## Lost to Football in the First World War

'I knew nothing of professional footballers when I took over this Battalion. But I have learnt to value them. I would go anywhere with such men. Their esprit de corps was amazing. This feeling was mainly due to football - the link of fellowship which bound them together.

Football has a wonderful grip on these men and on the Army generally."

## **COLONEL H.T. FENWICK** Commanding Officer of the 17th (Service) Battalion, The Middlesex Regiment (1915-17)

The following list of footballers either killed or died of the effects of World War One, or whose subsequent death had a connection to their wartime service, has been compiled from a substantial number of primary sources including contemporary newspaper reports, official military service records and unit war diaries, the Soldiers Died in the Great War and Officers Died in the Great War databases published by the War Office in 1921 and 1919 respectively, and the official records of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. It includes players who made first-team appearances in both the English Football League and Southern League, and those who featured in the Scottish Football League. It is not restricted to players who played during the 1914/15 season; however, it does not include any player who featured solely in wartime competition.

George Allan, born at Mauchline, Ayrshire, in 1885, had two spells at Partick Thistle, making a total of sixty-one appearances, scoring seven goals. On 17 March 1916, the Dundee Courier reported, "Accidental death was the verdict returned at an inquest at Winchester yesterday on Second Lieutenant George Allan, a well-known Scottish footballer. Allan was one of a party receiving instruction in firing trench bombs from a spring gun. He apparently thought that the fuse had failed to ignite, and leaned over to make sure, when the bomb-carrier flew up, striking him in the face and causing shocking injuries, as a result of which he died in ten minutes. The instructing officer said that had a live bomb been used instead of a dummy bomb, probably ten or twelve of those receiving instruction would have been killed. The flight of the bomb was restricted by striking the deceased.

John Allan (1887 - 22 April 1917) Heart of Midlothian FC - 351268 Sergeant 9th Battalion Royal Scots. John Allan, a joiner by trade, enlisted with the 9th Royal Scots when war broke out. They were the "shock troops" of the army and the only battalion in the regiment to wear kilts. Born in Greenlaw, Berwickshire, in 1887, Allan was "a whole-hearted player" whose family moved to Edinburgh looking for work. He survived The Somme but was caught in crossfire while moving through a wood at Roeux, near Arras, in April 1917. The 30-year old's body was never found, and his name is on the memorial at Faubourg d'Amiens Cemetery. The Battle of Arras casualties were very high, and it soon became one of the major struggles of the war. During the battle a patrol of the 9th Royal Scots including John Allan were sent to reconnoitre a wood. They became caught in deadly crossfire, and he became another name on the Arras memorial to the missing. He was the last Heart of Midlothian player to be killed.





Thomas Charlesworth Allsopp (18 December 1880 – 7 March 1919). He was an English cricketer and footballer who played first-class cricket for Leicestershire County Cricket Club and Marylebone Cricket Club. His highest score of 32 came when playing for Leicestershire in the match against Hampshire. His best bowling of 6/85 came when playing for Leicestershire against London County. He also played twenty-seven Minor Counties Championship games for Norfolk. Allsopp played as an outside left in the Football League for Leicester Fosse and in the Southern League for Brighton & Hove Albion, Luton Town and Norwich City.

In May 1911, Allsopp took ownership of the Hero of Redan pub in Thorpe Road, Norwich. He served as a Sergeant in the Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey) and

the Labour Corps during the First World War. After returning home from the war, he fell victim to the 1918 flu pandemic and died in Norwich on 7 March 1919. He was buried with military honours in Earlham Road Cemetery, Norwich.

**William George Allwright** (1882 – 12/04/1918) Brentford FC – Bombardier Royal Field Artillery. He died at home following a short illness after contracting 'Spanish Flu.' He is buried in South Ealing Cemetery.

**Edward Ernest Anderson** (11/12/1915) Southend United FC - Sapper in the 56<sup>th</sup> Company Royal Engineers. He died of wounds. Son of Charles Anderson, of 263, North Rd., Prittlewell, Southend-on-Sea. Buried in Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery.

**Frederick Anderson** (1896 – 03/11/1917) West Ham United FC. Royal Field Artillery. Born in West Ham in 1896, living just off the Hermit Road, in Canning Town, near the site of where the Thames Ironworks once played. It's not known when or where he joined up but in 1917 he too was to be found in the Royal field artillery in A Battery 159th Brigade a Howitzer Division. Fighting around Ypres he was wounded and not long after on the 3/11/1917 he died of his Wounds and is buried with 299 of his comrades in Solferino Cemetery. Married for only two years on hearing the news of his death his widow collapsed and then lost the child she was carrying. An unlisted victim of the not so Great War. His widow re-married.



## Angus Douglas (01/01/1889 – 14/12/1918) Newcastle Unites FC, Chelsea FC.

He was a Scottish international footballer who played for Chelsea and Newcastle United. Douglas was a tricky winger playing mostly on the right. Douglas moved straight from local club side Lochmaben FC to Chelsea in 1907. He made nearly one hundred league appearances for the Londoners over the following six years under manager David Calderhead. Douglas also played in the 2–0 victory for Scotland over Ireland in 1911. Douglas moved to Newcastle United in 1913. He played on Tyneside for a further year and a half before joining up to serve in the First World War. After surviving the war, Douglas succumbed to the infamous 1918 flu pandemic. He died just before his 30th birthday.

## James Rae Armstrong (12/07/1887 - 10/10/1915) Private 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Queens Own Cameron Highlanders.

He played as a Forward for Kilmarnock and St. Mirren FC. Armstrong enlisted as a Private in the 5th Battalion of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders after the outbreak of the First World War in August 1914. He was killed in France on 10 October 1915 and buried in St. Sever Cemetery, Rouen.

**Thomas Asnip** (18/02/1883 - 24/7/1918) Lincoln City Outside Forward – Private in The North Stafford Rangers, Killed in Action. Remembered in Locre No. 10 Cemetery.

**Robert Atherton** (29/07/1876 – 19/10/1917 Heart of Midlothian FC, Hibernian FC, Middlesbrough FC, nine Welsh Caps, Chelsea FC served on Submarines and was torpedoed whilst aboard the SS Britannia in the English Channel. He was believed drowned. Although he was born in north Wales, Atherton grew up in Scotland. After spells with Dalry Primrose and Hearts. Atherton signed for Hibs at the start of the 1897–98 season. Atherton was a versatile player who could play in a number of positions in midfield and the forward line. He won his first cap for Wales in a 1899 British Home Championship match against Ireland, and

he also played against England that year.

Atherton captained the Hibs side that won the Cup, the last time Hibs have won that competition until 2016. Hibs' 1–0 win against Celtic in the Cup Final was thanks in part to Atherton deceiving the Celtic defence by shouting for them to "leave the ball" in a Glasgow accent. The Celtic defence duly complied, which allowed McGeachan to score the only goal of the game. He then captained the Hibs side that won the 1903 league championship, the first in the club's history. He also played in all of Wales matches in the 1903 British Home Championship. Atherton was transferred to Middlesbrough in 1903 and he became the first Middlesbrough player to win



international honours. He also scored his two international goals while with Middlesbrough. The first was in a 1–1 draw with Scotland at Dens Park, and the second was in a 2–2 draw against Ireland during his 9th and last international appearance. Atherton made sixty-six appearances for Middlesbrough and became club captain. He retired from playing football after a short spell with Chelsea and he subsequently moved back to Edinburgh, becoming a steward in the Merchant Navy. Atherton was presumed dead in October 1917 after his ship, the SS Britannia, disappeared without trace in the North Sea, either due to a mine or enemy action. He is commemorated on the Tower Hill Memorial.

Goalkeepers were permitted to handle the ball anywhere in their own half, and Hibs had a remarkable character in Harry Rennie who kept goal on the halfway line. In defence, full backs Archie 'Baldy' Gray and Bob Glen supported a formidable half back line of Bernard Breslin, Jimmy Harrower, and Alex Robertson. The five-man forward line included Johnny McCall, Andy McGeachan, John Divers, Bobby Atherton, and Paddy Callaghan. Paddy Callaghan's career started in 1898 when he sacrificed a junior cap to sign for Hibs from Jordanhill, and he then remained with the club for 17 years. Bobby Atherton was the first Hibs player to be capped for a country other than Scotland.

Hibs were desperate to bring the Scottish Cup back to the capital and started the 1901/2 campaign with a 2-0 home victory over Clyde then Port Glasgow Athletic 5-1. At Hampden Park, a 7-1 victory over Queens Park set up a semi-final against Rangers. In those days, semi-finals were not played at neutral venues, so Hibs had to travel to Ibrox, but the 2-0 win came at a cost with right winger Willie McCartney suffering a broken leg. The final was scheduled for Ibrox, but a few weeks before the game, the back of the newly built West Tribune Stand collapsed due to heavy rainfall the previous night, during a Scotland v England Home International. Twenty-five people died and over five hundred were injured, but the game was allowed to continue to avoid fans exiting en-masse crowding the area of the rescue workers.

Instead, Hibs sportingly agreed that the game could be played at Parkhead, the home Celtic. In the lead up to the game, the players were confined to the ground during the evenings to prevent them taking advantage of the local hostelries, and reportedly plied with mugs of hot chocolate and doorstep sized sandwiches. Gale force winds in the west of Scotland limited the crowd to around 15,000, and those who stayed away missed little during a dull first half, which suited the Hibs players as they were playing into the strong wind. In the second half, the winds were so strong that clearances from the Celtic defenders were often blown back into the penalty box or for corners, so there seemed little chance that the Glasgow team would be able to progress sufficiently to worry Rennie, but that's exactly what they did. Livingstone broke away and his shot beat the Hibs keeper but rebounded off the crossbar, to the feet of Celtic forward William McCafferty who made a mess of the opportunity. Hibs dominated possession and a goal seemed to be only a matter of time. Bobby Atherton looked as if he had scored it with a splendid effort, and even danced a jig, but to his dismay and that of the Hibs fans in the ground, the 'goal' was disallowed. The referee's decision only postponed the inevitable and a few minutes later, Paddy Callaghan took a corner which rolled along the ground. Bobby Atherton standing at the near post allowed the ball to run through to Andy McGeachan who wheeled and struck into the net from close range. The Hibs team that day was Rennie, Gray, Glen, Breslin, Harrower, Robertson, McCall, McGeachan, Divers, Callaghan, and Atherton.

John Atkinson, born at Cambuslang on 5 December 1884, was an outside-left who made four appearances for Queen's Park in season 1904/05, but it was with Hamilton Academical that he spent most of his career. In ninety-seven league matches, Atkinson scored twenty-seven goals. He made one appearance for Celtic on 22 April 1909 and scored two goals as Celtic thrashed Morton 5-1. It was a kind gesture by Accies to Ioan him to Celtic, as the usual Celtic outside-left, David Hamilton, had been injured in the match between the two sides the previous day. Celtic had a fixture backlog and played eight times in 11 days! Partick Thistle took him for a month or so in March 1910, and thereafter he qualified as a Doctor and practiced in County Durham until the outbreak of war. He then travelled abroad, working in Madagascar. Tragically on 26 November 1914, at the age of 30, he drowned in an accident off the west coast of Africa.

**Harold Godfrey Bache** (16/02/1916) Lancashire Fusiliers - Captain Harold Bache was killed leading his men at the first Battle of Ypres in 1915. He was serving with the 10th Lancashire Fusiliers. He had been a schoolteacher before volunteering in 1914. He excelled not only at football, but at cricket, lawn tennis and hockey. He played football for West Bromwich Albion and the England amateur international team. One paper wrote that "He was very popular with the West Bromwich Albion and their supporters, who will mourn their loss."

In October 1914, H.G. Bache enlisted in the Lincolnshire Regiment with a "Pals" battalion formed by his brother Councillor C.S. Bache, who was then Mayor of West Bromwich. After some months he secured a commission, and was attached to the 10th Lancashire Fusiliers, with whom he had been in France a few months. He was about twenty-five years of age. An all-round athlete, H.G. Bache could hold his own in the best company at cricket, lawn tennis, and hockey, but it was as an Association footballer that he excelled. A clever centre forward, and usually a deadly shot, he gained his "blue" at Cambridge, was a valuable member of the Corinthians F.C., and gained international honours. A couple of seasons ago he assisted West Bromwich Albion, and when he was in the side the "Throstles" were generally successful. At King Edward's School, Birmingham, "H.G." was a great athlete.

He played in both the "Soccer" and "Rugger" teams, captaining the Rugby second fifteen when they went through a season without meeting with defeat. In other



branches of sport, he was to the fore, and when he left the school to proceed to Cambridge he took with him seven cups and many medals as mementos of his achievements. In his first year at Cambridge he received his "Blue," playing centre forward. Always popular, he became captain of the Cantabs, and in one season scored forty-two of the eighty-five goals they obtained. He played for England in Amateur International matches against Wales, Bohemia, Spain and France, while as a member of the Corinthians he toured in Canada and on the Continent. At Cambridge he had a big reputation as a lawn tennis player. He won the championship of his 'Varsity and helped to beat Oxford. At cricket he also did well. He retired after scoring 137 in the Freshmen's match in 1909, and in the following season played a not-out innings of 102 in the Seniors match, but he was not considered good enough for a cricket "blue." On several occasions he assisted Worcestershire in county matches, and he also helped West Bromwich Dartmouth in some of their Birmingham League engagements. As a member of the West



Bromwich Hockey Club he ranked among the finest forwards in the Midlands, and he played for Staffordshire in several county games. All Midland sportsmen will regret to hear this sad news concerning a popular member of a family which has been associated with West Bromwich for a long period. February 15, 1916 - News has been received at West Bromwich that Lieutenant H.G. Bache (Harold Godfrey Bache), the well-known amateur footballer, was killed last Tuesday at Ypres.

**George Huntly Badenoch**, born at Castle Douglas on 8 April 1882, started out at Douglas Wanderers but was soon a signed player for Hearts in 1901, although he did not feature in the first team. Glossop in Derbyshire was his next stop, whom he joined in October 1901. In two seasons he accumulated twenty-eight appearances, scoring four goals. A spell at Watford was followed by a season with Tottenham Hotspur in the Southern League where he managed only one appearance. Herbert Chapman signed Badenoch for Northampton Town in May 1907, and it was a relatively successful move as they won the Southern League. In total Badenoch played forty-seven matches for Northampton Town, scoring a solitary goal. His football career came to an end afterwards with a knee injury. George Badenoch and his wife left for Canada in January 1910 and did not return until just before the outbreak of World War One. Having joined up with a Canadian Regiment, Badenoch was killed in action on 15 June 1915 at Givenchy.



William James Baker MM (1882 - 22/10/1916) Plymouth Argyle FC. He was an English professional football wing half who played 202 games in the Southern League and FA Cup for Plymouth Argyle between 1909 and 1915. He also played in Baker was married. He served in the Football Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment during the First World War and rose to the rank of sergeant. He was wounded in action at Vimy Ridge in June 1916 and received the Military Medal. On 22 October 1916, Baker was killed by German artillery fire near Serre-lès-Puisieux during the Battle of the Somme and is commemorated at Sucrerie Military Cemetery at Colincamps.

**Harold Walley Bamford** (1886 – 02/11/1915) Southampton FC – Private in the Shropshire Light Infantry. It has not been possible to ascertain why Harold enlisted in a Shropshire battalion for WW1 having been living in Southampton in 1911. The 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion were based at Tipperary in August 1914, as part of the 16<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the 6<sup>th</sup> Division. They mobilised for war a month later and landed at St. Nazaire, France on 10<sup>th</sup> September. Harold is thought to have been badly wounded during skirmishes around the Ypres salient in November 1915.

The area around Etaples was the scene of an immense concentration of Commonwealth reinforcement camps and hospitals. It was remote from attack and accessible by rail from both north and south and this is probably how Harold found his way to one of the hospitals in the area. Harold unfortunately succumbed to his wounds, dying of Septicaemia, and was buried at Etaples Military Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France, (Plot 1, Row A, Grave 15). Harold is one of 10770 Commonwealth soldiers interred in this military Cemetery. His headstone reads: *"Until the morning dawns and the shadows flee away."* He was awarded the 1914-15 Star, Victory and British War Medals. A former Saints player - Harold arrived at The Dell via Hampshire County Football. He spent three seasons with the Saints, mostly in the Reserves, understudying Robertson, and Trueman at half-back. He made seven appearances for Southampton FC between 1908 and 1911 when they played in the Southern League and helped Southampton Reserves win the Hampshire Senior Cup in 1910. Reverting to amateur status in 1912, he joined Glossop of the Football League's Second Division.

John Barbour (01 September 1890 - 15/07/1916) Queens Park FC, Dundee FC, Preston North End FC – Highland Light Infantry. He was a Scottish professional football inside right.

Barbour attended Hutchesons' Grammar School and later worked in the audit office for a railway company, in addition to serving as a territorial.

Barbour served as a lance corporal in the Highland Light Infantry during the First World War and was killed at High Wood during the Battle of the Somme on 15 July 1916. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.



Preston North End FC 1914/1915

**Edwin Bardsley** (1883 - 18/11/1916) Glossop FC, Stockport County FC – Manchester Regiment. He was an English professional football outside left who appeared in the Football League for Stockport County and Glossop. His career was ended due to a broken leg suffered in a collision with William Foulke. Bardsley fought as a Private in the Manchester Regiment during the First World War and was killed during the Battle of the Somme on 18<sup>th</sup> November 1916. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.

**Alexander Barrie** (18/08/1878 - 01/10/1918) Sunderland FC, Glasgow Rangers FC, Kilmarnock FC, Abercorn FC – Highland Light Infantry. Sometimes known as **Alec Barrie**, was a Scottish professional football centre half who played for Kilmarnock, Rangers and St Bernard's in the Scottish League. He also played in the Football League for Sunderland. Barrie served as a Corporal in the Highland Light Infantry during the First World War and was killed in France on 1 October 1918, just over five weeks before the armistice. He was buried in Flesquières Hill British Cemetery.

Wilfred Henry Charles Bartrop (22/11/1887 - (07/11/1918) Barnsley FC, Liverpool FC – Gunner in the Royal Field Artillery. Born in Worksop, Nottinghamshire, he was a professional footballer, who played as a Forward for several English sides prior to the First World War. He was killed in action, days before the end of the war. He started his career at home side Worksop before transferring to Barnsley on 21 June 1909. He played in both FA Cup finals that Barnsley reached in 1910 and 1912. In the 1910 FA Cup, Bartrop scored a 'wonder goal' in a 1–0 quarter-final win over Queen's Park Rangers. In the final, Barnsley lost the replay 2–0 to Newcastle, after a 1–1 draw in the first tie. The 1912 cup final went again to a replay but Barnsley won, defeating West Bromwich Albion 1–0 in extra time, after a 0–0 draw in the first encounter. Many newspapers, including the Manchester Guardian, praised his play in the replay. At the end of the 1913–14 season he transferred to Liverpool who he played a total of three games for before his career was interrupted by the war.

**Spencer Thomas Bassett** (04/09/1885 - 11/04/1917) Arsenal FC, Exeter City FC, Swansea Town FC, Southend United FC – Royal Garrison Artillery. He was an English professional football who played as a right half in the Southern League for Exeter City, Swansea Town and Southend United. He made one appearance in the Football League for Woolwich Arsenal. Bassett served as a bombardier in the Royal Garrison Artillery during the First World War and was mortally wounded at Bullecourt during the Battle of Arras on 11 April 1917. He was buried in Pozières British Cemetery, Ovillers-la-Boisselle. As a boy, Bassett played for the Earl Street School, which was situated close to the ground of Woolwich Arsenal. On leaving school he joined North Kent United who competed in the East London Thursday and East





Wickham League. Bassett then played for Eltham United in the West Kent League and helped them win the Kent Senior Cup and the Thames and Medway League. He was signed on professional forms by Maidstone at the age of eighteen, playing at centre-half for one season. Joining two of his teammates who made the same move, Bassett realised one of his ambitions by signing for Woolwich Arsenal. For the four seasons prior to linking up with Exeter City, Bassett played regularly in the Gunners reserve team at Plumstead and made just one Football League appearance for them. Signing for Exeter City in the summer of 1910, he quickly settled into the Grecians team after making his debut against Brentford in the Southern League at St James' Park. He became an ever present in

the City side during 1911-12. Bassett joined Swansea Town for the 1913-14 season, but his career came to halt due to the First World War.

Jasper Matthews Batey (1891 - 23/10/1916) Brighton & Hove Albion FC – Army Cyclist Corps. Born in South Shields, Co. Durham, who played left-half for Brighton & Hove Albion FC during the 1914-1915 football season, photographed by Ebenezer Pannell around 1914. Nicknamed "Ginger" Batey, after Batey's Ginger Beer, a popular soft drink, Jasper Batey enlisted originally in the 17th Service Battalion ('Footballers' Battalion') of the Middlesex Regiment. Private Jasper Batey later joined the Army Cyclist Corps. Private J. M. Batey of the Army Cyclist Corps was killed in action on 23rd October 1916 at the age of twenty-five. Private J. M. Batey is buried in the Cambrai Military Cemetery. The Brighton & Hove Albion Football



Team for the 1914-1915 Season pose for a team photograph taken by Ebenezer Pannell. Five of the players pictured in this team photograph were to lose their lives during the First World War. The five players who made the ultimate sacrifice (marked by a blue dot) were Charlie Matthews (inset, left), Bob Whiting (in the centre of the back row wearing the goalkeeper's jersey), Jasper "Ginger" Batey (standing in the middle if the third row next to Mr J. Robson, who wears a collar & tie), Ernie Townsend (the last player in the third row, standing next the assistant trainer, M. F. Coles) and Charlie Dexter (the player seated second left in the 2nd row of the team photograph).

**George Bathe** (20/02/1915) Swindon Town FC – Private in the Duke of Edinburgh's own Wiltshire Regiment. Killed in Action and Buried in Kemmel Military Cemetery.

**Arthur Beadsworth** (1876 - 09/11/1917) – Leicester Fosse, Manchester United FC, Preston North End FCF, Swindon Town FC. – Leicester Regiment.

He was an English professional football forward who played in the Football League for Burton United FC,

Manchester United and Leicester Fosse. Beadsworth briefly served in the Leicestershire Regiment and the King's Royal Rifle Corps of the British Army in the early 1890s, before being discharged for being underage. He married in 1897, had four children and later worked as a shoe hand in Hinckley after his retirement from professional football in 1906. After the outbreak of the First World War in August 1914, Beadsworth re-enlisted in the Leicestershire Regiment. His battalion was deployed to the Western Front in July 1915 and by March 1916 he had risen to the rank of sergeant. Beadsworth was gassed during the Third Battle of Ypres and died in Wimereux, France on 9 October 1917. He was buried in Wimereux Communal Cemetery.

**Edward Inkerman Jordan Bell MC** (1886 - 24/03/1918) Crystal Palace FC, Portsmouth FC, Southampton FC – Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex Regiment). He was a British professional footballer who played for Southampton in the early 20th century. He later was a soldier who was twice awarded for gallantry in the First World War but died in the Battle of the Somme in March 1918.

# Donald Simpson Bell VC (03/12/1890 - 10/07/1916) Bradford Park Avenue FC, Newcastle United FC – Yorkshire Regiment (Green Howards).

Bell was born on 3 December 1890 to Smith and Annie Bell, who resided in Queen's Rd, Harrogate. He attended St Peter's Church of England Primary School and Harrogate Grammar School before going to Westminster College. A noted sportsman at college while studying he played as an amateur with Crystal Palace and later for Newcastle United. He returned to Harrogate and became a schoolteacher at Starbeck Council School (now Starbeck Primary School) and a member of the National Union of Teachers, and to supplement his salary in 1912 he signed professional forms with Bradford (Park Avenue). He was married to Rhoda Bell. He was awarded the Victoria Cross for actions during the Battle of the Somme in mid-1916. When World



War I broke out, he became the first professional footballer to enlist into the British Army – joining the West Yorkshire Regiment in 1915. He was rapidly promoted to Lance Corporal and then was commissioned into the 9th Battalion, Green Howards (Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own Yorkshire Regiment) in 1915. He was awarded the Victoria Cross for his actions on 5 July 1916 at Horseshoe Trench, Somme, France. He was killed in action on 10 July 1916.



#### **Donald Simpson Bell VC**

For most conspicuous bravery. During an attack a very heavy enfilade fire was opened on the attacking company by a hostile machine gun. 2nd Lt. Bell immediately, and on his own initiative, crept up a communication trench and then, followed by Corporal Colwill and Private Batey, rushed across the open under very heavy fire and attacked the machine gun, shooting the firer with his revolver, and destroying gun and personnel with bombs. This very brave act saved many lives and ensured the success of the attack. Five days later this very gallant officer lost his life performing a very similar act of bravery. He is buried at Gordon Dump Cemetery, near Albert. His Victoria Cross was formerly displayed at the Green Howards Museum in Richmond, Yorkshire. On 25<sup>th</sup> of November 2010 it was auctioned by London medal specialists, Spink. It was purchased for a reported £252,000 by the Professional Footballers' Association and will go on display at the National Football Museum in Manchester.

**Benjamin Albert Beney** (21/02/1887 – 20/04/1915) Woolwich Arsenal FC, Carlisle United FC, Bury FC – Royal Engineers. He was an English professional football forward who played in the Football League for Woolwich Arsenal and Bury. Beney served as a corporal in the Royal Engineers during the First World War and was killed in West Flanders on 20 April 1915. He is buried in Poperinghe Old Military Cemetery.

**Thomas Charles Benfield** (1889 - 19/09/1918) Derby County FC, Leicester Fosse – Leicestershire Regiment. He was an English professional football forward who played in the Football League for Leicester Fosse and Derby County. An outside right and inside forward, Benfield played for local Leicester clubs before joining Second Division Leicester Fosse in July 1910. Over the course of the following four seasons he made 111 appearances and scored twenty-three goals and was notable for scoring the first goal scored at Arsenal Stadium on 6<sup>th</sup> September 1913.

Benfield moved to local newly-relegated Second Division rivals Derby County in June 1914 and had an excellent 1914–15 season, scoring 15 goals (including a brace in a 6–0 away win over Leicester Fosse on 28 December 1914) and helping the Rams to immediate promotion back to the First Division. The suspension of competitive football at the end of the 1914–15 season brought Benfield's professional career to

an end, but he remained with the club and played his final match on 16 March 1918. Prior to becoming a professional footballer, Benfield served in the Leicestershire Regiment. As of 1914, he was living in Leicester with his wife Elsie. After the outbreak of the First World War in 1914, Benfield re-enlisted in the Leicestershire Regiment and was serving as a sergeant when he was shot by a sniper in the area of Équancourt and Heudicourt, Somme on 11 September 1918, during the Hundred Days Offensive. He died of his wounds on 19 September, just under two months before the Armistice and was buried in Varennes Military Cemetery. As of November 2012, Ben Swift, Benfield's great-grand-nephew, was an employee of Leicester City.

**Robert Benson** (19/02/1916) Arsenal FC – Royal Arsenal Ordnance Factory.

On 19 February 1916, Arsenal defender Bob Benson, who had been working 16-hour shifts in the Royal Arsenal Ordnance Factory since the start of the war, went to watch the London Combination game against Reading. He persuaded a team mate to allow him to play instead, despite his last Arsenal appearance being in April 1915. After an hour of the match he walked off the pitch and, on arriving in the changing room collapsed, dying of a burst blood vessel. He was buried in his Arsenal shirt at the age of 33 years.

**Bob Benson** 

**Herbert Lewis Bithell** (18/03/1918) Bolton Wanderers FC – Sergeant, 15<sup>th</sup> Service Battalion The Welsh Regiment. Died of wounds. Husband of Edna Bithell of 37 Longcauseway, Farnworth, Bolton. Buried in Merville Communal Cemetery Extension.

**Frank Booth** (1882 - 22/06/1919) Bury FC, Manchester City FC, Stockport County FC – Royal Garrison Artillery. Also known as 'Tabby', was an English footballer who played in the Football League for Stockport County, Manchester City and Bury. He played in the outside left position. He had two spells as a Manchester City player between 1902 and 1906 and in 1911. In total he made ninety-eight appearances for the team and scored



eighteen goals. He also won one cap for England. In 1902 he joined Manchester City, a team which included the prolific Scottish centre forward Billie Gillespie and Welsh outside right Billy Meredith.



He played nine games in his first season for the club and helped earn the team promotion into the first division. In the 1903–04 season Booth made thirty appearances and scored four goals. His first goal for the Manchester team came in a 4–1 victory against Wolverhampton Wanderers. Manchester City finished in second place that season, three points behind champions Sheffield Wednesday. The team also reached the final of the FA Cup where the defeated Bolton Wanderers 1–0 with a goal from Billy Meredith. In the 1904–05 football season Booth scored eight goals in thirty-five games for City and helped the team to third place in the league, two points behind champions Newcastle United. In the same season Booth won his only international cap for England in a 1–1 draw with Ireland. In the 1905–06 season he scored seven goals in twenty-nine appearances for City and the team finished fifth. At the end of the season the Football Association conducted an investigation into the finances of Manchester City and it was found that the team had made extra payments to all of their players. As

a consequence. Tom Maley was banned from football for life and seventeen players were fined and suspended until January 1907.

Manchester City were forced to sell their players and Frank Booth was sold to Bury in 1906. In two seasons at Bury Booth appeared fifty-eight times and scored four goals. He then played for Clyde in the Scottish League. In the 1911–12 football season Booth returned to Manchester City and made four appearances before retiring. Booth was married with two children. In December 1915, over a year after the outbreak of the First World War, Booth attested under the Derby Scheme. He was called into the Royal Garrison Artillery in April 1917 and after service in Britain, he was posted to France in March 1918. After the armistice, Booth returned to Britain in February 1919, but died of an inoperable heart tumour at Manchester Royal Infirmary on 22 June 1919. He was buried in a military grave in Denton Cemetery.

**William Barr Borland** (21 August 1888 - 25/09/1915) Fulham FC – Cameron Highlanders. He was a Scottish professional football centre half who played in the Football League for Fulham. Borland served in the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders during the First World War and was killed on the opening day of the Battle of Loos in 1915. He is commemorated on the Loos Memorial.

William J. Bowker (1890 – 23/03/1918) Aston Villa FC Gunner 95954 'L' Anti-Aircraft Battery Royal Garrison Artillery. Killed in action and buried at Duisan British Cemetery. Son of Agnes Bowker, of eighty-eight, Blake Lane, Bordesley Green, Birmingham.

**James Boyd** (03/08/1916) Heart of Midlothian FC – Royal Scots. Inside-forward **Jimmy Boyd** was just twenty-one when he died – but might never have been on the Somme in the first place. Jimmy, born in Seafield, West Lothian in 1895, had been a shale miner and a printer. His brother Archie was a Hearts keeper and when the players volunteered enmasse, the family had a difficult decision to make: Which brother should go to war? Jimmy decided for them, saying he would go because Archie was about to be married and could provide better for the family. The family accepted his brave choice with heavy hearts. August 3, 1916, was "a quiet day" but Lance Corporal Boyd was badly wounded, hit in the side by a piece of shell casing, and was carried off by stretcher bearers. The three men



never made it to the dressing station, killed by artillery fire. Boyd was buried near Bazentin, but his grave was later lost.

**James Brannick** (1889 – 10 August 1917) – Everton FC, St. Mirren FC – Private 11<sup>th</sup> Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers. Brannick served during the First World War and was killed in West Flanders on 10 August 1917. He is commemorated on the Menin Gate. He was born in Manchester in 1889. In the 1901 census he was living in Keats Street in Leigh and was at school. When the 1911 census was taken the family had moved to Collyhurst and 22-year-old James was working as a dyer's finisher in a bleaching and Dying works.

James was signed by Everton from amateur club Atherton in November 1912 having made a favourable impression on Everton's directors. The fee was £75 with £25 to follow if he was retained, and his terms were 50 shillings a week with a £2 bonus. He made his debut on Boxing Day 1912 at inside forward against Blackburn Rovers at Ewood Park, scoring the opening goal in the 46 minute. He repeated the feat in his next appearance against Notts County at Meadow Lane on 4<sup>th</sup>January 1913 scoring the only goal in the 20<sup>th</sup> minute. He



made his third and final appearance in a 1-0 home defeat to Sheffield Wednesday on 12<sup>th</sup> March 1914, although he continued to appear for the reserves the following season as they won the Central League title.

One of his teammates in the reserves was Scottish left half James Roy, killed at Arras on 23rd April 1917. After a season and a half he was sold to St Mirren in Scotland with the deal reported in the Liverpool Echo on 1st May 1914. James Brannick enlisted at Cheetham in Manchester and was probably called up in May 1916 as a conscript. His elder brother Richard Brannick had been killed in October 1915 and is buried in Ploegsteert Wood. He was killed on the 10th of August 1917 in the attack on the hamlet of Westhoek during the third battle of Ypres. The capture of Westhoek by the 11th LF along with the 2nd Royal Irish Rifles was the sole success of the attacks astride the Menin Road that day. James' body was lost, and he is remembered on the Menin Gate.

**James Francis Brennan** (10 September 1884 - 06/09/1917) – Brighton & Hove Albion FC, Bury FC – Lancashire Fusiliers. He was an Irish professional football inside right who made one appearance in the Football league for Bury. He also played in the Southern League for Brighton & Hove Albion. Brennan attended Prior Park College in Bath. He served in the King's Regiment (Liverpool) and the Lancashire Fusiliers during the First World War and was holding the rank of corporal when he was killed in action in West Flanders, Belgium on 6 September 1917. Brennan is commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial to the Missing.

**William Arthur Brewer** (1893 - 13/11/1914) Swindon Town FC – Private 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Duke of Edinburgh's Wiltshire Regiment. Killed in Action and Remembered with Honour on the Menin Gate Ypres (Panel 55).

Alfred Briggs, (1888 – 1950) Heart of Midlothian FC – Royal Scots. Fullback Alfie Briggs should have died on the first day of the Somme. Born in Glasgow in 1888 and a riveter by trade, he had joined Hearts in 1913, locked in a dressing room by manager John McCartney until he agreed to sign. Briggs, according to historian Jack Alexander, was "the bravest man in the team who could tackle like a train." As the McCrae's men went forward at La Boisselle he was hit by four machine gun bullets; one in his leg, another in his left foot and through his arm, another in his right ankle, coming out above the knee and another winging his forehead, knocking him out. Corporal Briggs was found next day in a shell-hole and taken to a



dressing station and put in a tent reserved for those who were expected to die. But he did not die, falling asleep for several hours before an orderly clearing out the dead noticed he was breathing. He recovered but would never play football again. Briggs came back to Glasgow, where he would scout for Partick Thistle and occasionally suffer from "black days," especially around 1st July. When he died in 1950 he still had two German bullets in his back.

**George Harold Brooks** (1887 - 08/11/1918) Bury FC, Derby County FC, Manchester City FC – Yorks and Lancaster Regiment. He was an English professional football half back and centre forward who played in the Football League for Derby County, Manchester City and Bury FC. Brooks served as a lance corporal in the York and Lancaster Regiment during the First World War and died of wounds at 5th Casualty Clearing Station in Bihécourt, Picardy, France on 8 November 1918, three days before the armistice. He was buried in Maubeuge (Sous-le-Bois) Cemetery.

**Jonathan Brown** (1893 - 06/11/1916) Burnley FC – Private 34944 East Lancashire Regiment. He was an English professional football left half who made one appearance in the Football league for Burnley in 1914.

He was born in Clayton le Moors in 1889 and joined Burnley from Great Harwood in December 1913. He was a half back, essentially a reserve, and played just one senior game for Burnley, replacing the injured Billy Watson at left half in a 2-1 win against Aston Villa at Turf Moor in February 1915. He was a regular in the Burnley reserve side that finished fourth in the Central League in 1914-15 and was also in the Clarets' reserve side that overcame Blackburn Rovers reserves 2-0 in the final of the East Lancashire Charity Cup in April 1915 at Turf Moor.

Brown served as a private in the East Lancashire Regiment during the First World War and was killed in France on 6 November 1918, just five days before the Armistice. He was buried in Maubeuge-Centre Cemetery. The Burnley cup winning team continued on to Budapest, where they also played the Scottish Cup winners Glasgow Celtic, and then to Vienna. But that football match in Berlin against FC Viktoria is probably one of the last times English and German footballers faced each other on the pitch before the outbreak of war and not another ball was kicked between them until the Christmas Truce of 1914.



#### The Burnley FC Cup winning team touring Berlin

When war broke out, many members of the Burnley team enlisted and several members of that 1914 squad lost their lives. They were:

Private Alfred Lorimer - Royal Army Medical Corps – Died 1st Feb 1915, aged 23 Private John T Heaton - 1st Bn Coldstream Guards – Died 16th Aug 1915, aged 21 Private William Pickering - 72nd Seaforth Highlanders, Died 9th Nov 1917, aged 23 Lance Corporal William Johnson - King's Own Liverpool Regiment, Died 20th Nov 1917, aged 27 Private Jonathan Brown - 1st East Lancashire Regiment, Died 6th Nov 1918, aged 29 Sergeant Edward (Teddy) Hodgson - 52nd Manchester Regiment, Died 4th August 1919 (from ini

Sergeant Edward (Teddy) Hodgson - 52nd Manchester Regiment, Died 4th August 1919 (from injuries received), aged 33.

James Bryce, born at Glasgow, joined Queen's Park in August 1907. He had four seasons at Hampden making twenty-one appearances for the first team. His name is on the Hampden Park Memorial which was unveiled in 1922. He died on 21 July 1915 and is commemorated on the Helles Memorial.

**Joseph Bulcock** (1879 - 20/04/1918) Bury FC, Crystal Palace FC, Exeter City FC, Swansea Town FC – Welsh Regiment. He was an English professional football right back, best remembered for his five years in the Southern League with Crystal Palace, for whom he made over 140 appearances. Earlier in his career, he played in the Football League for Bury. He represented the Southern League XI and the Football Association.

Bulcock was the youngest of three brothers. He served as a private in the Welch Regiment during the First World War and died of wounds to the head at 36th Casualty Clearing Station in Watten, France on 20 April 1918. He was buried in Haringhe (Bandaghem) Military Cemetery, Belgium.



Joseph Bulcock



**Edward Bullen** (1884 - 11/08/1917) Bury FC – Gunner Royal Field Artillery. He was an English professional football left half who made over 180 Football League appearances for Bury. While Bullen was a Bury player, he ran a pub in his hometown of Warrington.

He served as a Gunner in the Royal Field Artillery during the First World War and was killed at Vaulx-Vraucourt, France on 11 August 1917. He was buried nearby in Vraucourt Copse Cemetery.

There is a memorial to Teddy Bullen which today

hangs in the Boardroom at Gigg Lane. It reads:-"A playing member of this club who fell in action at Vaulx on the 11th day of August 1917. Loyal to this Club, loyal to his Country. He died playing the greater game"



**Edmund Burton** (1893 - 13/08/1916) Bristol City FC – Durham Light Infantry. Burton served as a private in the Durham Light Infantry during the First World War and was killed on the Somme on 13th August 1916. He was buried in Englebelmer Communal Cemetery.

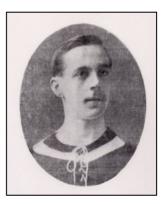
Albert Victor Butler (1888 - 13/05/1916) Reading FC, Queens Park Rangers FC = Corporal, Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment. "On the evening of 30 April, the 17th Middlesex moved back into the front line. Over the next few days six men were wounded, including Cpl. Alf Gregson of Grimsby Town and Cpl. Ben Butler of Queen's Park Rangers. Ten days later Corporal Butler died of his wounds. Rev. Samuel Green, a chaplain of Casualty Clearing Station No.22, recorded his impressions of the rugged centre-half: A great, big chap lies in this bed – a guard bulges up the blankets over his leg. 'Well, Corporal, how are you now ?' – 'Bad. This leg is done in. No more football

WILL the drient and efficies w al Signature Clb A. V. Butter

for me. I'm a 'pro' and play for.....' I look at the papers and see his thigh is shattered – always dangerous, these wounds. However, the danger is not immediate, and I shall have many more half-hours at this bedside. He fights for dear life for ten days, and then goes out. He has played the game. I doubt not that he has won. A fine fellow – may he rest in peace".

**Thomas Cairns** (1896 - 13/10/1017) Newcastle United FC – Royal Field Artillery. Cairns enlisted as a gunner in the Royal Field Artillery in 1915, during the First World War. Serving in 'Z' 61st Trench Mortar Battery, he saw action at Fromelles and at the Third Battle Of Ypres. Cairns was killed east of Arrason 13 October 1917, during the build-up to the offensive on Cambrai. He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Arras Memorial.

**Thomas Callaghan** (1888-20/02/1917) was born in Halesowen, Birmingham in 1888 and died on 20 February 1917 in Belgium. A pacey winger with a fine cross, Callaghan made almost two hundred senior appearances during a career that began as a teenage debutant with Glossop and ended following spells at Manchester City, Partick Thistle and St Mirren. After calling time on his professional career in the years leading up to the First World War. Callaghan joined the British Army and was later killed in action near the Belgian town of Ypres in 1917. Thomas Callaghan began his fledgling career at Small Heath, soon to become Birmingham Football Club, but left in 1904 with no senior appearances to his name. A brief spell at Birmingham Combination side Halesowen Town followed, before Callaghan journeyed to the Peak District in April 1905 to sign for second division Glossop. Immediately thrust into the first-team at the struggling club, a teenage Callaghan made his debut in a 3-1 home triumph over Gainsborough Trinity on



15 April and would go on to make a further three appearances as Glossop finished the 1904/05 season in twelfth place. The 1905/06 campaign saw Callaghan firmly establish himself as a first-team regular and he eventually featured in thirty-two games in all competitions, scoring four times. The following season was to also prove a productive one for Callaghan as he turned out forty times for Glossop, this time scoring five goals. The highly-rated winger left North Road in the summer of 1907 to sign for Manchester City, however, opportunities proved difficult to come by and Callaghan would have to wait until February 1908 for his first senior opportunity – at 1-0 defeat at Notts County. Despite impressing in City's second string, Callaghan would play just one more match for the club, a scoreless draw at Bury on 29 February 1908, and left Manchester soon after to join Scottish side, Partick Thistle. The move north of the border resurrected Callaghan's career and he would score three goals in 28 matches during his debut season at Firhill. The 1910/11 campaign would then prove to be the most successful of Callaghan's career as he stuck five times in twenty-nine appearances to help the Jags to fourth spot in the First

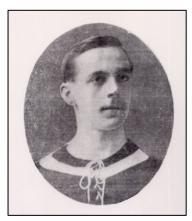
Division. Callaghan would then spend one season at St Mirren, scoring three times in eighteen games, before returning to Maryhill to play one final season for Thistle. In total, Callaghan made 180 senior appearances during his time playing professional football in England and Scotland, scoring twenty-one goals. His final game came on 29th March 1913 when Partick Thistle fell to a 2-1 reverse to Hibernian at Firhill. Callaghan enlisted in the British Army during the First World War and is reported to have served in the Somerset Light Infantry (Service No. 23296) by the official War Office record, Soldiers Died in the Great War. By early 1917, however, Private 633491 Callaghan was serving with the 1/20th London Regiment (Blackheath and Woolwich), a territorial unit that had been on the Western Front since March 1915. As part of 141st Brigade, 47th (2nd London) Division, the battalion had been involved in heavy fighting during the Battle of Aubers Ridge, the Battle of Festubert and the Battle of Loos in 1915, before seeing action in the German assault at Vimy Ridge in early 1916. They then fought on the Somme where they captured High Wood during subsidiary battles of Flers-Courcelette, and Eaucourt l'Abbaye during the fighting for the Transloy Ridges. In October 1916, the 20th London's moved north to the Hill 60 sector of the Ypres Salient with its division.

