



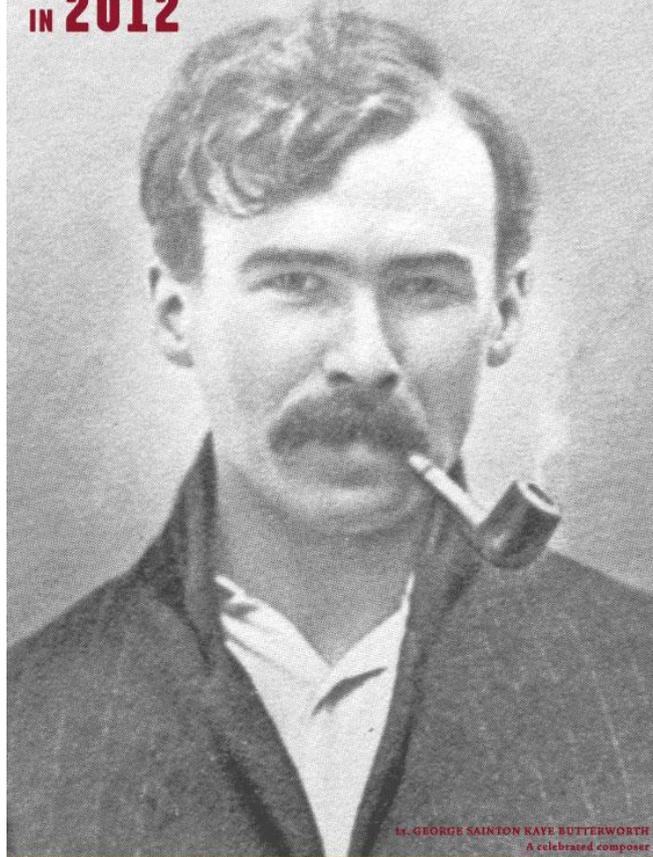
The Missing of the Somme
“Missing but not forgotten”
Exhibition - June to November 2012



Preview Brochure



**MAJOR EXHIBITION
AT THE HISTORIAL DE LA GRANDE GUERRE
MUSEUM OF THE GREAT WAR
IN 2012**



Lt. GEORGE SAINTON KAYE BUTTERWORTH
A celebrated composer

**The Missing of the Somme
on the Thiepval Memorial**
Missing but not forgotten

Péronne « Somme » Picardie
www.historial.org



Missing but not Forgotten

2012 sees the 80th Anniversary of the official opening of the Thiepval Memorial and the 20th Anniversary of the opening of l'Historial de la Grande Guerre (Museum of the Great War) in Péronne.

From June to November 2012 the Historial will present the exhibition **"Missing but not Forgotten."**

The theme of the exhibition will be remembrance, as well as providing some background to the Thiepval Memorial and how these men became, and remain, the "Missing of the Somme."

The major part of the exhibition will tell the story of an individual recorded as missing on each of the 141 days of the Somme battle.

The stories will be supplemented by personal objects as well as others which illustrate a general remembrance theme.

The exhibition will be **FREE**.

This brochure has been produced to show the areas which will be covered by the exhibition and to give an insight into some of the stories that will be presented.

Why are they Missing?

The nature of the Somme battles, constant attacks and counter-attacks with little or no forward movement, left many thousands dead in "No Man's Land." Their bodies could not be recovered while the fighting continued and the ceaseless pounding of the artillery, from both sides, meant that many bodies were lost for good.

Even for those whose bodies were recovered and buried this was often carried out during heavy fighting and circumstances which made it impossible to take, or at any rate transmit, an accurate record of the position of the graves. Prior to burial it was customary to remove all of the personal effects so that they could be returned to the relatives. The burial site would then be marked using some kind of temporary marker, often a wooden cross and note would be made of the position. In some cases though graves had been marked their position was too exposed for a correct plan and survey to be made; in others every trace of a burial had been obliterated by shell fire.

Sapper, 21314, Walter Charles Fry, 15th Field Company, Royal Engineers, was killed on 23rd October 1916 aged 28.



