

# **St. James Church World War 2 Memorial**

**The St James War Memorial contains 41 names of men and one woman from this Parish who lost their lives during the 1939-1945 period.**

**This list contains their names**

**We remember with gratitude those who paid the ultimate price, sacrificing their lives**



**This is a work in progress**

**Details are being added to a more detailed biographical list**

**If anyone would like more details or has any information please contact Jenny Wakefield through the St James church office**

**01823 272931**

**Grateful thanks to the help and support from the late Peter Jeanes in researching several of those mentioned below**

## **Corporal Dennis Lionel BERRY**

**Dorsetshire Regiment**

**Died on 27th April 1944 aged 25**

**at Kohima, North India**

**Son of Frank and Lu-Lu Berry of 95 Station Road**

**His epitaph reads:**

**HIS CHEERY WAY AND SMILING FACE ARE LOVELY TO RECALL. HE DIED BELOVED BY ALL**

## **Private Frank BOWERS**

**5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Wiltshire Regiment (129<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade, 43<sup>rd</sup> Wessex Division)**

**Killed in Action in Normandy 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1944**

**Next of Kin Not Known**

**Buried in Banneville-la-Campagne War Cemetery, Calvados, Normandy,  
France**

**Joint Grave Plot VI Row F. Grave 8**  
**(information from the Country memorial record)**

## **Bombardier George Victor BROWN**

**D" Bty., 12 (Honourable Artillery Coy.) Regt. Royal Horse Artillery**

**Died 24th April 1944 aged 24**

**In Italy**

**Son of George and Kathleen Fanny Brown**

**George is buried at**

**Caserta War Cemetery**

## **Private Frederick George BULGIN**

**Royal Army Ordinance Corps**

**Died 23rd March 1941 aged 32**

**Buried at**

**Taunton (St. Mary's) Cemetery**

## **Flight Sergeant John Edward Charles BUTTLE**

**Royal Air Force Voluntary Reserve 1332 Heavy Construction Unit**

**28th November 1944 aged c. 22**

**Commemorated at**

**The Runnymede Memorial**

## **Sergeant Louis John CALLI**

**90th Field Regiment Royal Artillery**

**13th August 1943 aged 24**

**Son of Theresa Tawn**

**In Sicily**

**His Epitaph reads:**

**FOND MEMORIES LINGER EVERY DAY, REMEMBRANCE KEEPS YOU NEAR"**

**Buried at**

**Catania War cemetery**

## **Sergeant Percy John CHAMBERS**

**1st Battalion Somerset Light Infantry**

**Died on 22nd May 1942 aged 34**

Son of John Henry and Margaret Ellen Chambers; stepson of H. R. Thompson,

**In Pakistan**

His Epitaph reads:

FOND MEMORIES LINGER EVERY DAY, REMEMBRANCE KEEPS YOU NEAR"

**Buried in**

**Karachi War Cemetery**

## **Captain Stanley CHIVERS**

Royal Army Service Corps

Died 15th July 1941

Son of Benjamin and Mary Chivers

**In Plymouth**

**Buried in**

**Taunton (St James) Cemetery**

## **Sapper Harold Ernest CONIBEER**

**54th Company Royal EngineersRegiment**

**Died 25th May 1944**

**In Myanmar (Burma)**

Son of Ernest and Florence Conibeer, Husband of Joyce Conibeer

**Commemorated on**

**The Rangoon Memorial**

## **Sapper George William CURREY**

**Royal Engineers**

**Died on 5th May 1943**

**In the Middle East**

**Buried in**

**Basra War Cemetery**

## **L/ Sergeant Douglas Drew DAWKINS**

**234 Battery 89th (Honourable Artillery Company) Royal Artillery**

Son of Cecil and Rose Dawkins, Husband of Ivy Gladys Dawkins

**Died on 20th May 1941**

**In Greece**

**Commemorated on**

**The Athens Memorial**

## **L/ Corporal Leonard DELVES**

**2nd Battalion Somerset Light Infantry**

**Died on 24th June 1944 aged 36**

**In Italy**

Son of Henry and Lily Delves; husband of Lily Delves

His Epitaph reads:

IN LOVING MEMORY OF MY DEAR HUSBAND LEN, GOD'S GREATEST GIFT, REMEMBRANCE

**Buried in**

**The Assisi War Cemetery**

## **Lieutenant Terrence FARRELL**

**72<sup>nd</sup> Anti Tank Regiment Royal Artillery**

**224524**

**Killed in Action 1<sup>st</sup> May 1945**

**In Italy**

Son of Michael and Frances Farrell; Husband of Beatrice Emily Farrell Of West Southampton

**Buried in**

**Saturno Valley War Cemetery**

**plot II Row A Grave 16**

## **Guardsman Ernest Maurice GILLETT**

**5th Battalion Coldstream Guards**

**Died on 14th September 1944 aged 32**

**In Germany**

Son of James and Beatrice Gillett; Husband of Doris Lily Amelia Gillett

His epitaph reads:

