



NORTH WEST KENT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

(Covering N.W. Kent and ancient Kent parishes now S.E. London)

www.nwkhfs.org.uk

World War Websites and other useful information:

Dated 26.02.2015

Apart from the most well-known online genealogy sites for researching your family history, there are many others that have information about World War 1. One should revisit these frequently as information is constantly being updated. Where possible we have put sites in categories to help with research.

THE MAIN COMMERCIAL FAMILY HISTORY SITES

Ancestry

www.ancestry.co.uk

This site is a subscription site for family history has many records to view. Current subscription costs between £90 and £155 depending on what level you chose. Use Ancestry's Catalogue to search for more datasets.

- WW1 service and pension records
- Medal Index Roll which all service personnel had and show their name, rank service number and the medals that were awarded.
- Naval Medal and Award Rolls, 1793-1972, contains lists of more than 1.5 million officers, enlisted personnel and other individuals entitled to medals and awards commemorating their service with the Royal Navy and Royal Marines between 1793 and 1972.
- De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour, 1914-1924, contains biographies of over 26,000 casualties of the Great War.
- Silver War Badge Records (880,000), 1914-1920, contains indexed images of rolls listing military personnel awarded Britain's Silver War Badge for service in World War I. The badge was given to anyone who had been honourably discharged from the forces with ill health and was worn on civilian clothes as a sign that the wearer was not avoiding the war through cowardice. Almost half of personnel discharged for illness or injury applied to wear the badge. It was available to all servicemen and women in the British Empire. One can search by name, keyword, discharge unit and badge number and original page images are available. Wikipedia is also a good source for WW1 information. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Silver_War_Badge However, some sources can be very vague or over stated. Please bare this in mind.

Find My Past

<http://www.findmypast.co.uk/>

Current subscription will cost between £110 and £160 depending on what level you chose. You can take out a six month subscription from £70. Pay as you go starts at £6.94 for 60 credits and £24.95 for 280 credits. These are time limited.

- De Ruvigny's Roll 1914-1918
- Distinguished Conduct Medal Citations 1914-1920
- Gillies Archive plastic surgery pioneers 1917-1925
- Manchester City Battalions, Manchester Roll of Honour
- National Roll of the Great War 1914-1918 (also on www.great-war-casualties.com)
- Naval Casualties 1914-1919
- Oldham Employers' Roll of Honour 1914-1920, Oldham Pals 1914-1920
- Prisoners of War 1914-1918
- Royal Air Force Muster Roll 1918
- Royal Marines Medal Roll 1914-1920
- Royal Naval Division Casualties, 1914-1919
- Royal Naval Division Service Records, 1914-1920
- Royal Naval Officers Medal Roll 1914-1920
- Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve medal roll, 1914-1920
- Soldiers Died in the Great War 1914-1919
- Swansea Pals (14th Welsh Regiment), 1914-1915
- WW1 Ships Lost at Sea, 1914-1919

- Royal Artillery Military Medals 1916-1993
- Royal Tank Corps Enlistment Records, 1919-1934
- Surrey Recruitment Registers 1908-1933

The Genealogist

www.thegenealogist.co.uk

There three levels of annual subscription currently Starter £55, Gold £79 and Diamond £119. You can also take out 3 or 6 months subscription for each package or buy a number of credits. These records include;

- British Roll of Honour 1914-1916
A collection of biographies for those officers who lost their lives in the Great War.
- Harrow Memorials of the Great War
Contains biographies and portraits of Harrovians who fell in The Great War.
- Artists' Rifles Roll Of Honour 1914-1919
Contains commissions, promotions, appointments and rewards for service in the field obtained by members of the corps.
- Inner Temple London 1914-1918
Contains the roll of enlistment of members of the Inner Temple Society. Information includes regiment, rank, and if they were injured, killed or missing in action.
- Manchester City Battalions - Book Of Honour 1916
Covers the 90th and 91st Infantry Brigades with detailed listings and photographs of the regiments, along with a Roll of Honour.
- London, Hampstead, University College Roll of Honour & War List 1914-1918
Contains service records for University College School students during the time of the war.
- London, Wimbledon and Merton Roll of Honour 1914-1918
Contains an alphabetical list of men from Wimbledon and Merton who fell in the Great War.
- The Roll of Honour of the Institution of Electrical Engineers 1914-1919
Contains extensive biographies for members of the Institution of Electrical Engineers who fell in the Great War. Includes a portrait of each entry.
- Edinburgh University Roll of Honour 1914-1919
Contains dates and information (and photographs of the fallen where available) for members of Edinburgh University.
- Surrey, Croydon and the Great War 1914-1919.
A record of the historic work of the citizens of Croydon during the Great War. It contains a Roll of Honour (with photos).
- Battle of Jutland (Transcript)
These can be found under Military - Rolls of Honour
- Service List (Books),
- National Union of Teachers War Records 1914-1919.
Contains information on National Union of Teachers members who served

