

Soldiers remembered on the St Augustine's Edgbaston War Memorial.

1914-1918

ABROOK Ernest Albert
33032 Lance Corporal: 1st Battalion Royal Berkshire Regiment (Princess Charlotte of Wales') (formerly 17292 Royal Warwickshire Regiment)
Killed in action 10th September 1917. Aged 37
Born: Ryde, Hampshire. Enlisted: Coventry.
Son of Tom and Elizabeth Abrook of Ryde, Isle of Wight.
Buried: Beuvry Communal Cemetery Extension, Beuvry, Pas de Calais, France. I.A.31.
Also remembered: All Saints' Church Memorial, Ryde, Isle of Wight.

ADAMS Ralph **MC & Bar**
Lieutenant: 1/8th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment.
Killed in action 1st July 1916. Aged 23.
Son of John and Minnie Adams of 301 Gillott Road, Birmingham.
Buried: Serre Road Cemetery No.1, Somme, France. I.A.33.

Notes
London Gazette: 1.1.16 MiD, 14.1.16 MC, 22.9.16 MC* "For conspicuous gallantry during a raid on the enemy's trenches. Under close fire he cut the enemy's wires with torpedoes, he then bombed his way along the enemy's trench killing three of the enemy himself and held a barricade until reinforced."

ALLDAY Stanley Owen
Lieutenant: 1/5th Battalion, South Staffordshire Regiment (TF).
Missing believed killed in action 13th October 1915. Aged 19.
Son of Mr and Mrs Percy G Allday of 150 Hagley Road, Birmingham
Buried: Loos Memorial, Nord, France. Panel 73-76.

Notes
Killed in the attack on the Hohenzollern Redoubt.

AMOS Ralph
No details held

ARNOTT David William
Lieutenant: 2nd Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment.
Killed in action 3rd September 1916. Aged 32.
Son of William J. and Louisa M. A. Arnott of 31 York Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham. BA (Cantab.), (Scholar of Caius College).
Member of the Ceylon Civil Service.
Buried: Serre Road Cemetery No.2, Somme, France. XXXVII.C.3.

BAILEY Linnaeus James
113445 Corporal: 4th Battalion Special Brigade, Royal Engineers
(formerly 1172 Royal Warwickshire Regiment).
Killed in action 28th June 1916. Aged 38.
Husband of Mary Bailey, of 16 Wellington Road, Bearwood,
Smethwick, Birmingham.
Born: Birmingham. Enlisted: Sutton Coldfield.
Buried: Le Fermont Military Cemetery, Riviere, Pas de Calais,
France. II.A.4.

BARNES Leon Thomas Victor **MC**
Major: 7th Battalion, King's Shropshire Light Infantry.
(*SDGW lists as Banks and 5th Bn, Royal Warwicks (TF)*).
Died of wounds 29th June 1918. Aged 35.
Son of Cornelius and Emmie Barnes, of Edgbaston, Birmingham.
Buried: Sandpits British Cemetery, Fouquereuil, Pas de Calais.
II.K.8.

BARNSLEY Thomas Kenneth
Captain: 1st Battalion, Coldstream Guards.
Killed in action 31st July 1917. Aged 25.
Son of Brig. General Sir John Barnsley and Lady Barnsley, of 20
Westfield Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
Buried: Canada Farm Cemetery, Ypres, Flanders. II.E.9.

Notes

Thomas Kenneth Barnsley, also known as "Tea Cake" was a friend of J.R.R. Tolkien at King Edward's School in Birmingham. Barnsley was in the Debating Society with Tolkien and he also performed in *The Rivals*. He was also a member of the T.C.B.S., though not within the inner circle of friends. (The semi-secret school club known as the T.C.B.S. (in full Tea Club and Barrovian Society) was formed by pupils at King Edward's School, Birmingham in 1910. At the core of the group were four friends: J.R.R. Tolkien, Christopher Wiseman, Rob Gilson, and G.B. Smith. All four fought in the Great War). While reading History at Cambridge he decided to join the 1st Birmingham Battalion in World War I. After rising to the rank of Captain, in August 1916 he was buried alive by a trench mortar, though he managed to escape and return to England. After returning to France in July of 1917 he was killed in action near Ypres while consolidating a captured prisoner. Barnsley would be one of the many of Tolkien's friends to die in the war.

BEDDARD Arthur James
141104 Private: 14th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment.
Died of wounds 13th April 1918. Aged 23.
Brother of Doris Beddard, of 19 Stanmore Road, Edgbaston,
Birmingham.
Born: Nottingham. Enlisted & Residence: Birmingham.
Buried: Tannay British Cemetery, Thiennes, Nord, France. I.A.7.

BELL Walter Stanley
2nd Lieutenant: 12/13th Battalion, Northumberland Fusiliers.
Missing believed killed in action 16th April 1918.
Memorial: Tyne Cot Memorial, Ypres, Flanders. Panel 19-23 & 162.

BENNETT

Philip Dennis

Captain: 5th (Territorial) Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

Died 24th February 1919. Aged 27.

Son of Archibald Somerville Bennett and Laura Bennett, of 52 Farquhar Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

Buried: St. Patrick's Salter Street Churchyard. East of church.

Extract from "De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour" – Only son of Archibald Somerville Bennett, of 52 Farquhar Road, Edgbaston, Solicitor, by his wife Laura, eldest daughter of the late John Henry Chamberlain: born Edgbaston, co. Warwick, 11 July 1891: educated West House School there: Streete Court, Westgate-on-Sea, and Rugby School, where he was a member of the O.T.C.; was an Architect, and in January 1914, was awarded the Grissell Prize and Medal by the R.I.B.A.; gazetted 2nd Lieut. 5th Royal Warwickshire Regiment 15 August 1910: promoted Lieut. November 1914, and Capt. June 1915: volunteered for foreign service on the declaration of war: served with the Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders from March 1915; was invalided home in January 1916, and on recovery was attached to the 3rd Battn. He died at Edgbaston 24 February 1919, of influenza, and was buried in St. Patrick's Churchyard, Tanworth-in-Arden. In March 1919, his name was brought to the notice of the Secretary of State for War for valuable services rendered in connection with the war. He married at St. Patrick's, Tanworth-in-Arden 17 August 1915, Doris May, elder daughter of Arthur L. Lowe, C.B.E., Registrar, Birmingham County Court, and had two children: Dennis Labron, born 21 November 1917, and a daughter, born (posthumous) 22 November 1919.

BEST

William

14/1647 Private: 14th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

Died of wounds 20th August 1916. Aged 34. (*SDGW lists as 30/8/16*)

Husband of Annie E. Best, of 160 Park Road, Bearwood.

Born: Belbroughton. Enlisted: Birmingham.

Buried: Quinton Church Cemetery. Ref. 74.

BURGESS

John Donald

Extract from "De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour" – Volunteer, King's East African Mounted Rifles, 3rd son of Rev. Samuel Burgess, of 10 Holly Road, Edgbaston by his wife, Annie, daughter of the late John Peed, of Whittlesey, Solicitor; born Guilsborough, Northampton, 23 March 1876; educated Eastman's Royal Naval Academy, Southsea. At the outbreak of the European War was the Engineer of the Magadi Soda Co., but immediately joined the King's Mounted Rifles, and was killed in action at Ingito Hill, British East Africa, 25 September 1914. His commanding officer wrote:

"He was one of a party of 30 men who had followed up what was said to be a smaller party of Germans, but when they came up with them were found to consist of about 150 men with two maxims. The Germans opened fire at once, and for a time there was some little confusion. The four men of the Magadi Force, one of whom was your husband, stood fast, however, and returned the fire, and then our men rallied. This lasted for about 10 minutes, when the Germans started to advance. The officer in command decided that our men could not hold out, so he ordered a retirement, and Burgess and three others were told off to cover it. They lay down, taking cover as best they could, and when next day our men went out (the Germans having retired) all four were found dead, just as they had laid down; and if ever men gave their lives to save others, it was those four."

