



Awards Records from the Ilkley Gazette

World War II

Contents

FOREWORD	1
----------------	---

Ambler, D.L.	3
Appleyard, F.W.	4
Armitage, Brian Simpson	5
Baldwin, Ian B.	6
Boden, Colin E.	7
Braithwaite, Denys A.	9
Carter, Ewart (Boy) G.	10
Carter, Michael.....	11
Chandler, J. W.....	12
Coffey, W. M.....	13
Cooke, John Kemp Michael	14
Cooper, Douglas J.A.....	15
Crawford, J.H.....	16
Cunliffe, Roy	18
Curtis, Basil Arthur	19
Dainty, Frederick William	20
Denby, R.K.....	21
Dobson, Miss Doreen	22
Ferris, R.J.L.....	23
Fisher, Dr. J.D.	24

Fletcher, Michael G.H.....	25
Flood, Herbert.....	26
Fox, George William.....	27
Furness, Geoffrey.....	28
Gaunt, D.M.....	29
Green, Reginald William John.....	30
Gubbins, Colin.....	31
Hardy, Jack.....	32
Hatfield, Hubert.....	33
Heap, John M.....	34
Hornshaw, J.W.....	35
Hudson, John Philip.....	36
Hughes, Austin E.....	37
Ingram, J.C.....	38
Jackson, E.....	39
Knox, John.....	40
Laurence, Robert Cecil.....	41
Lawrence, William A.....	42
Laycock, Peter.....	44
Leather, F.B.....	45
Lightbody, J.J.....	46
Lister, J.....	47
Lucas, W.G.....	48
Mackenzie, J.W.J.....	49

Macmillan, Mrs Frances	50
Mammatt, John E.....	51
Maufe, G.H.....	52
Maufe, Thomas Harold Broadbent	53
Monk, Adrian D.	54
Morton, Charles Roger.....	55
Nicholls, Francis James	56
Oddy, Frank	57
Pepper, H.G.	58
Petrie, Paul D.....	59
Pye-Smith, Mary Audrey	60
Rabagliati, Alexander Coultate	61
Reed, James O.....	62
Rhodes, G.E.....	63
Robbins, Ernest.....	64
Runton, Kathleen Ryder.....	65
Ruperti, D.	66
Sallitt, William Baines	67
Scott, Katie	68
Sharpe, Ivan.....	69
Stawell-Crosse, Robert Dereck	70
Stephenson, J.A.	71
Suddards, G.E.....	72
Tanfield, D.J.....	74

Tetley, William Abbotson	75
Vallendar, Phillip	76
Verity, Maud.....	77
Waddilove, Douglas E.....	78
Waddilove, Ernest.....	79
Walker, Arthur Cecil.....	80
Whitaker, C.N.	82
Whiteley, J.P.	83
Wilson, Arthur Tanfield	84

FOREWORD

By 1914 the Ilkley Gazette had been in print for over 60 years – commencing in May 1861, although archival records only date from January 1868. The paper in peacetime not only covered local news but aspects of national and international news.

During the First World War a few more photographs began to appear and there were accounts of the achievements of the living and dead on the battlefields of Europe, and the Middle East; at sea globally; and increasingly the activities of Ilkley personnel in the Royal Flying Corps (later the RAF).

Adverts were rather sparse, but there were regular messages from government sources. Sport and items of interest to women and children were included along with increasing acknowledgement of women's role in the War. The stories of refugees from war-torn Belgium in Ilkley were covered regularly.

Ilkley even in Wartime was seen as a place to holiday, convalesce, walk the Moors, to take the waters and breathe in unpolluted air. People in the pre-radio era relied on the local papers for a great deal of varied information; and the picture houses also played their part.

I wish to thank Newsquest (Yorkshire and North East) Ltd., various editors and all the staff at the offices of the Ilkley Gazette for their support over the three years of my archival research from the original papers. To Craven Stationery very many thanks for all their hard work on my behalf and Jonathan White, Addingham for proof reading the draft copies. I also wish to thank Tim Howson from Ben Rhydding who has in a very effective and painstaking way word processed all my work on this lengthy project about Ilkley in Wartime. Thanks are also

due to Ilkley and Skipton public libraries (for utilising past copies of the Craven Herald).

Richard Thackrah has been a resident of Ilkley for two spells over the last six decades. He gained his degrees in History, Geography and Education and has taught in primary, secondary and adult education. He has written textbooks reference books and general interest books, including a “Guide to Ilkley” and “Victorian Yorkshire” both published by the “Dalesman” and articles and short pieces for the “Ilkley Gazette”.

Tim Howson worked in the Information Technology sector for a prolonged spell after a Masters in Computing from Bradford University. Since then he has gained a Masters in Conservation and Land Management, from Bangor University, and works part-time in moorland restoration but still keeps up to date with technology and put together the database these booklets have been based on. He is currently a committee member and the webmaster for the Wharfedale Naturalists’ Society.

Richard Thackrah (www.ainola.co.uk)

Ambler, D.L.

Age:

25

Rank:

Capt (Later Major)

Regiment:

Duke of Wellington Regiment (West Riding)

Awards:

Promotion

War Regions:

India; Burma

Experience:

IG 18/6/43; 2/6/44.

Member of Ilkley Rugby and Cricket clubs.

Initially joined the Duke of Wellington Regiment in 1939, and he was commissioned afterwards. He was evacuated from Dunkirk and then overseas again in 1941 to Burma, where, in desperate fighting in rearguard blowing up bridges, every man for himself, he was transferred 600 miles, in shocking conditions, to escape Japanese advance. He was promoted to Major on return to the UK after three and a half years in India (Staff Officer G.S.(1) India Corps H.Q. attached to intelligence).

Appleyard, F.W.

