



## **PONTYCLUN WAR MEMORIAL FOR WORLD WAR 2**

This document is written to remember the people who have links with the Pontyclun Community and gave their lives in the Second World War

**Written by**  
**Edgeley Thomas**

## Introduction

The Pontyclun War Memorial which covers both world wars is located between Pontyclun and Brynsadler on the east side of the road. The names of the victims of World War 2 are shown on the side of the memorial.

This account for World War 2 follows on from my account for the victims of World War 1 which was published in March 2012 by the Llantrisant and District Local History Society as New Series Volume VII No.1 and which was then reissued with corrections and additions in November 2013.

Unlike for World War 1, Service Records for World War 2 combatants are not available to the public at large at this time. I have been able to get some information, however, from a number of other sources which include *ancestry.com*, *findmypast.com*, *the Commonwealth War Graves Commission*, *The Ministry of Defence* as well as from friends, relatives and residents of the area. To all of these I am grateful. The 1939 Register of UK residents recently made available via *findmypast.com* has been of limited use because of the bar placed on some residents who might be still alive. Normally, information of this kind is only made available after 100 years as is the case with Census records taken every 10 years.

The list shown is not necessarily a full one to reflect all those who gave their lives or took part in World War 2. Serviceman Wilfred Hewish has been added as he was the husband of Lydia Evelyn Hewish [nee Blanch] of Pontyclun. Also added is Private C Hosking whose parents are buried in Talygarn.

I have tried to find the records of the Pontyclun War Memorial Committee chaired by Mr. W Webb Stokes [late of Stonebridge, Worcestershire and 24, Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun] but with no success. I am unable to state, therefore, the full criteria for inclusion on the Memorial and how the names of the fallen were collected to ensure all were included. No names of any civilians from the area who might have been killed have been included on the memorial, but this could have been because there were no civilian casualties.

As far as medals are concerned, only two are shown on the memorial being those for Flying Officer Griffith Llewellyn Jenkins, DFC and Corporal E C Watts, MM. Other medals would have been awarded but again these records are not available to the public yet and there appears to be no timescale for their availability. All that information and any more that comes to light can, of course, be added at a later time in order to keep the names and sacrifice these servicemen made at the forefront of our memories.

A few photographs are shown but sadly not for all of the fallen. These, of course, can also be added if and when such become available.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission website shows the burial place for most of the fallen. Some, whose bodies have not been found, are recorded in various places so a short description of cemeteries and memorials is shown as the back of this account.

What follows is produced in alphabetical order of surname of the fallen to assist the reader rather than in a list of service seniority as on the Memorial itself.

As far as rank is concerned, some differences do exist between the War Memorial itself and the detail I have received from, for example, the Ministry of Defence Air Historical Branch 3 [RAF] in Ruislip. I have shown the War Memorial rank first then alternative rank [if any] in the description for each serviceman.

Also included is a copy of the Service paper for the Unveiling Ceremony for the War Memorial on September 3<sup>rd</sup> 1950 with the kind assistance of the Glamorgan Record Office [P 205/CW/25].

Mr Mike Stratham has researched the construction of the War Memorial which work was done by W Clarke of Llandaff. The design was carried out by Harry Gregory and the setting out by Sid Pollard. Stone was supplied by Turners and a man named Ellis was the lead Sculptor; the interlaced patterns were carved by Henry Durrell. The overall cost was £529; 17; 6d.

## **We shall remember them**

### **SGT/Pt D L BARTLETT 575585 RAF**

Described as Corporal David Leighton Bartlett in Ministry of Defence records, David died on 15<sup>th</sup> July 1944 aged 21. He was an Under Training Pilot with 25 Service Flying Training School [SFTS] in Bulawayo, Rhodesia. His death was as a result of a flying accident at 10.45 hours whilst he was the pilot of an Airspeed Oxford LW827 aircraft.

He was the son of Annie Bartlett who lived with her husband Herbert [Bert] in Talygarn Bungalow between Brynsadler and Pontyclun. The property was demolished to make way for the M4 Motorway in the 1970s.

This serviceman was buried in Zimbabwe in the Bulawayo [Athlone] Civil Cemetery grave 106; he attended Cowbridge Grammar School from 1935-1938.

### **P/ O J P BARTLETT 64304 RAF VOLUNTEER RESERVE**



Described as Pilot Officer John Percival Bartlett in Ministry of Defence records, John died on 6<sup>th</sup> February 1942 when in the RAF Volunteer Reserve. He was with 201 Squadron as 2<sup>nd</sup> Pilot of a Short Sunderland W 3977 aircraft which failed to return from patrol off the North West Irish coast when it was returning to its base in Lough Erne. All 12 of the crew were lost and have no known grave. John was just 20 years old.

