

Lynsted Times

Saturday 10th November 2018

WAR ARRIVES IN KENT – 1914

THE RUSH FROM THE CONTINENT. SCENES AT DOVER.

Reported 7th August, Dover Express. "Exciting scenes were witnessed on the Admiralty Pier at Dover during the whole of the weekend, on the arrival of the Continental boats from Calais and Ostend. The mail packet Princess Henriette, on Monday, **2nd August**, from Ostend, was literally packed with people, 1,200 being crowded on the decks and occupying every inch of space. When they arrived they gave hearty cheers. Most of the people were excursionist who had had to cut short their holidays, but many of them were foreigners, largely women and children, seeking refuge in England.....The passengers who returned on Monday were in a sorry plight. In numerous cases families and friends had been divided and left behind at Ostend in the crush. Some were without tickets and without money. In numerous cases baggage was lost even when it had been registered, and passengers had to return without it. There were one or two cases of children who had been separated from their parents. These were kindly looked after by the railway officials. Large numbers stayed in Dover."

A WEEK OF EXCITEMENT IN FAVERSHAM.

Whitstable Times and Herne Bay Herald: Saturday 8th 1914. On Sunday night [**2nd**] there was a rumour that some telephone wires leading to the Cotton Powder Works had been cut, but this on careful enquiry was found to be untrue, the falling of the branch of

a tree in the heavy wind having been responsible for the damage.

On Monday night [**3rd**] there was intense excitement when the news leaked out that a German had been taken to the police station, he having been found on the Cotton Powder Company's works. It appears that this man has been staying in Faversham for the benefit of his health, and during the afternoon he went for a walk in the direction of Luddenham. Being a stranger he lost his way, and someone directed him to go through the works as the nearest way home. He was detained at the police station for some hours, but after making every possible enquiry the police were quite satisfied as to his bona fides and let him return to his lodgings.

A number of Grenadier Guards also arrived at Faversham Railway Station on Monday night, and were conveyed in motor cars to Uplees to guard the sea wall close to the Cotton Powder Works. Their arrival was witnessed by a large crowd of the townspeople.

Tuesday evening [**4th**] provided another sensation, the police arresting a well-known local resident just as he was about to post some letters. He was taken to the police station and detained for about four hours, whilst his apartments were thoroughly searched for incriminating documents, but nothing was discovered to justify his detention, and he was subsequently allowed to go. It appears that the man in question acts as an enquiry agent into the financial position of tradesmen, etc., and the fact that he had dealings with a German firm in London had aroused suspicion.

EXPLOSION HEARD IN FAVERSHAM AND WHITSTABLE.

The greatest scare of all, however, for the inhabitants, came on Wednesday night [**5th August**] about a quarter to ten, when everyone was startled by a tremendous report, which shook the houses and broke glass in places. Naturally a great many expected the worst and many females fainted, whilst men, though they tried to look unconcerned were all the time wondering what was coming next. Fortunately several people thought of the *Cotton Powder Works*, and looking in that direction saw a bright flash and smoke arising, and this allayed their fears to some extent. Cyclists and others were soon rushing off to the scene and it was not long before the news came back that some explosive gelatine in the gelatinising house had exploded through spontaneous combustion. Fortunately no one was in the building which was completely demolished, but considerable damage was done to other buildings in the vicinity, and three men, C. Taylor, J. Leonard, and A. Wells, who were at work in another building altogether were cut about by splinters of falling glass from a skylight which was shattered through the shock. Mrs. S.R. Alexander, H.P.O. Manning, F.W. Gange, and C.J. Evers were quickly on the scene in their motor cars, and having temporarily attended to the men had them removed to the Cottage Hospital for further treatment. Happily the men were not severely injured, and two of them were able to be discharged the next day.

'RED FACED' MR PINK

Mr Pink, landlord of the Duke of Cumberland Hotel, Whitstable, and Carmelo Longo, the Italian chauffeur to Mr. Robert Hichens, the famous novelist, who has a residence at Tankerton, had an unpleasant experience at Faversham on Wednesday night [5th August]. After hearing the explosion Mr. Pink accepted Mr. Longo's invitation to motor to Faversham to see where the explosion had taken place. Unfortunately they motored right up to the Cotton Powder Works and were soon in the hands of the military. The fact that Mr. Longo is an Italian and does not speak English perfectly made the position worse. The "captives" explained who they were and the military telephoned to the police at Whitstable police that they were not spies, Mr. Pink and Mr. Longo were allowed to proceed home."

BOOTS NEEDED FOR MOBILISATION

Faversham Territorial Artillery (Kent Heavy Battery), who would not in the ordinary way have returned from their annual training until Sunday last, arrived home on Tuesday evening. On Wednesday [5th August] afternoon they left for duty at a war station.

The Commanding Officer of the Faversham Territorial Artillery (Kent Heavy Battery) has made an appeal for khaki-coloured shirts, and also money for the provision of boots for his men, who are now serving at war stations. Reported South Eastern Gazette, 15th August 1914.

HORSES REQUISITIONED

"Large numbers of horses were commandeered in all towns yesterday [6th August]. Whitstable tradesmen had to part with several, while in Canterbury almost the whole equine population was called into the service of the military. Tradesmen's carts were stopped and the horses that passed the veterinary surgeon's examination

were taken." Reported 8th August 1914 Report (Whitstable Times and Herne Bay Herald).

