

DOVER

Kent Wesleyan Methodist Church Buckland Dover Kent

The plaque was unveiled on 5 May 1920 by the Mayor of Dover, at which time the Reverend James Claude Whiting was the Church Minister. It is inscribed as under.

Buckland Roll of Honour

To the Glory of God and in Proud and Grateful Memory of Those who Gave their Lives
for King and Country in the Great War 1914-1918.

The Great War

1914 - 1919

ACKEHURST, ARTHUR WILLIAM. Private, G/23200.

8th (Service) Battalion, The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment).

Died 2 February 1916. Aged 19. (CWGC data, please see below).

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Ackehurst of 12 Edgar Road. Buckland, Dover, Kent.

Born, enlisted and resided Dover, Kent.

Buried Jeancourt Communal Cemetery Extension, Aisne, France. Grave Ref. I. D.18.

SDGW shows Arthur's date of death as occurring on 2 February 1918 which is probably correct as his battalion had moved to the Ypres Salient in the Poperinghe area early in January 1916, with an advance party going on 4 January and the remainder on the following day. Also Arthur's regimental number would suggest that he was a 1917 enlistment, and the information provided by the CWGC re Jeancourt Communal Cemetery Extension is of significance as regards to Arthur's demise. Jeancourt was a German hospital centre and the extension to the communal cemetery was used alternately by Commonwealth and German troops; a substantial German plot remains in the north-western part. The Commonwealth burials, made by the 59th (North Midland) Division and other fighting troops, began in April 1917, continued until February 1918, and were resumed in September 1918. Further burials were added after the Armistice when graves, almost all of March and September 1918, were brought in from the surrounding battlefields. An alternative reason for the date confusion would be if Arthur had been attached to another regiment that was serving in the Département of the Aisne, France on 2 February 1916 which seems highly unlikely. It would seem likely that Arthur was recorded by the then IWGC with the wrong date of death quite simply by a slip of the pen or misreading casualty card information from his regiment. In view of the fact that Arthur is the first casualty on the war memorial who had died whilst serving in a battalion that

was in the 18th (Eastern) Division, it seems right to add briefly something about that division here. The 18th (Eastern) Division was formed in the middle of September 1914 as part of Kitchener's Second New Army. The division was extremely fortunate in its first appointed General Officer Commanding, he being Ivor Maxse, who had been brought home from commanding the 1st (Guards) Brigade, an officer well known for his ability in training skills and for demanding nothing but the very highest standards from all ranks. He remained in post as the G.O.C. of the 18th (Eastern) Division until January 1917, when he was replaced by another highly capable commander, Richard Philip Lee. Major General Lee remained in command for the rest of the war. With the advantage of having only two GOC's, both of such a calibre, the 18th Division reached a very high peak of efficiency and became one of the best in the British Expeditionary Force. It had eleven Victoria Crosses awarded to its members, it being the second highest number awarded to a non-regular division, after the twelve won by the 55th (West Lancashire) Division, and also gained over 4,300 other awards; but at a price as the divisions total casualties amounted to 46,503.

BALDWIN, THOMAS. Petty Officer Stoker, K/12579.

Royal Navy, H.M.S. Partridge.

Died 12 December 1917. Aged 28.

Born Ticehurst, Sussex 10 January 1892.

Son of Thomas and Frances Baldwin of Chapel Street, Temple Ewell, Dover, Kent.

Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 23.

H.M.S. Partridge was a Moon class destroyer, commissioned on 4 March 1916. She was sunk off the coast of Norway during an attack by four German destroyers the G101, G103, G104 and V100, when Thomas's ship was escorting a convoy of five neutral vessels in the North Sea. All six vessels were sunk during the attack. Although damaged during the same attack, H.M.S. Pellew the sister ship of H.M.S. Partridge escaped the action.

BEAN, ALEXANDER JOHN. Private, G/9311.

7th (Service) Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).

Died 12 October 1917 Aged 20.

Born, enlisted and resided Dover, Kent.

Son of Albert Edward Leonard Bean and Henrietta Christina Bean of 290, London Road, Dover, Kent.

Nephew of Mr H. Bean of 16 Paul's Place, Dover, Kent.

Buried Cement House Cemetery, Langemark-Poelkapelle, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.
Grave Ref: VII. D. 21.

