

Sheffield Players in World War One



LED BY IWM



© **Sheffield Libraries Archives and Information 2013**
v.1.0 June 2013

Images can be copied for private or educational use without permission from us, though we ask that the following acknowledgement is included '[document reference number] from the collections of Sheffield Libraries Archives and Information'. Please contact us if you wish to publish, exhibit or broadcast any of the information within this *Guide*.

You can download a copy of this *Guide* from
www.sheffield.gov.uk/archives

SHEFFIELD LIBRARIES ARCHIVES AND INFORMATION

Sheffield Players in World War One

C O N T E N T S

Introduction	
The Players:	
1	Charles Stanley Ball, a conscientious objector
2	Charles and Annie Berry, bereaved Sheffield parents
3	Douglas Branson, a commanding officer
4	Edith Bromehead, a Sheffield nurse
5	Annie Bindon Carter, founder of Painted Fabrics
6	Arthur Chubb, a prisoner of the Germans
7	Arthur Fisher, a Painted Fabrics worker
8	Laura Flather, provided aid and comfort to Sheffield soldiers
9	Reg Glenn, a Sheffield Pal
10	Sydney Grummitt, a child sailor
11	James Haddock, an executed Sheffield soldier
12	James Helliwell, a child at a Sheffield school
13	Jonas Jones, a Sheffield German
14	Jean Donat Julien, a Belgian refugee in Sheffield
15	Tom Lockwood, a private in the British Expeditionary Force
16	Arnold Loosemore, a Sheffield Victoria Cross holder
17	Tom May, a Sheffield sailor
18	Horatio Naylor, a front line medic
19	Albert Edward Newton, a Zeppelin air raid survivor
20	Norman Sales, a member of the Royal Air Force
21	Alphonso Samms, an anti-war agitator
22	Minnie Seddon, a Sheffield munitionette
23	Ralph Whawell, a victim of DORA
24	John Wright, a child soldier from Sheffield
Sheffield Local Studies Library and Sheffield Archives facilities	
Contact details	

SHEFFIELD LIBRARIES ARCHIVES AND INFORMATION

Sheffield Players in World War One

Introduction

When war broke out in 1914 few realised the enormous magnitude of the forces that were unleashed. World War One was the country's first national war affecting the whole of society; not only were men of fighting age caught in the maelstrom, but every member of society:

- women of all ages and social classes through the requirements for war work, managing food shortages and providing comfort to wounded soldiers;
- children who witnessed the Zeppelin raid or knitted socks at school to send to our men in France;
- university students who gave up their studies to serve as soldiers or medics;
- hospital workers who served in the city's numerous military hospitals;
- young women who worked as nurses;
- businesses which faced shortages of men;
- publicans who faced restrictions on their opening hours;
- the City Council which had to decide to let women work on the trams or build emergency huts for the influx of munitions workers;
- old age pensioners that lived in fear of air raids from German Zeppelins or dealt with food shortages.

This booklet provides information on 24 Sheffield lives that were altered by the events of 1914 – 1918. They serve as examples of the human stories that were created in the four long years of the war. They also stand as a testimony to over 5,000 Sheffielders who are believed to have been killed in the war and the countless thousands of others who bore witness to the 'war to end all wars'.

World War One Players: Charles Stanley Ball, a conscientious objector

Role in World War One: In June 1916 Charles Stanley Ball was charged with being an 'absentee' for resisting his call-up to the army on account of his religious convictions.

Born: 1893, Handsworth, Sheffield

Died: Not known



Charles Stanley Ball was born at Handsworth in 1893, the eldest son of Thomas William Ball (who worked as an underground haulage hand in a colliery) and Lenora Ball (née Mills). By 1911, aged 18 at the time, Charles Stanley Ball was working as a 'colliery surveyor', living at the family home on Back Lane, Woodhouse, in the parish of Handsworth (now part of Sheffield) with his parents, three sisters and two brothers.

In June 1916, aged 22, Charles Stanley Ball was charged in Sheffield 'with being an absentee from the Reserve forces'. Twelve months previously, Ball had joined the Christian movement the 'Christadelphian Society', which advocated its members to adhere to 'conscientious objection'. On being conscripted, Ball appeared before his local Woodhouse Tribunal and claimed he was a 'conscientious objector' on grounds of his faith. His application was refused initially but the Appeal Tribunal exempted him from combatant service. The military authorities in turn appealed against this decision to the Central Tribunal which ruled that Ball should undertake *non-combatant* service.

"Before the Woodhouse Tribunal he appeared as a conscientious objector and his application was refused... The defendant claimed that negotiations had been in progress between the Christadelphian Society and the War Office, as a result of which Christadelphians were allowed to go on work of national service..."
(Sheffield Independent 28 Jun 1916)



Ball asked for the decision to be reviewed and for him to be permitted to undertake 'work of national importance' instead, but this appeal was refused by the Local and Appeals Tribunal on the basis that the Central Tribunal ruling was final. Ball claimed that negotiations were in progress between the Christadelphian Society and the War Office to allow Christadelphians to undertake work of national service. He was supported in his case by a Mr J. Hanson of the Christadelphian Society.

Ball was fined 40 shillings which he refused to pay and was taken into military custody. What happened to him next is not known.

World War One Players: Charles and Annie Berry, parents suffering multiple losses

Role in World War One: Charles and Annie Berry lost both their eldest sons in the conflict: Charles Alfred Berry, aged 25, who died in 1916 and Harry Berry, aged 19, who died in 1917.

Born: Charles born 1869 (Sheffield) and Annie born c. 1871 (Sheffield)

Died: Charles died in 1934 (aged 64) and Annie died in 1949 (aged 78) both in Sheffield



Charles Alfred Berry was born in Sheffield in 1869 and his wife Annie (née Tonge) was born c. 1871. They married in 1890. Charles worked as a pen and pocket blade grinder. Charles and Annie lived at 15 Dacre Street in the Park area of Sheffield. They had 10 children, 3 of whom died in infancy. By 1911, their two eldest sons Charles Alfred (junior), aged 19 at the time, and Harry, aged 13, were both employed in the same pen and pocket blade grinding trade as their father.

Charles Alfred Berry [junior] (born 1891) joined the York and Lancaster Regiment as a private and was sent to fight in France in April 1915. He later became a sergeant and was killed in the Battle of the Somme on 7 July 1916, aged 25. His body was not recovered and he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing. Charles was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal for his bravery in the actions which preceded his death (see the original citation below).

