



# OVER THE TOP



News from the Front

September 1914

## H.M.S. HOGUE: LOCAL SURVIVORS

Early in the morning of 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1914 the cruiser, H.M.S. Hogue was out on patrol in the North Sea when she was sunk after being torpedoed by a German submarine. Amongst the survivors were three stokers (Frank Mackay, William Pepper and Hugh Mallon) from Thornaby who gave their account in an interview with the *N-E Daily Gazette* which was reported on 28<sup>th</sup> September 1914:

Hugh Mallon: "Amos and I were about the last to leave the ship, and I had no difficulty in getting into a boat. At first I thought I was alone, but in a while I saw Pepper, and then the two others and that gave me good heart, as three of us had shipped together".

All three praised the skipper, Captain J. Jacobs, of the Lowescroft trawler

which rescued them referring to him as the "hero of the day".

The *Gazette* further reported that "Captain Jacobs and his crew did everything they could to make the men more comfortable. They turned out blankets and clothes and everything they had, and Jacobs rowed five miles to another boat in his old boat to get more food."

As a result of the attack "each of the three men of course lost the whole of his kit, and they value their losses at about £20 apiece. Mackay especially was a sufferer. 'You see', he said, 'I had made a lot of money by taking in the washing of other members of our crew, and all that went.'

"The only grievance they had was that they had to pay their fare home from Chatham, whereas men landed at Harwich had to their knowledge, been given free passes."

## FREE HAIR CUTS

"The children of all men who have joined the colours and who reside in the Cleveland Ward may have their hair cut free of charge on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays by Fred Taylor, 23 Gilkes Street, M'bro".

4<sup>th</sup> September 1914, EG

## STOCKTON SOLDIER'S LETTER

Private Templeman, one of the King's Own Scottish Border Regiment, writing to his mother, Mrs Templeman, of 5 Nolan Street, Stockton, gives some of his experiences in the fighting line. He has been wounded, and is at present lying in a hospital at London.

In his letter he says: "I have been in this hospital since Monday and have received splendid treatment.

We landed in France on the 15<sup>th</sup> July and after three days' hard marching arrived at the front. We had four days' terrific fighting at the Battle of Mons. The Germans were in strong force, and their numbers were about seven to one of ours.

They kept arriving in droves only to be mowed down like corn by our troops who held them in check for eight hours. Their dead and wounded must have been a terrible number.

Eventually we were forced to retire owing to the strength of the Germans.

The Germans are a cowardly lot.

I was wounded in the right hand and the bullet is still in it. Whilst the injury was being dressed, the church to which I have been taken was shelled by the enemy and three minutes after I left it the whole building was demolished.

The French and Belgian people were very kind to us".

12<sup>th</sup> September 1914

Stockton & Thornaby Herald

## CHILDREN'S WORK FOR CHILDREN

"Master Harry Bell of Cranbourne Terrace, Stockton, having a vast army of tin soldiers, decided to place them in battle array on a large table in his home, and then making a charge of admittance to view the exhibit. The amount realised was £2 16s, with which sum he entertained 240 needy children to a substantial breakfast on Sunday morning last. In like manner Dorothy Walton, of Hartington Road organised a children's bazaar, and realised the sum of 14s 8d which amount also fed 60 poor children. Both breakfasts were given through the agency of the Stockton and Thornaby Fresh Air Fund at the Quayside Mission Hall."

19<sup>th</sup> Sept 1914, S & T Herald

## STOCKTON SENDS TWELVE HUNDRED

"Up to midday today, over 1,200 had enlisted in Lord Kitchener's Army at Stockton and at Thornaby about 300 have enrolled."

4<sup>th</sup> September 1914, EG

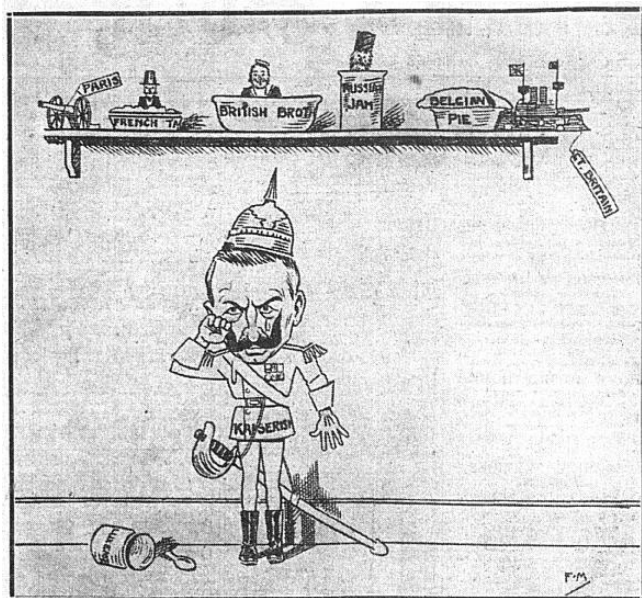
## A UNIQUE METHOD

"Two little Grange Estate girls – Greta Simpson and Dorothy Brewis – have hit upon a unique method of collecting for the National Relief Fund at Stockton. These little maids have a corps of children carrying Union Jacks, etc., following them, and whilst their satellites are engaging the interest of onlookers the two collectors detach themselves from the procession and present their 'N-E Daily Gazette' boxes for contributions. During their two hours march on Saturday last the little ones collected 11s 9d."

