

Stoke Gabriel Record of Commemoration

World War 1 Servicemen



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

FREDERICK RICHARD ADAMS*

Gunner

75395

114th Heavy Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery

who died on

Monday 23rd April 1917, aged 25

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born in 1891/2 and baptized on 31 January 1892 in Dittisham, the son of Louis Richard Adams and Ann Love. In 1901 and 1911 he was living with his family in Stoke Gabriel, working as a fisherman. He is memorialised in the parish churchyard on grave 916.

Commemorative Information

Frederick Adams enlisted on 17 February 1916 under the 'Derby Scheme' aged 24. He was placed in the Army Reserve and sent home to await mobilization. On 11 April 1916 he was mobilized at No.3 Depot Royal Garrison Artillery. On 19 May 1916 he was posted to 45 Company, Royal Garrison Artillery, and then posted to the Heavy Battery at Woolwich on 3 June 1916. He was sent out to a Base Depot in France on 26 September 1916 and later joined the 114th Heavy Battery on 5 October 1916. He was killed in action at the Second Battle of the Scarpe at Arras, North East of Saint Martin sur Cojeul. He is buried at Wancourt British Cemetery, Wancourt, a village about 8 km south-east of Arras.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal issued in 1921.

In Memory of

GEORGE GILL AGAR*

Private

55650

1st/8th Battalion, Manchester Regiment

who died on

Sunday 21st July 1918, aged 32

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born in 1886 in Whitby, Yorkshire, the son of George and Annie Agar. In 1891 and 1901 he was living with his family in Whitby. In December 1910 he married Margaret Grace Baker, daughter of John Peter Baker and Ellen Norah Marshall and sister to Albert Robert, John James and Edwin Victor Baker, all of whom served in WW1. In 1911 he and his wife were living at Highweek, Newton Abbott, where he worked as a wood working machinist. He is buried in the parish churchyard in CWGC grave 765.

Commemorative Information

George Agar enlisted in December 1914. He initially served with the Devonshire (Fortress) Company, Devon Royal Engineers but then was transferred to a Battalion of the Territorial Force the 1st/8th (Ardwick) Battalion, Manchester Regiment. Later he was posted to the 24th (Service) Battalion (Oldham) Manchester Regiment, (Pioneers) which was in Italy under the command of 7th Division. At some point, he returned to the UK either sick or wounded and died at the Bermondsey Military Hospital, London.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

LESLIE CHARLES ANNING

Private

TR/7/14007

95th Training Reserve Battalion

who died on

Friday 11th May 1917, aged 18

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born on 1 March 1899 in Kenton, Devon, he was the son of Henry and Charlotte Anning of Teignmouth. He was resident in Torquay in 1901 and in Teignmouth in 1911 but he then moved to Sandridge Farm where he lived, working as a farmer's assistant. He died in Wiltshire and is buried at All Saint's, Kenton.

Commemorative Information

Leslie Anning enlisted at Newton Abbot on 27 March 1916. He was posted to the 95th Training Reserve Battalion which was originally the 11th (Reserve) Battalion, the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry. While training, he was admitted to the Military Hospital, Chiseldon Camp, Wiltshire on 28 April 1917 with acute bronchial pneumonia. He developed measles and died of heart failure.

In Memory of

ALBERT ROBERT BAKER

Corporal

106241

178 Labour Company

who died on

Friday 28th May 1948, aged 67

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born on 6 November 1878 (sic) to John Peter Baker and Norah Ellen Marshall, he was the brother of John James and Edwin Victor Baker, both of whom also served in WW1. In 1881 and 1891 he was living with his family in a cottage in the village. In December 1900 he married Lillie Evans in the parish church. In 1911 he was the licensed victualler of the Victoria & Albert Inn. In 1939 he was living with his wife at Sandside, working as a bargeman. He is buried in the parish churchyard in grave 730.

Commemorative Information

Albert Baker enlisted on 12 February 1917 into the Labour Company of the Devonshire Regiment at its Depot in Exeter. He was transferred to the 15th (Transport Workers) Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment at Oxford. The regiment was employed on transport duties in the south of England, their headquarters being at Swindon, and afterwards shifting to the other traffic centres. At some point he was promoted to Corporal. He landed in France on 5 March 1917 and was transferred with a new regimental number 36337 to 'L' Company, 1st Battalion, Hampshire Regiment. On 14 May 1917 he was again transferred this time to the Labour Corps and joined 178 Labour Company. He was discharged on 20 March 1919.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal issued in 1921.

In Memory of

ALFRED JAMES BAKER

Able Seaman

200975

Royal Navy

who died on

Monday 15th April 1940, aged 59

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 23 September 1880 in Stoke Gabriel, his parents being William Butland Baker and Emma Challen. He was brother to Thomas Peter Baker who also served in WW1. In 1881 and 1891 he was living with his family in a cottage in Stoke Gabriel. In 1901 he was on board HMS Renowned in Malta harbor. In 1905 he married Eleanor Davies and in 1911 he was resident in Devonport. He is buried in the parish churchyard in grave 645.

Commemorative Information

Alfred Baker enlisted in 1898, and in 1911 was serving on HMS Indefatigable, a 1st Class Battle Cruiser, part of the 1st Cruiser Squadron at Devonport. He was one of the crew on board HMS Noble at the Battle of Jutland in 1916.

Medal Entitlement: 1914-15 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

EDWIN VICTOR BAKER

Air Mechanic 2nd Class

252493

Royal Air Force

who died on

Saturday 3rd August 1946, aged 61

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 28 February 1885 in Stoke Gabriel to parents, John Peter Baker and Norah Ellen Marshall. He was the brother of John James and Albert Robert, both of whom also served in WW1. In 1901 he was living with his family in Stoke Gabriel. In 1907 he married Florence Emily Soper. In 1911 they were living in Mill Cottage, and he was working as a fisherman and an engine driver. He is buried in the parish churchyard in grave 780.

Commemorative Information

Edwin Baker enlisted in the Royal Naval Air Service as 49522 Air Mechanic 1st Class (Driver) on 13 March 1918. He was re-mustered into the Royal Air Force on 1 April 1918 at Pulham Airmen's Command School, Airship Station, near Pulham St Mary which is 18 miles south of Norwich. On 15 July 1918 he was posted to RAF Feltham (Hanworth Park) in London, and then on 20 Jan 1919 to Fovant, a demobilization Camp. He was transferred to the RAF 'G' Reserve on 19 February 1919 and officially discharged on 30 April 1920.

Medal Entitlement: British War Medal.

In Memory of

GABRIEL BAKER*

Private

345932

**16th (Royal Devon Yeomanry and Royal North Devon Hussars) Battalion,
Devonshire Regiment**

who died on

Monday 2nd September 1918, aged 21

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born in October 1896, he was the eldest of Thomas Peter and Eliza Baker's eight sons. He was a brother to William Henry who also served in WW1. In 1901 and 1911 he was living with his family at the Old Forge, Portbridge, working as a farm labourer. In October 1916 he married Ethel Maud Crang of Churston Ferrers presumably during a period of leave.

Commemorative Information

Gabriel Baker enlisted in December 1915 at Newton Abbot into the Devonshire Regiment. He was killed in action at the Second Battle of Bapaume at the village of Moislains. He is buried and memorialized on the Vis-en-Artois Memorial, Pas de Calais.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

JOHN JAMES BAKER

Ordinary Seaman

J42379 (SD2714)

Royal Navy Reserve

who died on

? October 1942, aged 68

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born on 11 October 1874 in Stoke Gabriel, his parents were John Peter Baker and Norah Ellen Marshall. He was the brother of Albert Robert and Edwin Victor Baker, both of whom also served in WW1. In April 1896 he married Edith Mary Cock in Cornwall. In 1901 and 1911 he was living with his family in Stoke Gabriel, working as a coal merchant and a fisherman. He held the office of Parish Clerk.

Commemorative Information

John Baker re-enlisted on 26 July 1915. He served at HMS Vivid III at Devonport Royal Naval Division Trawler Section. Trawler deckhands were experienced in handling heavy trawls. This experience was transferred to sweep gear and they were trained accordingly.

Medal Entitlement: British Naval War Medal.

In Memory of

ROYSTON COCKS BAKER

Private

M2/117418

Army Service Corps

who died on

Monday 17th April 1972, aged 75

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born in Stoke Gabriel on 14 April 1897 to parents, John James (who also served in WW1) and Edith Baker. In 1901 and 1911 he was living in Stoke Gabriel, working as a fisherman. In January 1920 he married Gladys Hannaford-Hill. In 1939 he was living with his family at 3 Berkeley Square, working as a public service vehicle driver. In later life he was the landlord of the Church House Inn. He is buried in the parish churchyard in grave 77.

Commemorative Information

Royston Baker enlisted in 1914 at the age of 17 into the Army Service Corps. In May 1915 he joined 343 Mechanical Transport Company, part of the 24th Division, which had been established in September 1914 as part of Kitchener's Third New Army, K3. The Division disembarked in France on 30 August 1915. Concentration was completed in the area between Etaples and St Pol on 4 September 1914. He was transferred as Private Baker (30530) into the 11th (Service) Battalion (Accrington), East Lancashire Regiment, sometime after March 1916 when the Regiment had arrived in France from Egypt. On 30 April 1918 he was listed as wounded most probably in the defence of Nieppe Forest during the Battle of Hazebrouck, which took place between 12 and 15 April 1918. After his recovery, he was posted to the 2nd Battalion, East Lancashire Regiment, 25th Brigade, 8th Division. Later he was again transferred as Private Baker (30917) to the 1/4th Loyal North Lancashire Regiment, 164th Brigade in 55th (West Lancashire) Division. The demobilisation of the Division began in December 1918 and the service of the Division came to an end on 31 May 1919 when the final cadres left for home. He was discharged to the Class Z Reserve on 11 June 1919.

In Memory of

THOMAS PETER BAKER

Driver

29970

Royal Engineers

who died on

Monday 25th August 1958, aged 84

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born on 27 July 1874 in Stoke Gabriel to parents, William Butland Baker and Emma Challen, he was known as Peter. He was the brother to Alfred James who also served in WW1. In 1891 he was living in Kingskerswell and in September 1895 he married Elizabeth Matthews Shives. In 1901 he was living in Chapel Court, the year before the birth of Gabriel, the first of his eight sons and two daughters. In 1911 he was living with his family at the Old Forge, Portbridge, working as a farm labourer. He is buried in the parish churchyard in grave 71.

Commemorative Information

Peter Baker enlisted with the Royal Engineers and served in France from 4 May 1915 and also served in Egypt. Unlike his son, Gabriel Baker, he survived the conflict. He was discharged to Class Z Reserve on 5 May 1919.

In Memory of

WILLIAM HENRY BAKER

Private

GS/62989

Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment)

who died on

Thursday 29th June 1922, aged 24

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born on 22 December 1897 and known as Will, he was the second oldest of Thomas Peter and Eliza Baker's eight sons. He was also a brother to Gabriel who was killed in action in WW1. He was living with his family at Chapel Court in 1901 and at the Old Forge, Portbridge, in 1911 and was working as a farm labourer. He died from tetanus and is buried in Ottawa, La Salle, Illinois, to where he had emigrated.

Commemorative Information

William Baker was mobilised in January 1917 and served from 29 March 1917 to 24 October 1917 in France with 13th (Service) Battalion, Royal Fusiliers. He returned to the UK from 25 October 1917 to 18 April 1918. He was sent back to France as part of the reinforcements during the German Spring offensive and from 19 April 1918 to 20 April 1918 served with the 11th (Service) Battalion, Royal Fusiliers. He was transferred to the 2nd Battalion, Royal Fusiliers and served with them from 21 April 1918 to 18 March 1919 in France. On 4 December 1918 the Battalion was ordered to advance into Germany as part of the Army of Occupation. In March 1919 the Battalion left Germany and he was transferred to 17th (Service) Battalion (Empire), Royal Fusiliers which formed part of the occupation forces in Germany. He served with the battalion until 13 September 1919 when he returned to the UK and was discharged.

In Memory of

EDWIN JAMES BALL

Private

59578

Essex Regiment

who died on

Saturday 8th October 1977, aged 88

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born on 27 September 1889, his parents were Samuel and Harriett Jane Ball. In 1891 he was living with his family in Stoke Gabriel. In 1901 and 1911 he was living in Harberton working as a miller with his older brother Samuel Coombe Ball. In 1926 he married Kate Ford and in 1939 he was living at Higher Well Farm, working as a farmer. He is buried in the parish churchyard in grave 117.

