

This document contains details of the inscriptions on our War Memorial, plus any additional data we have available regarding the people involved.

{All details, web links etc., correct as of February 2022}

[DETAILS OF INSCRIPTION, NAMES, ETC., ON VILLAGE WAR MEMORIAL]

* South face:

WEST MOORS

Unveiled September 26, 1920

Removed to this site June 1971

* North face (Great War / First World War)

(Which is the one that would originally have been facing the Pinehurst Road corner)

IN HONOURED MEMORY

[scrolls ~~]

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

[11 names: note that Mark Vine is listed as 'Killed in Action, France & Flanders Theatre of War', 26 August 1918, age 23 (born 1896), the 3rd son (6th child) of Mark and Edith Vine of Moorlands Road, West Moors. He is buried at 'Vis-en-Artois' see: <http://www.greatwar.co.uk/french-flanders-artois/vis-en-artois-memorial.htm>

Note that there appears to be three members from one family, the Dyers .. see http://www.isle-of-wight-memorials.org.uk/people_d/dyer_brothers.htm

Frederick Arthur Wilcox is one of the children of George James and Elizabeth Wilcox; he was born in 1897. George was a ganger on the railway – presumably in the junction plate-laying gang.

For much more information, see this link: Pete Holden did a superb job of assembling information regarding the people commemorated on the Memorial for the 100th anniversary events staged in 2014.

https://www.westmoors-tc.gov.uk/_UserFiles/Files/Centenary%20Project/WORLD%20WAR%201%20MEMORIAL%20DETAILS%20FOR%20INTERNET.pdf

* West face (Second World War):

1939 – 1945

H.T.L. BROADWAY

R.N.H. CLARKE

S.DURRANT

MOLLY HARE

D. HARFIELD

A. HUGHES

J. KEET
A. KEITH
C. LARSON
J. MITCHELL
N. NIPPIERD
JEAN RAMSAY
D.S. REID
D. RICHARDSON
J.V. SEARLES-WOOD
A.W. WOOLFORD
M.F. WYKEHAM-MARTIN
D.F. WYKEHAM-MARTIN
K.D. LACEY
A.A. HUBBARD

{ *On the plinth: 'Alsford Boscombe': Messrs Samuel J. Alsford & Sons were the stonemasons, based in Boscombe, who constructed (and presumably erected) the Memorial in the 1920s* }

[21 names: note the two females listed; also a 'Woolford' and two members of the same family; the population of West Moors at this time (1940s) was around 1500.]

LACW (or some have it L/ACW) Molly Hare 2069505 WAAF (LACW = Leading Aircraftwoman, one grade/rank above basic 'airman/airwoman'; WAAF = Women's Auxiliary Air Force, the female 'companion' force to the RAF)

(Also found Molley, Mally, but Molly is probably correct)

b. June 1918, Bierley, West Riding, Yorkshire

d. 12 November 1945: Paddington, age 27, City of Westminster.

[*Died in Paddington hospital on demobilisation leave of ... “ hypertension and cerebral thrombosis ”: thanks to Jon Heyworth for information, and to Tony Agnew (West Moors History Society) for passing this note on.]*

Buried in Plot D, Grave 19, West Moors Cemetery

Daughter of John Parker Hare and Ella Agnes May Hare.

Pinehurst Road (poultry farm / 20 acres / off Pinehurst Road, roughly where Heathfield Road runs now).

Apparently had a brother.

Herbert Hare was, by the 1920s the owner of a 20-odd acre poultry farm in Pinehurst Road, roughly where Heathfield Road is now. [various trade directories]

Is Herbert the father of John Hare? He died in 1931 age 45 WM

Jean Ferelith Ramsay (LACW/WAAF) see above.

b. 1922 Paddington (probably April)

d. 30/1/1944 (age 21-22)

[died due to enemy action in Dover, Kent (perhaps an air raid, or V1 attack or shelling from German forces in NE France)

Buried: Woking crematorium / cemetery (as was her father) -

Mother's name = Alice Frances Norah Finnis.

Inscription on her memorial:

" Killed by enemy action, Jean Ferelith Ramsay, the dearly beloved and only child of the late Lt-Colonel A.D.G. Ramsay and of Mrs. Ramsay, Lismoyne Hotel, Fleet, Hants, aged 21.

[ADG Ramsay Arthur Dennys Gilbert Ramsay, b. 9/10/1872 in Bombay, India: married in July in Kensington. At end of service, Indian Army, supernumery Major, but presumably given non-

effective rank of Lt. Col. In 1891 in North Stoneham, Hampshire (nr. Eastleigh); he died 8/6/1939 in London, but buried in Woking cemetery and he was living in Parkstone/Bournemouth - from the 1935 Kelly's Directory ... Ramsay Lt.-Col. A.D.G., C.I.E., O.B.E. Camelot, Western av. Branksome Park, Bournemouth. Canford Cliffs 460.

Why there is a connection to WM remains to be seen!]

Lt. (RN) Maurice F. Wykeham-Martin [b.1913], was an officer aboard HMS Salmon, a submarine on patrol in the North Sea; after successfully executing operations against German naval shipping in the North Sea, the vessel was lost with all hands on 9th July 1940; it is presumed that she hit a mine. But tragedy was to strike the same family again (then living in Highfield Road) three years later ...

Maurice's younger brother, S/L Dennis Fiennes Wykeham-Martin, DFC, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve [b.1914] also did not return to West Moors. On 14 May 1943 at 0026 hrs, S/L Wykeham-Martin took off from Aldergrove (Northern Ireland). One minute later his Liberator III FK234/W crashed. Four members of the crew were killed outright, but the captain (S/L Wykeham-Martin) and Sgt. J. M. Little, his co-pilot were recovered at the crash scene, but both died later from serious head injuries. Dennis Wykeham-Martin had been commissioned into the RAFVR in January 1939 and in July 1940, he was flying with 53 Squadron (based at Detling, near Maidstone, Kent) which operated Bristol Blenheims in the support bombing & reconnaissance role. Later, he moved to St. Eval in Cornwall and undertook long-range reconnaissance, anti-submarine & meteorological sorties in the SW Approaches & the Bay of Biscay, before finding himself in Northern Ireland on similar duties, equipped with the Liberator, here he lost his life.

And an old West Moors name is remembered on the Memorial of the fallen: Arthur William Woolford, born in 1916 who was the eldest son (and second child) born to William Woolford and Gladys Vine: the Vines of course also part of our story and they suffered a loss in the Great War (see previous section). Arthur served with the 2nd Battalion, Coldstream Guards and was killed-in-action in February 1944 in southern Italy as the allies fought their way north against a determined German army (the Italians had already surrendered).

* East face:

THESE

GAVE THEIR LIVES

FOR HUMANITY IN THE

GREAT WARS

1914 – 1918

1939 – 1945

THEIR NAME LIVETH

FOR EVERMORE

(presumably this inscription was entered after the second War, and perhaps when the Memorial was moved in the 1970s)

This web site is most useful

<https://www.warmemorialsonline.org.uk/memorial/97514>