

# Deal

## St. Leonard's Parish Church



## The Great War 1914 - 1919

Located on St Leonard's Church's west wall in Rectory Road, Deal, whilst by no means unique, the St. Leonards Parish Church, Deal, war memorial plaque has a noticeably large percentage of the casualties commemorated thereupon not by the use of their first Christian name. Also somewhat appropriately for Deal, Kent, is the disproportionate number of the fallen, when compared to other forms of remembrance within the county, who were serving as members of the Royal Marines. Another feature noted whilst transcribing those commemorated, was the number of men who died at Gallipoli, Turkey in 1915, which again is disproportionate in relation to most other Kent forms of commemoration researched. After contacting the Rector of St. Leonards voicing our concerns regarding the state of the memorial, as it was originally placed on our 'Kent war memorials at risk list', we then received a most welcome letter from Mr. Bert Curling who is the president of the Deal and Walmer branch of the Royal British Legion, and a Church Warden of St. Leonards Parish Church, he kindly informed us that we were not alone in being concerned for the plaque, and that he was helping to launch a campaign to renovate the memorial plaque. Shortly afterwards, true to his word an appeal in the local Mercury newspaper was launched by Bert Curling in April. After receiving numerous calls, he quickly collected the projected restoration cost of £1,063, which included a generous and doubtless very welcome £500 donation from the Kent Fire and Rescue Service in

Deal. A second plaque of dedication was then added in time for the rededication ceremony which took place at St. Leonard's Church on 9 September 2007. Now as can be clearly seen the memorial is a credit to the local populace of Deal, and of course to former soldier Mr. Bert Curling, and his dedicated team, well done.

**ATKINS, FRANK MORTIMER.** Private, 4687.

15th (County of London) Battalion, London Regiment (Prince of Wales's Own Civil Service Rifles).

Died 5 October 1916. Aged 27.

Born Great Mongeham, Deal, Kent. Enlisted London. Resided Clapham Common, London.

Son of William Mark Atkins and Mary Ann Atkins (nee Chapman).

Husband of M. E. Atkins of 62, Battersea Rise, Clapham Common, London.

Buried Maroeuil British Cemetery, Pas-de-Calais, France. Grave Ref: III. G. 12.

Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

No matching entry for Frank and his family was located on the 1901 census whilst carrying out these brief transcriptions. At the time of the 1891 census the Atkins family was residing at 4, Crompton Terrace, Great Mongeham, Deal, Kent, which was probably the actual dwelling where the then 1 year old Frank was born. The census enumerator recorded 30 year old, Walmer, Kent native William M. Atkins as the Head of the house, and as being employed as a Paperhanger.

**BARR, WILLIAM DOUGLAS.** Company Quartermaster Serjeant, 200524.

1st/4th (Territorial Force) Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).

Died 19 February 1917. Aged 28.

Born Sandwich, Kent. Enlisted Dover, Kent. Resided Deal, Kent.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Barr of 36, Beaconsfield Road, Deal, Kent.

Buried in the Deolali Government Cemetery, India.

Commemorated on the Kirkee 1914-1918 Memorial, India. Face 3.

William is commemorated on the St. Leonards parish church war memorial, Deal, Kent, and on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques as D. BARR. No matching entry for William and his family was located on either the 1891 or 1901 censuses whilst carrying out these brief transcriptions.

**BASTON, ERNEST LAWRENCE.** Private, G/24688.

7th (Service) Battalion, The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment).

Died 18 November 1916.

Born Walmer, Kent. Enlisted Sandwich, Kent. Resided Deal, Kent.

Son of George and Harriet A. Baston

Buried Stump Road Cemetery, Grandcourt, Somme, France. Grave Ref: A. 79.

Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

Formerly Private, G/9384, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).

No matching entry for Ernest and his family was located on the 1901 census whilst carrying out these brief transcriptions. At the time of the 1891 census the Baston family was residing at 6, Axford Villas, Walmer, Kent.

**BENNETTON, JAMES.** Sapper, Deal/763(S).

Royal Marines. 1st Field Company, Royal Marine Divisional Engineers, 63rd Royal Naval Division.

Died 28 June 1916. Aged 20.

Enlisted 8 December 1914.

Son of Edward Eagle Bennetton and Emma Bennetton of Dairy Cottage, Stone Crossing, Greenhithe, Kent. Formerly of 5, Walmer Terrace, Cemetery Road, Walmer, Kent.

Buried Lapugnoy Military Cemetery, Pas-de-Calais, France. Grave Ref: I. F. 53.

Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

The Royal Marine casualties with the prefix 'D,' or Deal, followed by a number of up to three figures, indicates a rank entered on the permanent establishment of the Depot, Royal Marines Deal, Kent, between 1866 and February 1947. This practice was discontinued then, and the ranks transferred to Chatham, Plymouth or Portsmouth and where then allocated the next available register numbers. The same prefix, followed by a number of up to four figures and the suffixes 'N' or 'S' indicates a rank entered in the Royal Marine Divisional Engineers, the Royal Marine Divisional Train, the Royal Marine Medical Unit, the Royal Marine Ordnance Company or the Royal Marine Labour Corps for Short Service during Great War. James served in the 1st Field Company, Royal Marine Divisional Engineers from 1 March 1915, until his death from a Ruptured Liver whilst he was a patient at the 23rd Casualty Clearing Station. He had been accidentally injured the day before his death, which was caused by the horses of a Forage Cart bolting and a wheel passing over him. No blame for the accident was ever attached to any individual. No matching entry for James and his family was located on either the 1891 or 1901 censuses whilst carrying out these brief transcriptions.

**BRICE, PETER ROBERT.** Sapper, Deal/923(S).

Royal Marines. 3rd Field Company, Royal Marine Divisional Engineers, 63rd Royal Naval Division.

Died 25 July 1915. Aged 20.

Born Lower Walmer, Kent. Enlisted 19 January 1915.

Youngest son of Bernard Henry and Elizabeth Jane Brice (nee Brunnen) of 39, Pagitt Street, Chatham, Kent. Formerly of Grove House, 1 Liverpool Lane, Walmer, Kent.

Husband of Mrs. Elizabeth Jane Brice 93 Oriel Road, North End, Portsmouth, Hampshire.

Buried Skew Bridge Cemetery, Turkey. Grave Ref: I. G. 4.

Please see James Bennetton brief commemoration above, re service number information. Peter was drafted for the 3rd Field Company, Royal Marine Divisional Engineers, 63rd Royal Naval Division on 28 June 1915, and joined the unit on 18 July 1915, a week before he was killed in action. No matching entry for Peter and his family was located on either the 1891 or 1901 censuses whilst carrying out these brief transcriptions.

**BROWN, STEWART PATRICK.** Second Lieutenant.

248th Field Company, Royal Engineers.

Died 31 December 1917. Aged 22.

Born St. Andrew's, Deal, Kent 9 May 1895. Enlisted Southampton, Hampshire 7 June 1915.

Son of Thomas Walter and the late Jane Brown of 5, Queen Street, Deal, Kent.

Buried Rocquigny-Equancourt British Cemetery, Manancourt, Somme, France.

Grave Ref: VIII. D. 16.

Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

Stewart was attested as a Sapper in the Royal Marine Divisional Engineers, 63rd Royal Naval Division on his enlistment. Appointed a 2nd Corporal on 19 August 1915, and promoted to Corporal on 10 December 1915. On 11 September 1916 Stewart was promoted to Serjeant, and retained that rank when he transferred from the Royal Marines to the Royal Engineers on 31 January 1917, and was posted the following day. Stewart served as Serjeant, 200079, until 20 April 1917, when he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the same corps, 'for the benefit of the public good,' and serving as a Surveyor having already obtained qualifications whilst still a civilian.

