

WEALDSTONE • FOOTBALL • CLUB

ROLL • OF • HONOUR

1914 • 1918

1939 • 1945



TO THE MEMORY OF THOSE REPRESENTATIVES OF WEALDSTONE FOOTBALL CLUB WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN TWO WORLD WARS.

1914-1918



Percival Andrews, DoB 28.04.1889 in Hendon, Middlesex. Percy was a fine goal scorer capped in 1911 by the County and a regular player for a number of years, initially with Wealdstone Church Athletic and subsequently with Wealdstone FC. He made his Wealdstone debut on 10th September 1910. He was also Selected to play for Middlesex 1910 - 12. He captained the club in its first season in senior football in 1913-14 and played his last game for the club after 97 appearances on 1st April 1914. He had scored 59 goals including five hat-tricks and once scoring four. He had also been selected to play for the Middlesex County team in 1910-11 and was also an accomplished cricketer playing for a number of local sides, including Harrow Weald CC and Wealdstone Wednesday CC.

Running the family business since the age of 20, he was not called up, but he attested to the Derby Scheme (Group Scheme) in June 1915 meaning he could continue the business but would agree to a deferred call-up if required.

This eventually came in January 1917 when he joined the Royal Naval Air Service (which joined with the Royal Flying Corps to create the Royal Air Force on 1st April 1918) serving as a Mechanic 1st Class. Service Number 225242, believed to have been serving in 'B' Squadron, No 5 (Naval) Wing, a bomber unit equipped with Sopwith 1½ Strutters, which it used to carry out raids against the Belgian ports of Ostend, Zeebrugge and Bruges as well as attacks against German airfields. He was wounded in October 1917 and treated in England, but he returned to France in March 1918 where he soon became ill with Bronchial Pneumonia and was transferred to 30 General Hospital, Calais, France. Sadly, Paraplegia set in and he died on 4th May 1918, aged 29. His grave is reference III F.2. in the Les Baraques Military Cemetery in Sangatte, France. He was the son of Alice and William Andrews, of Grant House, Grant Rd, Wealdstone, Middx and he had had three sisters (Edith, Ellen and Eva) and a brother (Herbert).



Charles John Francis Bellchambers, DoB 16.09.1882 in Hendon, Middlesex.

Charles was Goalkeeper and an Official of Wealdstone FC between 1899 and 1901, the 1899 season previously incorrectly recorded as the foundation of the club. Indeed, he kept goal in what has often been referenced as '*the first match*' against Northwood FC on 7th October 1899. He played for the club over three years making his last known appearance versus Brigade Institute Old Boys on 21st December 1901, though he continued as an official of the club thereafter.

Thirty-two-year-old Charles joined up at the start of The Great War, joining The Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment, 2nd Battalion, as Private, Service Number 207213, based at Southampton and subsequently Lyndhurst before embarking for Zeebrugge in October 1914, to see service on the western front.

Whilst serving he fought in the first battle of Ypres, at Neuve-Chappelle, Aubers Ridge, Festubert, Vimy, Loos and Delville Wood among others. He died as a result of his wounds received at the Battle of Poelcapelle on 11th October 1917, aged 35.

His grave is reference VI. C. 22 in the Wimereux Communal Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France.

He was the son of another former Wealdstone player William Thomas and his wife Elizabeth Bellchambers, of 23, Aberdeen Rd., Wealdstone, Middx and Ernest George Bellchambers who played for the club from 1902 was his younger brother.



Charles Henry Bird, DoB 18.05.1893, Harrow Middlesex to father Charles (33), mother Frances (22) and he had an older brother Sid who was two. His parents were to go on to have nine children in total. In his early years the family moved between Wealdstone, Kilburn and Birmingham before returning to Wealdstone, where he was to make a single first team appearance for Wealdstone FC as a 17-year-old, though also representing the club and other local sides as a Junior.

