

Stoke Gabriel Record of Commemoration

Other Wars - Servicemen & Servicewomen



INTRODUCTION

The War Memorial of Stoke Gabriel contains the names of men who died abroad during the two World Wars in armed service of their country. There are however many others who died in service at home or after the war and a group of us felt that it was important that these men and women should also be remembered in some form.

A discussion led to the creation of this Record of Commemoration, which contains relevant information about each person and their service. Those included have resided in the parish. It is difficult to be too specific about the criteria for inclusion since there is incomplete information for many of the men and women. Nonetheless, with some degree of discretion, the following guidance has been used:

Wars: The wars to be included embrace all international conflicts involving the UK commencing with WW1.

*Residency: The people to be included are those who were resident in the parish of Stoke Gabriel in the sense that the parish was their primary residential home. Residency is confined to any significant period in the 20th or 21st century either before or after their service. Residency in the 19th century does not qualify **except** in the case of those men who went directly from school into one of the armed forces and served in that capacity during WW1. Those who were merely baptised or married, or who merely had a next of kin or a relative, or who merely carried out work, in the parish without meeting the residential requirement are excluded. In contrast to baptism and marriage, a greater significance is attached to those who are buried or interred in the parish churchyard. Newspaper reports relating to residency carry little weight and are ignored unless supported by other evidence.*

Death: It matters not when they died, whether during the period of conflict or afterwards. Nor does it matter how they died, whether as a direct result of the conflict or some natural cause. Nor does it matter where they died, whether at home or abroad.

Services: The services principally include the armed services but the home service, the church army and army chaplains are also included.

The Record of Commemoration comprises three reference books - one for WW1, another for WW2, and a third for all other wars - available for consultation should more information be required, for example at or around Remembrance or Armistice Day. The servicemen who are named on the War Memorial are

identified by asterisk. Information will inevitably be incomplete, so the provision of further information is invited, whether it concerns unidentified names of servicemen and women or the nature of their service. There is fourth reference book of "potential" servicemen whose residency within the parish requires further evidence. It is of course possible that such evidence may arise in the future, in which case their name(s) should be transferred to one of the other reference books as appropriate.

The Book of Remembrance of Servicemen and Servicewomen contains key information from the Record of Commemoration and is on permanent display in the parish church. The key information comprises for each man and woman their full name, regiment, war(s), date of their death and their age, and pages are displayed month by month corresponding to the anniversaries of their death. The pages are turned on a monthly basis. While the information contained in the Book of Remembrance cannot (easily) be corrected, it is amenable to the addition of new entries as they become known.

In Memory of

ADRIAN HENRY VICTOR GILLMORE

Major

393413

1st Battalion, Suffolk Regiment

who died on

Sunday 3rd May 2020, aged 90

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born on 28 June 1929, he was the son of Horatio Frederick Gillmore, an Indian Army officer, and Romaine Gillmore, who resided at Yarde, Stoke Gabriel. In civilian life, he was a farmer and on his retirement from the army took over the running of the Old Vicarage farm from his father. He is buried in the parish churchyard in grave 125.

Commemorative Information

The **Malayan Emergency**, also known as the Anti-British National Liberation War, took place in the years from 1948 to 1960. It was a guerrilla war fought in British Malaya between communist pro-independence fighters of the Malayan National Liberation Army and the military forces of the Federation of Malaya, British Empire and Commonwealth.

Adrian Gillmore was commissioned into the Suffolk regiment in 1948 and served until 1968 in the UK, Malta, Libya and Malaya. He was awarded the Military Cross for gallant and distinguished services while on operations during the Malayan Emergency from 1 January to 30 June 1951. He was promoted to Lieutenant on 12 July 1950, to captain on 15 July 1954, and to major on 15 July 1961, retiring on 31 March 1968.

In Memory of

PETER JOHN SEVERN

Squadron Leader

4231169Y

Royal Air Force

who died on

Tuesday 7th January 2014, aged 71

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born on 4 December 1942 in Kimberley, Nottinghamshire, he married Diana Smart in Frome, Somerset in August 1965 while he was based in Cyprus. In 2001 they moved to Stoke Gabriel where they managed the village Post Office for three years before retiring to their home elsewhere in the village. He is buried in the parish churchyard in grave 588.

Commemorative Information

The **Cold War** was a period of geopolitical tension between the United States and the Soviet Union and their respective allies, the Western Bloc and the Eastern Bloc, that started in 1947 and lasted to 1991.

A **Second Malayan Emergency** took place from 1968 to 1989 resulting from a Communist insurgency. The armed conflict was between the Malayan Communist Party and the Malaysian Government with the UK deploying forces in support of Government.

Peter Severn was commissioned as a Pilot Officer in November 1962 and promoted to Flying Officer two years later. He served as a Squadron Leader in the Photographic Interpretation Branch of the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve. In July 1967 he was promoted to Flight Lieutenant. During the Second Malayan Emergency he flew Canberras with No 32 Squadron based in Cyprus, flying out of RAF Changi in Singapore for three months and then in late 1965 up in the jungle, ending just before Christmas. He retired from the RAF in 1977.

In January 1984 Peter received a second commission as Flight Lieutenant, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve. In July 1987 he was promoted to Squadron Leader. During this time, he flew Vulcan bombers, part of the country's nuclear deterrent. In May 1994 he was granted an extension of service to January 1997 and in December 1996 was granted a further extension to March 1998.

In April 1997 his commission was transferred to the Royal Auxiliary Air Force. In March 1998 he relinquished his commission retaining the rank of Squadron Leader.

In Memory of

BRIAN PAUL TARR

Captain

Royal Fleet Auxiliary

who died on

Monday 12th December 2016, aged 70

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born in Paignton on 12 March 1946, he resided at Green Bank, Stoke Hill, from 1957 and married Jane Adair Lugg in 1969. He was awarded the OBE for his service in 1991. His ashes are interred in the parish churchyard in grave 458A.

Commemorative Information

The **Gulf War** consisted of two phases. The first was code named Operation Desert Shield (2 August 1990 to 17 January 1991) for operations leading to the build-up of troops and defence of Saudi Arabia. The second - the combat phase - was Operation Desert Storm (17 January 1991 to 28 February 1991).

Brian Tarr served on Sir Galahad, which supported minesweepers. He retired in 1996.