

# Great War Bulletin

No. 100 ... Newark ... Monday 26 June 1916

## SIX ARE KILLED ON RATION RUN

TWO Newark lads were among six Sherwood Foresters killed by an enemy shell as they carried rations to troops in the front line trenches "somewhere in France" on Tuesday.

Private Leslie Tyers, 19, was the eldest son of boot maker Harry and Hetty, both 41, of 36 Harcourt Street.

Private Albert Edward Pulford, only 18, was the eldest son of widow Elizabeth Pulford of 65 Bowbridge Road.

The first intimation was received in Newark by fish dealer George Cross and his wife Sarah Ann at 56 William Street, in a letter from one of their 12 children, Ernest, a Corporal.

He explained that the Battalion had been in the trenches for 18 days.

They then expected to have a month's break but were recalled after 10 days – and he went on:

"I have been upset today as I have been having to dig graves for six men. I am sorry to say that two of them are from Newark and one from either Farnsfield or Southwell...

"They were carrying dinner up the trench when a shell dropped amongst them."

Both lads went to Newark Wesleyan Day School.

Private Tyers, the fourth of ten children – the others were Kate, 24; Ethel, 23; Nellie, 16; William Henry, 17; Lancelot, 14; Sylvia, 12; Harold, 10; Eric, 8; and Cyril, 6 – was for many years in the choir at London Road Congregational Church.

A Ransome's apprentice, he was among the men of the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion Sherwood Foresters who marched out of Newark at the outset of War.

Only last Saturday, his folks received a letter from him saying:

"The battalion is in the trenches but my Company is in reserve, taking up the rations, which is better than being in the front line."

### Sympathy

By the time the Crosses reached Mrs Pulford, she and her other son Bernard, 10, were poring over no fewer than four letters of sympathy from Albert's pals.

One of them was his cousin, Private Edward Proctor of 70 Bowbridge Road, a fellow apprentice at Simpson's.

Both Privates Tyers and Pulford are remembered in the Military Cemetery at Foncquevillers, 20 miles from Arras.

# Back from the dead!

AFTER mourning the death in action of their nephew Private John W Tye for 10 days, Percy and Betsy Norval received amazing news yesterday.

John is alive and fighting as vigorously as ever!

It's no rumour, either – but an official letter acknowledging that a mistake was made by the officials given the awful job of notifying thousands of next of kin.

### Confusion

The confusion arose because, as you will have read on 15 June, cousins Harold and John joined the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion East Yorkshire Regiment together and fought side-by-side.

Originally, news reached Newark that both young men had been killed.

## John Tye is alive and fighting fit

Now Mrs Tye of Cross Street (and formerly of Guildhall Street) has been told that her Harold is definitely dead ... and the Norvals don't know whether to laugh or cry that the boy they reared is, in effect, back from the dead.

Harold Tye is remembered in a locality of northern France called the Somme; to be precise, in the Norfolk Cemetery at Becordel-Becourt, a village 2.5km east of Albert.

## Child is kicked

THE dangers to school children working on farms were brutally apparent in a field near Quibell's works on Thursday. William Ellis, 15, of 29 Water Lane was leading a horse with a hoe when suddenly the animal reared, kicks him in the stomach and trod on him as he fell. His cries were heard by workmen who rushed to his aid. He was detained in hospital and recovered.

Two days earlier, the Notts Executive of the Farmers' Union had asked the county Education Committee to defer school holidays from August to October-November in order that children could help to pick the vegetable and fruit crops.

## DCM hero lost leg

COMPANY Sergeant Major 52852 E Lockwood and Sergeant 40008 W T Foster of the Royal Engineers' Newark Training Centre have earned the Distinguished Conduct Medal, it was announced in Thursday night's *London Gazette*.

Lockwood's award was for "consistent good work in the front line, frequently under fire" while operating with the old 89<sup>th</sup> Field Company.