Lieutenant Robert Miller Taylor of 15th Field Company wrote to the family:-

"Your son was killed by shell fire as 2.35 pm on the 23rd inst. His death was instantaneous, as the shell fell in the trench beside him and killed one of his comrades at the same time. He was buried on the battlefield close to the front trenches, and it is my intention to have the place of burial marked with a cross..."

Walter Charles Fry is commemorated on Pier and Face 8A of the Thiepval Memorial together with his comrade Sapper, 120714, Charles Henry Flower, 15th Field Company, Royal Engineers, also aged 28.

After the Armistice battlefield clearance resumed and the area was swept at least six times in the search for bodies. As time went on fewer bodies could be identified as the absence of personal effects meant that the identification of the individual, beyond perhaps a rank and regiment, was impossible.

The bodies that couldn't be identified were still given the dignity of an individual grave and a headstone inscribed *"Known unto God."* For a small percentage the headstone will also include a rank and regiment where these could be ascertained from clothing and regimental badges still on the body.

The names of the thousands of dead from the battle whose bodies were not recovered or identified were inscribed on Memorials to the Missing. Around half of the men recorded on these memorials in the Somme area are buried in cemeteries under *"Known unto God"* headstones.

Honouring the Missing

Of about 150,000 soldiers of the British Empire who fell in the Somme area before 21st March 1918 some 84,000 have no known grave; their names appear on Memorials to the Missing. The soldiers of Canada are named at Vimy, Australia at Villers-Bretonneux, India at Neuve Chapelle, New Zealand at Longueval and Newfoundland at Beaumont Hamel.

But by far the majority of the missing, some 72,000 men from British and South African Regiments, who fell on the Somme battlefields during this period and who have no known grave, are commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.



About 90% of the men commemorated on the Memorial died in just 20 weeks of fighting between 1st July 1916 and 18th November 1916. Over 12,000 of those died on 1st July 1916, representing about two-thirds of the men killed on that day.

Designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens the Memorial was built between 1929 and 1932. It was constructed on the top of an open ridge and dominates the skyline from many parts of the surrounding battlefield.



The inauguration ceremony took place on the afternoon of 1st August 1932 in the presence of the Prince of Wales (the future King Edward VIII) and the French President, Albert Lebrun.



Who are the Missing?

As well as representing every military rank from Private to Lieutenant Colonel those on the Memorial are drawn from all ranks of society. The “gentry” to the “worker” (most types of employment are represented), sportsmen, musicians, artists, politicians, writers, all are here. Many individuals were connected, through schools, universities, or employment as well as geographically. The vast majority had no previous association with the military.

Each man was someone’s son as well as likely being a brother, friend, colleague, husband or father. Whilst each individual represents a separate loss to family and friends there are many examples of multiple losses. The emotional impact resulting from the battle of the Somme reached out into almost every town across the United Kingdom. In many cases the sense of bereavement was heightened by the uncertainty which came with the news that the body had not been found.

Although the Memorial only commemorates men who served in the British and South African forces these include native-born Canadians, Australians, Americans and other nationalities.

Taken individually each of those names has its own personal story to tell. This brings the emphasis away from fronts, divisions and regiments down to an individual level.

The main focus of the exhibition is to tell a selection of these stories, one man’s story will represent many men’s stories, and to show that although they are missing they are certainly not

forgotten. The thousands of families who visit the Memorial each year in order to commemorate their relatives bear testament to this.

The following six stories are illustrative of so many.

Private, 17412, Thomas Jackson, 8th Battalion, East Lancashire Regiment



Thomas was killed on Saturday 15th July 1916, aged 32 years. A native of Burnley he enlisted there in November 1914, prior to this he had been employed as a weaver at the Sandygate Mill in the town.

Thomas married Eliza Ellen Williams and their son Wilfred was born in 1911. Eliza, who had been ill for some time, died in April 1916. Thomas was granted leave from the Front to attend her funeral but unfortunately he did not arrive until two days after the burial.

Before returning to the Front Thomas appointed a family friend, Ada Read, as guardian to Wilfred. In between his stints in the trenches he wrote to her and her husband George always anxious to hear news of his son. On 20th June 1916 he wrote:

".....I have been expecting a letter for a long time you might write and keep me informed how my little lad is going on I think everybody has forgotten me now as I hardly get any letters now so just write old Pall and let me know how he is getting on as I get all things in my head when I don't hear over him....."

