

# **The War Memorials and Listed Tombs**

## **S<sup>t</sup> Mary Magdalene, Barwick & Stoford**

The **Rolls of Honour** plaques dedicated to the men of the Parish who gave their lives in the Great War 1914 – 1918 and the Second World War are on the wall of the chancel in the church.

### **1914 – 1918**

2 <sup>nd</sup> Lt Thomas Victor Tyrwhitt-Drake	1 <sup>st</sup> Battalion Rifle Brigade
Pt. Samuel Phillip Eason Infantry	1 <sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light
Pt. Arthur George Elliott	2 <sup>nd</sup> Battalion Dorset Regiment
L/Cpl George Sims	174 <sup>th</sup> Brigade Machine Gun Corps
Pt. Edward A Shire	1 <sup>st</sup> Battalion Coldstream Guards
Pt. Fredrick Woolmington	1 <sup>st</sup> Battalion Royal Marines
Pt. Alfred George Reginald Young	95 <sup>th</sup> Brigade Machine Gun Corps

### **1939 – 1945**

C/Man L.R.W. Herrin	REME
Fusilier K.W.F. Love	Royal Fusiliers
Trooper R.J. Male	2 <sup>nd</sup> Northamptonshire Yeomanry Royal Armoured Corps
L/Cpl M.R. Rabjohns	1 <sup>st</sup> Bn Coldstream Guards
L/AC M.C. Rideout	RAF Volunteer Reserve
Pt. D.A.G. Rogers	Somerset Light Infantry



In Grateful Memory of

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Thomas Victor Tyrwhitt-Drake**

**29<sup>th</sup> January 1917**

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Rifle Brigade

Who Gave His Life for Our Defence & Freedom aged 21

Commemorated WW1 Church Memorial

Commemorated and Buried in grave VII. G. 19.

Fins New British Cemetery, Sorel-Le-Grand, Somme, France.

The eldest son of Arthur Tyrwhitt-Drake, of Aldon, Yeovil, late of Holnest Park, Sherborne, and of Mrs. Tyrwhitt-Drake, and attended the Royal Military College Sandhurst in 1915.



Fins New British Cemetery, Sorel-Le-Grand,  
Somme, France.



1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Rifle Brigade

2nd Lieutenant Tyrwhitt-Drake was given a Commission in the Rifle Brigade in November, 1915, and went to the Front in July, 1916. He was killed on January 29th, 1917, by the bursting of a shell at his feet, death being instantaneous. He was commanding a Company during the absence of its regular commander and had just left Battalion Headquarters to see about sending a Lewis Gun team to the front line, when he met his death.

In Grateful Memory of

## **Pt. 6443 Samuel Phillip Eason**

**2<sup>nd</sup> November 1914**

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry

Who Gave His Life for Our Defence & Freedom aged 28

Commemorated WW1 Church Memorial  
Commemorated on Panel 3 Ploegsteert Memorial,  
Berks Cemetery Extension, Belgium.

Son of George and Jane Eason of South Street, Yeovil.

Samuel left a wife Rosina Eason (formerly Plummer) and a daughter Violet in Stoford.



Ploegsteert Memorial, Belgium



Prince Albert's  
(Somerset Light Infantry)

At the outbreak of war in 1914 The 1st Battalion, Somerset Light Infantry was in Colchester, with 11th Brigade, 4th Division, was one of two regular battalions of the Somerset Light Infantry. The Battalion arrived in Le Havre, France with the BEF on 22 August 1914, in time to fight in the battle of Le Cateau during the retreat from Mons. They remained on the Western Front with 4th Division, throughout the war, suffering 1,315 losses. They were in action at The Battle of the Marne, The Battle of the Aisne and at The Battle of Messines in 1914. Early October saw the 1st battalion entering the trenches for the first time. They took up a position in Ploegsteert Wood, Belgium, where they remained for the winter.

The Regiment was awarded 60 Battle Honours and 1 Victoria Cross losing 4,760 men during the course of the First World War.

The Christmas Truce of 1914 has entered the common mythology of the First World War and has been well documented as a result. The 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Somerset Light Infantry were in the front line at Ploegsteert Wood over the Christmas of 1914 which Samuel had been part of, and would have witnessed first-hand.

Samuel was reported missing presumed killed; his mother would never accept his death and refused to have his name inscribed on the Yeovil War Memorial. Samuel's widow was living in Stoford at the time of her husband's death and his name has been included on the Barwick and Stoford Memorial in Barwick Church. In September 1989, Samuel's name was added to the Yeovil War Memorial.

