

OVER THE TOP



News from the Front

June – July – August 1917

The Military Medal



PRIVATE G. JACKSON

News has been received that Private G. Jackson of 23 Castlereagh Road, Stockton, who prior to the war, was employed at the Malleable Works has been awarded the Military Medal and has been promoted to Corporal.

S&T.H. 2 June 1917

BRAVE THORNABY SOLDIER

Private William Bates, of the Yorkshire Regiment, attached to the Light Trench Mortar Battery, son of Mr and Mrs Edward Bates, 39 Lanehouse Road, Thornaby, has been awarded the Military Medal. The official record of the award reads: "At the capture of Hill 60 on 7th June 1917, after his corporal had been killed, he took command of the gun and team, which he handled with exceptional

skill and judgement. He led his men with energy and showed great determination and courage".

Private Bates who is 24 years of age was employed at Messrs. W. Whitwell & Co.'s Ironworks, Thornaby, prior to joining up in August 1914.

S&T.H. 21 June 1917

PRIVATE DAVIES

Mrs R. Davies of 31 Hanlon Street, Stockton has received the ribbon for the Military Medal which her husband was awarded on the 7th of last month for conspicuous determination and devotion to duty.

His commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel E.F. Fairner of the 69th Co., Machine Gun Corps, has sent the following graphic account of the deed which won the M.M.

During the attack of the 69th Brigade on the Hill 60 Sector on 7th June 1917, Private Davies

was wounded in the wrist whilst carrying his load. Despite being wounded and going through a heavy barrage fire, he reached his objective, and did not go to the dressing station until ordered to do so by his section officer.

S&T.H. 21 June 1917



The Médaille Militaire

BRAVE YARM CORPORAL

Corporal Christopher Croft, who belongs to Yarm, and at the time of enlistment was employed as a putter at Easington Colliery, has been awarded the Military Medal. An ammunition pit of a trench mortar battery was reported on fire. Croft immediately went to the spot, and regardless of danger, helped to extinguish the fire, which had reached a considerable height, accomplishing this under heavy enemy fire all the time.

S&T.H. 28 June 1917

STOCKTON SOLDIER HONOURED

Lance-Corporal Sambrook of 57 Hume Street, Stockton, who has been wounded on five occasions, has been awarded the French decoration, the Médaille Militaire.

In conveying this news to him, Colonel R. Bradford, V.C. offers his

congratulations, and says: - "Ever since you came to the battalion I have regarded you as a type of a good and true soldier; your consistent and efficient work, and your steadfast devotion to duty have been

a very great help to the battalion and to the country."

S&T.H. 28 June 1917



The Military Cross

M.C. FOR A STOCKTON OFFICER

Quartermaster and Honourable Lieutenant Ben Williams of Stockton has been awarded the Military Cross for distinguished services in the field. This officer, who is well known in the district, fought through the Boer War and won quite a number of laurels, and has been in the thick of the fighting in the present war since the beginning of hostilities.

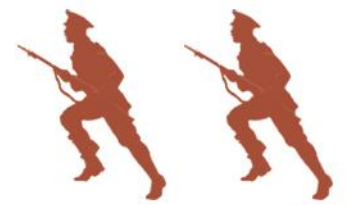
He is of a most retiring nature, and it is only by the merest chance that his relatives have learned of his recognition by the military command, although it is now some weeks since it was received.

S&T.H. 28 June 1917

Arts, Culture and Leisure



OVER THE TOP



News from the Front

June – July – August 1917

PRIVATE GREEN

Private N.E. Green, R.A.M.C. of 24 Durham Street, Stockton serving with the Salonika Army, has been awarded the Croix de Guerre with bronze stars for conspicuous bravery during the bombardment of his hospital.
S&T.H. 7 June 1917

SOLDIER'S TRAGIC HOMECOMING

"Sudden death during extreme mental excitement", was the verdict returned at an inquest at Stockton on Monday on Annie M. Ibbotson (38) of 25 Alliance Street, who whilst opening the door for her husband, a soldier who arrived on leave late on Saturday night, fell down and expired in the passage.

William H. Ibbotson, of the R.G.A. stated that he arrived home about 11.30pm and his wife opened the bedroom window to ascertain who it was. Recognising the voice she shut the window, went downstairs and was unlocking the door when he heard her gasp and fall.

On affecting an entrance, the deceased was found lying in the passage and the doctor who was sent for, pronounced life extinct. For some time she had been very nervous; any

The Croix de Guerre



shock or excitement causing palpitation. Medical evidence showed that she had died from heart failure.
S&T.H. 9 June 1917

CPL. JAMES HUGILL

Corporal James Hugill, Royal Horse Guards of Thornaby has been awarded the Military Medal for bravery on the field. He was decorated by His Majesty the King at the Hyde Park investiture on the 2nd inst.

S&T.H. 16 June 1917

A HAVERTON HILL HERO

Lance-Corporal George Armstrong, D.L.I., son of Mr and Mrs Armstrong, Osborne Street, Haverton Hill, has been awarded the Military Medal for conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty on the morning of May 13 1917, during an evening raid on our front line trenches in the Ypres salient.

