

Grindleton Roll of Honour

1914-1918

1939-1945



Foreword

From 5th to 9th August 2018 I was privileged and proud as Standard Bearer to represent Chatburn and District Branch of the Royal British Legion in the Great Pilgrimage 90. This was organised in commemoration of the First World War by the Royal British Legion. As the champion of Remembrance, the Legion leads the nation in expressing our gratitude to the generation who served, sacrificed, and changed our world.

On 11th November 1918, the First World War came to an end with a ceasefire coming into effect at 11am. Earlier that morning, an armistice with Germany had been signed in a railroad carriage at Compiègne, with the conflict having lasted for four years, three months and 14 days. By the time the armistice had been agreed, the total number of military and civilian casualties had reached more than 40 million, making it among the deadliest conflicts in world history. The momentous and bloody four years of the First World War shaped the world in which we live and was central to the creation of our modern national identity.

In 1928 The British Legion (as it was then known) organised the original Battlefields Pilgrimage for over 11,000 veterans and war widows. This provided the original pilgrims with an opportunity to bid a final farewell to their loved ones and old comrades culminating in a ceremony of Remembrance at the Menin Gate. The original date for the ceremony, 8th August 1928 was chosen as it marked the date when the British and Commonwealth Armies turned the tide of the war and launched the 'Hundred Days Offensive' that led to the end of the first World War.

The 1928 pilgrims didn't travel in the same comfort as those of us in 2018. They hiked in the heat across the hot beaten ground between the battlefields of France and Belgium carrying their lunches and luggage. On my Pilgrimage I had the opportunity to retrace their steps and understand their journey in the comfort of an air-conditioned coach.

We explored the battlefields, the forts, the trenches, bunkers, shell-holes and underground tunnels around Ypres and Somme but not as they were 100 years ago. Ypres has been rebuilt from the rubble and dust and the surrounding countryside now thrives, the small villages and towns are prosperous and beautiful.

The white marble war graves, memorials and cemeteries dot the landscape in harrowing rows. They are located where the troops fell in battle with the headstones facing the line of fire. I've added information about the relevant cemeteries with photographs to illustrate the scale of the war. I was able to find the names of Thomas Bullock on Tyne Cot Memorial and William Lawson Holgate on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing and pay my respects from us in Grindleton.

On my return I was inspired to compile the information in this file so that our war dead from Grindleton are no longer just names on a memorial and we have a better understanding of how they died and the impact on their families and the community left behind.

Mandy Brennan August 2018



1914-1918

These are the men and woman recorded on the War Memorial in St Ambrose Church and also others buried in the Churchyard who died serving our country.

Driver Richard **Battersby** 74th Field Company died 9 June 1918 aged 32

Private Joseph **Bell** Australian Expeditionary Force died between 14-16 August 1916 aged 26

Private Thomas Edward **Bullock** 9th Battalion Sherwood Foresters died 4 October 1917 aged 38

Private Joshua **Crossley** A company 10th Battalion Duke of Wellington's Regt died 3 November 1914 aged 16

Thomas Pemberton **Frankland** 2nd Lt 109th Siege Battery Royal field Artillery died 29 July 1916 aged 21

Private Albert B **Hargreaves** West Yorkshire Regiment Labour Corps died 13 November 1918 aged 28

Stanley **Hargraves** Buried 1918 -no other information to date

Bombardier Albin **Hawkins** (Albion) D Battery 315th Brigade Royal field Artillery died 20 December 1918 aged 27

Private Nicholas **Holden** 7th Battalion Royal Scots died 12 May 1916 aged 26

Private William A **Holgate** 16th Battalion West Yorks Regiment died 29.12.1918 aged 28

Lance Corporal William Lawson **Holgate** 7th Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers died 11 July aged 21

Capt Auberon Thomas **Herbert** 9th Baron Lucas of Crudwell, 5th Baron Dingwall PC, Royal Flying Corps died 3 November 1916 aged 40

Private Robert **Maudsley** Australian Army attached to 32nd Infantry Battalion A Company died 19 July 1916. Cousin of Joseph Bell

Private Joseph **Moon** 14th Battalion Worcestershire Regiment Severn Valley Pioneers, Died 22 June 1917 aged 22

Gunner Lewis **Proctor** A Battery 174th Brigade Royal Field Artillery died 6 October 1918 aged 33

Hilda **Read** VAD Nurse 94th East Lancashire died 18 January 1920

Private Thomas **Rigby** 10th Battalion Duke of Wellington's Regiment died 21 July 1916 aged 26

Pioneer Benjamin **Rushton** 'O' Special Company Royal Engineers died 23 July 1917 aged 39

Private Thomas **Simpson** Leicestershire Regiment died 18 April 1918 aged 24

Gunner Frederick **Slater** 7th Battery 4th Brigade Royal Field Artillery died 3 July 1916 aged 24

Private James **Smalley** West Surrey Regiment died 28 June 1916 aged 23

Stoker 2nd Class William Brian **Taylor** RN HMS Montbretia died 9 November 1918 aged 19

Private Arthur **Townson** 14th Battalion Worcestershire Regiment died 9 October 1917 aged 20

Private Vincent Edward **Wardleworth** 7th Battalion East Lancs Regiment 19th Division died 7 June 1917 aged 28

Gunner John **Westall** 255th Siege Battery Royal Garrison Artillery died 30 November 1918 aged 28

1939-1945

Sergeant (Pilot) John Horner **Hargreaves** Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve died 8 October 1939 aged 27

Sergeant Francis Graham **Shaw** 158 Squadron Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve died 17 September 1943 aged 21

Lance Sergeant Richard **Weston** 25th Durham Light Infantry died 16 July 1943 aged 25

Richard Battersby

Service Number 44941



He was a Driver with 74th Field Company, Royal Engineers.

Son of Isaac and Mary Ann Battersby, Richard was born in Chatburn in 1885 and moved in 1891 to Acre Lands Farm Grindleton.

According to the census of 1901 the family had moved to Fieldhouse Farm Accrington, and Richard aged 15 was working as a general agricultural labourer in Chatburn. He had lived at 8 Wells Street Clayton-le-Moors with a Mrs Scully for 16 years.

Richard died in France on Sunday 9th June 1918 aged 32 and is buried at Duisans British Cemetery, Etrun, Pas-de-Calais, France, grave number 17.

Grindleton War Memorial - Biographical Notes by Shirley Penman

RICHARD BATTERSBY, son of Isaac and Mary Ann nee Dixon married 4-11-1876, Christ Church, Chatburn. Enlisted at Accrington on 10th July 1915. The last battle which 15th (Scottish) Division was in before the date of Richard's death was the Battle of Arras - 28th March 1918. In 1911 Richard was a lodger at 22, Well Street, Clayton le Moors - occupation was carter.

Ref: <http://www.cpgw.org.uk/soldier-records/richard-battersby/>

Duisans British Cemetery

Duisans is a village in the Department of the Pas-de-Calais, about 9 kilometres west of Arras.

The area around Duisans was occupied by Commonwealth forces from March 1916, but it was not until February 1917 that the site of this cemetery was selected for the 8th Casualty Clearing Station.

The first burials took place in March and from the beginning of April the cemetery grew very quickly, with burials being made from the 8th Casualty Clearing Station (until April 1918), the 19th (until March 1918), and the 41st (until July 1917). Most of the graves relate to the Battles of Arras in 1917, and the trench warfare that followed.

From May to August 1918, the cemetery was used by divisions and smaller fighting units for burials from the front line.

In the Autumn of 1918 the 23rd, 1st Canadian and 4th Canadian Clearing Stations remained at Duisans for two months, and the 7th was there from November 1918 to November 1920.



There are now 3,207 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated at Duisans British Cemetery.

There are also 88 German war graves.

The cemetery was designed by Sir Reginald Blomfield.

Ref: Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Joseph Bell

service number 2592



Joseph Bell was the son of Samuel Irving and Jane Ellen Bell, née Maudsley. Samuel was born at Fell Edge, Crosthwaite, Westmorland and Jane at Brogden near Barnoldswick, Yorkshire. Jane died in 1898. Joseph was the cousin of Private Robert Thomas Maudsley also born in Grindleton.

1891 Pendleton near Clitheroe, Lancashire Census: Joseph Bell, aged 11 months, born Pendleton, son of Samuel and Jane Ellen Bell.

1901 Grindleton, Yorkshire Census: Cob House Farm - Joseph Bell, aged 10 years, born Pendleton, Lancashire. [Joseph and his sister, Ellen A. were living with their grandparents, Thomas and Elizabeth Maudsley.]

1911 Grindleton, Yorkshire Census: Foxley Bank - Joseph Bell, aged 20 years, born Pendleton, Lancashire. [Joseph was employed by John Henry Holgate, Farmer. Joseph's father was living at Sabden, Lancashire in 1911.]

Joseph died between the 14 and 16 August 1916. The exact date is not known; this is perhaps because there were no witnesses to his death who survived the fighting at Pozières. Joseph is commemorated by the Villers-Bretonneux Memorial near Amiens.

Clitheroe Times' (20 October 1916)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

GRINDLETON SOLDIER KILLED

News has reached Grindleton that Private Joseph Bell has been killed in action. Private Bell, who is a nephew of Mr. John Maudsley, fruit dealer, Grindleton, was brought up by his uncle and aunt, Mr. Edgar and Miss Maudsley, both his parents being dead. Some four years ago he emigrated to Australia, and returned with a contingent from the Commonwealth early in

the war, and went to France with them. He was well known at Grindleton and his demise is much regretted.

'Clitheroe Times' (27 October 1916)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

SABDEN

FORMERLY OF SABDEN

As reported last week, Private Joseph Bell, of the Australian Expeditionary Force, eldest son of Mr. Sam. Bell, Sabden, has made the great sacrifice. Private Bell, who was 26 years of age, formerly resided in the village and was a scholar at the Council school. He left Sabden to go to Grindleton, but five years ago emigrated to Australia, and when he heard his country's call joined the Anzacs. News of his death has been received by his uncle, Mr. John Maudsley, of Grindleton. His youngest brother, Driver George Bell, of the R.F.A. enlisted two years ago at the age of 15, and has been in Mesopotamia for 18 months.

'Burnley Express' (28 October 1916)

(Kindly supplied by Robert S. Richardson)

SABDEN MAN KILLED

News has reached Sabden that Pte. Joseph Bell, of the Australian Expeditionary Force, has been killed in action in France. He was the eldest son of Mr. Sam Bell. Pte. Bell went to Grindleton from Sabden, and about five years ago left for Australia. When the war broke out he joined the Australian Expeditionary Force. He was 28 years of age, and has two other brothers serving their country. One is in Mesopotamia, and the other in France. The younger brother, before enlisting, was an apprentice to Councillor Hargreaves, painter and decorator, of Sabden. Pte. Bell was a former scholar at the Council School.

Grindleton War Memorial - Biographical Notes by Shirley Penman

JOSEPH BELL, son of Samuel Irving and Jane Ellen nee Maudsley married 1889 All Saints, Pendleton was born and went to school in Sabden, moving to Grindleton to live with his Maudsley aunt and uncle. In 1911 he emigrated to Australia living in the town of Geraldton. There is a war memorial to the memory of WW1 (and other conflicts) in the town although there are no names upon it. Joseph probably died at the battle for Mouquet Farm, near the ruins of Pozieres. His cousin, Robert Thomas Maudsley, also fell in action.

Commemorated on: Australian Memorial panel 152 and Grindleton Memorial

Ref: <http://www.cpgw.org.uk/soldier-records/joseph-bell/>

VILLERS-BRETONNEUX MEMORIAL

Villers-Bretonneux is a village 16 kilometres east of Amiens on the straight main road to St Quentin.

Villers-Bretonneux became famous in 1918, when the German advance on Amiens ended in the capture of the village by their tanks and infantry on 23 April. On the following day, the 4th and 5th Australian Divisions, with units of the 8th and 18th Divisions, recaptured the whole of the village and on 8 August 1918, the 2nd and 5th Australian Divisions advanced from its eastern outskirts in the Battle of Amiens.

The memorial is the Australian National Memorial erected to commemorate all Australian soldiers who fought in France and Belgium during the First World War, to their dead, and especially to name those of the dead whose graves are not known.

The Australian servicemen named on this memorial died on the battlefields of the Somme 1916-18, Pozieres, Bapaume 1917, Arras 1917, Bullecourt, Messines 1917, Ypres 1917, Menin Road, Polygon Wood, Broodseinde, Poelcappelle, Passchendaele, Avre, Ancre 1918, Villers-Bretonneux, Lys, Hazebrouck, Hamel, Marne 1918, Amiens, Albert 1918, Albert 1918 (Chuignes), Mont-St. Quentin, Hindenburg Line, Epehy, St. Quentin Canal and Beaufort.

Both the cemetery and memorial were designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens.

The memorial was unveiled by King George VI on 22 July 1938.

Of the 10,982 names displayed at the unveiling of the Villers-Bretonneux Memorial the burial places of many have since been identified and this continues to this day.



As a result, there are currently 10,729 Australian servicemen officially commemorated by this memorial.

Thomas Edward Bullock

service Number 92188



Private Thomas Edward Bullock served with 9th Battalion Sherwood Foresters. He was killed 4th October 1917 aged 38 when the 9th Battalion attacked the German lines near Poelcappelle, Belgium, during the 3rd Battle of Ypres. On that day 4994 other soldiers died. Thomas is commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial Zonnebeke Belgium; Panel 99 to 102 and 162 to 162A.

He was born 20 December 1879, the son of William and Ann Bullock, née Wilson and brother of Private Rainford William Bullock, who was killed in action 26 October 1917 whilst serving with the 2/4th Bn Loyal North Lancashire Regiment in Belgium. Their father was born at Clitheroe and mother at Chipping, Lancashire.