In 1913-1914 Charles emigrated to Australia to join other members of the extended family, with the intent that his future wife, Elsie would join him once he was settled. Having both worked at Kodak, Charles found work as a boundary rider in NS Wales until the outbreak of war.

In early 1915 Private Charles Bird S/No 703 joined the 18th Battalion, Royal Australian Infantry, part of the 5th Brigade, based in Liverpool, New South Wales. In May embarking for two months training in Egypt before being sent on to Gallipoli. By March 1916 they had moved on to Northern France and Charles was awarded leave in April, returning to Harrow to marry Elsie, who remained living with her parents.

He returned to France and fought in the Battle of Poziers, part of the Somme offensive and he remained in France fighting in many major battles prior to involvement in the German Spring Offensive of 1918 repelling the Germans in the Battle of Mont St Quentin.

Charles was killed in action on 31st August 1918 in Péronne, Somme, France, at the age of 25, during the assault on Mont St Quentin, hit in the neck by a piece of shrapnel whilst seeking cover in a poorly maintained trench, and bled out in the dressing station. He is buried in the Péronne Communal Cemetery Extension, Grave ref IV.B.10.

Elsie gave birth to their son Ashley Charles Bird on 28th June 1917 and remained in Harrow, later re-marrying.

His younger brother Frederick Bird of the Middlesex Regiment, 16th Battalion, the Battalion Drummer and Bugler (Private), Service Number 648 was also killed in The Great War, having died of his wounds as a seventeen-year-old on 28th January 1916. He is buried in grave reference L.20 in the Chambrin Churchyard extension



Henry (Harry) James Bowell, DoB -.04.1878. Born in Acton, Middlesex Henry had played in the last match of Wealdstone FC in 1905, before the fixtures were overtaken by Wealdstone Church Athletic (who he continued to play for). He was also in the line-up for the rejuvenated Wealdstone FC club in the 1908-09 season.

He made 36 known appearances for the club, scoring 17 goals.

A Printers Warehouseman and a former soldier that lived in Grant Road, Wealdstone, he worked at Allens Printworks that was to become part of Her Majesties Stationary Office, and he also played for the Allens Athletic Club. His previous service was with the 7th Northants Regiment and re-joined them at the outbreak of war, enlisting in Harrow and took up his previous rank as a Lance Sergeant, Service Number 3/10684.

His battalion came under the command of the 73rd Brigade in the 24th Division, they were billeted on the South Downs and subsequently in Southwick between November 1914 and April 1915, then moving on to Woking prior to embarking for France, landing in Boulogne-sur-Mer on 2nd September 1915.

Henry (Harry) Bowell was aged 38 when he died of wounds received in the Battle of Loos some three and a half weeks later, on 27th September 1915. With no known grave, he is named on Panel 91 – 93 of the Loos Memorial, Dud Corner Cemetary, Loos-en-Gohelle.

He was the son of Henry James Bowell and Hannah and husband of Ellen May Bowell (m1910). They had two children, Henry James and George Edward Bowell.



Russell William Bradberry, DoB -10.1884. Russell was a former Reserve player and Club Officer in the years prior to The Great War, and he was also brother of goalkeeper Thomas W Bradberry. He worked as a Stock Exchange Clerk before enlistment.

Lance Bombardier Russell William Bradberry Service Number 70878, had joined the Royal Garrison Artillery 301st Siege Battalion in September 1914 after training at Shoeburyness, deployed in the UK defending Military bases.

It wasn't until April 1917 that the 301st (S) Battery Royal Garrison Artillery deployed to Le Havre, France armed with 4 x 6" Howitzers as part of a Heavy Artillery Group. Seven days after arriving they commenced a four-day

bombardment in advance of The Battle of Arras, the battle itself lasting until 16th May. In early June, the Heavy Artillery Group took part in the bombardment of the Messines Ridge.

He contracted a chill through extreme exposure later in the year and died of fever in Rouen Hospital on 3rd December 1917 aged 33.