He married at Christ Church, Woburn Place, London, 21 October 1902, Ethel M., 2nd daughter of the late W. J. Roseby, of Doncaster, and left two daughters: Kathleen Constance and Joyce Averil.

BUTLER

Archibald Stanley

2nd Lieutenant: 25th Squadron, Royal Flying Corps (formerly 214th (South Midland) Howitzer Brigade, Royal Field Artillery) TF.

Killed in action 16th August 1916. Aged 26.

Son of Emily Butler, of "Roseneath," Station Road, Thames Ditton, Surrey, and the late Charles Dawson Butler. Also served in the Warwickshire Imperial Yeomanry 1908-15.

Buried: Lapugnoy Military Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France.
I.F.60.

CLARE

Horace Townshend

Major: "A" Battery, 245th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery (substantive rank Lieutenant).

Killed in action 29th April 1918. Aged 21.

Chevalier of the Order of the Crown of Italy. Son of Henry Lewis Clare, MD and Lucy Clare, of "Mountlands," Norfolk Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham. Born in Kingston, Jamaica.

Buried: Brandhoek New Military Cemetery No.3, Ypres, Flanders.
III.A.22.

Also remembered: Haileybury School Roll of Honour (attended 1906-13)

COTTRELL George Frederick
2nd Lieutenant: 108th Heavy Battery Royal Garrison Artillery.
Killed in action 11th May 1915. Aged 22.
Son of George Anderson Cottrell and Mary Agnes Cottrell, of The Prior,
Follifoot, Harrogate, Yorkshire.
Buried: Railway Chateau Cemetery, Ypres, Flanders. B4.

Notes

Schoolmate of J. R. R. Tolkein.

Extract from "De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour" – Son of George Anderson Cottrell, of Allandale, Sandon Road, Edgbaston, by his wife, Mary Agnes, daughter of the late Alexander Smith, of Bingley, Yorkshire; born West Bromwich, co. Stafford, 27 October 1892; educated Bromsgrove School and King Edward's School, Birmingham, where he was Colour-Sergt. in the O.T.C., and was awarded the Coronation medal as the best all-round boy. He entered the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, and there was senior Sergt., and won prizes for infantry training and military law. He received his commission 18 July 1913, and until the outbreak of war was stationed in the Isle of Wight. In September 1914, he left for the Front, and was attached to an ammunition column of the Indian Army, being posted to the 108th Heavy Battery, R.G.A., in January 1915. He was killed in action at Ypres, 11 May 1915, and was buried in a railed off piece of ground used as a war cemetery, in the grounds of the chateau of the Gold Fish, Ypres. Unmarried. A stained glass window, subscribed for by his brother officers' friends, was placed in the church used by the R.G.A at Freshwater, Isle of Wight. Lieut. Cottrell was one of the "shop" fifteen while at Woolwich, and afterwards was a member of the United Services Football Club, and also played for the Army and three counties on various occasions.

COTTRELL Harold William
2nd Lieutenant: 2nd Battalion, South Lancashire Regiment (Prince of Wales' Volunteers).
Killed in action 30th September 1916. Aged 18.
Son of George Anderson Cottrell and Mary Agnes Cottrell, of 39 Marine Parade, Brighton, Sussex.
Buried: Pozieres British Cemetery, Ovillers-la-Boisselle, Somme, France. II.F.22.

Notes

A Memorial plaque was placed on the south wall of St. Augustine's Church, which reads:

"To the glory of God.

George Frederick Cottrell.

2nd Lieutenant Royal Garrison Artillery, 108th Heavy Battery.

Born 27th October 1892.

Passed out of the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich July 1913. Proceeded to the Front 21st September 1914 and was killed in the Second Battle of Ypres 11th May 1915. Aged 22 years.

Also his only brother

Harold William Cottrell.

2nd Lieutenant 2nd Battalion South Lancashire Regiment.

Born 4th August 1898.

Passed out of the Royal Military College Sandhurst July 1916.

Proceeded to the Front 21st September 1916 and was killed in the Battle of the Somme 30th September 1916. Aged 18 years.

These devoted brothers were the beloved and only children of George Anderson Cottrell and Mary Agnes his wife, of this parish, and were both killed in action while helping and sustaining their men under heavy shellfire, an example of heroism to all and of duty nobly done."

"They were lovely and pleasant in their lives and in death they were not divided."

CRICHTON Gerald Edgecumbe

1928 Private: 4th Battalion Australian Infantry (Australian Imperial Forces).

Died between 6th August 1915 and 9th August 1915.

Buried: Lone Pine Cemetery, Anzac, Gallipoli. M.21

Extract from "De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour" – 2nd son of the late William Crichton, of 18 Rotton Park Road, Edgbaston, by his late wife, Bessie Eleanor, daughter of the late George Edgecumbe; born Edgbaston 8 October 1886; educated Edgbaston Preparatory School, and King Edward's School, Birmingham; went to Australia in December 1907, and settled at Galong, N.S.W.; joined the Commonwealth Expeditionary Force in February 1915, and was killed in action in a Turkish trench during the attack in Lone Pine district, Gallipoli, 6-7 August 1915., Unmarried.

CRICHTON John Drummond

Captain: 9th Battalion, Loyal North Lancashire Regiment.

Missing believed killed in action 22nd April 1918.

Memorial: Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Bay 7.

Notes

Schoolmate of J. R. R. Tolkein.

CRICHTON Ronald

2nd Lieutenant: 5th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

Killed in action 22nd April 1917. Aged 29.

Son of Mrs. Crichton, of Edgbaston, Birmingham, and the late William Crichton.

Buried: Poelcapelle British Cemetery, Langemarck, Flanders. XLI.B.20.

Notes

Ronald Crichton is commemorated on the Memorial to Staff of the Ministry of Labour, now hanging in Caxton House, Tothill Street, London SW1.

CUTLER Harold
2790 Private: 1/6th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment (TF).
Missing believed killed in action 1st July 1916. Aged 21.
Son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Cutler, of 112 Willow Avenue, Edgbaston,
Birmingham.
Born: Small Heath. Enlisted: Birmingham.
Memorial: Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Pier & Face 9A, 9B &
10B.

CUTLER Reginald
21748 Private: 3rd Battalion, Coldstream Guards.
Missing believed killed in action 13th April 1918. Aged 19.
Son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Cutler, of 112 Willow Avenue, Edgbaston,
Birmingham.
Born and Enlisted: Birmingham. Residence: Edgbaston.
Memorial: Ploegsteert Memorial, Flanders. Panel 1.

DAY Reginald Blythe
L/5121 Driver: "D" Battery, 153rd Brigade, Royal Field Artillery.
Killed in action 31st July 1917.
Enlisted: Kingston-upon-Thames. Residence: Barnes, Surrey.
Buried: White House Cemetery, Ypres, Flanders. I.J.8.

DENT Joseph Leslie **DSO MC**
Captain & Brevet Major: 2nd Battalion, South Staffordshire Regiment.
Killed in action 11th April 1917. Aged 28.
Son of Joseph Henry and Annie Lucy Dent. Husband of Iris Doris
Dent, of "Olivers," Painswick, Gloucestershire. Proceeded overseas in
1914.
Buried: Faubourg D'Amiens Cemetery, Arras, Pas de Calais,
France. IV.A.28.

DEYKIN Cecil John
328 Private: 14th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment.
Killed in action 23rd July 1916. Aged 28.
Son of James and Kate Deykin, of 193 Station Road, Wylde Green,
Birmingham.
Born: Penkridge, Staffordshire. Enlisted: Birmingham.
Buried: Caterpillar Valley Cemetery, Longueval, Somme, France.
XV.D.37.

DINGLEY

Norman Oliver

Temporary Lieutenant (Acting Captain) : 93rd Company, Machine Gun Corps (formerly 6th Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment).

Died of wounds 5th May 1917. Aged 22.

Son of Richard John Dingley, of 330 Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham. Also served at Gallipoli.

Buried: Duisans British Cemetery, Etrun, Pas de Calais, France.
IV.K.49.

