

Great War Bulletin

No.60...Newark...Monday 20 September 1915

NORTHGATE PORTER IS KILLED

STILL reeling from the recent train derailment that resulted in the death of a child, staff at Newark Northgate Station were further saddened on Monday to hear that one of their mates, Robert Ronald Richardson, 20, a porter for three-and-a-half years, had been killed in action with the 6th Battalion York and Lancaster Regiment in the Dardanelles.

The news arrived in an official letter to his parents, greengrocer William and Annie Richardson at 28 Appletongate. He is the third of their seven children to die; but the first in violent circumstances.

Private 16098 Richardson is remembered on the Helles Memorial, a 30 metres high obelisk that stands at the tip of the Gallipoli Peninsula as a tribute to a total of 20,882 officers and men lost during the campaign.

Southwell braves win more medals

Mother's fear of the postman's delivery

MOTHER-OF-SIX Mrs Sarah Ann Quiningborough had a terrible fright as the postman approached the door of her home at 13 Harcourt Street, Newark, on Monday with an official-looking envelope.

For has her own boys fighting on the Western Front in France and instinctively feared for their safety.

The relieving news was that neither of her sons Frederick nor Herbert had been hurt – but she was saddened to hear of the death of one of the Royal Engineers who had billeted at her home while he was training in Newark.

It transpired that Pioneer Maurice H Dare has been killed and four colleagues wounded by a shell burst in the Dardanelles.

His memorial is in the Green Hill Cemetery; and, though he was a native of Salcombe, Devon, he made enough impact on Newark to be recorded on the Roll of Honour at Charles Street Methodist Church.

And such was the cruelty of this Great War that two of the names alongside him in due course would be those of Frederick and Herbert Quiningborough.

MORE PROUD news – plus a hint of discontent – reached worried families in Southwell on Tuesday.

Sergeant William Murden, 24, of the 8th Battalion Sherwood Foresters wrote home to his parents William and Ellen – who have had 13 children, of whom 11 are still living – that, in addition to Major Becher's DSO, Distinguished Conduct Medals are on their way to Lance Corporal Harold Tyne (who brought us first news of Becher's honour) and Sergeant Arthur Sheppard while Private John Sharman has been awarded St George's Order ... "all given to men in our Southwell Company!"

His letter went on: "You will forgive me saying we are proud of ourselves, but I am sure Southwell will be proud of its men."

...But candid letter home hints at discontent in the Sherwoods' ranks

And then he added, in perhaps a more sinister tone: "There are other things I should like to tell you, but they would not pass that gentleman, the censor. It is a good idea having him or we might send something that would not be to the advantage of our Army."

Even while he wrote those words, William could not imagine the horrors awaiting at a place called Hohenzollern Loos, where 20-year-old Sharman would be among those lost.



Stretcher-bearer Bertie Colton –
born in Collingham,
educated at Newark Magnus,
worked at Edward Bailey's,
Scout leader in Newark.

BRAVE BERTIE KILLED AS HE RESCUES WOUNDED PALS FROM BURNING GORSE

THE HEROISM of 21-year-old Bertie Colton, Newark's first death among the Sherwood Rangers in the Dardanelles, was publicised for the first time on Wednesday. Nearly a month after unofficial reports of the stretcher-bearer's death, his grieving mother Minnie at South Scarle Hall received a letter written by Major Harold Thorpe of Coddington in a crowded dug-out with shells flying all around:

"Your brave son ... brought no less than 14 men out of one patch of burning gorse and personally dressed the wounds of 10 of them. Unfortunately he was struck by a shrapnel bullet in the head and fell mortally wounded. I cannot express my admiration of the work done by the stretcher bearers ... He has always been in my Squadron and has always been the pattern of what a soldier should be."

Two days later, Private Frank Robinson, 22, son of photographer Frank and Clara Robinson of Lombard Street, wrote that Bertie "died like a hero. His duties as stretcher bearer took him right into the firing and there is no ducking as they have to carry the stretcher. Anyway, he and his chum carried in 34 cases before he was shot in the head."

Half-day schooling for 646 children

NEWARK Education Committee on Tuesday began to decide what to do with the children displaced by the Royal Engineers taking over Barnby Road and Lover's Lane Schools as billets.

The 208 infants at Barnby Road will be transferred to Charles Street Wesleyan Sunday School, which has room for a total of 235.

Efforts will be made to accommodate the 438 scholars of Barnby Road Mixed School as follows: 180 at the Congregational Schoolroom, London Road; 120

in St Mary's Rooms, Baldertongate; and 100 at the School of Art.

Of the 433 at Lover's Lane Mixed School, efforts are to be made to squeeze 415 into the Old Magnus Buildings.

A sub-committee of Alderman Lawrence Priestley, a pharmacist and wine spirit merchant of 9 Cartergate; W Bradley of the family firm plus the relevant head masters Samuel Ashbourn Hildage and Harry James Stibbard would oversee the reorganisation.

Poet in action – from Hawton

PRIVATE George R Smith, only 20, a groom at Hawton pre-war – whose parents Charles, a farm labourer, and Kate live in Farndon – regaled Advertiser readers with a poetic description of the 1st Sherwoods' part in the Battle of Aubers Ridge...