Commemorative Information

Edwin Ball enlisted into the Devonshire Regiment. He sailed for India in 1917 to join the 2/4th Territorial Battalion, Devonshire Regiment, which was under orders of the Southern Brigade, 9th (Secunderabad) Division. On 15 October 1917 the battalion left for Egypt, landing at Suez on 26 October 1917, and came under the orders of Lines of Communication. On 13 December 1917 the battalion was attached to 234th Brigade, 75th Division. It left this Division in July 1918. On 17 August 1918 the battalion was disbanded in Egypt, and on 4 September 1918 he was transferred as Private Edwin James Ball (59578) to the Essex Regiment, most likely the 1/4th Battalion, which was based in Egypt at the time.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

HENRY FOXTON BEAUMONT

**Temporary Chaplain to the Forces 4th Class
Royal Army Chaplain's Department
who died on
Sunday 12th August 1962, aged 72**

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born in 1890 at Ballinrobe, Ireland, to parents, William Beaumont and Eleanor Mayne. He attended Trinity College Dublin, and was ordained in 1913 by the Bishop of Kilmore. He was the parish vicar of Stoke Gabriel from 1927 to 1961, living with his wife at the Old Vicarage. He is buried in the parish churchyard in grave 601.

Commemorative Information

Henry Foxtan Beaumont enlisted at the age of 25. He served overseas from 8 December 1915 to 21 January 1919.

He was an Air Raid Warden during WW2.

Medal Entitlement: 1914-1915 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal issued in 1929.

In Memory of

WILLIAM HENRY BELLWORTHY

Sapper

58345

56th Field Company, Royal Engineers

who died on

? April 1964, aged 73

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 22 August 1890 in Stoke Gabriel. In 1891 he was living in Stoke Gabriel with his mother, Alice Maud Bellworthy, and his grandparents. In 1901 he was living in Stoke Gabriel with his grandparents without his mother. In 1909 he was sentenced to 5 years imprisonment at Dartmoor for the commission of an “attempted unnatural offence”. His service record in 1914 gives his residential address as Stoke Gabriel. In 1923 he married Elizabeth Wood and in 1936, following her death, married Emily Jack. In 1939 he was living in Torquay, working as a boot maker.

Commemorative Information

William Bellworthy enlisted on 5 December 1914 aged 24 into the Royal Engineers. He embarked on 15 June 1915 for Gallipoli with 72nd Field Company and landed in Alexandria on 30 June 1915. He was invalided home sick via Malta in December 1915. On recovery he was transferred to 56th Field Company in France on 31 March 1918. He returned to England on 5 June 1919 and was discharged on 8 July 1919.

Medal Entitlement: 1914-1915 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

ERNEST JOHN BLANK

Private

14976

10th (Service) Battalion, Devonshire Regiment

who died on

Thursday 23rd October 1980, aged 84

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Ernest Blank was born on 22 November 1895 in Stoke Gabriel to parents, William and Emily Blank. He was an uncle to William Henry Archibald Blank who was killed in action in WW1. In 1911 he was living with his family in Stoke Gabriel, working as a gardener. In 1939 he was living in Paignton, working as a brick worker.

Commemorative Information

Ernest Blank enlisted on 15 December 1914. He landed at Boulogne, France on 22 September 1915 with the battalion. On 1 November 1915 he moved with the battalion to Salonika where in December 1915 he contracted malaria. He was discharged on 10 April 1919 still suffering from malaria.

Medal Entitlement: 1914-1915 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

WILLIAM HENRY ARCHIBALD BLANK*

Private

72262

10th (Service) Battalion, Cheshire Regiment

who died on

Friday 3rd May 1918, aged 19

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 8 October 1898 in Stoke Gabriel to parents, William and Lillie Blank. In 1901 he was living in Stoke Gabriel with his parents. In 1911 he was living in Stoke Gabriel with his grandparents and his uncle, Ernest John Blank, who also served in WW1.

Commemorative Information

Archibald Blank enlisted in April 1917 and was killed in action while in a frontline trench at Kemmel during enemy shelling. He is memorialized on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

EDWIN BONSTOW

Private

145014

646 Agricultural Company, Labour Corps

who died on

Wednesday 28th December 1983, aged 91

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 26 March 1892 in Stoke Gabriel to parents, Eli and Jessie Bonstow. He is the uncle to Norah Helena Bonstow who served in WW2. In 1901 and 1911 he was living in Stoke Gabriel, working as a fisherman. In October 1918 he married Louisa Helen Hickman. In 1939 he and his wife were living in Rose Cottage, Coombe Shute, working as a roadstone quarrier heavy worker.

Commemorative Information

Edwin Bonstow enlisted aged 24 on 2 March 1916 at Newton Abbot under the Derby Scheme and was placed in the Reserve to await mobilization. On 21 March 1917 he was called up into the 1st Labour Company, Devonshire Regiment at its Depot with regimental number 61828. He was transferred to the Labour Corps on 28 April 1917. He initially served in 213 Labour Company but was then posted to 382 Labour Company on 30 June 1917, then to 439 Agricultural Company on 6 September 1917, and finally to 646 Agricultural Company on 5 December 1917. He served in Berkshire and was based at the Cowley Barracks, Oxford. He was discharged on 10 February 1919.

In Memory of

STEPHEN FREDERICK BRIMICOMBE

Cadet

Royal Air Force

who died on

Wednesday 6th April 1988, aged 90

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born on 7 January 1898 and baptized in Stoke Gabriel, he was the son of Robert and Nancy Brimicombe. He resided with his family in the village until 8 June 1919 when he emigrated to Canada to farm with his brother. He married Elna Walker on December 3, 1924 in Sandwich, Illinois, following which he became a casket maker and later a carpenter.

Commemorative Information

Stephen Brimicombe enlisted into the Royal Navy on 26 June 1916 as carpenter crew with No. F47579. He joined the Royal Naval Air Service as M 21132 Air Mechanic 1st Class on 24 January 1918 at the preliminary flying school at Chingford. He also trained at Crystal Palace, and was then posted to Rosyth. He was re-mustered to the Royal Air Force on 1 April 1918 as no. 247578 Air Mechanic 2nd Class (Trade Classification Rigger). He was posted on 15 September 1918 to RAF Turnhouse at Edinburgh, then on 19 September 1918 to HMS Furious, on 2 October 1918 to the Cadet Distribution Depot with the rank of Cadet, on 5 October 1918 to No.8 Cadet Wing at Shorncliffe for Pilot training, on 27 October 1918 to No.5 Cadet Wing, on 9 January 1919 to HMS Furious under conversion work at Edinburgh, and finally on 20 February 1919 to class G Reserve. He was eventually discharged on 14 December 1921.

According to an obituary in a local Canadian Newspaper, he was in No. 3 Flight Squadron, the squadron that shot down the Red Baron. He was shot down himself over France several times but also had 20 German aircraft to his credit.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

JOHN BULLEY*

Private

38023

1st Battalion, Devonshire Regiment

who died on

Monday 23rd April 1917, aged 28

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: John Bulley was born in 1887 in East Ogwell, near Denbury, the son of George and Elizabeth Bulley. In 1891 he was living in East Ogwell and in 1901 he was living in Broadhempston, working as a servant. In October 1913 he married Florence Bellworthy in the parish church.

Commemorative Information

John Bulley enlisted in 1916 into the 8th Battalion, Devonshire Regiment. He was posted to the 1st Battalion and was killed in action at the Second Battle of the Scarpe. He is buried at La Chaudiere Military Cemetery, about 3km south of Lens, and had served less than 12 months in the army.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

CHARLES FREDERICK CHURCHWARD

Gunner

273279

Royal Field Artillery

who died on

Tuesday 27th February 1951, aged 79

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born on 14 January 1872 in Cardiff to Frederick and Hannah Churchward, he subsequently moved to Stoke Gabriel and in 1881 and 1911 was living at Hill House. He trained as a book keeper before moving to the USA. He returned to Stoke Gabriel and lived at Hill House, working as the estate manager. He is buried in the parish churchyard in grave 815.

Commemorative Information

Charles Churchward had enlisted for 3 years in the United States Army, serving with the 21st Field Artillery from 10 March 1902 to 11 October 1904. Upon his return to Stoke Gabriel, he enlisted aged 46 in 1918 into the Royal Field Artillery. He served on Home Service in the United Kingdom with the 44th and 3c Reserve Battery, Royal Field Artillery.

In Memory of

SAMUEL CHURCHWARD

Private

451812 (A51841)

58th Battalion, Canadian Infantry (Central Ontario Regiment)

who died on

? April 1969, aged 76

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 15 April 1893 in Stoke Gabriel, the son of Thomas and Sarah Churchward. He was the brother to Thomas Churchward and step-brother to John Elliott (both of whom also served in WW1). In 1901 and 1911 he was living with his parents at The Hayes, Stoke Gabriel, working as a farm labourer and waggoner. He emigrated to Canada on 27 April 1912 but returned to fight in the war and thereafter remained in England. On 16 August 1924 he married Ethel Beatrice Crockett in Bexhill, Sussex and in 1939 he was living with his wife at 32 Parkhurst Road, Bexhill, working as a gardener. He died at Battle, Sussex.

Commemorative Information

Samuel Churchward served from 1914 to 1915 in 'E' Company, 91st Regiment, Canadian Militia. He then enlisted on 30 June 1915 aged 22 into the Central Ontario Regiment. He departed from Halifax, Canada, on 22 November 1915 as part of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, and arrived in Plymouth on 2 December 1915 with 58th Battalion. He disembarked in France on 22 February 1916 and served through to 1918. He was discharged from the Canadian Army in London.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

THOMAS CHURCHWARD*

Private

558120

19th Battalion, Canadian Infantry (1st Central Ontario Regiment)

who died on

15th September 1916, aged 27

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born in Stoke Gabriel on 27 May 1890, he was the son of Thomas and Sarah Churchward. He was the brother to Samuel Churchward and step-brother to John Elliott (both of whom also served in WW1). In 1901 and 1911 he was living with his parents at The Hayes, Stoke Gabriel. He left for Canada on 2 April 1913, a year after his younger brother, Samuel, where he worked as a bricklayer. He is commemorated in the parish churchyard on grave 877.

Commemorative Information

Thomas Churchward enlisted on 12 November 1914 into the 1st Central Ontario Regiment. He departed from Quebec, Canada on 22 November 1915, as part of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, and arrived in Plymouth on 2 December 1915. He later went with his battalion to France. He was listed in the London Times on 28 October 1916 as missing in action at Courcelette, France. While his service record states that on 15 September 1916 he 'was last seen advancing up a captured communication trench'. He is commemorated on the Vimy Memorial, Pas de Calais.

Medal Entitlement: 1914-1915 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal. The Canadian Memorial Cross would have been presented to his mother.

In Memory of

JOHN KENDRICK COLLIER

Ships Corporal 1st Class

172571

Royal Navy

who died on

Monday 14th December 1953, aged 78

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born in Brixham on 17 May 1875, his parents were John and Nancy Collier. In 1881 and 1891 he was living with his family in Brixham. He married Sarah Jane Jones in August 1900 in Stoke Gabriel where they continued to reside through to 1911 and beyond. In 1939 he was living with his wife at Glenside in 1939, working as a water bailiff.

Commemorative Information

John Collier enlisted in 1893 and served on HMS Impregnable and HMS Gibraltar.

Medal Entitlement: 1914-15 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

ALFRED JAMES COLLINGS

Gunner

65162

9th Heavy Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery

who died on

? April 1953, aged 68

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was baptized in July 1884 in Stoke Gabriel to parents, George Harvey Collings and Frances Emily Ford. In 1891 he was living with his family in Stoke Gabriel. In 1901 his family were still living in Stoke Gabriel but he had moved away, presumably to join the armed services. Both of his parents died before 1918 and in later life Alfred lived in Eastbourne where he died.

Commemorative Information

Alfred Collings enlisted into the Royal Garrison Artillery and served in France post 1915. He was captured unwounded at Gerincourt on 27 May 1918 during the Third Battle of the Aisne. A small and tired British force had been sent to the Chemin des Dames in exchange for fresh French divisions that went north, and was struck and virtually destroyed as part of the German offensive, Operation Bluecher. The German attack succeeded in pushing the Allies across the Aisne and down as far as the Marne at Chateau Thierry, capturing the towns of Soissons and La Fere-en-Tardenois. While a prisoner of war he was put to work in German salt mines.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

ALFRED WILLIAM COLLINGS

Private

59714

Royal Warwickshire Regiment

who died on

Monday 19th September 1949, aged 49

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born on 7 June 1900, his parents were John and Augusta Collings. He was living with his family in 1901 and 1911 in Mill Cottage, Stoke Gabriel. He married Louisa in October 1928 and in 1939 they were living at Kings Cottage, Stoke Gabriel. He is buried in the parish churchyard in grave 214.