Originally buried in the Bois Guillaume Communal Cemetery extension, Grave Ref B. 11A (where the headstone remains) his body was repatriated and now lies in All Saints Harrow Weald Churchyard.

Russell was the eldest son of Russell and Mary Rebecca Bradberry, and he had a Brother and Sister, Thomas and Millicent also of Wealdstone. His wife Elsie Bradberry and daughter Dorothy Elsie Bradberry lived at 44 Locket Road, Wealdstone.



His brother Thomas, (pictured left) the Wealdstone goalkeeper served in the 10th Royal Fusiliers alongside another former Wealdstone player, Sid White.

Thomas was wounded in the right arm in 1916, on the same evening that Sid White (right) was wounded in the left knee while raiding a German trench.

They were hospitalized together, however both recovered, returned to the unit and survived the war though Thomas was never to play again.



William Henry Cozens, DoB -09.1877 in Fulham, London. William Cozens had been the Captain of the Wealdstone side in 1899, playing alongside his brother, Harold, both having turned the fortunes of Wealdstone Athletic in 1895.

He made 68 appearances, 13 goals.

William, Service Number G/19948 joined the Royal Fusiliers in August 1916 and later transferred to the 9th Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment, billeted in and around Brighton and on the South Downs.

The Battalion subsequently became part of the 73rd Brigade, 24th Division (as was Henry Bowell's Northants Regiment) relocating to Shoreham and



then onto Woking and Boulogne-sur-Mer on September 2nd 1915.

William saw service at the Battle of Loos, Hoge Crater, Ypres and defended and survived a German gas attack at Wulverghem in Belgium before returning to The Somme. Subsequently saw service at Messines Ridge and was in reserve for the first day of the Battle of the Somme, later re-joining the front line at the Battle of Pickem Ridge, the opening attack of the third Battle of Ypres.

His service continued through both France and Belgium seeing service at the Battle of Delville Wood and then onto the Battle of Langemark in early August 1916 where severe flooding hampered both attack and defence, the mud and shell holes reducing the mobility of both armies.

Prior to his death, he had served a further 16 months in France (Guillemont, Bois en Hache, Arras) though he had been home on leave at the start of the 1918.

He was Killed in Action on 21st March 1918 aged 41 in the Battle of St Quentin at Shepherd's Copse, an early battle in the German Spring Offensive. This was part of Operation Michael, the largest German artillery barrage of the war (3.5m shells fired along a 40-mile front).

With no known grave he is named on the Poziers Memorial.

He lived with his wife Annie and daughter Florence at Moston, 2 Gordon Road, Wealdstone and he was the first Caretaker of Harrow County School (now Harrow High) as it was built and for a short period after it opened in 1911.

His two brothers, Edward and Harold also served, Edward discharged after wounding also in France, however both survived the war.



Private Frederick Farmborough, S/No TF/265283, 1/9th Battalion, Middlesex Regiment, was a former Wealdstone FC goalkeeper.

He and his brothers joined up in the first weeks of the war. Brother Albert Farmborough served with the 2/9th Middlesex (and later East Surrey) Regiments was killed in 1918 and is remembered on the Tyne Cot Memorial. Another brother (Harry) served with the Royal Berkshires and survived the war though he was wounded, losing an eye in Flanders, which resulted in a medical discharge.

The 1st/9th Middlesex Battalion, a Territorial Regiment, formed before the Great War (but rapidly increased in numbers after appeals in the Harrow Observer), and was mobilized in October 1914 initially based at Kempton Park Racecourse.

They left Southampton docks

on route to India arriving in Bombay on 2nd December 1914 after a 34 day crossing.

On the 4th August 1916 he left the 1st/9th Middlesex as the battalion supplied its first draft to the 2nd Norfolk Regiment as it was re-constituted in Mesopotamia.

PTE. F. FARMBOROUGH.

