

Great War Bulletin

No. 96 ... Newark ... Monday 29 May 1916

COUNCIL'S PRAISE OF DUBLIN SHERWOODS

NEWARK Town Council sent a letter on Monday to the Second 8th Battalion of the Sherwood Foresters "congratulating and complementing the Regiment on the gallant services so ably rendered by them during the recent rebellion in Ireland and condoling with them in the heavy losses of officers and men thereby incurred."

Gallantry of a Town footballer

Soldiers with no homes

THE SPECTRE of soldiers surviving the War but having no home to return to was raised at last Monday's meeting of Newark Town Council.

It appears that 'War widows' unable to pay their rent are being forced to move in with their parents.

So, with an increasing number of men "compelled to vacate their houses on account of having joined His Majesty's Forces", Councillor George Lacy asked the Council to make arrangements for storing their furniture.

But as no one yet knows how many cases there will be, members agreed to refer the subject to their General Purposes Committee.

Entertained by Royal Engineers

THE Royal Engineers, playing an increasing part in raising spirits despite their rigorous training, gave an *al fresco* concert on Wednesday evening in Barnby Road School camp.

CHARLES ROBINSON of 178 Barnbygate – a footballer of considerable merit in Newark Town's team in the Midland League a few years ago and now a corporal in the Royal Field Artillery – has distinguished himself on the field of battle.

It transpired on Friday that he has been presented with a card headed "For gallant and meritorious service" and inscribed: "*The Major-General Commanding has noted with pleasure the gallant and meritorious conduct of No. 99881 Corporal C Robinson between May 1915 and February 1916, which has been brought to his attention by his Commanding Officer.*"

It was signed by Major-General V Couper, Commanding 14th Light Division, British Army in the Field.

The gallant corporal gained the commendation for his signalling work.

In a letter home, Charles explained that the award was earned "during the scraps, one in which I was on duty with the infantry, the first time for keeping communications, and the second for getting a flag message through to my battery when all wires had been broken, the enemy being successfully countered.

"The officer under whose charge I was has already been decorated with the Military Cross.

"We had never tried to send a visual message before. We should have been stopped at any ordinary time, but things were hot at the time and I suppose the enemy were too busy elsewhere.

"Fortunately for us, my own Officer Commanding saw the signal, and he was the only one who spotted it.

"We sent 'SOS' first and then ran back into cover after we had repeated it several times.

"The officer then brought a message and we sent it several times.

He defied
dangers
to flag a
vital
message

Imagine my joy, and also the officers and the other signallers, who had also sent the message, when an orderly came along and said the Captain had received my message.

"The Officer Commanding another battery stopped and complimented me on my work during the scrap. He said my flag message was great."

Charles, who went to Holy Trinity School and was an altar- and choirboy at the Catholic Church, worked for Abbott's before joining up.

Pride in uniform lands wife in trouble

EMMA BOOTHWRIGHT, 33, was fined 5 shillings with 2 shillings costs at Newark Borough Police Court for bringing a soldier's uniform into contempt. (That amounts to £32.55 in 2016 values.)

She proudly put on her husband Thomas's uniform in the Swan and Salmon, which was run by her parents Amos and Hannah – but was spotted by a policeman when she marched across Castlegate to have a drink with her mother at the Exchange Hotel.

Emma humbly apologised to the court. She explained that her brother and husband were both fighting. The last thing she'd ever do was insult their uniform. She was merely showing how proud she was of them.

'Sally Ann' men

FAREWELL meetings were held in the Salvation Army Hall, Baldertongate, to bid God speed to Ensign Johnson and Lieutenant Wills after a successful 14 months' service in Newark.

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

Farmers oppose hay and light rules

NOTTS Farmers' Union, meeting at Newark on Wednesday, expressed disappointed that the Government had commandeered the sale of all hay. They passed a resolution urging that the selling price should be based on the feeding value limit, irrespective of any other consideration.

Farmers were also sceptical about whether they would benefit from the Government's new daylight saving scheme, which involved putting the clocks forward an hour.