On 20 February 1917 a large-scale trench raid was launched at Hill 60 by 1/6th London's, part of 140th Brigade, during which record numbers of prisoners were taken and considerable intelligence gained. It was a significant achievement for the battalion and one which was supported by the rest of 47th Division, including 20th London's.

**The entry in the battalion war diary for that day records**: Enemy inactive during the day. 1/6th Bn, The London Regiment, raided the enemy lines on left on a front of 500 yards. We co-operated with a smoke barrage from the Craters and also by sending up coloured lights from the Craters. This succeeded in drawing the enemy's fire. Recall signals were sent up from Battalion H.Q. from 6pm until 6.30pm. All was quiet at 7.30pm. The raid was very successful. One officer and 114 Other Rank's were taken prisoner. Two mine shafts and numerous dugouts destroyed and fair intelligence captured. The casualties of this battalion were very light – six killed and one wounded. Among the casualties was Private Callaghan, who was killed by German shell fire. Following his death, a Sergeant in Callaghan's unit wrote to the footballer's brother to explain how he had lost his life. On 12th March 1917, the Evening Dispatch published an extract of the letter which read: He [Callaghan] was in charge of a gun at the time, and while sticking to it like grim death, a shell fell on top of him and another man, killing them both... I can't say enough for him. I only wish I was as fine a man. Thomas Callaghan is buried at Chester Farm Cemetery, which located 5 kilometres south of Ypres town centre on the Vaartstraat. The cemetery contains 413 identified and seven unidentified casualties. It also has special memorials commemorating six casualties known or believed to be buried among them.

**Reginald Henry Callender** (1892 - 05/10/1915) Derby County FC – Durham Light Infantry. He was an English amateur football outside left who played in the Football League for Derby County and Glossop. He represented the England amateur national team. Callender attended St John's College and was a Cambridge Blue. He served as a Second Lieutenant in the Durham Light Infantry during the First World War and died from wounds suffered from an accident with a grenade in France on 5 October 1915. He was buried in Cite Bonjean Military Cemetery, Armentières.

**Archibald Campbell** (1880 - 14/09/1918) Albion Rovers FC, Ayr United FC, Clyde FC – Royal Field Artillery. He was a Scottish professional football outside left who played in the Scottish Football League for Ayr United, Ayr, Abercorn and Clyde. Campbell served as a driver in the Royal Field Artillery during the First World War and died of wounds in northern France on 14 September 1918. He was buried in La Kreule Military Cemetery, Hazebrouck.



**Frank Cannon** (15/02/1916) Queens Park Rangers FC, West Ham United FC – Company Sergeant Major 11<sup>th</sup> Battalion Essex Regiment. In April 1908, playing centre forward, he scored three goals against West Ham; that must have impressed them because by 1909 he had been persuaded to transfer to them, where oddly he was known as *'Fred'*. It was about this time that he married a young woman called Violet Maud, who was born in Potters Bar, and they moved into 87 Walsworth Road, Hitchin. He debuted for West Ham against New Brompton on January 1st 1910 and in his next game, against Norwich, he scored. That was to be his only goal and after only four appearances, all in January, he left the club. Their daughter Margaret Grace was born later in 1910 and he must have continued playing, because in the 1911 census, when he was boarding with his wife and daughter in the home of George and Annie Eve, 107 Gillingham Road, Gillingham, Kent, his occupation was given as *'Nurseryman's son working on nursery and professional* 

*footballer*'. In fact, he went on to play for Gillingham, then Colebridge - located in the Potteries - and for finally for Halifax in Yorkshire.

The 11<sup>th</sup> Essex was a service battalion – a battalion created specifically for the duration of the war. It was formed at Warley in September 1914 as part of K3 – Kitchener's Third Army and was attached to 71<sup>st</sup> Brigade in the 24<sup>th</sup> Division. The following January (1915) they were moved to Shoreham and then to billets in Brighton. In March they returned to Shoreham and then in June moved again, this time to Blackdown Barracks, Deepcut, Camberley, Surrey. They were ordered to the Front in August and landed in Boulogne on August 30<sup>th</sup> 1915. Unfortunately, the Battalion's war diary, obtained from the National Archives, starts on January 1<sup>st</sup> 1916, so Frank's experience before that date is uncertain. However, in January the 11<sup>th</sup> Essex were in the Line at Potijze in Belgium, so it is likely that they went straight there and fought in the defence of Ypres (leper). Ypres is pronounced 'Eepra,' but was known as 'wipers' to the British Soldier.

Frank was killed in action on Tuesday February 15<sup>th</sup> 1916 and the war diary records the preceding days. The 11<sup>th</sup> Essex had been in the trenches around Potijze, with rest periods away from the trenches spent in Ypres. Whether this could be described as rest is arguable as although they were behind the front line the town was constantly shelled and while *'resting'* they still had to form working and carrying parties. Frank returned to the trenches for the last time on the 11<sup>th</sup>. The bombardment was heavy and there were seven casualties that day. The shelling continued on the 12<sup>th</sup> and they observed an aircraft flying low over the enemy trenches before a gas alarm was called and a heavy cloud drifted towards them. It seems that it was smoke and not gas, but not knowing that and fearing that it was hiding an enemy attack they had no choice but to bravely stand their ground and pour rapid fire into the smoke. There were six casualties that day, but the next day was quieter with only three.

The 14<sup>th</sup> was more eventful, more shelling, two mines were blown somewhere to their right and the trenches were subject to enfilading – fire from the flank, along the line of the trench - very dangerous. Casualties included three officers and eight other ranks. On the 15<sup>th</sup> the enfilading continued, their front line was hit by shrapnel shells and they suffered thirteen casualties. It was the shrapnel that wounded Frank. The diary makes a simple statement *'D Company had Serjeant Major Cannon wounded'* - it was fatal. He did not die in one of the recognised Battles of Ypres, of which there were three, but rather in the general and bloody defence of the salient to the east of Ypres. This prevented the Germans from taking Ypres and moving west to capture the British supply ports. By the end of the war 1,700,000 men from both sides had been wounded and killed in this area of Belgium.

**Robert Capperauld (14/07/1915)** Ayr United FC. – Private Royal Scots Fusiliers 1/5<sup>th</sup> Battalion. On Gallipoli the 1/4<sup>th</sup> Royal Scots are relieved at 17:15 and move to the reserve trenches at Brown 12/07/1915) House. There they are employed in clearing the communications trench to Regent Street. Private Robert Capperauld (Royal Scots Fusiliers) a reserve player for the Ayr United Football Club dies of wounds received in action on Gallipoli two days after two of his teammates have been killed on Gallipoli.

**Jabez Cartwright (04/08/1917)** Merthyr Town FC – Lincolnshire Regiment. Jabez Cartwright began his footballing career with Mapperley Town before joining Grantham Town in February 1912. He was a right-back who joined Bolton Wanderers for £110 in March 1913. He did not make a Football League appearance for his new club and joined Merthyr Town in January 1914. Cartwright made his debut in the Southern League fixture at Portsmouth. However, whilst a regular in the Southern League Charity Cup and South Wales Cup matches, Jabez found it difficult to break into the Southern League eleven. He was released at the end of the 1913-14 season and rejoined Grantham Town. Cartwright joined the 8th Battalion of the Lincolnshire Regiment and was killed in action on 4th October 1917. He is remembered at the Tyne Cot Memorial Cemetery.

**James Chalmers (03/12/1877 - 12/07/1915)** Norwich City FC, Notts County FC, Preston North End FC, Sunderland FC, Swindon Town FC, Tottenham Hotspur FC, Watford FC – Royal Scots Fusiliers. He was a Scottish professional football forward who played in the Football League for Sunderland, Notts County and Preston North End. He also played in the Southern League for Swindon Town, Watford, Tottenham Hotspur and Norwich City. Chalmers served as a private in the Royal Scots Fusiliers during the First World War and was killed in action at Gallipoli on 12 July 1915. He is commemorated on the Helles Memorial.

**Robert Main Christie** (15/11/1865 - 15/05/1918) Queens Park FC – Labour Corps. Sometimes known as **Bob Christie**, was a Scottish amateur football outside forward, most notably for Queen's Park. He later became president of the Scottish Football Association and represented Scotland at Curling. An outside forward and left half, Christie began his career with Dunblane and Edinburgh University and won the 1882–83 East of Scotland Shield with the latter club. He joined Queen's Park in September 1883 and in a short, but eventful career with the Spiders, he scored in the 1884 FA Cup Final (becoming the only Scot to score for a Scottish club in an FA Cup Final and until Norman Whiteside 100 years later, the



youngest goal scorer in an FA Cup Final) and won the 1885–86 Scottish Cup and two Glasgow Merchants Charity Cups. A serious knee injury forced Christie into an early retirement at age 21 and after a one-off comeback appearance in October 1888, he finished his Queen's Park career with twenty-eight appearances and fifteen goals. He made a short comeback with Dunblane and ended his career by helping the club to win the 1889–89 Perthshire Cup. Christie won one cap for Scotland, in a 1–0 defeat to England on 15 March 1884. At the age of 21, Christie was elected to represent Perthshire at the SFA and after his retirement from football, Christie remained with Dunblane as the club's secretary. He became president of the SFA in 1903. He also administered Dunblane's first golf club.

Christie was married with five children. His younger brother Alex would also become an international footballer and until 2014, his great grandson Ranald Gilbert was general manager of Ross County. Christie attended Edinburgh University and after his retirement from football, he became a civil engineer and architect in Dunblane.

Christie served as a captain in the Black Watch during the Second Boer War and enlisted in the Highland Light Infantry after the outbreak of the First World War in 1914. He was later attached to the Royal Scots Fusiliers and saw action on the Western Front and in Salonika. Christie was seconded to the Labour Corps and was an acting lieutenant colonel when his company was shelled with mustard gas while cable-laying near Foncquevillers, France on 11 May 1918. He lived on for four days before dying in a Red Cross hospital in Rouen. Christie was buried in Rouen's St. Sever Cemetery.

**Edwin Cecil Russell Christmas** (13/01/1886 - 07/10/1916) Southampton FC – Kings Royal Rifle Corps. He was an English amateur footballer who played twice for Southampton in 1912. Born in Southampton in early 1886, he joined Southampton as an amateur in 1908 and made several appearances for the reserve team, but his business career prevented him devoting much time to football. In 1910 he left football to devote himself full-time to his family hotel business, but was persuaded to return to The Dell by reserve team manager George Carter the following year. In March 1912, following the dismissal of first choice centre forward Henry Hamilton for a serious breach of club discipline, Christmas was drafted into the first team. Despite his "*pace and dribbling skills*" he was not a success and he returned to the reserves. Following serious injury, at the end of the 1911–12 season he "*gave up trying to make the grade*" and ended his football career. During the First World War he enlisted in the King's Royal Rifle Corps, reaching the rank of Second Lieutenant. He died in France on 7 October 1916 aged 30, of wounds received in action in the Battle of the Somme, and is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, and on the Southampton Cenotaph. Christmas was the son of Edwin and Margaret Abigail Christmas, of Southampton. He was initiated into the Freemasons' Lodge of Peace and Harmony in January 1915.

**Arthur Clamp** (01 May 1884 - 19/09/1918) Notts County FC – The Queens Royal West Surrey Regiment. He was an English professional football forward who made over 270 appearances in the Football League for Notts County. Clamp worked as a bricklayer. In April 1918, during the final year of the First World War, Clamp was called up to serve as a private in the British Army. After a period with the Sherwood Foresters, he was transferred to the Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey) after his arrival in France. He was seriously wounded within three days of his arrival in the trenches and was evacuated to Britain, where he died in Stoke-on-Trent Military Hospital on 19 September 1918. He was buried with military honours in Nottingham Church Cemetery.



**Thomas Clifford (1875 - 19/01/1917)** Ayr United FC, Celtic FC, Luton Town FC, Motherwell FC, Newton Heath FC, Nottingham Forest FC. – Private 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Royal Fusiliers. Born at Kilbirnie in 1875, began his football career with Annbank and Newton Heath. In August 1897, Ayr FC signed him, and he played in ten Division 2 matches, scoring four goals. He was back to England with Glossop after this, where he made thirty-nine appearances in two seasons, with one goal. He moved around quite a bit afterwards, first with Luton Town, then Celtic and Beith, before heading for Motherwell in July 1904. Season 1904/05 saw him play in sixteen league matches (one goal).

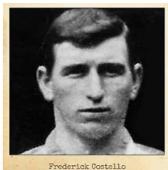
## Charles Clunas (1894 - 08/02/1916) Clyde FC – Royal Fusiliers.

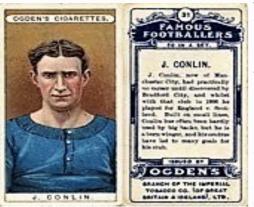
He was a Scottish professional footballer who played in the Scottish League for Clyde. In November 1914, three

months since the outbreak of the First World War, Armstrong enlisted as a private in the 23rd (Service)

Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers. He was serving as an acting corporal when he was killed by a rifle grenade in

**James Comrie** (31/03/1881 - 09/08/1916) Bradford City FC, Lincoln City FC, Reading FC – Northumberland Fusiliers. Sometimes known as Jock Comrie, was a Scottish football centre half who played in the Football League for Bradford City, Glossop and Lincoln City. Comrie's brother John was also a footballer and his nephew Malcolm also became a footballer. In 1915, during the second year of the First World War, Comrie enlisted as a private in the Northumberland Fusiliers. He died on 9 August 1916 near Méteren, France, during the Battle of the Somme. Comrie is commemorated on the Menin Gate.





James Conlin (06/07/1881 - 23/06/1917) Albion Rover FC, Birmingham City FC, Bradford City FC, Falkirk FC, Manchester City FC – Highland Light Infantry.

Jimmy Conlin was one of the ones that got away, coming to Falkirk from Lanarkshire Junior football, spending a season and a half at the club, before going back to Coatbridge, then to the English League and International football then on to foreign fields. Born of a Scottish Father and an English Mother in the town of Consett in County Durham, but the 1891 Census shows that the family was living in Coatbridge. His subsequent siblings were all born in the town from 1885, so it likely he was living there from at least the age of four. It is often listed in books that he played football for Cambuslang then Hibs before moving to

Falkirk FC, but that may be a mistake. James came to Falkirk, a fortuitous time for both the club and the player, really good Left Wingers are notoriously hard to find [He was what become known as a 'nippy wee winger' with a burst of pace and a well-placed low shot into the centre] and Falkirk were gearing up towards the team that would join the Scottish League shortly after he went back to Coatbridge. After a relatively successful period with his 'home' club, the English Scouts came looking and he was picked up by Bradford City [Sources say about £50], where he was selected to play for international side against Scotland. He soon moved to Manchester City where he was chosen in the league International to add to his honours. However, he had that human weakness that inflicts many a young man with money and time to spare: Drink. After a season with Birmingham City he was soon dispatched north of the border again this time to Airdrieonians, who soon discovered to their cost of his affliction, and after some run-ins with the management was told he was no longer needed by the club. It is reported he ended his football with a season with Broxburn Athletic but little evidence can be found of his play at the club. At the outbreak of the Great War, Conlin enlisted in Coatbridge with the Highland Light Infantry, serving in the 15th (Service) Battalion (1st Glasgow). During June 1917 this battalion was transferred to the Nieuport sector on the Belgium coast in readiness to support the British offensive at the Third Battle of Ypres

(also known as Passchendaele). This is where Conlin (26447) died, leaving behind a wife and two small children.

**Henry Cook** (23 October 1893 - 09/01/1917) Middlesbrough FC – 12<sup>th</sup> Service Battalion Yorkshire Regiment. Sometimes known as Harry Cook, was an English professional footballer who played as a wing half in the Football League for Middlesbrough. He also played for South Bank and appeared as a guest for Brentford during the First World War. Prior to becoming a professional footballer, Cook was a teacher at Marton Road School and North Ormesby Junior Boys' School in Middlesbrough and had a wife and two children. During the First World War he served as a sergeant in the 12th (Service) Battalion of the Yorkshire Regiment, known



as the Teesside Pioneers. He was wounded in early January 1917 while the battalion was engaged in road works in the vicinity of Maurepas, Somme. He died of his wounds of 9 January 1917 and is buried in Grove Town Cemetery, Méaulte. At the time of his death, Cook had been accepted for a commission and would have returned to England three days later to begin officer training.

**Frederick (Frank) G. Costello** (1884 - 19/12/1914) Merthyr Town FC, Southampton FC, West Ham United FC – Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Costello was born in Birmingham and after playing his youth football with Soho Villa he joined West Bromwich Albion in September 1904. Failing to make the grade he moved to Halesowen Town before moving to the south coast to join Southern League Southampton in the 1907 close season. He made his professional debut on 14 September 1907, scoring in a 2–0 victory at Luton Town.

He initially played at inside right alongside Bert Hodgkinson on the outside and either Frank Jefferis, John Lewis or George Smith in the centre. Described as "a trifle slow, he was clever with the ball and had a habit of

disconcerting the opposition by making for goal when he was expected to make a pass". In the 1907–08 season he scored nine goals from twenty-eight league appearances. He also played in all six FA Cup matches as Saints reached the semi-finals, losing to Wolverhampton Wanderers who went on to take the cup in the final. In the round four (quarter final) replay against Everton at The Dell on 11 March 1908 he played his best game for the "Saints". In the first half he hooked a John Johnston cross past the Everton goalkeeper Billy Scott. With the score 2-1 to Southampton at half-time, the second half "belonged to Frank Costello". He was involved in most of Southampton's attacks and when John Bainbridge swung over a deep cross from the right it appeared to have been over hit and going out of play. Suddenly, "out of nowhere", Costello arrived and met the ball with his head, sending it back over the goalkeeper into the far corner of the net. According to Duncan Holley in "Match of the Millennium", "a contortionist would have had problems attaining a position ... to reach the ball." The Saints won the match 3–2, but lost to Wolverhampton Wanderers in the semi-final with goals from former Southampton players Wally Radford and George Hedley. Injury kept him out of the team for the early part of the 1908-09 season; he had a run of five matches at inside left in November before being switched to centre forward as replacement for Arthur Hughes who had suffered a bad leg injury. Although Costello scored in his first match in his new role (in a 4-2 victory over Plymouth Argyle on 12 December 1908), he was not a success and in March 1909 he was transferred to West Ham United, with Jack Foster moving in the opposite direction. He made twelve Southern League appearances for West Ham (scoring three goals) before moving on to Bolton Wanderers. He failed to make the first team at Bolton and after spells with Nelson and Merthyr Town he returned to Southampton, where he turned out occasionally for Salisbury City. During the First World War he enlisted into the Royal Warwickshire Regiment and was killed in action in France on 19 December 1914.

**John Costello** (15 May 1890 - 24/06/1915) Glossop FC, Stockport County FC – Royal Marine Light Infantry. He was an English professional football right back who played in the Football League for Glossop. On 30 September 1914, during the opening months of the First World War, Costello enlisted in the Plymouth Battalion, Royal Naval Division of the Royal Marine Light Infantry. He held the rank of sergeant and died of wounds at Gallipoli on 24 June 1915. He is commemorated on the Plymouth Naval Memorial.

**Walter McFarlane Coulter MC** (1891 - 20/05/1917) A Scottish amateur footballer who played at right half for Queens Park  $FC - 1^{st}/9^{th}$  and  $1^{st}/6^{th}$  City of Glasgow Battalion Highland Light Infantry.

**Citation reads**: *"For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during a raid on the enemy's trenches. He led his men with great dash and the success of the raid was largely due to his personal coolness and initiative. He has on many previous occasions done fine work."* (London Gazette Supplement 30001 26 March 1917.)

He was Commissioned on 27/09/1915. A former pupil of Glasgow High School and prior to joining the Army in September 1914, he was employed in the drawing office at Fairfield Shipping and Engineering Company. In the beginning of the present year, Captain Coulter was awarded the Military Cross. For several seasons he played half-back for Queen's Park Football Club and he was also a playing member of the Poloc Cricket Club.

**William Cox** (06/11/1915) Bury FC, Dundee FC, Heart of Midlothian FC, Leicester Fosse, Plymouth Argyle FC and Preston North End FC – Kings Own Royal Lancaster Regiment.

**November 6, 1915** - The sad news was received at Blackpool on Saturday that William Cox a former well-known League professional footballer, had died earlier in the day in a Birmingham hospital from the effects of wounds sustained while fighting in the Dardanelles. Cox was shot in the leg and suffered from dysentery. He was on Friday visited by his brother, John Cox, the ex-Liverpool outside left. The deceased saw service with Bury, Preston North End, Dundee, and Hearts Football Clubs. Cox it will be recalled, played centre forward for Dundee. (Evening Telegraph: November 8, 1915).

**William Crabb** (23/05/1917) Southampton FC – 618<sup>th</sup> Motor Transport Company Army Service Corps. Died at 15<sup>th</sup> Stationary Hospital, Morogoro (now Tanzania) African Theatre. Cause of death recorded as Cerebral Malaria (due to field operations). Son of Richard and Mary Ann Crabb; husband of Alice Beatrice Crabb, of 19, Thorne Rd., South Lambeth, London. Served in the South African Campaign.

**Robert Craig** (02/05/1886 – 19/04/1918) Abercorn FC, Brighton & Hove Albion FC, Celtic FC, Kilmarnock FC, Morton FC – South Wales Borderers. He was a Scottish professional football full back who played in the Scottish Football League for Dundee Hibernian, Celtic and Morton. Craig was born in May 1886 in Beith, Ayrshire, the son of William and Elizabeth Craig.

His father was a French polisher. Robert Craig served as a private in the South Wales Borderers during the First World War and was wounded during a German attack at Messines, Belgium on 11 April 1918, during the Spring Offensive. He was moved to No. 13 General Hospital, Boulogne-sur-Mer, France and died on 19th April 1918, a few weeks shy of his 34th birthday. He was buried in Boulogne Eastern Cemetery.

Thomas Cranston (1891 - 13/01/1916) Clyde FC, Raith Rovers FC, Third Lanark FC – Black Watch.

He was a Scottish professional football outside right who played in the Scottish League for Raith Rovers, Third Lanark and Clyde. After the outbreak of the First World War in August 1914, Cranston enlisted as a private in The Black Watch (Royal Highlanders). He was killed in action in Iraq on 13 January 1916 during the Mesopotamian campaign. He was buried in Amara War Cemetery.

**Patrick James (Paddy) Crossan** (1894 – 5 May 1933) was a Scottish professional football ... After the outbreak of the First World War in August 1914, Crossan enlisted in McCrae's Battalion of the Royal Scots. Gregarious Pat Crossan was loved by Hearts fans and liked to be known by his nickname, 'The Handsomest Man In The World'. His best friend Harry Wattie joked that he "could pass a ball but couldn't pass a mirror if he tried." Born in Addiewell, West Lothian, in 1893, Crossan was a tough defender reckoned to be "the fastest man in Scotland" over one hundred yards. He would boost his earnings with the occasional appearance, always under an assumed name, on the professional athletics circuit. In early 1916 Private Crossan wrote to manager John McCartney: "I think that



instead of fighting we should take the Fritzes on at football. I am certain we would do them." On August 9th near Bazentin, Crossan was hit in the leg by shrapnel. At the hospital he was listed for an amputation but a German doctor, a PoW, managed to save his leg. He was sent home to recover and wrote to McCartney that be expected to be playing again "quite soon." He was posted to Palestine with the 4th Royal Scots and in December 1917 was at the fall of Jerusalem. Back in France in April 1918, he was gassed and sent home to an Edinburgh hospital to recover. Crossan's window looked out on Arthur's Seat, the distinctive hill by the city. "First I'm going to run up yon wee hill," he told a visitor, "then I'm going back to play for Hearts." Crossan was true to his word, turning out in a 3-1 win against Queen's Park in August 1919. But his lungs were no longer up to playing football and he never fully recovered from his gassing. He ran the Paddy's Bar pub in the city's Rose Street but in 1933 died from tuberculosis aged just thirty-nine.

**George Herbert Cuckson (**13/10/1915) Gainsborough Trinity FC – Private 1st/5th Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment. Son of the late Thomas and Mary Cuckson, of 59, North St., Gainsborough; husband of Flora Hawkins (formerly Cuckson), of 43, Wincobank Lane, Grimesthorpe, Sheffield. Killed in Action and remembered with honour on the Loos Memorial. (Panel 31 to 34).

## Archibald Cunningham (30 April 1879 – 18 March 1915). Leith Athletic FC – Highland Light Infantry.

He was a Scottish professional footballer played in the Scottish League for Leith Athletic. Born at Lasswade in 1880, played as a goalkeeper in thirty league matches for Leith Athletic between 1900-1903. After a spell with Broxburn Shamrock he left for Ireland and played with Glentoran before returning to Lasswade, Midlothian and getting employment at the Woolmet Pits of the Niddrie Coal Company. He was unmarried, enlisted in the Highland Light Infantry in September 1914. He was killed in action in France on 18 March 1915 after the Battle of Neuve Chapelle, commemorated on the Le Touret Memorial. 36 years old, on 18 March 1915.

**Duncan Currie** (13/08/1892 - 01/07/1916) Heart of Midlothian – Royal Scots. Currie was one of 16 Heart of Midlothian players who enlisted to fight in France, making the team the first British one to sign up together. Full-back Duncan Currie, born in Ayrshire in 1892, worked as a hairdresser's assistant before he was bought by Hearts for two guineas from Kilwinning Rangers as a big, resolute defender. He had talent in his blood; his father was a goalkeeper and his two brothers played for Bury and Leicester Fosse. Sergeant Currie, 23, was hit as he led his 'C' Company platoon from the sunken road. Shot in the shoulder, he was buried in a battlefield cemetery beside a road but the spot was later lost. An officer wrote to Currie's father: "In addition to being a good soldier he had a most lovable nature; his death has been



a heavy blow to the battalion, for he was universally popular and admired for his skill at football. The grave is a shell-hole in no man's land."

**Harry Joseph Dennis** (31/08/1918) Barnsley FC – Lance Corporal Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment. Killed in action and buried at Ligny-St. Flocher British Cemetery Averdoingt. Son of Tom Coorer Dennis and Johanna Dennis, of 68 Park Grove, Barnsley, Yorks. Native of Barnsley. Played inside right for Barnsley F.C.

**George Devaney** (04/11/1916) Tranmere Rovers FC - Sapper 1376 Royal Engineers Cheshire Field Company. Before the war George had been a keen sports man and before joining the army was goalkeeper for Tranmere Rovers. George has been describe as one of the best-known all round sportsman from the Wirral and he played for several local teams including, Gilbrook Mission and Hoylake. He moved from Hoylake FC to Wrexham and made 195 appearances for the Welsh side at the Racecourse. After winning a Welsh Cup medal without conceding a single goal he was transferred to Tranmere in 1911. George always believed in keeping fit which probably gave him the skills to be almost unbeatable in front of the Rover's goal. His natural abilities made him an instant hit at Prenton Park and the future for George looked bright. Sadly like so many of his generation the War cruelly took his life before he was able to show his full potential. Sapper George Devaney had been serving with the Cheshire Field Company Royal Engineers and after only a few weeks of frontline service was killed on the 4th of November in France during the Somme Offensive.

**Charles Dexter** (27/06/1917) Brighton & Hove Albion FC – Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment. The 17th (Service) Battalion, Middlesex Regiment was an infantry battalion of the Middlesex Regiment, part of the British Army, which was formed as a Pals battalion during the Great War. The core of the battalion was a group of professional footballers, which was the reason for its most commonly used name, The Football Battalion (also the footballers' or players' battalion). The 23rd (Service) Battalion, Middlesex Regiment was formed in June 1915 and became known as the 2nd Football Battalion. The battalions fought in the Battle of the Somme in 1916 among others. Soldiers who fought in the 17th and 23rd Battalions included Second Lieutenant Walter Tull, who was possibly the first black infantry officer in the British Army.



## Joseph Dickinson (1888 - 19/05/1915) Reading FC – Grenadier Guards.

Joe Dickinson was one of 44 Reading Football Club players to serve in World War I and one of eleven who never returned home. Dickinson had been a regular army soldier prior to his stint at the club, serving with the Grenadier Guards between 1909 and 1912. He was signed by Reading in February 1913 for £5. On the outbreak of war, he was recalled by the army and was one of the first soldiers to arrive in France – on 13 August 1914. Sometime afterwards he wrote to Reading FC's club secretary-manager, Harry Matthews from a position some way behind the front line in Belgium. 'As you know we have had many hardships since we came out here, and for the last five weeks we have never been out of the trenches. 'We have been defending Ypres, which the Germans have been trying so hard to take – and are still trying. 'What with their strong attacks and the severe weather it has been very hard with us.'

His letter went on: 'We have about a hundred left out of a total of 275 in my company and I am pleased to say I am one of the hundred.

'By Jove, it is nice and comforting for us to be able to walk about in peace, free from the German shot and shell. Now we are here they are doing all they possibly can to make us happy. 'We have been plentifully supplied with games, football especially, and talk about going mad, I thought the boys would, including myself, when they caught site of a football. It was the first one I had seen this season, but I made up for lost time, for I played in three matches yesterday. 'Although we were in everyday attire we were in earnest, in fact I could not have played harder if it had been a cup-tie. 'Please remember me to all. I am wondering how you got on with Brighton today, and hoping you have kept your form up.'



Dickinson survived the fighting at Aubers Ridge

and Festubert, but was killed by a shell on 19th May 1915. The 2nd Battalion, Grenadier Guards' War Diary for the day states: 'Heavy shelling all day with every description of shell – some very big.' The document records that only one man lost his life in the bombardment: 26-year-old Corporal Joe Dickinson. He is commemorated on the Le Touret Memorial.

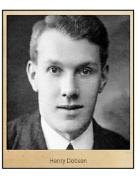
**Joseph Oscar Dines** (12/04/1886 - 27/09/1918) Liverpool FC, Millwall FC – Second Lieutenant The Kings Liverpool Regiment. He was born in King's Lynn on 12 April1889, the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. F.W. Dines, of four, Whitefriars Terrace, King's Lynn. He was educated at All Saint's School, King's Lynn, and the Technical Institute, King's Lynn. He worked as a pupil-teacher at Hunstanton before training at Peterborough and then became assistant master at St. Margaret's School, King's Lynn, before accepting an appointment in Ilford. He married Ethel Burgoyne at St. Margaret's, King's Lynn, 27 December 1913. They lived at 176, Chigwell Road, South Woodford, London. Three of his



brothers also served. He was an English amateur football player who competed in the 1912 Summer Olympics. He represented Great Britain as part of the England national amateur football team, which won the gold medal in the football tournament. He played all three matches.

Lieutenant Joseph Dines, 13th battalion Liverpool Regiment was killed by machine gun fire on 27 September 1918. He originally joined the Army Ordnance Corps on 29 November 1915 as a storeman. He applied for a commission in December 1916 but was turned down. He transferred to 'F' Company, 6th Middlesex Regiment at Chatham in June1917 and three months later was posted to the Machine-Gun School in Grantham to train on 'tanks'. He wanted a commission in the Tank Corps but it was felt he needed additional experience to develop his leadership skills so he was commissioned into the Liverpool Regiment in June 1918 joining them in France on 16 September. A well-known footballer, he began his playing career at Lynn All Saints' and subsequently played for Lynn United, Lynn Town, Norwich City Reserves and Woolwich Arsenal Reserves. He played for Lynn team against Aston Villa in the cup. He was selected for his county in the season 1905-6 and played in the Norfolk team that won the Southern Counties Championship in 1908. He made his debut for England against Wales, in 1910, and was a regular in the pre-war England team. He also played international matches in the Olympic series. He played for Millwall and once for Liverpool when they beat Chelsea 2-1. He is buried in Grand Ravine British Cemetery, Havrincourt. There is a plaque in his memory at Millwall Football Club and another on the wall of his home at Whitefriars Terrace, King's Lynn. He is remembered on the war memorial at All Saints, South Lynn and the King's Lynn war memorial.

**Henry Arthur Dobson** (01 April 1893 - 29/03/1918) Aston Villa FC – Prince of Wales North Staffordshire Regiment. He was an English professional football wing half who played in the Football League for Aston Villa. Dobson attested under Lord Derby's Group Scheme on 11 December 1915 and was subsequently transferred into Section B Army Reserve. He was eventually mobilised on 26 February 1917 and underwent training in Britain. Posted to the Infantry Base Depot (IBD) at Calais on 14 January 1918, Private 203210 Dobson remained there for two weeks before joining the 1st Battalion of the North Staffordshire Regiment on 26 February 1918. Less than four weeks later, Dobson was thrown into action with his battalion when the Germans launched their massive Spring Offensive on 21 March 1918. In just five hours, the enemy fired one million artillery shells and would take 21,000 prisoners



on the first day of battle alone. Having sustained substantial losses, the British were forced into a desperate retreat during which Dobson was wounded near St. Quentin and evacuated to the rear. He would die from his wounds on 29 March 1918 and was later buried at Premont British Cemetery. He was transferred into the North Staffordshire Regiment in February 1918. Dobson was wounded during a retreat from Saint-Quentin in the early days of the Spring Offensive and died on 29 March 1918. He was buried in Prémont British Cemetery.



**Ernest John Dodd** (17/07/1917) Luton Town FC – Lieutenant Royal Field Artillery.

Ernest John Dodd who lived at East Common Harpenden, was a pre-war amateur footballer with Luton Town FC. He was killed in action on 17 July 1917 whilst serving with the Royal Field Artillery in Belgium.



**Ernest John Dodd** 

**Bernard Donaghey** (23/12/1882 - 01/07/1916) Burnley FC, Hibernian FC, Manchester United FC – Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Sometimes known as **Barney Donaghey**, was an Irish professional footballer, who played as an inside forward in the Football League for Burnley and Manchester United. He also played in the Scottish League for Hibernian and in his native Ireland for Derry Celtic (four spells), Ulster, Belfast Celtic and Glentoran.

Donaghey was capped by Ireland at international level and represented the Irish League. Donaghey was married. Prior to the First World War, He was a reservist in the British Army and in early 1915, during the second year of the war, he enlisted as a private in the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. He saw action at Gallipoli and was wounded in the head by shrapnel and evacuated to a hospital in Tanta, Egypt. After being deployed to the Western Front in 1916. On Saturday 1 July 1916 Private Bernard Donaghey of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers obeyed the whistle of his Commanding Officer to climb from his trench on the British front line and prepare for battle at Beaumont Hamel. The body of Bernard Donaghey was never found.

## Angus Douglas (14/12/1918) Newcastle United FC.

Angus Douglas was munition worker; died 14 December 1918 - Scottish international outside-right and one of United's star players before war erupted who was engaged in the giant Armstrong munition works on Tyneside during the conflict. He was a victim of the influenza pandemic as World War One ended.

**Daniel Dunglinson** (01/07/1916) Newcastle United FC - Private 16<sup>th</sup> Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers. A Newcastle United reserve and England international, Private Dan Dunglinson was killed on July 1 at the Battle of the Somme. Dan's brother William also died in the war. He was born at number 53, the Esplanade in Whitley Bay and is remembered on the Thiepval Memorial and on the St James' Park Football Club roll of honour alongside three other young players, two doctors, two club directors and other past players and fans. He had been a railway clerk and just before he enlisted he was living at Balmoral, Moorside in Fenham - presumably so he was closer to play regularly for his team Newcastle United. On the 16th Battalion's arrival at Alnwick training camp to prepare for war in France, the optimistic Private Dunglinson was instrumental in setting up a football committee and had the men out playing the 7th Battalion in a medal competition by January 1915. "The Battalion was awash with footballing talent and football matches were played virtually every afternoon with sometimes two or three games played at the same time. Many other



local football teams had players serving in the 16th Battalion from teams such as Allendale, Durham, Haltwhistle Wednesday, Hexham Athletic, Mickley, Newcastle City and Scotswood. When the Battalion finally formed its first XI the team was virtually unbeatable and a pleasure to watch."

Corporal Dan Dunglinson, Northumberland Fusiliers - On the club's staff during the season before war, he was one of the first to answer the call for volunteers joining the newly created 'Pals' Newcastle Battalion. On the first day of the Battle of the Somme, he fell, alongside United colleague Tommy Goodwill attacking Thiepval.

**William Durham** (12/09/1916) Southampton FC – Private 29475 Hampshire Regiment. Buried in Doullens Communal Cemetery Extension No.1 Grave IV.F.1.

William P Eadie (14 June 1882 – 23 June 1915), also known as William Prince, was a Scottish professional football goalkeeper who played in the Scottish League for Queen's Park, St Mirren and Partick Thistle. He was born in Dunblane, had three brothers who each played football – James (Dunblane, Queen's Park), David and Alexander (both Strathallan). On 20 March 1914, he emigrated to Canada. One month after the outbreak of the First World War, he enlisted in the 10th Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force at Valcartier. He enlisted under the name of William Prince and was killed in action near Saint-Julian, Belgium on 23 April 1915. He is commemorated on the Menin Gate and the Saint-Julian Memorial.

**Walter Eaton** (1881 – 15 May 1917) was an English professional football right back who played in the Football League for The Wednesday. Eaton served as a private in the York and Lancaster Regiment and the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers during the First World War and was killed in France on 15 May 1917. He was buried in Étaples Military Cemetery.

**Harrison Eke** (30/04/1917) Southampton FC – Private 13<sup>th</sup> Service Battalion Royal Fusiliers. Attested 21/09/1914. Discharged 07/06/1915 "being no longer physically fit for war service," under para. 392 (xvi) K.Rs. Died following discharge. Son of Mrs. M. A. Eke, of thirty-nine, Woolwich Rd., Bexleyheath.

**Ernest Edgar Ellis** (30/11/1885 – 01/07/1916) Barnsley FC, Heart of Midlothian FC, Norwich City FC – Royal Scots. He was an English professional football right back who played in the Football League for Barnsley. He served as a private in McCrae's Battalion of the Royal Scots during the First World War and was killed on the first day on the Somme. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial. Big, powerful defender **Ernie Ellis** played for Norwich and Barnsley before joining Hearts, where he was always "scrupulously fair" in his play. Born in Norwich in 1885, he was a boot clicker by trade, cutting the leather for the



uppers of shoes. Ellis, a 30-year-old private, who married an Edinburgh girl with whom he had a daughter he would never see, was the third Hearts player killed in the charge from the sunken road. He fell in front of some wire and his body was found and buried but later lost.

**Thomas H.J. Ellison** (20/10/1914) Croydon Common FC – Royal Field Artillery. Croydon Common Football Club were an amateur and, later on, professional football club based in Croydon. The team formed in 1897 as an amateur church team competing in local leagues. They turned professional in 1907, joining the Southern League Second Division. A final place of third was achieved despite the stand at the Crescent being burnt down. A move was made to the Nest (future home of Crystal Palace) in 1908 where promotion to the Southern League First Division was achieved. In the FA Cup, Football League members Bradford Park Avenue were beaten and Woolwich Arsenal taken to a replay before final defeat. An immediate return was made to the Second Division after finishing second from bottom. At the new ground another main stand was damaged; the roof being removed in a gale. Seasons of mid to high table finishes then followed until the 1913–14 season when the championship was achieved again with only two defeats. Again, Common's stay in the First Division resulted in a second from bottom placing. Relegation was not experienced due to the suspension of the League during World War I. In 1917 the club was finally wound up, the only First Division club not to return to action after the War. Gunner Thomas Ellison 37654 13<sup>th</sup> Battalion 32<sup>nd</sup> Brigade is buried in Bailleul Communal Cemetery Nord.

**George Elmore** (1880 – 01/07/1916) was an English professional football forward who played in the Football League for Glossop, Blackpool and West Bromwich Albion. He also played in the Scottish League for St Mirren and Partick Thistle and is regarded as Altrincham's 'first star player'. Elmore worked in the salt trade in Northwich. In September 1914, one month after Britain's entry into the First World War, he enlisted in the Royal Scots. Elmore was deployed on the Western Front in January 1916 and was serving as a lance corporal when he was killed on the first day of the Somme later that year. He is commemorated on Thiepval Memorial.

Arthur Evans (31/07/1916) Exeter City FC – Royal Fusiliers. On 4 August 1914 as Britain declared war on Germany, an English football team was in the middle of its return voyage from a tour of South America. Their journey back would involve narrow misses with warships - and their lives as footballers would never be the same again. The fifteen players in Exeter City's touring squad were on their way back from a tour of Argentina and Brazil, during which they suffered a 2-0 defeat to the first-ever Brazilian national team, when news reached them about discord back in Europe.

#### The assassination of Austria's Archduke



Franz Ferdinand was escalating into something that would become known as World War One. "The news of declaration of war between Germany and France caused great excitement between the mixed body of passengers," wrote club chairman Michael McGahey in a letter published by the Exeter Express and Echo newspaper shortly after the team's return. "At about 12 midnight when the wireless message was received as to the declaration of war between England and Germany... the news had the most sobering effect. "Everybody felt the world was faced with a terrible ordeal, the end of which no man could foresee."

