

The Glorious Dead

The following document is the information gathered regarding those West Moors residents who bravely gave their lives while on military service during World War One.

The first image is taken from the War Memorial in West Moors.

IN

HONOURED MEMORY



EDWARD MALCOLM CUNNINGHAM.

ALBERT DYER.

ARTHUR WILLIAM DYER.

CHARLES DYER.

RICHARD JEANS.

JESSE READ.

HARRY R. VAN-COOTEN.

WILLIAM JEFFERSON VINCENT

MARK VINE

FREDERICK ARTHUR WILCOX.

LEONARD WALTER POWELL

EDWARD MALCOLM CUNNINGHAM

Birth: 1892 St. Bees, Cumberland

Parents: Thomas Scudamore Cunningham (1854-1913)

Lucy Cunningham nee Knowles (1853-1920)

Address: "Pinecroft", Pinehurst Road, West Moors

Occupation: Soldier

Death: Killed in action 5 August 1917 (age 24)

Grave: St. Nicholas British Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France Ref: II. B. 12.



Service Details

Force: Army

Regiment: (a) Somerset Light Infantry

Regiment: (b) Duke of Wellington's
West Riding Regiment

Battalion: (a) 3rd (b) 2nd and 9th

Rank: (a) 2nd Lieutenant (b) Captain

Medals: (1) Victory Medal (2) British War Medal (3) 1914/15 Star (4) Military Cross



(1)



(2)



(3)



(4)

ALBERT DYER

Birth: 1899 Ventnor, Isle of Wight

Parents: James Dyer (1864-1941)

Blanche Dyer nee Brewer (1863-1932)

Address: Three Cross Road, West Moors

Occupation: Not known

Death: Killed in action 11 October 1918 (age 19)

Grave: Montay-Neuvilly Road Cemetery, Montay, Nord, France

Ref: I. C. 14



Service Details

Force: Army

Regiment: Dorsetshire

Battalion: 6th

Service No: 41149

Rank: Private

Medals: (1) Victory Medal (2) British War Medal



(1)



(2)

ARTHUR WILLIAM DYER

Birth: 22 October 1897 Ventnor, Isle of Wight

Parents: James Dyer (1864-1941)

Blanche Dyer nee Brewer (1863-1932)

Address: Three Cross Road, West Moors

Occupation: Not known

Death: Killed by shell splinter 20 April 1917 (age 19)

Grave: Feuchy British Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France

Ref: I. A. 1



Service Details

Force: Army

Regiment: Dorsetshire

Battalion: 6th

Service No: 12867

Rank: Private

Medals: (1) Victory Medal (2) British War Medal (3) 1914/15 Star



(1)



(2)



(3)

CHARLES JAMES DYER

Birth: 1888 Ventnor, Isle of Wight

Parents: James Dyer (1864-1941)

Blanche Dyer nee Brewer (1863-1932)

Address: Three Cross Road, West Moors

Occupation: Soldier

Death: Killed by shell splinter 7 May 1917 (age 28)

Grave: Loos British Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France

Ref: XVIII F. 8.



Service Details

Force: Army

Regiment: Royal Garrison Artillery

Battalion: 150th Siege Battery

Service No: 25639

Rank: 2nd Lieutenant

Medals: (1) Victory Medal (2) British War Medal (3) 1914/15 Star



(1)



(2)



(3)

ISLE OF WIGHT MERCURY

Friday May 25 1917 Page 3

Former Ventnor Family's Double Bereavement

TWO SONS OF MR AND MRS J DYER KILLED IN ACTION

Sincere expressions of sympathy have been evoked in the town this week with Mr. and Mrs. J. Dyer, former Ventnor residents, in the death of two of their sons, who have been killed in action in France. Mr. and Mrs. Dyer were inhabitants of the town for many years and left about seven years ago. They now live at West Moors, Dorset. They had a large family of sons who always took a great interest in local sport, and consequently were well known in the town. Five of them joined the Army and news of the death of two of them was received recently. Private Arthur William Dyer, 6th Dorsets, was but a school boy when his parents left Ventnor. He joined the Army on the outbreak of war, being a year under military age. He served in the Dardanelles campaign and was invalided home with fever. Subsequently he was sent to France, where he was killed on April 20th by a shell splinter. He was 19 years of age. Lieutenant Charles Dyer, of the Royal Garrison Artillery, who formerly worked in Pickford's, Ventnor office, had been in the Army for ten years. He was 28 years of age. He was serving in India at the outbreak of war and was sent home, where he was engaged for some time at Southsea and elsewhere as gunnery instructor. Going to France his soldierly qualities soon commanded the notice of the authorities and he accepted a lieutenant's commission about three months ago, at the same time as similar preferment was offered to his colleague and school friend Q.M.S. Percy Thomas, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Thomas, formerly of this town. Lieutenant Dyer was killed by a shell splinter on May 7th. Both of these lads were old Ventnor National School pupils.

ISLE OF WIGHT MERCURY

Friday November 8 1918 Page 1

Though no longer residents here, Mr. and Mrs J. Dyer, formerly of Albert Street, will receive sincere local condolence in the death of their youngest son, Private Albert Dyer, who was killed in action recently. He was about 20 years of age. This is the third bereavement Mr. and Mrs. Dyer have suffered in the war, two other sons, Lieutenant Charles Dyer and Private William Dyer, having been killed last year.

