

FOUR CEMETERIES AND A WAR

OCTOBER – DECEMBER 1914

ISSUE 2

Salford Battalion

Recruiting for Salford battalion, Lancashire Fusiliers, have enrolled over 660 men since September 14th (R. 10.10.1914)

The battalion is just short of its establishment of 1,100 men. Lord Derby, the battalion's honorary Colonel who will be visiting Manchester next week and he will be invited to inspect the battalion. (MEN 17.10.1914)

The recruits forming the Salford Battalion of Kitchener's Army attended Divine service at Christ Church Salford, yesterday afternoon. The men had assembled at Broughton Town Hall and Broadway and then marched to the Church. The men who were Roman Catholics attended St. John's Cathedral. All the marches were met by cheers from the crowds watching. (M.C. 26.10.1914)

The first Salford Battalion is now complete, and enrolment begun for a second Battalion. (MC 31.10.1914)

The call for men.

Our King and country are calling for another 100,000 men for the New Armies and the manhood and patriotism will supply them. The moment, remarks the *Pall Mall Gazette*, is propitious. We have all now seen the glorious rally of the Empire to the Flag; we have read of the valour and success of its soldiers; and we have realised that Germany has failed. But it will not suffice merely to stop her. She must be beaten back.

Not only King and country are calling to the high emprise, but Europe and civilisation. (R 7.11.14)

Oliver Cromwell volunteers!

Among the recruits this week was a man called Oliver Cromwell, a farm labourer from Cadishead. He did not claim any relationship to the famous man but promised to keep the distinguished name unsullied. At least another dozen men from the same street, Whitfield Street have also volunteered. (EPJ 20.11.1914)

Salford 2nd Battalion

Recruiting for the 2nd Salford battalion of the Lancashire Fusiliers was completed by Friday 20th and the 1st battalion had received their uniforms and overcoats (R. 28.11.14)

Local men

Eccles man Fred Carson, whose parents live in Alma Street, is reported missing.

He was serving with the 1st Battalion Cheshire Regiment who suffered high loss. (EJP 2.10.1914)

Another Eccles man Stanley Grover, a corporal in 1st Battalion Cheshire Regiment is a prisoner of war.

He was reported missing after the battle of Mons. (EJP 2.10.1914)

Salford man, Pt. Charles Moroney, 2nd battalion Lancashire Fusiliers has been reported killed in action.

His wife and young child reside at 10 Sandywell, Greengate. Charles was 23 years of age. (R.28.11.14)

Frank Baber, Stoker 1st class; of Gledhill Street, Salford; served in the navy for five years.

He was killed in action when his ship HMS Monmouth was sunk while in battle.

In August 1914 HMS Monmouth joined the 5th Cruiser Squadron and sailed for the South East Coast of America.

On 1 November 1914 off Coronel, Chile, HMS Monmouth in company with HMS Good Hope and HMS Glasgow engaged Germany's Von Spee's much more powerful Pacific squadron; Monmouth fought courageously before being finally overwhelmed and sunk by the German cruiser Nurnburg with the loss of all hands (R 28.11.14)

Mrs. Price of Blackley Street Swinton, reports she has received communication from her son.

Clifford Price is with the 11th battery Royal Field Artillery and says that he is once again in England, but on crutches.

He is at Preston barracks in Brighton and gives no details of his injury but adds 'we had it awful at the front'.

(EPJ 4.12.14)

No Christmas Truce

The 'Journal de Genève' publishes a despatch from Munich declaring that the Pope has abandoned the idea of proposing an armistice for Christmas, having learned as a result of preliminary inquiries that the proposition would not be favourably received by the belligerents. (MC 29.11.14)

Commonwealth gifts to the motherland this week

Canada

Two war vessels
Full division of 22,000 men
One infantry battalion
Manitoba unit of 1000 men
New Brunswick unit of 1000 men
Calgary unit of 12000 men
A second expeditionary force being organised

Newfoundland

1000 navel reserves

Australia

The Australian Navy
Expeditionary force of 22,000 men
One infantry battalion
One light horse brigade