Rank:

Major

Awards:

Croix de Guerre & Palm; Order Chevalier; Order of Leopold II

Pre-war Occupations:

Wool Merchant, Bradford

War Regions:

Africa; France (Normandy); London

Experience:

IG 22/3/46.

Served in WW1 1914 - 1918 in the defence of London in the Blitz. Fought in the African campaign and D Day operations - previously was in despatches.

Armitage, Brian Simpson

Rank:

Sgt

Regiment:

Joint Air Training Plan

Awards:

Promotion

Experience:

IG 3/9/43.

Former Ilkley Air Training Corps, won wings under command with Joint Air Training Plan at Swift Current, Canada. Recruited in 1941 and won wings when 20 and then operational training with the Royal Canadian Air Force as a fighter pilot.

Baldwin, Ian B.

Age:

25

Rank:

Capt

Regiment:

Royal Corps Signals

Awards:

Promotion

Pre-war Occupations:

Phoenix Assurance Co. Ltd., Leeds.

War Regions:

India

Experience:

IG 9/2/45.

Educated at IGS and member of Ilkley RUFC. Joined Royal Corps Signals 1939. Posted to India 3 years previous and promoted to captain 1942. Still in India early 1945.

Boden, Colin E.

Age:

24

Rank:

Major

Regiment:

West Yorks R.E. Searchlights; York & Lancaster Regiment;
Indian Army; 18th Royal Garhwal Rifles

Awards:

MC

Pre-war Occupations:

Foreign branch of National and Provincial Bank, Bradford

War Regions:

Italy; Syria; India; Cyprus; Egypt; Palestine

Experience:

IG 20/4/45. IG 8/6/45.

Colours in rugby, cricket and hockey at Wrekin College and member of cricket and rugby clubs.

Two brothers:

1) Maj John Lee Boden (27), Ghyll Royd + Wells schools + St Peter's School Searchlight Unit RA Eng June 42 and First battallion of Burma.

2) Gunner P.S. Boden (19), Wells School, Wrekin, volunteered for army in December 43 and enrolled in Sept 44 RA Signals Pre war IUDC, worked with Mr. A Skinner the Council Surveyor.

Father won MC in FWW in fighting at Montecorelli, Italy.

By his drive and initiative he forced the enemy to pull out. Major Boden then consolidated taking reserve company under his command, organised the march to the final objective and maintained momentum of attack in such a way that the enemy had no respite. His company repeatedly counter attacked and shelled and Boden maintained cool and complete command of the situation. Largely due to skill in planning and coolness in action of this officer the battalion objective was captured in time. He brought the company to within 100 yards of enemy listening post. Nature of night operation demanded the very greatest skill in execution in maintaining control, but they achieved this through Boden's skilful, resourceful planning.

Braithwaite, Denys A.

Age:

21

Rank:

Sqdn Leader

Awards:

DFC - Awarded for work in meteorology section and large number of flights over Britain and the North Sea & helped his squadron maintain a high standard of efficiency, keenness and courage under difficult circumstances.

Pre-war Occupations:

RAF Coastal Command

Experience:

IG 12/3/43.

Also grandson of Mr and Mrs Albert Braithwaite. Father was MP and Lord Mayor of Leeds 1920 - 21.

Carter, Ewart (Boy) G.

Age:

33

Rank:

Major

Regiment:

69 Field Regiment RA; Territorial Army; 49th (West Riding) Infantry Division; KOYLI

Awards:

MC

Pre-war Occupations:

Carter and Parker, Guiseley (the family firm)

War Regions:

Iceland; Normandy; D Day + 2

Experience:

IG 4/5/45. IG 13/7/45.

Member of Ilkley RUFC and Tennis Club.

His elder sister Mrs Ryder Runton - WRCC + WVS + Regional Evacuation Organisation - awarded OBE in 1941. His younger sister was wife of Wing Commander Garnons-Williams from Breconshire.

Carter, Michael

Age:

29

Rank:

Major

Regiment:

69th Field Regiment

Awards:

MiD for Gallantry in N.W. Europe.

Pre-war Occupations:

Carter and Parker, Guiseley (the family firm)

War Regions:

France (Normandy); Iceland

Experience:

IG 10/5/46.

Joined 69th field regiment in 1938 with Major E.G. Carter MC.
2 years in Iceland 1940 - 1942. Landed on D Day + 1.
Represented Field Regiment R.A. at victory parade in London
8/6/1946.

Chandler, J. W.

Rank:

Battery Sgt Major

Regiment:

8th Leeds Rifles

Awards:

BEM

Pre-war Occupations:

Ilkley representative of James Hargreaves & Sons, coal merchants

War Regions:

England

Experience:

IG 11/1/46.

In various AA units and was a battery Sgt Major from 1942. HAA gunnery instructor at various schools and with Officer Cadets Training Unit. On gunnery staff at AA battery in the Mersey area. His unit destroyed many flying bombs over Southern England in 1944.

Coffey, W. M.

Rank:

Major

Regiment:

RAF - 83

Awards:

MC

Pre-war Occupations:

Chartered Accountant with London firm

War Regions:

Beveland & Walcheren; Reichswald; Geilenkirchen

Experience:

IG 1/2/46.

1939 - 121 Field Regiment (48th division). After a year posted to 125th Officer Cadets Training Unit at Ilkley where he stayed until he went to Camberley. Appointed as Brigade Major RA 52nd Lowland division. Training in mountain warfare and combined ops - division switched to air-portable role so as to act as strategic reserve for the 21st Army Group. Division should have landed at Arnhem but airfield never captured and equipment shipped to Belgium. Its first operation was the capture of South Beveland and Walcheren. Subsequently moved to Maas then to Geilenkirchen and later the Reichswald Forest battle. Division supported 6th Airborne in Rhine crossing and pursuit across N.E. Germany to capture Bremen.

