

Follow Newark's trauma in The Great War as it happened 100 years ago this week

Edited by Trevor Frecknall, author of *Newark in The Great War*

Great War Bulletin

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Sherwoods' baths appeal

MORE evidence that recruitment is continuing at a great pace in the Newark area...

Colonel Foljambe, Officer Commanding the THIRD 8th Battalion Sherwood Foresters, appealed to *Advertiser* readers last Wednesday to avail his men with bathing slips for use at the Tolney Lane Baths.

He advised that 100 slips would be "a great boon". They cost 6d (2½p) each.

The implication is that the slips would be shared by the third group of 600 men to be raised in the name of the 8th Battalion in less than ten months.

The First 8th are in the heat of battle on the Western Front. The Second 8th are being prepared for their challenges at a training centre in Bedfordshire.

POET'S PLEA

*Just a few lines I am sending
From the trenches o'er the sea
About the brave old Newark
boys
Whom once you used to see
Parade at night in khaki
When a day's work they had
done
To bear the jibes of senseless
folk
Who chaffed us one by one.
They stood at all the corners
And laughed as we marched
past.
They called us 'butterfly
strollers'
And of England's hope the last!
Now the day has come to test us
And, to their undying shame,
They still hang back and will not
come
To help us win the fame.
Although it's death we're facing
We will stick it to the end,*

PRIVATE JAMES HENRY HORSLEY,
an engineer's turner when
he lived with his family at
2 Wright Street, Newark,
and now a 21-year-old growing up fast in the
trenches with B Company of the
First 8th Battalion Sherwood Foresters,
found brief refuge on Saturday by writing
poetry to mum Kate, dad Charles
and his four siblings.
He challenges the townsmen who once
laughed at the Territorials to enlist
and join the fight beside them...

*Not loaf about street corners
And refuse our ways to mend.
There are many fallen comrades
Who gave up home and wife;
They will never be forgotten
So long as we have life.*

*We're proud to be doing a
little bit
To stop the German game.
You slackers and you shirkers,
Won't you come and do the
same?*

**Come on,
all you
slackers
and
shirkers
-join the
Butterfly
Strollers**

**It's fearfully
hot, too, for
our hungry
Yeomen in
Middle East**

OLD MAGNUSIAN Thomas Rowland Smith wrote yesterday to his uncle Jonathon Henry Smith, chemist, at 10 Bridge Street, Newark, about life as a Corporal with the Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry in ancient Egyptian barracks that were built for Napoleon:

"We are in Barracks about two miles from Cairo and it is fearfully hot out here although the summer is only just arriving.

"We shall soon melt with the sun glaring day after day.

"There are dozens and dozens of barracks here and most of the Australians have left for the Dardanelles.

"But there are a lot of New Zealanders and also different regiments of London Yeomanry, who

have been here for months. [He did well to slip that information past the censors!]

"We get plenty of work, but not so much food as we did at home.

"The Government rations per man here to 1lb meat and 1lb of bread with tea and ½oz of rice per day.

"We get about 6d a day extra out here and that buys bacon, a sausage or eggs for breakfast and 1oz jam and butter for tea, but I can manage alright...

"Our barracks are very old ones. In fact, they were built by Napoleon."

Thomas had been his bachelor uncle's assistant pre-war; and was being groomed to take over the business.

He will survive the Dardanelles and be attached to the Imperial Camel Corps when he is killed in Palestine in March 1918.

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Newark bride wounded by Zeppelin

WILLOW MERCHANT Horace Mills and his wife Marion of Rushcliffe, Fardon Road, Newark, received a devastating telegram last Thursday morning: one of their daughters, Mrs Florence Smith, a young mother, is fighting for her life after a Zeppelin raid over Southend.

The airship was the LZ.38, which was captained by Hauptmann Erich Linnarz.

He made two successful bombing runs over the Essex town in darkness, dropping a total of nearly 100 bombs.

Most of his weapons were incendiary, and caused a lot of damage to property but, amazingly only one death.

Florence's husband Frank is architect to Southend Corporation; and it appears that after the fall of the bombs from the Zeppelin's first attack, he went to the door of their house thinking that all danger had

passed and concerned as to the amount of damage inflicted.

As he opened the door, it became apparent that the raider had returned.

For another bomb landed on the street – and 25-year-old Mrs Smith was struck by flying fragments of iron and stone as she stood at her husband's shoulder.

One piece of shrapnel penetrated her chest and lung.

She was immediately removed to hospital and operated upon but remains in a serious condition.

Her devastated parents rushed to her bedside...

MORE DIE IN FRANCE

TWO MORE Newark men have been killed in action in France, it has emerged over the last few days.

Blacksmith Joseph and Elizabeth Brewster of 4 Mount Zion Square, Eldon Street, heard last Tuesday that one of their four serving sons has made the ultimate sacrifice for his country.

