalion War Diaries, and in the case of the Sherwood Foresters there was no difference to this principle. However, the War Diaries covering 1914-1916 (Kew WO 95/1721/1 and 95/1721/2) were scoured, and there was a single reference on the 27<sup>th</sup>

September, 1916, noting that Alfred had arrived with a draft of 114 Other Ranks. It is not known from where he had arrived, while he does not feature on the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion's Officers' Nominal Roll at the beginning of November. This stay was thus brief.

Yet, he has been mentioned in the London Gazette a number of times, and we find that in:

- LG 29310, along with four other officers of the Sherwood Foresters, he is appointed Temporary Captain on the 1<sup>st</sup> September, 1915
- LG 29558, his Captaincy is made substantive on the 5<sup>th</sup> April, 1916
- LG 29668, his appointment as substantive Captain is ante-dated to the 9<sup>th</sup> February, 1916, thus he gained some two months seniority in the Army List.

Three (GD Mills, AH Jackson, JP Wylie) of those four officers listed in LG 29310 were from the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, of which two would go on to join the RFC, the other (HL Paddock) was from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, and this officer would later be attached to the East Lancashire Regiment. It is possible that Alfred Goodwyn was also appointed away from his Battalion, but there is nothing in the 1914-1916 War Diaries that sheds any light on a possible presence save the lone reference to the draft.

Coming to January 1917, Colonel Wylly noted that, '[...] Captain Goodwyn [...] also reported [...] arrival for duty'. This very much corresponded with the War Diary (WO 95/1721/3) entry of the 13<sup>th</sup> January. Later on, from the 4<sup>th</sup> to the 6<sup>th</sup> March, it was noted that he was in action at Bouchavesnes Ridge where the Battalion's Companies were engaged in providing 'Carriers' and 'Moppers-Up' to the assaulting Battalions. Then, on the 24<sup>th</sup> March with the CO going to Paris on leave, Alfred Goodwyn took temporary command of the Battalion. Three days later, on the 27<sup>th</sup>, the War Diary entry reports that, 'Captain AJ Goodwyn and the Company Commanders spent the morning reconnoitering the ground round Nurlu'. Over the next few days he would continue to fulfil the CO role, relinquishing it when the CO, Lieutenant-Colonel RL Sherbrooke, returned from Paris on the 31<sup>st</sup> March. Three officers had died during early March, while another three been wounded, but Alfred Goodwyn was not amongst the latter.

Moving on, the War Diary entry of the 10<sup>th</sup> April, 1917 must surely have some relevance, for it states that a Captain TH Watson from the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment was attached to the Sherwood Forester's 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion and was appointed as Second in Command (2ic). It is at this point that one has to speculate on the connection between this event, the CO's recent return from the Parisian fleshpots, and any impact resulting on Captain Alfred Goodwyn's continuing service in the Battalion. Or, was the impact the other way around? Whilst the War Diary for the rest of 1917 tends to refer far less to the movements, be they in or out, of officers, Alfred is no longer referred to. It must be considered that Captain (later Major) Watson was Alfred's direct replacement as 2ic, that Alfred had somehow seriously blotted his copybook, and as a result, was removed from the Battalion! What evidence is there to support this?

The London Gazette numbered 30191 of the 17<sup>th</sup> July, 1917 may offer a clue. With regard to Alfred, it states that he was:

*'...to take rank and precedence in the Regiment and in the Army as if his appointment as Captain bore the date 31<sup>st</sup> August, 1916'.*

Effectively, this entry meant that he had lost more than six months' worth of seniority from the date stated in LG 29668, a serious blow to an officer's career, and the decision to do

that would not have been for Colonel Sherbrooke to make, it would have been determined much further up the military chain of command, and in due course, would have required the approval of King George V before the decision was published in the Gazette, and in the Army List for October, 1917. His situation appears to deteriorate with his name no longer listed in the next Army List published at the end of 1917, even though, after much scrutiny, it cannot be found in the remainder of the London Gazettes for that year and in early 1918. Of course it should be borne in mind that the Optical Character Recognition facility on the Gazette's website can miss or jumble up words due to the age and nature of the source document.

But, an Alfred John Goodwyn appeared from a completely different source, namely an RAF service records file (Kew AIR 79/1093/122082). Any doubts that this was not the same man were soon dispelled since it noted that he was formerly an officer in the Sherwood Foresters, he was born in Bangalore in 1889, and his NOK was his father Henry who lived in Jersey! He enlisted in the RFC, if that is the right term in these circumstances, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 1918 for the Duration of the War, and was allocated the service number 122082. On the 1<sup>st</sup> April he was transferred to the newly formed RAF, and after the War was placed on reserve on the 14<sup>th</sup> March, 1919, to be followed at the end of April, 1920 by full discharge, having been a Driver and serving with 27 Squadron.