Commemorative Information

Alfred Collings enlisted in January 1918. He was re-numbered 5095958 under Army Order 338 of August 1920 by which date he was still in service. He was discharged on 31 March 1922 suffering from malaria which was attributable to his military service. It was likely that he had been serving in the 9th (Service) Battalion, which was part of the North Persia Force, or in Transcaspia, or in the 1st Garrison Battalion based in Egypt. He was on home service until the war had ended.

In Memory of

BERTIE JOHN COLLINGS

Stoker Petty Officer

K19213

Royal Navy

who died on

Thursday 18th February 1960, aged 66

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 7 February 1894 in Stoke Gabriel to parents, John and Emily Collings. In 1901 and 1911 he was living at Well Cottage with his family, working as a carter. In January 1920 he married Eunice Tilbury in St Germans, Cornwall. After the war he emigrated to Victoria, Australia, where he died.

Commemorative Information

Bertie Collings enlisted on 19 May 1913 into the Royal Navy at Devonport. He was promoted to Stoker 2nd Class on 19 May 1914 serving on HMS Carnarvon, a Devonshire-class armoured cruiser. At the start of the war, HMS Carnarvon was assigned to the Cape Verde Station to search for German commerce raiders while protecting British shipping. HMS Carnarvon was transferred to the South Atlantic two months later and assigned to the squadron that destroyed the German East Asia Squadron at the Battle of the Falklands. She was then assigned to the North America and West Indies Station in 1915 and continued to patrol against German raiders and escort convoys. He was promoted to Stoker 1st Class on 18 August 1917 and then to Acting Leading Stoker while serving at HMS Actaeon, part of the Navy's Torpedo school, HMS Vernon. On 21 August 1918 he was promoted to Leading Stoker. On 14 February 1920 he was assigned to the Royal Australian Navy, and then on 21 May 1921 promoted to Stoker Petty Officer. He officially transferred to the Royal Australian Navy on 6 October 1921.

In Memory of

FRANCIS ERNEST COLLINGS*

Private

16940

2nd Battalion, Devonshire Regiment

who died on

Saturday 1st July 1916, aged 24

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born in April 1891, the son of James and Helen Collings and the brother of Ethel, the wife of Charles Shepherd who was killed in action in WW2. Francis (known as Frank) Collings was living in Stoke Gabriel with his family in 1901 and 1911, working as a stone carter. He is memorialized in the parish churchyard on grave 621.

Commemorative Information

Francis Collings enlisted into the Devonshire Regiment and was killed in action at the Battle of the Somme during an attack on German defences which met unexpectedly fierce resistance. He had been in the army less than 12 months. He had made a military will on 22 June 1916 prior to entering the theatre of war and close to his embarkation date for France. He is memorialised on the Thiepval Memorial.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

FREDERICK HARVEY COLLINGS

Air Mechanic 1st Class

242429

Royal Air Force

who died on

Friday 15th August 1958, aged 76

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 20 February 1882 in Stoke Gabriel. In 1901 he was living with his grandparents in Stoke Gabriel. In 1911 he was living in Eastbourne with his uncle and aunt, William and Mary Collings. In October 1915 he married Emily Rhead in Leek, Staffordshire where he continued to reside, working as a carpenter, until his death.

Commemorative Information

Frederick Collings enlisted on 27 August 1917 into the Royal Navy. He served as K 45185 Stoker 2nd Class Fred Harvey Collings, Royal Navy, and transferred to the Royal Naval Air Service with No. F 42429 on 29 November 1917 at HMS President II located at Crystal Palace. He was later re-mustered to the Royal Air Force on 1 April 1918 at RAF Killingholme, and served with 251 Squadron at the Northern No. 2 Marine Acceptance Depot. He transferred to the RAF 'G' Reserve on 21 February 1919, and was finally discharged on 30 April 1920.

Medal Entitlement: British War Medal.

In Memory of

JAMES GODFREY COLLINGS

Pioneer

21525

308 Road Construction Company, Royal Engineers

who died on

Monday 21st April 1947, aged 78

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: James Collings was born on 11 June 1868 in Stoke Gabriel to parents, Philip Collings and Eliza Ann Rowe. In 1871, 1881, 1891, 1901 and 1911 he was living in Stoke Gabriel initially with his parents and then with his wife whom he married in April 1890. He worked as a road contractor. In 1939 he was living with his wife at 1, Stoke Leigh.

Commemorative Information

James Collings enlisted at the age of 48 and served in France from 1917 to 1919. Prior to the war he had served for 15 months with the Royal Navy Reserve.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

PERCY COLLINGS*

Private

18959 (3841)

1st/9th Battalion, (Territorials), Devonshire Regiment

who died on

Wednesday 8th March 1916, aged 19

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born in April 1897 in Stoke Gabriel, he was the son of Thomas Godfrey and Annie Collings. In 1901 and 1911 he was living with his family in Aish.

Commemorative Information

Percy Collings enlisted in Totnes into the 1st/9th Battalion and at some point transferred to 1st/6th Battalion (Territorials), Devonshire Regiment. He was killed in action at Es Sinn, in Mesopotamia. He had served less than 12 months in the army. He had made out a will on 28 February 1916 which was just prior to entering the theatre of war. He is memorialized on the Basra memorial.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and British War Medal.

In Memory of

ROBERT JOHN COLLINGS

Cooks Mate

M15396

Royal Navy

who died on

Saturday 4th January 1965, aged 67

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born in Stoke Gabriel on 30 September 1897, the son of Walter and Susan Harriet Collings and brother to Walter George and Charles James Ambrose (both of whom also served in WW1). In 1901 he was living with his family in Stoke Gabriel but by 1911 he was resident in Kingswear, working as a servant and errand boy. He died in Paignton.

Commemorative Information

Robert Collings enlisted on 20 September 1915. He served on HMS Ramillies which joined the 1st Battle Squadron of the Grand Fleet in May 1917.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal awarded while he was serving on HMS Thistle, a Bramble Class gunboat.

In Memory of

SYDNEY JOHN COLLINGS

**Air Mechanic 1st Class
237712**

**Royal Naval Air Service
who died on**

Thursday 28th January 1965, aged 80

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 6 August 1884 in Stoke Gabriel to parents, John Henry and Martha Collings. In 1891, 1901 and 1911 he was living with his parents in Stoke Gabriel, working as a fisherman. In 1919 he married Gwendolyne Hawkey. In 1939 he and his wife were living in Ferry House, working still as a fisherman. He is buried in the parish churchyard in grave 109.

Commemorative Information

Sydney Collings enlisted on 11 September 1917 with No. F37712 Air Mechanic 2nd Class in the Royal Naval Air Service. He served at the Royal Naval Air Station Lee-on-Solent (HMS Daedalus), which had been established as a seaplane base in 1917. He was re-mustered to the Royal Air Force on 1 April 1918 and served at Cherbourg, France, transferred to the RAF 'G' Reserve on 27 March 1919, and was discharged on 30 April 1920.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

SYDNEY WILLIAM COLLINGS

Chief Petty Officer 1st Class

181171

Royal Navy

who died on

? April 1954, aged 77

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 13 November 1876 in Stoke Gabriel to parents, Thomas Collings and Fanny Blackmore. In 1881 he was living with his family in a cottage in Stoke Gabriel. In 1891 his family had moved to Paignton but he was no longer living with them. In 1894 he had enlisted with the Royal Navy and in 1911 he was based in Portsmouth. In April 1907 he married Sarah Ann Lees. In 1939 he was living in Paignton, working as a general labourer.

Commemorative Information

Sydney Collings served on HMS Martin, a Torpedo Boat Destroyer, part of the 2nd Destroyer Flotilla, Home Fleet, out of Portsmouth.

Medal Entitlement: 1914-15 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

WALTER GEORGE COLLINGS*

Private

72163

9th (Service) Battalion, Cheshire Regiment

who died on

Friday 31st May 1918, aged 19

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 5 March 1899 in Stoke Gabriel, the son of Walter and Susan Harriett Collings. He was also a brother to Robert John and Charles James Ambrose (both of whom also served in WW1). In 1901 and 1911 he was living with his family at Hoyle Cottage. He worked as a builder and farm labourer. He is commemorated on grave 845 in the parish churchyard.

Commemorative Information

Walter Collings enlisted on 25 October 1916 at Newton Abbot, aged 17 under the Derby Scheme. He was placed in the Reserve and sent home to await mobilization. He was mobilized into the 2/1 Royal North Devon Yeomanry on 8 March 1917. He was renumbered as 220576 under the general renumbering of the territorial yeomanry of 1917. He was transferred on 12 April 1918 to the Devonshire Regiment with number 69371. He was transferred again, while at the infantry base depot in France, on 16 April 1918 to the 9th Battalion, Cheshire Regiment in France with number 72163. He was killed in action at the 3rd Battle of the Aisne, north west of the village of Sarcy. He initially had been reported as missing in action, but on 28 December 1918 it was officially confirmed that he had been killed. He is buried at Chambrecy British Cemetery, Marne.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

WALTER JOHN COLLINGS

Driver

T4/244323

**507 Horse Transport Company, Army Service Corps
attached to 2/2nd Wessex Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps**

who died on

Wednesday 29th June 1983, aged 92

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 16 June 1891 in Stoke Gabriel to parents, John Wakeham Collings and Susanna Ann Pattridge. In 1901 and 1911 he was living with his parents at Portbridge, working as a horseman on a farm. In July 1916 he married Ketria Bowden. According to his war service record, his residential home was at Portbridge but by 1939 he and his wife were living in Paignton and he was working as a general labourer.

Commemorative Information

Walter John Collings was embodied aged 23 in 1915, indicating he was a Territorial, and was serving in France by 1917. He was injured when his General Service Wagon was hit by a motor lorry on 15 November 1918. He was disembodied in 1919.

Medal Entitlement: 1914-1915 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

WILLIAM HARVEY COLLINGS*

Private

3/6322

9th (Service) Battalion, Devonshire Regiment

who died on

Friday 30th March 1917, aged 21

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 24 March 1896 in Stoke Gabriel to Tom Hamlyn Collings and Mary Frances Frost. In 1901 he was living with his family in Stoke Gabriel. In 1911 his family were living in Stoke Gabriel but he had moved to Totnes, working as a farm labourer. He is memorialized in the parish churchyard on grave 700.

Commemorative Information

William Collings enlisted in August 1914 into the 3rd (Reserve) Battalion, Devonshire Regiment. He was transferred to the 1st Battalion, Devonshire Regiment and disembarked in France on 20 September 1915. At some point later, he was transferred to the 9th (Service) Battalion, Devonshire Regiment. He died of wounds near Colincamps, a village 11 km north of Albert. He is buried at Euston Road Cemetery, Colincamps.

Medal Entitlement: 1914-1915 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

WILLIAM ALBERT CREES

Private

23788

1st Battalion, Devonshire Regiment

who died on

Thursday 4th October 1917, aged 31

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born in Stoke Gabriel on 14 December 1885 to parents, Edward Crees and Jane Hutchins. In 1891 he was living with his family in Portbridge. In 1911 he was living with his step-sister in Torquay, working as a house painter. In 1912 he married Ellen Mary Olive Jordan in Torquay. He is memorialized on the Tyne Cot memorial, Belgium.

Commemorative Information

William Crees enlisted in September 1916 in Torquay. He was killed in action during the Third Battle of Ypres.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

MARK THOMAS CRUMP

Private

86904

46th Battalion, Machine Gun Corps

who died on

? October 1953, aged 67

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born in January 1886 and baptized on 7 February 1886 in Cockington to parents, Nutcombe and Susan Crump. In 1891 and 1901 he was living with his family in Cockington. In 1911 he and his family had moved to Moretonhampsted and he was working as a farm assistant. According to his service record, in 1914 his residential home was Lower Well Farm, Stoke Gabriel, and he was working as a butcher.

