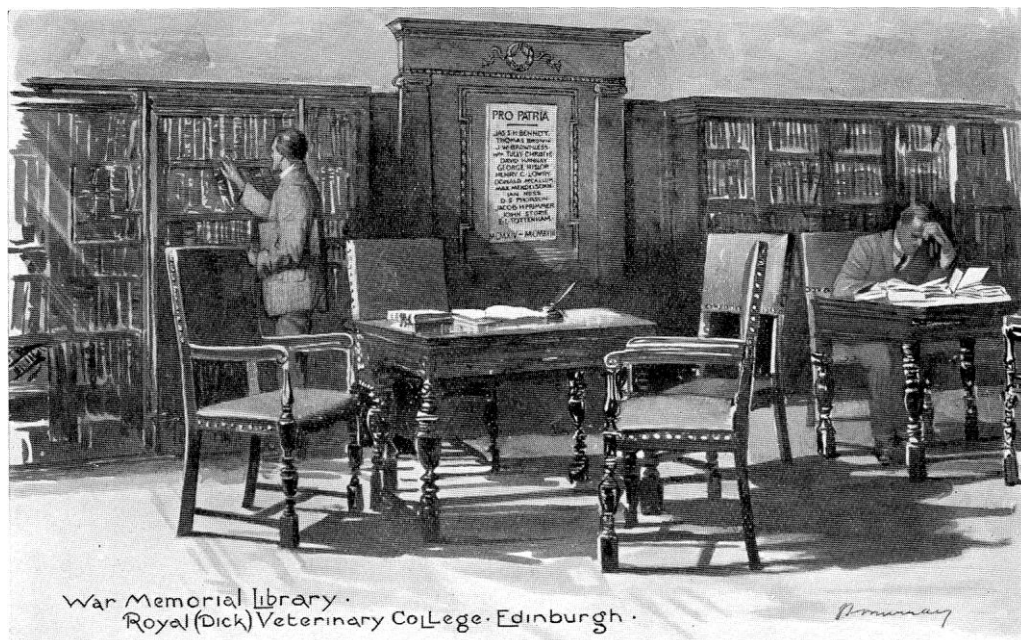


## A Biographical Roll of the Staff, Students and Graduates of the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College who died in the Great War



*The War Memorial Library of the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College c1923.*

The original war memorial of the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College was unveiled on 13<sup>rd</sup> June 1922 and took the form of a library which housed a tablet inscribed with the names of fourteen men of the college who died during the Great War.

Research into the memorial and the men whose names are inscribed on it has led to an expanded list of men who were connected with the college and who died during, or shortly after, the war. On the 7<sup>th</sup> November 2014 a new memorial was placed in the new teaching buildings of the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies at Easter bush which is inscribed with the names of 29 men connected to the college who died during, or as a result of, the Great War.

The biographical roll presented here was first published in the *Journal of the Veterinary History Society* (Volume 18, No. 2, Feb 2016). A small amount of material which came to light only after the paper had been submitted for publication has been included in the text here.

Pete Matthews  
Alastair Macdonald  
Colin Warwick

\*= Not commemorated on the original War Memorial

†= Not recorded by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

**\*BARTLEMAN, Thomas Edward.** Second Lieutenant, Seaforth Highlanders



Thomas Edward Bartleman was the son of James and Mrs Cecil Bartleman of Edinburgh. He was educated at George Watson's College from 1901 to 1914, where he was a piper and marksman with the school Officer Training Corps with the rank of Cadet Corporal and was also in the 1914 Cricket XI. He briefly enrolled at the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in October 1914 as a 'Non-Professional' student but then went on to matriculate at the University of Edinburgh in November 1914 where he continued his association with the OTC as a piper. In November 1915 he left to join the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Royal Scots and served as a piper with the rank of Private. In April 1917 he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Seaforth Highlanders and served in France from July 1917. He was killed in action on 6<sup>th</sup> September 1917 while attacking enemy trenches during the Third Battle of Ypres. He was 20 years old, and is buried in Poelcapelle

British Cemetery, France. His elder brother Private William George Bartleman served with the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Royal Scots and was killed during the Gallipoli campaign in 1915.

**\*†BAXTER, Clement TD.** Major, Royal Army Veterinary Corps

Clement Baxter qualified MRCVS from the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in May 1902 and on leaving he practiced from 49 Reidhaven Street in Elgin, Morayshire. In February 1904 he joined the Scottish Horse Regiment of the Imperial Yeomanry with the rank of Veterinary-Lieutenant. On the 1<sup>st</sup> April 1908 he was appointed to the Unattached List of the Territorial Force and in February 1909 he was promoted to Veterinary-Captain. In July 1910 this was changed to Captain in the Territorial Branch of the Army Veterinary Corps in line with contemporary reforms. During the Great War he served in France for a period from July 1918. In February 1919 he was promoted to Major and on 4<sup>th</sup> November 1919 he was awarded the Territorial Decoration. This was normally awarded for 20 years commissioned service with the volunteer branches of the army, although war service counted as double. He died nine days later on 13<sup>th</sup> November 1919 at Christchurch, Hampshire, aged 50. He had married Jane Tait in 1898.

**\*BEECH, John Robert Dixon CMG DSO.** Lieutenant-Colonel, Scottish Horse

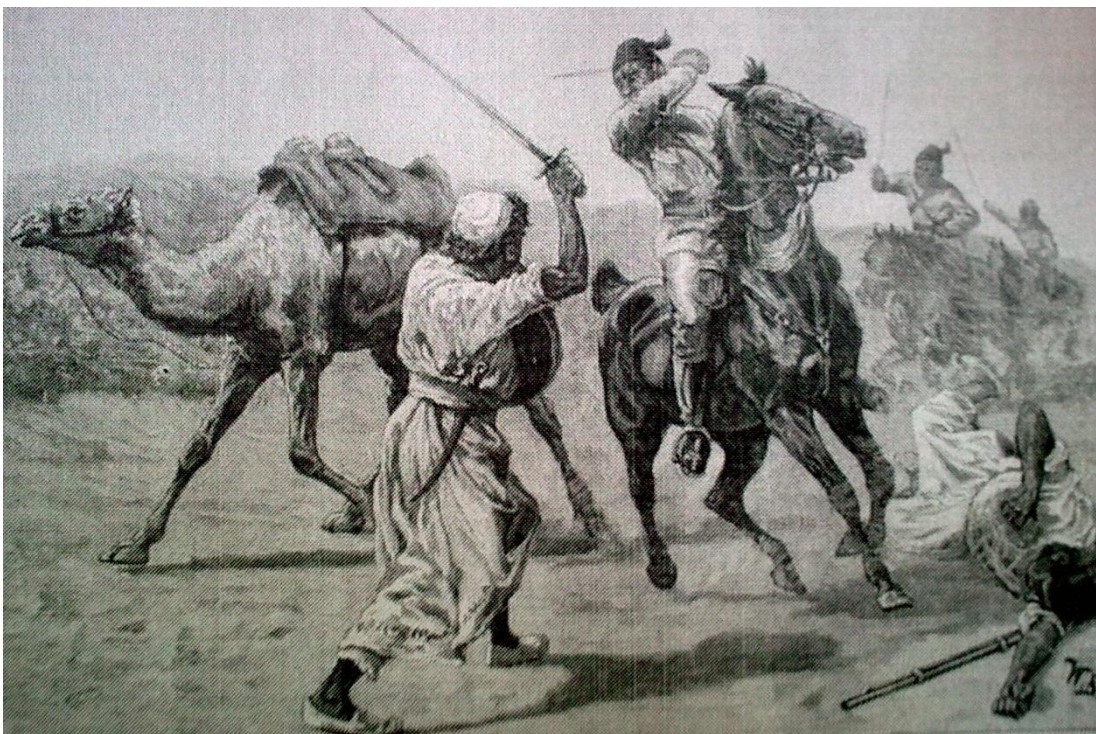


*Medals awarded to J. R. Beech*

John Robert Dixon Beech was the second son of James Dixon Beech and his wife Mrs Susan Beech of Ballintemple, County Cork. He was educated at Newton School, Waterford and then entered the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College. He qualified MRCVS in April 1881, at the age of 18, winning the class medal. He intending to become a Land Agent but on the outbreak of the Egyptian War, being eager to see action, he joined the army as a Veterinary Surgeon in July 1881. This was the only means of entrance available to him, and he did much valuable work buying horses and camels for the government. During the Egyptian campaign of 1882-1884 he was attached to the Egyptian Army and took part in actions at Kassassin and the battle of Tel-el-Kebir. He also served in the Sudan campaign of