BREEZE, ALFRED RICHARD, Private, 400393.

13th (Service) Battalion, (West Ham) Essex Regiment.

Died 30 November 1917.

Born Buckland, Dover, Kent. Enlisted and resided Tonbridge, Kent.

Commemorated on the Cambrai Memorial, Louverval, Nord, France. Panel 7.

Alfred was numbered amongst the 41 other rank casualties who lost their lives serving in his battalion during the 'Battle of Cambrai.' The battle began at 0620 hours on 20

November, commencing with a carefully prepared and predicted, but unregistered artillery barrage by 1,003 guns on key German defences, that shelling was then followed by smoke and a creeping barrage at 300 yards ahead to cover the first infantry advances. Despite the British efforts which had been put in place to preserve secrecy, the enemy forces had however been in possession of sufficient intelligence to be on a constant moderate alert, which amongst other things had resulted in an attack on the little village of Havrincourt being anticipated as was the use of tanks. Initially there was considerable success in most areas, and it seemed patently obvious that a great allied victory was within reach; the Hindenburg Line had been successfully penetrated with advances of up to 8 km achieved. On the right, the 12th (Eastern) Division advanced as far as Lateau Wood before digging in as ordered. The 20th (Light) Division forced a way through La Vacquerie and then advanced to capture a key bridge across the St Quentin canal at Masnieres. The actual fate of the bridge is unclear, as it was certainly destroyed but that was either by German demolition or by the weight of tanks attempting to pass over it. Whatever the cause it halted the hopes for advance there. In the centre the British captured Ribécourt and Marcoing, but when the cavalry passed through, late, they were dealt a sharp blow and fell back from Noyelles. Over the week several other local actions were fought with which resulted in successes and failures on both side of the overall battle. More and more British troops were pushed into the front line positions, which resulted in the British reserves being rapidly depleted and al the time the enemy troops were constantly receiving more reinforcements. The final British effort was on 27 November carried out by the 62nd Division aided by thirty tanks, with its early success being reversed by a successful German counterattack. The British then held a salient approximately seven miles by five and a half miles with had its front running along the crest of a ridge. On 28 November the British offensive was deemed to have officially ceased, at which time the British troops were ordered to consolidate their positions by laying barbed wire entanglements and digging in. The Germans were particularly quick off the mark to concentrate their artillery on the new British positions with staggering numbers of rounds being fired prior to their infantry counter attacking. The initial rapid speed of the German infantry advance when carrying out the counter attacks was completely unexpected by the British. The German attack began at 0700 hours on 30 November, and almost immediately the majority of its III Corps divisions were heavily engaged. At numerous locations during the German attacks, local engagements mirrored the successes and failures which had occurred on both sides during the British offensive. On 3 December Sir Douglas Haig ordered a retreat from the salient held by his troops, and by 7 December all the British gains were abandoned, except for a portion of the 'Hindenburg Line' around Havrincourt, Ribécourt and Flesquières. The Germans had exchanged this territorial loss for a sweep of land to the south of a position named 'Welsh Ridge.' Total casualties on both sides resulting from the battle were approximately 45,000 each, with 11,000 Germans and 9,000 British soldiers being taken prisoner. In terms of territory the Germans had recovered the early losses and a little more. Despite the outcome, the battle was seen as evidence than even the strongest trench defences could be overcome. The British had seen the advantage of tanks while the German command had seen the potential of new infantry tactics.

CHANDLER, FREDERICK GEORGE. Private, 94373.
222nd Company, Machine Gun Corps (Infantry).
Died 25 September 1918. Aged 25.
Enlisted Ashford, Kent.
Son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Chandler of Buckland, Dover, Kent.
Commemorated on the Karachi 1914-1918 War Memorial, Pakistan.

CHASE, HAROLD CHARLES. Second Lieutenant.
4th Battalion, (Territorial Force) Lincolnshire Regiment.
Died 8 June 1917. Aged 24.
Son of William Henry and Fanny Amelia Chase of 22, Cherry Tree Avenue, Dover, Kent.
Commemorated on the Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Bay 3.
Enlisted in Royal East Kent Yeomanry in October 1914 and was Gazetted as a Second Lieutenant into the Lincolnshire Regiment during October 1916, and went to France with the regiment in January 1917.