2207 Sjt. C.A. BERRY

For conspicuous gallantry in action. When the enemy counter-attacked on their captured trenches, he handled a machine-gun under heavy fire in a most daring manner till wounded in the head. Two days previously, during a heavy bombardment, he dug up a buried gun and got it into action. (22.9.16)



**UK Citations of the Distinguished
Conduct Medal, 1914 - 1920**

**Sergeant Charles Alfred Berry (1891 -
1916) and Corporal Harry Berry (1898 -
1917) pictured in *Sheffield Independent***

Less than a year after their eldest son's death, Charles and Annie Berry lost their second son in the conflict. Harry Berry (born 1898) had followed in the footsteps of his older brother, joining the York and Lancaster Regiment as a private and sent out to fight in France in August 1915, aged 17. He was later transferred to Machine Gun Corps (Infantry) where he became a corporal. Harry was 'accidentally killed' on 20 April 1917, aged 19 (although official records report him as being 18). He is buried at the Pont-du-Hem Military Cemetery, La Gorgue, France.

World War One Players: Douglas Branson, Hallamshire Battalion Commanding Officer

Role in World War One: Branson served with distinction with the Hallamshire Battalion York and Lancaster Regiment (becoming one of the youngest commanding officers in the British Army). He was wounded twice and gained the Military Cross in 1917.

Born: 25 Jul 1893

Died: 23 Nov 1981



Colonel Sir Douglas Branson (1893 - 1981) was born on 25 July 1893 and was educated at Marlborough and New College, Oxford. He served with distinction in the First World War with the Hallamshire Battalion York and Lancaster Regiment (becoming one of the youngest commanding officers in the British Army) where he was wounded twice and gained the Military Cross in 1917 and the Distinguished Service Order with two bars in 1918. At the end of the war he was appointed to command the Hallamshire Battalion. From 1925 he was Commander of the 148 Infantry Brigade (TA).

He was Additional Aide-de-Camp (ADC) to the King from 1927 - 1952 and to the Queen from 1952 - 1960. He also practiced as a solicitor, becoming Deputy Lieutenant for the West Riding of Yorkshire in 1934 and later High Sheriff of Hallamshire in 1963. He headed the firm of solicitors Branson, Bramley and Co. of Paradise Square, Sheffield, and served as a Town Trustee of Sheffield.



He was twice married, first to Edith Eileen Bradbury (daughter of Joseph Bradbury) who died in 1959; second to Ailie Fisher (widow of Brigadier John Malcolm Fisher and daughter of Sir William Bell). He was also a director of Newton Chambers, the Parkgate Iron and Steel Company and several other local companies.

He died at his home in Fulwood Road, Sheffield on 23 November 1981.

World War One Players: Edith Eveline Bromehead, a nurse in a military hospital in Sheffield

Role in World War One: Edith was just 16 years of age when she started work in a military hospital in Sheffield tending the wounds of injured soldiers who had been evacuated from the front.

Born: 1898, Sheffield

Died: 1972, Sheffield



Edith Eveline Bromehead was born in the Ecclesall district of Sheffield in 1898. Her early years were spent at 136 Myrtle Road, Sheffield; she attended Heeley Bank Girls School from c. 1906. In 1911 she is recorded as living, aged 13, with her parents William Alfred and Elizabeth Bromehead at 356 London Road, Sheffield. William was listed as a 'boot repairer and maker'.

By the time World War One broke out in August 1914 Edith would have been 16 or 17 years old. She worked as a nurse in one of the military hospitals in Sheffield tending to wounded soldiers evacuated from the Front. Sheffield had about 14 military hospitals in conventional hospital buildings as well as in schools converted for the purpose (e.g. Shiregreen and Lydgate Lane schools to name just two). By about the end of 1916 there were over 2,000 bed spaces in the city for soldiers.



Whilst she was working as a nurse she kept an album in which her fellow nurses and the wounded soldiers wrote notes of friendship and affection. In addition, some of the soldiers drew pictures and cartoons of the war and other matters. The album is available to view at Sheffield Archives.

Despite their heroic work, only a small number of women were officially recognised. In 1918 a number of Sheffield Nurses were awarded the Royal Red Cross by the King, but the vast majority received no recognition.

Edith married Frank Kerrigan in 1925. It is believed they lived at 49 Melrose Place in Sheffield for most, if not all, of their married life. It appears Edith died in March 1972 and Frank a few months later.

World War One Players: Annie Bindon Carter, founder of Painted Fabrics

Role in World War One: Provided art therapy to injured servicemen during WW1, later turning the idea into a company called Painted Fabrics offering employment to disabled ex-servicemen.

Born: 1883, Nottingham

Died: 1969



Annie Bindon Carter was born in Nottingham in 1883, the daughter of John Bindon Carter, an architect, and educated at the Ladies Moravian School, Derby later obtaining scholarships at the Sheffield School of Art and the Royal College of Art in London. At Sheffield she won special awards for mural decorations, silver designs and textile designs and before her marriage to Geoffrey Carter, a Sheffield businessman, she was employed as a designer in London and Sheffield.

Painted Fabrics Limited was developed through the imaginative work of a small group of women led by Annie Bindon Carter who, in 1915, volunteered to work with disabled ex-servicemen at the Wharnccliffe War Hospital at Middlewood. Mrs Carter and her friends used their skills to organise art classes three afternoons a week as a form of occupational therapy for the men.



At Painted Fabrics, men acquired a wide range of new skills very different from their pre-war occupations including hand stencilling using specially adapted brushes and tools, screen printing, block printing, spray painting and garment manufacture. Mrs Carter's motto for Painted Fabrics was 'Work not Charity'. She devoted her life to helping the men who came to Painted Fabrics.

Her achievement was given official recognition in 1926 when she was awarded the MBE and in 1958 when she received the OBE. She died in 1969.