They argued that it would be difficult to get farm workers to agree to toil 7am to 7pm while colliers and factory men were on shorter hours. Not that they had a surfeit of workers: many had already been sent to fight by the Tribunals.

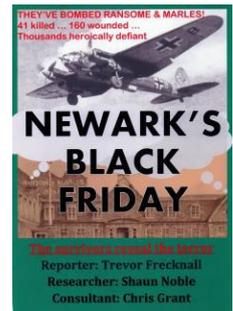
Newark Rural Tribunal on Thursday heard more farmers worried about losing workmen. Miller Arthur Lewin, 59, of Pretoria Villas, Balderton, was allowed to keep his carter and horseman George Gresswell, 33: they were in a certified occupation ... William Johnson, 32, was ordered to enlist on 1 August though three of his brothers were serving and one has already been killed; he is garthman, shepherd and ploughman for Harry Crossland at South Clifton, who will be left with only two workers on a 200-acre farm ... Sheldon Brothers at Collingham successfully asked to keep their manager Charles Sheldon, 25, on their 1,200-acre spread until October ... John Noble of Coddington held onto his son, Nathan, 27, his horseman ... William Richards, tending 380 acres at Balderton with the help of two boys, was allowed to keep his wagoner, Henry Schoffield, 27 ... Ben Broadberry at White Moor Farm, South Collingham, had one son fighting in France, another at Suvla Bay; he was allowed to keep his third boy, Ben, 20 ... Walter Tom Baston of Wheatley Farm, Brough, whose two men had gone to fight, was told Thomas R Wright, 18, must also go by 1 July ... Nora Platt, mother-of-three of Barnby Manor, was allowed to keep Charles White, 31, the last of her three cowmen ... Charles Crampton, 31, Lowfield, Balderton, claimed that although he worked in a Newark office, he had invested all in 75 acres and would be ruined if he has to fight. Under questioning he agreed the farm work was contracted out. He was ordered to enlist now ... James William Pratt, 34, was allowed to stay on his 40 acres at Coney Green, South Collingham; he had "only women" to help him gather his carrots ... Girton farmer Ernest Noble was told his horseman Edward Coulson, 21, must enlist on 1 August; he still had three men of military age to work his 170 acres ... Walter Sharpe, 29, was allowed to stay working Barnby Road Nurseries: he is married with two children under 11 plus a dependent mother ... Coddington farmer Ernest Booth, 31, married with a child, was given to 31 August to decide whether he will go or send his horseman, who is married with two children ... Sidney Vale, 30, was allowed to carry on farming his mother's land at Balderton; he had two brothers, a brother-in-law and several nephews fighting ... Joseph Bembridge of Hawton was allowed to keep horseman William Merryweather, 33, on his 105-acre Balderton farm ... Further to his appeal in March, Charles Southern said he needed his stepson Charles Chapman, 19, on his 98 acres at Barnby, 165 acres at Ossington and 105 acres at Long Bennington; Tribunal told Chapman to enlist on 1 October ... William Edward Webb, 36, could stay on his 66 acres at Balderton with his wife, two children and widowed mother ... Henry Outram, 26, could stay running 36-acre Holme Farm, Balderton, with his grandfather and wife ... William Johnson, who had three men enlist in 1914, was allowed to keep engine driver Albert Brooks, 33, and wagoner Richard Rushby, 35, for his 263 acres at Balderton ... W T Baston of Brough retained his head horseman William H Blow, 24, on his 364 acres on Coddington Moor ... Thorney farmer (and father-of-eight) Thomas Pacey, 53, was told his 21-year-old son Thomas must enlist on 1 October though he already had 1 son in the Army along with another five workers, leaving him, a 40-year-old and a cripple to tend 256 Thorney acres.