COOKE, FRANK. Sapper, 212418.
429th Field Company, Royal Engineers.
Died 7 January 1918. Aged 37.
Born and enlisted Dover, Kent.
Husband of Eleanor Frances Cooke of 158, Union Road, Dover, Kent.
Probably the son of Charles and Emma Cooke of Dover, Kent.
Buried Longuenesse (St Omer) Souvenir Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France.
Grave Ref: IV. F. 37.
Based on the 1881 census data it would seem likely that Frank was born at 1 Trevanion Lane, St James, Dover, Kent in February 1881.

CROFT, FREDERICK JAMES. Regimental Serjeant Major, 1754.
'L' Depot Company, Royal Engineers.
Died 4 November 1918.
Born and enlisted Winchester, Hampshire.
Husband of A. M. Croft of 32, Rutland Road, Hove, Brighton, Sussex.
Buried Fort Pitt Military Cemetery, Chatham, Kent. Grave Ref: 1507.

DADDS, LEONARD. M.M. Serjeant, 71583.
109th Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery.
Died 31 October 1918.
Born Folkestone, Kent. Enlisted Dover, Kent.
Son of William and Eliza Dadds.
Buried St. Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, Seine-Maritime, France.
Grave Ref: S. III. G. 2.

DAVIS, LINGARD HOWELL MONTGOMERY. Corporal, 23/116.
1st Battalion, 3rd New Zealand Rifle Brigade (Earl of Liverpool's Own).
Died 20 June 1917. Aged 26.
Born Dover, Kent.

Son of the late Gledney Smith Davis and Margaret Davis.

Buried Trois-Arbres Cemetery, Steenwerck, Nord, France. Grave Ref: I. P. 42.

The New Zealand Rifle Brigade which was affectionately known as "The Dinks," was formed on 1 May 1915, in the 3rd Brigade of the New Zealand Division, as part of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force. Two battalions of the 3rd New Zealand Rifle Brigade (Earl of Liverpool's Own) departed from Wellington, New Zealand on 8 October 1915 and arrived at Cairo, Egypt on 14 November 1915. They were joined on the 13 and 15 March 1916 by the third and fourth battalions. On 14 November 1915, Arab tribesmen, supporters of the powerful Senussi movement, opened fire at a British-Egyptian border post at As-Sallum. This relatively small (the Turks provided uniforms and equipment for 7000 men, supplemented by others with their own weapons), but experienced force then advanced east to attack Sidi Barrani. This Arab revolt was planned and promoted by the Turkish government, who hoped that it would tie down British and Italian troops in North Africa, and during the time spent in Egypt, Lingard's regiment fought against the Senussi force. After a period of re-organisation the full brigade departed from the port of Alexandria, Egypt on 7 April 1916 en-route for France. Following the soldiers undergoing further battle training, they eventually entered the line on 13 May 1916 in positions located to the east of Armentieres, after which the 3rd New Zealand Rifle Brigade (Earl of Liverpool's Own) participated in a significant number of the battles until the cessation of hostilities, before being disbanded on 4 February 1919. Of particular obvious significance regarding Lingard's death was the 'Battle of Messines' that was launched on June 7 1917 by the Second Army, commanded by General Sir Hubert 'Daddy' Plummer. Between 28 May and June 7 1917, an exceptionally heavy artillery bombardment of the German defences did considerable damage to them. At 0310 hours on June 7, prior to the assault by infantry and tanks, nineteen of twenty one mines laid by the British containing 600 tons of explosives were detonated. One of the other mines had been found by the Germans and rendered safe. A cow died when a lightning strike set off the other remaining mine on 17 July 1955. An innovation of note used during the battle was the use of tanks to ferry supplies to the assaulting troops, no doubt saving a significant number of lives with the non-use of 'traditional' carrying parties. Messines (now Mesen) was considered a strong strategic position, not only from its height above the plain below, but from the extensive system of cellars under the convent known as the Institution Royale. The village was taken from the 1st Cavalry Division by the German 26th Division on 31 October-1 November 1914. An attack by French troops on 6 -7 November 1914 was unsuccessful, and it was not until the 'Battle of Messines' on 7 June 1917 that it was retaken by the New Zealand Division. On 10-11 April 1918, the village fell into German hands once more after a stubborn defence put up by the South African Brigade, but was retaken for the last time on 28-29 September 1918 during the German retreat. The Messines Ridge (New Zealand) Memorial stands within Messines Ridge British Cemetery, and commemorates over 800 soldiers of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force who died in or near Messines in 1917 and 1918, and who have no known grave. This is one of seven memorials on the former Western Front in France and

