

# Malton War Memorial

## A history of the names on the new plaque

1914 - 1919

### John Herbert Brewer

Driver, Army Service Corps, T3/026089 Base Horse Transport, died 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1917.

Parents lived in the Market Place and before the war John worked on a farm in Settrington.

Remembered on Chatby Memorial in Alexandria. The memorial stands at the eastern end of the cemetery and commemorates almost one thousand service men who died in WW1 & have no grave. Many of them lost when hospital ships or transports were sunk in the Mediterranean.

John was on board the SS Cameronian under the command of Capt R Roberts on passage from Suda Bay in Crete to Alexandria carrying a large number of mules with a few soldiers to look after them. In the early morning of 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1917 the ship was torpedoed by U-boat UC34 commanded by Robert Sprenger when 50 miles NW by N one quarter N of Alexandria. Unfortunately a number of men were asleep in hammocks on the lower deck when the explosion flooded this deck and all were drowned, the ship sinking in 5 minutes. Those lost included Capt Roberts, two army officers and 30 other ranks together with one officer and nine of the crew.

The SS Cameronian of 5,861 tons was built in 1914 for the Hamburg-Amerika Line as the SS Kamerun to supply the German West Africa colony Kamerun, now the Republic of Cameroon. It was found abandoned on the River Kamerun by the Royal Navy and returned to the UK to be operated by the Liverpool based Leyland Line.

### Charles Burini

Company Quartermaster Serjeant, 7510, "D" Coy 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Yorkshire Regiment, died 20<sup>th</sup> March 1915 aged 23. Buried Boulogne Eastern Cemetery. Son of Lewis and Maria Burini of Scorton, Darlington, native of Malton.

Boulogne, was one of the three base ports used by the Commonwealth armies throughout the Great War and was one of the chief hospital areas. The dead from the hospitals were buried around the edge of the town cemetery and contains 5,577 burials.

Charles was a regular soldier serving as CQMS with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Yorkshire Regiment. The Battalion was on Guernsey when war was declared, returning to Southampton some three weeks later on 28<sup>th</sup> August to join the 21<sup>st</sup> Brigade in the 7<sup>th</sup> Division. The Division landed at Zeebrugge on 6<sup>th</sup> October 1914 and suffered heavy casualties during the First Battle of Ypres between 19<sup>th</sup> October and 22<sup>nd</sup> November. The Battalion did not regain full strength until February 1915.

It is probable that Charles was fatally wounded during the Battle of Neuve Chapelle between 10<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> March 1915. The battle was the first British deliberately planned offensive. After initial success on the first day the advance became bogged down and was abandoned due to a shortage of artillery ammunition.

## David William Parkinson

Private 19326, 6<sup>th</sup> Bn East Yorkshire Regiment, died 1<sup>st</sup> July 1917. Buried Brandhoek Military Cemetery. Son of Mrs J Green of Scagglethorpe.

Brandhoek is situated to the west of Ypres, out of range of all but the heaviest shells. The cemetery was opened in May 1915 in a field adjoining a dressing station. The cemetery contains 669 burials.

The 6<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion was raised at Beverley on 27<sup>th</sup> August 1914 and became a Pioneer Battalion to the 11<sup>th</sup> Division. They sailed for Gallipoli on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1915 before being posted to France in July 1916 to take part in the Somme battles.

During the latter part of May and first week of June 1917 the Battalion was constructing light railway tracks to support the forthcoming attack on Messines Ridge. General Plumer had been planning this attack for 18 months and tunnelled under the German lines to detonate 19 mines with some 600 tons of explosive at 03:10 am on the 7<sup>th</sup> June. The attack was successful. General Plumer remarked to his staff on the evening of the attack "*Gentlemen we may not make history tomorrow, but we shall certainly change the geography*". The explosions were said to be heard in Dublin.

Between the 20<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> June the Battalion marched to Elverdinghe to the north of Ypres. On the 30<sup>th</sup> June the Battalion was improving roads and defences around the Yser Canal and 1 OR was reported wounded. It is probable David was fatally wounded and died at Brandhoek dressing station, some 5 miles away on the following day.

## George Henry Roberts

Steward on the Steam Trawler Earl Howard (GY 332) died on 11<sup>th</sup> December 1914 aged 39. Born Malton. Commemorated on Tower Hill Memorial in London.