Photograph: 'Clitheroe Advertiser' (2 November 1917).

'Clitheroe Advertiser' (2 November 1917)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

LATE PRIVATE T.E. BULLOCK

There are many old friends in Clitheroe and Grindleton who will hear with regret of the death in action of Private T.E. Bullock, of the Sherwood Foresters, third son of Mr. William Bullock who farmed the land adjacent to Jubilee mill. Mrs. Bullock (his mother) is now living at the Waddington Hospital.

In his 39th year, Private Bullock served about two and a half years in the A.S.C. before being drafted into the infantry, and he had only been in the line two months when he fell in action on the 4th October. He left Clitheroe about a dozen years ago, removing to Grindleton where

he was employed on Kempstone Farm by Mr. Robinson. After he joined the Army his wife and two sons went to live at Barnoldswick.

'Clitheroe Advertiser' (9 November 1917)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

DOUBLE BEREAVEMENTS

Two sons killed within a month is a terrible experience which has befallen Mrs. Bullock, who lives at Waddington Almshouses. On October 4th, her third son, Private T.E. Bullock, Sherwood Foresters, met his death in action and, yesterday morning, Mr. J. Bullock, Jubilee-terrace, was officially notified that Private Rainford W. Bullock, the fourth son, made the great sacrifice on Oct. 26. He joined the Loyal North Lancashire Regt. in October, 1916, and was sent to France last January. He was 33 years of age, and worked for Messrs. Carter's cement works. Prior to entering the employ of Messrs. Carters, however, he was in the service of Mr. Sam Berry, Mearley. He was unmarried. Another son, Private Edgar Bullock, is at present in hospital in Mesopotamia suffering from malarial fever, and general sympathy will go out to the grief-stricken mother and family.

A further double bereavement is reported from Dalehead, Mr. Carr having lost another son in action on the 24th ulto. It was only last week that we published the photograph of his son, John, of the Grenadier Guards, who died on October 14th.

Grindleton War Memorial - Biographical Notes by Shirley Penman

THOMAS BULLOCK, son of William and Ann nee Wilson married 6-3-1872, St. Mary Magdalene, Clitheroe. Husband of Mary Alice nee Smalley married 1905 St. Ambrose, Grindleton. Thomas's brother - Rainford William, also fell, 22 days later than Thomas. Their mother had gone to live in the almshouses at Waddington. Thomas's wife and two sons had gone to live in Barnoldswick when he enlisted in the army. Born in Clitheroe, enlisting in Clitheroe his residence is described as Barnoldswick.

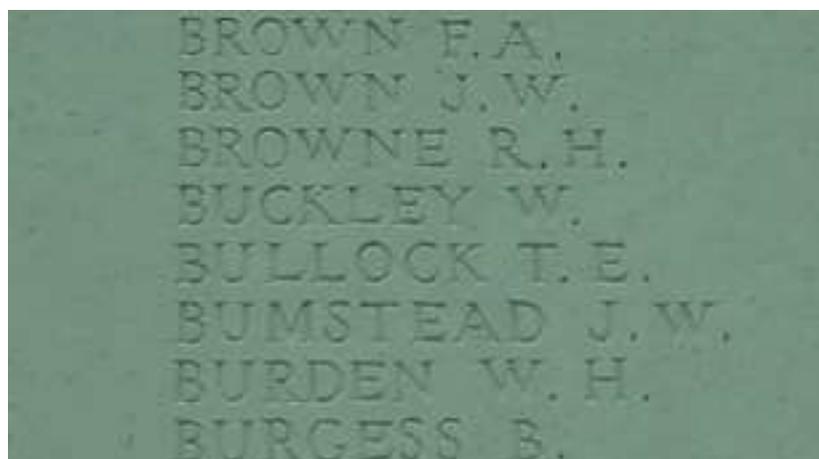
Ref: <http://www.cpgw.org.uk/soldier-records/thomas-edward-bullock/>

Tyne Cot Memorial

Around the eastern boundary of Tyne Cot Cemetery near the town of Ypres/Ieper in Belgium stands the Tyne Cot Memorial. It bears the names of some 35,000 men of the British and New Zealand forces who have no known grave, nearly all of whom died between August 1917 and November 1918.

This area on the Western Front was the scene of the Third Battle of Ypres. Also known as the Battle of Passchendaele, it was one of the major battles of the First World War.

Tyne Cot or Tyne Cottage was a barn named by the Northumberland Fusiliers which stood near the level crossing on the road from Passchendaele to Broodseinde. Around it were a number of blockhouses or 'pillboxes', which were captured by the 3rd Australian Division on 4 October 1917 in the advance on Passchendaele.



Joshua Crossley

Service number 13770



3 November 1914 Pte Joshua Crossley died of measles during training

Pte Joshua Crossley, 'A' Company, 10th Battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regt.

From Bolton-by-Bowland, Yorkshire, Joshua was a farmer at his parents' farm prior to the war. Enlisting under-age in the first days of the war, he died of measles at Frensham Camp near Aldershot whilst undergoing training and he is now buried in Aldershot Military Cemetery. Joshua was just 16 years of age when he died.

3 November 1914

ref: David O'Mara The Western Front Association

'The Clitheroe Advertiser and Times' (22 September 1939)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

ITEMS FROM OUR ISSUES OF SEPTEMBER 18th 1914

There were animated scenes in the usually quiet village of Slaidburn, on the 19th, when the first batch of local recruits left to join Kitchener's Army. They were Charles Parker, Abel Moore, George Whitfield, Joshua Crossley, Edwin and Walter Isherwood. Their departure was preceded by a little ceremony in the Mission Room, presided over by Mr. W. King-Wilkinson, at which a brief address was given by the Rev. J.C. Garnett, who counselled the men to go in the strength of God, so that whatever danger beset them they need have no

fear. The Slaidburn Band played the National Anthem, and to patriotic airs and the cheers of the villagers, the men left for Settle in cars provided by Messrs. W. and L. King-Wilkinson.

'The Clitheroe Advertiser and Times' (22 September 1939)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

ITEMS FROM OUR ISSUES OF SEPTEMBER 18th 1914

Recruits from Waddington who joined Mr. Tunstill's Settle Company of the Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment, were Joseph B. Hartley, Albert Herd, Harry Smith, Thomas Rigby and William Watson. Grindleton: William I. Bell, James W. Clarkson, Joshua Crossley, and William Walker. Gisburn: Anthony Lofthouse and John Robinson. Newsholme: Thomas E. Askew, Carl P. Braithwaite [Branthwaite], Benjamin A. Butler and William H. Scott.

Grindleton War Memorial - Biographical Notes by Shirley Penman

JOSHUA CROSSLEY, son of John and Mary nee Lawson married 1891, St. Peter and St. Paul, Bolton by Bowland was born at Bolton by Bowland and enlisted in Settle, along with about twenty other young men from the district. His residence was given as Grindleton. He died in the Military Isolation Hospital at Aldershot, after being conveyed there from Frensham Camp, Farnham.

Ref: <http://www.cpgw.org.uk/soldier-records/joshua-crossley/>

Aldershot Military Cemetery

During both wars, numerous regimental and corps depots were based in and around Aldershot. At the outbreak of The First World War, it was the headquarters of the Aldershot Command and of the 1st and 2nd Divisions, and the Depot of the Royal Army Medical Corps. The North and South Camps, divided by the Basingstoke Canal, remained in full activity throughout the War.

During the Second World War, some 400,000 Canadian servicemen were trained there.

Aldershot Military Cemetery is a permanent military cemetery, the property of the Ministry of Defence. The Commission is responsible for the care of graves of both world wars within the cemetery.

There are 692 First World War graves in the cemetery, the earliest bears the date 5th August 1914, and the latest 11th August 1921. Many of these graves are in plot AF.

The 129 Second World War graves are in groups in various plots, the largest group in plot A containing 86 graves.

ref: Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Thomas Pemberton Frankland



2ND LIEUT. / 109TH SIEGE BATTERY, R.G.A.
Died on 29 July 1916

He is buried at Dantzig Alley Cemetery, Mametz, Somme France

Photograph: © Tonbridge School.

'Clitheroe Times' (13 November 1914)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

[Untitled article]

From the 'London Gazette': 'Regular Forces, Royal Field Artillery: T.P. Frankland, to be 2nd lieutenant.' Lieut. Frankland, who is to report at Exeter, is an old Tonbridge boy, and is the elder son of Mr. Frankland, of White Hall, Grindleton.

'Clitheroe Times' (4 August 1916)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

GRINDLETON OFFICER KILLED

SECOND-LIEUTENANT T.P. FRANKLAND

Yesterday morning, Mr. and Mrs. George Frankland, of White Hall, Grindleton, and formerly of 'Highbrake,' Clitheroe, received an official intimation that their eldest son, Second-Lieutenant T.P. Frankland, had been killed in action. Lieutenant Frankland, who was 21 years of age, was educated

at Clitheroe Grammar School and at Tonbridge School. He received his commission in the Royal Field Artillery on November 7th, 1914, and was gazetted to the Royal Garrison Artillery on February 3rd, 1915. He had been selected for a commission in the Regular Army, and spent the intervening months between selection and gazetted announcement at Malta. Deep sympathy will be extended to Mr. and Mrs. Frankland and family.

'Clitheroe Times' (1 September 1916)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

A DARING OFFICER

THE LATE LIEUT. FRANKLAND PRAISED

High praise of the late Lieutenant Frankland is contained in letters received by his father, Mr. George Frankland, of White Hall, Grindleton.

Captain P.M. Pearce (Royal Garrison Artillery) sends a letter expressing deep regret at the loss of Lieutenant T.P. Frankland, who has been killed in action, and adding: "I always considered him an officer of great ability and promise. He was, I know, extremely popular among his comrades in this battery, and I was extremely sorry to lose him. I am sure he must be sadly missed from the battery."

A touching letter from Second-Lieutenant G. Knight (R.G.A.) had also been received by Mr. Frankland, in which the writer speaks of his close friendship with Lieutenant Frankland, and expresses deep sorrow at his loss. "The news that we were for the front delighted him," he says, and they left together for Malta in 1915 on the same boat. "Going up the line he was the life and soul of the party. We parted, going to our respective batteries. Later I heard that he did some excellent work, going forward to observe through a fire which drove the other officers back. In June I met him near the enemy's lines laying wire under shell fire. I asked him to come under cover, but he only grinned and chaffed me. I got him under cover on the pretence of having a chat with me, as we had not met for some time. He then expressed his keen regret at being unable to see his people before coming out. The last I heard of him was on the evening of the 1st July. That day he was the talk and admiration of the infantry and artillery. He went over with the infantry at 7-30, and was with them at the capture of ---- Wood. A little later in the day he established communication from our most forward captured position, and carried out observation for his battery and corps. All his friends were proud of his achievements. I have not heard how the end came, but am sure he met it in the intrepid way he had lived. I mourn him as the straightest boy and staunchest friend I have met."

'Clitheroe Advertiser' (27 September 1918)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

[Untitled article]

An official telegram has been received by Mr. Frankland, White Hall, Grindleton, from the India Office stating that his son, Lieut. Alec Frankland, 1st The 101st Grenadiers, Indian Army, is reported wounded, September 20th, on the Palestine Front. No further news has yet been received. Lieut. A.

Frankland is the brother of the late Lieut. T.P. Frankland who was killed on the Somme over two years ago.

TONBRIDGE SCHOOL AND THE GREAT WAR OF 1914-1919: A Record of the Services of
Tonbridgians in the Great War of 1914 to 1919

FRANKLAND, THOMAS PEMBERTON

2ND LIEUT. / 109TH SIEGE BATTERY, R.G.A.

Died at 29 July 1916

BIOGRAPHY:

2ND LIEUT. THOMAS PEMBERTON FRANKLAND, 109TH SIEGE BATTERY, R.G.A. KILLED IN ACTION NEAR FRICOURT, JULY 29TH, 1916. AGED 21. At the School, 1910—13 (Park House.)
2nd Lieut. T. P. Frankland was the elder son of Mr. and Mrs. George Frankland, of "White Hall, Grindleton, Clitheroe. He and his younger brother, Alec (P.H. 1910—15), came to Tonbridge in May, 1910, and he left in July, 1913. In preparation for a business career in Lancashire he became a student under Dr. Pickard at Blackburn, and obtained a 1st Class Certificate for Chemistry at the Blackburn Technical School in September, 1914. His brother Alec passed into Wellington College, India, in June, 1915, received a commission in the Indian Army, and, being posted to the 101st Grenadiers, was promoted Lieutenant in April, 1917, and Captain in April, 1920. In 1917—18 he saw much service in Egypt and Palestine, especially in General Allenby's Final Offensive. He was wounded in the right shoulder at Selfit on September 20th, 1918, and was mentioned in the Despatch of March, 1919. From February to August, 1919, he served together with Capt. R. E. Le Fleming (P.H. 1908—13) in the Somaliland Garrison, under responsible and trying circumstances, and he received the thanks of the Colonial Office for the arrest of a certain Sultan in Somaliland in August, 1919. Applying for a commission in the Royal Artillery soon after the outbreak of war, T. P. Frankland was gazetted to the R.F.A. as Temporary 2nd Lieut. November 4th, 1914, and was trained in No. 3B Reserve Brigade R.F.A. at Exeter, but was gazetted to the Royal Garrison Artillery February 3rd, 1915, and attached to No. 3 R.G.A. Depot, Citadel, Plymouth. After completing his training there he was posted to a Siege Battery and went out in May, 1915, with his Battery to Malta. Returning to England early in February, he left again for France on March 30th, 1916, and served in the Ypres district and then on the Somme. Another subaltern in the R.G.A., who went through his training with him, writes :— " I heard that he did some excellent work at Ypres, going forward to observe through a fire that drove other officers back. On June 30th I met him near the enemy's lines laying wire under shell fire. I asked him to come under cover, but he only laughed and chaffed me. . . . The last I heard of him was on the evening of July 1st. That day he was the talk and admiration of the Infantry and Artillery. He went over with the Infantry at 7.30, and was with them at the capture of Shelter Wood. A little later in the day he established communication from our most forward captured position, and carried out observations for his battery and the corps. All his friends were proud of his achievements. I mourn him as the straightest boy and staunchest friend I have met. He was killed, together with two

other officers, by a high-explosive shell at about 9 a.m. on July 29th, whilst serving with the 109th Siege Battery, to which he had been transferred on the 26th, and was buried in a cemetery three miles E. of Albert. The CO. of his old Battery, the 51st, wrote:— " He had only joined the 109th Siege Battery a day or two previously, having served with this Battery until then. I always considered him an officer of great ability and promise, and he was, I know, extremely popular among his comrades in this battery, and I was extremely sorry to lose him from the battery." That his efficiency was recognised is shown by the fact that he had been selected for a commission in the Regular Army.

