

Great War Bulletin

No. 62...Newark...Monday 4 October 1915

RECRUITING RALLY: TWO MORE ENLIST

A MASSIVE recruiting rally was held in Newark on Saturday at the request of the Army, who had noticed that the recently taken National Register revealed that there were "many men" in the town eligible for service, but who were holding back for some reason or other.

More than 2,000 people crowded into the Market Place among the stalls to hear a series of patriotic speeches. Several men stepped forward. But only two were passed fit for service and sworn-in.

Spine-tingling

PRIVATE Arthur Graves, 21, from Cross Lane Farm, Balderton, lay in a makeshift Nottingham hospital with a bullet embedded dangerously close to his spine – and talked on Friday about his luck at escaping with his life from Gallipoli.

A postman before joining the 6th Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment, he was in an attacking party tasked with establishing new positions at Suvla Bay.

As soon as the Turks saw the invaders, they began to throw shrapnel shells over from the relative safety of their positions in well-prepared trenches overlooking the would-be invaders.

Graves, along with Newarker Ernest Allison, volunteered to act as stretcher bearers.

heroism

BALDERTON POSTMAN SERIOUSLY HURT RESCUING COMRADES

They spent the whole day rescuing wounded comrades in spite of heavy artillery and rifle fire.

Having cleared the ground, they were about to enjoy a cup of tea when the order came to advance ...

"I will never forget the spectacle of men being practically mown down as they mounted the beach. Some of them had never been under fire before

and it must have been a terrible experience.

"To add to the horror, the scrub and rough vegetation caught fire and not a few wounded men were in danger of burning to death.

"When I got wounded [he was shot through the chest and the bullet stopped fractionally short of his spine] I was told to lay down but instead of doing so I

remained in a dyke and took my equipment off.

"I had been there about three-and-a-half hours when a comrade came up with his arm blown almost off, and we made for the dressing station.

"It was some four miles away. It took us four hours."

While he rescued himself, a search party that had been sent out for him reported that he must have been killed.

As luck would have it, he was ferried safely from the battlefield and is now in the Carrington Military Hospital in Nottingham.

Private 13043 Allison was not so lucky.

A letterpress printer who lived with his mum Elizabeth, a charwoman, at 2 King's Arms Yard off King Street, Newark, in peacetime, he perished on 9 August, aged 21.

His name is among the 20,885 Allies on the Helles Memorial.

Father-of-7 killed: too old to fight?

WHAT dreadful news reached mother-of-seven Sarah Ann Guy yesterday at her home, 5 Chester Place off Bowbridge Road, Newark.

She was informed that her 40-year-old husband Private William Henry Guy of the 12th Battalion Sherwood Foresters had been killed – only five days after he wrote to her saying he was well and working with the battalion cooks.

Born in East Bridgford, he had been working on a gravel dredging barge before most likely lying about his age to enlist. Census records insist he was 40, a year too old to have been accepted for service. Yet Army records claim he was only 36 when he was killed on 26 September by a German shell that also wounded several men.

While Private 16732 Guy is remembered on the Loos Memorial to 20,603 Allies in France, Sarah Ann will return to East Bridgford and marry again, George Hopkinson, in two years' time.

Case of RE stolen soap too slippery for court

NEWARK Magistrates failed on Monday to solve the mystery of the soap that keeps going missing from the Newark Depot of the trainee Royal Engineers on Devon Park.

Regimental Sergeant Major Reynolds, in charge of the sanitary stores, told the court that about six bars of soap and a tin of soft soap went missing on 13 September.

Subsequently six bars of soap of an identical make and a tin of soft soap of an identical make were found in a cupboard at Mary Ann Edlin's home in Middlegate.

She denied a charge of receiving the soap, knowing it to have been stolen.

Neither the police nor Army could persuade any Royal Engineers to give evidence of how the soap might have made its way from the stores at the Barracks to a cupboard in Middlegate.

The magistrates decided there was "a good deal of suspicion but not enough evidence". The case was dismissed.

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

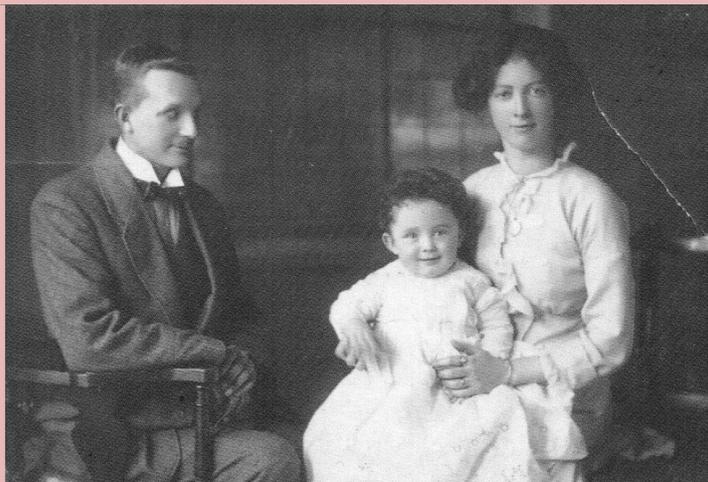
LIONEL IS MISSING!

