

The War Memorial project began when I received a letter from Revd Melanie Fitzgerald, of St Mary's, Sheffield. The Walkley History Group were restoring a window in the former Liberal Reform Club, now the Walkley Community centre. My Great Uncle, James Craven, was one of the club members who had been killed in WWI and who had been commemorated in the window. My family had photographs of James which allowed the team to restore his picture in the window, which was rededicated on 4th August 2014, a hundred years after the outbreak of World War I.



The restored photograph of James Craven in the Walkley Community Centre Memorial window. The Walkley historians were the inspiration for our research in Eglwysbach and Llansantffraid Glan Conwy

Each Remembrance Sunday we stand beside the Memorial at the gates of St Martin's Church whilst the names of the Eglwysbach war dead are read aloud. I have always found this a very moving ceremony, but in reality we no longer know about these men. Melanie had succeeded in tracing me through three generations of women, all of whom had married and changed their surname. Her determination in tracing James' descendants inspired me to look at the men from our villages in order that they also can be remembered as people, not just as a list of names.



Our starting point was the St. Martin's Memorial, which lists the names of twenty two men who died in the First World War, their Regiment and residence.

There is also a Roll of Honour in the Church, which lists men who served in the forces, including some of the fallen. However, it does not include all the men on the Memorial stones, so we assume it relates only to Church members.



Memorials outside St. Martin's Church, Eglwysbach

Six men named on the Memorial stone in Capel Ebeneser are included in the twenty two on the St. Martin's Memorial. I was lent a copy of the Service of Dedication of this Memorial, which contained photographs of all six Chapel men and also of Lady Lloyd George, who was present at the service. Yet another stone, brought to Capel Bethania when Capel Bryn Diaonyn closed, honours Evan Thomas. Evan's name is also on the St. Martin's Memorial, which was unveiled by Lady Aberconway of Bodnant in 1923. Lady Aberconway had lost her own son, Francis McLaren, and several of the men who gave their lives had worked on the Bodnant estate.



Lorna Jones, who has family connections with three of the men in our book, sent me a photograph of the unveiling of the Memorial. Her mother had written a list of names on the back entitled "Eglwysbach British Legion", though it is unclear whether all these men had served in the forces, as some do not appear on the Roll of Honour, whilst their brothers do. William Jones, whose official War Grave lies in St. Martin's cemetery, does not appear on the Memorial, perhaps because he already had a gravestone.

In 2013 we had a display at the Eglwysbach Show, where we met Richard Hoare, who had traced the men from the Glan Conwy Memorial Pathway using the Commonwealth War Graves (CWWG) records. Two men appear on both Memorials and this inspired us to extend our efforts to Glan Conwy. We were successful in applying for a grant from the Heritage Lottery fund, which has enabled us to produce this booklet.



The stones of the Glan Conwy Memorial pathway include name and Regiment as well as a date of birth and place and date of death, though some of the details do not match the CWWG records exactly. This was very helpful, as in Eglwysbach we have struggled to find men with names that occur frequently, such as Hugh Hughes, who was exceptionally difficult to trace as he died after the CWWG cut-off date of 31st August 1921, but before the Memorial dedication in 1923. His name is not included in the Royal

Welsh Fusiliers Roll of Honour and I have been unable to trace a death certificate. Likewise, David Morris, Dyffryn was another challenge, as explained under his entry.

In St Ffraid's is a framed list of the men of Glan Conwy British Legion. This includes name, rank, service number and residence, as well as a signature. The list is of the men who returned from the War, so does not include the men who fell. Rather poignantly, it is signed by Frank Osborne, who lost his son, Frank Cecil.



St. Ffraid's Church

GLAN CONWAY ROLL OF SERVICE. 1914 - 1918.			
W. B. Evans	Private	12221	1918
W. B. Evans	Private	52221	1918
R. B. Evans	Private	3970	1918
R. B. Evans	Private	3892	1918
R. B. Evans	Private	2826	1918
R. B. Evans	Private	4022	1918
R. B. Evans	Private	3222	1918

Aaron Appleton and Thomas Williams both had links with Glan Conwy, but are not included on the Pathway, nor is Walter Conroy, who is buried in the cemetery.

I had some experience of researching my own family history, while Anne is writing a book about her father, who served throughout WWI, so we knew where to start looking for information.

Some research already existed, including very helpful files produced by Ken Williams on the Eglwysbach men and a collection of mementos from families in Glan Conwy lent to Sharon Doleman. We used the Ancestry website to look up



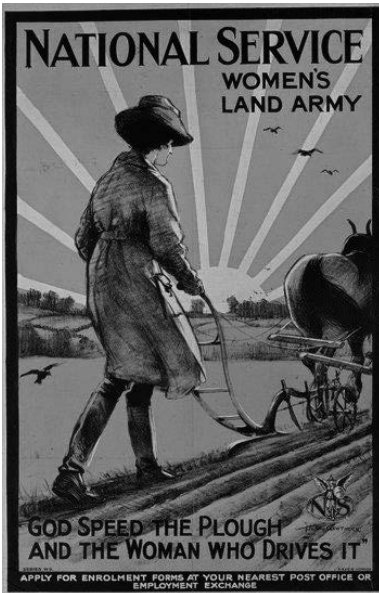
census returns, where we also searched for service records. These were helpful when we found them, but many were destroyed when the Records office was bombed during WW2. Some of the men are included in family trees published on the Ancestry site and we contacted living relatives where they were listed. We also looked at online contemporary newspaper reports.

The men who returned from the War are more difficult to research, unless they have living relatives, such as Ronald Parry, who was a mine of information about his Great Uncles. With unlimited time, we could have looked further into newspaper reports, death notices and Trade Directories and we know there is more information out there. A treasure house of social information lies within the Bodnant archives, of which we have only scratched the surface.

In 1901 Eglwysbach had a population of 1,286 compared to 935 in 2011. Many came from the Midlands and lodged in the village whilst working on the Bodnant Terraces. The Estate records show 46 people regularly employed in the house, gardens, forest and farms. Several of the men in the book are associated with Bodnant, ranging from the Hon. Francis McLaren MP, a scion of the family, to Evan Thomas, a young nurseryman.

By contrast, Glan Conwy was about half the size it is today. Many of its 977 population were employed on farms or in market gardens. In 1913 the market garden employees had called a strike demanding a minimum wage of 24s a week. In contrast to the criticism of Eglwysbach, the paper reported that several of the men eligible for military service from Glan Conwy had been granted exemption on condition that they joined the Local Volunteer Unit because they "would have to go either to Colwyn Bay or Conwy for drills and, as there is no late train back, it would involve a stiff walk".

In late 1915 an exceptionally severe snowstorm hit the Conwy valley, with many sheep buried under three or four feet of snow, fifteen foot drifts in the mountains, and impassable roads. Many farmers may have felt that they could not leave their womenfolk and children to cope alone.



During the wet summer of 1917 the Farmers' Union complained that they were compelled to take their wool to Llanrwst when the weather was good and they needed to be harvesting. Two farmers were fined £2 for not dipping their sheep on the right day. One excused herself that whilst sheep could be dipped in the rain, she needed to get her hay in on a fine day. Mr Robert Evans of Dyffryn in Eglwysbach had a plum orchard of several acres, but was unable to find sugar to preserve the fruit.

However, cattle were selling well, with milking cows fetching

between £34 and £40. In 1914 the Livestock Improvement scheme made grants to both Eglwysbach and Glan Conwy Bull societies and to the Vale of Conwy Heavy Horse Society.

We began our research with 22 names, but this grew to almost 200. We have included all the names of all the men we found and linked them into families where possible. This gives an idea of the enormous impact on the area that the absence of so many men would have had. They are listed in approximate alphabetical order under each village. There are biographies of all the men who lost their lives and for some of those who did come back home. Some have much more information than others, but this in no way reflects the heroism and sacrifice that all these men made in the service of their country. It is more a reflection of our inability to find out more about them a hundred years on.

At the end of the war, Prime Minister Lloyd George promised the returning soldiers "a land fit for heroes". A somewhat rash promise, in view of the chaos throughout Europe. The men who returned were often in poor health, faced unemployment and also found society very different from the one they had left. There was an overwhelming number of single women, and many of them had become used to doing interesting jobs formerly reserved for men. These women were very unwilling to return to domestic service. Although some men suffered with mental health problems (what we should nowadays call "post-traumatic stress disorder") and others turned to drink to forget, most men put the war behind them, closing the door firmly on their memories. Few ever talked about the horrors of war and the majority just got on with life.

Men from Eglwysbach

Driver Edward Arfon Burgess (Ted), Tal y Cafn

MT ASC, M2/155562

1893 – 10th April 1916

James and Grace Burgess kept the Conwy Vale Hotel in Glan Conwy, where Ted was born in 1893, the eldest of their four children, and older brother of Frank. He worked as a decorator and was boarding with William and Grace Evans at 116 Clarence Road, Handsworth, Birmingham in 1911. He moved back to Wales to marry Katy Thomas of Caxton House in Llanberis. He was a pioneer motorist, who, soon after his marriage in 1915, was fined 6 shillings for failing to show a rear light when driving through Llanrwst.



It was a natural step for him to enlist into the Royal Army Service Corps as a driver with the 649th Mechanical Transport Coy. He would have been involved in conveying supplies of food and ammunition to the troops in the field. Ted was only 23 when he died, just 3 months after his arrival on the Somme. He is buried in the cemetery in Corbie 15km east of Amiens. (Plot I, Row F, Grave 37) and is also commemorated on the War memorial in Llanberis.

Edward's son, another Ted, lived in Caernarfon. Katy, his widow, stayed in Llanberis, remarried and had two more sons. Apparently, some of the grand children live locally, although I have been unable to trace them.

Driver Frank Conway Burgess, Tal y Cafn

HS Labour Corps

ASC Motor Transport, 33256

1897 –1969.

Frank, brother of Ted, was born in 1897. Although his father was from Wilmslow, his mother, Grace, had been born in Tal-y-Cafn and the family moved back there when James bought the Tal-y-Cafn Hotel.

An elder sister, Margaret, (1894) helped her parents in the hotel and Alfred Augustus was born in 1903. On March 30th, 1915 eighteen year old Frank, together with his mother and 12 year old Alfred were christened in St Martin's, Eglwysbach. Later that Spring Frank enlisted in the HS Labour Corps.

His Army Records were among the many lost in the bombing in WW2. However, according to several local newspapers, in June 1917 Frank was home on leave from his unit, ASC Motor Transport. The same news item also mentions that Gunner R. Griffiths, Bodnant Stables and Sapper D Jones of Conway Cottage, had just left the village to rejoin their regiments.

We believe Frank married Florence Pendlebury of St Asaph in 1934 and lived until he was 71 years old.

Jack Carter, Clwt Cottages

A gardener and member of Eglwysbach British Legion in 1923.

Signaller Edward Tilston Dain, Tyddyn Ffordd

Royal Naval Division, HMS Iron Duke, Z1147

26th May, 1890 – 13th March 1963

Edward was born at 10 Rock Lane, West Rock Ferry, Birkenhead and so far we have been unable to find what brought him to Eglwysbach and Tyddyn Ffordd. His family seem to have been Birkenhead born and bred for generations.

His father, also Edward Tilston, was Head Storekeeper for a Wine and Spirit Merchant and his elder brother, Thomas, was a bookkeeper, possibly in the same firm. In 1911 Edward, then 21, was a clerk dealing in stocks and shares in Birkenhead.

On enlistment he became a signaller on HMS Iron Duke and served on her throughout the war. After the war Edward returned to Wales and died at Mynydd Bach, Upper Colwyn Bay in 1963, aged 73 years. At his death he left £38,462.00

Edward had three sisters, Beatrice, Alice and Edith. In 1911 both Beatrice and Alice were Art Students and it is Beatrice who created the Roll of Honour Scroll which hangs beside the pulpit in St Martin's Church. If you look carefully you can clearly see her signature at the bottom right on the picture of the Roll of Honour on the next page.

Sapper Owen D. Davies, Pen y Graig

Royal Anglesey RE, 398697

Yorks and Lancs
7th (Service) Battalion, 35234

1879 - 29th October 1917



Owen was born in 1879 at Mairwnydd, Towyn and was a Journeyman joiner. His wife, Margaret Ellen had been born in Maenan in 1877. In 1911 they were living at 2 Clwt Cottages with two boarders, also journeymen joiners, both 23 years old and from Derby. Records from Bodnant show that Owen was engaged in building work at Bodnant.

By the outbreak of war, Owen and Margaret had moved to Pen y Graig. Owen enlisted in Conwy. In August 1917 he signed his army will as a sapper with the Royal Anglesey RE, but the Commonwealth War graves record him being with the Yorks and Lancs. This Regiment raised 22 battalions during the First War and gained 4 Victoria crosses. Out of 57,000 men who fought on the front line, 48,650 became casualties (8,814 killed and the remainder seriously injured).

Owen was killed in action in Belgium and is buried in Bard Cottage Cemetery ref V. B. 29. He is remembered on the Eglwysbach memorial and in Ebenezer Chapel.

Pte Davies, Carreg y Ddima

A tailor and uniformed member of Eglwysbach British Legion

Pte Wallin F Davies, Pantymarch

RWF

19th February 1882 – 13th March 1966

Walter, fifth and youngest son of David and Elizabeth Davies of Pant y March, Eglwysbach, was born in 1882. In addition to his four brothers, he also had four sisters.