New Zealand

10,000 men
200 Maoris

Supplies

Canada

1,000,000 bags of flour
500,000 bushels Alberta Oats
100,000 Nova Scotia coal
100,000 bushels Oats (Prince Edward Island)
4,000,000 pounds of cheese (Quebec)
Quantities of cheese and hay (Prince Edward Island)
250,000 bags of flour (Ontario)

South Rhodesia

Maize

Australia

1,000 gallons port wine
Beef
Bacon
Butter

Barbados

£20,000 (£1.6m now)

British Guiana

1,000 tonnes sugar

Falkland Isles

£3,000 (£242,000 now)

Jamaica

Sugar

Leeward Isles

£5,000 (£403,000 now)

Mauritius

1,000,000 pounds of sugar

South Rhodesia

Maize

(Aberdeen Journal 12.10.14)

Commonwealth Troops

Senator Pearce, Commonwealth Minister of Defence states that the number of Australian troops on the way to England or in training is 40,000.

There will also 56,000 active military and nearly 50,000 reserves and new troops available in the New Year.

(Times 26.11.14)

The first contingent of Canadian troops has arrived at Southampton.

They will go to an in land camp for active service training. (Daily Mirror 9.10.14)

Mr. Borden, Premier of Canada has authorised the publication of the announcement that Canada will immediately enlist 30,000 additional volunteers who will be despatched to England in groups of 10,000. (Birmingham Daily Mail 19.10.14)

Troops left New Zealand bound for England on October 16th; however this was changed when the Ottoman Empire (Turkey) entered the war on the German side.

New Zealand and Australian troop ships on route to England were sent to Egypt. In Egypt they were complete their training before being sent to the Gallipoli Peninsula.

India has sent two cavalry and two infantry divisions to Europe.

The force known as Indian Expeditionary Force 'A' was under the command of General Sir James Willcocks.

They arrived in Marseilles on 30 September 1914, only six weeks after the declaration of war, they were moved to the Ypres Salient and took part in the Battle of La Bassée in October 1914.

Chronology of the War

1 st October	Battle of Arras
5 th October	First German aircraft shot down by Allied plane
15 th October	Battle of Ypres
16 th October	Canadian troops arrive in England
29 th October	Turkey joins Germany and the Central Powers
21 st November	Anglo – Indian troops invade Mesopotamia
16 th December	East Coast Towns bombarded by German naval fleet
21 st December	German MF-11 planes carry out first night bombing raids
25 th December	Christmas truce on western front

First British merchantman sunk

On 20 October, 1914, Glitra was outbound from Grangemouth with a destination of Stavanger, Norway laden with coal, iron plate and oil when she was stopped and searched by the German U-Boat 'U17', under the command of Kapitänleutnant Johannes Feldkirchener. The 'stop and search' was done in accordance with the "prize rules" of war. The crew were ordered into the lifeboats, and once all were safely aboard the captors opened the sea valves and scuttled Glitra.

As U17 searched and scuttled Glitra the two vessels were being observed a Royal Norwegian Navy torpedo boat on neutrality protection duties.

East Coast Towns bombarded

On December 16th the War Office report that four German cruisers shelled Hull, Scarborough, Whitby, Hartlepool and Redcar. Many houses and shops were damaged as well as some damage at railway stations.

The Germans also laid mines in some inshore waters.

The Germans were driven off.

There were over 700 casualties reported in Whitby and Hartlepool. (Dundee Evening Telegraph 16.12.1914)

A powerful German naval battle group negotiated the hazardous minefields of the North Sea.

The targets being the coastal towns of Scarborough and Hartlepool.

By early morning the battle group had divided; three battle cruisers steaming north, two battle cruisers and a light cruiser steaming south.

At 8am on Wednesday 16th December 1914, and far removed from the battlefields of the Western Front death had come calling on the defenceless seaside town.

18 people fell victim to the German attack, either killed instantly, as in the case of the 14-month-old baby boy John Shields Ryalls, or who died later as a result of their wounds like shoemaker Henry Harland.

Panic drove people from their homes; fear forced them to flee the town in all directions, whilst the sparse smattering of freshly recruited 'Territorials' in the town tried to help the injured and wounded at the railway station.