Family Relatives

www.familyrelatives.com

A subscription site currently costing £25 per year. The records include:

- British Officers Prisoners of War 1914-1918
- Officers Died in the Great War 1914-1919
- The Bond of Sacrifice - A Biographical Record of British Officers Who Fell in the Great War
- GRO War Deaths Army Officers Indexes 1914-1921
- GRO War Deaths Army Other Ranks Indexes 1914-1921
- GRO War Deaths Royal Air Force Indexes 1914-1921
- GRO War Deaths Royal Navy All Ranks Indexes 1914-1921
- GRO War Deaths Royal Naval Air Service 1914-1921
- Soldiers who died in the Great War 1914-1921
- World War I National Roll - All 14 Volumes
- List of the University of Cambridge 1914-1918
- De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour 1914-1918
- Tasmanian War Record 1914-1918 - Roll of Honour
- Tasmanian Nurse's War Record 1914-1918
- Anzac Roll of Honour 1914-1919
- Artist Rifles
- Mr Punch's history of the Great War

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

The National Archives

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>

The National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU

The TNA has excellent guidance sheets covering all aspects of research, including links to other sources in other sites. Go to Home Page, Find Guidance, Find Research Guides, and click on the relevant alphabet letter, i.e. 'R' for Royal Navy.

Royal Air Force:

- Royal Air Force officers' service records 1918-1919
- Women's Royal Air Force service records 1918-1920

Army:

- British Army war diaries 1914-1922
- Women's Army Auxiliary Corps service records 1917-1920
- British Army nurses' service records 1914-1918
- Prisoner of war interview reports 1914-1918
- British Army medal index cards 1914-1920.

Royal Marines

- Royal Marines' service records 1842-1925
- Royal Naval officers' service records 1756-1917.
- British Army medal index cards 1914-1920

Merchant Seamen

- Merchant seamen's campaign medal records 1914-1918
- Victoria Cross registers 1856-1944
- Merchant seamen's campaign medal records 1914-1918

Royal Navy

- Royal Naval Reserve service records 1860-1955
- Prisoner of war interview reports 1914-1918.
- Royal Navy ratings' service records 1853-1923
- Women's Royal Naval Service records 1917-1919
- Royal Naval Division service records 1914-1919
- Royal Navy officers' service record cards and files c.1840-c.1920
- Royal Navy officers' service records 1756-1931
- Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve service records 1903-1922
- Royal Naval Air Service officers' service records 1906-1918

MUSEUMS, LIBRARIES AND INSTITUTIONS

The National Army Museum

www.nam.ac.uk/online-collection

Royal Hospital Road, Chelsea, London SW3 4HT.

Open Daily 10-5.30pm. Tel: 020 7730 0717. Recorded information on 020 7881 6606. The nearest tube is Sloane Square. Images from picture library see above. For Templar Study Centre needs registration and 2 forms of ID. Open every Weds, Thurs and Friday and the first and third Saturday. www.nam.ac.uk/tsc Email tsc@nam.c.uk Covers general records from 1485 to the present day. For access to the Reading Room a reader's ticket must be obtained in advance of your visit.

The Aldershot Military Museum

www.hants.gov.uk/aldershot-museum

This tells the story of the home of the British Army from 1854 to the present day.

The Army Museums Ogilby Trust (AMOT)

<http://www.armymuseums.org.uk/>

To locate a Regimental museum.

Imperial War Museum (London)

<http://www.iwm.org.uk>

Lambeth Road, London SE1 6HZ

In 1917 the Cabinet decided that a National War Museum should be set up to collect and display material relating to the Great War, which was still being fought. The interest taken by the Dominion governments led to the museum being given the title of Imperial War Museum.

It was formally established by Act of Parliament in 1920 and a governing Board of Trustees appointed. At the outset of the Second World War the Imperial War Museum's terms of reference were enlarged to cover both world wars and they were again extended in 1953 to include all military operations in which Britain or the Commonwealth have been involved since August 1914.

In July 2014, for the Centenary of the First World War, a transformed IWM London will reopen with ground-breaking new First World War Galleries and a newly configured atrium displaying our iconic large objects.

The transformation is well under way and the museum is closed until July 2014. The research facilities remain open and our event spaces are available for daytime hire.

Imperial War Museum (London) National Inventory of War Memorials www.ukniwm.org.uk/

IWM's War Memorials Archive (formerly UK National Inventory of War Memorials) is working to compile a comprehensive record of all war memorials in the UK to promote their appreciation, use and preservation.