In 1871 David was the innkeeper at The Sun but ten years later he had moved up to Pant y March and farmed there for the rest of his life.

Walter is a good illustration of the problems researchers can face. I got his name from a blurred photo of the Roll of Honour and assumed his name was William. When I couldn't trace him I looked more closely and found his name was Wallin. Both Census forms and Military rolls had the name Wallin and even a Wallin F but none had any connection with Eglwysbach. Then I did what I should have done in the first place and looked at the earliest Census that could have included Wallin—the one for 1891. There he was, neither William nor Wallin but Walter. (On a later census form his sister Elizabeth was registered as Lillie K.)

And that is the only certain reference to him I can find anywhere, apart from a possible record of his death on 13th March, 1966 aged 84.

Pte William Medwyn Davies, Police Station

Gunner Stanley Douglas Deacon, Tal y Cafn

Royal Marine Artillery, 9576

2nd August 1882- 1st November 1914

Stanley Deacon was born in Heaton Chapel in Lancashire in 1882 to Rose Emma (née Gardner) and Stanley Wagstaff Deacon, an iron foundry clerk, originally from Manchester. He had younger brothers, Laurence, Leslie and George and a sister Dorothy Rose. In 1895, the family were living in Lyon in Kansas, but had returned to Heaton Norris by 1901. Stanley originally joined the Royal Marine Artillery as a young man and had completed his contracted time some years before the War. Returning to civilian life, he had been employed at the Westinghouse Works in Stockport and, more recently, by the Post Office at Tallycafn.



Douglas was still a Marine reservist and, with war imminent, he was recalled to the colours. HMS Good Hope was an elderly armoured cruiser which had been transferred to the Reserve Fleet in 1913 with a crew hurriedly put together of cadets and reservists like Douglas. She sailed from Portsmouth on 2 August, two days before the official declaration of War and was attached to a cruiser squadron patrolling the South Atlantic around the Falkland Islands.

A German cruiser squadron was also patrolling the area off the Chilean coast. The commander of the British squadron, Admiral Cradock, had hoped for reinforcements before trying to engage the enemy, but on 31 October, a radio signal was

intercepted which gave the approximate location of one of the German ships. Cradock ordered his whole squadron north in an attempt to cut it off and destroy it. Instead, he found himself confronting the entire German squadron under the command of Admiral Graf Maximilian von Spee.

The German ships had the greater range and the third salvo fired by the Scharnhorst crippled the Good Hope. Further salvos were fired and Good Hope sank with the loss of all 900 hands. HMS Monmouth was sunk a few minutes later. Although the other two British ships managed to escape, the Battle of Coronel was Britain's first naval defeat since 1810.

Stanley's body was lost at sea. He had never married and left his effects of £95 to his father. He is also remembered in Caerhun and Stockport as well as on panel 5 of the Portsmouth Naval Memorial.



HMS Good Hope

Thanks to Colin Gurney, a relation of Stanley Deacon and Ken Williams for the photograph of Stanley.

Jim Eversfield, Clwt Cottages

Member of the Eglwysbach British Legion and a gardener.

Gunner Robert Griffiths (Bob), Stable Lodge

109th Siege Battalion RGA, 141210

1882 -

Robert (Bob) Griffiths was very well known in the village, working for almost all his life as Coachman and Chauffeur for the Aberconway family.

By 1911 he was working as coachman at Bodnant and living in Stable Lodge with his younger sister, Lizzie, acting as his housekeeper. On 1st March, 1913 he married Elizabeth Mary Davies of Holywell. His son was born on 22nd January, 1914 and named Robert after his father and Charles after the first Lord Aberconway. Almost three years later Robert and Elizabeth had a daughter, also named Elizabeth.

Six months before Elizabeth's birth, on 24th June 1916, Robert was "deemed to have enlisted" in the Army but was not called up until February, 1917. He became a Gunner with 108th Siege Battery. From a newspaper item we know he was home on leave in June 1917, probably before going to France. Unfortunately, his army papers are largely unreadable.

After the war he returned to Bodnant as the chauffeur, serving both Henry, 2nd Lord Aberconway and Charles, 3rd Lord Aberconway. According to family memory Bob's transition from coachman to chauffeur didn't go entirely smoothly. After years of gently pulling on the reins to guide his horses Bob suffered several mishaps before turning a steering wheel came naturally to him.

Later his son, Bobbie, another well-remembered figure in the village, followed him as Bodnant chauffeur.

Pte Richard Griffiths, Penloyn

10th RWF

Pte Jessie Thomas Harris, Clwt Cottages

9/12th RWF, 41014

1885 –September 1966

Private Harris, took a lot of finding, mainly because he is listed on the Roll of Honour as J Thomas Harris. He didn't appear on either the 1901 or 1911 Census and for once it was the Military Records that provided most of the useful information.

Jesse Harris was born in Christchurch, Hants in 1885 but then disappeared from the records until 1911, by which time he was working for Sir Eric Hambro, the banker and MP at Hayes Place, Bromley in Kent as an assistant gardener. (Hayes Place was the home of Pitt, the Elder, who died there, and the birthplace of his son, Pitt the Younger.)

Sometime before August 1914 he moved to Eglwysbach to work in Bodnant Gardens. In May, 1915 he went back to Kent to marry Charlotte Daisy Fitt, a Norfolk girl who was working as a housemaid in Bromley. They set up home in Clwt Cottages.

Jesse was called up on 30th June, 1916 and registered at the RWF offices in Kinmel Park. He was found fit for service although his records reveal he had "a varicose vein behind his right leg near the suspender." He was posted to France on 30th May, 1917 but the military documents are too faint to read. From a letter written by Lord Aberconway we learned that he was a Prisoner of War who returned to his job in the Gardens in 1919. He died in Witney, Oxfordshire in 1966.

The Hughes Brothers

Pte Hugh Hughes, Conway Cottage

21st Welsh Regiment, RWF

1894 – sometime between 1921 and 1923

Hugh Hughes was one of twelve children of William Hughes, a stationary engine driver on the Bodnant Estate, and Margaret, who had been born in Eglwysbach. Hugh was just 17 in 1911 and working as a general farm hand.

Hugh was the youngest of the five brothers from the family to enlist, and sadly the only one not to return home. The Roll of Honour in Church shows that Hugh joined the 21st Welsh regiment of the RWF, but at the time the Roll was inscribed, he was still alive. As explained in the introduction, he must have died between 1921 and 1923, as he does not appear on the CWWG records or RWF Roll of Honour.

Another Hugh Hughes with a mother also called Margaret served in the RWF and is commemorated on the Holyhead memorial. Yet another Hugh Hughes born about 1894 died in the Conwy district in March 1919, but the Registrar tells me this is not the same man.

The 21st reserve battalion, of which Hugh formed a part, was formed in July 1915 from the Colwyn Bay depot companies of the 14th, 15th, and 16th Battalions as a local reserve battalion. In September 1915 it moved to Kimmel bay as part of the 13th reserve battalion and in October 1916 became the 61st training reserve battalion. We believe Hugh served in Gallipoli.

Sapper David Hughes, Conway Cottage

118th Railway Engineers

Pte Robert Hughes, Toppan

3/6 RWF

Pte William John Hughes, Llyn Siberi

Pte John Hughes (Jack), Llandudno

Although Hugh, the youngest of the five Hughes boys, died in the war, his older brothers (above) all returned safely.

By 1911 William and Margaret had been married for 35 years. William, born in 1882, had been a gardener before the war; afterwards he became a gamekeeper in Caerhun. Robert (Bob) was a carter on the Bodnant Estate and, aged 28 in 1911, was still living at home in Conway Cottage. He had a beautiful voice – it was said in the family that he could charm the birds off the trees – and he became a well-known singer locally after the war.

It must have been an incredibly crowded household. Also living at home in 1911 were, Maggie 20, a general servant, and Dora 14, still not employed. They also had a widowed son in law, Alfred Edward Evans, a postman, and his daughter, Maggie Alice aged 3, living with them.

David, the third brother, followed his father and became a railway engineer, serving with the 118th Railway Coy, throughout the war. He had been a Territorial in the RWF and enlisted in London in December 1915 as a platesman in the Royal Engineers. He went to France in February 1916. His

military records are too faint to read although it looks as though he was confined to barracks on a couple of occasions for drunkenness! However, according to an item in the North Wales Chronicle for 22 June 1917 he more than redeemed himself, winning Premier Honours in a rifle shooting competition in France. After the war he moved to Holyhead to work on the railway with his widowed mother.

John, known as Jack, had lived with other relatives as a child which is probably why his name is omitted from the Eglwysbach Roll of Honour. After the war he returned to live in Llandudno where he became a pillar of Holy Trinity church. He acted as an usher there for many years, finally becoming the verger.

Thanks to Margaret Walker, Great niece of the Hughes brothers

Pte Edward Hughes, Underhill

10th RWF

Pte Robert Hughes, Conway Cottage

8th RWF

Gunner Elias Jackson, Llan Farm

31st DAC RFA

Staff Sergt David John Jones, Ty Gwyn

Wheeler/ Staff Sergeant RASC

T4/069936

1893 – 29th July 1917 age 24

David John Jones was born at Old Bodnod and was the eldest son of Edward and Mary Annie Jones, who later farmed Ty Gwyn. He had two younger sisters, Edith and Margaret Lily and a younger brother, Arthur (the father of Esli Jones). David attended Eglwysbach Primary school until he was 14 and was then apprenticed to a farm carpenter, completing his training at the age of 19. He became a self employed "Carpenter wheelwright", walking from farm to farm to repair and maintain gates, buildings and, in particular, cart wheels.



Before he left the village, David became engaged to Miss Rees from Criccieth (Aunty Rees to members of the family). After David's death, his fiancée never married and wore her ring throughout her life.

David joined up in 1915 as a wheelwright, was posted to the Royal Army Service Corps and quickly promoted to Staff



Sergeant, His job was to lead convoys of horse drawn wagons carrying ammunition and supplies to the front line.

On the 29th July 1917, the lead wagon he was driving, which was loaded with ammunition, was hit by an enemy shell. The explosion was so severe that David and his accompanying soldier were listed as missing, but later declared "killed in action". He is buried in Poperinge "Gwalia" cemetery 1E, 27. He is also remembered at the church gates and on the memorial plaque in Bryn Ebeneser.

Thanks to Alun Hughes, Deganwy, his great nephew

Sapper David Jones, Llys Helen

120 Coy RE 275208,
WR272550

3rd October 1892 – 3rd
November 1955

David Jones was born in Nant y Felin, Maenan and was one of six children of Robert Jones Elizabeth.



In November 1915 he married Catherine Mary "Kate" Morris, the sister of Dafydd and Bob Morris. The wedding took place in Ebeneser Chapel, Eglwysbach, and Frank Burgess was the best man.

David joined the Royal Engineers and left England in 1917, where he helped to build the railway network which supported the war effort in France.

On his return home, David and Kate left their home in Tal y Cafn Terrace for Bron Haul, which they renamed Llys Helen. They had one son, before Kate died at the age of 48. David married Miriam Louisa Evans in 1943.

The family memory of David Jones is of a man who worked as a Railway Porter and Signaller at Tal y Cafn station, whilst running his smallholding at Llys Helen, where he kept a cow, pony, sheep and a rather unruly billy goat! He was rather unpopular with the children from Eglwysbach who used the train to reach Llanrwst Grammar School during World War II, as he had a habit of leaving the train standing on the signal while he opened the level crossing gates. One of the disgruntled children subsequently became his daughter-in-law.

From an obituary we know that he served with the L & NW Railway Company, before it became part of British Railways. He was a preceptor at Ebeneser Chapel and a trustee of the local branch of the Oddfellows Society. He was a strong supporter of the Labour party, holding meetings at his home, and a union man with the National Union of Railwaymen. He is buried in the churchyard of St Martins Church, Eglwysbach with both his wives.

Thanks to Lorna Jones, David's Granddaughter

Pte William Jones, Lletty

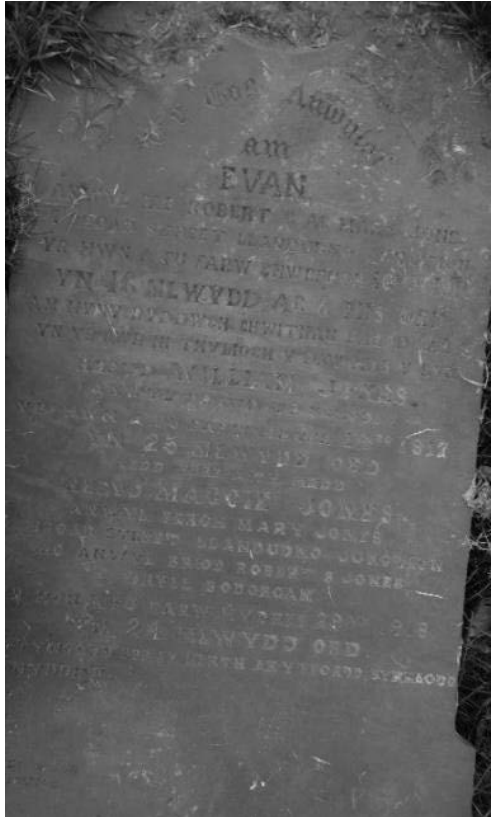
Loyal North Lancs, 17th Lancers 24987

4/5th (Territorial) 28911

1891 – 14th January
1918, aged 27 (CWWG
details)

His grave in St. Martin's
gives his date of death as
14th January 1917 and
age as 25

William was the son of
Mary and Robert Jones,
who in 1901 were
farming at Lletty in
Eglwysbach. William was
the third of five children.
His eldest brother John
was born in 1890,
followed by Robert Edwin,
then "Willie", Maggie and
Evan. All the children
were born in Eglwysbach.
I have been unable to
find William on the 1911
census. He may have been either a servant of Isaac Wynne,
Pentre Felin, Llandyrnog, or a joiner in Abergele.