ONLY nine months after his brother Jim was killed in action, Captain Lionel Duncan McNaught Davis is missing in action.

Aged 41 and a qualified architect at the outset of War – he is pictured here with his wife and son – he had no hesitation in volunteering and was made a Captain in the newly-formed 8th Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment.

He wrote home to Farnon on 24 September, telling his parents to watch the papers because he was leading D Company of the 8th Lincolns into action the following day. He was posted missing between then and 27 September.

But, strange to say, he was seen alive and well in



the trenches after that date according to colleagues who have since been home on leave.

So there are still hopes that he might have somehow survived amid the hellish confusion of the 8th Lincolns' first action, which left 22 officers and 471 men

of the regiment killed, wounded or taken prisoner on the opening day of the Battle of Loos.

It will be 25 September 1915 before the full, heart-rending story of *Lionel's Great War* is told – in a book emanating from 'Newark in The Great War'.

Syerston's pride in Billy

SYERSTON villagers were thrilled on Saturday hear that Corporal William Misson, 31, has been awarded the 4th Order of St George's Cross. He went out to France with the 1st Battalion Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, was in the retirement from Mons, and is still "somewhere in France".

He is in his 18th year in the Army, having followed in the footsteps of his 57-year-old father, Ted, who served 22 years in the same regiment, celebrated Billy's birth in Cork while serving in Ireland, holds the India Frontier medal among others and lives in retirement in Syerston with his second wife, Elizabeth, their seven-year-old son Reggie and his widowed sister Jane, 64.

South Scarle's double sadness

IMMEDIATELY after the funeral service at South Scarle Church of Thomas Edward Boot Colton, a land owner, merchant and for 15 years a Notts County Councillor, a memorial service was held for his nephew, Private Bertie Colton of the Sherwood Yeomanry who died a hero at the Dardanelles on 22 August.

Hero doctor back home

FORMER Mayor Dr Harry Stallard was warmly welcomed home at Monday's meeting of Newark Town Council after his period of service in the fighting line with the 8th Battalion Sherwood Foresters.

At an informal meeting in the Town Hall on Tuesday evening, the councillors and aldermen agreed that the next Mayor of the town will be Alderman William Edward Knight JP. It is 26 years since he last occupied the Mayoral chair and 32 years since he entered the Council.

Flag Day for the French

NEWARK was asked to do something on Wednesday for the help and succour of the wounded of our superb and gallant allies, the French. Their losses have been great, their sufferings incalculable; so the Duchess of Newcastle and Mayoress Kew arranged for 20 flag sellers to flood Market Day. A pleasing total of £105 was raised.

Sheep succeed cheese

NEWARK "Cheese Fair" retained its traditional name even though the main business on Thursday was sheep: Edward Bailey & Son sold 4,600 of them. Milking cows made up to £25 while store cattle went for up to £12 17s 6d.

Newark Jews celebrate

THE 65th anniversary of the Newark branch of the British Society for the Mission to Jews was attended by Mayor Kew. Sir Andrew Wingate, president of the society, talked of the prospects of the return of Israel to the Holy Land.

One son killed, another wounded

THOMAS and Fanny Savage of 6 Newnham Road, Newark, were already panicking because their older son William, 25, was wounded with the 8th Battalion Sherwood Foresters in June and was still in hospital at Bury St Edmunds.

Even worse, they learnt on Tuesday that their second son, Alfred, a 22 Private in the 9th Battalion Leicestershire Regiment, had been killed after only six weeks on the Western Front.

Alf went to Mount School, sang in the St Leonard's choir and then went to work for Warwick's and Richardson's brewers on Northgate.

The bleak news came in a letter from Sergeant Walter Wilson, another Newarker. Alf is remembered in the Bienvillers Military Cemetery, 18km south-west of Arras.

Son, 16, shot by pal

HOTEL worker Frank Palin rushed from his Newark home on hearing that his 16-year-old son, also Frank, has been shot in a London street. It turned out that a friend of Frank's grabbed a pistol from another young man without realising it was primed.

Frank, a Private in the West London Volunteers and fresh out of engineer's college, was in St Mark's College Military Hospital with a serious abdomen wound.

From 'Newark in the Great War' author



The true, previously untold, story of how a British officer's life was saved by his German enemies but ruined by British authorities thereafter

Written and illustrated in 1918 by Lionel Duncan McNaught Davis Updated and published in 2015 by Trevor Frecknall

£10.50 from WH Smith Newark or signed copy £12.50 inc. p&p from T and GM Frecknall, 9 Main Street, North Muskham, Newark, Notts NG23 6EZ

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