1884, including at the Battle of El-Teb, where he was slightly wounded, and at the Battle of Tamai, where he was mentioned in dispatches. He then took part in the Gordon Relief Expedition to Khartoum of 1884-1885, including actions at Abu Clea and Abu Kru. In 1887 he accompanied Sir Gerald Portal's Royal mission to King Johannes of Abyssinia where he experienced much danger and hardship in carrying the Queen's letter through difficult and hostile country. For services on this expedition he was made a Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George (CMG). In September 1888, representation having been made to the Horse Guards of Veterinary Surgeon Beech's desire to receive an appointment in a cavalry regiment, he was granted a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the 21<sup>st</sup> Hussars in recognition of his meritorious service, this was at that time a most unusual honour for an officer of a non-combatant service. He continued to serve attached to the Egyptian Army and served again in the Sudan from 1888-1891 where he saw action at Gamaizah, Arguin, Toski, where he was twice mentioned in dispatches, Afafit and at the capture of Tokar, where he was again slightly wounded. During these actions he was placed in command of the entire Egyptian Cavalry at the age of only 25. In December 1889 the Prince of Wales, the future King Edward VII, recommended him for an antedate of seven years and he was promoted straight to Captain in the 20<sup>th</sup> Hussars with immediate effect. In May 1891 he was awarded the Distinguished Service Order (DSO) for service during the battle of Toski, where he had saved the life of one of his men. For this action he had been recommended for the Victoria Cross, his case being discussed as far as the House of Commons. HRH the Duke of Cambridge, Commander in Chief of the Army, seeing the recommendation is reported to have stated that he '*considered this one of the most deserving cases for this honourable distinction that has ever been brought to his notice*'. However, the award of the Victoria Cross was eventually dismissed by the Secretary of State on account of the fact that during the action in which the gallantry had been displayed Egyptian troops alone were present and no British troops were engaged. In July 1893 he returned to Britain at the age of 28. During his time in Egypt and Sudan, in addition to the CMG and DSO, he was awarded the Egyptian Medal with 7 clasps, the only 7-clasp Egyptian medal ever issued, the Kehedival Orders of the Medjidieh and of the Osmanieh, the Kehdiva's Star and clasp and had risen to the rank of Kaimakam (Lieutenant Colonel) in the Egyptian Army.



*"An Encounter Between Lieutenant J. R. Beech, 21<sup>st</sup> Hussars, and Two Dervishes, Near Suakin"* The Illustrated London News, 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 1889.

*"On Thursday, when Mr. Beech was out with the Egyptian Cavalry Patrol, he came across two dervishes at a moment when he was separated by a considerable distance from the cavalry. Not expecting any resistance, he offered the men quarter, but they suddenly attacked him. In the struggle which followed, he killed one with his sword and wounded the other with his revolver. At this moment*

*an Egyptian came to his assistance and gave the second man his coup de grace.” (The Veterinary Journal, March 1889)*

*“One of the most typical soldiers I have ever seen in any service was Colonel Beech, now a captain of the Reserve, who was for ten years commanding an Egyptian regiment of cavalry. He is still a young man, but he has more experience in war than usually comes to any ten men. He has seven clasps to his Egyptian medal, having been in every campaign waged about the Nile by the British in conquering the country. He is a man of enormous force, and perfect knowledge of all branches of military work, and is to-day a better soldier than the majority of generals who are commanding. He is much the same type of man that Kitchener is, and naturally, as he was trained in the same school.” (Blue Shirt and Khaki)*

On his return to Britain he rejoined the 20<sup>th</sup> Hussars where the Inspector-General of Cavalry singled him out for special mention, saying before the entire Cavalry Division that it was a picture to see Captain Beech at his work. In October 1894 he retired from the Army and entered the Reserve of Officers. In December 1894 he married Alexandria Marion Mackenzie, the widow of John Bullough of Meggernie Castle, Glenlyon, Perthshire. On the outbreak of the South African War he rejoined the army and served on General Sir John French’s Staff (1899-1900) first as Transport Officer and then as Assistant Provost Marshal with the grade of Deputy-Assistant Adjutant General and for which he gained the Queen’s South Africa Medal with five clasps. In August 1903 he was promoted to Major and from 1904 to 1913 he commanded the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of the Scottish Horse, Imperial Yeomanry. In July 1907 he was made a Deputy Assistant Director of Remounts and in February 1909 was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel. He again retired from the army in 1913 but on the outbreak of the Great War again volunteered for service and in August 1914 was given command of the 2/1<sup>st</sup> Regiment of the Scottish Horse. He died at Louth, Lincolnshire on 6<sup>th</sup> November 1915 from pneumonia following a chill caught in camp. He had just been appointed to the Headquarters Staff at Salonika, Greece. He was 55 and is buried in Innerwick-in-Glenlyon Parish Churchyard, Perthshire. He had four sons. The eldest, Captain Clyde Beech of the Rifle Brigade, was killed in France in October 1916 aged 20.

**BENNETT, James Stewart Hutchison.** Private, King’s Own Scottish Borderers

James Stuart Hutchison Bennett was born in Edinburgh on 12<sup>th</sup> February 1890 and was the eldest son of James Hutchison Bennett and his wife Mrs Henrietta Muirhead Bennett of 4 Johnston Terrace, Edinburgh. He attended Boroughmuir Higher Grade School, Edinburgh, and in October 1904, aged 14, he began work at the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College as a Laboratory Assistant. A note in the college minutes in 1915 records that an application had been made to have laboratory assistants Mendelsohn and Bennett exempted from military service, a move that was ultimately unsuccessful. By 1916 he was Assistant to Principle O Charnock Bradley and earning £96 per year with one of his duties being “*to help the Janitor with telephone*”. He enlisted as a Private in the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of the Kings Own Scottish Borderers in May 1917 and went to France in August that year. He was killed in action on 30<sup>th</sup> November 1917 during the Battle of Cambrai. He was 27 years old and is commemorated on the Cambrai Memorial, Louveral, France. He had married Christina Duff on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1915 at St Michael’s Episcopal Church, Edinburgh, and they had one daughter, Helen, born 11<sup>th</sup> January 1917.

**NOTE:** *De Ruvingey records that James Stuart Hutchison Bennett was killed-in-action on 20<sup>th</sup> November 1917 and was buried at Seranvillers which is inconsistent with the information officially recorded by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. It is probable that when he died he was buried at Seranvillers but that his grave was lost later in the war and could not be located and he was therefore commemorated on the Cambrai Memorial as having no known grave.*

**BROWN, Thomas (Tom).** Gunner, Royal Garrison Artillery



Thomas Brown was the son of James S. Brown and his wife Mrs Elizabeth Gardiner Calder Brown of 'Westraw', Pettinain, Thankerton, Lanarkshire. He attended Pettinain Parish School and Lanark Grammar Higher Grade School before matriculating at the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in April 1914. He had passed the first year of the course before leaving in November 1915 for active service. He initially joined the Army Veterinary Corps but then transferred to the Royal Field Artillery and finally to 104<sup>th</sup> Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery, a unit that operated two massive railway-mounted 12 inch howitzers. He served in France from August 1917. On 14<sup>th</sup> September 1917, during the Third Battle of Ypres, he was wounded in action during a raid by enemy aircraft and he died on his way to the dressing station. A comrade wrote of him: "*It is difficult to express how we feel, as we had a genuine regard for Tom.*"

*His bright and cheery nature made him a general favourite, and we have lost one who was even more than a friend to us".* He was 23 years old and is buried in Voormezele Enclosures, Ieper, Belgium.

**BROWNLESS, John Wilson.** Lieutenant, Army Veterinary Corps



John Wilson Brownless was the son of John and Mrs Hannah Brownless of Castle Eden, County Durham. He entered the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in September 1893 and qualified MRCVS in May 1897 being awarded the 2<sup>nd</sup> Fitzwygram Prize in that year. During the South African War he served as a Civilian Veterinary Surgeon with the Army Veterinary Department attached to the Royal Scots Greys as a Veterinary Officer and received both the Queen's and King's South African Medals. On return to the United Kingdom he succeeded to the practice of Mr W. Nettleton MRCVS in St. Mary Abbots Place, Kensington, and at Barnes, London. He was also veterinary surgeon to Barnes District Council and to the Ranelagh Polo Club. He was described in the Veterinary Journal as being "*Somewhat bluff in manner, but thoroughly straight in his dealings*".

On the outbreak of war he was engaged in Army veterinary work at home but volunteered for active service and received a commission as a temporary Lieutenant in the Army Veterinary Corps in March 1915. He served in the Dardanelles campaign where he was attached to the 1/4<sup>th</sup> Highland Mountain Brigade (Territorial Force), Royal Garrison Artillery of 29<sup>th</sup> Division. On the 16<sup>th</sup> June 1915 he was tending to wounded horses of his brigade while under fire. The War Diary of the Assistant Director of Veterinary Services of the 29<sup>th</sup> Division records on the 16<sup>th</sup> June: "*Lt Brownless killed this morning at Gully Beach by a stray enemy rifle bullet during the performance of his professional duties*". He was 40 years old and is buried at Pink Farm Cemetery, Helles, Turkey.

**\*CRONYN, William Benn.** Captain, Army Veterinary Corps

William Benn Cronyn was born in Dublin and was the third son of Dr John and Mrs Caroline Cronyn of Dromore, Newport, County Tipperary, Ireland. He was educated at Hanover House, Bray and Foyle College, County Derry. He entered the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in 1887 and qualified MRCVS in May 1888. On the outbreak of war he joined the Army Veterinary Corps and was attached to the Army Remount Department. He spent two and a half years working in Ireland before volunteering for service overseas, despite being over military age. In April 1917 he was posted to the Indian Veterinary Hospital, Marseilles, and had served there nine months before he contracted influenza. He was evacuated to a hospital in Le Harve but meningitis supervened, and he died there on 1<sup>st</sup> February 1918. He was 55 years old and is buried at Ste. Marie Cemetery, Le Harve, France.