The Earl Howard of 226 grt was completed in 1914 by Cook, Welton & Gemmell Ltd of Beverley for the Earl Steam Fishing Co Ltd of Grimsby. She was posted missing on 11<sup>th</sup> December 1914 and was assumed to have struck a mine some 90 miles NE by N from Spurn Point whilst fishing. There were no survivors from the nine members of the crew.



A Grimsby Trawler of the Period

## 1939 - 1945

### Sidney Hardwick Brisby

Able Seaman P/JX 215424 HMS Avenger (D14). died 15<sup>th</sup> Nov 1942 aged 27. Commemorated on Portsmouth Naval Memorial.

Son of Frederick & Mary Hannah of Amotherby. Former pupil of Malton School.

HMS Avenger was launched in November 1940 as the merchant ship Rio-Hudson by the Sun Shipbuilding & Drydock Company in Chester, Pennsylvania. She was converted to an escort carrier and transferred to the Royal Navy and commissioned 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1942. She took part in the largest and most successful convoy, PQ18, to Russia in September 1942, during which ten out of the 41 merchant ships were sunk.

On 16<sup>th</sup> October 1942 HMS Avenger left Scapa to escort one of the convoys carrying the British assault force for Operation Torch on the north coast of Africa. Between 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> November HMS Avenger provided air cover for the landings, narrowly avoiding a torpedo from a Heinkel 111. Returning to Gibraltar she was sunk on 15<sup>th</sup> November by a single torpedo from U-155 commanded by Kappitanleutnant Adolf Piening. She sank quickly with only 12 of her 528 crew surviving.



HMS Avenger September 1942  
Sea Hurricanes of 883 Squadron on deck

## Alick Thomas Dale

Gunner 1118102 RHA. 287 (The Northumberland Hussars) anti-tank battery 107 (South Notts Hussars) Regt. Died 6<sup>th</sup> June 1942 aged 29, commemorated on the Alamein Memorial. Husband of A A Dale of Full Sutton. Former pupil of Malton School.

Alick was killed during the Battle of Knightsbridge, the subject of a famous painting by Terence Cuneo. Knightsbridge was the code name for one of a number of defensive boxes of brigade strength. These were self-contained strong points with the gaps between them being covered by minefields. Knightsbridge was located at a road junction to the west of Tobruk and defended against the German panzers by a battery of 25 pdr field guns of the South Notts Hussars. The Regiment was ordered on no account to retreat and fight to the last man and last round.

The panzers appeared just after dawn and repeatedly attacked until, at about 6 pm, the last gun was silenced.

The painting by Terence Cuneo shows Sgt Ray Ellis firing the last round at a panzer only 20 yards away. The man on his right was killed by German machine gun fire from their rear. Of the entire regiment only about 100 survived.

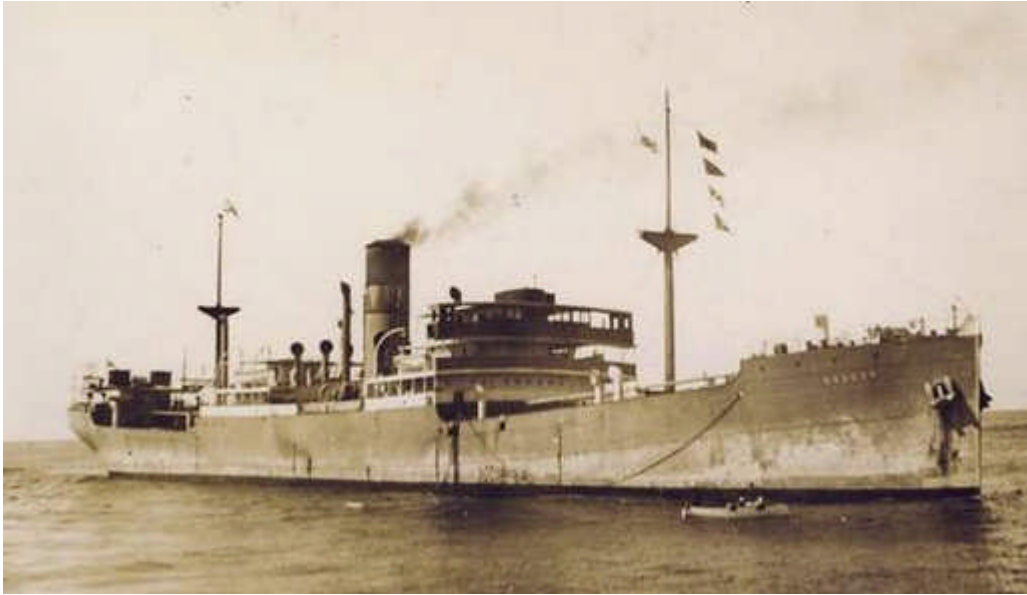


The Battle of Knightsbridge  
Terence Cuneo

## Louis Charles Glynn

Chief Officer SS Saugor (London), died 27<sup>th</sup> Aug 1941 aged 33. Commemorated on Tower Hill Memorial. Son of James Henry & Lily Gertrude of Swinton Grange. Former pupil of Malton School.