John was the eldest of the 6 children of Idris and Irene Bartlett who lived in Llwynfen Road, and Derwen Road, Pontyclun. His father and uncles ran a bakery and grocery business in the village. After his early life in Pontyclun John joined the Civil Service at the Air Ministry in London. His RAF training was carried out at Cranwell and he was then posted to Coastal Command in Pembroke Dock where he met his wife Shirley. After marriage they were posted to Northern Ireland where he continued work for Coastal Command protecting Atlantic supply routes against U Boats.

John [known familiarly as Percy] is remembered on the Runnymede Memorial to The Missing, Egham, Surrey on Panel 68.

John was a playing member of Miskin Cricket Club and was educated in Cowbridge Grammar School where he excelled at rugby, cricket and hockey.

**Pte C E CARTER 5116206 1ST BATTALION ROYAL NORFOLK REGIMENT**



This serviceman [or a serviceman of the same name] is also commemorated on the Miskin Village Memorial where he is shown to be of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

Charles Edward Carter was born in Glamorgan but lived in Wolverhampton and died on 6<sup>th</sup> August 1944. He is shown on the left above. The middle photograph shows his brother Jimmy Carter at the graveside of Charles. I have had the privilege of visiting his grave at the cemetery named below when the photograph of his headstone was taken.

He is commemorated on the Tilly-Sur-Seulles War Cemetery near Calvados, France, reference X1.E 2.

Charles was the son of George and Ruth Carter of "Hillside", Mwyndy near Pontyclun where relatives still live.

According to Wikipedia, the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion of the Royal Norfolk Regiment was a regular army unit and landed at Red Queen Beach, on the left flank of Sword Beach, Normandy on 6<sup>th</sup> June 1944. All fought with distinction especially on 6<sup>th</sup> August 1944 [when Charles died] when opposing the crack 10<sup>th</sup> SS Panzer Division as part of the Operation to close the so called Falais Pocket. Field marshal Montgomery claimed this Battalion was "second to none" of all the Battalions in the 21<sup>st</sup> Army Group.

#### **FL/Lt R DAVIES 141357 RAF VOLUNTEER RESERVE**

Flying Officer Ralph Davies was a pilot with Number 4 Ferry Unit who was killed in a flying accident on 10<sup>th</sup> January 1945 aged 31. His aircraft was a Martin Baltimore FW 822 which flew into a hill in a snow storm about 5 miles south of Lucara in Italy.

Ralph was part of the RAF Volunteer Reserve and is buried in Bari Cemetery, Italy ; the grave reference is VII.B.38.

He was the son of Mr and Mrs David Davies [a mining engineer] of Pontyclun who chose the words "He is with his pals" on his headstone.

## Merchant Navy Seaman R DEROY-JONES



Mrs Angela Deroy-Jones has kindly supplied much of the following information on this merchant navy seaman whose address has been given as “Wavertree”, Llwynfen Road ,Pontyclun. Help has also been rendered by Mike Duggan.

Roy Harry Deroy-Jones was an Able Seaman and was the son of Roy and Phyllis Deroy-Jones. He died on 20<sup>th</sup> September 1943 aged 21 and is commemorated on the Tower Hill Memorial Part IV Panel 50.

His ship was the SS Fort Longueuil [out of London] which, according to Wikipedia, was one of 198 “Fort” cargo ships built in Canada during World War 2 for use under the Lend Lease Scheme. No fewer than 53 were lost during the war either by enemy action or by accident. The ship was launched in Montreal and delivered on 8<sup>th</sup> December 1942 at 7128 tons gross and 424 feet long. The ship was captained by George Cardno Edwards from Massachusetts ,USA ; his crew were from India, Canada, England, Wales, and The Seychelles Islands. They were boosted by 6 Royal Navy sailors and 4 from the 6<sup>th</sup> Maritime Regiment to man the guns; all were from England.

The SS Fort Longueuil left Barry Dock on 16<sup>th</sup> July 1943 and joined a convoy at Milford. The journey was to Gibraltar and then Alexandria which was reached on 8<sup>th</sup> August; on 26<sup>th</sup> August it left via the Suez Canal bound for Aden which it left on 9<sup>th</sup> September bound for Australia with a cargo of many tons of phosphate.

On 19<sup>th</sup> September 1943 whilst south of the Chagos Island in the Indian Ocean the ship was torpedoed by U-532 [Commander Ottoheinrich Junker]. Remarkably, two men survived and spent more than four months at sea only to become prisoners of the Japanese. It seems that 7 sailors got into a boat but 5 died; it is not known if any of these was Roy. The SS Fort Longueuil was the first sinking recorded for U-532; there were 7 more before the submarine itself was sunk in 1945 as part of Operation Deadlight which was a post war operation to scuttle or sink German submarines which survived the war.

Roy was awarded the 1939-45 Star, The Atlantic Star and the War Medal.