**\*CURREY, George.** Captain, Royal Army Veterinary Corps



George Currey was the son of William and Mrs Elizabeth Currey of 21 Station Road, Workington, Cumbria. He was educated at Workington Victoria School and Workington Higher Grade School. He entered the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in September 1905 and qualified MRCVS in December 1911 and thereafter practiced for a time in Manchester. He was commissioned as a Lieutenant in the Army Veterinary Corps in March 1916 and was later promoted to Captain. He died, aged 35, on 15<sup>th</sup> November 1919 and is buried in Carlisle (Dalston Road) Cemetery, England.

**\*DAWSON, William Ordford Charles.** Major, Indian Civil Veterinary Department

William Ordford Charles Dawson was the son of Major Henry Dawson, 14<sup>th</sup> King's Hussars, and Mrs Elizabeth Kathleen Dawson. He entered 'class C' of the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College having already passed two years of the course at the Royal Veterinary College, London. He qualified MRCVS in 1894. In May 1900 he serving as a Veterinary-Lieutenant in the Indian Civil Veterinary Department and employed at the Lahore Veterinary College when he was bitten by a supposedly rabid dog and was ordered to proceed with all haste to the Pasteur Institute, Paris, for treatment. By 1915 he was still serving in the Indian Civil Veterinary Department and had been promoted to Major. He was on board the *SS Persia*, a defensively armed passenger vessel en route from Tilbury to Port Said, Aden and Bombay when it was torpedoed and sunk without warning by the German U-boat U-38, 71 miles south of Cape Martello, Crete on 30<sup>th</sup> December 1915. He was lost at sea and is commemorated on the Chatby Memorial, Egypt.

**\*†EDGE, William Edward.** Lieutenant, Royal Navy



William Edward Edge was the eldest son of Captain William Henry and Mary Jane Edge and was born in 1883 in Calcutta, West Bengal, India although he moved to the Isle of Man as a young boy. He was educated at Victoria College and Douglas Grammar School, Isle of Man after which he went to the Clyde in Glasgow to train as an engineer and from where he intended to enter the Royal Navy. However, his studies were interrupted by the outbreak of the Boer War and he enlisted for a time in the Scottish Horse, Imperial Yeomanry. Later, he spent 3 years at sea with the Asiatic Steam Navigation Company and a further 8 months with the Tyser Line before he joined the Royal Indian Marine as an Assistant Engineer in May 1908. He served aboard several ships of the Royal Indian Marine over the following years including *RIMS Mayo*, *Minto*, *Dufferin*, *Northbrook*, *Lawrence*, *Dalhousie*, *Hardinge* and

*Palinurus* and in May 1911 he was promoted to Engineer. His service Record from this time contains the following note recorded on 21<sup>st</sup> June 1912: "*Engr Edges' services in getting the "Lawrence" from Koweit [sic.] to Bombay in a disabled condition, without assistance, appreciated by the Govt. of India*". For his services during this period he received the Naval General Service Medal with the Persian Gulf 1909-1914 bar which was awarded to personnel who served during operations against pirates, gun-runner and slavers in the Arabian Sea and Persian Gulf. On the evening of 13<sup>th</sup> February 1915 he was serving aboard the *RIMS Minto* in the Gulf of Aden when, while on duty in the engine room, he suffered an accident in which he severely injured his right leg and which necessitated amputation. The ships Assistant Surgeon, R. L. W Beveridge, submitted the following report to a Court of Inquiry into the accident:

*"I have the honour to submit the following report on the injury sustained by Engineer Edge, W. E., RIMS., on the 30<sup>th</sup> [sic] February 1915. He was on duty down in the Engine Room and climbed up on a rail in front of the Eccentric Rods in order to tighten up a 'gland' right over the eccentric rods, his foot slipped and his Right Leg shot forwards between the eccentric rods and thus sustained the following injuries-*

*Compound comminuted fractures of the Tibia and Fibula in lower third of Right Leg. The Anterior and Posterior Tibial Arteries and other vessels were all severed. All Muscles and Tendons etc. were severed except those on the Antro-external surface of the lower third of the leg.*

*The accident occurred after leaving Makalla at about 6.45pm on the 13<sup>th</sup> February 1915 and it was thought advisable to leave the patient for amputation at Aden. Arrived Aden after 6pm on 14<sup>th</sup> February 1915 where his leg was amputated through the middle, at the European General Hospital, shortly after admission. The patient was "sober" at the time of the accident."*

After a period of several weeks recovering from the operation he was transported on the SS *Arabia* to Chatham Naval Hospital in London. He was placed on the retired list with a pension of £80 per annum with an additional permanent injury pension of £50, which was later increased to £75. After a period in the Isle of Man he proceeded to Queen Mary's Convalescent Hospital in Roehampton, London, a specialist hospital for amputees, to be fitted with an artificial limb. By April 1916 he had recovered sufficiently to offer his services to the Royal Navy and in June he was given a temporary commission as an Engineer Lieutenant and appointed to *HMS President*, ashore base in London but attached for duties with the Engineer Overseer for the Scotland District, based in Edinburgh. An application to have this appointment made permanent was turned down in October. In early January 1917 he was admitted to East Pilton Royal Naval Hospital, Edinburgh and diagnosed with "*Neurosis (2 months)*". In February he was sent to Plymouth Naval Hospital for assessment where he was found to be physically unfit for further active service and his temporary commission was terminated. He spent the next year and a half recovering his health in the Isle of Man until he was able to enroll as a student at the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in September 1918. He had passed two years of the degree course and passed his second professional exams with honours said to be "*won in spite of daily suffering*" when he took his own life on 21<sup>st</sup> January 1921. The precognition report by the Procurator Fiscal states the cause of death as "*Haemorrhage, the result of a self-inflicted stab wound penetrating the heart*". His funeral was attended by representatives of the college staff and students and as a special mark of esteem all classes were suspended for the day. He is buried in the Grange Cemetery, Edinburgh. He was married with a daughter, Elizabeth Stuart Edge, born in October 1919. His obituary in the *Manx Quarterly* describes his as "*one more promising life lost through the Great War*".

**\*EVANS, Edward** Captain, Army Veterinary Corps



Edward Evans was born in Beddgelert, Caernarfonshire and grew up in Bala, Merionethshire in North Wales. He qualified MRCVS from the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in December 1898 and returned to Bala initially to work as the district veterinary officer and then setting up his own practice in the nearby town of Cerrigydrudion. In July 1915 he was commissioned as a temporary Lieutenant in the Army Veterinary Corps. He was later promoted to Captain and for a time was attached to the 5<sup>th</sup> Divisional Train, Larkhill, Wiltshire. From October 1915 he appears to have suffered from a recurrent illness relating to his teeth, which he had removed in July 1916. On 13<sup>th</sup> September 1916 he appeared before a medical board which concluded that "*he suffers from dyspepsia with pains between his shoulders and in the epigastrium. He has provided himself with a set of dentures which appears to be satisfactory. Heart and Lungs normal. The board considers there is no medical reason why the officer should not be able to continue his work at Larkhill.*" He served in France from September or October of that year but was evacuated home in April 1917 on account of ill health. He then appeared before another medical board at the 4<sup>th</sup> London General Hospital which described "*Gastritis...vomiting incessant*" and recommended a period of convalescence which he spent at home in North Wales. In May 1917 he returned to light duty at No. 7 Reserve Veterinary Hospital in Ormskirk, Merseyside. From then until November 23<sup>rd</sup> 1917 he attended medical hearings every month with his condition described as "*Gastritis and Pyorrhoea Alveolaris*" which was

attributed to *"Infection in France"*. He continued on light duties at Ormskirk until 24<sup>th</sup> December when he was admitted to the 1<sup>st</sup> Western General Hospital, Fazackerley, Liverpool suffering from an outbreak of eczema. A further medical board held on 1<sup>st</sup> March 1918 reported: *"He had been working at Ormskirk Vety. Hosp. since May 23<sup>rd</sup> 1917 on light duty on account of his teeth and on account of colitis. He was attacked with eczema and was sent to 1<sup>st</sup> West. Gen. Hosp. for treatment... The eczema is now cured. His general condition is about the same as when he came to Fazackerley. He is instructed to report to C/O 7 Res. Vety. Hosp. Ormskirk."* He returned to Ormskirk on 6<sup>th</sup> March but just three days later on 9<sup>th</sup> March he was admitted to Croxteth Hall Military Hospital for Officers, an auxiliary convalescence hospital attached to the 1<sup>st</sup> Western General. He died on 21<sup>st</sup> May 1918 with the cause of death given as *"Chronic Bright's Disease"*. His sister Mary, a nurse working in a neighbouring military hospital visited him daily over his last few months. He was buried with full military honours in Llan Ffestiniog Cemetery, Merionethshire, North Wales.

