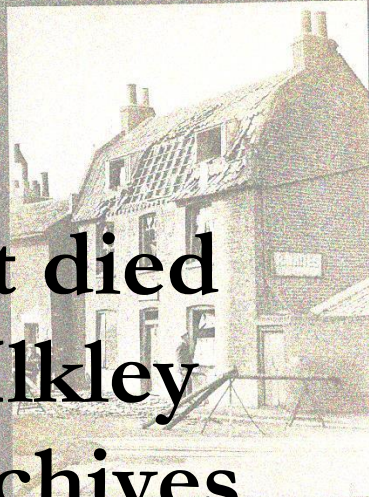
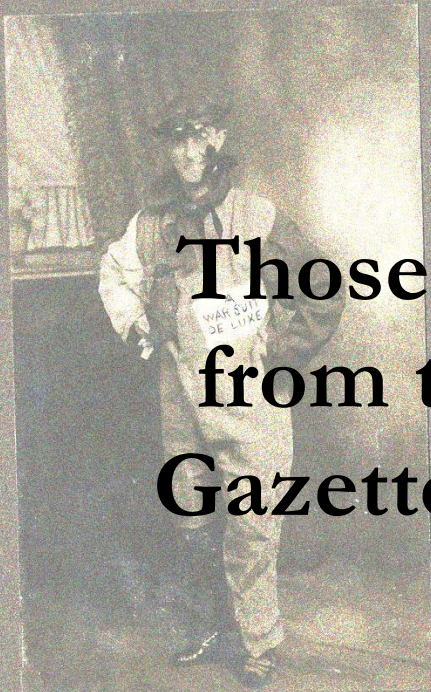


Those that died from the Ilkley Gazette Archives

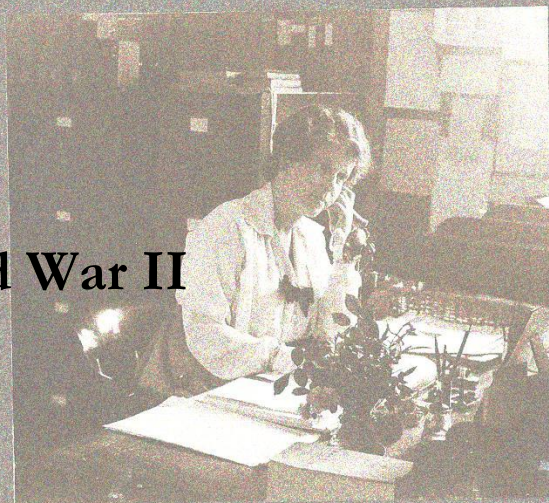


After The Explosion - Sep 20th 1917

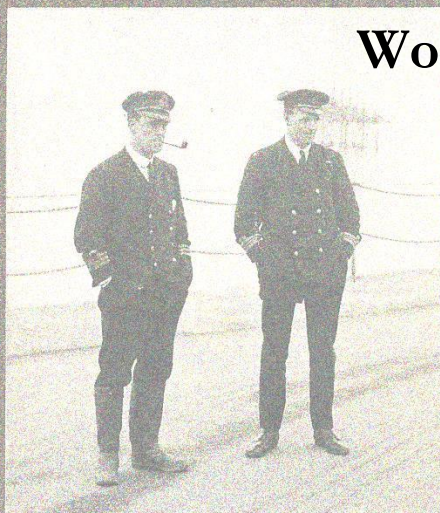


Chief Petty Officer Elite in Fancy Dress

World War II

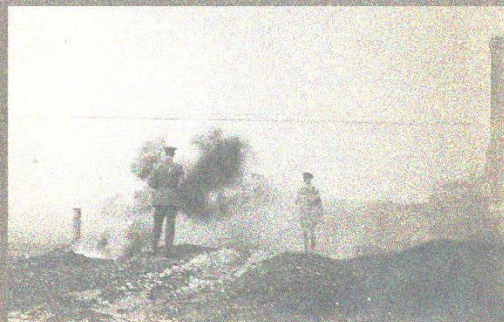


Miss Rowe - Secretary



At Dover

Wing-Commander Brock RN Eng^r Lt-Commander Curre RN
[Killed at Zeebrugge 22 4/18]



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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, Jonathan White, Addingham for proof reading the draft copies and 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). John Larder from Boston Spa provided a detailed database of the Ilkley fallen and the cemeteries in which they are buried.

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, Thomas Denison

Age:
22

Rank:
Lt

Regiment:
West Yrks and later in Parachute Regt.

Cause of Death:
Drowning

Experience:
IG 25/6/43.

Accidently drowned on operations.

Anning, Kenneth

Age:

21

Rank:

AC2

Regiment:

Recruits Centre

Cemetery:

Lawnswood Cemetery, Leeds

Cause of Death:

In air raid

Experience:

Unknown IG reference

Killed in an air-raid on Weston-super-Mare, 29/6/1942 whilst attending a course at RAF Locking.

Ashworth, William Storey

Age:

36

Rank:

Sgt Navigator

Regiment:

RAF - 49

Cemetery:

Schonnsehof War Cemetery, Antwerp, Belgium

Pre-war Occupations:

Police - Ilkley Section, Unknown - Ashworth Brothers, tap makers, Bradford

War Regions:

Cologne

Cause of Death:

Shot down

Experience:

IG 16/7/43.

In 49 Squadron Lancaster ED663. Operation against Cologne, 9th July 1943. Shot down.

Bellhouse, William K.

Age:

26

Rank:

Capt

Regiment:

Royal Artillery

Pre-war Occupations:

Banker - National and Provincial Bank, Bournemouth

War Regions:

Burma

Cause of Death:

Active service

Experience:

Unknown IG reference

On Active service in Burma.