William enlisted in Conwy, initially in the 17th Lancers, before
joining the Loyal North Lancs. He is remembered on the grave
of his brother Evan in St Martin's cemetery (which is an official
26

war grave, although it is not in the standard design because it was maintained by the family). Evan died in 1916 when he was 16. William's age is given as 25. The grave also records the death of their sister Maggie, the wife of Robert S. Jones of Dryll, Bodorgan in 1918 at the age of 24.

The Conwy Registrar has been unable to trace a death certificate for William, but he was possibly a victim of Spanish flu, which killed between 10 % and 20% of those infected. The address on the gravestone is 7, Broad Street, Llandudno Junction.

Pte Ernest Howell Jones, Graig Terrace

2/3rd RWF, 37908

1892 – 21st August 1916, age 24

Ernest was born in Eglwysbach in 1892, where his parents lived at Mill Cottages, Furnace, although in 1911 they were living in Grove Park, Colwyn Bay. By 1911 Ernest's father, Owen, a knitter born in Llangerniew (sic), had been married to Mary, from Eglwysbach, for 27 years. Owen had died by 1901 as Mary is shown as head of the family on the census. The children on the 1901 census are Hellena, Hugh A., Ernest H., Seth, Catherine and Robert. Mary's mother was also living with the family at that time. Aged 73, she was described as an "outdoor pauper" who had also been born in Eglwysbach. In 1911, Thomas Owen, the eldest child who became a carter, was living back with the family, but Hellena had moved away and there was no trace at all of Ada, the sister to whom Ernest left his belongings when he wrote his battle field will. Ernest was a general labourer in 1911, but by the time he was called up in 1915, was working as a promenade inspector for the Council.

Ernest did not answer the initial call up. There is a memorandum in his records, dated 8th Feb 1916 giving him written notice. However, when he enlisted in November 1915, he was classed as "B", possibly on account of his dentures. Although his physical development was described as "good", he was only 5ft 3 inches tall and just over 8 stones in weight. He had been vaccinated in infancy. He joined the 3rd Battalion on 13th February and was killed in action on 19th July 1916. Ernest is remembered on the Thiepval Memorial, listed on Pier and face 4A under the 2nd Battalion.



The Thiepval Memorial

Pte Seth A Jones, Graig Terrace

RWF 3085/53927

Ernest's younger brother, Seth Alfred, despite his distinctive name, has been hard to trace. He served with Royal Welsh Fusiliers throughout the war but the single military record is his medal card, which gives only his service numbers.

He married towards the end of 1919.

Although there is so little information about Seth there are a few details known about his other brothers. Thomas continued to work as a carter and Huw Alun became an insurance agent.



**Arthur Jones,
Eglwysbach
Post Office**

A Gardener and
Member of
Eglwysbach British
Legion

**Pte Ed Pierce
Jones, Tyddyn
Llan Terrace**

RWF

**Sgt John
Edward Jones,
Toll House**

13th RWF.

Lieut J.E. Jones, Tal y Cafn, read the Roll Call at the unveiling of the Memorial at St. Martin's Church on 5th April 1923.

John Jones, Pentre

Council worker and member of Eglwysbach British Legion

Hugh Jones, North Lodge

A Gardener and member of Eglwysbach British Legion

Jack Jones, Pen y Graig

Eglwysbach British Legion Member

Pte Robert E Jones, Pen y Graig

4th RWF

A Gardener and member of Eglwysbach British Legion

Pte Robert I Jones, Tanyrywen

3/6th RWF

Bob Jones, BryndiaonynA member of Eglwysbach British Legion, possibly the same man as Robert I. Jones, above.



Pte William T. Jones, Conwy Cottage

19th RWF, 37787

RASC, LR T/4/233722

1898 – 16th April 1918, age
20

William was the son of Isaac and Elizabeth Jones of River Cottage, Tal y Cafn.

Unfortunately, Isaac and Elizabeth are difficult to find on the census returns. In

1911 it is possible that Isaac was at Canolyllan, Eglwysbach, recorded as a widowed former butcher living with his daughter, Lizzie and son Hugh, a postman. However, William was not there with them.



We do know that William initially joined the Army Service Corps before being transferred to the King's Liverpool Regiment. He died during the Arras offensive in April 1918 and is remembered on Panel 3 of the Arras memorial, the memorial on the Church gates and the memorial stone in Capel Ebeneser.

Hugh Jones, Conwy Cottage

The brother of William T. Jones, above, a Postman and member of Eglwysbach British Legion

Sam Jones, Tal y Cafn

LMS Railway Porter and member of Eglwysbach British Legion. This man must have worked with Sapper David Jones, who was also an LMS porter at Tal y Cafn.

Lance Cpl Thomas Jones, Ty Capel

B Squadron Welsh Horse

Corporal T. Jones-Roberts, Late of Penllyn

London Welsh RWF

Jones, The Bont, Tal y Cafn

Member of Eglwysbach British Legion

Griffith Lloyd Jones, Ty Nant

Gardener and Member of Eglwysbach British Legion



Embroidered card sent home from the Front

Lieut Robert G Lloyd, London House

22nd RWF

13th March 1893—1977

Robert Griffiths Lloyd was the youngest of the three children of John Owen Lloyd and his wife, Sarah. John Lloyd, who described himself as a Woollen Draper, ran his shop in London House, Eglwysbach, and after his death his widow continued to run the shop with the help of her daughter, Harriet Elizabeth. Her elder son, John William, worked as a tailor.

Robert was clever and musical. In 1909 the North Wales Weekly News recorded the fact that he had earned a 1st and a 2nd Stage Certificate in exams of the Tonic Solfa College.

By 1911 he was working as a Bank Clerk in Oswestry and boarding in the home of John Jones, a cashier.

He enlisted on 16th April, 1917 but most of his Army Records are missing. We don't even have a service number for him. However, although he is listed on the Roll of Honour as a Private he did in fact finish the war with the rank of Lieutenant.

In August, 1920, he was living in The Criterion, Dolgelly and working in the London Joint City and Midland Bank.

Sgt. Harry Lovatt

Sherwood Foresters, Notts and Derbys

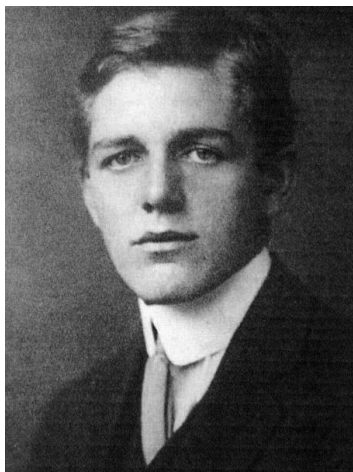
2nd Lieut The Hon Francis W.S. McLaren, MP

Royal Naval Armoured Car Squadron

Royal Flying Corps and General List

MP for Spalding 1910 - 1917

8th June 1886 - 30th August 1917



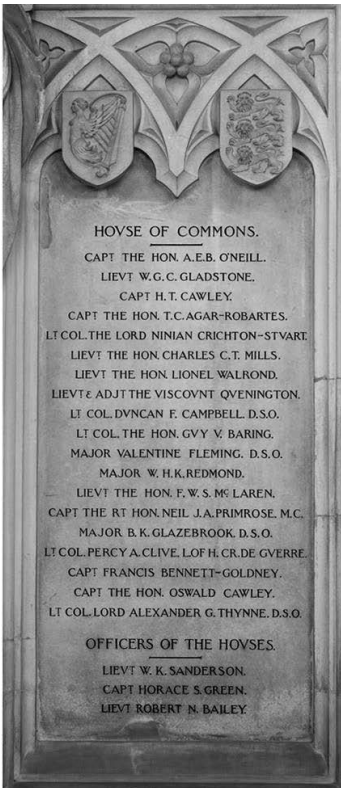
When the Honourable Francis Walter Stafford McLaren was elected Liberal MP for Spalding in Lincolnshire in 1910, he was the youngest Member of the House. He acted as a PPS to Mr Lewis Harcourt, Commissioner of Works and later Colonial Secretary, for 5 years, but volunteered for the Royal Navy in early October 1914.

He served in Belgium and Gallipoli in the Royal Navy Armoured Car Squadron, but caught dysentery and was invalided out of the service. He appealed against the decision of the Medical Board and joined the Royal Flying Corps. In August 1917 he was flying a mile out at sea off Montrose when his plane crashed and he died from internal injuries. He was the fifteenth MP to die on active service.

Francis was the second son of Sir Charles McLaren, 1st Baron Aberconway, and, after Eton, read history at Oxford. An obituary tells us that he played in the lawn tennis six and developed an early interest in politics. He spoke in the College Union and his style was described as "clear with much charm

of expression and an earnestness of conviction, which did not, however, blind him to his opponents' point of view". "He loved the country and was never happier than when on the hills round his Welsh home or walking in Alpine valleys."

Before his election to Parliament, he was a member of the Inns of Court, a Director of the Metropolitan Railway Company and a J.P. for Denbighshire. He married Barbara Jekyll in 1911 and they had two sons.



A Memorial service was held for him in St Martins' Church in September 1917 at which all the workmen from the Bodnant Estate and a large number of Parishioners were present to hear the burial service in English and Welsh, "appropriate" hymn tunes and the "Dead March".

He is buried east of the church in St. John the Baptist Churchyard in Busbridge, Surrey and is commemorated on the War Memorial in Ayscoughfee Hall in Spalding.

His name is also listed on the Memorial in St Stephen's porch, Westminster Hall, known as the Recording Angel, which lists the 22 members of the House of

Commons, 20 members of the House of Lords and 9 senior members of staff, together with 94 sons of members and officers of the House of Commons, who also lost their lives.

Pte David Morris, Bryn Goleu

9th RWF, 2027219

1893 – 14th June 1918



Known to his family as Dafydd, David was the third child of Evan Morris and his wife Mary Catherine. Dafydd was born at Clwt Cottage in 1893, and lived there until the family moved to Bryn Goleu. He had four sisters and a brother, Robert.

He was educated at the village school and then worked as a farm hand at Bryn Selar, in Glan Conwy. The family attended the Chapel in Brymbo and had success in local Eisteddfodau.

David joined up in January 1917, and travelled to France in July to join the 15th Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers. In September 1917 he was back in Britain with acute gastroenteritis and stayed in hospital until January 1918. He returned to France to join the 9th Battalion in March 1918. The family story was that Dafydd had been "blown to bits" and that this had been witnessed by a family member, which may have been his brother Bob or brother in law, David Jones who served with the Royal Engineers. In the confusion of war, his death was accepted as between 28/5/1918 and 14/6/1918.

He is commemorated on the Soissons memorial and in both Glan Conwy and Eglwysbach

Dafydd in hospital uniform.



The Soissons Memorial

Pte Robert J C Morris (Bob)

Yorks and Lancs, RWF and RE

1897 - 1951

Robert John Cadwaladr Morris was born at 2 Clwt Cottage in 1897 and was the youngest brother of David "Dafydd" Morris. He worked as a blacksmith in Graig—just around the corner from the family home at Bryn Golau.

Only his medal record card survives, which shows that he served in three different regiments.

Family memory recalls that he was gassed and spent time recuperating in Northern England after the war. The Form 5080 relating to the surviving relatives of the late David Morris gives his April 1920 address as Bryn Golau, but he may not have been home at this point. By 1922 he was living in Morecombe, Lancashire and once again working as a blacksmith. The date of his return to Eglwysbach is unknown—probably in the late 1920s or early 1930s.

Bob went on to serve in the Eglwysbach Home Guard during WW2. Later on Bob lived with his father, Evan, and his sister, Maggie, in the Institute. He died at 54 and is buried with his parents and sister in the Baptist chapel in Fforddlas, Glan Conwy.

Many thanks to Lorna Jones, great niece of David and Bob and to Ken Williams for the hospital photo of Dafydd.



Pte David Morris, Dyffryn

1st RWF, 39817/39827

1890 - August 1916, aged 26

David Morris, Dyffryn has been especially difficult to track down, as he was not at Dyffryn farm in 1911. According to the CWWG records, five Privates from the RWF named David Morris died in WWI. One of these was David Morris, Bryn Goleu. There was David from Welshpool, David John from Nantlle, near Caernarfon, David Isaac a butcher's son from Llanrwst and David Isaac, a farm hand from Capel Garmon.

The Bangor Memorial Arch lists 8,500 men from North Wales who died during WWI. As each man appears only once there should be four D. Morrises from this area. There is a one under Capel Garmon and another under Llanrwst. The list for Eglwysbach has two. We know that one of these is David Morris, Bryn Goleu. However, David John Morris is not listed under Nantlle, Pen y Groes or Caernafon, so it looks as if David John Morris might be the second David Morris in the Eglwysbach list of names.

David John from Nantlle was the son of a quarryman working in Nantlle in 1911 as a stone dresser. It is possible that when he enlisted in Liverpool, he may have been dressing stone in Bodnant for the terraces. He is mentioned in a newspaper article when he left the village as "David Morris, Dyffryn", but we could not find his name on the Bodnant estate records to confirm this theory. At the time of his death, his widowed mother Jane was living at 9, Kinmel Terrace, Pen y Groes. David is commemorated on the Thiepval memorial, having no known grave.