In Grateful Memory of

**Pt. 16358 Arthur George Elliott – 26<sup>th</sup> March 1917**

2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Dorsetshire Regiment

Who Gave His Life for Our Defence & Freedom aged 22

Commemorated WW1 Church Memorial

Commemorated on Panels 22 & 63 Basra Memorial, Iraq

Son of Mrs C. Elliott of Battleton, Dulverton, Somerset.



The Rolls of Honour held at the Commission's Head Office commemorating by name all the Commonwealth casualties who died in Iraq during the two World Wars

Basra Roll of Honour



Dorsetshire Regiment

The 2nd Battalion, Dorsetshire Regiment was in India when war broke out in August 1914, serving with the 16<sup>th</sup> (Poona) Brigade, 6th Indian Division.

On the 6<sup>th</sup> November 1914 the Bn landed in Fao in the Persian Gulf, for a campaign in Mesopotamia, as part of Indian Expeditionary Force 'D'.

29<sup>th</sup> April 1916 the Bn was besieged and captured at Kut-el-Amara when General Townshend surrendered. During the siege at Kut, a composite battalion, composed of returned wounded and other details from the 2nd Dorset's and 2nd Norfolk's, was formed at El Orah. It was called the "English Composite Battalion" or the "Norsets" and was under command of the 21st Indian Brigade, 7th Indian Division.

In July 1916, the arrival of reinforcements permitted the establishment of the 2nd (Provisional) Battalion of the Dorsetshire Regiment. Having spent the winter of 1916/17 down-river guarding lines of communication, they took part in the final recapture of Kut in December 1916 and the subsequent clearing of the Shatt-al-Hai, but missed the fall of Baghdad in March 1917. On 25<sup>th</sup> March the 2nd Dorset's distinguished themselves at Jebel Hamrin, suffering 220 casualties out of 500 in action.

In Grateful Memory of

**L/Cpl 65554 George Sims – 27<sup>th</sup> September 1917**

174<sup>th</sup> Brigade Machine Gun Corps

Who Gave His Life for Our Defence & Freedom

Commemorated WW1 Church Memorial

Commemorated on Panels 154 to 159 Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium.



Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium



Machine Gun Corps

The Division returned to England in January 1917 and was based at Fovant by the end of the month. Orders were received to the effect that it would soon depart for France. Advanced parties left on 2<sup>nd</sup> February. They missed an inspection by King George V that took place on 13<sup>th</sup> February. The units crossed the Channel from 17<sup>th</sup> February and completed concentration at Mericourt on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1917. The 174th Machine Gun Company Joined the 59th (2nd North Midland) Division, on the 6th March 1917, and reports said that the Division could not be considered properly trained (largely as it had been split up in Ireland) but it did not have any opportunity to add to its training before it was thrown into the front line south of the Somme, near Entrées. The Division then remained in France and Flanders and took part in several engagements, including the enemy's strategic withdrawal east from the Somme area. The 59<sup>th</sup> Division was among the formations that followed up in cautious pursuit. The lack of training began to be felt in this difficult tactical situation. Units of the Division captured Jeancourt but met a bloody repulse at Le Verguier. Divisional HQ was established at Bouvincourt in April 1917. Further attacks took place at Villeret and Hargicourt quarries. In May 1917 the Division relieved by the cavalry was moved for rest but after a matter of days moved back into the Cambrai front line at Havrincourt and Flesquieres, with the Divisional HQ being set up at Equancourt.

On 20 September 1917, the Division's role was to relieve the 55th (West Lancashire) Division in the Battle of the Menin Road Ridge after it had made an attack in the area of Gravenstafel. The Lancashire's succeeded in capturing all objectives and the 59th duly moved to relieve them. Assembling around Goldfish Chateau, just outside Ypres, the Division moved up into the salient on the night of 23/24 September and completed the move into battle positions during 25 and 26th. Divisional HQ was set up in a pillbox on the eastern bank of the Ypres Canal.

In the Battle of Polygon Wood between 26<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> September the Division attacked as part of the British force and captured all of its objectives and then held on against German counter attack. Finding its canal position to be very near some heavy artillery, the moved back to Mersey Camp Wood but were then bombed by enemy aircraft at night. The Division suffered 2000 casualties while in the salient.