Alone on the ocean, the fate of the ship, its passengers and crew depended on which nations' ships they encounter first. If it was an enemy nation those on board, especially young fit men of military age, could spend the war in internment camps. Mr McGahey said it was a "startling adventure" as the team's ship was twice fired on by warships - once near the English Channel - as they put warning shots across its bow.

Luckily for the players, on both occasions the ships were French - Britain's allies. The ship was allowed to continue its journey although the crew had been told to stay away from Southampton and landed in Liverpool instead.

The grandstand of Exeter's ground St James Park became a barracks, housing a regiment and the pitch was used as a rifle shooting range. Before the suspension of the leagues, professional players had been unable to volunteer without their club's consent as this would break their contracts. And until conscription was introduced in January 1916, it was still up to individuals whether to volunteer or not.

Walter Robert Fairgrieve (30/08/1874 - 02/06/1915) Luton Town FC, Southampton FC – Royal Scots. He was a Scottish professional footballer who played as an outside forward for Southampton and Luton Town in the late



1890s. Fairgrieve was born in Edinburgh and started his football career with Dalry Primrose and Glasgow Perthshire, during which time he earned Scottish junior international



Walter Fairgrieve

honours and represented Glasgow in a game against Lanarkshire. After a spell with Liverpool and a month's trial period at Everton, he joined Southern League champions Southampton in May 1898 on a professional contract. With a reputation for

heavy drinking and general misconduct, he failed to secure a regular first-team place and spent most of his time at The Dell in the reserves, with his only first team outing coming when he took the place of Tom Smith for the second match of the 1898–99 season, a 2–0 defeat by New Brompton. In the summer of 1899, he left "the Saints" to join Luton Town of the Football League Second Division, but after six months, he returned to Scotland in January 1900. He finished his career with a brief spell in the Scottish League with Hibernian, Partick Thistle, Heart of Midlothian and Dunfermline Athletic.

## Thomas Farrell (1887 - 01/07/1916) Manchester City FC, Airdrieonians FC – Lancashire Fusiliers.

He was an English professional football inside left who played in the Football League for Manchester City. He also played in the Scottish Football League for Airdrieonians. Farrell was married with three children. He enlisted as a private in the Lancashire Fusiliers soon after the outbreak of the First World War in 1914. Farrell was posted to the 1st Battalion serving at Gallipoli in July 1915 and was evacuated in January 1916. Now a corporal, Farrell died in the Fusiliers' attack on the Hawthorn Ridge Redoubt on the first day of the Somme. He was buried in Auchonvillers Military Cemetery.

**Albert Ernest Farrow** (1886 - 28/09/1916) Gainsborough Trinity FC, Watford FC – South Staffordshire Regiment. He was an English professional football left half who played in the Football League for Gainsborough Trinity. Farrow served as a private in the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment, the Green Howards and the South Staffordshire Regiment during the First World War. He was diagnosed with tuberculosis in 1916 and was discharged from the army in August that year. Farrow died of the disease the following month and was buried in Gainsborough General Cemetery.

John Ferguson (1891 - 23/10/1916) St. Bernard's FC, Third Lanark FC – Cameronians (Scottish Rifles). Ferguson was born in Glasgow, but brought up by an aunt in Aberfoyle and later attended Callander High School and Edinburgh University. Ferguson served as a second lieutenant in the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) during the First World War and was mentioned in despatches. He was killed near Flers during the Battle of the Somme on 23 October 1916, in an action his captain believed was worthy of a posthumous Victoria Cross. Ferguson is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial. St. Bernard's Football Club were a football club based in Edinburgh, Scotland. Established in 1878 and joined the Scottish Football League. They played at several different grounds before making the Royal Gymnasium Ground their long-term home. However, after having to sell it in 1943, the club was dissolved.

John Findlay (25/09/1916) Vale of Leven FC, Airdrieonians FC, Newcastle United FC – Scots Guards. Also known as Jack Findlay or Jock Findlay, was a Scottish professional football right half who played in the Scottish Football League for Vale of Leven and Airdrieonians. He also appeared in the Football League for Newcastle United. Findlay served as a private in the Scots Guards during the First World War and was killed in France on 25 September 1916. He was buried in Bienvillers Military Cemetery.

**William Fiske** (07/08/1885 - 27/05/1918) Blackpool FC, Norwich City FC, Nottingham Forest FC – 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion Border Regiment. Beccles-born Fiske made his debut for Blackpool midway through the 1907–08 league season, in a 2–1 defeat at Lancashire rivals Burnley on Christmas Day 1907, taking over from Stephen Tillotson. He went on to appear in the remaining 21 league games of the season, as well as Blackpool's FA Cup exit game at Manchester United on 11 January 1908. The following season, 1908–09, Fiske appeared in all but one of Blackpool's league

games, missing only the penultimate game - a single-goal defeat at Gainsborough Trinity. Tillotson deputised or the 17 April 1909 fixture, after 57 league games on the sidelines. Fiske achieved his ever-present honour in 1909-10, starting each of Blackpool's 38 league and two FA Cup fixtures. He kept eleven clean sheets in the process. He looked set to repeat the feat in 1910-11; however, after 33 league games he was omitted from the team, with Jimmy Kidd taking his place for the five remaining games. Fiske returned to the team for the start of the 1911–12 campaign, and went on to make thirty-two appearances in the league. In 1912–13, his twenty-two league appearances came in three spells.

THREE FOREST PLAYERS CALLED AWAY.

The Nottingham Forest Football Club will lose the services of three of their leading players in consequence of the war, Fiske, Firth, and Bell, all Army Reservists, having been ordered to rejoin their respective regiments. They departed yesterday afternoon, Bell to Aldershot to join the Royal Engineers, Fiske to Norwich to join the Norfolk Regiment, and Firth to Athlone to join the Royal Field Artillery. They are all married men with families and in their absence the Forest Committee have undertaken to make ample provision for their wives and children.

Each player was made the recipient of packets of tobacco and cigarettes before leaving, and amongst those who gathered at the station to see them off were Mr. H. R. Cobbin, Mr. R. J. Marsters and several of their colleagues.

#### The Nottingham Guardian 6 August 1914

He played in the first seven games before being dropped in favour of Kidd, who took over for the next eight games. Fiske then returned to the side for six games, only to lose his place to Kidd for eight games. Finally, he regained his place in the team for the remaining nine games. 1913–14 was Fiske's final season with Blackpool. He appeared in thirty-four of the club's thirty-eight league games, his final one being a 4-1 defeat at Bradford City in the final game of the season, in front of a crowd of 25,500. Fiske went on to play four league matches and one FA Cup match for Nottingham Forest in the 1914–15 season.

Fiske was reported missing in action on the 27<sup>th of</sup> May 1918, probably killed on the first day of the Third Battle of the Aisne. At the time of his death, his wife of nine years was living in Blackpool. His body was never found and instead he is commemorated on the Soissons Memorial. His is one of almost 4,000 names of officers and men who died during the Battles of the Aisne and the Marne in 1918 who have no known grave. Remembered on the Soissons Memorial.

John Thomas Flanagan (20/09/1889 - 31/08/1917) Arsenal FC,

Fulham FC, Norwich City FC – Army Service Corps. He played youth football for Stourbridge before joining Norwich City in 1908 and moving to Fulham in 1909. In December 1910 joined Woolwich Arsenal (both clubs being owned by the same man, Sir Henry Norris, at the time). Flanagan made his debut on 11 February 1911 and over the next few seasons played in every forward position. During the 1912–13 season Flanagan finished joint-top league goal scorer (with Charles Lewis) in the First Division. The next season 1913–14 he finished as Arsenal's top scorer with twelve league goals and one FA Cup goal, in the club's first season at Highbury. In total he had scored twenty-eight goals in 121 league and cup appearances for Arsenal. Flanagan was dropped by Arsenal at the end of 1914–15 and spent the next two seasons as a bit-part player during the First World War. He retired after an injury in 1917. Flanagan enlisted in the British Army under Lord Derby's Group Derby scheme at Woolwich on 8 December 1915, before returning to his reserved employment as an artillery shell machinist. Driver M/288065 Flanagan was then mobilised into the Army Service Corps (ASC) on 7 February 1917 and underwent transport training at the ASC Depot at Grove Park in South-East London, before being posted to 816th M.T. Company. He was then sent to German East Africa (now Tanzania). In August 1917, Flanagan reported sick with dysentery and was taken to the 52nd (Lowland) Casualty Clearing Station at Mingoyo. He would then have been sent to No. 3 East African Stationary Hospital which was located in Dar es Salaam. Flanagan's surviving medical and service records record that his condition deteriorated rapidly before he could be moved to the main hospital and he died at 52nd CCS on 31 August 1917. Flanagan is now buried at the Dar Es Salaam War Cemetery, which was created in 1968 after graves from a number of different areas were moved to ensure future maintenance.

John Barr Murray Fleming (1890 - 21/03/1916) St. Bernard's FC, Newcastle United FC, Rangers FC, Tottenham Hotspur FCF - Cameron Highlanders. Fleming served as a lance corporal in the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders during the First World War and died of influenza suffered at the Catterick Garrison on 21 March 1916. He was buried in Inveresk Parish Churchyard.

## Frank Alexander Forbes (26/09/1917) Brechin City FC – Private 53477 134th Field Ambulance RAMC.

Frank Alexander Forbes was born in Littlejohn Street, Dundee on 22nd January 1888, the son of David Forbes, then a sewing machine company porter, and Julia Forbes (nee Mitchell). His father, originally a ship's carpenter, and again employed as such in 1891 and 1901, was likely born in Brechin. The 1881 and 1891 census returns state that he was: the 1901 census gives his place of birth as Dundee. Frank Forbes's mother was definitely born in Brechin and his parents had been married in Brechin. He was residing in Dundee, still in Littlejohn Street, in 1891 with his parents and two brothers and in 1901 with his widowed father and brother, but by the time of his marriage in May 1916 he was noted as residing at Andover Hill, Brechin. Frank Forbes was therefore, although a Dundonian by birth, a Brechiner by ancestry, by residence and through his football club. He was noted as a cloth lapper on his marriage certificate but, in brackets, also as a private in the Royal Army Medical Corps. Cloth lapper was, in other words, his civilian occupation in May 1916, but he had already enlisted by that date in the Medical Corps.

He had in fact enlisted immediately after leaving Denburn in January 1915 . His wife, Jane Muckart, was also resident in Brechin, in Kinnaird Place, at the time of their marriage. Frank Forbes played for Brechin City before and during the first year of the war. He is noted as the inside-right in the teams which beat Montrose3-1 in the Qualifying Cup in September and which lost 3-0 to Arbroath in the Forfarshire Cup in November, both 1914. He was employed at the Denburn Works which he left in January 1915. Curiously, although the Denburn Works Roll of Honour notes Frank Forbes in its list of employees who served in the war and, on that list, notes him as having died in September 1917, his name is not noted on the list of those killed on the frontispiece to the publication. Private Frank Forbes served with the 134th Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps, his service number being 53477. He had been wounded in June 1917. Over the course of the 24th and 25th September 1917 there was hard and prolonged fighting north and south of the Menin Road, the road out of Ypres to the east, with major engagements around Zonnebeke and Polygon Wood. On 26th September 1917 Frank Forbes was out with a party bringing in the wounded when he was hit in the leg by part of a shell and died later in the same day. His widow was by then resident in Montrose Street. He is buried at Voormezeele Enclosures, near Ypres, Belgium, only a short distance beyond Railway Dugouts, the resting place of Collie Martin.

**George E. Ford** (1891 – after 1916) was an English amateur football left back who played in the Football League for Woolwich Arsenal FC. He played ten times for the Woolwich Arsenal first team and also a number of reserve games between 1912 and 1915. He joined the Footballers' Battalion on 18 December 1914, three days after they were formed.



During their Army training, players were given leave to return to play for their clubs, hence Ford was able to do both and his final game for Arsenal was in February 1915. But he never played

football at that level again after receiving gunshot wounds to his left arm on 30 July 1916 during the Battle of the Somme.

## John Ford (1893 - 03/05/1917) Preston North End FC – Cameronians (Scottish Rifles).

He was a Scottish professional football outside right who played in the Football League for Preston North End. Ford served as a private in the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) during the First World War and was killed in France on 3 May 1917. He is commemorated on the Arras Memorial.

## Joseph Forster (07/11/1916) Newcastle United FC - Yorkshire Regiment.

A locally-born half-back with United's second-string during the 1890s, he was over 40 years of age when he volunteered for the army. One of several United players to be killed during the Battle of the Somme when his unit was fighting near Le Sars village.

**Allen Foster** (1887 - 08/08/1916) Bristol City FC, Reading FC – Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment. He was an English professional football inside left, who made over one hundred and forty appearances in the Southern League for Reading. He also played in the Football League for Bristol City. Foster was born in Rawmarsh, Yorkshire and began his career in non-league football with Parkgate Athletic and Rotherham Town.

He moved to First Division club Bristol City in 1909, but made just 13 appearances, scoring one goal. Foster's prolific scoring for the Bristol City reserve team in the Great Western Suburban League prompted newly promoted Southern League First Division club Reading to sign him for a £75 fee in August 1911.



#### Allen Foster fourth from the right at the back.

A successful player with Reading, he was remembered for his hat-trick scored against Italian giants AC Milan in the Biscuitmen's 5–0 victory on 13 May 1914. The result prompted the leading Italian newspaper *Corriere della Sera* to report that "without doubt, Reading FC are the finest foreign team seen in Italy". Foster finished his professional career with Reading with seventy-three goals. Foster was married and while a footballer with Parkgate Athletic, he worked in the fitter's room at a colliery. In 1914, during the early months of the First World War, Foster enlisted as a private in the Football Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment. On 8 August 1916, he went over the top with the battalion at Guillemont, during the Battle of Delville Wood and was shot in the thigh, abdomen and arm Foster was recovered from no man's land and was transported to a hospital in Corbie, where he died of his wounds. He was buried in Corbie Communal Cemetery Extension. When news made it back home the Reading Observer newspaper wrote, 'The news of Allen Foster's death came like a thunderclap and the death roll of Reading Football Club players is slowly mounting up. It seems impossible to believe that the fair-haired centre forward with a caustic tongue but lovable disposition would entertain us no more. One's thoughts instantly flew to the quiet little woman and tiny babe.'

Walter Fowler (01/01/1889 – 23/04/1917) Brechin City FC – Private 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion Black Watch. Son of James Fowler, a tenter in the Denburn Works, and Margaret Ann Fowler (nee Barclay) was born on 1st January 1889 in the High Street, Brechin. He died a fortnight after David Glen, only a few miles away. Walter Fowler played for Brechin Arnot, almost certainly as a juvenile. He later played for Brechin Hearts Junior FC and was captain of that club in the last pre-war season, 1913-14. In that season Brechin Hearts won the Arbroath and District Junior Cup, beating Ardenlea 3-2 in the replayed final. Walter Fowler continued to play for Brechin Hearts into the next season: he is noted as one of the scorers in a 3-3 draw with Dundee Osborne on 3 November 1914. He played for the Forfarshire Junior select and at some point, played for Brechin City. (He may have been the outside left noted as Fuller in the Brechin City team defeated by Montrose on New Year's Day 1915. He is noted on the Roll of Honour of D & R Duke's Denburn Works, where he was employed, as having left Duke's in October 1915). He enlisted in the 5th, the Forfarshire battalion, of The Black Watch, likely in October 1915 and trained with its depot battalion, the 3/5th, at Ripon in Yorkshire. While at Ripon he played for the 3/5th Black Watch football team. At least one other member of that team, the goal-keeper, James Livie, was also from Brechin and had played junior football in the town. Walter Fowler returned to Brechin from Ripon in May 1916 to marry Mary Ann Sinclair. He transferred at some point between June 1916 and April 1917, along with another Brechin soldier, James Low, to the 7th (Fife) Battalion of The Black Watch with the Service Number 292529. The 7th Black Watch was part of the153rd Brigade of the 51st Highland Division. Shortly before five o'clock on the morning of 23rd April 1917, British troops advanced east of Arras upon the German line between Gavrelle, Guémappe and Fontaine-lez-Croisilles. This advance marked the beginning of the Second Battle of the Scarpe. The Germans had brought up many new batteries, spread along the line, and had massed large numbers of machine guns in the villages, trenches and emplacements, from which they were able to sweep the British line of advance by direct and enfilade fire. These machine guns were thick in the ruins of Roeux. The 51st Highland Division attacked the village of Roeux and the German line, which stretched from Roeux northwards past the Roeux chemical factory and the station on the road to Gavrelle. On that day, the 7th Black Watch advanced from the general direction of Fampoux, parallel to and immediately north of, the railway line, and suffered, along with the remainder of the division, severe casualties.

At first Walter Fowler was noted as missing. 'Information from the front has been received that a well-known Brechin footballer, Walter Fowler, has been missing since 23rd April. He was one of the best known juniors in the Centre and North of Scotland who appeared in representative matches. He also played for Brechin. One week later however, the same columns report his death. "Intimation has now been received that Private Walter Fowler, Black Watch, who was previously reported missing was killed in action in France on 23rd April. Before the war he was a lapper at Denburn Works. He was one of the best known junior football players in the district and had played in several representative matches as well as for Brechin City. He was the only son of Mr James Fowler, 11 Montrose Street, and leaves a young widow and child who reside in Damacre Road."

The same issue includes a death notice: "Deaths: for their Country. Killed in action in France on 23rd April Private Walter Fowler, only son of Mr and Mrs James Fowler, 11 Montrose St, Brechin, and husband of Mary Ann Sinclair, 13 Damacre Rd, Brechin." Tragically, two days later, his friend, James Low, who had transferred with him from the 5th to the 7th Black Watch, was also killed. Walter Fowler is buried at Brown's Copse British Cemetery, Roeux, and James Low lies less than fifty yards from him. Brown's Copse Cemetery is on the Black Watch's line of attack between Fampoux and Roeux. At the request of his widow who visited Brown's Copse in the 1920s, his grave is inscribed with the words, 'He lies in a beautiful place'.

John Frail (09/05/1915) Hibernian FC, Lochgelly United FC, St. Bernard's FC – Black Watch (Royal Highlanders). Private, 1st Battalion Black Watch, killed in action 9 May 1915. Played for Lochgelly United, Hibs (a loan spell), Dunfermline, Lochgelly again and St. Bernard's. Resided at Inglis Street, Dunfermline and previously worked as a miner in Lumphinnans. Husband of Sarah Frail (Née Grey). Lochgelly United Football Club were a football club based in Lochgelly, Scotland. Nicknamed the 'Happylanders', the club were members of the Scottish Football League between 1914 and 1926. They were relegated to the new Third Division in 1924 and, when this was disbanded at the end of the 1925–26 season, joining the Scottish Football Alliance. They remained in this league until 1928 when they were wound up.

James Blyth Galloway (03/07/1893 - 17/11/1918) Third Lanark FC – Royal Field Artillery. He was a Scottish professional footballer who played in the Scottish League for Third Lanark. Galloway later worked as an architect. A territorial, he was called up for service when the First World War broke out in August 1914 and joined the Royal Field Artillery. After a long period on the Western Front, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant on 16 September 1917. Galloway was posted to India later and died of pneumonia in Kasauli on 17 November 1918, just six days after the end of the war. He was buried in Kasauli Cemetery.

Edwin Stanley Garvie (14/09/1892 - 15/10/1915) Queens Park FC – Cameron Highlanders. He was a Scottish amateur football half back and forward who played in the Scottish League for Queen's Park. Garvie captained the club and at the time of his death in 1915, he was described by the Southern Press as the "best all-round player Queen's Park has known for many years. Garvie worked as a foreign merchants' clerk. After the outbreak of the First World War in August 1914, Garvie enlisted in the 5th Battalion of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders. Serving with the rank of lance corporal, he was wounded during Battle of Loos on 25 September 1915, taken prisoner and died in a German prison hospital in Jülich on 15 October 1915. His grave was later moved to the Südfriedhof in Cologne. Garvie's younger brother, Ernest, served as a second lieutenant in the Highland Light Infantry during the war and won the Military Cross. He was accidentally killed by a fellow officer during the Battle of the Lys in 1918.

William George (03/05/1917) Southampton FC – Private GS/177 7th Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment. Born in Southwick Sussex and served as a Private in 7th Service Battalion. Killed in Action and remembered on the Arras Memorial. Son of the late Thomas and Emily George; husband of Elizabeth George, of 2, War Memorial Cottages, Felpham, Bognor, Sussex.

William Webber Walter Gerrish (1884 - 08/08/1916) Aston Villa FC, Bristol Rovers FC, Preston North End FC – Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment.

Sometimes known as Willie Gerrish, was an English professional football inside forward who played in the Football League for Aston Villa and Preston North End. In February 1915, six months into the First World War, Gerrish enlisted in the 17th (Service) Battalion of the Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex Regiment). He was severely wounded in both legs by a shell blast at Delville Wood on 8 August 1916 and died later that day. He has no known grave and his name is listed on the Thiepval Memorial.



George Gibb (07/06/1917) Third Lanark FC – Highland Light Infantry. Gibb was serving as

an acting lance sergeant in the Highland Light Infantry during the First World War when he died of wounds near Étaples on 7 June 1917. He was buried in Étaples Military Cemetery.

James Gibson (24/06/1889 - 05/09/1915) Raith Rovers FC – Private 12/1957 Auckland Regiment New Zealand Expeditionary Force. He was a Scottish professional footballer who played in the Scottish League for Raith Rovers. Prior to the First World War, Gibson emigrated to New Zealand and became a teacher at Napier Boys' High School. After the outbreak of the war, Gibson enlisted as a private in the Auckland Regiment of the New Zealand **Expeditionary Force.** 

He died aboard the HMHS Saltaon 5 September 1915, of wounds suffered at Gallipoli and was buried at sea the following day. He is commemorated on the Lone Pine Memorial. Son of Robert and Ann Burton Gibson, of thirtynine, Pratt St., Kirkcaldy, Scotland. M.A. St. Andrew's University, Scotland.

Henry Gildea (1890 - 09/04/1917) Hibernian FC, East Fife FC, Dumbarton FC, Lochgelly United FC & Bristol City FC, Grimsby Town FC – Black Watch (Royal Highlanders). 'Harry Gildea' was killed in action in the Battle of Arras during the First World War while serving with the Black Watch.

Frank William Gilder (1896 - 30/12/1915) Luton Town FC - Private 2430 24th Battalion County of London Regiment. He was the third son of William Everard Gilder and Sarah Sanderson Gilder, of 35 Moor Street, Luton, and had been with the 24th London's since the outbreak of war. His younger brother Claude had been a member of the Luton News staff. Before the war Frank was a member of the Luton Amateur FC and, while in training at St Albans and Hatfield, played for Luton Town in the reserve team. He also made one appearance in the first team and was described as having made his mark among the front rank in footballers. His battalion left England for France around the end of February 1915 and during his 10 months there saw much fighting. He went through the famous charge in which several Luton lads fell, and it was from him that the earliest and most complete particulars were received in Luton.



News of Frank Gilder's death came first in a letter dated January 1st, 1916, from Pte Bat Woods, another Lutonian serving in the 24th London's. He said Frank had been sitting in his dug-out with others when a shell burst right on top, burying all of them. Two men were fortunate enough to be dug out but with severe injuries, but Frank and one other were believed killed. Private Woods said he would be going to the line that afternoon to see if was possible to get Frank out and give him the best possible burial. In a subsequent letter, however, Corporal May, of the 24th London's, said Private Gilder's trench had been mined by the enemy, and it was not a shell that caused the damage.

David Glen MM (09/04/1917) Brechin City FC, Dundee FC, Millwall FC – Royal Scots. The Battle of Arras in the spring of 1917 saw enormous Scottish casualties, with three of the Scottish Divisions (the 9th Scottish, the 15th Scottish and the 51st Highland) all engaged. The Arras campaign was initiated on 9th April 1917, Easter Monday, and on that date fell one Brechin City's best known early players, Davie Glen. He was born at Crosshill, in the parish of Brechin (less than a mile beyond the town boundary, on the Montrose road) on 31st March 1881. His parents were David Glen, a farm servant, and Mary Ann Glen (nee Cook). By 1891 his father was dead but David's widowed mother, himself, his two brothers and two sisters remained at Crosshill. By 1901 David Glen was residing in Kinnaird Place with his widowed mother and his sisters and was noted as a Bleachfield worker. Prior to the war he was employed at East Bleachfield. David Glen played at centre forward for Brechin City as well as for Dundee (very briefly) and Millwall. He played Junior for Brechin Hearts and is regularly noted on the Hearts team lists, at either centre-forward or inside right, in seasons 1904-05 and 1905-06. He played inside-left for the Forfarshire Junior XI in October 1905. On 3rd August 1906 he played for Brechin Hearts against Brechin Harp. On the 15th of August however he featured in the Brechin City team which played a friendly against Montrose, Brechin City's first official game as a senior club. He again lined up on Saturday 18th August when Brechin City played East Fife in the Northern League, City's first ever competitive game. He was however back in the Brechin Hearts line-up against Dundee Stobswell on the 1st of September. He turned out for Brechin City on the 3rd of November 1906 against Forfar and seems to have played for City thereafter until close to the end of the season, his last game apparently being against East Fife on the 9th of March 1907. He played for the Forfarshire Select in March 1907 when the Perthshire Select won by two goals to one. He then played four games for Dundee in the latter part of season 1906-07, one on the right-wing and three at centre-forward. His first game, on 23rd March 1907, was a 0-0 draw against Celtic in Glasgow front of a 35,000 crowd. He played in the Brechin City team, which won its first ever knock-out silver-wear, the Forfarshire Cup, by beating Arbroath, in season 1909-10. Cumming, in his history of Brechin City's early years, states that "Davie Glen was a centre forward, even a gentlemanly player, feared by all his opponents for his robust style of play. It was no uncommon feat for him to cycle twenty odd miles into Brechin, don the colours, and lead his team to victory." David Glen was certainly still playing for Brechin in January 1912 when he played centre forward in a Northern League game against Dundee A (i.e. Dundee Reserves). (It is likely that David Glen was working somewhere in the Angus Glens at the point when he had to cycle into town to 'lead his team.').

David Glen enlisted in December 1914. He was serving with the Service Number 16611 as a Sergeant with the 13th Royal Scots when he was killed. The 13th Royal Scots was a Service Battalion which had been raised in Edinburgh in September 1914, was attached to the 45th Brigade of the 15th Scottish Division from that point until the end of the war and which landed in France in July 1915.

On Easter Sunday, 1917, in the area around Arras, for the first time that year, the sun had a touch of warmth although snow still lingered around many of the banks. The Germans shelled Arras continuously that Sunday. The Monday morning, 9th April, however was cold with a sharp wind blowing from the south-east and rain squalls. On that day the British and Imperial forces launched their offensive around Arras, sometimes referred to as the First Battle of the Scarpe. It was essentially a diversion in support of the French offensive about to be launched (on the 16th of April) by General Nivelle on the Aisne. David Glen was killed on the first day of that battle. David Glen had been awarded the Military Medal for bravery (notification of which award only reached his mother a few weeks after his death) and had been recommended for the Distinguished Conduct Medal on several occasions. "In a letter of sympathy to his widowed mother, who resides in Montrose Street, the gallant sergeant's captain spoke of the regard in which Glen was held in the battalion, and stated that he had on more than one occasion to commend him for his resource and bravery." His mother resided at Montrose Street, later at 28 Kinnaird Place, Brechin. He is buried in Cabaret-Rouge British Cemetery, Souchez, France.

## Thomas Goodwill (1894 - 01/07/1916) Newcastle Utd FC – Northumberland Fusiliers.

He was an English professional football outside left who played in the Football League for Newcastle United. Prior to becoming a professional footballer, Goodwill worked as a coal miner. He served as a private in the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers during the First World War. He died on the first day of the Battle of the Somme and is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.

He signed to Newcastle United AFC, as it was known then, in May 1913 for £100 from Seaton Deleval FC.

**Thomas Gracie** (12/06/1889 - 23/10/1915) Airdrieonians FC, Arthurlie FC, Everton FC, Hamilton Academicals FC, Heart of Midlothian FC, Liverpool FC, Morton FC – 16<sup>th</sup> Battalion Royals Scots. He was a Scottish professional footballer and, latterly, a corporal in the 16th Battalion of The Royal Scots. He was the joint-leading scorer in the Scottish Football League in the 1914-15 season. He was born at 40 Edmund Street in Dennistoun, Glasgow, the son of Robert Gracie, flesher, and his wife, Harriet Bell. He studied bookkeeping on leaving school before working as a meat salesman. He was playing Junior football



for Shawfield, then Strathclyde, but in 1907 he was offered the chance to move into League football when approached by Airdrieonians, third-placed finishers the previous season. After short spells with Hamilton Academical and Arthurlie, he joined Morton in 1909. In 1911, Gracie was selected as a reserve for Scotland's game against England at Goodison Park. Although he wasn't required to play, and would never gain an international cap, the journey proved profitable for him as he was afterwards signed by Everton. A season later he switched to the red half of Merseyside, signing for Liverpool in an exchange deal which saw Harold Uren move to Everton in exchange for Gracie and Bill Lacey. Unlike Lacey, however, Gracie was unable to establish himself in the Liverpool first team, making only sporadic appearances in his two and a half seasons at Anfield. When the opportunity arose to return to Scotland in 1914, admitting to feeling "unappreciated".

Gracie's destination was Hearts, manager John McCartney paying £400 for him as a replacement for the recently sold Percy Dawson. The *Maroons* were a rapidly emerging side and started the 1914-15 season with eight straight victories, including a 2-0 defeat of reigning champions Celtic in which Gracie scored, to become early league-leaders and title-favourites. Gracie was selected for the Scottish League XI in November 1914. However, this streak coincided with the start of the First World War and the beginnings of a public debate upon the morality of continuing professional football while young soldiers were dying on the front-line. A motion was placed before the Scottish Football Association to postpone the season, with one of its backers, Airdrieonians chairman Thomas Forsyth declaring that *"playing football while our men are fighting is repugnant"*. While this motion was defeated at the ballot box, with the SFA opting to wait for War Office advice, the East London philanthropist Frederick Charrington was orchestrating a public campaign to have professional football in Britain suspended, and achieving great popular support for his cause. The prime tactic of Charrington's campaign was to shame footballing players and officials into action through public and private denouncement, and as Gracie was then the leading scorer in the side leading the top division in Scotland, he was an obvious target for the anti-football crusade, much to his distress.

Gracie's response, and that of 10 of his team-mates, was to enlist in Sir George McCrae's new volunteer battalion, joining on mass on 25 November 1914.



The battalion was Edinburgh's second pals battalion and was to become the 16th Royal Scots and was the first to earn the "footballer's battalion" sobriquet. Military training was thus added to the Hearts players football training regime, although this didn't initially stop the side's progress, as they compiled a 20-game unbeaten run between October and February. However, exhaustion from their army exertions, twice including 10-hour nocturnal-marches the night before a league game, eventually led to a drop in form, as several enlisted players, including Gracie, missed key games. Defeats to St Mirren and Morton allowed Celtic to usurp the *Maroons* and eventually claim the league title by four points. For Gracie, finishing as the league's joint top-scorer, tied on 29 goals with Ayr United's James Richardson was scant consolation.

Gracie however faced a far more serious problem - in March 1915 he was diagnosed with leukaemia, a prognosis he had shared only with manager McCartney. Despite his illness and against medical recommendation he decided to continue to play with Hearts and train with his battalion, and indeed scored 4 times during that month. He was still with the battalion when they were sent south to Ripon in June for further training but within weeks he had succumbed to fatigue and was committed to hospital in Leeds for treatment, before being transferred back to Scotland. Gracie died on 23 October 1915 in Stobhill Hospital in his hometown Glasgow and was buried at Craigton Cemetery. His death concluded a dark year for the Gracie family, who had also lost Tom's brother John and brother-in-law Tommy during 1915's hostilities.

**Robert Graham** (1884 – 31/05/1916) Camelon Juveniles FC, Laurieston Juniors FC, Falkirk Juniors, Leicester Fosse FC and Falkirk FC - Royal Navy.

#### The Falkirk Herald - 10th June 1916 – The Loss of HMS Invincible.

A Camelon Man on Board - Chief Petty Officer Robert Graham -

"Information has come to hand to the effect that Chief Petty Officer Robert Graham, H.M.S. Invincible, is not included in the list of survivors. His parents, Mr and Mrs Robert Graham, who reside at 4 Arbuthnot Street, Camelon, Falkirk, received the sad news from the deceased's widow, who was officially informed of his death by the Naval Representative of Leicester, where deceased resided."

Chief Petty Officer Graham, who had been about seven years in the Navy, served first on the Roxburgh, and while on another ship at Portsmouth he attended a Torpedo School to study electricity. He was since then, for over four years, attached to the Invincible, and was then promoted to Chief Petty Officer in the Torpedo Department. In January 1915, he was on board the Invincible when it was engaged with the German Navy off the Falklands Islands, and afterwards he sent home a vivid description of that naval engagement. This sometime later, was published in the Falkirk Herald. It may be mentioned that not later than three weeks ago Chief Petty Officer Graham was home on furlough and in Camelon for a short time. Prior to enlistment, he was employed as an engineer with Messrs Sharp & Sons, engineers, Camelon, where he served his apprenticeship. Deceased was an enthusiastic footballer, and in the early days of professionalism played for Falkirk Football Club. He had had a place in both first and second elevens. He was 32 years of age, and a widow and child survive him. Two of his brothers are serving with the Scots Guards. Alexander has been in the regiment for seven years, and at the battle of Loos was wounded. His brother Allan has been for over four years in the Scots Guards, and he also was in the famous charge at Loos, where a bullet entered his neck and made its way to his stomach, where it still lodges.

#### The Newcastle Daily Journal - 13th June 1916 - A Scottish Junior International Killed.

Footballers have played their part nobly in the great international battle, and to the long list of players who have made the supreme sacrifice has to be added the name of Robert Graham, one of "Jocky" Simpson's first partners at Falkirk. Graham, who was 32 years of age, was an electrical artificer on board H.M.S. Invincible, and went down with his ship in the great naval battle off Jutland. A native of Camelon, Graham played for Scotland in the Junior International match in 1902-03, and after assisting Falkirk, where his association with Simpson secured the designation of the "Jock" wing, he went to Leicester Fosse. Three years ago, he married a daughter of Mr E. Benn, a member of the Fosse Board of Directors, and he leaves one child. A sailor colleague, who acted as best man, was killed in the same battle.

A vivid description of the naval engagement at the Falkland Islands is given in a letter to his father, Mr R. Graham, Arbuthnot Street, Camelon, from a Camelon man, Mr Robert Graham, who is chief petty officer on HMS Invincible. Chief Petty Officer Graham, who is a native of Camelon, has been in the Navy for about six years. has two brothers in the 2nd Battalion of the Scots Guards. His letter is as follows: still alive and kicking, especially the latter, as you will doubtless realise after reading the account of the engagement at Falkland Islands. It came about as follows: After the sinking of the Good Hope and Monmouth, the Invincible and Inflexible were told off into affairs in the Pacific, under Admiral Sturdee, who flew his flag on our ship.

We were to be augmented by the addition of the following ships on arrival at Rio de Janeiro - Glasgow, Bristol, Kent, Cornwall, and Carnarvon. We left Devonport on November 11th for, well, wherever the German Fleet happened to be. After several minor events, such as coaling on the African coast and crossing the Equator, etc., we arrived off the Falkland Islands, South America, on December 7th. We knew we might encounter the Germans any day now. We went into harbour, and started coaling at daybreak next morning. I was carrying on my work as usual, when suddenly, about 9 am, Action Stations were sounded by the bugler.

It transpired that two German cruisers had appeared on the horizon. Of course it was 'Stop coaling and up steam'. By the time we had got under weigh the German Fleet had been completed, making five in all, their names being Scharnhorst, Gneisenau, Leipzig, Dresden, and Nuremberg. The first two were large cruisers, and the rest light cruisers. They came pretty close until seeing the two battle cruisers, Invincible and Inflexible (which they had never suspected of being anywhere near the Falklands), emerge from behind the cliffs at the mouth of the harbour, they turned tail and steamed for their lives. Being knots faster than some of our own and also the two large German cruisers, after some hours' steaming we got within range. About one o'clock our battle cruisers tackled these two, leaving the three light cruisers to the tender mercies of the Glasgow and Co. After about three hours, the Scharnhorst (reckoned to be the best gunnery ship in the German Navy), which was made to resemble the lid of a pepper pot through coming in contact with our twelve inch shell's, went under, and we immediately turned our attention to the Gneisenau, which met a similar fate shortly afterwards.

All the other ships were out of sight by this time, so we all came up on deck, and I saw a sight I'll never forget to my dying day. There were hundreds of German sailors in the water clinging to life belts, wreckage, and hammocks, etc. It was intensely cold, and one could see numbers drowning without being able to save them. Here and there

was sailor lying over a piece of wood, slowly floating past - dead from exposure. We saved eighty odd lives, and have them board at the present moment. Of course, as is always to be expected in these affairs, we didn't get off Scot free, several German shells bursting on board without any serious damage. I have got a piece which I am keeping as a curio. Afterwards we heard that the Leipzig and Nuremberg had been sunk, but that the Dresden had got away for the time being. The Good Hope and Monmouth had been avenged. HMS Invincible was a battlecruiser of the British Royal Navy, the lead ship of her class of three, and the first battlecruiser to be built by any country in the world.

In the First World War, she participated in the Battle of Heligoland Bight in a minor role as she was the oldest and slowest of the British battlecruisers present. She fired on the light cruiser Cöln, but did not hit her before Cöln was sunk by the battlecruiser Lion. During the Battle of the Falkland Islands, Invincible and her sister Inflexible sank the armoured cruisers Scharnhorst and Gneisenau almost without loss to themselves, despite numerous hits by the German ships. She was the flagship of the 3rd Battlecruiser Squadron during the Battle of Jutland. The squadron had been detached from Admiral Beatty's Battlecruiser Fleet a few days before the battle for gunnery practice with the Grand Fleet and acted as its heavy scouting force during the battle. She was destroyed by a magazine explosion during the battle after 'Q' turret was penetrated.

**William John Gray**, born in Inverness around 1882, began his football career with local side Inverness Thistle. Another Thistle was his next club, this time Partick Thistle, who signed Gray in 1903. He had four seasons at Firhill, making thirty-nine first team appearances, scoring three goals. A season at Southampton in 1906/07 in the Southern League (28 appearances) broke his time at Partick Thistle, but he was back in their colours the following season. Between 1907 and 1909 he made a further forty-seven league appearances, scoring four goals. William joined the Seaforth Highlanders and was killed in action at the Somme on 18 November 1916.

**James Greechan** (1883 - 25/08/1917) Brentford FC, Clapton Orient FC, Stockport County FC – 12<sup>th</sup> Service Battalion Highland Light Infantry. He was a Scottish professional football inside left who played in the Football League for Clapton Orient, Glossop and Stockport County. Greechan served as a private in the 12th (Service) Battalion of the Highland Light Infantry during the First World War and died of wounds after the Battle of Langemarck (Third Battle of Ypres) on 25 August 1917. He is buried in Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery.

Born in Glasgow in 1884, he started his working life as an "iron worker", he began his football career at a local club in Glasgow, Petershill FC, in 1903, aged nineteen. His career encompassed eight different clubs in England and Scotland. After Petershill, James played for; Hibernians (1903-04), Broxburn Shamrock (1904-05), Bo'Ness (1905-06), Brentford (1906-07 – 12 Southern League appearances and two goals), Clapton Orient (1907-08), Glossop (1908-09), Stockport County (1909-10) and finally Carlisle United (1910-11). Some handwritten notes in a diary, written by a Brentford supporter who witnessed football at Griffin Park in 1906, included a small piece on James Greechan. It reads as follows;

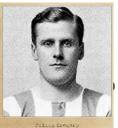
"Inside left hails from beyond the borders having been born in Shettleton near Glasgow in 1884. He has played for the Edinburgh Hibernians and comes to Brentford from Bo'Ness. Fast and tricky, he is a robust player and a capital shot at goal. He goes to scale at 11stone 7lbs and stands 5ft 9ins"

"He scored three goals, the last of which, I believe, was in the 4-2 victory over Reading on March 9th 1907 in The Western League. He also scored for us in a 2-1 win over Southampton the day before, on March 8th in the Southern League!" "His first Bees goal was just a few days before that, in a 4-1 Southern League victory over QPR. It was his Southern League debut, and it was the opener, a speculative long-range shot, early in the game, which slipped through the QPR goalkeeper's hands, three goals in 4 days!"

After Carlisle United, his football career continued back in Scotland for local clubs. In September 1914, James enlisted into the Highland Light Infantry, in the town of Hamilton. This battalion was part of the 46th Brigade of the 15th (Scots) Division. His training took him to Salisbury Plain, Chiseldon Camp in April 1915 and then he was shipped to the front and landed in Boulogne on 10th July 1915. The battalion records show that they saw action during the Battles of the Somme, including the Battle of Pozieres, The Battle of Flers-Courcelette and the Battle of Le Transloy and the Battle of Langemarck, this was the battle where Greechan received his injuries and died of his wounds. A total of approximately 60,000 lives were lost, from both sides, in those battles in just 12 days in August 1915.

**Benjamin Haigh Green** (23/02/1883 - 26/04/1917) Barnsley FC, Blackpool FC, Burnley FC, Preston North End FC, Small Heath FC – Kings Own Royal Lancaster Regiment. He was an English professional footballer who played as an inside forward. He scored 117 goals from 406 matches in the Football League playing for Barnsley, Small

Heath (renamed Birmingham in 1905), Burnley, Preston North End and Blackpool. He made nearly 200 appearances for Small Heath (later Birmingham) in all competitions, and scored the first goal at the club's new ground, St Andrew's, on 29 December 1906, three days after the official opening, for which he was rewarded with a piano. Green was born



in Penistone, Yorkshire, and was killed in action in France in 1917, where he was serving as a private with the King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment).