World War One Players: Arthur Chubb, Prisoner of War

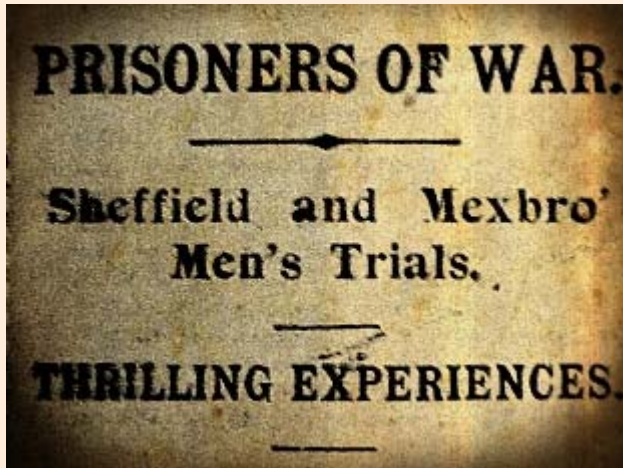
Role in World War One: Member of the Royal Army Medical Corps (R.A.M.C.) who was held as a Prisoner of War in Freidrichsfeld.

Born: 26 Aug 1894, Warrington, Lancashire

Died: [1964]



Private Arthur E. Chubb (R.A.M.C.) was born in 1894 in Warrington, later moving with his family to Newman Road, Wincobank, Sheffield.



Chubb was a nursing orderly. He left England on 16 Aug 1914 with the 4th Cavalry Field Ambulance. After arriving in France they went to Rouen, and then to Mons where they were engaged in three days of fighting. When the army retreated Chubb was left at the hospital with two medical officers and five other nursing orderlies, taking care of the 250 wounded men

under their charge. On 26 Aug 1914 (Chubb's 20th birthday) the Germans attacked and took over the hospital, and Chubb became a prisoner of war.

After a traumatic journey via Brussels and Duisburg they were taken to a detention camp at Freidrichsfeld. Conditions were basic - they were kept in huts with no sides and fed a diet of cabbage and black bread. The camp was surrounded by two lines of barbed wire, a live electric wire and a moat. In Nov 1914 a number of English and French prisoners attempted to escape by digging a tunnel; 20 men succeeded in getting away. After Oct 1914, conditions improved and the prisoners were allowed two meals a day of potatoes and turnips, and a round of black bread. Until then Chubb had gone with bare feet but he now received a pair of Dutch clogs. The prisoners had no soap and only one shirt each. In Apr 1915 the *Sheffield Daily Independent* newspaper published Chubb's name and he was 'adopted' by Miss E. Herron of Barnsley, who sent him parcels of food and cigarettes on a regular basis.

Because he was a member of a medical corps, Chubb was released along with 300 others in exchange for a similar number of prisoners of war in Allied hands. They returned to England via Holland, where their reception was, in Chubb's words '*the finest I have ever experienced*'.

World War One Players: Arthur Fisher, Painted Fabrics worker

Role in World War One: Fisher enlisted in 1915. After suffering terrible injuries on the battlefield, losing both legs, he went on to have a successful career at Painted Fabrics, Meadowhead, Sheffield.

Born: 22 June 1894, Scotland Street, Sheffield

Died: 1957



Arthur Fisher was born at 17 Court, Scotland Street, Sheffield on 22 June 1894.

His father was William Henry Fisher, a table blade grinder, and his mother was Ellen Fisher (née Duke). He worked for Robert Slack who owned a confectionery works in Scotland Street.

At the beginning of the First World War, he was transferred from Slacks to munitions work at Hadfields Ltd where he stayed until he enlisted on 10 December 1915 to join the Royal Garrison Artillery. He enlisted as a Private and was promoted to Gunner.



He was badly wounded during the 1918 offensive when both legs were blown off by a shell. His life was saved by a transfusion of three pints of blood freely given by an unknown Scottish soldier who was wounded at the same time. In April 1918 Arthur wrote to his fiancée, Annie Bell (of Walkley) to break the news: 'Well Dear, I am so sorry to tell you that I got wounded on Sunday 21st and do not let it worry you. I am so sorry to say that I have got both my legs off one up to the knees but I thank God that I am alive.' Annie wrote back: 'Well dear you must not think I shall turn against you in any way through it [the amputation of both legs] NO dear I shall only love you and honour you all the more for it, and I am going to marry you dear as soon as it is possible'. They married at Walkley Parish Church in Sheffield in 1919.

Hadfield's offered Fisher a post for life with the Sheffield firm. However, he went to work at Painted Fabrics, a company set up to offer employment to disabled ex-servicemen who had suffered physical and psychological injuries during the War.

World War One Players: Laura Flather, Ladies' Civic Aid Committee

Role in World War One: Noted in the 1915 Sheffield Year Book and Record for her 'distinguished services' during the war by offering comfort to wounded soldiers and their families.

Born: 1867, Sheffield

Died: 1961, Sheffield



Laura Flather was born in Sheffield in 1867.

She was the daughter of William T. Flather, steel manufacturer at the Standard Works, Tinsley, and Phoebe Flather who set up Oakdale House, House of Help for Friendless Girls and Young Women (with Arthur Davy) in the 1880s in Sheffield.

During the war, she worked for the Insurance Committee, resigning her position in 1919. She also worked tirelessly alongside other local women in War Relief work in Sheffield. Laura Flather, Amy Hobson and Winnie Marsh were all Honorary Secretaries of the Ladies' Civic Aid Committee in Sheffield which provided clothing for the wives and children of servicemen. The 1915 Sheffield Year Book and Record reported that the women 'took care that no "little Tommy-all-my-own" of any Sheffield soldier or sailor shall be cold or hungry'.



Mrs. H. A. L. FISHER,
One of the keenest of Lady Workers
for the Soldiers.



Miss EDITH SORBY,
Hon. Sec., Soldiers' Personal
Comfort Depot.

Laura Flather did not marry. In later life, she lived at Dale Cottage, 55 Endcliffe Vale Road, Sheffield. She died on 1 May 1961.

World War One Players: James Reginald Glenn, a Sheffield Pal

Role in World War One: Glenn enlisted in the Sheffield City Battalion (Sheffield Pals) on the outbreak of war in August 1914. He served with the Battalion until it was disbanded in 1918.

Born: 1893, Pitsmoor

Died: 1994, Sheffield



Glenn was born in Sheffield in 1893. He spent his early years growing up at 60 Holme Lane, Wadsley. On the 1911 census he is recorded as living with his two sisters and his parents at 11 May Road, Hillsborough.

He was working as a Clerk in the Education Department when war was declared, though he soon enlisted with the Sheffield City Battalion along with some of his 'pals'. In 1918, when the City Battalion was disbanded, Glenn transferred to the North Staffordshire Regiment.



