

Higham



The Great War

1914 - 1919

BLACKMAN, F.J. Royal Navy. No Commonwealth War Graves Commission commemoration. It might be significant that FREDERICK JOHN BLACKMAN, Royal Navy, 160502, is shown on the National Archives, Kew, 'Register of Seaman's Services' as born Frensbury, Kent 22 May 1872. Suspecting that his place of birth was in fact Frindsbury, Kent as opposed to Frensbury, a copy of his Service Papers was purchased in an attempt to ascertain if Frederick is the sailor commemorated on the Higham, Kent parish tribute. Frederick enlisted in the Royal Navy on 4 May 1891 at Chatham, Kent, for a twelve year engagement, he eventually became a Chief Stoker prior to being declared insane in 1916, moved from various Royal Naval Hospitals for treatment. It was frustrating to find that on Frederick's Service Papers, the area on same that would have possibly shown his date of death are illegible, notwithstanding same it would seem fairly certain that the CWGC Royal Navy, Great War non-commemoration is as under:-
BLACKMAN, FREDERICK JOHN. Chief Stoker, 160502.
Royal Navy. Date of death still to be ascertained.

BOSWORTH, FREDERICK A. M.M. & Bar. Corporal, 840058.
420th Battery, Royal Field Artillery.
Died 30 June 1919. Aged 23.
Born Bitteswell, Lutterworth, Leicestershire.
Son of Frederick and Miarah Anne Bosworth of "Medveza-Gora," Hermitage Road, Higham, Rochester, Kent.
Buried Lumbushi Chyd, Russian Federation.
Commemorated at Murmansk New British Cemetery, Russian Federation.
Special Memorial B4.
In addition to having been twice awarded the Military Medal, Frederick was also Mentioned in Despatches, and had been decorated with the Medaille Militaire by France. Formerly Gunner, 233, Royal Field Artillery.

CHARLTON, H.E. King's Royal Rifle Corps. No trace.

CHILLMAID, H. Best match as commemorated on the Higham, Kent parish Great War tribute as a member of the Royal Field Artillery appears to be the following casualty:-

CHILLMAID, THOMAS HENRY. Gunner, 175608.
164th Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery.
Died 12 May 1918. Aged 29.
Born and resided Middlesbrough.
Son of Henry and Eleanor Chillmaid.
Husband of Alice M. M Chillmaid of 2, Cliffe Cottages, Acklam Road, Middlesbrough.
Buried Pernes British Cemetery, Pernes-en-Artois, Pas de Calais, France.
Grave Ref: II. B. 43.

CLARE, HENRY GEORGE. Rifleman, C/139.
10th (Service) Battalion, King's Royal Rifle Corps.
Died 9 January 1917.
Born Higham, Rochester, Kent. Enlisted Chatham, Kent. Resided Rochester, Kent.
Buried Saily-Saillisel British Cemetery, Somme, France. Grave Ref: III. F. 5.

COBB, THOMAS HUMPHREY. Sub-Lieutenant.
Royal Navy, H.M.S. Invincible.
Died 31 May 1916. Aged 19.
Son of Herbert Mansfield Cobb and Constance Cobb of Mockbeggar, Rochester, Kent.
Commemorated on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial. Panel 11.

COBB, WILLIAM RALPH. M.C. Captain.
1st Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).
Died 5 October 1917.
Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Panel 106.

COOPER, HARRY. Private, G/12020.
7th (Service) Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).
Died 17 February 1917. Aged 22.
Born Shorne, Kent. Enlisted Chatham, Kent. Resided Lower Higham, Rochester, Kent.
Son of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Cooper of Higham, Rochester, Kent.
Buried Mont Huon Military Cemetery, Le Treport, Seine-Maritime, France.
Grave Ref: I. L. 4.
Harry appears to be a brother of Corporal Albert George Cooper who is not commemorated on the Higham, Rochester, Kent Great War parish tribute.

CRUNDWELL, HERBERT EDWARD. Private, L/9340.
2nd Battalion, The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment).
Died 20 November 1914. Aged 23.
Born and resided Higham, Rochester, Kent. Enlisted Rochester, Kent.
Son of Albert and Louisa Crundwell of 4, Frenches Cottages, Hermitage Road, Upper Higham, Rochester, Kent.
Buried Higham, Rochester, Kent (St. Mary) Churchyard.

CRUNDWELL, SIDNEY ARTHUR. Private, L/9339.
2nd Battalion, The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment).
Died 16 May 1915. Aged 28.
Born and resided Higham, Rochester, Kent. Enlisted Chatham, Kent.
Son of Albert Crundwell of 4, Frenches Cottages, Hermitage Road, Upper Higham, Rochester, Kent.
Commemorated on the Le Touret Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Panel 4.