Cooke, John Kemp Michael

Rank:

Acting Sqdn Leader

Regiment:

RAF; Royal Flying Corps

Awards:

DFC awarded 1941; DSO awarded for leadership on distant, heavily defended targets such as Berlin, Turin and Nuremberg

Experience:

IG 21/5/43.

Joined Royal Flying Corps in 1936. 2nd Lt R.E. then enlisted as pupil pilot RAF 1939 and commissioned. Reached Sqdn Ldr rank in 1942. DFC award Sept 1941. Great interest in welfare of air and ground crews. As flight commander showed outstanding capabilities.

Cooper, Douglas J.A.

Age:

19

Rank:

Cadet

Regiment:

First Gurkha Rifles

Awards:

Promotion

Pre-war Occupations:

Civil Engineer - Pupil in Civil Engineering at Father's firm

Experience:

IG 1/6/45.

Commissioned in First Gurkha Rifles and Indian Army as 2nd Lieutenant. Grandson of Mr J. Feather & Mrs Feather of Ilkley.

Crawford, J.H.

Rank:

Lt Cmdr

Regiment:

RN

Awards:

MiD on 21/3/41 for gallant and distinguished service while on destroyer "Inglefield"; DSO for actions in helping to sink the "Scharnhorst"

Pre-war Occupations:

Medical doctor

Experience:

IG 7/1/44; 15/12/44.

In action against "Scharnhorst" as gunnery officer on HMS "Duke of York".

At dawn 1/1/44 "Duke of York" with cruiser "Jamaica" astern returned to harbour 2 battle insigns - 1 torn - flying proudly - battlescarred with mainmast and foremast damaged where splinters hit them - crew jubilant.

At visibility of 8,000 yards we knew if "Scharnhorst" maintained course would engage her at 5pm. At 4:45pm "Belfast" fired starshells in direction of enemy - then spotted her huge silver grey shape in white light of the starshells at 12,000 yards. I ordered shooting & crash as our 14 inch gun broadside thundered out - greenish glow along the waterline where hit. Turned away at speed making smoke - another 8 rounds fired

through smoke. Enemy's gun flashes - great bursts orange coloured flame. At 6:20pm she slowed to 7 knots. This allowed destroyers to close in. "Scharnhorst's" gunnery good & shell splinters in our masts. Her gun flashes & tracer fire from close range weapons showed us where she was.

She appeared a converging and diverging mass of gunfire and tracer fire. Opened fire at 10,000 yards broadside went off - great sheet flame and terrific explosion quarter deck.

More broadsides went home - "Scharnhorst" on fire and like a blazing warehouse end to end. Fire checked at 7:39pm. All around here were cruisers / destroyers, "Scharnhorst" was just one flaming wreck low in the water. German gunnery good, but ours was better. Caught her 4 times in first phase & our secondary armament firing all the time.

Only 36 of the crew of the "Scharnhorst" survived out of a crew of nearly 2,000.

Cunliffe, Roy

Age:

22

Rank:

Gunner

Regiment:

Royal Artillery

Awards:

MiD

Pre-war Occupations:

Isaac Croft & Sons, Guiseley

Cause of Death:

Not known

Experience:

IG 27/4/45.

Army March 1942 & overseas Nov 1942. In Brussels, driving a lorry, he met his brother Eric Cunliffe (20) driving towards him. MiD while serving with RA in Belgium.

Curtis, Basil Arthur

Age:

18

Rank:

Sgt / Wireless Operator

Regiment:

RAF

Awards:

DFM award in recognition of many flights over enemy territory.

War Regions:

Italy; Cologne

Cause of Death:

Missing on air ops May 1943

Experience:

IG 1/11/40.

Plane came into the light of the "flaming onions". When over Cologne at 30,000 ft plane hit by AA fire & rear gunner wounded. Curtis rescued gunner and then back to wireless. Both plane wings were damaged, but found objective before returning home. Took part in the first raid over Italy after Italy entered the war 10/6/1940. Twice over Berlin & 36 more times over 'enemy country'.

When 21 he was reported as missing on air ops May 1943. As flight sergeant he was awarded DFM in October 1940 in recognition of flights over enemy territory.

Dainty, Frederick William

Age:

29

Rank:

Flying Officer

Regiment:

RAF - 626

Cemetery:

Ilkley Cemetery

Awards:

AGW

Pre-war Occupations:

Rolls Royce, Merlin works, Crewe

Cause of Death:

Active service

Experience:

Unknown IG date.

1941 volunteered for air crew with RAF training in England and USA. Killed in flying ops 11/11/1944 on return from Dortmund.

Denby, R.K.

Rank:

Capt

Awards:

MiD - In recognition of distinguished and gallant services in North Africa

War Regions:

North Africa

Experience:

IG 19/11/43.

Dobson, Miss Doreen

Rank:

Sgt

Regiment:

RAF - Intelligence Service

Awards:

MC; MiD

Experience:

IG 9/2/45.

For sometime nursing for the V.A.D. (voluntary aid detachment) at Semon Home, Ilkley, and afterwards trained as a secretary. Following service at an RAF night-fighting aerodrome she was selected for the intelligence service.

Ferris, R.J.L.

Rank:

Flt Lt.

Regiment:

RAFVR

Awards:

MC

War Regions:

Greece

Experience:

IG 7/1/44. IG 28/1/44.