News has been received that Pte. F. Farmborough, of the 1/9th Middlesex, son of the late Mr. Farmborough, a well-known Harrow postman, was wounded at Ctesiphon, just outside Bagdad. Pte. Farmborough went out to India with the 9th Middlesex, and left them in a draft to the 2nd Norfolk last July. With this regiment he landed in the Persian Gulf, and made the march to Ctesiphon. Pte. Farmborough was well known in Wealdstone, and worked for his brother, greengrocer, at 22, Canning-road. His brother, Drummer A. Farmborough, is with the 2/9th Middlesex, at Sevenoaks, whilst another brother, who was serving with the Royal Berks in India at the outbreak of war, was severely wounded in Flanders whilst on night patrol duty, and has been invalided from the Service with the loss of an eye.

In the Persian Gulf Fred took part in the long march and was wounded in battle near Ctesiphon on 5th November 1915 whilst part of a combined British empire and British Indian force defending the Oil Refinery at Abadan. At the beginning of December he had recovered sufficiently to rejoin his unit and saw action in the Siege of Kut.



He is recorded both as Killed in Action and died of dysentery, the later seeming most likely as he was wounded and taken prisoner at Kut.

His death was not confirmed until August 1918 and he is commemorated on Panel 30 and panel 64 of the Basra Memorial, separated from another former Wealdstone player, George Richard (Dicky) Goodege by one name.

George Richard (Dicky) Goodege, (*Incorrectly recorded by the club originally as Goodage R*) DoB -.1888

George Richard (known as Dick) Goodege was a former player (14 appearances, 1 goal), who was playing for local rivals, Allens Athletic at the outbreak of the war.

He enlisted in the Middlesex Regiment 9th Batallion at Larkhill Camp at the outbreak of the war, and later attached to the Norfolk Regiment as a Private, Service Number TF/1651.

His war started with a train to Sheerness where the unit dug trenches until it was relieved by a Special Reserve Unit.

Instructed to prepare to relieve forces of The Raj in India, his regiment left Southampton in October 1914, arriving in Bombay alongside Fred Farmborough in December, however Dicky Goodege was first assigned to the Presidency Brigade based in Calcutta.

He was volunteered as part of the first draft to the 2nd Norfolk Regiment in Mesopotamia arriving in September 1915, taking part in the '300-mile march' to Baghdad where he was Killed in Action on 22nd November 1915 aged 27.

He has no known grave but is commemorated on the BASRA Memorial – Panel 30 and 64, as above, where he is named just below Fred Farmborough.

'Dicky' was unmarried and lived at 3 Florence Villas, Cecil Road, Wealdstone, working at Allens Printworks as a Lithographer.



Walter Langston Howman, DoB -.04.1885,



Walter was a former Wealdstone and Wealdstone Church Athletic player making 81 appearances, scoring 16 goals.

Known as Wally, though deaf, he was a recruit in the 24th and subsequently 16th Middlesex (Public Schools) Regiment serving as Private PS/2879.

His unit was mobilized at Kempton Park Racecourse alongside Farmborough and Goodege, they subsequently relocated to Warlingham and onto Clipstone Barracks as part of 100th Brigade 33rd Division in July 1915, commencing final training on Peerham Down in early August.

His battalion disembarked at Boulogne-sur-Mer on 17th November 1915 and immediately marched onto Morbecque as part of the 99th Brigade, 33rd Division. On the 8th July they entrained for the railhead at Longeau (The Somme) and were thrown into the fray

as part of the ongoing Battle of Albert and then the attack on Switch Line near High Wood where the regiment suffered 321 casualties.

Though in his own words '*in a cushy job*' in France, he was Killed in Action on 19th August 1916 while serving with the 1st Middlesex in the region of High Wood.

He has no known grave but is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Pier and Face 12D and 13B He was the son of George and Louisa Howman and Husband of Laura Amy Howman and father to daughters Elfreda and Olive. The family lived at 6 Graham Road, Wealdstone.