In Grateful Memory of

**Pt. 20825 Edward A Shire – 27<sup>th</sup> November 1917**

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Coldstream Guards

Who Gave His Life for Our Defence & Freedom

Commemorated WW1 Church Memorial

Commemorated on Sp. Mem. 5. Anneux British Cemetery, France



Anneux British Cemetery



Coldstream Guards

The 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, The Coldstream Guards were based in Aldershot with the 1<sup>st</sup> (Guards) Brigade, 1<sup>st</sup> Division when war broke out in August 1914. They proceeded to France almost at once, landing at le Havre on the 14<sup>th</sup> being amongst the first troops of the British Expeditionary Force. They fought in The Battle of Mons and the subsequent retreat, The Battle of the Marne, The Battle of the Aisne, the First Battle of Ypres and the Winter Operations of 1914-15. In 1915 they were in action during The Battle of Aubers. On the 25<sup>th</sup> of August 1915 they transferred to 2<sup>nd</sup> Guards Brigade, and were in action in The Battle of Loos. In 1916 they fought on The Somme in The Battle of Flers-Courcelette and The Battle of Morval, capturing Lesboeufs.

The Guards Division now replaced the 51st (Highland) Division and units from the 1st and 2nd Cavalry Divisions were dismounted in readiness for a further attack planned against Bourslon village on the 24<sup>th</sup>. The attack was timed for 1200 hours and would involve just twelve tanks supporting the men of 121<sup>st</sup> Brigade (40th Division). The attack was then put back until 1500 hours and then called off as twelve tanks were not considered adequate. Unfortunately the orders cancelling the attack never reached those carrying it out and at 1500 hours the 121<sup>st</sup> and their twelve tanks advanced on Bourslon.

Insisting that Bourslon be taken and forever worrying that the enemy was on the point of collapse Haig told Byng to take over personal control of the battle. On the 26<sup>th</sup> the artillery began pounding the German lines in preparation for an assault by the Guards Division against Fontaine and the 62<sup>nd</sup> Division against Bourslon. At 0620 hours the following morning 2<sup>nd</sup> Guards Brigade advanced. 3rd Grenadiers up the main road, 1st Coldstream's in the centre and 2nd Irish between the village and Bourslon Wood. Initially going forward without the tanks they were soon overtaken by the machines. The Guards suffered enormous losses as they advanced against enfilading fire from La Folie Wood and became embroiled in house to house fighting. The situation was intolerable and by 1300 hours it was over. Despite great courage and tenacity the Guardsmen had been overwhelmed by an entrenched enemy in superior numbers.

In Grateful Memory of

## **Pt. Ply/16238 Fredrick Woolmington**

13<sup>th</sup> November 1916

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Royal Marine Light Infantry

Who Gave His Life for Our Defence & Freedom aged 23

Commemorated WW1 Church Memorial

Commemorated on pier and face 1A, Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France



Thiepval Memorial



Royal Marine Light Infantry

The 1<sup>st</sup> Bn Royal Marine Light Infantry were involved on the Western Front in the Battle of Ancre, the final phase of the Battle of the Somme. On the 4<sup>th</sup> October, the Royal Naval Division (RND) were transferred to the 5<sup>th</sup> Corps and told to prepare for an assault north of the River Ancre. The Division moved immediately to the Somme sector to begin reconnoitering and extensive training.

The location of the attack having been decided earlier, the operational order was issued on 23<sup>rd</sup> October. It was to be north of the Ancre in front of Hamel, an area that had been assaulted 5 times since July 1<sup>st</sup> with every attack failing with heavy cost. The reason for this attack was that in the course of the battle the front had moved forward and had stalled at Beaumont Hamel and Serre in the north of the Somme sector.

The attack had been planned and postponed several times, but on the 10th November it was finally decided that it would go ahead on the 13<sup>th</sup>. The artillery started shelling the front line early every morning as if an attack was about to take place, but of course it didn't. The delays forced the defenders into a set routine, a tactic that had allowed the British to put the Turks to sleep to allow the escape from Gallipoli. This acclimatizing of the Germans helped in the attacks, as the shelling on the morning of the 13th was probably written off as yet another morning hate session.

The attacks of the 13<sup>th</sup> November on the Ancre involved six divisions and started at 05.45. By 06.30 the first two lines of the German forces had been taken, but were under heavy machine gun fire. What the Allied troops were unaware of, was that the Germans had dug in underground, and were now behind the advancing Allied troops. The Germans emerged, and shot the Allied soldiers from behind. The attack continued to the third German line, but had to be abandoned due to a barrage of friendly fire. By the end of the day, some 400 German soldiers had been taken prisoner, but at the cost of some 800 RND forces.