DRAY, HENRY WILSON. Private, L/9638.
2nd Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).
Died 8 February 1915. Aged 22.
Born Higham, Rochester, Kent. Enlisted Rochester, Kent. Resided Mid-Higham, Rochester, Kent.
Son of Mrs. Charlotte Dray of 1, Church Cottages, Mid Highbarn, Rochester, Kent.
Commemorated on the Menin Gate, Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.

EASDOWN, HERBERT EDWARD. Corporal, 128479. (Mentioned in Despatches).
Anti-Aircraft Reserve Brigade, Royal Garrison Artillery.
Died 27 June 1918. Aged 40
Born and resided Higham, Rochester, Kent. Enlisted Gravesend, Kent.
Husband of the late Mrs. Mary Catherine Easdown.
Buried Higham, Rochester, Kent (St. Mary) Churchyard.
Formerly Gunner, 1060, (Kent Territorial Force), Royal Garrison Artillery.

EDWARDS, ROBERT GARNET CHAWNER. Yeoman of Signals, 202620.
Royal Navy, H.M.S. Hawke.
Died 15 October 1914. Aged 31.
Born Griston, Norfolk 1 July 1883.
Son of Cissie Annie Eliza Edwards of Dombey Villa, Higham, Rochester, Kent, and the late Robert Edwards.
Commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. Panel 3.

FLINTHAM, ARTHUR EDWARD. Stoker 1st Class, K/52538.
Royal Navy, H.M.S. Emperor of India.
Died 10 April 1919. Aged 18.
Born Rochester, Kent 28 June 1900.
Son of Mrs. C. Flintham of Hillside Cottage, Crutches Lane, Higham, Rochester, Kent.
Buried Malta (Capuccini) Naval Cemetery, Grave Ref: Protestant 442.

FREEMAN, AMOS. Chief Stoker, 281571.
Royal Navy, H.M.S. Harpy.
Died 22 March 1915.
Born Maidstone, Kent 22 February 1874.
Buried Malta (Capuccini) Naval Cemetery, Grave Ref: Protestant 236.

GERMAINE, H. No trace as commemorated on the Higham, Rochester, Kent, parish tribute, which shows this casualty as serving in a Labour Battalion, Royal Engineers at the time of his demise. In view of the amount of work that was carried out in conjunction with the Royal Engineers by personnel of the Labour Corps during the Great War, a check was made to see if any Germaine or Germain Labour Corps casualties were commemorated by the CWGC, doing so revealed the following Labour Corps soldier:-

GERMAIN, HORACE. Private, 623891.

76th Company, Labour Corps.

Died 28 February 1919. Aged 39.

Born Higham, Rochester, Kent 1880.

Son of Joseph Henry and Ellen Germain.

Buried Mons (Bergen) Communal Cemetery, Hainault, Belgium. Grave Ref: X. C. 23.

Horace's place of birth was first revealed after checking the 1881 census, at which time his family resided at 3 Chapel Row, Higham, Rochester, Kent. His parents, three brothers and two sisters were all natives of Cliffe, Rochester, Kent. By the time of the 1901 census the family was shown as residing at Hermitage Road, Higham, Rochester, Kent.

HINDLE, HAROLD BURN. Lieutenant.

Royal Field Artillery, attached to "G" Battery, Royal Horse Artillery.

Died 27 March 1918.

Commemorated on the Pozières Memorial, Somme, France. Panel 7
Formerly King Edward's Horse.

HOWE, J. Northamptonshire Regiment. No clear trace.

IRONMONGER, FRANK CHARLES. Corporal, L/9689.

2nd Battalion, The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment).

Died 30 October 1914.

Born and resided Higham, Rochester, Kent. Enlisted Chatham, Kent.

Commemorated on the Menin Gate, Ieper, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.

Panel 11 - 13 and 14.

IRONMONGER, IRA. Lance Corporal, G/2774.

8th (Service) Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).

Died 26 September 1915.

Born Higham, Rochester, Kent. Enlisted Chatham, Kent.

Commemorated on the Loos Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Panel 95

LEVISON, GEORGE. Lance Corporal, G/1717.
7th (Service) Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).
Died 13 July 1917. Aged 23.
Born Higham, Rochester, Kent. Enlisted Gravesend, Kent.
Son of George and Annie Levison of 5, Hope Terrace, Lower Higham,
Rochester, Kent.
Commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Pier and Face 11 C.

O'GRADY, ALBERT WILLIAM. Private, G/4933.
8th (Service) Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment).
Died 16 December 1916. Aged 25.
Born Littlebourne, Canterbury, Kent. Enlisted Chatham, Kent. Resided
Rochester, Kent.
Son of Robert and Jane O'Grady.
Husband of Ada Maude O'Grady of 106, Delce Road, Rochester, Kent.
Buried Barlin Communal Cemetery Extension, Pas de Calais, France.
Grave Ref: I. E. 59.