**\*FLEMING, William James Culbard.** Captain, Gordon Highlanders

William James Culbard Fleming was born in Keith, Morayshire in 1895 and was the son of John Grant Fleming and Mrs Lillias Joan Fleming of Reidhaven House, Keith. He was educated at Corbridge-on-Tyne, Northumberland, at Caen in France and Aylwin College in Arnside, Westmorland. He enrolled in the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in October 1912 as a 'Non-Professional' student and took the B and C Classes in Stable Management and Hygiene in the 1912-1913 session. In the early months of the war he was served with the rank of Private in the Scottish Horse and in November 1914 he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the 6<sup>th</sup> (Banff and Donside) Territorial Battalion of the Gordon Highlanders. He was promoted to temporary Lieutenant in June 1915 and temporary Captain in January 1916. He was mentioned in Dispatches for gallant and distinguished service in the field in January 1917. He died of influenza on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 1918 and is buried in Keith (Broomhill) Cemetery, Moray, Scotland. His elder brother Ian Grant Fleming MC, also a Captain in the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion Gordon Highlanders, was killed in action in France in July 1917.

**HANNAY, David.** Captain, Army Veterinary Corps

David Hannay was the son of William and Isabelle Hannay of Portobello, Edinburgh. He entered the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in October 1904 and qualified MRCVS in May 1909. After qualifying he worked for a time as an assistant to John Hutton MRCVS at Pringlebank in Kelso, Roxburghshire. He was commissioned as a temporary Lieutenant in the Army Veterinary Corps in September 1914 and embarked for France in the same month. He served with 7<sup>th</sup> Brigade, Royal Horse Artillery through the early campaigns of the war and was awarded the 1914 Star with Bar. He was promoted to temporary Captain in September 1915. He died, aged 36, at No. 2 Red Cross Hospital, Rouen on 17<sup>th</sup> January 1918 and is buried in St Sever Cemetery, Rouen, France.

**\*HIGGINS, Arthur Akin.** Captain, Army Veterinary Corps

Arthur Akin Higgins was the son of Mrs Mildred Akin Higgins of Harrow, Middlesex. He was educated at the Lower School of John Lyon, Harrow from 1895 to 1900 and later at Hitchin Grammar School, Hertfordshire. He qualified MRCVS from the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in May 1910. He was commissioned as a temporary Lieutenant in the Army Veterinary Corps in October 1916 and served for two years in the Balkans where he was attached to 115<sup>th</sup> Brigade, Royal Field Artillery and was promoted to Captain. He died of bronchial pneumonia following influenza aged 32 on 25<sup>th</sup> October 1918 a month after the declaration of peace on the Balkan front. He is buried in Doiran Military Cemetery, Greece.

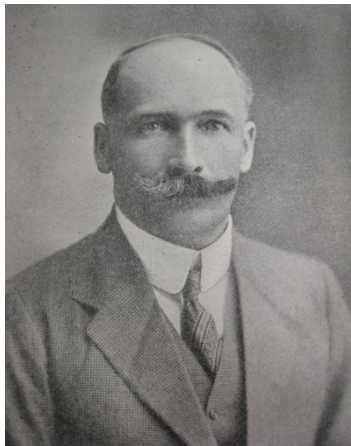


**HISLOP, George.** Sergeant, Army Veterinary Corps



George Hislop was born in Ratho, Midlothian and was the youngest son of Thomas Hislop M.A. and his wife Georgina of the Schoolhouse, Ratho, and later 121 Dalkeith Road, Edinburgh. He was educated at Ratho Public School and Edinburgh High School before entering the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in October 1914. He passed the first year of the course but left in July 1915 for active service. He joined the Army Veterinary Corps as a Private in August 1915 and was promoted to Acting Sergeant in November that year. He served in France and during the Third Battle of Ypres he was attached to 'B' Battery, 159<sup>th</sup> Brigade of the Royal Field Artillery when he died of wounds in No.4 Casualty Clearing Station, Dozinghem on 26<sup>th</sup> October 1917. He was 21 years old and is buried in Dozinghem Military Cemetery, Poperinge, Belgium.

**\*†HOLMES, John Dalrymple Edgar CIE.** Lieutenant-Colonel, Indian Civil Veterinary Department



John Dalrymple Edgar Holmes was born in 1867 and was the son of Reverend John Holmes of The Manse, Tipperary. He was educated at the Grammar School, Tipperary and from there proceeded to Trinity College, Dublin from where he graduated with a BA degree in 1890. He entered the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in November 1892 and studied there for two sessions until May 1894. He then went to the Royal Veterinary College, London, from where he qualified MRCVS in May 1895. In 1895 he joined the Army Veterinary Department and after four years of service, part of which was spent in India, he transferred to the Indian Civil Veterinary Department. He served as a Superintendent with the Department until 1901 when he was appointed Assistant Bacteriologist at the Muktesar Laboratory. In 1904 he returned to Europe in order to undertake postgraduate studies. While in Europe he studied at Cambridge and was awarded a DSc degree in 1905. He then worked at both the Pasteur Institute and the School of Medicine in Paris, where he studied Parasitology. When he returned to India in 1906 he was appointed for a short period as Professor of Sanitary Science at the Punjab Veterinary College, Lahore but in September 1907 returned to the Muktesar Institute where the Government of India appointed him Imperial Bacteriologist. In 1910 he was awarded an MA degree and in 1912 he won the Steele Memorial Medal for research work in veterinary science. In 1913 he was made a Companion of the Order of the Indian Empire and in November 1914 he was promoted from Major to Lieutenant-Colonel in the Indian Civil Veterinary Department. He was the author of two books "Bazaar Drugs" and "A Description of the Muktesar Laboratory and its Work" as well as numerous scientific pamphlets and articles. An obituary in the Veterinary Record pays testament to the high regard he was held in both within the profession and beyond:

*"This month Lieut.-Col. Holmes would have completed his twentieth year of graduation. Probably no man, since the profession came into being, has ever done more valuable work than he during the first two decades spent in it. For years before his death he was recognized as a scientific investigator of the highest order, but, good as his purely research work was, he perhaps did even better work in the superintendence and development of the Muktesar Institute- now one of the largest experimental and serum-producing stations in the world, the economic value of which to India has become incalculable. The extracts from the Indian press which we printed last week show that his death is recognised in that country as a national loss- and, indeed, few men could have done more for Indian agriculture than he did at Muktesar. India has lost one of her most valuable civil servants, and veterinary pathology one of its ablest exponents."*

He died suddenly of a cerebral haemorrhage at Bareilly on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1915 aged 48.

**NOTE:** John Dalrymple Edgar Holmes was not included on the original memorial and he is not

*commemorated by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. He is, however, commemorated on the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Memorial in Belgravia House, London.*

**\*LENOX-CONYNGHAM, Hubert Maxwell DSO.** Lieutenant-Colonel, Army Veterinary Corps



Hubert Maxwell Lenox-Conyngham was the seventh and youngest son of Colonel Sir William Fitzwilliam Lenox-Conyngham KCB of Spring Hill, County Derry. He initially studied at Trinity College, Dublin from where he graduated with a BA degree. He then spent some time growing oranges in Florida before returning to the United Kingdom to study veterinary medicine at the Royal Veterinary College in London. He came from London to the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in September 1893 and studied there for two sessions until May 1895. He then returned to the Royal Veterinary College from where he qualified MRCVS in March 1896. In 1896 he joined the Army Veterinary Department and was immediately posted to India. Between 1902 and 1904 he served in the Somaliland Campaign, being appointed Veterinary Inspector, Lines of Communications from July 1903. For his services on the Somaliland Campaign he was mentioned in dispatches by General John Gough

VC: *“Lieutenant H. M. Lenox-Conyngham, Army Veterinary Department is deserving of special mention for his conscientious work and the indefatigable manner in which he performed his very onerous duties, caused by the large number of sick camels.”*

For his services in Somaliland he was entitled to the Africa General Service medal with the Somaliland Campaign 1902-1904 clasp. Between 1904-1905 he was sent to the Argentine on remount duty. He was awarded an FRCVS in May 1909 and in 1909 he was again posted to India where he acted for a time as remount officer in Calcutta. In January 1912 he was promoted to Major. On the outbreak of the Great War in August 1914 he was serving at the Curragh Camp in Ireland attached to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Cavalry Brigade under General Sir Hubert Gough KCB. In September 1914 he was appointed Assistant Director of Veterinary Services to Sixth Division and went to France with that formation. For his services in the early campaigns in France General Sir John French twice mentioned him in dispatches. After serving with Sixth Division until August 1915 he was for a time given command of No. 10 Veterinary Hospital. In July 1916 he was promoted to temporary Lieutenant-Colonel and appointed Deputy Director of Veterinary Services to 5<sup>th</sup> Army again under General Sir Hubert Gough KCB. In this capacity he served throughout the fighting on the Somme and the Ancre. For his services in these campaigns he was mentioned in dispatches by Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig and on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1917 was awarded the Distinguished Service Order and had also been promoted to the rank of temporary Colonel. However, his health broke down under the strain of war service and he was invalided home to the United Kingdom in May 1917. In June 1917 his rank was confirmed as Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel as a further reward for distinguished service in the field. After a period of rest he was given command of a Veterinary Hospital at Tunbridge Wells and later was appointed Assistant Director of Veterinary Services to Western Command. Shortly after taking up this appointment he took ill and died quite suddenly of cerebral haemorrhage at Chester on 15<sup>th</sup> March 1918 at the age of 48. His body was brought home to Ireland and he is buried in Kilgobbin Burial Ground, County Dublin. He had married Eva Darley of The Paddocks, Kilsby, Rugby, and had a son and a daughter. One of his brothers, Lieutenant Colonel John Staples Molesworth Lenox-Conyngham, was killed in September 1916 while commanding the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Connaught Rangers.

