

# From the Newspaper Archives

## West Cumberland at War

November 1916



### **COMPANY-SERGT.-MAJOR JOHN BURNYEAT.**

#### **WHITEHAVEN MACE BEARER TWICE WOUNDED.**

Company Sergeant Major John Burnyeat, of the Border Regiment (T.F.) has been wounded for the second time. Mr. Burnyeat in civil life was the policeman at Bransty Station, and has held the office of mace-bearer to the Whitehaven Town Council for the past 11 years. He went to France on October 25th, 1914, and was wounded in action in May, 1915. He has now been wounded a second time, in the right arm and leg. This took place on the 6th of the present month. He is at present at the Stobhill Military Hospital, Glasgow. He was through the Boer War, at that time being with the Coldstream Guards. Company Sergeant Major Burnyeat is a married man, and resides in Scotch-street, Whitehaven.

23 & 30 November 1916

**The Battle of the Ancre brings the Somme offensive to an end. HMHS Britannic—sister ship to Titanic—is sunk by an underwater mine with the loss of 30 lives. She was the largest ship lost in World War One and remains the largest passenger ship on the sea floor.**

### **MILITARY MEDAL FOR EGREMONT SOLDIER.**

The many friends of Lance-corporal W. H. Cook will be pleased to learn that he has been awarded the Military Medal. Lance-corporal Cook is the only son of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Cook, formerly of Arlecdon, and came to Egremont some five years ago. Lance-corporal Cook joined the 8th Border Regiment on the outbreak of the war, and has been in France since September, 1915. He is well-known in Egremont and district, being a playing member of the St. Mary's Association Football Club. He also took a great interest in ambulance work, and it was not surprising to hear that he had been chosen as a stretcher bearer. He has seen some heavy fighting during his sojourn in France.

30 November 1916

### **WORKINGTON SOLDIER KILLED IN ACTION**

Mr and Mrs William Wright, 28 Grey-street, Workington, have received official intimation that their fifth son, Private Harold Wright (30), single man, was killed in action in France on 23rd ult. The deceased, who was well known in Workington, was highly esteemed. He served his apprenticeship as a draper with T B Todd, Wilson-street, Workington. He has a brother serving with the colours. 16

### **POSTHUMOUS HONOUR FOR WHITEHAVEN V.C**

The mother of the late Private Abraham Aston, of the 2nd Border Regiment, Whitehaven's V.C., has been summoned to attend before the King so that under a recent order she may receive the V.C. awarded to her late son, from the hands of His Majesty.

9 November 1916



**PVT. W. J. LITTLE**  
**(ARLECDON),**  
**KILLED OCTOBER 19, 1916.**

The captain writes:—"It is with great regret that I have to write and tell you of the death of your brother, No. 35804, Pte. W. Little, C Coy., who was killed by a shell as he was returning with a party from carrying wounded. I was on the spot very soon after the shell burst, and I am certain he was killed instantly, and felt nothing. We buried him where he fell, and I read part of the burial service over his grave, and put a cross up in the place. I have a note on the map where he lies. The papers taken from his pockets are being sent to you. He died doing his duty, and on an errand of mercy."

23 November 1916

**FRIZINGTON FOOTBALLER**  
**WINS THE MILITARY MEDAL.**

The many friends in Frizington and district will be pleased to hear that Sergt. Chris, Riley has won the Military Medal for gallant conduct on the field of battle. Sergt. Riley was a very prominent player of the Frizington Athletic Football Club. He also played for Maryport Town Football Club before coming to Frizington. He was a reservist, and rejoined his old regiment, the 1st Batt. Borders, on the outbreak of war, and was seriously wounded at the battle of Ypres in July, 1915, and came to Frizington for a few days' leave, when convalescent.

30 November 1916



**CAPT. C. L. ARMSTRONG**  
**(NETHERWASDALE),**  
**AWARDED MILITARY CROSS.**

Captain C. L. Armstrong, 11th S. Batt., West Yorkshire Regiment, son of Mr. W. J. Armstrong, Low Wood Hall, has been awarded the Military Cross, under the following circumstances:—

At Le Sars, on October 7th, having brought forward much needed reinforcements under a very heavy barrage, went out again and brought in other of his men who had taken cover, exposing himself freely to a heavy machine gun fire. Later in the day he carried out two daring patrols, by means of which valuable information was gained and important trenches occupied. This officer has on many other occasions shown the greatest gallantry under fire. Military Cross. Signed H. WILKINSON, Lieut.-Col., A.A. and Q.-M.-G., 23 Division.

**CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG'S DECORATION.**—We observe that the Mayor of Whitehaven claims Captain Armstrong's Military Cross as an honour for Whitehaven. The Captain is a Wasdale man, but as he received the cross for two separate acts of gallantry we are willing to divide the honour. Besides, we are not covetous for military glory at present, because if the war lasts long enough we expect all our men to attain the rank of general, as there are no common men among them.