Commemorative Information

Mark Crump enlisted at the age of 30 in 1914 into the Army Service Corps. In January 1917 he transferred to the newly formed Machine Gun Corps which was known as the 'Suicide Squad' within the army. He served in France from 1915 to 1916 and again in 1918. He was discharged in 1919.

Medal Entitlement: 1914-1915 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

WILFRED CHARLES DALE

Private

45603

15th Battalion, Hampshire Regiment

who died on

Wednesday 30th May 1990, aged 91

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 28 March 1899 in Torquay to Wilfred and Emmie Dale. In 1901 and 1911 he was living in Torquay with his family. In 1929 he married Dorothy Tucker and in 1939 he was living with his wife in Torquay, working as a butcher. In later life he lived in Stoke Gabriel, working as a butcher in a shop that he had purchased. He died in a residential home in Bovey Tracey.

Commemorative Information

Wilfred Dale enlisted in 1914 into the Army Service Corps. At 15 years old, he was too young and was discharged. He again enlisted in April 1917 and in March 1918 was posted to the 15th (Service) Battalion (2nd Portsmouth), Hampshire Regiment which had just arrived in France back from Italy, and was attached to the 41st Division as part of the Divisional troops. He served at the Somme and at Lille. He was gassed and temporarily blinded at some point. In March 1918 he disembarked in France and joined 15th (Service) Battalion (2nd Portsmouth), Hampshire Regiment. On 29 April 1918 he was admitted to the No.4 Stationary Hospital at Arques, Pas-de-Calais, 40 km from Calais and Dunkerque. The hospital records state he was aged 19 with 1 year's military service and 1 month's field service. On 2 July 1918 he was discharged back to his unit from No.4 Stationary Hospital. On the 22 October 1918 he was listed as wounded, probably during the Battle of Courtrai, 14 to 19 October 1918.

Due to the necessity for refilling the depleted ranks of the old Regular Army in order to provide overseas garrisons and reserves at home, an Army Order was published on 10 December 1918 authorizing the re-enlistment of serving soldiers for periods of, approximately, two, three or four years. Bounties of £20, £40 and £50 respectively were available. Rather than be discharged, he re-enlisted on 1 January 1920 for 2 years as EMT/57398 Private Wilfred Charles Dale into the Royal Army Service and was finally discharged in 1922.

In Memory of

RICHARD MARCUS GORDON DILL

**Church Army
who died on**

Tuesday 12th June 1917, aged 56

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 18 October 1860 in Brighton to parents, Richard and Augusta Dill. In 1861 and 1871 he was living with his family in Brighton. In 1881 he was an undergraduate at Trinity College, Cambridge. In April 1905 he married Mabel Alice Reid in Surrey. In 1911 he was living in Woodbury, working as a barrister and newspaper proprietor. He died as a result of his war wounds at the Kent House Nursing Home, Torquay. According to his probate record, his residential home at the time of his death was Rosemount, Stoke Gabriel. He is buried in Torquay cemetery.

Commemorative Information

Richard Dill had trained as a Signalling Instructor with Exmouth Volunteer Training Corps (a voluntary home defence militia) at the outbreak of the war. He had previously served in the Militia as Lieutenant R. M. Gordon-Dill, 3rd Brigade, Cinque Ports Division, Royal Artillery and had resigned his Commission on 12 May 1886. While in Flanders, he was in charge of one of the Recreation Huts of the Church Army. Waiting in a support trench to assist the wounded, he was wounded himself in the head and suffered shell shock. He was invalided home on 20 April 1917.

Medal Entitlement: British War Medal.

In Memory of

THOMAS NORMAN DINWIDDY

**Temporary Lieutenant
Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve
Royal Navy
who died on
Friday 20th April 1945, aged 70**

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born in Greenwich in April 1874 and baptized on 15 June 1874, he was the son of Thomas Norman and Eliza Charlotte Dinwiddy. In 1881 and 1891 he was living in Greenwich and in 1901 he was visiting Liverpool, working as an architect. He moved to Stoke Gabriel and lived at Colston (now South Banks). He became the parish council chairman and was the architect of the village war memorial that was installed in 1920. He is buried in the parish churchyard in grave 41.

Commemorative Information

Tom Dinwiddy was commissioned on 9 November 1915 as a Sub-Lieutenant. He was in command of Motor Launch 275 from August 1916. On 6 November 1916 he was promoted Lieutenant, Shipping Intelligence Officer 4th Class. He later served on HMS Idaho from 15 June 1917.

Medal Entitlement: 1914-15 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

HARRY EARNSHAW

Private

252192

21st (Service) Battalion (6th City), Manchester Regiment

who died on

Tuesday 20th September 1960, aged 63

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 13 January 1897 in Manchester to Benjamin and Charlotte Earnshaw. In 1911 he was living with his family in Manchester, working as a telegraph messenger. In 1939 he was living in Manchester, working as a stockbroker's clerk. He subsequently moved to Stoke Gabriel where he died. He is buried in the parish churchyard in grave 201.

Commemorative Information

Harry Earnshaw enlisted on 11 December 1915. His battalion landed at Boulogne but he did not join it until post 1915. On 20 December 1915 the Brigade was transferred to 7th Division. In November 1917 he moved with the Division to Italy. The 7th Division was one of five British formations selected to be moved to Italy. This was a strategic and political move agreed by the British Government at the request of the Allied Supreme War Council, as an effort to stiffen Italian resistance to enemy attack after a recent disaster at Caporetto. Many diaries at this time, by men who had witnessed slaughter in the floods of Passchendaele, talk of the move to Italy as being "like another world". Much work was done preparing to move into the mountainous area of the Brenta, but eventually the Division was moved to the line along the River Piave, taking up positions in late January 1918. He was discharged aged 21 on 15 July 1918 on account of disablement or ill-health.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, British War Medal, and the Silver War Badge.

In Memory of

JOHN ELLIOTT

Leading Seaman

215921

Royal Navy

who died on

Thursday 9th February 1956, aged 69

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 1 November 1886 in Stoke Gabriel. In 1891 and 1901 he was living in Stoke Gabriel with his step-parents, Thomas and Sarah Churchward, and his step brothers, Samuel and Thomas Churchward (both of whom also served in WW1). Later in 1901 he was based in Dartmouth on board HMS Impregnable, working as a barge boy.

Commemorative Information

John Elliott enlisted on 1 November 1903 and in 1911 he was serving on HMS Success, a B Class Destroyer. At the start of war, he was serving on HMS Highflyer, which was assigned to the 9th Cruiser Squadron in the central Atlantic to intercept German commerce raiders and protect Allied shipping. Days after the war began, she intercepted a Dutch ship carrying German troops and gold. She then sank a German armed merchant cruiser off the coast of the Spanish Sahara. HMS Highflyer spent most of the rest of the war on convoy escort duties. He joined the Royal Fleet Reserve on 6 March 1919, and was pensioned in 1926.

Medal Entitlement 1914-15 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal issued on 21 January 1919.

In Memory of

BERT EVANS

Rifleman

B/200275

6th Rifle Brigade

who died on

Tuesday 10th March 1970, aged 77

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born in Stoke Gabriel on 4 October 1892 to parents, Richard and Annie Evans. He was one of five brothers who served in WW1. In 1901 and 1911 he was living with his family in Stoke Gabriel, working as a farm labourer. In July 1923 he married Ada James in Totnes. In 1939 he was living in Totnes, working as a gamekeeper. In about 1944 he and his wife rented a smallholding at Shipley Bridge, just below the Avon Dam, but after his wife died in 1964 he moved back to Stoke Gabriel. Like his brother, Reginald Claude, before him, he was living at Vine Cottage at the time of his death. He is buried in the parish churchyard in grave 70.

Commemorative Information

Bert Evans enlisted aged 23 on 11 December 1915 and was placed in the Army Reserve. He was mobilized on 1 February 1916 into 9th Battalion, Somerset Light Infantry. At some point, he was transferred to 3/4th Royal Warwickshire Regiment and then to the Rifle Brigade in 1916. He served in France from 27 September 1916 to 13 December 1917 with 10th Rifle Brigade, and was wounded, having been shot in the right thigh on 2 December 1917 during the German counter attack at the Battle of Cambrai, leaving him with a bad limp. After recovery from his wound he served again in France from 6 September 1918 to the 3 March 1919. He was finally discharged in 1920.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

LOUIS EVANS

Stoke Petty Officer

K19695

Royal Navy

who died on

? March 1975, aged 78

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born in Stoke Gabriel on 29 June 1896 to parents, Richard and Annie Evans. He was one of five brothers who served in WW1. In 1901 he was living with his family in Stoke Gabriel and in 1911 he was living at Waddeton, working as a servant. In July 1919 he married Mable Ellen Coe in Plymouth. In 1939 he was living in Newton Abbott, working as a gamekeeper and rabbit trapper. He died in Newton Abbott.

Commemorative Information

Louis Evans enlisted on 14 July 1913. He first served at HMS Colleen (Buchanan), the shore establishment at Queenstown, Ireland on MLX94, a motor launch used as a scout, anti-submarine craft, inshore minesweeper, smokescreen layer and hydrophone vessel. During the war he served on HMS Quail, a B-class torpedo boat destroyer, based at HMS Leander, a destroyer depot ship to the 7th Flotilla at the Humber. He then served at HMS Saint George, and at HMS Wallington, the auxiliary patrol base at Immingham, HMS King Alfred, HMS Collingwood, a training establishment (Fareham, Hampshire), and finally at HMS Sandhurst, a Repair Ship at Scapa Flow. He was discharged on 23 February 1923.

Medal Entitlement: 1914-1915 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal issued in October 1919.

In Memory of

REGINALD CLAUDE EVANS

Stoker 1st Class

K46317

Royal Navy

who died on

Sunday 22nd September 1957, aged 58

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 2 June 1899 in Stoke Gabriel to parents, Richard and Annie Evans. He was one of five brothers who served in WW1. In 1901 and 1911 he was living with his family in Stoke Gabriel. At the time he enlisted in 1917 his occupation was a rabbit trapper. He was living at Vine Cottage, Stoke Gabriel, at the time of his death.

Commemorative Information

Reginald Evans enlisted on 24 September 1917 and served on HMS Lion, a battlecruiser and flagship of the Grand Fleet's battlecruisers throughout the war. He was demobilized on 16 June 1919.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

RICHARD EVANS*

Stoker 1st Class

K18872

Royal Navy

who died on

Monday 31st August 1914, aged 19

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 25 November 1895 in Taunton to parents, Richard and Annie Evans. He was one of five brothers who served in WW1. In 1901 he was living with his family in Stoke Gabriel. In 1911 he was working on a farm at Waddeton.

Commemorative Information

Richard Evans was serving on HMS Dartmouth, a Town-class light cruiser, at the outbreak of the First World War, and was stationed in the East Indies. He died from enteric fever in hospital at Bombay, India and was buried at the Sewri Cemetery, Bombay, India. He is memorialized on the Kirkee Memorial in the Military Cantonment on the Plateau above Bombay.

Medal Entitlement: 1914-1915 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal issued to his Father in 1919.

In Memory of

RICHARD WILLIAM EVANS

Ships Corporal 2nd Class

J66689

Royal Navy

who died on

Saturday 10th April 1971, aged 81

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 25 June 1889 in Taunton, Somerset, to parents, Richard and Annie Evans. He was one of five brothers who served in WW1. In 1891 he was living with his family in Pitminster, Somerset. In 1901 he was living with his family in Stoke Gabriel. In 1911 he was living in Torquay, working as a police constable. In 1936 he retired from the police force and moved back to Stoke Gabriel into The Garth, Vicarage Road. Grandfather to Ian Potham, he is buried in the parish churchyard in grave 637.

Commemorative Information

Richard Evans enlisted on 20 February 1917 and was demobilised on 3 February 1919, having served at HMS Vivid I and on HMS Marlborough.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

CHARLES HENRY GAGG

Stoker 1st Class

153942

Royal Navy

who died on

? September 1929, aged 54

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 25 Sept 1874 in Stoke Gabriel to parents, James and Mary Ann Gagg. In 1881 he was living in a cottage in Stoke Gabriel. In 1891 he was based in Devonport. In 1901 he was based in Portsmouth. In 1911 he was based again in Devonport before returning once more to Portsmouth where he died.

Commemorative Information

Charles Gagg enlisted in 1890 and landed in China during the Boxer Rebellion in 1900 while serving on HMS Aurora. He was serving on HMS Nile in June 1902 when he was awarded the China Medal 1900. He was serving at the Royal Naval Barracks, Keyham, at Devonport in 1911.