2nd Lieut Tom Edgar Norton, Penrhiwadr

East Surrey Regiment, 1st Battalion

1883 -20th April 1915, age 31

Tom Edgar Grantley Norton was born into the family of a wealthy Brazilian merchant and christened in Kensington in 1883, where the family had a residence in Hanover Square. His father, Robert, was originally from Diss in Norfolk. Robert's wife, Edith, was one of the Holland family which explains the Welsh connection. Tom was their fourth child.

Tom was educated at Uppingham School and Magdalen College, Oxford, intending to read for the Bar and joined the Inns of Court Officer Training Corps. However, he was an artistic man and eventually trained to become an architect. He also had a literary bent and wrote occasional articles for the press. When the 1911 census was taken, he was at a house party with his brother and Henry's mother-in-law, Ada Bellew, in Somerset. His occupation then is listed as "architect, retired": he was 28. His memoir, written by his sister after his death, refers to "many tours on the continent" and the census returns of a home with a cook, ladies' maid, two domestic servants, kitchen maid, butler and footman suggest a life of privilege.

Tom was described in an obituary in the Oxford magazine as having "good all round abilities and in particular much literary and artistic capacity". "Gifted and amiable, he showed promise of a life of honourable usefulness and perhaps distinction, now, alas! Not to be realised".



Tom Norton

Tom joined up soon after the outbreak of war as 2nd Lieutenant in the 4th Battalion of the East Surreys who left for France on January 26th 1915, reaching Ypres in early April. Tom wrote, "Alas. What a wreck it has become! I took a stroll round last evening and the poor Cloth Hall is completely gutted and most of the central tower gone, though not by any means all. The pinnacles at the corners are still intact, and a good deal of the battlements and the whole of the facade is intact, but still how sad! The interior is full of troops and horses, as indeed is every building here, and the sight reminds me somewhat of what it must have been like in England during Cromwell's time....The Cathedral is a wreck though part is still standing".

Writing again from Ypres, "It is pitiable to see this poor country! Houses completely gutted, and no glass in any windows, as this always goes first, so you may imagine that it is not too warm, as the wind is cold here." "It is a curious thing to think that the noise of battle never ceases, noon and night, but it is absolutely continuous...Luckily these people seem to have inherited a sort of insouciance to war, and they carry on their farming and ploughing in the vicinity of the shelling with equanimity. I hope I shall come back. There is so much to see and to do yet, and I know how all this is going to end."

In April 1915, Tom's battalion took part in the notorious battle for hill 60. During the night the sappers had dug trenches under heavy fire and a number of mines had exploded, pushing the Germans back from the crest of the ridge. Tom was in a party sent forward to within 30 yards of the German guns. One of the other officers wrote, "This was rather a nasty spot, as grenades were pouring over and the ground was almost covered with our poor fellows, but every now and then

an officer would appear through the gap with a few more men. Each party was welcome and I cannot tell you my delight when I saw dear old Tom Norton come running through with his usual cheery smile on his face. He looked the happiest man there and I made a point of shouting to him, as he was a great friend of mine, and we cheered each other on”.



Another friend wrote, “Tom would bob up and fire over the edge of the crater with his revolver, and when his ammunition was all gone he took a rifle. This was very dangerous, for it was impossible to

even put a finger over the edge. In this way he was eventually shot in the head and fell quite dead. I actually saw him fall. He acted with the most extraordinary gallantry, and by firing over the edge showed a splendid example”.

“Tom Norton, or Captain Kettle, as we often called him, was liked by officers and men of all rank and was never seen without a cheerful smile under the very worst conditions.”

During this action, the Battalion gained three VCs, two Military Crosses and seven Distinguished Conduct Medals. 15 of their 21 officers were killed, including their commanding officer, Major WH Patterson. Tom is buried in the Oostaverne Wood cemetery VI G 27. In his will he left £26,665 13s 11d to his father, Robert Norton.

Lieut F H Norton

Northumberland Hussars, 12th Lancers, 23rd Northumberland Fusiliers

Lieut Colonel H E Norton

South Irish Horse, Royal Irish Regiment, Tank Corps

Lieut R H Norton

3rd Coy, Coldstream Guards

Apart from Tom Edgar Norton, who was killed in the war, three other Nortons fought in various different regiments and all came safely home.

There were two older brothers, Harry Egerton Norton and Robert Holland Norton who were both born in Brazil and a much younger brother, Frederick Herbert Norton.

Harry became a professional soldier after Rugby School and Trinity College, Cambridge. He served in the Imperial Yeomenry, was a 2nd Lieutenant in the Manchester Regiment and retired from the 15th Hussars with the rank of Captain in 1911. He married in January, 1909 in Holy Trinity, Chelsea to a lady rejoicing in the name of Mary Froude Llewellyn Bellew and together they had three daughters, Dorothy, Alice and Ruth. At the time of the 1911 Census he was living with his wife in Somerset at the home of his mother-in-law, Ada Bellew and her son, Froude Dillon Bellew, a Lieut. in 13th Light Infantry. There were also two visitors. Lambton Rutemer, a Capt. in the Light Infantry and Harry's younger brother, Tom. Interestingly, from the point of view of the Welsh connection, Lambton Rutemer is listed as coming from Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd.

In 1915 Harry and his family was living in Schnectedy, New York but he came back to rejoin the Army, serving as a Major with the S. Irish Horse, and as a Lt-Colonel with the Royal Irish Regiment and the Tank Corps. He was wounded at some point but I could find out nothing else about his Army Service.

After the war he continued to travel – to Rio de Janeiro in 1934 at the age of 58, and still with his daughters in tow—and in 1948, aged 71, he returned from a cruise which had again included Brazil. He was living in Minehead, Somerset when he died in 1950, leaving £63,672.

Harry's immediately younger brother, Robert Holland, was born in 1878 and became a barrister. He, too, travelled and in 1909 was living in New York. In 1910 he married Mabel Violet Megaw, whose father was a Brazilian banker. By the time of the 1911 Census they were living at 34 Campden House Court, Kensington, with a six month old daughter, Margaret and a nanny, Helen Parker from Denbighshire. He enlisted in 1917, becoming a Lieut. in 3rd Coy, Coldstream Guards and went to France but we have no further information about his military career.

In 1920 he was apparently living in Kensington Palace Gardens, his mother's home, together with his brothers Harry and Frederick. He died in Eastbourne, Sussex on 4th August, 1965, aged 87 years.

The youngest brother was Frederick Herbert, born ten years after Robert, on 2nd April, 1888, by which time his parents were living in Norbiton, Surrey. In 1901 he was at Lockers Park Preparatory School in Hemel Hempstead but as he too became a professional soldier I presume he was abroad at the time of the 1911 Census. Like his brothers', his military records are sparse. He was a Lieutenant serving in the

Northumberland Hussars, the 12th Lancers and 23rd Northumberland fusiliers.

After the war he became a farmer in Somerset and married a local girl, Elaine Joan Wood in 1921. Like the rest of the family he loved to travel. In 1928 he and his wife with their two daughters, Pamela Rosalie and Nora Astra Claire, took a cruise to Indonesia via Algiers. He died in Taunton, Somerset in March 1968, aged 79 years.

Many thanks to Anne Pedley for her generous information on the Norton family and sharing her extensive knowledge of the RWF

Pte John Robert Owen, Tal y Cafn Terrace

3/6th RWF

Younger brother of Thomas Oliver Owen, John Robert survived the war but we found no military records that could be linked to him with any certainty.

He appears on the photograph of the dedication of the War Memorial as a member of the Eglwysbach British Legion, but his name is given as Robert John, rather than John Robert.



Embroidered postcard

Pte Thomas Oliver Owen,
Tal y Cafn Terrace

10th RWF, 37787

1894 – 28th February April 1917



In 1911, Thomas was living at 2 Tal y Cafn Terrace with his mother, Alice, father John, a Journeyman joiner, brother John, a telegraph messenger and a boarder, Edwin Price, a railway porter from Holywell. His older brothers, William and David, and sister Mary, had all left home. At the age of 17, Thomas was working as a nursery garden apprentice.

Thomas was called up for service in December 1915 when he was 21 and had finished his apprenticeship. He was a slight young man, just under 5ft 4 inches and 8 ½ stones. He joined the reserve in February 1916 and left Southampton with the 2nd Battalion on 6th July 1916 for Rouen. On 22nd July he suffered superficial gunshot wounds to the head, back and face. He was invalided back to England on 25th August 1916 and was in hospital until 18th November 1916. On 20th January 1917 he was sent back to the 10th Battalion and killed in action after just a month. His father died soon afterwards and his medals were sent to his mother.

Like so many who died on the Somme, Thomas has no known grave and is remembered on Bay 6 of the Arras Memorial alongside Thomas John Roberts, also from Eglwysbach, who survived a few weeks longer. Thomas's name is also on the memorial in Capel Ebeneser.

Pte Harry Edwards Parry, Bryn Bloco

3rd/4th RWF, 8494

3rd April 1895 -

Harry Edward Parry was born at Bryn Bloco, Eglwysbach. Christened in St Martin's church, he was an active church member all his life, was churchwarden for many years and now lies buried in the churchyard.



His father, Thomas, was Head Gamekeeper on the Bodnant Estate and on leaving school he joined his elder brother, Tom, as an assistant gamekeeper although on his enlistment papers he is described as a 'rabbit catcher.'

He was a lively, energetic boy with a beautiful voice. In the days before TV and radio, Harry's name appeared regularly in the local papers in reports of concerts, singing solos, duets and in small choral groups or accompanying bands. In March, 1909 he took part in a benefit concert in the school. Bob Griffiths, who was coachman at Bodnant, "played selections from his gramophone" at the same concert, though I think it must have been the novelty of the machine rather than the quality of the sound which made it noteworthy.

He enlisted in the Royal Welsh Fusiliers on 25th November, 1915 and went on to fight throughout the Western Front. In one of these battles he was wounded in his back and right shoulder by shrapnel. After emergency treatment in a field

hospital in Rouen he came back to a Military hospital in Huddersfield for a while. At the end of the war doctors considered him to be 2%-5% disabled but that did not prevent him leading an active, outdoor life for another fifty years.

Pte Thomas William Parry (Tom), Bryn Bloco

3rd/4th RWF, 66036

7th January 1894 -



Thomas Parry was born in Bryn Bloco, Eglwysbach, the eldest son and second child of Thomas and Annie Parry and older brother of Harry.

He enlisted on 16th November, 1915 and his service with the Royal Welsh Fusiliers took him to France. He enlisted on 16th November, 1915 and his service with the Royal Welsh Fusiliers took him to France.

While camped in a wood in France Tom, a true country lad, made himself a comfortable shelter and had just settled down to sleep when his younger brother, Harry, appeared. Harry's unit was camped in the area and realising he must be near his brother, Harry got permission to try and find him.

He returned to the village after the war and continued to work as a Gamekeeper throughout his life.

Many thanks to Ronald Parry, Great Nephew of Harry and Thomas, for the information, anecdote and photographs

Cpl Eric Lawrence Preen

16th/19th RWF (Bantams) 28733

October 1896 - 1922

Eric was born in Atcham, Shropshire to Alfred George Preen, an Insurance Agent, and his wife, Alice. Four years later, when Eric's brother, Harold Victor was born, the family were living at 18 Hopton Hill, Great Ness.

By 1911 the Preens were living in Gwyndy, Tal-y-Cafn and Eric, aged 14 was working at Bodnant, while Horace was still at school. Doris Rosalie was born in the village. Alice had plenty to cope with because as well as hosting a boarder, rejoicing in the name of Faithful George Fielding, she was also coping with both her mother, Elizabeth Everall and mother-in-law, Elizabeth Preen, who died in 1913 aged 88.

Alfred, Eric's father, was very active locally, mainly as a keen member of the Glan Conwy bowls club. They met regularly at the Conway Vale, where there was a bowling green which hosted clubs from as far away as Rhyl and Prestatyn, the matches usually followed by a knife and fork tea in the hotel. He took a keen interest in village affairs, but failed to be elected on to the Board of Guardians. He was a bee keeper, winning prizes with his honey, and it was his success with his vegetables in the local shows, particularly with his French beans and beetroots, that perhaps inspired Eric to become a gardener.

Eric's army career has been hard to trace. By the end of the war he was a Corporal. Although he survived the War he didn't live long afterwards, dying in Savona, in Northern Italy in 1922.

Pte H Pemble

3rd Buffs

Pte W C Price

3/4th Northampton

Driver Arthur Roberts, Elwy Cottage

5th RGA

A member of Eglwysbach British Legion. The Memorial unveiling photograph gives his residence as Ty'n y Cae



Pte Elias D Roberts, Tyddyn Llan Terrace

Driver Hugh Roberts, Penisarwaen

10th RWF

This may be the same person as David Roberts, Penisarwaen on the list of the Eglwysbach British Legion.

J. Lewis Roberts, Tal y Cafn

Postmaster at Tal y Cafn and a member of the Eglwysbach British Legion.

John Roberts, Pandy

Member of Eglwysbach British Legion

**Pte Thomas J. Roberts,
Berllan Bach**

10th RWF, 39154

1891 – 11th April 1917, age 26



When Thomas Roberts volunteered in March 1916 in Wrexham, he requested to join the 21st RWF, but instead was sent to the 10th Battalion in Wrexham. He was posted to the field on 20th January 1917, and served just 3 months before he was killed at the first battle of Scarpe in April 1917.

