

THE LION & THE DRAGON



They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the Sun, and in the morning,

We will remember them.

One hundred years ago this month the great cataclysm which had drawn in nations and peoples from across the world was drawing to a close. The various protagonists, weary of the expenditure in blood and treasure, were actively seeking an end. Germany was on the point of collapse, its people starving, its society disintegrating. Its erstwhile allies, the Austro-Hungarian Empire and its Balkan satellites, were no longer in a position to influence the outcome. Turkey was seeking a better and brighter future. The Central Powers were weakened beyond recovery. The Allies were little better. Russia was in disarray. Belgium was in ruins. Britain and France too were exhausted, bled white in countless battles. Italy was barely in a position to continue, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand, still standing by the mother country, could not be expected to accept the drain on their young manpower for much longer. Newfoundland, not yet part of Canada, was still offering its support despite its horrendous losses. India still stood loyal to its Emperor, and South Africa had given of its best. The potential of the United States, as yet only partially utilised, hung over the future of much of Europe. Germany, its once proud people now starving and in bitter division with one another in the cities and towns of their country, asked for an end to the conflict. Humbled, and with little choice, they accepted the terms of what we know today as The Armistice. There was to be Peace.

The Allied nations, France in particular, looked at their countries and their countless dead, and decided there must be retribution. And the conditions for a peace agreement were decided.

The soldiers went home to their families. Not all of them of course, the little mounds of earth with the simple wooden crosses would remain. In due course any scattered human remains which could be found were interred in formal burial grounds and would

receive a more substantial indication of where they lay or where they had passed from mortal eye. Many would never have identifiable graves. It would be the task of those who survived to see that their names would appear on some inscribed stone or written scroll. But what of those who returned to their English village, or Irish farm, or Scottish croft, or Welsh choir, or one of the islands of our still beautiful archipelago? And what of those who made the long journey back to the wide spaces of Canada and Australia, or those who once again became agriculturalists in the broad acres of New Zealand and Tasmania and the veldt of South Africa. Or those displaced people of the ravaged countries of Europe who could only return to a devastated landscape now littered with the corpses of the dead. How would they survive the transition from the frightfulness of violent conflict to the peace and routine of a family life? Some would do so with little apparent difficulty, many however did not. Physical and psychological wounds would remain with them for an often much too short peacetime life. In an age before the Welfare State and the National Health Service a considerable number, traumatised beyond recovery, would be a drain on their immediate family for the rest of their lives. Many breadwinners had been lost on the battlefields of Europe and Asia. And sons who should have been around to support ageing parents were no more. This was close to catastrophe for poorer families. Many women, widowed at a young age, would never remarry, single women whose potential partner for life was now just a name on a graven panel would remain unmarried, and children would know their father only as an image in a fading photograph.

All of the participating countries were similarly affected. And to varying degrees were many other countries.

There was little to celebrate.

James Henderson

The Report of the Museum Curator

The Museum's busy year continued with the opening of the Remembrance 100 Open Art Exhibition, the day before the Weeping Window Poppies display was officially opened at the Castle. The "Poppies" brought 140,000 visitors into the Castle, many just looking quickly at the display and leaving. A small number took the opportunity to visit the Museum and enjoyed both the permanent displays and the exhibition.

Remembrance 100 was the first major art exhibition to be hosted by the Museum in Alma Block and it ran though until 2nd September. Featuring 70 works of art in various media by artists from all over Cumbria, it proved to be very successful and popular with visitors. The varied nature of the artwork reflecting the artists' interpretation of "Remembrance" and the quality was excellent. The Museum is extremely grateful to the Heritage Lottery Fund whose generous grant funded the exhibition, Jamie Barnes who organised and curated it on our behalf, Helen Keogh who co-ordinated the project support, Cheryl Eastburn for the PR and marketing and the staff team supported by David Carr who constructed the exhibition. The new wire picture hanging system, installed as part of the exhibition, will remain as a permanent fixture and provides a good, easy to use and professional looking facility.

With just a five day break, the Art Exhibition came down and the "Lest We Forget" Exhibition was installed, opening to the public on Saturday 8th September. The exhibition features a wide range of material from the Museum's collection and focuses broadly on remembrance, how we remember and how remembrance has changed over the years and up to the present day. This will run until the end of November. Amongst the various Memorials on display is the superb bronze tribute to the men of the Yeomanry cavalry from Carlisle and Cumberland who volunteered for the Boer War. Formerly in the old drill hall on Strand Road, this memorial has

not been on public display for 55 years. It was made in 1904 by the Art & Crafts firm of Ramsden & Carr based in London.

New acquisitions have included the MM to James Forster 4/Border for gallantry at Tobruk in 1941, a Japanese officer's sword (katana) brought back by Sgt Angus Farish 9/Border, a wonderful watercolour of the Castle Gateway painted in 1900 and the loan of a gold watch from the Borough of Whitehaven presented to Sgt. Robert Rule DCM MM & Bar 5 and 7/Border.

Finally a change of staff. Danielle Cook our part-time assistant leaves us this month to go and work for Edinburgh Woollen Mill and we all wish her well in the new post. We welcome Angela Irwin to replace her. Angela is known to many of you as having worked for many years in RHQ King's Own Border and CHQ The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment here at the Castle.

Stuart Eastwood



The Mayor of Carlisle Ms Trish Vasey, and our Curator Mr Stuart Eastwood, exchanging compliments at the opening of our 2018 Exhibition of Remembrance Art.

And a word from the Friends of the Museum of Military Life.