His younger sister was Mrs Armstrong, wife of Dr J.K. Armstrong, who was serving on hospital ship as a surgeon lieutenant in the Royal Navy. Eldest sister was in the WRNS. Dr Ferris was in Ilkley for a short time and married Miss Doreen MacBain of Finaghy, Belfast. Armstrong says Ferris is very modest about his award and got it in the Middle East. Ferris was commissioned Flying Officer in medical branch of the RAFVR in 1941 and promoted flight lieutenant, the same year. Stranded on a tiny island in Dodecanese, Greece, in October 1943. With rifles and hand grenades the soldiers fought off German attacks leaving German dead as well as prisoners. Germans attacked with dive bombers. Only one fatality and on the 3rd day a fishing vessel arrived to take them off. It was described as one of the most astonishing small scale actions in the war. In one raid 4 men were killed and 2 others buried under debris. Ferris removed bodies and released those trapped. Amputated one man's leg with a pair of sissors and a small saw to release him. Awarded the MC for gallantry with the RAF in the Middle East. In later engagement treated military and civilian casualties under

rigorous conditions. An enemy air attack had destroyed his equipment.

Fisher, Dr. J.D.

Rank:

Capt

Regiment:

RAMC

Awards:

MC

War Regions:

Netherlands

Experience:

IG 20/4/45.

Joined RAMC on qualification and subsequently one of the first doctors to join the Airborne division. Awarded MC for outstanding gallantry while rescuing wounded from a minefield at a little place in Holland on the banks of the river Maas. His Colonel added to the citation "Sheer, cold blooded heroism". His father J.C. Fisher 16 Parish Ghyll Road as a Lieutenant Colonel, in the First World War, also won the Military Cross and Bar to it.

Fletcher, Michael G.H.

Rank:

Capt

Regiment:

Artillery Unit

Awards:

MiD

Pre-war Occupations:

Barrister - Barrister at Inner Temple

War Regions:

Iraq; Persia; Italy; Sicily

Experience:

IG 15/12/44.

Elder brother Lieutenant Peter Fletcher in the same regiment.

Flood, Herbert

Rank:

Capt

Regiment:

RAC; Duke of Wellington

Awards:

African Star Ribbon

Pre-war Occupations:

OTCU Territorials - Prior to war.; Chemist - Sandoz Chemical Co. Ltd.

War Regions:

North Africa; France (Dunkirk)

Experience:

IG 7/1/44.

To France pre-Dunkirk & marched many miles in retreat to the coast. Also in N. Africa for 9 months. Arrived in time for later action in Tunisia. Received African Star Ribbon.

Fox, George William

Age:

37

Rank:

Lt Cmdr

Awards:

DSC

Pre-war Occupations:

Electrical Engineer - Insurance company manager, Sheffield

Experience:

IG 12/1/45.

Married with one child. In 1937 left Ilkley district. Awarded DSC.

Furness, Geoffrey

Age:

23

Rank:

Flying Officer

Awards:

1939-1945 Star

Experience:

IG 18/8/44.

Native of Ilkley he now lives in Tipton, Staffordshire. He enlisted in air crew in 1941, was trained in Canada and commissioned in 1942. He held the 1939-1945 star.

Gaunt, D.M.

Awards:

MBE - For services in a department in the Foreign Office.

Experience:

IG 8/1/46.

Green, Reginald William John

Rank:

W/O (CWGC)

Regiment:

RAF - 226

Cemetery:

Sage War Cemetery

Awards:

DFM

Cause of Death:

Missing on air ops

Experience:

IG 31/12/43.

226 Squadron - Wireless operator / air gunner, Blenheim 27291
on operation Nordeney. Reported missing December 1943.

Gubbins, Colin

Rank:

Major

Regiment:

Royal Artillery

Awards:

MC

Experience:

IG 2/8/40.

Attended Ilkley Grammar School as a boarder 1904 - 1909 because he lived on the Isle of Mull. Won a scholarship to St. Paul's School leaving Ilkley at age 13. MC in FWW and Captain by 1918, then several years in India. His brother Hugh - an old boy IGS killed in action in last war while with Canadians. Colin awarded DSO for action in 1940 in neighbourhood of Bodo in Norway during operations. He displayed sterling qualities of leadership in handling troops in a strange and difficult country. Personally led troops in rear guard action. When ready and astray went back and collected 2 platoons, went forward again, saw further action to stem the German advance.

Later served in senior position in Special Operations Executive.

Hardy, Jack

Rank:

2nd Officer

Regiment:

Merchant Navy

Awards:

MBE

Pre-war Occupations:

Chief mate on "Maquess of Anglesey"; Humber Pilots Service

Experience:

IG 9/1/42.

2nd officer on "City of Barcelona" which was later destroyed.
His brother Frank was in the RA.

IG 27/2/42.

In August 1941 attacked in Atlantic by German plane -
"dropped 3 bombs 30 ft from our stern and opened up cannons
and machine gun bullets. We did hit him and he jettisoned
heavy stuff into the sea to climb out of the way. I was wounded
in the arm and leg with cannon shrapnel". In December 1939
his ship was on fire in the Atlantic and another ship, in which he
was serving, was torpedoed.

Hatfield, Hubert

Rank:

Flt Sgt

Regiment:

RAF

Awards:

DFM - High standard targets Berlin

Experience:

IG 20/8/43.

Flt Sgt - wireless operator air gunner. Showed enthusiasm and devotion to duty.

Heap, John M.

Rank:

3rd Engineer

Regiment:

Merchant Navy

Awards:

MBE - Civil division

Hornshaw, J.W.

Age:

24

Rank:

L/Cpl

Regiment:

Royal Tank Regiment - 25

Awards:

COM - Gallantry and devotion in the field

Pre-war Occupations:

Aeronautical Student - Blackburn Aircraft Co, Brough.

Experience:

IG 11/5/45.

Hudson, John Philip

Rank:

Flying Officer

Regiment:

RAFVR

Awards:

DFC for numerous attacks on shipping and minelaying and bombing operations and well defended targets.

Experience:

IG 19/1/45.

Was recruited as a territorial and was mobilised in 1939 to serve with the Royal Tank Regiment. In 1942 achieved his wings. Holder of the 1939 - 1945 star he was commissioned from ranks in 1943 and completed 2 years of operational duty. Displayed utmost enthusiasm for operations and set excellent example to the rest of the squadron.