**Julius Gregory** (04/07/1881 - 20/07/1916) Brighton & Hove Albion FC, Bury FC, Luton Town FC, Manchester City FC – Royal Fusiliers. He was an English professional football full back who played in the Football League for Bury and Manchester City. Gregory attended Manchester Grammar School. He served as a private in the Royal Fusiliers during the First World War and died at High Wood on the Western Front on 20 July 1916. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.

**Frederick John Griffiths** (13/09/1873 - 30/10/1917) Millwall FC, New Brompton FC, Preston North End FC, Tottenham Hotspur FC, West Ham United FC – Sherwood Foresters Notts and Derby Regiment. He was a Welsh association football player of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. A goalkeeper, he won two caps for the Welsh national team. He was killed in action during the First World War. Born in Presteigne, Griffiths began his career with the Blackpool-based club South Shore. He went on to play for other Lancashire-based clubs Clitheroe, Blackpool and Stalybridge Rovers. On 3 February 1900, while on the books of Blackpool, he made his debut for Wales in an international match against Scotland at Aberdeen and later in the year played against England, making him the first Blackpool player to win an international cap. He also played in *the Seasiders*' first ever match at Bloomfield Road. He later moved south to join Millwall Athletic before moving across London to join Tottenham Hotspur, then playing in





the Southern Football League. In 1901 Griffiths returned to Lancashire to join Preston North End of The Football League. He made ten league appearances for the club before once more returning to London to play for West Ham United in 1902. He replaced William Biggar in goal after Biggar conceded five goals in a defeat to Wellingborough Town, and remained the club's first-choice goalkeeper for two seasons. In the summer of 1904 he joined New Brompton, where he spent two seasons, making over 50 first team appearances and serving as club captain. He next joined Middlesbrough but never played for the club's first team, before a final move to minor club Moore's Athletic of Shirebrook, where he also worked as a coalminer. After retiring from playing, Griffiths trained local teams in Shirebrook before joining the British Army during World War I. He served with the 15th Battalion, Sherwood Foresters (Notts and Derby Regiment), reaching the rank of serjeant. The unit had originally been raised as a bantam battalion in Nottingham in 1915. By 1917 the battalion was part of 35th Division which was thrown into the Battle of Passchendaele in October 1917. Griffiths was killed in action on 30 October 1917, along

with four others of his battalion (another fifteen were wounded that day).

## George Griffiths.

Born Chirk, near Wrexham 1865; one cap for Wales; died 7 July 1918, aged fifty-three. Played for his local club Chirk - who were a strong amateur side, winning the Welsh Cup and producing 20 Welsh internationals around the turn of the 20th Century. George and his brother Peter both played for Chirk. "There is a story that they began

playing football at school and were trained by the head teacher," she said. "He made them play with a plimsoll on their strongest foot in order to encourage them to use both feet!" Griffiths worked as a miner before the war and had moved to Leigh in Lancashire, where he had eight children. As inside left, he played for Wales once against Ireland in



1887, a 4-1 defeat. A veteran of the Royal Welch Fusiliers, he was discharged from the Royal Army Service Corps in 1917 after an accident involving his knee - he already had signs of arthritis - and died at home in Leigh a year later. He may also have suffered from the effects of gas but there is nothing on his Army medical record and he died of stomach cancer. Nevertheless, he was given a military funeral.

## Patrick Hagan (1879 - 14/07/1916) Brentford FC, Hibernian FC – Royal Scots.

He was a Scottish professional football forward who played in the Scottish league for Hibernian and Port Glasgow Athletic. He won five pieces of silverware with Irish League club Linfield between 1903 and 1904. Hagan served in the Boer War with the British Army. He was a sergeant in the 11th Battalion Royal Scots during the First World War and was Missing in action presumed dead at the Battle of Bazentin Ridge, the Somme, France., aged 36, on 14 July 1916 during the Battle of the Somme. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Pier and Face 6D and 7D. Patrick Hagan appeared for the Bees in 49 Southern League matches over a two-year period from 1906-1908, also appearing for Port Glasgow Celtic in 1908, after leaving Brentford. Previous to Brentford, Paddy Hagan was a popular player with Hibernians, appearing in forty games over two seasons; he also played for Linfield United and Belfast Celtic in Ireland. Paddy had served in the Boer War, 1899-1902 as an orderly, before turning to football as a career. After football, Paddy became a 'boat finisher,' in Edinburgh, where he lived with his wife, Mary, and three children. A fourth child died in 1915 due to an illness.

Patrick, small in stature at only 5'4", signed up in August 1914, at Glen Corse, joining the Royal Scots 11th (Service) Battalion. Originally, he enlisted as a Private, but was promoted quickly to Sergeant, likely due to being nearly 35 years of age. After training in Bramshott, the 11th Battalion was sent to the front line in May 1915 aboard the SS Invicta and landed at Boulogne. On the 20<sup>th of</sup> May 1915, they entered the front line at Armentieres. Paddy took part in the Battle of Loos, in September 1915, and then the Battle of the Somme, in the July of 1916.



During the Battle for Bazentin Le Grand, in early July 1916, which was part of the Delville Wood/Longueval campaign, Sgt. Patrick Hagan was listed as 'missing', the date on his record card was 14th July 1916. His body was never found. He left a wife of 12 years and three young children, aged between 11 and 4 years.

Alan Roderick Haigh-Brown DSO (06/09/1877 - 25/03/1918) Brighton & Hove Albion FC, Clapton Orient FC,

Tottenham Hotspur FC – Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment. He was a British Army officer and author who served as commander of the Lancing Officers' Training Corps and later fought in the First World War. He was also an amateur football outside right who played in the Football League for Clapton Orient. He was the son of William Haig Brown, headmaster of Charterhouse School, where he was born on 6 September 1877. He was educated was educated at the Dragon School and Charterhouse School. He matriculated at Pembroke College, Cambridge in 1896, graduating B.A. in 1899, in the Classical Tripos, and was awarded a blue. In 1899, he was appointed Assistant Master at Lancing College. Haig-Brown's army career began at Lancing College in 1906 as a lieutenant in the Lancing Officers' Training Corps, receiving a promotion to captain before the end of the year.



In 1908 his commission was transferred to the Territorial Army. Haig-Brown

commanded the Lancing Officers' Training Corps until 1915, by which time the British Army was fighting in the First World War. He was transferred to the 23rd Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment on 1 January 1916, promoted to major and appointed second-in-command of the battalion. Haig-Brown was appointed a temporary lieutenant colonel in September 1916 and given command of the battalion. He saw active service on the Western and Italian fronts between 1916 and 1918, was mentioned in dispatches twice and awarded the Distinguished Service Order. Haig-Brown was killed near the Bapaume-Sapignies road, France on 25 March 1918, during the German Spring Offensive. He was buried Achiet-le-Grand Communal Cemetery Extension.

James Haldane (19/12/1890 - 27/08/1915) Lochgelly United FC – Royal Scots.

He was a Scottish professional footballer who played in the Scottish League for Lochgelly United. He was killed in action during the First World War. Soon after the outbreak of the First World War in August 1914, he enlisted as a private in the Royal Scots. He was killed in action in France on 27<sup>th</sup> of August 1915, and buried in Cambria Churchyard Extension.

**Alexander Laing Halkett** (25/09/1881 - 21/02/1917) Aberdeen FC, Dundee FC, Portsmouth FC, St. Johnstone FC – Royal Field Artillery. Sometimes known as Ecky Halkett or Alick Halkett, he was a Scottish professional football right half who played in the Scottish league for Aberdeen, Dundee and St Johnstone. Halkett worked as a wheelwright and his older brother John was also a footballer. Halkett served as a gunner in the Royal Field Artillery during the First World War and was killed in action in Pas-de-Calais, France on 21 February 1917. He was buried in Sailly-au-Bois Military Cemetery.

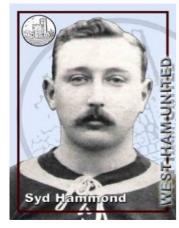


## Thomas Pryce Hamer (1883 - 07/07/1916) Llanelly FC – South Wales Borderers.

He played for LLanelly Football Club and was commissioned as Lieutenant in the South Wales Borderers. Killed in action during the Battle of the Somme. Son of Edward and Martha Hamer, of Summerfield Park, Llanidloes, Montgomeryshire. Remembered in Pier and Face 4A Thiepval Memorial.

Andrew Hamilton (10/06/1882 - 20/07/1916) Aberdeen FC – Gordon Highlanders. He was a Scottish professional football forward who made one appearance in the Scottish league for Aberdeen. Hamilton served as a private in the Gordon Highlanders during the First World War and was killed in West Flanders, Belgium on 20 July 1915, having only arrived on the Western Front two months earlier. He is commemorated on the Menin Gate.

**Robert Henry Hammett** (25/09/1916) Newport County FC – Private in the 16<sup>th</sup> Service Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Born in Monmouth. He died of a "poisoned Knee" from wounds on active service at home and is buried in Newport Christchurch Cemetery.



**Sydney Hammond** (16/10/1917) West Ham United FC – Royal Field Artillery. Born in Woolwich in 1883, Joined the club as an amateur in 1904 but in 4 years only managed thirty-two appearances for the club. Worked as a commercial Clerk and lived in Twickenham road Leytonstone he enlisted into the Royal field Artillery in Romford.

When he died he was listed as being in 'C' battery 242nd brigade who at the time were fighting in the Passchendaele region. Sydney has a grave and is buried in La Clytte cemetery Belgium.



#### Harry Hanger (1886 - 23/03/1918) Bradford City FC,

Crystal Palace FC, Northampton Town FC – Royal Irish Lancers.

He was an English

professional footballer who played centre half. Hanger was born in Kettering, Northamptonshire, and began his career with Kettering Town. He went on to play for Bradford City, Crystal Palace and Northampton Town. For Bradford City, he made seventy-three appearances in the Football League; he also made six FA Cup appearances. For Crystal Palace, he made 168 appearances in the Southern League; he also made 10 FA Cup appearances. Hanger left Crystal Palace to undertake military service in World War and died on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1918.

**Douglas Scott Hardcastle** (1896 - 09/05/1915) Derby County FC – Sherwood Foresters Notts and Derby Regiment. He was an English professional football inside left who played for Derby County. Hardcastle worked as a stove grate pattern maker. He served as a lance corporal in the Sherwood Foresters during the First World War and was killed in action on the Western Front on 9 May 1915. He is commemorated on the Ploegsteert Memorial.

**Joseph Frederick Hargrave** (1884 - 19/10/1917) Aston Burton United FC, Leeds City FC – Gunner 346<sup>th</sup> Siege Battery Royal Garrison Artillery. Sometimes known as Fred Hargreaves, was an English professional football forward who played for Burton United, Leeds City and Stoke. Hargraves began his career with Burton United and in his first season as a professional he scored 15 goals in 38 matches which included six goals in eight FA Cup matches in 1903–04. He hit five in 26 for Burton in 1904–05 and was signed by Leeds City in 1905.

He again had a prolific season hitting nineteen goals in thirty-four matches and again enjoyed success in the FA Cup scoring seven goals in six matches in 1905–06. However, he swapped positions in 1906–07 and as a result his goals dried up. He left Leeds in 1908 for Birmingham & District League side Stoke and scored 11 goals in 15 matches for the "Potters" in 1908–09. Buried in Steenkerke Belgian Military Cemetery.

**Thomas Hargreaves (20/11/1917)** Southampton FC – Serjeant 87<sup>th</sup> Company Machine Gun Corps. Killed in action and commemorated on Cambrai Memorial Louveral Panel No. 12 & 13. Son of Mrs. G. T. Woods (formerly Hargreaves), of 1, Graham St., Padiham, and the late Richard Hargreaves; husband of Alice Hargreaves, of 9, St. Giles Terrace, Padiham, Lancs.

**John Anderson Harkins** (10/04/1881 - 22/04/1916) Coventry City FC, Leeds City FC, Middlesbrough FC – Black Watch Royal Highlanders. He was a Scottish professional footballer who played in the Football League for Leeds City and Middlesbrough. Harkins enlisted in the Black Watch in June 1898 and was discharged at his own request in September 1906. Soon after the outbreak of the First World War in August 1914, Harkins re-enlisted in the Black Watch. He was serving as an acting corporal when he was killed in action near Amara, Iraq on 22 April 1916. He was buried in Amara War Cemetery.

**Albert Hartshorne** (1880 - 10/02/1915) Southampton FC – Private 11912 South Staffordshire Regiment. He was an English footballer who played in the Football League for Burslem Port Vale and Stoke, and in the Southern League for Northampton Town and Southampton Hartshorne played for Moxley White Star and Wolverhampton Wanderers, before joining Port Vale in June 1902. He was a regular throughout the 1902–03 season, scoring three goals in 28 Second Division appearances. He was sold to local rivals Stoke in April 1903 to ease Vale's financial troubles. At the Victoria Ground, Hartshorne played as a regular in the 1903–04 and 1904–05 campaigns, and was fast becoming a popular player with the supporters due to his 'hard yet controlled' tackling skill. He made fifty-

three First Division appearances for the "Potters". It came as a disappointment then when he was sold to Southampton in the summer of 1905. He helped the "Saints" to claim a second-place finish in the Southern League in 1905–06. He later played for Southern League rivals Northampton Town. Hartshorne became a tool-maker after the end of his football career. At the outbreak of the First World War, he enlisted in the Staffordshire Regiment. He died of wounds on 10 February 1915 and was buried at Boulogne Eastern Cemetery. Buried in Boulogne Eastern Cemetery. Grave III.B.88. Son of John and Keziah Hartshorne, of Darlaston, Wednesbury.

## James Hastie (14/12/1914) St. Bernard's FC, Stockport County FC – Private 4th Battalion Gordon Highlanders.

James Hastie, born in Edrom, Berwickshire, had five seasons with Selkirk, followed by a year in England at Stockport County. By the time of his enlistment he was plying his trade in Edinburgh with St Bernard's. He played in one league match for them in season 1914/15 and also played in a trial match for Rangers. The 22-year-old was employed at the Electrical Power Station in Edinburgh before joining the Gordon Highlanders, and was killed in action on 14<sup>th</sup> December 1914.

## Leonard Martin Hawes (25/08/1915) Reading FC – Sergeant Berkshire Yeomanry.

Died of wounds at Sea received during the Gallipoli Campaign. Remembered on the Helles Memorial. Son of Alice Hawes, of 83, Kensington Rd., Reading, and the late Serjeant H. W. Hawes.

Thomas Haydock (24/07/1890 - 02/09/1918) Queens Park FC – 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion Cameronians (Scottish Rifles). Thomas Haydock was born in Dalmarnock in 1890, and was the son of Joseph and Sarah Haydock. His father was the manager of a cotton-spinning mill in Bridgeton, and the family lived at Riverbank, River Street, Dalmarnock. Thomas grew up with his older brother George, who went on to be a lecturer with the University of Glasgow's Logic Department. He was a Scottish amateur football centre half who played in the Scottish Football League for Queen's Park. Haydock was a graduate of Glasgow University and was also a member of the University's OTC. He was a travelling salesman for the Clydevale Oil & Colour Company, Bridgeton. In September 1914, one month after the outbreak of the First World War, Haydock enlisted in the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders. In January 1915, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles). He enjoyed a successful few months as a footballer - he made his first team debut against Raith Rovers on 25th April 1914, and took part in a tour of Denmark and Sweden with the team in June 1914. In total he made twenty-nine appearances for the club and scored three times. His final match for Queen's Park came in October 1915 against Hamilton Academical. Haydock saw action at Gallipoli and Palestine before being seriously wounded during an attack on Umbrella Hill during the Third Battle of Gaza on 1 November 1917. He did not return to his battalion until August 1918, after it had been deployed on the Western Front. The Allies were preparing for their "Hundred Day" counter-attack on the German defences - an attack which would eventually lead to the end of the war - and the 7th Battalion were ordered to attack the Hindenburg Line to the West of the village of Queant.

Lieutenant Thomas Haydock was wounded during an attack on the Hindenburg Line, west of Quéant on 2 September 1918 and died the same day at a Casualty Clearing Station in Bailleulval. He was buried in Bac-du-Sud British Cemetery, Bailleulval. On September 13th 1918 the Southern Press reported "Queen's Park players wore black bands on their arms to show respect for the late Lieut. Tom Haydock, who died from wounds received in action. Tom was a regular playing member in the Hampden club, and was popular with all followers of the game."

John Thomas Heaton (1894 – 16/08/1915) Burnley FC – Private 13628 Coldstream Guards.

He was born in Padiham in March 1894 and first appeared at Turf Moor in a pre-season trial match as a left winger in August 1914. He was Killed in action aged 21 years in France and is buried in Vermelles British Cemetery near Lens Northern France.

**Richard Hegarty** (1885 - 03/10/1917) Stockport County FC – Royal Field Artillery. He was an English professional football right back who played in the Football League for Stockport County. Hegarty served as a sergeant in the Royal Field Artillery during the First World War and died in Hartlepool on 3 October 1917. He was buried in Stranton Cemetery & Crematorium, Hartlepool.

**James Hendren (17/07/1885 – 17/06/1915).** Born to Irish ancestry at Lochore in Fife on 17 July 1885, began his football days with Nithsdale Wanderers and was a miner by trade. He had worked in the Ayrshire mines and, as a centre forward, played for Kilmarnock before emigrating to America. He later returned to Scotland, to Fife, where he played football for Cowdenbeath and worked in the mines. It was from Cowdenbeath he was spotted and signed for Hibernian in 1911. A strong, quick striker he was well established at Hibs, and played in the 1914 side that lost the Scottish Cup final. He enlisted as a driver in the Army Transport Corps but, as his wife had just given birth, he was allowed to delay his enlistment. Unfortunately, within a few months he died of acute pneumonia in the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary on 17 June 1915 in his late twenties, leaving behind a widow and two young children. Hibs requested permission from the wartime authorities to play a benefit match, but this was refused,

and instead a donation was made from their funds. He had been top scorer in his three full seasons at Hibernian, scoring fifty-six goals in 135 appearances, from his debut against Queen's Park in October 1911 until his final appearance, also against Queen's Park, in April 1915. He scored a hat-trick on his final appearance. In future years, Jimmy Hendren's great nephew, Pat Stanton, was to make a name for himself at Hibs.

**Samuel Herbertson (12/07/1915) Ayr United FC – Royal Scots Fusiliers.** He was born at Irvine, Ayrshire, about 1889, began his career with junior side Beith, and signed for Ayr United in July 1913 as a goalkeeper making thirteen appearances for the first team at Somerset Park before joining the Royal Scots Fusiliers at the outbreak of war. Private Samuel Herbertson was killed in action at the Dardanelles, Gallipoli on 12 July 1915.

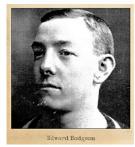
**Richard Herron** (19/09/1918) Stok FC – Sherwood Foresters (Notts and Derby Regiment). Herron was born in Durham and began his career with non-league West Stanley. He moved to Stoke in 1910 who at the time were playing in the Southern League and began a useful back up to first choice Bert Gadsden. He played in 20 matches in 1914–15 as Stoke won the Southern Football League Division Two title and were able to gain re-election to the Football League and Herron was tipped to become a fine 'keeper. But World War I was declared and Herron joined the Army, and he lost his life in France in 1918.

**Frank Hesham** (17/11/1915) Croydon Common FC, Leyton FC, Manchester City FC, Oldham Athletic FC, Preston North End FC, Stoke FC – Royal Garrison Artillery.

Frank Hesham was an outside right from Gorton, Manchester. After spells with Accrington Stanley, Stoke, Leyton Orient, Oldham Athletic and Preston North End, Hesham joined Croydon Common in 1909. In 1913/14 he scored twenty-seven goals as Croydon won the Second Division of the Southern League. In 1914 he enlisted in the Royal Garrison Artillery, having previously served in the 4th Volunteer Battalion Manchester Regiment. On 17 November 1915 Hesham was killed in action in France. He left a widow and a 14-year-old son.



**John Chapman Hodgkinson** (1883 - 05/06/1915) Grimsby Town FC, Stockport County FC – East Lancashire Regiment. He was an English professional football forward who played in the Football League for Stockport County FC and Grimsby Town. Hodgkinson served in the British Army as a territorial. He later re-enlisted as a private in the East Lancashire Regiment during the First World War and was killed at Gallipoli on 5<sup>th</sup> June 1915. He is commemorated on the Helles Memorial.



Edward Hodgson (1885 - 04/08/1919) Burnley FC – Manchester Regiment.

He was an English professional footballer who played as an inside forward. He originally played non-league football with his hometown club Chorley before joining Second Division side Burnley in 1911 at the age of 25. He won the FA Cup with the club in 1914. Hodgson went on to make 137 appearances for Burnley, scoring sixty-two goals. He fought in the Manchester Regiment during the First World War, but still represented Burnley as a wartime guest player, scoring 39 goals in 62 matches. Hodgson contracted a kidney problem while on service and died on 4 August 1919.

**Frederick Houghton** (1890 - 15/11/1918) Stockport County FC – Cheshire Regiment. He was an English semi-professional football left back and left half who played in the Football League for Stockport County.

Houghton worked for the Portwood Spinning Company in Stockport. He enlisted in the Army in 1915 and served in the Cheshire Regiment of the British Army during the First World War, rising to the appointed rank of Lance Corporal. He fought during the Mesopotamian Campaign and died of fever on 15 November 1918, just four days after the Armistice. He was buried in the Basra War Cemetery.

**Robert Gardner Houston**, 1st Battalion Seaforth Highlanders, born at Kilbarchan, was the son of Archibald and Margaret Gardner Houston, of 9 Gateside Place, Kilbarchan, Renfrewshire. He played for Abercorn, Johnstone and Partick Thistle. Private Robert Gardner Houston was killed in action on 9 May 1915, and is commemorated on Le Touret Memorial. Alexander Kay, born in Edinburgh around 1879, began his career with St Bernard's in season 1898/99. In his two seasons with the Edinburgh club he played in a total of twenty-six league matches. A season at Partick Thistle followed in 1900/01 where he was a regular in the side, making nineteen appearances.

John Warwick (Jack) Huggins (2 June 1886 – 26 April 1915) Reading FC, Sunderland FC – Durham Light Infantry. He was an English professional football outside left who played in the Football League for Sunderland. Jack

Huggins played thirty-one times for the club in 1908-09. He was born in Whitehaven, playing for Bede College and Leadgate before a prestigious move to Sunderland. He then came to Reading, but despite a good goalscoring record of 6 goals in 31 matches he could not settle in the south and returned to Roker Park. Huggins worked as a teacher. He served as a private in the Durham Light Infantry during the First World War and was killed during the Second Battle of Ypres on 26 April 1915. He was buried in Perth (China Wall) Cemetery, Belgium.

**Thomas Hughes** (1892-23/05/1916). Newcastle United FC – Northumberland Fusiliers. He was an English professional football inside left who played in the Football League for Newcastle United. Hughes served as a corporal in the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers during the First World War and was killed in West Flanders on 23 May 1915. He is commemorated on the Menin Gate.

**Joseph Arthur Hulme** (18/12/1877 - 03/10/1916) Brighton & Hove Albion FC, Bristol Rovers FC, Lincoln City FC – Royal Sussex Regiment. He was an English footballer who scored 12 goals from 29 appearances in the Football League playing for Lincoln City. He also played in the Southern League for Gravesend United, Bristol Rovers and Brighton & Hove Albion, and in the Midland League for Wellingborough. He began his career as an inside right, and in later years played at right back.

Hulme was born in Leek, Staffordshire, and began his career in junior football in the local area, playing as an inside forward. He signed for Lincoln City in June 1897, and made his first-team debut on 4 September, the opening day of the 1897–98 Football League season, in the Second Division match away at Newton Heath. Lincoln lost 5–0. He played regularly, scoring thirteen goals from thirty-one appearances in all competitions, twelve from twenty-nine in the League, but was released at the end of the season. Hulme and a Lincoln teammate, goalkeeper William Wilkinson, were two of numerous new signings for Gravesend United for the 1898–99 Southern



League season. Neither was retained for the following campaign. The club's committee was keen to dispense with the services of "the men with drinking reputations, who proved such failures last season", though there is no indication that Hulme was one such. He played for Midland League club Wellingborough before returning to the Southern League with Bristol Rovers in 1901–02. Hulme signed for Brighton & Hove Albion ahead of their second season in the Southern League. His profile in Carder and Harris's *Albion A–Z* describes him as highly influential in Brighton's successful campaign for promotion to the First Division, and, playing in defence, he missed only one match in their first campaign at the higher level.

In 1904–05, he played more frequently for the reserves than for the first team, though he did replace the injured centre-half Micky Good for the high-profile FA Cup tie against his former club Bristol Rovers. Albion lost 2–1, and the winning Rovers players were presented with gold medals in honour of their victory.

At the end of that season, Hulme was one of only three players retained by Albion. He was appointed captain, and contributed to their reaching the last 32 of the 1905–06 FA Cup, in which they lost to Football League First Division club Middlesbrough only after two replays; according to the *Daily Mirror*'s match report, Hulme played splendidly. By 1907 he was again primarily a reserve, standing in when Arthur Archer was unavailable. In recognition of his five years' service to the club, he became the first Albion player to be awarded a benefit match. The chosen match was the Western League fixture against Southampton, but the weather was extremely wet and the attendance was reported as "barely two thousand". He played only one first-team match in 1908–09, and retired at the end of the season, having scored seven goals from 174 appearances for Albion in first-team competition. He then returned to his native Leek when he re-signed for Macclesfield. He later became trainer of local team Leek United, probably from the 1909-1910 season as he only made two appearances for Macclesfield during that season having been almost ever-present during the 1908-1909 season. Hulme enlisted in the Royal Sussex Regiment at the start of the First World War. He was serving as a corporal in the 7th Battalion at the time of his death in action in October 1916 at Gueudecourt, in the Somme department of France. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial and on the Nicholson War Memorial in Leek.

**Harry Hunter** (05/11/1917) Southampton FC – Second Lieutenant Royal Flying Corps. Buried in Wimereux Communal Cemetery Grave IV.K.4. Son of Robert and Ann Mercy Hunter, of Clapham, London.

**David Heron Izatt** (1889 - 01/07/1916) Dunfermline Athletic FC – Royal Scots. He was a Scottish professional footballer who played in the Scottish League for Dunfermline Athletic. Izatt was a plumber by trade. Soon after the outbreak of the First World War in August 1914, Izatt enlisted as a private in the Royal Scots. He was killed in action on the first day of the Somme and is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.

**William Hickin Jackson** (1894 - 03/05/1917) West Bromwich Albion FC – Prince of Wales West Yorkshire Regiment. He was an English professional football centre forward who played in the Football League for West Bromwich Albion. Jackson served as a Second Lieutenant in the West Yorkshire Regiment during the First World War and was killed in France on 3 May 1917. He is commemorated on the Arras Memorial.

**Stephen Jackson MM** (1890 - 26/10/1917) Coventry City FC – South Staffordshire Regiment. He signed for Coventry City in 1911 and went on to play twelve games over three seasons. He enlisted in September 1914, becoming Sergeant in the South Staffordshire Regiment. He served in the 7th South Stafford's in the Dardanelles before being wounded. Upon his recovery he was posted to the 1st Battalion in France. Jackson was awarded the Military Medal for his conduct during fighting at Bullecourt in April 1917. He was later appointed as an Acting Company-Sergeant-Major to "B" Company and was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal for his conduct during a raid in the Bullecourt sector.

# His citation, published in the London Gazette, described the circumstances of the award:

"For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during a raid. Although not taking part in it, he went out under heavy fire at a critical moment, having learnt that the raid was making very little progress owing to the considerable opposition. He reorganised the parties and led them forward, afterwards personally conducting stretcher-bearers up to the enemy's firing line and clearing No-Man's Land of wounded. His fearlessness and splendid initiative at a trying time proved invaluable to the success of the operation."

Jackson was killed on 26 October 1917 during his battalion's attack on a fortified mound south-west of Hamp Farm, in front of the village of Gheluvelt.

**T. Andrew Jackson** (30/09/1918) Ardrossan Rovers FC, Middlesbrough FC, St. Mirren FC – Sergeant 220364 Cameron Highlanders. He was a Scottish professional football centre half who played in the Football League for Middlesbrough. Jackson served as a sergeant in the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders during the First World War and died of wounds at 36th Casualty Clearing Station in Watten on 30 September 1918. He was buried in the Haringhe (Bandaghem) Military Cemetery, Belgium.



**John Jarvie** (1889 - 02/01/1916) Luton Town FC – 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Argyll & Southerland Highlanders.

'Jock' Jarvie was a professional footballer for Luton Town FC in the 1912-13 and 1913-14 seasons. At the end of the 1914 season he returned to his hometown of Glasgow. He enlisted and was killed in action in January 1916, aged twenty-seven.



The full back had transferred to Luton from Tottenham in 1912 and helped them to gain promotion to the First Division of the Southern League in the 1913-14 season. Circumstances prevented him from playing for the full 1913-14 season and as the season ended he returned to Scotland. At the outbreak of war he enlisted in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and was sent to France in October 1915. Jock was reported missing in the Leighton Buzzard Observer of 18th January 1916 when a letter received by his friend Stuart Clarke of 14 Union St Luton was published. The letter from his officer Lieutenant Sinclair-Thompson told Stuart " Please inform the relatives of Private Jarvie that he was reported missing on 2nd January 1916. He and thirteen others were blown up by an enemy mine explosion and we could only report him missing as we never saw the body. Please accept and convey to his people my deepest sympathy".

The officer had written to Stuart because letters from him were found amongst Jarvie's things. Perhaps he felt that there would be a delay in official notification or wanted to avoid any false hope that a notification of "Missing believed killed" might produce, having seen the incident with his own eyes. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission record that the remains of Private Jarvie were buried in Cambria Churchyard Extension.

#### Robert Jaffray MM (07/10/1896 - 23/11/1917) Brechin City FC – Black Watch.

The son of Robert Jaffray, millworker, and Jemima Jaffray (nee Paton) was born on the 7th of October 1896 at 179 Montrose Street, Brechin. By 1901 his family (parents and three sisters) were residing at 271 Montrose Street.

Private Robert Jeffrey was one of the majority of D Company, 5th Battalion, The Black Watch, to have volunteered in November 1914 for Foreign Service. He then went to France with the 5th Battalion. When he was killed however, he was serving as a corporal with the 154th Company, the Machine Gun Corps. His Service Number was 24486.

He had been awarded the Military Medal early in 1917 and had been recommended for a Distinguished Conduct Medal shortly before his death. (At this point the only decoration for gallantry which could be awarded

posthumously was the Victoria Cross.) He was "well known in junior football circles prior to the war" and had been employed at the Denburn Works, which he left in August 1914. The titanic battle of Third Ypres had officially ended on 10th November 1917 when the British took Passchendaele. The Highland Division, including the 154th Machine Gun Company, had moved south-east and over the period 20th November to 7th December took part in the Battle of Cambrai. Robert Jaffray died on 23rd November 1917 of wounds, likely sustained in the struggle for the capture of Bourlon Wood, and is buried at Rocquigny-Equancourt Road British Cemetery, Manancourt, France. At the time of the registration of his grave his parents were residing at 127 River Street, Brechin. (It is worth noting that Robert Jaffray appears on the Commonwealth Graves Commission's web site as Robert Jeffrey.)

# Charles Jeffrey (09/05/1915) Sergeant Black Watch.

He was born in Dundonald, Ayrshire, had two seasons with Paisley side, Abercorn. In season 1913/14 he played in three league matches (1 goal) and had one more outing the following season. After enlisting in the Black Watch soon after the outbreak of war, Sergeant Charles Jeffrey was killed in action on 9 May 1915. His name is on Le Touret Memorial. **Abercorn Football Club** was a football club based in Paisley, Scotland. The club were members of the Scottish Football League from 1890 until 1915 and folded in 1920. Abercorn were founder members of the Scottish Football League, but eventually could not compete with local rivals St Mirren.

# William Johnson (1890 – 20/11/1917) Burnley FC – Lance-Corporal Kings Own Liverpool Regiment.

He was born in Aldershot into a military family, his father had been in the Army for more than twenty years and had served in the Boer War. His brother was also a serving soldier. After the family had lived in India for a time, they returned to England and settled in Burnley. William Johnson was an all-round sportsman, excelling at football and cricket, and joined Burnley FC, initially as a trialist, in November 1911. He signed professional terms in April 1912. He played regularly in the Central League over the next few years and was a member of Burnley's reserve side that finished third in the league and won the famous Burnley Hospital Cup in 1913. Lance-Corporal William Johnson 41704 4th Kings Own Liverpool Regiment. Killed in action in Belgium 20 November 1917, aged 27 Buried in Dochy Farm New British Cemetery, Langemark-Poelkapelle, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.

Alexander Brown Johnston (17/08/1917) Falkirk FC – Acting Bombardier 261<sup>st</sup> Siege Battery Royal Garrison Artillery.

Killed in Action and buried in Bard Cottage Cemetery. Son of John and Janet Johnston, of Falkirk; husband of Mary Arnott Johnston, of 18, Garthall Place, Falkirk.



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**Peter Johnstone** (30/12/1887 – 16/05/1917) Celtic FC – Seaforth Highlanders. He was a Scottish footballer who played for Celtic.

On leaving school, he worked in his hometown's coalmine, whilst also playing for Junior club Glencraig Celtic. Johnstone signed for Celtic in 1908 but made only one appearance in his first season at Parkhead. However, he soon became a regular in the side and eventually made over two hundred appearances, scoring twenty-four goals. During his career at Celtic he played in a variety of roles at forward, midfield and defence. His main position was at outside-right, but in later years played more often in defence. He won three Scottish Cup medals as well as

four League championships with Celtic and was a mainstay in their side for several years. Johnstone was never capped for Scotland but he did play for the Scottish League side in 1914 against the Irish League, as well as representing Glasgow on two occasions.

Johnstone enlisted with the army in 1916 to assist the war effort, despite being both a newsagent and a coal-miner – both reserved occupations. He first joined Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Regiment but later moved on to the 6th Battalion of the Seaforth Highlanders. Johnstone continued to occasionally play for Celtic during his army training, and in September 1916 travelled overnight from England to help his teammates defeat Rangers in a Glasgow Cup tie. Johnstone died in May 1917 when the 6th Battalion of the Seaforth Highlanders attempted to capture a chemicals factory near Rouen in north-west France during the Battle of Arras. A dedication to his memory is inscribed on the Arras Memorial in the Fauborg d'Amiens Cemetery.



PETER JOHNSTONE, 1/7 A. & S.H., Killed in France, 12th May, 1917. And how can man die better For the ashes of his fathers Than facing fearlai dds

**William Jonas** (1890 – 27/07/1916) Clapton Orient FC – Middlesex Regiment. Leyton Orient were originally formed by members of the Glyn Cricket Club in 1881, many of whom were former students of the Independent

College, Homerton in nearby Hackney (now Homerton College in Cambridge); an annual fixture is still held between the club and the college. The team has had several name changes since, first as Eagle Cricket Club in 1886 then as Orient Football Club in 1888. The name of Glyn's Bank was synonymous with cricket at this time, when the Bank's senior partner was the 1st Lord Hillingdon. In 1886 it changed its name to the Eagle Cricket Club and two years later, after a particularly successful season, they formed a football section to keep the players fit during the winter months.



The twelve history books written on the club by its historian Neilson N. Kaufman between 1974 and 2015 suggest that the choice of the name *Orient* came about at the behest of a player, Jack R Dearing, who was an employee of the Orient Shipping Company, later part of P&O – Peninsular & Oriental. The club's name was changed again to **Clapton Orient** in 1898 to represent the area of London in which they played, though there was another team called Clapton F.C. The name **Leyton Orient** was adopted following the conclusion of the Second World War. The club had moved to Leyton in 1937, though again there was another team called Leyton F.C. A further rename back to simply **Orient** took place in 1966 after the Borough of Leyton (in Essex) was absorbed into the London Borough of Waltham Forest. That renaming followed a financial crisis – one of several to hit the club, and by no means the first or last – and restructuring of the company behind the club; this is remembered for a "pass the bucket" collection that took place at a special meeting of supporters in the East Stand, when complete closure was claimed to be a definite possibility.

The 1914–15 season was the last football season before the league was suspended due to the outbreak of the First World War. A total of 41 members of the Clapton Orient team and staff joined up into the 17th Battalion Middlesex Regiment (the Footballers' Battalion), the highest of any football team in the country and the first to join up *en masse*. At the final game of the season – Clapton Orient vs Leicester Fosse, 20,000 people came out to support the team. A farewell parade was also hosted, but not before the O's had won 2–0. The British Film Institute holds a brief recording of this historic match and parade in its archives. During the Battle of the Somme, three players gave their lives for king and country: Richard McFadden, George Scott and William Jonas. Though they were the only Orient staff to have died during the First World War, many others sustained wounds, some more than once and were not able to resume their football careers after the war. Prior to the First World War, O's striker McFadden had saved the life of a boy who was drowning in the River Lea as well as rescuing a man from a burning building.

McFadden and Willie Jonas were trapped in a trench. Willie turned to his lifelong friend and said: "Goodbye Mac, best regards to the lads at Orient." Then he was gone. Willie, Mac and their pal George Scott were three Clapton Orient footballers who died at the Somme. After losing his friend that terrible day, McFadden, 27, sent a heartbreaking letter to the club:

"I sadly report the death of my friend and O's colleague William Jonas, age 26. Both Willie and I were trapped in a trench near the front. Willie turned to me and said: 'Goodbye Mac, best of luck. Special love to Mary Jane and best regards to the lads at Orient." Before I could reply he was up and over. No sooner had he jumped up out of the trench, my best friend of nearly twenty years was killed before my eyes. Words cannot express my feelings."

History was made on Saturday 30 April 1921 when the Prince of Wales, later to become King Edward VIII, visited Millfields Road to see the O's play Notts County. The Orient won 3–0 and this was the first time a member of royalty had attended a Football League match. The royal visit was to show gratitude for Clapton Orient's patriotic example during the Great War and there is now a plaque erected on the site of the Millfields Road Stadium to commemorate this historic event.

William James Jones. (1876 – 06/05/1918) Aberdare Athletic FC, Kettering FC, West Ham United FC. Became the first player from the South Wales League to represent Wales in 1901, while a player with Aberdare Athletic. He also played briefly for West Ham, then a Southern League club. He joined the Royal Welch Fusiliers in Tonypandy and was killed in Doiran Macedonia - now northern Greece. His body was not recovered but he is remembered on a memorial there. Jones was born in the village of Penrhiwceiber, near Aberdare and started his football career with Aberdare Athletic in 1898, becoming team captain in 1901. In March 1901, he became the first player from South Wales league football to be selected for Wales, when he played in the 1–1 draw with Scotland followed by a 6–0 defeat by England. (In the latter match, four goals were scored by Steve Bloomer.) Described as "a sound tackler who played well within himself" who was "adept at feeding the wingmen", his transfer to Kettering in September 1901 was "much regretted" in his hometown. He failed to settle at Kettering and in December he moved to West Ham United in a swap with Peter Kyle. He was relatively successful at the East London club, with only two defeats in 15 Southern League appearances. In the summer of 1902, he returned

to Wales joining Aberaman Athletic. At the end of his first season there, he helped Aberaman become the first club from South Wales to reach the final of the Welsh Cup, although the final was a one-sided affair with Wrexham winning 8–0. From 1904 to 1906, Jones finished his career at Rogerstone. Jones made four appearances for Wales in official international matches.

# Francis Kelly (05/05/1919) Celtic FC, Motherwell FC – Cameronians Scottish Rifles.

He was an outside-right who made two competitive appearances for the Boys in 1918 while on loan from the army. Quick and a good crosser of the ball, Kelly made his debut at Hampden as Celtic defeated Queen's Park 2-0 in a league clash on February 2nd 1918. He went on tour with Celtic to Germany just prior to the start of WW1 and played in Leipzig and Berlin. Said to be fast and have a great shot. He made a further appearance in Sep, in a 3-1 win over Third Lanark. However, beyond that he was to make only several appearances in minor cup competitions for the Hoops. He was in the Celtic sides that won the War Shield v Morton in 1918 and won the Charity Cup against Partick Thistle. Tragically, after returning to the army he was to die in 1919 from injuries sustained in a train crash in post-war France. Private 53182 Francis (Frank) Kelly is buried in Loiret France. We shall never know, but maybe if things were different he could have played a part in the make-up of the management of the club. Sir Bob Kelly became chairman in time, and that position could have been Frank Kelly's, and the history of Celtic may have turned out to have been very different.

**Thomas Kelly** (1884 - 09/04/1916) Glossop FC, Grimsby Town FC – North Staffordshire Rangers. He was an English professional football half back who played in the Football League for Grimsby Town and Glossop. Kelly was married with six children and predominantly lived in Stockport, working at the gasworks. In March 1915, eight months into the First World War, Kelly and his brother enlisted in the North Staffordshire Regiment. He died in an attack on Sannaiy-at, Mesopotamia, during the Siege of Kut on 8<sup>th</sup> April 1916. Commemorated on the Basra Memorial.

**George William Kennedy MM DCM** (12/03/1882 – 16/11/1917) Brentford FC, Chelsea FC, Lincoln City FC – Canadian Infantry. He was a Scottish footballer. He played at left half or centre half. He began his career in his native Dumfries with Maxwell town Volunteers, one of the clubs who later merged to form Queen of the South. He then made forty-five appearances over two seasons playing for Lincoln City. Under David Calderhead, Lincoln pulled off an FA Cup upset when a goal by another ex-Maxwell town Volunteers player, Norrie Fairgray, knocked out Chelsea 1–0 in a replay.

Calderhead became Chelsea manager soon after and took Fairgray with him. Kennedy followed a year later. Kennedy spent the years in the lead up to World War I playing for another team in West London, then-Southern League club, Brentford. George left Brentford at the end of the 1912–13 season, returning to Dumfries for the following season. George Kennedy emigrated to Canada in June 1914. Sailing from Glasgow to Montreal on board the SS Grampian. Private 418239 G.W. Kennedy enlisted in the 42nd Battalion (Royal Highlanders Regiment) of the Canadian Infantry in March 1915 and was sent to France with the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF). He would subsequently be awarded both the Military Medal and Distinguished Conduct Medal for gallantry, and was also Mentioned in Despatches. Having risen to the rank of Company Sergeant Major (CSM), Kennedy was wounded during the Third Battle of Ypres and subsequently died from his injuries on 16 November 1917. He was 35 years old. CSM 418239 G. Kennedy is now buried at Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, located 12 km west of Ypres.

