

The story behind the men named on Hethe War Memorial for WW2

Lt H P R Lloyd Mostyn

Second Lieutenant Henry Pyers Ronald Lloyd-Mostyn died on 27 May 1940 while serving in 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars, Royal Armoured Corps, and is listed on the Dunkirk Memorial in France.



He had been mentioned in dispatches and the following was reported in the London Gazette on 6th March 1942:

"The KING has been graciously pleased to approve that the following be Mentioned" in recognition of distinguished services in France and Flanders.

"2nd Lt. H. P. R. Lloyd Mostyn (85587). (Since died.)"

At the outbreak of the Second World War the 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars was based at York. They were deployed as part of the British Expeditionary Force, and fought in the Battle of France, suffering heavy losses during the German advance and, having left all its armour and vehicles behind, took part in the Dunkirk evacuation

It is understood that Lt Lloyd-Mostyn was leader of the 5th Troop, 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars, and that he was the only individual from his troop to escape the battle at Assche and make his way across Belgium and France to the coast. He is reported to have then boarded a ship which was sunk crossing the channel and he was drowned.

He was born in 1918 in Marylebone, London, the son of Margaret Eleanor & Colonel (Retd) Morys Lancelot Lloyd-Mostyn who lived in the Old Rectory in Hethe.

PTE O G Wakefield 1st Wilts

Oliver George Wakefield died 11th August 1945 aged 21 and is buried in the Karachi War Cemetery. He was in the 1st Battalion of the Wiltshire Regiment.

Karachi War Cemetery was created to receive Second World War graves from civil and cantonment cemeteries scattered throughout northern Pakistan where their permanent maintenance could not be assured. The cemetery contains 642 Commonwealth burials of the Second World War.

At the start of the Second World War, the 1st Battalion of the Wiltshire Regiment was stationed in India. It remained there, performing internal security duties at the outset of the war and later serving along the North-West frontier (which includes the Khyber Pass) before the offensive to recapture Burma from the Japanese.

Pte Wakefield died four days before the Japanese surrendered.

Other WW2 Casualties who were buried in Hethe

Sgt J G Fruchtl

John George Fruchtl was a Sergeant Pilot in the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF). He died when his aircraft crashed in flames near the Holy Trinity Catholic Church. It is said that he avoided crashing on some children in Main Street. He was 26 and is buried in the Holy Trinity Churchyard.

Sgt Fruchtl was attached to 5 GTS (Glider Training Squadron) at RAF Bicester. The base was an important training centre for British and Commonwealth aircrews until 1944.

Three other airman from WW2 are buried in the Holy Trinity Churchyard (they did not die in Hethe). They all served at RAF Bicester with 13 OTU (Operational Training Unit):

Sgt C F X Leighton RAF died 23 March 1941

Sgt (Pilot) W F Boggs RCAF died 26 December 1941

Sgt (Pilot) M E Tuttle RAF died 24 July 1942

13 OTU was formed in April 1940 as part of No 6 Group RAF Bomber Command to train Bristol Blenheim bomber aircrew.