HAPPY, SMILING, ALWAYS CONTENT SINCERELY RESPECTED WHEREVER HE WENT

**Buried in**

**Leopoldsburg War Cemetery**

## **Able Seaman Frank GODFREY**

**Royal Navy HMS Londonderry**

**Died on 31st March 1943 aged 33**

Son of Frank and Mary Godfrey; Husband of Mary Godfrey

**Buried in**

**Taunton (St. Mary) Cemetery**

## **Private Robert John GRAY**

**Royal Army Medical Corps**

**Died on: 16th October 1943 aged 21**

**In the Netherlands**

**Son of Maurice and Mabel Gray**

**His epitaph reads:**

**N LOVING MEMORY OF OUR DEAR SON BOB, SADLY MISSED BY MUM, DAD, BROTHER AND  
SISTERS**

**Buried in**

**Jonkerbos War Cemetery, Nijmegen Netherlands**

## **Petty Officer William HATHERLY**

**Royal Navy HMS Broke**

**Died on: 8th November 1942 aged 39**

**At sea off Algiers**

**Son of Edwin and Elizabeth Hathaway; Husband of Emily Beatrice Hathaway**

**Commemorated on**

**The Naval War memorial, Plymouth**

## **L/ Bombardier Reginald William HELLMAN**

**30th Field Regiment Royal Artillery**

**Died between 29th May and 4th June 1940 aged 39**

**during the Retreat to Dunkirk**

**In Belgium**

**Son of William and Emily Hellman; Husband of Violet Zillah Hellman**

**His epitaph reads:**

**IN LOVING MEMORY. A DEAR HUSBAND AND DAD. SLEEP ON, DEAR ONE, WE SHALL MEET  
AGAIN. R.I.P**

**Buried in**

**Coxyde Military Cemetery**

## **Warrant Officer Harry HOLCOMBE**

**158 Squadron Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve**

**Died on: 30th March 1943 aged 25**

**In Germany**

**Son of John and Harriet Holcombe**

**His epitaph reads;**

**FONDLY REMEMBERED, BY HIS MUM, DAD AND BROTHERS**

**Buried in**

**Hamburg Cemetery**

## **Trooper Francis William HOWE**

**3rd County of London Yeomanry (Sharpshooters) Royal Army Corps**

**Died on: 6th July 1942 aged 34**

**In North Africa**

**Son of John and Mary Howe; Husband of Gladys Edith Howe**

**His epitaph reads;**

**FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH**

**Buried in**

**El Alamein War Cemetery**

## **Driver Frederick Samuel JEAVONS**

**Royal Corps of Signals**

**Died on: 27th March 1945 aged 35**

**In India**

**Son of Charles and Louise Jeavons; Husband of Doris Beatrice May Jeavons**

**His epitaph reads:**

**REMEMBERED ALWAYS BY HIS WIFE AND DAUGHTERS. "PEACE, PERFECT PEACE"**

**Buried**

**Kirkee War Cemetery, India**



## **Sapper Geoffrey James JENNES**

25th Field Company Royal Engineers

Died on 8th September 1940

Died In England

Son of William James and Beatrice Matilda Jenness: Husband of Kathleen Vera Jeaness

His epitaph reads:

THOUGHTS GO BACK TO HAPPY DAYS LIFE GOES ON BUT MEMORY STAYS

**Buried in**

**Taunton (St Mary) Cemetery**

## **D. MCDONALD**

(No further information)

## **Flight Lieutenant Reginald Hubert MAY**

**Royal Air Force Voluntary Reserve**

**Died on 3rd September 1941 aged 28**

**In France**

Son of Sidney and Florence Beatrice May; Husband of Catherine Esmee May

His epitaph reads:

FOREVER IN OUR THOUGHTS

**Buried in:**

**DUNKIRK TOWN CEMETARY**

## **Sapper Harold Leslie George OATEN**

**259 Field Company Royal Engineers**

**Died on 8th September**

**Buried in**

**Taunton St Margaret St Mary's**

# **Captain Bernard PEARSE**

**Somerset Light Infantry**

**Died on 12th AUGUST 1944 aged 35**

**in France**

Son of Ernest and Elsie Elizabeth Pearce of Chumleigh, Devon

His epitaph reads :

**WE IN FAITH AND HONOUR KEEP THE PEACE FOR WHICH THEY PAID**

**Buried at**

**Tilly-Sur-Seulles War Cemetery**

# **Major John PRICE**

**Somerset Light Infantry 3<sup>rd</sup> Wessex Division**

**58740**

**Killed in Action 1<sup>st</sup> July 1944 aged 30**

Son of William Leslie and Emily Maude Price; Husband of Joan Elizabeth Price of  
Streeton on the Fosse