Medal Entitlement: 1914-15 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

THOMAS HERBERT GAGG

Private

Ply/2003(S)

1st Royal Marines Battalion Royal Naval Division

Royal Marine Light Infantry

who died on

Friday 27th September 1918, aged 20

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 8 October 1897 at Waddeton to parents, Thomas and Elizabeth Ellen Gagg. He was still resident at Waddeton in 1901 and 1911.

Commemorative Information

Thomas Gagg enlisted at Newton Abbot on 12 February 1917 at the age of 19. He was placed in the Army Reserve and mobilized on 18 March 1917. He trained at Royal Marine Depot at Deal and then was transferred to Plymouth on 11 May 1917. He left with a Draft of Marines for France on 19 June 1917 and joined 'A' Company, 1st Royal Marines Battalion on 1 August 1917. On 26 October 1917 he was badly wounded in the right ankle. He was invalided to UK on 29 October 1917. After recovery he again left with a Draft for France on 19 May 1918 and re-joined 1st Royal Marines Battalion. From 28 May 1918 to 22 August 1918 he was under medical care due to problems with his feet, most probably trench foot. He re-joined 1st Royal Marines Battalion on 8 September 1918. He was reported missing in action, later reported killed in action or died of wounds, during the Battle of the Canal du Nord, a phase of the Battles of the Hindenburg. He is buried at the British Cemetery at Sucrerie.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal issued in 1918.

In Memory of

THOMAS SOPER GAGG

Lance Bombardier

55872

Royal Garrison Artillery

who died on

29th December 1944, aged 52

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 24 July 1892 at Sandridge to parents, Martin and Elizabeth Gagg. He was still residing at Sandridge in 1911, working as a farm labourer. According to his WW1 service record, his residential home in 1914 is Sandridge. In 1920 he married Lily Foster in Reading and in 1939 was living in Henley, Oxfordshire, where he subsequently died.

Commemorative Information

Thomas Gagg enlisted at Fort Rowner, Gosport on 5 December 1914 aged 22. He served with No.1 Company, Royal Garrison Artillery, Eastern District in Malta from 4 May 1916 and in France from 3 July 1917 with 252 Siege Battery. He was 'wounded on duty' on 14 October 1918 and was reported on the official casualty list on 8 December 1918. He was discharged on 19 March 1919.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

HORATIO FREDERICK GILLMORE

Major

Royal Army Service Corps & Indian Army

who died on

Saturday 2nd May 1970, aged 80

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Horatio Gillmore was born on 13 March 1890 in France to Rev'd Horatio Henry Gillmore and Bertha Finch. On 21 September 1927 he married Muriel Romaine Volterra Barff at Kensington, London. After his retirement, he took up farming in Sussex before purchasing Yarde Farm in Stoke Gabriel in about 1947, later moving to the Old Vicarage to be closer to the farm fields. He died in Stoke Gabriel and is buried in the parish churchyard in grave 126. Romaine Gillmore was a staunch member of the Royal British Legion and is commemorated on the RBL WW1 and WW2 memorial plaque in the north west corner of the nave of the parish church.

Commemorative Information

Horatio Gillmore was commissioned on 24 October 1914 as a temporary 2nd Lieutenant, Army Service Corps, and on 4 November 1914 was posted to France. He was promoted to Lieutenant on 1 August 1915 and to temporary Captain on 26 June 1916. He was transferred to the General List on 4 May 1917 and appointed Lieutenant in the Indian Army on 29 July 1917. He was attached to 1/11th Regiment of Rajput Infantry which served in Mesopotamia (Iraq) and on 23 September 1917 was appointed Acting Captain, Indian Army, whilst commanding a Company. On 29 July 1918 his appointment with the Indian Army was confirmed.

He was promoted to Captain on 16 July 1919 and to temporary Major on 24 July 1919. He served with the 11th Regiment of Rajput Infantry, which became the 5th Battalion, 7th Rajput Regiment. On 16 July 1933 he was promoted to Major. On 21 June 1935, he retired from service in the Indian Army and returned from Bombay with his wife.

In Memory of

HENRY CHARLES FRANK GRIFFITHS

Private

G/51484

2/10th Battalion, Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex) Regiment

who died on

? October 1959, aged 73

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born on 26 August 1886 in Bromley, he was living in Kent with his family in 1891, 1901 and 1911, working as a postman. His WW1 pension record gives his residential home in 1918 as The Hayes, Stoke Gabriel. In December 1922 he married Ivy Rosilla Elliott in Brentford, Middlesex, and in 1939 they were living in Ealing, Middlesex. He is buried with his wife in the parish churchyard in grave 222.

Commemorative Information

Henry Griffiths enlisted in February 1916. In June 1917 he was posted to Egypt to join the Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex) Regiment. He was wounded, shot in the back, during operations in the Jordan Valley on 24 February 1918 and transferred to a hospital. He was at the 19th General Hospital for 12 days treatment, and at 44 Stationary Hospital at the Convalescent Depot at Mustapha, Egypt. On the 7 March 1918 he was sent in a sick convoy from Egypt to the UK on the hospital ship Kalyan. He was discharged on 10 June 1918 still suffering from a gunshot wound to his spine.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

ARCHIBALD HANN

Private

42345

Royal Army Medical Corps

who died on

Sunday 5th July 1959, aged 64

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born in Beaminster, Dorset, on 10 April 1895. He was living in Bridport and Beaminster in 1901 and 1911. He married Mary Tryphena Collings of Stoke Gabriel in July 1915, at which time he was working as an apprentice brush maker. His daughter, Audrey Susan Hann, was born in Stoke Gabriel in October 1919. According to his pension records, he was residing in Aish in December 1918. He was residing in Paignton with his family in 1939, working as a jobbing gardener and a proud member of the St John's Ambulance brigade. He died in Paignton.

Commemorative Information

Archibald Hann enlisted on 13 October 1914. He landed in France on 27 September 1915. He was gassed and discharged on 13 December 1918 with choroiditis and tuberculosis aggravated by his war service.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

WILLIAM MICHAEL HANNAFORD-HILL

Private

30548

1/6th Battalion, Devonshire Regiment

who died on

Monday 26th October 1981, aged 85

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born on 4 October 1896, he worked as a local fisherman, living with his wife, Beatrice Helen (Nellie) Robjohns, at Steps Cottage and Glenhaven. Their son, William Henry Hannaford-Hill, served during WW2. He is buried in the parish churchyard with his wife in grave 32.

Commemorative Information

William Hannaford-Hill enlisted with the Devonshire Regiment in 1914 at the age of 18 as a Territorial. He was posted to the 2nd Battalion, Devonshire Regiment sometime after 1915. He was then posted to join the 1/6th Battalion, Devonshire Regiment in Mesopotamia where he served as a Dispatch Rider (cyclist) during the Mesopotamian Campaign. The battalion came under orders of the Tigris Lines of Communication. He was demobilized on 4 June 1919.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

JOHN FREDERICK HARDING

Chief Stoker

153216

Royal Navy

who died on

? April 1940, aged 66

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born in July 1873 in Stoke Gabriel to parents, Henry and Maria Louisa Harding. In 1881 he was living with his family in a cottage in the village. At the time of his enlistment in 1890, he was working as a farm labourer residing in Stoke Gabriel.

Commemorative Information

In 1911 John Harding was serving on HMS Medea in the Mediterranean. He was pensioned in 1912 and re-joined aged 43 on 2 August 1914. During the war he served from 1914 to 1919 at HMS Vivid II at Devonport, at HMS Pomone, a training ship, in Dartmouth, at HMS Vivid II, and on HMS Berwick, an armoured cruiser, and finally at HMS Vivid II.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

ALLEN VICTOR LEE HOUSE*

Private

PS2391

**16th (Service) Battalion (Public Schools), Duke of Cambridge's Own
(Middlesex Regiment)**

who died on

Monday 13th August 1917, aged 20

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born in Wenbor, Glamorgan to Alick Adolphus Nicholas John Lee and Mary Elizabeth House. In 1911 he was working as an apprentice in The Saddlery, Tymawr Hill, Llanbadoc, near Usk. He and his family moved to Mazonet, Stoke Gabriel, in 1914 where he cared for the coaching horses.

Commemorative Information

Allen House enlisted on 7 June 1916 at Scotland Yard in Mayfair, London. He landed in France on 17 November 1915. His Medal Card indicates two periods of service overseas with the Middlesex Regiment. The battalion first saw action in the Battle of the Somme. On the first day, that is 1 July, the battalion was in the supporting wave during the attack on Beaumont Hamel. The battalion advanced into withering German machine gun fire. A few men reached the German barbed wire but got no further. Most were cut down or trapped in no man's land. After nightfall those that were pinned down near the German wire were rounded up and made prisoners of war. The battalion suffered 522 casualties. He came back to the UK on several occasions to recover from wounds sustained in action but on 20 May 1917 he returned to the Western Front for a final time. The battalion was in action in the First, Second and Third Battles of the Scarpe during the Arras Offensive, then moved over to Flanders. He died of gunshot wounds at 64 Casualty Clearing Station near Mendinghem. He is buried at Mendingheim Cemetery, Belgium.

Medal Entitlement: 1914-15 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

FRANK WEBB JANE

Petty Officer

J3732

Royal Navy, HMS Drake I (Naval Barracks Devonport)

who died on

Thursday 11th April 1957, aged 64

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 20 June 1892 in Quethiock, near Liskeard, Cornwall and was living there in 1901 with his family. He had moved to Portsmouth by 1911 to pursue a naval career. He married Beatrice Elizabeth Hill in 1925 at St German's, Cornwall. In 1939 he was living with his wife and family in 1 Hoyle Cottages, working as a farm labourer and horseman. He is buried in the parish churchyard in grave 188.

Commemorative Information

Frank Jane first entered service in March 1909 on HMS Impregnable. At the outset of the war, he served initially on HMS Brisk, which was part of the 2nd Destroyer Flotilla part of the Grand Fleet, and was deployed to Devonport to undertake escort duties. HMS Brisk was frequently sent on "submarine sweeps", patrols specifically to look for German submarines. From March 1918 he served on HMS Mounsey, part of the 3rd Destroyer Flotilla, attached to the Grand Fleet. In May 1918 HMS Mounsey joined the 2nd Destroyer Flotilla, assigned to the Coast of Ireland Station and based at Bunrana in the north of Ireland. In June 1918 he was posted to HMS Vivid 1, the Seamanship, Signalling and Telegraphy School in Devonport.

He served on HMS Vivid I again in January 1928, and then on HMS Vivid II later that same month. He also served on the Emperor of India from 1925 to 1930 during which time he received the Royal Navy long service and good conduct medal.

Medal Entitlement: 1914-15 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

JOSEPH HENRY JORDAN

Sergeant

42087

56th Battalion, Machine Gun Corps

who died on

Wednesday 17th September 1969, aged 78

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 27 February 1891 in Plymouth to parents, Joseph Jordan and Sarah Jane Hoskin. He was living in Devonport in 1901 and in Portbridge in 1911, working as a carpenter. He married Lydia Scadding in April 1912 and they lived at Brookside, Stoke Gabriel.

Commemorative Information

Joseph Jordan was aged 24 when he enlisted into 11th Battalion, Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry in 1916. He was transferred to the Machine Gun Corps at Grantham in February 1916 and served in France from 1916 to 1918. He was awarded the Military Medal on 19 November 1917 most likely for action in the Battle of Messines. He was later wounded (gassed) on 7 September 1918 at Ypres. He was discharged in 1919. His Military Medal was presented at Government House, Devonport by Major General Sir V Couper on 9 April 1919.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

WALTER KNOWLES*

Driver

24327

23rd Brigade, Royal Field Artillery

who died on

Saturday 24th February 1917, aged 39

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born in 1878 in Newton St Cyres, he was the son of James Knowles. In August 1911 he married Lily Evans in Stoke Gabriel parish church; Lily Evans was a sister to the five Evans' brothers who also served in WW1. He lived in Stoke Gabriel, working as a carman.

Commemorative Information

Walter Knowles enlisted in August 1914. He died of heart failure near Albert, France. He is buried in Albert Communal Cemetery Extension and is memorialized in the churchyard of St Cyr and St Julitta, Newton St Cyres.

