

The Middlesbrough

Roll of Honour of the Great War

Supplementary Names, - “C”

Compiled by Robert Coulson (1952 – 2008)

The names below are found on the Supplementary Panels on the Middlesbrough War Memorial. The names were received for inclusion after the official unveiling of the Memorial, and are included on the 3 supplementary panels.

In the years 1914-1918 thousands of Middlesbrough men and women served their country in a time of hardship, stress and suffering both for the troops on the battlefronts and those left at home.

After the Armistice in November of 1918 handsome memorial tablets and plaques recalling the fallen were erected in the works, shops and churches of the Middlesbrough area.

At this time a committee was formed to consider the question of a war memorial for the town as a whole to remember the citizens who had laid down their lives. In the words of the committee,

“We recognise the splendid sacrifice made by our men and we desire that our children and our children’s’ children should hear the story and share in the inspiration which such sacrifice will always give”.

The response of the townspeople resulted in the fine cenotaph of Aberdeen granite and the wall of Portland stone containing the bronze panels with the names of the fallen that we see today at the entrance to Albert Park.

The memorial works were completed at a cost of approximately £17,000 and the people of the town attended in their thousands for the dedication and unveiling ceremony which took place on November 11th 1922.

This roll of honour contains close to 3500 names of the fallen who are remembered on the memorial and also those whose names were put forward by their families after the unveiling ceremony.

I felt it fitting that as the centenary of the onset of the Great War approaches I should try and add a little information on those remembered and the actions in which they laid down their lives.

I would just add that much as I regret it, details on some of these brave people is not available due to the passage of time but their names will still appear in the text as they do on the memorial panels.

Finally just a few points to consider,

It will be noticed that on some of the entries no Middlesbrough connection may be obvious, indeed the person appears to have come from well outside the area or even the country.

It must be remembered that it was the townspeople who put the names forward for inclusion and as an example a relation who stayed with the family in the town occasionally, could well appear after his family took the trouble to forward the name.

Middlesbrough was a thriving centre of industry at the time and a person may well have been employed in the town before hostilities and had their name included by workmates.

Serving under an alias is also quite common and although sometimes used to cover criminal activity, was normally just a person keen to serve but underage and using another identity.

Also a mother who had taken another man's name might have offspring who preferred to serve using their natural father's name.

Double entries for the same name also appear quite a few times, for example, Samuel Alder and S Alder.

I believe they are one and the same person named twice as a result of a large family with different branches putting the name forward twice.

The person will appear in the listing as named on the memorial with any variations in spelling and second names being included in the text.

It will be noticed that some entries begin "I believe this to be".

These are people who to the best of my judgement are those named but can not be 100% certain. They are included with the best intentions and if a mistake is made I make my apologies in advance.

Robert Henry Coulson died on 8 November 2008. His papers were donated to the Green Howards Museum in Richmond, and the work below comes from these papers.

Names on the Middlesbrough War Memorial

Callaby, Arthur.

Born in North Ormesby, Arthur Callaby enlisted on November 20th 1914, joining the Royal Marine Light Infantry.

Private Callaby was with a party of troops landed at Piraeus the port of Athens in Greece from HMS Duncan and HMS Exmouth with orders to occupy the high points of the city.

He was killed in fighting between the marines and troops loyal to the Greek royal family on December 3rd 1916 aged 20 and today lies close to where he fell in Piraeus Naval and Consular Cemetery in the western suburbs of Piraeus in Greece.

Arthur Callaby was the son of Albert and Hannah Callaby of 25 Bargate Street in North Ormesby.

Cameron, Charles.

Charles Cameron was born in Sunderland, lived in Middlesbrough and enlisted in Richmond with the 19th battalion of the Durham Light Infantry.

Private Cameron was killed during the Action of Tieghem on October 31st 1918 and is buried in Bedford House Cemetery at Zillebeke just to the south of Ypres in Belgium.

Camp, James Albert.

Campbell, J.

John Campbell was Middlesbrough born enlisting in the town for war service with the Royal Field Artillery.

A member of the 107th Battery, 23rd Brigade, Gunner Campbell was killed in action on October 8th 1918 and today lies in Bellicourt British Cemetery situated to the east of Peronne.

Capps, Joseph.

Born and enlisting in Middlesbrough, Joseph Capps was a member of the 5th battalion of the Yorkshire Regiment.

Wounded in fighting between High Wood and Martinpuich during the Somme offensive, Private Capps died of his wounds aged 23 on September 20th 1916.

His grave can be visited today in Dernancourt Communal Cemetery Extension three miles south of Albert on the Somme.

Cattermole, Joseph E.

Double entry, see Ernest Kirby Cattermole in the main listing.

Clarcken, Alfred Richard.

Born at Greenwich in London, Alfred Richard Clarcken was with the 4th battalion of the Yorkshire Regiment.