Foster was honoured for "conspicuous gallantry and determination on several occasions when carrying out dangerous work" with the 63<sup>rd</sup> Field Company. His citation adds in the military's matter-of-fact manner: "He lost his leg when performing such work."

Squadron Corporal-Major Brian Hadley Jones, 37, formerly of the Newark Squadron of the Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry, was mentioned in General Sir John Maxwell's despatches of the fighting in Egypt, published on Thursday. He is serving with the Royal Horse Guards and has been granted a commission.

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

AN INQUEST heard that 23-year-old Private Ernest Priestley of 36 Warburton Street died on Tuesday morning after a scratched lip became gangrenous.

The tragedy happened not in the trenches of the battle front but in the camp at Marsh Chapel near Grimsby occupied by a line of the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion Sherwood Foresters.

Ernie, a labourer in Quibell's chemical works pre-War, had served in France for 11 months, seeing lots of hot action in the trenches.

And he was perfectly well a fortnight ago when he spent an invaluable few days on leave with his

## Scratched lip became fatally gangrenous

parents Henry and Betsey, who have had eight children.

But on returning to camp, Ernie was quickly in agony from a swollen lip and, by the time he was taken to hospital, his temperature had rocketed to

108.5 degrees and it was too late for doctors to prevent septicaemia killing him.

Ernie was given a military funeral and is remembered back home in Newark Cemetery.

Much better news arrived on Saturday of Lieutenant Andrew Wentworth Ping, son of the former Rector of Thorpe

He was severely wounded on the Western Front last year, but has made a remarkable recovery and has been promoted Captain in the Northumberland Fusiliers.

He will survive The Great War to marry Miss Margaret Varley in November 1918.

## Be fair to pubs, More farm men Tribunal urged are sent to fight

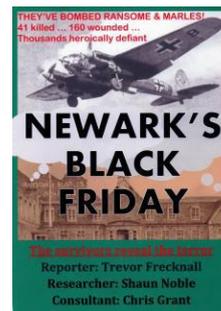
NEWARK Borough Tribunal has agreed to meet the Licensed Victuallers' Association to seek consistent treatment of pub landlords pleading to stay home rather than go and fight ... Ex-Mayor Kew switched from Chairman to applicant to convince his Tribunal colleagues that his head horseman and coal carter William Townrow, 40, was in a certified occupation; and that another coal carrier, George William Skinner, 38, of Farndon was indispensable since four of his eight carriers enlisted. During his plea, Kew says: "People might fetch their bread. But they can't fetch coal." He won ... Newsagent and tobacconist Herbert Lynn, 38, of 21 Sleaford Road was ordered to go on 30 August and told by Kew, back in the Chair: "The time has come when people will have to fetch their newspaper instead of having it delivered" ... Solicitor George Bugg Burke of 2 Cartergate was told he can stay home: he is 41, has seven children and no clerk ... W Goodliffe, footwear repairer in the Market Place, was told to go on 31 August though he will soon be 41 and many of his customers are military ... Tribunal re-affirmed its decision that one of the Cherrington chemist brothers should go even though the Notts Insurance Commissioners believed it in the national interest for both to stay and dispense under the National Insurance Act ... Harvey Bros retained their gas engine expert, J Brown, but their plumber, Ernest Sills of 3 Victoria Terrace, was told to go ... Smith's Woodyard earned a ruling that sawyer Herbert Jackson of Beckingham was in a certified occupation ... Quibell's were given until 19 August to find an over-41 to replace William Edward Beale, 36, of 1 Mount Pleasant off Millgate, who looked after the sulphate of ammonia still ... Sidney Harston's widow Margaret was refused permission to retain Herbert Marshall, 32, to keep the decorator's business going ... Harston & Son, the music shop in Stodman Street, were given until 1 August to replace pianoforte tuner, William Willock Seymour, 36, father-of-four; when he pronounced himself to be a conscientious objector who would save a life but not take one, he was recommended for non-combatant service Garrett & Heming were allowed to keep their manager Frank Shuker, of 42 Harcourt Street providing another employee enlisted ... William Southern of 98 Barnbygate can stay as a shoing smith ... William J Stray, 40, was exempted from service after stating he will close the family forage merchants and implement agents at 20 Middlegate if he had to go ... Baker Thomas Chipperfield, 36, was also exempted when his boss, baker and confectioner John Cook in Baldertongate, pointed out he could not be exchanged for his teenage van-man, Thomas Doncaster, who failed his medical ... Hairdresser Herbert Mackinder, told to enlist on 31 August, replied that he was surprised considering the rent and rates he paid and he had four children. Tribunal had a re-think and excused him service.