**William Kennedy (13/10/1915)** Southend United FC, West Ham United FC – London Scottish Regiment. Born in Grays in 1890 was a schoolteacher who played for West Ham between 1910-1912. Living in Cromwell Street in Grays at the time he played for the club. It is listed that he retired in 1912. His parents were Scottish and so it was he joined the London regiment and also in the London Scottish 14th Brigade, he though was to die on the 13/10/1915.

Like many others he has no Grave but is listed on the Loos Memorial. That memorial commemorates over 20,000 dead that have no grave and on the panel that names William, above his is the name of his brother as well, John aged twenty-nine.

Hugh Stewart Kerr (1882 - 10/04/1918) Ayr FC, Manchester United FC – Private 14th

Battalion London Scottish Regiment. He was a Scottish footballer. His regular position was as a forward. He played for Westerlea, Ayr, and Manchester United. Kerr joined Ayr from Westerlea in 1903, but only spent half a season





there before joining Manchester United in January 1904. However, the Ayr officials were of the opinion that United had made an illegal, unofficial approach to sign Kerr, and an enquiry into the transfer was set up by the International Football Association Board (IFAB). Kerr made his Manchester United debut in a 2–1 defeat away to Blackpool on 9 March 1904, followed by another appearance in a 2–0 home win over Grimsby Town on 26 March. The IFAB found United innocent of any illicit contact with Kerr about a week later, but he was ultimately released at the end of the season. He died of wounds received on 10 April 1918 and is buried in Etaples Military Cemetery.

# F. Walter Kimberley (28/09/1884 - 22/04/1917) Aston Villa FC, Coventry City FC – Coldstream Guards.

Kimberley joined Coventry City in 1912, having previously played for Aston Villa and Walsall. He made twentythree appearances and scored one goal for the club before War was declared. He left the club to enlist during August 1914 in the 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards. Originally reported as killed in action but was actually captured in the severe fighting at the Battle of Marne and held as a prisoner of war in Germany. Lance Corporal Kimberley was discharged suffering from tuberculosis, picked up during his captivity. He died on 22nd April 1917 in Birmingham.



Kimberley joined Aston Villa from amateur side Aston Manor in 1906 and was handed his debut in a 1-0 win at Arsenal on 8 February 1908. He would subsequently struggle to establish himself at Villa Park, however, and joined Coventry City in 1912 after just six further appearances. During his time at Highfield Road, Kimberley would find playing time easier to come by and by the time he left in 1914, he had played twenty-three matches in all competitions. A brief spell at Walsall followed before Kimberley's career was finally ended by the First World War. Private 5465 Kimberley was a pre-war regular soldier who enlisted in the Coldstream Guards on 5 March 1904. Mobilized at the outbreak of the First World War, Kimberley was posted to 1st Battalion and appointed lance corporal on 6 August 1914.

The battalion were amongst the first troops of the British Expeditionary Force to land in France and were involved in heavy fighting during The Battle of Mons, The Battle of the Marne, The Battle of the Aisne and the First Battle of Ypres. Kimberley was subsequently captured by the enemy and sent to a prisoner of war (PoW) camp in Germany. Kimberley was repatriated in August 1916 as part of a prisoner exchange, however, his health had deteriorated significantly in the two years he had spent in captivity. A subsequent medical report revealed that Kimberley had contracted severe tonsillitis, laryngitis and bronchitis during his time in Germany, a devastating combination that resulted in Kimberley permanently losing his voice.

Furthermore, Kimberley was suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. Admitted to Queen Alexandra's Military Hospital, Millbank, on his return to Britain, Kimberley was discharged from the Army as "No Longer Physically Fit for War Service" on 1<sup>st</sup> September 1916 and returned to his family home in Birmingham. A subsequent Medical Board report issued on 9<sup>th</sup> January 1917 recorded Kimberley's condition as "Total Incapacity" indicating the severity of his failing health. Three months later, on 22 April 1917, Walter died from TB at his home on Clifton Road, Aston and was buried at Birmingham (Witton) Cemetery. He just 32-years-old and left a widow and two young children.

**George King** (01/07/1916) Burnley FC, Millwall FC – Northumberland Fusiliers. King served as a private in the Northumberland Fusiliers during the First World War and was killed on the first day of the Somme in 1916. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.

William Kirby (21/06/1883 - 03/10/1917) Croydon Common FC, Exeter City FC, Merthyr Town FC, Portsmouth FC, Preston North End FC, Swindon Town FC, West Ham United FC – East Yorkshire Regiment. Sometimes known as Bill Kirby or 'Sunny Jim' Kirby, he was an English professional football inside left, best remembered for his time in the Southern League with Portsmouth, for whom he made over 270 appearances in all competitions. He also played in the Football League for hometown club Preston North End. Kirby served in the Royal Engineers during the First World War, prior to being invalided out and working at the Royal Arsenal. He re-joined the Royal Engineers in 1917 and was killed at Ypres in October that year while serving with the 6th (Pioneer) Battalion. He is buried at Bard Cottage Cemetery, Belgium.



Gerald Kirk 14/07/1883 - (24/04/1915) Bradford City FC, Leeds City FC – Kings Own Royal

# Lancaster Regiment.

He was an English footballer who played for Bradford City and Leeds United. He served in the Great War with the King's Own Lancaster Regiment, rising to the rank of 2nd Lieutenant. He died in battle on 24<sup>TH</sup> April 1915 at Poperinghe.

# George Andrew Lake (1889 - 06/11/1918) Chelsea FC – Hampshire Regiment.

He was an English professional football left half who made one appearance in the Football League for Chelsea. In 1915, during the second year of the First World War, Lake enlisted as a private in the 66th (2nd East Lancashire) Divisional Cyclist Company. He was later transferred to the Royal Hampshire Regiment for service overseas. Lake died of wounds on 6 November 1918, five days before the armistice, two days after his battalion's attempt to cross the Sambre–Oise Canal near Frasnoy, France. He was buried in Frasnoy Communal Cemetery. Lake was the final English footballer to die in the war. His great-nephew, Paul, would also become a footballer.

#### Edwin Gladstone Latheron (22/12/1887 - 14/10/1917) Blackburn Rovers FC – Royal Field Artillery.

He was an English footballer who played as an inside forward for Blackburn Rovers, helping them to win the Football League title in 1912 and 1914. He also made two appearances for England in 1913 and 1914. He was killed at the Battle of Passchendaele in World War I.

Latheron was born at Carlin How, near Middlesbrough and after playing for South Bank Corinthians he joined Grangetown Athletic, playing in the Northern League. He was discovered by Blackburn Rovers in 1906 playing for Grangetown against Blackburn Crosshill in an FA Amateur Cup tie. Rovers had originally gone to watch another player but it was Latheron who caught their eye and Rovers' manager Robert Middleton paid £25 to bring him to Ewood Park. Despite his lack of height, he was masterful in the air and possessed excellent ball control and a fine shot. A prolific goal scorer, but unselfish team player, he quickly established himself as a fan's favourite and, due to his complexion and red hair, Latheron was known affectionately as "Pinkie" on the terraces.



Latheron soon became a regular selection at inside-left and in 1907–08 he was joint top scorer with nine goals from twenty-seven appearances as Rovers struggled, finishing in 14th place in the table. The following season, Middleton appointed Bob Holmes, the former Preston North End star as trainer. This appointment had a great impact on the team as they obtain fourth place in the table, with Latheron scoring ten goals. Blackburn continued their good form the following season and by October 1909 they became leaders of the First Division.

They lost their position in January 1910 and finally finished in third place behind Aston Villa and Liverpool with Latheron again scoring ten goals. In 1910–11, Blackburn struggled away from home, with only one win, and, although they won twelve games at home, they could only finish in mid-table.

They did, however, have a good run in the FA Cup, reaching the FA Cup semifinals where they went down 3–0 to eventual winners Bradford City; Latheron scored three goals in the cup run, including two against Southend United in the first round. The 1911–12 season began badly with Blackburn Rovers losing two of the first three games. Blackburn's form gradually improved and the team went on an unbeaten run that lasted three months, which took them to the top of the league. Despite being defeated by Bolton Wanderers and Arsenal, Blackburn went on another good run and by the end of the season they had three more points than main challengers, Everton. This was Blackburn's first Football League title. Despite missing a substantial part of the season through injury, Latheron was one of the stars of the team, contributing seven goals, including vital goals against Everton and Oldham Athletic in the final weeks of the season. Blackburn started the 1912–13 season very well and were undefeated until December, but there then came a run of five successive defeats. In an attempt to regain the championship, Middleton broke the British transfer record by buying Danny Shea from West Ham United for £2,000. Shea's twelve goals were not enough, and Blackburn finished fifth that season, with Latheron the club's top scorer on fourteen goals.

His form earned him a call up to the England team for the British Home Championship match against Wales played at Ashton Gate, Bristol on 17 March 1913, when he was joined by his Rovers teammates, Bob Crompton, Joseph Hodkinson and Billy Bradshaw. Latheron scored England's second goal in a 4–3 victory. His second international appearance came at Ayresome Park, Middlesbrough the following February, in a 3–0 defeat by Ireland with two goals from Liverpool's Bill Lacey as Ireland claimed the British Home Championship outright for the first time. In the league, Rovers took the Football League title for the second time in 1913–14 with a seven-point margin over Aston Villa, thanks in no small part to Danny Shea's 27 goals with Latheron contributing 13 goals. Despite the outbreak of the First World War, league football continued in England for a further season, and in 1914–15, Blackburn finished in third place behind Everton and Oldham Athletic. Rovers scored eighty-three league goals in the season, with top scorer Percy Dawson on twenty goals, with Latheron scoring 17. In his nine league seasons at Ewood Park, Latheron played 258 games, scoring ninety-four goals. For the 1915–16 season, Latheron was one of

several Blackburn Rovers players who guested for Blackpool, for whom he was top scorer with 16 goals in wartime leagues. Latheron returned to Blackburn for the 1916–17 season and played his final game for Blackburn Rovers on 17 March 1917. Including wartime matches, Latheron made a total of 303 appearances for Blackburn, scoring 120 goals.

After the cessation of League football, Latheron enlisted, joining the Royal Field Artillery as a gunner, and within a week of his last match for Blackburn Rovers, he was at the Front. He was killed on 14 October 1917, aged 29 at the Battle of Passchendaele, and was buried in the military cemetery at Vlamertinghe near to the town of Ypres, Belgium. He left behind a widow, Bertha, and a son, Walter.

# Patrick Lavery (1884 - 25/09/1915) Hull City FC – Highland Light Infantry.

He was an English professional football outside left who played in the Football League for Hull City. Lavery served as a private in the Highland Light Infantry during the First World War and was killed on the opening day of the Battle of Loos in September 1915. He is commemorated on the Loos Memorial.

**Robert McLaren Law** (18/05/1915) Queens Park Rangers FC – Private 2002 Cameron Highlanders. Killed in action and remembered on Le Touret Memorial.

Allan Lawrie (10/05/1915) Aberdeen FC – Cameron Highlanders.

Allan Lawrie, born at Aberdeen, joined Aberdeen in June 1906 as a centre-forward, playing in one first team match in season 1906/07 and then was a reserve for the next couple of seasons. He joined the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders as a Private soon after the outbreak of war and was killed in action at Flanders on 10 May 1915.

George Legge (12/07/1886 - 25/09/1915) Queens Park FC – Cameron Highlanders.

He was a Scottish amateur footballer who played in the Scottish Football League for Queen's Park.

Legge studied to be an electrical engineer. Soon after the outbreak of the First World War in August 1914, Legge enlisted as a private in the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders. He was killed in action on 29 September 1915, during an advance on Auchy-lez-La-Bassée in the early stages of the Battle of Loos. He is commemorated on the Loos Memorial.

**George Frederick Lessons** (30/08/1883 - 07/09/1918) Northampton Town FC, Nottingham Forest FC – Northamptonshire Regiment. He was an English professional football centre forward who made nearly 250 appearances in the Southern League for Northampton Town. He also managed the club and earlier in his career played in the Football League for Nottingham Forest. Lessons served as a lance corporal in the Northamptonshire Regiment during the First World War and was killed on the Western Front on 7 September 1918, just over two months before the armistice.

George Frederick Lessons (30/08/1883 - 07/09/1918) Northampton Town FC, Nottingham Forest FC.

Lance Corporal, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment. Born in Stockport. He was an English professional football centre forward who made nearly 250 appearances in the Southern League for Northampton Town. He also managed the club and earlier in his career played in the Football League for Nottingham Forest. Killed in action and buried in Eterpigny British Cemetery France. He was the husband of Ethel Lessons, of 30, Palin St., Hyson Green, Nottingham. Professional footballer.

**Edward John Lightfoot** (13/11/1889 - 20/07/1918) Tottenham Hotspur FC – Royal Garrison Artillery. He was an English footballer who played for Harrowby, Southport Central and Tottenham Hotspur. Lightfoot signed for Tottenham Hotspur after spells with Harrowby and Southport. The left half featured in sixty-six matches and scored twice in all competitions between 1911 and 1915. Lightfoot was one of several former and current (at that time) *Spurs* players who died in action in World War I. In early 1916, Lightfoot joined the Royal Garrison Artillery. He died at 1st Australian Casualty Clearing Station in Esquelbecq Military Cemetery. *Perseus* writing in the *Lancashire Daily Post*-paid the following tribute "Edward Lightfoot was a splendid footballer but, more than that, he was a good sportsman and a player that respected both himself and his opponents. He has joined a noble company who will leave a big void in football"



**Oscar Horace Stanley Linkson** (16/03/1888 - 08/08/1916) Manchester United FC, Queens Park Rangers FC – Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment. Linkson was born in New Barnet, Hertfordshire. His father was Robert Linkson, a house painter; his mother, Rebecca Bartram, ran a business selling wardrobes made by her father and brothers. Linkson was the youngest of five boys in a family that also included four sisters. His three eldest brothers, William, Robert and Alfred, and his sister Margaret all died in infancy before he was born. His one

remaining brother, Sidney died in 1901 as a result of a disease caught during active service in the Second Boer War.



Linkson started his career with Barnet Alston (later Barnet F.C.) in 1907. He was spotted playing for an amateur team, Pirates FC, on a continental tour by scouts from Manchester United, who were also touring in the same area, and he signed for the club in 1908. He made his first team debut on 24 October 1908 in a match against Nottingham Forest. In total, Linkson played in fifty-five league games and four FA Cup games, and helped the club win the 1909 FA Cup and 1911 league title. In 1913, he transferred to Shelbourne in Dublin.

At the outbreak of the First World War, he returned to England, where he enrolled with the 1st Football Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment, who were formed under the Pals battalion scheme and made up entirely of sportsmen; he fought alongside other footballers, such as Walter Tull, Evelyn Lintott and Vivian Woodward. On 8

August 1916, Private Linkson went missing in the battle to seize Guillemont Station during the Somme Offensive. His body was never recovered, and he was recorded as missing presumed dead. In 1912, Oscar married his 16-year-old sweetheart, Olive Fenton. Fenton was the granddaughter of Kate Hodson, an actress in the Victorian era, and the great-niece of Henrietta Hodson, an actress and theatre manager. They had two children: Eric (1913–1971) and Olive (1914–1990).

**Evelyn Henry Lintott** (02/11/1883 - 01/07/1916) Bradford City FC, Leeds City FC, Plymouth Argyle FC, Queens Park Rangers FC – West Yorkshire Regiment. He was an English footballer who joined the British Army and died during the First World War. He played as a half back for Plymouth Argyle and Queens Park Rangers in the Southern League, and Bradford City and Leeds City in the Football League. Lintott was capped seven times by the England national team after becoming a professional player, and he also made five appearances for the amateur side. He was killed in action on the first day on the Somme, the opening day of the Battle of Albert.



Born in Godalming and educated at the Royal Grammar School, Guildford, Lintott was Queens Park Rangers' first ever England international in 1908. His first major club was Woking where he helped the club to win the East and West Surrey League and Surrey Charity Shield. He moved to Devon to study teaching at St Luke's College in Exeter, and signed with Southern League club Plymouth Argyle in 1906.

He made two appearances for Argyle during the 1906–07 season and then settled in London, where he taught at Oldfield Road School in Willesden. He joined Queens Park Rangers in 1907, making his professional debut in the replay of the 1908 FA Charity Shield match. He played 31 Southern League games before moving to Football League side Bradford City in 1908. He finished his career at Leeds City. Lintott was a schoolmaster throughout his career. In 1908 his weight was 12 stone and height 5 ft 10 inches. When World War I was declared in 1914, Lintott was one of the first players to sign up for army service and joined the West Yorkshire Regiment's 15th Battalion, known as the Leeds Pals. He was promoted to lieutenant and became the first professional footballer to hold a commission. He was killed in action on 1 July 1916, the first day on the Somme, which was the opening day of the Battle of Albert and the first phase of the British and French offensive that became known as the Battle of the Somme. Lintott lost his life along with more than 19,000 other men.

**George Albert Littler** (1888 - 11/05/1915) Brentford FC – Kings Royal Rifle Corps. He was born in 1888 in Hulme, Manchester. He enlisted in The King's Royal Rifle Corps before the First World War and was well known for his ability as a forward on the football field. In the 1911/12 football season he played for the very successful 1st

Battalion team in their Fourth Round FA Cup tie against Brentford FC. According to a report of the event: "The weather on the day was atrocious and a wretched crowd of just 1,475 saw Brentford surprisingly held to a 1-1 draw. The soldiers wanted the replay to take place on their ground at Aldershot, but the FA refused and Brentford duly triumphed 4-1 at Griffin Park before another poor crowd [2,600]" Littler, however, must have impressed Brentford FC as he ended up on their books, playing for their



Reserves. In the autumn of 1912 Littler was posted from the 1st Battalion to The Rifle Depot. The 1st Battalion's records refer to the loss of Littler, stating: 'We were at the beginning of the season [1912/13] greatly handicapped by losing two of our best players, namely, Corporal Kemp and Rifleman Littler.'

During the 1912/13 season Littler represented The Rifle Depot. Despite being knocked out of both the Army Cup and the Amateur Cup, the Depot team were top of the South Hants League at the half way point in the season. On 7 December 1912 he played for the South against the North in an England Amateur Trial held in York, scoring in a 4-0 win. As a result of his performance, he earned a call-up to the England Amateur Team and on 24 March 1913 represented the England Amateur International Team in a friendly match against the Netherlands 1st Team. The match was played in the Hague in front of 20,000. England were beaten 1-0. During the 1913/14 football season Littler played regularly for Brentford FC. His footballing career, however, was halted by the outbreak of the First World War. By 1915 he had reached the rank of Sergeant. Sergeant George Littler died on 11 May 1915, aged twenty-seven, as a result of wounds received while serving with 2nd Battalion, The King's Royal Rifle Corps, at Neuve Chapelle.

#### Alfred Lorimer (1892 – 01/02/1915) Burnley FC – Private 240 Royal Army Medical Corps.

Born in Longridge, Lancashire in 1892, Alf Lorimer was working as a tailor in Burnley and playing in the Burnley Tuesday League when he was given a trial in the Clarets' reserve team in February 1914. He had previously played for Preston's reserves but appeared in his first Central League game for Burnley on the right wing in Burnley's 2-1 win against Southport Central. He made a favourable impression that he was immediately offered a professional contract. He was fast, with excellent ball control and showed every sign of becoming a top professional player.



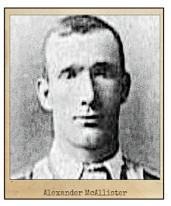
Sadly, he never got the chance to fulfil his potential and died in Egypt whilst serving his country as an RAMC reservist. He was buried in Ismailia War Cemetery Northern Egypt.

This is the triumphant Burnley FC on their victory parade through Burnley following their success in the 1914 Football Association Cup, having beaten Liverpool FC in the final at Crystal Palace through a single goal scored by Bert Freeman.

Alexander McAllister (31/01/1918) Derby County FC, Sunderland FC – Private 20<sup>th</sup> Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers. (1<sup>st</sup> Tyneside Scottish).

Alexander (Sandy) McAllister was born at Kilmarnock in 1878, at 10 Victoria Street, the son of John and Marion, McAllister, John was a Miner. In 1881, Alexander and two of his younger brothers Charles and Arthur were residing at 165 Watsonville Row, Motherwell, Lanarkshire, Scotland, with their grandmother, Janet McAllister. By 1901, Alexander and his recently married wife Isabel were residing at 4 William Street, Fulwell, Sunderland, and his profession was stated as a Professional Football player. They had six children, Jane born 1901, Maud born 1902, Louise born 1903, Dyne born 1908 and their only son Leslie born 1910, and Nora, born 16th March 1913. She was formerly chair to the Sunderland Townswomen's Guild. In his spare time, however, he played for Kilmarnock, and, on February 20, 1897, the "sturdy" teenager made his debut for Sunderland against Stoke City in a 4-1 win. "He won his spurs in the 1897 Test Matches, which he has worn ever since with great

success," one sports pundit wrote of the 'heavily built and strong' player in 1902. Indeed, Sandy – a short, stocky centre-half – went on to play in the first game at Roker Park and was an indispensable part of the 1902 Championship-winning side as well. His seven-year career with the Rokermen saw him make 215 appearances – receiving a gold watch and a piano from fans after scoring the first of five goals for the club. But he finally left Sunderland for Derby County in 1904, followed by Oldham in 1905 and Spennymoor Utd in 1909. By 1911, he was back in Sunderland – as a miner. His days as a SAFC player saw Sandy living at 4 William Street, but by 1911 he had moved to 73 Broadsheath Terrace, Southwick, with wife Isabel and their five children. Just three years later, when Britain declared war on Germany, the 36-year-old enlisted in the Northumberland Fusiliers and was wounded at the Battle of the Somme in 1916. He returned, however, to front-line fighting, serving in France and Italy. Tragically, Sandy died of food poisoning in February 1918 and was buried at Giavera Cemetery.



# William McCourty (1884 - 10/12/1917) Birmingham FC – Royal Garrison Artillery.

He was an English professional footballer born in Morpeth, Northumberland, who played in the Football League for Birmingham. McCourty, a former coal miner who played at left half, joined Birmingham in May

1909. He made his debut in the Second Division on 13 September 1909, deputising for the injured Tommy Daykin in a home game against Glossop which finished as a 2–2 draw, and was never picked again, returning to non-league football the following year.

**Andrew Bowie McCrae** (30/12/1886 - 17/11/1915) Falkirk FC, Queens Park FC – Lovat Scouts. McCrae was educated at High School of Dundee, University of St Andrews and University of Dundee. He later worked for solicitors Gair & Gibson in Falkirk After the outbreak of the First World War in August 1914, McCrae enlisted in the Lovat Scouts and was deployed to Gallipoli in September 1915. He had been serving as an acting corporal when he died of wounds suffered at Suvla on 17 November 1915. He was buried in Lala Baba Cemetery.

**Alexander McCurdie** (07/01/1895 - 24/04/1917) Kilmarnock FC – Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. He was a Scottish professional football centre forward who played in the Scottish League for Kilmarnock. He served in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders during the First World War and held the rank of acting lance sergeant when was killed in action at Beaucamp, Nord on 24 April 1917. He was buried in Fifteen Ravine British Cemetery, Villers-Plouich.

**Andrew McDermott** (1889 - 12/07/1915) Leith Athletic FC – Royal Scots. He was a Scottish professional footballer who played in the Scottish Football League for Leith Athletic. McDermott worked as a lithographer. After the outbreak of the First World War in August 1914, McDermott enlisted in the Royal Scots. He was serving as a lance corporal when he received facial wounds at Gallipoli on 28 June 1915, from which he died on 12 July 1915. He is commemorated on the Helles Memorial.

Leith Athletic FC was founded in 1887 in the Port of Leith, just to the east of Edinburgh. In 1891 they replaced Glasgow side Cowlairs in the Scottish Football League. They played at various grounds before settling into the old Logie Green Park in 1904. After a reasonable start (fourth out of 12 in 1892), Leith had to apply for re-election in 1894 and 1895 when they received only three votes and were relegated to the Second Division. They fared rather better in the second flight, (runners up in 1896, 1897 and 1899) but they could not muster enough votes to be elected back into the First Division. In 1905, having failed once again in the end season voting, Leith Athletic was wound up and a new limited company formed to take over the old club's assets. Now playing as Leith FC, the team comfortably won the Scottish Second Division championship but yet again, they failed to be elected to Division One (runners up Clyde and fourth placed Hamilton being preferred). In 1910 Leith and Raith Rovers finished level on points and were declared joint champions: Raith were promoted but it appears that Leith did not contest the elections.

Three years later, Leith was involved in the end-of –season elections once again but this time they had finished in last position and their place in the league was at stake. They survived until the competition was suspended in 1915, when they joined the Eastern League. In 1916 Leith closed down for the duration and when the club was reformed in 1919, the old name of Leith Athletic was revived and the club joined the Western League.

**Hugh Lachlan MacDonald (1884 – 27 August 1920)** Woolwich Arsenal FC. Oldham Athletic FC. He was a Scottish football goalkeeper. MacDonald was born in Kilwinning, Ayrshire and played for a variety of local junior clubs including Ayr Westerlea, Maybole, Ayr Academical and Beith, before moving south to London to join Woolwich Arsenal in January 1906. McDonald was understudy to Arsenal's regular goalkeeper and England international Jimmy Ashcroft, and played only two league games in what was to be his first spell at Arsenal, his debut coming against Blackburn Rovers on 17 February 1906. At the end of the 1905-06 season he moved to Southern League Brighton & Hove Albion and spent two years there.



In May 1908 he returned to Woolwich Arsenal after they sold Ashcroft to make ends meet,

and MacDonald was an ever-present for the entire 1908-09 season, and only missed two games of 1909-10. He left Arsenal in July 1910 for Oldham Athletic, spending one season there before moving to Bradford Park Avenue.

In December 1912 he returned to Arsenal for a third time, making him, apparently, the only player to have played for the club in three separate spells. As of June 2010, the only other players to have re-joined the club are John Lukic, Jock Rutherford, Martin Keown, Sol Campbell and Jens Lehmann who all re-joined only once. He took over from Harold Crawford and played 18 of the last 21 league games of the 1912-13 season, in which Arsenal were relegated to the Second Division. MacDonald left Arsenal for a third and final time in November 1913, having been ousted from the team by Joe Lievesley. He saw out his career with first Fulham and then Bristol Rovers, before World War I intervened and ended competitive league football. He joined up, fought with the British Army and survived the war. On returning to Plumstead he ran the Melbourne Arms in 81 Sandy Hill Road, but was to die soon afterwards at the age of thirty-eight, as on 27 August 1920 he succumbed to the results of the poison gas he had been exposed to in the trenches .

**David Brunton McDougall** (1894 - 18/08/1918) St. Bernard's FC – Kings Own Scottish Borderers. He was a Scottish professional football inside left who played in the Scottish Football League for St Bernard's. McDougall served as a corporal in the King's Own Scottish Borderers during the First World War and was killed in action in Belgium on 18 August 1918. He is commemorated on the Ploegsteert Memorial.

**Richard McFadden MM** (1889 - 23/10/1916) Clapton Orient FC – Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment. He was a Scottish footballer who was Clapton Orient's top scorer for four consecutive seasons between 1911– 1915. Having moved from Scotland to Blyth as a boy, McFadden started his career in the Northern League with Blyth in November 1910, before moving to Wallsend Park Villa for a fee of £2. In May 1911, he joined Clapton Orient, scoring on his debut against Derby County on 2 September. McFadden broke Orient's goalscoring record in his first season with the club, scoring nineteen goals, only to break the record again in what was to be his final season, 1914–1915, with twenty-one goals. In the intervening two seasons, he was still Orient's top scorer. He also represented a Southern XI in a match against England in November 1914, scoring the only goal of the game, after which a Daily Express reporter declared that McFadden was the "outstanding player on the field".

McFadden attracted press attention off the pitch in 1912 when he rescued an 11-year-old boy from the River Lea, for which he received a medal from the Mayor of Hackney. Prior to joining Clapton Orient McFadden had also risked his own life when rescuing a man from a burning building.

At the outbreak of World War I, professional football was suspended, and McFadden joined the 17th Battalion Middlesex Regiment, the "Footballers' Battalion", along with 40 other Orient players and staff. He rose to the rank of Company Sergeant Major. During the Battle of the Somme, he witnessed the death of his childhood friend and Orient teammate William Jonas in July 1916, and was injured himself a few weeks later. On his recovery he returned to the front and earned the Military Medal, but on 22 October 1916 received serious injuries from which he died the following day. His death was acknowledged by other football clubs, including Arsenal in their official programme, and the *Manchester Football Chronicle* stated, "In civil life he was a hero, and he proved himself a hero on the battlefield." McFadden is buried at Couin British Cemetery.



Richard McGough (18/04/1917) Newcastle United FC - Royal Garrison

Artillery. He was an English professional football centre half who played in the Football League for Newcastle United. McGough served in the Royal Garrison Artillery during the First World War and was an acting bombardier when he died of wounds in France on 18 April 1917. He was buried in Feuchy British Cemetery.

**Patrick McGuire** (1889 - 12/10/1916) Manchester City FC – Manchester Regiment. He was an English professional football full back who played in the Football League for Manchester City. McGuire attended Corpus Christi School, Miles Platting and Woodhouses Schools, Failsworth. In May 1915, almost one year into the First World War, McGuire enlisted as a private in the Manchester Regiment. McGuire was killed while attacking a German trench system near Flers, France on 12 October 1916, during the Battle of the Somme. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.

**Daniel McKeller** (1892 - 13/04/1918) Airdrieonians FC, Kilmarnock FC – Highland Light Infantry. He was a Scottish professional football forward who played in the Scottish Football League of Kilmarnock and Airdrieonians McKellar served as an private in the Highland Light Infantry during the First World War and was killed in action in West Flanders on 13 April 1917. He is commemorated on the Ploegsteert Memorial.

Archibald McLardie (1889 - 25/12/1915) Dumbarton FC, Johnstone FC, St. Mirren FC, Vale of Leven FC – Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. He was a Scottish professional footballer who played in the Scottish Football League for St Mirren. McLardie attended Paisley Grammar School and later worked as a lawyer. After the outbreak of the First World War in August 1914, McLardie enlisted as a Second Lieutenant the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. He was killed at Gallipoli on 25 December 1915 and was buried at Pink Farm Cemetery.

**Joseph James Simpson McLaughlan** (05/02/1891 – 06/01/1971) Woolwich Arsenal FC. He was a Scottish professional football centre forward who played in the Football League for Woolwich Arsenal. From Bathgate in Scotland, played sixteen times for the Woolwich Arsenal first team and thirty-three reserve games between 1911 and 1913. While at Watford FC he was amongst the very first wave of thirty-five volunteers, along with Arsenal's assistant trainer Tom Ratcliffe and future Gunner keeper Ernie Williamson, to





enlist in the Footballers' Battalion at an FA war rally in Fulham Town Hall organised by Henry Norris to officially start the Battalion on 15 December 1914. Later in the conflict, McLauchlan was wounded in the leg by shrapnel on active service in June 1916, and never played professionally again.

**George McLay MM** (1889 - 22/10/1917) Raith Rovers FC – Royals Scots. He was a Scottish professional football right half who played in the Scottish League for Raith Rovers.

McLay served as a sergeant in McCrae's Battalion of the Royal Scots during the First World War and was awarded the Military Medal. He was killed in action during the Battle of Passchendaele on 22 October 1917 and is commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial. This

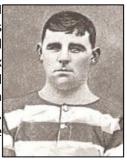
photo shows Raith Rovers footballer, George McLay, enlisting to be part of McCrae's (16th) Battalion, Royal Scots, in the boardroom of Heart of Midlothian FC. He was one of many professional footballers who volunteered to enlist in response to a drive by Sir George McCrae in 1914.

**Angus McLeod (1890 - 16/05/1917) Aberdeen FC – Gordon Highlanders.** He was a Scottish professional football forward who played in the Scottish League for Aberdeen. McLeod served in the Gordon Highlanders during the First World War and was an acting lance corporal when he was killed in France on 16 May 1917 and reported missing presumed dead. He is commemorated on the Arras Memorial.

**Donald McLeod (28/05/1883 - 06/10/1917) Celtic FC, Middlesbrough FC – Royal Field Artillery.** He was a Scottish footballer, who played for Stenhousemuir, Celtic, Middlesbrough and Scotland. He also played twice for the Scottish Football League XI. McLeod served in the Royal Field Artillery during the First World War and he died from wounds suffered during the Battle of Passchendaele.

Donnie McLeod played for Celtic in a glorious time, and eventually took over from the well-loved Barney Battles in the Celtic side. A very good defender he lined up with Willie Orr in front of David Adams in 1904 and never looked back. He was said to be a two footed player who was "fearless... of tremendous speed", and was dubbed 'Slasher' due to his sheer speed and his ability as a two-footed full making him an instant hit with the Celtic support.

From the off in his debut, a 2-1 victory over Third Lanark he was to be a regular in the first XI that season and then for much of his time at Celtic. His partnership with Jimmy Weir is regarded as one of the most effective defensive partnerships the club has ever had. McLeod was to be an integral part of the side who kick-started the club's unprecedented feat of six Championships in a row from 1904. His partnership with Jimmy Weir was invincible and when he was later transferred to Middlesbrough in 1910 Weir followed him South to form a duo described as 'the most dogged, dour and fearless pair of backs in England.' In time, weight issues became a problem in the classic 1907-08 season, or as one put it more poetically: "McLeod grows rather adipose and would do well to mind his massage".



One event for which we should be eternally grateful to Donnie for is his bringing the great Alec McNair to Celtic. Alec went on to be one of Celtic's greatest ever players and played more games than anyone else for our club. In 1907, Celtic won the Scottish Cup in a 3-0 win over Hearts. Donnie played in the defence that day who more than ably contained any Hearts attack, in a game regarded as one of the most memorable in the early days of the club's history. The club sealed a league & cup double.



However, despite some great service a poor game in the Glasgow Cup v Queen's Park (4-4) in 1908 signalled the end for him and he was gone within a month to Middlesbrough. It was a sad end to a good stalwart for the club, but he played his part in an era that is very fondly remembered, and he will forever be respected for that time. If nothing else, his move will have added some new supporters to the Middlesbrough terracing from the Celtic numbers. Wounded in action during the Battles of Passchendaele Gunner McLeod died of his injuries on October 6th 1917. Today his grave can be found in Dozinghem Military Cemetery near Krombeke to the northwest of Poperinghe in Belgium. Passchendaele was hell on earth - a mudbath where the Battlefield had been turned into a swamp by continuous rain and shelling. The conditions were so horrific that they prompted the Great War poet Siegfried Sassoon to write one of his most famous poems "Mud and Rain".

#### John Mackay (1864 – 21/04/1916) Aberdeen FC – Royal Engineers.

Born at Tongue 1864, a pioneer of football in Aberdeen; for many years player, captain, and president of Orion F.C.; President Aberdeenshire F.A., 1888-89; Director of Aberdeen F.C. since the amalgamation in 1903.

He was a Director of Aberdeen Football Club and was a Quarter Master Sergeant in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Highland Field Company who died of wounds at Rouen. The Son of William Oliver and Barbara Campbell Mackay, of Sutherlandshire.

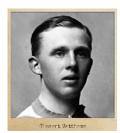
**Peter Macklin** (1878 - 09/04/1917) Lincoln City FC – Northumberland Fusiliers. He was an English professional football inside right who played in the Football League for Lincoln City. He had a long career in non-league football in his native North East. Mackin served as a private in the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers during the First World War and was killed at Vimy Ridge on 9 April 1917. He was buried in Roclincourt Military Cemetery.

#### David Collie Martin (19/03/1890 – 26/03/1917) Brechin City FC, Dundee FC – Black Watch.

He was a Scottish footballer who played as a forward. He started his career as a centre forward at Brechin City before moving on to Dundee in 1911. He only played a few games for Dundee before transferring to Dundee Hibernian(Dundee United's name until 1923). He made his debut for Dundee Hibs on 16 August 1913, in his first season scored 22 goals in Scottish Division 2 becoming the division's top scorer for 1913–14. In his next season with Dundee Hibs he was again Scottish Division 2 top scorer, this time with thirty goals, scoring five in one game against Albion Rovers. After starting season 1915–16 in a similar fashion, he volunteered for the Black Watch in November 1915. In total, he scored eighty goals in ninety-two games for Dundee Hibs in all competitions.

He was born at 8 Union Street, Brechin, the son of Jessie Ann Martin. As an infant, in 1891, he was boarded in Market Street with the McGarrie family. As a youth he had resided in 1901 in 86 Montrose Street with his grandmother, mother, and aunt. In 1913 he was residing at 86 Montrose Street, Brechin, when he married Catherine Reid. At the time of his marriage in 1913 he was noted as a bleachfield worker and immediately before enlisting in 1915 he was employed at the East Bleachfield in Brechin. Collie Martin played only a relatively limited number of games for Dundee Football Club. He played however at a time when Dundee FC was among the cream of Scottish football, one of the few clubs challenging the power of the old firm. In 1906-07 and 1908-09 Dundee had been runners up in the League and they won the Scottish Cup in 1909-1910. Dundee had also won the Forfarshire Cup in 1908-09 and in 1911-12. He is noted as having been killed serving as a corporal with the 5th Black Watch near Ypres on 26th March 1917, a week after his twenty seventh birthday. The Third Battle of Ypres was still some three months away when he was killed on this section of the front over which fighting had continued almost incessantly since the early days of the war. His Service Number was 241085. He is buried in Railway Dugouts Burial Ground on the outskirts of Ypres.





# Clement Henry Matthews (15/08/1915) Brighton & Hove

Albion FC – Royal Sussex Regiment.

Born in Falmer Sussex. Enlisted as a Private in 1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Royal Sussex Regiment. Killed in action during the Gallipoli campaign and buried in Green Hill Cemetery. Son of Thomas Clement Matthews and Mary Ann Matthews, of Mill Farm, King's Rd., Horsham, Sussex

William Henry Maughan (1894 - 02/10/1916) Fulham FC -

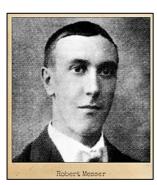
Durham Light Infantry. He was an English professional football right half who played in the Football League for Fulham. After spending his early career at local sides West Stanley and Easington Colliery Welfare, Maughan joined Second Division Fulham in February 1914 and made his debut in a 2-1 home loss to Leicester Fosse soon after. Maughan subsequently became a first team regular at Craven Cottage and would play twenty-one league and one FA Cup game during the 1914/15 season, after which official competition was suspended for the duration of the war. Maughan would then play six wartime games for Fulham before finally leaving the club to serve overseas with the British Army. Private



6/2068 W. Maughan enlisted in the 1/6th Durham Light Infantry in 1915, a territorial unit who had arrived in France in April of that year as part of 50th (Northumbrian) Division. After sustaining heavy casualties during the Second Battle of Ypres, the 1/6th merged with 1/8th to form 6/8th DLI but were to resume their original identity in mid-August 1915. During the Battle of the Somme, the battalion saw action in the subsidiary battles of Flers-Courcelette (15-22 September 1916) and Morval (25-28 September) before taking part in the assault on the Transloy Ridges at the start of October 1916. It was during the latter action that Maughan, by then a corporal, would sustain serious wounds and be moved back to a casualty clearing station at Dernancourt. The 22-year-old subsequently died from his wounds on 2 October 1916 and was buried in Dernancourt Communal Cemetery Extension.

**James Morton Maxwell** (26/07/1887 - 21/04/1917) Arsenal FC, Kilmarnock FC, The Wednesday FC – Seaforth Highlanders. He was a Scottish professional football outside right who played in the Scottish League for Kilmarnock. He also played in the Football League for The Wednesday and Woolwich Arsenal. He made one appearance for the Scottish League XI. Maxwell was married with two children. He served as a lance corporal in the Seaforth Highlanders during the First World War and died of wounds suffered during the Battle of Istabulat on 21 April 1917. His body was not recovered. He is commemorated on the Basra Memorial. His elder brother Thomas was killed in Pas-de-Calais, France in 1918.

**Harold Chadwick Meadowcroft** (1889 - 01/07/1916) Bury FC, Glossop FC – 20<sup>th</sup> Battalion Manchester Regiment. Born in Workington Cumberland, he was an English professional football right half and outside right who played in the Football League for Glossop and Bury. Meadowcroft served as a corporal in the Manchester Regiment during the First World War and was killed in 1916 on the first day of the Somme. He was buried in Dantzig Alley British Cemetery, Mametz.



**Robert Messer** (18/07/1887 - 16/10/1918) Leicester Fosse – Kings Own Scottish Borderers. He was a Scottish professional football outside right who played in the Football League for Leicester Fosse. Messer served as a private in the King's Own Scottish Borderers during the First World War and was killed in action during the Battle of Courtai on 18 August 1918. He is commemorated on the Tyne Cot Memorial.

The club was founded in 1884 as **Leicester Fosse F.C.** playing on a field near Fosse Road. They moved to Filbert Street in 1891, were elected to the Football League in 1894 and adopted the name Leicester City in 1919. They moved to the nearby Walkers Stadium in 2002, which was renamed the King Power Stadium after a change of ownership in 2011.

#### **Robert Mercer.**

Hearts captain **Bob Mercer** should maybe never have gone to war after he was turned down as unfit on the famous first day of recruiting because of his knee ligament injury. The Hearts team revolved around this brilliant centre-back, who was a century ahead of his time, with all the passing and vision of today's top defenders. Mercer, born in 1889, and the team's figurehead before McCrae's was formed, received many letters urging him to join up. By 1916 he had recovered enough to be conscripted and two years later was gassed at the front with the Royal Garrison Artillery. Gunner Mercer returned to Hearts after the war but was never the same player; found to have a weakened heart, he played for Dunfermline for two years before retiring in 1924. Two years later, invited to appear for Hearts in a friendly at Selkirk, he collapsed with heart failure on the pitch and died soon afterwards. He was thirty-seven.



# Adam Miller (1883 - 21/12/1917) Hibernian FC, Raith Rovers FC – Australian Infantry. He

was a Scottish professional football centre forward who played in the Scottish Football League for Hibernian and Raith Rovers.