As with most accounts, there are gaps in the paperwork trail. Given that the initial objective was to look at his Medal Card, there is not one. Colonel Wyllly may have been wrong in thinking that Alfred had arrived on the *Cardiganshire* in 1914, but it is clear that he was at least entitled to the British War and Victory Medals. However, in studying the Medal Rolls, his name does not feature in those documents either. Of course the most obvious source of information about him would be his War Office file, and that would contain some of the material that record his wartime career. But, Kew appears not to hold his file!

The initial thought with this discovery is that there was a conspiracy of silence and an attempt at air-brushing Alfred Goodwyn out of the history books. However, given that some information does exist, that thought can be soon dispelled. It is likely that the British War and Victory Medals that he was entitled to were dealt with by the RAF and appears on their Roll, while his WO File might have also been sent on to the RAF. If these survive, they are yet to be placed in the public domain.

The other source of information may have been the family, but that is now impossible. His parents, Henry and Margaret died in Jersey in 1929 and 1932 respectively. Alfred and his three siblings never married. Margaret Eileen, possibly a nun, died in 1976, while William never served, and died in Jersey in 1954, having been there throughout the Occupation as had been Anne Mary. Anne seems to have been the most active, working as a VAD at Hayling Island and then in France between September, 1917 and March, 1919. It seems that she also dealt with the estates of her mother, William and then Alfred, after he had died at Clevedon on the 28<sup>th</sup> March, 1956. In a final twist to the tale, one comes to the final entry in LG 40996 that asked that any creditors come forward with claims on his estate. In it Alfred John Goodwyn is referred to as a Captain in HM Army (Retired)! So, one is left with the question of whether the family knew?

(Author: It had been hoped that I could have read Colonel Wyllly's History by the time that this Journal was published, but I have only just received a copy of the book via the UK Inter-Library Loan System. At a quick glance, it does not appear to add anything).

**An interesting Postscript:** Having looked at the family background, one finds that Henry Goodwyn had a brother, Alfred George, five years his senior, who had also attended Elizabeth College, and later had played in the first ever FA Cup Final and the second international between England and Scotland.

### Ronayne Writes

**2015 School WW1 Tour:** On Monday the 22<sup>nd</sup> June, I left the Island in the company of 40 students and 10 teachers, bound for a four day visit to the battlefields of the Great War. The tour had come about following a request from the Bailiff's Office to arrange an annual school visit to commemorate the centenaries of the war, to include students from all of the Island's secondary schools. The allocation was four children and one teacher from each one. While the school sorted out the selection process, I prepared the tour and the associated learning materials /activities.

The first step was a teacher-training day, the Bailiff's Office wanted to develop a greater awareness and understanding of Jersey's role during the Great War. Then a 'pre-tour' workshop took place with all the students and teacher to 'set the scene' for the visit. During this session, the students received workbooks that focused on Jersey's war and the story of five Jersey men who fought and died between 1914 and 1918. The plan was to visit their graves or memorials during the tour and discuss their experiences.

After a first night in Amiens, the tour proper commenced on an overcast and deceptively chilly morning. Beaumont Hamel Memorial Park was a good place to introduce the conflict and its present day vestiges, including a CWGC cemetery. Then onto the Thiepval Memorial (which was unfortunately inaccessible due to maintenance), and then the Somme Museum in Albert. After lunch it was back on tour to Guillemont and a visit to grave of Rifleman John Vibert, our first Jersey casualty. After paying respects, we crossed the front line to take in Rancourt German cemetery before returning for a final stop at Delville Wood.



**The School Party at Beaumont Hamel Memorial Park**

The second evening was spent in Arras, which was the ideal starting point for Day Two and Vimy Ridge. Trenches and bunkers at the foot then to the monument and memorial to Alfred Basford, a Jersey man who served in the Canadian Army. It was fortunately a glorious morning (the summit of Vimy Ridge is no place to be in the wind and rain), the start of weather that lasted for the remainder of the tour. The next stop was nearby, Notre Dame de Lorette National Cemetery with its 20,000 French individual graves. Among them is Toussaint Connan from Jersey, although locating him was a challenge even with the assistance of the cemetery's 'guardians'. A longer drive to the Indian Memorial at Neuve Chappelle followed, to 'visit' William Bruce VC, which was interesting for those Victoria College boys in modern day Bruce House. While here, there was an impromptu walk to the Portuguese Cemetery (a much safer journey now that the authorities have created a layby area) to discuss Portugal's involvement in the war. A number of the students were from Portuguese families, which made for an interesting visit spotting their surnames on the grave stones.



