

OVER THE TOP



News from the Front

December 1915, January-February 1916



THE LOSS OF THE ANGLIA

FEARED FATE OF A WOUNDED LOCAL HERO

News has been received that Lance Corporal W.E Twist, of the 10th York's who was recently in the Battle Of Loos, and afterwards wounded, was being invalided to England on the unfortunate Hospital-ship Anglia, and is missing and is believed to be drowned. He formerly lived at Stafford Place, Thornaby.



WOUNDED ARE ENTERTAINED

A party of lady munition workers from Teasdale works, Thornaby, entertained 50 wounded soldiers and sailors from Stockton and District to a social evening in the Grey Rooms at Norton. The social event, which was organised by Miss Stocks assisted by Misses Marshall and Cocleugh, proved a great success. The chair was taken by Sgt. Jameson, assisted by Sgt. Major Serpettehouse, both of the 5th D.L.I. Great was their pleasure to see the heroes so happy for a short time. Many local artistes gave their services and three young ladies from the works gave a very humorous dialogue.

The workers wish to convey their thanks to all the supporters and to say that the surplus funds are being spent on comforts for the boys in the trenches. The happy party broke up by singing "Auld Lang Syne" and the National Anthem. and with three cheers for the Army and Navy. A goodly supper was catered for by Miss F Stocks. The printing was given by Silversides and Dring Norton.

February 5th 1916 Stockton and Thornaby Herald

DIED AGED 100 YEARS

STOCKTON WOMAN WHO HAD NINETEEN CHILDREN

Many Stockton people would be acquainted with a very small, bent old figure, often loaded with a pile of boxes etc., which appeared far too heavy for such a frail old lady. This lady was Mrs Ann Bland, whose death has just taken place at James Street, in her 100th year. For her age the old lady's activity and strength was wonderful, and she was going about as usual earning a very modest living by selling firewood up till four days before she took ill. Mrs. Bland and her husband, who died about 20 years ago, lived for a long time in the Oxbridge district. Mrs Bland had 19 children, of which 3 sons and 5 daughters are still living.

Stockton and Thornaby Herald 29/01/1916

A PATRIOTIC STREET

A successful gathering was held at Norton Bungalow last Saturday evening, when about 200 people, mainly living in Beaconsfield St, Norton, met to welcome

home Leading Stoker Smith, HMS Britannia, who is on short leave , and occasion was taken to present him with an enlarged framed photograph of himself, a silver cigarette case and three boxes of cigarettes. The following artistes contributed to a most enjoyable evening's entertainment- Messrs Arthur Hope, Jimmy Grey, J Holmes, Ivor Holmes, Cumberland Batty, J Coney and Miss Blades. Over 50 residents of Beaconsfield- Street have joined the army and Navy, and a small committee of the residents has been formed to arrange similar functions on the return of any of these, either permanently or on leave, and to arrange for memorial services for those who may fall in battle. Under the presidency and guidance of Mr J H Williams, they have been so far most successful. In order to provide funds it has been arranged to hold a weekly whist drive at the bungalow.

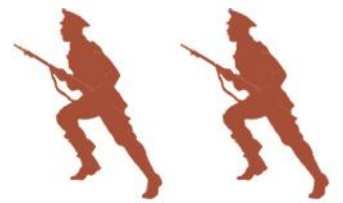
February 4th 1916 Stockton and Thornaby Herald

Arts, Culture and Leisure

Big plans for great experiences



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News from the Front

December 1915– January- February 1916

GOOD STOCKTON WORK

Following the example of a large number of other towns, a depot for Stockton and District has been opened at Norton Lodge, for the making of bandages, surgical dressings, splints, invalid slippers etc., to send to hospitals of the allied forces in the different theatres of War. The demand for such work is most urgent, and donations and offers of help for sewing, carpentering and packing from voluntary workers are earnestly requested. Those with gifts of old linen, white linen shirts etc. will be gratefully acknowledged.

The depot is open from 10am to 6pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays each week.

MAJOR RAIMES IN HOSPITAL

Mrs Raimes of Hartburn Lodge, Stockton, has just received a telegram informing her that her eldest son, Major Alwyn L. Raimes, has been admitted to hospital at Boulogne, suffering from a wound to his arm. The gallant Major describes his wound as slight, and it is hoped this description will be justified by his speedy recovery. Major Raimes has been at the front with the 5th Durham

Light Infantry since August last, and he had shown the greatest sympathy and consideration for relatives of those of his men who have fallen in the war.

22.1.1916
Stockton & Thornaby Herald

XMAS BEER AFTER ALL

When considering the fare of the annual Christmas dinner at the workhouse, the guardians of Stockton decided some weeks ago, for reasons of economy, to delete the beer allowance. At Wednesday's meeting of the board, Councillor Dennison said he had permission from two anonymous donors to say that they would be pleased to give the beer if the board would allow it. He therefore moved that the offer be accepted.

December 11th 1915
Stockton & Thornaby Herald

MAYOR OF STOCKTON ENLISTS

The mayor of Stockton, Councillor J. E Watson, has enlisted and has been attested under Lord Derby's Grouping Soberne. He is of military age, and married with a young family.

December 4th 1915
Stockton & Thornaby Herald

AN OPEN VERDICT

An inquest was held on Tuesday, at the Royal Hotel Middlesbrough, by the coroner, Mr O. H. Cochrane, on the body of a soldier of the Teesside Battalion, Stephen Sheraton Downs aged 28, of 55, Thorpe Street Stockton, who had been missing for some weeks, and whose body was found on the 9th of this month near Gjers works.

The wife of the deceased man stated that her husband, before he enlisted, worked at Messrs. Craig Taylor's shipyard. He did not appear to have anything on his mind, but he had been suffering from sleeplessness for a week or two. She had never heard him threaten to do away with himself and she last saw him on October 25th.

John Gaunt, of 36 White House Street, a man in the employ of Gjers Mills, gave evidence that on the 9th of this month he was down at the wharf, under which on slag bank he found the body of the deceased man. The body had the appearance of having been in the water for some days. The man was fully dressed except for his cap, and was in plain clothes.

Richard Henry Nelson, a soldier in the same Battalion as the deceased, stated that Downs seemed rather strange on October 25th and he was very restless.

Dr Proud said that in his opinion the deceased died from suffocation by drowning, and he was of the opinion that the various wounds on his body were not the result of violence. How the deceased got into the water there was no evidence to show.



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