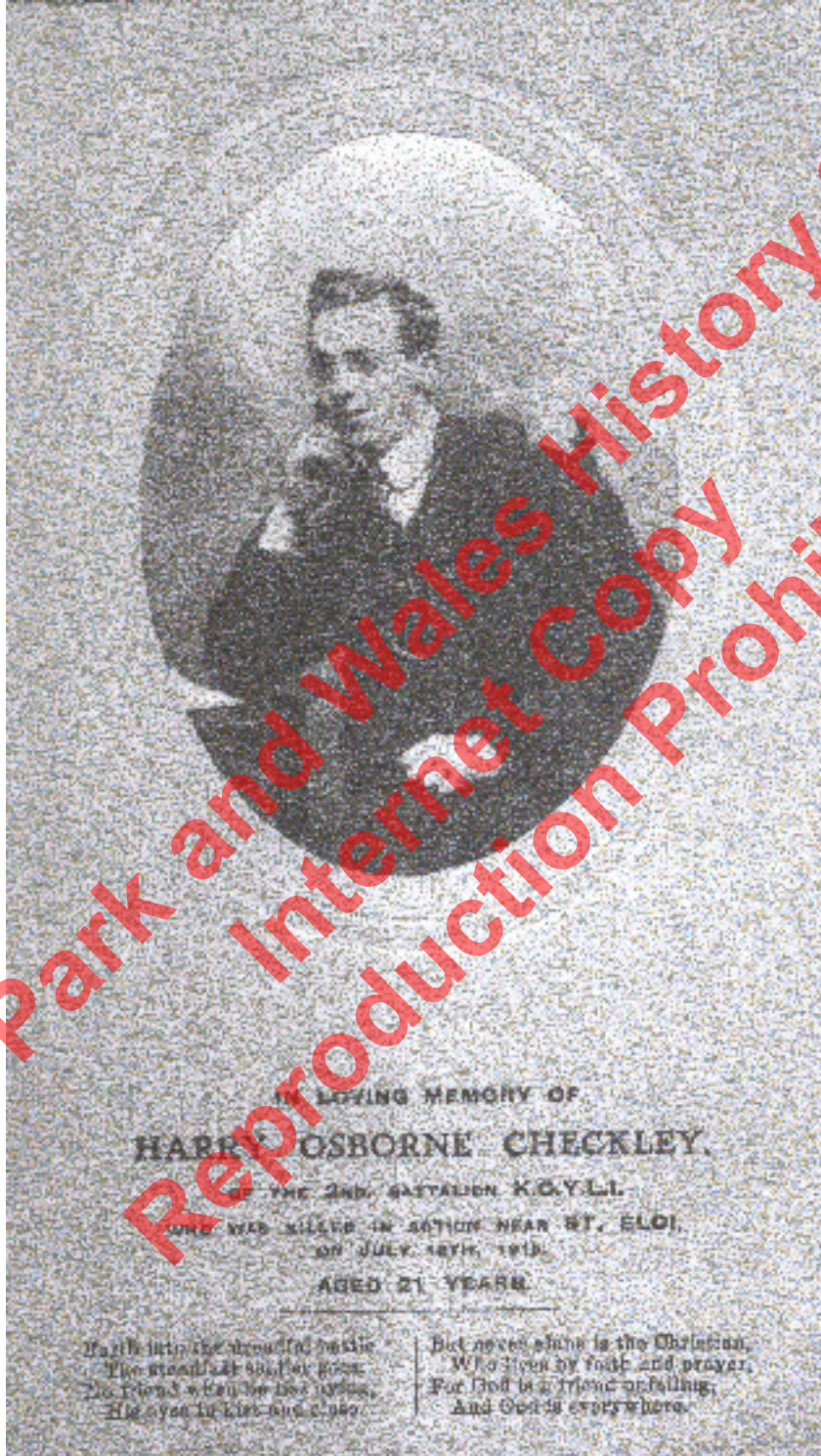


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IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
**HARRY OSBORNE CHECKLEY,**  
OF THE 2ND BATTALION K.O.Y.L.I.  
WHO WAS KILLED IN ACTION NEAR ST. ELOI,  
ON JULY 18TH, 1918.  
AGED 21 YEARS.

Earth is the crowded battle  
The steadfast soldier goes,  
No friend when he has need,  
His eyes in dust and clay.

But never slum is the Christian,  
Who lives by faith and prayer,  
For God is a friend unflin'g,  
And God is everywhere.

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DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF KIVETON PARK MINERS WHO LOST THEIR  
LIVES IN THE GREAT WAR.

ESPECIALLY TO THE MEMORY OF HARRY OSBORNE CHECKLEY, PRIVATE  
20785, A COMPANY 2ND BATTALION KING'S OWN YORKSHIRE LIGHT  
INFANTRY.

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“YE TAKE HEED, WATCH AND PRAY: FOR YE KNOW NOT WHEN THE TIME IS”

ST. MARK CHAPTER 13 VERSE 33

MARKED AND DATED 3RD JUNE (1915) IN HARRY OSBORNES' BIBLE. THE BATTALION WAR DIARY SHOWS THAT HE WAS IN THE TRENCHES AT ST. ELOI SOUTH OF YPRES ON THAT DAY. HE WAS TO DIE THERE WITHIN THE NEXT SEVEN WEEKS.

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Heritage  
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## INTRODUCTION

After my Dad died in August 1982 I began to seriously research the history of our family. It was a way of working through my grief, and although it was too late to ask him about some of the things that came up at least I was early enough to talk to other senior members of the family. Once embarked on such a fascinating journey I was totally gripped to the exclusion of all else. Most of my ancestors were poor and hard working and I have come to respect their great courage and stoicism in the face of often overwhelming hardship. Along the way I have met some lovely people and have made some firm friends.

I had often heard my Mum and Dad talk about “our Os” but it was not until 1996 that I was able to pursue the details of what had happened to him. Mum by then was in a nursing home and one day the Senior Nurse heard us talking about Harry Osborne. It turned out that her husband often took groups of people on tours of the Battlefields in France and Flanders. He was able to locate the grave of Harry Osborne near Ypres, and able to acquire copies of 2nd Battalion KOYLI war diaries from the archives then in Pontefract. So at the end of March 1997 I went on my first tour of the WW1 Battlefields. I have been back every year since. Words cannot describe the experience adequately. Go see for yourselves.

Leri Morton, November 2007

## SERIES EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

When Leri arrived at the Pit Offices with the manuscript of this book I was taken aback. I'd stumbled upon the tragic stories of Harry Checkley and Albert Lamb, and pointed out their names, adjacent on the war memorial at the pit offices, to visitors and local children to try and capture the fate of many Kiveton miners who went to fight during the First World War. I was shocked, to say the least, to see the picture of Os and Albert together, in uniform and leant nonchalantly against a wall, which is reprinted on the front of this book. It is difficult to imagine them dead just months later, victims of the trenches. Real respect should be paid to the breadth and depth of research that had gone into this manuscript. In its pages, Leri provides an insight not just into the Checkley family but a whole generation of Kiveton miners and their families, whose lives were transformed when the European powers went into war against each other in 1914.

John Tanner, November 2007



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## NOTE

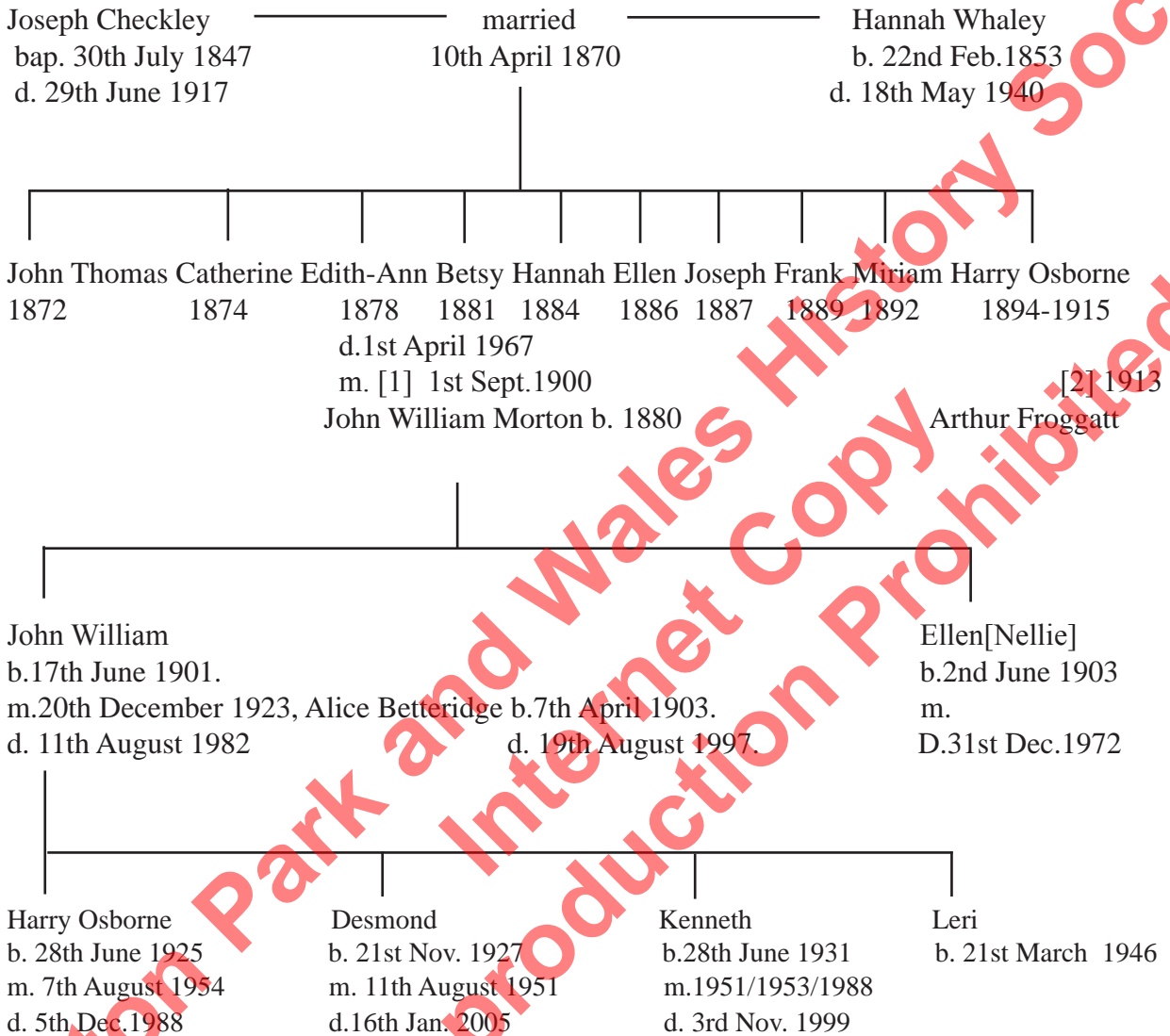
Like his comrades in arms, Harry Osborne Checkley was issued with a pocket Bible measuring three inches by 4 and a half inches. Coloured tan with a red title on the spine, it has on the front "Fear God" above a Union Jack, and below "Honour The King".