After lunch in Bailleul, the tour went on to Zonnebeke for a visit to Passchendaele Museum and then, inevitably, Tyne Cot where we saw the memorial to William Ching, the fifth Jerseymen followed. An excellent evening meal in Zonnebeke preceded attending the Menin Gate ceremony where student representatives laid a wreath.

On the way home the next day, I reflected on the tour thinking about what went well, and what I will change for next year (the plan is to go every year until 2018). In general terms it all went smoothly, with a good response from the students when we met again at the post-tour workshop a couple of weeks later. Lots of small points to improve on, however, including the student materials and interaction, perhaps longer here and shorter there, etc. And, although it seems that we have only just put this one to bed, work has already started planning next year's tour. Here we go again...



**The Joint Jersey Schools Wreath at the Menin Gate**

**Other tours:** After dropping the school party off at Saint Malo, I climbed into a hire car and drove to Caen to pick-up a Go Tours Normandy Battlefield Tour enjoying three days of lovely weather on the D-Day beaches and looking at the inland battles. The second planned Go Tours' tour for this year, to the Great War battlefields in September, was cancelled due to lack of bookings. It was an interesting outcome after three years of full coaches, showing how interest in the Great War comes in peaks and troughs. I do have one more tour, however, in September, taking a De La Salle College group to Normandy once again. Third year running.

**WW1 Memorials:** There are couple of WW1 memorials to report on.

Firstly, the planned St Helier memorial is moving slowly ahead I understand. It will be built on the site presently occupied by the electricity transformer opposite the Cenotaph. It looks like design work will start soon while I have completed the research into the Parish names for inclusion.

Secondly, an initiative by local historian Frank Falle to erect a memorial on Weighbridge Place to all those who left Jersey to serve in the Great War. The latest update from Frank is that the money has now been raised, designs drawn up, and planning permission granted (I think). Having been lukewarm about the idea, I understand that officialdom is now getting behind the plan, with a possible grand unveiling next year. Watch this space.

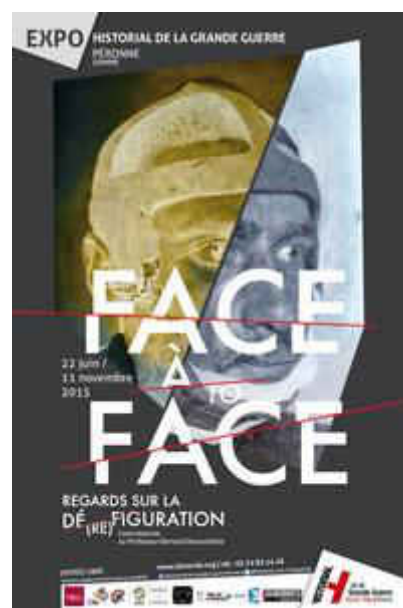
**Planned dig at Blanche Banques POW Camp:** Finally, I was contacted by Gilly Carr, Professor of History who has been involved in a number of Occupation-related projects. I understand that she has been given to do some digging at the site of the Blanches Banques Great War POW camp. The planned date was for the 19<sup>th</sup> August, but I have not heard how things went.

## Billy Doos Notes from France

Looking back at the recent trip to France, it proved to be funny in a number of ways, not funny as in ha-ha, but as in odd or unexpected. Travelling both ways via Eurotunnel, there was a heightened degree of apprehension about difficulties caused by the migrant situation and French strikers when setting out to and from France, but in our case, nothing happened at Calais, in fact, we breezed through each way! We stayed in a *gîte* at Acheux-en-Amiénois, very comfortable, but much less so as the temperature ratcheted its way up to the high thirties. On reflection, one would suggest that it is more suitable for spring or autumn hires.

Like so many villages on the Somme, **Acheux** has its 'own' CWGC Cemetery which has a Jerseyman buried there, namely Pte William Woonton of the Dorsetshire Regiment. It is the first time that I can recall that I've visited a Cemetery where all the men are known, 180 in all. This is because the Cemetery was started as a result of the immediate area being a Corps Collection Station for casualties, and clearly some sadly died there before they could be moved rearwards. About a mile up the road (D938) lies the village of Louvencourt, also with its 'own' CWGC Cemetery, and that is notable as the burial place of Lt Roland Aubrey Leighton, the fiancé to Vera Brittain of 'Testament of Youth' renown. On this forthcoming Armistice, the village will be commemorating him by naming a *chemin communal*.