He was in charge of a Lewis gun, and through the exceedingly heavy

bombardment, which preceded the raid, he kept his team together in a state of readiness.

The Lewis gun on his left having sustained a direct hit and his own sentry knocked out, he took up observation duty himself and brought his gun into action at the critical moment, successfully repelling one raiding party and afterwards firing on the enemy's second wave. His coolness and judgement were everything that could be desired.

He has previously been noted for his good work.
E.G. 5 June 1917

PATRIOTIC NORTON STREET

Two memorial services have recently been held by the Beaconsfield Street Soldiers' and Sailors' Association, Norton, in memory of residents who have given their lives in the service of their country.

Gunner Russell, who volunteered to find a sniper that had caused considerable trouble to the battery, unfortunately fell a victim to the enemy, and died on April 20th. Before the war he was employed by Messrs Nelson, Ltd., butchers.

The service was conducted by Councillor Elliott, assisted by Mr King.

Private C. Bean, D.L.I.,

was killed in action on April 23rd. He was 19 years of age, and had been in France one year. The Reverend H. Harrison Gower, assisted by Councillor Elliott and Mr J.W. King, conducted the service.

The patriotic spirit of the residents of Beaconsfield Street has frequently been referred to. There is scarcely a family that has not one or two of the members in the land or sea forces.

The association formed by the residents has done admirable service in arranging both the reception and entertainment of those at home on leave and in holding suitable services in memory of those who have made the supreme sacrifice.

S&T.H. 16 June 1917

CAPTAIN AT 21

Lieutenant William Slater, son of Mr M. Slater, Stockton who was reported yesterday to be in hospital in Rouen, has been gazetted Captain. He is 21 years of age, and is probably one of the youngest captains in the Army.

S&T.H. 16 June 1917



Arts, Culture and Leisure



SOLDIERS FALLEN

June 1917

Corporal Thomas Robert Burn – 2/6/1917
4th Field Co., Australian Engineers

Private Harold William Robinson – 5/6/1917
8th Bn., Yorkshire and Lancaster Regiment

Corporal William I. Baker – 7/6/1917
70th Co., Machine Gun Corps

Corporal George Henry Harper – 7/6/1917
9th Bn., Alexandra, Princess of Wales' Own (Yorkshire Regiment)

Private Harold Victor Hayes – 7/6/1917
9th Bn., Alexandra, Princess of Wales' Own (Yorkshire Regiment)

Private Albert Lewis – 7/6/1917
195th Bn., Machine Gun Corps

Corporal Alfred George Heseltine Smith – 7/6/1917
1st Bn., Northumberland Fusiliers

Private Frederick Wilson Pringle – 10/6/1917
1st Bn., Duke of Edinburgh's (Wiltshire Regiment)

Captain Arthur H. Robinson – 11/6/1917
Legion of Frontiersmen

Private George Ernest/Ernest George Foulger – 13/6/1917
'B' Co., 9th Bn., Alexandra, Princess of Wales' Own (Yorkshire Regiment)

Sapper Litchford Ernest Brierley – 14/6/1917
169th Coast Works Co., Royal Engineers

Private John Thomas Humphreys – 16/6/1917
13th Bn., Northumberland Fusiliers

Sapper Joseph Richardson – 18/6/1917
225th Field Co., Royal Engineers

Private John Robert Wood – 24/6/1917
'A' Co., 2nd Bn., Prince of Wales' Own (West Yorkshire Regiment)

Gunner George Price – 25/6/1917
9th Bn., Alexandra, Princess of Wales' Own (Yorkshire Regiment)

Private George Oliver Cross – 26/6/1917
10th Bn., Alexandra, Princess of Wales' Own (Yorkshire Regiment)

Private William Humphreys – 26/6/1917
1st/5th Bn., Durham Light Infantry

Sergeant Reuben William Marshall – 26/6/1917
1st/5th Bn., Durham Light Infantry

Lance-Corporal Charles Sykes – 26/6/1917
1st/5th Bn., Durham Light Infantry

Lance-Corporal James William Wallace – 26/6/1917
1st/5th Bn., Durham Light Infantry

Private William Blackwood Campbell – 27/6/1917
'C' Co., 1st/5th Bn., Durham Light Infantry

Sergeant Fred Hardwick Merryweather – 27/6/1917
1st/5th Bn., Durham Light Infantry

Sergeant Richard Flattely – 28/6/1917
12th Bn., Durham Light Infantry

Private Robert Bransby – 29/6/1917
20th Bn., Durham Light Infantry

July 2017

Private John Joseph Humble – 2/7/1917
6th Bn., (Inniskilling) Dragoons

Gunner Sidney Clifford Tingle – 4/7/1917
1st Northumbrian (North Riding) Heavy Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery

Private Joseph Nichols – 6/7/1917
11th Bn., Northumberland Fusiliers

Gunner Percy Smithson – 6/7/1917
1st Northumbrian (North Riding) Heavy Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery

Second-Lieutenant William Richmond Clephan, M.C. – 7/7/1917
5th Bn., Durham Light Infantry

Private William Hutton Minikim – 7/7/1917
1st/9th Durham Light Infantry

Private George Walter Peat – 8/7/1917
3rd Bn., Wellington Regiment, N.Z.E.F.