Benn, Marjorie

Rank:

Capt

Regiment:

C.S.P.

Experience:

IG 16/11/45.

Killed on YWCA Welfare duty on 20/11/1945 near Bangkok.

Blackburn, Thomas

Rank:

Sgt Pilot

Regiment:

RAF

Cemetery:

Astley Bridge Cemetery, Bolton Lancashire

Pre-war Occupations:

Manager Accrington Borough Laundry

Cause of Death:

Accidental loss of plane due to engine problems

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

Plane crash near Bolton on 17th October 1941. Did not live in Ilkley.

Briggs, Peter Rodney

Age:

19

Pre-war Occupations:

Engineer - Radio work in Guiseley

Cause of Death:

Fall

Experience:

IG 29/3/45.

On 22nd March 1945 had a fatal fall from his bedroom at his parents home (30 feet) while home on his first leave from the army. Not suicide. Sitting astride an open window. He was trying to fix wiring outside his attic window.

Butler, Jack

Age:

22

Regiment:

Duke of Wellington Regiment (West Riding) - 1

Cemetery:

Massicault War Cemetery, Tunisia

Pre-war Occupations:

Joiner and Builder - Worked for brother Mr A. L. Butler

Cause of Death:

Active service

Experience:

IG 21/5/43.

Killed in action while serving with infantry regiment in Tunisia. Served under Captain Peter Laycock of 'High Garth', Hebers Ghyll Drive, who had been wounded in back and hand during dive bombing attack on their unit in Tunisia.

Coffey, William Michael

Age:

29

Rank:

Major. Commissioned in 1934 into Royal Engineers.

Cemetery:

Ilkley Cemetery

Pre-war Occupations:

Experimental Officer - Air Defence Establishment

Cause of Death:

Illness

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

Capt 1940; Major Feb 1941. The funeral was at Ilkley Parish Church and he was buried in Ilkley Cemetery.

Curtis, Basil Arthur

Age:

18

Awards:

DFM - in recognition of flights over enemy territory; October 1940

Cause of Death:

Missing on air ops

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. Awarded DFM in recognition of many flights over enemy territory. Twice over Berlin & 36 more times over 'enemy country'.

When 21 - Missing on air ops May 1943. As flight segeant he was awarded DFM in October 1940 in recognition flights over enemy territory.

Dainty, Frederick William

Age:

29

Rank:

Flying Officer

Regiment:

RAF - 626 Sqdn

Cemetery:

Ilkley Cemetery

Awards:

Awarded American Gold Wings

Pre-war Occupations:

Rolls Royce Merlin Works, Crewe

Cause of Death:

Active service

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

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

Dowthwaite, Lester

Rank:

Fusilier

Regiment:

Royal Northumberland Fusiliers

Cemetery:

Kanchanaburi War Cemetery - buried 7 August 1943

Pre-war Occupations:

Gardener

Cause of Death:

Malaria

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

Evacuated from Dunkirk and then sent to India. Died from Malaria as a Japanese POW, 1943.

Duell, Kenneth K.

Age:

23

Rank:

Lt

Regiment:

Duke of Wellington Regiment (West Riding)

Cemetery:

Maynamati War Cemetery - now in Bangladesh

Experience:

IG 25/8/44.

Initially served in Scots Guards in Norway and India. Later transferred to Duke of Wellington Regiment. Died of typhus fever in service in Burma.

Dunlop, James (Jim) Bertram

Rank:

Lt

Regiment:

7 Queens Own Hussars and Royal Armoured Corps

Cemetery:

Ancona War Cemetery

War Regions:

Persia, Iraq, Italy

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

Keen tennis player, played for Yorkshire boys at Ilkley club.
Died from wounds while serving with the Royal Armoured
Corps attached to 8th army in Italy 14/9/1944.

Eglen, Raymond

Age:

30

Rank:

Flt Sgt / Wireless Operator

Regiment:

RAF - 99 Sqdn

Pre-war Occupations:

Post Office Engineer - Skipton Post Office

Experience:

IG 26/10/45. IG 4/10/46.

Missing while on a supply mission with 99 squadron Liberator
EW236 (C1594256), off Cocos Island 6/10/1945. Name on
Singapore War Memorial.

Fawcitt, Bernard

Rank:

Sub Lt.

Regiment:

Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve

Pre-war Occupations:

Fielding and Johnson, Leicester

Experience:

IG 31/12/43.

Worked for Leicester firm: Fielding and Johnson of which father was a Director, and Norman Fawcitt's wool merchants in Bradford. Used to live in Bradford, Moorfield Lodge in Ben Rhydding and in Menston.

Firth, George

Age:

29

Rank:

Sgt Navigator

Cemetery:

Scholemoor Cemetery, Bradford

War Regions:

South Africa

Cause of Death:

Plane crash

Experience:

IG 8/9/44.

Married L/Cpl C.V. Fordham of ATS at Easter 1944.
Wellington MF517 flew into ground in flying accident
22/8/1944.

Galer, John Jefferson

Age:

29

Rank:

Pte

Cemetery:

Tripoli War Cemetery, Libya

Pre-war Occupations:

Orderly - At Middleton Sanatorium

War Regions:

Middle East

Experience:

IG 7/5/43.

Went overseas 1940. Fought in previous Middle East campaigns with no injuries. Died from wounds in military hospital 11/4/1943 while serving with 8 Army in Africa.

Gall, W. J.

