

# From the Newspaper Archives

## West Cumberland at War

May & June 1917



### MISS CISSIE HARRISON, FARM HAND.

Miss Cissie Harrison, of Beck Bank, Broughton-in-Furness, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harrison, of Beck Bank, has been regularly employed for some months now by Mr. W. Lewthwaite, of Broadgate, on farm work, taking work with horses in the field, and all kinds of jobs generally done by first class men. She is a typical example of what women are doing to help to win the war in the country, and deserves every credit for her pluck and endurance.

21 June 1917

May 1917 saw the formal establishment of the Imperial War Graves Commission. The first daylight aeroplane raid on Britain by German bombers took place.

In June 1917 Allied troops captured Messines Ridge south of Ypres.

### THE IRON CROSS ON VIEW AT MARYPORT.

Mr Gordon, painter, Senhouse Street, Maryport, has been displaying some four German decorations that were taken from the tunic of a dead German officer before interment, by his nephew, Sergeant Alexander Gordon, leader of the New Zealand Contingent. They consist of the Iron Cross, the Cross of the Red Eagle, and two gold medals for the Boxer Expedition in China with their respective ribbons. They have attracted much attention.

31 May 1917

### PUBLIC NOTICE.

### DEFENCE OF THE REALM REGULATIONS RESPECTING EMPLOYMENT OF MEN OF MILITARY AGE AND OTHERS.

**EVERY EMPLOYER OF ONE OR MORE PERSONS** is Required by Regulation No. 41A to **FORWARD** to the **RECRUITING OFFICER** of their Area D.R. Form No. 17A duly Completed before the 7th day of Each Month.

Form D.R. 17A can be obtained at all Post Offices on application.

**FAILURE TO COMPLY** with this Regulation, or making any False Entry therein, is an Offence Punishable before a Court of Summary Jurisdiction.

D.R. 17A, duly Completed for this Area, must be sent to **Major HURRELL.**

Recruiting Officer, Workington.

10 May 1917



COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND.

## NOTICE TO AGRICULTURISTS.

**T**HE MILITARY SERVICE (Review of Exemptions) ACT, 1917, Empowers the Army Council to call up for MEDICAL EXAMINATION men who have been Rejected for Military Service or Men who have been discharged. Men Engaged in Agriculture, whose Work is of National Importance, are Excluded from the Act. Any Man so Engaged who receives Statutory Order Army Form W. 3,579, should Return the Form to the Recruiting Officer with the Certificate on the back of the Notice filled in, stating that he Claims not to be Liable to have the Notice sent to him on the ground that he is Engaged in Agriculture and that his Work is of National Importance.

For War Agricultural Executive Committee,

G. W. GILBANKS, Executive Officer.

5, Castlegate, Penrith, 20th April, 1917. (ea

3 May 1917

BOROUGH OF WHITEHAVEN.

## FOOD ECONOMY CAMPAIGN.

FREE COOKERY LESSONS.

**A** SERIES OF DEMONSTRATION LESSONS on WAR TIME COOKERY will be held in IRISH STREET SCHOOLS, Commencing FRIDAY, JUNE 15th, at 6.30 p.m. EVERYONE WELCOME.

J. R. MUSGRAVE, Mayor.

T. M. OLDFIELD, Hon. Sec.

7 June 1917

COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND.

## WAR AGRICULTURAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. SOLDIER LABOUR.

**T**HE SOLDIERS NOW TEMPORARILY RELEASED FOR FARM WORK will be CALLED UP as follows:—

(A)—All Men on Furlough from France on April the 30th.

(B)—Class A Men on May the 10th.

(C)—Home Defence Men (Classes B and C) on May the 25th.

FARMERS Requiring Labour to take the place of these Soldiers should apply at once to the Executive Officer of the Committee, stating the Kind of Labour Required.

31 May 1917



## GOSFORTH SOLDIER SUPPOSED TO BE KILLED IN ACTION.

On Saturday evening last Mr. Birch, of Galeholm, Gosforth, received the sad news by wire that his son, Lieut. Leonard Birch, was missing and supposed to have been killed in action. Up to the time of writing no particulars have been received beyond the telegram. Much sympathy is expressed in the neighbourhood at the sad bereavement of Mr. and Mrs. Birch and family.

3 May 1917. Photograph from County Annual 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.





### LIEUT. CLAUDE LESLIE BLAIR KILLED.

Following the recent announcement that Lieut. C. L. Blair, R.E., of St. Bees, had been awarded the Military Cross, came the sad news that the gallant officer has been killed in action. There was a rumour to this effect in the district on Tuesday, but it lacked confirmation, and it was not until Friday that we were able to obtain verification. It appears that the deplorable event occurred on Saturday, and, in addition to the formal intimation, an officer has written stating that he saw him fall. He was caught by a shell while walking along a trench, and was killed instantaneously. As stated, in a previous issue, Lieut. Blair originally joined the Highland Light Infantry, and soon proved himself worthy of promotion. Ultimately he was given a commission, and transferred to the Royal Engineers, with which section of the service he had distinguished himself since he had been in France.