War memorials provide insight into not only the changing face of commemoration but also military history, social history and art history. They estimate that there are approximately 100,000 UK war memorials, and we have recorded over 65,000 to date. Search the online database of war memorials located throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands and Isle of Man. They record memorials commemorating all wars and peacekeeping and record a wide variety of types of war memorial, from familiar community crosses, obelisks and statues to less common memorials like bus shelters, sundials, park benches and even an island.

Imperial War Museum (Duxford) <http://www.iwm.org.uk/visits/iwm-duxford>

Cambridgeshire CB22 4QR

IWM Duxford is set within the spacious grounds of the famous former First and Second World War airfield and is home to an impressive collection of over two hundred aircraft as well as tanks, military vehicles and boats. Opened in 2007, AirSpace tells the story of British and Commonwealth aviation. Its Aircraft Hall is home to over 30 aircraft including an iconic Spitfire, a legendary Lancaster and the fastest-ever Concorde.

Imperial War Museum (North) www.iwm.org.uk/north

A new exhibition combines records, photos and video interviews to explore the experiences of ten people caught up in conflicts from the 1WW to 21st century operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Firepower, Royal Artillery Museum www.firepower.org.uk
Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, London. SE18 6ST

Site for the new Heritage site at the Woolwich Arsenal. Includes bookshop, museum and, in the near future, the Greenwich Local Studies Library and other features.

The War Poets Collection www.napier.ac.uk/warpoets

Edinburgh Napier University, Craiglockhart Library, Edinburgh, EH14 1DJ

The WPC is on permanent display and the exhibition is open to all members of the public for self-guided visits during normal library opening times. This exhibition is a tribute to poets of the First World War. The University established the collection in 1988 on the 70th Anniversary of the signing of the Armistice on 11 November 1918. Visitors are taken back in time to come face to face with the horrors and unfaltering camaraderie of trench warfare, and to consider the effects of the First World War on the minds and bodies of those men who fought.

National Railway Museum, York: www.nrm.org.uk

The museum has released a free set of data relating to railway workers who died during the Great War which provides details to over 20,000 railway staff and is the most comprehensive of its kind. The information was compiled from various sources. The data includes, where available, the name, the railway company the individual worked for and what their job was, the date they died and their military rank, unit and number.

British Postal Museum & Archive site <http://www.postalheritage.org.uk/>

Click on the link British Postal History, then the Post Office and the 1WW.

GRAVES, BURIAL GROUNDS, MEMORIALS & PHOTOGRAPHS

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

<http://www.cwgc.org/find-war-dead.aspx>

2 Marlow Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 7DX. Tel: 01628 634221

The CWGC provides information on the locations of graves and official memorials around the world for casualties WW1 and WW2. Enquiries should include as much information about name, rank, number, unit, date of death, home town and place of death as possible. The CWGC Register (Roll of Honour) is available from their website. A commemorative certificate is also available.

The Commonwealth War Graves Photographic Project

www.twgpp.org

The original aim of The War Graves Photographic Project was to photograph every war grave, individual memorial, Ministry of Defence grave, and family memorial of serving military personnel from WWI to the present day. However, due to its popularity we have now extended our remit to cover all nationalities and military conflicts and make these available within a searchable database.

Now working as a joint venture with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, and assisting the Office of Australian War Graves, Canadian Veterans Affairs and the New Zealand Ministry of Heritage and Culture this will enable families, scholars and researchers to obtain, via the CWGC or TWGPP websites, a copy of the photograph of a grave or memorial which for many is impossible to visit due to the location.

This service has only been made possible through the efforts of a dedicated group of volunteers, from all walks of life, who feel the need to *Remember* those who made the ultimate sacrifice and who realise the importance for families to see where their loved ones are laid to rest or commemorated. This emulates the CWGC ethos to '*Remember in Perpetuity*'. A donation is requested if your search is successful.

Today is Free

www.todayisfree.com

Today is Free website hosts 360 degree views of all the major memorial and cemetery sites in Belgium and France from WW1.

Gravestone Photographic Resource

www.gravestonephotos.com

Aims: to photograph as many grave monuments as possible whilst they are still legible and to give copies of the photos, free of charge, to anyone requesting one – usually people researching their family history. Number of graves photographed as at 2012 are 300,000, number of names 600,000, number of photographs 400,000, number of cemeteries covered 2,000, number of different countries 25, number of volunteers 850.

Deceased-on-line

www.deceasedonline.com

The central database for statutory burials and cremation registers for the UK and the Republic of Ireland holding records mainly from the 1850s onwards. Search registers by Country, Region, County, Burial Authority or Crematorium free of charge but the site is one of pay-per-view currently ranging from £1.50 to £5 per item. Annual subscription is available. Search registers by Country, Region, County, Burial Authority or Crematorium free of charge. Available:

- Computerised cremation and burial records
- Digital scans of cremation and burial registers
- Photographs of graves and memorials
- Cemetery maps showing grave locations
- Other occupants in the same grave

Find A Grave

www.findagrave.com

Find A Grave is a free resource for finding the final resting places of 112 million grave records worldwide searchable by name, date, location etc with photographs where possible.