Age:

22

Rank:

Sgt

Regiment:

Royal Engineers (Army Troops Company) - 266

Cemetery:

Munster Heath War Cemetery, Germany

Pre-war Occupations:

Passenger Office, Ilkley Railway Station

War Regions:

Italy, North Africa, NW Europe

Cause of Death:

Active service, in Germany

Experience:

Unknown IG reference/4/45.

Galloway, Henry

Age:

56

Rank:

Pte

Cemetery:

Nab Wood Cemtery

Pre-war Occupations:

S. N. Cliff & Co, Leeds and partner in business - Walthamstow, London.

Cause of Death:

Trench mortar

Experience:

IG 4/42.

Died on Blubberhouses Moor when trench mortar prematurely exploded. Funeral held in Congregational Church, Ilkley + buried at Nab Wood Cemetery, Shipley.

Gardiner, George

Age:

29

Rank:

Gunner

Regiment:

32nd Searchlight Regiment - 562 battery

Cemetery:

Ilkley Cemetery, buried 19 October 1944

Experience:

Unknown IG reference

Geldard, John

Rank:

Lt

Regiment:

Royal Engineers (617 Assault Regiment), Commissioned June 1943

Cemetery:

Abberton (St. Andrew's) Church, Essex on 13/2/1944

Cause of Death:

Road accident

Experience:

IG 18/2/44.

Died in a road accident in course of his duties, in Colchester, Essex.

Grange, Donald Arthur

Rank:

Gunner

Regiment:

Royal Engineers (72HAA Regiment) - 310 battery

Cemetery:

Ilkley Cemetery

Pre-war Occupations:

Unknown - Ilkley Moor Golf Club

Cause of Death:

In air raid

Experience:

Unknown IG reference

Killed in air raid on Southampton. Funeral in Ilkley Parish Church and buried in Ilkley Cemetery. Member of Ilkley Parish Church Scout group.

Greaves, Basil W.

Age:

19

Rank:

Pte

Regiment:

Welch Regiment - 1/5 Battalion

Cemetery:

Haelen (Buggenum) R.C. Church at Limberg in Netherlands 29
November 1944

Experience:

IG 22/12/44.

Recruited October 1944 after intensive training. Joined
Yorkshire Infantry Regiment and 1/ 5 Welsh Regiment.

Green, Derek Ingles

Age:

22

Rank:

Capt

Regiment:

Royal Marines

Pre-war Occupations:

Father's timber co for 18 months

Cause of Death:

Missing presumed killed. Name on Portsmouth Naval Memorial
21 July 1944

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

Green, Reginald William John

Rank:

W/O (CWGC)

Regiment:

RAF - 226

Cemetery:

Sage War Cemetery, Germany

Awards:

DFM

Cause of Death:

Missing on air ops

Experience:

IG 31/12/43.

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

Gyles, Frederick A. C.

Rank:

Lt

Regiment:

Royal Artillery (Surrey Regiment) - 3rd Battalion

War Regions:

France (Dunkirk), Tunisia, Sicily

Cause of Death:

Active service in Italy 1944

Experience:

IG 22/9/44.

First enlisted June 1939 - Surrey Regiment. Later joined Royal Artillery (Field) Feb 1941.

Hampshire, James I. B.

Rank:

L/Bdr

Regiment:

Royal Engineers (81st Assault Regiment)

Cemetery:

Bayeux War Cemetery, Calvados, France 18/6/1944

Pre-war Occupations:

Butcher for Mr. Rosenthal, Church Street, Ilkley

Cause of Death:

Shot

Experience:

IG 15/9/44.

Injured fatally on D Day. One of the first three tanks landed on D Day. Died of wounds after being shot in the chest in the tank by a sniper (his rescuer also died). This was in the village - Faltial. Although in great pain he was very cheerful and smoked a cigarette - died in a field next to the tank after being lifted out of shot up tank.

Hargreaves

Age:

20

Rank:

Flt Sgt

Regiment:

RAAF

Cemetery:

Furth Military Cemetery

Cause of Death:

Air Ops

Experience:

IG 29/3/45.

Grandson of the late C.H. Hargreaves of Ilkley and Bradford. He was a pilot with the 460 Lancaster Squadron, believed killed in air ops over Nuremberg (Germany). Buried in Furth Military Cemetery.

Harland, Douglas Arthur

Age:

22

Rank:

Pte. At time of death a Corporal

Regiment:

Commandos (Tiger Patrol, Black Watch)

Cemetery:

Cemetery Kirkee War Cemetery, India

Pre-war Occupations:

Clerk in goods office in Ilkley, moving to Leeds and Bingley

War Regions:

Libya, Crete, Syria, India

Experience:

IG 25/10/46.

At death he had reached the rank of Corporal in the 2 Bn Leicestershire regiment. He served in the first two Libyan campaigns and was in a garrison at Tobruk. Afterwards he was in Crete swimming and floating for 12 hours prior to rescue by the Royal Navy. Then in Syrian campaign against Vichy French, where he was wounded in the head.

Died of wounds accidentally received in Indian theatre of war. Dropped by parachute in training in Ceylon during which he broke his leg and died from gangrene in 30 October 1942.

Harling, Laurence

Age:

27

Rank:

L/Cpl

Regiment:

Royal Tank Regiment

Cemetery:

Bari War Cemetery 7/8/1942

War Regions:

Middle East, India

Experience:

IG 17/7/42. IG 9/10/42.

Member Kings Own Royal Regiment in 1933 and spent 4 years in India and then transferred to Royal Tank Regiment 1938. Joined Army aged 8. In Middle East from 1941. Was an Italian POW and had been missing since 20/6/1942. Died in Italian hospital for POW's.

