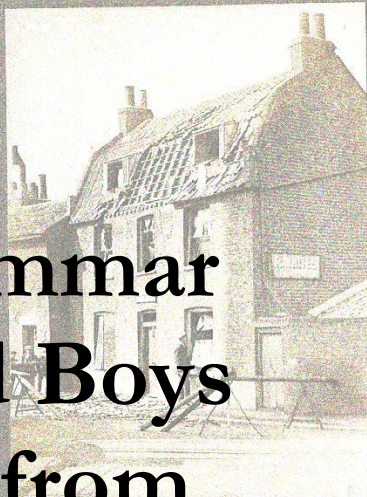
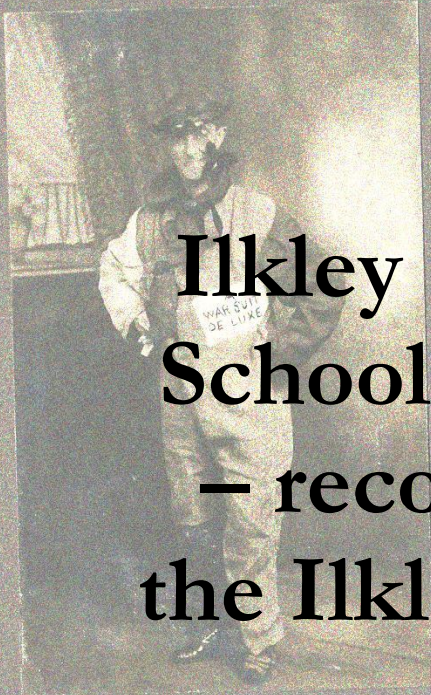


# Ilkley Grammar School Old Boys — records from the Ilkley Gazette

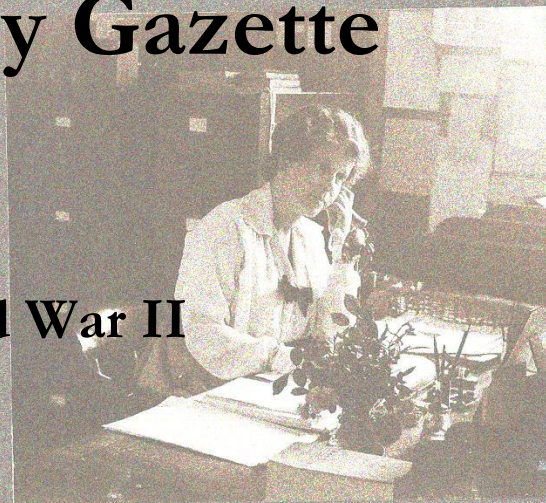


After the Explosion — Sep 20th 1917

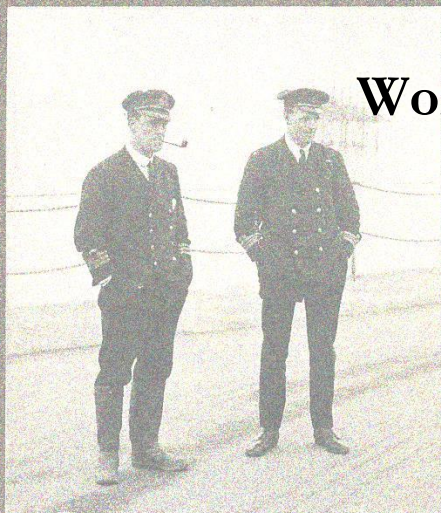


Chief Petty Officer Elite in Fancy Dress

## World War II

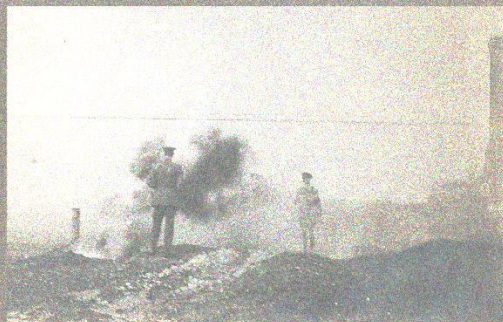


Miss Rowe — Secretary



At Dover

Wing-Commander Brock RN    Eng<sup>r</sup> Lt-Commander Curre RN  
Killed at Zeebrugge 22/4/18



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# FOREWORD

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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.