War Memorials Trust

www.warmemorials.org/

War Memorials Trust works for the protection and conservation of war memorials in the UK. They provide advice and information to anyone as well as running grant schemes for the repair and conservation of war memorials

War Memorials Online

<http://www.warmemorialsonline.org.uk/>

War Memorials Online is an unprecedented opportunity for the public to upload images of war memorials and log concerns for the conservation of these important community and historical sources for future generations. They are trying to build a complete picture of the whereabouts, type and condition of all war memorials in the UK. Use this site to locate a War memorial.

East Wickham and Welling War Memorial Trust

www.ewt.org.uk

The origins of the East Wickham and Welling War Memorial Trust date back to the period following the First World War, when local residents raised funds to construct a Memorial Hall, dedicated to the men from the local district who fell in the war. The hall is no longer in existence and the Trust re-registered as a grant giving charity in 1995.

In 2013 the Trust received a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund for a community project – WELLING WILL REMEMBER THEM – to research and tell the stories of the men listed on the War Memorial and to uncover any names that have been left off and need to be added. The project will end in 2014 to coincide with the start of the Centenary of the First World War.

Royal Mail Group

<http://www.royalmailmemorials.com/>

RMG has published a searchable database of the 300+ WW1 memorials in its care. Click on the link for maps or gallery.

ARMY

WorldWar.com

<http://www.worldwar1.com>

Trenches on the web (click on Reference Library). These pages contain information on the people, places, and events that comprised one of the worst calamities of modern history.

The Regimental Warpath 1914-1918

www.warpath.orbat.com

Brad Chapell's guide to the British Army units in WW1. Also includes, East African, South African Indian Canada, New Zealand armies. Australian and East African armies to be added. This site is still being added to. There will be information about the battles. So far the battles in France and Flanders between 1914 and 1918 have been included.

Europeana Collections 1914-1918

www.europeana-collections-1914-1918.eu

The British Library is teaming up with similar organisations across Europe to create a major digital collection of material relating to WW1 in time for the centenary in 2014. By April 2014 4000,000 WW1 sources will be made publicly and freely available for the first time. Eight countries from both sides of the conflict are contributing to the archive (Germany, France, Belgium, Italy, Denmark, Austria and Serbia). The digital collection will span the full range of national library collections, including books, newspapers, trench journals, maps, music sheets, children's literature, photographs, posters, pamphlets, propaganda leaflets, original art, religious works, medals and coins.

Foot Guards Records:

The records of the Regiments of Foot Guards are maintained by the regimental headquarters concerned. Postal enquiries only should be addressed to: Regimental Headquarters, Grenadier/Coldstream/Scots/Irish/Welsh Guards, Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk, London SW1E 6HQ.

The Western Front Association

www.westernfrontassociation.com

The Western Front Association (WFA) was formed with the aim of furthering interest in The Great War of 1914-1918. We also aim to perpetuate the memory, courage and comradeship of all those on all sides who served their countries in France and Flanders and their own countries during The Great War. The object of the Association is to educate the public in the history of The Great War with particular reference to the Western Front.

The Army Children Archive

www.archhistory.co.uk/

The Army Children Archive (TACA) was established in 2007 by former army child Clare Gibson to collect, record, preserve and also raise awareness of the unique aspects of growing up as the child of a serving soldier in the British Army, whether that growing up was done during the seventeenth, eighteenth, nineteenth, twentieth or the twenty-first century. A site providing background information about the life of Army Children.

Find a soldier's will

www.gov.uk/probate-search

As part of WW1 Commemorations, wills of British soldiers killed during the First World War have been published online for the first time. This archive comprises over 200,000 wills; in some cases hand-written wills by the soldiers before they departed for the frontline. You may search for the will of a soldier who died while serving in the British armed forces on the above website. The cost of downloading a document from this site is currently £6 and the site advises that 'You won't always get a complete will - sometimes soldiers only left letters or brief instructions'.

Index of Records held by the Ministry of Defence

gov.uk/government/publications

The Ministry of Defence (UK) has released indices of records held for personnel born before 1901. These give (post WWI) service numbers, name, initials, date of birth and sometimes the unit. An explanation of the release is given in the seventh item down which is then followed by eight attachments giving the data. Records for men and women who served during the Great War and then remained in the army after war should be included. Click on the link.