*The charge was something terrible, the bayonets brightly flashed
And when the bombardment halted, the 8th Division dashed.
There was the 1st Sherwood Foresters, the 5th Black Watch as well
And lots of other regiments – their names I cannot tell.
It was in this gallant battle that General Cole fell.*

*Although we were out-numbered, we fought through the fire of Hell
With grim determination, and made the Germans yell.*

*The charge was something terrible, greater than words can tell
And shot and shell were falling, worse than at Neuve Chapelle.*

It was the battlefield of Aubers, where many a hero fell.

*When the Sherwoods got the order to move up and advance,
The Germans were in thousands and our poor lads had no chance
But cheer up, Sherwood Foresters, with hearts high we intend
On these blood-thirsty Germans to fix bayonets to the end.*

Help for prisoners of war from Newark ladies

A CAMPAIGN to provide food for the Newark district's prisoners of war in Germany was launched last week by Mayoress Kew from her home in Magnus Street and auctioneer's wife Edith Pink at 1 Whitfield Street.

They have been given a list of the men and details of who is currently sending them rations; but argue that Newark should be caring for its own ...

Private 9219 J Davison (prison no.2800), Bezirk, Osnabruck, Hanover, is getting a parcel from a Mrs Varney of Derby and a parcel once in three weeks from the Nottingham City Fund (NCF). Private 9053 J

Billyard (3095) Strohen Nord, Hanover, is receiving a parcel once a fortnight from Mrs Hollins of Mansfield and one each three weeks from the NCF. Private 3083 John Doncaster (3284) is only receiving a parcel once every three weeks from the NCF and needs someone to send him a parcel at least once a fortnight. Private 10955 S Bennett (3407) of 1 Duke's Row, Parliament Street, is receiving a parcel once a fortnight from Mrs Thompson of Codnor and one every three weeks from the NCF. Lance Corporal 11877 D Winfield (2843) of 13 Elgin Place, Appletongate, is receiving a parcel once every three weeks from the NCF and needs someone to send him a parcel at least once a fortnight. Private 8433 D Holloway (3132) of 61 Alliance Street, whose mother is a widow, is a prisoner at Vintermoor via Reck, Hanover, and receiving nothing. Private 11682 F Else (3228) of 7 Farndon Road, also at Vintermoor, is receiving a parcel once a fortnight from Miss Gilstrap of Winthorpe and one every three weeks from the NCF. Lance Corporal 10370 F Mawson (2809) of Home Grove View Road, New Balderton, at Vintermoor needs a parcel once a fortnight. Private 10582 W Green (2727) of 27 Tenter Buildings, Appletongate, receives parcels from Miss L Starkey but requires further help. Private 10109 E Harvey (3098) needs a friend to "send something". Private 10654 E Gale (3939) of 6 Century Street, whose relatives send one parcel a month, needs three more a month.

MUSKHAM 'ANGEL' IS FINED OVER PUPPY

SAINTLY Violet Cogan, who is running a hospital for wounded soldiers at her North Muskham Grange home, appeared at Newark Borough Police Court on Tuesday and was fined 2s 6d for keeping a dog, a six-month-old fox terrier, without a licence. No mention was made of her pet hyena...

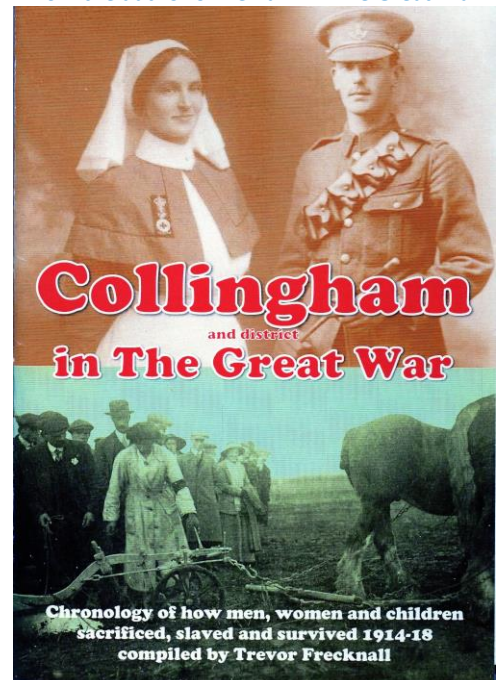
Solicitor-Major killed

MAJOR ARTHUR WEBSTER YOUNG, 46, who lived with his brother at North Muskham and worked as a solicitor before re-enlisting when war broke out, has been killed in action with the 10th Sherwoods. He had served in the 4th Battalion for many years, played hockey and cricket, and rode with several hunts including the Rufford, Earl of Harrington's, Belvoir and Quorn as well as Mr Otto Paget's Thorpe Satcheville beagles. Major Young is in Brandhoek Military Cemetery just outside Ypres.

RE's hit by motor car

A COMPANY of Royal Engineers in the command of Lieutenant Haywood was proceeding along the Fosse Road towards Farndon about 8 o' clock on Tuesday when they were run into by a motor car being driven with subdued lights by Mr F Lenton to his home in Bingham. Eight soldiers were knocked over and the most seriously hurt sapper was removed to the VAD Hospital in Lombard Street with a sprained ankle.

From the author of Newark in 'The Great War'



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