28 June 1917

### FORMER CLEATOR MOOR SOLDIER'S DEATH.

News has been received at Cleator Moor that Pvt. Hugh Cowan, of the South African Forces, and formerly of Cleator Moor, had been killed in action in France. Deceased, who was the eldest son of the late Hugh and Mrs Ellen Cowan, emigrated with his parents to South Africa many years ago. Pvt. Cowan made a name for himself in South Africa as a boxer. He had been in France for some considerable time.

3 May 1917

**A Real Necessity for  
WOMEN  
WAR-WORKERS.**

WOMEN war-workers find that the grit and grime of the munition factories, exacting hospital work, and exposure to sudden weather changes are injurious to the skin.

Fortunately, they have in Ven-Yusa Cream a preparation which, by means of its special oxygen properties, revives the lustre of faded complexions and brings back the bloom of health and youth to pallid cheeks.

Thousands of women know from personal experience that no other toilet cream can be so invigorating, so agreeable, or so beneficial.

The regular use of Ven-Yusa will save you hours of discomfort, and banish for ever that tired, irritable feeling after a hard day's work.

It is for sale at all Chemists, Stores, Hairdressers, &c., or obtainable by post at same price direct from the Proprietors, C. E. Fulford, Ltd., Leeds.

**VEN-YUSA**  
*The Oxygen Cream*

3 May 1917

### AN OFFICER REPORTED MISSING WRITES HOME.

On the 23rd of last month Lieutenant A. Stanley Wilson, of the Border Regiment (T.F.), was officially reported missing. This naturally aroused much anxiety, not only to Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Wilson, of Lowther Street, Whitehaven, his father and mother, but to his numerous friends in the district, amongst whom he was very popular. Yesterday (Friday) morning, however, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson were the happy recipients of a letter from their son stating that he was back with his old regiment and was all right. Lieut. Wilson was with the tanks. The good news has naturally caused much satisfaction amongst all who know the gallant young officer.

17 May 1917





John Toner (right) with brother Jas Toner

## WHITEHAVEN MAN WOUNDED.

Saddler John Andrew Toner (1107) R.F.A., aged 20 years, the fourth son of Mr. and Mrs. James Toner, 76 Market Place, Whitehaven, has been wounded in action, and is now in the base hospital in France. He enlisted at the outbreak of war, and has been in France eight months. He is a clogger, formerly employed by Mr R. Wilson, Newtown, Whitehaven. Out of the four sons of Mr and Mrs Toner one has been killed and another wounded before the present occurrence.

14 June 1917. Photograph from issue of 27 July 1916

## THE REPORTED DEATH OF A WHITEHAVEN SOLDIER.

### "STILL IN THE LAND OF THE LIVING."

In Saturday's issue a paragraph appeared to the effect that a comrade of Pvt. Stephen Caulfield, Seaforth Highlanders, has written to friends in Whitehaven, stating that he was killed in action on June 7th. During the week-end, however, letters have been received from Pvt. Caulfield, dated June 12th, stating that he "is still in the land of the living." It is evident, therefore, that a mistake has been made somewhere, and we hope that Pvt. Caulfield will continue to have good luck and return home safely to his friends in due course.

21 June 1917



## THE KING INSPECTS "DURAFIT"

*The King.* Very smart indeed.  
The smartest uniforms I've seen.  
There must be Something in the Make.

*"Durafit."* Yes, Your Majesty, that's what I'm always saying, "There's Something in the Make." I should like to present Your Majesty with a copy of my new song, "There's Summat in the Make." You shon'd hear the boys sing it. I've offered to send a copy of it free to all the Cumberland lads in Your Majesty's Forces.

**A**LL the uniforms worn by the men of the Cumberland and Westmorland Territorial Association during the King's visit were "Durafit" make.  
Contractors also for Durham Territorial Association.  
"Durafit" Tweed Suits from 29/6 to 8/- to order.  
"Durafit" Never Fade Serge Suits at 50/- to 90/- to order.

### NEW SONG—FREE.

Call or send for a copy of the New Song, "There's Summat in the Make," by John E. James, Cumberland's Own Comedian. A copy of the song will be sent free to any address on receipt of stamped and addressed envelope (half penny stamp is sufficient). Send one to each of the boys away from home. It will cheer them up.

S. REDMAYNE & SONS, LTD.,

THE **DURAFIT** HOUSE

24, TANGIER STREET, WHITEHAVEN.  
11 and 13, SOUTH WM. STREET, WORKINGTON.  
Also at Maryport, Carlisle, Penrith, Wigton, etc.

7 June 1917