"Os" was a very conscientious, practising Christian who played an important part in the life of the United Methodist Church in Wales. Inside the back cover of this Bible he wrote in pencil a list of text references which show that, while not hesitating to rally to his country's call to arms, it must have caused him to do some real soul searching. He was not a man to look forward to conflict in which he would in all probability have to kill or injure a fellow human being. He must have been fearful for his own life as we all would be in that dreadful situation. He must have asked the age old question of why God allows wars and suffering to happen.

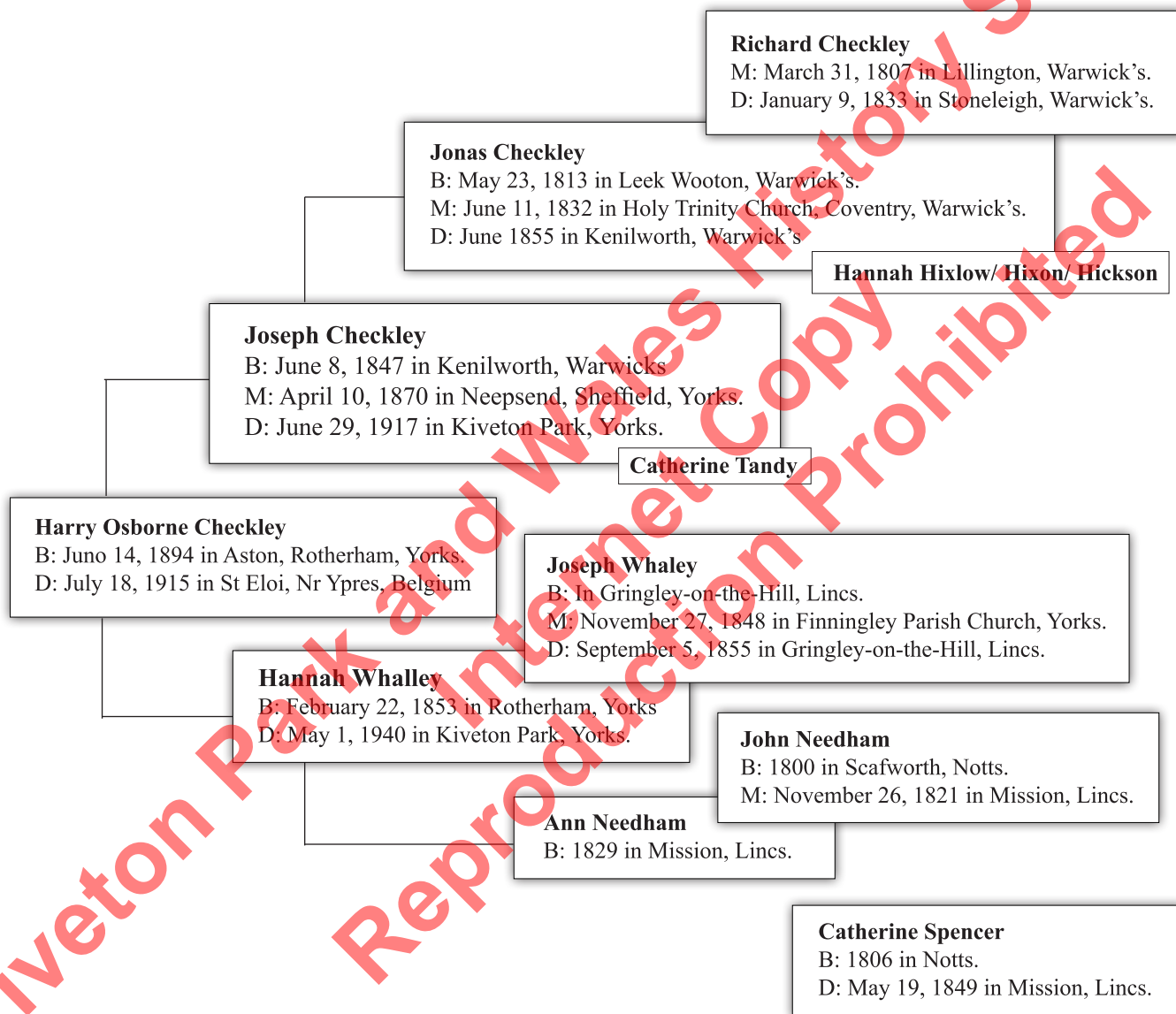
This is the list as written by him, without punctuation:

Enlist St John chapter 1 verse 12  
Clothing Ephesians chapter 6 verse 11 onwards  
Weapons 2 Corinthians chapter 10 verse 4  
Food St Matthew chapter 4 verse 4  
Regulations Joshua chapter 1 verses 1 to 8 [marked and dated May 31st  
1915 some 3 weeks after Albert Lamb's death]  
Service St Matthew chapter 28 verses 19 and 20  
Fighting Romans chapter 8 verses 35 to 37  
Victory 1 Corinthians chapter 15 verse 57  
Reward 2 Timothy chapter 4 verses 7 and 8

OUTLINE FAMILY TREE – “GREAT UNCLE OS”



## ANCESTORS OF HARRY OSBOURNE CHECKLEY



## THE CHECKLEY FAMILY

Jonas was born 1813, Leek wootton, Warks and married Catherine Tandy 1832, in Coventry. Their fifth child Joseph was born in Kenilworth in 1813. In 1870 he was married in Neepsend, Sheffield, to Hannah Whaley. She was born in Brinsworth in 1853. Her parents were Joseph Whaley [ born Gringley-on-the-Hill, Notts, 1828] and Ann Needham [born Misson 1829] who married in Finningley 1848.

Joseph and Hannah Checkley moved around quite a lot, in the search for work. Census returns and children's births reveal the following addresses :-

- 1871 – 9. Kiveton Cottages. Joseph was a miner.
- 1878 – Hull. Joseph worked on the docks.
- 1881 – Bolsover. Joseph was a miner.
- 1887 – Gainsborough. Joseph worked on the river docks.
- 1891 – Aston. Joseph was a miner.
- 1901 – Neepsend, Sheffield. Joseph was a miner.

Hannah Checkley [see newspaper article of 1938] used to brag that she had 14 children born alive! I have found some of them :-

- 1 John Thomas born 1872 Kiveton Park
- 2 Catherine born and died 1874 Kiveton Park
- 3 Edith Ann born 1878 Hull [\*my Grandmother]
- 4 Betsy born 1881 Aston, married [?] Bell
- 5 Hannah/ Nancy born 1884 Gainsborough [ Married Lewis Gregory 1913, KIA 1916 on the Somme.]
- 6 Ellen/Nellie born 1886 Gainsborough married George Potter 1907.
- 7 Joseph born 1887 Gainsborough, married Florence Whelpton 1909. Served with Yorks and Lancs in WW1, returned home.
- 8 Frank born 1889 Gainsborough, married Florence Hurst 1912. Served with the Royal Engineers in WW1, returned home.
- 9 Maud born and died 1890 Aston
- 10 Miriam born 1892, died 1893 Aston
- 11 Harry Osborne born 1894 Aston. Served with the KOYLI in WW1. Kia July 1915.

Joseph Checkley died in the influenza epidemic of 1917. He was 70 years old and still working ..... no sickness benefit or pension in those days! Hannah Checkley died in 1940, a fighter all her 87 years! They are buried in Wales Cemetery at the foot of the memorial stone they erected for their son Harry Osborne [known as "our Os"] in 1915. No coffins brought home then.

My Grandmother, Edith Ann, married a Derbyshire joiner in Walkley, Sheffield, in September 1900. My Father John William Morton was born in June 1901 in Attercliffe and his sister Ellen in 1903 in Aston. After the breakdown of this marriage they all returned to Kiveton and Dad grew up living with his grandparents. He married Alice Betteridge [ parents James and Hannah nee Wragg] in 1923. They had Harry Osborne 1925 - 1988 [named after "Os"] , Desmond 1927-2005, Kenneth 1931-1999 and myself, Leri born 1946.



Mrs. Checkley with her favourite paper.

# At 85 She Has Read "Independent" 67 Years

For 67 years Mrs. Anta Checkley, 1, Albert Terrace, Kiveton, near Eltham, has read the Daily Independent, and she says it thoroughly has done her years of age.