His brother Harold (left) who also played for the club similarly served in France and shortly after Walter's death, he was repatriated home suffering from Trench Foot, recovering in the Northumberland War Hospital. He survived the war.





Frank Tingay Martin, DoB --.12.1888 in Hendon.

Frank joined the club as it reformed in 1909 and became 1st Team Vice Captain for the first Senior season, 1913/14. He made 107 appearances for the club between 1907 and 1914, scoring twice.

He joined the 7th Rifle Brigade, Service Number B/2070, in September 1914 at Winchester before moving to Aldershot as part of the 41st Brigade, 14th Division. He was promoted to Corporal late in 1914, mobilized and shipping to France in May 1915, arriving at Boulogne-sur-Mer on route to Belgium.

Though originally Missing in Action, he was later declared Killed in Action (though no body was ever found or recovered) on 30th July 1915 in the first German Liquid Fire attacks (flamethrower) at Hooge, near Ypres, Belgium.



Whilst still officially missing, in December a Private Wooster wrote to his family of Frank's death *"we were together in a wood just behind the trenches. This was the spot where your son was hit, and I asked him if I could do anything. He said, No, go and support the boys in the trench.*

I had not get ten yards more myself when I was shot through the thigh and I saw no more of him, but the place was a death-trap for the shells fell in the woods in hundreds and it made escape impossible.

As you have not heard from him, I would I regret to say, give up all hope.

I hope you will accept my deepest sympathy and the boys of his section send their sympathy also, as he was a good leader of men and was liked by them all"

He has no known grave but is commemorated on the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, panel 46-48 & 50.

He was born in Harrow, lived at 12 Alexander Terrace, Headstone Drive and worked in Wealdstone.



James J Robertson, (Incorrectly recorded by the club as Robertson G). DoB c1888.

James J Robertson was a former player who made around 12 appearances in 1912, scoring twice.

On 6th September 1914 he joined the forming 11th Battalion, Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment) at Hounslow, Service Number 58824 (formerly Service Number 2209) becoming part of the 54th Brigade of the 18th division. Later billeted on Salisbury Plain, the embarked for France in July 1915 and mobilized for war.

Rising to the rank of Corporal, he saw service in the Battle of Albert, Gommecourt, the Battle of Bazentin Ridge and Delville Wood. He was also involved in the battle of Langemark where Walter Cozens also saw action, then returning to the area around The Somme for the Battle of Theipval Ridge and the Schwarben Redoubt, then via Arras to Passchendale and the Battle of St Quentin.

Finally, James served in the British Fifth Army in the defence of Villers-Bretonneux and the Battle of Amiens where he died (16th August 1918) of wounds received at Vignacourt few days earlier.

His grave is in Vignacourt Cemetery, Somme, France and this was a Field Cemetery adopted by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission after the war.

Much travelled James was born in Belfast, he enlisted London, was a resident of 1 Palmerston Villas, Palmerston Road, Wealdstone, Middlesex and his parents James and Margaret Robertson lived in Edinburgh.

1939 – 1945



Kenneth George Edwin Baldwin DoB 25.02.1920

Private Baldwin, Service Number 5956838 was called up to join the 7th Battalion Royal Hampshire Regiment.

He was Killed in Action on 28th March 1945, likely during Operation Plunder, part of a coordinated set of Rhine crossings as part of the Allied Invasion.

Kenneth had been a fine goal scorer for Wealdstone (68 goals in 120 appearances 1937 - 1945) leading up to the war and was also a Chelsea Amateur and former Schoolboy International.

He was wounded on 21st November 1944 and returned to England for a short while to recuperate. During this time, he played for Wealdstone five times before his return to his Regiment.

Killed during the Allied Invasion, his grave is in the Reichswald Forest War Cemetery Grave Reference 56.H.3.

His parents William and Elizabeth lived in Watford.

Robert William Bidewell DoB 25.09.1919 in Watford, Herts.