Though his plane was badly damaged by AA fire, he made a safe return to base.

Hughes, Austin E.

Age:

44

Rank:

Capt

Awards:

Promotion - Appointed Deputy Assist Director Ordnance Surveys (DADOS) with rank Major

Experience:

IG 23/1/42.

Called up in Oct 1939, directing staff RAOC as a Lieutenant. In FWW served three and a half years in Leicestershire regiment and KOYLI 2nd battalion.

Ingram, J.C.

Rank:

Capt

Regiment:

Duke of Wellington Regiment (West Riding)

Awards:

MiD - For services in NW Europe

War Regions:

NW Europe; France (Normandy); Iceland

Experience:

IG 27/7/45.

Temporary Captain.

Received oak leaf signifying mention in despatches made to him for services in NW Europe. Attached to a landing craft unit and in D Day operations was wounded in the leg on 29/6/1944. In Dukes as an officer spent two years in Iceland reaching rank of Captain. Taken on as a volunteer for landing craft and accepted lower rank. His younger brother Major N.J. Ingram killed in action in 1944 while serving with Royal Armoured Corps in Italy.

Jackson, E.

Rank:

Sgt

Regiment:

RAF

Awards:

Promotion

Pre-war Occupations:

Police

Experience:

IG 28/5/43.

Got air bomber's badge and became a Pilot Officer in Canada where he had trained under the Commonwealth Air Training Plan. In police pre-call up. Married Miss Rosemary Mitchell, from Ilkley.

Knox, John

Rank:

Capt

Regiment:

Royal Artillery

Awards:

MiD; MBE

War Regions:

Beveland & Walcheren; Reichswald; Geilenkirchen; Arnhem

Experience:

IG 1/2/46.

Major John Knox R.A. 'Stonedale' Middleton 121 Fld Regt as part of 49th division in 1939. Then posted 125 OCTU. Staff College Camberley. Brigade Major RA 52nd Lowland division. Strategic Reserve 21st Army Group.

Laurence, Robert Cecil

Age:

39

Rank:

Major

Regiment:

Duke of Wellington

Awards:

Promotion - Promoted to rank of Colonel commanding Searchlight Regiment. 2nd Searchlight (Duke of Wellington) Regt since 1938.

Pre-war Occupations:

Messrs Moss and Laurence, wool merchants, Bradford

Experience:

IG 24/7/42.

Lawrence, William A.

Age:

24

Rank:

Sgt

Regiment:

RAF

Awards:

Promotion - Promoted to Flight Sgt immediately after reported gone missing.

War Regions:

Denmark, and Germany

Experience:

IG 10/7/42; 25/5/45.

Reported missing after raid on battleship "Prince Eugen" in May 1942 and then wrongly stated by Swedish Red X to be safe in hospital there.

Shot down 17/5/1942 over Denmark and wounded in right foot and broke leg landing into cornfield. In Danish and German hospitals and then to Schleswig where kept in a small room 18ft x 10ft with two Canadians, 1NZ and 3 Russians.

Moved to Stalag 8B and shackled at the ankles after Dieppe raid. Wrists fastened with string for 6 weeks and then for 14 months shackled. Stayed behind when Russians near, but Germans found them and put them on a train South. Escaped and picked

up in Czechoslovakia and handed to Gestapo. 2 weeks in prison and then on another train and escaped again. Found by Russians near Elbe. 3 weeks with the Russians and then to US lines on Elbe.

Laycock, Peter

Rank:

Capt

Awards:

MiD

War Regions:

Italy; North Africa; Sicily; France (Normandy)

Experience:

Unknown IG date.

Joined army 2 days after leaving school. Wounded while serving with infantry unit of 1st Army in N.Africa in 1943, later served in Sicily and Italy and D Day invasion. His father in RA, in 49th division, in FWW and Captain 3 times MID.

Leather, F.B.

Rank:

Lt

Regiment:

Black Watch

Awards:

MC - Rees in NW Germany 24/25 March 1945 for sustained courage and leadership.

Pre-war Occupations:

Farmer

Experience:

IG 27/4/45.

RAF in May 1941 then transferred to Black Watch. 3 brothers
1) Capt P.D. Leather (RASC) 2) W/O D.H. Leather (RA) POW, Germany since 1942 3) Marine R.J. Leather in Pacific. Under fire from Spandau posts, in one post all killed, next post reacted and they were killed. All this occurred when platoon was cut off with half the company ahead of the remainder. Then they captured a council building 'full of the enemy firing wildly'. Leather showed ready acceptance of responsibility, and quick decisions and great powers of leadership and selfless devotion to duty.

Lightbody, J.J.

Rank:

L/Cpl

Regiment:

Royal Tanks Corps

Awards:

MM

Experience:

IG 14/6/40.

First Ilkley man to be decorated in present war. Lived in Leeds, but resided in Ilkley until 17 years old, wounded while at Narvik in Norway, 1940. Brother Mr. Peter Lightbody was in Metropolitan Police.

Lister, J.

Rank:

Sqdn Leader

Regiment:

RAF

Awards:

MBE - June 1945

War Regions:

Southern Rhodesia

Experience:

IG 6/4/45.

With wife and children just returned from Southern Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) where engaged in work connected with training pilots.

Lucas, W.G.

Rank:

Capt

Regiment:

Royal Artillery

Awards:

MC

Pre-war Occupations:

Architectural trainee - Training with Architectural Association

War Regions:

Normandy

Experience:

IG 1/2/46.

Called up in 1940 after completing half his architectural training and joined Ayrshire Yeomanry - invasion Normandy and all subsequent ops in lead up to 8/5/1945. Most recently Regimental Education Officer.