**BURROWS, DONALD.** Major.

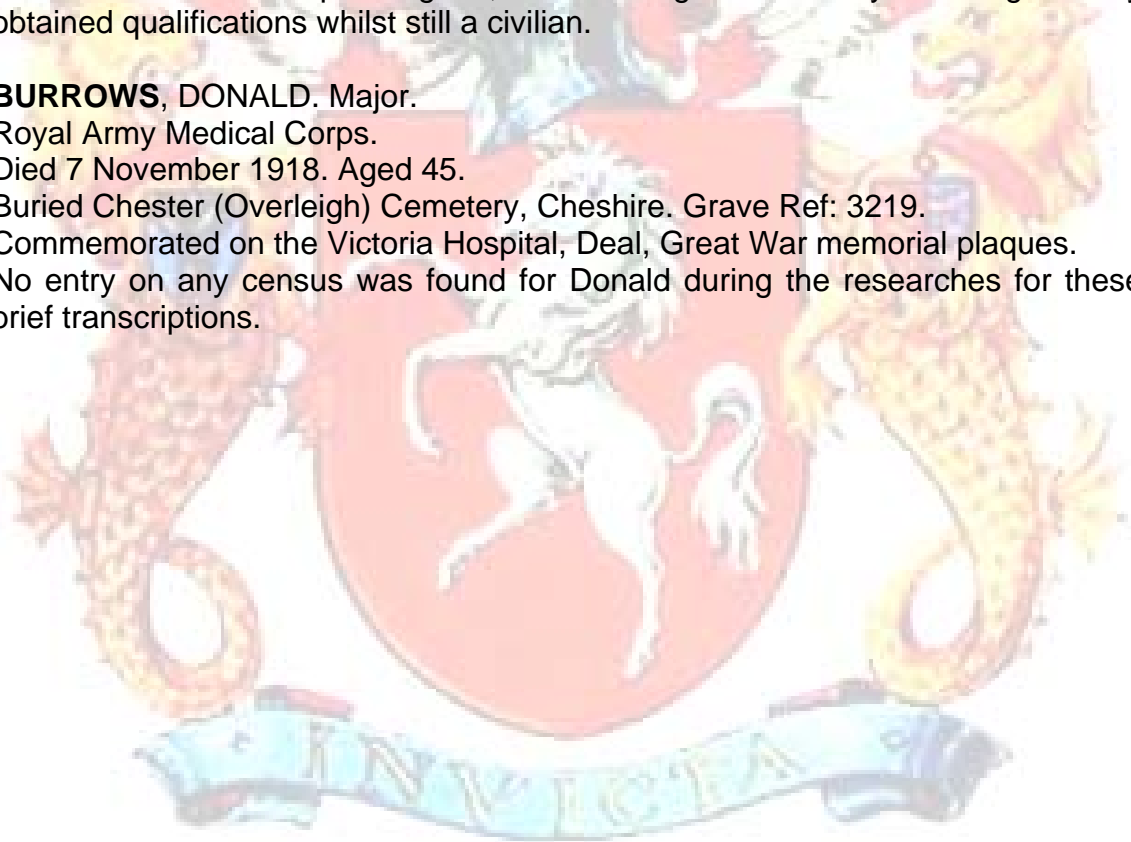
Royal Army Medical Corps.

Died 7 November 1918. Aged 45.

Buried Chester (Overleigh) Cemetery, Cheshire. Grave Ref: 3219.

Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

No entry on any census was found for Donald during the researches for these brief transcriptions.



**CASTLE, CHARLES HENRY JAMES.** Sapper, Deal/870(S).  
Royal Marines. 2nd Field Company, Royal Marine Divisional Engineers, 63rd  
Royal Naval Division.

Died 17 November 1916. Aged 20.

Enlisted 11 January 1915.

Son of Thomas William and Rosa Emma Castle of 62, Blenheim Road, Deal,  
Kent.

Buried Bois-Guillaume Communal Cemetery, Rouen, Seine-Maritime, France.

Grave Ref: I. C. 14A.

Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

Please see James Bennetton brief commemoration, re service number  
information. Following his training Charles was posted to the 3rd Field Company,  
Royal Marine Divisional Engineers on 30 May 1915, his unit being part of the  
Mediterranean Expeditionary Force. Charles served in the unit until 22  
September 1915. Enteritis necessitated him being invalided back to the United  
Kingdom on 8 October 1915. After spending time in Great Britain following his  
recovery, Charles was then placed on a draft for the British Expeditionary Force  
on 26 June 1916, he was then posted to the 2nd Field Company, Royal Marine  
Divisional Engineers on 5 July 1916. On 13 November 1916, Charles was  
mortally wounded by a gunshot wound to his head, and succumbed to a Cerebral  
Hernia at 2345 hours on 17 November 1916, whilst a patient at the 8th General  
Hospital, Rouen, Seine-Maritime, France.

**CAVE, HERBERT JAMES.** Private, G/131.

6th (Service) Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).

Died 11 July 1917. Aged 20.

Born St. Andrews, Deal, Kent. Enlisted Deal, Kent 14 August 1914. Resided  
Deal, Kent.

Son of Thomas William and Sarah Ann Cave (nee Horne) of 1, Sandown Road,  
Deal, Kent.

Commemorated on the Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Bay 2, and on  
the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

Herbert's brother, Thomas Edward Cave also served in the Great War as Private,  
G8092, in the 10th (Service) Battalion, (Kent County) Queen's Own (Royal West  
Kent Regiment). Thomas was the recipient of a war pension after he was  
discharged from the army on 11 September 1918.

**CHILD, JAMES HERBERT.** Private, 524.  
23rd Battalion, Australian Infantry, A.I.F.  
Died 30 December 1916. Aged 30.  
Born Walmer, Kent 9 October 1894. Enlisted 23 February 1915.  
Son of John Herbert Lawrence Child and Kate Child of 40, Odo Road, Dover, Kent.  
Brother of Alexander L. Child, 4, Goreley Street, Balaclava, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.  
Buried Guards Cemetery, Lesboeufs, Somme, France. Grave Ref: IX. C. 2.  
Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.  
Formerly served in the Royal Horse Artillery, and discharged as being medically unfit. As James went to Australia when he was 18 years old, it would seem likely that his time in the Royal Horse Artillery was of only a short duration. Following his initial training, James sailed with his battalion on 10 May 1915, from Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, onboard the 15,050 ton ship H.M.A.T. Euripides. James is recorded as having been mentioned in orders for "Good and gallant conduct, before his death." He was killed in action at Pozières, Somme, France. It should be noted that some (Australian) data, records James place of birth as Folkestone, Kent. The same data shows his age at death as being 22 years old, and that he was a former pupil of the Parochial School, Deal, Kent. At the time of the 1901 census the Child family was residing at the Cross Roads, Mongeham Street, Great Mongeham, Deal, Kent.

**CHITTENDEN, WILLIE GEORGE COLLINS.** Signalman, 115537.  
Royal Navy, (RFR/CH/B/1562). H.M.S. Cressy.  
Died 22 September 1914. Aged 49.  
Born Faversham, Kent 16 August 1865.  
Husband of Margaret Miriam Ann Chittenden of 47, Gilford Road, Deal, Kent.  
Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 3, and on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.  
Willie served in the Royal Navy as WILLIE GEORGE COLLINS. Early in the Great War the Royal Navy maintained a patrol of old Cressy class armoured cruisers which was called 'Cruiser Force C,' in an area of the North Sea known as the Broad Fourteens. On 16 July 1914 the German submarine U-9 had become the first submarine in history to reload torpedoes whilst still submerged, and on 22 September 1914 the same submarine under the command of Commander Otto Weddigen who had commanded the U-9 since 1 August 1914, sighted H.M.S.Cressy, H.M.S.Aboukir and H.M.S.Hogue all steaming NNE at 10 knots without zigzagging, although the patrols were supposed to maintain a speed of 12 to 13 knots and zigzag, the old cruisers were unable to maintain that speed, and the zigzagging order was widely ignored mainly due to the fact that there had been no enemy submarines sighted in that area of the North Sea at that stage of the war. Otto Weddigen and his crew later the same day put into practice under wartime conditions what they had perfected in peacetime, and were able to reload torpedoes beneath the waves. Otto Weddigen maneuvered the U-9 to attack the three cruisers, and at approximately 0625 hours fired a