*Richard Thackerab ([www.ainola.co.uk](http://www.ainola.co.uk))*

# ILKLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL IN WARTIME

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Ilkley Grammar School was no different to any other grammar school in the country regarding wartime losses among old boys and staff members. School are proud to have a roll of honour to commemorate former students who paid the ultimate sacrifice. There was a pride among the boys at what they had achieved fuelled by the honourable life of patriotism. The loss of youth in the whole country emphasised a sense of the need to remember. Clear lines of communication are essential in war between generals and the ordinary troops and former pupils and members of staff from all schools that went off to fight in both wars.

Both wars in their own different ways heightened education issues and problems that already existed in the country but at the same time it created conditions for far reaching reforms intended to improve reforms intended to improve society.

Old boys returned from overseas to fight; and by the end of the 1914 over 100 Old Boys were on the roll-of-honour. In mid-1915, Empire Day coincided with the Whitsun holidays and patriotic hymns and songs were sung with gusto. Over 156 names were on the roll-of-honour, of whom eighty were serving at the Front. In August 1915 news arrived that Lieut. E.F. Wilkinson a master had been awarded the Military Cross for carrying a wounded soldier into cover near St Julien. In February 1916 Norman Frazer was appointed the new Head of Ilkley Grammar School following the death of Mr Atkinson. Pupils were informed on Empire Day in 1916 that the responsibility of Empire was enormous and there was a need for mental and moral discipline. In April 1919 a meeting was held to resuscitate the Old Boys Association and to consider raising a

war memorial to the many Old Boys who had been killed. In August 1919 it was announced that there would be extra holiday to commemorate peace: which amounted to six extra days. On 5 December it was stated that a scheme was to be established by the Board of Education to run Ilkley GS and other similar schools from February 1920.

In September 1939 girls were admitted for the first time. Over 300 evacuee pupils from Leeds Modern School soon arrived as there was genuine fear of bombing; they had lessons in the morning and the grammar school pupils had theirs in the afternoon. The Modern School pupils returned to Leeds by Christmas 1939. On Empire Day in 1940 Mr Hillis the Headmaster spoke about the Empire being based on the traits of the English character: daring combined with honesty and reliability. The Hitler Empire in contrast “was of short lived mushroom growth”, Hillis died in 1942 a year which saw Ilkley raise large amounts of money for wartime appeals, e.g. for warships, planes and submarines. Many people at, or associated with, the school contributed in a very creditable way. The new headmaster, Mr Newby, was faced with preparing the pupils for peace. Under the 1944 Education Act he hoped that all schools” would be generously treated”. Debates took place with one or two schools about life in a post War Britain: for Youth Movements, Education, Industry and health. At the first Speech Day after the war ended in 1945, the local MP spoke about the need for young people to have a spirit of adventure for “on moral and spiritual qualities depend the destinies of Great Britain”.

## Ambler, Thomas Denison

***Age:***  
22

***Rank:***  
Lt

***Regiment:***  
Paras, West Yrks

***Cause of Death:***  
Drowning

***Experience:***  
IG 25/6/43.

Accidentally drowned on operations.



## **Ambler, D.L.**

***Age:***

25

***Rank:***

Capt (Later Major)

***Regiment:***

Duke Wellington Regiment (West Riding) - 1

***Awards:***

APPT

***War Regions:***

Burma, India

***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).

## **Anning, Kenneth**

***Age:***

21

***Rank:***

AC2

***Regiment:***

Recruits Centre - 14

***Cemetery:***

Lawnswood Cemetery

***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.

## **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.

## **Barker, W.H.M**

***Age:***

34

***Rank:***

Signalman

***Regiment:***

Royal Corps Signals

***War Regions:***

Czechoslovakia, Italy

***Experience:***

IG 25/5/45.

Captured at Tobruk in prison camps in Italy and Sudetenland (Czechoslovakia) in June 1942 until the end of the War.

## **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.

## **Bennett, John S.**

***Age:***

21

***Rank:***

Sgt

***Regiment:***

RAF

***War Regions:***

W. Africa

***Experience:***

IG Late Sept / Oct 1943.

Joined Air Force May 1939, missing on his 10th air ops, but now reported OK. Mid gunner in air crew. He spent 18 months in West Africa after training in England.

## **Briggs, Peter Rodney**

***Age:***

19

***Pre-war Occupations:***

Electrical 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.



## **Carter, Ewart (Boy) G.**

***Age:***

33

***Rank:***

Major

***Regiment:***

49th (West Riding) Infantry Division, 69 Field Regiment RA, TA,  
KOYLI

***Awards:***

MC

***War Regions:***

Iceland, Normandy

***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.

## Cawood, Albert

***Age:***

22

***Regiment:***

ASC

***Pre-war Occupations:***

Messrs Crompton Parkinson, Guiseley.