Miller worked as a tailor and emigrated to Australia in 1912. He served as a private in the 9th Battalion, Royal Queensland Regiment during the First World War and saw action at Gallipoli and on the Western Front. He was killed in action during the Battle of Passchendaele on 21 December 1917 and is commemorated on the Menin Gate. He was the son of Adam Miller and the late Isabella Miller of" Paradise ", Coldingham and is commemorated on the Menin Gate, Ypres. His brother James was an Insurance Agent in Eyemouth. He was a noted footballer and was a regular in the Eyemouth team before playing centre forward for Berwick Rangers. He had trials for Hibernian Football Club and had just signed on for the Hibs when in 1912 he decided to emigrate to Australia. Here he carried on his trade which was tailor and spent each summer in the Outback. Upon hearing a Zeppelin had dropped bombs on London he went to Brisbane and enlisted in the Australian Light Horse. He fought with the

" Anzacs " at Gallipoli and went with them to France in March 1916 where he saw action at Armentieres, Pozieres on the Somme and at Bullecourt. Before emigrating, he was also a member of Eyemouth Golf Club.

#### Robert Milligan (1892 - 25/09/1915) Clyde FC – Seaforth Highlanders.

Born at Stoneykirk, Wigtonshire, in 1892, joined Clyde from Newton Villa and made one appearance for the Shawfield club in season 1912/13. Resident at Bellshill, He was a Scottish amateur footballer who played in the Scottish Football League. Milligan worked at Douglas Park Colliery near Bellshill. After the outbreak of the First World War in August 1914, McDermott enlisted as a private in the Seaforth Highlanders. He was killed in action during the Battle of Loos on 25 September 1915. He was commemorated on the Loos Memorial. His brother, Alexander, was in the same Battalion.

#### Joseph Ellis Milne M.A. M.D. DSO (30/09/1868 - 22/02/1917) Aberdeen FC – Captain Royal Army Medical Corps.

Youngest son of Capt. James Milne and Jessie Mitchell Milne, of Fraserburgh, Aberdeenshire. He was the Medical Officer for Aberdeen Football Club who volunteered for active service attached to the 1<sup>st</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> (Irish Battalion) The Kings Liverpool Regiment when he died on 22nd February 1917 at the age of forty-eight. He had been awarded the Distinguished Service Order (D.S.O.) and had been mentioned in Despatches (MID). When war broke out he was in a large practice in Aberdeen. Commissioned a Lieutenant, 25<sup>th</sup> April 1915, he left for France the next day with the Highland Casualty Clearing Station. On 1<sup>st</sup> November 1915 he became Medical Officer to the 1/8<sup>th</sup> Battalion (Irish) of the Kings Liverpool Regiment.



In October 1916 he was awarded the Distinguished Service Order for his work in the Battle of the Somme "For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during operations. He has

repeatedly tended the wounded under heavy shell fire, and has shown himself utterly regardless of personal safety." In Sir Douglas Haig's New Year's Dispatch 1917 he was mentioned for work done after receiving the D.S.O. He was killed in action near Ypres on 22 February 1917. Joseph Ellis Milne had a dynamic personality. An iron will endowed him with great powers of physical and mental endurance. A high conception of duty was united to a complete indifference to personal danger, a heart in sympathy with each Irish lad brought him the love of all in the Battalion. He met his death by rifle bullet in the trenches. Such a dauntless spirit, no matter his tale of years, could not have worked happily outside the Great War.

Albert Milton MM (1885 - 11/10/1917) Barnsley FC, Sunderland FC, Swindon Town FC – Royal Field Artillery. He was an English footballer who played for Sunderland as a full back. He fought in the First World War and was killed at Passchendaele while serving with the Royal Field Artillery in October 1917. Albert began his career at South Kirkby before joining neighbours Barnsley for £50. After just one season at Oakwell Albert was sold by Barnsley to Sunderland in April 1908 for the then maximum transfer fee of £350, Albert made his debut on 9 September 1908 in a 3–0 win against Middlesbrough at Ayresome Park. Though Albert played for The Black Cats from 1908 to 1914, he never won a League Championship, as in the 1912–13 season he was injured and missed the majority of the title claim, as well as the 1913 FA Cup Final defeat to Aston Villa. Overall for Sunderland, he made 123 league appearances without a goal. In March 1914 Albert was given a benefit game by the Black Cats before he joined Swindon Town in May of the same year. Despite the transfer fee paid by Swindon being "a very large one" after just twelve months he left the club to return to the Sunderland area with the onset of war. After



retiring from football Milton returned to Sunderland, where he obtained work with MacColl and Pollock's Engine Works, where he remained for 18 months before moving on to manage the Colliery Tavern, in Monkwearmouth. Alongside work Milton assisted local football teams, including Sunderland Rovers, as a coach. Albert was the brother of Ernest Milton and Alf Milton, both professional footballers. Another brother, Allan, was also a promising footballer who played for the family's local team Kimberworth Wesleyans.

Sunderland - 1913 FA Cup Finalists.

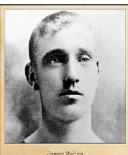
#### Insets: Frank Cuggy, Jimmy Richardson.

Back (left to right): Albert Milton (killed in action in WW1), Billy Cringan, Charlie Thomson, Joe Butler, Charlie

Gladwin, Harry Low. Front: Jackie Mordue, Charlie Buchan, Tom Hall, George Holley, Harry Martin. They lost the 1913 FA Cup Final at Crystal Palace 1-0 to Aston Villa

Edward Thomas (Ginger) Mitchell (06/01/1916) Reading FC, Swansea Town FC - Royal Field Artillery 164 Battery.

Edward "Ted" Mitchell, from Middlesbrough, joined the Swans from Reading in 1913 as a forward who became a left-back. A reservist, he was called up immediately and was cheered off by a crowd of Swans' fans in the August of 1914. After recovering from a bullet wound he returned to the UK in the summer of 1915, to marry his sweetheart Dolly Jones of Llandeilo on July 22 that year. Newspaper reports recall he "went to the altar in mudbesmeared khaki." He did not have a long honeymoon as days later he was back at the front and, sadly, was killed in action on January 6, 1916. Buried at Bethune town Cemetery.



James Moles (1884 - 07/11/1915) Birmingham FC – Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment.

He was an English

professional football left half who played in the Football League for Birmingham. Moles played for Southern League clubs Tottenham Hotspur and Leyton before joining Second Division club Birmingham in 1909, as cover for Frank Buckley. He made his debut in a 2–2 home draw with Glossop on 13 September 1909, replacing Buckley as the team's centre half. In the second half of the 1909–10 season played regularly in his preferred position of left half. Moles' aggressive style cost him his place and he returned to London local football in 1911.

Moles gave a false age when he attested in the Militia in February 1900 and was discharged after 48 days. Moles served as a lance corporal in the Middlesex Regiment during the First World War and died of wounds at No. 9 Casualty Clearing Station, Lillers on 7 November 1915. He is buried in Lillers Communal Cemetery.

**John Buchanan Monteith** (05/12/1883 - 27/09/1918) Queens Park FC – Royal Garrison Artillery. He was a Scottish professional football right back who played in the Scottish League for Queen's Park. Monteith served as a gunner in the Royal Garrison Artillery during the First World War and was killed in action in Pas-de-Calais on 27 September 1918. He was buried in Quéant Communal Cemetery British Extension.

**Douglas Morgan** (1890 - 31/12/1916) Hull City FC – Gunner 78176 168<sup>th</sup> Siege Battery Royal Garrison Artillery. He was a Scottish professional football left back who played in the Football League for Hull City. Morgan served as a gunner in the Royal Garrison Artillery during the First World War and was killed by a shell in West Flanders on New Year's Eve 1916. He was buried in Vlamertinghe Military Cemetery.

**Thomas Henry Morris** (14/09/1884 – 24/03/1918) Brighton & Hove Albion FC, Coventry City FC, Grimsby Town FC, Leeds City FC – Sergeant 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Lincolnshire regiment. He was an English professional football centre half. Later in n his career, he coached at Scunthorpe & Lindsey United. Morris served as a sergeant in the Lincolnshire Regiment during the First World War and was killed in the Somme sector on 24 March 1918. He is commemorated on the Pozières Memorial.

**Andrew Mosley** (1885 - 03/08/1917) New Brompton FC, Notts County FC – South Wales Borderers. He was an English professional football right back who played in the Football League for Notts County. Mosley was a bricklayer and was married with a child. He married Annie Robinson in Third Quarter 1907 in Nottingham Their daughter Grace Annie was born in Second Quarter 1908 On 1911 Census he is living with his wife and daughter at 210 Napier Road, Gillingham. He is listed as being a bricklayer. Possibly relocated due to playing for Gillingham. Whilst Andrew is listed on the 1911 Census as a bricklayer, he was also a footballer, although this may not have been as a professional. He played right back for Notts County between 1906–1909 making eleven appearances, scoring no goals. Between 1910–1915 he played for New Brompton, which became Gillingham in 1912. They played in the Southern League. He made a total of 167 appearances scoring no goals. He served as a private with the Royal Engineers and the South Wales Borderers during the First World War and was killed during the Battle of Passchendaele on 3 August 1917. He is commemorated on the Menin Gate.

**John Munro** (14/04/1893 - 08/05/1917) Aberdeen FC – Gunner 650879 'C' Battery 315<sup>th</sup> Brigade Royal Field Artillery. He was a Scottish professional football full back who played in the Scottish League for Aberdeen. Son of William and Henrietta Munro. John Munro served as a gunner in the Royal Field Artillery during the First World War and was killed near Arras, France on 16 May 1917. He was buried in Anzin-Saint Aubin British Cemetery.

**Edward J. Murphy** (1881 - 25/05/1915) Bristol Rovers FC, Bury FC, Gainsborough Trinity FC, Glossop FC, Swindon Town FC. Private 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion North Staffordshire Regiment.

He was an English professional football forward who played in the Football League for Glossop and Bury. Murphy served as a private in the North Staffordshire Regiment during the First World War and was wounded on

Company Sergeant Major Charles Neilson, Gordon Highlanders, had been killed in action on 1 June 1916. The

the Western Front. He was evacuated to Britain and died of his wounds at King George V Military Hospital, London on 25 May 1916. Murphy was buried in Tunstall Cemetery, Stoke-on-Trent.

**David Bruce Murray** (04/12/1882 - 10/12/1915) Everton FC, Leeds City FC, Liverpool FC, Rangers FC – Private 11<sup>th</sup> Service Battalion Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. He was a Scottish professional footballer who played as a full-back in the Football League for Leeds City, Liverpool and Everton. He also played non-league football for Mexborough Town and Frickley Colliery. He played for Liverpool as the club won successive Second Division and First Division titles in 1904–05 and 1905–06. He was the Adopted son of Mrs. S. E. Sleight of 52 Fitzwillan St., Swinton, Yorkshire. Murray began his career in Scotland, before joining Everton for the 1903–04 season, making two First Division appearances. He then

switched clubs to Liverpool, and made fifteen appearances for the "Reds" in the 1904–05 season to help the club to win promotion as champions of the Second Division. He played just three games in the 1905–06 season as Liverpool won the First Division title. He joined Leeds City for a £130 fee in December 1905, with the *Liverpool Daily Post* predicting that he "should be a capital acquisition to Leeds". He scored two goals in 25 games in the second half of the 1905–06 season, and was named as captain for the 1906–07 campaign. He scored three goals in 36 appearances during the 1907–08 season, but lost his first team place in the 1908–09 season.

He went on to play amateur football for Mexborough Town in the Midland League and Frickley Colliery in the Sheffield Association League. Murray served as a private in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders during World War I and was killed during the Battle of Loos on 10 December 1915.

**Herbert Murray MC (11/12/1886– 20/07/1918)** Aberdeen FC, Clyde FC, Motherwell FC, Queens Park FC, St, Johnstone FC - Captain 1<sup>st</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Battalion Gordon Highlanders. He was a Scottish professional football forward who played in the Scottish Football League, most notably Murray's brother Arthur was also a footballer. Murray attended Robert Gordon's College, Aberdeen University and taught at Robert Gordon Technical College. In early 1915, with the First World War underway, Murray enlisted in the Gordon Highlanders and received a commission on 9 August 1915. He was severely wounded on the Western Front in mid-1915 and sent back to Britain, serving as a musketry instructor. He returned to the front in April 1917 and was awarded the Military Cross for bravery in the field during the Spring Offensive in March 1918. Murray was serving with the rank of captain when he was killed in the Bois de Courton, near Épernay, on 20 July 1918, during the Second Battle of the Marne. He was buried in Marfaux British Cemetery. Herbert Murray was commissioned as a 2/Lieutenant into the 1st/4th Battalion, Gordon Highlanders, on

13<sup>th</sup> August 1915 and promoted to Lieutenant on 1st July 1917 and made Acting/Captain on 5th April 1918. He was awarded the Military Cross for bravery on 26th' July 1918 and was killed in action on 20th July 1918 at the age of thirty-two. He is buried at Marfaux British Cemetery in the Marne region of France. Marfaux was captured by British Forces after determined resistance by the 5151 Highland Division three days later. He graduated M.A., 1908, and joined the teaching staff of Gordon's College. Early in 1915 he enlisted in the 4th Battalion Gordon Highlanders, and after a short training was sent out to France. From April to June the Battalion was constantly in action, and he was severely wounded and sent to hospital in England. In August of the same year he received his commission and spent about eight months as musketry instructor at home. In April 1917 he was again at the Front. For his brilliant and courageous action during the terrible days of March 1918, he was awarded the Military Cross; and from then till 20 July 1918, when he fell at the Hois de Courton north of Epernay, he took part in all the fighting where his Battalion had so foremost a place.

Charles Neilson (27/11/1889 - 01/06/1916) Aberdeen FC – Gordon Highlanders.

He was a Scottish professional football outside left who played in the Scottish Football League for Aberdeen for three years. Neilson attended Ellon Primary School and graduated with an MA from Aberdeen University in 1913. He trained as a teacher at Aberdeen Training Centre and became a teaching assistant at Lossiemouth Public School. After the outbreak of the First World War in September 1914, Neilson enlisted as a private in the Gordon Highlanders in Peterhead. He was serving as a company sergeant major when he was killed in action near Neuville-Saint-Vaast, France on 1 June 1916. On Tuesday 6 June 1916, the Aberdeen Evening Express reported, "Intimation was received this morning by Mr and Mrs Neilson, Station Road, Ellon, that their son,

Charles Herlson

53





news of this popular soldier's death has cast a gloom over Ellon. He was 26 Years of age and received his early education at Ellon School. He then went to Aberdeen University, where he graduated MA in 1913. Before joining the Buchan Territorial Battalion, he was Assistant Teacher in Lossiemouth Public School. For three years he was a prominent member of the Aberdeen FC, playing as a professional, principally at outside-left, and usually with the A team. He was clever on the ball, and a fine shot. He was also a notable cricketer. Three more members of this patriotic family are serving - James, with the Lovat Scouts, Roland, with the local company of the Territorials and Bertie, with the Royal Field Artillery. The deepest sympathy of the community is extended to Mr and Mrs Neilson and their family." He was buried in Maroeuil British Cemetery, near Arras. His brothers Rolland and James were also killed during the war. Neilson was added to the Aberdeen University Roll of Honour in 1921.

#### James Hadden Neilson (1888 - 28/10/1917) Aberdeen FC – Cameron Highlanders.

He was a Scottish professional football forward who played in the Scottish Football League for Aberdeen. Neilson served in the Lovat Scouts and the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders during the First World War and was holding the rank of sergeant when he was killed in Greece during the Salonika Campaign on 28 October 1917. He was buried in Kirechkoi-Hortakoi Military Cemetery, near Exochi. His brothers Rolland and Charles were also killed during the war.

**Charles Neil Newcombe** (16/03/1891 - 27/12/1915) Chesterfield FC, Rotherham FC, Glossop FC – Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. He was an English cricketer and footballer who played first-class cricket for Derbyshire in 1910, and league football for Chesterfield FC and Rotherham Town. Newcombe was born in Great Yarmouth, the son of E. Percy G. Newcombe and Helen Ada L. Newcombe, later of Matlock. He was educated at Chesterfield School, where he was head boy. Newcombe made a single first-class appearance for Derbyshire in the 1910 season against Yorkshire in May, when he hit wicket after 1 run in the first innings and was bowled out for a duck by Drake in the second. He was a right-handed batsman and a left-arm slow-medium bowler although he never bowled a first-class ball. Newcombe played football for Creswell. He was a forward for Chesterfield F.C. in the 1910-1911, and 1911-1912 seasons. He subsequently went to Rotherham Town. Newcombe served in the First World War in the 7th Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry as a lieutenant and was killed in action at Fleurbaix in France. He was buried at Y Farm Military Cemetery, Bois-Grenier<sup>.</sup>

**Ernest Albert Nuttall** (12/02/1920) Leicester Fosse – Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment 25<sup>th</sup> Service Battalion. He died at home shortly after demobilisation and is buried in East Sheen Cemetery.

**Harry Owen** (13/03/1916) Southend United FC – Private Royal Fusiliers. Born in Northampton enlisted into the 23<sup>rd</sup> Service (1<sup>st</sup> Sportsmen) Battalion the Royal Fusiliers. Killed in action on 13<sup>th</sup> March 1916 and buried in Lieven Communal Cemetery Extension.

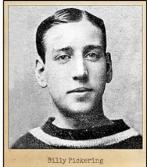
**Henry John Pennifer** (24/03/1918) Queens Park Rangers FC – 17<sup>th</sup> Service Battalion Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment. Following public criticism that professional footballers were not doing their share for the effort, it was decided to form a 'Footballers' Battalion' from professional and amateur footballers, officials and followers. Its strength was to be 1,350 men of all ranks and the recruitment started in December 1918 and is commemorated on the Pozieres Memorial. At the first draft no QPR players enlisted, the most came from Leyton Orient (10) and Croydon Common (6) and in general from around London. In between all the drilling to make them into soldiers, the 17th Middlesex started to play football matches against varying opposition, including other regiments. On 20 April 1915 they played Hampstead Town, winning 3-1. Private John Pennifer of QPR scored two of the Battalion's goals. On 17 November 1915 the first party of the 17th Middlesex left England for France. At first, they remained in reserve behind the lines but would eventually be engaged in action with fatal consequences. Henry John Pennifer was Killed in Action on 24<sup>th</sup> March 1918.

**William George Pepper** (1895 - 25/10/1918) Gillingham FC, Leicester Fosse FC – Queens Own Royal West Kent. He was an English professional football goalkeeper who appeared in the Football League for Leicester Fosse. Pepper enlisted in the Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment)during the First World War. He spent time with the regiment in India before being deployed to the Middle Eastern theatre in December 1917. Pepper was serving as an acting lance corporal when he was killed in Iraq during the Battle of Sharqat on 25 October 1918. He is commemorated on the Basra Memorial.

**David Carswell Philip** (1880 - 29/04/1917) Heart of Midlothian FC, Leith Athletic Fc, Raith Rovers FC – Northumberland Fusiliers. He was a Scottish professional football half back who played in the Scottish League for Heart of Midlothian, Raith Rovers and Leith Athletic. Philip served as an enlisted man in the Royal Scots during the First World War. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant into the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers on 2 April 1917 and was killed less than a month later, near Arras, France, on 29 April 1917. He is commemorated on the Arras Memorial.

**Henry Phillips** (01/10/1917) Bristol Rovers FC – Gloucestershire Regiment. He was born in Bristol and played for Bristol Rovers. He enlisted as a Private in the 1<sup>st</sup> the 12<sup>th</sup> Service Battalion of the Gloucester Regiment and was killed in action. He is remembered on the Tyne Cot Memorial No. 72 to 75. Son of Clara Phillips, late of 40, Freeland Buildings, Eastville, and the late Edward Colston Phillips; husband of Blanch Edith Truscott (formerly Phillips), of 24, Herbert St., Eastville, Bristol.

William Pickering (1894 – 09/11/1917) Burnley FC, St. Johnstone FC, Morton FC – Seaforth Highlanders. Centre forward William Pickering was born in Glasgow in 1894 and joined Burnley from a Glasgow junior club in August 1912. He was a prolific scorer in Burnley's reserve team in his first two seasons at Turf Moor and made his First Division debut against Liverpool at Turf Moor in March 1914. Deputising for the great Bert Freeman at centre forward he made an excellent impression, scoring in a 5-2 victory. It was just six weeks before the teams would meet again in the FA Cup final at the Crystal Palace, with the Clarets again victorious after a 1-0 win, although William Pickering did not play in the final. In December 1914 Burnley reached the final of the Lancashire Senior Cup after victories over Manchester United (5-0), Liverpool (5-1 at Anfield) and Blackburn Rovers (2-1). Pickering played in all these ties, scoring one goal, against United.



Prior to the final, against Rochdale at Hyde Road, Manchester, it was announced by Burnley that Bert Freeman would play at centre forward in a strong Clarets' team. However, Freeman insisted that William Pickering should lead Burnley's attack and the young man stepped in and seized his chance, scoring twice in a 4-1 victory for the Clarets. Altogether he appeared in 14 League and FA Cup games for Burnley, scoring six times. His final goal for the Clarets came in the very last League match to be played at Turf Moor before the suspension of the Football League, a 2-1 victory against Sunderland in April 1915. Private William Pickering S/12434 1st Seaforth Highlanders Died of wounds in Iraq on 9th November 1917, aged twenty-three and is Buried in Baghdad North Gate Cemetery, Iraq.

**G**eorge **Oscar Porter** (14/07/1918) Luton Town FRC, Millwall FC, Norwich City FC – Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment. Lance Corporal George Oscar Porter Service Number PS/2726 of the Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex) Regiment. He served in the 16th (Service) Battalion (Public Schools) and 18th (Service) Battalion (1st Public Works Pioneers). He died of wounds 14 July 1918. He is buried in Esquelbecq Military Cemetery (III. C. 31.) George Porter is remembered on a plaque at Millwall Football Club commemorating those players who died in the Great War. He was born in Peckham and was the son of M. A. Witham, of 78, Hill St., Peckham, London. He played for Luton Town, Millwall and Norwich City. He was on the books of Millwall FC during the seasons 1913-1914 and 1914-1915. He made two appearances for the club in the Southern League.

**Thomas Christopher Porter** (25/10/1885 - 04/06/1915) Glossop FC, Stockport County FC – Manchester Regiment. He was an English amateur football inside forward who played in the Football League for Stockport County and Glossop. He scored 13 goals in 8 appearances for England Amateurs and was a member of the Great Britain squad at the 1908 Summer Olympics, but did not play. Porter enlisted as a private in the Manchester Regiment during the First World War and was killed at Gallipoli on 4 June 1915. He is commemorated on the Helles Memorial.

**Henry Purver** (1891 - 31/07/1916) Brentford FC – Private 24<sup>th</sup> Battalion (2<sup>nd</sup> Sportsmen's Regiment) Royal Fusiliers. Born in Isleworth in 1891, Henry was one of nine children to William and Norah Purver. Living locally in Grainger Road, Isleworth, Henry's first job was as a 'reader,' as listed in the 1911 census. He signed amateur forms for Brentford FC in 1911-12, from Oxford City, and made two Southern League appearances that season. On the 5th of July 1915, Henry enlisted to join the Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment), who came under the 24th (2nd Sportsmen's) Battalion, part of the 5th Brigade and 2nd Division. His initial training took place in Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, at Clipstone Camp. In August 1915, the regiment was transferred to Salisbury Plain to continue with their training. In November 1915, the 24th (2nd Sportsmen's) Battalion was sent to the front line. The Battalion saw action at the Battle of Festubert and the Battle of Loos, in late 1915 to early 1916. In July of 1916, during one of the Battles of the Somme (the Battle of Delville Wood) Private Henry Purver was Missing in action presumed dead aged just twenty-five. Henry left a wife, Margaret, whom he had only just married 9 months earlier in late 1915.

**George Strachan Ramsay**, born at Kilpatrick in 1892, started out with Clydebank Juniors. Queen's Park took him onto their books in January 1911. In his first season at Hampden he made ten appearances, scoring three goals. 1911/12 saw him play in a further thirty-one league matches, scoring four goals. The inside-right then had a short spell at Carlisle United before making one more appearance for Queen's Park. He was loaned out to Rangers

during season 1912/13, making three appearances before moving on to Ayr United in season 1913/14. At Somerset Park he made a total of fifteen league appearances, scoring eleven goals before moving on again - this time to Partick Thistle. In his three seasons at Firhill, he played in a total of forty-two league matches, scoring ten goals. Lieutenant George Ramsay joined the Royal Air Force (49th Squadron) and was killed in action in France on 8 August 1918. Only three of the players in the picture would escape the war unscathed. Less than a year later, striker Henry Wattie, full-back Duncan Currie and reserve right-back Ernie Ellis were killed on the first day of the Somme. Centre-forward **Tom Gracie** died of leukaemia during army training after spending months trying bravely to hide the illness.



On the Somme, striker Willie Wilson was invalided home with an injured shoulder and defenders Annan Ness and Alfie Briggs were wounded, the latter incredibly lucky to be alive. Only left-back and Staff Sergeant Jimmy Frew, who played for Leeds and Bradford City after the war, reserve keeper Norman Findlay, who was transferred as a shipyard carpenter, and centre-back Bobby Preston came through the war safely.

#### **Heart of Midlothian FC**

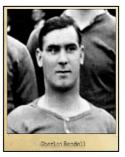
Next day, Jimmy Boyd and Paddy Crossan joined up. Boyd was killed a month into the Somme and Crossan, "the handsomest man in the world" died after the war as a result of a gassing he had suffered in 1918. Another Hearts star, the supremely talented

captain Bob Mercer, was gassed and died before his time too. Reserve centre-half John Allan, who had already enlisted with the 9th Royal Scots, survived the Somme only to be killed the next year. The first Hearts player to die in action had been inside left James Hodge Speedie, an insurance clerk, killed at Arras in September 1915. Of the thirty one professionals at the club who went to war, seven of them lost their lives and ten were wounded.

# John Ramsay (1897 - 28/04/1917) Falkirk FC – Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve.

He was a Scottish professional footballer who played in the Scottish League for Falkirk. Ramsey served as an able seaman in the 63rd (Royal Naval) Division during the First World War and was killed near Arras, France on 29 April 1917. He is commemorated on the Arras Memorial.

**Charles Edward Randall** (1884 - 27/09/1916) Arsenal FC, Newcastle United FC – Private Coldstream Guards.Centre forward Charles Edward Randall from Durham scored twelve times in 44 matches for the Woolwich Arsenal first team, and also appeared in 39 games for the Reserves between 1911 and 1914 before going to North Shields FC just prior to the war starting. He joined the Coldstream Guards before being sent to France in November 1915, and while fighting during the Battle of the Somme was Killed in Action on 27 September 1916 at the age of thirty-two. He is remembered with honour being buried at the Dantzig Alley British Cemetery, France.



Robert Randles (09/10/1916) Chesterfield FC, Liverpool FC, Tranmere Rovers FC – Canadian

Infantry. He was born in Birkenhead before emigrating to Canada. He enlisted into the Canadian Expeditionary Force as a Private in the 16<sup>th</sup> Battalion. He was killed in action either on 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> October 1916 and buried in Adanac Military Cemetery Miraumont.

**Harold Arthur Redhead** (07/08/1918) Northampton Town FC – Captain 15321 6<sup>th</sup> Service Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment. He had previously served with the Coldstream Guards. He was Killed in action and is buried is Dive Copse British Cemetery Sailly-le-sec. Son of Arthur James and Annie Redhead, of 160, Abington Avenue, Northampton.

**Stanley Reed** (25/04/1916) Plymouth Argyle FC – Lance Corporal 16687 11<sup>th</sup> Service Battalion Devonshire Regiment. Born in Torquay Devon. Died of wounds at home and buried in Torquary Cemetery Extension. Son of Charles and Annie Reed, of 42, Victoria Park Rd., Torquay.

**James William Revill** (14/06/1891 - 09/04/1917) Sheffield United FC – Royal Engineers. He was an English footballer who played for Sheffield United. Born in Sutton-in-Ashfield, he remained at the club until his death during active service in France during World War I. Revill spent the majority of his time at Bramall Lane in the reserves, only achieving short runs in the



first team due to injuries to others. Despite this he still made sixty starts for the Blades before the outbreak of war in Europe. Having enlisted for the army he served in the Royal Engineers in France until 1917 when it was reported he had been killed in action. It was later suggested that he had only been wounded and had actually died of his injuries in a military hospital on his return to England. Revill died at the 33rd Casualty Clearing Station, Béthune of a gunshot wound to the back on 9 April 1917. A benefit match was held for his widow and children at Bramall Lane in 1918.

**Norman Grey Riddell MM** (1887 - 15/06/1918) Clapton Orient FC – Sergeant 15833 11<sup>th</sup> Service Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers. He was an English professional football left back who played in the Football League for Clapton Orient. Riddell served as a sergeant in the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers during the First World War and was killed in Italy on 15 June 1918. He was buried in Magnaboschi British Cemetery, Asiago plateau

William Stanley Ripley (10/03/1017) Stoke City FC – Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment.

He was an English football half back who played for Stoke. Ripley was born in Sunderland and played amateur football with Seaham Harbour before joining Stoke in 1914. He played in one first team match which came in a 3–0 win over Brentford during the 1914–15 season. Ripley served as a private in the 5th and 17th Battalions of the Middlesex Regiment during the First World War and died in Sunderland on 10 March 1917.

**George Stephenson Rivers (13/09/1916) Newcastle United FC.** Born in Tudhoe, County Durham, who like Dan Dunglinson, was heading for a place in the first team, volunteered as a private in the 14th Battalion Durham Light Infantry and was killed on the Somme on September 13 1916. He is buried at Englebelmer Communal Cemetery, with the words, 'Greater love hath no man that a man lay down his life for his friends' inscribed on his grave.

**Horace Osborne Robotham** (1879 - 12/09/1916) – Brentford FC, Fulham FC, Wolverhampton Wanderers FC - Duke of Cambridge's Own 23<sup>rd</sup> Battalion Middlesex Regiment. Missing, presumed killed, at the Battle of Ginchy & Flers-Courcelette, the Somme, France. Horace has no known grave. His name is recorded on the Thiepval Memorial (Pier & Face 12 D & 13 B). Born in Wolverhampton, July 1879, Horace originally started out working as a brick maker/labourer. He began playing football, as an Amateur, in Wolverhampton for the Post Office and then for Ossett and Hunslet where he won the West Yorkshire League and also West Yorkshire Cup medals. In August 1901 he joined Wolverhampton Wanderers, his hometown club, as a professional footballer. In 1903 he moved to Fulham and in December 1905 he signed for Brentford FC. 'Harry' married his wife, Jessie, on the 6<sup>th</sup> of June 1905. During the season of 1905-06, Horace appeared eighteen times for Brentford in the Southern League, before he moved on once again, this time to Glossop in May 1906. New Brompton (Gillingham) was the next port of call in July 1907, where he played in the 1907-08 season.

The census of 1911 mentions Horace's occupation as being a 'window cleaner & grocer'. At the slightly older age of thirty-six, Horace enlisted in one of the many "Footballers Battalions" in November 1915. After army training in Aldershot, his regiment went to the front line in May 1916. During one of the battles of the Somme, at the Battle of Ginchy, Horace was presumed killed in action. As with many other servicemen during WW1, his body was one of the 'missing' and his name is therefore remembered on the Thiepval Memorial. He left a wife, Jessie, 30, and four young children aged just 10, 6, 4 and a surviving twin of 2, one twin sadly died in February 1916, just 7 months before Harry died in battle.

**Larrett Roebuck** (1889 - 18/10/1914) Huddersfield Town FC – York and Lancaster Regiment. He was an English professional footballer who played for Huddersfield Town as a left back. He was a British Army lance corporal who was killed in action during World War I in 1914 and was the first player from the English Football League to be killed in the First World War.



Albert Victor Rogers (1886 - 04/04/1918) Queens Park Rangers FC, Aston Villa FC, Bristol Rovers FC, Shrewsbury Town FC – East Surrey Regiment. Born in Birmingham in 1886. Made

his debut on 6<sup>th</sup> November 1909 against Plymouth Argyle FC. In January 1910, Rovers were drawn away to Second Division Grimsby Town in the FA Cup and pulled off an unlikely shock win, Billy Peplow and Albert Rodgers scoring in a 2-0 win. It was the only goal Rodgers scored for the club, for his 28 Southern League matches at insideforward proved scoreless, twenty-four games that season and four more in 1910-11, and he did not make the Football League side at Villa or Walsall. A wartime fatality whilst serving his country, initially enlisting at Aldershot for the Middlesex Regiment but later in the East Surrey Regiment, Rodgers had earlier contributed seven goals in 29 Southern League games for QPR. He enlisted in the Footballers' Battalion and was transferred to the East Surreys. Killed in action in France. Rogers formerly played for Aston Villa Reserves, QPR Reserves, Walsall and Shrewsbury Town. John Dalziel Rollo (1893 - 14/02/1917) Kilmarnock FC – Nelson Battalion 63<sup>rd</sup> Royal Naval Division. Son of William and Agnes Rollo of Dreghorn Ayrshire.

#### Robert Rollo (1887 - 30/04/1917) Hibernian FC – Royal Scots Fusiliers.

Robert Rollo (1887 – 30 April 1917) was a Scottish professional footballer who played in the Scottish League for Hibernian. Rollo served as a private in the Royal Scots Fusiliers during the First World War and died of wounds near Arras, France on 30 April 1917. He was buried in Warlincourt Halte British Cemetery, Saulty.

**Leigh Richmond Roose MM** (07/10/1916) Wrexham FC, Stoke City FC, Arsenal FC, Aston Villa FC, Everton FC Sunderland FC – Royal Fusiliers. Leigh Richmond Roose, born at Wrexham on 27 November 1878, was a goalkeeper who started out with UCW Aberystwyth, followed by Aberystwith Town, Druids, and London Welsh. Between 1901-1904 he was with Stoke (81 appearances), then a season at Everton (18 appearances). He was back at Stoke for another two seasons where he played in a further sixty-six games. Two seasons at Sunderland followed this (92 games), followed by a short loan spell at Celtic. He played in only one match for Celtic, a Scottish Cup semi-final tie v Clyde on 12 March 1910, which Clyde won 3-1. After this he had spells at Port Vale,



Huddersfield Town, Aston Villa and Woolwich Arsenal. He finished his career in Wales and twenty-four caps for Wales, was, for the time, an extraordinary number. He was a famous pre-WW1 goalkeeper, a Welsh international and the Woolwich Arsenal keeper during the 1911-12 season. During the Battle of the Somme, just after winning the Military Medal for bravery, he was seen running towards the enemy at full speed in no man's land while firing his gun in an attack on the enemy lines. His body was never recovered, and he was reported as Killed in Action on 7 October 1916, at the age of thirty-eight. His name is found on the Thiepval Memorial on the Somme.



One of the most flamboyant personalities of his era - Roose made headlines on and off the pitch as a goalkeeper for clubs from Wrexham, Stoke City to Aston Villa. This son of a pacifist minister always wore the shirt of his old university Aberystwyth under his jersey. Ambitions to become a doctor were diverted by football and a love of the London life. Girlfriends included music hall star Marie Lloyd and he wore Savile Row suits. Roose once hired a train at huge expense so he could get to an away match in Birmingham on time.

#### Leigh Roose in goal for Woolwich Arsenal in 1912.

He joined the Royal Army Medical Corps, and latterly the

Royal Fusiliers, for whom he earned the Military Medal during his first engagement with them. Roose's abilities as a goalkeeper to throw a ball it appears extended to grenades. "Though nearly choked with fumes with his clothes burnt he refused to go to the dressing station," says the citation. "He continued to throw bombs until his arm gave out, and then, joining the covering party, used his rifle with great effect."

**Thomas Sowerby Rowlandson MC** (1880 - 15/09/1916) Newcastle United FC, Sunderland FC - Captain Yorkshire Regiment. He was an English amateur football goalkeeper who played in the Football League for Sunderland and Newcastle United. He represented the England amateur national team Rowlandson attended Charterhouse School and was a Cambridge University blue. After the breakout of the First World War in August 1914, he joined the British Army and was commissioned as a Lieutenant in the Yorkshire Regiment. By April 1915 he was in Belgium, fighting in the Second Battle of Ypres. By 1 January 1916, he had been promoted to Captain, mentioned in dispatches and won the Military Cross. Rowlandson was killed by a German grenade on 15 September 1916, during the Battle of Flers–Courcelette. He is buried at Bécourt Military Cemetery



in Bécordel-Bécourt. Tom Rowlandson was an eminent player with the Corinthians. He was quick to enlist with the Green Howards and showed much bravery at the Somme.

**Charles Scott (10/08/1916)** Cowdenbeath FC – Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. Killed in action on 10<sup>th</sup> August 1916 and buried in the Gordon Dump Cemetery.

George Scott (29/09/1885 - 16/08/1916) Clapton Orient FC - Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment. He was an English footballer. Scott started his football career with Sunderland District Amateur League sides Braeside and Sunderland West End, before joining Clapton Orient in July 1908. He featured regularly throughout the next



seven seasons, playing in various positions and scoring an average of five goals per season in all competitions. His most valuable goals included the only goal of the game in Orient's victory over Tottenham Hotspur at White Hart Lane on 9 April 1909. In 1911, Scott was selected for a London XI to face a Paris XI in France.

At the outbreak of War, professional football was suspended, and Scott joined the 17th Middlesex Regiment, the "Footballers' Battalion", along with many other Orient players and staff. During the Battle of the Somme, Scott was wounded and taken prisoner, and died at a German military hospital on 16 August 1916. Scott was one of three Orient players killed in the war, along with William Jonas and Richard McFadden. He is buried at St. Souplet British

Cemetery, a few miles south of Le Cateau.

**James Scott** (1895 - 01/07/1916) Raith Rovers FC – Royal Scots. He was a Scottish professional football forward who played in the Scottish League for Raith Rovers. He made an appearance in Scotland's only wartime international during the First World War. He was described as "an all-round forward" and "the most consistent goal scorer Raith have ever had." Scott attended Airdrie Academy and later became an apprentice wire ropemaker with the Caledonian Wire Rope Company. He served as a private in McCrae's Battalion of the Royal Scots during the First World War and was killed by machine gun fire during an assault on a German trench near Ovillers-la-Boisselle on the first day of the Somme. Scott is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.

James Sharp (1894 - 26/04/1915) Falkirk FC – Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

He was a Scottish professional football left back who played in the Scottish League for Falkirk. Soon after the outbreak of the First World War in August 1914, Sharp enlisted as a private in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. He was serving in the 7th Battalion when he was killed in Flanders on 26<sup>th</sup> April 1915. He is commemorated on the Menin Gate

**William McAdam Sharp** (1889 – 08/07/1915). Clyde FC, St. Johnstone FC – Scots Guards. Born at Paisley around 1889, started out with Kilbirnie Ladeside and joined Clyde in April 1910. He was a professional football Inside Left who played in the Scottish League for Clyde and Johnstone. The inside-left made five appearances in the Shawfield first team, four in 1909/10 and one in 1910/11. Sharp then had short spells with St Mirren and Johnstone. While with Johnstone he made one league appearance. After the outbreak of the First World War in August 1914, Sharp enlisted as a guardsman in the Scots Guards. He was serving in the 1st Battalion when he was killed in France on 8 July 1915. He was buried in Dud Corner Cemetery, near Loos-en-Gohelle.

**William Albert Sharpley DCM** (1890 - 01/07/1916) Leicester Fosse – Essex Regiment. Born in Bow he was an English professional football left back who played in the Football League for Leicester Fosse. Prior to 1912, Sharpley enlisted in the Essex Regiment of the British Army. After the outbreak of the First World War, his battalion arrived on the Western Front on 21 August 1914. Serving as a sergeant, he was mentioned in dispatches and won the Cross of St. George 2nd Class "for conspicuous gallantry in rescuing and bringing in across the open and under fire, a wounded NCO" in late 1914. In February 1916, Sharpley won the Distinguished Conduct Medal for bringing another wounded man in under fire. Killed on the first day of the Somme and is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.

The **Cross of Saint George** is a state decoration of the Russian Federation. It was initially established by Imperial Russia where it was officially known as the **Decoration of the Military Order of Saint George** between 1807 and 1913. The Cross of Saint George was reinstated into the Russian awards system in 1992.

Between 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of September 1914 he fought in the First Battle of the Marne, when the Allies halted the initial German advance 10 miles from Paris. The taxis of Paris, together with civilian cars, were requisitioned (pictured above) to rush troops to the front enabling the French and British to counter-attack, forcing a German retreat. William's role in that counterattack is detailed in his Regiment's War Diary of September 8 1914. His Battalion moved forward to cross the River Marne, moving in single file through a thick wood to the east side of the road. Sharpley himself was then sent forward to reconnoitre and to draw the enemy's fire. He provided covering fire for the advance and two of his party were injured as the enemy returned machine gunfire. month later, the War Diary of the 21 October 1914 describes how he and another sergeant, after their officers were killed, *"did good work"*.

The London Gazette of 4 December 1914 reported that Sharpley had been mentioned in dispatches *"for conspicuous gallantry in rescuing and bringing in across the open, and under fire, a wounded NCO"*. The Allies sometimes awarded their own medals for bravery to soldiers of other Allied nations. This resulted in Sharpley receiving the Russian Empire's Medal of St George, 2nd Class.

On 25 August 1915, the London Gazette reported that 'His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia has been

graciously pleased to confer, with the approval of His Majesty the King', this award 'for gallantry and distinguished service in the field'.