**LOWRY, Henry Cooke.** Captain, Army Veterinary Corps



Henry Cooke Lowry was the only son of James Lowry J.P. of Magheramorne, County Antrim, Ireland. He was educated at the Methodist College, Belfast and Larne Grammar School. He attended Dublin Veterinary College for 3 years before enrolling at the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in 1909 to sit the final year of the course. He played in the College Rugby XV in 1909-10 and he qualified MRCVS in December 1910. He received a commission as a Lieutenant (on probation) in the Army Veterinary Corps in March 1911 but subsequently left the army and in February 1913 he joined the Colonial Veterinary Service and was serving as a Veterinary Officer in Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia when war broke out. As a member of the Special Reserve of Officers he was recalled to the Army Veterinary Corps and took part in the landings at Gallipoli. He served throughout that campaign during which he had a very narrow escape when a box he was sitting on was shot away from under him by a shell. The following day he was slightly wounded in the arm by a bullet but was able to carry on with his duties. In early 1916 he was sent to Mesopotamia. He died there on 11<sup>th</sup> July 1916, aged 32, and is buried in Basra War Cemetery, Iraq.

**McCALLUM, Donald.** Second Lieutenant, Cameronians (Scottish Rifles)



Donald McCallum was born in Chester and was the third son of Lieutenant Colonel D. McCallum of the Royal Army Service Corps and of St. Ninians Terrace, Edinburgh. He was educated at George Watson's College in Edinburgh, Pretoria College in South Africa and Aberdeen Grammar School where he was a cadet in the Transvaal (Aberdeen Grammar School) Company of the 4<sup>th</sup> (Territorial) Battalion of the Gordon Highlanders. He entered the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in September 1913 and was a member of the College Officer Training Corps. He passed the first year of the course with 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Honours but left for active service in September 1914. He joined the 12<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders as a Private and quickly attained the rank of Sergeant. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) in January 1915 and crossed to France six months later. He was last seen on Hill 70 'going forward' on 25<sup>th</sup> September 1915 during the Battle of Loos and was reported missing believed killed on that date. He was 19 years old. He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Loos Memorial, Pas de Calais, France.

**MENDELSON, Max.** Gunner, Royal Horse Artillery



Max Mendelsohn was the son of Mr and Mrs Mendelsohn of Causewayside, Edinburgh. He was employed at the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College as a pathology assistant. He enlisted at Leith, Edinburgh and initially served as a Horse Keeper in the Army Veterinary Corps but later transferred to the Royal Field Artillery and then to the Royal Horse Artillery. He was sent to Palestine and served with the rank of Gunner in 18<sup>th</sup> Brigade ammunition column. He died on 12<sup>th</sup> October 1918 aged 21 and is buried in Jerusalem War Cemetery, Israel.

*NOTE: The Commonwealth War Graves Commission incorrectly records that Max Mendelsohn was a Veterinary Surgeon. A note in the college minutes in 1915 records that an application had been made to have laboratory assistants Mendelsohn and Bennett*



*exempted from military service. This appears to have been unsuccessful as, tragically, both men were later killed in the war, their names being recorded on the college memorial.*

**NESS, James Sharp.** Private, Gordon Highlanders



James Sharp Ness was the son of Charles J. and Mrs Eliza Ness of Calrossie Mains, Nigg Station, Ross-shire. He was educated at Tain Royal Academy and Robert Gordon's College, Aberdeen. He then studied at the University of Edinburgh as a student of science between 1913 and 1915, and in April 1914 he also matriculated at the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College. After leaving the college he initially joined the Cameron Highlanders but later transferred to the 1/7<sup>th</sup> Battalion (Territorial) Gordon Highlanders. He was killed in action during the Third Battle of Ypres on 16<sup>th</sup> September 1917 and is buried in Dozinghem Military Cemetery, Poperinge, Belgium.

*NOTE: The original memorial was inscribed with the name 'Ian Ness'. There is an Ian Ness listed in the college Matriculation Index in 1906, however, no further record of him has been found. In the college archives there is a handwritten notebook entitled 'Graduates and Students on Active Service' in which a J. S. Ness is listed as on active service and is underscored intimating having been killed. A James Sharp Ness matriculated in 1914 and the home address given in the Student Register matches a CWGC entry for the same name. It is therefore probable that the original war memorial was inscribed with the incorrect forename for this man.*

**PHORSON, Douglas Stuart.** Captain, Durham Light Infantry



Douglas Stuart Phorson was the eldest son of Peter Riddle Grey Phorson and his wife Ann of Roker, Sunderland. He was educated at the Royal Kepier Grammar School, Houghton-le-Spring, County Durham. He studied medicine at the University of Edinburgh between 1906 and 1908 and entered the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in October 1909 where he studied until July 1914. He volunteered for service on the outbreak of war and obtained a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion of the Durham Light Infantry in May 1915. He was later attached to the 18<sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion and went to France in June 1916. He took part in the opening day of the battle of the Somme on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1916 when he was wounded but remained in command of his company. On 28<sup>th</sup> July he was promoted straight to Captain from Second Lieutenant. He was killed on the night of 16<sup>th</sup> December 1916 near Hebuterne when the dugout which was

serving as his company headquarters was hit by a shell. His Commanding Officer wrote of him:

*"Your son was a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut. when I joined the battalion about four and a half months ago; he had the opportunity of commanding his company temporarily just before I joined. I found that he commanded his company efficiently and well in the trenches, so promoted him to be Captain straight from 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieut. I found that the officers of the battalion had a high opinion of his sound sense, and an equally high opinion of the sympathetic side of his character, and I know that he was universally liked in his company. On the night of the 16<sup>th</sup> he was sitting with his two subaltern officers in the dug-out which was his company's headquarters. We had been giving the enemy a bad time with a certain artillery programme; we had made our dispositions for the safety of the men in the case if the enemy's retaliation should be severe, and Capt Phorson had personally arranged for his own company that, without sacrificing protective measures in any way, the men might be under as much cover as possible. While sitting in his company's headquarters, the enemy began some desultory shelling. This shelling grew in intensity, and Capt Phorson said to his two officers that they were to move with him to a deeper dug-out. I believe he had actually begun to get out of his chair, when they could hear a shell, which*

experience told them was coming somewhere near. Capt Phorson said: 'Wait for this,' and as he sat down again, the big shell hit the dug-out where the roof joined the wall, and killed him and another officer (Lieut. Busby) and wounded a third officer (Lieut. Lean). He had no pain as his death was instantaneous. I am sure, from my knowledge of him, that he could wish for no better ending than dying at his post as he did. He had very many narrow escapes in his time, for he was a seasoned soldier, and he took all his chances with the equanimity and coolness which, you know better than I, was one of his characteristics. I represent the entire battalion when expressing my deepest sympathy with you and the loss which the battalion has suffered in losing a valuable Company Commander."

He was 27 years old and is buried at Sailly-Au-Bois Military Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France.

**PRIMMER, Jacob Hope.** Captain, New Zealand Veterinary Corps



Jacob Hope Primmer was born in Dunfermline, Fife, the second son of the notorious Presbyterian minister Reverend Jacob Primmer and his wife Jessie of Kingseathill, Dunfermline. He was educated at Dunfermline High School. He qualified MRCVS from the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in May 1906 with some distinction having been awarded the Harris Gold Medal for pathology and the silver medal for chemistry. He initially worked as an assistant to Mr John Aitken MRCVS at Chester-le-Street, County Durham, and went on to establish a successful practice in Dunfermline. He was commissioned as a Lieutenant in the Territorial branch of the Army Veterinary Corps in March 1911 and was attached to the Fife and Forfar Yeomanry. He spent some time in Germany before immigrating to New

Zealand in March 1912 to take up a government appointment in Palmerston North. He immediately joined the New Zealand Veterinary corps on the outbreak of war in August 1914 and was gazetted captain. He set off in October 1914 along with the first New Zealand troops to leave for service overseas and initially served in Egypt and later went to France where he was attached to the New Zealand Field Artillery of the New Zealand Division. On the 12<sup>th</sup> June 1917, while the division was engaged in the Battle of Messines, he was struck by lightning and killed. A Gunner W. J. Wilson wrote of the incident to his father in a letter published by the Northern Advocate in September 1917:

*"The saddest affair I have ever witnessed happened not far from me the other day. A thunderstorm came on, and I was sitting in my tent out of the rain, when suddenly there was a terrific crack, far louder than the sound of any gun-firing or shell-bursting. We rushed outside, and saw that a tree had been struck by lightning about twenty feet from our tent. At the foot of the tree was a cookhouse, in which ten men of the 7<sup>th</sup> Battery had been sheltering from the rain. Our corporal was the first man to go in, and a sad spectacle confronted him. The whole ten men had been struck by lightning, and lay on the floor, some of them moaning. They were quickly taken out, and everything done to save them. One, Veterinary-Captain Primmer, had been killed, and most of the others were more or less injured. They were removed in motor ambulances, but I have not heard how they got on, although I believe some are all right. The veterinary surgeon was much liked and respected by us all, and his case was rendered particularly sad by the fact that his wife was in Paris expecting him to go and see her. The affair created a deep impression among us all, for it seemed strange that when the enemy's efforts to kill had failed, Nature should take a hand in the business, with such tragic results."*

Jacob Primmer was 32 and shortly before leaving for New Zealand had married Melanie Sophie Forbes, later of Belleknowes, Dunedin, New Zealand. They had one daughter, Kathleen Melanie Forbes Primmer born in January 1914. He is buried at Kandahar Farm Cemetery, Heuvelland, Belgium.