Heathcote, Darryel

Rank:

Pte

Regiment:

Koyli (Kings Own Light Infantry) - 2nd Battalion

Cemetery:

Kirkee War Cemetery

War Regions:

India

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

Died 2/4/1946 in Pune in India and is buried in Military Cantonment (Kirkee War Cemetery) near the University town of Pune in India.

High, Ronald

Age:

27

Rank:

L/Bdr

Regiment:

Royal Artillery (Field) - 70

Cemetery:

Tabarka Ras Rajel War Cemetery, Tunisia

Pre-war Occupations:

Lister's Mill in Addingham, later a Boiler Man at a laundry in Bradford where he lived

War Regions:

Tunisia

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

Moved to Bradford prior to service. Known in Ilkley as Ronald Emmott since he was brought up by Mr and Mrs Albert Emmott.

Hilton, Arthur

Age:

23

Rank:

Flt Lt.

Regiment:

RAF - 102

Cemetery:

Berlin War Cemetery, Germany

Pre-war Occupations:

Clerk - West Riding Police at Tadcaster Division HQ, of West Riding Police at Tadcaster Dar HQ

Cause of Death:

Plane crash

Experience:

IG 14/4/44.

Originally joined up in 1939 to Air Force Police. Trained as a pilot in the USA and was recommissioned returning to UK Jan 1943. Killed when piloting plane 102 Squadron Halifax LW339 following air operations over enemy territory: Operation Berlin, 15/2/1944. Buried in Berlin War Cemetery.

Hodgson, J.

Age:

30

Rank:

Pte

Regiment:

Royal Northumberland Fusiliers

Cemetery:

Bayeux War Cemetery, France

Pre-war Occupations:

Worked at Imperial and Kiosk Cafes on the Grove

Cause of Death:

Active service

Experience:

IG 1/9/44.

Spent 3 years in Ilkley Home Guard. Killed in action, in France, on 12/8/44 where he had served for 2 months in an infantry unit.

Ingram, Norman James

Age:

25

Rank:

Major

Regiment:

145 Royal Artillery Corps (8th Battalion Duke of Wellington Regiment)

Cemetery:

Coriano Ridge War Cemetery, Italy

Pre-war Occupations:

In Father's firm C.F. Taylor & Co, Shipley

War Regions:

Italy, Tunisia

Cause of Death:

Shot

Experience:

Unknown IG reference

Was a keen rugby player.

1938 Joined Searchlight Unit and Commissioned Duke of Wellington Regiment which was mechanised. In 1st army in Tunisia and 8th army in Italy. He was killed whilst serving in the Royal Armoured Corps, in Italy, guiding a squadron in his tank on the Gothic line. He died instantly 18/9/1944 when hit by a

tank shot while attacking the final ridge on the Gothic line. He is buried in the Coriano Ridge War Cemetery in Italy XII, B, 3.

Innes, William Thomas

Age:

24

Rank:

LAC

Regiment:

RAF (MU)

Cemetery:

Alexandria (Chatby) Military and War Memorial Cemetery

Pre-war Occupations:

Employed by Falk, Stadelmann & Co Ltd, Leeds

War Regions:

Middle East

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

Joined the RAF in 1940 as a volunteer. Killed in Egypt.

Jackson, Joseph William

Age:

31

Rank:

L/Cpl

Regiment:

Royal Hampshire Regiment

Cemetery:

Naples War Cemetery

Pre-war Occupations:

Gamekeeper for Mrs Hill at Denton Park

War Regions:

Italy, North Africa

Experience:

Unknown IG reference

Recruited in July 1940 - went overseas in Feb 1943. Wounded in chest in North Africa and served for 2 months in Italy.

Johnson, Derek Burgan

Age:

20

Rank:

Sgt AirGunner

Regiment:

RAF (Coastal Command) - 58 Sqdn

Pre-war Occupations:

Worked in Croydon

Cause of Death:

Missing on air ops, name on Runnymede memorial

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

Was a member of Scout Troop at Ilkley G.S. In 58 sqdn served on Whitley, missing on 10 July, 1942.

Keighley, Donald

Age:

21

Rank:

WO

Regiment:

RAF (Middle East Forces MU) - 160

Pre-war Occupations:

Junior Clerk - Nat Provincial Bank. Passed banker's exams.

War Regions:

Middle East

Cause of Death:

Missing on air ops on 27/8/46 while serving with 160 Maintenance Unit on a Warwick PN 763 ferry flight. Name on Alamein Memorial

Experience:

IG 6/9/46.

Educated at Ilkley G.S. where played cricket and football. In Ben Rhydding Church Choir and member of Ben Rhydding Sports Club. Joined RAF in 1943 serving in the Middle East for 2 years. Full operational tour 221 Squadron. On air-sea rescue work and flying VIP's to various places, post VJ Day (15 August 1945).

King, John Abbot

Age:

22

Rank:

Sub Lt.

Regiment:

Royal Navy (Fleet Air Arm HMS Merlin) - 823 Sqdn

Cemetery:

Lawnswood Cemetery - buried 30/1/42

Pre-war Occupations:

Scout Master - Assisitant Scoutmaster IGS Troop

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

Funeral at Ben Rhydding Parish Church.

Law, Rex

Age:

21

Rank:

Sub Lt.

Regiment:

Royal Navy (HMS Acosta)

Cause of Death:

Active service

Experience:

IG 14/6/40.

Missing believed POW - later confirmed to have died as a member of the crew of submarine HMS "Acasta" lost off Norway while escorting HMS "Glorious" 8/6/1940. Name on Portsmouth Naval War Memorial in Hampshire. His elder brother Captain D.D. Law in France since late 1939, survived Dunkirk rearguard actions, uninjured.