SS Saugor 6,303 tons was built by in 1928 by Harland & Wolff Ltd in Greenock for James Nourse Ltd of London. She was sunk by U-557, commanded by Kapitanleutnant Ottokar Arnold Paulssen, on 27<sup>th</sup> August 1941. SS Saugor was part of convoy OS-4 carrying general cargo and 28 aircraft bound for Calcutta via Freetown. At 53° 36'N, 16° 40'W west of Ireland between 01:25 and 01:43 U-557 fired four torpedoes and reported three ships sunk and one damaged. In fact only SS Segundo and SS Saugor were hit and sunk. Of the crew of 82, 59 were lost and 23 were picked up by the British rescue ship Perth and landed at Greenock on the following day.



SS Saugor

## John Newlove Holliday

Private 4390309, 5<sup>th</sup> Bn Green Howards  
Died 11<sup>th</sup> April 1945 aged 25. Berlin 1939-1945 War Cemetery.  
Son of John & Emily of Coneysthorpe. Former pupil of Malton School.

The site of the Berlin 1939-45 War Cemetery was selected by the British Occupational Authorities and Commission officials in 1945. Graves were brought to the cemetery from the Berlin area and eastern Germany. About 80% of the total graves were airmen who were lost in the air raids over Berlin and the towns of eastern Germany. The remainder were men who died as prisoners of war, some of them in the forced marches into Germany from camps in Poland, in front of the advancing Russians. The cemetery contains 3,595 Commonwealth burials.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Green Howards were Territorial soldiers with drill halls in Malton, Pickering, Scarborough, Driifield, Beverley and Filey. The Battalion was annihilated in both world wars.

It is possible John was captured during the retreat to Dunkirk but more probably at the Battle of Gazala in North Africa on 31<sup>st</sup> May 1942 when the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, under orders not to retreat, were surrounded and wiped out. About a week later Alick Dale, above, was killed in the same battle.

## Mark Lupton

Sgt 1456999 RAFVR 410 (RCAF) Squadron, died 23 Jan 1943 aged 34. Commemorated Runnymede Memorial.  
Son of Mark & Sarah Lupton, husband of Laura Mary Lupton, Skellow, Yorks. Brother of John, former pupil of Malton school.

410 was a night-fighter squadron formed at Ayr on 30 June 1941. Between Oct 1942 and Feb 1943 the squadron was at Acklington in Northumberland converting from Beaufighters to Mosquitoes.

While carrying out an authorised low flying exercise in the region of Seahouses the Mosquito night-fighter aircraft HJ919 in which Canadian Flight Sgt Garth Gibson Mills, (pilot) and Sgt Mark Lupton (radar operator) were flying was seen to nose-dive into the sea about 1 mile off the Seahouses Coastguard Station at approximately 1500 hrs. The enquiry established the aircraft stalled whilst performing a tight turn at low level.

## John Lupton

Flight Sgt 1381331 RAFVR (no squadron recorded), died 29 Dec 1943 aged 29, commemorated in Sheffield Crematorium.

Son of Mark & Sarah Ann Lupton, husband of Betty Lupton, Stillington. Former pupil of Malton School.

John was a pilot at No.1 Overseas Air Dispatch Unit (OADU) based at Portreath on the north coast of Cornwall. The Boston Mk 3, W8370 he was flying crashed into the ground near St Agnes shortly after take-off for unknown reasons. Of the crew of four, two were killed and two seriously injured.



Douglas Boston Mk 3s over Tunisia  
Spring 1943

## Clarence Midgley

Private 4444124, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn Durham Light Infantry, died 28<sup>th</sup> May 1940 aged 34. Buried at Longuenesse (St Omer) Souvenir Cemetery.

Son of Wilson and Beatrice M Midgley of Malton.

During the Great War St Omer was the centre for a number of casualty clearing stations. The Commonwealth cemetery is located next to the French garrison cemetery "Cimetiere du Souvenir Francais". The cemetery contains 2,874 burials from the Great War and 403 from World War 2.