single torpedo at H.M.S.Aboukir which stuck her on her port side. H.M.S.Aboukir rapidly suffered heavy flooding and despite counter flooding developed a 20 degree list and lost engine power. It was soon clear that she was a lost cause and Captain Drummond ordered her to be abandoned although only one boat had survived the attack, as the result of which most crew had to jump into the sea. At first Captain Drummond thought that H.M.S.Aboukir had been mined and signaled the other two cruisers to close and assist with the rescue of his crew, but he soon realised that it was a torpedo attack and ordered the other cruisers away, but too late. As H.M.S.Aboukir rolled over and sank only half an hour after being attacked, Otto Weddigen fired two torpedoes at H.M.S. Hogue that hit her amidships and rapidly flooded her engine room. Captain Nicholson of H.M.S. Hogue had stopped his ship to lower boats to rescue the crew of H.M.S.Aboukir, thinking that as he was the other side of H.M.S.Aboukir from the enemy submarine he would be safe. Unfortunately the U-9 had managed to maneuver around H.M.S.Aboukir and attacked H.M.S.Hogue from a range of about only 300 yards, and it only took H.M.S.Hogue ten minutes to sink as the U-9 headed for H.M.S.Cressy, which was commanded by Captain Johnson. H.M.S.Cressy had also stopped to lower boats but she quickly got underway on sighting a submarine periscope. At about 0720hours Otto Weddigen fired two torpedoes, one of which just missed, but the other hit H.M.S.Cressy on her starboard side. The damage to H.M.S.Cressy was not fatal but the U-9 then turned round and fired her last torpedo as a coup de grace, which hit H.M.S.Cressy sinking her within a quarter of an hour. Survivors of the disaster were picked up by several nearby merchant ships including the Dutch vessels Flora and Titan, and the British trawlers JGC and Corainder, before the Harwich force of light cruisers and destroyers arrived. Flora returned to Holland with 286 rescued crew who were quickly returned to Britain, even though the neutral Dutch should have interned them. In all 837 men were rescued but 1459 died, many of whom were reservists or cadets. On 18 March 1915 the German u-boat U-29 was rammed and sunk by H.M.S. Dreadnought in the Pentland Firth, all 32 submariners onboard perished including Otto Weddigen who had been in command since 16 February 1915.



**COCKS**, STEPHEN CHARLES. Serjeant, L/8026.

"B" Company, 1st Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).

Died 20 October 1914. Aged 29.

Born Ham, Eastry, Kent. Enlisted Dover, Kent. Resided Deal, Kent.

Son of the late Charles Cocks of Eastry, Kent, and Harriett Cocks.

Husband of Annie Elizabeth Taylor (formerly Cocks), (nee Innis), of "Newark," Herschell Road, Lower Walmer, Kent. Formerly of 34, Wellington Road, Deal, Kent, and 3, Western Terrace, Mill Road, Deal, Kent.

Commemorated on Ploegsteert Memorial, Comines-Warneton, Hainaut, Belgium. Panel 2, and on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques, also commemorated on the Ham, Eastry, Kent civic war memorial. Unfortunately on the latter form of remembrance Stephen's surname is spelt **COX**. No matching entry for Stephen and his family was located on either the 1891 or 1901 census's whilst carrying out these brief transcriptions. Having served for a short period as a member of the Militia, might have been an influencing factor why Stephen enlisted in The Buffs (East Kent Regiment) as a regular soldier on 10 August 1905. Initially Stephen enlisted for a twelve year engagement with the colours, and three years in the army reserve. It would appear that his decision join the army and serve as a regular was a sound move, on 8 January 1906 Stephen was appointed an unpaid Lance Corporal, and paid for his Lance rank from 30 June 1906, two years later on 29 June 1908 Stephen was promoted to Corporal, having passed the Mounted Infantry course on 1 January 1907, and his 2nd Class Army Education Certificate on 10 May 1910. On 14 September 1912, Stephen qualified as a Marksman at Hythe, Kent. The final promotion for Stephen occurred on 29 June 1913 when he became a Serjeant. Whilst stationed at Fermoy, County Cork, Stephen married Annie Elizabeth Innis at Cork Registry Office on 29 December 1913, by which time he had formally applied to extend his regular army service commitment to twelve years. The Commanding Officer of Stephen's battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel H.C. de la M. Hill (later Brigadier-General C.B., C.M.G.), endorsed the application of extended service on 14 January 1914. Notations on the applications show "A very useful N.C.O. whose retention is desirable," and that Stephen's character was Exemplary. Along with the other members of his battalion, Stephen first set foot on French soil as a member of the British Expeditionary Force at St. Nazaire on 9 September 1914 having crossed from Southampton aboard the SS Minneapolis. Following a number of moves, Stephen's battalion arrived at Courcelles, where it took over front line trenches to the north east of Vailly sur Aisne at 0230 hours on 21 September, when relieving the 1st Battalion, Northumberland Fusiliers and the 4th Battalion, Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment). Private Herbert Cole, aged 21 from Battersea, London, became the first of at least 1120 other ranks in the battalion to die in the Great War, the second being 30 year old Private, L/7944, Young Thomas Edward Town from Milton Regis, Sittingbourne, Kent. Following Stephen's death, his widow learned of his demise from another soldier serving in the same regiment. In an effort to get official confirmation, Annie was helped by the Reverend A.H. Brongaton in his capacity as the local Assistant Secretary of



the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association, several weeks after Stephen had been killed in action.

**CORY, WILLIAM RICHARD.** Petty Officer, 237154.

Royal Navy, H.M.S. Vanguard.

Died 9 July 1917. Aged 29.

Born Canterbury, Kent 8 March 1889.

Son of Richard William and Jane Bushell Cory (nee Baker), of Deal, Kent.

Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 21, and on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

After leaving Deal Central School aka St George's School, Deal, William worked for a local builder prior to enlisting in the Royal Navy in August 1906. Following a number of postings, and service on various ships including H.M.S. Intrepid, H.M.S. Leviathan, and H.M.S. Natal, upon which he was serving when the ships was compliment was awarded the prize for the 'Best Gunnery in the Fleet,' William eventually joined the crew of H.M.S. Vanguard. He was recommended for a commission late in 1916, by which time he had been serving on H.M.S. Vanguard for some four years. Because he had for many years been a torpedo specialist, William applied to be a Torpedo Instructor should he successfully qualify as such, when he obtained a commissioned rank, it being at odds with the Seaman Branch of the service, which his Royal Navy superiors had planned for him on his impending promotion. A survivor from the 'Battle of Jutland' in which she was part of the Forth Battle Squadron, H.M.S. Vanguard, a 19,560 ton St.Vincent class battleship commanded by Lieutenant Commander Alan C.H. Duke R.N, blew up and sank to the north of the Golta peninsula in Flotta, Scapa Flow at approximately 2320 hours on Monday 9 July 1917 with the loss of 843 lives. She went down as the result of a magazine explosion in one of the two magazines which served the 'P' and 'Q' turrets amidships. Following her loss an Admiralty Court of Enquiry was convened, with three possible causes tendered, they being: - (1) A spontaneous detonation of cordite, which had become unstable. (2) The cordite having caught fire from heating in an adjacent compartment. (3) Sabotage. To their credit Brian Budge from Kirkwall, and fellow enthusiast, Jonathan Saunders from Gillingham, Kent have carried out extensive research over a number of years into the loss of Robert's ship, and it as the result of their findings that the actual death toll and following information has been ascertained. The vast majority of those lost with H.M.S. Vanguard numbering 622, are commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Although no formal cause for the cordite explosion was ever found by the Court of Inquiry, the most likely explanation is that a fire in a coal bunker or other neighbouring area simply smoldered away undetected long enough to heat the cordite stored at an adjoining bulkhead to dangerous levels, which eventually triggered an explosive reaction. Although dwarfed by the losses such as the S.S. Lancastria off the coast of France in the Second World War, the loss of H.M.S. Vanguard remains Britain's worst disaster in Home Waters. The wreck-site of the ship is now thankfully designated as a controlled site under the Protection of Military Remains Act.

**CURLING, G.** No clear trace, but is also commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques. Only twelve casualties of the Great War with the surname Curling are commemorated by the CWGC, and of their number it has been ascertained that at least five were either county of Kent natives, residents or both. When taking into account the significant number of casualties commemorated devoid of their first initial, on the St. Leonards, Deal, Kent memorial, it might be that the casualty was commemorated by the initial of the Christian name which he was commonly known by to all and sundry. An alternative reason could of course be that he is numbered amongst the thousands of Commonwealth war dead, of both world wars who are still not commemorated by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. To add to the frustration of not being able to ascertain his or her identity, is that this casualty was possibly a close relative of the next casualty commemorated below. Frustratingly it has not been possible to find out what year the memorial plaque was actually erected, and if this man had died post 31 August 1921, it being the IWGC cut-off date for Great War related deaths, his death will not be recorded on the excellent CWGC website.

**CURLING, ROBERT THOMAS.** Private, G/11443.

6th (Service) Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).

Died 9 August 1916. Aged 35.

Born and enlisted Deal, Kent.

Son of the late William and Harriet Curling (nee Haywood), of Deal, Kent.