As usual when on the Somme, **the Historial at Peronne** was on the 'To Visit' list, firstly to check out the bookshop, but to look at the Museum itself, and to view any temporary exhibitions that might be laid on. In the case of the latter, one might think that the intent is to shock and horrify the visitor, and certainly this year's exhibition, that runs up until the Armistice Day, fits that category. Titled 'Face to Face', it looks at the facial injuries that were frequently sustained, and the subsequent surgical and medical treatments that were undertaken to restore a man's features to some measure of normality, and his self-worth. The exhibition considers that the Great War was the birth of maxillofacial surgery as is recognised today, and the exhibits cannot be regarded as a pretty sight! But, if a visit to Peronne is planned, do visit the exhibition.



Following the facial theme, the Historial has undergone a bit of a facelift, but largely by moving exhibits between the two large rooms. It is difficult to determine whether there are any new exhibits, but Peter Barton's replica flame thrower has vanished. However, earlier this year a full-size replica St Chamond tank, that had been construct by French technical college students, turned up in the Historial's courtyard. Camouflaged, it looks realistic, if unlikely to be driven!

The visit coincided with *l'heure du déjeuner*, so we lunched at the Historial having a very enjoyable *plat du jour* at 8€. The menu is quite limited, so it will be potluck as to what is on.

Looking at the larger commemorative picture, **2016** will clearly be of major importance. The UK government, in conjunction with their French opposite numbers are making arrangements for the ceremony to be held at Thiepval on the 1<sup>st</sup> July attended by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and countless other dignitaries. As I understand it, public attendance will be limited, and for residents of the UK and Ireland, it will be to some 8,000 to 10,000, selected by a ballot later this year.

Congestion and security will clearly be a problem on the day, as many people will already appreciate, and to overcome this, cars will be directed to the Airbus/Aerolia facility at Bécordel-Bécourt south of Albert where they can be parked while the drivers and passengers clear security checks before being bussed up to Thiepval. Those possibly wishing to attend should visit [www.somme2016.org](http://www.somme2016.org) to register their interest, but should note that registering interest does not mean automatic ballot entry.

The website comes with a number of health warnings:

- The first is as to whether residents in the Crown Dependencies (i.e. Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man) are included or not. Having asked the question, I have been advised that they are and that the website will be amended to reflect this.
- The second is whether the website creators have appreciated the difference between GMT, BST and CEST? Something to watch for.
- Lastly, no mention is made, as yet, regarding facilities that includes toilets, shelters and refreshments, for what is likely to be a long day in the field, given the likely security and the attendant shepherding.

I am afraid that I am unaware of what arrangements may be put in place for those from Australia, Canada, Newfoundland and New Zealand and the other dominion countries, but I would suggest that the appropriate Ministry of Defence in these nations is contacted for guidance as a starter. That is also derived from asking the question.

Continuing briefly with the 2016 commemorations, the main event at **Verdun** will be held on the 29<sup>th</sup> May, 1916, and it will undoubtedly match the event at Thiepval for organisation, security, and knowing President Hollande's verbosity, likely to overrun somewhat. However, I have not yet seen anything comparable to the website above.

Mindful of the 2,000+ Jersey-Frenchmen who served, it struck me as appropriate that the Island should be suitably represented at the event next year. To that end, I have flagged it up to the Bailiff's Chambers that they should seek an official invitation to attend. I hope that those Group members living in Jersey will also remind others of the Jersey French contribution, and prompt thoughts about the Island's presence at Verdun next year.





We followed in Roger Frisby's footsteps of a couple of months aback when he visited the '**Ring of Remembrance**' (see Journal 57, page 37) at Notre Dame de Lorette. It is far more impressive than I had expected. As to the names that have been etched on the panels, one can only hope that weathering will not arise any time soon. For me, the 'Ring' effectively conveys the enormity of the War. The one disappointment? Too many of the British names have initials only.

It was on the 'Ring' that the memsahib spotted a chap with her maiden name, '**two Ls**' **Millburn** (as opposed to the more common 'one L' Milburn), and asked could I check it out when we got back to the *gîte*? So I did and, finding that he was in the Canadian Engineers with Scottish roots, discounted him, but there were two others who had died in the Great War. One, a J Millburn, was with the Honourable Artillery Company, and had been killed in the last few days prior to the end of the Battle of the Somme. The HAC? He was a Londoner I thought, like the memsahib. Within some fifteen minutes, it was firmly established that 3844 Lance Corporal Joseph Millburn, who had been born in Camberwell, was the memsahib's second cousin, a shock for both of us!

There was obviously her sudden realisation that here was a family association with the Somme she had known nothing about, and certainly Joseph's existence had never been discussed amongst her immediate family. Finding that he was buried in the Ancre British Cemetery just up the Ancre Valley from Hamel clearly demanded a visit to his grave, but left us wondering about how many times we had driven past that Cemetery during the last twenty or so years, it must certainly be in the hundreds. As for looking at the surname previously, there had been some research into her family tree, but no research effort has been applied to mapping it to military information. In any case, most people tend to research their families 'bottoms-up' or 'top-down' as opposed to taking the lateral view. Undoubtedly, there are many still who suddenly find a family link to a casualty of the Great War.

