

Hythe Boy Scouts



The memorial plaque above is in remembrance of the members of the 1st Hythe B.P. Boy Scouts who died during the Great War. Erected in the parish church of St. Leonard's, Hythe in July 1919, nine members are commemorated on the plaque. Following the Second World War, very neatly an additional inscription was added to the plaque, but the original layout and design of the plaque did not allow sufficient space for the names of those who died in the latter conflict. In addition to the names, the plaque is inscribed:-

"BE PREPARED"

IN LOVING AND HONOURED MEMORY OF THE 1st HYPHE TROOP B.P. BOY
SCOUTS, WHO MADE THE SUPREME SACRIFICE FOR GOD, KING &
COUNTRY IN THE GREAT WAR 1914-1918.
AND IN THE 2nd WORLD WAR 1939-1945.

Lieutenant-General., Lord Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell, 1st Baron Baden-Powell OF Gilwell, Bt., O.M., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., K.C.B., served in the British army from 1876 to 1910, and despite holding a number of posts during his 34 years of service, he is justifiably best remembered for his spirited defense of the small South African township of Mafeking during the Second Boer War. Despite his length of military service including the siege and defence of Mafeking, he is best remembered by history as being the founder of Scouting. Lieutenant-General, Baden-Powell had been impressed during the siege of Mafeking at how boys from a variety of backgrounds, had used their initiative under pressure to make themselves useful and capitalize on the limited resources. Already thinking of developing a training programme for young people Britain, he was urged by friends to re-write his handbook for soldiers 'Aids to Scouting' for this younger audience. In 1907 he held an experimental camp on Brownsea Island, Poole, Dorset, to try out his ideas. He brought together 20 boys, some from public schools and some from working class homes, and put them into camp under his leadership. The whole world now knows the results of that camp. 'Scouting for Boys' was published in 1908 in six fortnightly parts at 4d a copy. Sales of the book were enormous and boys soon formed themselves into Scout Patrols, one of which was the 1st Hythe Troop, Baden-Powell, Boy Scouts which was established in 1908, and it now has the proud distinction of being Kent's longest running Scout Group. With John Wren as the present Group Scout Leader, the 1st Hythe Scout Group now consists of a Beaver colony, two cub packs and a scout troop, based at the Scout Association Headquarters, Range Road, Hythe Kent, CT21 6HQ. As can be seen when viewing other transcribed forms of remembrance of the victims of war on this website, we normally put the casualties in alphabetical order for ease of viewing, but on this occasion the casualties have been commemorated in the order on which they are shown on the memorial plaque, and with their former Boy Scouts status shown. With the exception of former resident James David Green, all of the other following casualties are also commemorated on the Hythe, Kent civic war memorial.

Roll of Honour

Scout Master.

DENNETT, WILLIAM ALFRED HARDEN. Sergeant, G/304.

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

Died Tuesday 22 June 1915. Aged 27.

Born Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent. Resided Hythe, Kent.

Son of George William Dennett and Alice Dennett (née Dear) of "The Lamb Inn," Hooe, Battle, Sussex.

Buried Erquinghem-Lys Churchyard Extension, Nord, France. Grave Ref: I.D.2.

Commemorated on the Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex civic war memorial, and at St. Leonards Church of England Primary School, Hythe, Kent.

At the time of the 1911 census, William was recorded as being a 22 year old Training College Student at Culham Training College, Abingdon, Oxfordshire. William's parents and three younger brothers were residing at 50, Windsor Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex. A 56 year old native of Seddlescombe, Battle, Sussex, George William Dennett was recorded as being the head of the house, and as being an Own Account Blacksmith and Farrier.