***War Regions:***

France

***Experience:***

IG 31/5/40.

Wounded in leg while serving with the ASC in France. He was surrounded by the enemy and was in hand to hand fighting. 37 German prisoners were captured. He had a spell in hospital in England in May and June 1940.

## Clapham, Fred

***Age:***

24

***Rank:***

RSM

***Pre-war Occupations:***

Finance department at Ilkley Town Hall.

***War Regions:***

India, Persia

***Experience:***

IG 12/1/45.

3 years 4 months overseas (18 months in Persia and remaining time in India).

Arrived home from Burma and no one to meet them! After they docked they were told that when they reached Yorkshire army transport was for British Land Army men. They were angry as they believed the local "Get you home" service manned by local Defence Volunteer Drivers was for ALL returning service personnel.

## **Curtis, Basil Arthur**

***Age:***

18

***Rank:***

Sgt / Wireless Operator

***Regiment:***

RAF

***Awards:***

DFM

***War Regions:***

Cologne, Italy

***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 plan wings were damaged, but found objective before returning home. Took part in the first raid over Italy after Italy entered the war 10/06/1940. Awarded DFM in recognition of many flights over enemy territory. Twice over Berlin & 36 more times over 'enemy country'.

## **Duell, Kenneth K.**

***Age:***

23

***Rank:***

Lt

***Regiment:***

Duke Wellington Regiment (West Riding) - 1

***Cemetery:***

Maynamati War Cemetery

***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.

## **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

***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.

## **Flood, Herbert**

***Rank:***

Capt

***Regiment:***

Duke of Wellington, RAC

***Awards:***

African Star Ribbon

***Pre-war Occupations:***

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

***War Regions:***

France (Dunkirk), North Africa

***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.



## Graham, Peter

***Rank:***

Gunner

***Regiment:***

Royal Artillery

***Pre-war Occupations:***

Assistant - Purley library near Croydon, but resigned in 1939.

***War Regions:***

Middle East

***Experience:***

IG 25/7/41; 18/5/45

Joined army in mid 1939, to Middle East Sept 1940. POW in Greece.

Home from prison camp in Germany - only son of late Mr. William Graham (Ilkley librarian who died when his son a POW). Captured near Salonika and conditions very bad in Greece. In Germany there were Red Cross parcels and he worked on the railway. Later at Stalag VII B in Silesia.

## **Greaves, Basil W.**

***Age:***

19

***Rank:***

Pte

***Regiment:***

Welch Regiment - 1/5

***Cemetery:***

Haelen (Buggenum , Netherlands) R.C. Church

***Experience:***

IG 22/12/44.

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

## **Griffiths, Anthony Edwards**

***Age:***

19

***Regiment:***

RN

***Experience:***

IG 14/2/41.

Joined Navy after Derby School. On cruiser HMS "Sheffield" from 1938. Took part on HMS "Sheffield" in bombardment of Genoa. Specialised in torpedo work and now A-A gunnery.

## 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.

## Harper, John William

***Age:***

28

***Rank:***

Pte

***Regiment:***

Cambridgeshire Regiment - 1

***Experience:***

IG 10/4/42; 26/10/45.

Japanese POW. Captured at Singapore. His unit moved from India to Singapore in January 1942 and in action Thursday - Sunday when completely surrounded and captured. Then every man robbed of their possessions. By July 1945 6000 in Changi which had accommodation for only 700 and further 6000 were put in jail if Mountbatten attacked through Malaya.

Machine guns installed all round the prison walls for this possible action. Large stocks medicine from Red X found after surrender but withheld from POWs. Used by Japanese - led to many POW deaths. When 2nd near Japanese let the Red X parcels through, but food parcels opened by the Japanese and eaten by them.

In hospital on VJ Day and taken aboard a hospital ship on a stretcher. Weighed only 7 stone - down from 12 stones 7 lbs. In last weeks said Harper most of the hospital cases were losing weight and if war had lasted would have died. In Singapore all the time he was a prisoner. When not in hospital engaged in cultivating gardens in which prisoners grew food but they still

suffered from lack of food. Means of secreting wireless sets and kept in touch with the news. Good Allied news rationed as it was feared jubilant faces would give them away and lead to injuries and searches. Japanese told them news if good for Japan such as the death of President Roosevelt in USA.

## **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.

## Hilton, Arthur

***Age:***

23

***Rank:***

Flt Lt.

***Regiment:***

RAF - 102

***Cemetery:***

Berlin War Cemetery

***Pre-war Occupations:***

Clerk with West Riding Police at Tadcaster Division 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.



