

From the Newspaper Archives

West Cumberland at War

September 1918

A WHITEHAVEN SOLDIER'S DEATH IN BAGHDAD.

Mrs. Elizabeth Young, of Strand-street, Whitehaven, has received official intimation of the death of her husband, Sergt. Charles Starkie Young, K.O. Royal Lancs. Regt., which took place in the 23rd Stationary Hospital, Baghdad, from typhoid fever on the 15th August. Sergeant Young enlisted at the outbreak of war, previous to which he was employed as a coalminer at William Pit. He had seen a good deal of strenuous fighting, and was wounded in France after serving about twelve months. Afterwards he was drafted out to Mesopotamia. He was 33 years of age, and held in the highest respect by his fellow-workers and friends, who will regret to hear of his death. Mr. and Mrs. Young have two children.

5 September 1918

THE ROLL OF HONOUR. HOLMROOK SOLDIER WOUNDED.

Corporal John Wear, of Holmrook, and formerly of Whitehaven, has been wounded in France, and is in the 1st Scottish General Hospital at Aberdeen. He arrived in this country on Thursday, and passed through Carlisle at an early hour on Friday morning on his way to Aberdeen. After joining the army he was placed in the Motor Transport Service. Previously he was chauffeur for Lieutenant-Colonel Lowthorpe-Lutwidge, of Holmrook Hall, where he had been employed for a number of years. His wife and two children are still residing at Holmrook.

19 September 1918

GERMAN LABOUR IN THE CUMBERLAND HARVEST FIELD.

A very large proportion of the harvest labour in Cumberland has been provided under the Prisoners of War Migratory Camp scheme, which consists of placing in suitable localities in the country gangs of ten German prisoners with two guards to each camp. The prisoners are all men who have been engaged in agriculture in Germany, and are men who have a good record as to character. Some 25 camps have been placed in Carlisle, Wigton, Penrith, and Cockermouth Unions, and reports received with regard to them are very satisfactory; the prisoners are giving every satisfaction to the farmers who employ them.

12 September 1918

September 1918 saw a series of major Battles – the Somme, Ypres, the Hindenberg Line, Mont Saint-Quentin as well as the Hundred Days Offensive and the Vardar Offensive. There was also extensive fighting in the Middle Eastern theatres of war.

MILLOM DISABLED SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' FUND.

THE TREASURER INDIGNANT OVER ALLEGATIONS.

On Sunday last there was a very large attendance in the Palace Cinema, which had been kindly lent for the occasion by the management, for the usual fortnightly concert in aid of the funds raised in Millom for local disabled soldiers and sailors. The com-

At the close of the concert, the treasurer (Mr. Holmes) alluded to the statement made in Millom respecting the funds and the distribution of the same. It was alleged he said that the new piano which the orchestra had recently purchased was bought out of the funds, which should have been kept for the disabled soldiers and sailors. So far from this being so, Mr. Holmes said the members of the orchestra had purchased the piano themselves in one pound shares.

12 September 1918

WHITEHAVEN SOLDIER KILLED.

Information has been received in Whitehaven that Corpl. William Atkinson, of the Seaforth Highlanders, had been killed in action, word to that effect being received on the 9th inst. Corpl Atkinson, who was single, was very popular in his platoon, where he was senior corporal. He was the son of Mr. James Atkinson, of 70, Newtown, Whitehaven, and had been wounded on a previous occasion. Corpl. Atkinson was 22 years of age, and joined the forces on the 23rd of April, 1915. He was previously employed as a shift hand at Wellington Pit. His mother has just been dead eight weeks. Letters of appreciation and condolence have been received from the deceased's officers.

12 September 1918

PRIVATE CROSTHWAITE KILLED IN ACTION.

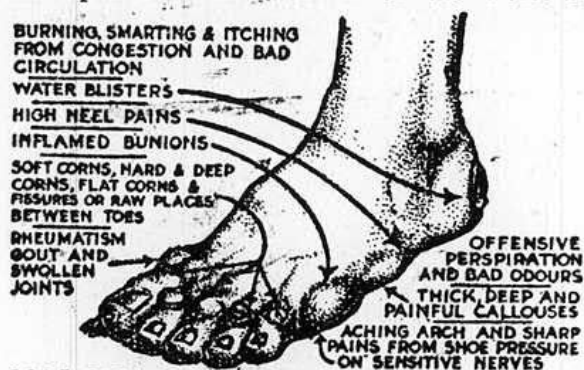
Word has recently been received that Pylte. H. Crosthwaite has been killed in action in France. Pylte. Crosthwaite volunteered for active service shortly after the outbreak of hostilities, and joined the service four years ago. For the last three years he was in France, and took part in the big efforts at Ypres, Loos, all through the Somme of 1916, Messines Ridge, and the retreat from St. Quentin last March, also in the attacks at Amiens and the Albert sector. He was the second son of Dr. R. Crosthwaite, of Fence Houses, County Durham, and grandson of the late Moses Crosthwaite, of 9, Hilton Terrace, Whitehaven. For some time he resided at Hilton Terrace, and during his stay in Whitehaven he was a scholar at St. James's C. of E. School.