The sterling work of the Museum staff and its regular team of volunteers, and those many other volunteers of diverse interests and backgrounds who gave so much of their time and skills to ensure the success of these events, is greatly appreciated by the Trustees and Friends of the Museum of Military Life. Without volunteers many of our activities could not function.

Remembrance"



A small part of our "Lest We Forget" Exhibition.



Captured German artillery on display in Carlisle in Dec 1918



Carlisle Peace Dinner 1919
Carlisle Market

This impressive group of young women is one of a number of football teams formed from the ranks of the ladies of the Gretna Munitions Factories during the Great War. Their contribution to the war effort was considerable. We may well ask why it took many more years to recognise their pioneering spirit, not just in sport but in other fields of skill and endeavour.



In all her long history Britain and her peoples of the United Kingdom have gone through many momentous changes and occasions. The Industrial Revolution, reaching new heights as the 19th century drew to a close, had, by the beginning of the new century, consolidated the British Empire as a confident major world power. But in the four years from 1914 that confidence was severely tested.

Now that we have reached the centennial of that horrific episode we today call 'The First World War', and what our forbears of the time knew as 'The Great War', we have the time and luxury to discuss, dissect, and analyse this period of our comparatively recent history in minute detail.

Our forebears of the time were at first only dimly aware that the events they lived through – or would die on the battlefield for – would dramatically change the United Kingdom, the British Empire, and much of the rest of the world forever.

Little villages where occasional deaths were usually of children and the elderly, victims of a variety of causes from malnutrition and age to various 'fevers', would quickly realise that many of their best and fittest young men were gone and would never return. Those in the factories of the industrialised cities would learn that the friends with whom they had played football or met for various social events were never to meet again. Or were now in a 'Lunatic Asylum' or an institution for the physically disabled.

Those many women who had tended dreadfully wounded young men in a Field Hospital as they fought an often losing battle to live would return to a country devoid of anything resembling today's treatment for such injuries.

And many of these women would accept that the young men they might have taken as husbands now lay in an unmarked grave in some muddy field in a distant land.

Each year on what we once called Armistice Day we gather in our churches, in our town and city centres, and around our many village memorials. We declare that we will remember those many men and women of that Great War who lost their lives on blood-soaked European battlefields, in the dust of Asian deserts, in the depths of the Oceans, and on the Home Front in Zeppelin raids.

It matters little that there is no one living who will actually 'remember' a fatality of that war. We have the photographs and the stories of bravery and stoicism, of fortitude and comradeship, and of many individual acts of courage. We may not remember them but we will not forget their sacrifice.

Despite all the comparatively minor tribulations of living in the 21st century we live comfortably compared with our ancestors who survived that period of one hundred years ago. Returning soldiers, *and nine out of every ten did return to their families*, were to find

themselves not in a "country fit for heroes", but in a society which was having difficulty coping with so many psychologically and physically traumatised people.

There was no Welfare State to which the families could appeal for help. The wives and children of men who needed medical care, often for the rest of their lives, would themselves have to find the means to finance it. Or depend on charity. The Government was frugal in its support, the Dept of Pensions for example was constantly finding ways to reduce payments and entitlements.

While medicine had advanced considerably during the war much of what was learned was not available to most ex-soldiers in the years following. And the treatment of mentally disturbed patients was still rudimentary.



Prosthetic or artificial limbs were basic in the extreme.

They were sometimes made by the wearer himself, or by one of his

comrades. Many soldiers had lost legs, arms, hands, and sight, from explosive munitions or through amputations to remove infected tissue. Their need was great if they were to return to any kind of paid employment. Wives and daughters learnt to be unpaid carers, often of men whose mental instability could turn them to violence at any moment. Ex-soldiers would withdraw from society, become reclusive, and often die alone and far from family, sometimes by their own hand.

They came together in a variety of organisations, realising that those who had not had their experiences of armed conflict had little concept of their situation or understanding of their needs. They leaned on one another in mutual if exclusive companionship, while society and their families struggled to understand them.



We must not forget their sacrifice. They were heroes too.

James Henderson

Kendal War Memorial

At the entrance to the Market Place in Kendal town centre stands the town's war memorial, this is an imposing structure depicting a life sized helmeted infantryman in circa 1916 marching order with his rifle slung over his right shoulder, in bronze, looking south for his comrades who will never return, all atop a tapered monolithic limestone plinth approximately 15ft high and square in plan, each of the top corners adorned with a bronze laurel wreaths. The plinth base, with a concave moulded top edge the front (West) face bears in raised uncial lettering the general commemoration for WW1:-

**IN HONOUR OF THE MEN
OF
KENDAL
WHO LOYALLY SERVED IN

THE GREAT
WAR
1914-1918

AND IN PROUD
AND GRATEFUL REMEMBRANCE
OF THOSE NAMED HEREON
WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES
FOR THEIR COUNTRY
THIS MONUMENT IS ERECTED
BY FELLOW TOWNSMEN**

The north, south and east faces each have a bronze panel giving the names of the 323 fallen of WW1. The names are listed alphabetically by surname with either initials or first name; no ranks or units are shown. At the base of the plinth there are two tiers on each side bearing the names of the 168 men of the town who fell in WW2, and one casualty who fell in the Korean conflict. The memorial is surrounded by a chain supported from four posts at each corner.

When we consider that Kendal in 1914 had a population of approximately 14050 people the death of 323 men from the town and the many more wounded both in body and mind had a shattering effect on the district for many years. The 1921 census gives the population as 14156.