The idea of forming a Sheffield battalion came from two University students, supported by the Vice-Chancellor. The University and City Special Battalion, eventually the 12th (Service) Battalion, York and Lancaster Regiment, was officially recognised on 10th September and volunteers were sought from the professional classes, particularly the university, ex-public school, lawyers, clerks

and journalists. The Battalion trained at a newly-constructed camp at Redmires and later at Cannock Chase before embarking for Egypt in December 1915. They arrived in France in March 1916 and sustained very heavy casualties at the Battle of the Somme.

After the war Glenn returned to his job as a supplies clerk with the Education Department, where he worked until his retirement in 1958. He married Elsie Gosling in Sheffield in 1925 and they had two sons Don and Roy. Their married life was spent at Middlewood Road in Oughtibridge.

Glenn lived until he was 101 years old. In his later years he worked with schools and often gave talks about the events he witnessed between 1914 and 1918. In 1980 an interview with him was recorded. You can listen to parts of the recording on the Archives and Local Studies YouTube channel:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/SheffieldArchives1/videos>

World War One Players: Sydney William Grummitt, a child sailor

Role in World War One: Sydney William Grummitt served as a 'Boy 1st class' seaman in the Royal Navy and was killed in the Dardanelles [Turkey], aged 16.

Born: 25 April 1898, Boston, Lincolnshire

Died: 14 March 1915, Dardanelles, Turkey



Sydney William Grummitt was born in Boston, Lincolnshire, on 25 April 1898, the oldest of three children of Robert Grummitt (a rope maker) and Catherine Grummitt (known as Kate). By 1911, the family had moved from their native Lincolnshire to Sheffield and were living at 134 Coleford Road, Darnall. The family later lived at 19 Freeborough Street, Attercliffe and 3 Moor View, View Road, Heeley, Sheffield.



Prior to the war Sydney was employed at J. H. Mudford and Sons (rope manufacturers) of Sheffield. He left to join the Royal Navy as a 'Boy 1st class' seaman. He served on board the HMS Amethyst in the Dardanelles [Turkey], during naval operations as part of the Gallipoli campaign.

On the night of 13th/14th March 1915, the HMS Amethyst was badly damaged whilst attempting to clear a minefield laid by the Ottoman enemy in the Dardanelles. Sydney was killed on board, aged 16. He was buried at sea and is commemorated on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial.

World War One Players: James Alfred Haddock, executed for cowardice

Role in World War One: Haddock, a serving soldier was one of 306 soldiers executed by the British authorities for cowardice / desertion.

Born: 1884 Eckington, Derbyshire

Died: 16 Sep 1916 France



James Haddock was born in Eckington, but his family later moved to Sheffield. In 1911 they lived at Park Lane in Handsworth. By 1917 the family were living at Ramshill road in Tinsley.

It appears Haddock enlisted in the York and Lancaster Regiment as early as January 1904 in Pontefract. He was described as a labourer at the time. Though we have no photograph of James we do know from his military record that he was five foot five inches tall with a fresh complexion and blue-grey eyes. He saw service in India prior to World war One.

Whilst he was on active service as part of the British Expeditionary Force he was wounded and he did suffer from Shell Shock.

On 9th August 1916 it appears James left the trenches and hid in a wagon which was en route to Volville. This was just over a month after the battle of the Somme, where the Battalion had lost a considerable number of men. 5 days later he was apprehended by the Military Police. James faced a court martial (in France) on 24 August. Being found guilty he was sentenced to 'suffer death by being shot'. The Commander in Chief, General Sir Douglas Haig confirmed the sentence on 12 Sep. At 5pm on 15th Sep the sentence was promulgated and James was shot the following morning, just one month after being arrested.

It seems James had had a troubled period. He was in and out of hospital in the early months of 1916; in April he had been convicted of desertion earlier in the year and had been sentenced to 20 years penal servitude (later reduced to 5 years). In July he was in and out of hospital suffering from shell shock. On 8th August he was posted to the 12th battalion (from the 2nd), but he was absent the following day.

A snippet of a handwritten military record on lined paper. The text is written in cursive and reads: 'Finding - Guilty. Sentence - To suffer death by being shot.'

Finding - Guilty.
Sentence - To suffer death by being shot.

He was executed on 16 Sep 1916 and is buried in the Vieille-Chapelle New Military Cemetery, Lacouture, France.

His personal affects were forwarded to his father in February 1917.

World War One Players: James Helliwell, a child at school

Role in World War One: James Helliwell was a four year-old child in Sheffield when his father, private George Helliwell, was killed fighting on the Western Front in February 1915.

Born: 17 October 1910, Sheffield

Died: January 1986, Sheffield



James Helliwell was born on 17th October 1910 in Sheffield, the fifth of six surviving children (and eldest son) of George Helliwell (a metal casting worker) and Harriet Helliwell (née Clayton). The family lived on Edward Street, Sheffield (Court 1 house 5).

James' father George enlisted as a private in the East Yorkshire Regiment and was sent to fight in France in January 1915. George was killed in battle in the Ypres Salient, Belgium on 18th February 1915. His body was not recovered and he is commemorated on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial. His death was announced in the *Sheffield Telegraph* on 9 March 1915 accompanied by the above picture showing George with his son James.

The log book for St Stephen's Boys' School, Finlay Street, Sheffield (near to where James Helliwell lived) reveals how news of the Armistice on 11th November 1918 was received in local schools and marked by school children such as James:

the scholars were assembled in the playground, the Union Jack was hoisted, "God save the King", "Rule Britannia" were sung, & hearty cheers were given for King & country & our Allies. In the afternoon a holiday was granted to celebrate this memorable event.

11 Nov 1918

"Armistice Day". Immediately the buzzer sounded to announce to Sheffield of the signing of the Armistice by Germany, the scholars were assembled in the playground, the Union Jack was hoisted, "God save the King" & "Rule Britannia" were sung, & hearty cheers were given for King & Country & our Allies. In the afternoon a holiday was granted to celebrate this memorable event.

21 Nov 1918

"Children's Thanksgiving". The elder children of the School marched on procession to the Moorhead Assembling Centre to arrive for 2pm. The procession passed the main entrance to the Town Hall when the children saluted to the Lord Mayor & proceeded to Carver St Wesleyan Church to take part in a Children's Thanksgiving Service to the Almighty God for victory & the coming of a righteous peace.