Lewis, Wilfred Henry

Age:

27

Rank:

L/Sgt

Cemetery:

Ilkley Cemetery 21/9/1940

Pre-war Occupations:

Painter and decorator with Mr. G.W. Hampshire for 6 months, 1939, AA scout in Otley area

Cause of Death:

Road accident

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

Joined Ilkley TA 1930 - call up 1939. Killed in UK road accident whilst serving in Wharfedale Territorials. His motorcycle collided with a gun carriage. Funeral at Ilkley Parish Church.

Lucas, Keith P.

Age:

26

Rank:

Lt

Regiment:

Royal Artillery

Cemetery:

Pontypridd Cemetery

Pre-war Occupations:

Teacher - Redruth GS

Cause of Death:

Road accident

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

MA Oxon 2 Class Hons in Classical Moderations & 2nd Class in Greats. Joined RA Survey and eventually OCTV instructor. Died from injuries received in motor cycle road accident at Llandrindod Wells in Mid Wales. Laid to rest 25/2/1943 in Pontypridd Cemetery, South Wales. His elder brother had been killed in a motor accident on the Great North Road 1938.

Lucy, Clifford, Henry

Age:

33

Rank:

Capt

Regiment:

Field Regiment RA - 116

Cemetery:

Bayeux War Cemetery, Calvados, France

Pre-war Occupations:

Publicity staff of 'The Times' and publicity writer Times Literary Supplement

War Regions:

France (Normandy)

Cause of Death:

Active Service in Normandy 14/8/44 and buried in Bayeux War Cemetery XXIII DIX.

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

Mappleson, Dennis

Age:

21

Rank:

Wireless Operator / Air Gunner

Regiment:

Lancaster NE 126 - 7th Sqdn

Cemetery:

Rheinburg War Cemetery, Germany

Pre-war Occupations:

Trainee Engineer - Spooner Ltd (Dryers and Engineers);
Member ATC and Home Guard

Experience:

IG 15/9/44; 6/4/45.

Missing from air ops over Frankfurt. On his 34th operation killed 12/9/1944 and laid to rest in Rheinburg War Cemetery. Death confirmed March 1945. Member of Ilkley ATTC and Home Guard.

Marten, Lewis Westwood

Age:

31

Rank:

Lt

Regiment:

Anti-tank Regiment RA - 75

Cemetery:

Ryes War Cemetery

Cause of Death:

Active service in Normandy on 6/7/1944 - buried in Ryes War Cemetery, Barzenville, Calvados, France

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

In April 1943 made home in Ilkley and his wife lived at Netherwood Cottage.

Maufe, Thomas, Harold, Broadbent

Age:

43

Rank:

Capt

Regiment:

Ilkley Home Guard WR (Otley)

Awards:

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

Cause of Death:

Accidental explosion of military equipment

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

Killed by trench mortar prematurely exploding, Blubberhouses Moor 28th March 1942. Funeral at Ilkley Parish Church.

Mortimer, Kenneth A.

Age:

31

Cemetery:

Hermanville War Cemtery, Calvados, France

Pre-war Occupations:

Commercial Traveller - H. Glover confectioner

War Regions:

Normandy

Cause of Death:

Drowning

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

Member of Toc H and St John Ambulance. In army he had preached in Scotland. In St John Brigade of Singers. RAMC Normandy, 9th Field Dressing Station.

Drowned in Channel on D Day morning - sea rough and while disembarking from landing craft engulfed by large wave. He was almost dead when rescued and failed to respond to artificial respiration.

Muschamp, D.

Rank:

Petty Officer Writer

Regiment:

RN

Experience:

IG 3/9/43.

Serving in HMS "Woolston". One of V&W class destroyers which it is disclosed took part in the invasion of Sicily. Completed in 1918, & celebrated her 25th birthday by escorting convoy to landing beaches. Once ships safely in, "Woolston" was to patrol for lurking U-boats and stand by to give a blazing reception to any enemy plane. "Woolston" spent 9 days off Sicily and shot down 1 plane. She steamed 7,000 miles UK back to UK and spent 60 out of 62 days at sea.

Newsome, Henry Smith

Age:

35

Rank:

Flying Officer

Cemetery:

Karachi War Cemetery, Pakistan

Cause of Death:

Illness

Experience:

IG 1/10/43.

Died of illness 25/9/43 at Karachi General Hospital, India.

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. Now demobilised - a native of Kingsbridge, Devon. Pre war he was in Ordnance Survey and then to France in 1939 (evacuated from Dunkirk).

Noon, Frank

Age:
19

Rank:
Pilot Officer

Regiment:
RAF - Observer 420 (RCAF) Sqdn. Wellington DF515

Pre-war Occupations:
Unknown - Air Ministry. Air training corps in Ilkley.

Cause of Death:
Missing on air ops

Experience:
Unknown IG reference.

Promoted from LAC to Observer with rank sgt. Plane missing somewhere in the Bay of Biscay on return to Middleton St George (County Durham), from an operation over Lorient. Observer 420 (RCAF) Sqdn, Wellington DF615.

Oldreive, Rayburn

Age:

27

Rank:

Cpl

Regiment:

Royal Artillery - 190 Field Regiment

Pre-war Occupations:

Printer - Printer Charles Walker in Otley.

War Regions:

France (Normandy)

Experience:

IG 28/7/44.

Corporal now Bombardier. Killed in Normandy 11/7/44.
Former Otley boy.

Perry, G.H.

Age:

30

Rank:

Cpl

Regiment:

Air Army Corps (Paras), Duke of Wellington West Riding
Regiment

War Regions:

Arnhem

Experience:

IG 26/10/44; 10/11/44; 25/5/45.

