

Great War Bulletin

No. 50...Newark...Monday 12 July 1915

SHERWOODS' FOOTBALL MATCH

WITH THE 1st 8th Battalion Sherwood Foresters resting seven miles from the battlelines, Private William Hoe Worth, 25, an avid footballer for Stanley Works pre-War, found time to write to Sam Warren Taylor, attendant at Newark Swimming Baths of 1 Tolney Lane, to thank him for a parcel and to report: "Last night I picked a team of nine Newark lads and two from Retford to play a team from the Worksop Company at football. We won by 4 goals to 2. Harry Joines scored the first, David Spiers the second, I got the third and Spiers the fourth." Of his fellow goal heroes, Harry Joines, 22, was a brewer's labourer of 10 Tolney Lane. Spiers was probably one of six offspring of a Scottish iron worker, John, and his wife Catherine who lived at 12 Newton Street. David Spiers will be listed on the Barnbygate Methodist Church Memorial as having served.

Camp at
Clipstone
grows into
a small
town!

IN SPITE OF current censorship regulations, it can be safely reported that rarely in its rich history can Nottinghamshire have had such a remarkable assembly of men as are now camped at Clipstone.

They represent all the great professions: religion, science, art, medicine, the law, banking, engineering, education, journalism, the stage...

Men are there from the great universities and public schools of the land.

Every branch of sport has its expert proponents.

The sons of many noble houses are now living in wooden huts and mingling in their everyday training with young men from professional and commercial houses, from mill and mine, and from virtually every conceivable trade.

They are drawn together by a common aim – service of their country in the face of the gravest threat in centuries.

The Royal Fusiliers have no fewer than eight battalions there.

Town Mayor's sad mission

Has to tell parents: Your boy is dead

THE MAYOR of Newark, Councillor John Charles Kew today took on the sad task of visiting one of Newark's infamous yards – to inform a family they had lost one of their sons to The Great War.

Private John Turner Pond (*pictured left*), who worked at Quibell's chemical factory until a few months ago, had been killed while fighting with the 1st Battalion Sherwood Foresters.

Once news arrived, the Mayor opted to deliver it personally to William and Martha Maria Pond in Cawkwell's Yard.

The reason: only three weeks ago, the Mayor received a letter from the 22-year-old asking for some Woodbine cigarettes and a pair of field glasses. He sent six dozen packets.

A postcard dated 4 July duly arrived at the Town Hall thanking him and promised a letter would follow.

When the letter arrived, however, it was from a Corporal, asking the Mayor to break that news gently to Mr and Mrs Pond that "he got killed this morning (5 July) at 6.15. He was shot through the head and died without a word...

"We shall all miss him very much. He was the jolliest chap in our section. He has been buried in a nice little spot alongside other fallen heroes. He died a soldier's death, doing his duty.

"I am sure all the townspeople will be sorry to hear of his death. All the section send their greatest sympathy to his parents."



Parents' vain rush to stricken son

THE LANDLORD and landlady of the Spread Eagle public house in Middle Gate, Newark, endured a nightmare rush to London today – only to discover that their wounded son had died while they were *en route* to his bedside.

The drama began when William and Mary Catherine Smith received a telegram: their 20-year-old son, William, has been seriously hurt at Aldershot.

He was a Driver in 106th Field Company Royal Engineers and was thrown from a horse at 10.30, suffering a suspected fractured skull. The parents rushed to catch the next train south – but at Finsbury Park station were handed another telegram that has been forwarded to them from Newark: William had

expired at 1pm without regaining consciousness.

He had grown-up through the Mount School, was in the Church Lads' Brigade for six years, and was a plumber's apprentice at William Harvey's at 56 Cartergate before joining the RE's 12 weeks ago.

The Army offered a military funeral at Aldershot; the Smiths insisted on bringing their lad home for a funeral with full military honours in Newark Cemetery next Thursday.

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

Band of brothers



CLAYPOLE'S BAND OF BATTLING BROTHERS are pictured here.

They are the sons of plaster works labourer Mathew Musson, 53, and his wife of 31 years Priscilla.

Left: Lance Corporal R O Musson is in the 1st 3rd Battalion Lincolnshire Yeomanry.

Centre: Private Arthur Musson, 2nd Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment, was wounded at Neuve Chapelle.

Right: Private Alf Musson, fighting alongside Arthur, has been invalided from the front with rheumatism.

Engineers' tent appeal

THE GROWING number of Royal Engineers in training in Newark and camping on Sconce Hills require a YMCA tent.

A public meeting was called in the Town Hall on Thursday – half-day closing – in an attempt to recruit funds to provide it and volunteers to man it.

Council buys War loan

NEWARK TOWN COUNCIL agreed at a special meeting on Friday to invest £3,000 in 4½% War loans.

