

DOVER

The Unitarian Church

Adrian Street
Dover
Kent

The Reverend John Yeoman, a former chaplain to the forces, conducted the service on 3 April 1920, which was held to commemorate those members of the church congregation who had lost their lives during and resulting from the Great War. As part of the service the memorial plaque was unveiled, by the Reverend C.A. Ginever who was a former Minister of the Unitarian Church. As can be seen below the fallen are commemorated in order of the date of their demise.

AMOS, ALBERT EDWARD. Gunner, 52863.
25th Siege Battery. Royal Garrison Artillery.
Died at Bray-sur-Somme, France on 14 October 1916. Aged 22.
Born Peckham, Surrey. Enlisted Dover, Kent. Resided River, Dover, Kent.
Buried Grove Town Cemetery. Meaulte, Somme, France. Grave Ref: I. L. 45.
Albert is also commemorated on the Dover, Kent civic war memorial, and on River, Dover, Kent civic war memorial which is located in the churchyard of St. Peter & St. Paul.

IGGLESDEN, ARTHUR ROBERT. Lance Corporal, 435252.
50th Battalion, Canadian Infantry (Alberta Regiment).
Died at Vimy Ridge, Neuville-St-Vaast, Pas de Calais, France, 10 April 1917. Aged 26.
Born Melbourne, Victoria, Australia 13 November 1891.
Enlisted Calgary, Alberta, Canada 31 May 1915.
Son of Robert W. Igglesden, and Mary E. Igglesden of "The Beacon," Chilton Avenue, Kearsney, Dover, Kent.
Buried Canadian Cemetery No 2, Vimy Ridge, Neuville-St-Vaast, Pas de Calais, France.
Grave Ref: 2. C. 21. Also commemorated on page 261 of the Canadian First World War Book of Remembrance, and on the Dover, Kent civic war memorial.

The following is an extract from the Dover Express:-

"The sympathy of all in Dover will be extended to Mr and Mrs R Igglesden in the death of their son, Private Robert Arthur Igglesden, who was killed in action with the Canadians at the taking of Vimy Ridge on 10th April. He went to Calgary about five years ago in the business of baker and confectioner, and intended to return after a few years experience and to be taken in as partner with the firm of Igglesden and Graves at Dover. When the war broke out he joined up with his brother Henry Alfred Igglesden at Calgary who has recently been home on ten days sick leave having been wounded last November. Another brother is serving with the RFA in India." Henry Alfred Igglesden, of whom the newspaper makes brief reference, was born at Dover, Kent on 23 February

1889. He had in fact enlisted at Calgary, Alberta, Canada on 22 June 1915 the month after his brother, and not actually with him. Like his brother, he too was also a Carpenter; he had served for two years as a Territorial in the Royal Engineers. It perhaps should be added the village of Neuville-St-Vaast where Arthur is buried also has the largest German military cemetery in France. There are 36,792 Great War burials marked by crosses, with other headstones in the form of the Star of David marking the graves of Jewish soldiers. During the Second World War Adolf Hitler ordered the removal of the Jewish headstones, but his order was disobeyed. Unlike the CWGC cemeteries, the German military cemeteries often contain mass graves and at Neuville-St-Vaast a mass grave holds the remains of 8,040 soldiers.

BLATCHFORD, JOHN WILLIAM. Private, 56192.

74th Battalion, Machine Gun Corps (Infantry).

Died 22 September 1918. Aged 25.

Enlisted Herne Bay, Kent.

Son of James and Ann Eliza Blatchford of 7, Maison Dieu Place, High Street, Dover, Kent.

Buried Ronssoy Communal Cemetery, Somme, France. Grave Ref: B. 11.

Formerly Trooper, 2170, Royal East Kent Mounted Rifles.

CHITTY, OWEN.

3/1st City of London Yeomanry.

Died 24 August 1919. Aged 43.

Owen was invalided out of the army and died from heart disease. He is regrettably not commemorated on Dover, Kent civic war memorial. Of even more concern it would appear that he was not commemorated by the then Imperial War Graves Commission, despite dying well before 31 August 1921, it being the official cut-off date for Great War related deaths. Owen is probably the 5 year old as shown below which has been extracted from the 1881 census, at which time the Chitty family resided at Myrtle Cottage, Mill Road, Deal, Kent:-

Edward CHITTY. Aged 33. Born Deal, Kent. Millers Foreman.

Annie CHITTY. Aged 43. Born Deal, Kent.

Charles W. CHITTY. Aged 6. Born Deal, Kent.

Owen CHITTY. Aged 5. Born Deal, Kent.

Ernest E. CHITTY. Aged 3. Born Deal, Kent.

Emily SPAIN. Aged 18. Born Deal, Kent. General Servant Domestic.

As Owens's regimental details are not strictly correct it seemed prudent to point out same should family members or other interest parties view his commemoration here. Formed in 1915 and in the summer of the same year affiliated to a Reserve Cavalry Regiment in Eastern Command, the following summer being affiliated to the 6th Reserve Cavalry Regiment. A new 1st Reserve Cavalry Regiment was formed early in 1917 at the Curragh, Ireland, it was comprised primarily of the 6th, 7th and 8th Reserve Cavalry Regiment's, and was in the 3rd Cavalry Brigade. In addition to which was a number of affiliated regiments including the following Yeomanry regiments. Bedford, East Riding, Lincoln, Surrey, and of significance regarding Owen, the City of London Yeomanry. Hopefully when time permits, research will be carried out on Driver, D.C. CHITTY, "A"

Reserve Brigade, Royal Field Artillery, who died on **24 August 1919**, and is buried in North Mundham Churchyard Extension, Chichester, Sussex, it being exactly the same day as Owen Chitty commemorated above.

The above members of this congregation volunteered for service 1914-1918 and died for their country. Greater service can no man render.