Having already been mentioned in dispatches for bringing in a wounded soldier under fire in 1914, Sharpley won the Distinguished Conduct Medal in February 1916 for a similar act. The Intelligence Summary recorded that *"At about 6am on 6 February 1916, Lance Corporal Rogers, was severely wounded at an isolated post in front of one of our trenches southeast of Hebuterne. It was impossible to reach him except over the open and Sergeant Sharpley, accompanied by a Lance Corporal went out at 7.30am under hostile fire and succeeded in getting Lance Corporal Rogers back to our trenches. Owing to the exposed nature of the ground and the deep mud, it was not until 1.15 pm that this was safely accomplished." Just over four months later Sharpley was dead, killed on the first day of the Battle of the Somme. He is commemorated at the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing, which records the 73,000 British and Empire soldiers who were killed but whose bodies were never found. Last October, representatives from Leicester City FC visited his memorial at Thiepval. Club Ambassador Alan Birchenall laid a poppy at the foot of the panel commemorating William's death (pictured earlier in copy).* 

Back in Leicester, Wes Morgan held up a picture of his memorial plaque when he and other players visited Leicester's Victoria Park War Memorial to pay their respects to those Leicester Fosse players killed in the war

The story doesn't quite end there. A fascinating postscript can be found in Nigel McCrery's book, *"The Final Season,"* published last year. He recounts that William's sister Kate Sharpley had been active in the anarchist movement throughout the war. When she received medals from Queen Mary for her dead father, dead brother and dead boyfriend, she threw them back in the Queen's face as a protest against the War. She was arrested and beaten by the police. She was released without charge, although she lost her job. Following her death at the age of 82 in 1978, the Brixton Anarchists named their archive collection, the *'Kate Sharpley Library'*. This maintains an archive of original anarchist documents and publishes books and pamphlets based on those materials.

**John Davenport (Jack) Sheffield** (1879 - 13/03/1915) Burton United FC, Leicester Fosse FC – Leicestershire Regiment. Born in Coalville he was an English amateur football outside right who played in the Football League for Burton United and Leicester Fosse. Sheffield apprenticed as an architect and surveyor and as of 1911 was assisting his family in the running of the Railway Hotel, Coalville. He volunteered to serve in the Royal Leicestershire Regiment during the Second Boer War and later re-joined the regiment soon after the outbreak of the First World War in 1914. Sheffield was killed on the final day of the Battle of Neuve Chapelle on 13 March 1915 and is commemorated on the Le Touret Memorial.



John Edward Shelton (1885 - 07/09/1918) Wolverhampton Wanderers FC, Port Vale FC – Lincolnshire Regiment. He was a local footballer, born in Wolverhampton and a 1908 FA Cup winner with Wolverhampton Wanderers Football Club (or "English Cup" as it was then). Shelton was born in Wolverhampton in 1885. He made ninety-four appearances for Wolves, scoring seventeen goals, and earned the team a replay against Bradford city in the FA Cup Third Round in the 1907-08 season. He played in the Club's 3-1 victory over Newcastle United in the Final. He joined Port Vale in 1911, and made 139 appearances for them until he was conscripted in 1917. He married Sarah Nicholls in 1911, and they went on to have two children, John E. T. (1912) and Sarah E. (1914), both born in Wolstanton. He joined the 2nd Battalion of the Lincolnshire Regiment (service number 52065). Shelton was killed in action on 7 September 1918, and is commemorated at the Epehy Wood Farm Cemetery in France. His widow later married Jack Needham, another former Wolves player.

**John Robert Sibley** (1888 - 24/11/1918) Southampton FC – Fireman 125480 SS Liberty V Mercantile Marine. John Robert was one of seven children born to John and Mary Sibley. us John junior is living with his parents and siblings Elizabeth, William, Harry and Kate at 43 Coleman Street, St Mary's, Southampton. He married Charlotte Maria, nee Matthews They were married in Southampton in 1914 and had three children. He served as a Fireman on the yacht SS Liberty IV which was used as a hospital ship during the war. The Return of Deaths at Sea would indicate that John died at sea; however, he in fact died in his hometown of Bronchopneumonia, a form of bacterial pneumonia, which was the main secondary infection of Spanish Flu. When John died on 24<sup>th</sup> November 1918, his family were living at 15 Chapel Road, Southampton. He is buried at the Southampton Old Cemetery with his wife Charlotte and daughter Dorothy. Grave reference 155. A. 239.

**Vivian Sumner Simpson MC** (1883 - 13/04/1918) Norwich City FC, The Wednesday FC – York and Lancaster Regiment. He was an English amateur football forward who played in the Football League for The Wednesday Simpson attended Wesley College, Sheffield and later worked for his father. He served in the York and Lancaster Regiment during the First World War and was awarded the Military Cross and mentioned in dispatches in September 1917 for leading part of an attack on a German trench and organising the consolidation of the position. Between November 1916 and February 1917, Simpson was promoted from a temporary second lieutenant to acting captain while commanding his company. He was promoted to acting captain and to command his company again in April 1917. In September 1917, Simpson was invalided back to Britain after suffering wounds and was posted to a role training junior officers in Sunderland. "Simmy" as he was known to friends and colleagues, made his first Club appearances in the 1900/01 season, after leaving Wesley College.



As well as been well known for his footballing exploits, he was a keen cricketer and golfer, a fact his obituary paid great respect to – citing him as "one of the best in the region." From 1901/02 he played for both Sheffield Club and Sheffield Wednesday as an amateur, where he made thirty-eight appearances, scoring eleven goals. He signed for Norwich City (then of the Southern League) in 1907, but continued making cameo appearances for SFC as late as 1909, and remained a member of Club thereafter. It is for his exploits in the 1904 Amateur Cup run that Vivian is known for, as he played a key part in Sheffield reaching the final, scoring a hat-trick in the Quarter Final tie versus Darlington St. Augustine's and another one versus Loughborough Corinthians. Sadly, he was injured whilst playing for The Wednesday

in a FA Cup tie versus Tottenham Hotspur and missed the final at Valley Parade versus Ealing. Upon winning the Amateur Cup, Club commenced a tour of the North East immediately. As soon as the party returned to Sheffield, the trophy was taken to Simpson's house, so that he could see the cup whilst still confined to his bed. When war broke out in August 1914 he was anxious to join up but did not care to enlist as a private except in a Battalion of men of his own 'class'. Word of this reached the Duke of Norfolk and the result was the formation of the 12th (Sheffield) Service Battalion, York and Lancaster Regiment. Vivian was the first recruit on the roll of this battalion who after training in England left for the front in June 1916 taking part in The Battle of The Somme. He played a leading part in the attack on Cordorna Trench and as the London Gazette reported "He was the first man into the enemy trench and was involved in hand-to-hand combat with the defenders. Later he brilliantly organised the consolidation of the newly won position" for this he was awarded the Military Cross and mentioned in dispatches.

His MC citation; 'On 28th of June 1917 Captain Simpson played a leading part in the attack on Cordorna Trench. He had also been heavily involved in the planning for this attack. He was the first man into the enemy trench and was involved in hand-to-hand combat with the defenders. Later he brilliantly organised the consolidation and protection of the newly won position' On 13th April 1918, whilst serving with the 13th York and Lancaster, he was killed by a sniper in the village of Outtersteene whilst 'moving amongst the men, cheering them up with his unquenchable optimism'. He was buried at Outtersteene, cemetery west of Lille, near the border with Belgium.

#### Herbert Slatter (1886 - 07/05/1918) Reading FC – Royal Garrison Artillery.

"Everything looks very bright from all sides and I shall be pleased to see the finish."

Hebert, or HP as he was often known as at Elm Park, had played for Berkshire at all levels before joining Reading as an amateur in 1909. He was stocky, only 5'5" tall and just 9st 11lbs, but still with a reputation for being tough in the tackle. He was born in Wokingham in July 1886, and lived at 77 Norfolk Road – right next to Elm Park and the Spreadeagle pub, making him probably the most local player ever to represent the club. He earned his place in the first team at the left half position and played in the majority of the second half of the 1910-11 season that saw us win the Southern League Second Division championship. Heber was at Elm Park for four seasons, also working as a rate collector for the council, but during that time no-one was able to explain how he earned his unusual nickname of 'Little Eva'! More flatteringly he had also been described as 'one of the best half backs Reading ever produced.'

This promising player joined the Royal Garrison Artillery in November 1915, and was posted to France in 1916. He later wrote home, 'We have been so busy moving up and down that I scarcely find time to write. Up to the present I have been keeping quite fit, but we have had some very big bombardments. Everything looks very bright from all sides, and I shall be pleased to see the finish. I have had a letter from my father, he is getting on well. I am writing this sitting on the ground with the paper across my knees.'

In the spring of 1918, Germany was making one last effort to win the war. All the land that had been won on the Somme, at the cost of tens of thousands of lives, had been lost once more. Slatter's role in the war differed from

those Reading players who went before him, he was a gunner who would never have seen a German or gone over a trench. With the aid of Slatter's war diary, it is clear to recall that rounds poured in around him, and his 156 Heavy Battery would have been drenched in German gas. Despite that, with hundreds of rounds being fired in their direction, there was practically no damage and only one man wounded. That one man was Corporal Heber Slatter, and he tragically died from those wounds four days later on 7th May 1918.

With censorship increasing and the death toll ever rising, Slatter's passing only merited two column inches in the Reading Observer under the meek headline 'Footballer Killed.' And his wife's personal battle continued as she fought for ten months to retrieve his personal effects from the army, including photographs, English, French and German coins and a pack of playing cards. To help Mrs Slatter and family, a benefit game was played at Elm Park, raising £196 9s 4d.

**Patrick Slavin** (05/05/1877 – 13/11/1916) Motherwell FC, Celtic FC - Royal Scots. He was a Scottish professional football outside right who played in the Scottish League for Motherwell and Celtic. Slavin served as a sergeant in the Royal Scots during the First World War. At the time of his enlistment in February 1915, he was working as a foreman at Braehead Quarry, Edinburgh. Slavin was killed during a failed attack on Serre-lès-Puisieux on 13 November 1916, during the Battle of the Ancre. He was buried in Serre Road Cemetery No. 2.

Slavin was the second former player to die. He rose to the rank of Sergeant and was with the 2nd Battalion Royal Scots and died 13 November 1916, in the 2nd Battle for the village of Serre. The day he died it was reported that there was thick fog by 5 am and that the enemy's barbed wire was not cut, he is reported to have been shot dead after "going over the top", that day twenty-three died, eighty-four missing and 177 wounded.

**David Glencross Slimmon MM** (02/08/1895 - 23/07/1917) Dumbarton FC, Kilmarnock FC – Royal Engineers. Born in Kilmarnock he was a Scottish footballer who played for Dumbarton and Kilmarnock. Killed in action on 23 July 1917. He enlisted in 419<sup>th</sup> (West Lancs) Field Company Royal Engineers and won the Military Medal. He is buried at Hop Store Cemetery near Ypres.

**Donald Sloan** (31/03/1883 - 01/01/1917) Everton FC, Liverpool FC – Black Watch. He was a Scottish professional footballer who played as a goalkeeper for in the Football League for Everton and Liverpool. He made one appearance for the Irish League XI. Sloan served as a private in the Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) during the First World War and was killed on 1st January 1917 near Arras. He was buried in Faubourg-d'Amiens Cemetery, Arras. (*The Battalion returned to the trenches in I Sector on the 30th, and again took over from the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. On January 1st 1917, a heavy German trench mortar bomb fell on a dug-out in C company's line, causing it to collapse, and killing five men in it.*). Donald Sloan was a



reserve to goalkeeper Billy Scott at Everton for two years before moving across Stanley Park. He was one of twenty-seven players selected at various stages of the 1908/09 first division season. The club's first-choice 'keeper at that time was Sam Hardy and Sloan stepped in for the six fixtures that he missed that year. Sloan didn't keep a 'clean sheet' in any of those games and conceded thirteen goals, finishing on the winning side twice. Sloan left in the summer of 1909 to become player-manager at his old club, Distillery, in Belfast. Three of his brothers suffered the same fate in World War One!

**Joseph Enoch Smith** (1889 - 13/11/1916) Birmingham FC, Chesterfield Town FC -Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment. He was an English professional footballer who played in the Football League for Birmingham. He played as a half back. Smith was born in Kilnhurst, Yorkshire. A coal miner by trade, he began his football career with his works team, Hickleton Main Colliery, before joining Birmingham in 1912. He made his debut in the Second Division on 4 January 1913, deputising for James Bumphrey in an away game against Wolverhampton Wanderers which finished 2–2. A defensive player, described as one who "held his opponents in check effectively, but should show more discretion putting the ball forward", he was unable to impose himself on the first team, and after two seasons in which he played only eight games, he joined Chesterfield Town. Smith spent the 1914–15 season at the Midland League club, scoring once from 30 league games, before competitive football was suspended for the duration of the First World War. Smith served in the 17th Battalion, Middlesex Regiment – the so-called "Footballers' Battalion" – in northern France. He rose to the rank of Company Serjeant Major, and was killed at Serre, Pas-de-Calais, on 13 November 1916 near the end of the Battle of the Somme. Smith was mentioned in despatches for displaying considerable bravery, "after being wounded, again dashed into battle, only to be shot down", and is commemorated at Serre Road Cemetery No. 1.

**Philip Smith** (1885 - 29/09/1918) Burnley FC, Burslem Port Vale FC, Crewe Alexander FC, Chelsea FC – Royal Field Artillery. He was an English footballer who played at centre-forward for Burslem Port Vale, Crewe Alexandra, Chelsea, Burnley, and Stalybridge Celtic. He was killed in action during World War I. Smith played for Knutton, before joining Burslem Port Vale in August 1905. After making his debut in a 3–1 defeat to Lincoln City at Sincil Bank on 2 September, he became a regular in the first team. He got his first League goal seven days

later, in a 4–3 win over Chesterfield at the Athletic Ground. He claimed eight goals in 25 Second Division appearances in the 1905–06 season. However, he was later released, most likely in the summer of 1906. He later played for Crewe Alexandra, Chelsea, Burnley, and Stalybridge Celtic. Smith served as a gunner in the Royal Field Artillery during World War I, and was killed in action whilst fighting in the Western Front on 29 September 1918.

**Harold Sparkes** (1896 – 03/06/1917) Glossop FC – Royal Scots. He was an English amateur football centre forward who appeared in the Football League for Glossop. Sparkes took an apprenticeship as a plumber and later worked as a clerk. On 11 June 1915, 10 months since the outbreak of the First World War, he enlisted as a private in the Royal Scots.

After being posted to France in October 1915, he saw action at the Battle of Loos and later suffered a gunshot wound to the head near Ploegsteert, Belgium on 12 May 1916. After recovering in Britain, he returned to the Western Front in December 1916. Sparkes was killed east of Arras, France on 3 June 1917, during the Battle of Arleux. He is commemorated on the Arras Memorial



James Hodge Speedie (17/11/1893 – 25/09/1915). Born at Edinburgh on 17 November 1893, was another who joined Hearts from Tranent. In season 1913/14, he played seven league matches for St Mirren and at Hearts, he managed nine appearances and five goals. On 14 November 1914, the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders made an urgent appeal for volunteers at half time in match at Tynecastle against Falkirk. The initial response was disappointing, but at full-time several men stepped forward, including Speedie. He was killed at the Battle of Loos on 25 September 1915. His brother, second lieutenant John Gibson Speedie, 4<sup>th</sup> Royal Scots, was also killed at Arras.



**James Hamilton Speirs MM** (22/03/1886 - 20/08/1917) Bradford City FC, Clyde FC, Leeds City FC, Rangers FC – Cameron Highlanders. He was a Scottish footballer who represented his country on one occasion, scored the winning goal in the 1911 FA Cup Final, and received the Military Medal during the First World War. Born in Glasgow, he worked as a clerk while playing youth football for Annandale. He started his adult football career with local junior team Maryhill, where he played for less than a season, before he moved to Rangers in 1905. He spent three years with the club, but won only the Glasgow Merchants' Charity Cup, before he joined a third Glasgow side Clyde. After one season, he left Clyde and Scotland, and joined Bradford City for their second season in the First Division. His greatest success came in his second season with Bradford, when he was the club's captain and goal scorer in their FA Cup Final victory of 1911, in a team

featuring eight Scottish-born players. He spent another two seasons with Bradford City, before he joined Leeds City, but after two seasons, the First World War broke out. League football continued for one more season, at the end of which Speirs returned to Glasgow. Married with two young children, Speirs would have been exempt from conscription, but he volunteered to join the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders in 1915. He was promoted to lance corporal, corporal and sergeant, and won the Military Medal for bravery in the field, but was killed during the Battle of Passchendaele in August 1917, at the age of 31.

Speirs was born on 22 March 1886 in the Govan area of Glasgow, Scotland, the fifth of six children of James Hamilton Speirs and Janet Shields Speirs (née McLean). By 1901, the family had moved to nearby Govanhill and Jimmy worked as a clerk. It was in Govanhill that Speirs' football ability was first shown, when he played in the junior football circuit on the black ash pitches of Glasgow, for Annandale, during summer tournaments

Speirs left his native Scotland during the summer of 1909, to head for Yorkshire and sign for Bradford City, under the management of his countryman Peter O'Rourke. It would be City's second season in the First Division following their promotion in 1907–08, and O'Rourke wanted to strengthen his side after they narrowly avoided relegation in their first season in the top flight.

He assembled a team which contained several Scottish players, and also brought in England international outside right Dicky Bond. Speirs made his debut on the opening day of the 1909–10 season, as City lost 1–0 to Manchester United. His first goal came three months later, in a 3–1 victory over Sunderland, during the middle of a 10-game undefeated spell.

Speirs played in all thirty-eight games during his first season, scoring six times, as City finished seventh. He also played in both the club's FA Cup games that season, scoring in a 4–2 victory over Notts County in the first round. Speirs was also a freemason. He was initiated into The Lodge Saint Vincent Sandyford No 553, based in Glasgow, on 11 March 1908, just four days after he had made his only Scottish appearance. When his football career took



him away from Glasgow, Speirs maintained links with the lodge. He became a Master Mason, then a life member on 12 February 1913.

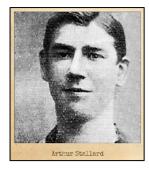
# Bradford City 1911 FA Cup Winning Team (Speirs in the centre middle row)

In April 1917, Speirs took part in the Second Battle of Arras, for which he was awarded the Military Medal for bravery in May 1917, before he was promoted to Sergeant in June. The following month, he returned home to Scotland on leave, but he soon returned to France and was killed during the Battle of Passchendaele on or about 20 August 1917, aged thirty-one. He is buried at Dochy Farm New British Cemetery near Ypres in Belgium.

**Harold Thomas Springthorpe** (28/04/1886 - 03/11/1915) Grimsby Town FC, Northampton Town FC – Lincolnshire Yeomanry. He was an English amateur football inside forward who played in the Football League for Grimsby Town. He represented the England amateur national team and English Wanderers. Springthorpe attended Stamford School and later trained as a bank clerk before working for Barclays. He later transferred to the Grimsby branch. Two months after the outbreak of the First World War, Springthorpe enlisted as a lance corporal in the Lincolnshire Yeomanry in October 1914.

Come October 1915, the Lincolnshire Yeomanry were told that they were being sent to Salonika. They boarded the transport SS Mercian - a former fruit ship - at Southampton. She was largely unarmed, save for machine guns at the front and back. The ship endured rough seas following her departure and had to put in at Gibraltar, although the troops weren't allowed ashore. She put to sea again and, on 3 November 1915, she was attacked in the Mediterranean by a German submarine U38 using 21-pound canon. After more than an hour being bombarded, the Mercian escaped. However, in that time seventy-eight men were wounded, twenty-three were dead, twenty-two troops and eight crew members were missing. Later thirteen of the Lincolnshire Yeomanry and five crew members were rescued. MOD reports at the time state that twenty-three men were killed, thirty were missing and fifty were wounded. The dead were buried at sea.

Following the attack, the ship docked in Oran in Algeria, where the wounded were taken to hospital. Seven more members of the Lincolnshire Yeomanry died and were buried in the Le Petit Lac Cemetery in Oran, Algeria. As well as Harry Springthorpe, another person who died as a result of the attack on 3 November was Eton-educated Lincolnshire Yeomanry Captain, Sir Thomas Carew Trollope - Lord Kesteven. Cpt Trollope died in Oran on 5 November, but his family had his body repatriated and buried in the family vaults at Crowcombe Church in the West Country. The title died with the death of the 24-year-old captain. He is commemorated on the Helles Memorial



**Edward Arthur James Stallard** (1901 - 30/11/1917) West Ham United FC – London Scottish. Born Sept 1892 in Hackney yet in 1901 he was living with his family At 526 Barking Road E13, which is now a chemist heading towards Canning Town just past the old Castle pub at the junction of the Greengate. He joined West Ham from Chatham in 1913, He played for the Hammers right up until the end of the 1916/17 season playing in the War competition he played thirty-seven games scoring twenty-five goals with his last appearance being a 2-0 loss to Millwall in April 1917. Then 1917 he was in the London Regiment (London Scottish) 14th Battalion. During the battle of Cambrai (North East France) which was an assault that lasted 17 Days, (20/11-7/12) The British made early gains but the Germans launched an offensive on the 28/11, on the 30th the Germans are

believed to have exploded 16,000 shells over allied lines. And it was on that day that Edward Stallard is listed as dying. He has no Grave but is listed on the Cambrai memorial.

**James Stevenson** (1877 - 03/07/1916) Bristol City FC, Clyde FC, Derby County FC, Leicester Fosse FC, Newcastle United FC – Highland Light Infantry. He was a Scottish professional football inside forward who played in the Football League for Derby County, Newcastle United, Grimsby Town and Leicester Fosse. He also played in the Scottish league for Clyde. James Stevenson was the third player from Leicester Fosse to be killed in the First World War. He was killed on the 3 July 1916, the third day of the Battle of the Somme. Born in Paisley in 1877, James had played for Clyde, Derby County, Newcastle United, Bristol City and Grimsby Town before signing for Leicester Fosse in January 1902. An inside forward, he played seven games for the Fossils before returning to Clyde.

When he was killed, James was serving as a private in the Highland Light Infantry. He was in the 15th (Glasgow Tramways) Battalion which been raised in Glasgow September 1914. By the time the Battle of the Somme started on July 1 1916, James' 15th Battalion was part of the 32nd Division's 14th Brigade.

The British offensive on the River Somme, originally intended for August, was brought forward a month to relieve pressure on the French Army further south at Verdun, where they had been suffering terrible losses since February. In the eight days preceding the battle, the British had pounded the German lines with a constant artillery barrage from one thousand guns. Surprisingly this onslaught failed to have any real effect on the Germans, who emerged from their shelters dug up to 40 feet deep in the chalk soil to machine gun the advancing British at will. On the first day of the battle, when the British suffered 57,470 British casualties, including 20,000 fatalities, the 14th Brigade had been held in reserve. James' 15th Battalion in that Brigade nevertheless suffered some losses from shellfire.

On the third day of the battle, the 15th Battalion took part in an attack on a German stronghold known as the Leipzig Salient, just south of Thiepval. The plan of attack was confused and poor. The attack, initially planned for 3am, was delayed for three hours. The infantry received the new orders, but the artillery did not. This meant the barrage started three hours too soon and when they tried to repeat the process at the rescheduled time of 6am, they quickly ran out of shells. This had disastrous consequences. Two companies of the 15th, including James in their number, attacked at 6.15am. They entered the German lines twice, but were forced out both times. 285 men were killed in the attack. Sadly, James was amongst them. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.

**William Strang** (16/09/1878 - 07/10/1916) Celtic FC – Canadian Infantry . Born in Dunfermline he was a Scottish professional football full back who played in the Scottish League for Celtic. Strang emigrated with his family to Calgary, Canada in 1905. Strang served in the 56th and 31st Battalions of the Canadian Expeditionary Force during the First World War and held the rank of acting lance corporal at the time he died of wounds in France on 7 October 1916. He was buried in St Sever Cemetery, Rouen.

**Thomas Philips Strong** (1890 - 15/07/1917) Lincoln City FC – South Staffordshire Regiment. He was an English professional football left back and left half who played in the Football League for Lincoln City. Strong served as a private in the South Staffordshire Regiment during the First World War and was killed in France on 15 July 1917. He was buried in Croisilles Railway Cemetery.

**Robert Suart** (1882 - 27/09/1918) Fulham FC, Stockport County FC – Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Born in Stockport he was an English professional football wing half who played in the Football League for Stockport County and Fulham. Suart played in the Football League for Stockport County and Fulham, before joining Central League club Port Vale in July 1911. He helped the "Valeites" to win the Staffordshire Senior Cup in 1912, the Birmingham Senior Cup in 1913 and the North Staffordshire Infirmary Cup in 1915. Vale went into abeyance in 1915 and Suart began guesting for Stockport County. During the second year of the First World War in 1915, Suart enlisted as a private in the South Lancashire Regiment. He transferred to the Royal Warwickshire Regiment later that year and went on to see action at High Wood, Guillemont, Flers-Courcelette, Morval, Le Transloy, Arras and the Third Battle of Ypres during 1916 and 1917. His division was transferred to the Italian Front following the Third Battle of Ypres, but returned to France in April 1918. Suart was killed during a German counter-attack near Gouzeaucourt on 27 September 1918, just over six weeks before the Armistice. He is commemorated on the Vis-en-Artois Memorial.



**William Urquhart Sutherland** (1884 – 26/08/1914). Born at Falkirk in 1884, was the first known footballer to die in World War One. He served with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in the South African Campaign and was a keen footballer and gym instructor for his regiment. Southend United signed him in 1908 and in three seasons with the club he had a fine goalscoring record from his position at inside-forward. In August 1911 Plymouth Argyle signed him for a fee of £100 but he spent most of his time in the reserve side. In December 1913 he moved on to Chatham but when war broke out a few months later he immediately re-enlisted with his old regiment. On 26th August 1914, just four days after the British Army first encountered the enemy, Sergeant William Sutherland was killed in action during the

Battle of Le Cateau.

**Henry (Harry) Taylor** (1881 - 27/08/1917) Falkirk FC – Gordon Highlanders. He was a Scottish professional football right half who played in the Scottish League for Dundee Hibernian and Falkirk. Taylor worked as a brakesman for the Callandar Coal Company. He served as a private in the Gordon Highlanders during the First World War and was killed in France on 27 May 1917. He was buried in Brown's Copse Cemetery, Rœux.

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John Taylor (15/09/1016) Hull City FC, Leith Athletic FC, New Brompton FC - Northumberland Fusiliers. Born in Elgin he was a Scottish footballer who played as an inside forward for Peterhead, Hull City and most notably for New Brompton, where he made over 130 appearances. He served as a private in the Royal Scots during the First World War and was killed on the Somme. Gillingham Football Club, known then as New Brompton FC, were formed at the Napier Arms pub in May 1893, but changed to the current name in time for the 1912/13 season.

**Owen Richard Thomas** (21/08/1917) Southampton FC – Captain Assistant Provost-Marshall 54<sup>th</sup> Division Welsh Horse Yeomanry. He is buried at Deir El Belah War Cemetery Israel & Palestine Grave A.234. Son of Dr. John Lewis Thomas and Clara Thomas, of Southampton.

# Edward Thompson (06/11/1918) Fulham FC – Scots Guards.

Two Cottagers' players are known to have given their lives during the war- William Maughan, who died at the Battles of Somme, and Edward Thompson, who was killed at Bemeries. They were just 22 and 24. "Some players received such bad injuries during the fighting that they weren't fit to play ever again." "A former player George Redwood lost an arm. Many were gassed as well." Craven Cottage remained open throughout the time span as the ground was often used for military training purposes, although attendance dropped as more and more fans started to conscript. Rallies were frequently held at the stadium before and after games to encourage enlistment, a large group of the Fulham squad joined the Footballer's Battalion 17th Middlesex Regiment. "Even Fulham manager Phil Kelso worked in a munitions factory in

Woolwich for much of the war," said Mr White, a lifelong Fulham fan, highlighting the all-encompassing reach of WWI.

Ralph Motson Thompson (1892 - 01/07/1016) Grimsby Town FC - Lincolnshire Regiment. He was an English amateur football outside left who made one appearance in the Football League for Grimsby Town. Thompson's father John was chairman of Grimsby Town in 1905 and 1906 and his brother Albert also played for the club. In 1911, he was working as a trainee auctioneer. Six weeks after the outbreak of the First World War, Thompson enlisted as a private in the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment on 17 September 1914. He was killed on the first day of the Somme in 1916. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.

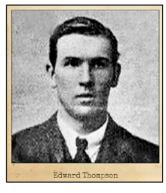
Harold Victor Thornton (10/05/1918) Queens Park Rangers FC – Lieutenant Royal Air Force. Harold Victor Thornton was a footballer for Queens Park Rangers Football Club before the First World War broke out. Harold was the son of George and Florence Susan Thornton, of "Kenilworth", 63, King's Road, Leytonstone in London, and the husband of Lilian Maud Margaret Thornton, of 126, Capel Road, Forest Gate, in London. Harry Thornton joined QPR from Shepherds Bush FC on the 1st of September 1911. Thornton was an inside-left and made his debut for QPR on the 9th of September 1911 in the 3-0 win against Reading. He scored his first goal in the 3-0 win for QPR away to Watford the same year. He made thirty-six appearances and scored ten goals including one penalty in the 1911-12 season when QPR won the Southern League championship. In those days the FA Charity Shield was played

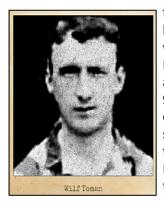
between the Football League champions and the Southern League champions, so Harry played in the match against Blackburn Rovers on Saturday 4th May 1912 at the neutral ground of White Hart Lane, the home of Tottenham Hotspur FC. In front of a crowd of 7,100, the 1911/12 Football League champions Blackburn Rovers beat QPR 2-1 with the match being played at the end of the season in which they won their titles, although it was originally scheduled for the start of the 1912/13 season. This was because following the sinking of the Titanic in April 1912 the match was brought forward to allow the proceeds from the game of £265.10s.11d to be donated to the Titanic Disaster Fund. Harry's last match for QPR was in the 1-0 win at home to Norwich on the 7th of September 1912. It looks like Harry joined up for WW1 in 1915. Harold Victor Thornton was originally in the Essex Regiment, serving in France before transferring to the Royal Flying Corps (later the RAF 34th Squadron), where he was shot down and killed over Italy on the 10th of May 1918 aged just twenty-eight.

James Todd, born at Edinburgh in 1895, had one season with Raith Rovers in 1914/15 after signing for them from Musselburgh, playing in twenty-two matches and scoring one goal. After the season ended he enlisted in McCrae's Battalion, the 16th Royal Scots, and died on the Flanders Battlefield on 12 March 1916.

Wilfred Toman (1874 - 02/05/1917) Burnley FC, Everton FC, Southampton FC, Stockport County FC – The Kings Liverpool Regiment. He was an English professional footballer who played as a centre







forward for Burnley and Everton around the turn of the twentieth century. Toman was born in Bishop Auckland, England, but started his football career in Scotland with Victoria United (Aberdeen), Aberdeen Strollers and Dundee before returning to England to join Burnley in 1896. In his first season at Turf Moor he made eight appearances with four goals as Burnley were relegated to the Second Division. In 1897– 98 Burnley easily took the Second Division title with Toman only missing one game and contributing 15 goals (behind Jimmy Ross's 23), plus a further four goals in the end of season play-offs through which Burnley regained their place in the First Division. In their first season back in the top flight, Toman was top scorer with eleven goals as Burnley finished third in the table, although he had moved to Everton before the end of the season.

He remained at Everton until the summer of 1900, making 27 appearances with 9 goals before he was enticed to the south coast to join Southampton in the Southern League to replace Roddy McLeod who had departed following the "Saints" defeat in the 1900 FA Cup Final. Toman was "rather prone to accidents but was a game player who often turned out despite his injuries; his ability was to support other forwards. Playing alongside former Evertonians Edgar Chadwick and Alf Milward, Toman helped Southampton reclaim the Southern League title before returning to Everton at the end of the season. He scored in his first match back with Everton before sustaining a serious injury in his second game which effectively ended his career. After spending two and a half years on the sidelines he attempted a comeback with Stockport County before spells with Oldham Athletic and Newcastle United. After retiring from playing he returned to settle in Scotland in 1909. During the First World War he enlisted in the King's Regiment (Liverpool) and was killed at the Western Front on 2 May 1917.

Robert Torrance (1888 - 24/043/1918) Bradford City FC - Royal Field Artillery.



He was a Scottish footballer who played in defence for hometown team Kirkintilloch Rob Roy and Bradford City. He joined Bradford City in August 1908 and for three years was a hard-working understudy to the first team players. He had played just 36 league games in his first three seasons and one FA Cup game before he played in the 1911 FA Cup Final replay as replacement for the injured Willie Gildea. City won 1–0. Torrance became more involved in first team games, playing twenty-three league games the following season and all seven games during City's FA Cup defence, and more than thirty in the three seasons before league football was suspended for the First World War. His last game for City was a wartime regional game against Barnsley in March 1917. Torrance, along with City's FA Cup winning captain Jimmy Speirs, was one of the club's players to die

during service in the First World War whilst a gunner with the Royal Field Artillery.

John (Jack) Speare Tosswill (28/09/1915) Coventry City FC, Liverpool FC, Queens Park Rangers FC, Southend United FC – Corporal 72726 Royal Engineers. 'Jack' Tosswill was born in Eastbourne in 1890. His footballing career started at Eastbourne Borough before moving on to nearby Hastings and St. Leonards, next was Aberdare Athletic, Tunbridge Wells Rangers and then Maidstone Utd. Bigger clubs then followed and he joined QPR (Played 3, scored 1) before moving to Liverpool where he only managed eleven games and scored one goal for the reds. It was from Liverpool that Southend acquired him in 1913 with who he stayed for one season before moving on to Coventry

City before the war ended the footballing calendar. He enlisted in his home town of Eastbourne and for at least some of his time with the military he served with the Royal Engineers Signal Depot based at Dunstable. The signal training services taught the ever improving art of communications, something that had been found to be woefully lacking in the early days of the war. As a training centre they would have taught all forms of signal work such as semaphore, lamps, telephone line laying and the newly utilised wireless. Tosswill was taken ill whilst the unit was based at Southampton, possibly awaiting to be shipped overseas, he was forced to have an operation but unfortunately later succumbed to its effects. He was buried close to the convalescent home in his native Eastbourne. A likeable fellow, somewhat eccentric, deaf, and a good-class footballer. That is how one might sum



up Corporal J.S. Tosswill, whose death is announced this morning. His ear deficiency used to cause some curious happenings in football matches, for he was not able to hear the referee's signal, and of-times was seen to proceed to score goals what time the crowd and other players were waiting to take a free kick! Poor Tosswill (writes "Bee") was a bit of a wag, and his letters to me were always novel and interesting. He was with Liverpool but for a short time, afterwards proceeding to Coventry City. He was brought from Queen's Park Rangers, and learnt his game with Tunbridge Wells Rangers.

On the outbreak of war, he joined the R.E. section, and was soon made a corporal. A capital cricketer, he played for a time with Stanley. His death took place this morning as a result of an operation at Eastbourne. (Liverpool Echo, 02-10-1915) I have to say that the thought of a profoundly deaf footballer being posted to the Royal Engineers Signal School does nothing to dispel the image of British military leadership during the First World War. Remembered with honour at Eastbourne (Ocklynge) Cemetery Grave UA250

**Walter Daniel John Tull** (28/04/1888 - 25/03/1918) Clapton FC, Northampton Town FC, Tottenham Hotspur FC – Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment. He was an English professional footballer and British Army officer of Afro-Caribbean descent. He was an inside forward and half back for Clapton Orient, Tottenham Hotspur FC, and Northampton Town and was the third person of mixed heritage to play in the top division of the Football League. During the First World War, Tull served in the Middlesex Regiment, including in the two Footballers' Battalions. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant on 30 May 1917 and killed in action on 25 March 1918.



Tull was born in Folkestone, Kent, the son of Barbadian carpenter Daniel Tull and Kent-born Alice Elizabeth Palmer. He began his education at North Board School, now Mundella Primary School, Folkestone. In 1895, when Tull was seven, his mother died of cancer. A year later his father married Alice's cousin, Clara Palmer. She gave birth to a daughter Miriam, on 11 September 1897. Three months later, Daniel died from heart disease. The stepmother was unable to cope with six children so the resident minister of Folkestone's Grace Hill Wesleyan Chapel, recommended that the two boys of school age, Walter and Edward, should be sent to an orphanage. From the age of 9, Tull was brought up in the (Methodist) Children's Home and Orphanage (now known as Action for Children) in Bethnal Green, London. His brother was adopted by the Warnock family of Glasgow, becoming Edward Tull-Warnock; he qualified as a dentist, the first mixed-heritage person to practise this profession in the United Kingdom.

His professional football career began after he was spotted playing for top amateur club, Clapton F.C. He had signed for Clapton in October 1908, reportedly never playing in a losing side. By the end of the season he had won winners' medals in the FA Amateur Cup, London County Amateur Cup and London Senior Cup. In March 1909 the *Football Star* called him "the catch of the season". At Clapton, he played alongside Clyde Purnell and Charlie Rance. At the age of 21, Tull signed for Football League First Division team, Tottenham Hotspur, in the summer of 1909, after a close-season tour of Argentina and Uruguay, making him the first mixed-heritage professional footballer to play in Latin America. Tull made his debut for Tottenham in September 1909 at inside forward against Sunderland, making him the third mixed-heritage player to play in the top division (after goalkeeper Arthur Wharton of Sheffield United and Billy Clarke of Aston Villa). He made his home Football League debut against FA Cup-holders, Manchester United, in front of over 30,000. His excellent form in this opening part of the season promised a great future. Tull made only ten first-team appearances, scoring twice, before he was dropped to the reserves. This may have been due to the racial abuse he received from opposing fans, particularly at Bristol City, whose supporters used language "lower than Billingsgate", according to a report at the time in the *Football Star* newspaper.

The match report of the game away to Bristol City in October 1909 by *Football Star* reporter, "DD", was headlined "Football and the Colour Prejudice", possibly the first time racial abuse was headlined in a football report. "DD" emphasised how Tull remained professional and composed despite the intense provocation; "He is Hotspur's most brainy forward ... so clean in mind and method as to be a model for all white men who play football ... Tull was the best forward on the field." However, soon after, Tull was dropped from the first team and found it difficult to



get a sustained run back in the side.

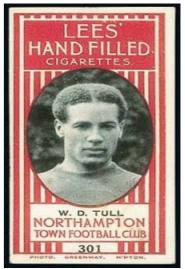
Further appearances in the first team (20 in total with four goals) were recorded before Tull was bought by Southern Football League club Northampton Town on 17 October 1911 for a "substantial fee" plus Charlie Brittain joining Tottenham Hotspur in return. Tull made his debut four days later against Watford, and made 111 first-team appearances, scoring nine goals for the club. The manager Herbert Chapman – also a Methodist – was a former Spurs player and had played as a young man with Arthur Wharton at Stalybridge Rovers; he went on to manage both Huddersfield Town and Arsenal to FA Cup wins and League championships. After the First World War broke out in August 1914, Tull became the first Northampton Town player to enlist in the British Army, in December of that year. Tull served in the two Football Battalions of the Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex) Regiment – the 17th and 23rd – and also in the 5th Battalion. He rose to the rank of lance sergeant and fought in the Battle of the Somme in 1916.



Then Tull was commissioned as a second lieutenant on 30 May 1917, he became the first mixed-heritage infantry officer in a regular British Army regiment, when the 1914 Manual of Military Law excluded soldiers that were not "natural born or naturalised British subjects of pure European descent" from becoming commissioned officers in the Special Reserve. With the 23rd Battalion, Tull fought on the Italian Front from 30 November 1917 to early March 1918. He was praised for his "gallantry and coolness" by Major-General Sydney Lawford, General Officer Commanding (GOC) 41st Division, having led 26 men on a night-raiding party, crossing the fast-flowing rapids of the Piave

enemy territory and returning them unharmed, and in a letter of condolence to his family. The commanding officer of the 23rd Battalion, Major Poole and his colleague 2Lt Pickard both said that Tull had been put forward for a Military Cross. Pickard wrote "he had been recommended for the Military Cross, and certainly earned it." However, the Ministry of Defence has no record of any recommendation but many records were lost in a 1940 fire. It would have been against army regulations for serving officers to inform an officer's next of kin that their relative had been recommended for, and refused, an honour; it was a court-martial offence.

Tull and the 23rd Battalion returned to northern France on 8 March 1918. He was killed in action near the village of Favreuil in the Pas-de-Calais on 25 March during the First Battle of Bapaume, the early stages of the German Army's Spring Offensive. His body was never recovered, despite the efforts of, among others, Private Tom Billingham, a former goalkeeper for Leicester Fosse to return him to the British position while under fire.



#### Alexander Turnbull (30/07/1884 - 03/05/1917) Manchester City FC, Manchester

United FC – East Surrey Regiment. He was a Scottish football player who played as a forward for both Manchester City and Manchester United in the early 20th century. Born in Hurlford to James and Jessie Turnbull of 1 Gibson Street, Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, Turnbull started his football career with his hometown club, Hurlford Thistle. He later moved to Manchester City. In 1905, City was found guilty of malpractice relating to payments of its players, and the entire squad was suspended from playing football. When the ban was lifted on 31 December 1906, Turnbull



moved to City's crosstown rivals Manchester United, along with Billy Meredith, Herbert Burgess and Jimmy Bannister. His first game for United came on the next day, 1 January 1907, against Aston Villa. Along with Meredith, he helped the club to their first championship in 1908 and the 1909 FA Cup, scoring the only goal in the final, against Bristol City. In 1908 alone, he would score twenty-seven goals in twenty-five games. On 19 February 1909, Turnbull scored the first ever goal at Old Trafford, in a 4–3 loss against Liverpool. He would go on to score one hundred goals for the club in 245 games. His final game for the Reds came against Sheffield United in 1915.

River into

Turnbull enlisted in the 23rd Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment (2nd Football) during the First World War before being transferred to the 8th Battalion of the East Surrey Regiment. After being promoted to the rank of lancesergeant, Turnbull was killed during the Battle of Arras on 3 May 1917 aged thirty-two. Turnbull's body, if recovered, was never identified. He is commemorated on the Arras memorial. Turnbull received a lifelong ban from football in 1915 along with several others players after being found guilty of match-fixing. He was posthumously re-instated in 1919. Turnbull was married and had four children. Two of Turnbull's sons, Alexander Jr. and Ronald, signed amateur forms with Manchester United in August 1932, but neither managed to follow in their father's footsteps and they were released before making an appearance for the club.

**Albert Edward Tye (25/01/1917)** Burton United FC, Chesterfield FC – Lance Corporal 19374 7<sup>th</sup> Service Battalion North Staffordshire Regiment. Killed in action and commemorated on the Basra Memorial.