Captured at Arnhem and in Stalag IV B at Mulberg. Did not discover until later that John Naylor of Little Lane was in the same camp. Yet both were members of White Rose Club for Yorkshiremen in Stalag IV B. Post Xmas 1944 food deteriorated - Red X parcels did not arrive due to RAF bombing. "The RAF did a good job in Germany from what I saw'.

Petticrew, Andrew

Rank:

Signaller

Regiment:

Royal Corps Signals - 4th L of C Sigs.

Cemetery:

Tobruk War Cemetery, Libya

Pre-war Occupations:

Organist - Assist organist Lichfield Cathedral; St Bees Priory Church; Birmingham Cathedral; Christian Scientist Church

War Regions:

Middle East

Cause of Death:

Active service

Experience:

IG 28/5/43.

Died of wounds in North Africa 15/5/1943. Buried in Tobruk War Cemetery. Was married with 2 daughters aged 6 and 3 and had a brother who was a captain in RAMC and another brother who was a Flt Lt RAF.

Proctor, Kenneth

Age:

20

Rank:

Sgt

Regiment:

RAF - 8 AGS

Cemetery:

Ilkley Cemetery

Pre-war Occupations:

Railway Company Clerk Otley and Shipley.

Cause of Death:

Illness at Doncaster Infirmary

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

Joined the RAF in June 1940 in Whitley K899J. He was a Wireless operator / air gunner. Funeral at Ilkley Parish Church 18/12/1941.

Rabagliati, Alexander, Coultate

Age:

26

Rank:

Wing Commander

Regiment:

RAF - 195 Sqdn

Awards:

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

Experience:

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

Lost his life in action on 6th July 1943, off the Dutch Coast in an anti enemy shipping strike when he was shot down in Typhoon EK273. Wing Commander in RAF 195 Squadron 37209.

Name on Runnymede Memorial Panel 118.

Ratcliffe, Sidney

Age:

19

Rank:

Signalman

Regiment:

Royal Navy

War Regions:

Mediterranean

Cause of Death:

In Mediterranean on HMS "Achates" which sunk while escorting Convoy JWSIB on 25/7/1941. Name on Chatham Naval Memorial.

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

Robinson, J.W.

Age:

21

Rank:

Driver

Regiment:

RASC

Cemetery:

El Alia War Cemetery, Algeria

Pre-war Occupations:

Messrs Dean and Mennell

War Regions:

North Africa

Cause of Death:

Road accident in North Africa in February 1943. Died of injuries to his body and legs, in hospital, 16 April 1943.

Experience:

IG 23/4/43.

Member of cricket club. Played cricket Ilkley 2nd XI. Called up April 1940 and out to North Africa in Feb 1943 after serving in various UK centres.

Rose, J.

Rank:

Cpl

Regiment:

RASC Airborne Division - 253

Cemetery:

Ilkley Cemetery

War Regions:

Italy, North Africa, Sicily, Netherlands

Cause of Death:

Malnutrition

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

Joined RADC in 1939 in Dover. Captured at Arnhem. POW for 8 months in Germany. Died back in UK hospital as a result of malnutrition 30/5/45. Buried in Ilkley Cemetery.

Scott, Katie

Cemetery:

Ilkley Cemetery

Awards:

Great war medal - Work done on behalf of Greeks in Balkan War 1912- 1913, Red cross medal - Work done on behalf of Greeks in Balkan War 1912- 1913, 1914 - 1915 Star - 1915 Star, Territorial Force Nursing Services Medal, Other medals - 2 other medals 1914

Pre-war Occupations:

Nurse - Territorial Nursing Service 1912

War Regions:

Greece

Cause of Death:

Overwork

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

Died of overwork in military hospital in Southport 29/3/1941.

Searle, Stanley, Edward

Age:

52

Rank:

Chief Steward

Regiment:

Merchant Navy

Cemetery:

Name on Tower Hill Memorial

Cause of Death:

Drowning

Experience:

IG 23/4/43. IG 30/4/43.

Lived with wife and daughter Joan (who was IGS and now at Leeds University) at 'Hill Croft', Grange Avenue, B.R. Originally from Upminster, Essex. Presumed drowned and killed as a result of enemy action 10/10/1942 on HMS "Orcades".

Seligman, Oliver, Raymond

Rank:

Major

Regiment:

Medium Regiment - 13

Cemetery:

Longueval War Cemetery, Somme, France

Pre-war Occupations:

Sports Officer

War Regions:

France

Cause of Death:

Killed in Action in France 4/9/1944

Experience:

IG 22/9/44.

Ilkley playing cricket in Wharfedale league and rugby.

Senior, Frank

Age:

26

Cemetery:

Medjez-el-Bab, Tunisia

Pre-war Occupations:

Ellis Beanlands, grocers

War Regions:

North Africa

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

Killed in North Africa on 3rd March 1943 only 21 days after reaching there from the UK. Buried Medjez-el-Bab War Cemetery, Tunisia.

Simpson, Harry

Age:

22

Regiment:

Lancashire Fusiliers - 2 Battalion

Cemetery:

Faenza War Cemetery

Pre-war Occupations:

Unknown - Hudsons Nurseries

War Regions:

Italy

Experience:

IG 3/11/44.

Joined 1941 Army, entered an AA unit as gunner and with them visited Jerusalem. Later transferred to infantry unit and transferred to Central Mediterranean Section.

Killed in Italy 14/10/44 and buried in Faenza British Cemetery in Italy.