Thomas is described in his papers as a farm labourer from Berllan Bach, Eglwysbach. He was not a large man; at 5ft 4 inches, he weighed 130lbs. The 1911 census return for Berllan Bach show John Roberts, a general labourer on the roads and his wife of 15 years, Annie. Thomas was not there on census night and I have been unable to discover where he was. He had three half sisters, Mary Anne born 1896, who went to live in Bryn Derw in the Junction, and Myfanwy and Rowena, who were much younger. The 1911 census shows Catherine born 1901 but she does not appear on Thomas' service record and may have predeceased him. Thomas also had two half-brothers William and Hugh.

Thomas is remembered on Bay 6 of the Arras memorial and on the memorials in Bryn Ebeneser and St Martin's church.

Pte John Routley, Llyn Siberi

RGA, 92982

1886 –8th August 1917, age 30

Edmund John Sellick Routley was working as a Gamekeeper at Bodnant when he was called up in June 1916. He married Annie Williams in June 1912 whilst living at Tretower, near Crickhowell, but they had no children.

A newspaper report tells us that, whilst working at Bodnant, he caught a poacher at Meddiant Isa. The poacher had been staying at the Tal y Cafn hotel and had been given a lift by Frank Burgess, who also appears in this book.

John's father had already died when he enlisted and his mother, Florence, had remarried and was living in Teddington with Alice and Phyllis Davis, his half sisters.

John was 5ft 6" with a girth of 43" and at his medical examination, the doctor noted the scars of severe burns over his buttocks and down both legs. John was posted to the reserve and was not mobilised until 30th May 1916, when he was sent to Portsmouth to join the 321st Siege battery of the Royal Garrison Artillery as a gunner. He went to France on 5th July 1917 and died in action just over a month later.

After a battlefield burial, his body was exhumed and re buried in the cemetery at Voormezeele, enclosure number 3.

His widow, Anne, moved down to 9, Woodfield Buildings in Porth, Glamorgan, perhaps to be nearer to her own family. She was awarded a widow's pension of 13s 9d a week from February 1918.

Cpl T. Jones Roberts, (late of) Penlloyn

London Welsh Regiment

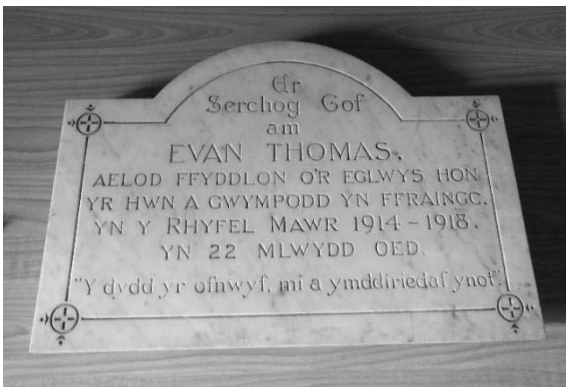
Pte Evan Thomas, Bryndiaonyn

17th RWF, 203587

1897 – 27th October 1918,
age 22



Evan was the son of Evan and Catherine Jane Thomas, but he was cared for by his grandparents, William and Mary Thomas at Bryndiaonyn cottages. In 1904, his father, born in Bontnewydd, was working as a farm bailiff and living in Ty Newydd in Eglwysbach with Catherine, born in Rowen, and five children aged between 5 and just one week old; Elizabeth (Lizzie), Mary, Catherine, Ann and baby John Thomas. Ten years later, Evan senior had moved to Penmaenmawr as a



quarryman and there were two more children, Martha and Robert Alfred, but Evan remained with William and Mary in Bryndiaonyn.



Stonemasons working on the Terraces at Bodnant

Evan's Grandfather, William, was a gardener at Bodnant Hall. Bodnant records show that Evan was also working there in 1913, earning £1 16s a week. The 1911 census shows that not only were the family in Bryndiaonyn, but also four journeymen stonemasons, lodging there whilst they were building the terrace walls.

Evan enlisted in Llanrwst and served in the 17th Battalion of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. He fell during the "Advance to victory" in Picardy and Artois, between Somme and Loos. His name is one of 9,000 carved on the Vis-en-Artois Memorial with his regiment, 17bn, panel 6. He is also remembered on a stone tablet, which was in Bryndiaonyn Chapel, but is now in Capel Bethania, as well as on the Memorial at the church gates.

Pte John R Thomas, Bodnant Garden

2nd RWF (23rd Foot), 40262

24th January 1892 -26th September 1917, age 25

John Richard Thomas was born in Bodfari. His father was John Thomas, a woodsman originally from St George and his mother was Maria, daughter of Richard Jones of Glan Conwy. At the time John was born, his father was one of several woodsmen living in Aberwheeler and he had one older sister, Mary. By the time of the next census in 1901, the family had moved to Pen y Bryn in Llanellian, where he went to school. John senior was still working as a woodsman and a further son had been born to the family. John Richard went on to become a gardener. Although in 1911 he was lodging in the Bothy at Dolwen, part of the Cae Coch estate and was employed as a "gardener domestic" he was working at Bodnant by the time he enlisted in February 1915. His parents had moved to "Groes Bach", Abergele Road in Colwyn Bay.

John travelled to France as a member of the Expeditionary Force in July 1917 and was reported missing after the fighting in Polygon Wood. His body was never identified and he is remembered on the Tyne Cot Memorial in Belgium, panel 63 to 65

Pte Reg Smith, Conway Cottage

Uniformed member of Eglwysbach British Legion and a Gardener

Pte Eric Saunderson, Bodnant Gardens

Northants Regiment, Machine Gun Corps., 19999

1892 – 22nd August 1916, age 24

Eric's biography appears with the Llansantffraid men.

William Griffith Thomas, Rhiwlas

Member of Eglwysbach British Legion.

Cpl Edward Williams

4th Co 28th Div 2nd Cheshire Regiment

Eglwysbach schoolmaster and member of the British Legion.

Pte Hugh Williams, Bron Haul

13th RWF

Driver John T Williams, Cefn Coed

Driver, RFA, HQ 282nd Brigade, 815396

1889 – 27th November 1918 age 29

John Thomas Williams was the son of Robert and Jane Williams of Cefn Coed Farm, Eglwysbach. Robert predeceased his son and Cefn Coed was farmed by Hugh Williams in 1911.

John served as a Driver with the Royal Field Artillery and was most probably wounded and died in a field hospital, as his date of death is after the end of the hostilities. He is buried in France in the Etaples Military Cemetery, L1 B 21

Pte Isaac Williams, Bont Newydd

10th RWF, 49819

1887- 21st May 1917

Isaac was born in Eglwysbach, where his parents, John and Dorothy lived at Bont Newydd. As a 14 year old, Isaac was working as a telegraph messenger in 1901, but by 1911 he was living in Friars Road in Bangor, working as an Insurance Clerk, lodging with Harry Bowen Evans, an electrical engineer from Merthyr Tydfil. Isaac's father, John was a farm carter and his elder brother, another John, was a joiner, still living at home in 1911 when there was also a 4 year old grandson staying at Bont Newydd, William Wallace Hughes, born in Prestatyn. From the family tree on Ancestry, we know that Isaac had two older sisters, Margaret and Mary, and Kate who was three years younger. William and Owen were also older brothers, in addition to John.

Isaac married Elizabeth sometime between 1911 and 1917 and had a baby daughter.

Isaac served with the 10th Battalion RWF. The Brigade was in Codford, St Mary before moving to Bournemouth in November 1914. In April they moved to Romsey and to Aldershot in June. The Battalion landed in Boulogne in September 1915. At some point Isaac was wounded. He is buried in the Calvinistic Chapel in Abergele, but it is not clear how or where he was wounded, as his records were amongst those destroyed in WW2. I have been unable to trace a death certificate for him, suggesting that he died in a military hospital elsewhere in the UK.

Thanks to Allan Dawson, a relative, for the family photograph



Isaac and Elizabeth with their daughter

Pte Peter Williams, Bodnant Lodge

10th RWF, 13553

War Memorial gives his Regiment as the 2nd CR

1891 -18th August 1916

Peter was born in Bryn Glas in Glan Conwy in 1891, the youngest of five children of Richard and Jane, both themselves born in Glan Conwy. Although Richard was working as an agricultural labourer in 1891, when Peter was born ten years later he was a domestic gardener. Peter followed in his father's footsteps to become a gardener at Bodnant.

Richard and Jane also cared for Richard's father, Robert. By 1911 they had been married for 39 years. The census then shows not only Peter, but also a garden assistant and journeyman gardener living in West Lodge.

Although the War memorial gives Peter's regiment as the 2nd CR, but I cannot find any other reference to this. His attestation papers are lost and the only regiment named on his medal record card is the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. The Commonwealth war grave citation records that he was a member of the 10th battalion and his date of death on 18th August 1918 suggests he died in Delville Wood. His body was not identified and he is one of 72,000 soldiers commemorated on the Thiepval monument, pier and face 4A, as well as being remembered at the church gates.

Bob Williams, West Lodge

Member of the Eglwysbach British Legion. Although the name on the photograph is "Bob" (Peter's Grandfather was called Robert), I wonder if this is actually Peter's father, **Richard**, rather than his Grandfather.

Gunner Thomas Williams, Clwt Farm

RGA, 85213

1889 – 14th March 1918 aged 28

Thomas was the fifth of seven children of Ellis and Jane Williams of Foel Cwm Farm in Penmachno.

The eldest child was Ellin, born in 1876, followed by Robert, William, Morgan, Thomas, Jane and lastly by John. Robert worked as a carrier on the farm where William and Morgan were labourers. When Thomas was called up in February 1916 at the age of 26, he described himself as a "cowman and shepherd".

Although the Eglwysbach Memorial gives his Regiment as the RWF, his attestation papers confirm that Thomas Williams, married to Gwen of Clwt farm, was in the RGA.

When Thomas conscripted, he was placed in the reserves, but had the call to duty in May 1916. He probably had a hard life and almost certainly looked older than his years, because the doctor examining him wrote "apparent age" as 36 years and 3 months, rather than 26. Thomas was just 5ft 7 ½" with a fairly portly girth of 36 ½". Possibly because of his varicose veins, he was classed as B1, "Fit for service abroad, but not fit for general service. In garrison or provisional units". He was initially posted to work in the 11th Mech. Workshop. However, he was re-examined by a medical officer in November 1916 and "relieved" from the workshop and re-classed as A1, fit for general service.

Thomas was back home in Wales in the Spring and married Gwen Roberts of Clwt farm on 12th May of 1917 in Llanrwst Register office, witnessed by her sister Annie and his brother Morgan. On the 19th June he was posted to the field as a

61

member of the 135th Siege battery of the Royal Garrison Artillery. He was killed in action in France on the 14th or 15th March and is buried in Roclincourt Military cemetery (V1 A. 9)

In July his wife of less than a year had returned to her his (identity) "disc, letters, photos, note book, watch, match box holder, 2 wallets, cards, book of views, purse, shaving stick, knife, ring, mirror, pair of scissors, gloves, 2 pairs of socks and a woollen scarf". She was also sent his British War and Victory medals and given a pension of 13s and 9d. She requested a copy of a death certificate through her solicitor, something that does not appear on other records. They had no children.



British War and Victory Medals

Sapper John H Williams

Royal Engineers

Driver William M Williams, Tan y Fron

89th Field Coy, RE, 53470

1887 – 3rd June 1917

William was the youngest child of Thomas and Susi Williams (also recorded as Sussy and Susannah. Thomas was a native of Eglwysbach and Susi was born in Bettws. Their children were Hugh, Sarah, David, Thomas, Anne, Mary, Maggie, Ellen, Catherine and William. They farmed Bron Haul until Susi was widowed, when she moved to Tan yr Fron Cottages with Catherine and William. In 1901 Susi was "living on her own means" whilst Catherine was a domestic and William a 14 year old gamekeeper's assistant. Susi stayed in Tan yr Fron, but William moved to Graigberthlwyd near Merthyr Tydfil and in 1911 was lodging with Jane Edwards, another widow at 7 Mill Terrace, and hewing coal alongside Jane's sons, Charles, John, William and Henry.

William enlisted in Newport into the 89th Field Company of the Royal Engineers as a driver. He died of wounds on 3rd June 1917, the time of the battle of Arras, and is buried in the cemetery at Beaurains (grave ref. E 28). In his will, signed on 12th April 1915, he left all his property to his mother.

Susannah died in 1925 at the age of 73 and is buried in St. Martin's cemetery.