Some 15 minutes or so later there was a brief calm as the ships steaming southward turned northwards and commenced firing again.

The attack lasted some 30 minutes

About 9am Whitby felt the weight of the German broadsides as they steamed past the quiet fishing port heading for a rendezvous with the rest of their battle group who had attacked Hartlepool.

This was the first attack on British soil since the start of the Great War and would not be the last.

Young men in their droves rushed to their local recruitment offices to 'avenge' Scarborough, Whitby and Hartlepool.

As Britain mourned her dead and questions were asked in Parliament about the whereabouts of the mighty Royal Navy, Germany struck a commemorative medal of the raids.

In just 30 minutes on that cold December morning in 1914, the Great War had finally become a harsh and bitter reality for the people of Scarborough and Whitby. (Mark Marsay, Scarborough author)

The attack on the Hartlepool

Only Hartlepool was defended, both by the batteries and naval vessels and a full scale engagement developed in which much property was damaged along with 101 civilians (37 children), 9 soldiers, 4 sailors and 9 German seamen killed.

The attack on the Hartlepool took forty minutes, from 8.10am to 8.50am.

The Hartlepool was attacked by three German warships, Seydlitz, Moltke and Blucher.

The German warships fired 1150 shells into the Hartlepool.

The Hartlepool Batteries returned fire with 123 shells with precision accuracy.

Private Theo Jones was the first soldier killed during the bombardment.

This made him the first soldier to be killed on British soil in the First World War.

Seventeen-year-old Hilda Horsley was the first civilian to be killed during the bombardment.

She was also the first casualty on British soil in the First World War.

127 people were killed in both towns in the attack, including soldiers.

400 people were wounded in both Hartlepool towns in the attack.

The men of the Durham Royal Garrison Artillery and the Durham Light Infantry were stationed at the Heugh Battery., under the command of Lt. Colonel Lancelot Robson.

Britain at the time had the best navel fleet in the world. (Heugh Battery Museum, Hartlepool)

Bombs dropped

Shortly before 11am, on December 24th, an aeroplane of the shape of the German Taube machine, was seen flying down the valley, and it dropped a bomb which burst in the kitchen garden of Mr. T. A. Terson, at the end of Leyburne Road.

The bomb was probably meant for the Castle, and where it burst it did no damage beyond breaking adjoining windows and throwing a gardener, named Banks, who was working at St. James's Rectory, out of a tree to the ground, slightly injuring him.

Only the one bomb was dropped, and the aeroplane at once flew back in the direction of the Flanders Coast.

(Dover and The War 1914-18)

There had been another attempt at bombing Dover on December 21st but the bombs fell in the sea.

The War

When this war started it was widely believed that it would be over by this Christmas.

The first five months have seen an initial German attack through Belgium into France, had been stopped outside Paris by French and British troops at the Battle of the Marne in early September 1914.

The Germans fell back to the Aisne valley, where they prepared defensive positions.

In the subsequent Battle of the Aisne, Allied forces were unable to break through the German lines, and the fighting fell into a stalemate; with both developing fortified systems of trenches.

To the north, on the right of the German army, there had been no defined front line, and both sides tried to use this gap to outflank one another; in the ensuing "Race to the Sea"

The two sides repeatedly clashed, each trying to push forward past the others lines.

After several months of fighting, during which the British forces were withdrawn from the Aisne and sent north into Flanders, the northern flank had developed into a similar stalemate.

By November, there was a continuous front line running from the North Sea to the Swiss frontier, occupied on both sides by armies in rough prepared defensive positions

Truce on Western Front?

There are unconfirmed reports of a truce along the western front. Starting on Christmas Eve, many German and British troops sang Christmas carols to each other across the lines, and at certain points the Allied soldiers even heard brass bands joining the Germans in their joyous singing.

At the first light of dawn on Christmas Day, some German soldiers emerged from their trenches and approached the Allied lines across no-man's-land, calling out "Merry Christmas" in their enemies' native tongues.

At first, the Allied soldiers feared it was a trick, but seeing the Germans unarmed they climbed out of their trenches and shook hands with the enemy soldiers.

