

Great War Bulletin

No. 13...Newark...Monday 26 October 1914

Inventor Joe passes away

NEWARK'S oldest tradesman, cutler Joseph Trickett, died at his home in Wellington Road on Wednesday aged 84.

Over the decades, he has invented and patented many tools and was especially praised by the trade journal, *The Ironmonger*, for his horse-clipper that was adopted by the British cavalry regiments.

WAR WOUNDED IN NEWARK

THE tradition of Sunday being the day of rest was abandoned yesterday when 20 wounded soldiers were rushed to Newark for treatment.

It was a case of "all hands to the pump" when the soldiers – 12 Belgian and eight British – arrived at Newark Midland Station.

They were taken to Newark Hospital in a fleet of cars kindly loaned by C E Ford and Son, Harrison and Company, and Mather and Company.

They are accommodated in Davy Ward, the new children's ward

20 heroes to be treated in our General Hospital

opened recently by the Duke of Portland, and the Branston Ward.

The Belgians look well in their red jackets, which have been made in Newark by members of the Mayoress's Committee, and they

seem very contented with their fresh, tranquil surroundings.

The British are inclined to be somewhat more reserved, doubtless suffering shock at their fate.

They are named as Sergeant W

Turnbull, Durham Light Infantry; Corporal Carnall, 2nd West Yorks; Private T Whittingham, 2nd South Staffords; Private W Bloomfield, 2nd Durham Light Infantry; Private G Brown, Northants Regt; Private J Moran, 2nd Sherwood Foresters; Private S Boden, 5th Manchesters; Private P Fox, 2nd Leinsters.

Nobody queried publicly why local lads were not being sent to their home hospitals.

The fact was that there were so many casualties, they were rushed anywhere capable of taking them.

Sailor William's inspiring letter

A SAILOR has written home to his family at 4 Lincoln Row, off Slaughterhouse Lane, Newark, telling them of "a picnic" with German destroyers.

Thirtyone-year-old First Class PO William Henry Summerfield explained that he was doing a bit of training on *HMS Undaunted* alongside four destroyers when they happened across four German ships in the North Sea.

"They didn't have a chance," he went on. "I didn't take the time but I think it was only about an hour's job [to sink the enemy] and then we went to tea..."

"I like to give praise where it's due, for they

fought like seamen and died as such. You know I've always said there's no navy in the world can shoot like ours ...

"We got a good reception on our return [to Harwich] but, of course, us strangers managed to get away without too much fuss.

"Anyway, it's been a very nice break in the monotony and all I want is to be with the Grand Fleet when their [German] Fleet comes out, and I reckon we'll show them how to use big guns as well."

William was brought-up in Lincoln Row by an uncle, John Burks, a cooper, along with his brother Edward (born 1885), who works as a hay and straw press maker.

Town's SJAB volunteers reach Pacific danger

THE first volunteers to leave Newark on active service – Sgt H Reed, Cpl Trollope, F Mottram and George Cottam of the St John Ambulance Brigade – are now in Hong Kong.

They have joined the No.7 Hospital Ship, which has left for Port Arthur, where there is great activity just now between the German and Japanese fleets.

The result of the activity was that Japan's Imperial Navy took control of Germany's Pacific Island colonies.

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

Trent work after War

Nottingham Corporation today agreed to a £150,000 scheme to improve the navigation of the Trent from Newark to the city in order that large barges can use it.

The idea is that the work will be carried out by men left unemployed when businesses close down as a result of the war.

The most amazing aspect is that nobody disagrees with the theory that there will be fewer employees once peace returns ... whenever that is.

Coddington riflers take aim at last

CODDINGTON villagers have launched a Rifle Club three years after their original efforts were thwarted by War Office red tape.

The Rector, chairing the meeting, gave such a rousing speech that £3 2s 6d was immediately pledged to help buy guns and ammunition.

Silver celebrations

LONDON Road Congregational Church celebrated its 25th anniversary on Sunday with a service conducted by the Reverend Ashby G Mays.



Captured cap boost for Newark refugees

A GERMAN soldier's cap, sent home to Newark by Captain Frank Baker Gresham – the son of the veterinary surgeon at 9 King's Road – went on display at the Mount School on Friday.