Dedication and Unveiling of the Eglwysbach Memorial, St. Martin's Church

Eglwysbach British Legion

65

Back row (left to right)

Arthur Roberts, Ty'n y Cae

John Roberts, Pandy

Griffith Lloyd Jones, Ty Nant, Gardener

Jack Carter, Clwt Cottages, Gardener

W.E. Williams, Eglwysbach School Master

William Griffith Thomas, Rhiwlas

John Jones, Pentra, Council workman

Bob Williams, West Lodge, Gardener at Bodnant

J.W. Lloyd, London House, Shop

2nd row

Reg Smith, Conwy Cottage, Gardener

Jack Jones, Pen y Graig

William Hughes, Llyn Siberi, Gamekeeper

Robert Hughes, Toppan Fawr

J. Lewis Roberts, Post Master, Tal y Cafn

Arthur Jones, Post Office Eglwysbach, Gardener

Hughes James Roberts, Pandy

Jim Eversfield, Clwt Cottage, Gardener

(there are only eight names given, but nine men in the photograph)

3rd Row

...Davies, Carreg y y Ddima, Tailor

Bob Morris, Bryn Golau, Graig

Unknown

Unknown

Unknown

Robert Jones, Pen y Graig, Gardener

...Jones, The Bont, Tal y Cafn (Sgt J.E. Jones, Toll House)

Robert John Owen, Tal y Cafn

Hugh Jones, Postman

Sam Jones, Tal y Cafn, LMS Railway Porter

David Jones, Penisarwaen

Bob Jones, Bryn Diaonyn

Front Row

Elias Jackson, Llan

Harry Parry, Bryn Bloco

Hugh Jones, North Lodge, Gardener

(Those whose names are highlighted in bold are known to have served in the forces)

Memorial Dedication and Unveiling Thursday April 5th 1923

2nd Lieut Tudor Eglwysbach Evans, Minehead

B Coy 5th East Surrey Regiment



The Rev. John Evans was a charismatic preacher from Eglwysbach and was often referred to simply as "Eglwysbach". He was married to Clara Kate, who came from Newstead, Minehead. When their younger son was born, he was named after the village.

Tudor studied at Cardiff University before joining the East Surreys. He was killed in action on 1st July 1916 at Matauban on the Somme at the age of 24 and is buried in the Carnoy cemetery, plot ref E30.

Although not from the village, Tudor Eglwysbach is included on account of his unique name and family links to the village.

Men from Llansantffraid Glan Conwy

2nd Lieut Aaron Appleton, Bryn Derwen

3rd East Lancs Brigade,
6th Squadron RFA attached Flying Corps

31st March 1896 -17th March 1917

Aaron was the eldest son of Aaron Appleton and Jane Pearson Appleton of Bryn Derwen, Glan Conwy. His father was born in Lancashire and worked as a foreman tanner in Penketh before becoming Chairman of Litherland Urban District Council, a County Magistrate, and Managing Director of the Liverpool Tanning Co., Ltd.



Aaron was educated at the Oakes Institute, Walton, the Friend's School, Penketh, and finally at Rossall before joining his father in business at the Liverpool Tanning Company. A report in the Liverpool Echo tells us "He was a young fellow of fine character, admired and esteemed by all who came in contact with him."

When war broke out, Aaron was commissioned into the 3rd East Lancs. R.F.A. After training in the UK, he was sent to Egypt and then joined the Royal Flying Corps, gaining his "wings" in two months. He was immediately offered a position as instructor of the Flying school in Abukir, Egypt, but declined, and volunteered for active service in France. Just before Christmas, he arrived in England, and was sent

almost immediately to the front in France. He served in the 6th squadron and Royal Field Artillery as a member of the Flying Corps. After two short months, Aaron was reported killed in action on the 17th March 1917. He left £246.7s to his father.

Although Aaron is not named on the Memorial pathway, his name appears on the Arras Flying Services Memorial, the Merseyside Roll of Honour, Litherland Civic Memorial, St Andrew's Church, Linacre and the Litherland Tanning Company.

Cpt G Auden

KLR and RAF

Pte P Bevan, 3 Bryn Eglwys

The Welsh, 25454

Cpt R J Bebb, Oakleigh

RWF, 88696

Dick Bebb served as a Captain in the tank corps and returned home to run Jones and Bebb, the Ironmonger in Llanrwst

Pte David Cowell, 2 Pen Tai

113 Trench Mortar, 4019

Sgt Walter Daniel Conroy

Welsh Regiment, 39198

1884–14th October 1918, aged 34

Walter Conroy was born in Islington and is buried near the East end of the Churchyard in Glan Conwy. He married Hilda Raw in June 1916, who was present when he died of bronchopneumonia, a complication of the notorious "Spanish flu". He died at home; the Victoria cafe, Tywyn, Llanrhos. His death certificate gives his name and rank and also records that he was a music hall artiste. I have been unable to trace any record of his work, although, rather confusingly, another Walter Conroy also trod the boards.



The 3rd Battalion was a training and home service unit and he was probably a reservist.

He is buried in Glan Conwy Churchyard.

Pte Norman Wilfred Cox, Llwyn-Onn

4th Batt W Coy, RF (City of London Regiment) G/2375

1892 - 16th June 1915, aged 22

Norman was born into the family of William and Alice Cox in 1892 in Stoke on Trent. William owned a grocer's shop and was a native of Stoke, although Alice had been born in London. The family employed a domestic servant. Norman left home to work at 23, Grove Place, Hanley where he was employed as a hotel clerk. He enlisted in Stoke on Trent.

Norman went missing at the Battle of Hodge, beside the Menin Road. He has no known grave, but is remembered on Panel 6 and 8 of the Menin Gate Memorial in Ypres and in Glan Conwy.

Pte P P Curroll, Victoria Terrace

78 Labour, 46296

Pte J A Coates, The Nurseries

DR MT ASC, M/2 133607

1st Class Craftsman Frederick H Dale,

Bryn Cwyfan

RAF, 101079



**The Davies family, Bron
Heulog**

Cpl F Davies

6th SWB, 54145

Pte W T Davies

RWF att RAMC, 37965



Miss Amelia Davies

Llan Postwoman

Pte Hugh Davies, Ferndale

2/7th Battalion KLR, 389957

1888 - 7th November 1917, aged 29

Hugh Davies, born in 1888, was the son of John Davies, a Highway Surveyor and his wife Jane of Ferndale. The second of ten children, Hugh was their eldest son. In 1911 Hugh was working as one of two gardeners at Longford Hall in Newport, but the five younger children including Kyffin, were at home in Glan Conwy.

Hugh is remembered on the Tyne Cot memorial Panel 31 to 34 and 162 and 162A and 163A and on the Glan Conwy Memorial pathway.

Gunner Kyffin Davies, Ferndale

RFA, 711574

Kyffin Davies was the younger brother of Hugh and in 1911 was a "milk deliverer and errand boy". He served as a gunner in the RFA and returned home to become Deacon at Fforddlas, where he occupied the Seat Fawr. He is remembered as a great story teller with a huge fund of stories and jokes.



Kyffin is front right of the photograph, kindly lent by Ernie Kinghorn.

Pte L H Davies, Ardsely House

Notts and Derbys, 3892

Pte Thomas R Davies, Ardsely House

Northumberland Fus, 66210

Pte Thomas J Davies, 1 Bryn Rhys

RWF, 204079

Pte D Davies, Pen y Bont

RWF, 49257

Coy Sgt Major E Davis, 6 Pen Tai

2/5 Battalion RWF, 555852

Pioneer E E Davies, Minffordd

Royal Sussex, 23442

Sapper E Davies, Shop Bryn Rhys

RE, 223588

Gunner Thomas Davies, 6 Sea View Terrace

RFA, 901644

Signalman S J Dean London Villa

RN, 905591

Cpt A E Dyson Tank Corps, Oakleigh



A Mark I tank, moving from left to right. The rhomboidal shape allowed it to climb parapets and cross trenches. Photo by Ernest Brooks

Pte D Ellis, The Factory

15th RWF, 204081

Pte Evan Evans, Croesengan Uchaf

SWB, 58018

Sapper Hugh Evans, Islwyn

RE 71056

RGA 436

Attached to RGA 61st Brigade HQ

1889-22nd November 1918, aged 29

Hugh's parents were Edward and Margaret Evans of Islwyn, although Edward had died before his son. Unfortunately I have been unable to locate Hugh or his parents on the census returns and he has no existing service record, other than a medal record card.

His medal record card shows that he was initially a soldier in the Royal Garrison Artillery. It also reveals that he was awarded not only the British and Victory medals, but also the Territorial Force War medal. Holding the Territorial Force War Medal, of which only 33,944 were issued, tells us that he had completed four or more years of service before 1914 and (if he was not still serving on that date) rejoined by 30th September 1914 and agreed to serve overseas. He must have been serving overseas on 11th November 1918 and not have otherwise qualified for a 1914 or 1914-15 Star. If he was a regular soldier, this would explain the difficulty in finding him on the census returns. We know that he was attached to the 61st Brigade Headquarters, and had not been demobilised, although the War had ended at the time of his death, which his burial records show was due to pneumonia (almost certainly secondary to Spanish 'flu).

Hugh is buried in the Mikra, British Cemetery in Kalamaria (grave reference 905)

Sgt G Rogers-Evans, Cartrefle

RAMC, 48742

Pte Peter Evans

19th Welsh, 40209

Pte Thomas O Evans, Top Shop, Bryn Rhys

LNLR, 9679

1889 – 4th November 1914, age 25

Thomas Owen Evans, born in 1889 in Llangwystenin, was the eldest child of Thomas Evans, a brick maker from Llanrhos, and his wife, Mary Ellen from Caernarfon. In 1891 they lived in Maes Glas, Llanrhos and on the night of the census were entertaining a visitor, Ellen Parry from Caernarfon; probably Mary Ellen's mother. In 1901, they had moved to Llangwystenin. Thomas senior was still working as a brick maker, whilst also a member of the Royal Naval Reserve. By this time there were other children; Ellen, then Arthur, William Henry, Lily and baby Dorothy. When Thomas senior died, Mary Ellen moved to work as a housekeeper in Bryn Rhys Shop, taking her younger children with her. In 1906 she married Edward Davies, an Insurance agent eight years her junior. Grace Elizabeth and Mary Loveson Davies were born in Glan Conwy. Thomas was living in Holyhead at the time he enlisted in Preston.

According to the memorial stone in the Cemetery in Glan Conwy, Thomas was "Lost in East Africa" in January 1915. The Regimental records show that the 2nd Battalion landed on 3 November 1914 at Tanga, German East Africa, with the

27th Indian Brigade, then moved to Mombasa on 7 November. Thomas was buried in the Tanga. His body was later exhumed and reburied in an "unknown" grave in the Memorial cemetery, Tanzania, with his name listed on a memorial wall within the Cemetery, where his date of death is given as 4th November 1914.

Pte Arthur Evans, Top Shop, Bryn Rhys

8th RWF, 12396

1893 - 17th August 1915, aged 22



Arthur was the younger brother of Thomas Owen Evans. In 1911 Arthur was still living with his mother and step father, but working as a labourer. Prior to the Great War, Arthur was a member of the Glan Conwy Miniature Rifle Club which was formed in 1911. He was posted to the Balkans on 25 June 1915 and died just two months later on 17 August 1915. He is buried in the Alexandria (Chatby) Military and War Memorial Cemetery and remembered on the Glan Conwy Memorial pathway.

Driver WC Evans, Pen Rhiw Isa

11th Welsh RGA
3105778



Pte W H Evans, Bryn Rhys

5th RWF, 3084



British soldiers in the trenches

Pte T J Gill, White House

1st SWB, 527256

Thomas was a quiet man who had three sons, Dick the coalman, Tommy (below) who was well known for driving the "Welshman" steam locomotive and Albert, who also worked on the railways

Civilian Thomas Gill, White House

263 Railway Coy



The Welshman

Pte Rd Griffith, Pentre Felin

3rd RWF, 89564

Pte G Goodman, Frenton

2/7th RWF, 431838

Pioneer Albert Holt, Eagles

RE and MR, 298020

Church House now stands on the site of the Eagles

Pte A Hughes, Plas Ucha

4th Welsh, 82573

Pte D Hughes, Braint

Welsh Reg, 49515

Pte E Hughes, Bronffrith

9th Welsh, 90819

Pte E S Hughes, Victoria Shop

14th RWF, 20667



Sam Hughes of Victoria Shop had his life saved by his cigarette case, which was in his top pocket and took the impact of a bullet, which would otherwise have killed him.

(This photograph is actually of a cigarette case which saved the life of a soldier from the Manchester Regiment, rather than Sam's own).

Sapper VE Hughes, Victoria Shop

RE WR 288942

Brother of Sam Hughes, above.

Pte Elias Hughes,

Rock Cottage

7th South Lancers

Prince of Wales's Volunteers,
37438

1889 - 6th February 1917, age 28



Elias was the youngest of seven children of Benjamin and Margaret Hughes. Benjamin, his father was a native of Glan Conway, as was his Grandfather, John. On the night of Sunday, April 7th 1861, Benjamin was the 16 year old Mate for his father on the "Jane and Margaret", lying in Beaumaris, with his brothers, Elias 13 and William 8, as crew.

In September 1871, Benjamin married Margaret Roberts. Their children were John, who became a saddler, William, a farm labourer, Benjamin, Thomas, a plumber, sisters Elisabeth and Jane Ann and finally Elias born in 1889. They lived in Rock cottage, where Margaret continued to live with Thomas and Elias after her husband died.

Elias is buried in the Sailly-Au-Bois Millitary cemetery. Grave reference II.J.16. His mother chose the epitaph "Peace perfect peace" for his headstone.

Cpl J R Hughes, Felin Ucha

10th MG, 74858

Flight Sgt J W Hughes, No 2 Rock Villa

RAF, 6098

Pte M J Hughes, Erw Goch

RWF, 90042

Gunner S Hughes, 2 Mill Cottages Pentrefelin

RGA, 124638

After serving in the army, Sam worked as an oarsman for the Governor of Gibraltar. On returning home, he resumed his job as a plasterer and was father to 6 children.