Robert was a player who had remained with the club until his call up. He scored 15 goals in 37 appearances pre and during the war.

Lance Serjeant Robert William Bidewell 4th Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment, Service Number 5950925 was Killed in Action aged 25 on his birthday, 25th September 1944 in Holland, whilst serving during the Allied advance from Paris to the Rhine as the Platoon Sergeant with 2nd Platoon, A Company.

In the early morning of 25th September 1944 he and others crossed the river Rhine and as they were moving through a wood, they saw two German soldiers who apparently wanted to surrender.

Suddenly the Germans separated and a machine gun opened up on the Platoon. Bidewell and a Private Stevenson were killed.

Robert was the son of Harry and Eva Bidewell of Watford and was married to J W Bidewell of Watford.

He is buried in the Arnhem Oosterbeek War Cemetery, Gelderland, Holland, Grave Ref 14.C.4.



Charles Edward Bunce DoB 13.03.1913 in St Albans, Herts.

Lance Corporal Charles Edward Bunce was a former Wealdstone Captain and an outstanding player who would have gone on to better things had he returned from the Far East.

Leading up to the war, he scored an incredible 174 goals in 143 appearances, once scoring five and six times scoring four goals in a game.

He joined the 1st Battalion, Cambridgeshire Regiment when called up and was serving in Malaya in 1942, when he was captured.

He died as a Prisoner of War of the Japanese on 25th June 1943. His parents, William and Alice and his wife Irene May Bunce all lived in Queen Mary's Avenue, Watford.

He has no known grave but is remembered on Column 57 of the Singapore Memorial in Kranji War Cemetery.



William Ainsley Burton, DoB 17.10.1892, (48).

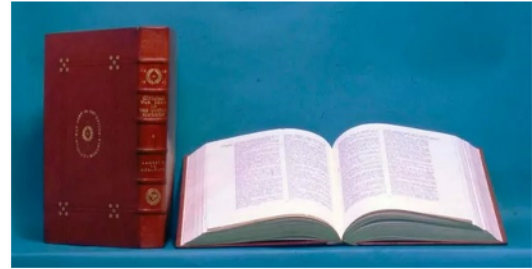


William Burton was a civilian killed as a result of enemy action.

He was a former player who played for the club either side of World War 1 and he had been a Club Committee Member since 1937.

He was killed on 3rd December 1940 during a German bombing raid, when a bomb fell on Queens Park Station in Kilburn.

An Electrical Engineer, he lived with his wife, Beatrice Annie and son Norman A. at 32 Dukes Avenue, Wealdstone. He is commemorated in the Civilian War Dead Roll of Honour 1939 – 1945 at Westminster Abbey.



William Wilfred Parr DoB 23.04.1915



England Amateur International (1937) William Wilfred Parr was a professional player with a long career, playing for Blackpool, Dulwich Hamlet and Arsenal prior to guesting for Wealdstone in early wartime matches.

He made 23 appearances and scored fifteen goals.

Bill joined the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve Service Number 1375471 enlisting in Euston after August 1940 and achieved the rank of Sergeant Pilot.

He was a member of 233 Squadron and (aged 26) was the pilot of three crewmen on board Lockheed Hudson V serial number AM535 based at RAF St Eval killed when the aircraft overshot its intended

landing at RNAS St Merryn. It crashed in a field at Lower Treburrick Farm one mile to the north on the night of 8th March 1942.

He is buried in the Marton (St Paul) Church Burial Ground in Blackpool, Lancashire, Plot 10 Grave 122.

His parents, John Wilfred and Clara Ann lived in Blackpool.



Ernest William Walker DoB ---.---.1906

Able Seaman Ernest William Walker Service Number P/JX321616 was initially a Reserve and then First Team goalkeeper between 1936 and 1941.

He joined the Royal Navy in 1940 but remained able to play for the club until posted overseas making a total of 82 appearances.