In Grateful Memory of

**Pt. 102708 Alfred George Reginald Young**

6<sup>th</sup> November 1917

95<sup>th</sup> Brigade Machine Gun Corps

Who Gave His Life for Our Defence & Freedom aged 19

Commemorated WW1 Church Memorial

Commemorated on panel 154 to 159, Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium.

Son of Alfred and Mary Ann Young of Yew Tree Cottage, Stoford, Yeovil



Tyne Cot Memorial, Belgium



Machine Gun Corps

Formed in 5<sup>th</sup> Division on the 20<sup>th</sup> December 1915 as the 14<sup>th</sup> Machine Gun Company, and re-designated on 12<sup>th</sup> January 1916 as the 95<sup>th</sup> Brigade MGC.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> September 1917 the Division was relieved from the Battles of Arras, and moved out of the line for a period, being sent next to join the great offensive in Flanders which included; The Battle of Polygon Wood, The Battle of Broodseinde, The Battle of Poelcapelle and The Second Battle of Passchendaele.

The Second Battle of Passchendaele was the culminating attack during the Third Battle of Ypres. The battle took place in the Ypres Salient area of the Western Front, in and around the Belgian town of Passchendaele, between 26<sup>th</sup> October and 10<sup>th</sup> November 1917.

The offensive was executed in a series of attacks each with limited objectives, delivered at intervals of three or more days. The execution dates of the phases were tentatively given as 26<sup>th</sup> October, 30<sup>th</sup> October and 6<sup>th</sup> November with a final smaller action planned for the 10<sup>th</sup> November.

The attack was successful in capturing the German-held high ground along the Passchendaele–Westrozebeke ridge but the campaign was forced to end just short of Westrozebeke.

Some 170,500 officers and men served in the MGC with 62,049 becoming casualties including 12,498 being killed.

1939 -1945

## Second World War



In Grateful Memory of

## **C/Man 5442617 Leslie Ronald William Herrin**

**4<sup>th</sup> March 1943**

Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers

Who Gave His Life for Our Defence & Freedom aged 28

Commemorated WW2 Church Memorial

Commemorated Block F Grave 346  
Durban (Stellawood) Cemetery, South Africa

Son of Arthur Charles and Jane Mary Herrin,  
Husband of Dorothy Minnie Elizabeth Herrin of Stoford, Somerset.



Durban (Stellawood) Cemetery



REME

During the Second World War, Durban was the embarkation and disembarkation port, first for the East African and Abyssinian campaigns and later for those in the Middle East and Italy.

The North African Campaign began in June of 1940 and continued for three years, as Axis and Allied forces pushed each other back and forth across the desert. At the beginning of the war, Libya had been an Italian colony for several decades and British forces had been in neighbouring Egypt.

The two armies began skirmishing almost as soon as Italy declared war on the Allied Nations in 1940. Italy invaded Egypt in September of 1940, and in a December counterattack, British and Indian forces captured some 130,000 Italians. Hitler's response to this loss was to send in the newly formed "Afrika Korps" led by General Erwin Rommel. Several long, brutal pushes back and forth across Libya and Egypt reached a turning point in the Second Battle of El Alamein in late 1942, when Lieutenant-General Bernard Montgomery's British Eighth Army broke out and drove Axis forces all the way from Egypt to Tunisia. In November, Operation Torch brought in thousands of British and American forces. They landed across western North Africa, and joined the attack, eventually helping force the surrender of all remaining Axis troops in Tunisia in May of 1943 and ending the Campaign for North Africa.

In Grateful Memory of

## **Fusilier 14645643 Kenneth William Fredrick Love**

**17<sup>th</sup> February 1945 - Anzio**

9th Bn. Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment)

Who Gave His Life for Our Defence & Freedom aged 20

Commemorated WW2 Church Memorial

Commemorated Panel 5 Cassino Memorial, Italy

Son of Evelyn Mary Love, of Stoford, Somerset.



Cassino Memorial



Royal Fusiliers  
(City of London Regiment)

During these early months of 1944, Cassino saw some of the fiercest fighting of the Italian campaign, the town itself and the dominating Monastery Hill proving the most stubborn obstacles encountered in the advance towards Rome. The majority of those buried in the war cemetery died in the battles during these months.

The Volunteers formed the 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th Battalions in the Second World War serving initially in Persia, Iraq and the Gulf, and then the Middle East, North Africa and Italy.