The memorial was unveiled on the July 1st 1921 by Colonel J W Weston JP MP and dedicated by Canon Symes of Kendal Parish Church. It was designed and sculpted by Charles W Coombs, later to work at the Royal Mint.

The memorial was not without controversy, letters from ex-servicemen in the archives of the Westmorland Gazette complain of the lack of provision for the orphans and widows in the very large crowd present, and the lack of proper crowd control. There was no serving military presence and ex-servicemen were discouraged from wearing medals or uniform. It seems that in their speeches various members of the committee and town council made great

play on how hard they had worked and how much time they had put in to get to the memorial to this point. The letter-writers made clear their feelings that this was all a bit rich, coming from 'stay at homers'.

Reading the letters brought back a comment my late grandfather made in the late 1970's. He, with my father and I, were on the one and only Armistice Day parade all three of us ever attended together. After the parade, as we relaxed in the RBL Club grandfather commented, 'At least we could wear our medals and uniform this time'. When I asked what he meant' his reply was only 'You should have been there'. That was as much as I got. My grandfather, I discovered later, had been at the unveiling ceremony in 1921. It was apparent that, fifty years later, certain things still rankled.

The memorial also caused controversy in the 1950's; the British Legion had proposed that the names of the WW2 and Korean war dead be put on the memorial. This was met by resistance from some members of the town council who maintained that the memorial was for WW1 dead only.

At that time the British Legion was in the process of building a bungalow in the town for disabled ex-servicemen, on land off Romney Road. The ground was gifted by Mr S T Clark. There was enough land available to construct a memorial garden with a plaque with the names of the WW2 dead, and with the aid of public subscription, this was duly done. By the early 1960's personalities in the town had changed and the WW2 and Korean names were

placed on the main war memorial. Because of this Remembrance Day begins with a ceremony at the WW2 memorial garden followed by the main event and parade in the town centre. Using the 1901 and 1911 census and the various military sites available on line, and comparing these with Royal British Legion rolls of honour, I have grouped the WW1 names commemorated into the various services, and then broken that information down as follows:-



Royal Navy 4, Royal Flying Corps/Royal Air Force 4, Army 284. The Army personnel served as follows:- Royal Artillery (Garrison, Field & Horse) 10, Royal Engineers 9, Royal Army Medical Corps 10, Army Service Corps 6, Machine Gun Corps 6, Royal Marine Light Infantry 1, (Guards & Infantry 242)

Included in the above total are the Kendalians who had emigrated or were overseas at the outbreak of war and and

died in the armies of their adopted countries, six in the Canadian Expeditionary Force, one in the South African Overseas Expeditionary Force, and two in the Australian Infantry Force. All were serving on the western front. Regimentally the Border and Kings Own numbers are included in the above, and are broken down as follows:- Thirteen from The Kings Own Royal Lancaster Regt, and 129 from The Border Regt, of which forty-two served with the 8th Bn which had recruited strongly around Kendal and South Westmorland.

There are 31 names on the memorial for which I have been unable to uncover service details.

Research has thrown up a number of interesting facts, I have identified eleven sets of brothers amongst those commemorated on the memorial, the Cannon brothers being an example, Frank William Cannon died while serving with the 50th Bn Canadian Infantry (Alberta Regt), his brother John Charles Cannon died serving with the 13th Bn The Welsh Regt, both KIA on the Western Front. Their two other brothers, William Ernest Cannon, RAMC and Thomas Fleming Cannon, Border Regt, both survived. Frank had gone to Canada shortly before the war in search of a better life. Of the four Elson brothers, the eldest and youngest died before the war, Pte Walter Elson died serving with 8 Border on the 18th May 1916 aged 22, and another, Pte Arthur Elson, died serving with 1 Border on the 27 January 1917 aged 21. The effect on their parents, Thomas and Martha, with the loss of all their sons cannot be calculated, their grief must have been deep and heartfelt.

One of the Kendal men serving with the Canadian Army was George Bertram Birkett Alexander, fifty-two years old and a brewer by profession. He had been in Canada at the outbreak of war, and despite his age he enlisted in the 1st Bn Canadian Infantry (Western Ontario Regiment). He was serving with 1WOR when he was KIA on the 22 June 1915 aged 53. Obviously a man of some substance he left the sum of £3302 (1915 value) to his wife Alice who was still living in Kendal.

While the vast majority of those commemorated are from the Border Regt (129) as the war continued men from the town served with various the infantry regiments and corps which needed replacements. We also find men from Kendal KIA serving with units as diverse as the Royal Dublin Fusiliers, Tyneside Scottish, Tyneside Irish (both the last two named being service Bns of the Northumberland Fusiliers), the 9th Bn The London Regt (Queen Victoria's Rifles) and the 12th Bn the London Regt (Queen's Westminster Rifles). While most of the casualties died on the Western Front detailed searches reveal some interesting stories. Here are some examples.

Orderly 1432 Hugo Harrison Jackson of the Friends Ambulance Service (attd to the French Army) died on 27 May 1918 and is buried in Vailly British Cemetery. As a Quaker he was a Conscientious Objector but volunteered to work for the Red Cross in France. As stated most of the casualties died on the Western Front, but a number were KIA or died from other causes in other theatres of

operations, notably in Gallipoli while serving with the 1st and 6th Bn of the Border Regt and other units involved in that campaign. They are commemorated on the Helles Memorial. Some Kendal men are also commemorated on the Delhi Memorial (India Gate). They are mainly from the 2/4th Bn The Border Regt. And there are two Kendal men who died near the end of the war. They were all a long way from Kendal and the green Lakeland hills.