The men exchanged presents of cigarettes and plum puddings and sang carols and songs.

There was even a documented case of soldiers from opposing sides playing a good-natured game of football.

Some soldiers used this short-lived ceasefire for a more sombre task: the retrieval of the bodies of fellow combatants who had fallen within the no-man's land between the lines.

Doctor to local soldiers by Sue Tydd

Doctor William Fitzwilliam O'Grady was born to Terence O'Grady and Ann Frances Goggin in Tralee, County Kerry in 1852, he passed away on the 23rd November 1914.

O'Grady studied medicine at the Royal College of Physicians And Surgeons in Dublin.

Upon conclusion of his studies in the mid 1870's he moved to England and gained his initial qualified position as a junior medical officer at the New Bridge Street Workhouse Hospital in Manchester, providing free treatment for those who would not otherwise be able to afford it. He worked there for five years up until 1879 when he acquired the post of Medical Officer at the Swinton Industrial Schools, another establishment under the authority of the Manchester Union, where he skilfully cared for the school staff as well as the inmates.

His early years in Swinton were spent in lodgings on Manchester Road until in 1885 when he moved into the newly built Stoneacre. The splendid dwelling of 87 Chorley Road comprising of family accommodation and the doctor's consultation rooms, designed by John Langham an architect with offices in Albert Square, Manchester.

Langham later co-designed Manchester's London Road Fire Station; the two men remained lifelong friends.

Having now established himself in the suburbs as a general practitioner a role that complimented his obligations at the industrial school he decided to consider a wife.

In 1886 William O'Grady married Blanche Kathleen Goggin, a clergyman's daughter from Rufford.

Her father a Tralee man and cousin to O'Grady's mother performed the wedding ceremony.

The marriage produced two sons.

For countless years O'Grady was a committed participant of the 1st Volunteer Battalion of the Manchester Regiment, holding the role of Surgeon to "F" Swinton Company. In 1900 alongside Surgeon Lieutenant Orr; a doctor from Ellesmere Park he was instrumental in training and securing several ambulance men from Swinton to serve in the Bearer Companies of the Royal Army Medical Corps for the duration of the Boer War.

In 1908 he achieved promotion to Surgeon Major and in 1912 received the Territorial Officers Decoration for long and effective service.

His last official military appointment commenced in July 1914 as medical officer for the Army and Special Reserves for Swinton and Pendlebury in readiness for the inevitable outbreak of war and influx of volunteer recruits.

The doctor was also an active member of the Egerton Lodge of Freemasons since the lodge inauguration in the mid 1880's, being a past master and in his later years held the honourable post of Provincial Grand Senior Deacon of West Lancashire.

In 1904 O'Grady relinquished his duties at the Industrial School to devote more time to his general practice.

The responsibilities of a town doctor grew dramatically with the introduction of the National Insurance Act of 1911 which gave the working classes the first opportunity to insure themselves against illness and secure the services of a doctor away from the confines of the Workhouse



Dr Gorman

It was believed this ever increasing work load and extended working hours contributed to the doctors declining health, already weakened after a severe illness contracted a few years earlier whilst on an annual summer training camp with the Manchester Regiment on Salisbury Plain. As the doctor's condition deteriorated further he came under the care of Doctor Scowby whose house and surgery "Windward" stood on Worsley Road near the Worsley boundary. Scowby was expertly assisted by Doctor Cox and Professor Wild from Manchester. On the day of his death O'Grady felt strong enough to sit in a bedside chair and read a letter received that morning from his eldest son James Fitzwilliam O'Grady, a Lieutenant with the 7th Lancashire Fusiliers serving in Egypt. Having discussed the letter with his wife he passed peacefully away shortly after. At the request of Lieutenant O'Grady his father's surgery would be kept open until his return from war duty.

In April 1915 James was wounded during the Gallipoli Campaign, evacuated to Malta he made a complete recovery. In the later stages of the war he held the post of commanding officer for the 12th (2nd Western) General Hospital. He finally returned home to 'Stoneacre' becoming an anaesthetist at the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital and held additional private consultation rooms on Mill Brow, Worsley.