On 2nd August 1916 *"The Burnley Express"* carried the story of Thomas' death at the Front under the headline *"Little Boy Orphan – A pathetic Burnley Case."* The article also stated that his brother Private Joseph Jackson of the same regiment had been wounded in the foot and that three of his nephews were also at the Front.

Thomas' death was not the end of this family's tragedy, his brother Private Joseph Jackson, having recovered from his injuries, returned to the Front and was killed on 21st March 1918, aged 41 years. He was married with seven children and is commemorated on the Pozieres Memorial.



Their nephew Private James Harker of the Cheshire Regiment died on 31st January 1918, aged 24 years. He is buried in Fins New British Cemetery, Sorel-le-Grand.

All three men are commemorated on the St. Peter's Parish War Memorial in Burnley and the Pickup Croft Sunday School Memorial in the same Parish.

Lieutenant Kenneth Lotherington Hutchings, 4th Battalion, The King's (Liverpool Regiment)



Kenneth was killed on Sunday 3rd September 1916, aged 33 years. Born on 7th December 1882 in Southborough, Kent he was the son of Dr. Edward John and Catherine Lotherington Hutchings of Southborough.

He was educated at Tonbridge School from January 1897 until July 1902. He was in the Cricket XI for five years and was captain in 1901 and 1902. As an amateur cricketer he played for Kent and England and was accredited as one of the most remarkable batsmen of his generation. He was Wisden Cricketer of the Year in 1907 and toured with the England team to Australia.

When war broke out he was in business in Liverpool, and he was one of the first of the cricketing world to volunteer for service. This he did within two or three days of the declaration of war, and was gazetted to the Special Reserve of The King's (Liverpool Regiment) on 24th September 1914.

He went to France on 26th April 1915, being attached until September to the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. He was gazetted Lieutenant on 17th December 1915, and in July 1916, returned to France, attached to the 12th Battalion, The King's (Liverpool Regiment). From this time onward he was continually in the thick of the fighting.

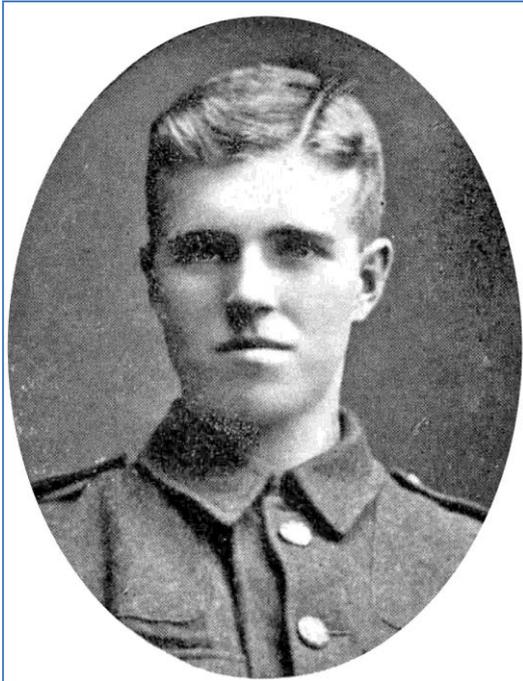
The following appreciation of him as a cricketer appeared in *"The Daily Telegraph."*

"By his death on the field of battle one of the greatest cricketers has been taken from us. A typical man of Kent, in that his cricket was splendidly characteristic of his county—bright, free, sparkling—Hutchings at his best was the most engaging batsman of his day. So long as he was at the wicket he brought out all that was best in a glorious game. On any wicket, against any bowling - circumstances did not matter - he was magnificent. His dash, his vigour, his quick eye, his indifference to care, as we understand care among crack batsmen, made him unlike any other cricketer; not in this generation have we seen his equal...."

All three of his brothers served and were very seriously wounded or accidentally injured whilst serving.

He is commemorated on the Southborough War Memorial, the War Memorial in Tonbridge School Chapel and the M.C.C. Members War Memorial in the Pavilion at Lord's Cricket Ground, London.

Private, S/9540, James Mure Richardson, 2nd Battalion, Gordon Highlanders



James was killed on Tuesday 5th September 1916, aged 21 years. He was born on 21st September 1894 at Dalbeattie, the son of James and Elizabeth Richardson of 7, Union Street, Edinburgh.