Belgium, to those New Zealand soldiers who died in the various battles fought, and whose graves are not known. The memorials are all in cemeteries that were chosen as being appropriate to the fighting in which the men died. The site for the Trois-Arbres Cemetery was chosen for the 2nd Australian Casualty Clearing Station in July 1916, and Plot 1 and the earlier rows of Plot II, were made and used by that hospital until April 1918 when it was evacuated during the successful enemy push. Purely speculation, but in view of the cemeteries prime use, it would seem likely that Lingard had been numbered amongst the New Zealanders who were wounded during the 'Battle of Messines,' and later succumbed to same whilst a patient at the 2nd Australian Casualty Clearing Station.

DAWES, ARTHUR. Private, G/23870.

"C" Company, 10th (Royal East Kent and West Kent Yeomanry) Battalion.

The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).

Died 21 September 1918.

Born, enlisted and resided Dover, Kent.

Commemorated on the Vis-En-Artois Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Panel 3.

A Palestine veteran, Arthur had been amongst the officers and other ranks which had joined "C" Company after 1 March 1917. The day on which Arthur died 22 other ranks in his battalion lost their lives during the 'Advance to the Hindenburg Line,' as part of the 74th (Yeomanry) Division operations.

EDMOND, EDWIN JAMES. Corporal, 544010.

Kent Fortress Company, 2nd/1st (Cinque Ports) Battalion, Royal Engineers.

Died 20 May 1917. Aged 35.

Born and enlisted Dover, Kent.

Son of Robert and Emma Edmond.

Husband of Ethel Nelly Edmond of 6, Military Road, Dover, Kent.

Buried St. Mary's Cemetery, Dover, Kent. Grave Ref: K. E. 26.

FULLER, WILLIAM EDWARD. M.M. Band Serjeant, 7809.

2nd Battalion, Gordon Highlanders.

Died 4 October 1917. Aged 31.

Born Dover, Kent. Enlisted London.

Son of the late John and Susanah Fuller.

Husband of Jane Flora Fuller of Crabble Farm House, Crabble, Dover, Kent.

Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Panel 135. In addition to winning the Military Medal, William was also Mentioned in Despatches. From the scant details noted it would appear that William's heroic actions had been whilst working under fire as a non commissioned officer in charge of his battalions Stretcher Bearers.

GRAVES, HENRY KNOTT. Acting Farrier Serjeant, 14546.

88th Field Company, Royal Engineers.

Died 13 October 1918.

Born and enlisted Dover, Kent.

Buried Basra War Cemetery, Iraq. Grave Ref: I. Q. 1.

Also commemorated on the former Holy Trinity Hall, Dover, Kent war memorial.

Formerly Driver and Acting Serjeant, 12th Field Company, Royal Engineers.

HALL, FRANCIS AMOS.

Died 23 January 1916. Aged 7.

Buried Charlton Cemetery, Dover, Kent.

Francis is the only civilian casualty who is commemorated on the Buckland, Dover, Kent, Wesleyan Chapel, Great War memorial plaque. Unlike civilian casualties of the Second World War, those who lost their lives during the Great War are regrettably not commemorated by the CWGC, it being the direct result of the former IWGC policy regarding same. The first German air raid on England was carried out on Dover, Kent on 21 December 1914, and it was as the result of another German air raid Francis lost his life in Folkestone Road, Dover. At approximately 1300 hours, enemy aircraft dropped eight bombs on the town, with another air raid carried out about twelve hours later.

HARRIS, GEORGE. Private, G/ 22907.

8th (Service) Battalion, East Surrey Regiment.

Died 3 May 1917. Aged 34.

Born Battle, Sussex. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent. Resided Dover, Kent.

Son of Thomas and Ellen Harris of Temple Ewell, Dover, Kent.

Husband of Mary Jane Gray (formerly Harris) of 30, Maison Dieu Road, Dover, Kent.