Extract from "De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour" – Younger son of Richard John Dingley, of 330 Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, Manufacturer, by his wife, Emma, daughter of the late William Cookes; born Edgbaston, 7 October 1894; educated Solihull (Rev. Dr. Robert Wilson and Rev. Dr. Cooper), where he was a member of the O.T.C.; subsequently, on leaving school, joined his father's business; enlisted in the 1st Birmingham City Battalion on the outbreak of war in August 1914; gazetted 2nd Lieut. The Worcestershire Regiment 30 January 1915; served with the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force at Gallipoli from August 1915, where he was taken ill with dysentery; returned to the Peninsula, and took part in the evacuations of Suvla Bay and Helles Point; later served in Egypt, also with the Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders from February 1916; transferred to the Machine Gun Corps 1 March following; took part in the Battle of the Somme; was invalided home in September; returned to the Front on Easter Monday, 9 April 1917, and died at No. 8 Casualty Clearing Station 5 May following, from wounds received in action at Arras. Buried at Duisans. Lieut. Col. F. Moore wrote: "*He was a good and conscientious worker, and just the type to make a good officer,*" and Major Stokes-Roberts: "*I set great store on his services. As a Company Commander, I could never wish to have a better officer under me than Nod. He was, without exception, the best platoon officer I have ever had....I very deeply deplore his loss.*" Capt. A. C. York also wrote: "*Our company were in action on the morning of 3rd May 1917, and Lieut. Dingley was in charge of four guns in a forward position. He was slightly wounded in the early morning, and, although wounded, he kept his guns in action until he was again wounded (severely), and his body was not recovered until the same evening, when he was still conscious, and taken to the casualty clearing station. Lieut. Dingley had only been with this unit a week or so, but during the short time he was with us, we had the greatest admiration for him....He was absolutely fearless and died doing his duty,*" and Corpl. F. Woodman: "*He came to us at a time when the spirits of the lads had been dampened by some heavy casualties, and the way in which he cheered and bred confidence in our section was wonderful...He was, indeed, a gallant gentleman, and I pray that your terrible sense of loss may also be tempered with pride, that you have been able to give a son so fine to the country.... It was during the battle of 3 May we occupied an advance post in the front of our infantry. A few hours before the battle opened he gave us a fine example of his mettle. He stood by the side of my gun giving me some orders, when we heard a faint cry for help out in the front. Without a moment's hesitation he jumped out of the trench, ran forward, and brought in a wounded man who was lying quite close to the enemy's lines. During the actual battle his cheerfulness and utter lack of fear put heart in all of us....To get to two of the guns under his charge, he had to get out of the trench and cross about 20 yards of open ground, and he was continually going to and from these guns to cheer and encourage the men. It was while returning from one of these journeys that a bullet struck him in the abdomen, causing the wound to which he eventually succumbed....Even while lying in the trench his great pluck asserted itself, and he continually smiled encouragement to his men. I believe even then the last thing he thought about was himself.*" Unmarried.

EDGINTON Robert Walter Laurence

Lieutenant: 1/5th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment (TF).

Killed in action 3rd June 1915. Aged 19.

Son of Robert William and Elizabeth Baker Edginton, of "Bayfield,"
Walton St. Mary, Clevedon, Somerset.

Buried: Berkshire Cemetery Extension, Comines-Warneton,
Hainault, Flanders. III.D.20.

Extract from "De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour" – Only son of Robert William Edginton, of 70 Portland Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, M.D.; by his wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Walter Showell, of Stourton Hall; born Edgbaston, Birmingham, 14 September 1895; educated Bradfield College and Birmingham University; received a commission in the Territorial Battalion of the Warwickshire Regt. 28 November 1913, and on the outbreak of war volunteered for foreign service; went to France 21 March 1915; was promoted Lieut. 27 May 1915, and was killed in action in France 3 June 1915. He was buried at White Gates, Petit Pont. Ploegsteert Wood; Unmarried. Some three weeks before he was killed, on 9 May, Lieut. Edginton performed a very gallant action, and was recommended by his commanding officer for bravery. This was described in letters from his brother officers as follows: Two privates were in front of the trenches acting as snipers, when one of them was wounded, his comrade was trying to get him back to the trench when he was also wounded. Lieut. Edginton, seeing this, went back to rescue the other man, who, when he reached him, he found was dead. In order to do this Lieut. Edginton had to make a detour of 40 or 50 yards to get through the wire entanglements and during the whole time he was under severe rifle and shell fire.

R.W. Laurence Edginton was born on 14 September, 1895, at 42 Bristol Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, the first and only son of Robert William and Elizabeth Baker Edginton (née Showell). He had three older sisters; Dorothy, Winifred and Mary. His father was a surgeon, probably in one of the hospitals in Birmingham. Laurence attended Bradfield College near Reading, and while there participated in the Officers Training Corps (OTC), which had been introduced to the public schools and universities in 1908. He studied there for about five years, finishing on 31 July, 1913 with the rank of Sergeant in the OTC. He applied for a posting as an officer in the Territorial Force on 4 December, 1913. By that time, he was a medical student, probably at the medical faculty of Birmingham University. The family appears to have moved in the intervening years to 70 Portland Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham (today, the house is a nursing home). He became 2nd Lieutenant at "G" Company, the 1/5th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, a unit whose home was Thorpe Street barracks in Birmingham, being a part of The Warwickshire Brigade, South Midland Division. Laurence would have been on summer vacation after his first year at the University when he most likely received his mobilisation orders - the medical studies would have to wait. During the autumn, the British TF battalions went through a re-organization, and the previous structure with eight companies was changed to four. Laurence probably therefore was assigned to "D" Company. Laurence was probably leading a rifle platoon, assisted by an experienced sergeant. The Division moved to France on 23 March, 1915.

The 1/5th Battalion was doing trench rotations, alternating between trench duty and rest and training behind the lines. Despite not being involved in any major engagements, enemy fire killed several soldiers at this time. On 9 May 1915, the day of the British attack on the Aubers Ridge a few miles to the South, there was a minor battle, where the battalion lost seven killed and 18 wounded. Laurence subjected himself to great danger, when he went over the top under severe enemy fire and rescued one of the wounded soldiers (a sniper). Laurence Edginton got away unscathed on this occasion, but he had less than a month to live.

On 13 May, 1915, the brigade changed designation to "143rd Brigade", and the division to "48th Division".

Further Note

On 3 June, 1915, in a position recorded by the Battalion War Diary as "Trenches 61 - 65", Laurence was killed in action. This position was close to a place called "Point 63" by Court Dreve, which in turn lies near Cassel (between Calais and Lille). The trenches were situated in the River Douve valley, with the small towns Wytschaete, Messines and Ploegsteert close by. He was the second officer lost there by the battalion; the day before, his commanding officer Captain John Francis was killed. Captain Francis was CO for "D" Coy, and commanding the battalion's scouts and snipers. He was also shot by a sniper. Laurence assumed command of the scouts, but was apparently killed by a sniper in the same place in the trenches as Captain Francis, less than 24 hours after he took over. Ironically, Laurence was killed on the 50th birthday of his king, George V, whose royal cypher was etched on his sword, but he never even got to celebrate his own 20th birthday.

He was buried at the regimental burial ground by Petit Pont, and his family was informed of his death. His remains were moved in post-war clearance to the Berks Cemetery Extension, Ploegsteert, Comines-Warneton, Hainaut, Belgium. The grave has reference/panel number III. D. 20.

Laurence wasn't married, nor was he engaged. A few days later, his replacement arrived to the battalion. It appears Laurence's father retired in 1916 (having reached the age of 65), and he and his wife moved to Walton St. Mary, Clevedon, Somerset. What kind of person was Laurence Edginton, and what were his interests? We may never know. All I was able to learn is that he was 5' 10" and in good health. A certificate of his good character was attached to his application for a posting at the Royal Warwicks. I may never be able to find out much more, but I get the impression that he was a dutiful young man. Laurence Edginton was posthumously decorated with three medals: 1914-15 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal. The two latter medals were awarded to almost everyone who fought in the Great War, but the first medal was only given to those who had been on the Western Front before 1916. It appears that he was promoted to Lieutenant, something that might have been in the works while he was still alive, but which he didn't get the opportunity to enjoy; he is listed as Lieutenant in the Regiment's Roll of Honour.