Stoker William Brown – 9/7/1917
Royal Naval Reserve, H.M.S. Vanguard

Stoker John William Chisman – 9/7/1917
Royal Naval Reserve, H.M.S. Vanguard

Stoker John Collins – 9/7/1917
Royal Naval Reserve, H.M.S. Vanguard

Stoker Joseph Elvin – 9/7/1917
Royal Naval Reserve, H.M.S. Vanguard

Leading Stoker Thomas Frederick Hall – 9/7/1917
Royal Naval Reserve, H.M.S. Vanguard

Stoker Walter Lane – 9/7/1917
Royal Naval Reserve, H.M.S. Vanguard

Stoker William Watts – 9/7/1917
Royal Naval Reserve, H.M.S. Vanguard

Sergeant John William Southall – 10/7/1917
Royal Army Veterinary Corps

Private John William Lowes – 14/7/1917
200th Co., 25th Div. Train, Royal Army Service Corps

Corporal Thomas William Harland – 15/7/1917
22nd Bn., Durham Light Infantry

Private William Charles Anderton – 22/7/1917
9th Bn., Alexandra, Princess of Wales' Own (Yorkshire Regiment)

Sapper Frederick William Day – 22/7/1917
234th Field Co., Royal Engineers

Sapper Thomas Stoker Clasper – 24/7/1917
101st Field Co., Royal Engineers

Private Charles Adam Tait – 24/7/1917
18th Bn., The King's (Liverpool Regiment)

Guardsman Oswald Frederick Carter – 25/7/1917
1st Bn., Grenadier Guards

Private George Adamson Lambert – 25/7/1917
13th Bn., Alexandra, Princess of Wales' Own (Yorkshire Regiment)

Private William Raistrick – 25/7/1917
1st/4th Bn., Alexandra, Princess of Wales' Own (Yorkshire Regiment)

Driver Ernest Nettleship Sowler – 25/7/1917
'B' Bty., 83rd Bde. Royal Field Artillery

Private Christopher Smith – 26/7/1917
2nd Bn., Bedfordshire Regiment

Lance-Corporal Robert William Addison – 27/7/1917
10th Bn., The Prince Consort's Own (Rifle Brigade)

Rifleman Harry Taylor Laws – 28/7/1917
'D' Co., 13th Bn., The Prince Consort's Own (Rifle Brigade)

Private George C. Kidd – 31/7/1917
2nd Bn., Grenadier Guards

Private Reginald Guyll Simpson – 31/7/1917
23rd Bn., Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex Regiment)

Corporal John William Stewart – 31/7/1917
234th Field Co., Royal Engineers

Private John Henry Ward – 31/7/1917
23rd Bn., Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex Regiment)

August 2017

Corporal Charles Bailes Colbeck – 1/8/1917
235th Army Troops Company, Royal Engineers

Sergeant Leonard Harding – 1/8/1917
8th Bn., Prince Albert's (Somerset Light Infantry)

Sergeant Wilfred Eric Alderson – 2/8/1917
4th Grenadier Guards

Private Robert Edward Ridley – 4/8/1917
8th Bn., The Loyal North Lancashire Regiment

Gunner James Stirling – 4/8/1917
122nd Northumbrian (North Riding) Heavy Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery

Private Robert Kenneth Malcolm – 6/8/1917
140th Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps

Private Andrew Watt Ventress – 10/8/1917
13th Bn., Cheshire Regiment

Private Richard James – 11/8/1917
195th Machine Gun Corps



Master Mariner John Gatenby Carling – 14/8/1917
Mercantile Marine, S.S. Thames

Private Innes (John) Kirk – 14/8/1917
6th Bn., Alexandra, Princess of Wales' Own (Yorkshire Regiment)

Private Arthur Pettinger – 14/8/1917
6th Bn., Alexandra, Princess of Wales' Own (Yorkshire Regiment)

Private Walter Stevens – 15/8/1917
1st Bn., Sherwood Forresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiments)

Private John William Brown – 16/8/1917
1st Bucks Bn., Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry

Lance-Corporal Charles Richard Riley – 16/8/1917
1st/5th Bn., Durham Light Infantry

Private Harry Worton – 16/8/1917
8th Bn., Northumberland Fusiliers

Rifleman Arthur Harlow Wood – 17/8/1917
11th Bn., King's Royal Rifle Corps

Private William Blyth – 23/8/1917
10th Bn., Durham Light Infantry

Private James William Todd – 23/8/1917
10th Bn., Durham Light Infantry

Private Daniel Daniels – 27/8/1917
6th Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry

Private Charles Albert Hunter Sawdon – 28/8/1917
19th Bn., Durham Light Infantry

Private George Edward Sorton – 28/8/1917
8th (Service) Bn., York and Lancaster Regiment

Lance-Corporal Ernest Learoyd Griffiths – 30/8/1917
1st/8th Bn., City of London (Post Office Rifles)

