

## COLWALL REMEMBERS

### Results of WWI Local Research by David Hodgson

Between 1874 until 1938 a number of boys were in Colwall orphanages - The Malthouse, Evendine Lane and Brand Lodge, Jubilee Drive. Several were also at St Edward's Orphanage in West Malvern. Some of the boys who were at these orphanages were taken over to Canada where they worked on farms and served as house servants. Many of the boys served in World War I.

This Roll of Honour lists the boys who were at the St. Edwards orphanage.

ROLL OF HONOUR.	
Old Edwardians.	
Sidney Swaine	William Parsons
Ernest Quick	Ronald Gilbert
Carl Bedford*	William Pallett
William Crisp	Gerard Dunning*
Horace Goater	Albert Webley
Edmund Llewellyn	Ronald Adams
Harold Madge, R.N.	Albert Knight
William Dobbyn, R.N.	Victor Clark
Robert Dillon Ham, R.N.	Richard Parmeter
Harry Billings, R.N.	John Harper
Alan Viner	Arthur Weatherley
Conrad Clarke** *	William Lamb
Arthur Nelson	Harry Lamb
Harold Robinson*	Alfred Belcher
Ernest Pallett*	Charles Dobbyn
Carl Deacon*	Robert Streeter
Wallace Parmeter	Reginald Simmons, R.N.
Harold Howe	Walter Bunn
Clarence Hamley	C. W. Pendleton
Cecil Hamley	
Jack Harding	<i>KILLED IN ACTION.</i>
Harry Hobbs	Douglas Wright, R.N.
Harold Kimberley*	Lawrence Fisher
Aubrey Hamand	Arthur Bunn
George Keighley	James Stokes
George Allan	
Edward Glazer	<i>DIED IN HOSPITAL.</i>
George Bowdry	Fred Knight

\* — WOUNDED.

\*\* — MILITARY CROSS AND BAR.



**Sidney Swaine**



**William Pallet**



**Albert Webley**

**Joe Ash**



**Douglas Wright**



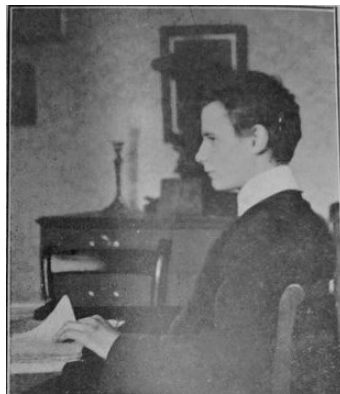
**Lawrence Fisher**



**Arthur Bunn**



**James Stokes**



**Harold Griffiths left St Edwards  
Died POW**



**ARTHUR NELSON.**



**Carl Bedford**



**Gerard Dunning**



**ALFRED BELCHER,  
Canadian.**



**HARRY HOBBS.**



**L-R Albert Watson Cyril Clarke David Jenkins James Hinton  
David was at St Edwards from 1913 to 1916. He died in  
Newport Hospital on Valentines day 1919**

**Sidney Swaine** left the Orphanage and went to Dublin where he joined the Royal Military College. He was in the Army as a Trumpeter. He later joined the RFA where he had a commission as a second Lieutenant. He was killed whilst flying over German Lines on April 4th, 1918

**William Pallet** was reported as missing in April 29th 1917; he was later reported as Killed in Action.

**Joe Ash** was with the 8th Canadian Battalion; he was killed in France on 8th August 1918.

**Albert Webley** was wounded and ended up in hospital. He eventually went to live in Canada.

**Douglas Wright** was Killed in Action.

**Lawrence Fisher** was Killed in Action.

**Arthur Bunn** was Killed in Action.

**James Stokes** was Killed in Action.

**Harold Griffiths** died as a POW.

**Arthur Nelson** served in France and spent nearly 5 years in the army.

**Carl Bedford** became a Corporal in the 48th Canadian Highlanders and was badly wounded. He later was sent to France.

**Harry Hobbs** had a commission in the Royal Garrison Artillery. He was gassed - a shell burst outside the muzzle which killed several men, Harry collapsed and was sent down the line and back home.

**Albert Watson, Cyril Clarke** and **David Jenkins** joined the Naval School and Training Ship "Mercury". **James Hinton** was on the Training Ship "Arethusa". David Jenkins was at St Edwards from 1913 to 1916. He died in Newport Hospital on Valentine's Day 1919.

**Harold Kimberley** became a Second Lieutenant. He had a leg amputated after being wounded in a raid.

**Gerard Dunning** was with the 13th Australian Brigade. He adopted Australia as his home.

**Alfred Belcher** served in Belgium with the 46th Canadians, quite near the old site of Waterloo.

**Conrad Clarke** enlisted in January 1916 Went to France in January 1916. He was awarded Military Cross in July 1916, his first Bar was awarded September 1916 and a second Bar July 1917. He was also awarded a DSO and mentioned in despatches January 1919.