Whilst residing at 30, Ormonde Road, Hythe, Kent, he enlisted in the army for 3 years with the Colours on Monday 26 August 1914. When William enlisted he stated that he was 26 years of age, employed as a School Master, and that he had previously served in the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry (Territorial Force) for 2 years, which was probably whilst he was in training as a School Teacher at the Culham Training College, Abingdon, Oxfordshire. He was attested to serve as a Private in The Buffs (East Kent Regiment), and joined the regiment at the Regimental Depot at Canterbury, Kent on the day of his enlistment and attestation. William was posted to serve in the 6th (Service) Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment) on Tuesday 1 September 1914, and was appointed Lance Corporal on Wednesday 16 September 1914. Unfortunately data re other promotions etcetera are obscured on William's service papers. He was serving in the same battalion when he was posted to Belgium for service with the British Expeditionary Force on Tuesday 1 June 1915. Immediately prior to William being posted to the Western Front, his battalion had been stationed at Aldershot, Hampshire as part of the 37th Brigade, 12th (Eastern) Division, from Aldershot it travelled to Folkestone, Kent on Tuesday 1 June 1915 and sailed for Boulogne-sur-Mer. On Wednesday 2 June the battalion left Boulogne-sur-Mer, Pas de Calais, for St. Omer, Pas de Calais, and from there marched 8 miles southwestward down the D192 road to billets at the village of Remilly-Wirquin, Pas de Calais. After a few days in the billets at Remilly-Wirquin, the battalion moved to the Nord village of Meteren. The battalion later began instruction in trenches at Armentières, and from there moved to Ploegsteert, Comines-Warneton, Hainaut, Belgium. The loss of William when he was he was accidentally killed near Armentières, Nord, France, was the sole other rank fatality which was recorded on the casualty returns of the 6th (Service) Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment) on Tuesday 22 June 1915.

Assistant Scout Master.

WARE, ARTHUR. Private, G/11460.

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

Died Tuesday 8 October 1918. Aged 20. (Please note end comments re date).

Born Lenham, Kent. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent. Resided Sellindge, Kent.

Son of Robert Ware and of Rose Ware (née Hyland) of The Bakery, Barrow Hill, Sellindge, Kent.

Buried Montbrehain British Cemetery, Aisne, France. Grave Ref: A.17.

Also commemorated at St. Leonard's Church of England Primary School, Hythe, Kent, and on the Sellindge, Kent Great War tribute, which is in the form of a memorial plaque in the parish church of St. Mary the Virgin, Sellindge.

At the time of the 1911 census, the Ware family resided at Seaview Terrace, 3, North Road, Hythe, Kent. Head of the house was 44 year old Lenham, Maidstone, Kent native Robert Ware, who was employed as a Baker Bread Foreman. After he was called up for military service, as instructed Arthur enlisted in the army at Canterbury, Kent on Thursday 29 June 1916. At the time of enlisting in the army, he stated that he was 18 years and 25 days old, employed as a Canteen Worker, and that he resided at 48, North Road, Hythe, Kent, which was the home of his father, who Arthur named as being his next of kin. Arthur was attested to serve in The Buffs (East Kent Regiment), and was posted to the 9th (Reserve) Battalion of the regiment on July 1916, and served in "C" Company whilst carrying out his basic training. On Friday 1 September 1916, he was transferred to the 29th Training Reserve Battalion at Old Park, Dover, Kent, and then placed on the Army War Reserve Class B, with effect from Friday 8 September 1916, when it was discovered that he had enlisted underage. The revelation about Arthur's true age had primarily been due to a letter of enquiry that had been sent by his father to the military authorities on Thursday 17 August 1916. Arthur was then employed by the Army & Navy Canteen Board at Canteen No.73, Sandling Camp, Shorncliffe, Kent. During the time that he was employed at Sandling Camp, Arthur wrote numerous letters to the military authorities requesting them to recall him for military service. After leaving his employment with the Army & Navy Canteen Board, he informed the staff at the Recruiting Office, St. Lawrence House, New Dover Road, Canterbury, Kent, that he wished to rejoin the Colours. As the result of his last request to St. Lawrence House, Arthur was finally recalled from the Army Reserve on Saturday 16 February 1918. Following his recall he was posted to the 3rd (Reserve) Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment), at The Citadel, Western Heights, Dover, Kent, where doubtless the military skills which he had learned previously would have been honed by the instructors there. Arthur was transferred to serve in the 1st Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment) on Saturday 8 June 1918, and posted to France for service with the British Expeditionary Force. Arthur was numbered amongst the 29 other ranks fatalities which were suffered by the 1st Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment) on Tuesday 8 October 1918. The village of Bellenglise where Arthur and his comrades fell is located approximately five miles to the north of St. Quentin, Aisne, France, and it was finally captured by the 46th (North Midland) Division at the end of September 1918. It was to the