As ever, we head off back home just as **Le Tour de France** starts. This year saw the 5<sup>e</sup> *Etape* (on the 8<sup>th</sup> July) include in many of the Great War sites on a circuitous route that took the cyclists past the key memorials such as Notre Dame de Lorette, Vimy, Thiepval, Delville Wood, Rancourt and Villers-Bretonneux., having set off at the British Cemetery and Flying Services Memorial at Faubourg d'Amiens in Arras. Along the way many other well-known villages and towns were also visited, not least Ginchy and Guillemont, which could be spotted if one did not blink! Prior preparation was evident in a number of the places to be visited, the usual method being a gaudily painted old boneshaker standing up in the midst of a roundabout's floral arrangement. A map of the stage route can be found on page 56.

As ever, the **CWGC Cemeteries and Memorials** are in first class order, with building and gardener staff at work where required. As Ian Ronayne mentions elsewhere in the Journal however, the Thiepval Memorial is virtually shrouded in scaffolding, very much with 2016 in mind. In another development, access from the Visitors' Centre to the Memorial has a diversion, this due to what will be a trench representation. On the 1<sup>st</sup> July just, the

Beaurains staff were joined by further staff from the CWGC's Ypres office to man (and woman!) an exhibition of what the CWGC does in France and Belgium. We arrived as they were closing down unfortunately, but were just in time for a brief chat and for the memsahib to be given a 'goody bag'!

Finally, we had arrived a little early to get into our *gîte* on the Saturday, so we stopped in at Avril Williams' café for a tea. Sitting there, a young English lad came in and asked for **directions** to Thiepval. 'Straight along that way,' I pointed with much gesticulation, 'past Newfoundland Park on the left, down into the valley, turn left then right over the level crossing'. This was followed with references to the Ulster Tower and Connaught Cemetery. Afterwards, it struck me that, while in France, I was giving directions via sites with British names. Had the lad thought it (or me) strange?

## Kew

My recent visit to Kew was mainly focused on looking at a number of officers' WO files, either to confirm connections between those officers with Jersey or not, or to try and fill gaps in their service careers, such as that of Alfred Goodwyn (see page 40). A few errands for other members was undertaken, and, workload permitting, I am always happy to photograph files on request. Some brief observations that may be of interest or use:

**Naval Records:** My anticipated workload was such that any 'Naval Gazing' was being left to another day, however, Roger Frisby had asked me to get a copy of Charles Orvin's record. Using his number (J31869), my usual search field at Kew, I found that there were two naval records for him, and for which there is a simple explanation!

At the end of 1928, the RN closed one set of ledgers, and opened a new set. Men who had enlisted before or during the Great War, and who had continued with their service beyond the 1<sup>st</sup> January, 1929 had their names entered into the new ledgers and the pre- and post-changeover date meant that a man's service was split in-between the two ledgers. Charles Orvin's record is thus covered at Kew in Admiralty files ADM188 initially and then ADM363.

While it is not directly related to the Great War, it is nonetheless interesting, and the data, may in time be added to the Rolls of Service for completeness. Incidentally, Charles Orvin was killed in April, 1941 while serving on a Defensively Armed Merchant Ship.

**Cyber Room:** Due to infrequent usage, this facility in the foyer area is being closed in the near future.

**Lt Lothair WG Blücher:** As part of looking at Foreign Office papers on the Blücher family in relation to the Tenancy of Herm and their subsequent exile for Liz Walton, I also read Lothair's file (WO 374/7247). Someone in Guernsey may wish to dig further as it appears that he served with the 31<sup>st</sup> (Works) Battalion, the Middlesex Regiment, and may not have resigned his commission as had been thought. My understanding is that this and the 30<sup>th</sup> Battalion largely comprised of Germans who had become naturalised British citizens, and that neither Battalion served overseas. In 1918, HQ Guernsey District requested and was given permission from the WO for him to return and become the Bombing Officer in the RGLI's 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion.