Husband of Catherine Florence Curling (nee Wood), of "Homestead," Mill Road, Deal, Kent. Formerly 1, Grenada Cottages, Mill Road, Deal, Kent.

Father of Catherine Francis Amelia Curling, and Florence Isobel Joyce Curling.

Buried Etaples Military Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France. Grave Ref: IX. D. 6A.

Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

Formerly 3rd (Reserve) Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).

When he enlisted in the army at Deal on 27 November 1915, Robert stated his home address as being "Maundown Villa," Mill Road, Deal, Kent, and that he was employed as a Bricklayer. Robert had married Miss Catherine Florence Wood, at the parish church of St. Leonards, Deal, Kent on 14 April 1906. Robert had served in France from 26 April 1916 until his death which was the result of being mortally wounded by a gunshot wound to his abdomen, and to which he succumbed whilst a patient at the 520 bed St Johns Ambulance Brigade Hospital, Etaples, Pas de Calais, France. Despite it having been clearly marked as a medical establishment since its establishment in 1915, the constantly used hospital where Robert died, was later destroyed by bombs dropped by German aircraft in May 1918, which sadly resulted in loss of life amongst hospital patients and staff.

**DENNE, WILLIAM CHARLES.** Private, 229291.

44th Battalion, Canadian Infantry (New Brunswick Regiment), 4th Canadian Division.

Died 10 April 1917. Aged 32.

Born Deal, Kent 4 May 1886. Enlisted Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada 16 August 1915. Resided Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

Son of Henry William and Eleanor Jane Denne (nee Mummery), of 1012, Sherburn Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

Commemorated at the Canadian Cemetery No.2, Neuville-St. Vaast, Pas de Calais, France. Ref: Special Memorial No. 9. William is also commemorated on page 227 of the Canadian First World War Book of Remembrance, and on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

The 4th Canadian Division to which William's battalion belonged joined the Canadian Corps in October 1916.

**DILNOT, JOHN HENRY.** Sapper, 199942.

7th Field Company, Royal Engineers.

Died 23 November 1918. Aged 34.

Born Canterbury, Kent.

Son of Henry and Emily Jane Dilnot (nee Gambrill).

Husband of Mary Marie Shelly Dilnot (nee Roberts) of 8, East Town, Mill Road, Deal, Kent.

Buried Cologne Southern Cemetery, Germany. Grave Ref: XVI. B. 45.

Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

At the time of the 1901 census, 16 year old John resided with his parents at 8, Cross Roads Terrace, Cross Roads Great Mongeham, Deal, Kent, and was a Mill Lad. 56 year old Waltham, Canterbury, Kent, native Henry Dilnot was recorded by the census enumerator as being the Head of the house, and employed as a Miller. Emily Jane Dilnot was a native of Petham, Canterbury, Kent.

**DRAYSON, CHARLES.** Serjeant, Deal/1133(S).

Royal Marines. 3rd Field Company, Royal Marine Divisional Engineers, 63rd Royal Naval Division.

Died 10 July 1915. Aged 39.

Enlisted 8 February 1915.

Husband of Lucy Kate Drayson (nee Stokes) of 1, Brickfield Cottages, Cemetery Road, Deal, Kent.

Buried Lancashire Landing Cemetery, Turkey. Grave Ref: D. 90.

Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

Please see James Bennetton brief commemoration, re service number information. Charles served in the 3rd Field Company, Royal Marine Divisional Engineers, 63rd Royal Naval Division from 9 May 1915 until his death on 10 July 1915. Two days before he died whilst a patient at the 11th Casualty Clearing Station, Charles was mortally wounded by a gunshot wound to his abdomen.

**EAVES, ALFRED THOMAS.** Lieutenant. (Acting Captain).

10th (Special Reserve) Battalion, (Battersea) The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment).

Died 3 October 1916.

Husband of Mrs. Daisy Eaves (nee Love) of 196, Folkestone Road, Dover, Kent. Commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Pier and Face 5 D. In addition to Alfred's commemoration in France, the St. Leonards, Deal war memorial plaque Dover, Kent. There are a number of other local forms of remembrance of Alfred, they being commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques, the Dover, Kent, civic war memorial, also commemorated on an impressive stained glass window at the Grammar School for Boys, Dover, Kent, it being the tribute to the former pupils of the school who lost their lives during the years of the Great War.

Formerly a Second Lieutenant, East Surrey Regiment having been Gazetted December 1914. Raised in June 1915 the 10th (Service) Battalion, (Battersea) The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment) underwent almost a whole year in training prior to going to the Western Front. Having left Aldershot on 5 May 1916 aboard three trains which arrived at Southampton later the same day the battalion commanded by Lieutenant Colonel R. Oakley then sailed for Le Harve, arriving the following day, from where the battalion left by train for Steenbecque, from Steenbecque the battalion marched to Outtersteene, Bailleul, Nord, later moving back to Steenbecque and took up position in the Ploegsteert area of Belgium where the battalions first casualties occurred. Most of the battalions' locations were in an area on the French/Belgium border for many months which the prime reason the battalion never played a part in the earliest actions of the Battle of the Somme 1916. Around the middle of August 1916 a succession of moves were made by Thomas's battalion, initially to Notteboom, then via Pont-Rémy a move was made to Buigny l'Abbé where several days were spent, after which another move was undertaken to the Dernancourt, Somme area by way of Longpré les Amiens. Eventually the battalion camped about half a mile to the north of Méaulte to the south of the town of Albert on 9 September 1916. From the camp at Méaulte the battalion went to the Pommiers Redoubt on 13 September, and from there to trenches located to the north east of Delville Wood. Two days after occupying the trenches the battalion was involved in an attack undertaken in conjunction the other three battalions which made constituted their (124th Infantry Brigade), they being the 21st Battalion, King's Royal Rifle Corps, and the 26th and 32nd Battalions, Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment). Initially little resistance was experienced during the day of the attack which had got under way at zero hour 0620 hours, with a position called Switch Trench being captured by 0700 hours, and only a mere hour an hour later part of Flers Trench also fell to the four assaulting battalions, by 0850 hours the capture of the that trench complex was completed in unison with the taking of Flers Avenue, to cement their successes later enemy counter attacks were all repulsed. Confirmation of the successful outcome was given by Lieutenant Colonel R. Oakley to the rear echelon at about 1900 hours when he arrived back for treatment for his wounds, at which time he also reported that his battalion had

sustained huge casualties throughout the day, and that in his opinion probably only about 50 all ranks were not casualties. Reading through documents appertaining to the battalion relating to the action involving the capture and holding on to them prior to being withdrawn on 19 September, they all bear out the battalions Commanding Officers estimate regarding casualties. In excess of 300 had been casualties and of their number almost 70 had either been killed in action or died of wounds over the three days of 15 & 17 September, regrettably and probably inevitably others succumbed to their wounds inflicted over the same two days over quiet a long time span after being evacuated the front the line of the Somme. At the start of October the battalion moved forward to the front line again via Pommiers Redoubt to a position named Gird Lines, where the battalion was subjected to fairly continuous fire of all types which included enemy artillery from beyond the Thillooy Road area. From reading the battalion history of the days events it would seem likely that Alfred had been an officer in 'D' Company, which had fared particularly badly after leaving Gird Trench to occupy the positions held by the 21st Battalion, King's Royal Rifle Corps. Shortly after starting the execution of the order to relieve the Riflemen, fresh orders were issued to 'D' Company to render assistance to the four battalions of an attack that was being carried out to it front. Almost from the outset problems occurred not least of which was the difficulty in communications, including that to their own 124th Infantry Brigade Head Quarters, with messages taking a full five hours to be received by the rear echelon from the front. Rumours were rife along the lines that the whole of 'D' Company had been annihilated, which as it transpired was fortunately untrue and only a single officer death is shown, who was killed by a shell whilst consolidating a captured position under during a period of heavy enemy shelling, the officer referred to **probably** being Captain Alfred Eaves.

**ELLIS, SIDNEY**, Private, 10701.

2nd Battalion, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

Died 16 May 1915. Aged 21.

Born St. Thomas, Hampshire. Enlisted Dover, Kent. Resided Deal, Kent.

Son of Louisa Cooper (formerly Ellis), (nee Birchon), of 2, Camden Cottages, Mill Road, Deal, Kent, and the late Sidney Thoroughgood Ellis.

Commemorated on the Le Touret Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Panel 16, and on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.