<http://www.armylists.org.uk/index.php>

Pay to view site. The site gives a list of the Army Lists (Officers) that include WW1. The list goes from 1661 to 1940 both online and on CD. Records of army officers were kept as early as 1702. These lists named the officer, their regiment, and usually the date they received their current commission and when they retired. The first official Army list was published in 1740 and since 1754 they have been published regularly as annual lists (1754-1879) and quarterly lists (1879-1922). Since 1939 they have been classified and not available to the public. An outline of an officer's career is usually fairly easy to discover from official army lists.

NAVY

Naval-History.net

www.naval-history.net

Gordon Smith MBA CEng, 17 Norris Close, Penarth, Vale of Glamorgan CF64 2QW, UK

Tel: 029-20636953 or 07590070038

www.naval-history.net?xDKWW2-3900Intro.htm

Pre 1914-2008 for Royal Navy & Royal Marines includes both world wars. Background information on many conflicts. Includes naval war diaries 1939-45. Current projects include:

- **Chronology** providing the political and military background to the war at sea.
- **Naval Operations** by **Corbett and Newbolt** - many of the excellent plans are online including all the Battle of Jutland - and the three volume Merchant Navy histories by Hurd.
- **Navy despatches** and relevant Army despatches from the London Gazette. Also **Royal Navy honours and gallantry awards** by award and by Gazette date. Includes Medal index/database by name.
- **Royal Navy and Royal Marines casualties** as well as those of the Dominion Navies and U.S. Navy & Marine Corps.
- **Royal Navy warships and auxiliaries** from "Ships of the Royal Navy 1914-1919". Although still in progress, all warships and many of the auxiliaries are listed by name and by type/class.
- **British warship log books** of the World War 1 era, totalling some 300,000 pages. The logs of over 300 ships have been transcribed, and most are online. They include coverage of all major warship movements 1914-18 outside of British home waters. U.S ships of the era are now being added.

Pbenyon.plus.com

<http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/>

Index of 19th Century Naval Vessels and a few of their movements. Click on **Naval** then **1914-1919** then see section on this page headed **World War One Era**

<http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/Naval.html#WWI>

Also there are some WW1 Wessex Roll of Honour records of Soldiers (mainly officers) some with images if the man on <http://www.pbenyon.plus.com/Misc.html>

Mariners

<http://www.mariners-l.co.uk/index-2.html>

A site to look at anything to do with those who "sailed" includes WW1 and WW11 material. Mainly about the ships.

RAF

Royal Air Force website

<http://www.raf.mod.uk/history/historywwi.cfm>

The Royal Air Force is the Oldest Air Force in the world. This is where you will find information about the roots and birth of the Royal Air Force and its complete history to the present time. Includes Roll of Honour and much more.

RAF museum

<http://www.rafmuseumstoryvault.org.uk/page/26565-home>

Click on the ARCHIVES button at the top to search for a name. It includes WW1 RFC men as well as WW2.

ALL SERVICES

British Military Nurses

<http://www.scarletfinders.co.uk>

The British Army has always demanded the highest standards from its nurses. Shaking off any past reputation of nurses as being drunken, immoral and untrustworthy, it insisted that members of the Army Nursing Service and its successors were highly trained and educated women of impeccable social standing. As the Services expanded rapidly during the Great War, standards remained high, maintaining an elitism within the nursing profession. The website covers:

Army Nursing Service

Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service

Territorial Force Nursing Service

Queen Alexandra's Military Nursing Service (India)

Queen Alexandra's Royal Naval Nursing Service

The Red Cross Voluntary Aid Detachments (VADs)

www.redcross.org.uk/ww1

From 20 October 2014 the records of VADs will be available to browse online. Find out more on the website shown above.

The Long Long Trail

www.1914-1918.net

A resource for military historians, genealogists and others with an interest in the Great War of 1914-1918. Unit histories, army and theatre of war etc. There is also a forum for asking questions, but you must register with them.

Forces War Records

www.forces-war-records.co.uk

Website is vast and has a lot of exclusive collections other sites don't hold. They aim to get all records possible with the more obvious records such as those killed or injured in action, those mentioned in despatches and those awarded medals, almost all already added to the site.

On the records pages you will see all their records are transcribed digital data, i.e. they don't currently hold original images such as pension records etc. but of course, what it does mean is that they can add data no other site will. Forces War Records ethos has always been not to just supply records of data, but also to add a huge amount of supplementary data to each record. When you view a record, you will see not only the record information, but also information on the regiment, unit, base or ship your ancestor served in/on, the battles they may have fought in, information on

medals they may have been awarded, photos of their time etc. all painting a picture of what life was really like for your ancestor that a name record simply can't achieve.

Subscription to Forces War records currently costs just £8.95 for four weeks access. This gives you full unlimited access to everything they hold. There is help from online support staff and you can also ask questions in their open forums.