Here's the text from the obituary published in The Birmingham Evening Mail, dated 8 June, 1915: "Second-Lieutenant Edginton, who was killed on the same day as Captain Francis, was reported upon most favourably for a brilliant deed on May 9, when under severe fire he left the trenches carrying a sandbag in order to aid a member of his company who had been wounded. He was 19 years of age, and the only son of Dr. Edginton, 70, Portland Road, Egbaston, who for many years was an artillery officer at Stoney Lane. Lieut. Edginton had succeeded Captain Francis in the command of the Scouts of the 5th Battalion, and their photographs are reproduced from a group of the Scouts taken the day before they left for the front. Another member of the party, Private J. Maring of Nechells, was killed a month ago."

EDWARDS

Reginald Howard

2nd Lieutenant: 19th Squadron, Royal Flying Corps.

Missing believed killed in action 22nd September 1916.

Arras Flying Services Memorial, Pas de Calais, France.

FAWDRY Alfred George
2nd Lieutenant: 2nd Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment.
Missing believed killed in action 4th May 1917. Aged 21.
Son of Caroline Fawdry, of 18 Stirling Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham,
and the late Alfred George Fawdry.
Memorial: Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Bay 3.

GAMMELL Beaumont Edward Zachary
Lieutenant: 107th Squadron, Royal Air Force.
Killed in action 7th September 1918. Aged 23.
Son of Maud Ellis (formerly Gammell), of Norton House, 19 Newbold
Terrace, Leamington Spa, and the late Hector Hatch Gammell.
Buried: Denain Communal Cemetery, Nord, France. D.73.

Notes

The eldest child and only son of Hector Gammell and his first wife Maud Hughes. Born near Birmingham in the summer of 1895 Beaumont (or 'Beau' as he was known) was educated at Bedford Grammar School, and after leaving school was articled to a firm of solicitors in Bedford. He was a clever young man, although handicapped by a weak heart, but his career in law was cut short by the 1914/18 War. He joined the Flying Corps, qualified as a Pilot, and served in France as a Lieutenant until he died of wounds received in France in September 1918. He was unmarried.

HALLWRIGHT William Wybrow **DSO**
Lieutenant Commander: H.M.S. "Q" 16.
Died 21st April 1917.
Buried: Birmingham Witton Cemetery. Ref. 65.41976.

HARRISON Edward Rainsford
Captain: 524th Company, 61st Divisional Train, Royal Army Service
Corps (TF).
Died 25th December 1918. Aged 32.
Husband of Mrs. J. B. Rainsford Harrison. Son of E. J. Harrison, of
"Broad View," Hill Brow, Bromley, Kent.
Buried: Abbeville Communal Cemetery Extension, Somme,
France. V.F.10.

Extract from "De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour" – Capt., South Midland Divisional Train, Royal Army Service Corps (T.F.), elder son of Edward James Harrison, of Broad View, Bromley, one of the Joint General Managers of Lloyds Bank Ltd., by his wife, Laura, eldest daughter of Charles Rainsford; born Edgbaston, Birmingham, co. Warwick, 25 October 1886; educated King Edward's School, Birmingham, and Queen's College, Taunton; was a Director of Messrs. Jarratt & Rainsford Ltd., of Birmingham; gazetted 2nd Lieut. 6th Royal Warwickshire Regiment in 1906; resigned his commission in May 1913; volunteered for active service on the outbreak of war, and rejoined the 6th Royal Warwickshire Regiment in August 1914; transferring to the Army Service Corps, he was gazetted Lieut. immediately and Capt. shortly afterwards; served with the Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders from May 1916, in command of A Coy. of the South Midland Divisional Train, until he died at Abbeville on Christmas Day 1918 of double pneumonia following influenza, contracted while on active service. Buried in the British Military Cemetery, Abbeville. His Commanding Officer wrote: "I cannot tell you how deeply regretted his loss has

been in this division. He was one of the stand-bys in our divisional train, and when real hard work was required, he was always there, willing and ready to carry out any orders that might be given. His sad death has, indeed, been a loss to the service." He was mentioned in despatches by F.M. Sir Douglas Haig for gallant and distinguished service in the field. He married at Edgbaston, Birmingham, in June 1913, Jessie Beatrice, youngest daughter of J. G. Deeley of Edgbaston; no issue.

HEATON Philip Ralph **DCM**
Lieutenant (temporary posting) 1/2nd Battalion, King's African Rifles.
Died 4th January 1917.
Buried Dar-es-Salaam War Cemetery, Tanzania. 1.H.2.

HOLROYD John Othic
12622 Sergeant: 7th (Service) Battalion, Norfolk Regiment.
Died of wounds 11th October 1915. Aged 28.
Born: Edgbaston. Enlisted: St. Paul's Churchyard, Middlesex.
Son of Edward Barker Holroyd and Ada Margaret Holroyd, of 37 Westfield Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
B. Comm. (Birmingham University).
Buried: Chocques Military Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France.
I.G.16.

Extract from "De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour" – 2nd son of Edward Barker Holroyd, of 25 Westfield Road, Edgbaston, co. Warwick, Merchant, by his wife, Ada Margaret, daughter of James Barwell; born Birmingham, co. Warwick, 15 April 1887; educated King Edward's School, Birmingham; Colwyn Bay, and at Birmingham University; was a Surveyor, having passed the Examination for Fellow of the Surveyors' Institute; enlisted 28 August 1914; served with the Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders from 31 May 1915, and died at No.1 Casualty Clearing Station 11 October following, from wounds received in action on Hill 70 on the 4th of that month; buried in the Cemetery at Chocques; Unmarried.

HOLROYD Wilfred Hugh
12632 Sergeant: 7th (Service) Battalion, Norfolk Regiment.
Missing believed killed in action 11th October 1915. Aged 23.
Born: Edgbaston. Enlisted: St. Paul's Churchyard, Middlesex.
Son of Edward Barker Holroyd and Ada Margaret Holroyd, of 37 Westfield Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
Memorial: Loos Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Panel 30 & 31.

Extract from "De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour" – 5th son of Edward Barker Holroyd, of 25 Westfield Road, Edgbaston, co. Warwick, by his wife, Ada Margaret, daughter of James Barwell; and brother to Sergt. John Othic Holroyd (q.v.); born 26 January 1894; educated Bromsgrove, co. Worcester; was employed by the Metropolitan Wagon and Finance Co.; enlisted 28 August 1914; served with the Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders from 31 May 1915; was reported missing after the fighting at Hulluch 13 October following, and is now assumed to have been killed in action on that date; unmarried.

HUMPHREYS Howard
No details held

JONAS

Frank Isaac

19619 Private: 26th Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment).

Killed in action 19th July 1916. Aged 23.

Born: Birmingham. Enlisted: St. Paul's Churchyard. Residence: Birmingham.

Son of Esther E. Henry (formerly Jonas) of 4 York Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, and the late Maurice Jonas.

Buried: Berkshire Cemetery Extension, Comines-Warneton, Hainault, Belgium. I.F.7.

JONES

Douglas Grainger

2nd Lieutenant: 6th Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment (attached to the 4th Battalion).

Missing believed killed in action 4th June 1915. Aged 20.

Son of Grainger Blackwell Jones and Annie Elizabeth Jones, of 14 Viga Road, Grange Park, Winchmore Hill, London.

Memorial: Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey. Panel 104-113.

Extract from "The Worcestershire Regiment in the Great War" by H. FitzM. Stacke:

Gallipoli Campaign - The Third Battle of Krithia

"At 9.30 a.m. on June 4th the British artillery opened fire and kept up a hot bombardment till 11.30 a.m. Then the firing died down and for ten minutes silence reigned, a silence intended to puzzle the enemy. At 11.40 the artillery opened again and continued rapid fire until 12 noon, when the guns lifted their fire and the attacking battalions scrambled out of their trenches and advanced.