RICHARD JEANS

Birth: 24 April 1885 Winton, Bournemouth
Parents: Richard Jeans (1860 - 1952)
Ann Jeans nee Elford (1863 - 1930)
Marriage: 1912 to Selina Prudence Pringle (1883-1974)
Children: Prudence Dinah Jeans (1914-1997)
Address: 'The Grange', Ashurst Road, West Moors
Occupation: Sailor in the Royal Navy
Death: From disease 11 September 1918 (age 33)
Grave: St. Marys Churchyard, West Moors



N.B. He died on transport ship HMS Chepstow Castle. Freetown, Sierra Leone, was a major fuelling centre for military vessels. The ship HMS Mantua, which stopped to refuel in August 1918, was carrying over 200 crew infected with Spanish Flu, who then infected the local workers. The infected dockworkers then infected the crews of all the other vessels that stopped over at Freetown. On the HMS Chepstow Castle, of the 1,150 crew over 900 fell ill.

Service Details

Force: Royal Navy
Ship: HMS Vivid
Service No: 210667
Rank: Able Seaman
Medals: (1) Victory Medal (2) British War Medal (3) 1914/15 Star



(1)



(2)



(3)

JESSE VICTOR READ

Birth: 14 March 1894 Hampreston, Dorset

Parents: Albert Henry Read (1869-1955)
Lucy Jane Read nee Bartlett (1870-1938)

Address: 'Lilac Cottage', Newman's Crossing,
West Moors

Occupation: Gardener

Death: Poison gas 2 May 1915 (age 21)

Grave: None - Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial - Panel 37



Service Details

Force: Army

Regiment: 3rd Dorsetshire

Battalion: 1st

Service No: 3/7340

Rank: Private

Medals: (1) Victory Medal (3) British War Medal (3) 1914/15 Star



(1)



(2)



(3)

HENRY (HARRY) RODOLPHUS VAN COOTEN

Birth: 1861 France

Parents: John Rodolphus Van Cooten (1835-1902)

Fanny Van Cooten nee Attrill (1834-1914)

Marriage: 1900 to Elizabeth Smith (1862-1942)

Children: Edgar Rodolphus Van Cooten (1901-1973)

Margaret Mary Wight Van Cooten (1906-?)

Address: Moorlands Road, West Moors

Occupation: Sailor in the Royal Navy

Death: Killed in action [Battle of Jutland] 31 May 1916 (age 55)

Grave: None - Portsmouth Naval Memorial Ref: 1916 O-Z 15



Service Details

Force: Royal Navy

Ship: HMS Invincible

Service No: 133100

Rank: Chief Engine Room Artificer 1st Class

Medals: (1) Victory Medal (2) British War Medal (3) 1914/15 Star



(1)



(2)



(3)

WILLIAM JEFFERSON VINCENT

Birth: 1899 Maryport, Cumberland
Parents: Hector Vincent(1867-1935)
Blanche Vincent nee Aldridge (1873-1929)
Address: The Avenue, West Moors
Occupation: Not known
Death: Killed in action 1 October 1918 (age 19)
Grave: Sucrerie Cemetery, Epinoy, France



Ref: A. 8.

Service Details

Force: Army
Regiment: Dorsetshire
Battalion: 1st and 5th
Service No: TR7/6727
Rank: 2nd Lieutenant
Medals: (1) Victory Medal (2) British War Medal



(1)

(2)

MARK VINE

Birth: 1895 East Parley, Dorset
Parents: Mark Vine (1858-1942)
Edith Vine nee Sargent (1863-1947)
Address: Moorlands Road, West Moors
Occupation: Worked on family run farm
Death: Killed in action 25 August 1918 (age 23)
Grave: None - Vis-En-Artois Memorial, France - Panel 7



Service Details

Force: Army
Regiment: 1st Dorsetshire
Battalion: 6th
Service No: 202649 (a) 12678 (b)
Rank: Private (a) Lance Corporal (b)
Medals: (1) Victory Medal (2) British War Medal (3) 1914/15 Star



(1)



(2)



(3)

FREDERICK ARTHUR WILCOX

Birth: 1896 West Moors

Parents: George James Wilcox (1846-1919)
Elizabeth Wilcox nee Jacobs (1859-1922)

Address: 'Jutland', Ashurst Road, West Moors

Occupation: Labourer

Death: Killed in action 14 April 1918 (age 21)

Grave: None - Ploegsteert Memorial, Belgium - Panel 6



Service Details

Force: Army

Regiment: Hampshire (a) Dorsetshire (b)

Battalion: 1st (a)

Service No: 29740 (a) 15759 (b)

Rank: Private

Medals: (1) Victory Medal (2) British War Medal



(1)



(2)

LEONARD WALTER POWELL

Birth: 1892 Piddletown, Dorset

Parents: John Powell (1846-1915)

Emma Powell nee White (1850-?)

Address: 'Vale View', Pinehurst Road, West Moors

Occupation: Worked on family run Market Garden

Death: Died 29 December 1916 (age 24)

Grave: Etretat Churchyard Extension, Seine-Maritime, France

Ref: I. B. 7.



Service Details

Force: Army

Regiment: Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry

Battalion: 1st

Service No: 20880

Rank: Lance Corporal

Medals: (1) Victory Medal (2) British War Medal



(1)

(2)

TRAVERS FARRANT ADAMSON

Birth: 1895 Lewisham, London

Parents: Travers Patrick Muirhead Adamson (1864-1905)
Ethel Adamson nee Farrant (1872-1959)

Address: 'Corleone', Longham

Occupation: Not known

Death: Killed in action 1st July 1916 (age 20)

Grave: Devonshire Cemetery, Mametz, France Ref: A.7.



N.B. Although he did not live in West Moors, he is mentioned here because his name appears on the commemorative plaque in St Mary's church. He was killed in action on the first day of the Battle of Albert, which was the name for the initial two weeks of the Battle of the Somme. On that day 20,000 British soldiers died in action and a further 40,000 were wounded.

Service Details

Force: Army

Regiment: Devonshire

Battalion: 9th

Rank: 2nd Lieutenant

Medals: (1) Victory Medal (2) British War Medal



(1)

(2)