Pte M2/131594 Hubert Walter Jefford 598th M.T. Coy Army Service Corps died on 25th Sept 1918 and is buried in Tehran War Cemetery. Pte 39317 John Albert Garnett 7th (Service) Bn The Prince of Wales's (North Staffordshire) Regt was KIA in 26th Aug 1918 in South Russia (Caucasus) whilst serving with Dunster Force. This unit was attempting to fill the void left by the collapse of the White Russian forces and the Ottoman Empire. Interestingly, with the exception of nine men KIA while serving with the 7th (Service) Bn (Westmorland & Cumberland Yeomanry) The Border Regt, and one from the Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry, I cannot find any others on the memorial who served in a cavalry unit. There may be some among the thirty-one men whose details I cannot find.

In 1987 the Memorial was comprehensively cleaned and renovated, and repaired where necessary. Today our representative soldier stands proud as a reminder that the town of Kendal, in common with many others in the UK in this centennial year, remembers the sacrifice of so many of its young men in the War of 1914-18.



Sources ; 1914 Army List

The British Army of 1914 by Major R. Money Barnes published by Seeley Service & Co 1968

The Border Regiment in The Great War by Col H.C.Wylly. C.B. published by Gale & Polden

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

De Ruvignys Roll of Honour

British Army WW1 Medal Roll Index

Census 1901 and 1911

Glory No Compensation by Col Ralph May published by Silver Link Publishing 2003

Westmorland Gazette Archive (Kendal Library)

Note, where Regimental Titles are used they are the title the regiment had before the 1920 re-titling of some regiments.

Researched by Mike Rosling

"Dangerous Lunatic Soldiers"



The Cumberland and Westmorland Joint Lunatic Asylum

Through the years of the First World and into 1920 and beyond over 220,000 soldiers received treatment in the UK for a variety of injuries, many very serious. Work-houses, schools, and other institutions were requisitioned by the War Office to serve as military hospitals. Some soldiers, those with disabling wounds, were eventually discharged from military service, while many who recovered were returned to the battlefield. A considerable number of wounded soldiers became what has been referred to as, "The other War dead". They were the long-term mentally unstable.

Of those thousands who passed through the UK military medical system over 38,000 (9%) would become psychiatric cases of varying degrees of severity. Few would ever fully recover, many would become prone to violence towards family and friends, or would take their own lives, or would spend the rest of their life in an institution. A soldier who broke under the stress of combat could, if he escaped the firing squad, find himself described as "dangerous" and referred to a mental hospital, a "Lunatic Asylum."

A little south of Carlisle, set well away from the busy city, was the Cumberland and Westmorland Joint Lunatic Asylum, later the Joint Mental Hospital. It was an institution known to those of recent years as, "The Garlands". It took into its care the unfortunate people which society considered mentally deficient or damaged in some way. It was well ordered, a model of its kind, with a farm and gardens, and facilities for a variety of occupational interests.

By 1917 it was one of many such institutions accepting casualties of the battlefields. Commanding officers or Military medical officers would refer a disturbed soldier

for treatment, often when the other relatively primitive methods of the period had failed.

The document which transferred the patient to the care of the Asylum was Army Form B261, ORDER FOR THE RECEPTION OF A DANGEROUS LUNATIC SOLDIER. This would eventually record the diagnosis and treatment of the unfortunate individual, often up to his often premature death! The terminology is blunt and rather brutal and unsympathetic by today's standards. By 1917 the hospital had treated a number of such military patients. More would follow in 1918, and in the years after the Armistice discharged soldiers would still be referred by a civilian doctor.

Of course everyone who is involved in battle, or who sees the awful result of explosives and gunfire on the human body, is traumatised to some extent, with the effect sometimes appearing long after the event. Most soldiers did manage to control their emotions, some responding to treatment more effectively than others, but hundreds of thousands of otherwise fit men of all ages would suffer emotional trauma for the rest of their lives. Many soldiers, shocked and mentally damaged but with no obvious physical wounds, would find themselves referred to as cowards and malingerers. Some would suffer from "survivor guilt", often becoming violent for no apparent reason. Those considered beyond help were generally described as "incurable lunatics".

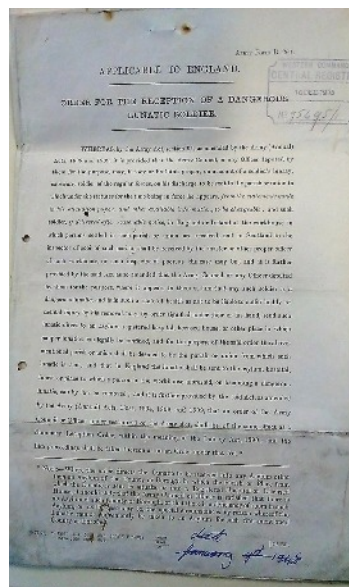
It was a harsh world. Nevertheless it is widely recognised that places such as the Garlands provided some relief and a haven for their patients, military and civilian. The records tell us that physical restraint of the disturbed soldiers was rarely needed. Food was to a good standard and deaths were minimal. It was probably the best place, in a time before the Welfare State, in which the unfortunate detritus of war could find themselves.

Let us look at the cases of a few of those who found themselves labelled as

"Dangerous Lunatics."