### **Lac G F EDWARDS 1255157 RAF VOLUNTEER RESERVE**

I am grateful to Mike Duggan who has identified this serviceman as Gordon "Gus" Edwards late of Miskin village as he was a childhood playmate of his father.

Gordon Francis Edwards was a leading aircraftsman who died on 4<sup>th</sup> October 1943. He was an Under Training Pilot with 21 Service Flying Training School in Kumalo, Rhodesia and involved in a flying accident in an Airspeed Oxford HN 607. The other crew member was Corporal Adamson. They have no known grave.

Gordon is remembered on the Alamein Memorial [Column 272] to The Missing who lost their lives in Africa and also on the Miskin War Memorial.

He was a playing member of Miskin Cricket Club.

### **Pte M FIELD 14407148 4<sup>TH</sup> BATTALION WELCH REGIMENT**

Malcolm Field was the son of Arthur and Eliza Mary Field of 28, Loftus Terrace [in the 1911 Census] now demolished, and which used to be on the opposite side of the road from the present Leekes Department Store. In later years the family lived at 28, Heol Miskin, Pontyclun.

He was killed on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1944 and is buried in Banneville-la-Campagne War Cemetery [Grave 11.B.4] in Calvados, Normandy about 10 miles east of Caen as was Corporal E C Watts MM [See later account]

Malcolm's father, Arthur, is well remembered locally as a Caretaker for the Miskin Sewage Disposal Works which ceased to operate some years ago.

### **Fl/Sgt L FRANCIS 580278 RAF**

Sergeant Lionel Francis was killed whilst with a Flying Training Unit in Canada. On 13<sup>th</sup> December 1940 he was a victim of a flying accident in a Northop Nomad 3512 aircraft when on a search for a missing trainee. He was 22 years of age.

He is remembered on the Miskin Memorial and at the Barrie Union Cemetery, Ontario, Lot 259, and Block G and was the son of Daniel Lewis Francis and Beatrice Francis of 20, Palalwyf Avenue, Pontyclun. The family used to run a boot and shoe shop in Pontyclun.

Lionel was a playing member of Miskin Cricket Club and is remembered on grave A50 in St Anne's churchyard in Talygarn. He was also a good hockey player and attended Cowbridge Grammar School from 1929-36.

### **Pte W GREENING 14308313 SHERWOOD FORESTERS [NOTTS AND DERBY REGIMENT]**

Graham Walker has helped to identify this serviceman as the son of "Joe" Greening who was a road sweeper and lived in Clun Avenue, Pontyclun. Wyndham Alfred Greening [known as "cabbage"] was born in 1924 but his short life ended after only 20 years when he died on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 1944 at Anzio, Italy.

He is buried in Grave reference 1.A.8 in the Beach Head War Cemetery, Anzio.

### **Sgt WILFRED HEWISH 538041 RAF**



Information on Wilfred came to me from the Dover War Memorial Project and from the website called "The men of Shepherswell [or Sibertswold]" in Kent.

The name of Wilfred Hewish does not appear on the Pontyclun War Memorial which is curious but he clearly had a close connection with Pontyclun as an extract from the Shepherswell War memorial site shows.

He was a Wireless Operator and son of William and Lydia Ellen Hewish [nee Gregory] who, at the time of the 1939 Register, lived at "Westfields", Moorland Road, Dover. Wilfred had a number of siblings including Lily, Cyril and Joyce.

The Pontyclun connection is through Wilfred's wife who was Lydia Evelyn Blanch before their marriage in 1940. Lydia was born in 1919 and lived in 15, Merthyr Street, Pontyclun.

On 21<sup>st</sup> March 1941, Wilfred was one of the five crew of Avro Anson K 6248 that was being flown by 22 year old Flying Officer [Pilot] Eric Wanklyn Padfield RAF of Bath, Somerset. The aircraft had taken off from the Number 2 School of Air Navigation at RAF Cranage, Cheshire, to undertake a navigational training flight. While undertaking a practice landing at a Hawkswood Copse, Hawkswood Farm, Rednal, West Fenton, Oswestry, Shropshire, the tail of the aircraft struck an oak tree and crashed into a wood killing all on board.

There was an official inquest into the crash which concluded that the pilot had failed to open the throttle in time following a practiced forced landing, and added that he was not authorised to undertake such a manoeuvre.

Wilfred's death, at 23, was registered in the Dover, Kent, Registration district. His marriage to Lydia Evelyn Blanch was registered in the Bridgend Registration Office during the last quarter of 1940.

### **LAC R W HODGKINSON 1187290 RAFVR**

This serviceman could be the "Reggie Hodgkinson" who appears on the Cowbridge Grammar School memorial tablet [thanks to Mike Duggan and the late Jeff Alden for this information].