She said she had been reading the paper for 67 years, and that she had never missed an issue. She said she had read the paper for 67 years, and that she had never missed an issue. She said she had read the paper for 67 years, and that she had never missed an issue.

### REPROVED PAPER

She said she had read the paper for 67 years, and that she had never missed an issue. She said she had read the paper for 67 years, and that she had never missed an issue. She said she had read the paper for 67 years, and that she had never missed an issue.

### BROKE INTEREST

She said she had read the paper for 67 years, and that she had never missed an issue. She said she had read the paper for 67 years, and that she had never missed an issue. She said she had read the paper for 67 years, and that she had never missed an issue.

### FAMILY OF 11

She said she had read the paper for 67 years, and that she had never missed an issue. She said she had read the paper for 67 years, and that she had never missed an issue. She said she had read the paper for 67 years, and that she had never missed an issue.

### MODERN "SUGARBEES"

She said she had read the paper for 67 years, and that she had never missed an issue. She said she had read the paper for 67 years, and that she had never missed an issue. She said she had read the paper for 67 years, and that she had never missed an issue.

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## HARRY OSBORNE CHECKLEY 1894-1915

Our "Os" was born on 14th June 1894 at a house on Mill Stone Hill in Aston. His birth was registered on 5th July by his mother Hannah Checkley, nee Whaley. His father Joseph Checkley is noted as a coal miner.

In the 1901 census he, his parents, his sister Ellen [age 15] and his two brothers Frank [12] and Joseph [14] were living in Sheffield. They were at 354 Neepsend Lane, Neepsend, and also in the house were my Grandma and Grandad. John Morton is listed as the head of the household, a joiner by profession with his wife Edith Ann Morton, who was the eldest daughter in the Checkley family. On 17th June 1901 my father John William was born in Fearnhaugh Street Attercliffe, and on 2nd June 1903 his sister Ellen was born at 5 Bradley's Yard Swallownest. The "in-laws" were probably around if not in the same house.

Sometime in 1903/4 Edith Ann's marriage broke down and she went to live in a cottage in Wales Square. My father was taken in by the Checkley Grandparents who seem to have lived thereafter at 1 Albert Terrace, Kiveton Park. This is where my father grew up, and this is where his great regard for "Our Os" began. Os was seven years older than my Dad, close enough to play with him, and, in time, to take him to school with him. It is certain he nourished a great love of reading in my Dad and also taught him to play the violin. They obviously read a lot of Charles Dickens' stories together since Dad could come up with quotes of varying appropriateness on all occasions! Such as Mr McCawber on "happiness". I suspect he also protected him from Grandma Checkley's anger when Dad got into trouble and was chased by her wielding the copper fire shovel!

This caring, thoughtful and nurturing uncle extended his attributes into serving the wider community. As he grew older he developed a great Christian faith and attended the Wales United Methodist Church, going to Bible Class and becoming a Sunday School Teacher. Dad was taken along, and there he met his future wife, Alice Betteridge. The teachings Os gave and the example he set stayed with them both for the rest of their lives. Their regard was best expressed when their eldest son was born and named Harry Osborne Morton [later to become a Methodist Minister and President of the Methodist Conference in 1972].

If these two pupils were so indelibly affected by their contact with Os, then so must many of the others he taught. Not that he didn't appreciate fun and laughter, or gain enjoyment from his violin, his membership of the Wales Orchestral Band, the football team and other social activities in the village at that time.

Like his brothers before him Os left school at 13 and went to work down the pit. In this family there was no question that if you wanted to eat you helped to put the food on the table. There being no social welfare to tap into, each member did his bit. This included Dad, whose work certificate is dated 1st August 1914, verifying him as a school leaver age 13. He started work driving pit ponies underground at Kiveton Colliery, although his Headteacher really wanted him to go on to secondary school at Woodhouse.

At that time the Checkley family worked as a team under their head Joseph, being responsible for extracting coal from a designated stall underground to be paid by weight of coal extracted. At snap time Joseph would produce his Bible and read "a passage of scripture" while the boys were eating. This became a catchword in our family at any time of crisis! Once home the tin bath was brought out, filled with water and each man got washed in order of seniority, Joseph first and Dad last... in what must have been very dirty water by then! In an obituary in the Worksop Guardian edition of 30th July 1915 we are told that Os worked in the High Hazel seam at Kiveton Colliery, and that he was a promising mining engineer at Sheffield University. Like my Dad after him he would have studied in the evenings and on



a Saturday, travelling to Sheffield after work by train from one of the Kiveton stations. They were made of strong stuff to do such a physically demanding job, then go to a mentally demanding activity and still find time for chapel, football, tennis and any other social activity they could find.

In early 1914 Os was stricken with appendicitis and underwent an operation. This was a very dangerous affliction in those times and Os was lucky to survive it. He was sent to relatives in Kenilworth to recuperate and Dad went with him. Later in life Dad told of how, while they were there, War broke out and Os was given a white feather by some local girls. In the national fervour of the time, any healthy looking male not in military uniform was given a white feather as a sign of cowardice ! I am sure that Os would have joined up anyway being the kind of citizen who would always pull his weight, and in December of that year Os and his best pal, Albert Lamb, went to Sheffield to enlist. They joined the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry or K.O.Y.L.I.s, and were put into the 2nd Battalion together.

In the Medal Rolls at the National Archives in Kew, it states that the qualifying date [i.e. arrival in France for active service] for Os was 21st April 1915. This ties in with the draft of 52 men who are noted in the Battalion War Diaries as joining the 2nd Battalion in the field on 20th April in the Ypres sector, Belgium.

Os passed his 21st Birthday that June in the trenches at St. Eloi, to the south of Ypres on the road to Messines. Albert Lamb had passed his while training.



Albert was born in Wales in early 1894. His father Charles Edward was an engineer on a farm according to the 1901 census, and had been born in Lincolnshire around 1863. He had married Isabella Jarvis in East Retford in 1890. All their children were born in Wales. As well as Albert there was Herbert, Mary, Charles, and Isabella. Sadly Charles Edward died age 46 late in 1909. Herbert was injured in a mining accident. So when she lost Albert, Isabella must have been distraught with grief.

The village was the poorer from the loss of these two young men with so much potential and community involvement.

The following pages follow them through April to July 1915.

It should be noted that there is further detail on Albert Lamb on the website :  
<http://www.1914-1918.net/heroes/lamb.htm>

Albert Lamb and  
'Os' Checkley before  
embarkation

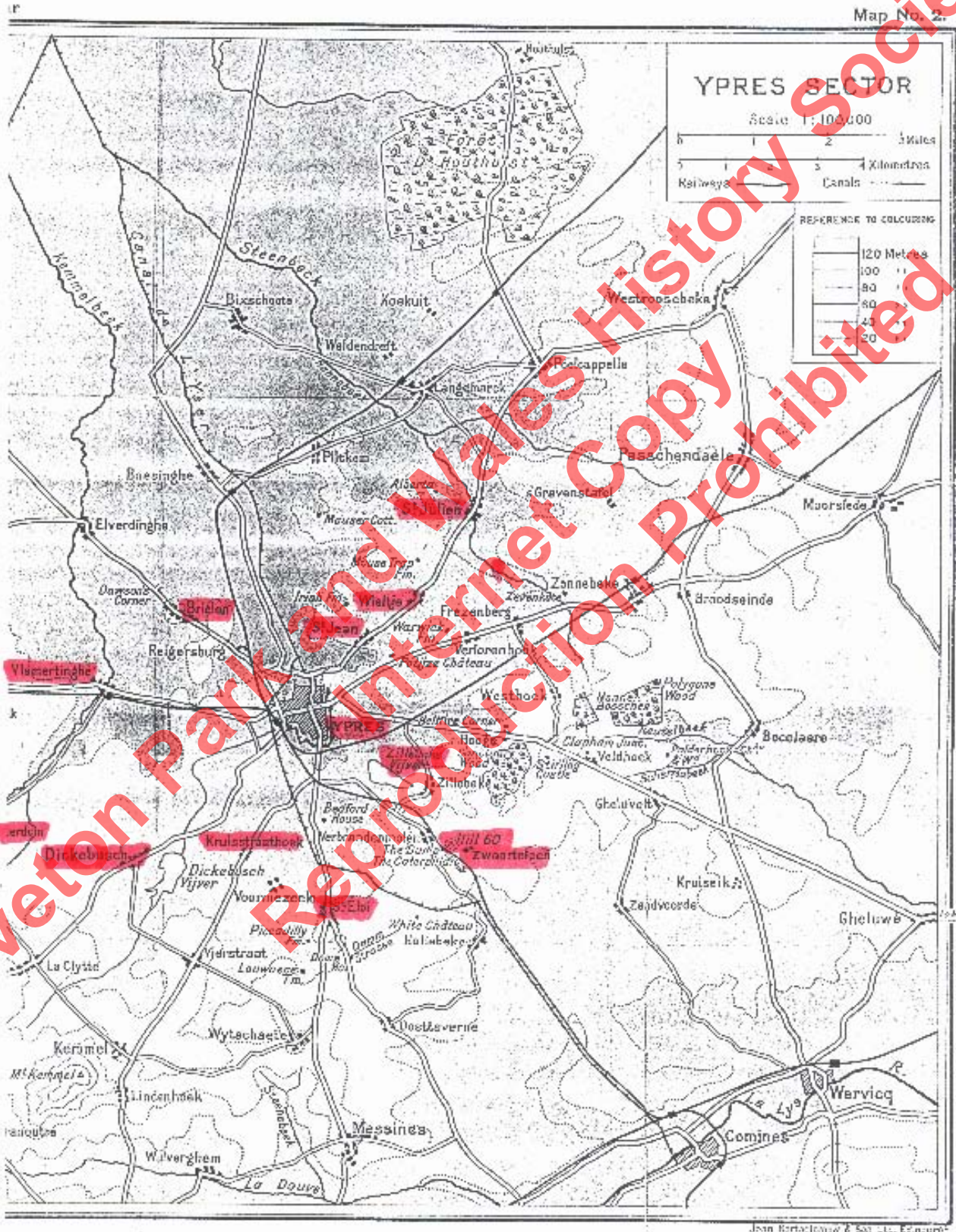


Memorial at Kiveton  
Park Colliery





# MOVEMENTS OF 2 KOYLI - April to July 1915



John Bartholomew & Son Ltd., Edinburgh

## MOVEMENTS OF 2ND BATTALION, KING'S OWN YORKSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY, 20TH APRIL TO 7TH MAY 1915, YPRES SECTOR

These details are taken from the Battalion's war diaries held at the KOYLI Office in Pontefract, and kindly photocopied by Major C.M.J.Deedes, Regimental Secretary.