PALMER, WILLIAM WHYNDOM. M.M. Private, G/374.
11th (Service) Battalion, Middlesex Regiment.
Died 18 December 1916. Aged 28.
Born Higham, Rochester, Kent. Enlisted Willesden, Middlesex.
Son of Mr. and Mrs. Palmer of Pear Tree Place, Upper Higham, Rochester, Kent.
Husband of Mrs A. M. M. Palmer of Pear Tree Place, Upper Higham, Rochester,
Kent.
Buried Wanquetin Communal Cemetery Extension, Pas de Calais, France.
Grave Ref: I. A. 15.

PEACOCK, WILLIAM ANTHONY HARRY. Gunner, 135061.
393rd Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery.
Died 21 September 1918. Aged 25
Born Higham, Rochester, Kent. Enlisted Gravesend, Kent.
Son of Charles James Peacock of Higham, Kent.
Husband of May Peacock of Dewhurst Bungalow, Wadhurst, Sussex.
Buried Duisans British Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France. Grave Ref: VI. H. 24.

PRATT, JOHN. Private, 2173435.
8th Battalion, Canadian Infantry (Manitoba Regiment).
Died 9 August 1918. Aged 31.
Born Higham, Rochester, Kent 8 July 1887.
Enlisted Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada 4 July 1917.
Resided 3325, Nicolex Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota, U.S.A.
Son of John and Elizabeth Pratt, of Higham, Rochester, Kent.
Husband of Gertrude Pratt of 33, Osborne Road, South Shore, Blackpool, Lancashire.
Manitoba Cemetery, Caix, Somme, France. Grave Ref: A. 19.
The cemetery where John is at rest is so named because it contains a great number of graves of the 8th Canadian Battalion, raised at Winnipeg, Manitoba, and was made by the 1st Canadian Division Burial Officer after the capture of the village. At the time of his enlistment John stated that he was a Car Conductor, and that he had previously served for two years in the Royal Marine Light Infantry. In addition to his service in the R.M.L.I. he had also been a member of the Royal Canadian Regiment, at Halifax, Nova Scotia.

ROSE, CHARLES JOHN. Private, 79005.
17th (Service) Battalion, (Empire) Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment).
Died 26 August 1918. Aged 18.
Born and resided Higham, Rochester, Kent. Enlisted Maidstone, Kent.
Son of George and Annie Elizabeth Rose of 40, Arthur Street, Gravesend, Kent.
Buried St. Hilaire Cemetery Extension, Frevent, Pas de Calais, France. Grave Ref: L. 30.
Formerly Private, 180278, 53rd (Young Soldier) Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment. Charles, who was a brother of the next casualty briefly commemorated, is erroneously commemorated on the Higham, Rochester, Kent, parish tribute as still serving in the Royal Sussex Regiment at the time of his demise.

ROSE, NORMAN ALAN. Sapper, 75380.
11th Divisional Signal Company, Royal Engineers.
Died 12 September 1915. Aged 18.
Born Higham, Rochester, Kent. Enlisted Woolwich, Kent. Resided Gravesend, Kent.
Son of George and Annie Elizabeth Rose of 40, Arthur Street, Gravesend, Kent.
Buried Azmak Cemetery, Suvla, Turkey. Grave Ref: I. G. 22.

TRICE, EDWARD THOMAS. Lance Corporal, 782060.
46th Battalion, Canadian Infantry (Saskatchewan Regiment).
Died 26 March 1917. Aged 32.
Born Frindsbury, Rochester, Kent 30 January 1885.
Enlisted Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, Canada 5 February 1916.
Resided Elbario? Saskatchewan, Canada.
Son of William James and Charlotte Jane Trice of 6, Brookers Cottages, Villa Road, Higham, Rochester, Kent.
Buried Villers Station Cemetery, Villers-au-Bois, Pas de Calais, France.
Grave Ref: VI. G. 11.
Also commemorated on page 340 of the Canadian First World War Book of Remembrance. Edward was a brother of the next casualty briefly commemorated.

TRICE, HENRY EDWARD. Private, 26853.
14th (Service) Battalion, (1st Portsmouth) Hampshire Regiment.
Died 20 October 1916. Age 40.
Born High Halstow, Kent. Enlisted Wolverhampton, Staffordshire. Resided Higham, Rochester, Kent.
Son of William James and Charlotte Jane Trice of 6, Brookers Cottages, Villa Road, Higham, Rochester, Kent.
Commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Pier and Face 7 C and 7 B.
Formerly Private, 5655, South Staffordshire Regiment.