Corporal Reginald William Hodgkinson was formerly a Clerk in the RAF and died on 21<sup>st</sup> August 1944 from Beri Beri whilst a prisoner of war in Japanese hands in Java. He was buried in the Ambon War Cemetery in Indonesia; grave reference 14.B.8. Most of those buried there had died in Japanese POW camps.

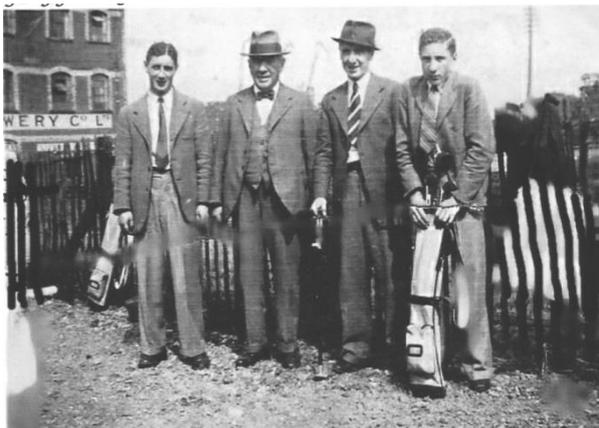
At the time of the 1939 Register, a person of this name was living at 79, Llantrisant Road, Pontyclun together with his wife Gertrude [Nee Drew]; they were married in the September quarter 1939 in Bridgend. Also living there were Thomas and Mabel Williams who were grocery and provision suppliers.

#### **PRIVATE C HOSKING 7343797 RAMC**

This serviceman's name does not appear on the War Memorial but is buried in grave number A14 in St Anne's churchyard in Talygarn where he was buried on 20<sup>th</sup> January 1945. He was one of 7 children to John and Sarah Hosking who, in 1911, lived at 47, Cowbridge Road, Brynsadler, Pontyclun. His burial record showed his address as 45, Cowbridge Road, Brynsadler.

Named Charlie, Private Hosking died on the 16<sup>th</sup> of January 1945 aged 49. He was a married man, his wife being named Gwladys. The omission of his name from the War Memorial is unexplained and the circumstances of his death unknown.

#### **F/O G LI JENKINS 147752 DFC RAF**



Flying Officer Griffith Llewellyn Jenkins DFC [seen on the right in the above photograph taken in 1937 when he was about 15 years old] is the most highly decorated serviceman on the Pontyclun War Memorial.

A book written by Jack Dickinson entitled "The time of my life 1940-45" describes Griff's time and exploits in the RAF. The author states that Griff gave his life so that the other 6 crewmen in his aircraft could live by instructing them to bale out while he remained at the controls. The Air Historical Branch of the Ministry of Defence states "147752 Pilot Officer Griffith Llewellyn Jenkins DFC was with 623 Squadron and the Pilot of Short Sterling EE909 when lost whilst on a raid to Nuremburg on the night of 27/28 August 1943. His aircraft was shot down by a night fighter and crashed at Birkenfeld. Flying Officer Jenkins was the only member of crew killed. The rest of the crew survived as Prisoners of War. Jenkins was originally buried at Birkenfeld Cemetery but was re-interred at Bad Tolz [Durnbach] British Military Cemetery" The grave reference is 1.K.16.

Griff's DFC award was in the Gazette [the official public record] on 6<sup>th</sup> August 1943, Supplement 36127, and page 3592. As this date was prior to his death aged 23, the award was for his actions prior to that time.

Griff, of Brynsadler, was a playing member of Miskin Cricket Club and the son of Mary and Thomas Jenkins. He was an Old Boy of Cowbridge Grammar School [a pupil from 1934-38] and excelled at rugby, hockey, cricket and the high jump.

**Gnr I J PARKER 1138390 2<sup>nd</sup> BATTALION PRINCE CONSORTS OWN RIFLE BRIGADE**

Ivor John Parker died on 8<sup>th</sup> October 1944 aged 21 at Monte Cassino, Italy.

He was the son of William and Anne Parker and husband of Norah Parker [nee Boyle] who he married in early 1943.

Ivor was buried in the Florence War Cemetery, Italy in Grave V.H.6.

**LAC A L PAYNE 1079610 AC1 RAF**

Little has been found for this serviceman who was with 308 Maintenance Unit in India where he died of natural causes on 15<sup>th</sup> April 1944 aged 23. He was buried in the Delhi War Cemetery grave reference 7.D 12.

Arthur Leslie Payne was the son of Arthur and Nellie Elizabeth [May] Payne who lived successively at numbers 8 and 26, Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun. He is remembered on grave A248 in St Anne's churchyard, Talygarn and attended Cowbridge Grammar School from 1933-38.