The extraordinary regard Doctor O'Grady held in the region was unmistakable at his funeral.

From 'Stoneacre' to St. Peters Church local people lined the route to show their respect, curtains remained drawn at numerous houses. The Industrial School where the doctor served faithfully for so many years flew its flag at half-mast. The Reverend Haywood conducted the service in front of a considerable congregation gathered to pay their final respects. Afterwards an oak coffin draped in the Union Jack with the doctor's military cap and sword placed on top was transported by car for internment at Swinton Cemetery.

Surgeon Major William Fitzwilliam O'Grady left a substantial estate of £10,388. (About £840,000 today)

This quarter the following are remembered on a headstone at: - Weaste Cemetery

								Weaste	
Surname	Christian name	Age	Date	Service number	Rank	Unit	CWG Memorial	Plot	Grave
Bailey	William	33	10-Oct-1914	15750	Private	Loyal North Lancashire Regt (10th)	Seaford (Sussex)	J	1032
Dilworth	John T.T	32	11-Oct-1914	233	Sergeant	Lancashire Fusiliers (1/7th)	Cairo	H	2894
Craig	William	30	24-Oct-1914	6967	Private	Cameroon Highlanders (1st)	Ypres	H	1697
Spears	Robert	30	26-Oct-1914		Chief Steward	Mercantile Marine (S.S. Manchester Commerce)	Tower Hill	F	1186
Hardy	Robert	29	15-Nov-1914	8076	Lance Corporal	King's Own Lancaster Regt	Weaste	F	667
Hickling	Harry	30	19-Nov-1914	9961	Private	Manchester Regt (2nd)	Brighton	32	2770
Bradshaw	Walter	44	20-Nov-1914	6485	Corporal	Lancashire Fusiliers	Weaste	M	668
Stott	Ellis	21	26-Nov-1914	M/ 5192	Carpenter's crew	Royal Navy (HMS Bullwark)	Portsmouth	H	3017
Deakin	William	34	21-Dec-1914	6125	Sergeant	Manchester Regt (1st)	Le Touret	J	2917
Percival	Ernest J	28	21-Dec-1914	7262	Corporal	Manchester Regt (1st)	Le Touret	B19	601
Taylor	William		25-Dec-1914	2147	Private	Manchester Regt (1st)	Beuvry	F	272T

Robert Spears, was Chief Steward on "SS Manchester Commerce"

The ship was owned by Manchester Liners and was the first merchant ship to be sunk by a mine in the War.

It had set sail from Manchester, bound for Quebec City in Canada, when it hit the mine 20 miles north of Tory Island, (off the north west tip of Ireland), on 26th October 1914.

The captain and 13 members of the crew of 44 perished, including Chief Steward Robert Spears.

Robert was born in 1879 in Ancoats, Manchester.

His parents were Robert Spears (Warehouseman) and Frances (nee Spooner).

He married Amy Harrison on 17th June 1905 at St Luke's Church, Weaste.

She was the daughter of Benjamin R Harrison (Plumber), a spinster, aged 22 and living at 61 Seedley Park Road.

Robert was aged 25 and living at 31 Harmsworth Street.

Sadly, Amy died in 1908.

However, on 29th June 1912, Robert married Amy's elder sister Bertha Harrison at All Saints Church, Weaste.

Bertha was a spinster aged 31 and Robert was aged 32.

Both their addresses were given as 51 Weaste Road.

The "SS Manchester Commerce" was a 5,363 ton cargo vessel built by Furness, Withy and Co of West Hartlepool in 1899.

It ran into the minefield laid by the North German Lloyd liner "Berlin" and sank on 26th October 1914.

Unfortunately, owing to the nearby coastguard station not possessing telegraphic communications, it was not possible to inform the Admiralty of the steamship's loss at once.

Subsequently a battle squadron had steamed into the minefield and the battleship HMS Audacious struck a mine and was lost.

The Admiralty received the following telegram from the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, "Mine field reported 20 miles north of Tory Island, extent unknown. Warn all outward bound ships to make Skerryvore Lighthouse before going westward."