He was educated at George Heriot's School in Edinburgh from 1907 to 1908, later joining the staff of the Prudential Assurance Company.

He enlisted in the 2nd Gordon Highlanders (Machine Gun Section) in March 1915 and went to France on 18th October 1915.

George Heriot's School's Roll of Honour records details of 2,637 pupils and 20 staff who served in the forces. In total 461 died in service of which 413 fell in action or died of wounds.

In addition to James a further 33 from the school are known to be commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, just under half of whom were casualties on 1st July 1916.

Private, 4549, John Stapleton Sisnett Huskisson, 1st Battalion, London Regiment (Royal Fusiliers)



John was killed on Sunday 16th July 1916, aged 23 years. He was born in Barbados the son of Mr G. C. Huskisson of Bridgetown. He was one of twelve men from Barbados who arrived in England on 25th June 1915 aboard the "SS Crown of Granada."

He had paid his own passage and "The Daily Mirror" reported him as saying that he was determined to take a Victoria Cross home with him and that he made up his mind to enlist on hearing the song, "Your King and Country Want You."

On 12th June 1915 "The Barbados Standard" printed the story of the departure of the twelve brave young Volunteers for the seat of war.

"The deepest interest and enthusiasm having been aroused by the brave and patriotic spirit of these young men which led them to desire to take their places in the firing line with other sons of the Empire, it was naturally expected that a

large number of persons would assemble at a convenient place to give them a hearty send off and to wish them "God Speed."

At 2 p.m. Trafalgar Square was the scene of a popular demonstration in honour of the occasion. A large concourse of people including several ladies and well known officials assembled in the Square and thickly lined the approaches to the Chamberlain Bridge where the Government Water Boat kindly placed at the disposal of the recruits by His Excellency the Governor, was waiting to receive them and take them off to the steamer....

Flags were gaily displayed by all the business houses of Broad Street, and on the Commercial Hall flags signalled the words "God Speed." Correctly interpreting the spirit of the occasion too, most of the local craft in the Careenage were gaily festooned and joined most heartily in the farewell demonstration....

Embarking on the steamer the party of young men were addressed in a few appropriate words by Sir Frederick Clarke and Major Burdon....

Lance Corporal Huskisson replied briefly on behalf of the men and thanked both Sir Frederick and Major Burdon for their kind remarks. He concluded by singing "Are we down-hearted? No," in which he was heartily joined by his comrades....."

The family made appeals for information relating to John through the "Territorial Service Gazette." A former comrade, Private Ernest Carr, came forward and wrote that;

"Huskisson had taken part in a bombing raid on German trenches in the middle of July he was believed wounded in the abdomen during this time. Since sustaining the injuries he has not been seen"

Three of the eleven men from Barbados who sailed with John were also killed:

- Elverton Richard Springer, a planter, 21, Private, 13th Battalion, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, was killed in action on 2nd June 1916. He is buried in Rue-du-Bacquerot No.1 Military Cemetery, Laventie.
- Archibald R. Conliffe, a clerk, 19, Private, 11th Battalion, Royal Fusiliers, died on 18th May 1917 and is buried in Leeds (Harehills) Cemetery.
- Valdemar Bancher Clarke, a planter, 18, Private, 16th Battalion, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, was killed on 31st July 1917. He is commemorated on the Menin Gate, Ypres.

All four men are commemorated on the Barbados War Memorial in Trafalgar Square, now known as Heroes Square, in Bridgetown, Barbados.

**Lance Corporal, 357176, John Abbott King, 1st/10th Battalion, The King's
(Liverpool Regiment)**



John was killed on Wednesday 9th August 1916, aged 32 years. Born in Leeds on 21st August 1883, he was the son of John Abbott and Mary Jane King, of Ben Rhydding, near Ilkley, Yorkshire.

He was educated at Giggleswick School, Settle, Yorkshire. While there he obtained his 2nd XV colours for Rugby Football. He lived in South Africa from 1903 to 1905, playing for Durbanville and Somerset West Clubs. Returning to England in 1906, he played regularly for Headingley and for Yorkshire. He captained Yorkshire from 1911 to 1913 and during that period he also played for England.