**Ernest James Quick** was at the Orphanage in 1901. He was an amazing character (unfortunately we do not have his photograph). Here is an account of his short but eventful life:

Ernest James Quick. He was born in Newport South Wales in 1892 to George James Quick and Sarah Davies. His father died January 1898 aged 42 in Malvern Link, where he was working as Cabinet Maker. Because of George's death we find Ernest, his sister, and his mother, on August 8<sup>th</sup>, in the Workhouse in Abergavenny, but they discharged themselves 10 days later. The consequence of losing his father resulted in Ernest coming to the orphanage in Malvern, Worcestershire. In 1911 Ernest writes to the orphanage from India:

"Thanks for the Chronicle. (*The Chronicle was published by the orphanage annually*). The following is a short outline of my wanderings since leaving St Edwards. Within the space of 3 years I have been a Militia man, miner, farmer, gardener, kitchen porter, sailor, tramp, dock labourer, mess room steward and lastly what I am now, Assistant carriage examiner on the North Western Railway in the middle of a jungle. You may well ask how I came to be situated in such a pleasant spot. I will tell you. I stowed away from Bristol, I was found and landed at Barry on my native shores, the same evening I stowed away again on a tramp steamer and was not discovered till well at sea, I had not eaten for 48 hours, there was another chap with me and we were taken off the ship in Genoa. I had read about the beauty of Italy and my pen cannot describe the loveliness of undefiled nature. As we approached the city the mist was slowly rising, we could see the gilded domes and tapering spires stretched in front of us for miles and miles. As we approached the harbour the sight was awe inspiring with the rocky rugged mountains in the background, dotted here and there were vines and olive trees. I stayed for 3 days in the city sleeping on the fortifications at night. Having no passports my friend and I were arrested and treated as guests of the Italian Government and put in a Citadel for a couple of weeks. From here with true Italian courtesy under the guard of a plain clothes policeman I was sent to Alexandria in Egypt. From Alexandria I went to Suez by train. It was a most interesting journey being right across the breadth of Egypt.

Whilst sleeping in a Turkish Hotel I was robbed of my little stock of money, and what was worse still was that the bouncer collared my pipe and tobacco. The next day I went to Port Said, here I was fortunate enough to obtain a post on a merchant



ship as a mess room steward, it took me to Karachi in India. It was terribly hot going through the Red Sea. I travelled a great deal over the Sind and Punjab provinces. It was at Lahore that I obtained my present position in the desert. There are only about half a dozen Europeans here, my attempts at speaking Batt is ludicrous but I am picking it up rapidly. I have a large room to myself in a bungalow also a bathroom. I have a Consarmer or cook and a bearer who does all my work such as bed making, waiting on me, cleaning my boots etc. He is a Mohammedan Suid and a very nice youngster. I am glad you sent me the Chronicle I owe you for two now, as I read through it I feel a thrill run through me as I notice my old school chums' names, Donald, Phillip, Wilson, Nelson, Joe, Ernest, H Green etc, those were grand times, you can tell them I should love to hear from them, there is no literature in Samasata. We have formed a cricket team here and I am Captain, the team is composed of Clerks and Babu's, I think I play better than when I was at St Edwards. I hope you all enjoyed a happy Christmas, I am sure there must have been plenty of fun with old Mr Withey. I shouldn't let him see this scribble or I won't be able to face him again. (*Mr Withey was a Warden at the Orphanage*). My staff have bought me a lot of fruit, nuts etc for what they call Sahib's holiday. There is no church for miles the nearest being at Maltran at least 100 miles away. I was unable to get off as I was on duty.

With best regards, your old Pupil.  
*Ernest J Quick."*

In June 1915 Ernest came over to England and joined King Edward's Horse Artillery, he fought at the battle of Lys. In 1918 he was listed as missing on April 9th, however he had been captured by the Germans at Vieille Chapelle and ended up in a salt mine in Germany for 5 months where he also helped a weaker colleague, to load tons of salt. His physical strength and cheery disposition clearly helped him through many trials. He was discharged in March 1919. In 1919 Ernest was working in the Office of the Worcester Advertiser. In 1921 he enlisted with the Worcester Yeomanry where he gave his profession as an Accountant. He later transferred to Ware and Oxford Royal Fleet Auxiliary. In 1928 we find him in Canada where he was Editor of the Creelman Gazette and he married Phyllis Williams from Cardiff. His two children were born in Canada. In 1939 he was living in London with his wife and two children also his sister Mabel, his other sister Muriel was living in Middlesex. Mabel also spent time as an orphan, when Ernest was at St Edwards in Malvern she was at Diglis House in Mill Street, Worcester. He died in 1943 in Newport his town of birth aged 51.

What a remarkable man!

*David Hodgson*

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Our work on mapping out the Colwall connections and resting places of the men listed on the Colwall War Memorial is going well. You can see our work so far at

<https://tinyurl.com/colwall-remembers>

Please contact Liz Hill at [wwl@colwall.info](mailto:wwl@colwall.info) if you would like to join in.

Three of the men who are listed on the Colwall War Memorial are referred to in newspaper articles as "Oddfellows". This name is familiar to many residents as it was a previous name of the Thai Rama IV restaurant. Private Sam Pugh was described as "a fine example of how Oddfellows can train a man for public life". Oddfellows were an international organisation which was organised into local "lodges". The first lodges in England date back to the 18th century and some still exist to-day.

## Future Talks

### 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019

A Film on Hop Picking in Herefordshire  
by Julia Goldsmith of Catcher Media

Followed by Q&A session on hop-picking (all part  
of the 'Life through a Lens' project based on the photographic  
archive of Derek Evans.)

### 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019

#### **Annual General Meeting**

Followed by a talk  
'The King's Thirds on the Malvern Hills'  
by George Demidowicz, University of Birmingham

### 9<sup>th</sup> September 2019

'The Victoria County History report on Colwall'  
by Dr. James Bowen, Liverpool University

## From the Editor

**CONTRIBUTIONS** in the past ten years, with some notable exceptions, have been very few - any articles will be received with grateful thanks! It is your Newsletter and if you want it to cover particular subjects the solution is in your hands! Corrections and additions to the information in newsletters are always welcome.

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