Commemorated on the Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Bay 6.

HEDGECOCK, ERNEST CHARLES. Private, G/24490.

4th Battalion, Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment).

Died 30 May 1917. Aged 24.

Born, enlisted and resided Dover, Kent.

Son of Emma Elizabeth Hedgecock of 7, Alexandra Place, London Road, Dover, Kent and the late Charles Ellis Hedgecock.

Commemorated on the Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Bay 3.

It perhaps should be pointed out that there is an 'odd' entry as under on the 1901 census:-

Henry MARCHAM. Aged 36. Born Dover, Kent. Milk Carrier.

Ellen MARCHAM. Aged 35. Born Dover, Kent.

The following, all Dover natives are shown as being the children of the above couple:-

Edward HEDGECOCK. Aged 13.

Richard HEDGECOCK. Aged 11.

Florence HEDGECOCK. Aged 9.

Percy Mar HEDGECOCK. Aged 4.

Ernest HEDGECOCK. Aged 1.

JACKSON, THOMAS DOUGLAS. Leading Aircraftman, 6665.

52 Squadron, Royal Air Force.

Died 13 February 1919. Aged 21.

Born Dover, Kent

Son of Thomas Edward and Mary Jackson of 4, Malmain Road, Maxton, Dover, Kent.

Buried Valenciennes (St. Roch) Communal Cemetery, Nord, France.

Grave Ref: II. B. 30.

Thomas was a victim of the worldwide influenza pandemic of 1918-1919. It has been estimated that throughout the world over seventy million people died of the influenza pandemic. In India alone, more people died of influenza than were killed all over the world during the entire Great War years of carnage. At the time of the 1901 census the Jackson family resided at 16 Norman Street, Dover, Kent, Thomas's father who was born in Scotland was recorded as aged 59 and a Draper.

KELLY, JOSEPH WILLIAM. Serjeant. No clear trace.

LANDALL, HERBERT HAROLD. Private, 76932.

9th (Service) Battalion, Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment).

Died 12 May 1918. Aged 18.

Son of Richard and Bertha Landall of Forge House, Lyminge, Folkestone, Kent.

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

Buried Maily Wood Cemetery, Maily-Maillet, Somme. France. Grave Ref: II. K. 6.

Formerly Private, 75270, 107th Training Reserve Battalion.

LASLETT, WILLIAM SAMUEL BARRETT. Private, G/9191.

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

Died 28 August 1916. Aged 22.

Born, enlisted and resided Dover, Kent.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Laslett of Dover; Kent.

Husband of E. A. Doe (formerly Laslett) of 85, Folkestone Road, Dover, Kent.

Buried Kemmel Chateau Military Cemetery, Heuvelland, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.

Grave Ref: X. 22.

LEWIS, JOHN WILLIAM. Private, 24271.

8th (Service) Battalion, The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment).

Died 23 December 1916. Aged 20.

Born, enlisted and resided Dover, Kent.

Son of John A. Lewis.

Buried Philosophe British Cemetery, Mazingarbe, Pas de Calais, France. Ref: II. K. 10.

Also commemorated on the Duke of York's Royal Military School, Guston, Dover, Kent war memorial.

Formerly Private. 2383. The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).

SDGW shows date of John's death as occurring on 23 March 1916 at which time his battalion was on the Ypres Salient, Belgium, and left for the Dranoutre area on 28 March 1916. But leading up to the date recorded for John's demise by the CWGC his battalion had been in the area around Templeux-le-Guérand and Ronssoy on the Somme, after

which it spent time in their Divisional Reserve (24th Division) including the date John is shown as died. SDGW shows killed in action, however on countless occasions more detailed research has revealed several causes of death (on certificates etcetera) which do not remotely match the O/SDGW details, a good illustration being Harry Lovell who is also commemorated on the war memorial who is shown as died of wounds at home on SWDGW, buried on the Somme? As such it is possible John Lewis had been wounded whilst his battalion was on the Somme and was being evacuated back to England. Another cause for the confusion is that whilst recorded as being a member of the 8th (Service) Battalion, The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment), John may have been serving with another unit at the time of his death and may possibly have been killed in action whilst so engaged. Whilst caution is obviously advised it would seem likely that the CWGC commemoration details are in fact correct appertaining to John's date of death.