16 November 1916

WHITEHAVEN TRADERS' ASSOCIATION

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

Owing to the NEW LIGHTING RESTRICTIONS the SHOPS will CLOSE from MONDAY 2nd OCTOBER, 1916 to WEDNESDAY, 28TH FEBRUARY, 1917 at 6pm on MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, and on SATURDAY at 9pm. The USUAL HALF-HOLIDAY will be observed on FRIDAY. 16 November 1916

**BOROUGH OF WHITEHAVEN.**

## ROLL OF HONOUR.

**THE COUNCIL NEED AND ASK FOR HELP to MAKE UP the ROLL.**

CARDS, with heads of the desired particulars, may be had at the TOWN HALL, or from any of the Council.

All Persons with Relatives or Friends who have Served, or are Now Serving in the Navy or Army, or any branch of these Services since the War began, are requested to get Cards, fill them up as well as they can, and return to the undersigned. Delay in returning causes inconvenience.

THOS. BROWN, Town Clerk.  
Town Hall, Whitehaven, November 22nd, 1916.

23 November 1916



**DRIVER J. RENNEY, R.E.**  
(WHITEHAVEN),

The King has awarded the Military Medal to Joshua Renney, R.E., a grandson of Mr. Joshua Druery, grocer, Scotch Street, Whitehaven. The new medallist has two brothers serving—W. Renney in the Motor Transport, A.S.C., and S. H. Renney in the Navy.

23 November 1916



*Women Workers' Series—No. 6*

*As warm as Toast—*

LIKE the new work at the Railway? Rather! I'm getting to know the time-table, and can answer all sorts of questions straight off. Then I think I can spot all the season ticket holders. They are so pleased, and say "Good morning," because I know them. It is rather cold standing at the gates, and I used to feel it. Now when I get my bit of time off I always get a good hot cup of Rowntree's Cocoa. It's delicious. The smell of it is so appetising, and when I get back to the gates I don't mind how chilly it is, for after Elect Cocoa I feel as warm as toast.

*A cup of*  
**Rowntree's Elect Cocoa**  
*makes a biscuit into a meal*

23 November 1916



**PVT. P. F. CANNON,**  
**ROYAL FUSILIERS,**  
**KILLED IN ACTION.**

9 November 1916

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**2ND LIEUT. A. JACKSON  
(WHITEHAVEN),  
KILLED IN ACTION.**

Mrs. Jackson, of 3, Cross Street, Whitehaven, mother of Lieut. A. Jackson, whose death in action was recorded in our last week's issue, has received a letter from his commanding officer, in which he states that: Lieut. Jackson led his men into the enemy trench in a most gallant manner, but after being there for a few minutes was sniped through the head, and was killed instantaneously. He was a very popular officer, both with his brother officers and men, and he will be a very great loss to the battalion. He was an officer I admired immensely, as he was always so willing to help and do his best however tired he might be.

16 November 1916

**PRIVATE JOSEPH CALLOW,  
WHITEHAVEN. OFFICIALLY  
REPORTED KILLED.**

Mrs. Callow, Richardson's Court, Scotch-street, Whitehaven, on Sunday last received official intimation from the War Office that her husband, Private Joseph Callow, must now be officially presumed to be dead. He had been reported missing on December 19th, 1915, and nothing had been heard of him since that date. He enlisted in the Border Regiment, and was subsequently transferred to the Tunnelling Section of the Royal Engineers. Private Callow was a keen footballer, and was a skilled member of the Whitehaven Recreation team. He leaves a widow and four young children. After a suspense of ten and a half months, the news of Private Callow's death has naturally evoked sincere sympathy.

**PARTON AND MORESBY  
HEROES**

Parton has sent a large number of men to the front, and although several were wounded early in the war, there were not many killed until recently. However the "Great Push" has added considerably to the list of Parton men who have fallen and the memorial service at Moresby Church on Sunday afternoon last was only one of many. On this occasion the men commemorated were Wm Benson, Sergt Jas Nelson and his brother John, Anthony Graham, Walter Hall and Richard Nicholson (of Tow Low, Moresby)

16 November 1916



**PVT. JAS. COWAN  
(WHITEHAVEN),  
CAMERON HIGHLANDERS,  
KILLED IN ACTION.**

2 November 1916

These articles are taken from the *Whitehaven News*, held on microfilm at Whitehaven Archive and Local Studies Centre, and indexed by volunteers.

The issues covering the time of the Great War have been indexed by a group of volunteers in an eighteen-month long project undertaken to commemorate the centenary of the outbreak of war, and to act as a lasting memorial to all whose lives were touched by the events.