Harry Osborne Checkley and his friend Albert Lamb enlisted on 31st December 1914 in Sheffield. They were allocated to the above unit, and the Medal Rolls at PRO Kew show that they were sent to Belgium on 21st April 1915. (Albert Lamb died on 7th May 1915 during an attack on Hill 60, the details of which come later in this book. He has no grave and is commemorated on Panel 47 of the Menin Gate.)

The war diaries do not mention ordinary soldiers by name, but the numbers of a new draft arriving are given and the first three relevant ones are noted below. The two friends would have arrived with one of these drafts. Place names are marked on the accompanying map.

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| April 20th         | At Ouderdom Huts, Draft of 52 joined.   |
| April 21st         |   |
| April 22nd         | At 7.00pm Battalion marched to relieve the Dorsets in Sector C, but the Ypres-Poperinghe road was blocked by French Algerian Troops fleeing the first German gas attack at St.Julian. The Battalion was forced to spend the night in fields south of the Ypres-Vlamertinghe road. |
| April 23rd         | The Battalion, as part of the 13th Infantry Brigade, was seconded to the 1st Canadian Division who had stood firm in the face of the gas attack. Together they attacked at 5.00pm from the pontoon bridge west of Brielan moving north towards Pilken.                            |
| April 24th         | Consolidation of line gained. Sent to assist the 10th Canadian Brigade north-east of Wieltje - overcrowded trenches left 2nd KOYLI exposed, heavy casualties.   |
| April 25th         | Supported 10th Brigade attack on St.Julien and occupied Fortuin.<br><b>Draft of 108 men arrived.</b>  |
| April 26th         | In reserve at St.Jean.  |
| April 27th         | Still in reserve - heavy shelling meant A & C Coys were moved to the rear.  |
| April 28th         | Still in reserve - drafts of 65 and 13 men arrived.   |
| April 29th         | At dusk relieved K.O.S.B. in firing line.   |
| April 30th         | Relieved at night by Essex Regiment. Moved to farm north-west of Brielan.   |
| May 1st, 2nd & 3rd | By day bivouacked in woods north-west of Vlamertinghe. At night in firing line south-west of Brielan.   |

- May 4th                      Moved to huts near Ouderdom (Sappertown) to re-join 5th Division, and promised 3 days rest.
- May 5th                      Loss of Hill 60 and Zwartelen Salient so Battalion sent to chateau near Kruistraat and then on to trenches in G.H.Q. line between canal and railway embankment south-east of Ypres.
- May 6th                      Planned for attack on Hill 60 and Zwartelen Salient.
- May 7th                      Attack made at 2.30am - impossible position receiving enemy fire on three sides. Total loss to Battalion - 177 rank and file this included Albert Lamb 11 officers.

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## CANADIAN MEMORIAL- ST. JULIEN



This column marks the battlefield where 18,000 of the Canadian 3rd Brigade, in position on the British left, withstood the first German gas attacks between 22nd and 24th April 1915. To their left the French Territorial and Colonial troops were pushed back from the line at Bikschote to Steenstraat. The Canadians held the line, but lost 2,000 men who are buried in the cemeteries around St. Julien.

The pillar is surmounted by the head and shoulders of a soldier resting on his arms reversed, set among a garden of roses, coniferous trees and juniper bushes. The tall trees clipped to represent a shell shape. Juniper is so planted and cut to form small shell-holes and craters.



## MOVEMENTS OF 2ND BATTALION, KING'S OWN YORKSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY, 7TH MAY TO 31ST MAY 1915, YPRES SECTOR

May 7th H.O.Checkley and A.Lamb were in A Company, which followed B Company out of Trench 41 in an attack on the new German trench [a] which crossed the neck of the salient. Under terrific rifle and machine gun fire, and with heavy losses, they took trench [a], and advanced into the salient into an untenable position being fired on from three sides with daylight coming. Albert Lamb was killed and somehow Harry Osborne Checkley survived. Factors contributing to this tragedy included; The failure of the Cheshires to blow barrier [b] on time; C and D Companies lost their line of attack in the dark; R.I.R. Failed to give support from trench 46; But above all there was the overwhelming superiority of the German position and fire power.

- May 7th cont** Battalion relieved at night by South Lanes, and retired to the railway embankment near Brigade HQ.
- May 8th, 9th & 10th** Remained under embankment near Zillebeeke by day, and out digging by night.
- May 11th** Relieved at night by K.O.S.B. Returned to huts at Sappertown near Ouderdom.
- May 12th to 16th** At Sappertown huts.

This is the likely time that Harry Osborne Checkley wrote to the mother of Albert Lamb. The letter was quoted in the Worksop Guardian of 21st May 1915, and he refers to it in his letter home on 31st May - . He wrote:-

“We went into a bayonet charge and escaped without a scratch, but later in the day your dear son got shot through the heart, death being instantaneous. Before we went into action we arranged whoever God willed should live should inform each other’s parents of their son’s fate. He died a noble death for his King and country. He was a faithful, honest and straightforward friend, and his death was a great blow to me. You have my very deepest sympathy.”

- May 17th** At 6.00pm relieved 6th Liverpool at Zillebeeke Pond.
- May 18th & 19th** In Zillebeeke lines digging new line from Hill 60 to Zillebeeke.
- May 20th** Relieved at night by 6th Liverpool, returned to Sappertown huts.
- May 21st to 25th** Resting at Sappertown huts.
- May 26th** 8.0pm Battalion moved to relieve 1st Fusiliers at St.Eloi.
- May 27th & 28th** In trenches at St.Eloi.
- May 29th** Relieved at night by West Ridings and marched to Dickebush huts.
- May 30th & 31st** At Dickebush huts.





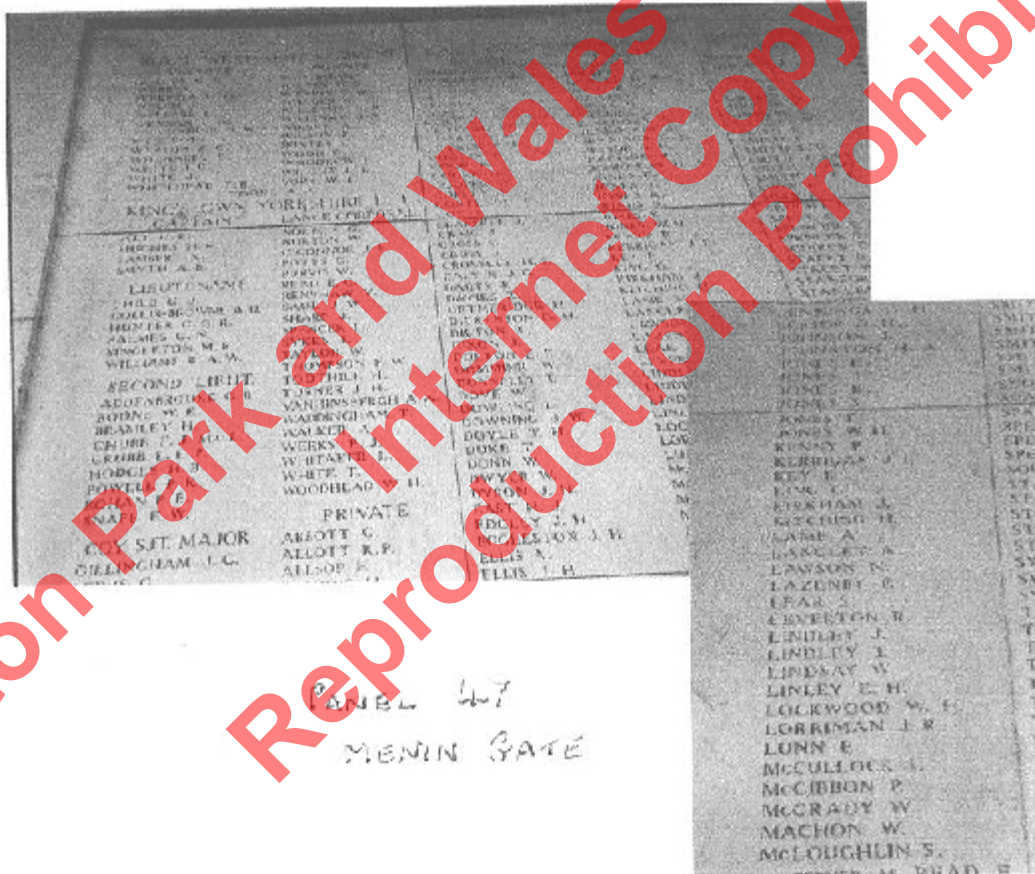
Commonwealth War Graves Commission

2 MARLOW ROAD MAIDENHEAD BERKS SL5 7DX

Telephone 01628 694221 Telex 807526 Comwar G Facsimile 01628 741258 Website: www.cwgc.org Email: cwgc@total.pipex.com