McMAHON, JAMES PATRICK. Private, 60554.
70th General Hospital, Royal Army Medical Corps.
Died 30 September 1918. Aged 23.
Born Sheerness, Isle of Sheppey, Kent. Enlisted Dover, Kent.
Son of the late Mr. J. P. McMahan and Mrs. E. McMahan of Sheerness, Isle of Sheppey, Kent.
Husband of Ethel Maud McMahan of 17, Union Row, Military Hill, Dover, Kent.
Buried Cairo War Memorial Cemetery, Egypt. Grave Ref: O. 260

McPHERSON, HUGH FARQUHAR. Private, 532928.
1st/15th (County of London) Battalion, London Regiment (Prince of Wales Own Civil Service Rifles).
Died 7 June 1917. Aged 24.
Born Tulse Hill. Enlisted Dover, Kent.
Son of the late James and Lydia McPherson.
Commemorated on the Menin Gate (Ypres) Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Panel 54.

MOUNT, JOSEPH EDWARD. Driver. No trace.
This casualty is possibly **MOUNT, JOSEPH E.** Driver, 84761, Royal Field Artillery, who has a MIC entry. There is however no CWGC or SDGW commemoration in respect of his death.

NASH, JOHN ROBERT. Private, M/316133.
565th (Corps Siege Park) Motor Transport Company, Army Service Corps.
Attached to the VI Corps Heavy Artillery.
Died 4 October 1918.
Born, enlisted and resided Dover, Kent.
Buried Louverval Military Cemetery, Doignies, Nord, France. Grave Ref: A. 5.
John's Motor Transport Company was formed on 30 August 1915, initially serving with the 31st Brigade, Royal Garrison Artillery as a Brigade Ammunition Column (Motor Transport). Surplus to requirements post the Great War, the unit disbanded on 13 November 1919.

PARKER, D. As he is 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. Fortunately the casualty commemorated below is also remembered on the Buckland, Dover, Kent, Wesleyan Chapel, Great War tribute, with the name by which he was known also shown, it being David. **Possibly** he is also the casualty commemorated on the Dover, Kent civic war memorial is the former Dover, Kent resident briefly commemorated below, whose mother resided in the town in 1915:-

PARKER, HENRY EDWARD (David). Private, 475172.

8th Battalion, (The Black Devils) Canadian Infantry (Manitoba Regiment).

Died 26 September 1916. Aged 25.

Born London 25 October 1891. Enlisted Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada 22 July 1915.

Son of the late Henry David and Emily Parker.

Commemorated on the Canadian National Vimy Memorial, Pas de Calais, France, and on page 145 of the Canadian First World War Book of Remembrance. At the time of Henry's enlistment he gave his occupation as Book Keeper, and named his mother, Mrs Emily Parker of Connaught Cottage, Frith Road, Dover, Kent, England as his Next of Kin. The 8th Canadian Infantry Battalion was organized at Valcartier under Camp Order 241 of 2 September 1914, and was composed of recruits from Winnipeg and from the 96th Lake Superior Regiment of the Active Militia. The battalion was commanded by Lieutenant Colonel L.J. Lipsett, a very competent officer who later became a Major-General, and the commander of the Canadian Army's Third Division. The battalion embarked at Quebec on 1 October 1914 aboard the 18,520 ton H.M.T. Franconia arriving at Plymouth on 17 October 1914, at which time its strength was 47 officers and 1106 other ranks. From Plymouth, the battalion moved to Salisbury Plain, Wiltshire to undergo battle training, which as it unfortunately turned out was undertaken during a notably wet winter. Training completed the battalion sailed for France where it disembarked on 13 February 1915, becoming part of the 1st Canadian Division, 2nd Canadian Infantry Brigade, and was later reinforced by the 18th Canadian Reserve Battalion. On 14 April 1915, the battalion moved into the Ypres Salient where it formed a part of the 2nd Brigade. At approximately 0400 hours on the morning of Saturday 24 April 1915, a blue-green-yellowish cloud was seen rolling over No Man's Land towards the battalion trenches. It was the second enemy gas attack, to which about half the battalion succumbed to the poisonous noxious fumes. The battalion on the left was obliged to retire and Lieutenant Colonel Lipsett's soldiers found themselves in real danger of being surrounded. But it stoically held on, and while supporting battalions were preparing new defenses in the rear, the men of the regiment kept up a withering fire on the enemy, drove off an attack on its front and withstood fearful enfilade fire from left and right, and this from an enemy force five times its size. Thus began a tradition of Henry's battalion of never losing a trench to the enemy, it apparently being a tradition never to be broken quite literally throughout the Great War's duration.