One of the earliest Great War casualties to enter the C and W Joint Lunatic Asylum was Pte J. a soldier who had enlisted on the outbreak of war to serve

with a volunteer battalion of the Border Regiment. Pte J. had been referred by Medical Officer Brigadier General McD to receive psychiatric treatment. In late 1915 he arrived at the hospital where he is admitted as a



"*Dangerous Lunatic Soldier*", as described in Army Form B261, the authority for his detention. This man is in his mid twenties, single, and of good physical health. The boxes are ticked;-

Was this his first attack? Yes.

Duration of first attack? Five months. *Suggested cause?* War Strain. *Epilepsy?* No.

Suicidal? No. *Temperate habits?* Yes.

Union or Parish to which lunatic appears to be chargeable? C . . . (A village in Cumbria)

Name and address of relative to whom notice of death is to be sent? (Here is the name of Next of Kin).

Referred from? Military Hospital, Maghull, Lancs.

Medical comment on his admission document;- "He says voices call to him and accuse him of crimes. He hears thousands of voices calling to him. He speaks with the third person. He says a man called 'B H' talks to him every day." Pte J. P. died in 1945.

Twenty-nine years old single man, Pte T, is referred from Netley Military Hospital. His case is chargeable to a parish in the Workington area. He too is a volunteer of the early war years. His diagnosis;- "Facts indicate dangerous insanity. He is dull, vacant, and confused. Feeble-minded, he hears imaginary voices, and is indifferent to his surroundings." He died in 1939.

In 1917 a 33 year old single man is referred from St Albans Military Hospital. The cause of his illness is given as syphilis. The medical report states;- "He is extremely enfeebled mentally, he is with difficulty made to understand the simplest question and is almost inarticulate. At times he is restless and liable to injure himself by falling. He is unable to look after himself in any way. He shows the physical signs of general paralysis." This man died three months later.

A 33 year old single man from south Cumberland, who originally served with a Lancashire Regiment but is now with a Labour Corps unit is referred to the Asylum in 1917. He is considered not suicidal. The record tells us that "facts indicating dangerous insanity" are;- "constant excitement - day and night - only controlled by drugs. He uses filthy language, gestures, claims revelation from heaven that he has been sent to bring civilisation as the Christ."

While most of those referred to the Asylum were single a few were married men with families. The comment on 44 years old Pte H in early 1917 is more recognisable to those with recent experience of psychological problems.

"He is nervous and depressed, emotional and gives way to tears, he is afraid that he may do away with himself." Later we learn; "His wife states that if there is any noise made by the children he begins to cry, but he talks of nothing but his own illness and won't go out of doors and sits for long intervals without speaking, and if addressed does not respond." His notes further say, "He has the impression that he has no further use and

would be better out of the way although he has not actually threatened to commit suicide."

He was discharged into the care of his family a month after admission.

The record of a 29 year old married man, posted to a home garrison following break-down during battle tells us that the duration of existing attacks is "insidious, that the supposed cause is alcohol, and that he is suicidal." His wife lives in the North-East but Carlisle is to bear the cost of his treatment. He says he was banned (shunned?) at his depot by everybody because they knew he had Gonorrhoea. He had tried to drown himself because people were always talking about him.

A 27 year old West Cumberland soldier, a single man admitted in 1916, is described as "Dull, confused, feeble-minded, memory defective, and hears imaginary voices on occasions. He shouts for no reason."

Another military patient "Talks without ceasing, and in an incoherent manner, both when others are present and when alone. He says he has been guilty of every crime. He believes he may expose his person to women."

(c) Here state the facts.

1. Facts indicating dangerous Insanity observed by myself (e)

Julius without ceasing in an incoherent manner both when others present & alone. Says he has been guilty of every crime. "is not in any way that to expose his person to women is not in any way, it all depends on what he has in mind at the time. makes statements with regards to pictures in papers of the only absurd, moving about in an excited manner & some quality touching things & his body in the way of a man."

(f) Here state the information, and from whom received.

2. Other facts (if any) indicating dangerous Insanity communicated to me by others (f):

from the oratorio in chapel that he is continually talking & shouting in an incoherent manner. he is not at all violent. He is a statue & just hardly with absolute no one. Dislikes his clothes - refuses food. Julius is always very noisy and makes meaningless statements.

Signed, Name, *James Charlesworth M.B.*

Place of Abode, *24. Cumbria Gardens*

N.B.—Under the Lunacy Act, 1890, (24 & 25, cap. 5, Sec. 9 (1), the medical examination of the lunatic must take place not more than seven days before the date of the admission order," and under ss. 50 (3) of the Act, the

Each soldier, while in the Asylum, was a drain on the scarce resources of his parish. There was also the increasing problem of finding staff and accommodation for the treatment of the growing number of mentally disturbed military patients. It was not surprising that many were sent home to ageing parents, or to wives with young children, as early as the authorities deemed appropriate. Some would remain a financial and psychological burden on their family for many more years.

The War, for those families and for their damaged son or husband, would not end in November 1918.

References; *Shell Shocked Britain - The First World War's Legacy for Britain's Mental Health* - Suzie Grogan.

The Annual Reports and archived records of the Cumberland and Westmorland Joint Lunatic Asylum, "The Garlands".

James Henderson



This impressive monument commemorates the Fallen of the old counties of Cumberland and Westmorland.

The insignia on the front are those of the Royal Navy, the Army, the Royal Air Force, and the medical

services. The insignia on the reverse are those of the Cumberland Artillery, the Border Regiment, and the Westmorland and Cumberland Yeomanry. Its panels now refer to the fallen of both the First and Second World Wars.

