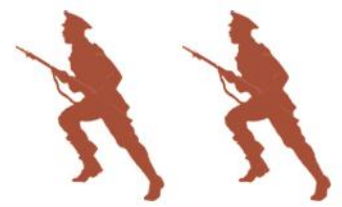


OVER THE TOP



News from the Front

March 1915

“AGAINST THE GRAIN”

**Submarine Captain Disgusted with His Task.
A Stockton Victim Capt. Lugg describes loss of SS Headlands**



Capt. Lugg of the SS Headlands, which was torpedoed and sunk near Scilly, has arrived at his home at Raby Road, Stockton. The gallant sailor was quite un affected by his exciting experiences when seen by representatives of the “Herald” “It was nothing to be alarmed about “ he said “You see we had been waiting for something of the sort for some time and we were quite prepared when it arrived.”

“I was on deck when we were ordered to heave to, but I tried to get my boat out of the way. What chance had I with my unwieldy 3,000 tonner against the very latest submarine, commanded by the smartest man in the German navy?” “Did you know him Captain?” “I knew him to be the officer who was in charge of the submarine who sunk the Cressy and its two companions.”

“We had got several of our boats into the water, and I had just taken a photograph of this submarine when the torpedo was fired.

There was of course, an explosion, and a mixture of cargo coal and other things showered above us.” “Here is a piece of torpedo,” picking up a small jagged piece of metal similar to the pieces of shell one sees as souvenirs of the Hartlepool bombardment.

“The captain took us in towards Scilly until the patrol boats came along, and he laid to sheer off. He was very polite, and said that work of that grain was against the grain for him, but he was forced to do it. I did not speak to him, but he spoke to my crew. He used excellent English.”

“You are none the worse for your experience” – “Not a bit; in fact, I’m glad of the few days at home for a change. This is the longest holiday I’ve had for three years.”

Stockton & Thornaby Herald 20th March 1915.

The photograph below was taken from the deck of the British Steamer SS Headlands as it was pursued by Submarine U29. One of Germany’s first submarine commanders Otto Eduard Weddigen was the Commander of the submarine at that time.



The photograph below shows the crew of the of the SS Headlands landing in the Scilly Isles after being torpedoed by U29. The U boat was chased away by patrol craft and the ship taken in tow, but she sank one mile South of Scilly, the crew, took to the lifeboats, and they were towed ashore by the auxiliary steam patrol vessel Dart.



WOMEN IN NEW ROLES

The barriers which hitherto have prevented women from engaging in work solely done by men are gradually being broken down under the influence of the war.

One of the first occupations in this category in the Manchester district to undergo this change is that of railway carriage cleaning.

The Great Central Railway Company, at the Ardwick sheds has introduced women for this work consequent upon many of the men having rallied to the colours.

Stockton & Thornaby Herald 27 March 1915



OVER THE TOP



News from the Front

March 1915

STOCKTON'S FALLEN

Albert George Carter S4/058799
"A" Coy Royal Army Service Corps
died on the 2nd March 1915. Son of Mr
R.W. & Mrs A. Carter, 1, Airton Street,
Stockton-on-Tees

Private Thomas Frost 3*8524 2nd Bn.
Alexandra, Princess of Wales's Own
(Yorkshire Regiment) was killed in
action on the 12th March 1915.
Husband of Florence Frost (Nee
Forden), of 8 May Street, Stockton-on-
Tees

Private Hugh Alexander Johnston,
6564 2nd Bn. Alexandra Princess of
Wales's Own (Yorkshire Regiment),
was killed in action on the 10th March
1915. He was the youngest son of
Robert and Margaret Johnson,
Georgina Street, Thornaby. Husband of
Elizabeth, (nee Upton) 13, Windsor
Road

Private Robert Cornelius Meynell,
5th Bn. Northumberland Fusiliers died
on 28th March 1915 at the age of 16.
Son of Elizabeth & Harry Meynell, 47,
Thornaby Road.

Lance Corporal Thomas Mullen, 1st
Bn. Northumberland Fusiliers, was
killed in action 13th march 1915. Born
Stockton-on-Tees

Sergeant George Harry Oram, 4th
Bn. Royal Rifle Corps was killed in
action on the 2nd March 1915.

**Bandmaster/Bombardier William
Thomas Roberts,** 8071 2nd/3rd Duke
of Cornwall's Light Infantry. Died
on the 4th March 1915 at the age of
44 of Spotted Fever and is buried in
Falmouth Cemetery.

Private Moses Sefton. 8069 1st Bn
Highland Light Infantry was killed in
action on 11th March 1915.

Hippodrome Stockton

Chief fixtures next week will be a
grand descriptive fantasia of the
Birdwell Prize Band entitled "A
Soldier's Life" John Clark, the
famous ventriloquist will appear
with his funny assistant "Hodge"
the yokel. The Four Sisters Ruby,
in a contortion and acrobatic turn,
will be well worth seeing, while
other good times will be rendered
by Mina Bax, dancer, and George
Lawrence, comedian.

Evening Gazette 13 March 1915



WOMEN'S MILITARY CORPS

The Committee of the Stockton and
Thornaby Women's Military Corps
have decided upon their uniform,
and have drawn up a set of rules and
arranged the time table for the
training to begin. The object of the
corps is to train women in signalling,
ambulance driving, military drill,
cycling, route marching and shooting
to enable them to assist the local
authorities in times of necessity.
People interested in the movement
should attend the next meeting in the
Y.M.C.A. Dovecot Street tomorrow
evening, at 7:30pm or send a
stamped addressed envelope to the
secretary, Miss B Forster, Ferndene,
Billingham Avenue, Norton-on-Tees

Evening Gazette 15 March 1915

A POEM OF TO-DAY

What have you done for your
country?
How have you answered the call?
Are you pleased with the part you are
playing?
In the job that demands us all?
Have you changed the tweed for the
Khaki?
To serve with the rank and file as
your comrades are gladly serving.
Or isn't it worth the while?
Can you meet the eyes of your
fellows?
Or have you to turn away
When they talk of stay at home
slacker
Have you never a word said?
When you read the roll of honour of
living and dead – what then?
What have you done for England?
Ask of your heart today.