Bellenglise area that Arthur's battalion marched on Friday 4 October 1918, going into various billets on the banks of the St. Quentin Canal. On the night of 5/6 October, as part of the 16th Brigade, 6th Division, the 1st Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment), in unison with the rest of their brigade, relieved the officers and other ranks of the 3rd Brigade of the 1st Division around Preselles Farm, which is located between Ramicourt and Sequehart, and at the time was opposite the enemy position to be attacked, that was set in rolling downland countryside which was divided by a valley opening out towards the British, and closed at the far end by the village of Mericourt. Of significance in the valley is Mannikin Wood, and several other locations that were eminently suitable for hidden machine guns, with the British 6th Division detailed to attack up a left spur which formed a boundary of the valley, and French troops detailed to attack up the left one. Due to the delay of the formations passing through St. Quentin, and subsequently being held up by the enemy, the allied planned offensive in the area was postponed, but only for twenty four hours. On the night of 7/8 October, Harold's battalion returned from Bellenglise for a second time to its forming up line, the relevant 'Operation Order' issued explained that 16th Infantry Brigade was to attack on the right, with its outer (right) flank covered by a special detachment of 18th Infantry Brigade which was provided with tanks. 16th Infantry Brigade attack to be exploited according to circumstances, in conjunction with supporting artillery, and that the 1st Battalion, Kings Shropshire Light Infantry would move off at 0510 hours and capture the first objective; after which the 1st Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment) would advance through the 1st Battalion, Kings Shropshire Light Infantry, in liaison with the 21st Battery, Royal Field Artillery, and attack the entrenched enemy to the front of Beauregard Farm. The 2nd Battalion, York and Lancaster Regiment would attack Mericourt from a north-westerly direction, whilst liaising with the 53rd Battery, Royal Field Artillery. Whilst Harold's battalion like all the other Great War era infantry battalions, had for the most part been generally primarily reliant on proper artillery support to ensure tactical success, towards the closing stages of the war they were on some occasions able to achieve local victories with their own weapons systems. The automatic firepower available to them by the end of the war was immense, and the attack order for Harold's battalion on the day he fell had specified the use of fifty Lewis guns by each of the assaulting companies. Due primarily to the combination of the darkness and the difficulty in guiding, the 1st Battalion was not in position until only fifteen minutes prior to zero hour, despite which its 'Operation Orders' were carried out as planned, but 37 year old Lieutenant Hugh H. Carter, the son of former Buffs Regimental Sergeant Major William Carter was killed, along with his Batman prior to zero hour. At the appointed time the attack got under way, and the first of the days objective fell to the assaulting 1st Battalion, Kings Shropshire Light Infantry, after which Arthur's battalion quickly moved on to the next designated objective, with "B" and "D" Companies leading, "C" and half of "A" Companies in support, and the remainder of "A" Company being held back in reserve. Shelling from the other side of the valley was very heavy which by the estimated time had not been reached by the French troops who were taking part in the attack, in addition to which a substantial amount of

enemy fire was coming from Mannikin Wood which is located in the actual valley was kept up, despite the heroic action fought by the 1st Battalion, West Yorkshire Regiment to counter the enemy firing.. As it appeared that a German counter attack was imminent, 19 year old Bromley, Kent native Second Lieutenant George Headly Stainforth who later resided in Wimbledon, was ordered to lead forward the two platoons that had been held in reserve, and to get in touch with the front and if necessary reinforce it. By the time that battalion headquarters moved forward at 1145 hours, it found the situation going well at the battalion front, although at that time no reorganization was possible because any movement was quickly spotted by the enemy from the right. Throughout the entire day, the personnel of "A" and "C" Companies were subjected to a lot of unwelcome enemy artillery shelling from .77 guns, although a defensive flank was formed later in the day, and by 1500 hours the French troops began to advance, and their involvement completely altered the situation in favour of the allies. By late afternoon and early evening the companies had been reorganised as the situation changed, and patrols were pushed forward towards through Beauregard Farm and copse, with a line being established from the east of those locations. By nightfall Mericourt was captured by the 6th Division having by that time done all which it had been originally assigned for the day. When Arthur's family had submitted a copy of Army Form W.5080, to apply for the memorial plaque (aka Dead mans Penny) and memorial scroll in remembrance of him on Wednesday 17 September 1919, his older brother Frederick was serving in India with the 1/1st Kent Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery, and his younger brother John was serving in Germany with the 23rd (Service) Battalion, Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment). Unfortunately, both the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, and the entry for Arthur in/on 'Soldiers Died in the Great War,' both **incorrectly show Arthurs' date of death as being 8 October 1917**, at which time the 6th Division to which the 1st Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment) was in the Cité St. Emile sector of the Pas de Calais, which is approximately 50 miles from where Arthur is at rest! Both of the aforementioned indispensable research data sources are known to contain thousands of errors of various descriptions, but it has been noted by the transcriber of these brief commemorations, and doubtless other people that where erroneous dates are shown, there is normally a conflict between the Commonwealth War Graves Commission commemoration details, and 'Soldiers Died in the Great War' entries, and that exactly matching wrong dates on both are somewhat unusual. An apology is needed as it was poor research practice on the part of the transcriber, that the above mistakes re date of Arthurs' death were not noted a few years ago, when the Hythe civic war memorial was researched and transcribed prior to it being added on www.kentfallen.com. In response to the myriad of requests to update the original 40 page transcriptions of the Hythe civic war memorial, which we have received since posting same, as of now (July 2012) the updated version is currently 296 pages, but with lots more work still to do. Needless to say when the Hythe civic war memorial research and transcriptions are finally updated and added, the above date errors appertaining to the late former Assistant Scout Master Arthur Ware will of course be corrected.