James Helliwell died in Sheffield in January 1986, aged 75.

World War One Players: Joseph Jonas, Sheffield's German-born Lord Mayor

Role in World War One: Jonas was a successful businessman and a former Lord Mayor. In 1918 he was tried at the Old Bailey for breaching the Official Secrets Act. He was found guilty of a misdemeanour, fined, stripped of his knighthood and otherwise disgraced.

Born: 1845, Bingen on the Rhine, Germany.

Died: 1921, Sheffield.



Jonas was born at Bingen on the Rhine in Prussia into a Jewish family. He left his home town in 1866, principally to avoid military service. He arrived in Sheffield with little money knowing no one. Jonas started work as steel manufacturer; he soon went into partnership with Robert Colver, their business, Jonas and Colver, becoming extremely successful, employing about 2,500 men by 1914.

Jonas became a naturalised British citizen in September 1876 and went on to become a significant member of the Sheffield community, as Justice of the Peace, a Town and City Councillor. In 1904 he became Lord Mayor of Sheffield. He also received a peerage from King Edward VII.

Jonas was a major benefactor, donating funds towards the establishment of the new University of Sheffield. Within months of World War I breaking out he promised to supply ambulances to take wounded soldiers from the Sheffield railway station to the military hospital.

Joseph's Son Edward served in the Royal Engineers in the war.

In 1918 Jonas was caught up in the general anti-German feeling in the country. He was accused, along with the company's London agent, of acquiring information (before the war) which could prove useful to an enemy. He was found guilty at the Old Bailey of a misdemeanour, was fined £2,000 and stripped of his knighthood and his commission of the peace.

Jonas died in August 1921, aged 77. He is buried in All Saints Ecclesall churchyard.



World War One Players: Jean Donat Julien, Belgian refugee and manufacturing engineer

Role in World War One: Jean Donat Julien came to Sheffield as a Belgian refugee where, in association with the Sheffield steel manufacturers Thomas Firth and Sons Limited, he helped to establish the company Firth-Derihon Stampings Limited, Forged Component Manufacturers, based at Tinsley.

Born: 16 October 1878, Jemelle, Belgium

Died: 19 April 1952, Liege, Belgium



Jean Donat Julien was born in Jemelle, Belgium on 16 October 1878. He came to Sheffield as a Belgian refugee during the First World War. Britain welcomed around 250,000 Belgians to its shores following the German invasion of Belgium in August 1914. Sheffield offered hospitality to some 3,000 of these displaced Belgians. Shirle Hill at Nether Edge became a receiving base for Belgian refugees and other receiving bases were established in Westbrook House, Firvale House, Wadsley Hall and the Ecclesall Union.

A relief fund was set up in Sheffield to provide financial assistance to the Belgian refugees until they found work to support themselves, which many of them did in the local munitions industry.



As a manufacturing engineer, Julien brought with him particular expertise 'in the control of grain flow in drop-forged aero-engine valves'. In 1919, he helped to establish a company Firth-Derihon Stampings Limited, Forged Component Manufacturers, based at Tinsley, in association with the Sheffield Steel Manufacturers Thomas Firth and Sons Limited. The company (which later became a wholly-owned Firth subsidiary) concentrated on the manufacture of high-quality forged components. Julien became Managing Director of Firth-Derihon Stampings Ltd and a naturalised British subject.

He married Anna (née Deryhon) and lived in Sheffield and Manchester and latterly in Darley Dale [Derbyshire] where Firth-Derihon Stampings Ltd had opened a works (and where the company still trades today under the name Firth Rixson Forgings Limited).

By July 1951, Julien was forced to step down from the board of the company through ill health and he returned to Belgium, where he lived at 258 rue Saint Laurent, Liege. He died in Liege on 19 April 1952, aged 73.

World War One Players: Tom Lockwood, a soldier in the British Expeditionary Force

Role in World War One: Tom Lockwood enlisted as a private in the York and Lancaster Regiment and later served as a sergeant in the 7th Battalion Yorkshire Regiment. He was killed in November 1916.

Born: 1888, High Green, Ecclesfield, Sheffield

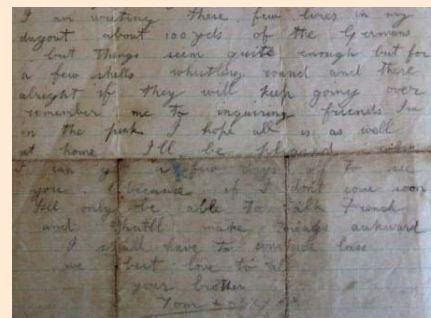
Died: 6 Nov 1916, France



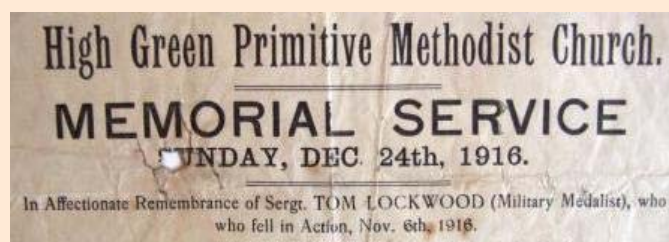
Tom Lockwood was born in 1888 at High Green, Ecclesfield, Sheffield, the son of John Arthur Lockwood (a coal miner) and Clara Lockwood (nee Bassinder). He lived at Holbrook Lane and later Wortley Road, High Green. By the age of 13 he had followed his father down the coal mines, working as a 'pony driver' (below ground) and later as a 'coal miner ripper'. Tom enlisted as a private in the York and Lancaster Regiment and was sent out to fight in France in October 1915. He later served as a sergeant in the 7th Battalion Yorkshire Regiment and was awarded the 'Military Medal' for gallantry.

Just four days after writing the letter pictured below to his brother and sister from the trenches of the Western Front, Tom was killed in the Battle of the Somme on 6 November 1916 (aged 28).

"I am writing these few lines in my dugout about 100 yards [from] the Germans but things seem quiet enough but for a few shells whistling around...remember me to inquiring friends. I'm in the pink. I hope all is well at home. I'll be pleased when I can get a few days off to see you because if I don't come soon I'll only be able to talk French...love to all, your brother Tom xxxxx"



His body was never recovered. On Christmas Eve 1916, his family held a memorial service for him at High Green Primitive Methodist Church, Sheffield. Tom Lockwood is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing in France.