More farm men sent to fight

Newark Borough Tribunal sat again on Saturday night to hear appeals by married men aged up to 41 under orders to enlist as a result of the Military Service Act that came into force last week. Tom Turner was allowed to stay home so long as he remained hairdresser at 13 Middlegate ... W C Halls & Co of Beacon Hill were told Charles Bird, 42 (!) of Grove Street, Balderton, must enlist on 1 August after military representative Nicholson refuted their claim that the adhesive he made went into shells ... Chemists J H Smith & Co of Bridge Street must send on 31 August Sam Kerry, the only man among 40 girls making sticky flypaper under contracts for the French and Italian Governments ... As in February, dental surgeon H W Mace of Appletongate could keep his mechanic, W E Brook, while they were treating soldiers ... Dentist Charles Nelson Park, 40, from Argyllshire, agreed to make himself available for service as a dentist in the Army or Navy as soon as he ceased looking after soldiers at 16 Castle-gate. He was also allowed to keep one assistant, R W Gudgeon, but not the other, Herbert Tetlow ... Newark Corporation said the Swimming Place will have to close if its superintendent, S W Taylor, had to go before 1 September. He had saved several from drowning, held the Royal Humane Society certificate and taught many children and soldiers. The military wanted him on 30 June with schoolteachers doing his job. He was told to go on 31 August. But the Corporation was allowed to keep J Emons, its engine driver at Farnsfield ... Dressing gown manufacturers Mumby's were allowed to keep their only remaining cutter, Joseph Woodforth, 38 ... Mrs Eleanor Boyd Quibell, 78, at Highfield argued that, as her only remaining gardener William Thomas Hall, 35, had been passed for garrison duty at home, he would be more value growing vegetables for her and several neighbours. The military representative said no appeals had been granted to servants. Hall was told to go on 31 June ... Grocer George William Hart, 51, of Stodman Street, who has had three men enlist, was given another month to replace his only assistant, John Henry Huffadine, 35, married with a young family at 4 Slaughterhouse Lane ... Ernest Lane, 37, was given permission to stay with J Mather & Co, erecting and repairing machinery ... So was John William Taylor, 34, married with two children, cutter and mechanic in Scales' corset factory ... Ernest W Brunning, 28, one of the sons employed by father-of-eight Charles Abraham Brunning, 62, in their horticultural seeds shop at 36 Kirkgate, was given until 30 June to enlist ... Walter Dolby, 39, of Grove Street, Balderton, said his wife Martha, 35, and six children were dependent on his boot repairing; he was deferred to 30 June and told to take a medical ... Friend & Co were allowed to keep George Bertie Friend, 35, of 78 Charles Street; several families depend on his piano tuning skills ... Painter and decorator Walter S Heading, 39, who usually employed 12 to 14 men, was allowed to stay running his Kirkgate business while he was the only worker of military age ... Fish fryer John Henry Lamb, 38, of 9 Depot Yard off Kirkgate, who claimed his wife Louisa, 37, could not keep the business going, was told to have a medical ... Alfred James Sheldrake, 39, of 43 Appletongate said his wife Edith, 41, was too delicate to carry on his business as picture framer and dealer in wall coverings; he was told to go on 31 July ... Thomas Herbert Smith, 40, of the King's Head, Chain Lane, was given a final date of 30 June to enlist though he said it would leave his wife Sarah and children in hardship.

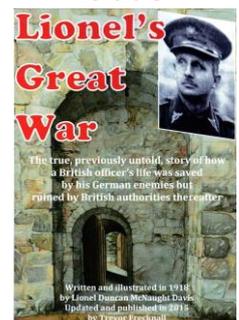
And so are townies aged 40+

OUT NOW:

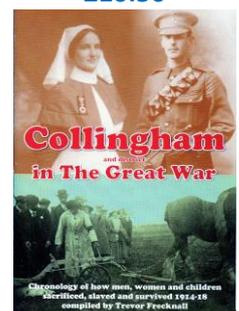


New book to commemorate the 75th anniversary of Ransome and Marles' bombing in World War II. £9.99 from WHSmith, Market Place, and Osborne Stationers, Kirkgate, Newark.

Great War books still available include...



£10.50



£9.99

from WH Smith, Newark Market Place

www.ournottinghamshire.org.uk for every Great War Bulletin