INFORMATION

MILITARY

Citations - The CO. of his old Battery, the 51st, wrote:—"He had only joined the 109th Siege Battery a day or two previously, having served with this Battery until then. I always considered him an officer of great ability and promise, and he was, I know, extremely popular among his comrades in this battery, and I was extremely sorry to lose him from the battery." That his efficiency was recognised is shown by the fact that he had been selected for a commission in the Regular Army.

Outcome - Died

How He Died - Killed in Action

Where He Died - near Fricourt

Died Age - 21

SCHOOL

School House - Park House

Date Entered - 1910

Date Left - 1913

School Achievements - He and his younger brother Alec (P.H. 1910–15), came to Tonbridge in May, 1910, and he left in July, 1913.

Grindleton War Memorial - Biographical Notes by Shirley Penman

THOMAS FRANKLAND, son of George and Maud nee Pemberton married 1894 Blackburn. Was in Park House, Tonbridge School, 1910-1913. His brother, Alec, also attended. From 1913-14 he attended Blackburn Technical School leaving with a certificate in chemistry.

Gazetted temporary 2nd Lieutenant 4th Nov., 1914 and trained at Exeter before being gazetted to Royal Garrison Artillery on 3rd Feb., 1915 and posted to Malta in May. Returned to England early Feb., 1915 and then to France 30th Mar., 1916. Killed about 9 a.m. by high explosive shell near Fricourt.

Commemorated on:

Clitheroe Royal Grammar School Memorial

Grindleton Memorial

Tonbridge School Memorial, Kent

Ref: <http://www.cpgw.org.uk/soldier-records/thomas-pemberton-frankland/>

Dantzig Alley Cemetery

Dantzig Alley British Cemetery now contains 2,053 burials and commemorations of the First World War; 518 are unidentified. Other special memorials record the names of 71 casualties buried in other cemeteries, whose graves were destroyed by shell fire.

The village of Mametz was carried by the 7th Division on 1 July 1916, the first day of the Battle of the Somme, after very hard fighting at Dantzig Alley (a German trench) and other points. The cemetery was begun later in the same month and used by field ambulances and fighting units until the following November. The ground was lost during the great German advance in March 1918 but regained in August, and a few graves were added to the cemetery in August and September 1918.

At the Armistice, the cemetery consisted of 183 graves, now in Plot I, but it was then very greatly increased by graves (almost all of 1916) brought in from the battlefields north and east of Mametz and from certain smaller burial grounds, including:- AEROPLANE CEMETERY, FRICOURT, on the old German front line to the south of Fricourt village



containing the graves of 24 N.C.Os. and men of the 20th Manchesters who died on 1 July 1916.

BOTTOM WOOD CEMETERY, FRICOURT, on the south edge of a small wood between Mametz and Fricourt Woods was a field ambulance station for some months from July 1916; the cemetery contained 104 graves.

BULGAR ALLEY CEMETERY, MAMETZ, 230 metres east of the village, named from a trench contained the graves of 24 soldiers who died on 1 July 1916, all but one of whom belonged to the 22nd Manchesters.

HARE LANE CEMETERY, FRICOURT, at the north-west corner of the village, named from a trench contained the graves of 54 soldiers who died on 1 and 2 July 1916, and of whom 49 belonged to the 10th West Yorks.

MAMETZ GERMAN CEMETERY, in which 12 soldiers were buried by their comrades in July and August 1916. This cemetery was near the crossing of the Fricourt-Maricourt and Mametz-Bray roads.

MANSEL COPSE CEMETERY, MAMETZ, on the Fricourt-Maricourt road, near the present Devonshire Cemetery: and MANSEL COPSE WEST CEMETERY, MAMETZ, 460 metres further west contained the graves of 51 men of the 2nd Border Regiment, who died on 1 July 1916.

MONTAUBAN ROAD CEMETERY, CARNOY contained the graves of 25 soldiers (almost all of the 18th Division) who died on 1 July 1916.

VERNON STREET CEMETERY, CARNOY, in the valley between Carnoy and Maricourt, at a place called "Squeak Forward Position". 110 soldiers who died in July-October 1916 were buried here by the 21st Infantry Brigade and other units.

Stanley Hargraves died 1918 grave number 37

no further information at this time

Albert B Hargreaves

Service Number 541456

Private, West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales Own) Labour Corps. Albert died Wednesday 13th November 1918 aged 28 at Catterick Military Hospital, Yorkshire.

Biography: Albert Bellis Hargreaves was the son of William and Annie Hargreaves, née Bellis. William was born at Grindleton, Yorkshire and Annie at Waen-y-Balls near Flint, Flintshire.

1891 Clitheroe, Lancashire Census: Primrose - Albert Hargreaves, aged 11 months, born Clitheroe, son of William and Annie B. Hargreaves.

1901 Grindleton, Yorkshire Census: Holker Hall - Albert Bellis Hargreaves, aged 10 years.

1911 Grindleton, Yorkshire Census: Lower Asker Hill - Albert Bellis Hargreaves, aged 20 years.

Albert is buried in St Ambrose Churchyard, Grindleton.



'Clitheroe Advertiser' (22 December 1918)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

FALLEN IN THE FIGHT

HARGREAVES – In loving remembrance of Albert B. Hargreaves, who died November 13th, 1918, at the Catterick Military Hospital; and was interred at the Grindleton Parish Church on the 19th, aged 27 years.

Snapped like a tender flower from off its stem,

My bright young life, to form a diadem;

A jewel bright within that starry dome

Be thine to wear in that eternal home.

(Mrs. W. Livesey.) Wallace House, Grindleton.

Grindleton War Memorial - Biographical Notes by Shirley Penman

ALBERT HARGREAVES, son of William and Annie nee Bellis married 9-7-1885, St. Mary Magdalene,

Clitheroe was one of three sons of farmer, William Hargreaves. He worked at the local cotton shirtings mill but the army obviously put his farming upbringing into use by placing him in the agricultural corps.

Commemorated on: Grindleton Memorial

Ref: <http://www.cpgw.org.uk/soldier-records/albert-bellis-hargreaves/>

Albin Hawkins (Albion)

Bombadier Albin Hawkins 'D' Battery 315th Brigade Royal Field Artillery

Service number: 185683

Albin Hawkins was the son of George and Mary Ann Hawkins (née -). George was born at Langley Fitzurse, Wiltshire and Mary Ann at either Great or Little Totham near Maldon, Essex.

1881 Kington Langley, Wiltshire Census: Draycot Road - Albin Hawkins, aged 2 months, born Langley Fitzurse, Wiltshire, son of George and Mary Ann Hawkins.

1891 Bradford, Yorkshire Census: The Bradford Fever Hospital - Albin Hawkins, aged 10 years, born Chippenham, Wiltshire.

1901 Bradford, Yorkshire Census: 10, Agar Street - Albin Hawkins, aged 20 years, born Langley, Wiltshire, son of Mary A. Hawkins, widow.

Albin was married to Maria Waller in 1908.

1911 Girdlington, Bradford, Yorkshire Census: 10, Agar Street - Albin Hawkins, aged 30 years, born Kingstone [sic] Langley, husband of Maria Hawkins

Albin Died 20th December 1918

He was buried in Grevillers Military Cemetery Pas de Calais France. plot XVIII. B. 14

Grindleton War Memorial - Biographical Notes by Shirley Penman

ALBIN HAWKINS, son of George and Mary Ann nee Kemp married 1872 Bradford. Husband of Maria nee Waller married 7-10-1908 St Barnabas Church, Heaton, Bradford. Was born at Kington Langley in Wiltshire to a coachman father, his family moved to Bradford, Yorkshire between 1891 and 1901. Albin and his wife, Maria (no issue found) lived in Sawley at some time between early 1911 and his death in 1918. He was treated and died at the 56th Casualty Clearing Station (AKA South Midland C.C.S.) which was stationed at Grevillers from Sept. 1918 - Feb. 1919. Death in C.C.S was usually - but not always - wounds related.

Commemorated on: Grindleton Memorial, Sawley Memorial

Ref: <http://www.cpgw.org.uk/soldier-records/albin-hawkins/>

Grevillers British Cemetery

Grevillers is a village in the Department of the Pas de Calais, 3 kilometres west of Bapaume

The village of Grevillers was occupied by Commonwealth troops on 14 March 1917 and in April and May, the 3rd, 29th and 3rd Australian Casualty Clearing Stations were posted nearby. They began the cemetery and continued to use it until March 1918, when Grevillers was lost to the German during their great advance. On the following 24 August, the New Zealand Division recaptured Grevillers and in September, the 34th, 49th and 56th Casualty Clearing Stations came to the village and used the cemetery again.

After the Armistice, 200 graves were brought in from the battlefields to the south of the village, 40 from an adjoining cemetery made during the German occupation, and some from



the following:- AVESNES-LES-BAPAUME GERMAN CEMETERY, "near the British huts", which contained the graves of two soldiers from the United Kingdom who died in April 1918. BAYONET TRENCH CEMETERY, GUEUDECOURT, which contained the graves of 19 soldiers of the 1st Australian Infantry Battalion who fell on 5 November 1916.

There are now 2,106 Commonwealth servicemen of the First World War buried or commemorated in GREVILLERS BRITISH CEMETERY. 189 of the burials are unidentified but there are special memorials to 18 casualties known or believed to be buried among them. Other special memorials record the names of two casualties, buried in Avesnes-les-Bapaume German Cemetery, whose graves could not be found. The cemetery also contains the graves of seven Second World War airmen, and 18 French war graves. Within the cemetery stands the GREVILLERS (NEW ZEALAND) MEMORIAL which commemorates almost 450 officers and men of the New Zealand Division who died in the defensive fighting in the area from March to August 1918, and in the Advance to Victory between 8 August and 11 November 1918, and who have no known grave.

This is one of seven memorials in France and Belgium to those New Zealand soldiers who died on the Western Front and whose graves are not known. The memorials are all in cemeteries chosen as appropriate to the fighting in which the men died. The cemetery and memorial were designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens.

Ref: Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Nicholas H Holden

service number 3809

Private, 7th Battalion Royal Scots.

Died Friday 12th May 1916

Buried at St Ambrose Churchyard Grindleton



'Clitheroe Times' (19 May 1916)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

DEATH IN HOSPITAL

The news was received at Grindleton last week-end of the death of Private Nicholas Holden, of Rocking Castle, which occurred at Colchester Hospital, on Friday. Holden, who was 26 years of age, was only married about two years ago, responded to the call about five weeks

ago, being attached to the Duke of Wellington's (W.R.) Regiment. While training he contracted cold and complications set in, from which he died.

The remains of Private Holden were conveyed to his home, Rocking Castle, Grindleton, on Monday night, and the interment took place at the Parish Church on Wednesday afternoon. Although there were no military representatives present, a large concourse of people assembled at the Church, the mills having stopped for a portion of the afternoon. The cottagers, en route from the home to the Church had drawn the blinds as a last respect to the dead patriot, and as an expression of sympathy to the young widow and bereaved parents. The Rev. F.G. Ackerley conducted the service, and the choir attended, at the graveside chanting the Nunc Dimittis. Among the many wreaths were one from the widow; father and mother; Grindleton Mill; and from the masters and Employees of Greendale Mill "with deepest sympathy and a tribute of respect and esteem from those among whom he worked until his country's call; he answered; he hath done what he could.

Grindleton War Memorial - Biographical Notes by Shirley Penman

NICHOLAS HOLDEN, son of James and Sophia nee Hill married 1889 Blackburn.

Husband of Clara Jane nee Wrigley married 10-6-1914, St. Ambrose, Grindleton. Was born at Darwen, his residence in Grindleton was only of short duration, as in the 1911 census his family were still living in Darwen; he enlisted at Clitheroe. He died whilst still in training from a cold and a tubular lung at the General Hospital in Colchester. Previous to enlisting he had worked at Greendale Mill in the village.

Commemorated on: Grindleton Memorial

Ref: <http://www.cpgw.org.uk/soldier-records/nicholas-holden/>

William A Holgate

service number: 28522

Private Holgate served in 16th Battalion West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales Own)
Died Sunday 29th December 1918 aged 28. Son of Thomas and Ruth Holgate, Dockber,
Sawley.