26 September 1918

HOW SOLDIERS CURE SORE, TENDER FEET, CORNS, BUNIONS, &c.

Sergt. C. S. Turner, of the R.A.M.C.,
also tells what to do for feet that
Ache, Burn, Smart, Swell, and Blister.

Medical men tell us corns, callouses, bunions, &c., are simply indications of tissue injury to which the feet are susceptible, due to their distance from the heart and consequent defective blood circulation through shoe pressure and great strain. In my case I found that various advertised powders, ointments, &c., only increased the torture, but simply placing the feet in a hot foot-bath containing a tablespoonful of REUDAL BATH SALTRATES will always afford instant relief and a permanent cure. It was one day while resting my legs in hot salted water to reduce rheumatic swelling, pain and stiffness, that I discovered the remarkable effects upon foot troubles. Even the worst corns



SORE FEET, TIRED FEET, ANY KIND OF BAD FEET

soften and come right out, root and all, leaving only a small hole that soon closes. You just sit and feel the medicated and oxygenated water drawing all the pain and puffiness out of the feet while soothing irritated nerves. It stimulates the circulation and immediately disperses the blood congestion. It also clears the pores, and renders the skin active, healthy and free from offensive odour or effects of acid perspiration, thus banishing ANY SORT of bad foot trouble for all time. The REUDAL BATH SALTRATES can be obtained at slight cost from any chemist, and a half-pound packet is a most welcome present for your friend in the field. I KNOW, from the competition here for packets I receive occasionally.

19 September 1918

MR. MORTON (WHITEHAVEN) LOSES ANOTHER SON.

Official word was received by Mr. Wm. C. Morton, on the 16th inst., to the effect, that his son, Lance-Corpl. W. G. Morton, Border Regt., had died of fever at the 9th Casualty Clearing Station, Italy.

19 September 1918

HARRAS MOOR SOLDIER KILLED BY A SHELL.

Miss M. Hodgson, of Windsor Farm, Harras Moor, Whitehaven, received the sad news on Monday of the death of her brother, Gunner Isaac Hodgson, R.G.A., which took place on the 27th August. Gunner Hodgson, who was the seventh son of the late Mr. George and Mrs. Elizabeth Hodgson, joined the colours in January of this year, and after training left Whitehaven on Good Friday for France. Before joining the Army he worked at Moresby Colliery. He was 25 years of age. Another brother, Chapelhow Hodgson, has been wounded, and is now in a Lincoln hospital. While on a fatigue party unloading ammunition on the night of the 27th August a hostile shell fell amongst eleven men, killing all instantaneously.

5 September 1918

TAKEN PRISONER BY THE GERMANS.

Mr. Leonard W. Mandale, of Cleator Moor, who left his clerkship at Mr. Atter's offices, on the 15th inst. wrote informing Mr. Atter that he had been wounded through his right knee and taken prisoner by the Germans, and had had a roughish time in his captivity, but he had recently been amongst the prisoners who had been exchanged, and was at present interned in Switzerland, and hoped soon to be in England. Mr. Mandale's leg is stiff from the effect of the wound at his knee.

26 September 1918

WHITEHAVEN MAN WOUNDED.

Mrs. S. King, of Plumblands-lane, Whitehaven, has received word that her husband, Pylte. James E. King, eldest son of Mr. Peter King, Queen-street, was in a hospital at Birmingham, owing to having been severely wounded in the head, arms, thigh, and leg, and through having been gassed. He was wounded on the 2nd inst., and was received into the hospital on the 8th. Pylte. King joined the Army two years ago, and was attached to the Royal Engineers. He was stationed at Chatham, and for 18 months was drill instructor. Being transferred to the Tank Corps, he was sent to France in May last. Previous to joining the forces he was employed on the Castle Estate as painter. He was an enthusiastic member of the C.Y.M.S. Band, and the best wishes of his many friends will be for a speedy recovery.