World War One Players: Arnold Loosemore, a decorated soldier

Role in World War One: Arnold Loosemore was a recipient of the Victoria Cross (VC), the most prestigious award for gallantry available to British and Commonwealth troops and was also awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM).

Born: 7 June 1896, Sheffield

Died: 10 April 1924, Stannington, Sheffield



Arnold Loosemore was born in Sheffield on 7 June 1896, the 6th son of George Harry Loosemore (who worked as a gardener) and Selina Loosemore (née Hoyland). Arnold was educated at Clifford Church of England School, Psalter Lane, Sheffield. By 1911, aged 14, he was living and working as a 'cowboy' at Lowfolds Farm in Fulwood on the outskirts of Sheffield. He later worked for a local coal merchants.

Arnold was one of seven brothers from the Loosemoor family (of 1 Lescar Lane, Sharrow Vale, Sheffield) to fight in the war. He enlisted in the army in January 1915, joining the York and Lancaster regiment as a private. He first served in the Balkans from September 1915 and saw action in the Gallipoli campaign. He was later transferred into the 8th Battalion of the Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment, becoming a machine gunner. Arnold was awarded the Victoria Cross for displaying "most conspicuous bravery and initiative" on 11th August 1917 during an attack on a heavily fortified enemy position south of Langemarck, Belgium (cited in the *London Gazette*, 14 Sep 1917).

Arnold was promoted to a sergeant and also won the Distinguished Conduct Medal for bravery displayed at Zillebreke on June 19th 1918. On 18th October 1918 he was badly wounded near Villers-en-Cauchies, leading to one of his legs being amputated.



After the war Arnold returned to Sheffield and became a poultry farmer in Stannington. He married Amy Morton in August 1920 at St Andrew's Church, Sharrow Vale. They had a son Arnold [junior] born in 1921. His health having suffered due to his war wounds, Arnold died on 10 April 1924, aged 27, after contracting tuberculosis. Following a lavish military funeral, he was buried at All Saints Churchyard, Ecclesall, Sheffield.

World War One Players: Thomas May, Royal Navy

Role in World War One: Thomas May of Sheffield served in the Royal Navy during World War One. He was promoted from a warrant officer to commissioned rank in the Grand Fleet.

Born: 1882, Sheffield

Died: 1939, Rydal Villa, Greenhill, Sheffield



Thomas May was born in Sheffield in 1882. He was the brother of John and Joseph May, heads of the firm John May (Sheffield) Limited, loom furniture and travelling requisites manufacturers on Arundel Street, Sheffield.

He joined the Navy as a boy of 15 in 1897. While on his first commission in the Mediterranean, he became interested in rifle and revolver shooting. On returning to England in 1904 he created a record in gunnery on HMS Excellent. At age 21, he became the youngest gunnery instructor in the Royal Navy. The *Sheffield Independent* said he was 'a great shot with the big gun, the rifle and the revolver'.



May was promoted to warrant officer aged 27. On the outbreak of World War One, he served on HMS Dreadnought where he was promoted to commissioned rank. He was posted to HMS Malaya which served in the Battle of Jutland. For his services, he was appointed executive officer of destroyers engaged in anti-submarine warfare.

He was with the Allied Fleet at the bombardment of Durazzo [Albania] and the forced landing at Dedeaghat [Greece], and was at both operations on the Philippopolis railway which led to the surrender of, first, Bulgaria, and then Turkey. It was at Durazzo and Dedeaghat that he received injuries which ended his active service, although after the Armistice he was in command of the Fury which occupied Constantinople [Istanbul] and was later given an executive officer's post at the naval base of Port Edgar.

May was one of the founders of the local ex-Naval branch of the British Legion which was the first branch of its kind to be formed in Great Britain.

He died at his home, Rydal Villa, Greenhill, Sheffield in 1939.

World War One Players: Horatio Naylor, a medical support officer

Role in World War One: Horatio Naylor served in the Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC) providing front line medical support to wounded troops.

Born: 1893, Ecclesall, Sheffield

Died: 1961, Sheffield



Horatio Naylor was born in 1893 in Ecclesall, Sheffield, the eldest son of Lee Naylor (a cowman on a cattle farm) and Ety Naylor (née Ward). By 1911, aged 18, Horatio was employed as a stonemason, living with his parents, and his three sisters and two brothers, at 19 Latham Square, Hill Top, Ecclesall, Sheffield.

Horatio enlisted as a Private in the Royal Army Medical Corps (RAMC) in September 1914 and was sent out to France in August 1915. He later became a Sergeant. He was awarded the Military Medal for "gallantry and devotion to duty" for his actions on 7th June 1917 at Larch Wood (Belgium) when in charge of four squads of stretcher bearers he evacuated wounded soldiers from a regimental aid post under heavy enemy fire. Details of his actions (taken from the official report) are found in the *Sheffield Telegraph* newspaper article below.



After gaining his Military Medal, Horatio Naylor was wounded later in the conflict, but survived and returned to settle in Sheffield after the war. He died in Sheffield in 1961, aged 68.



World War One Players: Albert Edward Newton, Zeppelin air raid survivor

Role in World War One: In September 1916, Albert Edward Newton, aged 6 at the time, survived a Zeppelin air raid which killed both his parents, demolishing their house on Cossey Road, Burngreave, Sheffield.

Born: 1 May 1910, Sheffield

Died: Dec 1986, Sheffield



Albert Edward Newton was born in Sheffield on 1 May 1910, the only child of Albert Newton (a turner who worked in the production of railway axles) and Alice Newton (née Richardson). The family lived at 28 Cossey Road, Burngreave.

Their house was destroyed by one of two high explosive bombs which dropped on their street on the night of 25th /26th September 1916 in an enemy Zeppelin air raid attack on Sheffield. Both Albert and Alice Newton were killed. The neighbouring houses of 24 and 26 Cossey Road were also destroyed in the air raid and the occupants killed (the picture below shows rescuers searching the wreckage of numbers 24 - 28 Cossey Road after the raid).



In total 28 people were killed in the air raid on Sheffield when a single Zeppelin air ship dropped 36 bombs along a path from Burngreave through to Attercliffe and Darnall. Other victims included those killed by bombs which fell on Corby Street (now Fred Mulley Road) and Petre Street.