Assistant Scout Master.

WOOTTON, ALFRED GORDON. Lance Corporal, M/298036.

985th Motor Transport Company (Deptford), Army Service Corps.

Died Saturday 8 December 1917. Aged 19.

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

Son of Cornelius Wootten and Elizabeth Wootten (née Jarvis) of 18, South Road, Hythe, Kent.

Buried Horn Street Burial Ground, Spring Lane, Hythe, Kent. Grave Ref: 167.

Also commemorated on the United Reformed Church, Great War memorial plaque Hythe, Kent, and on the Lewisham Hospital, London, Great War memorial plaque, Lewisham High Street.

At the time of the 1901 census, the Wootten family resided at 9, Saltwood Gardens, Hythe, Kent. Head of the house was 46 year old Croydon, Royston, Cambridgeshire native Cornelius Wootten, who was a Builder employing staff. It was noted whilst carrying the researches of the Hythe, Kent casualties that

originally the surname on Alfred's British War Medal and his Victory Medal, were erroneously named A.G. WOOLTEN. As can be seen on the photograph above, Alfred's parents share his grave. It can also be seen, that on his headstone his Christian name is Gordon, which was probably that which he called by his family and all and sundry, and by which he is commemorated on the 1st Hythe B.P. Boy Scouts memorial plaque. Alfred died at Lewisham Hospital and his death was recorded in the Lewisham, London, Registration District during the fourth quarter of 1917. The 985th Motor Transport Company (Deptford), Army Service Corps in which Alfred was serving at the time of his death, was a Light Railways and Crane Detachment of the Army Service Corps based at Deptford, London. When 73 year old Cornelius Wootten died on Monday 25 April 1927, his home address was Galmpton House, Hythe, Kent, which is where the Wootten family had been residing when the 1911 census was conducted. In addition to the then 12 year old Alfred, his younger brother and fellow Hythe native 8 year old Arthur Frank Wootten, was also recorded by the census enumerator on the night of the 1911 census. Mention is made here of Arthur because the 1918 edition of Kellys Directory records two types of business as being conducted from 18, South Road, Hythe, Kent, one of which was the builders which was owned and run by Cornelius Wootten, and the other was that of Motor Cab proprietor Frank Wootten, who must have only been about 16 years of age at the time.

Patrol Leader.

THOMAS, ERIC RAYMOND. Lance Corporal, T/201305.
6th (Service) Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).
Died Monday 1 July 1918. Aged 19.

Born Lewisham, Kent. Enlisted Canterbury, Kent. Resided Hythe, Kent.

Son of Charles Russell Thomas and Alice Louisa Thomas (née Johnson) of Hythe, Kent.

Buried Harponville Communal Cemetery Extension, Somme, France.

Grave Ref: D.14.

Also commemorated in St. Martin's Church, Cheriton, Kent, and at St. Leonard's School, Hythe, Kent. Eric is commemorated in The Great War Memorial Book of Church Bell-Ringers who fell in the Great War 1914-1918, which is on display in a bookcase on the way up to the ringing chamber at St. Paul's Cathedral, London, also commemorated on the Roll of Honour which is kept in Canterbury Cathedral, Kent, that honours the memory of the ringers from Kent who lost their lives during the Great War.

Formerly Private, 3948, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment). At the time of the 1911 census, the Thomas family had resided at The Cottage, Seabrook, Hythe, Kent. Head of the house was 35 year old Lewisham, Kent native Charles Russell Thomas, who was a Sanitary Engineer. Prior to enlisting in the army, Eric had been a member of the Bell Ringing team at the parish church of St. Leonard's, Hythe, Kent. Eric was numbered amongst the 7 casualties serving in the 6th (Service) Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment) on Monday 1 July 1918, but he was the only one of them who actually came from the county of Kent.