He served on HMS Quorn, a Hunt class Destroyer until his death on 3rd August 1944 at the age of 38 when HMS Quorn was sunk by a human torpedo during Operation Neptune, the Naval support for the Normandy Landings (Operation Overlord) off Northern France.

Killed at sea, he is commemorated on Panel 83, Column 2 of the Portsmouth Naval memorial.

He was husband of Marie Elizabeth Walker of Downham, London.



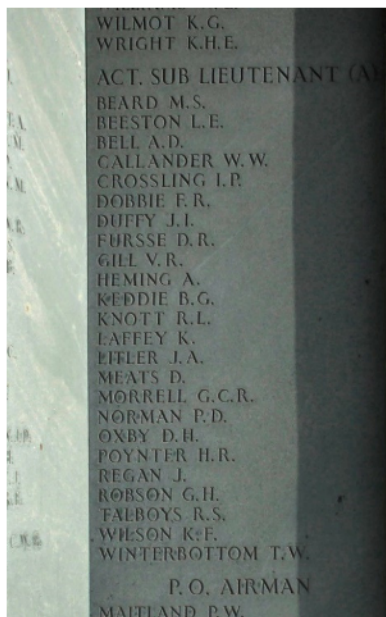
Robert Wilson DoB --.01.1919

Private Robert Wilson S/No S/98369 Royal Army Service Corps. A young player who appeared for the club in the early years of the war and starred in the Red Cross Cup Final at Wembley in June 1942. Sadly, he contracted pneumonia after an operation in Red Hill Hospital in Edgware and died on 9th January 1943.

Whilst still serving with the RASC, he contracted pneumonia after an operation and died on 9th January 1943 in Red Hill Hospital, Edgware.

He was not originally included on the club's War Memorial, most likely as his death was recorded of illness in a local hospital. Subsequent research has found that he has a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone, therefore as a serving soldier at the time of his death. he is added to the memorial for the future.

The son of Joseph and Annie Wilson of Wealdstone, he is buried in Wealdstone Cemetery, Section C Grave 2236



Thomas William Winterbottom DoB 09.10.1923

Acting Sub Lieutenant Thomas William Winterbottom, (*incorrectly recorded by the club as Winterbotham, W.*) was a former Reserve player who played three first team matches as a half-back in 1941. He was also a committee member.

He enlisted in the Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve, serving under the HMS Saker banner when he was killed on 28th March 1944.

HMS Saker was formed during the expansion of the Royal Navy's Fleet Air Arm in World War 2, a unit formed in the United States, where they took delivery of American naval aircraft under the Lend-Lease aid programme to the British Empire. Fleet Air Arm and United States Navy aircraft flew side by side on combat missions over enemy territory and the Royal Navy and US Navy operated together in the Coral Seas, Indian Ocean, Pacific, Mediterranean and Atlantic.

Royal Navy crews manned escort carriers built in the US and given to the UK by the American Government under Lend-Lease.

Based on records available, it is likely that the accident that killed Winterbottom would have seen him flying a Grumman Avenger torpedo bomber, though exact details remain unknown.

With no named grave, he is remembered on Bay 5 Panel 7 of the Royal Naval Memorial, Lee-on-Solent. Thomas was the son of Thomas and Alice Winterbottom of Kenton, Middlesex.

OUR MEMORIALS

".....the following week, on 2nd September 1922 Wealdstone faced Arsenal and pushed them all the way, finally losing 2-1 in front of another crowd of over 2000. The Wealdstone side had been strengthened by the return of Miller and Harbud to the half back line and F Theobald to the forwards. The Wealdstone goal, the first at Lower Mead, was scored by club captain E Theobald." Before the game, Lieutenant General Sir Francis Lloyd had unveiled a Memorial Plaque in the ground, adjacent to the Pavilion, in memory of those members of the Wealdstone Club that had lost their lives in the First World War. As reported in the Middlesex Advertiser & County Gazette on Friday 15th September 1922: "Lieutenant-General Sir Francis Lloyd, who unveiled the Wealdstone Football Club War memorial on the club's new ground, Lower Mead, Station Road, on Saturday week.