Albert Edward Newton (aged 6 at the time) is thought to have survived the attack which killed his parents as he happened to be staying that night with his grandmother Florence Richardson who lived on a neighbouring street (Sorby Street).

Albert Edward Newton married Edith Hannah Murphy in 1933. He died in Sheffield in December 1986, aged 76.

World War One Players: Norman Sales, Royal Air Force

Role in World War One: fought on the Western Front in 1915, later joining the Royal Air Force in 1918

Born: 10 September 1895, Sheffield

Died: 30 June 1918, France



Norman Sales was born in Sheffield on 10 September 1895.

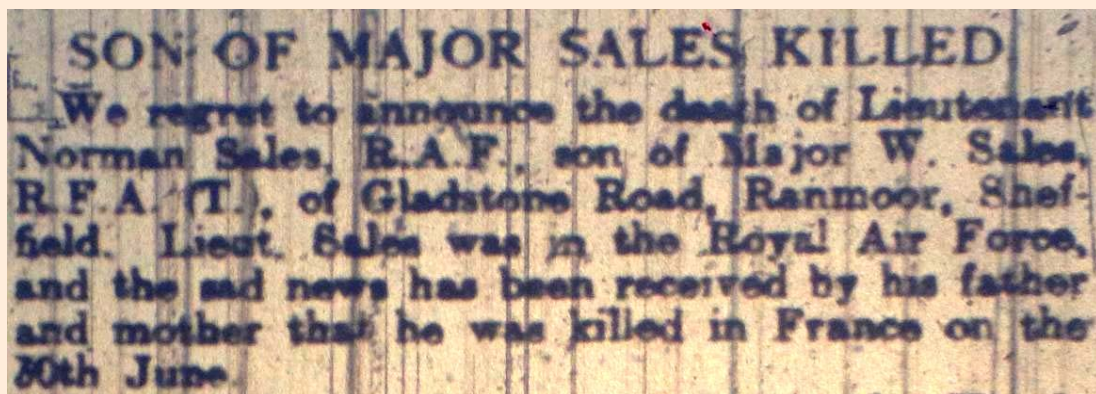
He was the son of Major Walter Sales, R.F.A. (Royal Field Artillery) (Volunteers) and Charlotte Ellen Sales of Gladstone Road, Ranmoor.

Lieutenant Sales got his commission in the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry in September 1914 and went out to France in March 1915. He fought on the Western Front and was in the attack on Hill 60 in Ypres, Belgium. He remained with his battalion until wounded on 21 December 1915.

On recovery he was transferred to the Royal Flying Corps and went out again at the end of 1916. In February 1917 he was in hospital in England for one month and on resuming his duties was appointed instructor at an aerodrome in Scotland. In May 1918 he was sent to France and worked with the newly-formed Royal Air Force. The *Sheffield Telegraph* reported that he 'had been in the thick of stirring events until the time of his death'.

Lieutenant Norman Sales was killed in France on 30 June 1918.

His father Major Sales obtained his commission in the R.F.A. (Volunteers) in 1900 and was described as 'a popular officer in the Sheffield Artillery'. He remained on active service in England during 1918.



World War One Players: Alphonso Samms, anti-war agitator

Role in World War One: In August 1915 Samms was sentenced to two months hard labour for offences against the Defence of the Realm Act (DORA).

Born: Jun 1882, Wakefield.

Died: Nov 1960, Sheffield.



Alphonso Samms was born in 1882 in Wakefield, the son of George and Emily Samms. The family were Wesleyan Methodists. Alphonso's father worked as an iron moulder. Alphonso married when he was just 17, by which time he was also working as an iron moulder. By 1911 Alphonso had moved to Ribstone Road in Attercliffe, Sheffield. He had also changed his trade and was now a self-employed yeast dealer and health food agent.

Alphonso was active in local politics. He was a socialist and in August 1915 he was elected to the Sheffield Board of Guardians. The Guardians ran the Sheffield Workhouse.

It was whilst a Poor Law Guardian that Samms fell foul of the Defence of the Realm Act. Samms visited wounded soldiers at the workhouse where he suggested the war was a capitalist conspiracy, only benefiting business. He said to one Canadian soldier that he 'shouldn't butcher people for other people's benefit'. He claimed the soldiers were wasting their time fighting and he went as far to suggest that the working class would do just as well under the German authorities. It appears the soldiers were not keen on Samms' view. Word got back to the authorities and in August 1915 Samms was sentenced to 2 years hard labour for attempting to cause disaffection amongst the soldiers, an offence under the Defence of the Realm Act (known as DORA). The judge praised the soldiers for the 'manly way in which they had tackled a very unpleasant business.' Samms' case was reported in newspapers as far away as New Zealand.



After his release Samms returned to his previous address and job as a yeast dealer. In later life he worked as a poultry farmer and lived at 18 Junction Road, Woodhouse.

Samms died in November 1960, aged 78.

World War One Players: Minnie Seddon, a munitionette

Role in World War One: Minnie Seddon was a female munitions worker employed at Thomas Firth and Son's National Projectile Factory at Templeborough, Sheffield.

Born: 10 November 1889, Sheffield

Died: 1977, Sheffield



Minnie Seddon was born on 10 November 1889, the daughter of Albert V. Seddon (a railway clerk) and Sarah A. Seddon. Her early childhood home was on Nottingham Street, Brightside, Sheffield. By 1901 (aged 10) she had moved to Kirkley, Suffolk and was living with her grandmother Caroline Jackson, but appears to have later returned to Sheffield where she attended the Central Secondary School. In May 1905 she transferred to Bloomfield Road School in Greenwich, London. By 1911, she was again living with her grandmother, now in Horsham, Sussex, where she worked as an elementary school teacher. During the First World War, Minnie again returned to Sheffield, this time as a 'munitionette' (a female munitions worker).