26 September 1918

**SERGT. J. R. MARTIN,
WHITEHAVEN.**

**THANKS HEAVEN HE IS OUT OF
GERMANY.**

Mr. J. R. Hetherington, caretaker of the Whitehaven Congregational Church, has received a letter from his brother-in-law, Sergt. J. R. Martin, 11th Border Regt., who having been a prisoner of war in Germany for fourteen months is now interned in Switzerland. He joined the first Lonsdale Battalion in October, 1914, being then a miner working in William Pit. "You have no idea," he writes, "what kind of a feeling it is to be at liberty again, to have no barbed wire round you, and to get a kind word spoken to you by civilian people."

19 September 1918

**MILLOM'S WAR VICTIMS
KILLED.**

Official intimation has been received of the death in action of Private John G. Rogers, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Rogers, Market Street, Millom. From Canada he returned to England in the autumn 1914, and from Barrow Shipyard he joined the Army in January, 1915. He saw active service in France, Salonika, Egypt, and Palestine, returning to France in April, where he made the supreme sacrifice on August 1st.

Pte. Albert Dixon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dixon, of 59, Lonsdale Road, has been reported as missing since November 30th.

WOUNDED.

Mr. J. Stoddart, of Lapstone Road, Millom, has received word that his brother, Pte. Thos. Stoddart, of Barnard Castle, has been badly wounded in France, his right leg having been smashed by a German sniper's bullet. He is now in hospital at Stourbridge.

MISSING.

Private Tom Robinson, of the Royal Berkshire Regiment, who before joining the Army was serving his time with Mr. Jas. Dixon, blacksmith, is reported missing since August 8th in France. He is 21 years of age.

26 September 1918

IRTON MAN KILLED IN ACTION.

The friends of Lance-Corpl. E. Maltby in Irton and district heard with deep regret of his death. At the time of his enlistment Lance-Corpl. Maltby was engaged as gardener by Mr. C. S. Robson, of Irton Hall, but previous to that he was with Colonel Lowthorpe-Lutwidge at Holmrook Hall, ten years ago. When at Irton the deceased man was a member of the Church choir, and member of the Holmrook Reading Room.

26 September 1918

**EGREMONT SOLDIER
WOUNDED.**

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Wilson, Smithfield, have been informed that their son Pvt. Tom Wilson, of the R. N. Lancashire Regiment, has been wounded in the right foot by the bursting of a German bomb. He received his wound on the anniversary of his enlistment. He is in hospital in Nottingham. Prior to joining the army Pvt. Wilson was in the employ of the Iron Ore Miners and Blast-furnacemen's Association as clerk in the office of Mr. T. Gavan Duffy, secretary.

26 September 1918

**PRIVATE FISHER DIED IN
GERMANY.**

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Fisher, Hugh Street, Bransty, have received official intimation from the German authorities that their son, Pvt. Thos. Fisher, who had been a prisoner of war in Germany for some months, died on the 17th May. The last letter his parents had had received from him was received on the 16th May, and he had died the following day. He had been wounded in the leg. Pvt. Fisher used to be in Mr. Leech's shop as an assistant. He left there to go to Vickers' at Barrow, and from there he joined the Army. He used to live with his parents at Bedford Street, Hensingham, whence they had recently moved to Bransty. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher's youngest son, Sidney, is in France; and the elder brother, Wm. is in Egypt. These three sons were all the family they had.

19 September 1918



BIRD'S Custard greatly helps up the standard of nourishment at mealtimes.

Milk is universally known to be the most nutritious of natural foods. The important fact for Mothers to grasp in these days of rationed foods is that Bird's Custard makes an addition of 25% to the nutritive value of milk.

Nature's great teaching is that "as the food, so the strength."—Plenty of Bird's Custard is necessary for the children who play hard, and for grown-ups who work hard.

Bird's Custard is a fine fragrant powder which, when combined with milk, transforms it from a thin fluid to a creamy satisfying dish. This golden Custard is welcomed always by hungry children or tired workers.

Bird's

Nutritious Custard

has maintained its peerless quality in war time.
To-day it is still as dainty and delicious as of old!

C302

12 September 1918

EGREMONT SOLDIERS WOUNDED.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Sewell, Salford Terrace, Egremont, have been notified that their son Pvt. T. W. Sewell has been wounded.—Pvt. Sewell is the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Sewell, and has been out in France almost two years with the 1st Borders. This is the second time that he has been wounded, the previous occasion being in the great Cambria battle, in November last.