12<sup>th</sup> September 1914

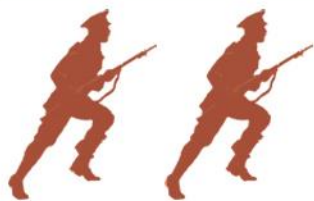
Stockton & Thornaby Herald

Arts, Culture and Leisure



KING WILLIE: "Bee, Hoo! They won't give me any more of the real stuff on the shelf; they say it makes me grow out my clothes."  
[With all the necessary acknowledgments]





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## OFFICERS AND CREW OF STOCKTON WIRELESS



Photo taken from the Stockton & Thornaby Herald

### MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE

A letter in a bottle from Durham Light Infantryman, Private Thomas Hughes was discovered eighty-five years after it was written. Discovered in 1999 by fisherman Steve Gowan in the River Thames, the letter was written to Private Hughes' wife Elizabeth two weeks before he was killed in action. It read:

*"Dear Wife, I am writing this note on this boat and dropping it into the sea just to see if it will reach you. If it does, sign this envelope on the right hand bottom corner where it says receipt. Put the date and hour of receipt and your name where it says signature and look after it well. Ta ta sweet, for the present. Your Hubby"*. Although Elizabeth died in 1979 Steve Gowan was able to deliver the letter to Thomas and Elizabeth's daughter Emily.

### NATIONAL RELIEF FUND

"The employees of Messrs J. Mainwaring & Co, Oxbridge Foundry, Stockton are paying 3d in the £ per week to the National Relief Fund".  
2<sup>nd</sup> September 1914, EG



## STOCKTON'S FALLEN

**Rifleman John Edward Law, King's Royal Rifle Corps**, was killed in action on 14/09/1914, aged 29, and is commemorated on La Ferte-Sous-Jouarre Memorial in France.

**Private Robert William Tarney, Loyal North Lancashire Regiment**, was killed in action on 14/09/1914 and is commemorated on La Ferte-Sous-Jouarre Memorial in France.

**Driver John William Sinkinson Todd, Royal Engineers**, died of wounds on 15/09/1914 and is buried in Vendresse British Cemetery in France.

**Lance Corporal Charles Richard Short, Northamptonshire Regiment** was killed in action at the Battle of the Marne on 17/09/1914, aged 25. He is commemorated on La Ferte-Sous-Jouarre Memorial in France.

**Stoker Isaiah Jefferson Bean, R.N.R., H.M.S. Pembroke** died of disease on 18/09/1914, aged 20 and was buried in Gillingham (Woodlands) Cemetery, Kent. He was born 11/11/1895 in Stockton to Robert and Hannah J. Bean.

**Sergeant William L. Carroll, Royal Field Artillery** was killed in action on 20/09/1914, aged 29, and was buried at Vendresse British Cemetery in France.

**Private Thomas William Hughes, DLI**, was killed in action on 21/09/1914, aged 26 and is commemorated on La Ferte-Sous-Jouarre Memorial in France.

**Private John William McIntosh, DLI**, was killed in action on 21/09/1914 and is commemorated on La Ferte-Sous-Jouarre Memorial in France.

**Stoker Alfred Albert Dunn, R.N.R., H.M.S. Hogue** was killed in action on 22/09/1914, aged 30 and is commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial. He was born 17/01/1886 in Thornaby to Joseph and Frances Dunn.

Many of the men above are named on **La Ferte-Sous-Jouarre Memorial** in France. This Memorial commemorates soldiers who have no known graves and fell at the battles of Mons, Le Cateau, the Marne and the Aisne between the end of August and early October 1914.

### BLANKETS FOR 5<sup>TH</sup> DURHAMS

"When it became known that the 5<sup>th</sup> D.L.I. were in need of blankets, Mr Squire Stamp, yard manager at Messrs Ropner and Son's Shipyard issued an appeal to the men at nine o'clock in the morning to raise 500. At 3 o'clock in the afternoon of the same day he had the wherewithal to send the required number to the battalion.

A further batch of blankets were also dispatched by the workmen of Messrs Richardson and Duck and Co., whose total contributions of these articles now numbers 260." 12<sup>th</sup> September 1914, Stockton & Thornaby Herald

**Wheat versus Meat**  
A Striking Lesson to Housewives.

**EVEN** at normal prices, Allinson Bread gives you more than twice the body-building elements and many times the warmth and energy-giving elements supplied by meat. Meat is at war prices but the **trade price of Allinson Flour has not been raised; therefore the price of Allinson Bread to the public remains normal. Its economy is therefore more than three-fold now.**

Allinson Bread is so complete a food, so nourishing and sustaining, that you can be independent of meat and other foods. Test it on this point: you will find it enables you to effect great economy in your shopping without depriving your family of necessary sustenance. In fact, a week on Allinson Bread—without meat—will make such an improvement in the family health, that you will need no persuasion to continue this delicious Bread as your staple diet, now and after the war.

**It must be Allinson.** Sold everywhere.

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UNADULTERATED WHOLEMEAL