PARKER, PERCY WILLIAM FRANK. Private, G/16804.
9th Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment.
Died 23 June 1917. Aged 23.
Born Alkham, Dover, Kent. Enlisted Dover, Kent.
Son of Alfred Charles and Edith Laura Parker of "Carlile," London Road, Deal, Kent.
Commemorated on the Menin Gate, (Ypres) Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Panel 20.

PIPER, THOMAS WILLIAM HARTLEY. Gunner, 910384.
222nd Brigade, Royal Field Artillery.
Died 5 September 1917. Aged 24.
Born and enlisted Dover, Kent.
Son of William and Mary Ann Piper of 62, North Road, Hythe, Kent.
Commemorated on the Basra Memorial, Iraq. Panel 3 or 60.
Formerly Gunner, 1382, Royal Field Artillery.

RICHARDS, EDWARD THOMAS. Able Seaman, 228822.
Royal Navy, H.M.T.B. "No.12."
Died 10 June 1915. Aged 27.
Born Dover, Kent 24 May 1888.
Son of Elizabeth E. Richards of Brook Cottage, Lower Road, Temple Ewell, Dover, Kent.
Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 10.
Commissioned on 15 March 19107, Edward's Cricket class Coastal Destroyer, H.M. Torpedo Boat No. 12 (also known as H.M.S. Moth), was on patrol in the North Sea when she hit a mine and was destroyed, with the loss of all the ships compliment.

RIGDEN, ALBERT VICTOR. Private, G/6164.
1st Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).
Died 15 September 1916. Aged 19 years.
Born and resided Temple Ewell, Dover, Kent. Enlisted Dover, Kent.
Son of William and Eliza Rigden of "Vine Cottage," Temple Ewell, Dover, Kent.
Commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Pier & Face 5D.
A brother of the next casualty commemorated.

RIGDEN, JAMES FRANK. Private, 57167.
9th Battalion, Welsh Regiment.
Died 29 October 1916. Aged 21 years.
Born and resided Temple Ewell, Dover, Kent. Enlisted Dover, Kent.
Son of William and Eliza Rigden of "Vine Cottage," Temple Ewell, Dover, Kent.
Commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Pier and Face 7 A and 10 A.
Formerly Private, G/9070, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).

SARSONS, JAMES ALEXANDER GEORGE. Private, 39763.

124th Company, Machine Gun Corps (Infantry).

Died 25 September 1917. Aged 34.

Son of Mrs. Helen Sarsons.

Born St. Andrews, Middlesex. Enlisted Aldershot, Hampshire. Resided Dover, Kent.

Buried Westouter Churchyard and Extension, Heuvelland, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.

Grave Ref: II. C. 14. F

Formerly Private, 5474, Dragoon Guards. James MIC Machine Gun Corps entry shows (Cavalry) as opposed to his CWGC commemoration as above (Infantry).

SPELLING, ALBERT HENRY. Gunner, 125179.

“D” Battery, 122nd Brigade, Royal Field Artillery.

Died 29 April 1918. Aged 24.

Enlisted Woolwich, Kent. Resided Dover, Kent.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Snelling of 1, West Mount, Priory Hill, Dover, Kent.

Buried Esquelbecq Military Cemetery, Nord, France. Grave Ref: 2. A. 28.

STAGEMAN, JOHN. Gunner, 15515.

103rd Battery, 31st Brigade, Royal Field Artillery.

Died 5 June 1916. Aged 30.

Born Whitechapel, Essex. Enlisted Stratford, Essex.

Son of John and Clara Stageman of London.

Husband of Ada Annie Stageman (née King) of 47, Royal Albert Buildings, Whitechapel, London.

Buried Salonika (Lembet Road) Military Cemetery, Greece. Grave Ref: 143.

John’s MIC entry records his regimental number as being 15575.

STEVENS, HARRY. Private, 9831.