The Admiralty responded by warning all shipping passing around the north of Ireland that German mines had been laid. All shipping should therefore not pass within 60 miles of Tory Island.

A Lloyd's telegram from Belfast states that a Fleetwood trawler "City of London" had put into Carnlough Bay, Co. Antrim yesterday morning and reported having picked up 30 of the crew of 44 of the "SS Manchester Commerce".

The captain and 13 men perished.

The survivors are going to Fleetwood on the trawler.

He is remembered on the Mercantile Marine Memorial at Tower Hill and in plot F at Weaste

The family headstone states: 'Not my will but thine O Lord'

William Craig was born in Pendleton in 1884. His father, Andrew Craig, was a Blacksmith, and he and his mother Elizabeth, were both born in Scotland. William's siblings were Elizabeth born 1877, Andrew born 1878, Alexander born 1881 and Margaret born 1887.

William, at the outbreak, of war was employed by the Lancashire & Yorkshire railway.

It is not clear when William joined the Cameron Highlanders, but by 1911 he is stationed at Baird Barracks, Bangalore in India. His father had died in 1908 and his widowed mother was living at 40, Shawcross Street, Pendleton.

The First Battalion Cameron Highlanders had returned home and was in Edinburgh when war broke out in August 1914.

They proceeded to France with the British Expeditionary Force, landing at Le Havre on 14th August 1914.

On 5th September they joined the 1st Brigade in 1st Division and saw action at the Battle of Mons, The Battle of the Marne, the Battle of Aisne, the Actions on the Aisne Heights and the Battle of Ypres.

This latter battle was fought around the strategic west Belgian town of Ypres in October and November 1914.

The Allies were trying to secure the English Channel ports to ensure supply lines from England.

Ypres was the last major obstacle to the German advance on Boulogne and Calais.

The opposing armies both engaged in offensive operations until the major German offensive occurred in mid October, which forced the Allies onto a strategic defensive position which limited them to counter-attacks.

The result was a victory for the Allies, although losses were particularly heavy on both sides.

William Craig was killed in action early in the battle, on 24th October; he was 30 years of age.

He is remembered at the CWG at Ypres and on the family headstone in plot H at Weaste

(William's elder brother Andrew Craig was killed in action the following year on 10th May 1915, aged 37 years old and is also commemorated at Ypres)

William Taylor was wounded in action on 21st December, action during the battle at Givenchy

He died from the wounds on Christmas day.

His father, Thomas, ran the 'Druids Arms' pub on Ordsall Lane.

He joined the army in August 1910 and his regiment left for India on New Years Eve 1912.

When war broke out the Manchester's were sent to the fighting in France via Cairo.

His letters come were always of a personal nature, rarely mentioning the war.

He was always asking for matches which could not be obtained over there.

William was born in Mark Addys boathouse in Everard Street and attended St Bartholomew's school in Tatton Street.

His brother Eli was a well known swimmer who captained St Cyprians' swimming club and was also a member of

Mark Addys swimming club. His father, Thomas was a boatman for the Nemeses rowing club for over 20 years.

Thomas also saved about 20 lives of people struggling in the River Irwell.

In 1894 he was awarded the Royal Humane Society medal for live saving.

He is remembered at the CWG memorial at Beuvry and on the family headstone in plot F at Weaste

It states: "When the roll is called

Up yonder he will be there".

William Deakin, was killed in action during the battle at Givenchy.

His parents live in Windsor Avenue; Pte Pendlebury writing to them stating William had been killed in action.

William had previously served for 8 years with the Manchester's and was with the 2nd battalion in South Africa where he reached the rank of sergeant while only 20 years of age. On returning to England he then went to Singapore with the 1st battalion and then on the India about a year later. They stayed in India for nearly 5 years.

He was with the Reserves when war broke out.

During his time with the reserves he worked for Salford tramways as a cab driver.

He is remembered at the CWG memorial at Le Touret and on the family headstone in plot J at Weaste

Ellis Stott was killed whilst aboard HMS Bulwark which was moored at number 17 buoy Kethole Reach on the River Medway almost opposite Sheerness on the Isle of Sheppey in Kent.