Medal Entitlement: 1914 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

CHARLES JACOB LEWIS

Private

24628

3rd Battalion, Devonshire Regiment

who died on

Thursday 27th February 1964, aged 85

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born in 1878 in Stoke Gabriel to George and Jane Lewis and baptized in the parish church on 11 October 1878. He was living in Stoke Gabriel in 1881 and 1891. In August 1902 he married Amilie Balsbach of Heidelberg, Germany, in the parish church. In 1911 he was living with his wife and family in Stoke Gabriel, working as a gardener. In 1939 he was living with his wife in Ferndale, Stoke Gabriel, working as a heavy gardener. He is buried with his wife in the parish churchyard in grave 249.

Commemorative Information

Charles Lewis enlisted aged 37 in 1915 and served in Salonika in 1916 as a Stretcher Bearer with the 10th Battalion, Devonshire Regiment. He was wounded, shot in the left leg on 10 February 1917 during a raid by the 10th Battalion against Petit Couronne, a mountain near Doldzeli to the south west of Lake Dorian. The objective was to destroy a large dugout plus trench mortar and machine gun emplacements. Demolition parties were supplied by 107th Field Company, Royal Engineers. The battalion crossed the Jumeaux Ravine in two columns - A and D Companies moving from Dorset Ravine and B and C Companies from Tor Ravine. Trench mortar fire caused several casualties as the Devon's clambered up the steep slopes of Petit Couronne. The raid was successful but 100 men were killed or wounded. After his recovery he re-joined the battalion on 29 April 1917. He was invalided home with Malaria in 1918, and was then attached to 444 Agricultural Company, Labour Corps. He was discharged in 1919.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

WILFRED CHARLES LONG*

Lance Corporal

T3/027584

14th Reserve Park, Army Service Corps

who died on

Sunday 2nd December 1917, aged 29

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born in October 1888, he was the son of Thomas and Elizabeth Long of Dartmouth where he lived in 1891 and 1901. In 1911 he was working in Teignmouth as a coachman and in the same year he married Annie Blanche Head of Dartmouth. By 1914 he was working as a coachman and groom and living in Mazonet Cottage.

Commemorative Information

Wilfred Long had served pre-war in the Devonshire, Royal Garrison Artillery (Volunteers). He enlisted on 13 November 1914. He was appointed Lance Corporal and embarked on the 'City of Dunkirk' at Southampton and landed in Havre, France on 3 August 1915. He then proceeded to the 14th Reserve Park. He was awarded a Good Conduct Badge on 13 November 1916. He was wounded during an air raid by bomb explosion and died of wounds at the No. 3 Casualty Clearing Station at Grevillers, Pas de Calais. He is buried at Grevillers British Cemetery.

Medal Entitlement: 1914-1915 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

ALEC JOHN RICHARD LUSCOMBE

J75798

Boy 1st Class

Royal Navy

who died on

Friday 11th February 1966, aged 64

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 28 October 1901 in Stoke Gabriel to Samuel and Hannah Luscombe and baptized in Stoke Gabriel church on 30 November 1901. In 1911 he was living in Waddeton, Stoke Gabriel. In January 1927 he married Irene Austin and worked as an undergroom.

Commemorative Information

Alec Luscombe enlisted on 7 August 1917 aged 15, and served on HMS Renown.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal issued to him on HMS Lucia, a submarine depot ship.

In Memory of

SYDNEY WALTER LUSCOMBE*

Private

27181

15th (Service) Battalion (2nd Portsmouth) Hampshire Regiment

who died on

Sunday 11th February 1917, aged 33

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born in 1884 in Stoke Gabriel to Samuel and Emma Luscombe, he was living in the parish in 1891, 1901 and 1911. He married Alice Louisa Ryder in January 1909 in the parish church, and in October 1911 they had a son, Reginald Sydney John Luscombe, who served in WW2. They lived at The Hayes and he is buried in the parish churchyard in an unidentified CWGC grave to the west of the church building.

Commemorative Information

Sydney Luscombe enlisted in 1916 into the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, and was later transferred to the Hampshire Regiment. He served in France and was subsequently invalided home and died of illness at the Headington Military Hospital, Oxford.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

WILLIAM HOWARD LUSCOMBE

Sapper

42265

12th Divisional Signal Company, Royal Engineers

who died on

Saturday 17th June 1922, aged 28

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: William Luscombe was born to Thomas and Sarah Luscombe in Ugborough and baptized there on 21 February 1894. In 1901 he was living in Ugborough with his grandfather but by 1911 had moved to Stoke Gabriel and was living at Yarde, working as a farmer. He was reported to have been one of the first men from Stoke Gabriel to enlist. In July 1922 he married Louisa Ford. He died at Torbay Hospital after a long illness contracted while serving in France. He had been in Torbay Hospital for two years and Barnabas House for 10 months.

Commemorative Information

William Luscombe served with the 12th Divisional Signals Company, Royal Engineers which provided communications for 12th (Eastern) Division, which landed at Boulogne, France on 30 May 1915. He was reported to have been gassed three times. Events involving gas are mentioned in various Company records including a gas shelling of the Signal Company's camp on 8 April 1918 near Amiens. He had two periods of service overseas. He was transferred to the Class Z Reserve on 28 March 1919.

Medal Entitlement: 1914-15 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

RICHARD GEORGE MATTHEWS

Private

155899

**'A' Company, Depot, 3rd Training Battalion, Royal Army Medical Corps
who died on**

Tuesday 7th May 1968, aged 74

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 1 September 1893 in Mere, Wiltshire, to Charles and Eliza Matthews. In 1918 he was living with his father in Stoke House, which was also his place of residence as indicated on his war service record. In July 1922 he married Gwendoline Bonham in Newton Abbott. In 1939 he was living with his wife in Torquay, working for a retail pharmacy. He is buried in the parish churchyard in grave 788.

Commemorative Information

Richard Matthews enlisted aged 24 in 1918 and served as a military pharmacist in Blackpool from 1918 to 1919.

In Memory of

ALFRED MOREY

Private

150138

Inland Waterways Transport Section, Royal Engineers.

who died on

? January 1973, aged 82

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 20 August 1890 in Stoke Gabriel to William and Laura Morey. He was a brother to James John, William Henry, Ernest and Frederick (all of whom served in WW1). He was living with his family in Aish, Stoke Gabriel, in 1901 and 1911, working as a farm labourer. In April 1914 he married Eliza Salter of Paignton, where the couple resided. In 1939 he was living with his wife in Paignton working as general labourer.

Commemorative Information

Alfred Morey enlisted on 16 February 1916 at Newton Abbott and was discharged on 22 February 1916 as 'Not being likely to become an efficient soldier'. He had previously served before the war in the Royal Navy from 27 April 1908 to 5 April 1909 and was invalided out with Tubercular Peritonitis which might explain his discharge from the Army in 1916.

In Memory of

ERNEST MOREY

Driver

T4/040401

Army Service Corps

who died on

Monday 15th June 1973, aged 77

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born in Stoke Gabriel on 30 September 1895 to William and Laura Morey. He was a brother to Wilfred Henry, James John, Alfred and Frederick (all of whom served in WW1). He was living with his family in Aish in 1901 and 1911, working as a farm labourer. In October 1924 he married Edith Narracott and in 1939 he was living with his wife in Paignton, working as a builder's labourer.

Commemorative Information

Ernest Morey enlisted in January 1915 and served in a Horse Transport Company in the 4th Army, which was formed in France on 5 February 1916. He arrived in France sometime in early 1916. On 13 July 1916 he was transferred as 72811 to the 2nd Battalion, Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire & Derbyshire Regiment), 71st Brigade, 6th Division. He appeared on a Wounded List on 29 October 1918, the wound most likely occurring in the Battles of the Hindenburg Line, during the pursuit to the Selle from 9 to the 12 October 1918.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

FREDERICK MOREY

Private

18906

Devonshire Regiment

who died on

Saturday 26th October 1991, aged 92

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born in Stoke Gabriel on 10 January 1899 to William and Laura Morey. Baptised on 12 March 1899 in Stoke Gabriel parish church, he was the youngest brother to Wilfred Henry, James John, Alfred and Ernest (all of whom served in WW1). He was living with his family in Stoke Gabriel in 1901 and 1911. In July 1920 he married Ethel May Lane and in 1939 he was living with his wife and daughter in All Hallows Road, Paignton, working for the gas works as a driver, having previously worked as a carter for N P Hunt, Cider Merchant.

Commemorative Information

Frederick Morey tried to sign up at the age of 14 but his mother retrieved him from the barracks. He eventually enlisted in July 1915 at the age of 16 and in May 1916 was posted to 'D' Company, 9th (Service) Battalion, Devonshire Regiment, in France, which had already landed at Le Havre on 28 July 1915 as part of the preparations for the Battle of the Somme (1 July to 18 November 1916). Frederick Morey sustained a wound to his left shoulder and on 2 July 1916 was admitted to No 34 Casualty Clearing Station (1/1st West Lancashire) (Territorial Force) located at Vecquemont. On 5 July 1916 he was evacuated by Ambulance Train (either No. 9 or No. 31) and returned to the UK.

After recovering from his wounds in December 1917, he was transferred as TR/7/24298 Private Frederick Morey, 51st (Graduated) Battalion, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, and then in February 1918 transferred again as 38784 Private Frederick Morey, 9th (Reserve) Battalion, Royal Berkshire Regiment, whilst part of the Training Reserve in the UK. Finally, in August 1918 he transferred as 640366 Private Frederick Morey, to the Labour Corps and served overseas. The Labour Corps was formed in 1917 for manual and skilled labour on the Western Front and Salonika. He was discharged from service on 15 April 1919 and received a medical pension until 31 May 1920 due to a gunshot wound in his right leg.

In Memory of

JAMES JOHN MOREY*

Private

19179

9th Battalion, Devonshire Regiment

who died on

Wednesday 6th September 1916 aged 27

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born in Stoke Gabriel on 23 June 1889 to William and Laura Morey. He was a brother to William Henry, Alfred, Ernest and Frederick (all of whom served in WW1). He was the uncle to both Queenie Baker and Gordon Hayman. He was living with his family in Aish in 1891, 1901 and 1911, working as a farm labourer.

Commemorative Information

James Morey enlisted in August 1915 at Exeter. He initially served with 2nd Battalion, Devonshire Regiment, and was then posted to the 9th (Service) Battalion, Devonshire Regiment. He was killed in action at the Battle of Guillemont. He is memorialized on the Thiepval Memorial.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

WILLIAM HENRY MOREY

Private

22380

6th (Service) Battalion, Dorset Regiment

who died on

Monday 27th September 1926, aged 38

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born in Stoke Gabriel to William and Laura Morey and was baptized on 8 July 1888. He was a brother to James John, Alfred and Ernest (all of whom served in WW1). He was living with his family in Aish in 1891, 1901 and 1911, working as a farm labourer. In October 1923 he married Phyllis Langdon in St Thomas, Exeter, where he later died.

Commemorative Information

William Morey enlisted on 30 October 1915 aged 27 into the 3rd Battalion, Devonshire Regiment at Exeter. He later transferred to 6th (Service) Battalion, Dorset Regiment and served in France from 6 July 1916 to 9 November 1916 when he was invalided home with trench foot. On recovery he was send back to France on 5 March 1917, and was wounded in action when he was shot, losing his index finger on his left hand, on 23 April 1917 at the Second Battle of the Scarpe. He was invalided home on 29 April 1917. On 12 January 1918 he was transferred to 654 Agricultural Company, Labour Corps at the Higher Barracks, Exeter, and was discharged on 22 March 1919.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

FREDERICK JOHN NARRACOTT*

Private

15576

2nd Battalion, Devonshire Regiment

who died on

Tuesday 31st October 1916, aged 32

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 14 November 1883 in Stoke Gabriel, the son of the Sexton, James Narracott, and his wife, Mary Crees, and a brother to William Henry and Arthur George (both of whom also served in WW1). He was living with his family in 1901 and in 1911 in Stoke Gabriel, working as a mason. In April 1905 he married Elizabeth Parsons of Crediton, Devon.

Commemorative Information

Frederick Narracott enlisted in February 1915 and landed in France on 1 June 1915. The battalion was in the trenches in the Somme area. He died of wounds in action at No 34 Casualty Clearing Station near Meaulte aged 32. According to a letter sent by the Regimental Company Captain to Frederick Narracott's brother, which was reported in the Brixham Western Guardian, 30 November 1916, "It was just getting dark and we were going under a shot bombardment by the Germans when close by me I heard someone say "Man hit". Before I got there to see who it was the stretcher bearers were already bandaging him up. He was badly hit just below the knee by a piece of shell and also slightly in the foot and hand. The last we saw of him he was being carried away to the aid station and seemed quite cheerful. He was always one of the most cheery men I had in the platoon and besides being a good and keen soldier did a lot towards keeping up the spirits of his comrades when in the most unpleasant circumstances." He is buried in Grove Town Cemetery, Meaulte, a little south of Albert.