He enlisted at Whitby on 12th August 1914 as a trooper in the Yorkshire Hussars. In April 1915 he went to France at which time the Yorkshire Hussars were chiefly engaged in patrol work which did not appeal to John. He wanted to be *"more of a soldier"* as he put it in his letters; so he decided to transfer to an infantry regiment. Whilst in France he met some old Rugby friends, including Lancelot Slocock, who were members of the 1st/10th Liverpools, John immediately applied for, and subsequently received, a transfer to that Regiment.

In a letter written just before 'going over the top' for the last time he wrote:

"I am absolutely A1 in every way. But one can never tell, and so long as I don't disgrace the old Rugby game, I don't think I mind."

He was killed in action at Guillemont. Colonel Davidson wrote to his sisters:

"It is hardly necessary for me to testify to his conduct at such a time – anyone who knew your brother would know that he could always be relied upon to play the man. When I saw him, absolutely cool and collected, under a murderous machine-gun fire, with shells falling all round, one thanked God for such a man to set such a priceless example. He was absolutely lionhearted, and had he come through, I should have promoted him on the field, and recommended him for the D.C.M. it was a sad day for football. We can ill spare men like these; but if another game of football is never played in Britain, the game has done well, for after two years' Command in the Field, I am convinced the Rugby Footballer makes the finest soldier in the world."

An article in *"The Times"* dated 30th November 1914 had said:

"Incidentally it may be mentioned that every player who represented England in Rugby international matches last year has joined the colours."

The following year a recruitment poster appeared featuring Rugby Union Footballers.



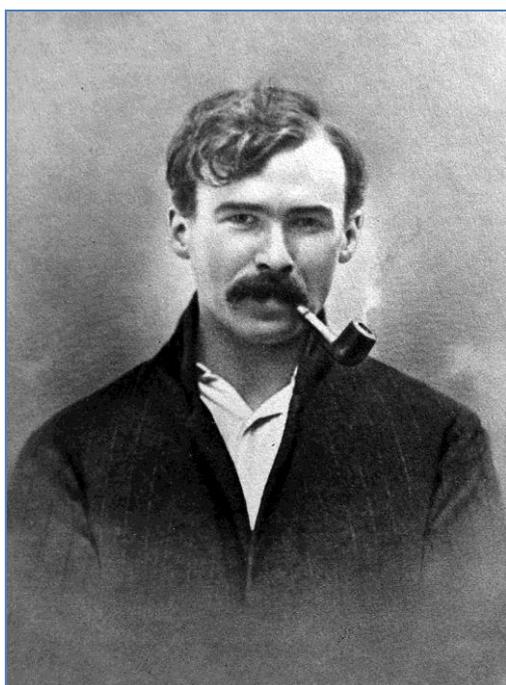
Another of the many casualties of the attack on Guillemont, on 9th August 1916, was his fellow England Rugby International **Second Lieutenant Lancelot Andrew Noel Slocock**. He is commemorated on Pier and Face 8C.

Together with John and Lancelot a further six Rugby Internationals (two each from England, Scotland and Wales) are commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.



John and Lancelot are two of the 27 England Rugby Internationals who lost their lives during the war; all are commemorated on the War Memorial plaque at Twickenham Rugby Stadium.

Lieutenant George Sainton Kaye Butterworth (MC), 13th Battalion, Durham Light Infantry



George was killed on Saturday 5th August 1916, aged 31 years. Born in London on 12th July 1885, he was the only son of Sir Alexander Kaye Butterworth, KT., LL.B., of 16, Frognaal Gardens, Hampstead, London, and his wife Julia Marguerite Butterworth.

He was educated at Aysgarth Preparatory School and Eton, and from a very early age showed great musical talent. This developed considerably during his days at Eton, and his skill as a composer was recognised by the musical authorities there with some of his works being performed at the College Musical society concerts.

He later attended Trinity College, Oxford and during his time there he became President of the University Musical Club and decided that musical composition was to be his life's work.