Scout.

RICHARDS, HARRY VICTOR. Private, G/4578.

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

Died Wednesday 13 March 1916. Aged 18.

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

Son of Tom Richards and Margaret Sarah Richards (née Bear) of 7, Theatre Street, Hythe, Kent.

Buried Béthune Town Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France. Grave Ref: V.B.23.

Also commemorated at St. Leonard's C of E Primary School, Hythe, Kent.

At the time of the 1901 census, the Richardson family resided at 22, Theatre Street, Hythe, Kent. Head of the house was 46 year old Bristol, Gloucestershire native Tom Richards, who was employed as a Plasterer. The family still resided at the same address when the 1911 census was conducted. Harry was serving in The Buffs (East Kent Regiment) when he was posted to France for service with the British Expeditionary Force on Saturday 6 March 1915. Harry was one of three members of his battalion that died on Wednesday 13 March 1916, all of whom are recorded as having died of wounds.

Scout.

GREEN, JAMES DAVID. Private, 16205.

2nd Battalion, Grenadier Guards.

Died Friday 11 September 1914? (Please see below).

Born Easham, Cheshire. Resided Hythe, Kent.

Buried Guards' Grave Cemetery, Villers-Cotterêts, Aisne, France. Grave Ref: 19.

Also commemorated on the Easham, Cheshire civic war memorial.

At the time of the 1911 census, 16 year old James resided at "Tarifa," 2, Berkley Villa, London Road, Hythe, Kent, and was employed as an Assistant in a Grocers shop. Head of the house was 45 year old Selling, Faversham, Kent native Thomas Adley, who was employed as a Valet and was married to James' 40 year old sister, Gayton, Cheshire native Martha Lilly Ellen. Unfortunately the transcriber of these brief commemorations has not been able to view James' service papers (in they still exist), and as such it has not been possible to ascertain his exact date of enlistment, but James' Grenadier Guards regimental number is indicative of a late 1912 enlistment. Also due to the lack of definitive supporting documentary evidence, it has proved to be impossible to ascertain the correct date of James death. His Commonwealth War Graves Commission commemoration details record his date of death as (Friday) 11 September 1914. James' entry in/on Soldiers Died in the Great War shows the date of his death as having occurred on (Friday) 4 September 1914. Both of the aforementioned data sources are indispensable when researching the Great War deaths, but both unfortunately are known to contain thousands of errors, and as such either (or neither) could be correct. Over the last fifty plus years of researching military and civilian victims of war, the transcriber, and doubtless other like minded people have noted, that on countless occasions where there is shown to be a date clash re the CWGC and SDGW records, but service papers or similar have also been available, a staggering number show a casualty as having been wounded on an

the earliest date shown, and then the latter date being the correct date of death. Obviously purely supposition on the part of the transcriber, and should therefore be viewed as such, but it might be the case that James had been wounded on Friday 4 September 1914 and succumbed to same on Friday 11 September 1914, although his SDGW entry records killed in action, but again this invaluable data source does contain countless errors. At the commencement of the Great War, the 2nd Battalion, Grenadier Guards was commanded by 46 year old Second Boer War hero, Lieutenant Colonel Noel A.L. Corry, D.S.O., and was stationed at Wellington Barracks, London, as part of the 4th (Guards) Brigade, 2nd Division. On Wednesday 12 August 1914 the battalion left by train from Nine Elms railway station for the port of Southampton, and from there sailed on the Cawdor Castle to Harve, France, where it arrived the following day. As was applicable to all the battalions of the British Expeditionary Force on the Western Front during 1914, the 2nd Battalion, Grenadier Guards also had its fair share of mixtures and successes, which in turn resulted in the overall ebb and flow of the opposing armies positions. In the aftermath of the Allied defeat at Battle of Mons on Sunday 23 August 1914, the British and French forces began a long, hard retreat south west toward Paris. On the evening of Monday 31 August, the officers and men of the 4th (Guards) Brigade halted just north of the great forest around the small Aisne town of Villers-Cotterêts. They had been marching in hot weather for over a week with little sleep, and many of them had been involved in fighting at Landrecies and elsewhere. A large detachment of German troops was expected to attack from the north early the following morning, and shortly after midnight the entire brigade was ordered to form a rearguard to cover the retreat of the Second Division. The 2nd Battalion, Grenadier Guards and the 3rd Battalion, Coldstream Guards entrenched between Soucy and Mont-Gobert, while units of the Coldstream Guards and Irish Guards formed a second line further south along the northern edge of the forest. When the German attack commenced at approximately 1000 hours, the Guards officers and other ranks in the forward positions came under heavy rifle and artillery fire, and were forced to retire and join their comrades in the forest. The dense undergrowth, along with a heavy morning mist, slowed the German advance through the forest, but also caused much confusion and made it difficult for British officers to communicate with each other and direct their men. By mid-morning all units of the Grenadier, Coldstream, and Irish Guards were engaged in close-quarter fighting among the trees. In some parts of the forest, the opposing forces were no more than seventy yards apart, and during the course of the morning two platoons of the Grenadiers were cut off from the rest of the Brigade and overrun by the attackers. The clearing at Ronde de la Reine was the scene of some the heaviest fighting as the Guardsmen fought their way back to Villers-Cotterêts under sustained machine-gun fire. The 42 year old Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion, Irish Guards, Lieutenant-Colonel The Honourable Colonel George Morris, was killed early in the action, while Brigadier-General Robert Scott-Kerr, D.S.O. (1859 – 1942) who was in overall command, was badly wounded in a thigh as the Brigade retired from Ronde de la Reine. The loss of these two very senior officers added to the general confusion, but the Brigade continued to