Mackenzie, J.W.J.

Rank:

Major

Regiment:

Royal Engineers

Awards:

MiD for services during the Italian campaign in March 1945;
MBE

Experience:

IG 4/1/46.

Now serving in Allied HQ in Italy. In 1932 Second in Command of an expedition by motor car across the Sahara Desert and Central Africa to Kenya - known to be the first motor party to make the journey.

Macmillan, Mrs Frances

Awards:

Red X Cert

Experience:

IG 2/8/46.

She went to Prince Henry's GS at Otley and did nurse training at the Coronation Hospital in Ilkley.

She was a member of the British Red Cross Society from 1935. Then she was a Lady Superintendent in Worcester City and in 1942 she was appointed Assistant County Director of Worcestershire.

She was given the British Red Cross, the most Distinguished War Service certificate, for outstanding duties performed in Worcester County and City in the war. She attended an investiture at Buckingham Palace and received an award from the Queen. Accompanied by her Mother and Husband (Dr William Macmillan).

Mammatt, John E.

Rank:

Lt

Regiment:

RN

Awards:

DSC awarded (while a POW) for operations in Crete and distinguished service in Greek waters. DSO in 1945.

War Regions:

Mediterranean

Experience:

IG 28/11/41. IG 14/12/45.

Ilkley native then N. Wales Prep school and RN College Dartmouth. All service in the Mediterranean and the two destroyers both sunk while serving in them. POW as a result Crete operation May 1941 to May 1945.

Maufe, G.H.

Age:

22

Rank:

Lt

Regiment:

KRRC 60th Rifles

Awards:

MC with 8th army in Italy

War Regions:

Italy; Central Africa

Experience:

IG 13/7/45.

When Lt Maufe had fought his way through to Platoon position and delivered the ammunition he brought Bren gun under heavy fire. The extra Bren, the extra ammunition and his cool and cheerful presence turned the scale. As a Scout Platoon Commander he was awarded a military cross for action 3 - 4 January 1945. Courage and inspirational leadership in the face of exceptional attacks. Strong attack in Italy by the battle group MAIER (spandau and bazooka and 20mm fire). No. 3 platoon surrounded and nearly out of ammunition. One carrier, two volunteers on track 600 yards along route with enemy in ditches - managed to get extra ammunition to men. Dash and determination an inspiration to all.

Maufe, Thomas Harold Broadbent

Age:

43

Rank:

Capt

Regiment:

Ilkley Home Guard WR (Otley) - 29

Awards:

VC - For gallantry in France. 2/8/1917.

Cause of Death:

Trench mortar - 28 March 1942.

Experience:

Unknown IG date.

Killed by trench mortar prematurely exploding, Blubberhouses Moor. Funeral at Ilkley Parish Church.

Monk, Adrian D.

Age:

23

Rank:

Flt Lt.

Regiment:

RAF

Awards:

DFC

War Regions:

South Rhodesia; United Kingdom; Aden

Experience:

Unknown IG date.

Joined RAFVR 1940, later commissioned Southern Rhodesia 1941. 12 months in Aden and then to the UK as flying instructor and operational duties 1944 (day and night raids flying Lancasters).

Morton, Charles Roger

Rank:

Lt

Awards:

MC - In Burma on Ukhuni Road - outstanding bravery and initiative at forward observation post.

War Regions:

Burma

Experience:

IG 27/7/45.

Wireless set only 20 yards from enemy and gave information.
On 15/6/45 Platoon 4241 tried over and over again to observe direct line of fire of enemy strong points.

Nicholls, Francis James

Rank:

Capt

Awards:

MBE

Pre-war Occupations:

Ordnance survey

War Regions:

Italy; France (Dunkirk)

Experience:

IG 4/1/46.

MBE for services in Italy where he served for two and a half years. Then demobilised - a native of Kingsbridge, Devon. To France in 1939 (evacuated from Dunkirk).

Oddy, Frank

Age:

34

Rank:

Cpl

Regiment:

RAF

Awards:

MiD - For devotion to duty; OBE

Pre-war Occupations:

Manager of Freeman Hardy and Willis in Burley.

Experience:

IG 6/7/45.

Served in RAF for 5 years.

Pepper, H.G.

Regiment:

277th Field Battery

Awards:

MiD - For work in N. Africa; DSO

Pre-war Occupations:

Director - Pepper and Lee & Co Ltd. Wool textile manufacturers, Bradford and Wyke.

War Regions:

Italy; North Africa; France

Experience:

IG 5/6/42, 29/12/44.

Given command of an artillery unit in 1942 (277th Field Battery - succeeds Col. Suddards in this role). Second in Command May 1940 and in France until it capitulated. For some time he served in Italy.

Petrie, Paul D.

Rank:

Flt Lt.

Regiment:

RAF

Awards:

DFC - Inspiring example of courage and determination in face of fighter interception or AA fire.

Pre-war Occupations:

Wool trade

War Regions:

Iceland

Experience:

IG 20/10/44.

Learning wool trade pre-war and in Denmark 3/9/39.
Territorial RA 1939 - 1941. Iceland for 18 months liaison between RA and RAF, transferred from army to RAF.
Completed many operational sorties obtaining photos in the most adverse weather.

Pye-Smith, Mary Audrey

Regiment:

British Red Cross

Awards:

Distinguished War Service Cert with British Red Cross Society (Signed by Lord Woolton) and Certificate from 21st Army Group signed by Field Marshal Montgomery. "High appreciation of services rendered by Mrs Audrey Pye-Smith".

War Regions:

NW Europe

Experience:

IG 16/8/46.

Awards for outstanding good services and great devotion to duty during campaign in N.W. Europe. Member of G.B. Red Cross from 1936 and served in 1939 - 1940 at camp reception station at Ilkley. Trained at Coronation hospital as a nurse. Overseas shortly after D-Day.