**Foreign Office Papers:** This was new ground to me, and an eye opener, so much so that I went further than just looking at the Blücher family in file FO 383/32. There were no dog-

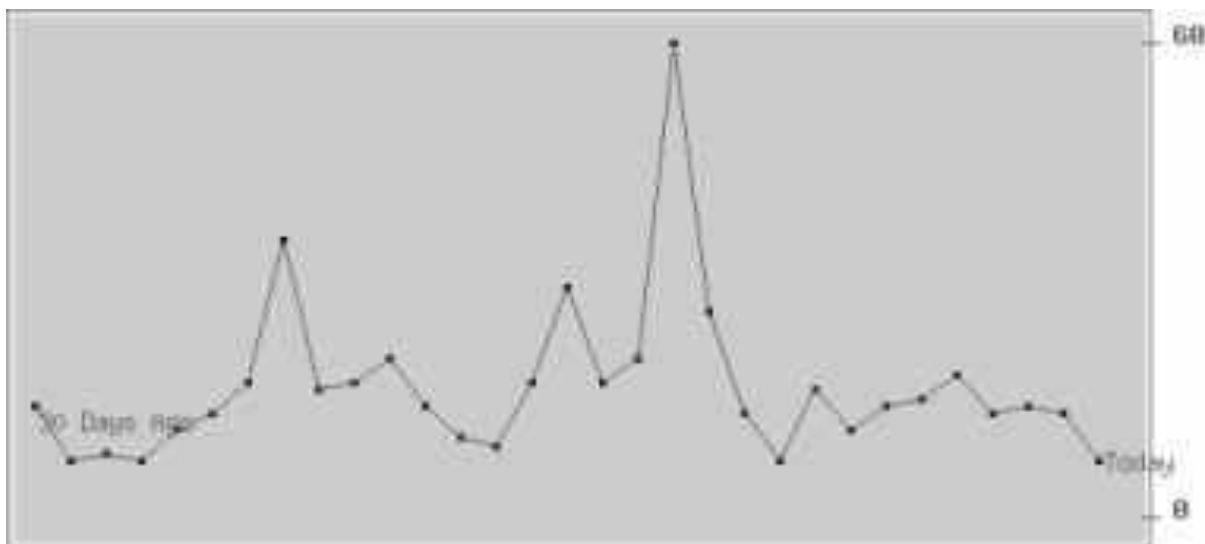
eared papers, they were bound in a very nice leather book with embossed titling, and not a cardboard file cover in sight. And, the file proved darkly amusing, for at this time, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs was still Sir Edward Grey. Questions were asked of the FO? Each received a non-committal answer from a civil servant, and wherever a decision had to be made, it was for another department of state to handle the matter. Sir Edward's fingerprints were not going to be found anywhere!

Finally, on a lighter note, I saw this phrase ending a letter to one of the Ambassadors in London:

*I am, with great truth and respect, Sir,  
Your Excellency's most obedient, humble Servant,  
(For the Secretary of State)*

### **Website Workings By Roger Frisby**

The total number of website visits has now reached 53,711, an additional 1564 visits since the last Journal was published in May.



**Recent Website Visits  
During the Past Month**



**Recent Website Visits  
During the Past Year**

With regards to the respective Rolls of Honour and Service, the statistics for changes to our numbers since mid-May are as follows:

- Guernsey Roll of Honour – 1472 names (Unchanged)
- Guernsey Roll of Service – 6223 names (An increase of 8)
- Jersey Roll of Honour – 1658 names (An increase of 6)
- Jersey Roll of Service – 7500 names (Unchanged\*)

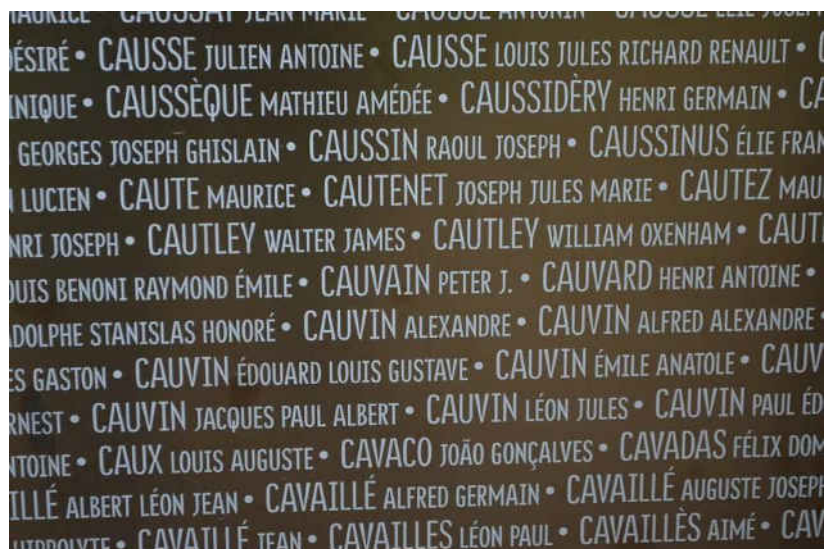
\*Note: There is a net addition of 43 more names in the pipeline

We have received a number of additions to our Rolls, and some photographs, from family members recently. Some of these have come via social media contacts.