Buried at Copenhagen Western Cemetery, Denmark



'Clitheroe Advertiser' (25 May 1917)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

SAWLEY SOLDIER MISSING

Much concern is felt by Mrs. Holgate and family, of Dockber, Sawley, over the fate which has befallen Private Arthur Holgate, 16th West Yorkshire Regiment, who is reported missing since May 3rd. The source of the information is only too well founded, coming from the Chaplain, who writes:—

“The Colonel has asked me to write you a line of sympathy. Your son Arthur was reported missing in an engagement in which the battalion took part on May 3rd. I am sorry I do not write to give you definite news of him; that I cannot do. I believe that a certain number of men were compelled to surrender to superior forces of the enemy, so it may be that your son is a prisoner. If that be so you will probably hear from him in the next few weeks, or of him officially from the War Office. You must try to bear the suspense with the same courage with which your son faced his duty. God grant that you may meet him again in happier times of peace.” — Another son (Richard) of Mrs. Procter [sic] is in hospital in France. The sympathy of friends and neighbours will be given to her and the family in their great trouble.

'Clitheroe Times' (24 January 1919)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

DIED ON JOURNEY HOME

After being a prisoner in Germany since May, 1917, Private Wm. Arthur Holgate, West Yorks Regt., son of Mrs. T. Holgate, of Dockber Farm, Sawley, died from influenza on the journey

home – at Copenhagen. Preparations had been made for a joyous reception and the sad news of his death cast a deep sorrow over the whole neighbourhood. Deep sympathy is felt with the bereaved relatives.

Grindleton War Memorial - Biographical Notes by Shirley Penman

WILLIAM A. HOLGATE, son of Thomas and Ruth nee Bridge married 20-12-1883 St. Mary Magdalene, Clitheroe. Was taken prisoner by the Germans on May 3rd, 1917 and incarcerated in Gustrow Prisoner of War Camp, Mecklenberg - Vorpommern, Germany. This camp was situated in pine woods about three miles from the town and held 25,000 prisoners - another 25,000 were registered there but assigned to work camps. He became the "adopted" P.O.W. by Rimington village from March 1918 where by donations of a set amount made each month by the villagers and a parcel of necessities sent once a month. After the Armistice William was freed and sailed from Warnemunde, Germany on a Dutch ship, the "Cimbria", for Copenhagen. Once there he was transferred to Orsunds Hospital where he died of pneumonia.

Commemorated on: Grindleton Memorial Sawley Memorial

Ref: <http://www.cpgw.org.uk/soldier-records/william-arthur-holgate/>

COPENHAGEN WESTERN CEMETERY

Copenhagen Western Cemetery is located in the south west part of the city. Go through the main entrance and bear left. Follow the road to the end and turn right. The CWGC Plot is on the right.

Copenhagen Western Cemetery contains 24 Commonwealth burials of the First World War, most of whom were released prisoners of war who died in the winter of 1918/19. The cemetery also contains the graves of three Commonwealth casualties of the Second World War.

William Lawson Holgate

service number: 18983

Lance Corporal, 7th Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers.

Died Tuesday 11th July 1916. Son of Thomas and Angelina Holgate of Darwen, formerly of Grindleton. Commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Pier and face 4A.

Killed in action 10th July 1916, age approx. 21yrs.

Biography: Student of mechanical engineering.

William was born on 11th September 1895 at Darwen to Thomas Edward, a blast furnace manager and local counsellor, and Angelina Holgate. He was educated at Hollins Grove, Darwen; Darwen Municipal Secondary School; Manchester Grammar School (1908-11) where he held a Lancashire Junior Exhibition; and Darwen and Blackburn Techs. After being apprenticed to an engineering company for three years he entered the School of Technology in 1914, age 19, to study mechanical engineering.

Having joined the University Officer Training Corps in October 1914 he enlisted with the Royal Welsh Fusiliers on 22nd December of the same year. He was recommended for a commission in October 1915 and May 1916. He served in France from 15th December 1915 until his death in action at Mametz Wood on the Somme on 10th July 1916. His commanding officer wrote: "The battalion was joining up to attack the German position, when a shell burst close to him, killing him instantaneously. He was one of the very many brave soldiers who fell that day, but there is none whose loss will be more keenly felt by his comrades or by myself personally. His bearing throughout his period of service, especially in France, was invariably that of a true and loyal soldier." A comrade remembered that: "He led his section over the top with the greatest coolness and bravery. He was first wounded in the cheek by a bullet, and soon after a shell burst just in front of him, killing him instantaneously."

Ref: University Of Manchester roll of honour <http://www.wm1.manchester.ac.uk/roll-of-honour/william-lawson-holgate/>

Commemorated on:

University of Manchester War Memorial, Main Quadrangle

Manchester Municipal College of Technology Memorial in the Sackville Building, University of Manchester

Manchester Grammar School War Memorial

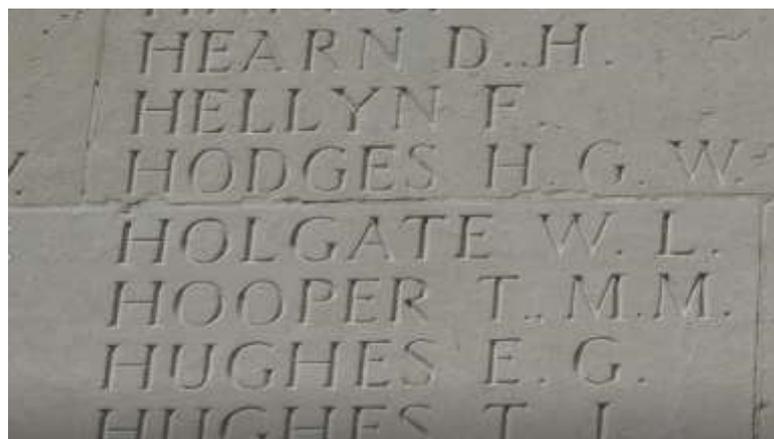
St. Ambrose's Church stained glass memorial window with wooded memorial plaque, Grindleton

Ref: <http://www.cpgw.org.uk/soldier-records/william-lawson-holgate/>

Thiepval Memorial

The memorial commemorates more than 72,000 men of British and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20 March 1918 and have no known grave, the majority of whom died during the Somme offensive of 1916.

On the high ground overlooking the Somme River in France, where some of the heaviest fighting of the First World War took place, stands the Thiepval Memorial. Towering over 45 metres in height, it dominates the landscape for miles around. It is the largest Commonwealth memorial to the missing in the world.



Auberon Thomas Herbert, 9th Baron Lucas



Grindleton War Memorial - Biographical Notes by Shirley Penman

AUBERON HERBERT (LORD LUCAS), son of Auberon Edward William Molyneux Herbert. (Hon) and Lady Florence Amabel nee Cowper married 9-8-1871 St. James the Great, Silsoe, Bedfordshire.

Died when his aircraft, through enemy fire or mechanical breakdown, came down whilst flying over Haplincourt. His body was not recovered until his grave was discovered after the Armistice when he was reinterred at H.A.C. Cemetery in France. He held the titles of 9th Baron Lucas of Crudwell and 5th Baron Dingwall, both of which could pass through male and female lines, therefore his sister, Nan Ino Cooper, became 10th Baroness Lucas and 6th Lady Dingwall upon his death. Auberon had a career in Parliamentary office and sat in the House of Lords; being a friend of no less than Winston S. Churchill. Held a captaincy in the Hampshire Yeomanry and had fought in 2nd Boer War where he received a leg wound which necessitated the amputation of the leg below the knee when he arrived back in England; this did not stop him from gaining his pilot's license and flying out from Malta on sorties before returning to England and thence to the front line.

Commemorated on:

Balliol College War Memorial Book, Vol.1.

Bedford Grammar School Memorial

Books of Remembrance, House of Lords

Burley, Hampshire Memorial
Grindleton Memorial
Recording Angel Statue, Westminster Hall
Royal Gallery Memorial, House of Lords
St. James the Great, Silsoe Memorial
Sawley Memorial
Statue, Blackrod's Garden, House of Lords
Wigglesworth Memorial

Ref: <http://www.cpgw.org.uk/soldier-records/auberon-thomas-lord-lucas-herbert/>

Auberon Thomas Herbert, 9th Baron Lucas and 5th Lord Dingwall, PC (25 May 1876 – 3 November 1916), who preferred to be known as Bron Herbert, was a radical British Liberal politician and fighter pilot. He was a member of H. H. Asquith's cabinet as President of the Board of Agriculture between 1914 and 1915. He was a visiting resident and landowner in Sawley.

Herbert was the second but eldest surviving son of the Hon. Auberon Herbert, younger son of Henry Herbert, 3rd Earl of Carnarvon. His mother was Lady Florence, daughter of George Cowper, 6th Earl Cowper. He was educated at Bedford School and Balliol College, Oxford.

Herbert was a captain in the Hampshire Yeomanry (Carabineers) and worked as a war correspondent during the Boer War, where he was wounded and lost a leg. His elder brother, Rolf, had died in 1882 and his mother in 1886 and so in 1905 (as the nearest heir) he inherited the barony of Lucas and the lordship of Dingwall (which are able to pass through female lines) from his maternal uncle, the 7th Earl Cowper. However, it was not until 1907 that he was confirmed in the titles by the Committee for Privileges of the House of Lords and allowed to take his seat in the House of Lords.

Lucas was private secretary to Richard Haldane, the Secretary of State for War, from 1907 to 1908. In April 1908 he was appointed to his first ministerial post as Under-Secretary of State for War (with a seat on the Army Council) by H. H. Asquith, a post he held until 1911. He was Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies between March and October 1911 and then served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries from 1911 to 1914. He was sworn of the Privy Council in 1912 and in August 1914 he entered the cabinet as Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. However, he did not hold office in the coalition government formed by Asquith in May 1915. Lucas also played a prominent part in David Lloyd George's Land Campaign.

Lucas served as a captain in the Royal Flying Corps in the First World War. On 3 November 1916, he was wounded by bullets from German fighter aircraft during a flight over German lines, and died of his wounds the same day, aged 40. Lord Lucas never married. His titles passed to his sister, Nan Herbert.

He is buried at HAC Cemetery, Ecoust St Mein, Pas de Calais, France. Plot VIII. C. 17

Ref: Wikipedia

08 December 1916

CRAVEN AND THE WAR– THE LATE LORD LUCAS

The news of the death of Lord Lucas, on active service in France, has been received by the members of the Ribblesdale Buckhounds with the deepest sorrow and sympathy for relatives and friends. An enthusiastic and generous supporter of the Pack from its foundation, Lord Lucas gave his friend and neighbour, Lord Ribblesdale, all the support and help in his power. In the times before the War, of such days as he could spare from the duties of the office which he filled with such advantage to agriculture, many were spent in the Ribble Valley. In the hunting season, whenever in residence at Sawley or Wigglesworth, he was absent from no meet. His knowledge of the science of hunting, his horsemanship, his unaffected delight in a gallop over a stiff country, were in themselves a pleasure to those who shared with him the joys of a good run.

He was a noble, chivalrous, courteous gentleman. In Ribblesdale, as elsewhere, not only among those who follow hounds, but, even more among his tenantry and personal friends, will his name be cherished and his memory kept green.

The Hunt has also to lament the loss of Lord Lucas' kinsmen, Captain the Hon. Julian Grenfell, and the Hon. William Grenfell, who, like himself, fell in action.

Ref: <http://www.cpgw.org.uk/soldier-records/auberon-thomas-lord-lucas-herbert/>

H.A.C. CEMETERY, ECOUST-ST. MEIN

Ecoust-St.Mein is a village between Arras, Cambrai and Bapaume. H.A.C. Cemetery is about 800 metres south of the village



There are now nearly 2,000, 1914-18 war casualties commemorated in this site. Of these, over half are unidentified and special memorials are erected to 17 soldiers from the United Kingdom and 14 from Australia, known or believed to be buried among them. Other special memorials record the names of 34 soldiers from the United Kingdom, buried in other cemeteries, whose graves were destroyed by shell fire. The cemetery covers an area of 5,801 square metres and is enclosed by a low red brick wall.

Ref: Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Robert Maudsley

Service number 137



Enlisted: 22 July 1915, Keswick, South Australia

Last Rank: Private

Last Unit: 32nd Infantry Battalion

Born: Grindleton, England, April 1889

Home Town: Adelaide, Adelaide, South Australia

Schooling: Grindleton National School

Occupation: Egg and Butter dealer/labourer

Died: Killed in Action, Fromelles, France, 19 July 1916

Cemetery: Fromelles (Pheasant Wood) Military Cemetery

Memorials: Adelaide National War Memorial (WW1), Australian War Memorial, Roll of Honour, Port Pirie Gates WW 1*

Robert Thomas Maudsley was born in Lancashire, England, in 1889. He was single, a labourer, and living in Keswick, Adelaide. Private Maudsley enlisted in the Australian Army on 22 July 1915 and was attached to the 32nd Battalion, A Company. On 18 November 1915, Private Maudsley, aged 26 at the time, embarked from Adelaide, South Australia, on board HMAT A2 Geelong.

Private Maudsley served in Egypt and the Western Front before he was killed in action during the Battle of Fromelles at Fleurbaix, France, on 19 July 1916.

Private Maudsley was one of 250 Australian and British World War One soldiers recovered from a mass burial site at Pheasant Wood in France in 2009 and reburied in the Fromelles Military Cemetery in 2010.

SOURCE (www.contactairlandandsea.com)

Grindleton War Memorial - Biographical Notes by Shirley Penman

ROBERT THOMAS MAUDSLEY, son of John and Mary nee Scott married 1888 St. Ambrose, Grindleton.

Was, in 2009, in a mass grave of 250 Australian and English soldiers which was discovered at Pheasant Wood, France. The German's had buried them, and with typical German thoroughness, kept a tally of the dog-tags found with each soldier and told each country that they were deceased and buried...but no more than that. Military archaeologists exhumed them and through D.N.A. tests established some 94 identities up to May 2010. Robert, along with 5 companions, was identified in 2016; just before the 100 year commemorations; his gravestone was unveiled at this time.