**WILLIAM ROBERTS**.....was the only son of Edward and Edith Roberts and was killed in Sicily on August 1<sup>st</sup> 1943 aged 39. His name is not recorded on the War Memorial but has been remembered on grave A126 in St Anne's churchyard in Talygarn. He was buried in Catania War Cemetery, Italy grave reference 11.F24 on the headstone of which is inscribed "Safe on the blissful shore ever at rest with thee. Dearly loved. Missed by sister Mary".

William was a Cook aboard SS Uskside [out of Newport] which was a cargo ship of 2708 tons and which was sunk by bombs.

**Capt G D RHYS WILLIAMS 180546 WELSH GUARDS, ADJUTANT 3<sup>RD</sup> BATTALION**

This officer was the son of Sir Rhys Rhys Williams DSO, KC and Lady Rhys Williams DBE of Miskin Manor, Miskin.

He was aged 21 when he was killed on 9<sup>th</sup> April 1943 [as part of a combined allied force to defeat the Axis forces] and was buried in plot 11.B 19 at the Enfidaville Cemetery in Tunisia, about 100 miles south of Tunis.

Glyn David Rhys Williams is remembered on both the Miskin and Pontyclun War Memorials.

John Retallack, in his 1981 book entitled "The Welsh Guards" paid tribute to Glyn's leadership and bravery in his last action. He was mentioned in despatches.

Glyn was a playing member of Miskin Cricket Club and the ground known, appropriately, as Glyn Park was named in his memory.

**F/O B E STOURTON 123025 RAF**

Flight Lieutenant Brinley Edward Stourton was with 489 Squadron [RAF Volunteer Reserve Royal New Zealand Air Force] and pilot of a Bristol Beaufighter NE222 when his aircraft went missing whilst on shipping reconnaissance off the Dutch coast on 20<sup>th</sup> April 1944. Both he and his crew member Flying Officer White were killed and were buried in Den Berg Municipal Cemetery, Texel, Holland, Plot K Row 7 joint grave 153. Brinley was aged 22.

Brinley was the son of William and Harriett Ellen Stourton who lived at "West View", Nr School Street, Pontyclun. Both parents were, in 1939, Stewards of a Social Club, which Graham Walker confirms was the Pontyclun Social Club, now the Brunel Public House. He attended Cowbridge Grammar School from 1933-37.

**Sgt R E THOMAS 1621276 RAF**



Mrs Iris Thomas, the sister in law of this serviceman has been helpful in putting this profile together as has Mr. Alan Thomas of the Ministry of Defence Air Historical Branch.

Ronald Edward Thomas was born in Penygraig the son of Thomas William and Elizabeth Thomas. He and his family then lived in Highcroft Bungalow, Miskin Road, Pontyclun.

Ronald was a Surveyor by profession and spent much of his occupation in Scotland.

In the RAF he was a Navigator in a Lancaster Bomber Mk111 Serial Number DV 312, Code letters "VN-J" with 50 Squadron out of Skellingthorpe, Lincolnshire, Number 5 Group, Bomber Command. This aircraft was one of a force of 263 aircraft [253 Lancasters and 10 Mosquitoes] of Numbers 1, 3, 5 and 8 Groups, sent to attack railway junctions at Aulnoye and Revigny on 19<sup>th</sup> July 1944. Two Lancasters were lost on the Aulnoye raid, but the Number 5 Group raid to Revigny was caught by German fighters and 24 Lancasters were shot down. Lancaster DV 312 strayed from track and was shot down by a night fighter at Robert Magny [Haute-Marne], about 8 kilometres west of Wassy with the loss of 6 of the 7 crew aboard including Ronald aged 25.

The 6 servicemen killed crew were;

J.25991 Flying Officer W J Long [Royal Canadian Air Force][RCAF]---Pilot

1621276 Sergeant R E Thomas RAF Volunteer Reserve ---Navigator

1850362 Sergeant W H Latham RAF Volunteer Reserve---Flight Engineer

1492814 Sergeant M Whiteley RAF Volunteer Reserve---Wireless Operator/Air Gunner

R.187224 Sergeant F G Maltais RCAF---Mid/Upper Air Gunner

R.203830 Sergeant T H Lunnin RCAF---Rear Air Gunner

Information was later received from the Missing Research and Enquiry Service [France] stating that Sergeants Thomas and Whiteley were buried in a common grave and the 4 remaining crew members individually in the cemetery at Robert Magny, France. On 6<sup>th</sup> April 1948, it was reported that all 6 bodies were buried collectively with no grave numbers.

The Air Bomber, Flying Officer R V Desautels RCAF, escaped and arrived safely back in the UK on 28<sup>th</sup> August 1944. His name does not appear on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website so he appears to have survived the war.