During the Second World War the Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment) fought in Abyssinia and Syria, where it was captured by the Vichy French in June 1941. It reformed in Palestine later that month and went on to fight in Iraq and Italy.

The Battle of Monte Castello (also called Operation Encore) was an engagement which took place from 25 November 1944 to 21 February 1945 during the Italian campaign of World War II. It was fought between the Allied forces advancing into northern Italy and dug-in German defenders. The battle marked the Brazilian Expeditionary Force's entry into the land war in Europe. Starting in November 1944, fierce combat dragged on for three months, ending on 21 February 1945. Six Allied attacks were mounted against the German forces, four of which were strategic failures. Both sides sustained large casualties due to several factors, including the extremely low temperatures existing at that time.

In Grateful Memory of

**Trooper 14219662 Reginald John Male**

**7<sup>th</sup> August 1947**

2nd Northamptonshire Yeomanry Royal Armoured Corps

Who Gave His Life for Our Defence & Freedom aged 31

Commemorated WW2 Church Memorial

Grave 135 - St Mary Magdalene New Churchyard, Barwick, Somerset

Son of William Absolam Male and Norah Alice Male,

Husband of Eileen Louise Male, of Yeovil.



Grave 135



2nd Northamptonshire Yeomanry  
Royal Armoured Corps

The regiment landed on Gold Beach in Normandy on the 12th June 1944 and in August 1944 it was disbanded and its members drafted to other units. The Brigade's role was to support any infantry who were in need of armour support, therefore it rarely fought as one entity. One of the occasions when the Brigade did undertake an operation on its own was at Le Mesnil-Patry, Rots on 11 June 1944. Further battles they were involved in were around Caen, including Operation Charnwood on 7 July, the battle to capture Caen. On 16 July 1944, it was involved in Operation Pomegranate,

In Grateful Memory of

**L/Cpl 2657397 Malcolm Robert Rabjohns**

**17<sup>th</sup> May 1943**

1st Bn. Coldstream Guards

Who Gave His Life for Our Defence & Freedom aged 21

Commemorated WW2 Church Memorial

Grave 1 - St Mary Magdalene New Churchyard, Barwick, Somerset

Son of Charles and Lillian Rabjohns,  
Husband of Mary Madeleine Rabjohns, of Yeovil.



Grave 1



Coldstream Guards

When the Second World War began, the 1st and 2nd battalions of The Coldstream Guards were part of the British Expeditionary Force in France (BEF) and it later took part in the Battle of France in May–June 1940 and the subsequent Battle of Dunkirk and were evacuated to England, spending the next few years on home defence anticipating a German invasion of England. On 11 April 1942 the brigade was re-designated and reorganised as 1st Independent Brigade Group (Guards), with its own support units, until August when it was transferred to the 78th Infantry Division. In late 1942 it took part in the North African Campaign in Operation Torch: the allied landings in north western Africa, arriving in Algiers in November 1942

In Grateful Memory of

**L/AC 1168086 Montague Cyril Rideout**

**26<sup>th</sup> September 1942**

RAF Volunteer Reserves

Who Gave His Life for Our Defence & Freedom aged 28

Commemorated WW2 Church Memorial

Grave 113 - St Mary Magdalene New Churchyard, Barwick, Somerset

Son of Augustus Frank and Georgina Octavia Rideout, of Yeovil.



Grave 113



Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserves

When war broke out in 1939 the Air Ministry employed the RAFVR as the principal means for aircrew entry to serve with the RAF. A civilian volunteer on being accepted for aircrew training took an oath of allegiance ('attestation') and was then inducted into the RAFVR. Normally he returned to his civilian job for several months until he was called up for aircrew training. During this waiting period he could wear a silver RAFVR lapel badge to indicate his status.

By the end of 1941 more than half of Bomber Command aircrew were members of the RAFVR. Most of the pre-war pilot and observer NCO aircrew had been commissioned and the surviving regular officers and members of the RAFO filled the posts of flight and squadron commanders. Eventually of the "RAF" aircrew in the Command probably more than 95% were serving members of the RAFVR.

On 26 September 1942, 11 of the unit's 12 brand new Spitfire Mk IXs were lost on a mission over Morlaix, when escorting USAAF Boeing B-17 Flying Fortresses in heavy cloud cover. Strong winds blew the unit further south than realised. Six of the squadron were shot down and taken prisoner, four were killed, one bailed and evaded capture, while one crash landed in England.