It was dedicated on 25th May 1922 and unveiled by the Earl of Lonsdale. Schools and workplaces released pupils and employees to enable them to attend. The ceremony was attended by over 25,000 people. Designed by Sir Robert Lorimer and constructed of local Pink Shap Granite it is 40 feet high and cost £5,000.

The parkland in which it stands was the initiative of the Carlisle Citizen's League, a charitable organisation founded in 1914 by the then acting Mayor of Carlisle, Sir Benjamin Scott. The League (which provided considerable aid to ex-service personnel) raised, through public subscription, the sum of £11,500, sufficient to purchase the area now known as Rickerby Park.

When a decision was made to erect a memorial to the men of Cumberland and Westmorland who had made the Supreme Sacrifice in The Great War this site, in Rickerby Park, was chosen.

The result was the imposing Cenotaph, the Empty Tomb you see here. This was the focus of the annual 11 am Act of Remembrance until the City Centre Cenotaph in the Greenmarket was dedicated in 1990.

For some years the commemoration at the more accessible City memorial drew attention away from this. However in recent times the local branch of The Royal British Legion has, on each Remembrance Sunday, hosted an afternoon Act of Commemoration here, with

greater and greater numbers attending each year.

The Park also has a Memorial Bridge and a Memorial Garden, both just a short walk from the Cenotaph.

The bridge provides a pedestrian and cycle

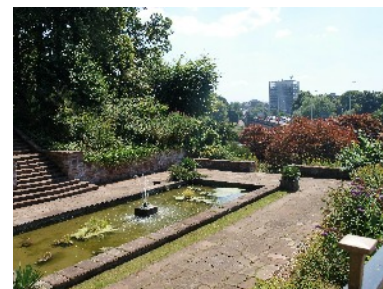
link to the east of the city. It has an impressive single span of 200 feet and was constructed in 1922 by local craftsmen, many of them veterans of the Great War. It was dedicated at the same time as the Cenotaph. It



crosses where the rivers Petteril and Eden converge. The Memorial Garden, at the Eden Bridge entrance to the Park, was a later development. In 1932 the widening of the bridge over

the River Eden at Carlisle prompted discussion of how the area to the north east of the bridge, left vacant when some old buildings had been demolished, should become a public place. After some deliberation by the City Council and suggestions from the public, it was decided that the area should become an extension to the concept of Rickerby Park as a Memorial to the Fallen of WW1.

Using recycled material from old buildings, some from Caldbeck, some from the demolition of the old County Gaol, the Memorial was erected



adjacent to the newly widened bridge. It consists of two rest houses, a water feature, and a landscaped garden. A short flight of steps leads from the bridge to the garden and onwards to Rickerby Park and the Cenotaph. At these steps we see the dedication plaque - **1932 CITY of**

CARLISLE Rickerby Park. This entrance was provided and Rickerby Park acquired for the public through the efforts of the Carlisle Citizen's League. In Memory of those who gave their lives in the Great War 1914-1918. It was formally opened by the Mayor in 1933.



This garden has, over the years, been given various names by the good folks of Carlisle. However the proper name is, "**The Rickerby Park War Memorial Garden.**"

James Henderson





Weeping Window – The Poppy Sculpture at Carlisle Castle

The nationally renowned poppy sculpture added an extra dimension to the Museum activities this year. The 'Weeping Window', formed from hundreds of the poppies from the original Tower of London 2014 poppy display, brought us a poignant reminder that thousands of soldiers of Cumberland and Westmorland fell in the First World War. The stream of red pouring symbolically from the castle battlements was impressive and thought-provoking.



This was one of two such displays being presented around the UK as part of the national Great War Centenary

Commemoration. Other cities which have hosted this included Portsmouth and Perth, Cardiff and Belfast. And following its popular reception at Carlisle the 'Weeping Window' went on display at Stoke on Trent.



The staff of the Castle and the Museum, enthused by Carlisle Castle's links to the Border Regiment, gathered large teams of

volunteers to assist the anticipated increase in visitors. The Museum's excellent Remembrance100 Open Art exhibition, which opened just prior to the 'Weeping Window' presentation, made a natural connection to remembrance in this significant year. The sun shone, signs were erected, and the gates were opened as visitors started to pour in. And pour in they did! By the finish date on Sunday 8 July over 140,000 visitors had flocked to the site. The Museum also experienced a perceptible increase in visitors.



Our volunteers did a sterling job, standing in the hot sun for hours on end while offering information to our many visitors from all over the world, and helping them understand the full significance of the event. School and group visits also increased.



A meaningful relationship was developed with soldiers from 4th Lincs (the Reserve Army Bn of The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment), who worked with staff to assist with schools and a variety of visiting organisations including two AgeUK groups and a Blind Veterans' group.

By Jules Wooding
Research and Education Officer.



A small part of our very popular Exhibition of Remembrance Art

On 27th July 2018 the Trustees and Friends of the Museum of Military Life were pleased to host our Patron, Lady Ballyedmond, for a short ceremony during which she graciously accepted a gift of a Regimental Brooch in gold and silver. This was in appreciation of her support and goodwill to the Museum of Military Life in recent years. The Chairman of the Friends Committee, Major Nigel Lewis, spoke on behalf of the Trustees, staff, and Friends.



Looking Forward

Our HLF funded Lest We Forget 2018 project included community workshops in communities from Alston to Millom, and various other towns, engaging local people with the theme of Remembrance. Our veterans' lunch club has just started and we are offering film nights in the autumn and winter. Our Tuesday talks continue.

The theme is **Remembrance**.

The second remembrance themed exhibition 'Lest We Forget' opened in the Museum on Sat 8th Sept. For further information on these and future activities please phone 01228 532774 - or see our Website.