**FIRTH, JOB.** Private, 51104.

17th (Service) Battalion, (2nd City) Manchester Regiment.

Died 4 May 1918. Aged 33.

Born and resided Deal, Kent. Enlisted Sandwich, Kent.

Son of Job and Selina Firth of 30, Gladstone Road, Deal, Kent.

Buried Hautmont Communal Cemetery, Nord, France. Grave Ref; I. A. 8.

Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

Formerly Private, S4/110034, Army Service Corps. Apart from where he was born and had probably lived all of his life, it would have come as no surprise to have found that Job had been a Royal Marine, as opposed to a soldier, the reason being is that he would have been following in his fathers footsteps. At the time of the 1891 census, Job Firth (senior), a 36 year old native of Bedford, Bedfordshire was recorded by the census enumerator as being the Head of the house, when the Firth resided at 3, Cemetery Road, Deal, Kent, and was a Private in the Royal Marines. Selina Firth was a 36 year old native of Haddingham, Essex.

**FRANKS, PATRICK SAMUEL.** Corporal, CH/15405.

Chatham Battalion, Royal Marine Light Infantry, 63rd Royal Naval Division.

Died 3 May 1915.

Born Lower Walmer, Kent 31 January 1892.

Enlisted 26 February 1906.

Son of George Franks of Alpha Cottage, Blenheim Road, Deal, Kent.

Fiancé Miss Mabel Abbott of "Haycroft," Warwick Road, Walmer, Kent

Commemorated on the Helles Memorial, Turkey. Panel 2 to 7, and on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

Please see James Bennetton brief commemoration, re service number information. Patrick was appointed Lance Corporal on 15 December 1913, and promoted to the rank of Corporal on 6 October 1914. Serving in the Chatham Battalion, Royal Marine Light Infantry, 63rd Royal Naval Division, Patrick had fought at Ostend, Dunkirk, and during the Defence of Antwerp 1914, employed as a scout; he lost his rifle and also a motor-cycle. Patrick's father had also served in the Royal Marine Light Infantry, and during the Great War four of Patrick's brothers also served in the armed forces. Corporal, CH/17817, Thomas Charles Franks, D.S.M., and (Mentioned in Despatches), Corporal, P. Franks, and Private, CH/15008 G.R. Franks, all served in the R.M.L.I., and Private W. Franks, serving in the 2nd Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment), was wounded in France during the capture of "Hill 60" on the same day that Patrick was killed. Patrick and his brother Thomas were both fine runners, winning several trophies and medals each, in cross-country running. At Walmer, Kent on 13 June 1919, Miss Mabel Abbott was the recipient of another three medals posthumously awarded to her late fiancé, they being the 1914 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal, Patrick having named Mary as his beneficiary when he made his Will.

**FRIEND, HENRY CHRISTOPHER.** Lance Corporal, G/4730.  
6th (Service) Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).  
Born and resided Kingsdown, Deal, Kent. Enlisted Deal, Kent.  
Died 19 August 1915. Aged 24.

Son of Christopher and Mary Friend (nee Hopper), of Oakleigh, Kingsdown, Deal, Kent.

Buried Calvaire (Essex) Military Cemetery, Comines-Warneton. Hainaut. Belgium. Grave Ref: III. B. 1.

Henry is also commemorated on the Great War memorial plaque in St. Nicholas parish church, Kingsdown, Deal, Kent, and on Great War memorial plaque located in the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Kent.

**FULLER, RICHARD JAMES,** Lance Corporal, G/343.  
"D" Company, 6th (Service) Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).  
Died 18 March 1916. Aged 31.

Born Sandwich, Kent. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent. Resided Deal, Kent.  
Son of the late John and Sarah Fuller of Haynes Farm, Shepherdswell, Dover, Kent.

Commemorated on the Loos Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Panels 15.

At the time of the 1901 census, Richard was a 15 year old Drapers Assistant residing at the home of his employer, 49 year old Draper, George Frederick Baker at 7, King Street, Maidstone, Kent, where a total of twenty one people resided.

**GOSS, J.** No clear trace, but is also commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques. Regretably no obvious irrefutable matching entry for this casualty was located on any census anywhere, whilst carrying out these brief war memorial transcriptions. Only eleven casualties of the Great War with the matching initial and surname are commemorated by the CWGC, none of which appear the right man. When taking into account the significant number of casualties commemorated devoid of their first initial, on the St. Leonards, Deal, Kent memorial, it might be that the casualty was commemorated by the initial of the Christian name which he was commonly known by to all and sundry. An alternative reason could of course be that he is numbered amongst the thousands of Commonwealth war dead, of both world wars who are still not commemorated by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. It is also possible that this casualty had died post 31 August 1921, it being the then Imperial War Graves Commission cut-off date for Great War related deaths, which would have resulted in his death not being recorded on 'Dept of Honour' on the excellent Commonwealth War Graves Commission website.

**GOODWIN**, REGINALD MAYTUM, Sapper, Deal/1229(S).

Royal Marines, Royal Marine Divisional Engineers, 63rd Royal Naval Division.

Died 15 October 1915. Aged 31.

Son of Richard and Emma Goodwin of Frith Cottage, Southwall Road, Deal, Kent.

Buried Lancashire Landing Cemetery, Turkey. Grave Ref: H. 3, and on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

Please see James Bennetton brief commemoration, re service number information. Reginald enlisted in the Royal Marines on 15 February 1915, and following his training was placed on a draft of Royal Marine Divisional Engineers for the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force in June 1915. A bout of Diarrhoea had hospitalized Reginald whilst at Gallipoli, and he had only rejoined his company on 4 October 1915. Reginald died of gunshot wounds to his head, whilst he was a patient at the 11th Casualty Clearing Station, the wounds having been inflicted earlier on the same day that he died.

**GRAVES**, EDWARD WILLIAM. Private, G/81711.

26th (Service) Battalion, (Bankers) Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment).

Died 28 April 1918. Aged 18.

Born and resided Deal, Kent. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent.

Son of Edward Thomas and Harriet Graves of Fulham House, St. Andrew's Road, Deal, Kent.

Buried Esquelbecq Military Cemetery, Nord, France. Grave Ref: I. A. 16.

Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

**HARDING**, HERBERT HARRY HUBERT, Gunner, 31696.

59th Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery.

Died 5 January 1916. Aged 22.

Born and enlisted Deal, Kent.

Son of John George and Elizabeth Jean Harding of 6, St. Leonard's Terrace, London Road, Upper Deal, Deal, Kent.

Buried Bethune Town Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France. Grave Ref: IV. G. 88.

Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

Regiment served in by Herbert appears to be somewhat apt as at the time of the 1891 census, when Herbert's parents and his elder brother John Henry George Harding resided at 11, Grove Terrace, Deal, Kent, John (senior) was recorded by the census enumerator as being a 42 year old Serjeant in the Royal Artillery.



**HATELY, FRED.** Private, 200468.

9th (Service) Battalion, Cameronians (Scottish Rifles).

Died 22 October 1917. Aged 20.

Son of David Frederick Hately (late Staff Serjeant Royal Engineers), and Emily Hately of 40, Castle Street, Dover, Kent.

Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Panel 68 to 70 and 162 and 162A, and on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

Elusive is probably the most suitable word to describe Fred and his parents. No SDGW entry for Fred or Frederick was located, and no matching entry for Fred and his family was located on either the 1891 or 1901 censuses whilst carrying out these brief transcriptions. With confusion between the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles), and Cameron Highlanders noted on some data by the transcriber of these brief commemorations over the years, checks appertaining the latter regiment have been made, but all to no avail. Additional details found on the Medal Index Card of Private, 200468, Hately was formerly Private, 7053, 5th (Territorial Force) Battalion, Cameronians (Scottish Rifles). Also shown on the Medal Index Card is his Christian name spelt Frederick, and that the qualifying date for his 1914 Star was 5 November 1914. On the date shown on the Medal Index Card, Frederick's battalion arrived at the port of Le Harve onboard the Pacific Steam Navigation Co 4,524 ton ship SS Huanchaco, having crossed to France from Southampton. Whilst residing at 53A, Castle Street, Dover, Kent, on 3 August 1920, David Hately applied on behalf of his wife, for the clasp for fitting to the ribbon on their late sons 1914 Star.



**HEATH, RICHARD.** Lance Corporal, CH/7675.

Chatham Battalion, Royal Marine Light Infantry, 63rd Royal Naval Division.