Commemorated on:

Adelaide National War Memorial

Australian Roll of Honour

Australian War Memorial - panel 120

Grindleton Memorial

Port Pirie Gates, S. Australia WW1 Memoria

St Ambrose's Churchyard,

Grindleton

Family gravestone



St Ambrose's Churchyard, Grindleton

Family gravestone - detail of memorial inscription

Ref: <http://www.cpgw.org.uk/soldier-records/robert-thomas-maudsley/>

FROMELLES (PHEASANT WOOD) MILITARY CEMETERY

Fromelles is a small village situated in the Nord/Pas de Calais region of Northern France, 22 kilometres west of Lille and 104 kilometres south east of Calais,

In the early evening of 19 July 1916, near the village of Fromelles, in northern France, two infantry divisions newly arrived on the Western Front, the 5th Australian and British 61st (South Midland) attacked a 4,000 yard section of the German frontline centred on a notorious strongpoint called the "Sugar Loaf". Advancing over unfavourable ground, in clear view of resolute and expectant defenders, the attackers suffered terrible casualties in a matter of minutes. The action turned into a bloody catastrophe - the Australians had over 5,500 killed, wounded and missing; 61st Division reported over 1,500 killed, wounded and missing. No tactical advantages resulted from the action and it remains the worst day in Australian military history.



Completed in July 2010, Fromelles (Pheasant Wood) Military Cemetery is the first new war cemetery to be built by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission in fifty years. The cemetery contains a total of 250 Australian and British soldiers. 220 are Australians, of which 61 are unidentified, 2 are unidentified British soldiers and 28 are entirely unidentified Commonwealth soldiers. The 250 were recovered in 2009 from a number of mass graves located behind nearby Pheasant Wood, where they had been buried by the Germans following the disastrous battle of Fromelles on 19 and 20 July 1916.

The cemetery was officially dedicated on 19 July 2010 and was designed by Barry Edwards.

Joseph Moon

Service No: 40924

Rank: Private

Regiment / Corps / Service: Worcestershire
Regiment

Battalion / Unit: 14th (Service) Battalion.
(Severn Valley Pioneers)

Division: 63rd (Royal Naval) Division

Age: 22

Date of Death: 22nd June 1917

CWGC Grave / Memorial Reference: XXII.
25A

CWGC Cemetery: ETAPLES MILITARY
CEMETERY

Commemorated on: Bolton by Bowland
Memorial Grindleton Memorial
Sawley Memorial



L.

Joseph Moon was the son of William and Eliza Moon, née Hargreaves. William was born at Bolton-by-Bowland and Eliza at Grindleton, Yorkshire.

1901 Tosside, Yorkshire Census: Far Knotts - Joseph Moon, aged 6 years, born Tosside, son of William and Eliza Moon.

1911 Tosside, Yorkshire Census: Far Knotts - Joseph Moon, aged 16 years, born Tosside, son of William and Eliza Moon.

Grindleton War Memorial - Biographical Notes by Shirley Penman

JOSEPH MOON, son of William and Eliza nee Hargreaves married 1891 St. Ambrose, Grindleton. Enlisted in Jan. 1916; was in Dublin at the times of the riots and reached France in Dec. 1916. At the time of his death the battalion was manning the front on the Gavrelle Road and working in the battle area under intermittent shell-fire between 20th May and 31st May, the casualties were 6 killed and 23 wounded - perhaps Joseph was one of these.

From the Craven Herald and Wensleydale Standard

15 June 1917 BOLTON-BY-BOWLAND – Wounded

Word has been received that Pte. Alfred Carey and Pte. Joseph Moon are wounded and in hospital. Corporal W. Oddie and Pte. Geo. Harrison are reported as improving.

29 June 1917

MOON – Died from injuries received in France, Pte. Joseph Moon, Worcester Pioneer Battalion, son of Mr. and Mrs. Moon, Holden Green Farm, Bolton-by-Bowland, aged 22 years.

29 June 1917

A BOLTON-BY-BOWLAND HERO

On Saturday morning last notification was received from hospital that Pte. Joseph Moon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Moon, of Holden Green Farm, had died from injuries received in France, having been seriously wounded in the legs and forearm as the result of treading on a live shell. It had been reported that he was progressing favourably, and so the news that he had succumbed to his injuries came as a shock to his parents and friends.

Pte. Moon joined the Worcesters, Pioneer Battalion, in January 1916, was in Dublin at the time of the riots, and went to France in December last. He was 22 years of age. Much sympathy is felt for the parents, whose only other son is also serving in France.

06 July 1917

BOLTON-BY-BOWLAND – MEMORIAL SERVICE

On Sunday afternoon a memorial service was held at the Holden Independent Chapel in memory of the late Private Joseph Moon of Holden Green Farm, whose death occurred in France, and an account of which appeared in our columns last week. There was a large congregation, to whom Mr. Knight related the great sacrifice which all at this time were called upon to bear, and specially and feelingly referred to the one which the parents of Private Joseph Moon had at the present to undergo.

Ref: <http://www.cpgw.org.uk/soldier-records/joseph-moon/>



ETAPLES MILITARY CEMETERY

Etaples Military Cemetery is the largest CWGC cemetery in France with 11,517 casualties buried. It is located near Boulogne on the former site of a large military hospital complex used by the Allies during the First World War.



In 1917, 100,000 troops were camped among the sand dunes and the hospitals, which included eleven general, one stationary, four Red Cross hospitals and a convalescent depot, could deal with 22,000 wounded or sick. In September 1919, 10 months after the Armistice, three hospitals and the Q.M.A.A.C. convalescent depot remained.

The cemetery is the final resting place of 20 women, including nurses, army auxiliaries and civilian volunteers of the YMCA and Scottish Church Huts organisations. They were killed in air raids or by disease.

By the latter part of the war, more than 2,500 women were serving at the Étaples base. Hailing from many parts of the British Empire as well as France and America, they included ambulance drivers, nurses, members of the Voluntary Aid Detachment and those employed by the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps as bakers, clerks, telephonists and gardeners.

In its early years, the cemetery was visible as the train from Boulogne to Paris passed close by. Sir Fabian Ware, the founder of the Imperial War Graves Commission, ensured that trains would linger for a minute or so to allow passengers a glimpse.

Hospitals were stationed again at Etaples during the Second World War. The cemetery was used for burials from January 1940 until the evacuation at the end of May 1940. After the war, a number of graves were brought into the cemetery from other French burial grounds. Of the 119 Second World War burials, 38 are unidentified.

Etaples Military Cemetery also contains 662 Non Commonwealth burials, mainly German, including six unidentified. There are also now five Non World War service burials here.

Lewis Proctor

Service Number 228683

Gunner A Battery, 174th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery.

Died Sunday 6th October 1918 aged 33.

Son of Henry and Jane Proctor and husband of Edith Emma Holgate of Sawley.

buried at Sains-les-Marquion British Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France. Plot II. B. 2.

'Clitheroe Advertiser' (1 November 1918)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

[Untitled article]

A memorial service to the late Gunner Lewis Proctor will be held in the Sawley Wesleyan Chapel on Sunday week at 6-30 p.m.

Grindleton War Memorial - Biographical Notes by Shirley Penman

LEWIS PROCTOR, son of Henry and Jane Alberta nee Little married 1884 St. Ambrose, Grindleton. Husband of Edith Emma nee Holgate married 1910 Ribble Valley. Was killed whilst riding up to the line with three other soldiers - he and his horse were killed instantly by an exploding shell, whilst the other three and their horses escaped. 39th Division had been withdrawn in May, 1918 but 174th Brigade had carried on under a sub group - 16th Divisional Artillery. They transferred to the Canadian Corps on 24/8/1918 and took part in the Battle of the Scarpe 26-30/8/1918; Action at Drocourt-Queant Line 2-3/9/1918; Canal du Nord 27/9 to 1/10/1918 ; Battle of Cambrai 8-9/10/1918 and Pursuit to the Selle 9-12/10/1918. So it seems that Lewis died just before the Battle of Cambrai - perhaps even as they were positioning the guns for that battle? General Sir Martin Farndale stated in his book "that 39th Division took the brunt of the German offensive in March, 1918 and that "great deeds of valour were performed; the guns of 41st, 174th and 186th Brigades pushed boldly onto the crests or into the open to engage the enemy over open sights"

Commemorated on: Grindleton Memorial, Sawley Memorial

Ref: <http://www.cpgw.org.uk/soldier-records/lewis-proctor/>

SAINS-LES-MARQUION BRITISH CEMETERY

Sains-les-Marquion is a village about 12 kilometres north-west of Cambrai and 2 kilometres south of the D939, Arras to Cambrai road.

The village of Sains-les-Marquion was captured by the 1st Canadian Division on 27 September 1918, and the cemetery was begun on the following day by the 3rd Canadian Infantry Brigade. It was used until the middle of October and was enlarged after the Armistice when graves were brought in from the surrounding battlefields and from Marquion Churchyard.

Sains-les-Marquion British Cemetery now contains 255 burials of the First World War.



The cemetery was designed by W C Von Berg.

Ref: Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Hilda Read

Rank: Nursing Member

Service: Voluntary Aid Detachment

Battalion / Unit: 94th East Lancashire

Age: 31

Date of Death: 18 January 1920



Photograph of Voluntary Aid Detachment badge courtesy of Sally Bosley.

Hilda Read (born 10 February 1888) was the daughter of Alfred and Mary Read, née Sellers. Alfred was born at Oswaldtwistle and Mary at Blackburn Lancashire.

1891 Blackburn, Lancashire Census: 4, Hazel Bank - Hilda Read, aged 3 years, born Blackburn, daughter of Alfred and Mary Read.

1901 Great Harwood, Lancashire Census: 40, St. Huberts Street - Hilda Read, aged 13 years, born Blackburn, Lancashire, daughter of Alfred and Mary Read.

Hilda served at the 2nd Western General (Military) Hospital, Manchester, from 16 September 1916 to 16 October 1917. Then at the 4th Southern (Military) Hospital, Plymouth, from 12 December 1917 to December 1919.

The Lancashire Daily Post' (19 January 1920)

DEATHS

READ - On Sunday, the 18th inst., HILDA, third daughter of ALFRED and MARY READ, St. Hubert-street, Great Harwood. No flowers (by special request).

'Blackburn Weekly Telegraph' (24 January 1920)

The Late Miss Hilda Read

The sympathy of many friends is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Read, of St. Hubert-street, Great Harwood, in the loss of their third daughter, Miss Hilda Read, who died on Sunday last. Born at Blackburn, where she received the earlier part of her education, she went to Germany when about 17, and spent five years at Bad Hartzburg and Hamburg. Returning then to England, she joined the staff of the Great Ormond-street Hospital for Sick Children, and while there received an offer from an American lady to become companion-governess to her two children. Miss Read travelled with them in France, and afterwards accompanied them to New York. She was in America when the war broke out, and it was not until October, 1915, that she reached home, after a somewhat adventurous passage in the S.S.

Cassandra.

Early in the following year she took up war work as a nursing member of the V.A.D., attached to the 94th (East Lancashire) detachment, of which Mrs. Aitken was Commandant. She was posted to Manchester, and the 4th Southern General Hospital at Plymouth, where she remained until demobilisation in the spring of last year, when she received from Lady Amptill, President of the Joint Women's V.A.D. Committee, a letter expressing the committee's sincere thanks for the work she had given to the service of the sick and wounded—work "which has helped us to maintain the high standard which the V.A.D. have set during the war." Active work over, she returned home "demobilised on leave" until March of the present year.

A girl of singularly bright and happy disposition, with a high sense of responsibility in her duty, her physical strength was perhaps not equal to her spirit; but it was not until her work was nearly at an end that she experienced a serious breakdown in health. She was laid to rest on Thursday in the little Churchyard at Grindleton, in which district she had spent in her childhood so many happy days. The funeral was attended by Mr. Alfred Read, Mr. H. H. Birtwistle (brother-in-law), Mr. T. Craven, and Mr. W. Gedney. The service was read by the Rev. F. G. Ackerley, vicar of the parish, and beautiful floral tributes were placed upon the grave from friends who will always hold Hilda Read in loving memory and affectionate regard.

Grindleton War Memorial - Biographical Notes by Shirley Penman

Extra - St. Ambrose graveyard

HILDA READ, daughter of Alfred and Mary nee Sellars married 25-7-1882 St. Paul, Blackburn, had worked before the war at Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital. She was employed by an American lady as governess/companion to her two children. Thus she was in America when war broke out; in October 1915 she returned on "S.S. Cassandra" and early

in 1916 took up war work attached to 94th (East Lancashire) Detachment (the Commandant of which was Mrs. Maud Aitken of Mytton House, Clitheroe). Hilda was posted to Manchester and then to 4th Southern General Hospital where she stayed until demobilised early in 1919 when her health, never robust, now seriously declined and ended in her death.

(Although technically not "of" Grindleton, the fact that she was interred in the graveyard on Thursday, 22nd January, 1920 - and her record of voluntary war work has earned her a place in this roll of honour.)

Ref: <http://www.cpgw.org.uk/soldier-records/hilda-read/>

Thomas R Rigby

Service Number 13780



Thomas Rigby, Private, 10th Battalion Duke of Wellington's Regiment, son of Thomas and Ellen Rigby, Lawson's House Farm, Sawley, died from wounds, France, Friday 21st July 1916 aged 26.

Theatre of War - served in France from 26 August 1915.

Buried St Ambrose Churchyard, Grindleton.

He was the uncle of Marion Billows, Deputy Churchwarden at St Peter and St Paul's.