In Grateful Memory of

**Pt. 5673979 D.A.G. Rogers**

**31<sup>st</sup> January 1942**

Somerset Light Infantry

Who Gave His Life for Our Defence & Freedom aged 23

Commemorated WW2 Church Memorial

Grave 109 - St Mary Magdalene New Churchyard, Barwick, Somerset

Son of Albert George Rogers and Hilda May Rogers, of Stoford.



Grave 109



Somerset Light Infantry

In May 1940 the division was preparing to go overseas to join the rest of the British Expeditionary Force (BEF) in France and Belgium but the Battle of France and the BEF's retreat to Dunkirk and subsequent evacuation changed all that. The division then spent many years in the United Kingdom on home defence, (particularly in Kent where they were nicknamed the Kent Home Guard), anticipating the possibility of a German invasion of the British Isles.

Throughout the remainder of the war the 4th Battalion, Somerset Light Infantry was serving with the 129th Brigade, alongside the 4th and 5th Wiltshire Regiment, part of the 43rd (Wessex) Infantry Division, and spent most of its existence in the United Kingdom in Kent under XII Corps of Southern Command.

# Listed and other notable Tombs

## Highmore Chest Tomb. Grade II Listed (1656 – 1723)

Sacred to the memory of ..... Highmore .....  
died March .....

Late C17. Ham stone with raised base and moulded plinth, one fielded panel on each face with coffered pilasters to the flanks and a heavily moulded hipped top. The inscription is very worn, but a date on South flank seems to read 1697, and on North flank the surname Highmor is discernable.



John Highmore born in Barwick on 31 Jul 1656 to Richard Highmore and Juliet. John married Mary Birt and had 6 children. He passed away on 1723 in Barwick.

Spouse: Mary Birt died 1730

Children: Mary born 1682 - Susannah born 1685 - Elizabeth born 1687 - Richard born 1694 & died 1755 - Nathaniel born 1697 & died 1769

## Symes Chest Tomb. Grade II Listed (1745 – 1821)

Early C19. Very similar design to the Highmore Tomb. The Ham stone tomb has a raised base, with moulded plinth. One fielded panel can be seen on each face with coffered pilasters to the flanks, with fairly thin moulded hipped top. Commemorates David Symes; died 1821; his widow, died 1839 and also Julietter Highmor Symes, died 1817.



A chest tomb is a memorial shaped like a stone box or cist, the whole of which is above ground. The body of its subject was usually buried beneath the memorial, not in the chest itself. The chief advantage of this type of memorial is that it is more obvious than a headstone, and it provided its sculptor with five surfaces for decoration. Frequently employed as funerary monuments in churchyards and cemeteries in C18, C19, and C20.

## Tomb of John Batten (1815 – 1900)

John Batten the younger born in Yeovil in 1815 - Died Nov 6<sup>th</sup> 1900, Eldest Son of John Batten of Aldon, Yeovil, Somerset



John Batten born at Aldon. He practised as a solicitor, becoming a J.P. and a Higher Sheriff of Dorset. He succeeded his father as clerk to the Town Commissioners, and played an important part in obtaining for the old corporation the market rights in Yeovil held for over two centuries by the Phelips of Montacute. As a result, a new Market House and Town Hall was built in the High

Street. John Batten the Younger was appointed Town Clerk when Yeovil became a borough with a mayor in 1854, a post which he held until 1881. He was deeply interested in local history, was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries and President of the Somerset Archaeological Society in 1886. His published works include 'Historical Notes on South Somerset' (1894).

John married Grace Eleanor White of Bath, thirteen years his junior. They were to have five children; John Mount born 1843, Eleanor Harriet born 1845, Henry Butler born 1846, Cicely Alice born 1848 and Herbert Cary born 1849.

The 1851 census shows John and Grace were living at Aldon House with their five children, two housemaids and a footman. Their situation changed, and the 1871 census shows John living with his family in Up Cerne House, Dorset. The 1881 census however shows that John had returned to Aldon house. John listed his occupation as 'Justice of the Peace Somerset & Dorset, Solicitor'. In the 1891 census John now aged 76 and a widower listed his occupation as 'Magistrate & Deputy Lieutenant of Somerset'. He was still living at Aldon.

# George William Pavitt (1862 - 1927)

Son of William Anstice Pavitt and Sophia Budgell

Born February 19, 1862 in Church Cottage, Barwick

Died December 29, 1927 in Chelsea, London.

Church Cottage, built around 1811 as a schoolroom and later used as a Rectory.