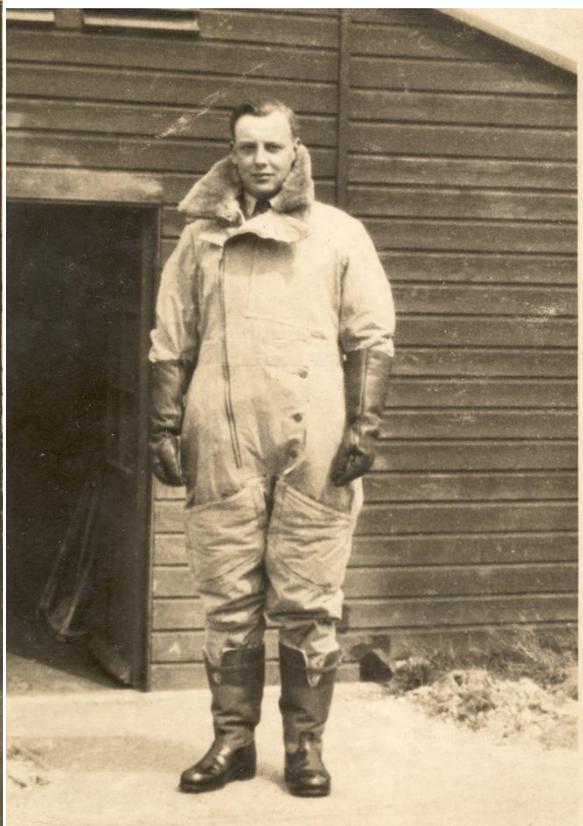
#### **A/B D I WILLIAMS ROYAL NAVY D/JX 137378**

Able seaman David Isaac Williams, the son of William and Mary Williams of Pontyclun, is commemorated on Panel 57 Column 1 of the Plymouth Naval Memorial.

According to Wikipedia [ and with help from John Eade and Elijah Whitacker], he was in the crew of *HMS Tempest*, a T Class submarine, which was built by Cammell Laird and launched in June 1941. She sailed Ex Malta on 10<sup>th</sup> February 1942 to patrol the Gulf of Toranto. The Submarines Commanding Officer, William Alexander Keith Cavaye, was aware that the Italian navy knew of a submarine in the area. The submarine was on the surface charging its batteries when smoke was released from a ventilation shaft as a result of an oilskin falling on to an electric fire. The damage was estimated to take two days to fix and ASDICS were out of action so the ship was really "blind". The Italian Destroyer *Circe* appeared on the scene and *Tempest* dived only to suffer crippling damage from depth charges. *Tempest* had to surface and suffered gunfire from the Italians. They failed to sink *Tempest* so she was taken in tow but eventually sunk on 13<sup>th</sup> February 1942. Out of a crew of 62 there were only 23 survivors.

It is not clear what happened to David Williams but the Commonwealth War Graves Commission gives his date of death as 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1942 at the age of 25.

#### **Sgt W E R WAREHAM 1013281 RAF**



William Elwyn Ronald Wareham was a Wireless Operator/Air Gunner with 226 Squadron RAF and the son of William John and Mary Wareham. His connection to the Pontyclun area could be that a family of his name were living at 16, Heol Miskin at the time of the 1939 Register.

Married to Joan Wareham of Risca, Monmouthshire, William was killed aged 22 while on aircraft Douglas Boston AL685 whilst on an air raid against power stations in Northern France on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1942. All the crew were killed and William was buried in the Middlekerke Cemetery in Belgium, Row B grave 12.

### **Cpl E C WATTS MM 6852335 2<sup>ND</sup> BATTALION KINGS ROYAL RIFLE CORPS**



Edgar Charles Watts was born in 1911 in Senghenydd and appears in the census of that year as living at 15, Cenydd Terrace, Senghenydd with his mother Jennie and her sister Bessie Worman. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission indicated he was the son of Mr. and Mrs. H C Watts.

Edgar enlisted into the Infantry and won a Military Medal [according to Ancestry.com] for an action in Italy in 1944.

He was killed on 18<sup>th</sup> August 1944 and was buried in the Banneville-La-Campagne War Cemetery [as was Private M Field-see earlier account], Calvados, France, Grave reference XV.B 4.

He was awarded a number of medals which are shown above together with his cap badge [centre top]. His medals are the 1939-45 War Medal at top right, the Military Medal at middle

row centre, possibly the Defence Medal at middle row right, the 1939-45 Star at bottom left, the Africa Star at bottom centre and the France and Germany Star at bottom right. Also shown is the watch presented to him "By fellow Citizens of Pontyclun and District".

PONTYCLUN AND DISTRICT WAR MEMORIAL



TO THE MEMORY OF THE MEN WHO FELL  
in the Second World War 1939—1945

## The Unveiling Ceremony

at  
THE WAR MEMORIAL, PONTYCLUN

on  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3rd, 1950

at 3.30 p.m.