**\*ROUTLEDGE, Arthur Richard.** Captain, Army Veterinary Corps



Arthur Richard Routledge was the son of James Routledge J.P. of Jarrow, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. He was educated at the Royal Keppier Grammer School, Durham, before entering the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in October 1892. He qualified MRCVS in May 1895 winning the 2<sup>nd</sup> Fitzwygram Prize that year. He went on to become a Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, qualifying FRCVS in May 1903. In 1906 he succeeded a Mr G. H. Kitchen and went on to build a large and successful practice in Louth, Lincolnshire. He also held appointments as an inspector for the Board of Agriculture and Lindsey County Council as Veterinary Surgeon to the Lincolnshire Agricultural Society and as an Examiner to the Worshipful Company of Farriers. In July 1913 he undertook a post-graduate course in pathology. He joined the Territorial branch of the Army Veterinary Corps in May 1914 and served from the outbreak of the Great War in August 1914. Initially he was attached

to the Sherwood Rangers and later went on to command Veterinary Hospitals at Bury-St-Edmunds and Huntingdon, Suffolk. He was then posted overseas and served in France for the next two years. While in France he was kicked by a mule, and the resulting injury to his knee necessitated his remaining in hospital there for some time. He was eventually evacuated home to the United Kingdom for a period of rest and once sufficiently recovered he was posted to York for light duties. However, his health again broke down and he was admitted to 3<sup>rd</sup> Northern General Hospital, Leeds and in April 1918 he was invalided out of the army through ill-health contracted on active service. He returned to practice in Lincolnshire and had been elected to Louth Town Council but became seriously ill before he could take his seat. He died in the 4<sup>th</sup> Northern General Hospital, Lincoln on 27<sup>th</sup> June 1918, aged 44, and was buried with full military honours in Louth Cemetery, England. He was married to May Routledge of Stapleton House, Louth, and had a daughter.

**\*STANLEY, John William.** Second lieutenant, Lancashire Fusiliers



John William Stanley was the youngest son of Lieutenant Colonel C. E. H. Stanley of the Grenadier Guards and Mrs Frederica Stanley of Penny Bridge House, Ulverston, Lancashire. He was educated Abbot Hall, Kent's Bank, Lancashire and Wellington College, Berkshire. He also attended the Agricultural College at Aspatria for a time. He matriculated at the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in October 1909 and passed the first two years of the course there, last sitting exams in December 1911. During his time at the college he played in the Rugby XV for three seasons between 1909 and 1912.

After leaving the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College he went to the Royal Veterinary College, London, and enrolled as a third year student in 1912. He sat exams there until 1913 when he appears to have left, although he returned briefly in 1916 to sit a 'special examination'. He enlisted as a Private in the 21<sup>st</sup> (4th Public Schools) Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers in September 1914 and obtained a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Lancashire Fusiliers in September 1915. He served in France and Flanders from June 1916 and was killed in action at Messines while attached to the 11<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Lancashire Fusiliers on 7<sup>th</sup> June 1917, aged 31. He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Belgium.



**STORIE, John.** Captain, Army Veterinary Corps



John Storie gained the Highland Agricultural Society veterinary certificate in 1875 from the New Edinburgh Veterinary College and qualified MRCVS in April 1880. He went on to succeed his uncle Francis Storie MRCVS in practice in East Linton, Lothian. For many years he was a member of the Town Council and served as Provost of the town between 1893 and 1898. He lectured on veterinary science at the Edinburgh and East of Scotland College of Agriculture. John Storie was a Captain in the Territorial Division of the Army Veterinary Corps and on the outbreak of war he was attached to the Lothian and Border Horse, a regiment with which he had been associated for some time. He was later transferred to the Scots Greys Depot at Dunbar, a position that allowed him to attend to his practice. He died at home on 4<sup>th</sup> October 1915, aged 59, following an attack of pleurisy and is buried in Prestonkirk Parish Churchyard, Scotland. He was married to Catherine Nancy Clapperton Storie and had three sons and two daughters. His second son, James Clapperton Storie, qualified MRCVS from the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in 1909 and also served as a Captain in the Army Veterinary Corps during the Great War.

*NOTE: The RCVS register records that John Storie was a graduate of the New Edinburgh Veterinary College. His connection with the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College is not entirely clear although it may be that he undertook some post graduate study there or held a teaching post at the college. His son was a student at the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College and qualified from there in 1909.*

**TOTTENHAM, Edward Lowry MC.** Second Lieutenant, Loyal North Lancashire Regiment



Edward Lowry Tottenham was the third son of Lowry Cliffe Loftus Tottenham and Mrs Isabella Ogle Tottenham of The Grange, Moy, County Tyrone, Ireland. He was educated at the Academical Institute, Coleraine and St Bees School, Cumberland, before entering the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in January 1914. He was a member of both school and College Officer Training Corps and left the College in September 1914 for military service. He joined the Army Veterinary Corps and initially served as a Lance-Corporal attached to the Base Veterinary Hospital, 52<sup>nd</sup> (Lowland) Division near Stirling. From there he applied for a temporary commission on the general list, stating the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers as his preferred regiment, and also for a commission in the Territorial Force. In February 1915 he obtained a commission in the 5<sup>th</sup> (Cumberland) Battalion of the Border Regiment although this was subsequently cancelled and he was appointed a Second Lieutenant in the 11<sup>th</sup> Battalion the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment and served for a time as battalion Transport Officer. He was then transferred to the Regiment's 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion and posted to Egypt. From here he went as part of 38<sup>th</sup> (Lancashire) Infantry Brigade, 13<sup>th</sup> (Western) Division of the Indian Expeditionary Force to Mesopotamia and took part in the effort to relieve the besieged British garrison at Kut El Amara. He served in the battle of Fallahiah and at the repulse at Sannaayat on the 9<sup>th</sup> April 1916 where he was reported missing. Lieutenant General Sir Fredrick Stanley Maude, the British Commander in Mesopotamia, described the attack at Sannaayat in his diary: "*Line deployed quite successfully, no noise, and everything with utmost regularity...At 4.30am line moved forward to assault, orders being to rush the first three lines...Line advanced steadily and noiselessly until 4.28, when leading line was within 100 yards of position. The Turks sent up a flare from their left which made our left lose direction slightly. About half a minute later another flare went up from the enemy's right, followed by heavy outburst of machine-gun and rifle fire. Second line lay down while first line pushed on, Consequently first line, which did splendidly, got into turk's trenches in a good many places- North Lancs, King's Own, Welsch Fusiliers and Wilts especially. But being unsupported by second line had to give way... We held on tenaciously where we were all day, the troops scratching holes in the ground where they lay*

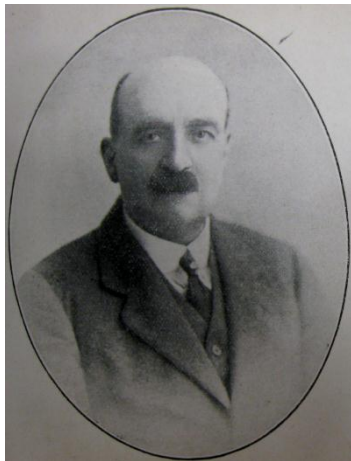
*and digging themselves in as best they could, and at night we withdrew into the trenches we started from in the morning."*

For his services during the Mesopotamian campaign Edward Lowry Tottenham was mentioned in dispatches for gallant and distinguished service in the field and was awarded the Military Cross for gallantry. His last letter home, written after the battle of Fallahiah, described how he had reconnoitered Turkish positions before guiding his brigade forward. He was 21 years old. He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Basra Memorial, Iraq. His younger brother Second Lieutenant Arthur Henry Tottenham of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers was killed in France on 27th June 1916.

**TULLY-CHRISTIE, William Kerwin.** Captain, Army Veterinary Corps

William Kerwin Tully-Christie was the son of William Kerwin and Mrs Tully-Christie of Barnes, London. He entered the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in September 1904 and qualified MRCVS in December 1906. He initially enlisted as a Private in the 23<sup>rd</sup> (Service) Battalion, The Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment) before being commissioned as a temporary Lieutenant in the Army Veterinary Corps in March 1915 and was promoted to Captain in April 1916. On the 28<sup>th</sup> September 1917 he relinquished his commission on account of ill health contracted while on active service. He died on 20<sup>th</sup> February 1918 in Queen Alexandra's Hospital for Officers, Millbank, London, after a long illness. He was 40 years old and he is buried in Brompton Cemetery, London, England. In December 1916 he had married Florence Winifred Rambert of Madingley House, East Twickenham, Middlesex.