**Buried in**

**St Manvieu Cemetery, Cheux, Calvados, France**

**PHILLIPIANS 1 v29**

**“Our ability to believe in Christ is a gift from God; suffering is a gift from God as well.  
Our salvation is dependent upon the finished work of Christ upon the cross. We  
contribute nothing to salvation but trust in what has been given”**

# **Pilot Officer Dennis James Hewett READER**

**Royal Air Force Voluntary Reserve**

**Died on 28th March 1945 aged 19**

**in South Africa**

Son of Harold and Alice Jane Reader

His epitaph reads:

TREASURED MEMORIES OF OUR DEAR SON, MUM DAD AND FAMILY

**Buried in**

**Thaba Tshwane New Military Cemetery, Pretoria**

# **Lieutenant Edith Mary ROBSON**

**Royal Army Medical Corps**

**Died on 10th May 1945 aged 25**

**In India**

Daughter of Moses Edward and Amy Millicent Robson M.B., B.S.; L.R.C.P;  
M.R.C.S of Ashley, Wiltshire

Her epitaph reads:

Say not goodnight, but in some brighter clime bid me good morning

**Buried in**

**Madras War Cemetery, Chennai, India**

# **Able Seaman F.G.K. (George) SAUNDERS**

**Royal Navy**

**HMS Barham**

**Died on 25th November 1941 aged 27**

**In the Mediterranean North of Sidi Barani**

Son of Francis George\* and Lily May Saunders, of Taunton, Somerset; husband of Kathleen Maud Saunders, of Taunton. (\*Francis George is commemorated on the WW1 memorial)

# **Private Harold William SILKE**

**Royal Army Medical Corps 7262514**

**Born 2nd Feb 1914 Baptised 12th April 1914 Trull**

**Died on 5th September 1939**

**In Malaysia**

Son of William George and Sarah Ann Silke

**Buried in**

**Kranji War Cemetery, Singapore**

# **Private Albert Edward SLADE**

**Royal Army Ordinance Corps**

**Died on 10th September 1943 aged 40**

**In England**

Son of Susan Slade; Husband of Mabel Dorethy Slade

His epitaph reads:

**GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN R.I.P**

**Buried in**

**Taunton (St. Mary's) Cemetery**

## **Driver William John SNELL**

**Royal Corps of Signals (attached 2nd Indian Division, Indian Signals Corps)**

**Died on 2nd May 1945 aged 39**

**In Malaya**

Son of William John and Emma Snell; Husband of Gladys May Snell

His epitaph reads:

FATHER, INTO THY GRACIOUS KEEPING LEAVE WE NOW OUR LOVED ONES  
SLEEPING

**Buried in**

**Rangoon War Cemetery**

## **C.D. STEVENS**

(No information as yet)

## **T.W. TILLEY**

(No information as yet)

Possibly

Lance Sergeant T.W. Tilley T5881676

Royal Army Service Corps

Gazette date of death 23rd May 1946

Mediterranean Theatre

# **Major Eric Charles Knowles WESTON**

**Royal Tank Regiment**

**Died on: 23rd March 1945 aged 32**

**In Palestine**

Son of Cecil Aubrey and Laura Weston; Husband of Joan Weston

**Buried in**

**Khayat Beach War Cemetery, Haifa**

## **C. WHITE**

(No information as yet)

# **Pilot Officer Dennis Frederick WIGLEY**

**Royal Air Force Voluntary Reserve**

**Died on: 25 August 1943 aged 21**

**In South Africa**

Son of Ernest Alfred and Alice Beatrice Wigley

His epitaph reads:

SWEET IS THE MEMORY NEAREST OUR HEART "TILL WE MEET AGAIN" MAM  
AND DAD

**Buried in**

**Standerton Cemetery, Transvaal**

## **Private Percy Douglas WOOD**

**Royal Army Ordinance Corps attached to the Royal Artillery**

**Died on: 29th November 1943 aged 33**

**In Malaya**

**Son of Ernest Charles and Winifred Helen Wood; Husband of Florence Wood**

**Commemorated on**

**The Singapore Memorial**

## **Fireman Leslie Charles WOOD**

**Naval Auxiliary Personnel (Merchant Navy) H.M.S Hunter**

**Died on: 30th May 1947 aged 33**

**In England**

**Son of Ernest Charles and Winifred Helen Wood**

**Buried in**

**Taunton (St. Mary's) Cemetery**

**Percy and Lesley were brothers**

## **Able Seaman Donovan Henry WOODHOUSE**

**Royal Navy HMS Courageous**

**Died on: 17th September 1939 aged 26**

**At Sea**

**following his ship being torpedoed**

**Son of Henry and Mabel Woodhouse of Roman Road Taunton**

**Commemorated on**

**the Plymouth Memorial**

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Donovan Woodhouse was an able seaman on the HMS Courageous, a world War 1 battleship launched in 1916 and which had been converted to an aircraft carrier in 1924