Lance Corporal Clarcken died at home aged 48 on August 30th 1915 and is buried in North Ormesby Cemetery.

He was the husband of Mrs Annie Clarcken of 29 Church Street in Marske.

Collins, Harry.

Colmer, William.

Middlesbrough born and enlisting in Thornaby, William Colmer joined with the 12th battalion of the Durham Light Infantry.

Private Colmer was killed in fighting close to Contalmaison during the Battle of the Somme on July 8th 1916.

His grave can be visited today in Becourt Military Cemetery situated two miles east of Albert on the Somme.

Cooke, Fred.

Double entry, see Fred Cook in the main listing.

Copley, Benjamin.

Born in Middlesbrough, Benjamin Copley did his war service with the 1st Regiment of the South African Infantry.

Corporal Copley died aged 27 on March 24th 1918 during the German spring offensive and having no known grave is remembered on the Pozieres Memorial on the Albert to Bapaume road on the Somme.

The son of J A Copley he was the husband of Mrs A P Copley of 16 Takoon Square, De Beers, Kimberley in South Africa.

Corner, George Stephen.

George Stephen Corner was born in Middlesbrough and before hostilities worked as a clerk in a local oil merchants.

He enlisted in Hull originally with the Northumberland Fusiliers and then transferred to the 1/5th battalion of the York and Lancaster Regiment.

Wounded in actions at the Battle of Poelcapelle during the Passchendaele offensive, Private Corner died of his injuries aged 33 on October 18th 1917 and today lies in Potijze Chateau Lawn Cemetery two miles north east of Ypres in Belgium.

George Corner was the son of Mr and Mrs Corner of Bishop Auckland.

Names on the Middlesbrough War Memorial

Cossey, W H.

Born and enlisting in Skelton, William Henry Cossey did his war service with the Royal Field Artillery.

A member of B Battery, 286th Brigade, Gunner Cossey was wounded during the Passchendaele offensive dying of his wounds on October 24th 1917 aged 25. His grave can be visited today in Solferino Farm Cemetery at Brielen, three miles north west of Ypres.

Coulson, Joseph William.

Joseph William Coulson was born in Brotton and before the war was a schoolmaster at Stockton Street Council School.

Enlisting in Durham into the 8th battalion of the Durham Light Infantry, Private Coulson was killed in actions at Boetleer Farm close to Frezenberg during the 2nd Battle of Ypres on April 26th 1915 at the age of 40.

The son of the late Joseph and Alice Coulson and husband of Lydia Coulson of 150 Princes Road in Middlesbrough his name is remembered on the Menin Gate Memorial at Ypres in Belgium.

Cousins, James.

Middlesbrough born James Cousins served in the Royal Navy as a Boy 1st Class aboard the cruiser HMS Monmouth.

He perished aged just 17 on November 1st 1914 when Monmouth was sunk by gunfire from the SMS Scharnhorst and the SMS Gneisnau off the coast of Chile during the Battle of Coronel.

James Cousins was the son of Hannah and the late Thomas Cousins of 37 Albion Street in Birkenhead and is remembered on the Plymouth Naval Memorial on Plymouth Hoe in Devon.

Craigie, Charles.

Charles Craigie was Middlesbrough born enlisting in the town with the 8th battalion of the Yorkshire Regiment.

Lance Corporal Craigie was wounded in fighting at Contalmaison during the Somme offensive and died of his wounds aged 28 on July 21st 1916.

His grave can be seen today in St Sever Cemetery situated two miles south of Rouen city centre.

Crombie, George.

Born and enlisting in Middlesbrough, George Crombie was a member of the 9th battalion Black Watch, the Royal Highlanders.

Private Crombie was killed in action aged 18 on September 2nd 1918 and today lies in St Marys ADS Cemetery at Haisnes five miles north of Lens.

He was the son of James and Annie I Crombie of 1 Oxford Road in Middlesbrough.

Names on the Middlesbrough War Memorial

Crowthers, Thomas.

Thomas Crowthers was born at Dunoon in Argyll and enlisted in Middlesbrough joining the Yorkshire Regiment and then transferring to the 10th battalion of the Durham Light Infantry.

Private Crowthers was killed in action during the Passchendaele offensive on August 25th 1917 at the age of 19 and is buried in Tyne Cot Cemetery five and a half miles north east of Ypres in Belgium.

He was the son of William H and Sarah Crowthers of 10 Elm Street in Cargo Fleet.

Curley, Thomas.

A Stoker with the Royal Navy, Thomas Curley served aboard the minesweeper HMS Hythe.

He died on October 28th 1915 when the Hythe was involved in a collision with HMS Sarnia off Cape Helles during the Gallipoli campaign.

Thomas Curley's name is remembered today on the Chatham Naval Memorial in Kent.