## **Holdsworth, Gilbert**

***Age:***

19

***Experience:***

IG 5/5/44.

A former IGS pupil, he went to India as officer cadet in June 1943. Commissioned after passing through Officer Training School in India.

## **Holmes, John W.**

***Rank:***

Radio Officer

***Regiment:***

Merchant Navy

***Pre-war Occupations:***

Estate Agent - J. Ingham, Brook Street.

***Experience:***

IG 25/9/42.

He was born in Ilkley. Only 19 when joined up.

He had 9 months service in a large cargo vessel, but in October 1941 his ship was hit by a torpedo. A life boat was lowered and he was picked up 2 hours later by a Corvette (an old converted U.S. Coast Guard Cutter). The boat took some time to sink and he went back on board to try and save her. All ships' crews were forbidden to throw anything overboard lest it should leave a trail by which the convoy could be followed. U-boats had been sighted in the vicinity and Holmes had seen four ships after they had been struck by torpedos.

## Hudson, Ernest

***Rank:***

Lt

***Regiment:***

TA

***Pre-war Occupations:***

Leeds accountant.

***War Regions:***

Greece, Italy, North Africa, Sicily

***Experience:***

IG 22/9/44.

He was wounded in the leg and was in a military hospital in Italy. In a cinema in Rome he met his Brother-in-law Lt Raymond Hopwood, whom he had not seen in 18 months. Initially served in North Africa but in March 1943 he went to Sicily and Italy.

IG 5/1/45.

Territorials 1939 - called up 3/9/39. Wounded: initially while serving with infantry unit in Italy in August 44 and then again in Greece in late 1944.

## Innes, Stanley

***Age:***

30

***Rank:***

Sgt

***Pre-war Occupations:***

Electrician - Returned to work as Electrician in Ilkley with his father during the shipping slump., Police - HK Water police since 1935.

***Experience:***

IG 25/9/42; 30/11/45.

Hong Kong Water Police Force since 1935, but returned to Ilkley to work as electrician with father in the shipping slump.

Interned in Hong Kong by Japanese 25/12/1941. Although he lost 2 stones he stressed that the only food shortages were near the end of the war.

First interned - placed in 'Gloucester' and 'Hong Kong' hotels. Food through Red X parcels. Letters took a year to arrive on occasion and some food parcels not distributed. Held for 400 days but then returned to Hong Kong eventually. He was a Chinese speaker and had been due to leave HK when Pearl Harbour intervened 7 December 1941.

## Johnson, Derek Burgan

***Age:***

20

***Rank:***

Sgt AirGunner

***Regiment:***

RAF (Coastal Command) - 58

***Pre-war Occupations:***

Worked in Croydon

***Cause of Death:***

Missing on air ops

***Experience:***

Unknown IG reference.

Was a member of Scout Troop at Ilkley G.S. In 58 sqdn served on Whitleys and reported 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 bankers exams.

***War Regions:***

Middle East

***Cause of Death:***

Missing on air ops

***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

***Cemetery:***

Lawnswood Cemetery

***Pre-war Occupations:***

Scout Master - Assisitant Scoutmaster IGS Troop

***Experience:***

Unknown IG reference.

Funeral at Ben Rhydding Parish Church.

## **Middlebrook, T.J.**

***Rank:***

LAC

***Experience:***

IG 18/5/45.

Meets former FWW Belgian refugee (in Ilkley) in Brussels who has 2 brothers - one in Ghent and one in Antwerp both of whom had attended Ilkley Grammar School.



## **Moxon, Donald**

***Rank:***

Reverend

***Regiment:***

West Yrks

***Pre-war Occupations:***

Missionary

***War Regions:***

Burma

***Experience:***

IG 10/4/42.

Also at St Dunstons Church, Armley, Leeds. Attached to Rangoon Cathedral about 1938. He was a missionary in Burma. In Burma stayed behind in Pegu to help evacuation of wounded after Allied retreat. Evacuated to India and after a spell in the UK returned to Burma soon after the war.

## Naylor, J.C.

***Age:***

21

***Rank:***

Sgt Navigator

***Regiment:***

RAF

***Pre-war Occupations:***

Accountant - Accountancy department of Bradford Dyers Assoc.  
in Bradford before joining RAF in 1941.

***War Regions:***

Germany

***Experience:***

IG 7/1/44.

POW in Germany from Nov 1943.

## Nicholson, Frank

***Age:***

22

***Rank:***

Gunner

***Pre-war Occupations:***

Barclays Bank, Ilkley

***Experience:***

IG 19/1/45

In army 3 years - fought El Alamein to Sicily. Came home for Xmas 43 and to France D + 2. Letter received by his parents from a French Doctor who entertained their son post D Day (Dr. Charles Fidelin from Etretat).