"In spite of all they had gone through the troops of the 29th Division went forward with splendid spirit. "It was just glorious and magnificent to see our gallant lads get out of the trenches, not a slacker amongst them" [Battalion Diary]. Under a storm of fire the Worcestershire platoons rushed forward across the open and into the enemy's trenches. Three successive lines of trenches were cleared; 80 prisoners and four machine guns were taken.

"Then stock was taken of the situation. On the right the advance had been equally successful. On the left, however, on the western slope of the Gully Ravine, the 14th Sikhs had advanced with equal gallantry but without the same success. The enemy's machine guns there had not been subdued by the bombardment, and before their fire the tall Sikhs had fallen in swathes. The Sikh battalion had been almost annihilated (no more than 3 officers and 200 men remained) and the left flank of the Worcestershire was exposed.

"To meet that danger the Battalion formed a defensive flank along the steep slope of the Gully Ravine, and the rest of the day was spent consolidating that line under heavy fire.

"The losses had been very heavy, including 5 officers killed and 3 officers missing. "

[Listed among the missing was 2nd Lieut. D Grainger Jones (*afterwards ascertained killed*). He had joined the Battalion only on May 27th.

JOSEPH Evelyn
336 Sergeant: 14th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment.
Missing believed killed in action 23rd July 1916.
Born: Pretoria, South Africa. Enlisted: Birmingham. Residence;
Edgbaston.
Son of Frederick M. and Matilda Louise Joseph, of 108 Cape Road,
Port Elizabeth, South Africa.
Memorial: Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Pier & Face 9A, 9B &
10B.

KEAY James Gordon
Lieutenant: 5th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment (TF).
Died of wounds 2nd July 1916. Aged 20.
Son of Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Keay, of 28 Westfield Road, Edgbaston,
Birmingham.
Buried: Merville Communal Cemetery, Nord, France. VII.A.20.

Notes

A Memorial plaque was placed on the south wall of St. Augustine's Church, which reads:

"To the Glory of God and in loving memory of

*Lieutenant James Gordon Keay
2/5th Royal Warwickshire Regiment
Younger son of Ernest Charles and Edith Helen Keay of Longmynd, Edgbaston.
Killed in action at Neuve Chapelle July 2nd 1916. Aged 20.*

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

Extract from "De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour" – Younger son of Ernest Charles Keay, of Longmynd, Westfield Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, Ironmaster and Engineer, by his wife, Edith Helen, daughter of the late Thomas Hill, of Great Barr, co. Stafford; born Edgbaston, co. Warwick, 25 August 1895; educated Aldro School, Eastbourne; Charterhouse (Gownboys) (where he was a member of the O.T.C., passing the examination for promotion), and at Clare College, Cambridge, leaving after one term in residence to take a commission in the 2/5th Battalion the Royal Warwickshire Regiment; gazetted 2nd Lieut. 4 January 1915, and promoted Lieut. 3 August following; trained at Northampton, Essex, and on Salisbury Plain; served with the Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders from 21 May 1916; was seconded for duty with the 182nd Trench Mortar Battery in June, and died at London Brigade Casualty Clearing Station 2 July following, from wounds received in action near Neuve Chapelle the previous day. Buried at Merville. One of his senior officers wrote: "He was in the same company as myself till he took up trench mortars; we all got to love him and look forward to his return. He was the absolute life of our mess, and we shall miss him sadly. He died doing his second brave deed that night, and he was a brave man through and through. He had buried his gun single-handed under a terrific fire previously. Please allow me to join in your pride of a brave man, who served England to the end unflinchingly," and the Chaplain: "He died a hero's death, for the men he loved." His servant also wrote: "Lieut. Keay was like a brother to us all, and we would go with him anywhere, whether in danger or not." He was fond of all sport, and while at Aldro School was in the first football and cricket elevens, and at Charterhouse he obtained his House Football and Swimming Colours. Unmarried.

LAWRENCE Rudolph Russell
2nd Lieutenant: 5th Battalion, King's Shropshire Light Infantry.
Missing believed killed in action 24th August 1916. Aged 21.
Son of Francis John and Charlotte Lawrence, of 207 Rotton Park Road, Birmingham.
Memorial: Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Bay 7.

LONG Arthur William Emmanuel
Temporary 2nd Lieutenant: 8th Battalion, Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment.
Killed in action 24th August 1916. Aged 20.
Son of Arthur William and Ruth Castry Long, of 7 Hallewell Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
Buried: London Cemetery Extension, Longueval, Somme, France. 9.B.16.

LUNT Douglas Gordon
Captain: 5th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment (TF).
Killed in action 16th July 1916. Aged 28.
Son of Richard and Rosa Lunt, of Old Square, Birmingham.
Buried: Pozieres British Cemetery, Ovillers la Boisselle, Somme, France. I.F.28.

MARKS Isidore David
2nd Lieutenant (temporary posting): 11th Battalion Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment.
Killed in action 10th July 1916.
Buried: Gordon Dump Cemetery, Ovillers la Boisselle, Somme, France. V.A.5.

MARSH Clarence Eric
Lieutenant: Royal Engineers.
Died 21st October 1918.
Buried: Smethwick (Uplands) Cemetery. 4.CE.C.693.

MARTIN Gerald Patrick Wingfield
Temporary Lieutenant: "Y" Company, 8th Battalion, Northumberland Fusiliers.
Killed in action 2nd October 1918. Aged 24.
Son of Patrick A. and Patricia Martin, of 31 Westfield Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
Buried: Chapel Corner Cemetery, Sauchy Lestree, Pas de Calais, France. D.21.

MATHEWS

Hugh Spencer

Captain: 14th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

Killed in action 22nd July 1916. Aged 32.

Son of George Spencer Mathews and Annette Mary Mathews, of 32 Augustus Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

Buried: Caterpillar Valley Cemetery, Longueval, Somme, France.
X.D.26.

MILLS

Harold Frederick

14/1147 Private: "B" Company, 14th (Service) Battalion, (1st Birmingham) Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

Missing believed killed in action 23rd July 1916. Aged 20.

Born: Perry Barr. Enlisted: Sutton Coldfield. Residence: Edgbaston.

Son of Frederick Fletcher Mills (Solicitor) of 176 Ravenhurst Road, Harborne, Birmingham, and the late Mary Kate Edith Mills (nee Allsopp).

Educated at Cambridge House School and King Edward VI Grammar School, Edgbaston.

Memorial: Thiépval Memorial, Somme, France. Pier & Face 9A, 9B & 10B.

Extract from "De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour" – Only child of Frederick Fletcher Mills, of Birmingham and Edgbaston, Solicitor and Commissioner for Oaths, by his wife, Mary Kate Edith, daughter of Elijah Allsopp; born Handsworth, Birmingham, 21 August 1895; educated Cambridge House School Edgbaston, and King Edward VI Grammar School Five Ways, Birmingham. After a commercial training, he was about to be articled as a Solicitor to his father when war broke out; volunteered for foreign service in September but was medically rejected; joined the Warwickshire Regiment in January 1915; served with the Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders from the following November, and was killed in action at the Battle of the Somme 23 July 1916, during the offensive between High Wood and Delville Wood. Buried where he fell. A comrade wrote: "The attack took place on the night of 22-23 July, and three chums, of whom Private Mills was one, went out together. The company was in dead ground for about 150 yards and sustained few casualties, but on advancing into the open it was met by a terrible fire on its flanks from machine guns in High and Delville Woods; it got into the enemy's barrage fire, and was met by most of their contrivances, including gas shells and liquid-fire shells. The men were knocked over like nine-pins, and our attack was utterly smashed; all the officers who took part were killed or wounded. Two of the three chums were wounded, and the third, Private Mills, was ultimately found to have been killed." Unmarried.