Colonel Sir RHYS RHYS-WILLIAMS, Bt., K.C., D.S.O.  
will Unveil the Names

### Order of Service

**HYMN:** "All people that on earth do dwell."

ALL people that on earth do dwell,  
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
Him serve with fear, His praise forth tell,  
Come ye before Him, and rejoice.  
The Lord, ye know, is God indeed,  
Without our aid, He did us make,  
We are His dock, He doth us feed,  
And for His sheep He doth us take.

O enter then His gates with praise,  
Approach with joy His courts unto;  
Praise, laud, and bless His name  
always,  
For it is seemly so to do.

For why? the Lord our God is good,  
His mercy is for ever sure,  
His truth at all times firmly stood,  
And shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
The God Whom Heaven and earth adore,  
From men and from the Angel-host,  
Be praise and glory evermore. Amen.

**THE LESSON:** Psalm 121; 2 Corinthians 4, 8-18.

**PRAYERS:** Rev. J. JONES-DAVIES, Vicar of Pontyclun.

ALMIGHTY and Everlasting God, who art more ready to hear than we to pray, and art wont to give more than either we desire or deserve. Pour down upon us the abundance of Thy mercy, forgive us those things whereof our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, Amen.

LORD GOD of our fathers, who didst lead this people through countless sufferings, keep us, we beseech Thee, ever mindful of Thy mercies; pour Thy blessing upon the peoples over whom Thy Servant George, our Sovereign Lord the King, is ruler; unite us in the bond of brotherhood and in the service of our country, that the offering of our life's work may be acceptable to Thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GRANT we pray Thee, O Almighty God, that all we who are here to do honour to the memory of our brethren's loyal sacrifice, may be filled with the spirit of love and courage, and, forgetting all unselfish and unworthy aims, may live together to the glory of Thy Holy Name, and in the service of our fellow-men through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**THE UNVEILING:** Col. Sir RHYS RHYS-WILLIAMS, Bt., K.C., D.S.O. Miskin Manor, will unveil the names (and also read the names commemorated on the Memorial).

Rev. D. STANLEY HOPKINS will then say: "To the Glory of God and in grateful memory of the men of this district who gave their lives in the service of their King and country, and for the cause of freedom in the Second World War, whose names are inscribed on this Memorial; inspired by their example may we give our lives in service and sacrifice that we with them may be partakers of His Everlasting Kingdom."

**PRAYER:** Rev. D. H. LLOYD.

ALMIGHTY God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the God of all comfort, who comfortest all who turn to Thee, we beseech Thee to comfort all that mourn, especially do we pray that the richest consolations of Thy Grace may be with the relatives and friends of all those who have given their lives for King and country, we give Thee thanks for all those who have fought the good fight, those who suffered and endured for our sakes, the brave and the faithful, who saved others but themselves they did not save. Grant, our God, we beseech Thee, that our dead shall not have died in vain. May we be ever mindful of the great price wherewith our freedom has been bought, and strive to walk more worthily of those who died for our sakes, and more worthily of our high calling of God in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## THE NAMES OF THE FALLEN

Capt. G. D. RHYS-WILLIAMS  
Ft/Lt. R. DAVIES  
F/O. G. LI. JENKINS, D.F.C.  
F/O. B. E. STOURTON  
P/O. J. P. BARTLETT  
F/Sgt. L. FRANCIS  
Sgt. R. E. THOMAS  
Sgt. W. E. R. WAREHAM  
Cpl. H. C. WATTS, M.M.  
Sgt/P.T. D. L. BARTLETT  
L.A.C. G. F. EDWARDS  
L.A.C. R. W. HODGKINSON  
L.A.C. A. L. PAYNE  
Pte. C. E. CARTER  
Pte. M. FIELD  
Pte. W. GREENING  
Gnr. I. J. PARKER  
M.N. R. DERRY JONES  
A/B. D. I. WILLIAMS

**HYMN:** "O Valiant Hearts."

O VALIANT Hearts, who to your glory came  
Through dust of conflict and through battle flame;  
Tranquil you lie, your knightly virtue proved,  
Your memory hallowed in the land you loved.

Proudly you gathered, rank on rank, to war,  
As who had heard God's message from afar;  
All you had hoped for, all you had you gave  
To save mankind—youself you scorned to save.

Splendid you passed, the great surrender made,  
Into the light that nevermore shall fade;  
Deep your contentment in that blest abode,  
Who wait the last clear trumpet-call of God.

Long years ago, as earth lay dark and still,  
Rose a loud cry upon a lonely hill,  
While in the frailty of our human clay,  
Christ, our Redeemer, passed the self-same way.

Still stands His Cross from that dread hour to this,  
Like some bright star above the dark abyss;  
Still through the veil, the Victor's pitying eyes  
Look down to bless our lesser Calvaries.

These were His servants, in His steps they trod,  
Following through death the martyr'd Son of God;  
Victor He rose; victorious too shall rise  
They who have drunk His cup of sacrifice.