They were two kind GB soldiers (inc Frank) - & happy to see them again on leave at anytime. Sent Frank's parents photo of their son.

## Noon, Frank

***Age:***

19

***Rank:***

Pilot Officer

***Regiment:***

RAF - Observer 420 (RCAF) Sqdn. Wellington DF515

***Pre-war Occupations:***

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.

## Ombler, Peter

***Rank:***

Lt

***Regiment:***

AA battery

***Pre-war Occupations:***

Midland Bank, Ilkley

***War Regions:***

North Africa

***Experience:***

IG 22/10/43.

Commissioned May 1942 and overseas Dec 43. Also undertook coastal defence duties in various parts of the UK. Met Capt Papworth from Ilkley as he moved to Italy from North Africa.

He also met Geoffrey Waite frequently in North Africa.

## Owen, Robert

***Age:***

26

***Rank:***

L/Cpl

***Regiment:***

Royal Scots

***Pre-war Occupations:***

Bus Conductor - West Yks Road Car Company.

***Experience:***

IG 31/7/42.

POW in hands of Japanese.

## Papworth, George F.

***Rank:***

Capt

***Pre-war Occupations:***

NE Railway, Leeds

***Experience:***

IG 22/10/43.

Old boy at IGS and Ilkley RUFC.

Joined up early 1940 and served with RE abroad from April 1941. Taken part in North African landings, Sicilian and Italian campaigns.

## **Proctor, Kenneth**

***Age:***

20

***Rank:***

Sgt

***Regiment:***

RAF

***Cemetery:***

Ilkley Cemetery

***Pre-war Occupations:***

Clerk - Railway Company Clerk Otley and Shipley.

***Cause of Death:***

Illness

***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.



## 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.

## **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.

## **Rose, J.**

***Rank:***

Cpl

***Regiment:***

RASC Airbourne Division - 253

***Cemetery:***

Ilkley Cemetery

***War Regions:***

Italy, Netherlands, North Africa, Sicily

***Cause of Death:***

Malnutrition

***Experience:***

Unknown IG reference.

Joined RASC 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.

## **Skirrow, Fred**

***Age:***

31

***Rank:***

Warrant Officer

***Regiment:***

Royal Army Pay Corps

***Pre-war Occupations:***

Retail - Broadbents

***War Regions:***

Gibraltar, India

***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.

## Smallwood, Dennis R.

***Age:***

21

***Rank:***

Pilot Officer

***Regiment:***

RAF

***Pre-war Occupations:***

Waterworks Dept. Ilkley Council.

***War Regions:***

Middle East

***Experience:***

IG 5/11/43.

Joined RAF 1940 and to the Middle East in May 1942, Came home from 8th Army March 1943.

## 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.

## Stott, Kenneth

***Age:***

21

***Rank:***

Rifleman

***Regiment:***

Kings Royal Rifle Corps

***Pre-war Occupations:***

Clerical Officer - Air Ministry, London.

***War Regions:***

France (Normandy)

***Experience:***

IG 14/7/44.

Rejected by RAF on Medical grounds in 1941. Joined Kings Royal Rifle Corps and to France June 1944. Wounded while on active service in Normandy.

## Tipping, Philip Allen

***Age:***

21

***Rank:***

Lt

***Regiment:***

Royal Indian Army Service Corps

***Cemetery:***

St. Mary's Cemetery

***War Regions:***

India

***Experience:***

IG 5/5/44.

Following lecture Indian Army at IGS went to India as officer cadet in June 1943. Commissioned after passing through O.T. School in India. Met up with Gilbert Holdsworth.

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.

## Vallender, Phillip

***Age:***

23

***Rank:***

Capt

***Regiment:***

RASC

***Awards:***

Promotion - Promoted while out in France.

***Pre-war Occupations:***

Sun Life Assurance, Leeds

***War Regions:***

Belgium, France

***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.

## Waite, Geoffrey

***Age:***

22

***Rank:***

Lt

***Regiment:***

AA battery

***War Regions:***

North Africa

***Experience:***

IG 22/10/43.

Commissioned 1939 and overseas Feb 1943. Met Lt Peter Ombler frequently in North Africa. Both men attached to AA batteries.

## **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.

## Willoughby, James Douglas

***Age:***

23

***Rank:***

Cpl

***Regiment:***

RAF - 148

***Cemetery:***

Benghazi War Cemetery

***War Regions:***

Aden, North Africa

***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.