The ship was part of the 5th Battle Squadron and had been moored up for several days and most of her crew had been on leave the previous day but the full ships complement had been back on board by 7am.

The ship crew were going about the normal duties, some having breakfast, some men having drill and the band were practising.

At 7:25am what happened next was reported to the newspapers by a rating on a nearby ship:

I was at breakfast when I heard an explosion.

My first impression was that the report was caused by a salute being fired by one of the ships.

When I got up on deck I saw that something awful had happened, the sky and water were obscured by vast volumes of smoke.

We were ordered to the scene to try and help but were horrified to find that the battleship 'Bulwark' had gone.

As some of the smoke cleared we saw a four foot section above the water.

We could only see two men.

Only 14 men survived. Two of these later died in hospital. 736 other members of the crew died

The internal explosion was thought to been caused by storing cordite too close to a boiler room bulkhead.

He is remembered on CWG memorial at Portsmouth and on the family tablet stone 3017 in plot h at Weaste.

Ellis's brother John is also in the Royal Navy.

His family posted the following in the Manchester Evening News

Stott: In loving memory of our dear son, Ellis STOTT age 21,
 Carpenters crew HMS Bulwark
 who lost his live on November 26th
 Not once or twice in our fair island story
 The path of duty was the way to glory

William Bailey enlisted in the Army in Salford and was posted to the 10th Battalion, Loyal North Lancashire Regiment based in Preston. He was accidentally killed as he was being trained in Sussex on 10th October 1914, only nine days after the formation of the battalion.

William was born in Salford in 1881.

He was the son of Thomas Bailey, a Boatman, born in Salford in 1859 and Rachel (nee Huntington), born 1861 in Salford.

His parents were married on 4th April 1881 at St Bartholomew's Church, Salford.

Thomas was aged 22 and living at 91 Bigland Street and Rachel was aged 20 and living at 48 Wilburn Street.

Thomas's father William Bailey, was a Boatman and Rachel's father Henry Huntington, was also a Boatman.

In 1891, the family was living at 13, West Duke Street, Salford. Thomas was aged 32 and Rachel was 30.

Their children were William age 10, Henry aged 9, Mary H. aged 7, Esther aged 5, Richard aged 3 and Joseph aged 2 months.

By 1901, William was a Canal Boatman aged 19, his father Thomas had died, they were still living at 13 West Duke Street, and there were two more children James aged 8 and Thomas aged 1.

In 1911, William was aged 29, Boatman, and still living with his widowed mother, and younger siblings, now at 54 Hampson Street, Salford.

Mary H. aged 26 was a hooker and stitcher, Esther aged 24 was a French Polisher, Richard aged 24 was a Wood Box Maker, Joseph aged 20 was a Disengager Coal Heaver, James aged 17 was a Warehouse Clerk and young Thomas was aged 11 and a Scholar.

William's brother Henry, also a Boatman had married Florence Currans in 1907 and was living at 10 Ordsall Lane, Salford with their 1 year old daughter Esther.

The Loyal North Lancashire Regiment was formed in 1881 with the amalgamation of several Lancashire regiments and militia, with headquarters at Fulwood, Preston.

In 1899 the Loyal Regiment was posted to South Africa and played its part in the Boer War.

In 1914 the Regiment raised a number of extra war service Battalions including the 10th, which was formed in Preston on 1st October 1914, as part of K3 and attached as Army Troops to the 22nd Division. William Bailey was assigned to the 10th Battalion, which was sent for training to the South Downs and Eastbourne.

On 10th October, William was killed in a training accident and was buried at Seaford Cemetery.

He is also remembered on the family grave J 1032 in Weaste Cemetery, Salford.

Ernest Joseph Percival, was killed in action at the Battle of Givenchy in northern France on 21st December 1914.

Ernest was born in St Andrew's Street, Manchester, (rear of Piccadilly Railway Station) in 1886.

His parents were James (a boot and shoe Dealer) and Margaret Percival.

In the 1901 census, Ernest was described as a Boot seller's office boy, aged 14 and living with his married sister Amy Hancock at 33 Heaton Street, Broughton.