Medal Entitlement: 1914- 1915 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

ARTHUR GEORGE NARRACOTT

Pioneer

43634

85th Field Company, Royal Engineers

who died on

? April 1954, aged 66

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 21 January 1888 in Stoke Gabriel, the son of the Sexton, James Narracott, and his wife, Mary Crees. He was a brother to Frederick John and William Henry (both of whom served in WW1). He was living with his family in 1901 and in 1911 in Stoke Gabriel, working as a carpenter. In October 1931 he married Ruby Woodbury and in 1939 he was living in Torquay with his wife, working as a builder.

Commemorative Information

George Narracott enlisted on 3 September 1914 at Exeter aged 26. On 17 September 1915 he arrived at Gallipoli. On 24 October 1915 he was wounded in action when he was shot in the left thigh, and was sent to hospital in Malta. On 4 January 1916 he was sent to Egypt, and then on to Macedonia where in October 1916 he contracted malaria. On 26 September 1917 he embarked at Salonica and on 1 October 1917 disembarked in Alexandria, serving in Palestine and Egypt. He embarked for the UK from Port Said on 20 April 1919. He was transferred to the Class Z reserve on 5 May 1919.

Medal Entitlement: 1914-1915 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

WILLIAM HENRY NARRACOTT

Air Mechanic 3rd Class

303100

Royal Air Force

who died on

Monday 7th December 1931, aged 56

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 18 June 1875 in Stoke Gabriel, the son of the Sexton, James Narracott, and his wife, Mary Crees. He was a brother to Frederick John and Arthur George (both of whom also served in WW1). In 1900 he married Emma Martin and they were living in Stoke Gabriel in 1901 and 1911. He was working as a painter.

Commemorative Information

William Narracott enlisted on 2 October 1918 aged 43, serving with the Airfield Construction Squadron at West Drayton. He was transferred to the RAF 'G' Reserve on 25 February 1919, and discharged on 30 April 1920.

Medal Entitlement: The British War Medal.

In Memory of

CECIL WILLIAM NEVILL

Private

30457

Royal 1st Devon Yeomanry

who died on

25th May 1951, aged 59

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born in Stoke Gabriel on 2 April 1892, he was the son of the parish vicar, Rev'd Napper Nevill, and lived at the Old Vicarage. In 1901 he was boarding at school in Totnes and in 1911 was boarding at school in Wincanton. He worked as an actor. In 1939 he was living in Paignton with a disability sustained from the war. He died in Devon and is buried in the parish churchyard in grave 85.

Commemorative Information

Cecil Nevill served overseas post 1915 with the Devonshire Regiment.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

JAMES WILLIAM DOUGLAS NOON

Lance Corporal

241143

5th Battalion, Devonshire Regiment

who died on

Saturday 30th January 1982, aged 90

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born on 1 June 1891 in Stoke Damerel, Plymouth, he was living in Stoke Gabriel with his stepfather, Frederick Adams, and mother, Margaret Adams, where he was working as an errand boy in a boot shop. At his discharge in 1920, his address was given as Stoke Gabriel. He married Minna Hicks in January 1927 in Willesden, London. In 1939 he was working in a boot shop in Torquay, and died in Babbacombe.

Commemorative Information

James Noon enlisted into the Devonshire Regiment and was appointed Lance Corporal and served overseas post 1915. He was wounded, probably in the Bois de Reims during the Battle of Tardenois that took place from 20 to 31 July 1918. He was invalided back home on 27 August 1918.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In WW2 he was an ARP warden, based in Torquay.

In Memory of

WILLIAM JOHN NORTHAM

Private

M2/130917

**595 Motor Transport Company, attached 17th Motor Ambulance Convoy,
Army Service Corps**

who died on

Saturday 8th March 1952, aged 78

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 30 May 1874 in Jacobstowe, Okehampton, to Robert and Sarah Northam. According to his WW1 army service record, he was living with his wife at Mazonet in 1915, working as a chauffeur. His WW1 pension ledger indicates that, when he was discharged in 1919, his place of residence was still at Mazonet. After the war he emigrated to Montana, USA, where he resided with his wife from 1920 until his death.

Commemorative Information

William Northam enlisted on 6 October 1915 aged 39. He served as a Motor Ambulance Car 'Studebaker' Driver. On 24 October 1915 he disembarked in Egypt, and later served in Salonika. He was invalided home from hospital in Malta on 26 November 1918, and was discharged due to sickness on 4 February 1919.

Medal Entitlement: 1914-1915 Star, Victory Medal, British War Medal, and the Silver War Badge.

In Memory of

EDWIN FRANK POTHAM

Ordinary Seaman

Bristol BZ/916

**4th (Collingwood) Battalion, Royal Naval Division,
Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve**

who died on

Saturday 26th May 1945, aged 47

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born in Stoke Gabriel on 17 October 1897, he lived at the same house in Berkeley Square as his brothers, Sydney Ernest and William John. In 1911 he was attending the local school. He worked as a groom and, according to his Register of Seaman's Service, as a motor engineer. In April 1930 he married Nora Crispin. In 1939 he was a fireman working for the London Fire Brigade. He is buried with his wife in the parish churchyard in grave 872.

Commemorative Information

Lying about his age to enlist, Edwin Potham's service record gives his date of birth as 17 October 1896 when he was actually born one year later. He first enlisted on 14 June 1915 and was attached to 4th Battalion, Royal Naval Division which was training the sailors to be infantrymen at Blandford Camp in Dorset. He was discharged as under age on 30 July 1915. He re-enlisted when he reached legal age as Stoker 1st Class Edwin Frank Potham (K36456) on 14 September 1916 and listed his occupation as Motor Engineer. He served on HMS Resolution from 17 December 1916 to 17 July 1919, which was part of the 1st Battle Squadron (United Kingdom) of the Grand Fleet. On 19 July 1919 he was demobilized.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

SYDNEY ERNEST POTHAM

Leading Stoker

SS111639

Royal Navy

who died on

? April 1982, aged 87

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born on 1 January 1895, he lived at the same house in Berkeley Square as his brothers, Edwin Frank and William John. In 1911 he was working as a farm horseman and in 1912, according to his service record, he was a fisherman. After the war, he became the landlord of the Church House Inn. In October 1926 he married Florence Jennings at St Olave's, London. In 1935 he was a fireman working for the London Fire Brigade. He died in Torbay.

Commemorative Information

Sydney Potham enlisted on 17 January 1912. He was at HMS Vivid on 12 November 1915 when he was awarded the Naval General Service Medal Clasp for service in the Persian Gulf 1909-1914 on HMS Pelorus. He was demobilised on 17 February 1920 and joined Royal Naval Reserve.

Medal Entitlement: 1914-15 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal, which was awarded while at HMS Vivid. He was also awarded the Royal Navy Long Service and Good Conduct Medal on 22 November 1927.

In Memory of

WILLIAM JOHN POTHAM

Stoker Petty Officer

K18425

Royal Navy

who died on

12th February 1966, aged 73

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born on 8 March 1892, he lived at the same house in Berkeley Square as his brothers, Edwin Frank and Sydney Ernest. In 1901 he was living in Stoke Gabriel, as he was in 1911 when he was working as a brick stacker. In April 1919 he married Florence Honeywill. In 1939 he was living in Paignton, working as a furniture removal man. He is buried with his wife in the parish churchyard in grave 253.

Commemorative Information

William Potham enlisted on 10 March 1913. He was serving on HMS Ormonde when he was awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal on 12 May 1928. He was discharged on 10 February 1929.

Medal Entitlement: 1914-15 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal awarded while he was on HMS Southampton.

In Memory of

STANLEY HEATH PRESTON

Gunner

212101

C/149 Brigade, Royal Field Artillery

who died on

? July 1962, aged 64

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 26 November 1897 in Stoke Gabriel to Henry and Elizabeth Preston. He was living at Yalberton with his family in 1901 and was working on a farm in Blackawton in 1911. According to his war service record, he was working as a farm labourer at Home Farm, Waddeton in 1917.

Commemorative Information

Stanley Preston was aged 19 when he enlisted on 19 January 1917 as a Gunner with 57th Reserve Battery Royal Field Artillery. He served in France from 6 September 1917 to 29 December 1917 with 32/33 Brigade. On 27 December 1917 he was admitted to hospital with a wound in the heel, and invalided back to England on 5 January 1918. He then returned to France and joined C/149 Brigade, finally returning to the UK on 28 January 1919 and being discharged on 25 February 1919.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

DONALD HICKLING RICHARDSON

Major

Royal Tank Corps

who died on

Saturday 8th October 1977, aged 84

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born on 3 February 1893, he lived in Nottingham and worked as a bank clerk. He married Mary Dorothy Wilson on 30 January 1915. After the war, he returned to Nottingham where he owned a wholesale grocery business. In the early 1970's, he sold the business and retired to Stoke Gabriel, residing at Stoke House. His ashes, and those of his wife, are interred in the parish churchyard in grave 335A.

Commemorative Information

Donald Richardson was commissioned on 7 December 1914 as 2nd Lieutenant Infantry. On 29 August 1915 he was posted to 12th (Service) Battalion (Pioneers), Sherwood Foresters, in France. On 22 October 1915 the Machine Gun Corps was created and on 6 July 1916 he was promoted to Lieutenant, Machine Gun Corps (Infantry) and on 27 October 1916 posted to Machine Gun Corps (Heavy). On 27 July 1917 The Tank Corps was formed from the Heavy Branch Machine Gun Corps.

On 18 October 1917 he was awarded the Military Cross for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. The citation read that he fought his tank for three days, during which time he himself was wounded, and the tank became ditched and completely surrounded by the enemy. At the end, the crew, with one exception, were all killed or wounded, but he succeeded in evacuating his tank and bringing the survivors back to their lines. By his very gallant action he inflicted severe casualties on the enemy.

He was the Captain of the Fray Bentos Tank, Tank F41, which experienced the longest tank action of the First World War.

On 12 July 1918 he was awarded the Belgium Croix de Guerre.

He was promoted in 1918 to Acting Captain, then to Acting Major, and then to temporary Captain Acting Major. On 16 July 1920 he relinquished his commission on completion of service.

See: https://tankmuseum.org/article/trapped_story_of_fray_bentos

In Memory of

ERNEST GEORGE ROWE

Sapper

WR/502005

**Inland Water Transport Corps, Royal Engineers
who died on**

Wednesday 1st February 1961, aged 73

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 16 July 1888 to William Rowe and Margaret Pinhey in Stoke Gabriel. He was a brother to John Rowe and Sydney Charles Rowe (both of whom also served in WW1), and he worked as a deckhand. He married Sarah Louisa Gagg in April 1911 shortly after returning from Canada. His service record indicates that in 1915 he was living in Stoke Gabriel. He was living in Berkeley Square in 1939 working as a road labourer. He is buried in the parish churchyard in grave 860.

Commemorative Information

Ernest Rowe enlisted aged 27 in 1916 and served in France from 1917. He was discharged in 1919.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

JOHN ROWE

Acting Lance Sergeant

16105

10th Battalion, Devonshire Regiment

who died on

Friday 6th July 1984, aged 89

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born on 26 December 1894 to William Rowe and Margaret Pinhey in Stoke Gabriel. He was a brother to Ernest George Rowe and Sydney Charles Rowe (both of whom also served in WW1). In 1901 and 1911 he was living in Stoke Gabriel, working as a fisherman. In 1921 he was living at 7 Penrose Road, Plymouth, working as a porter for GWR, Plymouth Millbay station. In the same year he married Florence Louise Parsons in Plymouth. In 1939 he was living at Station Cottage, Dobwalls, Cornwall, working as a railway signalman. He died in Dobwalls.