Skirrow, Fred

Age:

31

Rank:

Warrant Officer

Regiment:

Royal Army Pay Corps

Pre-war Occupations:

Retail - Broadbents

War Regions:

India, Gibraltar

Experience:

Unknown IG reference

Had a wife and small son. Ilkley Parish Church and Church Scouts. Joined army in 1933. Served 3 years in Gibraltar and 3 years in India. His family and small son joined him in India in April 1948.

Smith, Dennis, Charles

Age:

19

Rank:

Dispatch Rider Signaller

Cemetery:

Ilkley Cemetery

Cause of Death:

Road accident

Experience:

IG 29/10/43.

Joined army April 1941. Accidentally killed on duty as a dispatch rider, Royal Corps Signals 25/10/1943 in Salisbury, Wilts, when his motorcycle collided with a telegraph pole. He died the following day. Buried in Ilkley Cemetery.

Smith, Stephen Fraiser

Rank:

Sgt

Regiment:

RAF - 142 Sqdn. Air Bombadier

Cemetery:

Stagliens Cemetery, Genoa, Italy

War Regions:

Italy

Experience:

IG 23/11/45.

One of crew of five of a British plane which crashed near Venturello in Italy Nov 1943. Crashed in a violent thunderstorm and Germans arrived 27/11/1943 and said all crew members were killed immediately. Locals said partisans had been inspired by British airmen. German authorities passed the details to the Red Cross after burying the bodies.

Spooner, William Edleston

Age:

21

Rank:

Sgt

Regiment:

RAFVR - 97 Sqdn

Cemetery:

Gosselies Communal Cemetery, Hainault, Belgium - grave 20

War Regions:

Belgium

Cause of Death:

Active service

Experience:

Unknown IG reference

Killed in action over Belgium, 29/8/1942 at 02:48 am. His Lancaster RSS02 was shot down on return from Nuremburg to Woodhall Spa by night fighter pilot OberLeutenant Brandstatter. Crashed at Maurage 7 km N.W. of Binche In Belgium (between Mons and Charleroi).

Lancaster RSS02.

Stevens, Kenneth B. Havelock

Rank:

Mr

Regiment:

SSF (Singapore Vol Corps) Bn

Cemetery:

Thanbyuzayat

Pre-war Occupations:

Administrator - In Singapore, General Admin, Dunlop Rubber Company, Quartermaster Sgt - Pre Feb 1942 Company Quartermaster Sgt. Singapore Volunteers a civilian unit.

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

Died in Thailand camp as Jap POW on 7/8/1943. Buried in Thanbyuzayat War Cemetery Burma.

Sutcliffe, Henry

Age:

25

Rank:

Lt

Regiment:

Reconnaissance Corps - 5th Battalion

Cemetery:

Catania War Cemetery

Pre-war Occupations:

3 year apprenticeship at Leyland Motors

Cause of Death:

Active service

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

Killed in action in Sicily 20/7/43.

Swann, Bernard Douglas

Age:

23

Rank:

Pte

Regiment:

KOSB - Airborne D division

Pre-war Occupations:

Bricklayer - Apprentice Bricklayer at Baldwin & Oakley building contractors prior to March 1942

Experience:

IG 6/4/44.

Joined W. Yks Infantry Regt March 1942, later transferred to Kings Own Borders (14th Army) & whilst serving in this regiment he was killed.

Thompson, Donald, Leslie

Rank:

Gunner

Regiment:

Royal Navy

Pre-war Occupations:

Hague's butchers in Brook Street

Experience:

IG 1/9/44.

Killed when ship was sunk as a result of enemy action. HMS "Albatross" hit by a torpedo 11/8/1944. Name on Plymouth War Memorial.

Thornton, Bertie

Age:

27

Regiment:

KOYLI - 4/2 Maritime Regiment R.A.

Pre-war Occupations:

Lofttine soap works in Railway Road, Ilkley

Experience:

IG 7/12/45.

Reported missing on August 1942 when ship “Empire Corporal” was sunk by U598 off Cape Buenaventura, Cuba. He had previously been on the ship “Michael Jelsen” which was also sunk.

Tipping, Philip, Allen

Age:

21

Rank:

Lt

Regiment:

Royal Indian Army Service Corps

Cemetery:

St. Mary's Cemetery, Madras (now Chennai) India

War Regions:

India

Experience:

IG 2/8/46.

IGS. Volunteered, on leaving school, to join the army in India following a lecture on the Indian Army. Joined up with Ilkley Messenger Corps and attached local Divisional HQ Home Guard Burley.

To India as Officer Cadet June 1943 & commissioned in 1944. Could have been on leave but preferred to continue his services rather than prolong date of demobilisation. Died in Military hospital in India 26 July 1946.

Titterington, Robert

Age:

39

Regiment:

RN

War Regions:

Far East

Cause of Death:

Active service

Experience:

Unknown IG reference

Killed in action 16/5/1945 in Far East on HMS "Virago" in battle of Malacca Strait. Name on Chatham Naval Memorial.

Ugarte, Edward Isodore

Rank:

2nd Lt.

Regiment:

Norfolk Yeomanry Anti Tank Regt, RA

Cemetery:

Bayeux War Cemetery, Calvados, France

War Regions:

France

Cause of Death:

Died of wounds 18/6/1944

Experience:

IG 21/7/44.

Walker, Arthur Cecil

Age:

63

Rank:

Major

Regiment:

RASC

Awards:

MiD - Building Yser Dam whilst under fire

Pre-war Occupations:

Manager - 1909, Unknown - In Father's business as piece good 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, MiD (Building Yser Dam whilst under fire) while working for the Royal Engineers.

1916-1918 Lt. Mechanical Transport School Workshops.

1918 i/c 8 workshops for Director Gen Transport.