**\*†WRIGHT, Thomas.** Civilian Veterinary Surgeon, Army Remount Service



Thomas Wright qualified MRCVS from the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College in April 1881. From 1900 he practiced in Lower Richmond Road, Putney, London, where his principle work was amongst polo ponies at Hurlingham, Ranelagh and Roehampton Polo Clubs. He was also chief veterinary surgeon to the Guards' Club at Southfields. During the Boer War he had acted as a Transport Veterinary Officer, attending to horses while they were ferried to South Africa for war service, and in October 1914 he offered his services in a similar capacity. From that time he made many voyages between Britain, Canada, America and other countries until December 1916 when the ship he was travelling on was torpedoed and sunk. For a time after this he acted as a civilian veterinary surgeon to the Army Remount Service Depot at Woolwich. His health, undermined by his services at sea, gave way and he was forced to resign from this post on medical advice. He died in Nottingham on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1918 while visiting his son-in-law Mr K. P. Rankin MRCVS and was buried in

his family grave plot in Manchester. He was 62 years old. He was married with two daughters, three step-daughters and a son, Thomas Lewis Wright who qualified MRCVS from The Royal Veterinary College, London in July 1916 and served as a Captain in the Army Veterinary Corps in Mesopotamia during the Great War. In 1916 Thomas Wright had purchased for his son the practice of the late J. W. Brownless MRCVS (see above).

## SOURCES and REFERENCES

### GENERAL SOURCES

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, Berkshire, UK. [www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org).

First World War Medal Index Cards. The National Archives, Kew, UK. [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk).

Graduates and Students on Active Service (c1914-1920). Box 28, 'Miscellany'. Archive of the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College, Centre for Research Collections, Edinburgh University Library.

London Gazette, London. [www.london-gazette.co.uk](http://www.london-gazette.co.uk).

Matriculation Albums/Declarations by Students. (1866-1942). Archive of the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College, Centre for Research Collections, Edinburgh University Library.

Matriculation Indices. (1866-1942). Archive of the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College, Centre for Research Collections, Edinburgh University Library;

MATTHEWS, P. K., WARWICK, C. M. and MACDONALD, A. A. (2016) The War Memorial and Roll-of-Honour of the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies. *The Journal of the Veterinary History Society*, vol. 18, no. 2, p. 117-164.

RDVC Register [of students from other colleges] (1886-1904). Archive of the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College, Centre for Research Collections, Edinburgh University Library.

Scottish National War Memorial. The Scottish National War Memorial, Edinburgh. [www.snwm.org](http://www.snwm.org).

Soldiers Died in the Great War, 1914-1919, Version 2.0 [CD-Rom] (2004). Naval & Military Press:UK.

Student Register 'No. 1' (1905-1915). Archive of the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College, Centre for Research Collections, Edinburgh University Library.

Veterinary Register [Series]. Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, London;

War Memorial Library. Box 27, Archive of the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College, Centre for Research Collections, Edinburgh University Library

### SPECIFIC REFERENCES

#### **BARTLEMAN, Thomas Edward**

MACKENZIE, J. E. (ed.) (1921). University of Edinburgh Roll of Honour 1914-1919, page 6. Oliver and Boyd: Edinburgh.

*Watsonian War Record 1914-1918* (1920). War Memorial Executive, George Watsons School: Edinburgh.

#### **BAXTER, Clement**

Obituary: Clement Baxter, Capt RAVC (TF), Christchurch, Hants. (1919). *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XXXII, November 22, 1919, page 242.



Obituary (1919). *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XXXII, November 29, 1919, page 256.

**BEECH, John Robert Dixon**

ARCHIBALD, J. F. J. (1901) *Blue Shirt and Khaki, A Comparison*, pp. 94, 116, 142. Silver, Burdett and Company: New York.

Army Veterinary Department (1888). *The Veterinary Journal*, February 1888, pp.145, 218, 304.

Army Veterinary Department (1889). *The Veterinary Journal*, March 1889, p. 220.

Army Veterinary Department (1891). *The Veterinary Journal*, March 1891, p. 226

Dead on the Field of Honour: Officers Killed in Action (1915) *The Illustrated London News*, December 4, 1915, p. 721.

DE RUVINGEY (c1916). *The Roll of Honour, A biographical Record of All Members of His Majesty's Naval and Military Forces who have Fallen in the War*, vol. II, p. 24. The Standard Art Book Company Limited: London.

An Encounter Between Lieutenant J. R. Beech, 21<sup>st</sup> Hussars, and Two Dervishes Near Suakin from a Sketch by the Hon. Gerald Saumarez (1889). *The Illustrated London News*, March 23, 1889, p. 373.

KEOWN-BOYD, H. (1996). *Soldiers of the Nile: Biographical History of the British Officers of the Egyptian Army, 1882-1925*. Thornbury Publications: UK.

Obituary: Death of Lieut-Colonel Beech, Scottish Horse (1915). *The Scotsman*, November 8, 1915, p.9, c.5.

Obituary: Lt.-Col. John R. D. Beech, CMG, DSO, MRCVS (1915). *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XXVIII, p. 232.

O'MOORE, G. C. (1924). *Distinguished Service Order, vol. I, 1886-1915*. Naval and Military Press: UK.

PORTAL, G. H. (1888). *An account of the English mission to King Johannis of Abyssinia in 1887*. Warren and Son: London.

The late Colonel Beech, Scottish Horse (1915). *The Scotsman*, November 13, p. 12, c. 1.

SMITH, F. (1927) *A History of the Royal Army Veterinary Corps, 1796-1919*, p184. Bailliere, Tindall and Cox: London.

SMITH, M. C. (2008) *Awarded For Valour: A History of the Victoria Cross and the Evolution of British Heroism*. Palgrave MacMillan: UK.

**BENNETT, James Stewart Hutchison.**

DE RUVINGEY (c1918). *The Roll of Honour, A biographical Record of All Members of His Majesty's Naval and Military Forces who have Fallen in the War*, vol. IV, page 12. The Standard Art Book Company Limited: London.

BRADLEY, O. C. (1910) Diary of O. Charnock Bradley, May 10 1910. Archive of the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College, Centre for Research Collections, Edinburgh University Library.

Minutes of the Board of Management, Summerhall (1916). Box 3, Board of Management Minutes, vol. 2 (1911-1916). November 15 1916, p36. Archive of the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College, Centre for Research Collections, Edinburgh University Library.

**BROWN, Thomas**

DE RUVINGEY (c1918). *The Roll of Honour, A biographical Record of All Members of His Majesty's Naval and Military Forces who have Fallen in the War*, vol. IV, p. 20. The Standard Art Book Company Limited: London.

**BROWNLESS, John Wilson**

JOHNSON, R., M. (1921) *29th Divisional Artillery War Record and Honours Book 1915-1918*, p. 138. Royal Artillery Institution Printing House: Woolwich.

Obituary: John W. Brownless, MRCVS (1915). *The Veterinary Journal*, July 1915, p. 404.

Obituary (1915). *The Veterinary Record*. Vol. XXVII, p. 654; Obituary: Lieut. J. W. Brownless, MRCVS, AVC (1915). *The Veterinary Record*. Vol. XXVIII, p. 8.

Obituary: Lieut. John Wilson Brownless, MRCVS, AVC (1915). *The Veterinary Record*. Vol. XXVIII, p. 24.

The Late Lieutenant J. W. Brownless, MRCVS, Army Veterinary Corps (1915). *The Veterinary Journal*, July 1915, p. 353.

War Diary of ADVS 29<sup>th</sup> Division (1915). The national Archives: Kew.

**CRONYN, William Benn**

Obituary: The Late Captain W. B. Cronyn (1918). *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XXX, p. 344.

Obituary: William Benn Cronyn, Capt AVC, Dromore, Newport, Co. Tipperary (1918). *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XXX, p. 332.

**CURREY, George**

Obituary: George Currey MRCVS, Capt RAVC (1919). *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XXXII, p. 256.

Staff and Final Year 1910-1911 (1911). Photographs and Portraits. Archive of the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College, Centre for Research Collections, Edinburgh University Library.

**DAWSON, William Ordford Charles**

Army Veterinary Service (1916). *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XXVIII, p. 485; Personal (1900). *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XII, p. 655.

**EDGE, William Edward**

BEDFORD, S. [Personnel Communication, including photograph] (2013).

Collection 87/113 Grant of allowance to Engineer W.E. Edge, Royal Indian Marine, on account of physical unfitness (1915-1920). Reference: IOR/L/MIL/7/3910. The British Library, Asia, Pacific and African Collections, London.

EDGE, William Edward [Digitised Record] (2013). Reference: ADM 196/131/241. The National Archives, Kew.

EDGE, William Edward Engr (1908-1915). Reference: IOR/L/MIL/16/4/484-85. The British Library, Asia, Pacific and African Collections, London.

EDGE, William Edward (1921). Statutory Deaths 685/070065. 1921 Deaths in the District of Morningside in the City of Edinburgh, p. 22, no. 65. Crown Copyright.

EDGE, William Edward (1921). Statutory Deaths 685/070065. Register of Corrected Entries for the

District of Morningside in the City of Edinburgh, vol. IV, p. 100. Crown Copyright.

Memorial Notices: Lieutenant W. E. Edge (1921). *The Manx Quarterly*, no. 25, vol. VI, p. 111.