gradually retire through the forest in good order. Fighting continued until well into the afternoon, but by 1800 hours, with support from units of the Royal Berkshire Regiment and the 5th Infantry Brigade, the surviving Guardsmen finally left the forest and rejoined the general retreat. The Brigade had successfully covered the Second Division but had suffered heavy losses with over 300 officers and other ranks killed in action, in addition to which a not insignificant number of personnel had suffered woundings, some of which sadly later resulted in their deaths. In the aftermath of the fighting, many of the dead Guardsmen were buried by the people of Villers-Cotterêts. The cemetery where James is at rest was formed by the Irish Guards when the British forces regained this territory two months later and contains 98 Commonwealth burials of the Great War, 20 of which are unidentified. Just north of the cemetery on the road to Vivières stands an impressive memorial to the Coldstream, Grenadier and Irish Guardsmen who were killed or mortally wounded during the rearguard action. The memorial, which was unveiled in 1922, was placed there by Lady Violet Georgina Cecil, the mother of Second Lieutenant George Edward Cecil of the 2nd Battalion, Grenadier Guards who fell during the fighting on 1 September and is buried in the cemetery. The Guards Memorial at Villers-Cotterêts bears the inscription:-

“IN HONOUR OF THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE GRENADIER
COLDSTREAM AND IRISH GUARDS WHO FELL NEAR THIS SPOT ON 1st
SEPTEMBER 1914. THIS MEMORIAL WAS PLACED HERE BY THE MOTHER
OF ONE OF THEM AND IS ESPECIALLY DEDICATED TO SECOND
LIEUTENANT GEORGE EDWARD CECIL.”

Scout.

McDOUGALL, LESLIE CHARLES. Corporal, 8680.

“B” Squadron, 2nd Dragoon Guards (Queens Bays).

Died Sunday 1 September 1918.

Born Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk. Enlisted Southampton, Hampshire. Resided City of London, EC3.

Son of Captain Peter Cockburn McDougall and Jane McDougall (née Pearle) of 7, Gracechurch Street, London.

Buried Bury St. Edmunds Cemetery, Suffolk Grave Ref: 71. 249.

Commemorated on the 1st Hythe Troop Boy Scouts memorial plaque in the parish church of St. Leonards, Hythe, Kent.

Leslie was born at Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk on Tuesday 13 November 1906, at which time his father was serving as a regular soldier in the Suffolk Regiment. At the time of the 1911 census, the McDougall family resided at 89, Market Street, Hythe, Kent. Head of the house was 39 year old Dublin, Ireland native Peter Cockburn McDougall, who was employed as a Canteen Manager by Lipton Ltd. After leaving Hythe, Leslie had been employed for two years as a Grocers Assistant in the Canteen Grocery at the Royal Naval Hospital, Netley, Hampshire. In response to a request from the army for somebody to act as a Referee and provide a suitable reference regarding Leslie, following his application to enlist in the army, that provided by Mr. W.M. Griffiths who was the Canteen Manager at the hospital was very positive, although Mr. Griffiths had