I undertook a brief visit to France in early June and have now added a few more RoH photographs.



The new French 'Ring of Remembrance' at Notre Dame de Lorette (above) shows the names of over **579,000** casualties. The names are arranged in alphabetical order, irrespective of nationality or rank and include a number that are listed in our RoHs. I paid a brief reconnaissance visit to see if we should return for a full photographic sortie. I think it will be nice to add details to our rolls but the logistics are quite daunting.



## **In the Media - Around the Press and Television**

It does appear that the media, The Times being the honourable exception, have forgotten the Great War in its output, certainly since Gallipoli, so there is little, if anything of note to comment about. There is the suggestion that the major media players have not appreciated the need for a continuous approach as opposed to just covering the odd 'highlight' events.

### **Out and About**

**Looking Back:** Visits by Ian Ronayne, Roger Frisby and myself to France and Flanders, plus a trip to Kew in my case. All visits are covered elsewhere.

**Looking Forward:** I will be back at Verdun in late September.

### **Odds and Ends**

**Administrative Matters:** As ever, it would be of help if changes to Members' E-mail addresses are notified as they occur. This will enable me to keep the distribution lists up to date and for members to receive prompts on particular matters. I am currently receiving 'rejection' or 'no contact' messages from the following partial E-Mail addresses:

xxhollyhockxx  
john.bull  
Renouf5

hanning  
martin.  
carmen091

Sarawak  
g.beckford  
Richpq

In one or two cases, this may be due to the closure of JerseyMail, and in one case I may have forgotten to delete the address for which I apologise, so, your corrections would be appreciated.

**Help Still Sought:** We're still trying to piece together an idea of the British Army's organisation in the Channel Islands during the Great War. We know, for example that after the respective Military Service Acts that home defence fell on the 2<sup>nd</sup> (Reserve) Battalion, RGLI and the RJGB, while 109 and 110 Companies, RGA were formed. But any data as to the command under the two Lieutenant-Governors would be of interest. If you can help, please contact Mark Bougourd.

**The Royal Irish Regiment:** Having earlier talked about the disbandment of the 'southern' Irish regiments as a consequence of the establishment of the Irish Free State in 1922, the other three Regiments, the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, the Royal Irish Rifles and the Royal Irish Fusiliers, were regarded as 'northern' Regiments and were retained as part of the British Army's Order of Battle. In the 70 or so years that followed, via amalgamations and name changes, these Regiments have now collectively become the 'new' Royal Irish Regiment.

As a minor related Administrative matter, harking back to the Great War, with the Royal Irish Regiment and the Royal Irish Rifles featuring so strongly in our Islands' history, where abbreviations are to be used, the Regiments are shown as RI (or RIRegt) and RIR respectively. This relates to the military convention of the day, and that the shoulder titles were RI and RIR.

**Guernsey Volunteer(s) Needed:** We have four men buried in Guernsey at Candie, Foulon and St John's whose graves need finding and photographing. If you are able to help, please contact Roger Frisby who will send you details.

**Chester Cecil Church and Fromelles:** Peter Barton's *'The Lost Legions of Fromelles'* is still being evaluated as to where some Australians may still be buried. At present there is little to contradict the fact that the sap highlighted on in the map on page 19 of Journal 57 saw a number of men buried where they were killed. A Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) scan might provide the answer at a reasonable cost.

**Edward de Faye and Gauche Wood:** With the material that has emerged over the last few years as to the strong possibility that Edward de Faye's remains might still be in Gauche Wood, a 'two-stage' proposal is currently in course of preparation. The first stage is confined to a GPR scan of the area of wood, and if the signs are positive, then the second stage would be to undertake a dig.

While writing the proposal is reasonably easy, by ensuring that the evidence is presented in a coherent fashion, determining the 'target' reader is a little more difficult in that he or she would be asked to acquire funding and to gain French landowner and authority agreement. The CWGC does not fit given that it is 'commemorative' and not 'investigative', and as a consequence, current thinking is for some States of Jersey involvement.

During my recent trip to France, I again visited Gauche Wood, and for the first time entered the section of the Wood where Edward and his driver, Albert Voice, was buried. It was surprising to find that the area was quite open, leafy and not the jungle that had been expected when entering.

**Strangers' Cemetery, Westmount:** Over a period of time Vic Geary and I have been liaising with the CWGC and the relevant States department as to how Joseph Lihou and John Ellis might be commemorated given that both men were buried in the cemetery where Jersey's Crematorium is located. The conclusion is that a plaque will be provided and mounted at the Crematorium. This should happen later this year, and in addition to the names of Joseph and John appearing, RL Martin from the 'Anglo-Californian' will also be named, given that he was also buried there after his remains had been found floating off Corbière in 1915.

