Edited by Trevor Frecknall, author of Newark in The Great War

# Great War Bulletin

No. 6 ... Newark ... Monday 7 September 1914

### Sherwoods 'honoured' to be chosen for War

THE local men of the Sherwood Foresters have been "honoured" to be chosen to go to France and join in The Great War.

The momentous news was given by the Mayor of Newark, Councillor John Kew, today during a visit to the

Stanley Works.

The men of A Ransome and Company were assembled in the main shop by company directors to hear the news.

Earlier in the day, a large gathering of representatives of important companies gather at the Works to watch a demonstration of Ransome's "new and remarkable woodworking machine" that planes and prepares match-boarding at extraordinary speed.

The Mayor then moved on to the James Simpson factory at Lowfield to announce that the Foresters' training in Bedfordshire had obviously progressed well despite the disappointing news last week about the number of shirkers who had returned home.

The news came only a few hours after Colonel C J Huskinson, Commanding Officer of the Sherwoods' 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion, made an unexpected return to Newark on Sunday evening under orders from the General Commanding the North Midlands Brigade to "hurry up the recruits required to bring the Battalion up to War strength".

His arrival coincided with the Battle of Marne checking Germany's relentless advance at the cost of 13,000 British, 250,000 French and 250,000 German casualties.

During the meetings with the workers at Newark's biggest two

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# SICK AND SHIRKERS

NEWARK and its surrounding villages were stunned last week to discover that more than one third of the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion Sherwood Foresters have returned home from their training camp.

A total of 650 officers and men made the great march out of the Market

Place on 10 August.

Since then, they have undergone marches in Derbyshire to prove their fitness.

And they have experienced intensive training in Hertfordshire for the tasks ahead.

Now it transpires that 270 of them have returned to the Newark Barracks.

The serious allegation against them is that they have declined to fight for King and country in France.

"It is regrettable that so many of the men who returned are

## 270 Terriers come back home!

young and unmarried," scalded the *Newark Advertiser*, which had the exclusive story.

The Advertiser was able to add surprising detail: "It is pleasing to chronicle that few, if any, of them are Newarkers. Of 23 men from Calverton, on the other hand, 18 have come back."

It transpired later that 135 of the 270 had been deemed medically unfit to fight.

But the fact remained that another 135 men had reneged on their previous promise – and thus became the first in the district to be condemned as 'shirkers' by a community overcome by patriotism.

### Joiner John is so honest

WELL-known joiner John Wright found a small leather purse on Cartergate today. He took it to Newark Police Station, where it was found to contain £3 in gold, a £5 note and a £1 note but no clue as to the owner's identity. Mr Wright, 58, of 60 William Street, received as a reward ... congratulations for his honesty.

Follow Newark's trauma in The Great War as it happened 100 years ago this week

### 100 specials sworn-in to police town

AT a unique event in the Town Hall on Wednesday evening, 100 special constables were sworn-in by Mayor Kew, the Chief Constable having sworn that he felt such a step was necessary in the prevailing crisis. They were:

Harry Pink, 78, Albert Street.
Frederick Short, 62, Albert Street.
George English, 96, Albert Street.
Arthur Pass, 3, Albert Street.
Arthur Pass, 3, Albert Street.
Reginald Hall, 3, Appletongate.
Herbert East, 3, Appletongate.
Herbert East, 3, Appletongate.
Herbert East, 4, Appletongate.
Herbert East, 5, Appletongate.
Herbert East, 67, Appletongate Andon K. Stray, 30, New Instreet.

William C. H. Gumsley, 11, Parliament Street.

Walter Edlin, 186, Northgate.

Onrace Mackinder, 43, Northgate.

On Kilduff, 168, Northgate.

Lane, Kapper, Lane, Cander, Ca Lane.
Lane.
Lane.
Chiur G. Samm, II. Winchilsea Avenue.
O Killey, 17, Winchilsea Avenue.
hn Knott. 29, William Street.
o, H. Roberts, 23, Wellington Road.
Gilbert Robinson, Farndon Road.
Orge Clark, Town Hall.
s. Oxborough, 7. Chester Place.
ephen Hall, 7. Taylor's Yard.
os. Beeston, 14, George Street.
los. George Street.
los

### To the Men of Newark.

Join your local Territorial Regiments.

400 to 500 MEN WANTED for Sherwood Rangers.

1,000 MEN WANTED for New Battalion Sherwood Foresters.

Home Defence or Foreign Service.

Apply Drill Hall, Newark; or Lieut. Barrow, The Barracks,

Hawton Road, Newark.

Public Actices.

NEWARK & DISTRICT.

PATRIOTIC MEETING

To aid Recruiting, will be held in

THE KINEMA, BALDERTONGATE,

NEWARK,

Friday Next, Sept. 11th,

AT 8 P.M.

DOORS OPEN AT 7.30.

CHAIR TO BE TAKEN BY HIS GRACE THE

DUKE OF PORTLAND, K.G.

...Continued from front page

employers, the Mayor explained that these were "exceptional circumstances" and emphasised the urgent need to bring the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion up to full strength.

A great honour had been conferred on the Division in which the Battalion had been placed: it alone, of all the Territorial forces, had been accepted for foreign service in France.

Lord Kitchener, the War Minister, wished to despatch these troops before the end of September.

The listening workers applauded when the Mayor added that it was patent to all who had read of the brilliant exploits of our wonderful Army in

Belgium and France that all it lacked was the adequate numbers to worthily represent the vast interests and power of the British Empire.

Simpson's revealed that they have already contributed 85 recruits – all of them volunteers – and more are expected to respond to this fresh call to arms.

#### Deserter pledges: I'll fight

ROYAL Navy desewrter Stephen James Brownlow appeared in Newark Borough Police Court on Thursday and was discharged by the magistrates (Alderman W E Knight and Major E F Milthorp) when he promised to enlist.

### Relief abuses must stop!

CLAIMING that "abuses have already arisen", the Newark Distress Subcommittee met in the Town Hall on Thursday evening and insisted on taking over the distribution of relief from other organisations such as the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association.

### Clerk's son is promoted

LIEUTENANT Hugh Tallents, solicitorson of the Clerk of Newark Town Council, has been promoted to Captain in the Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry. A qualified instructor in musketry, he received his first commission in 1905 and his second star in 1910.