On leaving Oxford he worked for a short time as a musical critic for "The Times." Later he accepted a teaching post at Radley returning to London in 1910 and entering the Royal College of Music as a student. Afterwards he again turned to composition, in 1906 he had become a member of the Folk-song society and he continued to collect and arrange folk songs and dance. Before the war he had already published two sets of songs from Houseman's "Shropshire Lad" one in 1911 and another in 1912. One of his compositions, an orchestral rhapsody, was produced at the Leeds festival in 1913 and also in the Queen's Hall in the spring of 1914.

Within a month of the outbreak of war he, together with a number of friends, had enlisted in the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry. Later he accepted a commission in the Durham Light Infantry. He was on active service for almost a year and was slightly wounded only a week before he was killed.

He was mentioned in despatches for distinguished work done on July 7th–10th, and was subsequently awarded the Military Cross. The citation for his Military Cross read:

Lieutenant George S. K. Butterworth

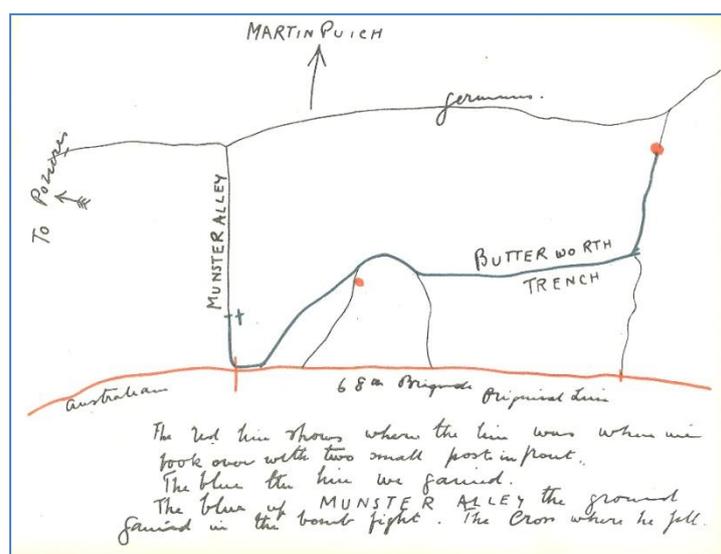
Near Pozieres from 17th to 19th July, 1916, commanded the Company, of which his Captain had been wounded, with great ability and coolness. By his energy and total disregard of personal safety he got his men to accomplish a good piece of work in linking up the front line.

On 13th August 1916 Brigadier-General H. Page-Croft, C.M.G., M.P., Commanding 68th Infantry Brigade, wrote:

"I feel I must write you a note to tell you how deeply I grieve with you and yours, for the loss of your gallant son. He was one of those quiet, unassuming men whose path did not appear naturally to be a military one, and I had watched him doing his duty quietly and conscientiously. When the offensive came he seemed to throw off his reserve, and in those strenuous 35 days in which we were fighting off and on, he developed a power of leadership which we had not realised he possessed. As you know, I recommended him for an earlier action near Contalmaison for the Military Cross, which, alas! he could not wear. When in front of Pozieres he was reported to me to have done excellent work under very heavy fire in getting his men to dig a new trench right in front of the Germans, from which later, the Australians were able to successfully attack that village. Later we went into a line on the right of the Australians, S.E. of Pozieres.

Here we were about 450 yards from the Germans, and I gave orders to dig a trench within 200 yards of them so that we could attack with some chance of success.

This trench was dug in a fog, and was a very fine deep trench which saved many lives in the days to follow, and your son again superintended the work, and it was called Butterworth Trench on all the official maps.



Three days after the 13th D.L.I. attacked Munster Alley just N.W. of Butterworth Trench. They won 100 yards after a very hot fight, and I went up there at 4 a.m. in the morning to find the bomb fight still progressing, but the 13th holding their own. Your son was in charge, and the trench was very much blown in and shallow and I begged him to keep his head down. He was cheery and inspiring his tired men to secure the position which had been won earlier in the night and I felt that all was well with him there. The Germans had been bombing our wounded, and the men all round him were shooting Germans who showed themselves. Within about a minute of my leaving him he was shot, as I heard by telephone on my return. I could ill afford to lose so fine a soldier, and my deepest sympathy goes out to his relations, for I know that the loss of one so modest and yet so brave must create a gap which can never be filled."