Weighing machine plea

MRS VIOLET COGAN is advertising for a patriotic person to donate a weighing machine to the Hospital and Convalescent Home she is running for wounded soldiers at Muskham Grange.

She explained: "It is most desirable, indeed necessary, that the patients be weighed from time to time to ascertain the progress made, and at any rate they should be weighed on admission and discharge."

Royal Show successes

THE ANNUAL SHOW of the Royal Horticultural Society of England went ahead on Lord Middleton's Wollaton Park estate near Nottingham – and Forshaw & Sons of the famous Carlton-on-Trent stud won the coveted prize for the best shire horse, Bradgate Pearl, for which they paid 500gns at the London Shire Horse Show.

Arthur Stretton, 64, of Sibthorpe Manor and Herbert Hopkinson of South Muskham were second and third in the class for best-managed arable farms of between 200 and 400 acres in Notts, Derbys and Leics.

Richard Johnson Fox of The Laurels, Sibthorpe, won the class for farms of 50-200 acres.

Insurance agent George Marshall, 63, of Norwell took first prize for comb honey with nurseryman Henry Merryweather of Southwell second.

Horse repository sale

EDWARD BAILEY and SONS on Tuesday sold 64 horses at the town's repository: four unbroken colts and fillies, 34 cart mares and geldings and vanners, and 26 harness horses and cobs.

One five-year-old cart gelding sold for 107gns.

Generous mum-of-9

DESPITE being a mother of nine and living on the wage of a railway platelayer, Mrs Grace Dean has busied herself of late sending parcels to wounded soldiers.

Now, Mrs Dean, who lives at Winthorpe crossing, has received two letters from wounded soldiers to whom she has sent 'get-well' goods.

The thanks are from Private H Bulgin, who is in hospital in Warrington, and Corporal May, who assures her the dainties are helping him to rebuild his strength as he convalesces at Reading in Berkshire.

Mrs Dean is 50 years old, the wife of Richard Dean, who works for the Midland Railway Company.

Their children still living at home are Elsie (aged 10), Ethel (12), Frank (16), George (24, a railway porter and therefore in a protected occupation) and Victoria (14) – more than enough, one would imagine, to gobble-up Mr Dean's modest wage, no matter how carefully his wife uses her weekly budget.

But the generosity of Mrs Dean – so greatly appreciated by the recipients of her goodies – is being replicated by an ever-increasing number of families whose compassion far out-weighs their prosperity.

It is yet another example of how this Great War is uniting everyone in the country to do 'a bit'.

Officers take a break at home

SEVERAL OFFICERS are home in the Newark district on leave – all speaking in the most appreciative terms of the work our gallant soldiers are doing at the seat of the War.

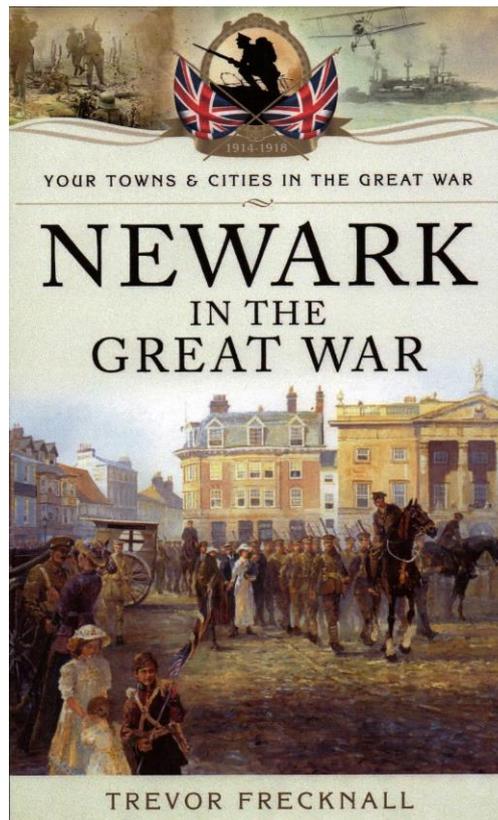
Colonel Charles John Huskinson of Farndon looks in the pink of health and condition though his responsible duties with the 8th Battalion Sherwood Foresters have undoubtedly put a strain on him.

Major Gowrie Colquhoun Aitchison has been to Collingham; a sombre place since his only son Ronald died of wounds last December while serving with the Royal Lancaster Regiment.

Young Lieutenant John Sherbrooke Coape Oates Oates is on leave at Besthorpe, recovering from wounds.

Captains Collins and Lane are also with their folks.

Now read the full dramatic account of...



£14.99 from WH Smith

Go to www.ournottinghamshire.org.uk for all issues of Newark's Great War Bulletin