Rabagliati, Alexander Coultate

Age:

26

Rank:

Flt Lt.

Regiment:

RAF

Awards:

DFC - For magnificent leadership and courage in engagements during which he shot down five enemy planes. Later a bar to this decoration.

Cause of Death:

Plane crash

Experience:

IG 18/10/40, 11/2/44.

Lost his life in action in July 1943, off the Dutch Coast on an anti-enemy shipping strike when he was shot down. Wing Commander in RAF 195 Squadron 37209.

Name on Runnymede Memorial Panel 118.

Reed, James O.

Age:

30

Rank:

Staff Sgt

Regiment:

RAPC

Awards:

MiD - Distinguished conduct in Italy.

War Regions:

Italy; North Africa; Sicily

Experience:

IG 9/2/45, 2/3/45.

In Royal Army Pay Corps, two and a half years overseas North Africa, Sicily and Italy.

Rhodes, G.E.

Rank:

Colonel

Regiment:

Royal Engineers

Awards:

MiD - For gallant and distinguished services in Italy. Also in the FWW MiD by Lord Haigh in April 1917 for work with naval siege guns on the Belgian coast.

War Regions:

Italy; North Africa; Sicily

Experience:

IG 24/8/45.

From September 1943 to March 1945 a Deputy Director on Allied Control Commission, Italy, with rank of Lt. Col. R.E. Promoted to full Colonel when he returned to England March 1945 after 19 months in Italy, N.Africa and Sicily. Now in Europe as Chief Engineer Military Government, Berlin.

Robbins, Ernest

Age:

38

Rank:

Flt Sgt

Regiment:

RAF

Awards:

MiD

War Regions:

Italy; Middle East

Experience:

IG 25/2/44.

Married with two children. Fourteen months in the Libyan desert; then to Middle East in 1942.

Runton, Kathleen Ryder

Awards:

OBE

Experience:

IG 13/6/41.

Awarded for work in Women Voluntary Service. Executive Officer West Riding, Yorks and Chief Billeting Officer, Ilkley district. Active role in the Tory party and Forces wives, knitting circle. Vice chair of Ilkley War Weapons Week. Young helpers League in aid of Dr. Barnardo's homes (President of Ilkley branch), set up Community Feeding centres Ilkley and Burley, and an ante-natal clinic creche in Menston.

She was Vice Chairman of War Weapons Week and under her direction grew up that wonderful evacuation service in the country which won the warm admiration of all who were brought into contact with it. Many thousands of women and children from bombed areas and cities were provided with new homes. Part of this work was seen in WVS hostels and community feeding centres in Ilkley.

Ruperti, D.

Age:

27

Rank:

Capt

Regiment:

RE

Awards:

MiD - x2; Croix de Guerre with Gilt Star - for service in North Africa and France

Pre-war Occupations:

Concrete engineering firm, Leeds

War Regions:

Italy; North Africa; Sicily; France (Normandy)

Experience:

IG 4/5/45.

Sallitt, William Baines

Rank:

Lt Col

Awards:

OBE

Experience:

IG 7/1/44.

To France 1939 - 1940 then to Staff Coll, Camberley and at War Office. With rank of Lieutenant, he went to France Sept 1939 and on Lord Gort's staff for part of the time. Coming back from Dunkirk he was again on staff for a few months and in 1941 to Staff College at Camberley.

Scott, Katie

Cemetery:

Ilkley Cemetery

Awards:

Great War Medal. Previously Red Cross Medal for work done on behalf of Greeks in Balkan War 1912- 1913; 1914 - 1915 Star; Territorial Force Nursing Services Medal; Other medals - 2 other medals 1914 - 19

Pre-war Occupations:

Nurse - Territorial Nursing Service 1912 - 1921. Maternity nurse for Manchester Corporation and two and a half years sister in charge of dealing with surgical wounds. Sister in charge Manchester Victoria Memorial Hospital. Worked in nursing home in Sou

War Regions:

Greece

Cause of Death:

Overwork - died in Southport Military Hospital 29th March 1941.

Sharpe, Ivan

Rank:

Capt

Regiment:

Divisional RASC; Expeditionary Force

Awards:

Promotion

Pre-war Occupations:

Accountant - Partner in firm Arthur H. Sharpe and Son.

War Regions:

NW Europe

Experience:

IG 6/4/45.

1939 - 1949 (WR) Divisional RASC. Was made a Lieutenant in the Expeditionary Force in January 1944. Promoted to major in February 1945.

Stawell-Crosse, Robert Dereck

Rank:

Cmdr

Awards:

OBE - Military Division

Experience:

IG 5/1/45.

Was a Staff Officer on Convoy under Admiral Sir Max Horton (Western Approaches).

Stephenson, J.A.

Rank:

Cpl

Regiment:

Ilkley Home Guard

Awards:

MiD - For gallantry in bombing accident 9th May 1943.

Experience:

IG 17/3/44.

On 9th May 1943 he was in Priming Bay of a Grenade Range supervising priming of 2 live grenades by Pte J.A. Tranter who was with him. Corporal Stephenson heard warning shout and live grenade smoking at entrance to priming bay - made escape for occupants impossible, and with great gallantry put his own body between Pte Tranter and the grenade receiving wounds from fragmented splinters.

Suddards, G.E.

Rank:

Lt Col

Regiment:

West Riding - 70; TA

Awards:

Promotion; MiD 1945; Croix de Guerre with Gilt Star

Pre-war Occupations:

Director - Ferrand and Suddard

War Regions:

France (Dunkirk); France; France (Brest); France (Paris)

Experience:

IG 20/10/44, 21/8/42, March 1945.