**Jersey's Militia Pay Lists, 1914-1917:** This work is still stalled.

**Journal to Website Transfers:** There are a lot of articles appearing in past Journals that could also feature on the website with a limited amount of editing. A repeat call for authors to give thought to see what might feature on our site and supply fresh copy?

## Enfin

I reiterate my thanks to those who contributed to this Journal for their inputs, both large and small.

Regards  
Barrie H Bertram  
22<sup>nd</sup> August, 2015

## **Journal Issue Dates For 2016**

The four Journals for 2016 are currently planned to be published on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February, May, August and November respectively, or very shortly after those dates. As ever, I shall be looking for your articles by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month.



**Le Tour de France 2015, 5<sup>e</sup> Etape**  
**The route through the Somme Battlefields**



## Regimental Number Prefixes

Prefix	Regiments known to have used this prefix	Notes
A	Royal Sussex Regiment, King's Royal Rifle Corps	
AHT or A(HT)	Army Service Corps	Horsed Transport Special Reserve
B	Rifle Brigade	
B	Royal Fusiliers	Bankers Battalion
BHT or B(HT)	Army Service Corps	Horsed Transport Special Reserve
C	Royal Irish Rifles	
C	King's Royal Rifle Corps	16 <sup>th</sup> Battalion (Church Lads Brigade)
CA	Army Service Corps	
CMT or C(MT)	Army Service Corps	Mechanical Transport Special Reserve
D	Honourable Artillery Company, Dragoons, Dragoon Guards, King Edward's Horse, Sussex Yeomanry, Hertfordshire Yeomanry	
DM2	Army Service Corps	Mechanical Transport Learner
E	Royal Fusiliers	Used for 17 <sup>th</sup> Battalion (Empire)
E	Army Service Corps	Forage
F	Royal Fusiliers, Middlesex Regiment	'Footballer' Battalions
F	Army Service Corps	Forage (not paid from Army Funds)
G	Many regiments	General service
GS	Many regiments	General service
H	Hussar regiments, North Irish Horse, Army Cyclist Corps	
H	Army Service Corps	
J	Royal Fusiliers, Middlesex Regiment	Royal Fusiliers: this prefix was used for the 38 <sup>th</sup> , 39 <sup>th</sup> and 40 <sup>th</sup> Battalions (Jewish)
K	Royal Fusiliers	Kensington Battalion
L	Lancer regiments	

L	Royal Field Artillery	Local enlistment
L	Many infantry regiments	
M	Honourable Artillery Company	
M	Army Service Corps	Mechanical Transport
M1	Army Service Corps	Mechanical Transport
M2	Army Service Corps	Mechanical Transport
MS	Army Service Corps	Mechanical Special
NAC	Army Service Corps	
NCB	Northern Cyclist Battalion	
O	Rifle Brigade	
O	Army Ordnance Corps	
P	Rifle Brigade	
P	Military Foot Police, Military Mounted Police	
PET	Army Service Corps	Petroleum Department
PS	Royal Fusiliers, Middlesex Regiment	Public Schools Battalions
PW	Middlesex Regiment	Public Works Battalion
R	Many infantry regiments	
R	Army Veterinary Corps	
R4	Army Service Corps	Remounts
RS	Army Service Corps	Remounts Special
RTS	Army Service Corps	Remounts Special
RX4	Army Service Corps	Remounts
S	Many infantry regiments	General service
S	Army Service Corps	Supply. Often accompanied with a number, denoting recruitment into the appropriately numbered Kitchener (New) Army
SD	Royal Sussex Regiment	South Downs Battalions
SE	Army Veterinary Corps	Special enlistment (General service)
SPTS	Royal Fusiliers	Sportsmen's Battalion
SR	Many regiments	
SS	Royal Field Artillery	Shoeing Smith
SS	Army Service Corps	Supply Special
STK	Royal Fusiliers	Stockbroker's Battalion

T	Many regiments	Territorial
T	Army Service Corps	Horsed Transport. Often accompanied with a number, denoting recruitment into the appropriately numbered Kitchener (New) Army
TF	Many regiments	Territorial
TISR	Army Service Corps	
TR	Training Reserve	
TS	Army Service Corps	Transport Special
TSC	Army Service Corps	
TT	Army Veterinary Corps	Territorial
W	Royal Field Artillery	Welsh
W	Cheshire Regiment	Wirral
W	Military Provost Staff Corps	
WE	Royal Army Medical Corps	
WT4	Army Service Corps	Welsh Horsed Transport
Y	King's Royal Rifle Corps	Special Reserve
Z	Rifle Brigade	Special Reserve



**The 2015 Joint Jersey Schools Battlefield Tour  
On Location**