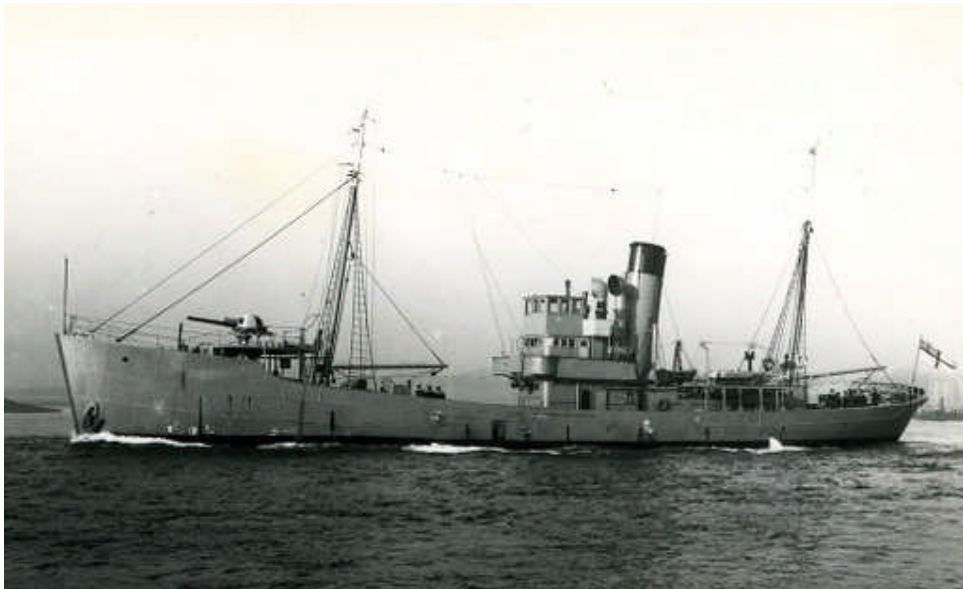
The 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn was a regular battalion hurriedly sent to France in September 1939 as part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division to be deployed on the Belgian border. When the Germans attacked on 10<sup>th</sup> May 1940 the Battalion moved forward into Belgium to the River Dyle where they held the Germans for two days until ordered to withdraw on the 16<sup>th</sup> May. During the action Lt Annand won the Army's first VC of the War.

The Battalion became part of the Dunkirk perimeter defence, positioned near St Venant, some 37 miles south of Dunkirk. Between the 24<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> May the Battalion held off attacks by four Panzer Divisions before being evacuated on the night of the 29<sup>th</sup> May. On reaching England the Battalion was reduced to the remains of D Company, B echelon troops, stragglers and convalescents; some 180 men.

## Verdun Rapp

Stoker LT/KX 104377 HM Trawler Tourmaline (T42), Royal Naval Patrol Service, died 5<sup>th</sup> February 1941, aged 23. Commemorated on Lowestoft Naval Memorial.  
Son of Tom and Amelia Rapp of Swinton.

HMT Tourmaline was built by Smith's Dock Co., Ltd on Teeside as an Anti-Submarine Warfare Trawler for the Royal Navy. She was launched on the 20<sup>th</sup> February 1935 completed in March and commissioned in November. She had a displacement of 641 tons and a single 4" gun. She was sunk by German aircraft off North Foreland, Kent whilst escorting a convoy through the Channel. An aircraft of No. 92 Squadron shot down a Junkers 87 after it had attacked HMT Tourmaline which was subsequently sunk by a second Ju 87.



HM Trawler Tourmaline

## John Murdo Smith

Chief Engineer, Steam Trawler Elmira (GY 969) from Grimsby, died 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1941 aged 43.  
Commemorated Tower Hill Memorial.  
Husband of Primrose Violet Smith of Malton.

The Elmira 197 grt was built in 1914. She was sunk by aircraft at 59° 55' N, 3° 40' W whilst fishing off the Shetland Islands. Of the crew of ten only one survived.

1946 -

## Peter Sharp

Private 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Green Howards, died 1<sup>st</sup> October 1971 aged 22. From Preston Teeside, married less than 6 months, his wife's brother was serving in the same company.

Peter was shot by the IRA at the junction of Chatham and Kerrera Street while on routine patrol in the Ardoyne area of Belfast. About an hour after the attack a civilian was shot, pursued and arrested not far away after troops had again come under fire. Peter was the fifth member of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Green Howards to be killed within two months.