Extract from "Birmingham Pals" by Terry Carter

"Another who was killed was Private Harold Mills, (No. 1147, A Coy) who was due to be articled to a firm of Birmingham Solicitors prior to the outbreak of war. At first he was medically rejected, but managed to enlist in the battalion's reserve company in January 1915. A comrade who survived the attack [on Wood Lane, High Wood] wrote the following to Mills' parents at Ravenhurst Road, Harborne:

"The company was in dead ground for about 150 yards and sustained few casualties, but on advancing into the open it was met by a terrible fire on its flanks from machine guns in High and Delville Woods; it got into the enemy's barrage fire, and was met by most of their contrivances, including gas shells and liquid fire shells. The men were knocked over like nine-pins, and our attack was utterly smashed; all the officers who took part were killed or wounded."

“Private Mills’ parents were also told that he was buried where he fell, which probably meant he was put in a shell hole with his upturned rifle as a marker. Unfortunately, this area of No Man’s Land was to see plenty of death and destruction over the ensuing weeks. Private Mills’ grave, like so many others, would never be found, obliterated by further gunfire.”

OLIVER Harold Thomas
14/792 Private: 14th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment.
Killed in action 3rd September 1916. Aged 21.
Born: Forest Gate, Essex. Enlisted: Birmingham. Residence: London.
Son of Joseph and Florence Oliver, of 485 City Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
Buried: Guillemont Road Cemetery, Guillemont, Somme, France.
IV.J.8.

OLIVER Fred
No details held

PARKES Thomas Leonard
65283 Gunner: 115th Heavy Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery.
Died of wounds 15th November 1916.
Born: Birmingham. Enlisted: Oldbury.
Buried: Carnoy Military Cemetery, Somme, France. X.15.

PARTRIDGE Walter George
505048 Lance Corporal: Royal Engineers, Inland Water Transport.
Died of wounds 26th November 1918. Aged 38.
Born & Enlisted: Birmingham.
Son of Walter and Mary Partridge, of Balsall Heath, Birmingham.
Husband of Rose Ellen Partridge, 79 Ridgeway, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
Buried: St. Sever Cemetery Extension, Rouen, Normandy, France.
S.IV.E.3.

PATTERSON George
No details held

PEARSON Charles Thornhill
2nd Lieutenant: 14th Royal Warwickshire Regiment.
Died of wounds 29th August 1918. Aged 19.
Son of Walter Ernest and Katie Pearson, of Vectis Lodge, 37 Augustus Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
Buried: Bagneux British Cemetery, Gezaincourt, Somme, France.
V.D.28.

PHILLIPS Frank Justice
18518 (*possibly 19518*) Private: 2nd Battalion, South Staffordshire Regiment.
Missing believed killed in action 17th February 1917.
Born: Evesham, Worcestershire. Enlisted: Birmingham. Residence: Harborne.
Memorial: Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Pier & Face 7B.

PHILLIPS Richard Hill
2nd Lieutenant: 15th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment (TF).
Killed in action 25th September 1916. Aged 18.
Son of Gerald and Blanche Phillips, of 17 Lyttelton Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
Buried: Guards' Cemetery, Lesboeuufs, Somme, France. XIII.T.10.

POLLARD Wilfred Walter
2nd Lieutenant: 206th Squadron, Royal Air Force.
Died 5th July 1918. Aged 19.
Only son of Walter Henry and Ethel Maud Mary Pollard, of 343 Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
Buried: Birmingham (Lodge Hill) Cemetery. B6.28.

PURSALL Howard Ernest
Bristol 2/9050 Able Seaman: "Nelson" Battalion, Royal Naval Division (Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve)
Died of wounds 1st January 1918.
Buried: Cabaret Rouge British Cemetery, Souchez, Pas de Calais, France. XXXI.J.9.

SANDERS Thomas Frederick Proctor
272 Private: "B" Company, 14th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire
Regiment.
Died of wounds 20th April 1916. Aged 23.
Son of Thomas and Rosina Sanders, of Hagley Road, Birmingham.
Born: Ladywood. Enlisted: Birmingham.
Buried: Habarcq Communal Cemetery Extension, Pas de Calais,
France. VIII.D.1.

Extract from "Birmingham Pals" by Terry Carter

"On the night of 17th April [1916] a party of men from B Coy were out wiring. In the light of a German flare Private Thomas Sanders (No. 272, from Hagley Road) was hit by a sniper. The bullet entered his thigh and passed out through his stomach. Captain William Erhardt on seeing the unfortunate plight of Sanders, went to his assistance with a view to bringing him back in. Probably the same German sniper fired again, this time hitting Captain Erhardt. The bullet hit him in roughly the same body area as Sanders. However the bullet did not pass through Erhardt, it split in two. One piece lodged in his spine, the other piece, plus bone fragments, going into his stomach. Very soon Lieutenant Emile Jacot was on the scene with the assistance of Sergeant Jimmy Weatherhead (No. 1086, from Hanley, Staffs). Both men displayed great courage and energy in bringing the wounded men back. Sanders, Erhardt and Jacot were old boys of King Edward's School in New Street, Birmingham. The Headmaster, Mr. Heath, received the news in a letter written by Lieutenant Jacot a few days later:

"I need hardly say they both took it as one would have expected of them. Erhardt's only concern was that Sanders should be moved first, while Sanders kept entreating us not to worry about him till we had got the Captain in."

"Both men were taken to 14th Field Ambulance in Habarcq. Captain Erhardt underwent surgery almost immediately to remove the fragments from his stomach... For a few days he hovered between life and death, eventually he managed to pull through. Not so for poor Private Sanders. Gangrene had set in and he died on 20 April and was buried in Habarcq Communal Cemetery Extension."

SHORTER John William
40383 Private: 15th Battalion, West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of
Wales' Own).
Missing believed killed in action 3rd May 1917.
Born: Barrow on Soar. Enlisted: Leicester.
Memorial: Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France. Bay 4.

SMITH George Barker
23164 Private: "D" Company, 26th Battalion, Royal Fusiliers (City of
London Regiment).
Died of wounds 12th October 1916. Aged 34.
Son of George and Jane Smith, of Birmingham.
Born & Residence: Birmingham. Enlisted: Woolwich.
Buried: Etaples Military Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France. VII.C.4.

SNAPE Harold Frederick
F/2304 Private: 23rd Battalion, Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own).
Missing believed killed in action 7th June 1917. Aged 21.
Son of Nathaniel Snape of 71 Ridgeway, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
Born: St. George's. Enlisted: Aldershot. Residence: Birmingham.
Memorial: Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Flanders. Panel 49 & 51.

SPEAKE Thomas Gordon
2nd Lieutenant: 82nd Squadron, Royal Air Force.
Died 20th November 1918. Aged 19.
Son of Mr. T. H. and Mrs. L. F. Speake of "Hill Crest," 172 Portland Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
Buried: Kortrijk (St. Jan) Communal Cemetery, Flanders. A.25.

SPIERS Archibald Lionel Clive
Temporary Lieutenant: 7th Battalion, King's Shropshire Light Infantry.
Missing believed killed in action 26th September 1917. Aged 33.
Son of Annie Spiers of 13 Augustus Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, and the late Lionel Spiers.
Memorial: Tyne Cot Memorial, Flanders. Panel 112-113.

STREET Norman Kingsley
Captain: 9th (Service) Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment, 39th Infantry Brigade, General Headquarters Staff.
Missing believed killed in action 10th August 1915.
Memorial: Helles Memorial, Gallipoli, Turkey. Panel 104-113.

Extract from "The Worcestershire Regiment in the Great War" by H. FitzM. Stacke:

Gallipoli Campaign - The Battle of Sari Bair

"At dawn on August 10th the enemy on the crest line above the position of the 9th Worcestershire opened fire and commenced a bombing attack. Great bombs were rolled down the mountainside to burst in our lines. Then the enemy came over the crest of the ridge in wave after wave of densely packed troops, their bayonets glittering in the sun as they topped the ridge. Firing as rapidly as possible the 9th Worcestershire held their ground, meeting and repulsing rush after rush. For some three hours a desperate struggle raged. At last, when nearly all of the officers and most of the men were down, the remnant of the 39th Brigade fell back from the exposed front line on the slope to the more sheltered position in the dead ground at the head of the ravine. There the 9th Worcestershire were reorganised by Captain Munnick.