'Clitheroe Times' (21 July 1916)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

SAWLEY

TOM RIGBY WOUNDED

Private Tom Rigby, son of Mr. Thos. Rigby, farmer, Sawley, is at present lying in a Surrey hospital suffering from wounds received in the recent fighting in France. Private Rigby, who is about 23 years of age, joined Mr. Tunstall's party in the Duke of Wellington's W.R. Regt.

'Clitheroe Times' (28 July 1916)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

DIED OF WOUNDS

RIGBY – In loving memory of Private TOM RIGBY, 10th Batt. Duke of Wellington's Light Infantry, third son of Mr. and Mrs. T.E. Rigby, Lawson's House, Sawley, who died of wounds received in France, July 10th, at the Frensham Military Hospital, Surrey, on July 21st, aged 26 years, and was interred at S. Ambrose Church, Grindleton, on July 25th, 1916.

'Clitheroe Times' (28 July 1916)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

SAWLEY SOLDIER

PRIVATE T. RIGBY DIES OF WOUNDS

In our issue we mentioned that Private Thomas Rigby, of Lawson's House, Sawley, had been wounded whilst serving with Captain Tunstill's company of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment. News reached his father on Friday morning, that his son had passed away at Frensham Hill Hospital. Deceased, who was 28 years of Age, was sent out to France as a stretcher-bearer, and was poisoned by drinking bad water as a result of which he was for eleven weeks in hospital. Returning to France, he was again put on as a stretcher-bearer, and on the 10th inst. was engaged in carrying wounded when he was struck on the left arm by shrapnel. Complications ensued and caused death. Private Rigby was exceptionally well-known throughout the whole country side and he will be much missed. The interment took place at Grindleton on Tuesday afternoon. The local mills stopped for a time, and almost all the operatives attended the Churchyard. The scenes were very impressive. The Grindleton Band played suitable music, inside and outside the Church, and after the body had been lowered to its last resting place, the Last Post was sounded by a bugler. The last rites were performed by the Vicar (Rev. F.G. Ackerley) and the rector of Slaidburn (the Rev. J.C. Garnett).

'Clitheroe Times' (11 August 1916)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

A DEAD HERO

PRIVATE RIGBY RECOMMENDED FOR HONOURS

Mr. T.E. Rigby, of Lawson's House, Sawley, has received the following letter from Captain Tunstill, of the West Riding Regiment:— "I have only just heard the sad news that your son, who was the best stretcher bearer that any one could ever wish to have, died in hospital at Frensham. Please accept very deepest sympathy. Rigby was one of those who had been in my company since it was formed. He was a bandsman until we came out a year ago, and has been a stretcher bearer ever since. I was hoping he had got a slight wound and would have got home and better, and not had to come out again. We have been fighting more or less continuously since your son was wounded and our losses are naturally heavy. It may be some consolation to you to know that I recommended your son to the Commission Office,

the day he was hit, for very brave and gallant conduct in bringing in wounded across the open under very heavy fire.”

‘The Clitheroe Advertiser and Times’ (22 September 1939)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

ITEMS FROM OUR ISSUES OF SEPTEMBER 18th 1914

Recruits from Waddington who joined Mr. Tunstill’s Settle Company of the Duke of Wellington’s West Riding Regiment, were Joseph B. Hartley, Albert Herd, Harry Smith, Thomas Rigby and William Watson. Grindleton: William I. Bell, James W. Clarkson, Joshua Crossley, and William Walker. Gisburn: Anthony Lofthouse and John Robinson. Newsholme: Thomas E. Askew, Carl P. Braithwaite [Branthwaite], Benjamin A. Butler and William H. Scott.

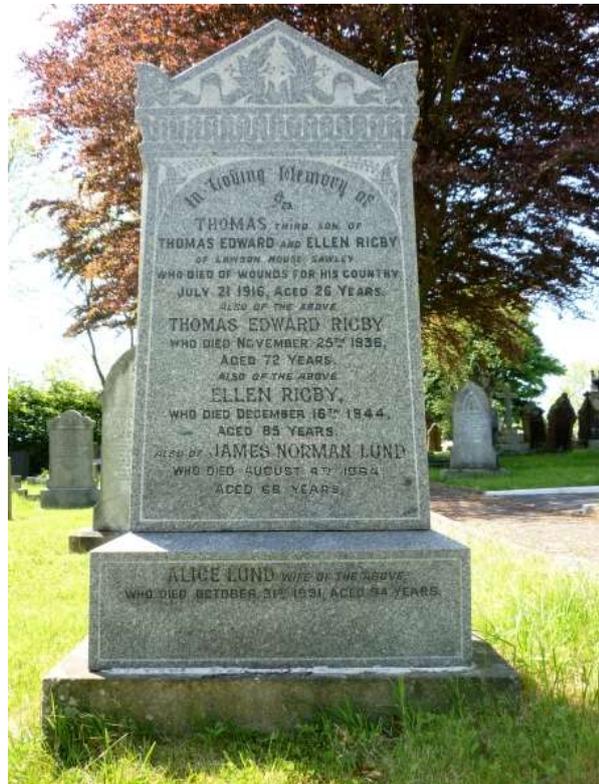
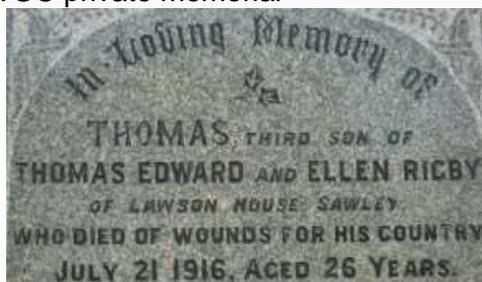
Grindleton War Memorial - Biographical Notes by Shirley Penman

THOMAS RIGBY, son of Thomas Edward and Ellen nee Nutter married 15-9-1885 St. James, Clitheroe, was born at Slaidburn, resided at Sawley and enlisted in Settle. After travelling to France with his battalion he became a stretcher bearer for his brigade, he later spent eleven weeks in hospital through drinking “bad” water - whether this was from poisoning by the enemy or a form of typhus is not clear - returning to France he was struck in the left arm by shrapnel whilst carrying a wounded soldier on a stretcher. After returning to England for treatment, Thomas died from his wounds at Frensham Military Hospital in Surrey. His remains were transported home and he was interred in St. Ambrose Churchyard on 25-7-1916.

Commemorated on: Grindleton Memorial, Sawley Memorial

Ref: <http://www.cpgw.org.uk/soldier-records/thomas-rigby/>

St Ambrose's Churchyard, Grindleton
CWGC private memorial



Benjamin Rushton

Service Number 146506

Pioneer, 'O' Special Company, Royal Engineers.

Died Monday 23rd July 1917, aged 39yrs.

Son of Richard Rushton JP and Elizabeth Rushton (nee Hindle) of Stonelea, Grindleton.

Buried Aix-Noulette Communal Cemetery Extension, Pas de Calais, France. Plot I. G. 21

'Clitheroe Advertiser' (3 August 1917)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

HIT BY SHELL FRAGMENT

PIONEER BEN RUSHTON DIES OF WOUNDS

The many friends of Mr. Rd. Rushton, J.P., of Accrington, and Stone Lee, Grindleton, heard with great regret, on Tuesday, of the death in action of his eldest son, Pioneer Ben Rushton, of the Chemical Corps, Royal Engineers. The sorrowful news was received on Monday, in letters from his section officer, sergeant, and one of his chums. It appears that he was hit by a bursting shell on Sunday, the 22nd July, when close to his billet. A piece of shell perforated his left lung, and he died in hospital, a few miles behind the lines, at 9 a.m. the following day. He was buried in the cemetery near the hospital with military honours by a few of his comrades who could be spared, the service being conducted by the chaplain.

Pioneer Rushton joined the Army in February of last year, choosing as his regiment the corps for men who are skilled in the chemical trade. He was at Chatham for a very short time, going out to France fourteen days after enlistment. He had not been home since. All the letters received from his comrades testify to the fact that Pioneer Rushton had made himself much loved among the entire section by his unflinching good humour and cheerfulness even under the most trying circumstances.

Mr. Rushton's youngest son, Captain F.V. Rushton, of the 5th East Lancashire Regiment T.F., is serving in France. He has been out since the commencement of the war, being invalided from Gallipoli, owing to dysentery, and is now attached to the 11th East Lancashire Regiment.

Pioneer Rushton was formerly in the service of Mr. Ashworth, chemical manufacturer, Bury. He was 39 and unmarried.

Grindleton War Memorial - Biographical Notes by Shirley Penman

BENJAMIN RUSHTON, Son of Richard and Elizabeth nee Hindle married 1876 Hyndburn area, was born in Accrington; enlisted in Accrington and resided in Accrington and

Grindleton after his parent's bought Stone Lee, Grindleton. Before enlistment Benjamin worked for James Spencer Ashworth of Dumer Chemical Works at Radcliffe, Bury. "O" Special Company of the Royal Engineers was involved in the research and making of chemical weapons, part of the chemical war fare of WW1. His background would make him an ideal subject for enlistment into this secretive part of the Allied Forces. There do not appear to be many paper trails to follow with regard to the history of these companies probably due to the secrecy with which they were run.

Commemorated on: Accrington (Oak Hill Park) Memorial, Grindleton Memorial

Ref: <http://www.cpgw.org.uk/soldier-records/benjamin-rushton/>

AIX-NOULETTE COMMUNAL CEMETERY EXTENSION

Aix-Noulette is a village in the Department of the Pas-de-Calais, about 13 kilometres south of Bethune on the main road to Arras.

The Cemetery Extension was begun by French troops early in 1915, and the two French plots are next to the Communal Cemetery. It was taken over by the 1st and 2nd Divisions in February, 1916, and used by fighting units and Field Ambulances until October, 1918. It was increased after the Armistice by the concentration of graves from the battlefields to the East. There are now 749 Commonwealth burials of the 1914-1918 war commemorated here, 61 being unidentified. There are also 502 French burials here.



Thomas Simpson

service number 203072



Pte Thomas Simpson, 203072, Leicestershire Regiment.

He was the son of George and Emma Simpson, née Masters. George was born at Whitewell, Yorkshire and Emma at Burbage, Leicestershire.

1901 Grindleton, Yorkshire Census: Old Greenwoods - Thomas Simpson, aged 7 years, born Bolton-by-Bowland, Yorkshire, son of George and Emma Simpson.

1911 Slaidburn, Yorkshire Census: Dean Slack - Thomas Simpson, aged 17 years, born Bolton-by-Bowland, Yorkshire. [Thomas and his elder brother, Henry, were employed by Thomas Camm, Farmer.]

The letter written to Thomas's parents by his Company C.O. (see 'Clitheroe Advertiser' 3 May 1918) seems to indicate that one of Thomas's brothers was also serving with the same battalion.

Thomas was killed in action in Flanders on 18th April 1918 and is commemorated on Ploegsteert Memorial, panel 4

Clitheroe Advertiser' (3 May 1918)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

HIS LIFE FOR HIS COUNTRY

OFFICER'S SPLENDID TESTIMONY

LATE PTE. T. SIMPSON, HOLDEN

Bolton-by-Bowland and Holden are suffering very heavily as a result of the war, news of two more soldiers who have died for their country having been received during the week. We refer elsewhere to the loss sustained by Mr. and Mrs, Tomlinson by the death of their only son, John, at Farnborough. Pvte. Tom Simpson, Leicester Regt., whose parents live near Holden, is reported by his officer to have been killed on April 18th, the sad letter being received last Saturday. Deceased was formerly in service with Mr. T. Dugdale, Broxup Farm. He was 24 years of age and enjoyed the respect and esteem of all in the neighbourhood. One of the most devoted members of the Independent Chapel, Holden, he was a member of the Choir, and a memorial service has been arranged for Sunday next, at 1-30.

The letter from the O.C. mentioned above, reads as follows:— "I expect that your son has told you the sad news of his brother's death. It is very little I can add, except to say what a splendid fellow he was. He had been in my Company for some time and just recently took to stretcher bearing, a duty which eventually he gave his life for. His one thought always was for his comrades, and he had done some splendid work. I shall always remember one incident in his life, which was so typical of him. It was in the attack we made at Ypres, last September. Just before we left our assembly trenches, he gathered a few of his comrades together in a shell-hole, and gave them a few words of comfort from the little New Testament that he always carried. Just in that one little incident you have the character of your son. On the 18th April he made the great sacrifice in the service of his comrades, and died as he had lived – a brave and God-fearing and splendid fellow. In a case like this my sympathy for you, his parents, must seem a paltry thing indeed. However, I ask you to accept what little comfort you can in your great sorrow, in the few lines I have written, and my sympathy."

Grindleton War Memorial - Biographical Notes by Shirley Penman

THOMAS SIMPSON, son of George and Emma nee Masters married St. Peter and St. Paul, Bolton By Bowland 1884, was born at Grindleton - resided at Bolton by Bowland but enlisted at Keighley. Before enlistment he was in service for Mr. T. Dugdale of Broxup Farm, Holden, nr. Bolton by Bowland. In April 1916 hurriedly sent to Ireland and engaged in heavy fighting with the Irish Nationalists; later being sent from Dublin to the Curragh, King George inspected the division in England at Fovant on 13-2-1917 before they crossed the channel and concentrated at Mericourt, France. Engaged with the enemy at Havrincourt; Flesquieres; Villeret; Hargicourt Quarries amongst others. In April, 1918 Thomas was designated stretcher bearer and would have seen action at the 1st Battle of Kemmel Ridge 17th - 19th April where he would appear to have been killed in action on the 18th whilst carrying out his duties.