Remembrance

It is a cold November afternoon in Rickerby Park Carlisle. The Cenotaph, that great monument of glistening Shap granite, overshadows those who have gathered here to commemorate the sacrifice of the men and women of Westmorland and Cumberland who fell in war. The service of Remembrance begins.

The Last Post. And silence!

Let us at this point turn our mind's eye away from the scene immediately around us. Let our imagination take us over the trees of Rickerby Park and the houses of nearby Carlisle, southward and eastward over the Fells and valleys of Cumberland and Westmorland. Let us imagine we are joined by all those young men from the farms and factories and mines and offices of their English homeland. As our mind travels further we find we are also accompanied by the men of Scotland, of Wales, of Ireland, of the Isle of Man and of all the regions of the beautiful archipelago of islands we call the British Isles. And somewhere on that journey we hear the accents of Canada and Newfoundland, of Australia and New Zealand, South Africa, India, and all the many lands of our Allies. There are women here too; young women, many of whom have never before gone far from home but who are determined to help in the care of the wounded and dying.

We pass over the English Channel and the regions of northern France and Belgium where battles have been fought for centuries. We see people gathering by the Menin Gate in Ieper. And we see an increasing number of little enclosures of white headstones.

We travel a few miles further and find ourselves on the banks of the Ancre, a tributary of the River Somme in the French region of Picardy. The countryside still holds a late autumnal beauty. The trees in the many small copses still retain much of their seasonal greenery. The fields however are generally bare stubble where the farmers have harvested their annual cereal crops. Wildflowers are dying back in preparation for the

spring renewal. It is a scene of peace and quiet.

We find ourselves in a recently ploughed field; the farmer has removed his crop and is preparing the land for the seed of a new season. Suddenly we realise that all those who accompanied us are now no longer in our vision. Where have they gone?

We drop to our knees and with both hands gather some of the soil. It is dry and chalky, fertile and friable. And ideal for the production of new growth. We can almost smell it, even taste it!

But if we cast our mind back one hundred years or so this land, this small patch of our wondrous world, was a devastated wasteland, a scene of unimaginable horror. War gathered its victims and trod them into this soil, soil often turned to a morass of mud by torrential rain. This is the grave of thousands of those who accompanied us on our imaginary journey. We would return alone. We realise that this small handful of soil may hold the DNA of many. But we cannot take it away from here. We let it trickle slowly through our fingers. And back to where we found it. The soil, and the many who died here and have no proper grave, will stay forever.

We take a moment to let our imagination travel to other faraway lands which still hold the graves of those thousands of many nationalities who fell in that fateful war of a century ago, to Salonika, to Gallipoli, to Palestine and distant Mesopotamia, and to the many lesser known battlefields of that bloody conflict.

Reveille! We are back in Rickerby Park, in front of the Cenotaph we left just two short minutes earlier! But we have travelled far in those two minutes. And we were reminded of the pity of war. And of man's inhumanity to man.

The haunting notes of the bagpipe tells us "The Flowers of the Forest (are a' withered away)". The music falls away to silence. Our annual commemoration of the short lives of those who gave their all is over.

But we must never forget.

James Henderson



To the Memory of the Fallen of Westmorland and Cumberland.

The dedication of the Cenotaph in Rickerby Park on 25th May 1922

Dedication of the War Memorial of Gross Besten, Brandenburg, Germany.



While we remember and honour our dead of The Great War it is easy to forget that ordinary little villages and towns, in countries that were once our enemy, also lost the best of their generation of the time. This is the occasion of the dedication of the War Memorial of Gross Besten, a village near Bestensee in the Brandenburg region of Germany. Germany had almost 2 million military dead in the Great War. Her allies, especially Austria, Bulgaria, and Turkey, also suffered immense losses. The words here, above a long list of names of ordinary young men, tell us that this Memorial is is;- "*Unsere tapferen Gefallenen für Volk und vaterland zur ehre und zum gedenken. Die dankbare gemeinde Gross Besten*". (In honour and remembrance of our gallant Fallen, who died for their countrymen and Fatherland. The grateful community of Gross Besten.)

War Memorials

The War Memorials of our cities, towns, villages and churches tend to be readily identifiable and easily recognisable as such. They are often stone monoliths or obelisks in public places bearing the names of the Fallen of the community or parish in which they stand. Many are within churches and civic halls. These may be of brass, bronze, or marble and may often, unlike external memorials, include after the names of the Fallen, a long list of

They Who Also Served.

Communities, stunned and in shock at the impact on their small village or town, pondered deeply on the best way to commemorate their non-returning heroes. And to show thankfulness to those who had served and survived but damaged in mind and body, now found themselves in a society struggling to understand the many changes war had brought.

In the first two years of the Great War it became common for families to inscribe the name of their lost sons on the family gravestone. Our churchyards abound in these tributes. In the absence of a formal funeral it was a way of perpetuating the memory of someone who, they believed, would never have a formal memorial. However thoughtful people were aware of the cathartic effect of a visual tribute to the dead. The concept of a local War Memorial honouring the dead of all ranks was gathering momentum. The Boer War, almost two decades earlier, had established a limited precedent for this.

Committees were formed, funds were sought, and styles were considered. Most communities settled for simple and traditional designs. For example the brass or marble plaque in the church or public hall, long the privilege of the powerful and wealthy, would now be one of the most common memorials. The son of the local blacksmith or carpenter, and of the local squire, would appear there together, equal in death and honour. An obelisk in the town square or village green would tell us the names of those now resting in faraway graves. The Fallen are often given in alphabetical order and regardless of rank or position.