"On the left flank the garrison of "Gurkha Redoubt" commanded by Captain W. D. Gibbon, beat off all attacks, and maintained their position until darkness fell.

"Meanwhile every available man had been ordered up from reserve. "C" Company of the 9th Worcestershire were the only reserve unit of the 39th Brigade, and its platoons had been dispersed as picquets over wells and dumps in the gully. When orders came down, these platoons made their way up the ravine, as also did every available man of Battalion Headquarters, led by the Quartermaster, Lieut. C. H. Inwood. Lieut. Inwood led his collection of cooks and orderlies most bravely through

a fierce and accurate fire along the gully and up the ravine to the firing line, bringing bandoliers of ammunition and tins full of water which enabled the defence to be continued.

“In the reorganisation of the defence Captain N. K. Street of the Regiment, Staff Captain of the 39th Brigade, was conspicuous by his bravery. He rallied stragglers of all regiments and led them up the hill to a level stretch known as “The Farm,” where the fighting was desperate. There he continued to direct and inspire their resistance until he was killed.

“Long before sunset the battle was over. The upper slopes of Sari Bair were strewn thickly with dead and wounded men, Turks above, British below. Both sides had used up their last reserves and no more could be done. The firing died down and movement ceased, save for efforts to succour the wounded who lay helpless on the hillside in the evening sunlight.

“After sunset the remnants of the 9th Worcestershire were ordered back into reserve; for the Battalion had now but few officers and reorganisation was essential.”

Extract from “De Ruvigny’s Roll of Honour” – Only son of the late Thomas Richard Street, of Leacroft, Kidderminster, formerly of Edgbaston, by his wife, Marian, daughter of Henry J, Kloss; born Edgbaston, co. Warwick, 13 August 1881; educated Bromsgrove School, and the Royal Military College, Sandhurst; gazetted 2nd Lieut. Worcestershire Regiment 8 May 1901; promoted Lieut. 20 March 1903, and Capt. 18 June 1911; served in Bermuda, Barbados, Jamaica, Malta, Egypt and Bareilly, India; was employed with the West African Frontier Force from 18 May 1910 to 1 August 1914, when he returned to England, and was attached to the 9th Worcestershire Regiment, being appointed to Headquarters Staff of the 39th Infantry Brigade in the following January; served with the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force at the Dardanelles from June 1915, and was killed in action at Sari Bair 10 August following. Buried there. Capt. Street was mentioned in despatches [London Gazette 28 January 1916] by General Sir Ian Hamilton, for gallant and distinguished service in the field. While at Bromsgrove School he was a member of the School XV 1899-1900; of the School XI 1898, 1899, 1900, and Victor Ludorum 1899 and 1900. He was a keen sportsman, being particularly good at polo, cricket and big game shooting, holding the record rhinoceros for West Africa up to 1912. Unmarried.

STUBBS

William Ernest

996 Private: 14th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

Missing believed killed in action 23rd July 1916. Aged 20.

Son of William Henry and Ida Alice Stubbs of 121 Poplar Avenue, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

Born & Residence: Edgbaston. Enlisted: Birmingham.

Memorial: Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Pier & Face 9A, 9B & 10B.

Notes: A former employee of Lloyds Bank, Acocks Green.

TABBERNER Thomas Kemp

Lieutenant: 2/19th Battalion (St. Pancras), London Regiment (TF).

Killed in action 8th December 1917. Aged 37.

Son of Thomas and Louisa Emma Tabberner of Birmingham. Husband of Jane Lumley Tabberner of 81 Fountain Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

Buried: Jerusalem War Cemetery, Israel. P.50.

Extract from "De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour" – Only son of Thomas Tabberner, of 43 Stirling Road, Edgbaston, by his wife, Louisa Emma, daughter of William Skidmore; born Birmingham, co. Warwick, 10 April 1883; educated King Edward VI High School there; was engaged in his father's business; joined the 14th Battalion the Royal Warwickshire Regiment in September 1914; gazetted 2nd Lieut. in September 1916; served with the Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders from July 1916, where he saw much fighting; was sent to Salonika the following November; proceeded to Palestine, and served with the Egyptian Expeditionary Force there from May 1917; took part in many engagements, and was killed in action at the taking of Jerusalem 8 December following. Buried at the village of Kulouish, outside Jerusalem. He married at St. George's Church, Edgbaston, 9 October 1915, Jane Lumley, daughter of Edward K. Mason, and had a son, Philip St. Vaast, born 30 August 1916.

TAYLOR Harry

Lieutenant: 98th Field Company, Royal Engineers.

Died 27th February 1916. Aged 27.

Husband of Grace G. Taylor, of 137 Balden Road, Harborne, Birmingham.

Buried: Cite Bonjean Military Cemetery, Armentieres, Flanders. IX.F.57.

Notes

Harry Taylor was educated at George Dixon Secondary School. He matriculated at the age of 15, and subsequently attended Birmingham University, where he gained his BSc in 1909, aged 19. After graduating he took up a position as assistant engineer on the Midland Railway and was employed in that capacity when the war broke out. Lieutenant Taylor was a well-known athlete. He rowed for the Derwent, Bradford, and Lancaster clubs. He was also a singer of no mean talent, being for some time a member of St Augustine's Choir. He married on 4 August 1915 and was killed by a shell on 27 February 1916.

THOMPSON Maurice Cecil

433048 Private: 1st South Midland Mounted Brigade (Field Ambulance) Royal Army Medical Corps (TF).

Died 25th October 1918. Aged 29.

Son of Henry Stephen and Bessie Thompson of 32 Westfield Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

Born: Edgbaston. Enlisted: Birmingham.

Buried: Beirut War Cemetery, Lebanon. Ref. 254.

TURNER

Horace George

2244 Private: 1st Battalion, Warwickshire Yeomanry.

Died of wounds 30th August 1915. Aged 22.

Son of George and Sarah Turner of "Dibru," 38 Augustus Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

Born: Digbeth. Enlisted: Warwick. Residence: Birmingham.

Buried: Hill 10 Cemetery, Gallipoli, Turkey. II.D.2.

Notes

The "*Warwickshire Roll of Honour 1914-2005*" by Kenneth Fowler states that he was born in Dibrugarh, India.

The Battalion left Alexandria on 14th August, arrived off the coast of Turkey on 18th and after being transhipped from the "Ascania" to HMS Doris, disembarked in lighters under enemy fire, and landed at "A" Beach, Suvla Bay on Gallipoli, 18 August 1915. Took part in attack on Hill 70 on 21 August, the battalion acting as dismounted infantry advancing over 2 miles under heavy shrapnel fire. The action resulted in 73 casualties (2 officers wounded, 65 other ranks wounded and 6 other ranks killed). The objective was captured and subsequently abandoned as darkness set in because it was considered impossible to hold in daylight. Private Turner may have received his fatal wound in this action.

Notes

Private Turner's parents gave the chancel floor in St. Augustine's Church in memory of their son, and a Memorial plaque was placed on the south wall of the chancel which reads:

"In loving memory of

Horace George Turner, who fell at Suvla Bay, 29th August 1915, aged 22.

This floor was given by his parents George and Sarah Turner."

VINCE

William Lang

Captain: 14th (Service) Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

Killed in action 8th May 1917. Aged 27.

Son of Charles Anthony and Janet Lang Vince of 8 Lyttelton Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham. BA Magdalen College, Oxford (1913).

Buried: Orchard Dump Cemetery, Arleux-en-Gohelle, Pas de Calais, France. IX.A.47.