Died 22/9/45, drowned at sea during gale in the river Mersey on which the vessel he was serving was carried against pier and he was washed overboard. His body was found 5 miles downstream. He left a widow and 4 children. Member Royal Yacht Club. Home Guard 'E' company 9th WR Otley (Bn). In February 1944 lost finger on left hand.

Waring, Edward Denton

Age:

43

Rank:

Sgt

Regiment:

Royal Army Ordnance Corps

Cemetery:

Ilkley Cemetery

Pre-war Occupations:

Partner in business - Waring & Co camel hair manufacturer,
Bradford

Cause of Death:

Heart Failure

Experience:

IG 23/11/45.

Ilkley RUFC.

Widow son & daughter.

In army 3 years and 4 months. Died of heart failure in his sleep at his billet at Condover near Shrewsbury on 20/11/1945. He had had a cold. Buried in Ilkley Cemetery.

Warriner, John, Arthur

Age:

33

Rank:

Cpl

Cemetery:

Uden War Cemetery

Pre-war Occupations:

Unknown - Messrs G. Hurst & Co

War Regions:

Netherlands

Cause of Death:

Active service

Experience:

Unknown IG reference

In Royal Tanks Corps in Holland where killed in action on 29/9/1944. Buried at Uden War Cemetery in Noord-Brabant, Netherlands.

Watson, Raymond George

Age:

29

Rank:

Cpl

Regiment:

59th Regt Reconnaissance Corps

Cemetery:

Fontenay-le-Pesnel

War Regions:

France

Cause of Death:

Active service

Experience:

IG 25/8/44.

Joined West Yorkshire Regt in 1940 and then passed exam to admit him to Reconnaissance Corps. He was killed in France while in Reconnaissance Regt in Royal Armoured Corps. He had been there from mid July. Killed 6/8/1944 and buried at Fontenay-le-Pesnel War Cemetery, Tessel, Calvados, France.

Welch, George Edmund

Age:

47

Rank:

Capt

Regiment:

Pioneer Corps

Cemetery:

Bhowanipore War Cemetery

War Regions:

India

Experience:

Unknown IG reference

Died in India 26/3/1944 - Buried at Calcutta (Kolkata) War Cemetery Plot L Grave 141. Bhowanipore Cemetery.

Wellington, Michael Alban

Rank:

Sub Lt.

Regiment:

RNVR

Cause of Death:

Active service

Experience:

IG 27/11/42.

Died on HMS "Algerine" on 15/11/1942 off Bougie, Tunisia.
Name on Plymouth Memorial.

West, John William

Age:

25

Rank:

Pte

Regiment:

RASC

Cemetery:

Chungkai War Cemetery, Siam (Thailand)

Pre-war Occupations:

Reading Room Staff - Yorkshire Observer in Leeds

War Regions:

South East Asia, Malaya, Thailand

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

Died in Siam (Thailand).

Whiteley, J.P.

Rank:

Brig General

Regiment:

Army Commands & General Staff RA

Cemetery:

North Front Cemetery

Pre-war Occupations:

Conservative MP for Buckingham from 1937.

Cause of Death:

Plane crash

Experience:

IG 9/7/43.

Killed in July 1943 in plane crash in Gibraltar which also killed General of the Free Polish Army in UK. On board Liberator AL583. Buried 4/7/1943 Gibraltar (North Front) Cemetery.

Wild, George John Ernest

Rank:

Gunner

Regiment:

2 HAA Regt RA - 16

Cemetery:

Name on Athens Memorial

Pre-war Occupations:

Regular Forces - five and a half years in India

War Regions:

France (Dunkirk), Egypt, Greece

Cause of Death:

Missing presumed killed being evacuated by sea from Greece in 1941

Experience:

Unknown IG reference.

Missing presumed lost being evacuated by sea from Greece.
Name on Athens Memorial.

Wilkinson, Ian Leslie

Rank:

Sgt Pilot

Regiment:

81 OTV

Cemetery:

Nottingham Southern Cemetery, 31/1/1944

Cause of Death:

Active service

Experience:

IG 4/2/44.

Killed on active service shortly after completing training under Commonwealth Joint Air Training Plan in Canada. On Whitley LA765 which accidentally crashed.

Wilkinson, Thomas Bolton

Age:

20

Rank:

Trooper

Regiment:

Trooper 2nd Lothians and Border Horse RAC

Cemetery:

Medjez-el-Bab War Cemetery, Tunisia, 22/2/1943

Pre-war Occupations:

Milkman - Milkman with Mr. A.J. Mawer.

War Regions:

North Africa, Tunisia

Experience:

IG 22/4/43.

Killed in action in N. Africa. Attack by the enemy down narrow Kasserine Pass (Tunisia) towards town of Thulu. 2 days fighting, heavily outgunned & lost many tanks. On second night found high ground occupied by enemy & British had to do a night attack with only six tanks left and infantry following Wilkinson, driving his own tank. Attack started 4.30am - unfortunately one burning tanks lit up the others & thus 2 more of our tanks went including Trooper Wilkinsons. All in his tanks killed instantly. I, as his CO last to speak to him before the attack and he had a drink from my flask. 'C' Sqdn told after the attack that it had been turning point and W's sacrifice was not in vain.

Willoughby, James Douglas

Age:

23

Rank:

Cpl

Regiment:

RAF - 148

Cemetery:

Benghazi War Cemetery, Libya

War Regions:

North Africa, Aden

Cause of Death:

Died of wounds

Experience:

IG 7/5/43.

Joined RAF aged 16. Trained RAF College Cranwell. Survived Aden before going to North Africa. Died from injuries due to accident in Libya 24/6/1943.