Commemorative Information

John Rowe served in Salonika and arrived with the rank of Corporal, being on a list of wounded and sick suffering from malaria (slight). He was later appointed Acting Lance Sergeant. On 1 June 1919 he was discharged to the Class Z Reserve suffering from malaria.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

SYDNEY CHARLES ROWE

Able Seaman

J41994

Royal Navy

who died on

Wednesday 7th January 1981, aged 84

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 24 December 1896 to William Rowe and Margaret Pinhey in Stoke Gabriel. He was a brother to Ernest George Rowe and John Rowe (both of whom also served in WW1). In 1901 he was living with his family in Stoke Gabriel. In 1911 he was apprenticed to a bread maker in Galmpton where he resided. At the time of his enlistment, he was working as a fisherman. In January 1920 he married Charlotte Hannaford-Hill in Totnes. In 1939 he was working as a postman in Totnes. He died in Newton Abbott.

Commemorative Information

Sydney Rowe enlisted on 12 July 1915 for the duration of hostilities. He was wounded in action at the Battle of Jutland on 31 May 1916 while serving on HMS Princess Royal, which was moderately damaged and required a month and a half of repairs. He later served on HMS Concord which, upon being commissioned into the Royal Navy in December 1916, was assigned to the 5th Light Cruiser Squadron, which operated as part of Harwich Force in the North Sea to defend the eastern approaches to the Strait of Dover and English Channel. It remained in the squadron through to the end of the war. He was demobilised on 27 February 1919.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

SAMUEL SCADDING

Private

18941

2nd Battalion, Devonshire Regiment

who died on

Wednesday 19th November 1975, aged 89

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born on 2 October 1886 in Stoke Gabriel, he was the son of Samuel Matthews and Lydia Petherbridge Scadding. He was the brother of Shadrach John Scadding, who was killed in action in WW1, and William Albert Scadding, who also served in WW1. He lived with his wife at Meadow Leigh, Long Rydon and worked as a builder and a Special Constable in F Division. He is buried in the parish churchyard in grave 119.

Commemorative Information

Samuel Scadding enlisted in July 1915 aged 29 into the Devonshire Regiment. He completed his basic training with the 3rd Reserve Battalion, Devonshire Regiment at Devonport. After 1915 he was posted to the 2nd Battalion, Devonshire Regiment, 23rd Brigade, 8th Division in France. The battalion took part in the Battle of Albert (the first phase of the Battles of the Somme in 1916). After March 1917 he was posted to the 1/4th Territorial Battalion, Devonshire Regiment in India. In February 1917 the battalion was at Amara, Mesopotamia under orders of the Tigris Lines of Communication. The base depots and hospitals/rest camps for the Mesopotamia Campaign were in India. Seemingly, he had served at the 1/4th Battalion, Devonshire Base Depot at Secunderabad, Hyderabad located in the Indian state of Telangana. On 24 April 1919 1/4th Battalion, Devonshire Regiment arrived in Plymouth from India. They were reported to be very fed up. Having arrived at Plymouth after almost five years away, they had to travel through the county to Fovant in Wiltshire before they could be demobilised and only then could travel back to their homes. On 18 July 1919 he was discharged to the Class 'Z' Reserve at Fovant, Wiltshire.

In Memory of

SHADRACH JOHN SCADDING*

Private

16596

1st Battalion, Devonshire Regiment

who died on

Thursday 4th October 1917, aged 21

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born on 28 November 1895, he was the son of Samuel Matthews Scadding and Lydia Petherbridge Scadding. He was the brother of Samuel and William Albert Scadding, both of whom also served in WW1. In 1911 he was living with his family at Orchard Leigh, working as a farm labourer.

Commemorative Information

Shadrach Scadding enlisted in February 1916 into the Devonshire Regiment at Paignton aged 20. He was posted for training to the Battalion Depot at the Wyvern Barracks, Exeter or to the 3rd (Reserve) Battalion, Devonshire Regiment, Devonport, which was a training unit used as the garrison for the defences of Plymouth. In June 1916 he was sent to France to join the 8th (Service) Battalion Devonshire Regiment, 20th Brigade of the 7th Division as part of a reinforcement draft. In September 1916 he was wounded, probably at the Battle of Guillemont. On 22 September 1916 he was listed as wounded in the Western Times newspaper. Once discharged from hospital he would most likely have been sent back to the 3rd (Reserve) Battalion at Devonport. On recovery from his wounds he was posted to 1st Battalion, Devonshire Regiment, 95th Brigade of the 5th Division in France. On 4 October 1917 he was killed in action by shrapnel piercing his heart at the Third Battle of Ypres or Passchendaele. He is memorialised at the Tyne Cot Memorial in Belgium.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

WILLIAM ALBERT SCADDING

Private

91301

**13th (Service) Battalion, The King's (Liverpool) Regiment
who died on**

Thursday 27th February 1958, aged 59

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born in Stoke Gabriel on 24 December 1898, the son of Samuel Matthews Scadding and Lydia Petherbridge Scadding and lived there, working as a farmer. He was the brother of Samuel and Shadrach John Scadding, both of whom also served in WW1. After the war, he sailed from Plymouth to America on 7 September 1920 aged 21. He lived at Lane, Oregon.

Commemorative Information

William Scadding enlisted in October 1917, serving in France with 9th Brigade, 3rd Division.

Medal entitlement: British War Medal, and the Victory Medal.

In Memory of

ALBERT JAMES SCRIVENS

Private

6656

4th (Royal Irish) Dragoon Guards

who was buried on

Tuesday 10th October, 1961, aged 71

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born on 1 June 1889 in Worcester, he lived there through 1901 and 1911, working as a shoeing smith. He married Daisy Wills (reported to be known as Fanny) in Worcester in April 1915 and they lived at various places ending up at Woods, Stoke Gabriel, before the start of war. Following the receipt of her husband's death notice, Fanny was given a widow's pension and then entered into a relationship with a Mr Sandercock with whom she had a child. On Albert's return to England, he discovered his wife was in a relationship with another man. He sued for divorce, which was granted owing to the "misconduct" of his wife. He died and was buried in Worcester.

Commemorative Information

Albert Scrivens enlisted into the army and went abroad at the outbreak of war. Following a request made by his wife to the Red Cross to locate him, she received notice in August 1914 that Albert was missing and then in April 1915 that he was dead. However, Albert Scriven had not died but had been taken prisoner by the Germans and returned to England in 1919.

In Memory of

WILLIAM JOHN SELLEK

Driver

1764 (565)

2/1st Devon Battery, Wessex, Royal Field Artillery (Territorial)

who died on

? October 1951, aged 61

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 19 November 1889 in St Marychurch, Torquay, to parents, Eli Sellek and Mary Ann Perry. In 1901 he was living there with his father. According to his WW1 service record, he was working in 1914 as a gardener in the employ of Colonel Robert Wright Studdy. He married Mabel Nellie Carter in July 1919 in Totnes and in 1939 he was resident in Paignton working as a jobbing gardener.

Commemorative Information

William Sellek was embodied as a Territorial on 16 September 1914 aged 24. He was transferred later to the Regular Royal Field Artillery with regimental No. 565. He was posted to the 1105th Battery on 1 January 1917 and served in India and Aden. On 29 March 1919 he was disembodied.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

ALFRED CHARLES SELLWOOD

Air Mechanic 1st Class (Store Man, Grade Clerk 2)

222331

Royal Air Force

who died on

Friday 20th December 1918, aged 40

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born on 9th August 1878 in Paddington, London, he worked as a pattern card moulder. He married his wife, Amelia Beatrice Baker of Stoke Gabriel, in Paddington where they continued to live. After his death, he was brought from Lincoln Hospital to be buried in the parish churchyard of Stoke Gabriel in CWGC grave 664.

Commemorative Information

Alfred Sellwood enlisted on 3 August 1917 into the Royal Naval Air Service and was later re-mustered into the Royal Air Force. He died in Lincoln Hospital while serving at RAF Cranwell, Lincolnshire.

Medal Entitlement: British War Medal.

In Memory of

GEORGE SKEDGEL

Stoker Petty Officer

287153

Royal Navy

who died on

Friday 25th October 1957, aged 78

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: The older brother of Henry Prince Skedgel, he was born in Stoke Gabriel on 5 January 1879 to parents, Charles and Anne Skedgel. In 1881 and 1891 he was living with his family in a cottage in Stoke Gabriel. In 1901 he was living in Royal Navy Barracks in Devonport. He married Mary Ann Warring in 1905 in Newton Abbott. In 1939 he was living in Torquay with his wife working as a general labourer.

Commemorative Information

George Skedgel enlisted in 1898. In 1901 he was serving as a Stoker aged 22. He also served as a Stoker in the Boer War on HMS Pelouis from 8 Dec 1899 to 26 June 1900 and was awarded the Queen's South Africa Medal on 29 April 1902 on HMS Implacable.

Medal Entitlement: 1914-15 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal.

In Memory of

HENRY PRINCE SKEDGEL

Petty Officer

213825

Royal Navy

who died on

? January 1950, aged 67

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: The younger brother of George Skedgel, he was born in Stoke Gabriel on 21 December 1884 to parents, Charles and Anne Skedgel. In 1891 he was living in Stoke Gabriel with his family. He married Louisa Gertrude Richards in Stoke Gabriel in 1907 and worked as a labourer. In 1939 he was the verger at St Mark's Torquay.

Commemorative Information

Henry Skedgel was aged 17 when he enlisted in 1901, serving on the 1st Class Cruiser Armoured, HMS Northampton, out of Portsmouth Harbour. In 1911 he was married and serving as a Leading Seaman on the 2nd Class Cruiser, HMS Cambrian, near Australia. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal on 12 October 1915 while serving with 6th Light Cruiser Squadron on HMS Eskimo. A Good Conduct Medal was awarded on 13 September 1916 while on HMS Foresight with the East Mediterranean Squadron. In May 1915 HMS Foresight was temporarily moved to the 6th Light Cruiser Squadron on the Humber, guarding against Zeppelin raids on the east coast. Later In 1915 HMS Foresight served in the Mediterranean. On 7 August 1915 he was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal in recognition of his services in the Patrol Cruisers since the outbreak of war. In July 1916 HMS Foresight was in the Aegean with her sister ship HMS Forward until the end of the war. In November 1916, HMS Foresight assisted the wounded survivors from HMS Britannic. He was pensioned on 26 June 1923.

Medal Entitlement: 1914-15 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal awarded on HMS Sandhurst, a Destroyer Depot Ship and Fleet repair ship.

In Memory of

FRANCIS ROBERT BECKTON STUDDY

**Lieutenant
HMS "Victory"
Royal Navy
who died on**

Thursday 24th February 1921, aged 23

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: Born in Stoke Gabriel on 11 July 1897, he was the son of Colonel Robert Wright Studdy and Edith Mary Studdy of Waddeton Court, where he lived with his family. He died at the South Eden Nursing Home, Paignton due to an illness resulting from war service. He is buried in the parish churchyard in CWGC grave 629.

Commemorative Information

Francis Studdy was appointed to lieutenant in May 1912. During the war he served on HMS Juno (Light Cruiser) 11th Cruiser Squadron, then on HMS Collingwood (Battleship) with the fleet at Scapa Flow. He was on the battleship, HMS Temeraire, in the Battle of Jutland, which took place from 31 May to 1 June 1916. He then served on HMS Speedwell, a mine sweeping torpedo-gunboat, with the Home Fleet, and HMS Proserpine, part of the 7th Cruiser Squadron supporting the British intervention in Mesopotamia. Then he served on HMS Danae, which was attached to the Harwich-based 5th Light Cruiser Squadron, followed by service on HMS Colombo with 5th Light Cruiser Squadron on the China Station. He finally served on HMS Vulcan at Portland, and at the Special Torpedo Vessel (Depot Ship).

Medal Entitlement: 1914-15 Star, Victory Medal, and the British War Medal issued to his father.

<https://skipperswar.com/2021/03/02/march-2nd-1921/>

In Memory of

FRANK TULLY

Private

485087

816 Employment Company, Labour Corps

who died on

? October 1960, aged 78

Connection to Stoke Gabriel: He was born on 6 September 1882 in Stoke Gabriel to parents, William Tully and Elizabeth Gagg. In 1891 and 1901 he was living with his family in Portbridge, working as a farm carter. In 1911 he was living in Kenton, working as a farm labourer. In 1939 he was living in Dawlish, working as a gardener.

Commemorative Information

Frank Tully enlisted on 9 May 1915 aged 33 into 3rd Battalion Devonshire Regiment (regimental no.17800), and was posted to Salonika on 3 January 1916 to join the 10th (Service) Battalion Devonshire Regiment. He contracted malaria in September 1917, and after recovery was transferred to the Labour Corps on 14 December 1917. On 13 May 1919 he was discharged.

Medal Entitlement: Victory Medal, and the British War Medal issued Aug 1921.