After the war George's family produced a Memorial Album chronicling his short life.

Of the seven friends who enlisted with George only three survived the war.

- University Teacher - Lieutenant Philip Anthony Brown, 13th Battalion, Durham Light Infantry, died on 4th November 1915, aged 29 years. He is buried in Ration Farm Military Cemetery.
- Civil Servant – Captain Robert Comber Woodhead, 12th Battalion, Durham Light Infantry, died on 17th July 1916, aged 30 years. He is commemorated on Pier and Face 14A.
- Journalist - Company Sergeant Major Frederic Hillersdon Keeling (MM), 6th Battalion, Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, died on 18th August 1916, aged 30 years. He is commemorated on Pier and Face 6B.
- Musician – Captain Francis Bevan Ellis, 10th Battalion, Northumberland Fusiliers, died on 26th September 1916, aged 33 years. He is buried in Adanac Military Cemetery.

- Engineer and Farmer - Captain Roland Arthur Ellis, later served in the Northumberland Fusiliers.
- Musician - Second Lieutenant Reginald Owen Morris, served in the Durham Light Infantry.
- Musician - Major Geoffrey Edward Toye, later served in the Royal Air Force.

Not Forgotten

During the war families posted photographs and appreciations of their loved ones in local newspapers. Relatives of the Missing made appeals for information through the same medium. When all hope was lost, as no funeral was possible, families held Memorial Services in local churches and produced Memorial Cards. For many years, on the anniversary of the soldier's death, relatives continued to place "*in memorial*" notices in local newspapers.

Monthly school and employment magazines e.g. Brighton College Magazine and Great Eastern Railway Magazines featured Rolls of Honour of the dead and letters from the Front. Monthly Regimental Magazines also commemorated the fallen e.g. London Scottish Regimental Gazette.

Newspapers produced yearly almanacs reproducing photographs of men awarded medals for gallantry (Western Gazette Almanac and Diary) and details of the fallen (Ackrills Harrogate War Souvenir). Church and Boys Club Magazines produced supplements giving details of men serving and killed they also included copies of letters sent from the Front ("*Chin-Wag*" – The Magazine of the Eton Boys' Clubs).

After the war the deep sense of loss did not diminish and public demand required the creation of local memorials to commemorate fathers, sons, brothers, colleagues, friends and comrades. These memorials were built in villages, towns and cities, churchyards and churches, railway stations, factories, department stores, offices, schools and libraries. Many memorials provided collective commemoration, while some related to an individual, and they took many forms. The individual memorials are particularly varied from framed portraits with a dedication (Alfred Collingwood – Gosforth Billiard Club); individual memorial scrolls (London County Council Staff); Church organs (Haydon Bridge Methodist Church); Memorial Bells (Arnold Bradley Taylor - Loughborough Carillon Tower) to a passenger ferry on the river Tyne (Arthur Blackwood Gowan).

Many organisations and communities also published Roll of Honour books depicting the dead (St. Nicholas with St. Leonard's School, Bristol; Anchor Thread Mills in the War; Lloyds Bank Memorial Album; Jesmond Presbyterian Church; What a Club did in the Great War – Eldon Lane and District Workmen's Club; Allerton and Daisy Hill War Memorial Souvenir; Bodenham Book of Remembrance).

Although battlefield pilgrimage commenced after the war such visits were primarily restricted to the upper and middle classes. The "ordinary" men were mourned at local churches and memorials. In the last twenty years such visits have changed as the families of more men are able to visit the final resting places of their ancestors, thus fulfilling the wishes of their parents and grandparents.

As is evidenced by the continued and growing interest in genealogy, and associated research, each of these men connects with subsequent generations. The passing of generations means that each has a direct link to a number of present day visitors. Many of whom are determined to keep his memory alive by passing on the importance of remembrance to future generations.

The information for the exhibition has been taken from The Thiepval Database. The database was created in 2003 by Pam and Ken Linge and has been available to view on computers located within the Thiepval Visitor Centre since its opening in 2004.

The database includes photographs and biographical information on men commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial. It is updated periodically and will continue to grow for as long as new information becomes available.

If you have any questions regarding the database or want to add information to it please contact Pam and Ken at **pam_ken.linge@btinternet.com**.



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