Types of records they hold:

- World War One
- World War Two
- Crimean War Databases
- Boer War Databases
- African Wars Databases
- Indian Mutiny Databases
- Napoleonic Wars Databases (including Waterloo and Trafalgar)
- Medal Rolls
- Individual Battle Data
- Other Wars Casualties Lists
- Prisoner of War Records
- Royal Marines Databases
- Fighter & Bomber Command Losses
- Fleet Air Arm Data
- RFC/RAF List
- RN Losses
- Shot at Dawn Database
- and lots more! ...

First World War Centenary

www.1914.org/partners

The First World War Centenary Partnership is a network of over 2,000 local, regional, national and international cultural and educational organisations led by Imperial War Museums. Together, they are presenting a vibrant global Programme of cultural events and activities, online resources and digital platforms which will enable millions of people across the world to discover more about life in the First World War. The website has a list of many online archives and databases which can provide the details you need, including the Peace Pledge Union.

Medals:

<https://www.gov.uk/the-ministry-of-defence-medal-office#page-navigation>

MOD Medal Office

Innsworth House, Imjin Barracks, Glos. GL3 1HW

Tel: 0141 224 3600

Email: JPAC@spva.mod.uk

The Ministry of Defence (MOD) Medal Office based in Gloucester issues medals to all 3 services for presentation to the recipients.

The MOD Medals Office handles the issue and replacement of medals. For previous unclaimed WW2 medals it is necessary to obtain an official record of service from the Army Personnel Centre (see below). For replacement medals proof of loss (i.e. police report or insurance claim) is essential. Useful information about medals can be found at www.veterans-uk.info/ see above.

Wikipedia http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_awards_and_decorations_of_the_United_Kingdom

Military Awards and decoration of the UK. A list of all Military Awards and decoration of the UK from 1790 to the present. Giving the date the award was established and eligibility. Includes examples of medals.

Warfare

www.warfaremagazine.co.uk

Warfare is an interactive website with free content in the form of feature articles, author interviews, news, product reviews and competitions. Originally launched as an online magazine in May 2011 by Wharncliffe History Magazines, a branch of Script Media Group Ltd, Warfare is the hub of military history.

History Learning Site

<http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/index.htm>

A free website that includes useful information on these and many other topics.

- Ancient Rome
- Medieval England
- Tudor England
- Stuart England
- Britain 1700 to 1900
- WW1
- WW2
- British Women in the 20th Century
- Invention and discoveries in the 20th Century
- Adolf Hitler and Nazi Germany

The 1940's Society

www.1940.co.uk

A site where you can purchase book's, discs, posters and clothing from the 1940's. Also join the Society currently for an annual fee of £15. There is a limited about of WW1 items to purchase.

Military Genealogy

<http://www.military-genealogy.com/index.php>

A pay as you go and subscription searchable web site. £39.95 p.an. 10 credits £5, 200 credits £100 also some in between.

(NOTE: We cannot vouch for this and some of the records may be on ancestry)

Manual of Military Law 5th edition by W M Graham-Harrison

https://openlibrary.org/books/OL7140315M/Manual_of_military_law

Published 1907 by HMSO. An open library book to read online. Click the **Read online** button.

The Great War 1914 1918

This site contains an assortment of information as follows

- A guide to British Campaign medals

<http://www.greatwar.co.uk/medals/ww1-campaign-medals.htm>

- WW1 Battlefields

<http://www.ww1battlefields.co.uk/index.html>

- War Graves

<http://www.greatwar.co.uk/article/ww1-war-graves.htm>

- Battlefield of the Western Front

<http://www.greatwar.co.uk/places/ww1-western-front.htm>

- WW1 Family History

<http://www.greatwar.co.uk/research/family-history/tracing-ww1-family-history.htm>

Wikipedia

www.wikipedia.org

This is an online encyclopaedia. There is a variety of information available on all subjects.

Users are advised to check that the information contained within an article. Some may contain misinformation, un-encyclopaedic content, or vandalism. Awareness of this helps the reader to obtain valid information and avoid recently added misinformation.

NEWSPAPERS

The London Gazette

www.london-gazette.co.uk

The London Gazette is one of the official journals of record of the British government, and the most important among such official journals in the United Kingdom, in which certain statutory notices are required to be published. In relation to WW1 (and WW2) it contains details of Gallantry Medal Awards. Notices for the following, among others, are also published:

- Granting of Royal Assent to bills of the Parliament of the United Kingdom or of the Scottish Parliament
- The issuance of writs of election when a vacancy occurs in the House of Commons
- Appointments to certain public offices
- Commissions in the Armed Forces and subsequent promotion of officers
- Corporate and personal insolvency
- Granting of awards of honours and military medals
- Changes of names or of coats of arms
- Royal Proclamations and other Declarations

British Newspaper Archive

www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk

The British Newspaper Archive is free to search. To view the content in a newspaper page image, there is a choice of time-limited PPV (Pay Per View) or subscription packages enabling one to search millions of articles by keyword, name, location, date or title. The British Library's newspaper collections are among the finest in the world, containing most of the runs of newspapers published in the UK since 1800.