Thanks to Sharon Doleman, his Granddaughter for this photograph of her Grandfather and for many of the other Glan Conwy photographs



Lance Cpl Robert Hughes, Castle View

5th RWF 241092, 3194

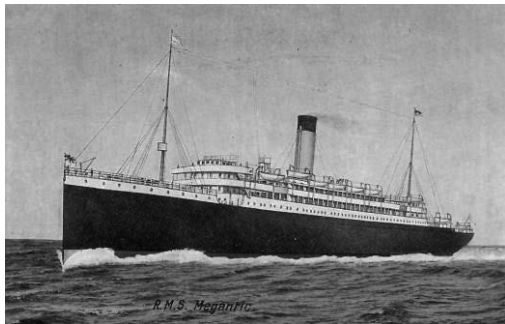
1895 – 26th March 1917, aged 22

Robert was born in 1895 into the family of Robert and Mary Jane Hughes. Robert senior worked as a farm labourer but later as a carter and joiner. They had several children; Enoch, Alice (later Alice Roberts), Robert and David Edward. During this time they lived at Castle View.

Robert volunteered for service in March 1915 as a 19 year old, enlisting in Colwyn Bay as Private 3194. At that time he was a farm labourer and was just 5ft 6inches tall. His vision and physical development were described as "good" and he was initially posted to the 2/5 RWF.

On 15th July 1915 Robert embarked on H.M.T. Megantic (a ship of the White Star line) from Devonport, arriving in Alexandria 2 weeks later. He joined the Battalion in Ismailia. In January 1917 he was deprived of ten days pay for failing to report the loss of his rifle. On 26th March he was reported wounded and missing in action and his death was accepted on 8th April. His effects - photos, cards, a note book and Devotional books -were returned to his mother. He is remembered on the Jerusalem memorial (panels 20-22) and the Glan Conwy Memorial pathway.

H.M.T Megantic, on which Robert Hughes travelled to Egypt



**2nd Lieut H
Irvine, Rose
Cottage**

Welsh Horse

**Shoeing Smith
John Jackson,
Cernview
Cottage, Graig**



RASC, 8303

Pte Alfred Jones Regiment, Pantsiglan

9th Welsh Reg., 14588

1888 – 30th December 1915, aged 27

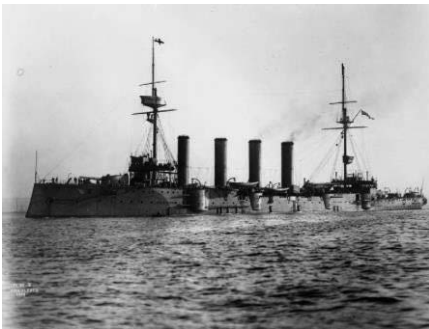
Alfred Jones was the grandson of Mary and Edward Jones, an agricultural labourer living at Pantsiglan, Glan Conwy. In 1871 Edward and Mary were living next to the Black Lion with their children William, Thomas, John, Elizabeth, Anne and Mary. By 1891 there were only their son George and Alfred, described as a grandson, living at home. By 1911 Alfred had moved to Glamorgan, where he was boarding with the Thomas family and working as a coal hewer.

Alfred enlisted in Neath and trained with the 9th Battalion on the Salisbury plain. He disembarked at Boulogne on 18th July 1915 and would have been in action at Pietre, a diversionary action supporting the battle of Loos. Alfred died on the 30th December 1915 and is buried in the St. Vaast Post Military Cemetery, Richebourg L'Avoué.

Stoker 1st Class John Jones, 1 Glendower Buildings

RN, K44586

John Jones (Jac Cochyn), was Stoker 1st Class on board HMS King Alfred. Built in Barrow in Furness in 1901 she was brought out of retirement when WWI broke out in 1914. For the latter half of the war she defended convoys firstly from West Africa to Plymouth and then Halifax, Nova Scotia to Liverpool. On 11th April 1918 she was torpedoed off the coast of Northern Ireland with one member of the crew killed.



HMS Alfred

When John's father heard that he was safe he wanted to call the house they were living in HMS King Alfred House. However his wife suggested a shorter name. Thus 1 Glendower Buildings is known today as Alfred House.
Thanks to James Berry for the photographs and story

2nd Lieut Idwal Ben Humphrey Jones, Hendrewaelod

14th KLR

1894 -14th September 1916, age 21

Idwal was the youngest of five children of William Humphrey Jones and Alice, from Somerset. William himself was one of at least nine children Edward Jones, a builder from Toxteth. Although William appears on the census as a 16 year old apprentice in 1861, he subsequently became an "Egyptian merchant" and was in California in 1898, when Gwendolyn was born. His eldest son, Iorwerth, was born in Wallasey in 1878, followed by Gladys, Gwyllym, Gwendolyn and finally Ben, born in Liverpool. The family lived in Birkenhead, were living in Hendrewaelod in 1901, when William was described as "living by his own means", although on the 1911 census he was described as a "merchant and chemical manufacturer". William died in October 1914, just before the outbreak of the war.

Idwal went to the County school in Llandudno and then to King William's college on the Isle of Man. He joined the Midland and City Bank on Castle Street in Conwy. His obituary in the Liverpool Post tells us that he enlisted into the King's Liverpool regiment soon after the outbreak of war. The 14th Battalion was raised in Seaforth and trained around Eastbourne and Lewes before being sent to Boulogne in April 1915. By October they travelled by train to Marseilles and thence to Salonika. Idwal was almost certainly wounded fighting the Bulgarian army at the Battle of Manchukovo, on the Doiran front. He died from his wounds and is buried in Karasouli Military cemetery (grave D908).

Pte David Jones, Plas Ucha

RWF, 668357

Pte E Jones, 4 Top Llan

5th RWF, 240905

**Pte John
Jones, Bryn
Arthur**

7th Res Batt KLR,
111658

**Cpt L Rodgers
Jones, Llys
Helen**



Machine Gun Corps

Machine gunners with Vickers gun

Pte P Jones, Dolwyd Cottage

RWF, 15212

Pte William R Jones, Aberdyfyn

2nd RWF, 59695

Cpl T L Jones, 4 Bryn Eglwys

RWF, 5093

Pte William Jones

RWF, 92256

Pte W R Jones, Garth

2nd RWF, 90058

Gunlayer J E Johnson, Gwynfa

RGA, 16091?7

Pte RJ Jones, Voelas

2nd Yorks, 35047

Robert Owen Jones was a prisoner of war, held in Braine-le-Chateau in Belgium until his release, along with 174 others on 13th November 1918. The population of Braine-le-Chateau, led by the

Countesses St de Robiano and M.M. D'Ursel offered a banquet to the men. "They wished to show their sympathy and gratitude to the great allied nation who had promoted their deliverance. The meeting was marked by the greatest cordiality" and speeches were made by Mr Chas. De Preter and the Mayor after playing of the national anthems.



Mr De Preter told the men, " Our heart was moved with the greatest pity as soon as you arrived amongst us and we saw your threadbare clothes, your pallid cheeks, the miseries of all kinds you had so courageously born...we wanted to show you that Belgium is not an ungrateful nation and gives just value to the sacrifices you imposed yourselves for the

triumph of our common cause". The Mayor told the "During all these months and years, you have braved the most terrible path, you have sacrificed your youth and your life to save the world's civilisation from barbarous oppression".



Prisoners of war at Braine le Chateau Including Pte Jones

Thanks to Alun Jones, Robert Owen Jones' son

Cpl Carl Larsen, 5 Sea View

Border, 18144

Pte G Lloyd, Graig

RWF, 89988

Pte R Lloyd, Ynys House

SWB, 38099



**Lance Cpl William
Jones, Pant**

14th RWF, 21313



Pte Hugh Jones, Pant

RWF, 598546

Pte John Lloyd, Cefn Garlleg

3rd SWB, 28984, 33rd Machine Gun Corps, 87586

1988 – 18th September 1918, aged 25

John was born in Pentrefoelas, the second child of Eunice and Evan Lloyd. Eunice and Evan lived first in Ysbyty at Glandwr, where Evan was a carter, moving to Tyn y Bryn Farm in Pentrefoelas before John was born. He had an older brother Evan M., younger brothers John and Robert and sisters Catherine, Jane and Dilys. In 1911 Evan and Eunice had moved to Glogddu in Llangernyw, but John had left the family home to work in Bryn Gwylau in Pentrefoelas as a farm carter.

John was almost 24 and was working as a teamsman and general farm hand at Cefn Garlleg in Glan Conwy when he was called up. A letter filed in his service records reveals that the occupier of Cefn Garlleg “refused to entertain the idea of substitution” and “absolutely refused to accept the substitute offered by the military authorities”. Exemption was agreed until the military authorities were able to provide an acceptable substitute for John. There is unfortunately no date visible on the letter due to fire damage (a result of bombing of the archives during WWII).

Despite the protest, John reported to Bangor in December 1916 asking to be sent to the RWF or horse transport. However, after medical examination in Wrexham on the following day, he was posted to the South Wales Borderers. He was classed fit as A, despite slightly reduced vision in his right eye. He was 5ft 7 ¼ inches and weighed 10st 8lbs. He was posted in January 1917 and transferred to the machine gun corps on 6th March 1917. On the 25th April he left Folkestone and arrived to join B depot in Boulogne.

On 13th May he was in the field, but on 9th June was admitted to hospital in Rouen with influenza. By the end of July he was out of hospital and back in the field. In April 1918 he was back in hospital after being wounded by a gas shell, but after another spell on the front he had a week's leave in the UK. He returned to the front for a third time at the end of July and was killed during the Advance to Victory. He is remembered on the Vis en Artois memorial on Panel 10. His British War and Victory medals were sent to his mother, Eunice, who had moved to Rhyl.



Vickers machine gun crew

Pte Robert William McMath, Bryn Popty

RASC T/327809

13/16th Rifle Brigade, B/20271

2nd April 1988 –13th September 1918, aged 20

Robert was born in Conwy in 1898, but lived with his aunt and uncle in Ty Capel in Glan Conwy. Thomas Hughes, Robert's uncle, worked as a labourer on the railways and married Elizabeth in 1898. They had a daughter, Wilhelmina, who was a year younger than Robert. On the 1911 census, Robert's surname was given as Hughes and he was in school. The family, living at 5, Bryn Rhys, now included Thomas John junior, Mary and Harold.

Robert joined the Royal Army Service Corps, before transferring to the Rifle Brigade, firstly the 16th and later the 13th Battalions (the stone in Glan Conwy records him as having been in the 12th Bn and his Christian names are reversed).

Robert is recorded on panel 10 of the Memorial in Vis en Artois, with the names of over 9000 other men who have no known grave. The stone in Glan Conwy mentions Ynis fawr.



Vis en Artois Memorial

Wireless Operator Frank Cecil Osborne, Oak Villa

1899 – 17th May 1917, aged 18



SS Cito, painted by AJ Jansen reproduced with permission of Hull Maritime Museum

Frank Cecil Osborne was the son of Frank Osborne and his wife, Elizabeth Maude. Although the 1911 census shows they had two living children, only Frank Cecil appears on the census returns. When Frank Cecil was born, they were living at 283 Liverpool Street. Frank senior was a beer seller, employing a bar man who lived at the same address. In 1911, even though Frank Senior was working in Salford, Elizabeth was staying at Oak Villa with Frank Cecil, who was then 12 years old and his cousins Harry Hind, also 12, Walter 7 and Joseph aged 4. She was no doubt glad of the help of her servant, Florence May Farrell.

Frank Cecil was working as a wireless operator on SS Cito when she was intercepted by German torpedo boat destroyers S-53 and V-73, 20 miles East of Noordhinder

lightship on May 17th, 1917. The destroyers sank the steamship with gunfire. The captain and ten of the crew were killed.

Frank Cecil is remembered on the Tower Hill Memorial and the Glan Conwy pathway. His father Frank is named as the secretary on the Glan Conwy Roll of Honour and possibly founded the Glan Conwy British Legion to commemorate the loss of his only son.

Pte T W Owen, Bryn Rhys

RWF



RWF soldiers in training

Company Sgt Major Ben Owens, Bryn Rhys

11th RWF, 15151

3rd East Surrey Regiment

18th September 1876 - 18th September 1918, aged 42

Benjamin Thomas Owens was born in Haverford West in 1876. His father, another Benjamin, was a police constable, but it appears he may have died at a young age. His mother, Ann, was alone with her children and working as a washerwoman in 1881, whilst lodging in the Hayguard in Haverfordwest (her status was "lodger" rather than widow or wife). Ben had older siblings; Elizabeth, Ellen, Frederick, Hugh and Edgar. It is possible that his mother had also died by 1891, when 15 year old Ben was working as a port messenger boy and living with his sister Ellen and her husband William Harries in Church Street, Haverfordwest.

In 1893 Ben joined the 3rd East Surrey Regiment and the census shows he was with them in the Kingston Barracks in 1911, at which time he had been promoted to the rank of sergeant. The East Surreys became part of the Special reserve in 1908, but Ben left the Regiment in 1911 and in 1914 he was living in Glan Conwy. He enlisted in Colwyn Bay, probably at the beginning of September 1914. He went over to France with the 11th Battalion on 5th September 1915, moving almost immediately on to Salonika. He is shown on a list of wounded from the RWF in the Times, dated in March 1917. He was killed in the Battle of Doiran on his 42nd birthday in 1918 and is buried in the Doiran Military cemetery. His grave (ref. II.F.16) was initially marked as that of an unknown soldier, but the cemetery records were later amended to identify it as that of Ben Thomas Owens. No relatives are listed on the cemetery records.



