

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

5th Battalion Wiltshire Regiment (129th Infantry Brigade, 43rd Wessex Division)

Killed in Action in Normandy 22nd 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

Leading Telegraphist Edgar John COWLIN

Royal Navy

C/JX138660

Son of John and Lily Cowlin, husband of Frances Cowlin of Belfast

Died on 15th November 1942

Aged 24

On board HMS Avenger

Commemorated on the Chatham War Memorial

Sapper George Wiliiam 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

72nd Anti Tank Regiment Royal Artillery

224524

Killed in Action 1st 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 3rd Wessex Division

58740

Killed in Action 1st 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

Private Harold READER

2nd Airbourne Bn. South Staffordshire Regt

4922029

Died 9th July 1943 Aged 27

In Italy

Son of Ernest and Alice Reader

Commemorated on the Cassino Memorial, Italy

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

Private Henry G. TOGHILL

Royal Army Service Corp

S/263282

Died on 12th December 1942 aged 23

In Algiers

Son of William George and Florence Lily Toghill, of Taunton, Somerset.

Buried or commemorated in the Bone War Cemetery, Annaba, Algiers

\Inscription reads: 'THERE REMAINETH THEREFORE A REST TO THE PEOPLE OF GOD" HEB. IV.9

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**

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**

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