3rd Battalion, Canadian Infantry (Central Ontario Regiment).

Died 2 May 1915 (please see below).

Born Spa, Belgium 20 May 1893.

Enlisted Valcartier, Québec, Canada 20 May 1914.

Resided at 153 Balsam Avenue, Barrie Beach, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Son of Robert and Annie Stevens of Dover, Kent.

Commemorated on the Menin Gate, (Ypres) Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Panel 18 - 24 - 26 – 30, and on page 37 of the Canadian First World War Book of Remembrance.

Harry was an active member of the Beech Avenue Methodist Church, Barrie Beach, Toronto, where he was the Secretary of the Epworth League, and the Brotherhood. His photograph and obituary details which appeared in the ‘Toronto Star’ newspaper, dated 10 June 1915, states that Harry was a prolific letter writer, and heads the brief article as “He Wrote 50 Letters Home,” with the sub-heading, “But no word of Harry Stevens has come since May 1.” The letters referred to appear to have been sent to Harry’s mother, or possibly to Mrs A H Peacock, who Harry gave as being his Next of Kin at the time of his enlistment. Mrs Peacock also resided at 153 Balsam Avenue, Barrie Beach, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, it being the same address as Harry’s place of residence. It should be pointed out that Harry’s Attestation Papers, shows his place of residence spelt Barry

Beach, but a fellow amateur military researcher, Alan Gooby in Canada, has suggested that it should probably read Barrie Beach. Occupation at Harry's attestation was given as being a Lithographer, and that he had previously served for two years in the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, which was somewhat apt in view of his place or residence, as prior to January 1882, that regiment was The Queen's Own Rifles of Toronto. Alan Gooby also pointed out that the date of Harry's death, as commemorated by the CWGC is erroneous, and that it should be 20/21 April 1915.

TERRY, HARRY. Petty Officer 1st Class, Sailmaker, 158515.

Royal Navy, H.M.S. "Cressy."

Died 22 September 1914. Aged 38.

Born Charlton, Dover, Kent 11 November 1875.

Son of Henry and Isabel Terry of Dover, Kent.

Husband of Blanche Terry of 40, Marine Parade, Dover, Kent.

Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 3, and on St. Mary's parish church war memorial Dover, Kent.

At the time of the 1881 census the Terry family was residing at 12 Biggen Court, St. Mary the Virgin, Dover, Kent:-

Henry J. TERRY. Aged 29. Born Dover, Kent. Coachman.

Isabel L. TERRY. Aged 29. Born Kensington.

William H. TERRY. Aged 7. Born Dover, Kent.

Harry TERRY. Aged 5. Born Dover, Kent.

Alice L. TERRY. Aged 3. Born Dover, Kent.

George A. TERRY. Aged 11 months. Born Dover, Kent.

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.

TESTER, HARRY. Rifleman, 48802.

Rifle Brigade posted to the London Regiment (Post Office Rifles).

Died between 8 August 1918 and 10 August 1918. Aged 18.

Son of Harry and Annie M. Tester of 8, Norman Street, Dover, Kent.

Born Margate, Kent. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent. Residence Dover, Kent.

Also commemorated on St. Mary's parish church war memorial Dover, Kent.

Buried Beacon Cemetery, Saily-Laurette, Somme, France. Grave Ref; III. G. 25.

UPTON, LOUIS. Serjeant, 10732.

13th (Service) Battalion, The King's (Liverpool Regiment).

Died 21 April 1918. Aged 27.

Born Kentish Town, London. Enlisted Shorncliffe, Kent. Resided Cheriton, Kent.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Cooper of 133, Buckland Avenue, Dover, Kent.

Husband of May Upton of Vivian House, Plasmarl, Swansea, Glamorganshire, Wales.

Buried Chocques Military Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France. Grave Ref: III. C. 27.

WATERS, WILLIAM. Private, 8593.

1st Battalion, King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment).

Died 17 September 1914. Aged 29.

Husband of Lottie Mabel Waters of 3, West Street, Dover, Kent.

Born and enlisted Liverpool, Lancashire.

Commemorated on the La Ferte-Sous-Jouarre Memorial, Seine-et-Marne, France.

WYBORN, FREDERICK JOHN VALEIREMAN DAVID. Private. No trace.