A telegram informed them that 20-year-old Private William Brewster of the 1st Battalion Sherwood Foresters died on 9 May.

He went to Christ Church Day School and the Baptist Sunday School, and then worked in the malt kilns at James Hole and Company's Castle Brewery before joining up last July.

Of his brothers, Alf is in the Navy while Harry and Joseph are with the Second 8th Sherwoods. William is remembered among 536 allies in Y Farm Military Cemetery in the village of Bois Grenier 4km south of Armentieres.

News arrived yesterday that Sergeant E C Coy has been killed in action. He lodged with his sister, Mrs Kirk at the Bowling Green and worked at Nicholson's engineering works on Trent Bridge before emigrating four years ago to Canada, where he became a partner in a flourishing plumber's business.

Sergeant 77472 Coy of the 15th Battalion Canadian Infantry lies in the Town Cemetery, Bethune, a French town important as a railway and hospital centre until it came within range of intensive shell fire in 1917.

Mrs Else of 2 Chatham Street discovered on Thursday that one of her three fighting sons has been severely wounded. Privatete Len Else, 19, of the First 8th Sherwoods is in the 11th General Hospital, Boulogne, but reckons he will be "back to the trenches to do a bit more" in a fortnight's time. Of his siblings, William Thomas (21) is in the Royal Horse Artillery and Ernie in the trenches with the First 8th Sherwoods.

NEWS FROM THE HOME FRONT

Tribute to our Boer War heroes

A MEMORIAL to the Newark volunteers who fought in the South African War between 1899 and 1902 was unveiled this afternoon in the loggia in the Town Hall. The service was brief, given the current distractions.

Many of the Newark volunteers served in the Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry plus, of course, the Sherwood Foresters.

Shops chief calls for earlier closing

ERNEST RANDALL, in his capacity as president of the Newark Tradesmen's Association, is urging townfolk to support earlier closing of shops.

Mr Randall, whose emporium of high-class clothing for both gentlemen and ladies occupies an imposing site at the junction of Baldertongate, Barnbygate and Cartergate, is adamant that: "Late closing is an insane policy; economically it is bad for the trader, and physically it is injurious to his assistants."

Compounding the problem, of course, are the facts that many assistants have already volunteered for the Armed Forces and those who have resisted the patriotic call thus far are coming under increasing pressure to sign-up to go and fight.

Politicians call truce

THE annual general meeting of the Newark Division Conservative and Unionist Association was held at their Club in Cartergate. Lord Manvers presided.

Captain J R Starkey, the Conservatives' sitting MP, and Mr H A Colefax KC, prospective Liberal candidate for the Newark Division, made the keynote speeches.

And they agreed that as long as the Great War continues, there must be no politics, only support of the Coalition Government.

Widow nurses wounded

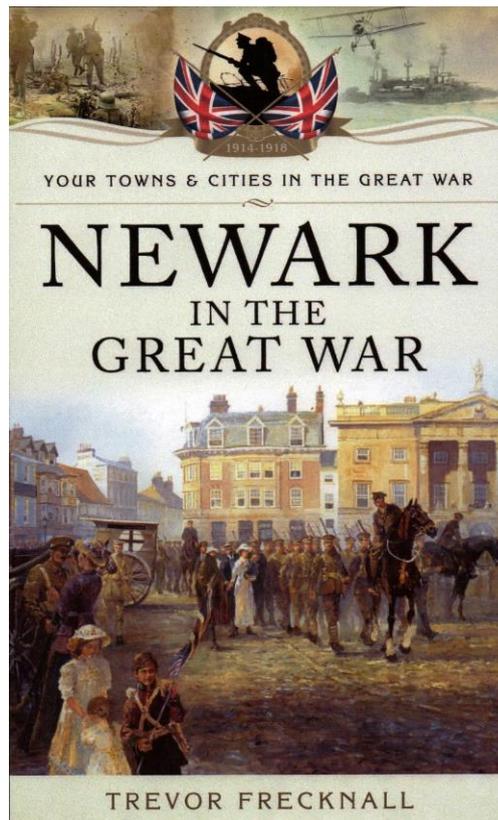
RECENTLY-WIDOWED Mrs Florence Clementina Laurie of Carlton-on-Trent Hall is helping the ladies of the Rampton Voluntary Aid Detachment to nurse injured soldiers at Thorney Hall Military Hospital.

She has also furnished a ward in the Hall in memory of the late Colonel George Brenton Laurie, who was killed in action while leading the Royal Irish Rifles in the Battle of Neuve Chapelle. It will be recalled that when news of the Colonel's death arrived, Mrs Laurie was nursing in Nottingham.

Empire Day celebrations

EMPIRE DAY is celebrated, as usual, in Newark schools by the singing of patriotic songs and special addresses by local dignitaries. But no other celebrations are held in deference to the War.

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