Died 30 April 1915. Aged 39. (Please see below re date of death).

Born Wateringbury, Maidstone, Kent 19 December 1873. Enlisted (originally) Chatham, Kent 17 January 1894.

Son of Richard and Charlotte Burr Heath (nee Luck) of Broomcroft Cottage, Wateringbury, Maidstone, Kent.

Husband of Mary Ann Heath of Upna Lodge, Upper Gladstone Road, Deal, Kent. Commemorated on the Helles Memorial, Turkey. Panel 2 to 7, and on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques. Richard is also commemorated Great War memorial plaque located in the parish church of St. John the Baptist, Wateringbury, Maidstone, Kent.

Prior to originally enlisting in the Royal Marines, Richard had been employed as a Plumber & Painter's Labourer. Richard re-engaged in the Royal Marines on 17 January 1906, and on 9 April 1909 was awarded the Royal Navy Long Service & Good Conduct Medal. Richard and Mary married on 23 December 1912. At the commencement of the Great War hostilities, Richard was amongst the Royal Marines ordered to serve on the ill-fated H.M.S. Aboukir, but before he could join the ship his orders were changed, and he went to serve in France. Serving in the Chatham Battalion, Royal Marine Light Infantry, 63rd Royal Naval Division, Richard took part in the fighting at Dunkirk between 20 September 1914 and 2 October 1914. During the Defence of Antwerp he sustained a slight wound, and said that he owed his life to the fact that he was re-loading his rifle at the moment when another bullet came through the loophole at which he was engaged. Although during peacetime conditions, Richard would have been retired to pension in January 1915, but he like many of his peers, under war conditions any experienced man could not be released. Richard accompanied his battalion to the Dardanelles in the spring of 1915, and was appointed a Lance Corporal on 29 April 1915, it being the day before his date of death is shown at his CWGC commemoration details, other data accessed records that he was killed in action on the 27 May 1915, but his death certificate has not been sighted by the transcriber of these brief memorials. Prior to the Great War Richard's civilian building skills appear to have been put to good use, as he was employed in the Works Department at the Royal Marine Depot, Deal. On 13 June 1919 Richard's widow received his 1914 Star and clasp. Richard's brother William served in the Royal Navy as an Officers Steward 1st Class, 357289, and was at Whale Island, Portsmouth, Hampshire in 1914, and born at Wateringbury on Boxing Day 1880.

**HIRST**, JAMES LOUIS CLIFFORD. Gunner, 71172.  
2nd Reserve Brigade, Royal Field Artillery.  
Died 29 September 1918. Aged 19.  
Born London. Enlisted Dover, Kent.  
Son of James John and Florence Pauline Hirst of 4, Ravenscourt Road, Deal, Kent.  
Buried Terlincthun British Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France.  
Grave Ref: IV. D. 38.  
Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

**HOOD**, CHRISTOPHER THOMAS. Leading Seaman, 180094.  
Royal Navy, (RFR/CH/B/5691). H.M.S. Hogue.  
Died 22 September 1914. Aged 37.  
Born Kingsdown, Deal, Kent 10 March 1879.  
Son of Thomas and Elizabeth Hood of Kingsdown, Deal, Kent.  
Husband of Elizabeth Hood of 1, Fairview Terrace, Middle Deal Road, Deal, Kent.  
Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 1, and on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.  
Christopher was a recipient of the China Medal 1900.

**JENKINS**, JOHN HADLOW. Able Seaman, J/7405.  
Royal Navy, H.M.S. Raglan.  
Died 20 January 1918. Aged 26.  
Born Deal, Kent 27 March 1892.  
Son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Jenkins of Deal, Kent.  
Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 28, and on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

**JOHNSTON**, B. No clear trace. Also commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

**JUDSON**, CHARLES FREDERICK. M.M. Serjeant, 72049.  
126th Battery, 29th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery.  
Died 22 October 1917.  
Born Punjab, India. Enlisted Dover, Kent.  
Buried Cement House Cemetery, Langemark, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.  
Grave Ref: V. A. 23.  
Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

**KINGSFORD**, WILLIAM. M.M. Serjeant, G/616.  
6th (Service) Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).  
Died 13 August 1917. Aged 37.  
Born Wingham, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Sandwich, Kent. Resided Deal, Kent.  
Husband of Eveline Margaret Myatt (formerly Kingsford) of 5, Asquith Road, New Village, Bentley, Doncaster, Yorkshire.  
Buried Faubourg-d'Amiens Cemetery, Arras, Pas de Calais, France.  
Grave Ref: V. J. 15.  
Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

**KNIGHT**, GEORGE DAVID EDWARD. Sapper, Deal/5036(S).  
2nd Field Company, Royal Marines, Royal Marine Divisional Engineers, 63rd Royal Naval Division.  
Died 27 October 1916. Aged 32.  
Son of Joseph Knight, of 5, Railway Terrace, Albert Road, Sholden, Deal, Kent.  
Husband of E. E. Knight of 2, Alexandra Terrace, Church Lane, Sholden, Deal, Kent.  
Buried Wimereux Communal Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France.  
Grave Ref: I. R. 21A.  
Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.  
Please see James Bennetton brief commemoration, re service number information. Prior to enlisting in the Royal Marines on 28 June 1915, George was employed as a Painter. Following the successful completion of his training, George was placed on a draft for Mediterranean Expeditionary Force on 5 December 1915, and joined the 1st Field Company, Royal Marine Divisional Engineers, at Mudros on 26 January 1916. George was posted to the 2nd Field Company, R.M.D.E. on 6 February 1916, and posted to the Base Depot, Mudros on 5 April 1916. He rejoined the 2nd Field Company on 5 July 1916 and served in the field with it until 20 October 1916, when he was wounded by shrapnel wounds in both his thighs and right hand. At the time of George's wounding at the Somme village of Englebelmer approximately five miles to the north-west of the town of Albert, he was engaged in work on trench repairs an Observation Post whilst his unit was working on reclaimed old trenches. Following his wounding, George was evacuated from the battle front and died of his wounds at 2310 hours on 27 October 1916 whilst a patient at the 8th Stationary Hospital, Wimereux, Pas de Calais, France.

**LEWIS**, C.A. No clear trace, as commemorated with the two initials on the St. Leonard's Church, Deal, Kent, war memorial, but probably the casualty is the following soldier:-

**LEWIS**, CECIL. Private, G/4715.  
8th (Service) Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).  
Died 26 September 1915.  
Born St. George's, Deal, Kent. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent. Resided Deal, Kent.  
Commemorated on the Loos Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Panel 15.

**LOTT, WILLIAM.** Lance Corporal, G/9727.  
6th (Service) Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).  
Died 7 October 1916. Aged 29.  
Born Sholden Deal, Kent. Enlisted and resided Faversham, Kent.  
Son of Charles and Harriet Lott of 3, Belmont, Sholden Bank, Deal, Kent.  
Husband of Helen Rosina Clackett (formerly Lott) of 5, Spratling Street, Manston, Ramsgate, Isle of Thanet, Kent.  
Commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Pier and Face 5 D, and on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

**MASON, V.** No clear trace. Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

**MAY, EDWARD GEORGE.** Private, 9136.  
7th (Service) Battalion, East Surrey Regiment.  
Attached to the 253rd Company, Royal Engineers.  
Died March 1916. Aged 26.  
Born Wingham, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Dover, Kent. Resided Upper Deal, Kent.  
Son of Walter and Annie May of 2, Highfield Cottages, Park Road, Deal, Kent.  
Husband of Jessie McVaye (formerly May) of 1, Fernside, Middle Deal Road, Deal, Kent.  
Buried Vermelles British Cemetery, Pas-de-Calais, France. Grave Ref: II. L. 17.  
Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

**MAY, WALTER.** Corporal, Deal/11334(S).  
Royal Marine Labour Company (Cherbourg), Royal Marine Labour Corps.  
Died 13 December 1918. Aged 57.  
Son of Charles and Elizabeth May of Bridge, Canterbury, Kent.  
Husband of Annie May of 2, Highfield Park Road, Deal, Kent.  
Buried Deal Cemetery, Kent. Grave Ref: 2. 1189.  
Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.  
Please see James Bennetton brief commemoration, re service number information.