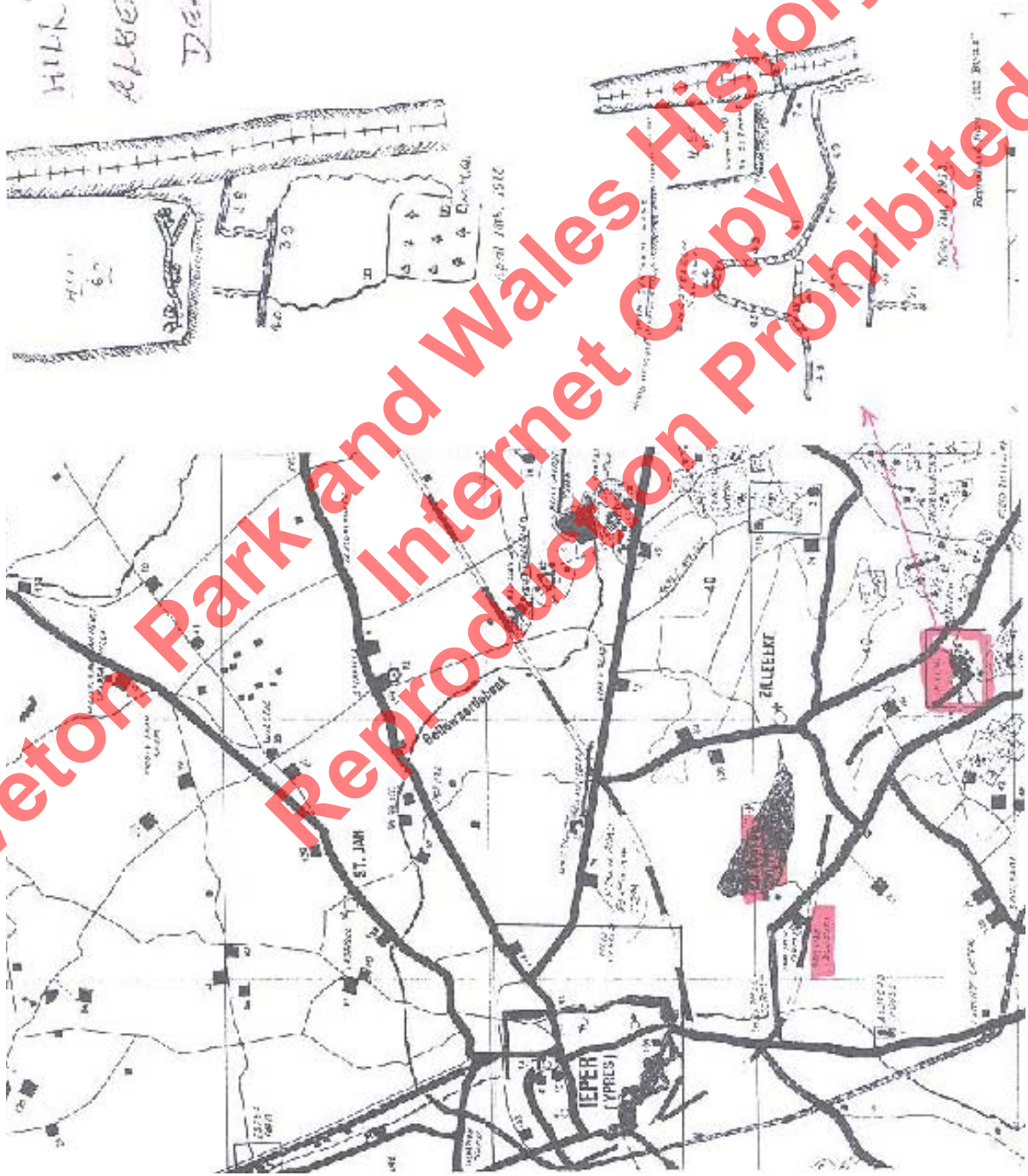
Casualty: Private ALBERT LAMB, 20792  
Served With: 2nd Bn King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry  
Died: 7th May 1915  
Commemorated: YPRES (MENIN GATE) MEMORIAL

Additional Information: Ieper, West Vlaanderen  
Belgium  
Panel 47  
Age 21  
Son of Isabella Lamb, of 2, Manor Rd., Wales, Sheffield; and  
the late Charles Edward Lamb.



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HILL CO. PLACE OF  
ALBERT LAMB'S  
DEATH, 7 MAY, 1915



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REPORT IN THE WORKSOP GUARDIAN 21ST MAY 1915  
DEATH OF ALBERT LAMB - LETTER FROM H. O. CHECKLEY.

WALES SOLDIER KILLED

WALES SOLDIER KILLED.

Private Albert Lamb, K.O.Y.L.I., has been killed in action. Private Lamb, whose home is "The Lodge", Manor-road, Wales, enlisted on December 30th last, and left England for France three weeks ago. The news was communicated to his widowed mother by Lamb's friend, Pte. Harry Checkley, who writes: "We went into a bayonet charge and escaped without a scratch, but later in the day your dear son got shot through the heart, death being instantaneous. Before we went into action we arranged whoever God willed should live should inform each other's parents of their son's fate. He died a noble death for his King and country. He was a faithful, honest, and straightforward friend, and his death was a great blow to me. You have my very deepest sympathy." Private Lamb celebrated his 21st birthday on active service. He was formerly employed in the High Hazel seam of the Kiveton Park Collieries.

Private Albert Lamb, KOYLI, has been killed in action. Private Lamb, whose home is "The Lodge", Manor Road, Wales, enlisted on 30th December last, and left England for France 3 weeks ago. The news was communicated to his widowed mother by Lamb's friend Pte. Harry Checkley, who writes: "We went into a bayonet charge and escaped without a scratch, but later in the day your dear son got shot through the heart, death being instantaneous, Before we went into action we arranged whoever God willed should live should inform each other's parents of their son's fate. He died a noble death for his King and country. He was a faithful, honest, and straightforward friend, and his death was a great blow to me. You have my very deepest sympathy." Private Lamb celebrated his 21st birthday on active service. He was formerly employed in the High Hazel seam of the Kiveton Collieries.



## MOVEMENTS OF 2ND BATTALION, KINGS OWN YORKSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY, 1ST JUNE TO 19TH JULY 1915, YPRES SECTOR

On Sunday 3rd May, Harry Osborne Checkley wrote to his brother and sister.

Dear Brother and Sister

I received your letter and thank you very much for contributing to the parcel. You cannot believe what it is to get these things out here, especially when I come out of the trenches for a rest. They don't bring parcels up to the trench. Our Company has just come out of the trenches. We have had 3 days in the trenches and only had several wounded and none of our Company killed. They tell you the Germans can't shoot but you haven't to put your head above the parapet or else you have a hole through it. I have just got a [Worksop] Guardian with the cutting of my letter to Mrs. Lamb in. I am getting on alright considering what we have to do. I will tell you more once I get back. I think this is all.

With best Love

From Your Loving Brother

Osborne.

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>June 1st</b>             | 8.00pm moved to St.Eloi, relieved West Kent's.   |
| <b>June 2nd to 3rd</b>      | Trenches at St.Eloi - quiet.   |
| <b>June 6th</b>             | Relieved by West Ridings at 11.30pm. Returned to Dickebush huts.   |
| <b>June 7th &amp; 8th</b>   | At Dickebush huts.   |
| <b>June 9th</b>             | 8.00pm returned to St.Eloi trenches, relieving Royal West Kent's.<br>Accompanied by 1st Co. K.R.R.   |
| <b>June 10th</b>            | Pte. Roe 2nd K.O.Y.L.I. was shot for desertion at 5.00am at Dickebush Huts<br>by a firing party of Royal West Kents.   |
| <b>June 11th to 14th</b>    | St.Eloi trenches - quiet.  |
| <b>June 15th</b>            | Trenches at St.Eloi, things rather more active owing to operations by<br>8th Corps on our left near Hooge. Took various measures to lead enemy to<br>suppose that we were contemplating an attack from St.Eloi. Germans showed<br>distinct uneasiness and in consequence shelled us more than usual. |
| <b>June 16th</b>            | At dawn 5th Corps attacked on our left, taking 5 lines of German Trenches<br>and 200 prisoners - heavy bombardment at dawn and dusk - Relieved at<br>11.30pm by West Ridings. Retired to Dickebush huts.   |
| <b>June 17th &amp; 18th</b> | Dickebush huts.  |
| <b>June 19th</b>            | At 8.00pm relieved Royal West Kents in St.Eloi sector.   |

<b>June 20th to 24th</b>	Some shelling at intervals by day and by night.
<b>June 25th</b>	Germans shelled our reserves and supports - 10 men wounded. Returned to Dickebush huts
<b>June 26th &amp; 27th</b>	Dickebush huts
<b>June 28th</b>	Marched to trenches at 8.0pm and relieved West Kent Regt.
<b>June 29th to Quiet</b>	Occasional shelling by both sides, few casualties on ours.
<b>July 3rd</b>	Mining and counter mining going on continuously, generally in our favour.
<b>July 4th</b>	Relieved at 11.30pm by West Riding Regt. Returned to Dickebush Huts.
<b>July 5th &amp; 6th</b>	Dickebush huts.
<b>July 7th</b>	At 8.0pm marched to St.Eloi trenches and relieved West Kent Regt.
<b>July 8th and Quiet</b>	
<b>July 9th</b>	
<b>July 10th</b>	At 3.30am we exploded 3 mines very successfully - one under a house which formed a German sniper's post, The second near "The Mound" and the third under the German trench north of The Mound, The last mine destroyed 60% of the German trench, and the Germans running out of this trench were dealt with by our machine guns.
<b>July 11th</b>	The enemy heavily shelled our trenches with high explosives and shrapnel from 4.30am to 6.00am. Damage not very considerable. Casualties - 3 killed and 15 wounded - we were lucky not to have more. This was probably a retaliation for blowing them up yesterday.
<b>July 12th</b>	Quiet.
<b>July 13th</b>	Relieved at Midnight by West Ridings. Retired to Dickebush huts.
<b>July 14th</b>	Dickebush huts.
<b>July 15th</b>	
<b>July 16th</b>	Marched at 8.0pm and relieved West Kents at St.Eloi.