The scale of the newspaper publishing industry from the early 19th century onwards is enormous, with many cities and towns publishing several newspapers simultaneously, often aimed at distinct audiences depending on social status, geographical location and political affiliation. The first stage of this project focuses on runs published before 1900 and will include titles from cities such as Birmingham, Derby, Manchester, Nottingham, Norwich, Leeds and York, along with local titles from London boroughs.

Newspapers which aimed for county circulation - from Staffordshire to Sussex - will also feature prominently, providing an unrivalled picture of provincial life spanning the whole of the 19th century. These provide a rich supplement to resources already available online. One needs to register with a range of fees as follows:

- 12 Month, Unlimited pages, Price: £79.95 GBP, Valid For: 365 days, Credits: Unlimited*
- 30 Day, Up to 600 pages, Price: £29.95 GBP, Valid For: 30 days, Credits: 3000
- 7 Day, Up to 120 pages, Price: £9.95 GBP, Valid For: 7 days, Credits: 600
- 2 Day, Up to 100 pages, Price: £6.95 GBP, Valid For: 2 days, Credits: 500

Data also available on Find My Past on <http://www.findmypast.co.uk/search/newspapers>.

Kent in World War One <http://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/campaigns-and-events/kent-and-medway-in-the-first-world-war>

A new interactive online timeline charting Kent and Medway's experience of World War One has been launched.

OVERSEAS

National Archives of Australia

<http://www.naa.gov.au/collection/explore/defence/service-records/army-wwi.aspx>

The service records for WW1 Australian soldiers are all on line and free to access here - good quality and no burnt records among them!!!

Auckland Museum:

<http://www.aucklandmuseum.com/getmedia/9cbd7f2c-7567-420e-915b-fc73988d0a0d/auckland-museum-cenotaph-information-booklet>

New Zealand has also done some wonderful work which will probably include a good few close relatives of people in this country.

Canada Library and Archives

<http://tinyurl.com/owwg3h6>

The search page is at <http://tinyurl.com/qzfqgys>. There are records for some 650,000 men and women who joined the Canadian Expeditionary Force during WWI which are freely available. A large percentage of these were born in the UK. At the least you will find 1st and 2nd pages of the attestation papers, giving details where and when born, occupation and so forth. Archives Canada is also digitising all the other service records of WWI soldiers and some are already in the database along with the attestation papers. This will include such information as any wills made, next of kin, including in some cases those in the UK. It is hoped that the entire project will be finished in 2015. Not all these volunteers who survived the War returned to Canada, some stayed and married in the UK.

Courts Martial of the First World War

www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/courts-martial/Pages/search.aspx

These can be for relatively minor offences, gives date and the offence. There are Indexes also for the Royal Canadian Navy 1910-1941, gives information on birth, occupation etc.

Virtual Affairs Canada

www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/remembrance/memorials/canadian-virtual-war-memorial

The site has the Canadian Virtual War Memorial which besides giving details of where and when born, parents etc also has any photographs there may be of the soldier and of grave etc. Once again a fair number were born in the UK or had British parents and it is freely available.

Canadian War Brides of World War One

<http://ww1warbrides.blogspot.co.uk/>

It has been over ninety years since the end of the First World War, yet little is known about the war brides who came to Canada after the war. This web page was created to promote and preserve the history of the war brides who made Canada their home during this era

Newfoundland & Labrador Heritage

www.heritage.nf.ca/home.html

Soldiers who were no longer fit for frontline service could join a veteran's company. These units might be sent to protect colonies overseas and often had the opportunity to settle there with their family once they had been discharged. This webpage has a brief history of the Royal

Newfoundland Veterans Companies. Papers relating to recruitment of men are at TNA at WO 43/304 and registers of discharged and pensioned men in WO 24/3850 and WO 25/3852. Lists of men (muster rolls) are in pieces WO 12/11207-11212. WO 12/11207 to WO 12/11212 refers to the Veteran Company 01 January 1824 – 31 December 1839.

WW1 is listed under the Heading *Government and Politics, Responsible Government 1855-1933*, then the *State and the Great War* from the home page. This also includes *WW1 and the Economy, Aboriginals in WWI, Women on the Front Lines, Women on the Home Front*. Some political information under *Responsible Government, 1855-1933*.

New Zealand History on Line

<http://www.nzhistory.net.nz/war-and-society>

The site features information and resources from within the History Group of the Ministry for Culture and Heritage, Wellington, New Zealand. Three broad categories showcase themes in New Zealand history: Culture and society, Politics and government and War and society. A Hands-on history section includes links to guides, external websites and other material for those who are 'doing' and teaching history. New features will be developed and the Calendar of New Zealand history events will be added to on a regular basis.