**MILLWOOD, THOMAS LEONARD.** Serjeant, 7539.  
2nd Battalion, South Lancashire Regiment.  
Died 5 April 1915. Aged 28.  
Born and enlisted Canterbury, Kent.  
Son of John and Elizabeth Millwood of 24, Wellington Road, Deal, Kent.  
Buried Dickebusch New Military Cemetery, Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.  
Grave Ref: C. 28.  
Thomas is probably the casualty who is commemorated on the St. Leonards parish church war memorial, Deal, Kent as L MILWOOD. Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

**MORGAN**, LEONARD JACK. Lieutenant.  
4th Battalion, (Territorial Force) The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).  
Died 1 December 1917. Aged 33.  
Son of Edward Walter and Minnie Morgan of The White Bungalow, London Road, Deal, Kent.  
Buried Fins New British Cemetery, Sorel Le Grand, Pas-de-Calais, France.  
Grave Ref: II. D. 5.  
Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

**MORSE**, CHRISTOPHER. Lieutenant.  
178th Tunneling Company, Royal Engineers.  
Died 7 December 1917. Aged 26.  
Born Norwich, Norfolk.  
Son of A. Gertrude Morse of 3, Gladstone Road, Deal, Kent, and the late Thomas H. Morse, F.R.C.S.  
Buried Fins New British Cemetery, Sorel Le Grand, Pas-de-Calais, France.  
Grave Ref: II. G. 2.  
Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

**NEWING**, ARTHUR JAMES. Private, G/40887.  
16th (Service) Battalion, (Public School) Middlesex Regiment.  
Died 14 April 1917. Aged 20.  
Born Deal, Kent. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent.  
Son of Mrs. E. J. Newing of Lona Villa, Middle Deal Rd., Deal, Kent, and the late Edward John Newing.  
Commemorated Feuchy Chapel British Cemetery, Pas-de-Calais, France.  
Grave Ref: Special Memorial B. 3.  
Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.  
Brother of the following casualty commemorated.

**NEWING**, ERNEST BEECHING. Sapper, 236037.  
"G" Depot Company, Royal Engineers.  
Died 11 June 1918. Aged 23.  
Born and enlisted Deal, Kent.  
Son of Mrs. E. J. Newing of Lona Villa, Middle Deal Rd., Deal, Kent, and the late Edward John Newing.  
Buried Deal Cemetery, Kent. Grave Ref: I. 410.  
Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.  
Formerly Sapper, 1153, 63rd Royal Naval Division Engineers. Probably a brother of the next casualty commemorated.

**NEWING, JOHN HERBERT.** Sapper, 236035.  
249th Field Company, Royal Engineers.  
Died 25 March 1918. Aged 30.  
Born and enlisted Deal, Kent. Resided Claygate, Surrey.  
Husband of Rosa Newing of Upper Garage, Kensington Palace, London.  
Buried Puchevillers British Cemetery, Somme, France. Grave Ref: VII. E. 3.  
Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.  
Formerly Sapper, 871, 63rd Royal Naval Division Engineers.

**NEWING, S.** No trace. Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

**PARKER, CHARLES HENRY.** Private, G/4647.  
2nd Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).  
Died 21 May 1915.  
Born Upper Deal, Kent. Enlisted Dover, Kent. Resided Deal, Kent.  
Buried Harlebeke New British Cemetery, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.  
Grave Ref: I. D. 10.  
Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

**PARRY, FREDERICK GEORGE.** Master at Arms (Pensioner), 350119.  
Royal Navy, H.M.S. Clan McNaughton.  
Died 3 February 1915. Aged 43.  
Born Stratford, London 31 December 1871.  
Husband of Mrs. Parry of 12, Claremont Terrace, Mill Road, Deal, Kent.  
Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 12, and on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.  
Launched on Wednesday 28 June 1911, the 4895 ton ship Clan McNaughton was originally owned by Clan Line Steamers Ltd (Glasgow). The vessel was requisitioned by the Admiralty in November 1914 when she returned to her home port of Tilbury, Essex, and was hastily converted into an armed merchant cruiser and renamed H.M.S. Clan McNaughton. Commanded by 39 year old Commander Robert Jeffreys R.N., on 3 February 1915, the ship sank off the north coast of Ireland with the loss of all 261 officers and ratings on board. Onboard H.M.S. Clan McNaughton when she was lost were approximately fifty boys who were straight out of the Royal Navy boys training shore base H.M.S. Ganges, Shotley, Suffolk, who were part of the crew. H.M.S. Clan McNaughton had been in radio contact at about 0600 hours on the morning that she was lost, at which time the ships Radio Officer had reported terrible prevailing weather conditions. Nothing conclusive is known about the cause of her loss, although some floating wreckage was found a fortnight later in her last known approximate position, despite which none of it could actually be identified as having come from her. Following an Admiralty enquirey which was conducted during the Great War it had presumed that H.M.S. Clan McNaughton had been mined. Due to the approximate area of her sinking, later investigations which were conducted post

war thought that the cause of the loss of the ship, as was presumed at the time of the Admiralty enquirey was unlikely, although possible.

**PATTERSON, ALAN.** Captain.

71st Brigade, Royal Field Artillery.

Died 14 March 1916. Aged 30.

Born 12 March 1886.

Son of the Reverend Robert Patterson, M.A. and Beatrice Patterson of Deal, Kent.

Husband of Nan Patterson of 30, Clarence Road, Walmer, Kent.

Buried Fosse 7 Military Cemetery, (Quality Street) Mazingarbe, Pas-de-Calais, France. Grave Ref: II. G. 2.

Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

A former pupil (Bodeites House) of Charterhouse School, Godalming, Surrey. Alan enlisted in the Royal Regiment of Artillery in 1907; he was an outstanding athlete and had been the Army Quarter Mile Champion in 1908 and 1909. It had been a particularly good year regarding Alan's running achievements in 1909, as in addition to retaining his Army Quarter Mile Champion title; he added the Army Half Mile Champion title, and became the Amateur Quarter Mile Champion.

**PHILPOTT, WILLIAM WALTER.** Private, T/4776.

1st/5th Battalion, The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment).

Died 15 May 1916. Aged 30.

Born and resided Deal, Kent. Enlisted Dover, Kent.

Son of the late Walter J. and Emma Philpott.

Husband of Ada Florence Philpott (nee Whitlock) of Maxton House, Western Road, Deal, Kent.

Commemorated on the Basra Memorial, Iraq. Panel 6, and on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

Formerly Private, G/6624, East Surrey Regiment.

**PIERCE, WILLIAM CHARLES.** Driver, T/18932.

Army Service Corps, attached to the 'B' Corps H.Q. Ammunition Park.

Died 5 September 1917. Aged 37.

Born, and enlisted Dover, Kent. Resided Deal, Kent.

Husband of Frances Ellen Pierce (nee Nicholas) of 2, Wellington Place, Deal, Kent.

Buried Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Poperinge, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.

Grave Ref: XVIII. F. 16A.

Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.



It is possible that the next three casualties with the surname Royes were brothers, the sons of George and Adelaide Royes (nee Biggs), although the CWGC commemoration of Frank Royes shows his parents as being Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Royes. The three casualties were the first generation 'Men of Kent,' as their lineage can be traced back for several generations in the county of Somerset. Their father was born at Somerton, Somerset in 1853.

**ROYES, EDWIN GEORGE.** Drummer, L/8569.

1st Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).

Died 2 September 1915.

Born Walmer, Kent. Entitled Chatham, Kent. Resided Deal, Kent.

Buried La Brique Military Cemetery No.1, Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.

Grave Ref: E. 6.

Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

Edwin is commemorated on the St. Leonard's parish church, Deal Kent memorial plaque as G. ROYES. It probably being indicative of him been known by his second Christian name, by the local populace etcetera. Edwin appears to be the 12 year pupil at the Royal Hospital School, Greenwich, who was recorded as being a native of Deal, Kent, by the census enumerator in 1901.

**ROYES, FRANK LOUIS.** Private, CH/17899.

Royal Marine Light Infantry, H.M.S. Formidable.

Died Friday 1 January 1915. Aged 18.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Royes of 1, Camden Cottages, Mill Road, Deal, Kent.

Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 13, and on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

Frank's birth was registered in the Eastry, Kent area during the second quarter of 1896. The 15,000 ton battleship H.M.S. Formidable was launched at Portsmouth on 17 November 1898, and served in the Mediterranean Fleet until April 1908, when she was transferred to the Channel Fleet. In 1912 she formed part of the 5th Battle Squadron, which consisted of eight battleships and two cruisers, and she was serving with this squadron at the commencement of the Great War. H.M.S. Formidable departed from Sheerness, Kent, on Wednesday 30 December 1914 to take part in a firing exercise off coast of Portland, Dorset. At 0200 hours on Friday 1 January 1915, H.M.S. Formidable was hit by two torpedoes fired from the German submarine U-24, which was commanded by Kapitänleutnant Rudolf Schneider who was in command from 1 August 1914 to 3 June 1916. The first torpedo hit the number one boiler port side; a second explosion caused the ship to list heavily to starboard. Huge waves thirty feet high lashed the stricken ship, with strong winds, rain and hail, sinking it in less than two hours, approximately 20 miles off Start Point. Various data checked show a variance in the actual numbers who survived the sinking, but it appears to be about 200 from her complement of 780. The U-24 has the dubious distinction of being the very first u-boat to attack an unarmed merchant ship without warning, it being the SS Admiral Ganteaume, which was torpedoed but stayed afloat and was later safely towed to port. U-24 survived the Great War and surrendered to

the allied powers at the end of the Great War, and was eventually broken up at Swansea in 1922.

**ROYES**, T.P. Private, CH/16894.

Royal Marine Light Infantry, H.M.S. Aboukir.

Died 22 September 1914.

Buried The Hague General Cemetery, Netherlands.

Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

It would seem likely that Private Royes was Thomas Percy Royes, whose birth was registered in the Eastry, Kent area during the first quarter of 1890, the son of George and Adelaide Royes (nee Biggs). Early in the Great War the Royal Navy maintained a patrol of old Cressy class armoured cruisers which was called 'Cruiser Force C' in an area of the North Sea known as the Broad Fourteens. On 16 July 1914 the German submarine U-9 became the first submarine in history to reload torpedoes whilst still submerged, and on 22 September 1914 the same submarine under the command of Commander Otto Weddigen who had commanded the U-9 since 1 August 1914, sighted H.M.S.Cressy, H.M.S.Aboukir and H.M.S.Hogue all steaming NNE at 10 knots without zigzagging, although the patrols were supposed to maintain a speed of 12 to 13 knots and zigzag, the old cruisers were unable to maintain that speed and the zigzagging order was widely ignored mainly due to the fact that there had been no enemy submarines sighted in that area of the North Sea at that stage of the war. Otto Weddigen and his crew later the same day put into practice under wartime conditions what they had perfected in peace, and were able to reload beneath the waves. Otto Weddigen maneuvered the U-9 to attack the three cruisers, and at approximately 0625 hours fired a single torpedo at H.M.S.Aboukir which struck her on her port side. Aboukir rapidly suffered heavy flooding and despite counter flooding developed a 20 degree list and lost engine power. It was soon clear that she was a lost cause and Captain Drummond ordered her to be abandoned, although only one boat had survived the attack so most crew had to jump into the sea. At first Captain Drummond thought that H.M.S.Aboukir had been mined and signaled the other two cruisers to close and assist with the rescue of his crew, but he soon realised that it was a torpedo attack and ordered the other cruisers away, but too late. As H.M.S.Aboukir rolled over and sank only half an hour after being attacked, Otto Weddigen fired two torpedoes at H.M.S. Hogue that hit her amidships and rapidly flooded her engine room. Captain Nicholson of H.M.S. Hogue had stopped his ship to lower boats to rescue the crew of H.M.S.Aboukir, thinking that as he was the other side of Aboukir from the enemy submarine he would be safe. Unfortunately the U-9 had managed to maneuver around H.M.S.Aboukir and attacked H.M.S.Hogue from a range of about only 300 yards, and it only took H.M.S.Hogue ten minutes to sink as the U-9 headed for H.M.S.Cressy which was commanded by Captain Johnson. H.M.S.Cressy had also stopped to lower boats but quickly got underway on sighting a submarine's periscope. At about 0720 hours Otto Weddigen fired two torpedoes, one of which just missed but the other hit H.M.S.Cressy on her starboard side. The damage to H.M.S.Cressy was not fatal but the U-9 then turned round and fired her last torpedo as a coup de

grace which hit Cressy sinking her within a quarter of an hour. Survivors of the disaster were picked up by several nearby merchant ships including the Dutch Flora and Titan and the British trawlers JGC and Corainder before the Harwich force of light cruisers and destroyers arrived. Flora returned to Holland with 286 rescued crew who were quickly returned to Britain, even though the neutral Dutch should have interned them. In all 837 men were rescued but 1459 died, many of whom were reservists or cadets. On 18 March 1915 the German submarine U-29 was rammed and sunk by H.M.S. Dreadnought in the Pentland Firth, all 32 submariners onboard perished including Otto Weddigen who had been in command since 16 February 1915.

**SKINNER, LESLIE THOMAS.** Lance Corporal, G/10483.  
7th (Service) Battalion, The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment).  
Died 8 November 1917.  
Enlisted and resided Canterbury, Kent.  
Buried A.I.F. Burial Ground, Flers, Somme, France. Grave Ref: XV. B. 25.  
Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

**TANNER, RAYMOND STUART.** Lieutenant.  
3rd (Reserve) Battalion, King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment).  
Died 31 August 1916. Aged 35.  
Born Lewis, Sussex.  
Son of Stephen and Mary Tanner of "Westmore," Salisbury Road, Seaford, Sussex.  
Buried Woods Cemetery, Zillebeke, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.  
Grave Ref: V. A. 3.  
Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.  
At the time of the 1881 census the Tanner family resided at 50, High Street, Cliffe, Lewis, Sussex.



**TAYLOR, FREDERICK GEORGE.** Corporal, CH/15864.

Royal Marine Light Infantry, H.M.S. Inflexible.

Died 18 March 1915. Aged 25.

Son of James Isaac and Clara Taylor of Conway Cottage, Mill Road, Deal, Kent. Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 13, and on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

Frederick's CWGC commemoration show that he was present at the Battle of Falkland Islands. On the day that Frederick was killed whilst H.M.S. Inflexible was carrying out a bombardment of Dardanelles forts, his ship was hit nine times by returned enemy fire, and then she struck a mine resulting in loss of life. Following the engagement H.M.S. Inflexible withdrew and was beached whilst temporary repairs made then went to Malta for repair, where she arrived on 10 April 1915. Launched at Clydebank in April 1906, H.M.S. Inflexible was 17,250 ton battle cruiser, commissioned in March 1909. In August 1914, she took part in the Battle of Heligoland Bight, as a consequence of which the Kaiser restricted the operations of the German fleet. Following the disaster at Coronel on 1 November 1914, H.M.S. Invincible and H.M.S. Inflexible were dispatched to the South Atlantic to avenge the defeat. Encountering the German squadron under Graf von Spee at the Falkland Islands, the British gave chase in which the superior speed of the battlecruisers was a decisive factor. The German flagship, SMS Scharnhorst, and her sister, SMS Gneisenau, were both sunk as were the cruisers Leipzig and Nürnberg. On returning to home waters, H.M.S. Invincible became the flagship of the 2nd. Battlecruiser Squadron and subsequently transferred to the 3rd. Battlecruiser Squadron, flying the flag of 45 year old Rear-Admiral Sir Horace Lambert Alexander Hood, K.C.B., D.S.O., M.V.O. At 1834 hours on 31 May 1916 at Jutland, she was sunk by SMS Derfflinger and Lützow after being hit in Q turret, when the magazine blew up H.M.S. Inflexible sunk in two halves. Out of a crew of 1,031, only two officers and three ratings survived the sinking.

**WRATTEN, ALFRED ERNEST.** Private, 493262.

1st/13th Kensington Battalion, London Regiment.

Died 4 May 1917. Aged 24.

Born Deal, Kent. (please see below). Enlisted London. Resided Middle Deal, Kent.

Son of James and Mary Wratten of 68, St. Dunstan's Road, Hammersmith, London.

Buried Wancourt British Cemetery, Pas-de-Calais, France. Grave Ref: IV. B. 27.

Commemorated on the Victoria Hospital, Deal, Great War memorial plaques.

Formerly Private, 5738, 7th (Service) Battalion, Middlesex Regiment.

Alfred is recorded by SDGW as being a native of Hythe, Kent, but his CWGC details show him as born Deal, Kent. A possible reason for the apparent confusion is that the SDGW data appears to be confused with Roland Glover Wratten of the Middlesex Regiment, who is buried at Burmarsh, Romney Marsh, Kent. Roland is shown by the SDGW as a native of Deal, Kent, when it would appear that he was in fact born at Hythe, Kent.