But some communities had other thoughts. The provision of a public hall as a War Memorial, with its promise of providing a facility for future generations, was popular. Unfortunately it was also expensive. For example Longtown, near Carlisle struggled until 1928 to complete their project. It is now a thriving community centre and a worthy memorial to those who left that little town over 100 years ago, never to return.

Small communities, unable to gather sufficient funds, accepted less ambitious plans. The people of Greystoke, near Penrith, widened a local bridge and attached a memorial plaque to the new structure.

The parish of Great Orton near Carlisle, with considerable imagination, built a structure of granite and bronze. It stands in the churchyard where it is guarded by four 6" 'artillery shells'.



Some churches still display the original scroll begun when casualties were first reported. At least two churches in the Carlisle area obviously underestimated the space required. The last few names are squeezed in at the end. These scrolls are of course given all due respect and the names are also inscribed on the formal memorials in their churchyards.

Some memorials did not have names appended. This is more common in cities and larger towns where custom suggests we call them Cenotaphs (The Empty Tomb). But the memorials of small towns and villages offer considerably more information. They often display rank, unit, and sometimes date of death, of the soldier or officer.

Decision on location and form of the various memorials was not without contention. Even today there are difficulties about the ownership and responsibility for certain aspects of care and maintenance. But by far the greatest dilemma was the sensitive question of whose name should be added to the written tribute. Soldiers who seem to have no obvious link to the district often appear on memorials. On deeper investigation we find for example that the young man may have been the dearly loved grandson of a local family who, although born many miles away, spent much of his childhood in the area. Who was to refuse a grieving grandparent the right to see his name on their local War Memorial? This is one of the reasons why so many names appear on more than one memorial. And there were other complications.

The archives of our local newspapers of a century ago tell us of the heartbreak and difficulties of our ancestors in their search for a meaning for their loss.



The War Memorial of Greystoke, near Penrith. A bronze plaque on the parapet bears the names of those of the Parish who did not return.

James Henderson

Lest We Forget

As the people of our nation, in this Centenary year, turn their thoughts to remembering those who have died in conflict Cumbria's Museum of Military Life autumn exhibition ***Lest We Forget*** showcases the Museum's own collections and archives in an exhibition that focuses on remembrance, how we remember, and how remembrance has changed over the years. The exhibition continues until 25th November 2018.

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Upcoming Museum Events

Tuesday Talks series

Our Tuesday Talks series continues. All Tuesday Talks begin at 6 pm.

Tue 9th Oct

The work of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Tue 13th Nov

The National Memorial Arboretum

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Holiday Workshops

The final event of the 2018 Summer series of Children's Workshops is on Wed 24th October from 11am - 3pm. This one features The Big Draw, an opportunity to draw cheesy grins and funny faces - no talent required.

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Veterans Lunch Club

The final meetings of 2018 of the Veteran's Lunch Club are on Mondays 15th Oct, 19th Nov, and 17th Dec. Please call the Museum for details.

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Thursday Movie Night

Thursday Movie nights continue with ***Mrs Miniver*** - on 18th October, and ***Journey's End*** - 22nd November.

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Museum Quiz Night

Friday 30th Nov 7.00 pm

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Friend's News

The Friends of the Museum of Military Life have arranged a number of events and meetings for the coming season. For fuller details please contact the Museum.

The Museum website is accessible at;

<https://www.cumbriasmuseumofmilitarylife.org/friends/>
You will find back numbers of this Newsletter there.

Museum open hours

The Museum is open during the following times
Aug-Sept Daily 10am-6pm
Oct Daily 10am- 5pm
Nov till March (Sat to Thur) 10pm-4pm
Closed 24th, 25th, 26th Dec and 1st Jan
Last admission 30 mins before closing.
Tariff; Adult £4.50, Concession £3.50,
Child 5-15 £2.50, Family Ticket, up to 4, £11.00
Members, and serving Duke of Lancs; Free.

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The 50th anniversary of the launch of *Operation Banner*

Operation Banner, the role of the Army in its support of the Civil Authority in Northern Ireland began in August 1969 and officially ended in July 2007. In that period 1441 serving military personnel died, 722 by terrorist action and 719 by what the MOD refers to as 'non-hostile deaths' (suicide and accident). Over 300 Police Officers also died.

If any reader has a story to tell of that period, particularly of the experiences of Cumbrian soldiers, please E mail the Editor. All contributions will be treated with sensitivity and with full consideration of personal security.

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Museum Research Facilities

The Museum can conduct research on your behalf for a £25 search fee. This charge is to cover the time spent looking through various source material, and all proceeds go towards the sustainability of the collections.

If you would like to know more about the service of a soldier of the Border Regiment or of its antecedent or successor Regiments, the Museum may be able to help.

If you are in the process of some historical research and would like to ask some general questions, or if you would like to pay for a full research enquiry, please feel free to contact the Museum by email on enquiries@cmoml.org or by phone on 01228 532774.

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Newsletter of Friends of Cumbria's Museum of Military Life

This Newsletter is printed and posted to members. However if you would like to be among the first to see this newsletter please send your email address to the museum. You will receive future newsletters in PDF format.

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This Newsletter is edited by James Henderson UD, on behalf of the Friends of Cumbria's Museum of Military Life, and is currently published tri-annually.

Contributions are welcomed. Features may be up to 600 words and may be accompanied by illustrations.

Please send your contribution to ambus246@gmail.com