WEEKS, CHARLES E. Bombadier, 77767.
459th Howitzer Battery, Royal Field Artillery.
Died 5 January 1916. Aged 22.
Born Tenterden, Kent. Enlisted Hawkhurst, Kent.
Son of George and Emma Weeks of 104, Chaucer Road, Gillingham, Kent.
Buried Maple Leaf Cemetery, Comines-Warneton, Hainaut, Belgium. Grave Ref: G.4.

WILMSHURST, ERNEST WALTER ALBERT. Rifleman, 593457.
1st/18th (County of London) Battalion, London Regiment (London Irish Rifles).
Died 11 January 1918. Aged 32.
Born Snodland, Kent. Enlisted Sittingbourne, Kent. Resided Greys, Essex.
Husband of Elizabeth Wilmshurst of 67, William Street, Sittingbourne, Kent.
Commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Pier and Face 13 C.
Formerly Private, 4347, 4th Battalion (Territorial Force), The Buffs (East Kent Regiment). Prior to the Great War, Ernest resided at 95, William Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, at which time he was employed by Lloyds Paper at Ridham Dock, Sittingbourne, Kent.

WINGHAM, WILLIAM FRANK. Rifleman, 50174.
12th (Service) Battalion (Central Antrim), Royal Irish Rifles.
Died 5 September 1918. Aged 19.
Enlisted Slough, Buckinghamshire. Resided Rochester, Kent.
Son of Frank and Alice Wingham of 8 Vicarage Row, Higham, Rochester, Kent.
Buried Arneke British Cemetery, Nord, France. Grave Ref: III. D. 25.
Formerly Private, M/333546, Royal Army Service Corps.

WRIGHT, HARRY. Private, 65419.
13th (Service) Battalion, Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment).
Died 23 August 1918. Aged 21.
Born Higham, Rochester, Kent. Enlisted Rochester, Kent.
Son of Harry and Lilian Wright of Telegraph Hill, Higham, Rochester, Kent.
Buried Achiet-le-Grand Communal Cemetery Extension, Pas de Calais, France.
Grave Ref: III. E. 7.
Formerly Private, G/17944, The Queen's (Royal West Surrey Regiment). On the Higham, Rochester, Kent parish tribute, Harry is commemorated as being a member of The Buffs (East Kent Regiment) at the time of his demise, but all data checked does not match same.

WOOTON, THOMAS EDWARD. Serjeant, 24063.
Royal Garrison Artillery.
Died 11 August 1917.
Born Higham, Rochester, Kent. Enlisted Chatham, Kent. Resided Rochester, Kent.
Despite trying numerous variations of Thomas's surname, date of death, rank and regiment etcetera, it has not been possible to locate a Commonwealth War Graves Commission commemoration for him. In view of same it would appear that Thomas is numbered amongst the thousands of Commission casualties of both world wars, who still have no official form of remembrance via the CWGC. Subject to more in-depth searches (and expenses) it is envisaged that the late Serjeant Thomas E Wooton, R.G.A. will be added to our ever growing list of formal submissions to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission for his belated commemoration.

LOST MEN

COOPER, ALBERT GEORGE. Corporal, G/3042.

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

Died 3 May 1917. Aged 23.

Born Shorne, Gravesend, Kent. Enlisted Chatham, Kent September 1914.

Son of John Robert and Elizabeth Letitia Cooper of 7, Providence Cottages, Upper Higham, Rochester, Kent.

Husband of Eleanor Emma Chapman (formerly Cooper) of 16, Carters Road, Perry Street, Gravesend, Kent.

Commemorated on the Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Bay 7.

BOTTING, WILLIAM ISAAC. Private, G/44101.

17th (Service) Battalion, (1st Football) Middlesex Regiment.

Died 13 November 1916. Aged 19.

Born Higham, Rochester Kent. Enlisted Ealing Middlesex. Resided Lower Shorne, Gravesend, Kent.

Son of William John and Sarah Botting of Green Farm Cottage, Lower Shorne, Gravesend, Kent.

Buried Maily Wood Cemetery, Maily-Maillet, Somme, France. Grave Ref: II. C. 3.

Commemorated on the Shorne, Gravesend, Kent, Great War parish tribute.



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

Parish of Higham (St. John & St. Mary) with Merston
Deanery of Strood - Diocese of Rochester - Church of England

You are invited to join us for the
SUNDAY 9.30am PARISH MASS

For details of the daily mass, baptism, confirmation, confession, marriage, ministry to the sick & other events please see the church porch noticeboard.

Vicar: Father James F. Southward
The Vicarage, Hermitage Rd. Higham. Tel: 01634 717360