**Arthur Harrison Allard Vann** (1884 - 25/09/1915) Burton United FC, Derby County FC, Northampton Town FC – Prince of Wales Own West Yorkshire Regiment. He was an English professional football outside left who appeared in the Football League for Burton United. Vann's younger brother Bernard was a sportsman and teacher. Both attended Jesus College, Cambridge. Vann served in the London Regiment and West Yorkshire Regiment during the first year of the First World War. He held the rank of lieutenant and was adjutant of the 12th Battalion of the West Yorkshire Regiment when killed at Loos on 25 September 1915. He is commemorated on the Loos Memorial.

**Bernard William Vann, VC, MC & Bar** (09/071887 – 03/10/1918) Burton United FC, Derby County FC, Northampton Town FC - Lieutenant Colonel Sherwood Foresters Notts and Derby Regiment. He was an English recipient of the Victoria Cross, the highest and most prestigious award for gallantry in the face of the enemy that can be awarded British and Commonwealth forces. He was the only ordained clergyman of the Church of England to be awarded the VC in the Great War as a combatant. Vann was born in Rushden, Northamptonshire where his parents, Alfred George Collins Vann and Hannah Elizabeth Vann were teachers. He had an older brother, Arthur (1884–1915). Vann was a footballer who as a centre forward assisted Northampton Town and in 1906 played 12 games for Burton United (who were then a League club) before making his three League appearances for Derby County in 1906–07. He also made two



appearances for Leicester Fosse Reserves in 1907. Vann taught at Ashby-de-la-Zouch Grammar School in Leicestershire.

Between 1907 and 1910, Van was a student at Jesus College, Cambridge and was a 1910 Cambridge hockey blue. In 1910 he became assistant junior curate at St. Barnabas Church in Leicester. He was ordained as a priest in 1912 and became chaplain and assistant master at Wellingborough School (1913–1915). On the outbreak of war, he volunteered as a British Army chaplain but, frustrated by difficulties and delays, enlisted in the infantry instead, initially in 28th (County of London) Battalion of The London Regiment, (The Artists' Rifles) and was commissioned into the 1/8th Battalion, The Sherwood Foresters (The Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment) on 1 September 1914 and became Lieutenant on 26 April 1915.

He was awarded the Military Cross in 1915. "At Kemmel on 24 April 1915 when a small advance trench which he occupied was blown in, and he himself wounded and half buried, he showed the greatest determination in organising the defence and rescuing buried men under heavy fire, although wounded and severely bruised he refused to leave his post until directly ordered to do so. At Ypres on 31 July 1915, and subsequent days, he ably assisted another officer to hold the left trench of the line, setting a fine example to those around him. On various occasions he has led patrols up to the enemy's trenches and obtained valuable information. On 25 September 1915, Vann's brother Arthur was killed at Loos.



In 1916 He received a second award of the Military Cross "for conspicuous gallantry in action. He led a daring raid against the enemy's trenches, himself taking five prisoners and displaying great courage and determination. He has on many previous occasions done fine work. He was 31 years old, and an Acting Lieutenant Colonel commanding 1/6th Battalion Sherwood Foresters when he was awarded the Victoria Cross for his actions on 29 September 1918 at Bellenglise and Lehaucourt, France, where he led his battalion across the St Quentin Canal through thick fog and under heavy fire. He secured his troops' advance by rushing up to the firing line and leading the line forward himself.

# Citation

For most conspicuous bravery, devotion to duty and fine leadership during the attack at Bellenglise and Lehaucourt, on September 29th, 1918. He led his battalion with great skill across the Canal de Saint-Quentin through a very thick fog and under heavy fire from field and machine guns. On reaching the high ground above Bellenglise the whole attack was held up by fire of all descriptions from the front and right flank.

Realising that everything depended on the advance going forward with the barrage, Col. Vann rushed up to the firing line and with the greatest gallantry led the line forward. By his prompt action and absolute contempt for danger the whole situation was changed, the men were encouraged and the line swept forward. Later, he rushed a field-gun single-handed and knocked out three of the detachment. The success of the day was in no small degree due to the splendid gallantry and fine leadership displayed by this officer. Lt. Col. Vann, who had on all occasions set the highest example of valour, was killed near Ramicourt on 3rd October, 1918, when leading his battalion in attack. — The London Gazette No. 31067, 14 December 1918. He was killed in action, four days later by a sniper at Ramicourt, France, on 3 October 1918. He is buried in Bellicourt British Cemetery.

# Charles Thomas Vickers (12/02/1891 - 21/06/1917) Kilmarnock – Royal Field Artillery.

He was a Scottish professional footballer who played in the Scottish League for Kilmarnock. Vickers served as a gunner in the Royal Field Artillery during the First World War and died of wounds at 23rd Casualty Clearing Station, Lozinghem on 21 June 1917. He was buried in Lapugnoy Military Cemetery.

**William Wallace** (1893 - 08/11/1917) Bolton Wanderers FC, Manchester City FC – Royal Engineers. He was an English professional football outside left who appeared in the Football League for Manchester City and Bolton Wanderers. Wallace served as a sapper in the Royal Engineers during the First World War and was killed in West Flanders on 8 November 1917. He is commemorated on the Ploegsteert Memorial.

**Thomas Ware** (16/10/1885 - 01/05/1915) Bristol City FC – Royal Field Artillery. He was an English professional football goalkeeper who appeared in the Football League for Bristol City. Prior to being bought out of the army to become a professional footballer, Ware was a musician in the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles). Though discharged, he remained on the reserve list. He combined his football career with a factory job in Broadmead. Ware re-enlisted in the British Army upon the outbreak of the First World War in 1914 and joined the Royal Field Artillery. He died of wounds at a hospital in Poperinghe on 1 May 1915. He was buried in Poperinghe Old Military Cemetery.



#### George (Tubby) Warren (1880 - 16/05/1917) Burton Swifts FC, Coventry City FC, Leicester

Fosse FC, Stockport County FC – Private 4237 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Yorks and Lancaster Regiment. He was an English professional football forward who played in the Football League for Leicester Fosse, Burton Swifts and Stockport County. He also played in the Southern League for Coventry City. At the outbreak of the First World War, Warren was living in Hinckley. In February 1917, he enlisted as a private in the Army Service Corps and was killed just three months later in the Loos Salient, while serving with the York and Lancaster Regiment. He was buried in Philosophe British Cemetery, Mazingarbe.

**Frederick Waterson** (1877 - 12/10/1918) Burton Swifts FC, Fulham FC – Durham Light Infantry. He was an English professional football right half. Waterson began his career at Burton Swifts, where he made his debut in a 1-1 draw at Lincoln City on 20 March 1896. Over the following six seasons, Waterson established himself as a first-team regular and eventually made 132 appearances for the club, scoring nine goals. After playing a further thirty-four games for the newly-amalgamated Burton Swifts, Waterson finally left the Staffordshire club to join Fulham after a dispute over unpaid wages in the summer of 1903. Waterson would find opportunities limited at Craven Cottage, however, and spent much of his time captaining the reserve side. Despite playing just fourteen first-team matches in six seasons, he was rewarded for his services for the second string with a benefit game on Boxing Day 1908. He finally left Fulham in 1909 and moved to South Yorkshire to begin work at Doncaster Railway Works, where he would also have a brief spell at local club Doncaster Rovers before retiring from the game. Waterson initially enlisted in the 1/5th King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry during the First World War before subsequently transferring to the 2/6th Durham Light Infantry (Service No. 253232).

By 1918, Waterson had risen to the rank of corporal and was serving in the recently-formed 29th DLI. As part of 41st Brigade, 14th (Light) Division, the battalion had landed at Boulogne on 3 July 1918 before going on to take part in the final allied advances of the war in France and Flanders. It was during the period that Corporal Waterson would sustain the wounds that would eventually take his life at a casualty clearing station near the French town of Hazebrouk on 12 October 1918. Waterson was 41-years-old at the time of his death and was subsequently buried at La Kreule Military Cemetery which is located 2 km north of Hazebrouck, on the road to St Sylvestre-Cappel and Steenvoorde.

**Frederick Watson** (30/11/1888 - 29/06/1917) Aberdeen FC – Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve. He was a Scottish professional football wing half who played in the Scottish League for Aberdeen.

Watson served as a trimmer in the Royal Naval Reserve during the First World War and died of illness in Aberdeen, Scotland on 29 June 1917. He was buried in St. Peter's Cemetery, Aberdeen



**Henry Benzie Wattie** (02/06/1893 - 01/07/1916) Heart of Midlothian FC - Royal Scots. Henry was born in **Edinburgh** on 2nd June 1893, son of William Wattie, a coachman and the youngest of five brothers. He was a Scottish professional football forward who played in the Scottish League for Heart of Midlothian. Henry became one of 'The Sixteen,' and was considered by some to be capable of replacing the great Bobby Walker. Some compliment as Walker was one of the world greats in those days, he had played against England eleven times. As an inside forward Henry managed to score against all comers including a double at Ibrox on his debut, a two goals to one victory over Rangers.

With the outbreak of war on August 1914 patriotism and a sense of adventure saw Europe burst with excitement. Kitchener's call for a hundred thousand volunteers was met five times over in Great Britain. All classes of the population ran to the colours.

Hysteria gripped Europe and all foreigners were considered 'spies,' and those who refused to enlist 'Cowards' and 'traitors.' Scottish football did not hang back. Almost all clubs saw players leave for the fight immediately and not just reservists or those belonging to the Territorial Army.

The footballers of Heart of Midlothian F.C. were subject like all sportsmen to demands that they enlist. Powerful persons, themselves not able or willing to serve, were asking for all sport to be closed down for the duration. At the time parliament was to discuss this situation Sir George McCrae approached the Heart of Midlothian players concerning a new battalion he was forming. Thirteen of the players were persuaded by his arguments to enlist in the 16th Royal Scots, others later joined various units. This action alone ensuring football continued under difficult circumstances. The news brought several hundred Hearts fans, university students, and players from the likes of Raith Rovers, Falkirk, Dunfermline and Hibernian to the battalion. Mossend Burnvale, known as 'The Cow-Punchers,' joined *en masse!* Around thirty Heart of Midlothian men had enlisted by wars end. These Hearts players were giving up around £4 a week to earn the soldiers wage of one shilling and two pence a day, that's about forty-two pence a week in today's money. Seven were not to return and the majority of those who served suffered physical or mental wounds. At the Somme he went forward against the hail of bullets and shell with the rest, he was seen to fall by Annan Ness but his body was never recovered. His loss was a great loss for all of Scottish football. His brother John was to become chaplain to the fleet. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.

William Findlay Weir (1889 - 09/07/1918) Tottenham Hotspur FC, The Wednesday FC – Royal Engineers.

He was born in Glasgow on 18 April 1889 and died in Brighton on 9 July 1918. An experienced wing-half, Weir began his career in Scottish junior football before going on to play more than 170 games during spells at English top flight clubs The Wednesday and Tottenham Hotspur. During the First World War, Weir joined the British Army and would serve overseas before returning to Britain where he subsequently died in hospital aged twenty-nine. Weir started his career at local side Campvale before a brief spell at Waverley. In 1906, the teenager joined

Maryhill and would spend the next three seasons at Lochburn Park. After a string of impressive performances, Weir was persuaded to leave Scotland in May 1909 when he journeyed south of the border to join The Wednesday. After establishing himself in the reserve side, Weir was handed his senior debut in a 0-0 home draw with Notts County on 19 February 1910 and would go on to make seventy-two appearances for the club, scoring one goal.

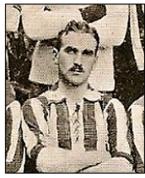
In May 1912, Tottenham Hotspur took Weir to White Hart Lane where he made his first team bow in a 2-1 loss to Derby County on 21 September 1912. Over the next three seasons Weir would play ninety-six league and five FA Cup matches for Spurs, firmly establishing himself as first-choice half-back at the club. His final game came on 24 April 1915 when his side slumped



to a 5-0 defeat at Sunderland. In total, Weir made 173 appearances during his six-season Sapper 96038 Weir joined the Royal Engineers (RE) in early 1915 and was subsequently posted to France on 18 November. Having already risen through the ranks, Weir was promoted to sergeant in January 1916 and was wounded later that year. After recovering from his injuries, Weir returned to his unit in September 1916 and by mid-1918 was based at the RE Demolition Training Depot in Newark, Nottinghamshire. On 9 July 1918, Sgt Weir died at 2nd Eastern General Hospital in Brighton. The circumstances surrounding the footballers' death are unknown but he was subsequently buried at Glasgow (Lambhill) Cemetery, Scotland. He was 29-years-old.

**Freddie Wheatcroft** (1882–26/11/1917) Derby County FC, Fulham FC, Reading FC, Swindon Town FC – East Surrey Regiment. He was a former amateur and professional football player who played during the first quarter of the 20th century. During his career he played for the original Alfreton Town, Derby County, Fulham, Reading but is

best remembered for his spells at Swindon Town. He scored on his only appearance for the England amateur national team. Frederick G. Wheatcroft was born in Alfreton, Derbyshire in 1882 He started his football career with his hometown club, the original Alfreton Town club before moving to Division One side Derby County in 1903. The centre forward found opportunities within the first team limited mainly due to the prolific goalscoring exploits of Steve Bloomer. In 1904 he joined Swindon Town as an amateur but soon re-joined Derby County before venturing to Wiltshire again in 1905. After a brief spell with Fulham Wheatcroft returned to County for his final spell where he clocked up twenty appearances, scoring four goals. Wheatcroft left Derby for Berkshire outfit Reading but soon returned to Swindon Town in 1909. It was during this spell that Freddie Wheatcroft enjoyed his longest spell and best work as a footballer.



He scored twenty-two times in thirty-eight appearances throughout the 1909/10 campaign. His career was halted by the outbreak of the First World War. Like many other British males, Wheatcroft answered his nation's call and enlisted to fight during World War I. He was conscripted into the East Surrey Regiment as private in May 1916 and 12 months later had risen to the rank of second lieutenant. Wheatcroft was killed in action in Bourlon on 26 November 1917 and is buried in Anneux Military Cemetery.

**Frederick William Wheeler** (02/01/1918) Southampton FC - Sapper 108548 233<sup>rd</sup> Field Company Royal Engineers. Born in Reading Berkshire. Killed in action in Italy and buried in Giavera British Cemetery Arcade. Resident of 29 Westfield Road, Gosport. Son of Edwin and Louisa Wheeler, of Gosport, Hampshire; formerly of Reading.

Sidney Wheelhouse (1888 - 19/09/1916) Grimsby Town FC – Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment.



He was an English professional football right back, best remembered for his eight years in the Football League with Grimsby Town. A right back, Wheelhouse began his career with Northern League clubs Bishop Auckland and Shildon Athletic before moving to the Football League to sign for Second Division club Grimsby Town in 1907. He was a regular with the Mariners for the next eight seasons and went on to captain the club, before leaving at the end of 1914–15. He returned to Blundell Parkin 1916 to play in a wartime charity match.

Grimsby Town F.C. 1914–1915. BACK: David Kenny, Holden (Trainer), William Andrews, Sidney Wheelhouse, Willis Rippon, Alfred Lee, Percy

Summers, Francis Martin. FRONT: Thomas Spink, Thomas Rippon, George Rampton, Thomas Mayson, Ralph Thompson.

He fought with the 17th (Service) Battalion of the Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex Regiment) (more popularly known as the 1st Football Battalion) during the First World War and rose to the rank of lance corporal. He saw action at Delville Wood and Guillemont in July and August 1916. On 18 September, Wheelhouse was part of a working party which was <u>mined</u> while sheltering from a <u>mortar</u> attack and within 24 hours, he and every member of the party was dead. He is buried in <u>Couin</u> British Cemetery.

**Robert Whiting** (06/01/1883 - 28/07/1917) Chelsea FC, West Ham FC, Brighton & Hove Albion FC – Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment. Robert Whiting



was born in Canning Town in 1883 and after his mother had died in 1900 he worked as a Dock Labourer in the London Docks. After starting work at the Thames Ironworks Company, he joined their football team as a Goalkeeper. The team had recently been renamed as West Ham United but unable to get into their first team he moved to Kent to play for Tunbridge Wells Rangers. In 1906 he was signed by Chelsea FC and got his chance when the regular goalkeeper was injured at the start of the following season. He played fifty-four games for Chelsea before in 1908 moving to Brighton and Hove Albion for whom he played 320 matches.

Whiting was married with three sons, with the second-youngest, William, later following in his footsteps to play as a goalkeeper for Tunbridge Wells Rangers. In December 1914, four months after the outbreak of the First World War, Whiting enlisted in the 17th (Service) Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment. After arriving in France in November 1915, Whiting became infected with scabies at the front and was sent to a hospital in Brighton for treatment. As a result of the discovery of his wife's pregnancy and the death of his brother on the Somme in



August 1916, Whiting went AWOL. He was caught in October 1916 and court-martialled in France in February 1917. A shortage of men meant that his sentence of nine months' hard labour lasted just one week before he rejoined the Football Battalion. He was killed in action at Oppy Wood during the Battle of Arras on 28 April 1917 and is commemorated on the Arras Memorial. He was killed by a shell while tending to injured comrades. He has no known grave, and his widow faced unfounded rumours that he'd been shot for desertion.

**James Whitman** – (09/04/1918) Barry FC – East Surrey Regiment. Killed in action and buried in Picquigny British Cemetery.

**Arthur Harold Wileman MM** (01/01/1886 - 28/04/1918) Burton United FC, Chelsea FC, Luton Town FC, Millwall FC, Southend United FC - Sometimes known as Nippy Wileman, was an English professional football inside right who played in the Football League for Chelsea and Burton United. Wileman's brother Heneage was also a footballer and the brothers played together at Burton United, Chelsea and Southend United. Prior to 1909, Wileman worked as a miner at Stanton Colliery in Derbyshire. Four months into the First World War, Wileman enlisted in the 17th (Service) Battalion of the Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex Regiment) on 16 December 1914. After transferring to the 11th Battalion of the Royal Sussex Regiment, he was sent to the front in March 1916. Wileman rose to the rank of sergeant, was awarded a Military Medal for bravery in the field in January 1918 and was killed in the vicinity of the Elzenwalle Chateau, Voormezeele, West Flanders on 28 April 1918. His name is inscribed on the Tyne Cot Memorial to the Missing.

John Williams (1884 - 05/06/1916) Birmingham FC, Crystal Palace FC, Millwall FC – Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment. He was born in May 1884 in Buckley, Flintshire. He was the husband of Sarah Williams, of 12, Myrtle Rd., The Square, Buckley. He also seems to have been known as James Williams and the fans called him 'Ginger.' He played football as a forward for Bury, Crystal Palace, Accrington Stanley and Birmingham and played for Millwall in the 1914/1915 season. He won two international caps for Wales. Curiously his death was reported in the New York Times. The Footballers Battalion was formed in 1914 and a second (23rd Middx) in May 1915. As early as September 1914 Sir Arthur Conan Doyle had written *"There is a time for all things in the world, and this is not the time to be chasing around after a ball."* The idea for a battalion of soccer players came from the Rt Hon. W. Joynson Hicks MP and although a significant number of players did enlist, at first they were far outnumbered by the football clubs' supporters. In fairness it should be said that some clubs were reluctant to release their professional players from their 12-month contracts. There is a memorial to the two Football Battalions in the village of Longueval on the Somme. He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Arras Memorial he is also remembered on the Millwall FC Plaque to the fallen.

**William Mountford Williamson** (1887 - 02/08/1918) Leicester Fosse FC, Crewe Alexandra FC, Stoke FC – Gordon Highlanders. He was an English football outside right who played in the Football League for Leicester Fosse and Stoke. Williamson began his career at local amateur club North Staffs Nomads before joining Football League side Stoke in 1906. He spent two years at Stoke and made just eight appearances before joining Crewe Alexandra in 1910. After another two years at Crewe he re-entered League football with Leicester Fosse but made just two appearances. He re-joined Stoke in 1911, but failed to gain a place in the first team and joined Wellington Town. Prior to the First World War, Williamson enlisted in the Gordon Highlanders. He was in Egypt with his battalion when the war broke out in August 1914 and after a brief spell back in the UK, the battalion was deployed on the Western Front two months later. Williamson saw action at the First Battle of Ypres and was wounded in the

left hand, left knee and taken prisoner of war by Germany. He died in captivity on 2 August 1918 and is commemorated on the Cologne Memorial.

**Archibald Wilson** (1890 - 01/07/1916) Middlesbrough FC, Southend United FC, Tottenham Hotspur FC - London Scottish Regiment. Born in Newmilns in 1890, played all his football in England with Tottenham Hotspur, Southend United and Middlesbrough. Wilson initially worked in a munitions factory during the First World War, before enlisting as a private in the London Scottish in 1915. He was killed in on the first day of the Somme the following year, during his battalion's advance on Gommecourt. He is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.

#### James Gilmour Wilson (19/11/1890 - 15/12/1917) Queens Park FC – Royal Scots Fusiliers.

He was a Scottish amateur footballer, who played as a left back in the Scottish League for Queen's Park. Wilson attended Kilwinning Higher Grade School and Irvine Royal Academy and later worked as an accountant in Charing Cross. In September 1915, just over a year after Britain's entry into the First World War, Wilson enlisted in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. He later transferred to the Black Watch and saw action with the battalion on the Somme. In 1917, Wilson was commissioned as second lieutenant in the Royal Scots Fusiliers and was killed by a sniper during the Battle of Passchendaele on 15 December 1917. He is commemorated on the Menin Gate.

**John Wilson** (1889 - 20/09/1914) Dumbarton FC, Vale of Leven FC - After the outbreak of the First World War in August 1914, Wilson enlisted as a private in The Black Watch (Royal Highlanders) in Auchterarder. He died of wounds in Paris on 20<sup>th</sup> September 1914 and was buried in the Cimetière Parisien de Bagneux.

**Thomas William Witts** (09/11/1918) Cardiff City FC, Southampton FC – Lance Corporal 85448 15<sup>th</sup> Service Battalion Durham Light Infantry. Born in Gateshead and died of wounds on 9<sup>th</sup> November 1918 buried in Caudry British Cemetery.

**Norman Arthur Wood** (1889 - 28/07/1916) Croydon Common FC, Crystal Palace FC, Plymouth Argyle FC, Stockport County FC – Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment. He was a professional football inside left who played in the Football League for Stockport County. His play was described as "unselfish, for with a crafty left foot he made openings and opportunities for colleagues". In February 1915, six months into the First World War, Wood enlisted in the 17th (Service) Battalion of the Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex Regiment). He rose to the rank of sergeant and was killed at Delville Wood on 28 July 1916. His name is inscribed on the Thiepval Memorial.

**Richard Cross Wynn** (1892 - 09/08/1919) Middlesbrough FC – Yorkshire Regiment. He was an English professional football outside left who appeared in the Football league for Middlesbrough. He guested for Brentford during the First World War. Wynn served as a sergeant in the Yorkshire Regiment and the Labour Corps during the First World War and died 9 months after the armistice, following an operation on his war wounds. He was buried in Étaples Military Cemetery.

**Ernest Yorke** (24/07/1917) Crystal Palace FC – Lance Corporal 200858 Queens Own Royal West Kent Regiment 2<sup>nd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Battalion. Killed in action and commemorated in Gaza War Cemetery.

**John Young** (25/09/1915) Celtic FC, Dundee FC, Hibernian FC, Morton FC – Private 11865 Cameron Highlanders 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion. Signed from Strathclyde Juniors in October inside-right John Young spent his early Parkhead days on loan at Morton for experience. He eventually made his competitive Celtic debut on November 27th 1909 in a 0-0 league draw at Aberdeen. He would continue to be farmed out and only made a total of three appearances for the Celts before joining Dundee Hibs in 1911(the precursor to Dundee Utd). He signed up for the war effort for the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders in the Fifth Service Battalion. Sadly, he died in battle in WW1 in Flanders, the first Celtic man to die in battle in this war, RIP. His name is on the Loos Memorial. The family connection to Celtic didn't end with John. Celtic were set to play a friendly on 28 Apr 1952 to raise funds to help James (Finnie) Young to fly to Germany for essential medical treatment. Finnie was "son of the old Celtic John Young (1908)". It was very much in the spirit of the club to help others out in time of need. Unfortunately, the match had to be postponed due to bad weather, and Finnie sadly died in the meantime. Commemorated on the Loos Memorial Panel 57 to 59.

**John George (Jack) Yuill** (1885 - 09/07/1916) Manchester City FC, Stockport County FC – Manchester Regiment. He was an English amateur football outside right who played in the Football League for Manchester City and Stockport County. He also played in the Central League for Port Vale.

During the early part of his football career, Yuill worked for the printing firm Henry Blacklock & Co. Ltd in Manchester. In September 1914, one month into the First World War, Yuill enlisted as a private in the 19th (Service) Battalion of the Manchester Regiment. He was sent overseas with his battalion in November 1915 and



went into the trenches near Berles-au-Bois the following month. By June 1916, Yuill had been promoted to corporal and was operating as part of a gun section. He took part in the 30th Division's successful attacks on the first day of the Somme and was promoted to lance sergeant. Yuill was killed at Trônes Wood on 9 July 1916 and is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.

#### The Greater team game

Examples of teams that can be seen as doing their duty include the Edinburgh team Hearts of Midlothian who, when the war was declared, saw sixteen members of the team join the 16th Royal Scots, with seven dying in the war.

Clapton Orient and the Great War. 'They Took the Lead' their actions were described thus:

Clapton Orient chairman, Captain Henry Wells-Holland, had the dream of starting his own platoon consisting entirely of O's players and staff. With the authorities – mindful of the criticism of professional football continuing whilst a war was on – deciding to form a battalion specifically for footballers to join, a meeting was held at Fulham Town Hall on 15th December for players that wanted to join up into a newly formed battalion – the 17th Middlesex (the Footballers' Battalion).

Ten Orient footballers enlisted straight away with more colleagues from the Club soon following their example. Thus it was Clapton Orient became the first English Football League club to volunteer en-masse to serve King and Country. Although players from other clubs around the country also joined, it really was Clapton Orient – later, of course to become Leyton Orient – who Took The Lead.

It was not just Football players that took the King's shilling but also the crowds. James Walvin in The People's Game has pointed out:

Despite the critics, football's response to the call-to-arms in 1914-15 was remarkable. It was an imaginative stroke to appeal to working men through the nation's footballing networks. Football was, after all, the most popular, nationwide, and comprehensive forum for male recreation. In a society which lacked the highly intrusive state bureaucracy familiar today, football's administration offered the state a swift and acceptable entry to workingclass communities which might otherwise have proved difficult to penetrate. Here was yet another testimony to the importance of football in British working-class life in 1914. The final game of the 1914-5 season was the F.A Cup final between Chelsea F.C. and Sheffield United F.C., termed the Khaki Cup Final. Lord Derby, later Director-General of Recruiting and then Secretary of State for War, presented the trophy with these words: 'You have played with one another for the Cup; play with one another for England.' The representation of Football as a dissenting voice would seem unfounded. If Football ever had caused dissent to the masters of the war, i.e. the 'empire builders' and its hierarchy, this would most likely be seen in the 1914 'truce' between the Germans, French and English in December 1914, when a famous game of football was played in no-man land, the subject of much debate. Then football was seen as a dissenting voice with this statement: 'The commander-in-chief, Sir John French, wrote in his autobiography that he had called his commanders to account and it "resulted in a good deal of trouble". If football was seen as a dissenting voice in World War 1, this belief would not occur in World War Two. Football would not be given the opportunity to play a single season during the war, but players such as Eddie Hapgood and Bill Shankly would face each other in war-time International matches to boost morale and funds for the war.

#### The English Football Leagues in 1914/15:

	THE LIN	gisii Footbali Leagues ili 1914/19.							
		Division One:	Division Two:	Southern League One:	Southern League Two:				
	1.	Everton	Derby City	Watford	Stoke City				
	2.	Oldham Athletic	Preston North End	Reading	Stalybridge Celtic				
	3.	Blackburn Rovers	Barnsley	Cardiff City	Merthyr Town				
4	4.	Burnley	Wolverhampton	West Ham United	Swansea Town				
!	5.	Manchester City	Woolwich Arsenal	Northampton Town	Coventry City				
(	6.	Sheffield United	Birmingham	Southampton	Ton Pentre				
	7.	The Wednesday	Hull City	Portsmouth	Brentford				
5	8.	Sunderland	Huddersfield Town	Millwall	Llanelly				
9	9.	Bradford Park Avenue	Clapton Orient	Swindon Town	Barry Town				
	10.	West Bromwich Albion	Blackpool	Brighton & Hove Albion	Newport City				
	11.	Bradford City	Bury	Exeter City	Pontypridd				
	12.	Middlesbrough	Fulham	Queens Park Rangers	Mid Rhondda				
	13.	Liverpool	Bristol City	Norwich City	Ebbw Vale				
:	14.	Aston Villa	Stockport County	Luton Town					

15.	Newcastle United	Leeds City	Cr
16.	Notts County	Lincoln City	Br
17.	Bolton Wanderers	Grimsby Town	Pl
18.	Manchester United	Nottingham Forest	So
19.	Chelsea	Leicester Fosse	Cr
20.	Tottenham Hotspur	Glossop	Gi

Crystal Palace Bristol Rovers Plymouth Argyle Southend United Croydon Common Gillingham

#### Glossop North End A.F.C.

The 1913–14 season saw a club record attendance of 10,736 for an FA Cup second round match against Preston North End on 31 January 1914. However, the following season they finished bottom of the league.

The start of World War I meant the Football League closed down. Glossop were re-formed toward the end of the war by Oswald Partington, but failed to be re-elected to the Football League. Glossop then joined the Lancashire Combination, playing just one season, 1919–20.

# Croydon Common F.C.

The team formed in 1897 as an amateur church team competing in local leagues. They turned professional in 1907, joining the Southern League Second Division. A final place of third was achieved despite the stand at the Crescent being burnt down. A move was made to the Nest (future home of Crystal Palace) in 1908 where promotion to the Southern League First Division was achieved. In the FA Cup, Football League members Bradford Park Avenue were beaten and Woolwich Arsenal taken to a replay before final defeat. An immediate return was made to the Second Division after finishing second from bottom. At the new ground another main stand was damaged; the roof being removed in a gale. Seasons of mid to high table finishes then followed until the 1913–14 season when the championship was achieved again with only two defeats. Again, Common's stay in the First Division resulted in a second from bottom placing. Relegation was not experienced due to the suspension of the League during World War I. In 1917 the club was finally wound up, the only First Division club not to return to action after the War.

# Leicester Fosse F.C.

The club was founded in 1884 as **Leicester Fosse F.C.** playing on a field near Fosse Road. They moved to Filbert Street in 1891, were elected to the Football League in 1894 and adopted the name Leicester City in 1919. They moved to the nearby Walkers Stadium in 2002, which was renamed the King Power Stadium after a change of ownership in 2011.

#### Bradford (Park Avenue) Association Football Club.

Its name derived from the club's old stadium on Horton Park Avenue in Bradford (designed by Archibald Leitch), and was used to avoid confusion with Bradford City. However the club is traditionally known locally simply as **Bradford**, with the letters **BFC** adorning Leitch's grandstand. The present club is a reincarnation of the club which played in the Football League from 1908 to 1970 before dropping to the Northern Premier League and going into liquidation in 1974. The new entity, established in 1987, currently competes in the National League North, the sixth tier of English football, and plays its home matches at the 3,500-capacity Horsfall Athletics Stadium. Bradford are one of thirty-five clubs to compete in all four top tiers of English football. The new club started life at what was then the thirteenth tier: Division Three of the West Riding County Amateur League.

#### Sheffield Wednesday Football Club

The team currently competes in the Championship, the second tier of the English football league system. Formed as an offshoot of The Wednesday Cricket Club in 1867, they went by the name of The Wednesday Football Club until changing to their current name in 1929. Wednesday is one of the oldest football clubs in the world of any code, and the third-oldest professional association football club in England, excluding clubs with informal or disputed foundation dates. In 1868 its team won the Cromwell Cup, only the second tournament of its kind, and in 1877 they won the inaugural Sheffield Challenge Cup, the oldest county cup in England. They were founding members and inaugural champions of the Football Alliance in 1889, before joining The Football League three years later. In 1992 they became founder members of the Premier League. The team has spent most of its league history in English football's topflight, but they have not played at that level since being relegated in 2000. The Owls, as they are nicknamed, have won four league titles, three FA Cups, one League Cup and one FA Community Shield. Wednesday have also competed in UEFA cup competitions on four occasions, reaching the quarter-finals of the Inter-Cities Fairs Cup in 1963. Since 1899 the club has played its home matches at Hillsborough stadium.

#### New Brompton F.C.

The local success of a junior football side, **Chatham Excelsior F.C.**, encouraged a group of businessmen to meet at the Napier Arms pub on 18 May 1893, with a view to creating a football club that could compete in larger

competitions. To do this, the club required an enclosed playing area where an admission fee could be charged, which Excelsior lacked. **New Brompton F.C.** was formed at the meeting, incorporating a number of Excelsior players. The group also purchased the plot of land which would later become Priestfield Stadium, where a pitch was quickly laid and a pavilion constructed. New Brompton's first team played their first match on 2 September 1893, with the new team, sporting Excelsior's black and white stripes, being defeated 5–1 by Woolwich Arsenal's reserve team in front of a crowd of 2,000. As a "curtain-raiser" immediately prior to this match, New Brompton's own reserves played a match against Grays, which was therefore technically the first match played by a team representing the club.

New Brompton joined the Southern League upon its creation in 1894, being placed in Division Two because it was one of the last clubs to be invited to join the league. Upon joining the league, New Brompton turned professional, with the players agreeing to be paid 12 shillings per match, and promptly won the Division Two championship in the 1894–95 season. With a record of one defeat and eleven victories from twelve matches, the team concluded the season with a "test match" against Swindon Town, who had finished bottom of Division One. As 5–1 winners, New Brompton gained promotion to Division One the following season. In 1896 the club appointed its first manager when William Ironside Groombridge, who had previously served as the club's financial secretary, took charge of team affairs. Groombridge served the club, as secretary and sometimes manager, until well after the First World War. New Brompton struggled in Division One, generally finishing close to the foot of the table, but did reach the first round proper of the FA Cup for the first time in 1899–1900, losing 1–0 to Southampton. In the same season the club was forced to play a league fixture at the home ground of Woolwich Arsenal when Priestfield was closed due to crowd trouble in a match against Millwall. In the 1907–08 season, under the



management of the former England international Stephen Smith, New Brompton finished bottom of the table, avoiding relegation only due to the expansion of the league, but did achieve a cup victory over First Division Sunderland, remembered for a hattrick from Charlie McGibbon. In 1912 the directors passed a resolution to change the club's name to **Gillingham F.C.**, and the team played under this name throughout the 1912–13 season, although the change was not officially ratified by the shareholders until the following year. To coincide with the change, the team began sporting a new kit of red shirts with blue sleeves. The side again finished bottom of the division in the 1914–15 season, but avoided relegation for a second time when the league was suspended due to the escalation of the First World War. Once the competition resumed after the war Gillingham, once again wearing black and white, continued to fare poorly, again finishing bottom of Division One in the 1919–20 season. For a third time, however, the club avoided relegation, due to the subsequent elevation of all Southern League Division One clubs to form the new Football League Third Division.

Stephen Smith managed New Brompton from 1906 to 1908

#### The Scottish Football Leagues in 1914/15:

 	Division One:	Divis
1.	Celtic	Cowe
2.	Heart of Midlothian	Leith
3.	Rangers	St. B
4.	Morton	East
5.	Ayr United	Clyde
6.	Falkirk	Dunf
7.	Partick Thistle	John
8.	Hamilton Academicals	St. Jo
9.	St. Mirren	Albic
10.	Hibernian	Loch
11.	Airdrieonians	Dunc
12.	Dumbarton	Aber
13.	Kilmarnock	Arth
14.	Dundee	Vale
15.	Aberdeen	
16.	Third Lanark	
17.	Clyde	

Motherwell

18.

Division Two: Cowdenbeath Leith Athletic St. Bernards East Stirlingshire Clydebank Dunfermline Athletic Johnstone St. Johnstone Albion Rovers Lochgelly United Dundee Hibernian Abercorn Arthurie Vale of Leven 20. Queens Park

Third Lanark Athletic Club were a professional Scottish football club based in Glasgow. Founded in 1872 as an offshoot of the 3rd Lanarkshire Rifle Volunteers, they were founder members of the Scottish Football Association (SFA) in 1872 and the Scottish Football League (SFL) in 1890. They played in the top division of the SFL for the majority of their existence, and were league champions in 1903-04. They also won the Scottish Cup twice, in 1889and 1905. Third Lanark went out of business in 1967 as a result of mismanagement, six years after having finished in third place in the SFL. Their former ground, Cathkin Park in Crosshill, is still partially standing and used for minor football.

# Leith Athletic F.C.

Leith Athletic were founded in 1887 in the Port of Leith. In 1891, Leith replaced Glasgow side Cowlairs in the Scottish Football League. After a reasonable start (fourth out of 12 in 1892), Leith had to apply for re-election in 1894 and 1895. They received only three votes in the latter year and were relegated to the Second Division. Leith fared rather better in the second flight, finishing second in 1896, 1897 and 1899, but they could not muster enough votes to be elected back into the First Division. In 1905, having failed again in the end of 1905 season voting, Leith Athletic were wound up and a new limited company formed to take over the old club's assets. In 1891, Robert Clements and Mathew McQueen played for Scotland against Ireland in Glasgow, McQueen having played a year earlier against Wales at Underwood Park in Paisley. Geordie Anderson, James Blessington and Robert Laing would represent the Scottish Football League against the Scottish Alliance League and the Irish League in the 1892–93 season. John Blessington was transferred to Celtic in June 1893 for £20, and would gain four caps for Scotland against England and Ireland. Now playing as Leith F.C., the team comfortably won the Scottish Second Division championship in 1906. Despite this triumph, they failed to be elected to the First Division, as runners-up Clyde and fourth placed Hamilton Academical were preferred. Leith and Raith Rovers finished level on points and were declared joint champions in 1910. Raith were promoted, but it appears that Leith did not contest the elections. The 1912–13 season saw Leith finish in last position and won re-election to stay in the league. They survived until the competition was suspended in 1915 and they joined the Eastern League. Leith closed down for the duration of the First World War in 1916. When the club was reformed in 1919, the old name of Leith Athletic was revived and the club joined the Western League. After playing for one season in the Scottish Alliance (1923–24), Leith were admitted to the Third Division in 1924. Leith won the Third Division championship in 1926, but failed to win election to the Second Division. The club were eliminated on the chairman's casting vote in the third ballot. It was becoming apparent that the two most prominent Edinburgh clubs, Heart of Midlothian and Hibernian were blocking attempts by Leith to progress.

# St. Bernard's F.C.

The club was originally the Third Edinburgh Rifle Volunteers —like Third Lanark, it was a team linked to the territorial movement of the Victorian era- who had been inspired to set up a football team after watching an exhibition match between Queen's Park and Clydesdale. Buying a ball at Percival King's sports shop in Lothian Street, they formed a club at the British League of Abstainers' office in February 1874. Originally the club played at The Meadows along with Heart of Midlothian and later also Hibernian, before moving to their own ground, firstly at Powburn Park in Newington and then to John Hope's Park in Stockbridge, where its close proximity to the then playing fields of Edinburgh Academy helped them gain a following. Those in charge of the Third Edinburgh Rifle Volunteers began to see the club as a distraction, and this resulted in the club divorcing itself from the regiment in 1878, as James Dunn and George Heathcote rechristened the club "St Bernard's" (with an apostrophe) after the famous St Bernard's Well sitting on the banks of the Water of Leith nearby, and which formed the badge of the club. In 1880 the club transferred to the grounds of the Royal Patent Gymnasium Grounds, affectionately known as the 'Gymmie'. First built in 1864 to cater for the growing Victorian passion for healthy recreation, the Gymnasium's centrepiece was a giant rotary boat seating up to sixty rowers, although it also provided equipment for stilts, quoits and bowls, and even ice-skating in winter. The club was involved in the discussions that led to the formation of the Scottish Football League (SFL) in 1890. The club did not play in the 1890–91 Scottish Football League season, however, as they were not elected into membership by the other clubs. In September 1890, the Scottish Football Association (SFA) expelled St Bernard's from membership for

concealed professionalism. Undaunted, the club members immediately formed another club called "Edinburgh Saints" and arranged to play a friendly against Renton.

The SFA refused permission for the match to proceed, but the clubs went ahead regardless. This challenged the authority of the SFA, who expelled the two clubs from membership and suspended their players for the rest of the 1890–91 season.

After a year of playing exhibition matches all over Britain they were allowed to re-join the SFA in 1892 and played in the non-league Scottish Alliance. A year later, St Bernard's applied to join the SFL and were admitted to the First

Division. Remarkably, St Bernard's finished their first season in the SFL in third place, thrashing St Mirren 8–0 and beating both Hearts and Rangers in their own grounds in the process.

In 1900, the club was relegated to the Second Division after losing a test match to St Mirren. Although St Bernard's won the Second Division at the first attempt, they were not elected to the First Division by the other clubs. The decisive disaster for the club came in 1903, when their financial benefactor William Lapsley was killed when his cab crashed after the horse bolted. In 1907 they won the Second Division again, but failed to gain election once again. In 1915, the club finished joint top once more along with Cowdenbeath and Leith Athletic, but again lost out in two test matches (neither of whom were promoted in any case).

During the Depression, St Bernard's showed remarkable innovation in providing unemployed players with jobs whether in the Royal Gymnasium or with firms owned by the company's directors: resulting in them gaining talent that otherwise may have gone elsewhere or left football altogether. In 1928, they gained the remarkable goalkeeping talent of Edinburgh University Divinity student Leonard Small. Nicknamed "The Holy Goalie", he was later forced to give up the game by Church authorities: in later years he was appointed an OBE and became Moderator of the Church of Scotland in 1966. Their last match was on 16 May 1942, a 3–2 home defeat to East Fife. With no league to play in, it was decided to "mothball" the club until the war's close, as many other Scottish clubs had done at this time.

Compiled by Norman Bambridge Basildon Borough Heritage Society 31 October 2024