NEWARK Rural Tribunal continued to plough through cases of farmers seeking to keep their men and decided ... H H Brown, who had 120 acres at Harby must let his wagoner William Littleover, 26, go and fight ... J Taylor, who had two other men working 123 acres in the same parish, must let horseman C H Lambert, 20, go – the fourth of his hands to join the Army ... Robert Sanders, 27, only man on his father's Besthorpe 60 acres, must enlist on 14 October ... Hadford Bocock at Lime Tree Farm, North Collingham, who had one son killed while another two were still serving, was given until 14 October to find a way of getting by without Walter Rawson, garthman and shepherd ... Thomas Wright could stay on Walter Baston's Wheatley Farm, Brough, until 14 October ... Walter Ashton, 31, could remain farming his 170 acres at Besthorpe as two of his three men were serving ... G A Rose of Coddington could keep one of his wagoners, Joseph Mills, but a younger one, Albert Wells must enlist on 1 October ... W T Millins's son Edward was told to go on 1 October; his dad could look after their 70 acres ... William Burton kept father-of-six Thomas Squires, 39, on his Alverton farm ... S D Hickson was given a fortnight to finish getting the hay in on his father's Collingham 20 acres ... W A Holmes, 28, could stay on William Johnson's 463 acres at Manor Farm, Balderton, if Albert Brooks, 33, who was excused on 25 May, went to fight ... Enoch M Hall was allowed to remain farming his 270 acres at Thorney ... George F Swards, 26, could stay so long as he was the only horseman on 240-acre Bennington Lodge Farm, owned by brewery manager John Thomas Farr of Staunton Lodge ... William Wells, 26, could stay on his dad, Teal's 140 acres at Girton so long as he was the only worker ... Samuel Revill could stay on his father Arthur's 127 acres at Claypole as they had already let two men go ... Ernest John Patchett, 29, could remain on E Mills' 266 acres at Alverton ... Father-of-five Joseph Clarke could stay as wagoner for H W Fox at Balderton ... Collingham butcher Percy Holland, 28, must enlist on 1 October ... Malt kilns fireman Herbert Edlin, 39, was excused military service: he had eight children, six of them under the age of 14 ... Plumber H Brewster, 29, of Collingham was excused until 1 October with power to apply again ... Herbert Toulson of Elston could stay until August, when Tribunal said they would decide on the futures of all of Horace Mills's basket-makers at Farndon Fields.

## From farm to Guards

Farmers' Union secretary Fountain Picksley left for London on Tuesday, to serve in the Grenadier Guards. He handed NFU reins to Charles Thomas Baines, Newark Show secretary.

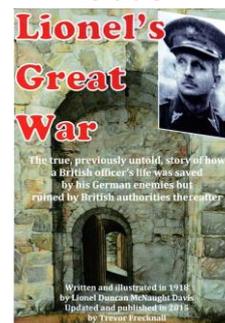
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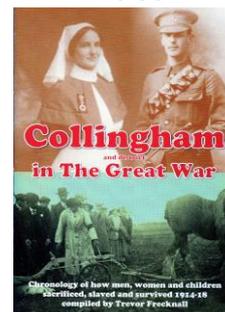
New book to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ransome and Marles' bombing in World War II. £9.99 from WHSmith, Market Place, and Osborne Stationers, Kirkgate, Newark.

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