Sir Francis is here shown chatting to President of the Club, C. E. Brady, on his way to the platform from which he unveiled the memorial.

The memorial marble tablet, which surmounts the granite cairn and rests against the flagstaff near the pavilion and faces the main entrance to the ground, is shown on the left of the photograph. On it are inscribed the names of the ten club members who were killed or died on war service, the inscription being as follows; "1914 - 1918 In affectionate memory of Andrews, P., Bellchambers, C.F., Bird, C., Bowells, H., Bradberry, R. W., Cozens, W., Goodage, R., Howman, W., Martin, F., Robertson, J., Members of the Wealdstone Football Club who gave their lives for their country in the Great War. Patriae Amicum Arma Deus"

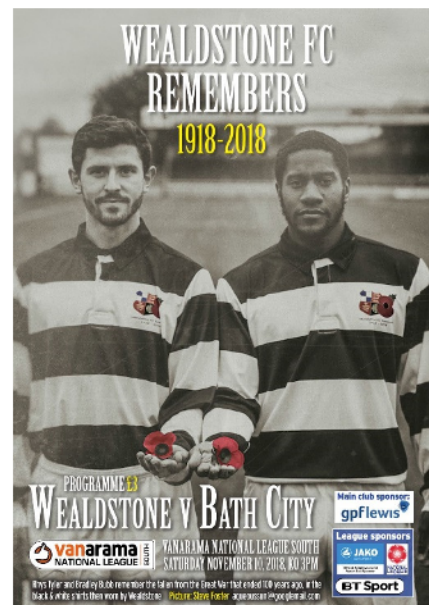
Wealdstone is one of the comparatively few football clubs in the country that has commemorated the sacrifices of its members in this permanent manner.

The club had in fact written to The Duke of York in an attempt to encourage him to unveil the memorial, but it was reported that this request, although met with a pleasing and courteous reply, had been declined. The local public confirmed the feelings of a local reporter and agreed that the tribute that has been paid by the Wealdstone Club is worthy of the affection that the club still retains for the memory of its departed servants. The closing words of the speech by Lieutenant General Sir Francis Lloyd at the unveiling were *to instruct the two teams to go out and play the game that they (those named on the plaque) loved so well.* That Memorial plaque, although later moved to a position adjacent to the entrance of the ground, was to remain displayed at Lower Mead until the ground was eventually demolished.

Some years later, in 1998, I was pleased to help when then Chairman Paul Rumens suggested we establish a 'Friends of Wealdstone'. One of my first decisions in setting that up was that one day, when the club had a home of its own, a new Memorial would be provided. In 2016, ensconced at The Vale, I had an idea and I discussed and tweaked it with Alan and Steve Foster. I then drew up an image and met with a glass artist local to me in Devon, Amy McCarthy @amyorangejuice <http://www.amyorangejuice.co.uk/> who works with Stained glass, Leaded glass and Fused glass where images are 'burnt' into the glass then used to create a picture.

From my original sketch Amy added her thoughts and we commissioned a new glass memorial panel to be unveiled on the 100th Anniversary of the Armistice.

I built a frame around the panel itself symbolising a First World War Trench with aged oak sides, a duck-board floor and an Elephant (corrugated) Iron top. Behind the glass there are also some strands of barbed wire – English, French and German - finds from field walking on Great War battlefields, some with a group of Wealdstone FC fans in 2017.



The plaque was presented to the club on 11th November 2018 prior to a match v Bath City in which Wealdstone wore a replica of the Black & White hooped kit of 1919. The presentation was made, on behalf of 'Friends' by two serving servicemen who follow Wealdstone, Andy Gibbs and Sam Morris.



We will remember them when the whistle blows.