only know Leslie for the last 4 months prior to the letter dated Monday 12 January 1914. Leslie enlisted as a regular soldier for 7 years with the Colours and 5 years in the Reserve on Thursday 15 January 1914. When he enlisted, Leslie stated that he was 18 years and 61 days old, employed as Grocers Assistant, and that he was a serving member of the (Hants) Royal Horse Artillery, (Territorial Force). Leslie served in the latter as Driver, 459, for 274 days from Wednesday 16 April 1913, during which time he had attended the Annual Training fortnight at Rolleston Camp, Wiltshire from Sunday 3 August 1913 to Sunday 17 August 1913. He was attested to serve in the 2nd Dragoon Guards (Queens Bays), which he joined at Newport, Monmouthshire, Wales, and then remained in the same regiment until his death. On Tuesday 29 September 1914 Leslie was appointed an Acting Corporal, and to a Corporal on Tuesday 10 November 1914. He was promoted to a Lance Sergeant on Wednesday 4 August 1915 and to an Acting Sergeant on Saturday 15 January 1916 to complete establishment. On Wednesday 13 September 1916 Leslie reverted to be a (paid) Lance Sergeant, and resumed the permanent rank of Corporal seven days later. He had obtained his Army 3rd class Education Certificate on Wednesday 4 February 1914, and his 2nd class Education Certificate on Tuesday 24 March 1914. At Aldershot, Hampshire on Thursday 4 November 1915, Leslie qualified as a 1st class Machine Gunner. Leslie had served with the British Expeditionary Force from when he had arrived at Rouen, Seine, Maritime, France on Thursday 14 September 1916 onboard the SS Princess Victoria which had left Southampton the previous day. He joined his regiment in the field on Wednesday 20 September 1916. On Sunday 10 March 1918 Leslie suffered a mild gunshot wound to his left arm for which he was treated at the No.1 General Hospital, Etretat, Seine-Maritime, France. Leslie suffered a serious gunshot wound to his chest on Thursday 8 August 1918, which had fractured his spine, and two days later whilst he was receiving treatment for his wounding at the No.8 Stationary Hospital at Wimereux, Pas de Calais, France, and having originally informed his mother that a visit was not possible, it was later decided by the hospital staff that he could be visited there. Despite the severity of his wounding which had included complete paralysis, the decision was made to evacuate Leslie back to England via the nearby port of Boulogne-sur-Mer. Back in England, Leslie was then treated at the King George Military Hospital, Stamford Street, Waterloo, London, SE1, from Wednesday 21 August 1918 which is where he succumbed to his wounds at 0630 hours on Sunday 1 September 1918. Following his death, which was recorded in the Lambeth, London, Registration District, Leslies' body was sent home to Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk where he was born. Leslies' parents were still residing at 7, Gracechurch Street, London, at the time of the death of his father Peter Cockburn McDougall at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, E.C.1 on Thursday 7 March 1940. Having enlisted in the Suffolk Regiment aged 18 years and 4 months at Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk on Saturday 18 August 1888, for 7 years with the Colours and 5 years in the Reserve, at which time he stated that he was employed as a Clerk, Leslies' father had been a Colour Sergeant in the 1st Battalion, Suffolk Regiment at the time of his discharge from the army on Thursday 12 August 1909, by then having completed

21 years service. During the course of his army service, Peter Cockburn McDougall had in addition to service at home which had included time spent at the School of Musketry, Hythe, he also served during the Second Boer War from 1900 to 1902 being a recipient of the Queen's South Africa Medal with 3 clasps, and the King's South Africa Medal with both of the date clasps. He was also awarded the Regular Army Long Service & Good Conduct Medal in 1907, having also served in Egypt and at Malta. Peter volunteered for military service during the Great War and was granted a commission. He served at Prisoner of War Camps at East Gate, County Durham, and at Whitley Bay, Northumberland.



Scout.

LYTH, DANIEL STRINGER. Private, L/11107.
1st Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment).
Died Friday 19 April 1918.

Born Hythe, Kent. Enlisted Dover, Kent. Resided Wouldham, Rochester, Kent. Son of Hannah Lyth Cloke) of "Craigside," Castle Avenue, Saltwood, Hythe, Kent, and the late Daniel Stringer Lyth.

Commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Panel 17, as shown above.