**EVANS, Edward**

Blaeneu Festiniog (1918) *The Cambrian Review and Welsh Farmers Gazette*, May 31, 1918, p. 7, c. 2.

Captain Edward Evans Royal Army Veterinary Corps (1914-1922). Reference: WO 339/71465. The National Archives, Kew.

HANSON, C [Personnel Communication, including photograph] (2015).

Obituary: Edward Evans, MRCVS, Corwen, N. Wales, Temp. Capt. AVC (1918). *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XXX, p. 522.

**FLEMING, William John Culbard**

Obituary: Captain W. J. C. Fleming, 6<sup>th</sup> Gordons (1918). *The Banffshire Advertiser*, December 26, 1918.

**HANNAY, David**

Deaths: Hannay (1918). *The Scotsman*, January 26, 1918, p. 12, c. 6.

WAIN, B. (1986). *Vets in Kelso*, p. 27. Kelso Graphics, Kelso.

**HIGGINS, Arthur Akin**

Obituary: Arthur Akin Higgins, Greenhill, Harrow, T./Capt. AVC (1918). *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XXXI, page 168.

Old Boy's Corner (1910). *The Lyonian*, vol. XXI, no. 165, p. 60.

Old Boy's Corner (1919). *The Lyonian*, vol. XXXII, no. 229, p. 14.

**HISLOP, George**

ROSS, W. C. A. (ed.) (1920). *1914-1918 Roll of Honour of the Royal High School of Edinburgh*, p. 41. Oliver and Boyd: Edinburgh.

**HOLMES, John Dalrymple Edgar**

Lieut.-Col. J. D. E. Holmes (1915). *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XXVII, p. 563.

Obituary: Lt. Col. John Dalrymple Edgar Holmes CIE, MA, DSc, MRCVS (1915) *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XXVII, p. 560.

The Late Lieutenant-Colonel J. Edgar D. Holmes CIE, MA, DSc, CVD, MRCVS (1915) *The Veterinary Journal*, June 1915, pp. 246-248.

The Late Lt.-Col. J. D. E. Holmes FRCVS (1915). *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XXVII, p. 580.

**LENOX-CONYNGHA, Hubert Maxwell**

Obituary (1918). *The Veterinary Journal*, April 1918, p. 192

Obituary: Lenox-Conyngham (1918). *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XXX, p. 390.

Obituary: The late Lieut.-Col. H M Lenox-Coyngnam (1918). *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XXX, p. 412.

The Late Lieut.-Colonel HM Lenox-Conyngham , DSO, FRCVS (1918). *The Veterinary Journal*, April 1918.

**LOWRY, Henry Cooke**



College Rugby XV 1909-1910 (1910). Photographs and Portraits. Archive of the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College, Centre for Research Collections, Edinburgh University Library.

Obituary: The Late Captain H. C. Lowry (1916). *The Veterinary Journal*, July 1916, p. 422.

Obituary: Henry Cooke Lowry, GVS Buluwayo, S. Rhodesia, Capt. AVC (SR) (1916). *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XXIX, p. 51.

**MCCALLUM, Donald**

Edinburgh Officer Missing (1915). *The Scotsman*, October 15, 1915, p. 8, c. 7.

*Watsonian War Record 1914-1918* (1920). pp. 187-188, 194. War Memorial Executive, George Watsons School: Edinburgh.

WATT, T. (1923). *Aberdeen Grammar School Roll of Pupils 1795-1919*. p. 274. Rosemount Press: Aberdeen.

**MENDLESSOHN, Max**

ADLER, M. (1922). *British Jewry Book of Honour 1914-1918*, page 179. Naval and Military Press: UK.

Minutes of the Property, Law & Finance Committee (1915). Box 3, Board of Management Minutes, vol. 2 (1911-1916). November 17, 1915, p. 213. Archive of the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College, Centre for Research Collections, Edinburgh University Library.

**NESS, James Sharp**

MACKENZIE, J. E. (ed.) (1921). *University of Edinburgh Roll of Honour 1914-1919*, pp. 76-77. Oliver and Boyd, Edinburgh.

Student Register (1901-1905). Archive of the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College, Centre for Research Collections, Edinburgh University Library.

**PHORSON, Douglas Stuart**

DE RUVINGEY (1917). *The Roll of Honour, A biographical Record of All Members of His Majesty's Naval and Military Forces who have Fallen in the War*, vol. III, p. 217. The Standard Art Book Company Limited: London

LOWE, W. D. (1920). *War History of the 18<sup>th</sup> (S.) Battalion Durham Light Infantry*, p. 66. Humphrey Milford: London.

MACKENZIE, J. E. (ed.) (1921). *University of Edinburgh Roll of Honour 1914-1919*, pp. 82-83. Oliver and Boyd: Edinburgh.

Obituary: Capt D. S. Phorson DLI (1916). *The Scotsman*, December 28, 1916, p. 7, c. 4.

**PRIMMER, Jacob Hope**

Auckland War Memorial Museum Cenotaph Database. Tamaki Paenga Hira, Auckland Museum, Auckland, New Zealand. [muse.aucklandmuseum.com/databases/Cenotaph](http://muse.aucklandmuseum.com/databases/Cenotaph) (Accessed on 05/08/2006).

BYRNE, J. R. (1922). *New Zealand Artillery in the Field, 1914-1918*, page 174. In: *New Zealand in the First World War 1914-1918*. Whitcombe and Tombs Limited: Auckland, New Zealand.

GIFFORD (ed.) (1920). *Roll of Honour of the Pupils and Staff of Dunfermline High School*, pp. 24, 39 and plate No. 9. R.K. Lindsay & Allen: Dunfermline.

Items for Farmers (1912). *Ashburton Guardian*, 1 Poututerangi, 1912.

PRIMMER, Jacob Hope - WW1 2/282 - Army [Digitised Record] (2012). Reference: AABK 18805 W5550 0094728. New Zealand Defence Force Personnel Records. Te Rua Mahara o te Kawanatanga, Archives New Zealand.

Personal: Mr James Hope Primmer, MRCVS. (1912). *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XXIV, p. 512.

Obituary: Jacob Hope Primmer, MRCVS, Capt. New Zealand Vety. Corps. (1917). *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XXIX, p. 523.

Untitled (1917). *Northern Advocate*, September 6, 1917.

**ROUTLEDGE, Arthur Richard**

Obituary: Captain A. R. Routledge FRCVS (Louth) (1918). *The Veterinary Journal*, September 1918, pp. 309-310.

The Late Captain A. R. Routledge FRCVS, Louth (1918). *The Veterinary Journal*, September 1918, p. 314.

Obituary: Arthur Richard Routledge, FRCVS, Louth, Lincs. (1918). *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XXXI, p. 7.

Obituary: The Late Capt. A. R. Routledge (1918). *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XXXI, p. 22.

**STANLEY, John Willaim**

College Rugby XV 1911-1912 (1912). Photographs and Portraits. Archive of the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College, Centre for Research Collections, Edinburgh University Library.

DE RUVINGEY (1918) *The Roll of Honour, A biographical Record of All Members of His Majesty's Naval and Military Forces who have Fallen in the War*, vol. IV, p. 195. The Standard Art Book Company Limited, London.

HOUSTON, F [Personal Communication] (2008). Archives, Royal Veterinary College, London.

SMYTH, B [Ed.] (1918) *The Lancashire Fusiliers' Annual 1917*, Roll of Honour, pp. 294, 295. The Sackville Press: London.

**STORIE, John**

CRAIK, A. [Personnel Communication, including photograph] (2014).

Obituary: Death of Captain Veterinary Surgeon Storie (1915). *The Scotsman*, October 5, 1915, p. 10, c. 8.

Obituary: Captain John Storie, AVC (TF), East Linton, Prestonkirk, Haddingtonshire (1915). *The Veterinary Journal*, October 1915, p. 562.

Obituary: Capt. John Storie, AVC (TF), East Linton, Prestonkirk (1915). *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XXVIII, p. 164.

Obituary (1915). *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XXVIII, p. 178.

**TOTTENHAM, Edward Lowry**

ALDOUS, J.W. (1921). *St. Bees School Roll of Honour and Record of Service*. University Press: Edinburgh.

DE RUVINGEY (1917). *The Roll of Honour, A biographical Record of All Members of His Majesty's Naval and Military Forces who have Fallen in the War*, vol. III, p. 269. The Standard Art Book Company Limited: London.

Lieutenant Edward Lowry Tottenham (1916) *Irish Life*, Our Heroes supplement, July 28, 1916.

MERRYLEES, M. [Personal Communication, including photograph] (2012).

WYLLY, H. C. (1933) *The Loyal North Lancashire Regiment*, vol. II, 1914-1918, pp 242, 243. The Royal United Service Institution: London.

**TULLY-CHRISTIE, William Kerwin**

Army Veterinary Service (1917). *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XXIX, p. 149.

Obituary: Tully-Christie (1918). *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XXX, p. 366.

**WRIGHT, Thomas**

Obituary: Mr Thomas Wright MRCVS (1918) *The Veterinary Journal*, February 1918, pp. 75-76.

Obituary: Thomas Wright MRCVS (1918) *The Veterinary Record*, vol. XXX, p. 294.

The Late Mr T. Wright MRCVS (1918) *The Veterinary Journal*, February 1918.