Ref: <http://www.cpgw.org.uk/soldier-records/thomas-simpson-2/>

PLOEGSTEERT MEMORIAL

The Ploegsteert Memorial stands in Berks Cemetery Extension, which is located 12.5 Kms south of Ypres/Ieper town centre. The sounding of the Last Post takes place at the memorial on the first Friday of every month at 7 p.m

The memorial commemorates more than 11,000 servicemen of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in this sector during the First World War and have no known grave. The memorial serves the area from the line Caestre-Dranoutre-Warneton to the north, to Haverskerque-Estaires-Fournes to the south, including the towns of Hazebrouck, Merville, Bailleul and Armentieres, the Forest of Nieppe, and Ploegsteert Wood.



Most of those commemorated by the memorial did not die in major offensives, such as those which took place around Ypres to the north, or Loos to the south. Most were killed in the course of the day-to-day trench warfare which characterised this part of the line, or in small scale set engagements, usually carried out in support of the major attacks taking place elsewhere. It does not include the names of officers and men of Canadian or Indian regiments (they are found on the Memorials at Ypres, Vimy and Neuve-Chapelle) and those lost at the Battle of Aubers Ridge, 9 May 1915, who were involved in the Southern Pincer (the 1st, 2nd, Meerut and 47th Divisions - they are commemorated on the Le Touret Memorial).

BERKS CEMETERY EXTENSION, in which the memorial stands, was begun in June 1916 and used continuously until September 1917. Plots II and III were added in 1930 when graves were brought in from Rosenberg Chateau Military Cemetery and Extension, about 1 Km to the north-west, when it was established that these sites could not be acquired in perpetuity. Rosenberg Chateau Military Cemetery was used by fighting units from November 1914 to August 1916. Berks Cemetery Extension now contains 876 First World War burials.

HYDE PARK CORNER (ROYAL BERKS) CEMETERY is separated from Berks Cemetery Extension by a road. It was begun in April 1915 by the 1st/4th Royal Berkshire Regiment and was used at intervals until November 1917. Hyde Park Corner was a road junction to the north of Ploegsteert Wood. Hill 63 was to the north-west and nearby were the 'Catacombs', deep shelters capable of holding two battalions, which were used from November 1916 onwards. The cemetery contains 83 Commonwealth burials of the First World War and four German war graves. The cemetery, cemetery extension and memorial were designed by Harold Chalton Bradshaw, with sculpture by Gilbert Ledward. The memorial was unveiled by the Duke of Brabant on 7 June 1931.

Frederick Slater

Service number: 75079



Gunner Frederick Slater, 7th Battery 4th Brigade Royal Field Artillery.

Born Grindleton son of James and Elizabeth Slater (nee Pickup).

Frederick first served in France 7 November 1915.

Died Monday 3rd July 1916 age 24

He is buried in Amara War Cemetery Iraq. Plot VIII. A. 17

Grindleton War Memorial - Biographical Notes by Shirley Penman

FREDERICK SLATER, son of James and Elizabeth Ellen nee Pickup married 29-9-1888 St. James, Clitheroe, was born in Grindleton, resident in Grindleton, enlisted in Clitheroe and was employed by John Whittaker, cattle dealer of Skin House Cottage, Grindleton (by whom he was brought up from the age of eleven). After enlistment, on New Years Day, 1915, he arrived in France on 7-11-1915 after his training; although the Meerut Division was sent to Mesopotamia before he was involved in any battles. Arriving in Mesopotamia in April 1916 he would have fought at the Relief of Kut, where he was presumably wounded. It could take two weeks before wounded reached a hospital as there was only very basic river transport to convey them there. (All gravestones were removed in 1933 when it was realised that the salts in the soil were making the gravestones deteriorate. A screen wall was erected with the names of the buried engraved upon it.)

Commemorated on: Grindleton Memorial

Craven Herald and Wensleydale Standard

21 July 1916

A GRINDLETON SOLDIER KILLED

On Monday morning official information was received by Mrs. Slater, of Cross Fold, that her son Fred had died, but whether as a result of the injuries received in the latter end of April, or early May, or at subsequent illness, is not known. Fred, who was 23 years of age, is the eldest son of Mrs. Slater, and joined the Forces on New Year's Day, 1915, and was attached to the 7th Battery, 4th Brigade R.F.A.

The West Yorkshire Pioneer

21 July 1916

CRAVEN CASUALTIES IN THE GREAT ADVANCE – Grindleton's Losses

Grindleton has suffered this week as a result of the great battle now raging. On Monday morning official information was received by Mrs. Slater, of Cross Fold, that her son Fred had died, but whether as a result of the injuries received in the latter end of April, or early May, or from subsequent illness, is not yet known. Fred, who was 23 years of age, and the eldest son of Mrs. Slater, joined the Forces on New Year's Day 1915, and was attached to the 7th Battery, 4th Brigade R.F.A. being a gunner. After a short training he was sent out, along with his regiment, with the Indian Expeditionary Force, where he saw much fighting in Mesopotamia until he was hit in the leg.

28 July 1916

SLATER – Whilst fighting the Turks in Mesopotamia, Pte. Fred Slater, eldest son of Mrs. Slater, of Cross Fold, Grindleton, aged 24.

28 July 1916

MEN FROM THE CHATBURN DISTRICT

Pte Fred Slater, Gindleton, whose death occurred as a result of wounds received while fighting the Turks in Mesopotamia, was the eldest son of Mrs. Slater, of Cross Fold, Grindleton. From being 11 years of age he was brought up by Mr. John Whittaker, the well-known cattle dealer, and his duty, involving much travelling, brought him in contact with a large circle of cattle dealers and farmers in Craven and Lancashire. He was 24 years of age, and was a chorister at Grindleton Parish Church from his early youth.

Ref: <http://www.cpgw.org.uk/soldier-records/frederick-slater/>

AMARA WAR CEMETERY



Amara is a town on the left bank of the Tigris some 520 kilometres from the sea. The War Cemetery is a little east of the town between the left bank of the river and the Chahaila Canal.

Amara was occupied by the Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force on 3 June 1915 and it

immediately became a hospital centre. The accommodation for medical units on both banks of the Tigris was greatly increased during 1916 and in April 1917, seven general hospitals and some smaller units were stationed there. Amara War Cemetery contains 4,621 burials of the First World War, more than 3,000 of which were brought into the cemetery after the Armistice. 925 of the graves are unidentified. In 1933, all of the headstones were removed from this cemetery when it was discovered that salts in the soil were causing them to deteriorate. Instead a screen wall was erected with the names of those buried in the cemetery engraved upon it.

James Smalley

Service number 4203

Son of Robert and Catherine Smalley, living with unmarried uncles and aunts James, Alice and Martha Smalley at Brow Top Grindleton according to the census of 1901.

served in France from 5 October 1915 with
3rd Regiment Fusiliers 5.10.15. to 20.10.15.
1st Regiment Fusiliers 21.10.15 to 24.11.15.
20th Regiment Fusiliers 31.5.16 to 28.6.16.

Died 28 June 2016 age 23

James is buried in Carnoy Military Cemetery France plot G. 15

Carnoy Military Cemetery

CWGC Headstone



Clitheroe Times' (21 July 1916)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

VILLAGE VICTIM

This has been the most tragic week Grindleton has experienced for a long time, for two well-known young men have paid the utmost price of their patriotism. One, Gunner Fred Slater, is referred to elsewhere, and the second is Private J. Smalley, of the West Surrey Regiment, only son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Smalley, of Pendle-view. He joined the army early in the war and was quickly drafted to France, undergoing great hardships and realising to the full the horrors of war. It is not very long ago that Private Smalley was buried in a shattered trench, and at the same time he was 'gassed,' being set to hospital and later enjoying a furlough at

home. Now comes official news that he was killed on June 28th. Private Smalley was well-known and respected in Grindleton. He formerly attended the Quaker Chapel, and also the Parish Church. He was employed as a weaver at the bottom mill. Private Smalley was 22 years of age.

'Clitheroe Times' (28 July 1916)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

VILLAGE VICTIM

PRIVATE J. SMALLEY of the West Surrey Regiment, only son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Smalley, Pendle View, Grindleton, and a member of the village band, who, as recorded last week, was killed in action on June 28th.

Grindleton War Memorial - Biographical Notes by Shirley Penman

JAMES SMALLEY, son of Robert and Catherine nee Whalley (marriage not found), was born at Grindleton; resided at Grindleton and enlisted at Clitheroe. He went to France as part of 3rd Battalion, Royal Fusiliers on 5-10-1915 but was transferred to 1st Battalion Royal Fusiliers on 21-10-1915 when the brigade was sent to Egypt; he then moved to 20th Battalion Royal Fusiliers between 31-5-1916 and his death on 28-6-1916. It seems that James was killed in the run up to the Battle of Albert (1st day of the Somme) which started on 1st July after a bombardment of artillery fire of one month; raiding parties were sent out before the battle to observe the "fall" of the shells, these raiders found the enemy to be in greater numbers than before and far more alert - perhaps James was on one of these raids? James worshipped both at the parish church in Grindleton and the Quaker chapel in Sawley. He was a weaver at the Bottom Mill previous to enlistment.

Commemorated on: Grindleton Memorial

Ref: <http://www.cpgw.org.uk/soldier-records/james-smalley/>

William Brian Taylor

Place of Birth: Clitheroe, Lancashire

Service No: K/48731

Rank: Stoker 2nd Class

Regiment / Corps / Service: Royal Navy

Battalion / Unit: H.M.S. 'Montbretia'

Age: 19

Date of Death: 9th November 1918

CWGC Memorial: CHATHAM NAVAL MEMORIAL

CWGC Grave / Memorial Reference: Panel 29

From WW1 Casualty Lists of the Royal Navy and Dominion Navy
Montbretia, convoy sloop
TAYLOR, William B, Stoker 2c, K 48371 (Ch), drowned

Ref: <http://www.naval-history.net/xDKCas1918-11Nov.htm>

SHIPS OF THE ROYAL NAVY - LOCATION/ACTIVITY DATA, 1914-1918

Offensive, Convoy Escort, Patrol and Local Defence Flotillas etc (UK bases, north to south, east to west)

3rd Sloop Flotilla (Dundee), 20 sloops (*NL/gw* - Aubretia, Auricula, Buttercup, Crocus, Daffodil, .Delphinium, Gladiolus, Harebell, Mistletoe, **Montbretia**, Myosotis, Poppy, Pelargonium, Polyanthus, Primrose, Rosemary, Syringa, Tamarisk, Viola, Windflower)

Northern Patrol (Dundee), Marksman, 3 destroyers (*NL/gw* - Marksman, Ambuscade, Christopher, Cockatrice)

Methil Convoy DF, 6 L-class (*NL/gw* - Landrail, Lark, Linnett, Llewellyn, Lydiard, Lysander)

Southern Patrol (Granton), 4th Sloop Flotilla, Lightfoot (*NL/gw*), 6 sloops (*NL/gw* - Bend Or, Cicero, Iroquois, Ladas, Ormonde, Sefton)

E Coast Convoys, 7th DF (Humber), 28 old destroyers (*NL/gw* - Boyne, Dee, Doon, Exe, Garry, Moy, .Ness, Ouse, Stour, Test, Waveney, Arab, .Bat, Bullfinch, Crane, Fawn, Flying, Fish, Greyhound, .Leopard, Locust, Mermaid, Peterel, Quail, Star, . Sylvia), 3 TBs

Ref: <https://www.naval-history.net/WW1NavyBritishShips-Locations6Dist.htm>

William Brian Taylor (born 22 November 1899) was the son of William and Jane Taylor, née Patefield. William senior was born at Sawley, Yorkshire.

1901 Accrington, Lancashire, Census: Crow Trees Farm - William Taylor, aged 1 year, born Clitheroe, Lancashire, son of William and Jane Taylor.

1911 Huncoat, Lancashire, Census: Higher Brown Birks - William B. Taylor, aged 11 years, born Clitheroe, Lancashire, son of William and Jane Taylor.

Data Source: Memorial Inscription on Family Gravestone

Son of William and Jane Taylor, of Brown Birks Farm, Huncoat, Accrington, Lancs.

St Ambrose's Churchyard, Grindleton, Family gravestone



Chatham Naval Memorial



After the First World War, an appropriate way had to be found of commemorating those members of the Royal Navy who had no known grave, the majority of deaths having occurred at sea where no permanent memorial could be provided. An Admiralty committee recommended that the three manning ports in Great Britain - Chatham, Plymouth and Portsmouth - should each have an identical memorial of unmistakable naval form, an obelisk, which would serve as a leading mark for shipping. The memorials were designed by Sir Robert Lorimer, who had already carried out a considerable amount of work for the Commission, with sculpture by Henry Poole.

After the Second World War it was decided that the naval memorials should be extended to provide space for commemorating the naval dead without graves of that war, but since the three sites were dissimilar, a different architectural treatment was required for each. The architect for the Second World War extension at Chatham was Sir Edward Maufe (who also designed the Air Forces memorial at Runnymede) and the additional sculpture was by Charles Wheeler and William McMillan.

Chatham Naval Memorial commemorates more than 8,500 sailors of the First World War and over 10,000 from the Second World War.

Arthur Townson

Service number: 40925



Arthur Townson was the son of William and Mary Elizabeth Townson, née Tattersall of Bridge End Farm Sawley. William was born at Rimington, Yorkshire and Mary at Chatburn, Lancashire.

Pte Arthur Townson, served with the 14th Battalion Worcestershire Regiment.

He died Tuesday 9th October 1917 aged 20

and is buried in Ruisseau Farm Cemetery Belgium. Plot C. 39.