Sketch by Ralph Cunnington Wiles. Many thanks to Ceri Leeder, his Granddaughter, for this and other sketches

Pte I G Parry, Ffraid Villa

RWF, 241272

**Armoured Crew Wireman D Pritchard,
Gordon Villa**

RN, M19489

Pte C H Roberts, 5 Llewelyn Terrace

RWF, 3414

Pte David Roberts, Bay View

RWF, 91774

Pte D A Roberts, Mynydd Merci

RWF, 92425

Pte Isaac Roberts, Croesengen Ucha

3rd RWF, 541438

Pioneer Isaac Roberts, 2 Sea View

RE Signals, 210877

Pte J Roberts, Deunant Farm

Tank Corps, 310967

Pte J R Roberts, Ysgoldy

8th RWF, 12345

Pte J W Roberts, Pentre Isa

13th Durham Light Infantry,
44399

Cpl R W Roberts, Ty Isa Farm

2nd RWF, 36654

Pte Thomas Roberts, Bodafon Farm

3rd RWF, 92226

Pte Wm Roberts, 6 Llewelyn Terrace

6th RWF, 3970

Pte W Roberts, Penoros

3rd RWF, 37049

Pte T Sessle, Plas Tirion

RAMC, 86726



Cpt Victor John Ruttledge, Ashlands

RAMC 1/1st London Mounted
Field Brigade Ambulance

8th Bd Field Ambulance

1866 –3rd November 1916,
aged 50

Dr. Victor John Ruttledge
was born in Armagh, the
son of Revd John Young
Ruttledge. Victor graduated

from Dublin University in 1891 with B.B. Bac. Surg and was registered as a doctor in January 1892. He was appointed as an assistant Medical Officer at the District Lunatic Asylum in Londonderry, where he worked for more than 20 years. He travelled twice to China on account of indifferent health and retired in 1912 to Rathmines in Dublin.

He applied for a commission in the Royal Army Medical Corps in 1915 and arrived in Egypt on 4th September. He died from peritonitis in November 1916 and is buried in the Military cemetery in Suez, ref D70. The grave records his wife as Mrs. G.M. Ruttledge of "Ashlands", Glan Conwy. He does not have a headstone on the Glan Conwy memorial pathway.

Photograph reproduced from the "RAMC in the Great War" web page, from an original in the Lancet, with thanks to Barbara Janman



Pte John Eric Saunderson, Bodnant Gardens

RGA Northants Regiment, Machine Gun Corps, 19999

1892 -22nd August 1916, age 24

John Eric Saunderson was the son of Joseph and Florence. Although Joseph was the son of a hairdresser from Clay Cross, he had begun to work as a gardener by the age of 18. He met Florence whilst working at Chatsworth, who was the dressmaker daughter of a woodcutter living in one of the estate cottages in Edensor. The family were in Eglwysbach in 1883, when Florence was born, in Clay Cross when Josephine was born in 1886, and back in Eglwysbach when John Eric was born in 1892. In 1891 Joseph is shown as a gardener domestic gvr.. He was responsible for judging the horticultural exhibits in the Mostyn Park floral show in January 1913.

Eric followed in his father's footsteps, leaving home to learn his trade as a gardener. In 1911, 18 year old Eric was lodging in the Bothy at Gunnersbury House in Brentford and working as an assistant gardener. Two brothers, Arthur and Walter Bedford from Ireland were the gardeners and Eric was the youngest of six assistants; Herbert Seriviner from Buckinghamshire, George Morrison from Co. Down, Arthur Burrell from Esher in Surrey, Charles Stainbridge from Kent and William Staincombe from Menheniot in Cornwall. Gardeners clearly travelled to learn the trade.

Whilst in Middlesex, he married Gwladys G. Ambury-Evans and a baby daughter, Joan Mary was born in 1915, who died in 2004. Gwladys married Robert J. Morris in 1920 and had more children.

Eric enlisted at Towcester into the Northants regiment (22401) before transferring to the Machine gun corps, infantry. Casualties amongst this group were enormous and Eric died on the Somme on 22nd August 1916. He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Thiepval memorial, as well as in both Glan Conwy and Eglwysbach. His memorial stone in Glan Conwy lies next to his parents' grave.



Gwladys Saunderson

Many thanks to Lynda Payne, a relative

Pte R O Thomas, Pen y Croesau Mon

4th RWF, 452572

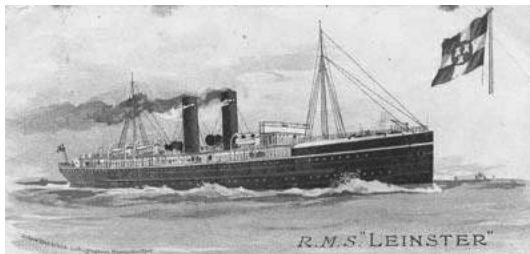
Pte Ezezial Thomas, Penrhiwadrwr cottages

3rd RWF, 92077

1881 – 10th October 1918, aged 37

Ezezial was the son of Lewis and Catherine Thomas, both of Eglwysbach. Born in 1881, he was the youngest of the family. Lewis was a general workman of Croft's Yard at the time of Ezezial's birth, but by 1891 had moved to Gareg ddimas as a gardener. After Lewis died, Catherine and Ezezial stayed at Gareg ddimas. Catherine took up work as a laundress, almost certainly in the laundry of Bodnant, in what is now the Bodnant food centre, whilst Ezezial became a rural postman. In June 1910 he married Alice Louisa Vaughan. They lived with his mother at Penrhiwadrwr cottages, where he would have known Tom Norton, from Eglwysbach.

Ezezial was one of the military personnel travelling on RMS Leinster, the mail boat operated by the City of Dublin Steam Packet Company, travelling to Holyhead from Kingstown (Dun Laoghaire) when she was torpedoed by UB-123 on 10th October and sunk with the loss of over 500 lives. Ezezial's body was recovered and is buried in Grangegorman Military Cemetery in Ireland Pres. 93. He is also remembered on the Glan Conwy memorial pathway



Pte A Williams, 1 Victoria Cottages

2/4th RWF, 202616

**Shoeing Smith D Williams, White Bear,
Bryn Rhys**

MGC, 152665

Sapper David Williams, Well St., Graig

RE WR/3023

Pte D J Williams, Ty Croes, Graig



7th Yorks and Lancs,
238044

**Pte E Williams,
Police Station**

RWF, 922116

**Pte Ellis Williams,
Ty Gwyn**

19th RWF, 28882

Stoker 1st Class Edmund Williams

Dolwyd Bach, Mochdre

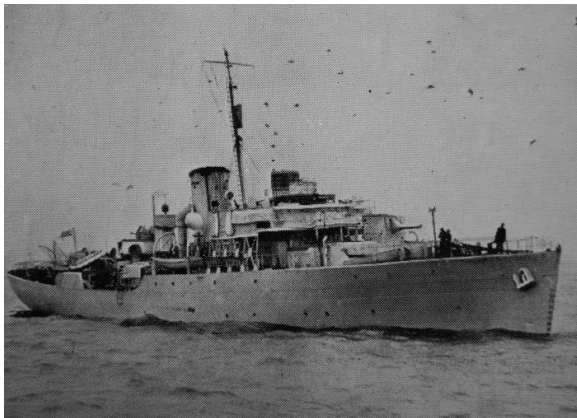
RN, K/37315, HMS Anchusa

1894– 16th July 1918, aged 24

Edmund Williams was born in early 1894 in the Conway region. The CWWGC records show that Edmund was the son of Griffith Williams, but the only Edmund living locally with a father of that name was a quarryman in Bethesda. The memorial records Edmund's wife as Sarah from Mochdre and there is a record of Edmund Williams marrying a Sarah Williams in September 1916 locally.

Edmund served as a Stoker on HMS Anchusa. The Anchusa was a sloop, built in Newcastle upon Tyne in 1908. She was armed with two 4inch guns, two 12 pounder guns and depth charge throwers and could travel at up to 17 knots. However, this did not save her when she was torpedoed by U-54 off the North coast of Ireland. 78 of the 100 men aboard were lost and Edmund's body was not recovered. Edmund is remembered

on the
Plymouth
Naval
Memorial as
well as on the
Glan Conwy
Memorial
pathway



HMS Anchusa

Pte Elias Thomas Williams, Bron Pistyll

Horse transport, YK 7302 T.R.Bn, TR/5/3684

3rd TD Durham Light Infantry 1514,T.R./5/10229

No 3 Training reserve Battalion 10229

31st Northumberland Fusiliers.

The "Soldiers died in the First War" gives his service number as TR5/17538 RAMC

2nd June 1889–8th June 1917, aged 28

Elias was one of the children of William, a farm labourer born in Llandrillo, and Catherine Williams of Bron Pistyll. There were six children, William, Elias, Badin Robert, Elizabeth, Maggie and Jane. Elias married Mary Elizabeth Jones in December 1913 and moved into York Place in Conwy, where Idris was born in 1914 and Mary Catherine in 1916.

Elias, who had been working as a farm labourer, enlisted in Wrexham on 11th December 1915 when he was 26. At his medical he was noted to be 5ft 6 ¼ inches tall and weighed 130lbs. He had been vaccinated in infancy and his physical health was good, although his history of chronic bronchial catarrh resulted in a C1 rating, so he was sent to join horse transport on 12th December. A year later his chronic chest troubled him once more and he was hospitalised for 8 days with bronchitis.

He was sent down to Woolwich and transferred to the 5th training Battalion in February 1917 as number 3684, with a note that he would maintain his former state of pay. On 3rd May he transferred again to the 3rd Training division of the Durham Light Infantry in Catterick as number 1514, with a

posting to the British Expeditionary Force as a Private on 28th May 1917. However, on his arrival in France, he developed acute appendicitis and subsequent peritonitis, for which no treatment was available at the time, and he died on the 8th June 1917. He was buried in the Military cemetery in Etaples XXV. II .16. His wife chose the epitaph "A place is vacant in our home which can never be filled. At rest". Elias is also commemorated on the Glan Conwy Memorial pathway.

His widow was granted a pension 22s 11d a week for herself and the two children, who had moved to Rose Hill Street in Conwy. She also received his British War and Victory medals.

The plethora of service numbers and regiments reflect the confusion of war.



**Cpl H Williams,
Beach Bank**

15th Lancs Fus, 47671

**Pte H S Williams, 4
Sea View**

KL, 91477

**Bombadier H Jones
Williams, 8 Bryn
Rhys**

RHA, 57368

**Pte J Williams,
Groesffordd**

RWF, 232246

Pte M Williams, Chapel House

KL, 41802

Pte O J Winstanley, Glan y Mor

SWB, 38913

Donkey man Thomas Jones Williams

Mercantile Marine

1874 -26th February 1917, aged 44

Thomas was born in Glan Conwy and was the son of Thomas and Jane. He married Mary Prytherch in 1897 in Bangor, where they had a home at 23 Fair View Road.



Thomas was serving in the merchant navy and was aboard SS Algiers, a defensively armed merchant ship carrying ballast from Calais to Barry Roads in February 1917. They were 3 miles from the Owens lighthouse in the English Channel when she was torpedoed without warning and sunk with the loss of 8 lives including Thomas. Thomas is remembered on the Tower Hill Memorial.

Thanks to Yvonne Williams, his Great Granddaughter for the photo

Lance Cpl William Williams, Police Station

8th RWF, 12344



William was honourably discharged after serving with honour and was disabled in the Great War. The certificate above commemorates his Honourable discharge.

Pte William H Williams, Bron Rhaul

3rd RWF, 51956

Sapper William Williams, 8 Sea View

RE, 291051

Lieut Robert Williams, Minffordd

RAF

Milly and Rosa remember their "Uncle Bob Ni" with great fondness as a larger than life man who drove a Bentley badly and smoked large cigars. He lived at one of the three shops on the corner where there is now a kebab shop.



Pte E Wynne, Garth

2nd RWF, 90058

Acknowledgements

Revd Melanie Fitzgerald, of St Mary's in Sheffield – super sleuth Vicar and inspiration for this work

Anne fowcs Williams had the incredibly difficult job of tracing survivors and has been a constant source of encouragement

Ceri Leeder did the fantastic art work for the cover, gave expert advice on layout and allowed us to use drawings made by her Grandfather, Ralph Cunnington Wiles

Relatives of the men have been incredibly generous with information and photographs, as have members of **Cymdeithas Hanes and Glan Conwy History and Legends group**, especially **Sharon Doleman**

Richard Hoare did the original research at Glan Conwy and **Ken Williams** had already researched several of the Eglwysbach men.

Wyn Davies alerted us to Tudor Eglwysbach Evans

Fran Llewelyn liaised with the **McLaren family**, who allowed us to look at papers relating to men from Bodnant

Anne Pedley provided an enormous amount of background information on the RWF and Norton family

Members of the **War Forum**, particularly **Hywyn Williams**, helped greatly with specific enquiries and use of the RWF Roll of Honour

Rhodri Clark from the web site "History points"

Members of St Martin's and St Ffraid's Churches

Trevor Adams scrutinised the military details

Gill Rossini ran family history groups in Glan Conwy and Eglwysbach

Bridget Osborne

The project has been funded by the **Heritage Lottery Fund**, which, in addition to funding the book, has contributed towards the research which enabled us to put on a special Remembrance service in 2014 and on subsequent Remembrance Sundays throughout the centenary years, family history sessions in both villages and the erection of display boards.



**LOTTERY FUNDED
ARIENNIR GAN Y LOTERI**