The head master, Mr Herbert Speight, a no-nonsense Yorkshireman, charged 1d a time for a look at it, aiming to raise £1 for the Belgian Refugees' Relief Fund.

A concert was staged at the Britannia Inn, Farndon, last Wednesday evening in aid of the same good cause.

They were but two of the money-raising events organised by volunteers to help fund the town's refugees, who had arrived virtually penniless.

Elections off while War continues

NOMINATIONS closed on Saturday for Newark Town Councillors, and it was confirmed that there would be no elections.

The men nominated and elected unopposed were:

Redmond Barton Cafferata, plaster manufacturer of 109 Millgate;

Charles Stephenson, agricultural engineer of 3 King's Road;

Alfred Lacy, grocer of 21 The Park;

John Pratt, fish and game dealer of Cartergate;

William Kemp Clarke, confectioner and caterer of 37 Stodman Street;

Walter Renshaw, builder and licensed victualler of Stodman Street.

Would-be electors did not know at the time, but the entire country would come round to Newark's view that there would be no time for elections while The Great War was on.

General Elections – along with county and local council elections – were all postponed for as long as the country had to concentrate on the more important tasks of keeping the military equipped and the country fed.

Prisoner's plight

PRIVATE Willie Winfield, aged 21, of the 2nd Battalion Sherwood Foresters was taken prisoner last Tuesday during the Battle of Lille – unwittingly setting the marker for the kind of chaos that pervaded in the era before internet, television, radio and widespread telephonic communication.

It would be the middle of December before the news of his capture reached his father George, a labourer, at the family home, 13 Elgin Place.

By then, Willie was reported to be in a prisoner of war camp at a place called Halein Wesen near Hannover. And there the story ended at the time.

Research a century later reveals that the address of the camp was, in fact, Hameln-sur-Weser – the town made famous by the fairytale of the *Pied Piper of Hamelin*. In the harsh real world of The Great War, Hameln's population of 22,000 was almost doubled as no fewer than 100 barracks were erected to house the ever-growing volume of prisoners.

Our Willie survived to return home, marry Clara Goodwin early in 1919 – and live to the age of 64 before he passed away in 1957.

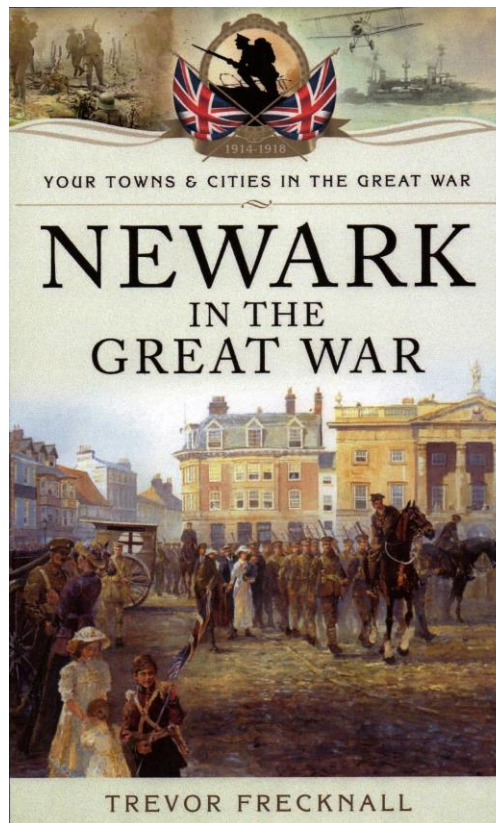
GAOL BEATS WORKHOUSE!

CONFIRMATION arrived on Thursday that conditions in the Newark Workhouse on Bowbridge Road are harsher than those in prison.

Newark Board of Guardians, meeting at the Ossington Coffee Palace, were informed that a man who refused to work was taken before magistrates, who offered him the alternatives of breaking stones in the workhouse or going to prison for 14 days with hard labour.

He opted for prison because "I'll be treated better there." Perhaps significantly, none of the Guardians – responsible for housing and feeding the borough's destitute women and children as well as men – did not disagree with the work-shy bloke's assessment.

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