New Zealand War Graves and Memorials

<http://www.wargraves.co.nz>

Memorial to the casualties of WW1 and WW2 who are commemorated in New Zealand. It includes web links, photographs and service details of those remembered. Links

- Commonwealth War Graves Commission
- Auckland War Memorial Museum Cenotaph Database
- Archives New Zealand Archway
- NZEF Embarkation Rolls Index
- Auckland Library Heritage Images Online

Military Heritage of Ireland Trust

www.irishsoldiers.com

The main purpose of the Trust is to encourage and facilitate research into the military heritage of Ireland. It attempts to do this by:

- Helping you, through their links, to find your particular area of interest.
- Helping you through our Contact Us page to find others who are interested in your area of research.
- Promoting research and disseminating its useful results.

Ireland's Memorial Records:

<http://www.findmypast.ie/articles/world-records/full-list-of-the-irish-family-history-records/military-service-and-conflict/irelands-memorial-record-world-war-1>

The objective of these eight volumes of Ireland's National War Memorial Records Collection published in 1923 was to create, preserve and commemorate the memory of the 49,600 Irishmen who lost their lives fighting in the First World War. It is the most complete record known and is unique in many ways. Also on Ancestry.co.uk.

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World War 2 specific

Evacuees Reunion Society (WW2)

<http://www.evacuees.org.uk>

The Evacuees Reunion Association is a non-profit making registered charity. It was formed in 1995 to ensure that the true story of the great evacuation would become better known and preserved for future generations. It publishes a bi-monthly newsletter 'The Evacuee' which is sent worldwide to all its members. Its 'Lost Touch' section in which our members put appeals for contact, has helped many trace old friends.

Ancestry

<http://search.ancestry.co.uk>

There are 59,000 WWII records, mainly relating to RAF pilots shot down and captured. These records form part of the British Prisoner of War Records 1914-1945 data set. This adds to the previous collection on the site, which now covers more than 163,000 records of British military servicemen.

The National Archives

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>

The National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU

Royal Air Force:

- Royal Air Force combat reports 1939-1945
- Royal Air Force operations record books 1939-1945

Army:

- Durham Home Guard records 1939-1945

Royal Marines

- Recommendations for military honours and awards 1935-1990

Merchant Seamen

- Merchant seamen's medal records 1939-1945
- Victoria Cross registers 1856-1944
- Merchant shipping movement cards 1939-1945
- Merchant seamen's campaign medal records 1939-1945

Royal Navy

- Royal Naval Reserve service records 1860-1955

WW11 art online

- TNA digitisation project – around 20000 works created as propaganda by the Ministry of Information will be available.

National Memorial Arboretum

www.thenma.org.uk

Croxall, Alrewas, Staffs. DE13 7AR. Tel: 01283 792333

Roll of Honour for casualties post WW2, updated annually at year end, can be accessed from www.veterans-uk.info/amf2/index.php

Army Service Records – for soldiers who served after 1920:

Army Personnel Centre Secretariat

Email: disc4@apc.army.mod.uk

Disclosures 2, Mail Point 515

Kentigern House, 65 Brown Street

Glasgow G2 8EX

Tel: 0845 600 9663 (helpline)

A fee is charged (about £30) for each search, even if no material is discovered. A Service Access Request (SAR) form has to be completed prior to the search and returned to Glasgow by post. It is essential that you quote the Regiment and personal number of the soldier concerned. The ASK Form can be downloaded from the Veterans-UK Army website www.veterans-uk.info/, click on 'Service Records' on the home page. If the subject of your research is alive, you need his/her permission before submitting the request (in this case there is no charge).

World War Two Nominal Roll

<http://www.ww2roll.gov.au>

Contains a list of all those who served in the Australian forces during WW1 and 2.

Veterans UK

Service personnel and Veterans Agency

www.veterans-uk.info/

Host website for various service record links, including the Women's Royal Naval Service (later known as WRENS).

Memories of War

www.memoriesofwar.org.uk

The project, funded by the University of Greenwich, covers memories of WW2 with both good and harrowing experiences of wartime Britain.

See WW1 above for further information on:

1940's Society
Aldershot Military Museum
Army Museums Ogilvy Trust
Australia
British Newspaper Archives
Canada
Commonwealth War Graves Commission
Commonwealth War Graves Photographic Project
Deceased-on-line
Find A Grave
Firepower
Forces War Records
Gravestone Photographic Resource
Imperial War Museum
London Gazette
Manual of Military Law
Mariner
Medals
Military Genealogy
National Army Museum
National Army Museum
National Children Archive
Naval-History.net
Newfoundland & Labrador Heritage
New Zealand
Royal Air Force
War Memorials Online
War Memorials Trust
WorldWar.com

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