'Clitheroe Advertiser' (19 October 1917)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

SAWLEY SOLDIER YIELDS HIS LIFE

LANCE-CORPORAL A. TOWNSON

A splendid type of the men who form England's new Army, Lance-Corporal Arthur Townson, whose parents reside at Bridge End, Sawley, has been killed in action. Capt. H.C. Mahen was the medium through whom the sad news was communicated, his letter, which reached Sawley, on Tuesday morning, being to the following effect:—

"It is with the deepest regret that I have to inform you of the death of your dear son. He was killed by shell fire during the advance on the morning of October 9th, at about nine o'clock. Your son had been in my company since he came to the battalion, last December, and had

been one of my most useful men. His loss to me has been a great one, and I can realise what it means to you. There is such little consolation that one can offer in these terrible times, but our tenderest thoughts are for his dear ones at home. His death was instantaneous. Please accept my sincerest sympathy, and also that of the officers and men of C. Co.”

Further testimony to the fine qualities of deceased as a soldier was contained in a letter from Sec.-Lieut. Hackett, which was received on Wednesday morning, and ran as follows:

“It is with much regret that I find I must write you to express my sympathy in your great loss. Such that I can offer is, I know, of little use but it may mean something to know that your son died in the fulfilment of his duty, and that he met a painless death. The company were on their way to the trenches when a shell burst close to my platoon, causing several other casualties as well. During the few months I had known your son, he proved to be one of the smartest men in the company and, without doubt, one of the best and most cheerful of workers. I know he will be greatly missed by all.”

Cut-off when on the very threshold of manhood – he was only 20 years of age – Lance-Corporal Townson’s death will cause great regret, not only in Sawley, but also at Grindleton where he worked for Mr. Read, joiner. Jolly and high-spirited, he made himself liked by everybody. The Army claimed him on the 25th January, 1916, and he was attached to the 14th Worcesters. – He had been in France since last December. As to his life in the Army, the above letters speak for themselves.

Deceased was associated with Sawley Wesleyan Church and School, and the Reading Room.

‘Clitheroe Advertiser’ (26 October 1917)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

LANCE-CORPORAL A. TOWNSON

son of Mr. and Mrs. Townson, Bridge End, Sawley, killed by shell fire during the advance on the morning of October 9th. Aged 20, he was associated with Sawley Wesleyan Chapel and school, and the Reading Room, and, prior to joining up, worked for Mr. Read, joiner, Grindleton.

Grindleton War Memorial - Biographical Notes by Shirley Penman

ARTHUR TOWNSON, son of William and Mary Elizabeth nee Tattersall married 1895 Ribble Valley.

On October 8th, 1916, Arthur was with his battalion in Seaton Camp nr. Poperinghe when the pioneer battalion was detached from the division and sent to work in the forward area. A camp was established a half mile east of the village of Elverdinghe where they remained for the rest of October. Working parties of 200 men were sent forward to work on the stretch of

road between Wijdendrift and Langemarke. Accomplishing much good work under heavy shellfire, the battalion lost 4 men killed and 19 wounded on 9-10-1917 - one of them being Arthur. He was attached to Sawley Wesleyan Church, School and Reading Room and was in the employ of Mr. Read, joiner, of Grindleton.

Commemorated on: Grindleton Memorial, Rimington Memorial

Ref: <http://www.cpgw.org.uk/soldier-records/arthur-townson/>

RUISSEAU FARM CEMETERY

Langemark is located north of the town of Ypers/Ieper

Ruisseau Farm was taken by the Guards Division, fighting alongside French troops, on 8 October 1917 and the cemetery was begun by the divisional burial officer when the fighting was over. Later burials were made by artillery units and the cemetery continued in use until the end of November 1917.



Ruisseau Farm Cemetery contains 82 First World War burials, six of them unidentified. The cemetery was designed by W H Cowlshaw.

Vincent Edward Wardleworth

Service number: 15152



Vincent Edward Wardleworth was the son of William Edward and Rachel Wardleworth, née Thursby of Highcliffe Greaves, Grindleton. William was born at Rawtenstall, Lancashire and Rachel at West Dereham, Norfolk.

Private Wardleworth served in the 7th Battalion, East Lancashire Regiment 19th (Western) Division.

He died on Thursday 7th June 1917 aged 28

and is buried in Croonaert Chapel Cemetery Belgium. Plot B 19

'Clitheroe Times' (18 August 1916)
(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)
GRINDLETON
SOLDIER WOUNDED

In the official list of wounded of the East Lancashire Regiment appears the name of Private V.E. Wardleworth, son of Mr. and Mrs. W.E. Wardleworth, of Highcliffe, Grindleton.



Grindleton War Memorial - Biographical Notes by Shirley Penman

VINCENT WARDLEWORTH, son of William Edward and Rachel nee Thursby was born in Accrington, resided in Accrington and enlisted in Accrington according to his enlistment papers dated 15th Sept 1914, so his parent's probably bought High Cliffe in Grindleton after this date. Originally serving with the "Accrington Pals", 11th Battalion, East Lancashire Regiment, Vincent was wounded between 1st and 5th, July, 1916 during the First Battle of the Somme. Once recovered he was transferred to 3rd Battalion, East Lancashire Regiment and then again to the 7th Battalion of the same regiment. On 7th June, 1917, 18 British mines were exploded within the Messines Ridge after which the 19th Division including 7th Battalion South Lancashire Regiment; 7th Battalion Loyal North Lancashire Regiment and 7th Battalion East Lancashire Regiment made a successful attack to the north of Wytschaete where they captured and held on to their objectives with only few casualties - Vincent must have been one of these.

Commemorated on: Accrington (Oak Hill Park) Memorial, Grindleton Memorial
St. John's Church, Accrington Memorial

Ref: <http://www.cpgw.org.uk/soldier-records/vincent-edward-wardleworth/>

CROONAERT CHAPEL CEMETERY

Croonaert Chapel Cemetery is located 6 kilometres south of Ypers/leper town centre

Croonaert Chapel was a shrine in a hamlet on the Wytschaete-Voormezele road, and was in No Man's Land before the Battle of Messines 1917. The cemetery was begun by the 19th Division Burial Officer in June 1917, and used until the following November. Two further burials were made in April 1918 and January 1919.

Croonaert Chapel
Cemetery contains 75
Commonwealth burials

of the First World War, seven of which are unidentified. 51 German graves of June 1917 were removed after the Armistice. The cemetery was designed by W C Von Berg.



John Westall

Service number 104335

Gunner John Westall was born in Whitewell, the son of Robert and Elizabeth Jane Westall (née Lupton), and latterly of Harrop Fold Farm, Bolton by Bowland. Robert was born at Lower Booths and Elizabeth at Carnforth, Lancashire.

John served with 255th Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery.

He died Saturday 30th November 1918 aged 28 in the General Hospital Rouen, France

and is buried at St Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen. Plot S. IV. C. 11



John Westall, Gunner, 255th Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery. Died Saturday 30th November, 1918, aged 28. Son of Robert & Jane Westall, Harrop Fold Farm, Bolton-by-Bowland. Buried at St Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, Seine-Maritime, France.

'Clitheroe Advertiser' (13 December 1918)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

FALLEN IN THE FIGHT

In loving memory of Gunner Westall, R.G.A., who died in France of pneumonia, November 30th, 1918, aged 28 years.

Sleep on, dear one, in a far-off grave,

A grave we may never see;

But as long as life and memory last,

We shall always think of thee.

From Mother and Brothers. Harrop Fold.

'Clitheroe Advertiser' (13 December 1918)

(Kindly supplied by Shirley Penman of Clitheroe and Dorothy Falshaw of Gisburn)

[Untitled article]

Mrs. Westall, of Harrop Fold, has lost her second son, John a gunner in the R.G.A., who has succumbed in France to that fell disease, pneumonia, at the age of 28. A letter, dated November 26th was received by Mrs. Westall from the St. Louis, U.S.A. General Hospital, informing her that her son was dangerously ill, suffering from broncho-pneumonia, but that the doctors were hopeful of his recovery, and that everything possible was being done for him. Gunner Westall, however, passed away on the 30th. He enlisted in 1916, taking the place, we believe, of another brother, and, since the armistice was signed, an application had been put in for his return to the farm. We tender sympathy to the widowed mother in her grief.

Grindleton War Memorial - Biographical Notes by Shirley Penman

JOHN WESTALL, son of Robert and Elizabeth Jane nee Lupton married St. Andrew, Slaidburn 1886.

Siege batteries were equipped with the heaviest guns by which they battered the enemy's defences and strongpoints and even though they were usually sited well behind the front line they were targeted by the enemy gunners who also needed to remove the allies strongpoints and defences. The batteries and their six man teams were moved from tactical point to tactical point through mud and shell holes onto sites with specially designed platforms which would take the great guns and cushion the remarkable recoil of each shot. John would have been ready for discharge when he must have been struck by pneumonia and sent back to the St. Louis U.S.A. General Hospital.

Ref: <http://www.cpgw.org.uk/soldier-records/john-westall/>

ST. SEVER CEMETERY EXTENSION, ROUEN

St Sever Cemetery and St. Sever Cemetery Extension are located within a large communal cemetery situated on the eastern edge of the southern Rouen

During the First World War, Commonwealth camps and hospitals were stationed on the southern outskirts of Rouen. A base supply depot and the 3rd Echelon of General Headquarters were also established in the city. Almost all of the hospitals at Rouen remained there for practically the whole of the war. They included eight general, five stationary, one British Red Cross and one labour hospital, and No. 2 Convalescent Depot. A number of the dead from these hospitals were buried in other cemeteries, but the great majority were taken to the city cemetery of St. Sever.



In September 1916, it was found necessary to begin an extension, where the last burial took place in April 1920.

During the Second World War, Rouen was again a hospital centre and the extension was used once more for the burial of Commonwealth servicemen, many of whom died as prisoners of war during the German occupation.

The cemetery extension contains 8,348 Commonwealth burials of the First World War (ten of them unidentified) and in Block "S" there are 328 from the Second World War (18 of them unidentified). There are also 8 Foreign National burials here.

The extension was designed by Sir Reginald Blomfield.

Ref: Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Sergeant (Pilot) John Horner Hargreaves

Service Number 740208

Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve

Killed on active service. Died 8th October 1939. Aged 27

Son of John Horner Hargreaves and Cecilia Sarah Hargreaves, of Thornton-le-Fylde, Lancashire; grandson of Horner and Margaret Hargreaves.

Information from <https://aviation-safety.net/wikibase/wiki.php?id=209775>

Date:
Time:

08-OCT-1939

night



Type:
Owner/operator:
Registration:
C/n / msn:
Fatalities:
Other fatalities:
Aircraft damage:
Location:

North American Harvard Mk 1
CFS, RAF (Royal Air Force)
N7181

Phase:
Nature:
Departure airport:
Destination airport:

Fatalities: 2 / Occupants: 2
0
Written off (damaged beyond repair)
RAF Upavon, Wiltshire -  United Kingdom
Take off
Military
RAF Upavon, Wiltshire

Narrative:

North American Harvard Mk.I N7181, CFS (Central Flying School) RAF Upavon: Written off (destroyed) 8/10/39 when crashed on take-off at night at RAF Upavon, Wiltshire. Both crew killed:

Sgt John Horner Hargreaves (Service Number 740208, aged 27) killed
Sgt Charley Lovell Wallace Mason (Service Number 741158, aged 29) killed

Sgt Hargreaves is buried at St Ambrose Churchyard Grindleton Row 6 Grave 5



Francis Graham Shaw

Service number 1436866

Francis Graham Shaw was a Sergeant with 158 squadron Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.

Son of John and Doris Shaw, he was killed in Action on Friday 17th September 1943 age 21, on a bombing raid on the railway lines at Modane. His aircraft was one of two Halifax's lost in the raid.

Sgt Shaw is buried in Lyon, (La Doua) French National Cemetery, Rhone France. Row J grave 3.

LYON (LA DOUA) FRENCH NATIONAL CEMETERY

La Doua is a suburb of Lyon on the north-eastern side of the town

Originally all the Commonwealth war casualties were buried among French military casualties in Lyon (La Guillotiere) New Communal Cemetery; but the French Government created La Doua Cemetery in 1953 and transferred to it all French Military graves in La Guillotiere New Communal Cemetery; and in other cemeteries in six Departments around Lyon. In response to strong local sentiment and at the particular request of M. Edouard Herriot, at that time President of the French National Assembly, the remains of the Commonwealth graves were also moved to the new cemetery.

There are now nearly 40, 1939-45 war casualties commemorated in this site.

Richard Weston

Lance Sergeant 323119

25 Durham Light Infantry United Kingdom

Died 16th July 1943 aged 25

Killed in Sicily

Son of Clement and Sarah J. Weston, of Didsbury, Manchester and Hydro Lodge Grindleton.

Buried at III. D. 21. CATANIA WAR CEMETERY, SICILY



CATANIA WAR CEMETERY, SICILY

Catania War Cemetery is 7 kilometres south-west of Catania

On 10 July 1943, following the successful conclusion of the north African campaign in mid May, a combined allied force of 160,000 Commonwealth and American troops invaded Sicily as a prelude to the assault on mainland Italy. The Italians, who would shortly make peace with the Allies and re-enter the war on their side, offered little determined resistance but German opposition was vigorous and stubborn. The campaign in Sicily came to an end on 17 August when the two allied forces came together at Messina, but failed to cut off the retreating Axis lines. Catania War Cemetery contains burials from the later stages of the campaign, from Lentini northwards. Many died in the heavy fighting just short of Catania (the town was taken on 5 August) and in the battle for the Simeto river bridgehead. Catania War Cemetery contains 2,135 Commonwealth burials of the Second World War, 112 of them unidentified.



INSCRIPTION TO L/SGT WESTON FROM HIS FAMILY

WE WHO LOVED YOU WILL NEVER FORGET MOTHER, DAD, NANCY

Some images from the First World War



British infantrymen occupying a shallow trench in a ruined landscape before an advance during the battle



Ypres in ruins, Belgium ref: Daily Mail