**During the next two days Harry Osborne Checkley was killed.**

<b>July 17th</b>	At 2.45am the enemy exploded a mine about 15 yards in front of the parapet of Q1 trench, which was occupied at the time by C Company. (under Capt. Buckle) [see map on previous page for positions of trenches.]
	The mine went up with terrific force exploding under the Pave Road and a

ruined house. About 80 yards of Q1 trench was demolished and the occupants buried - only 5 men of No 12 Platoon survived. Falling paving stones and bricks, which were hurled 200 feet in the air, caused many casualties in R2 and R3 trenches. The enemy shelled and trench mortared these trenches heavily for about an hour after the explosion but did not attack.

Our casualties amounted to 111 - (29 killed and 82 wounded). No officers were hit. C Company in Q1 suffered most, losing 78 N.C.O.s and men. B Company in R2 and R3 trenches lost 33 N.C.O.s and men. These two Companies behaved with great gallantry under trying circumstances, what was left of them getting up over the parapet and opening rapid fire on the German trenches. This frustrated any chance of the enemy trying to attack Q1 trench. The demoralizing effect of a mine explosion followed by a heavy bombardment might easily have caused unsteady troops to evacuate the undamaged portions of Q1, R2 and R3 trenches with disastrous results. After the bombardment ceased B and C Companies spent the rest of the day clearing the dead and the wounded, and started work on the repair of their trenches. A Company in reserve under Capt. Evans-Smith relieved C Company at night in Q1 trench and carried on work in repairing the trench. In 48 hours the line was practically restored which reflected great credit on all those Companies.

#### **July 18th**

At 8.00am our artillery bombarded the German line in retaliation for their mine explosion of the 17th. There was consequently a fairly lively shell fire on both sides throughout the day, with the result that our Battalion store of tools, trench stores, sandbags etc. was set fire to and demolished. The German parapet was however knocked down in several places.

The 29 men killed were buried in our cemetery at Voormezele.

#### **July 19th**

Everything quiet.

**The belief in the family was that Harry Osborne [Our Os] had been sent with a message from A Company, to which he belonged, and was so caught up and killed along with the men of C and B Companies. They are all buried together, in line, in Enclosure 3 of the Voornzele cemeteries - see photographs.**









## MEDALS RELEVANT TO WESTERN FRONT SERVICE

### MEDALS AWARDED TO HARRY OSBORNE CHECKLEY

#### 1. 1914 - 15 STAR

Approved in 1918, this campaign star has the date 1914 - 15 on the central scroll. In the army this medal was awarded to all personnel, including nursing sisters, who served on the establishment of a unit in a theatre of war.

#### 2. BRITISH WAR MEDAL. 1914 - 20

Awarded in 1920, this silver medal was in recognition of service. On the design the male figure rather than the traditional female figure was chosen because men had borne the brunt of the fighting. St. George on horseback tramples underfoot the eagle shield of the Central Powers and a skull and cross bones, the symbols of death. A total of 5,670,170 War Medals were issued.

The letter accompanying the sending of this medal to H. O. Checkley's family is dated 13th November 1920 - see opposite.

#### 3. VICTORY MEDAL

This bronze medal was struck in 1919, and was awarded to large numbers of personnel of whatever rank and in all the dominions. Members of women's organisations "who had been enrolled under a direct contract of service with His Majesty's Imperial Forces" received the medal, as well as civil medical staff working in military hospitals. Thus a vast number of people qualified for the medal - 5,125,403.

Together the 1914 or 1914 -15 Star, the War Medal and the Victory Medal were known as "Pip", "Squeak" and "Wilfred".

The 1914 Star was a campaign medal, known inaccurately as the Mons Star. This star was awarded to all service personnel who had served with a unit in France or Belgium between 5th August 1914 and 22nd - 23rd November 1914. On 19th October 1919 a bar was issued to those already awarded the 1914 Star who "actually served under fire of the enemy" in France or Belgium between those dates. Thus, there are two types of 1914 Star, with and without the bar. As H. O. Checkley enlisted at the end of 1914, and reached the Western Front in April 1915 he qualified for the later 1914 - 15 Star.



Record Office

St. James's Palace

Nov 13 1901

Sir,

I am directed to transmit to you the accompanying Medal which would have been conferred upon Lt. H. O. Buckley if he had been living, in memory of his services with the British Forces during the Great War.

In forwarding the Decoration, I am accompanied by the King to assure you of His Majesty's high appreciation of the services rendered.

I am to request that you will be so good as to acknowledge the receipt of the Decoration on the attached form.

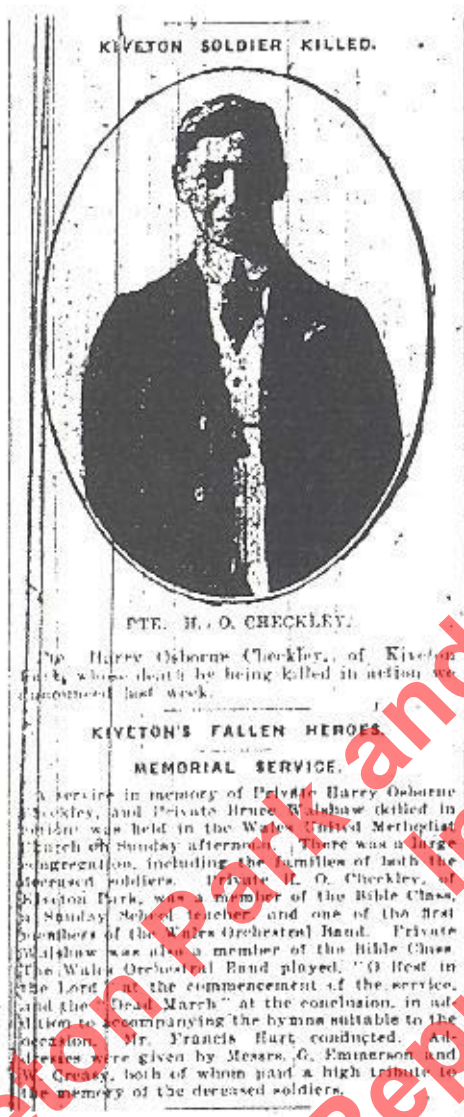
I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
Edmund Peacock  
Her Majesty's Secretary

Mrs J. Buckley  
1 Albert Street  
Newcastle-on-Tyne  
Shelfield

Edmund Peacock  
Her Majesty's Secretary

Kiveton Park and Wales History Society  
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## REPORT IN "WORKSOP GUARDIAN", 6TH AUGUST 1915, OF MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR H.O. CHECKLEY



### KIVETON SOLDIER KILLED

Pte. Harry Osborne Checkley, of Kiveton Park, whose death by being killed in action we announced last week.

### KIVETON FALLEN HEROES

### MEMORIAL SERVICE

A service in memory of Private Harry Osborne Checkley, and Private Bruce Walshaw (killed in action) was held in the Wales United Methodist Church on Sunday afternoon. There was a large congregation, including the families of both the deceased soldiers. Private H.O. Checkley, of Kiveton Park, was a member of the Bible Class, a Sunday School teacher, and one of the first members of the Wales Orchestral Band. Private Walshaw was also a member of the Bible Class. The Wales Orchestral Band played "O Rest in the Lord" at the Commencement of the service, and the "Dead March" at the conclusion, in addition to accompanying the hymns suitable to the occasion. Mr Francis Hart conducted address were given by Messrs. G. Emmerson and W. Creasy, both of whom paid a high Tribute to the memory of the deceased soldiers.

Harry Osborne Checkley played the violin.



MEMORIAL TO HARRY OSBORNE CHECKLEY, WALES CEMETERY,  
SOUTH YORKSHIRE

This memorial was erected by Joseph and Hannah Checkley in memory of their own youngest child, and they were later buried there.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
HARRY OSBORNE CHECKLEY  
KILLED IN ACTION NEAR ST ELOI  
JULY 18th 1915  
AGED 21 YEARS

ALSO JOSEPH CHECKLEY  
FATHER OF THE ABOVE  
WHO DIED JUNE 29th 1917  
AGED 70 YEARS

“Peace Perfect Peace”

ALSO HANNAH CHECKLEY  
BELOVED WIFE OF THE ABOVE  
WHO DIED MAY 13th 1941  
AGED 87 YEARS

“Re-United”

AND HIS GRAVE AT VOORMEZEELE;  
BELGIUM.



207215 PRIVATE  
H.O. Checkley  
KING'S OWN YORKSHIRE L.I.  
18th JULY 1915 AGE 21

REPORT IN WORKSOP GUARDIAN, 30TH JULY 1915, OF THE  
DEATH OF HARRY OSBORNE CHECKLEY

KIVETON PARK SOLDIER'S DEATH IN ACTION.

KIVETON PARK'S MANY HEROES.

Kiveton Park has suffered another loss in the death in action of Pte. Harry Osborne Checkley, who was killed on July 27th, 1915. Private Checkley was attached to the Grenade Section of the 2nd Buff, K.O.V.I., and was on duty for 31st Div., and being drafted out to the front on April 21st. He attained his 21st birthday last month.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Checkley, the parents of the deceased soldier, received the following letter from Pte. H. Walker, of the same company:

"I just write these few lines to inform you that your son Harry, who was a great champion of mine, has gone to his Master above. I was in the trenches the same time as he was hit, and it was a sharp death. He had no pain what ever. I do not know if he has mentioned it to you, but I have played football with him, and come from Brighton. Your son, I am glad to tell you, was one of the bravest lads in my Company, as anyone will tell you, and was always true to God. God bless him. It has grieved me very much—I remain, Yours with deep sympathy, George Walker."