He was home on furlough a short time ago, and only returned to France on the 12th of August last. He had been in the trenches, and on the 17th ult. received a gun shot wound in his right arm. He was at once conveyed to Boulogne, and afterwards sent to Tunbridge Wells, in Kent, where a letter has been received from him and he is progressing as well as can be expected. Mr. and Mrs. Sewell have another son in France, while a third is now discharged.

Pvt. Andrew Carty, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Carty, Smithfield, Egremont, has also been wounded.

Pvt. Carty has been in the Army four years, and has had a varied experience. He has served in Salonica, France and Italy, being in the latter country when he received a wound in his right shoulder. This is the third occasion on which he has been wounded, and on his last trip home the vessel was torpedoed. Pvt. Carty is well known in Egremont, and his many friends will wish him a speedy recovery.

5 September 1918

A FRIZINGTON MAN WOUNDED.

Information has been received from the War Office that Driver T. Simpson, R.F.A., has been severely wounded in the foot and legs, also a fractured right arm, and has been brought from France to Alder Hey Military Hospital, Liverpool. He was wounded at Kemmel Hill on the 16th August. He joined up in Kitchener's Army on September 3d, 1914, in the Royal Field Artillery, and after training at Shorncliffe was sent to France on June 1st, 1915, where he has been ever since, and has been through some stiff battles during that period. He is the son of the late Mr. Richard Simpson, mine manager, Frizington, and was married to Miss Bigrigg, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Bigrigg, Woodville Terrace, Pro p ct, in February, 1917. He was in the employ of the Cleator Moor Co operative Society as a butcher.

26 September 1918

ARLEODON AND FRIZINGTON WAR SAVINGS ASSOCIATION.—In connection with the recent War Weapons' Week held in Arlecdon and Frizington, a letter has been received by Mr. M. Jones, Mill Yeat House, stating that in appreciation of their effort they recommend that an aeroplane will be named "Arlecdon."

5 September 1918

AGRICULTURE.

WORKINGTON BOYS ON THE LAND.

Twenty-nine boys belonging to the Workington Technical and Secondary School, who have been housed by the Cumberland War Agricultural Committee in a camp at Beckermot, have been working on the land in that district since 20th August and they will continue their labours until 20th September. They are under the care of one of the masters, Mr. Halliday, who is acting as camp commandant. They are living in an ideal spot on the outskirts of the village of Beckermot, and the boys either walk or cycle night and morning to the farms at which they are employed. They find the work strenuous, but they are thoroughly enjoying their vigorous outdoor life and are happy in the consciousness that they are doing their bit. It is good to be able to report that the farmers are pleased with the lads, some of the farmers being most enthusiastic. Many of the boys were ignorant of farm work when they went to the camp, but with a little sympathetic help and instruction from the farmers they soon made themselves of great use

19 September 1918

IRTON MAN HOME FROM GERMANY.

Private A. Spencer, of the West Yorkshire Regiment, who was wounded and taken prisoner at Kemmel on April 25th, has now been repatriated, and is at his brother's home, Mountain View, Irtton, improving in health and strength. He gives the following account of his sojourn in Germany:—

"After being wounded, I was made prisoner and taken into Germany to a civilian prison at Hamburg, which was used by the Germans as an hospital. I had three months there; and practically starvation. We were fed on soup made from grass, nettles, and man-gold tops, and a little black bread. Two pints of this soup a day and two small pieces of bread, scarcely enough to keep a man alive. The bread seems to be made of barley, rye, and sawdust. From Hamburg I was taken into lager at Munster II., and was glad to get moved, as I here received some good English parcels given by the British Help Committee—one every six days, and also two loaves of beautiful white bread every six days. These came from Copenhagen, through Holland. After getting these parcels I seemed to get pulled together a bit, and when in a few weeks I got to know I was marked for Blighty it seemed to give me fresh life.

In hospital at Hamburg they had nothing but paper bandages, and a man was very lucky if his wounds got dressed every eight days. My wound was dressed about six times, but it healed up beautifully. In certain camps the Germans are very brutal to some of our boys. If a man refuses to work, and they think he is fit, he is put into an enclosure of barbed wire, and pricked with bayonets, and spit on for half an hour or an hour. Many of them are sent to the pits and are worked to death on this rotten soup.

5 September 1918

The issues of the *Whitehaven News* 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.