O risen Lord, O Shepherd of our Dead,  
Whose Cross has bought them and Whose Staff has led—  
In glorious hope their proud and sorrowing Land  
Commits her Children to Thy gracious hand. Amen.

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**SILENCE:** Then shall be said

"THEY shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old,  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them."

**THE PLACING OF THE WREATH** by the Chairman of the War Memorial Committee, Mr. W. WEBB STOKES.

**THE LAST POST**

Then shall be said: "The legion of the living salutes the Legion of the Dead. Response by all present: "We will not break faith with ye."

**THE REVEILLE**

**HYMN:** "O God our help in ages past."

O GOD, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast,  
And our eternal home.

Beneath the shadow of Thy Throne  
Thy saints have dwelt secure;  
Sufficient is Thine Arm alone,  
And our defence is sure.

O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Be Thou our guard while troubles last,  
And our eternal home. Amen.

**BLESSING**

**NATIONAL ANTHEM.**

## **The Memorials and Cemeteries**

### **Bulawayo [Athlone] Civil Cemetery.**

Situated in Bulawayo Town, Zimbabwe, Africa, this cemetery contains 133 graves for 1939-1945 servicemen.

### **Runnymede Memorial to the Missing**

The Memorial is in Englefield Green, Egham, Surrey and is dedicated to 20,456 air forces men lost in World War2.

### **Tilly-Sur-Seulles War Cemetery**

Situated in Calvados, France, in this cemetery were buried 990 Commonwealth casualties as well as 232 German casualties. There was heavy fighting in this area after the D Day landings in June 1944 chiefly by the 49<sup>th</sup> and 50th Divisions.

### **Bari Cemetery**

Situated near Carbonara di Bari, Puglia, the cemetery has 2251 casualties including 85 burials from Brindisi Cemetery taken there in 1981.

### **Tower Hill Memorial**

The Memorial is near the Tower of London and names nearly 36,000 Merchant Navy and Fishing Fleet victims of both World Wars.

### **Alamein Memorial to the Missing**

There are nearly 12,000 names on this memorial which is about 130 kilometres west of Alexandria, Egypt. Allied forces faced and defeated Axis forces between 1940 and 1942 in North Africa.

### **Bannville-La-Campagne War Cemetery**

There are 2170 burials here of which 1875 related to the capture of Caen and the closing of the Falais Gap in July and August 1944. The cemetery is in Calvados, France.

### **Barrie Union Cemetery**

Situated in Ontario, Canada, the cemetery has graves of 39 casualties.

### **Beach Head War Cemetery**

This cemetery lies 5 kilometres north of Anzio, Italy, where the allies invaded Italy on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1943. There are 2022 casualties buried there.

### **Cefn-y- Parc Cemetery**

Situated near Llantrisant, in Rhondda Cynon Taf [formerly part of Glamorganshire]. This is a community cemetery with 4 graves of servicemen.

### **Ambon War Cemetery**

Situated in Indonesia, the cemetery was constructed on the site of a former Dutch army camp close to Ceram in the Molucca group of islands. Ambon fell to the Japanese in 1942 ;there are more than 2000 graves here.

### **Bad Tolz [Durnbach] British Military Cemetery**

This cemetery is on a site chosen by the British in conjunction with America after hostilities had ceased. Durnbach is about 45 kilometres south of Munich. Many of those buried here were shot down from aircraft. About 3,000 Commonwealth dead are buried here.

### **Moro River Canadian War Cemetery**

This is situated in the locality of San Donato in the Commune of Ortona, Province of Chieti, Italy. In all there are 1,615 Commonwealth burials which are mainly as a result of fighting at the Moro River and Ortona in 1944.

### **Delhi War Cemetery**

In 1951, many graves were moved to this cemetery from a number of areas in northern India to ensure permanent maintenance. There are 1,022 Commonwealth burials here.

### **Enfidaville Cemetery**

The campaign in and around Tunis, Tunisia started in November 1942 and ended in May 1943. The cemetery lies 100 kilometres south of Tunis and contains 1,551 Commonwealth war graves.

### **Den Berg Municipal Cemetery**

This cemetery is on Texel which is one of the Wadden islands situated on the north shore of the Netherlands. There are 167 Commonwealth burials here ,mostly of airmen.

### **Robert Magny Churchyard**

This is in Haute-Marne, France and contains 6 war victims of British and Canadian nationality.

### **Plymouth Naval Memorial**

This memorial is dedicated to the naval servicemen who died in both world wars and who have no known grave. It is on the Hoe in Plymouth, Devon, England. Those remembered are 7,251 from World War 1 and 15,933 from World War 2.

### **Middelkerke Communal Cemetery**

Situated 9 kilometres south west of Ostende in West-Vlaanderen, Belgium it holds 53 graves from World War 2.

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