The letter also contained an enclosure from Captain Evans-Smith, and follows: "Dear Mr. and Mrs. Checkley, as your son was in the Company under my command, I feel I must write to you and express my sympathy with you in your loss. Your son was a good soldier, and I regret to say I have lost him, as he was so courageous. I trust you will bear up in your sorrow, remembering that he died a soldier to the last.—Yours very truly, Evans-Smith, Captain."

It will be remembered that Pte. H. O. Checkley had the sad duty of writing recording the death of his "pal," Pte. Albert Lamb, of Wades, a few weeks ago. Pte. Checkley was employed in the High Hazel Seam of the Kiveton Park Colliery, and was a promising mining student at Sheffield University.

He has two brothers serving in the Army, in addition to several cousins and a brother-in-law. The High Hazel Seam of the Kiveton Park Colliery, which has contributed very well to the Army, has suffered heavily, having had four employees killed in action, viz., Clarence Elliot, Walter Britton, Albert Lamb, and Harry Osborne Checkley of Wades and Kiveton Park.

IN MEMORY OF  
PRIVATE HARRY OSBORNE CHECKLY

20785, 2nd Bn., King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry  
who died age 21  
on 18 July 1915

Son of Joseph and Hannah Checkley, of 1, Albert Terrace, Kiveton Park,  
Sheffield.

Remembered with honour  
VOORMEZEELE ENOLOSURE No. 3



Commemorated in perpetuity by  
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission





## COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES COMMISSION

Cemetery: VOORMEZEEL E ENCLOSURE No.3  
Grave Reference/ VII. C. 6. T  
Panel Number:  
Location: Voormezeele Enclosure No. 3 is located 4 kilometres south-west of Leper town centre on the Ruusschaartstraat, a road leading from the Kemmelseweg (Connecting Leper to Kemmel N331).



From Leper town centre the Kemmelseweg is reached via the Rij selsestraat, through the Lille Gate (Rijselpoort) and straight on towards Armentieres (N365). 900 metres after the crossroads is the right hand turning onto the Kemmelseweg (made prominent by a railway level crossing).

Turn right onto the Kemmelseweg and follow this road to the first crossroads, turn left here into Ruusschaartstraat. The Cemetery is located 1 kilometre after this junction on the left hand side of the road just before Voormezeele Dorp.

### Historical Information

The "Enclosures" (at one time four in number, but now reduced to three) are immediately North-West of the village. They were originally regimental groups of graves, begun very early in the War and gradually increased until the village and the cemeteries were captured by the enemy (after very heavy fighting) on 29th April, 1918.

Voormezeele Enclosure No. 3, the largest of these burial grounds, was begun by the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry in February, 1915. Their graves are in Plot III, the other Plots from I to IX are the work of other units, or pairs of units, and include a few graves of October, 1918. Plots X and XII ~ are of a more general character. Plots XIII to XVI, were made after the Armistice by the concentration of isolated graves and smaller cemeteries, and if at the same time the French graves (of April and September, 1918) were removed to a French cemetery. The concentrated graves cover the months from January, 1915 to October, 1918, and they include those of many men of the 15th Hants and other units who recaptured this ground early in September, 1918.



There are now over 1,500, 1914-18 war casualties commemorated in this site. Of these, over 600 are unidentified and special memorials are erected to twelve soldiers from the United Kingdom and three from Australia, known or believed to be buried among them. Five other special memorials record the names of soldiers from the United Kingdom, buried in Pheasant Wood Cemetery, whose graves could not be found on concentration.

The Enclosure covers an area of 5,745 square metres and is enclosed by a brick wall.

### CEMETERY AT VOORMEZELE, ENCLOSURE NO. 3



This photograph shows the line of 29 headstones marking the grave of H.O. Checkley and the graves of the men who died with him in July 1915. His grave has the wreath laid on it.

The Thiepval Monument to the fallen on the Somme. On 6th July 1916, almost one year after H.O. Checkley's death the husband of his sister [Hannah Nancy to the family] was also killed in action. Having no known grave, his name is inscribed on Pier 14, panels A & B.



## LEWIS GREGORY 1882-1916

Lewis Gregory was born in 1882 in the Eccleshall Bierlow area of Sheffield. His parents were George Henry and Ann Eliza Gregory [nee Milner] who married in 1875 in Sheffield. On the 1901 census George is listed as an "agricultural tool hardener" and Lewis as a "table blade grinder and cutter". The family were living at 24 Sydney Road in Nether Hallam. They were at the same address in the census for 1891. Lewis married Hannah [known as Nancy in the family] Checkley in late 1907, probably in Wales/Kiveton Park as the registration district is given as Worksop. They had one surviving child as far as I know. This was their daughter Edith born in 1908. At some time around his marriage Lewis must have started to work at Kiveton Park Colliery as his name is listed on the memorial on the wall of the colliery offices. Sometime after the war began he went to Sheffield to enlist, perhaps with others from Wales/Kiveton Park. He became Private 201538 in the York and Lancaster Regiment, in the 1/4 Hallamshire Battalion. The medal rolls at the National Archives in Kew give the date of his arrival in France as 13th October 1915. Lewis was killed in action in the great Battle of the Somme which began in 1st July 1916. He lasted until the 6th July. When the offensive was finally called off on 18th November 1916, the British casualties totalled 425,000. Of these 57,400 casualties came on the first day including 20,000 killed. After the war the immense memorial to the missing designed by Sir Edward Lutyens was erected on the Thiepval ridge. It is 45 metres high and is visible from far around. Its pillars bear the carved names of 73,367 men, missing and having no known grave. On Pier 14, Panels A & B, is the name of Lewis Gregory listed among his fallen comrades.

## FRANK CHECKLEY

Frank was born in Gainsborough in 1889, the nearest surviving brother to "Os". Once of working age, with the family back on the South Yorkshire coalfield, he also became a miner. He married Florence Hurst in 1912 in Eccleshall Bierlow, Sheffield, but he was working at Kiveton Park Colliery when war broke out in 1914. I know from information given to me by my mother and father that Frank was a much respected miner. He had a wide practical knowledge and experience of working the coal. Particularly he was known for his ability to put in pit props and construct a safe and sturdy roof underground. As a result he was sent to other pits in the area and often took my father with him to show him how to do this vital work. Dad recalls especially some work done at Manvers Main Colliery where Frank built a roof in the pit bottom of wood in a herringbone pattern for extra strength ..... not for fancy show. My parents told me that Frank was recruited to be a sapper by recruiting sergeants with specific orders to recruit miners. They went round the pits doing this and so found Frank. The Medal Rolls at Kew show that he joined the Royal Engineers [ Sapper No. 112951 ] leaving for France on the 22nd September 1915 and being finally discharged on the 30th January 1919. There is no way of following him through his service as the Sappers had no Regimental Diary. They were sent where needed to different regiments, It must have involved some hellish tasks as each side tried to burrow under the enemy and be the one to set a successful charge to blow the other up. Os had already been killed in such an explosion, and whether Frank knew the details or not, his readiness to serve makes him a very brave man. Later in life, Frank and his wife ran a boarding house in Balmoral Road in Blackpool. A haven for the family and for him !

## JOSEPH CHECKLEY

Joseph was two years older than Frank, having been born in Gainsborough in 1887. At that time the family were living at 7 Beaumont Road, and Joseph was a General Labourer. Like all the other men in the family, Joseph became a miner. In the 1901 Census he is 14 years old and described as a "Coal Pit Pony Driver". He married Florence Whelpton in Sheffield in 1909, and they had two children. Betsy was born in 1911 and Ethel in 1913. Like Frank, Joseph enlisted in the army after his youngest brother's death. He joined the Yorkshire and Lancashire Regiment as Private No. 3/3750, and served with several battalions. He left England for Egypt on the 25 October 1915, and was discharged on 29th January 1919.





## ARMY RECORD OF JOSEPH CHECKLEY

### Personal Details

Private 3750 Joseph Checkley enlisted as a Special Reserve in the 6th Battalion York and Lancaster Regiment on 29th August 1914 at Killamarsh, near Rotherham South Yorkshire. On enlistment the following facts were recorded:

1. Born 15th February 1887 at 7 Beaumont Street, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire. Parents Joseph Checkley (Labourer) and Hannah. Therefore age 27 on enlistment.
2. Occupation - coal miner.
3. Married to Florence, nee Whelpton, at St. Phillip's Church, Sheffield, on 27th December 1909.
4. Children - Betsy, born 16th September 1911, and Ethel, born 23rd August 1913.
5. Address - 70 Sheffield Road, Killamarsh.
6. Height - 5ft. 5ins.
7. Weight - 119lbs.
8. Chest, expanded - 35ins. Range of expansion - 2ins.
9. Vaccination marks - 4 on left shoulder.
10. Vision - 6/9 6/9
11. Hair - Brown.
12. Eyes - Brown.
13. Distinguishing marks - scar on chin.
14. Religion ~ Primitive Methodist.

After training Joseph qualified as a Rangefinder.

### Service Record

1. Date: 29.8.14 - 24.10.15 Place: Home.

Joseph was posted to the 11th Battalion, Yorks and Lincs, on 4th July 1915. This was a Reserve Battalion formed in September 1914 as a service battalion of Kitchener's third set of 100,000 men. It was first a part of the 63th Brigade and 21st Division (1). Then it was transferred to the 90th Brigade and 30th Division at Harrogate. On 10th April 1915 the Battalion became a Second Reserve Battalion and the 90th Brigade became a Second Reserve Brigade. Men were trained and taken out of these reserves to re-place casualties in the field. The Battalion was stationed at Otley from May 1915 to November 1915. Joseph was fined 3 days pay at Pontefract Barracks on 11th October 1915 for returning 2 days over the limit of a home visit pass - this leave was no doubt given prior to his posting overseas on 25th October 1915.