Formerly Private, 11518, Royal Army Medical Corps. At the time of the 1901 census the Lyth family resided at 49, High Street, Hythe, Kent. Head of the house was 36 year old Church Verger; Daniel S. Lyth (senior) who was native of Richmond, Yorkshire, and married to 38 year old Saltwood, Hythe, Kent native Hannah Lyth (née Cloke). Youngest of the family members recorded by the census enumerator was 2 year old Hythe native Daniel S. Lyth. By the time that the 1911 census was conducted, the Lyth family had moved to 3, Marine Walk Street, Hythe, Kent, where Daniel (Senior) was again recorded as being the head of the house, and employed as a Verger. Daniel (junior) enlisted in the army as a regular soldier for a term of 3 years with the Colours, and 9 years in the Army Reserve on Wednesday 3 March 1915. At the time of enlisting, Daniel stated that he was 19 years and 200 days old, and employed as a Seaman by Cardille Turnbull & Sons. He named his father residing at "Craigside," Castle Avenue, Saltwood, Hythe, Kent as his next of kin. In response to the question regarding a preference to which regiment or corps he wished to serve in, Daniel replied the Royal Army Medical Corps. Unlike many other wartime volunteers, Daniel was attested to serve in the corps of his choice, and following his basic training he was later posted to the School of Instruction, R.A.M.C. Aldershot, Hampshire, on Thursday 3 June 1915. Having completed his training at Aldershot, Daniel was posted to France on Tuesday 21 September 1915, and sailed from Southampton onboard the 665 ton SS Queen Alexander, from which he disembarked at Rouen, France the following day. On Tuesday 2 October 1917, Daniel was transferred to the 1st Battalion, The Buffs (East Kent Regiment) in which he then

remained until being killed in action. He was one of the two other ranks serving in the battalion that fell on Friday 19 April 1918. All official correspondence appertaining to Daniel after his death was sent to his mother, who resided at "Craigside," Castle Avenue, Saltwood, and later at 2, Hall Cottages, Wouldham, Rochester, Kent. Hannah Lyth subsequently moved to live with her daughter Christine at 2, Providence Place, Wouldham. Regretably, and unlike those of the Second World War, the civilian casualties of the Great War are not officially commemorated by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Due to the anomaly between the deaths of the civilian Commonwealth victims of the two world wars, only Daniel (Junior) has a CWGC commemoration, but unfortunately it is with his surname erroneously spelt Lythe. All other official and unofficial data checked appertaining to the family, including census entries going back to 1841 shows the family surname spelt Lyth. The relevant Medal Index Card entry for Daniel is also spelt Lyth. Daniel Lyth (senior) died at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Folkestone, Kent, on Friday 25 May 1917 of the injuries he had suffered during a bombing raid on Hythe by German Gotha bombers earlier in the day, and is at rest at the parish churchyard of St. Peter and St. Paul, Saltwood, Hythe, Kent.

Scout.

BARTON, REGINALD FRANK. Sergeant, 10381.

1st Battalion, Royal Scots Fusiliers.

Died Saturday 23 March 1918. Aged 21.

Born Chatham, Kent. Enlisted and resided Hythe, Kent.

Son of Thomas Barton and Alice Mary Barton (née Usher) of 6, Victoria Avenue, Hythe, Kent.

Commemorated on the Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Bay 5.

Also commemorated at St. Leonard's C of E Primary School, Hythe, Kent.

At the time of the 1901 census, the Barton family resided at 1, Seene Cottages, Hythe, Kent. Head of the house was 31 year old Hythe, Kent native Alice Mary Barton. When the 1911 census was conducted, the family resided at 3, Victoria Avenue, Hythe, Kent, where 47 year old was recorded as being the head of the house, and a Civil subordinate, Army Pensioner in Government employment. At the time of being posted overseas (date unknown), Reginald was serving as a Corporal in the Royal Scots Fusiliers. Unfortunately, it would appear to be the case that Reginald's service papers were amongst those which were lost in an air raid during the Second World War. His Royal Scots Fusiliers regimental number is indicative of him having enlisted as a regular soldier during the summer of 1911, and being attested to serve in the 1st Battalion of the regiment. At the commencement of the Great War the 1st Battalion, Royal Scots Fusiliers in which Reginald was probably serving, was at Gosport, Hampshire, part of the 9th brigade, 3rd Division. The battalion sailed from Southampton on the SS Martaban and SS Appam, and arrived at the French port of Harve on Friday 14 August 1914. On Wednesday 5 April 1916 the battalion was transferred to 8th Brigade, 3rd Division. Reginald amongst the 58 other ranks in his battalion who died on Saturday 23 March 1918, it being the third day of the German Spring Offensive 1918, "Operation Michael."