In 1911, Ernest was a Drummer with the 1st Battalion, Manchester Regiment stationed at Kamptee, near Nagpur in central India.

The Manchester Regiment was formed in 1881 by merging the 63rd and 96th Regiments of Foot.

The 63rd, which was formed in 1758 became the 1st Battalion and the 96th formed in 1824, became the 2nd Battalion.

At the outbreak of WW1, Ernest and the 1st Battalion were in Jullundur, India, being part of the 8th (Jullundur) Brigade in 3rd (Lahore) Division.

The Division left India on 29th August 1914 as part of the Indian Corps and moved to France, landing at Marseilles on 26th September.

They were briefly attached to French Cavalry before being moved to the Front line on 26th October to join the 2nd Battalion Manchester Regiment at Festubert, in northern France in the Pas-de-Calais.

With the French under heavy pressure at Arras, the 1st Manchesters took part in the Battle of Givenchy (18th to 22nd December). This was part of the First Battle of Champagne, that saw an initially advancing British Force face strong opposition and counter-attack from a solidly entrenched German force around the village of Givenchy.

Douglas Haig pitted his wits against Crown Prince Rupprecht of Germany.

British casualties (dead and wounded) were twice those of the Germans at 4,000 as opposed to 2,000.

It was here on 21st December that Corporal Ernest Joseph Percival was killed in action and buried at Le Touret Cemetery, aged 28.

The men of the India Corps began burying their fallen comrades at the Le Touret site in November

This quarter the following are remembered on a headstone at: - Peel Green Cemetery

								Peel Green	
Surname	Christian name	Age	Date	Service number	Rank	Unit	CWG Memorial	Plot	Grave
Prunnell	Harry	20	26-Oct-1914	10666	Private	2 nd Batt Border Regiment	Ypres	A	2950d
Cotterill	Joseph	46	6-Nov-1914		Lieutenant	1 st Batt Manchester Regiment		L	19460
Cotterill	William F	19	17-Nov-1914	2719	Private	2 nd Batt Manchester Regiment	Kandahar Farm	L	19460



Harry Prunnell who lived with his parents at Knowsley Avenue Eccles was killed in action in France on 26th October.

Before enlisting Harry was a weaver at the Industrial Manufacturing Society Works.

The 2nd battalion Border Regiment took heavy losses during a battle in which they acquitted themselves gallantly.

The battalion held off for several hours before driving the enemy from the woods by the relieving troops. Harry is remembered on the CWG memorial at Ypres and on the family headstone at Peel Green Cemetery

Joseph Cotterill, who lived in Lansdown Road Monton died on November 6th.

He was sent home from a military hospital in Eastbourne suffering an incurable illness.

Joseph worked as a commissionaire at British Petroleum Company in Eccles and re-enlisted at the out break of war.

He was previously a private but was immediately promoted to Quarter Master in the Manchester Regiment with the honorary rank of Lieutenant. He was an instructor at Flixton with the 1st Manchester Volunteer Battalion.

His military funeral at Peel Green was attended by a large number of people including about 75 officers and men from the Ashton barracks. Six of these officers acting as coffin bearers.

The military escort fired three rounds at the graveside and the 'last post' was played.

He leaves four sons, two of whom are fighting at the front and while the two younger ones are in military school.

Joseph is remembered on the family headstone at Peel Green Cemetery

William Cotterill, the son of the above was killed in action on 17th November.

William was born in Preston and enlisted in Ashton under Lyne.

He is remembered on CWG memorial at Kandahar Farm and on the family headstone at Peel Green Cemetery

This quarter the following are remembered on a headstone at: - Agecroft Cemetery

								Agecroft	
Surname	Christian name	Age	Date	Service number	Rank	Unit	CWG Memorial	Plot	Grave
Linney	James		3-Nov-1914	2975	Private	1 st /8 th Batt Lancashire Fusiliers	Agecroft	26	281
Thompson	Edward	24	28-Oct-1914	1289	Private	1 st Batt Manchester Regiment			

Can you help us?

Do you have stories of relatives, who died during the Great War, and are remembered on a headstone in a Salford Cemetery?

We would like to hear from you.

Please contact on of the following

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