During the First World War, a number of Sheffield steel works came under the control of the Ministry of Munitions and were instructed to concentrate production on munitions as part of a war-based economy. Minnie was one of thousands of females in Sheffield who helped to make up the shortfall in male workers with so many men called up to fight. Minnie worked as 'checker 95' for Thomas Firth and Son's National Projectile Factory at Templeborough (by 1915 over 15,000 women were employed at this single factory alone!). Minnie's poem 'Munition Girls' was published in the factory magazine 'The Bombshell' in 1918:

*"In a factory I am working amid thousands of other girls,
Projectiles roll around my feet; o'erhead machinery
whirls...*

*Oh, no! We must not grumble, for each is on her oath,
To do her very level best for King and Country both...*

*So you will see that after all we are very glad to go,
To do our precious little bit, and our patriotism show..."*



After the war Minnie Seddon lived on Beechwood Road, Hillsborough. She later resided on Woodbank Crescent, Meersbrook. Minnie Seddon died unmarried in Sheffield in 1977, aged 88.

World War One Players: Ralph Whawell, convicted for giving bread to German Prisoners in Sheffield

Role in World War One: Imprisoned under the Defence of the Realm Act for buying bread for German Prisoners of War in Sheffield.

Born: 1878, Chesterfield

Died: 1953, Sheffield



Ralph Whawell was born in Chesterfield in 1878. He was raised by his grandparents in Staveley, Derbyshire before moving to Sheffield to work as a Carter. He lived at 4 Bessemer Square, Attercliffe.

In October 1917, Whawell was reported to the authorities by Lieutenant N. Hession for attempting to buy bread for German prisoners. Evidence given before Sheffield Magistrates' Court stated that Whawell, who was working at an East End works where 146 German Prisoners of War worked, was found to have in his cart a parcel containing six loaves of bread. He admitted that he had bought these with 1s. 7d. given him by one of the German prisoners and he intended to hand the loaves over. The offence was viewed as serious as 'it was difficult to maintain discipline among the prisoners if they could get assistance from outsiders' and the supply of bread was '...likely to facilitate the escape of a prisoner of war'. Whawell was sentenced to six months hard labour.



During the war there were shortages of food - particularly of bread. Bread hoarding and wastage was seen as a serious matter. In June 1917, Ada Nelson of Barrow Road, Wincobank, was fined £2 for wasting 14 ounces of bread. Sergeant Hogg said he found a quantity of soaked bread in the ashbin. Nelson said she had given the bread, which had gone mouldy, to her little girl to take to the fowls, but she must have thrown it on the ashes. The magistrate said it was 'a serious offence and a national question' and she was 'liable to a fine of £100 or six months' imprisonment... if she had been a rich woman she would have been heavily fined [but] as she was the wife of a collier she would only have to pay £2'.



The German U-boat campaign led to acute food shortages and in 1918 the Government introduced rationing.

Ralph Whawell lived in Sheffield until his death in 1954.

World War One Players: John W. Wright, a child soldier

Role in World War One: J. W. Wright enlisted to fight as a soldier and was wounded in June 1916, aged just 16.

Born: c. 1900, Sheffield.

Died: Not Known.



In 1916, J. W. Wright of 19 Coventry Road, Darnall managed to elude the checks of recruitment officers and enlisted underage as a private . He was pictured in the *Sheffield Independent* on 9th June 1916 as one of the war wounded, aged just 16. It is difficult to elaborate on J. W. Wright's identity but it is possible that he was John William Wright, who is recorded on the 1911 census as an 11 year-old schoolboy, living at 24 Fitzmaurice Road, Sheffield (round the corner from Coventry Road), the third surviving son of Fred Wright (a postal letter carrier) and his wife Edith Wright.



*"A singular case of a youth personating his brother in order to get a taste of fighting was brought before the Court...Inquiries by the police revealed that the boy, filled with military ardour, had used his brother's birth certificate in order to get into the Army".
(Sheffield Telegraph, 12 May 1916)*

A local newspaper report about a thwarted attempt of another Sheffield 16-year-old to sign up sheds light on how some boys tried to enlist in the army underage. In March 1916, aged 16, Harold Pearson tried to join the army under the name of his older brother Walter. As the authorities understood that Walter was already supposed to be serving as a private in the Royal Artillery Fusiliers, the incident led to Walter being prosecuted as an 'absentee' under the Military Service Act.

The case was brought before Sheffield Magistrates' Court in May 1916 by Sheffield recruiting officer Lieutenant Henry Auty.

It was revealed how Harold had impersonated his elder brother, using Walter's birth certificate. Harold was rejected from the army, but praised for his "military ardour", expressing their hope that "when he was 18 the ardour would still be present, and that he would make a worthy soldier of the King".

SHEFFIELD LIBRARIES ARCHIVES AND INFORMATION

Sheffield Players in World War One

Sheffield Archives and Local Studies services collect and preserve original records and printed material relating to Sheffield and the surrounding area.

The information dates from the 12th century to the present and relates to Sheffield, South Yorkshire and North Derbyshire.

Included are extensive collections of books • pamphlets • photographs • church registers • newspapers • census records • minutes • diaries • films • maps • deeds • records from schools • hospitals • businesses and charities • family estates • personal papers etc.

Our facilities include:

Study areas • expert staff on hand to help you make the most of your visit • a library of reference books • photocopying and photography services • free Internet access • microform machines and printers • catalogues and indexes • a range of useful publications for sale • CD-Rom library • on-line image library.

SHEFFIELD LIBRARIES ARCHIVES AND INFORMATION

Sheffield Players in World War One

<p>Sheffield Local Studies Library 1st floor Central Library Surrey Street Sheffield S1 1XZ</p> <p>Tel: 0114 273 4753 Fax: 0114 273 5009</p> <p>localstudies.library@sheffield.gov.uk</p> <p>www.sheffield.gov.uk/archives</p> <p>(selected) Sheffield Local Studies Library catalogue http://library.sheffield.gov.uk/uhtbin/webcat</p>	<p>Sheffield Archives</p> <p>52 Shoreham Street Sheffield S1 4SP</p> <p>Tel: 0114 203 9395 Fax: 0114 203 9398</p> <p>archives@sheffield.gov.uk</p> <p>www.sheffield.gov.uk/archives</p> <p>(selected) Archives catalogues: www.calmview.eu/SheffieldArchives/CalmView and www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a</p>
<p align="center">For 55,000 images of Sheffield: www.picturesheffield.com</p>	

	<p>www.sheffield.gov.uk/archives</p>
	<p>www.twitter.com/shefflibraries</p>
	<p>www.flickr.com/photos/shefflibraries/collections/72157629374979280/</p>
	<p>www.youtube.com/user/SheffieldArchives1</p>
	<p>www.facebook.com/shefflibraries</p>