In Paris as Chief of Industrial Production Section of Supply and Economic Branch of SHAEF - US / BR military mission to France. i/c light AA unit 1942 Feb 1944, retreated from Dunkirk to UK and then to Brest and out via Cherbourg with all the equipment. In August 1942 appointed to command a light AA Regiment in N.W. England. For two and a half years he was associated with another artillery unit which he commanded from Nov 1937 - 1942. Promoted to Col.

Joined 70th West Riding Brigade in 1920 and up to 1938 spent in TA commanding 277th (Bradford) battery. Coronation Medal 1937 and Territorial Efficiency Decoration in (TD) in 1941. Awarded for working with SHAEF Military mission to France to which he was Chief of Industrial Production Section of Supply and Economic Branch, Member SHAEF Military Mission in

London pre D-day. Demobilised in York. Given clothing, cigarettes and chocolate for 56 days and then a release book. To Employment Exchange to hand in unemployment card. To Food Office where he was issued with ID card and 90 clothing coupons and a ration card.

Tanfield, D.J.

Age:

32

Rank:

Capt (acting Major)

Regiment:

Duke of Wellington - 2; Royal Armoured Corps

Awards:

MiD and MBE while serving with RAC in Belgium

Pre-war Occupations:

Sun Insurance Co in Bradford

War Regions:

France; Belgium

Experience:

IG 4/5/45.

2nd Duke of Wellington Regiment in April 1939 to RAC 1940 - 1944 in France. Awarded MBE and MiD while serving in Belgium.

Tetley, William Abbotson

Age:

30

Rank:

Flying Officer

Regiment:

RAF

Awards:

DFC

Pre-war Occupations:

H & F Tetley, family firm of wool merchants, Well Street
Bradford

Experience:

IG 29/8/41.

Member of Ilkley RUFC, Upper Wharfedale RUFC, Bradford
Hockey Club.

Vallendar, Phillip

Age:

23

Rank:

Capt

Regiment:

RASC

Awards:

Promoted while out in France.

Pre-war Occupations:

Sun Life Assurance, Leeds

War Regions:

France; Belgium

Experience:

IG 17/11/44.

Member of Ilkley Cricket Club. RASC April 1939, commissioned in 1942. To France June 1944 and served in Belgium and France. Promoted to Lt. Oct 1944 while in France.

Verity, Maud

Rank:

Sgt

Awards:

Appreciation

Experience:

IG 24/9/43.

In charge of cooking services of a battery AA Cmd and awarded an appreciation. Qualified as a sergeant cook in 1941. Appreciation of services rendered and devotion to duty.

Waddilove, Douglas E.

Age:

25

Rank:

Capt

Regiment:

Coldstream Guards; Worcs

Awards:

MiD and MBE for gallant and distinguished service in the Middle East

War Regions:

Libya

Experience:

IG 14/4/44, 21/4/44.

In 1939 while at Caius College, Cambridge, joined Worcestershire Regiment as a private & in May 1940 gazetted in Coldstream Guards. From 1941 in Libya fighting and in party of Guardsmen who broke out of Tobruk after surrender and reached the Allied wire. At Adagem survived a hairsbreadth escape unscathed. Once his tin hat shot off and another lost his revolver holster. Three times blown up in carrier. On another occasion standing with 9 men when shell burst, killed 5 and wounded 3. On demobilisation continued his Bar studies at Cambridge University.

Waddilove, Ernest

Rank:

Lt Col

Regiment:

Northern Command

Awards:

OBE

Pre-war Occupations:

Chairman / Man Director of Provident Clothing Supply Company Ltd.

Experience:

IG 5/1/45.

Deputy Command Welfare Officer, Northern Command.
Closely assoc. with Army Welfare Work eg. Providing troops entertainment of IUDC 1933 and Chairman 1937 - 38.

Associated with a large number of Ilkley organisations. In 1937 he was one of three Ilkley men to receive Coronation Medal.

His son Capt. Douglas Waddilove MiD in Middle East Campaign.

Walker, Arthur Cecil

Age:

63

Rank:

Major

Regiment:

RASC

Awards:

MiD - Building Yser Dam whilst under fire, while working for Royal Engineers

Pre-war Occupations:

Manager - 1909 - 1914; In Father's business as piece goods manufacture in Bradford.

War Regions:

France

Cause of Death:

Drowning

Experience:

IG 28/9/45.

Formerly RASC. Then from September 1943 in small vessels pool.

To France 1915 appointed 'B' Company 6th Battalion W Yrks Regiment and wounded. Then transferred RASC.

1916-1918 Lt. Mechanical Transport School Workshops.

1918 i/c 8 workshops for Director Gen Transport.

Member Royal Yacht Club. Home Guard 'E' company 9th WR
Otley (Bn). In February 1944 lost finger on left hand.

Died 22/9/45, drowned at sea during gale in the river Mersey on
vessel on which serving, carried against pier and washed
overboard and body found 5 miles downstream. Left widow
and 4 children.

Whitaker, C.N.

Rank:

Able Seaman

Regiment:

RN

Awards:

Promotion

Pre-war Occupations:

Ilkley branch Yorkshire Penny Bank.

War Regions:

W. Africa

Experience:

IG 20/8/43.

Joined RN Dec 1939 & on destroyer later & 18 months on destroyer and coastal patrol in W. Africa. IGS old boy.

Whiteley, J.P.

Rank:

Major

Awards:

OBE - Major Whiteley awarded OBE for distinguished services in field during the Dunkirk action.

Experience:

IG 9/8/40.

Wilson, Arthur Tanfield

Rank:

Mr

Awards:

MBE

Experience:

IG 8/1/43.

Member of Ilkley golf club. Deputy Air Raid Precautions Controller in Leeds from December 1940. Attended 344 meetings of Emergency committee and missed only 8 through his presence elsewhere on Civil Defence duties. Acted as clerk to Air Raid precautions committee from its constitution.