2. Date: 25.10.15 to 3.1.16 Place: Mediterranean

Joseph was posted to the 6th Battalion on 25th October 1915, which moved via Penkridge Bank Barracks, Stafford, and Egypt to the Dardanelles, where the Battalion was part of the 32nd Brigade and the 11th Division.

On 26th November 1915 Joseph was wounded. He was taken first to No 54 Casualty Clearing Station, and then, on 29th November, moved to Mudros to No 2 Australian State Hospital. On the 25 December 1915 he was shipped home on the Hospital Ship Aquitania. Finally he was admitted to the 3rd Western General Hospital in Cardiff on 3rd January 1916.

The record shows that he was wounded while digging trenches. A bullet entered his left buttock. Emerged at the inner side of his thigh and scraped the scrotum and the inner side of his right thigh. He was not discharged from the hospital until 29th January 1916.

1. Each Division had 18,000 men, divided into 4 Brigades. Each Brigade had 4 Battalions, but these were also sub-divisions of Regiments - in peace time each Regiment maintained two Battalions, but during war many more were raised, and these extra Battalions could be scattered through several Divisions.

2. A Company was a sub-division of a Battalion and contained between 100 and 400 men.

3. Date: 4.1.1916 to 31.3.1916. Place: England

4th February 1916, posted to Pontefract Depot.

8th February 1916, posted to Sunderland Depot.

31st March 1916, embarked from Southampton.

1st April 1916, disembarked at Rouen. Held at Etaples Camp [the Bull Ring]

4. Date: 29.3.1916 to 15.9.1916 Place: Belgium and France

21st April 1916 joined 2nd Battalion. Yorks and Lincs in the Ypres Salient.

14th May, Joseph suffered a wound to the back of his thigh.

17th May he was at No. 6 Dressing Station

21st May at No 17 Casualty Clearing Station

24th May, he was sent to hospital in Boulogne, and 26th August back to Etaples.

6th September rejoined the 2nd Battalion, now on the Somme.

12th September Joseph was again wounded in action when a shell exploded 20 yards away sending shrapnel into his right side. This time after passing through the Dressing and Casualty Clearing Stations, and the hospital at Rouen he was sent back to England on the Hospital Ship Asturis.

I have some more detail of this action from the Regimental History of his Regiment. The 2nd Battalion was trained down to Doullens from Ypres while Joseph was in hospital. On the 6th September when he rejoined them they had fought in the northern sector around Beaumont Hamel and were now moving to the eastern sector marching via Villers Bocage, thence to Corbie on the 7th, Bois des Tallies on the 8th, and by the 11th they were billeted at Maltz Horn Farm behind Leuze Wood. Thus they had travelled in a wide westerly arc around Albert and the main part of the Somme Battlefield to take up position on the eastern fringe of the section held by the British and [the then] Empire forces. Between the 11th and the 15th they attacked a strong German position known as the Quadrilateral, finally withdrawing to the sunken road on the north-west corner of Leuze Wood. [see maps]

5. Date: 16.9.1916 to 5.6.1917 Place: England

16th September to 17th October St. John's Hospital in Southampton

19th December 1916 Sent to Command Depot in Alnwick.

28th April Posted to 3rd Battalion Yorks and Lincs. [place not listed]

[some gaps here]

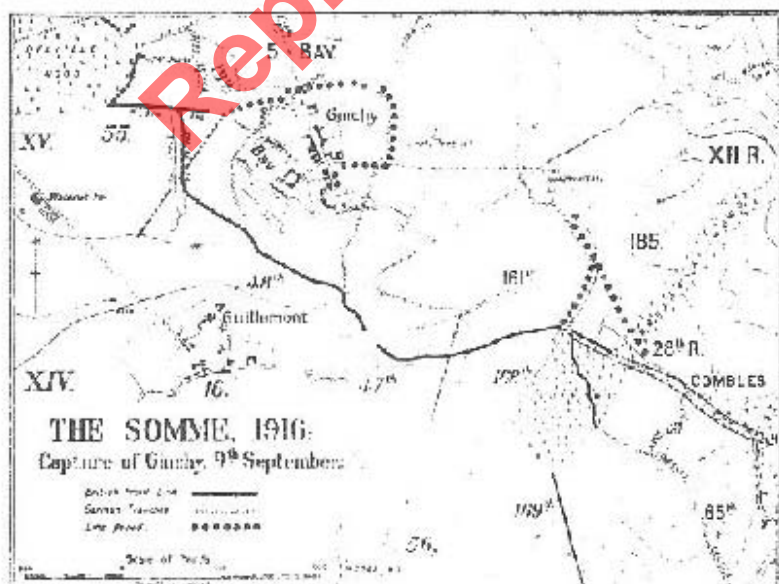
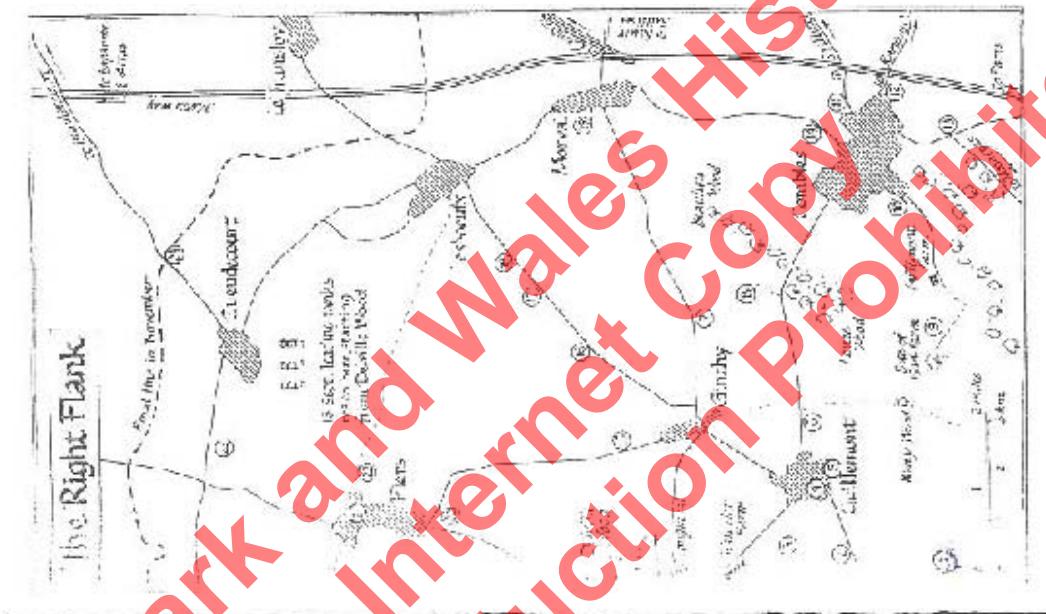
6th June 1917 embarked from Folkestone to Boulogne.

6. Date: 6.6.1917 to 29.12.1918 Place: France

22nd June reported in the field with the 8th Battalion Yorks and Lincs.

From this point until the Armistice Joseph followed the usual pattern of active duty and

behind the lines rotation for rest periods. His records are not so detailed as before. However once again he was wounded “on duty in the field” when shrapnel entered his forearm and he was slightly gassed. This was on 29th September 1918, and he was in hospital at Etaples until 2nd November when he rejoined the regiment. The war ended on 21st November and he was reported in Calais on the 26th November. On the 30th December he was at Haveluy between Douai and Mons. Here there was a large clearing camp where disclaimer forms were signed before the men were shipped home. Joseph was back in England and discharged to the Special Reserve on 29th January 1919. A lot of soldiers volunteered to clear the battlefields of the dead and give them proper burial while waiting for transport home, but it is not reported that Joseph did this.





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## SOURCES

1. General Register Office's index of Births Marriages and Deaths Available in Local Record Offices and on-line at e.g. [www.freebmd.org.uk](http://www.freebmd.org.uk)
2. Census data. At Local Record Offices and on-line e.g. [www.freecen.org.uk](http://www.freecen.org.uk)
3. Local Newspapers - "Worksop Guardian" available at Worksop Library and Sheffield Daily Independent at Sheffield Local Studies Library.
4. Soldiers' records at the National Archives in Kew:  
Medal Rolls in class WO 372/4  
War survivors discharged to pension in WO 364  
War survivors and war dead in class WO 363 – only those records surviving the bombing in 1940.  
Regimental War Diaries in class WO 95.  
Some of the above are already on-line at [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documentsonline](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documentsonline)  
It is also possible to see Regimental War Diaries at Regimental museums and archives. E.g. KOYLI Museum which was in Pontefract but is now located in the museum in Doncaster at Chequer Road.
5. Regimental histories can be found in some Libraries and Record Offices, and at second-hand booksellers.
6. "Soldiers died in the Great War 1914-1918". In 1921 81 volumes embracing every regiment and corps of the British Army were published listing some 635,000 Soldiers and 37,000 Officers who fell in this war. This is now available on CD-ROM from [www.naval-military-press.co.uk](http://www.naval-military-press.co.uk)
7. Commonwealth War Graves at [www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org)
8. For wider reading about the Great War see any of the books written by Lyn Macdonald e.g. "Somme" / "Voices and Images of the Great War" [Both Penguin Books]
9. My Parents Alice Morton [nee Betteridge] 1903-1997, and John William Morton 1901-1982. Here with their eldest child Harry Osborne Morton 1925-1988, named after our "Os".



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