Extract from "De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour" – Younger son of Charles Anthony Vince, late Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge, of 8 Lyttelton Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, Political Secretary, by his wife, Janet, daughter of William Lang, of Paisley; born Mill Hill, co. Middlesex, 24 March 1890; educated King Edward's School, Birmingham (Exhibitioner and Gold Medallist); took Second Class in Classical Moderations and in Classical Greats (1913); was a member of the University O.T.C.; volunteered for Imperial Service on the outbreak of war, and was gazetted 2nd Lieut. 14th Battn. The Royal Warwickshire Regiment 29 August 1914; promoted Lieut. 27 January 1915; served with the Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders from the following March; was slightly wounded and invalided home in September 1916; rejoined his regiment in France 18 April 1917, and was killed in action north-west of Arras 8 May following. Buried near Arleux-en-Gohelle. He was a keen oarsman, and rowed bow in the successful second boat of his college in 1912, and in the Magdalen Torpid, which was head of the river in 1913. Unmarried.

Extract from "Birmingham Pals" by Terry Carter

"During the bombardment [8 May 1917 near Fresnoy, east of Vimy Ridge], one shell killed three officers: Captain Turner and Lieutenants Barrow and Vince. Bernard Turner (Francis Road, Edgbaston) and William Vince (Lyttelton Road, Edgbaston) were both original volunteers to the 1st Birmingham Battalion."

WADE

Albert Edwin

7012 Corporal: "B" Company, 2nd Battalion, South Staffordshire Regiment.

Died of wounds 14th June 1918. Aged 33.

Son of Charles Edwin and Mary Jane Wade of Birmingham,. Husband of Mrs. M. Wade of 39 Clifford Road, Bearwood, Smethwick, Staffordshire. Served at Mons.

Born: London. Enlisted: Birmingham. Residence: Smethwick.

Buried: Bagneux British Cemetery, Gezaincourt. II.E.1.

Extract from "De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour" – Son of Charles Edward Wade; born London 16 March 1885; educated Whitehead Road County Council School, Birmingham; enlisted in the South Staffordshire Regiment, and served 12 years with the colours; was called up on mobilisation 4 August 1914; served with the Expeditionary Force in France, taking part in numerous engagements, including the retreat from Mons, the fighting on the Marne, the Somme, the Ancre, at Arras, Messines and Ypres, and was killed in action 14 June 1918. Buried at Bagneux British Cemetery, south-south-west of Doullens. His Commanding Officer wrote: "I am very sorry to lose such a gallant man. He was always to be relied on, and is a loss to everyone, for he was very popular with his platoon." He married at St. Mary's, Aston, Birmingham, 17 September 1911, Martha (39 Clifford Road, Bearwood), daughter of George Franklin, and had one son, Albert Ruben, born 6 March 1913.

WATKINS

Baron

No details held

WATKINS Charles Henry
34347 Corporal: 7th Battalion, Wiltshire Regiment (Duke of Edinburgh's). (Formerly 012631 Royal Army Ordnance Corps).
Killed in action between 16th and 18th October 1918. Aged 25.
Son of Frederick William and Lydia Watkins of 60 Summerfield Crescent, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
Born: Winson Green. Enlisted: Birmingham. Residence: Edgbaston.
Buried: Highland Cemetery, Le Cateau, Nord, France. I.B.9.

WEATHERHEAD James (*known as Jimmy*)
1086 Sergeant: 14th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment.
Killed in action 23rd July 1916.
Born: Hanley, Staffordshire. Enlisted: Birmingham.
Buried: Serre Road No.2 Cemetery, Somme, France. XXXVIII.H.9.

Notes: See above under T. Sanders.

Extract from "Birmingham Pals" by Terry Carter
"On the evening of 20/21 July [1916], Second Lieutenant J T Turner along with Sergeant Jimmy Weatherhead (No. 1086 B Coy) carried out excellent reconnaissance work and gained valuable information out in No Man's Land between Black Road and the German line along Wood Alley Near Longueval). "Yank" Turner, a former Sergeant in C Coy before being commissioned, was awarded the Military Cross for this patrol. Sergeant Weatherhead was killed in the forthcoming attack."

WELLS Thomas Henry
21225 Private: 2nd Battalion, Coldstream Guards.
Died 20th October 1918. Aged 24.
Son of Henry Richard and Esther Wells of Westfield Road Farm, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
Born: Edgbaston. Enlisted: Harborne. Residence: Birmingham.
Buried: Ste. Marie Cemetery, Le Havre, Seine Maritime, France.
Div.62.V.K.14.

WHITTAKER Nathaniel Edward
14/1426 Private: 14th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment.
Died of wounds 26th July 1916.
Born: Stakenbridge, Worcestershire. Enlisted: Birmingham.
Residence: Edgbaston.
Buried: Heilly Station Cemetery, Mericourt l'Abbe, Somme, France. II.E.13.

1939-1945

BEAMEN Robert Carlton
No details held

BULPITT Hugh Macpherson
Midshipman (A): Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, H.M.S. "Ark Royal."
Missing in action 19th August 1941. Aged 19.
Son of William and Jenny Bulpitt of Edgbaston, Birmingham.
Memorial: Lee-on-Solent Memorial, Hampshire. Bay 2 Panel 7.

COULTAS Derek Michael
256990 Lieutenant: 86th (The Hertfordshire Yeomanry) Field Regiment,
Royal Artillery.
Died 22nd April 1945. Aged 22.
Son of Harold Wilberforce Coultas and Evelyn Kate Coultas of
Harborne, Birmingham. BA (Hons.) Birmingham. Research Scholar.
Buried: Becklingen War Cemetery, Soltau, Niedersachsen,
Germany. 3.J.11.

DINGLEY Richard Norman Aitken
117109 Captain: 1st Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment.
Died 27th June 1944. Aged 25.
Son of Donald Clive Dingley and Gladys Dingley. Husband of Barbara
Shirley Dingley of Edgbaston, Birmingham.
Buried: St. Manvieu War Cemetery, Cheux, Calvados, France.
V.F.20.

HATHAWAY Malcolm Rex
C/JX 358860 Ordinary Telegraphist: H.M.S. "Brighton" 71.
Died 30th January 1943.
Buried: Birmingham (Lodge Hill) Cemetery. Plot A2, Grave 201.

PAIN Charles Alan
123001 Flight Lieutenant (Pilot): Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.
Died 16th July 1944. Aged 22.
Son of John and Olive Pain of Edgbaston, Birmingham.
Buried: Reykjavik (Fossrogur) Cemetery, Iceland. C49.2.

PAIN Geoffrey Wyndham **DFC**
108150 Flying Officer: 221 Squadron, Royal Air Force Volunteer
Reserve.
Missing in action 18th April 1943. Aged 25.
Son of John and Olive Pain of Edgbaston, Birmingham.
Memorial: Malta Memorial, Floriana, Malta. Panel 6, Column 2.

POTTS Gordon Francis Alan
63712 Lieutenant: 8th Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment.
Died 21st May 1940. Aged 33.
Son of William Alexander Potts and Florence Potts. MA (Hons.) Oxon.
His brother Michael died on the same day and is buried nearby at
Bruyelle (see below). Killed holding the line of the Scheldt on the
Retreat to Dunkirk.
Buried: Calonne Communal Cemetery, Antoing, Hainault,
Belgium. Row E, Grave 8.

POTTS Michael Stuart
72545 Captain: Royal Artillery.
Died 21st May 1940. Aged 29.
Son of William Alexander Potts and Florence Potts. BA Cantab.
Freeman of the City of London.
Buried: Bruyelle War Cemetery, Antoing, Hainault, Belgium.
I.A.27.

ROGERS John Rupert
42531 Pilot Officer (Pilot): Royal Air Force.
Died 28th September 1939. Aged 23.
Son of Rupert James and Emily Minnie Rogers of Edgbaston,
Birmingham.
Buried: Birmingham (Lodge Hill) Cemetery. Plot A2, Grave 345.

SAVAGE George Douglas
962599 Sergeant: 150 Squadron, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve.
Missing in action 11th February 1942. Aged 22.
Son of George Albert Grenville Savage and Dorothy Mary Savage of
Edgbaston, Birmingham. Husband of Peggy Evelyn Savage.
Memorial: Runnymede Memorial, Surrey. Panel 93.