Note: Many horses were 'leased to farmers' by the Army on the understanding that they could be taken at short notice.

BOY SCOUTS CALLED UP TO DEFENCE OF THE HOME FRONT

The following telegram has been received by Commander Garrett, the Kent County Secretary of the Boy Scouts: "Hope you can supply about 1,000 Scouts if required to guard culverts and telegraphs against spies, or run despatches, billet troops, collect and transport, etc. In your county, provided exemption from school and employment granted. If so, please communicate with your Chief Constable. Have informed War Office, Baden Powell. Measures to provide the 1,000 Kent Scouts asked for have been adopted. South East Gazette 11th August 1914

FARMER FALLS TO DEATH FROM APPLE TREE



Reported in East Kent Gazette on 15th August and again on 25th August 1914.

"LYNSTED.

Accident to Mr. J.R. Goodwin. A very serious accident has befallen Mr. John Robert Goodwin, farmer, of Cellar Hill, Greenstreet. Mr. Goodwin, who is well advanced in years, was in a tree in his orchard at Cellar Hill on Wednesday afternoon [12th August], when he overbalanced and fell to the ground injuring his spine and receiving nasty gashes on the back of the head, one of which necessitated several stitches. Messrs. Robert and Arthur Goodwin (sons of the injured man). Who are both ambulance men, were soon on the spot, together with Mr. Fred Dalton (another ambulance man), who conveyed Mr. Goodwin to his

home, where he soon received medical attention from Dr. Selby. Mr Goodwin is going on as well as can be expected".

"LYNSTED FARMER'S DEATH. Mr John R Goodwin, farmer, of Cellar Hill Farm, Lynsted, died on Sunday [18th August] from injuries he sustained through a fall from a tree in his orchard on the 12th inst. Deceased, who was 67 years of age, had farmed for some years at, Lynsted. A verdict of "Accidental Death" was returned at the inquest on Monday, and the jury expressed their deep sympathy with the widow and family". *South Eastern Gazette, 25th August:*



MONSTER APPLE!

"NATIONAL RELIEF FUND -- - £55 FOR AN APPLE.

At Covent Garden Market on Wednesday [7th October] there was a sale of a collection of special fruits of abnormal size, on behalf of the National Relief Fund. A monster apple, a Peasgood's Nonsuch, given by Colonel J.F. Honeyball, of Teynham, provided the excitement of the day. After a prolonged contest between Messrs. Mash and Austin and G. Adam and Co., of Bond Street, the apple was secured by the latter firm for £55. The apple weighed 11lb. 15oz. and was 17 in. in circumference. Manchester's record of the previous day (£25 for an apple) was well beaten.

The total amount realised by the auction was £310, every penny of which was contributed by members of the fruit trade." Reported in the South Eastern Gazette - 13th October 1914

SECOND CALL FOR ANOTHER 100,000 RECRUITS AFTER LOSSES FROM THE PROFESSIONAL ARMY. "The New Army" (Kitchener's Army)

At the outbreak of war when mobilisation of the British Expeditionary Forces was in full swing, the Prime Minister (Mr. Asquith) addressed the House of Commons (6th August 1914) on behalf of Lord Kitchener's call for recruitment of a new standing army made up of an additional 500,000 troops. Following the rapid loss of lives in these early weeks, Kitchener asked for a further 100,000 men (below).

"TEYNHAM ARMS" - CONVICTION OF PUBLICAN ALLOWING DRUNKENNESS ON THE PREMISES

At the County Police Court on Thursday [20th August] (Captain Hooper presiding), Henry William Kemsley, licensee of the Teynham Arms beer house, Greenstreet, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises on July 27th. Mr. Byrne, of Sandwich, appeared for the defendant, who pleaded not guilty. It appeared that the police, paying a casual visit to the premises at 1.15 p.m. on July 27th, found a man named Harris drunk in the public bar. Defendant and his wife were both behind the bar. Harris was arrested, and the next day pleaded guilty before the Magistrates to being drunk on licensed premises. He was convicted. Having heard the defence in the present case the Magistrates were satisfied that defendant had failed to discharge the onus place on him to show that he and those he employed took all reasonable steps to prevent drunkenness on the premises. They fined defendant 20s., with 13s. costs, in default 14 days. *Reported in the South Eastern Gazette of Tuesday 25th August 1914.*



GREENSTREET, RUDE AWAKENING.

Before Captain Hooper (in the chair) and other Magistrates at the Faversham Country Petty Sessions on Thursday [1st October], Mary Pearce, of no fixed abode, was charged with being drunk and disorderly at Greenstreet on the previous day, and also with breaking two panes of glass, value 14/0, at the same time and place. She pleaded guilty. Police constable Hogg said that about 5pm on the 30th September he was called to a disturbance at Greenstreet Hill, and on arriving there he found prisoner drunk and using filthy language. That morning he charged her with breaking two panes of glass, when she said that some boys threw stones at her. She ran into a

passage and broke the windows. Winifred Amelia Hodges stated that prisoner ran up the passage at the side of her house, and when she (witness) came out to see what was the matter, prisoner raised her hand to strike her. Witness turned to go indoors, and prisoner then broke the windows. Prisoner said she had a drop of drink, and was fast asleep "when the stones came on." She went to Mrs. Hodges' house because she understood one of the boys lived there. Superintendent Lawrence said there were 54 convictions against defendant, 42 of which were for drunkenness. For the first offence prisoner was fined 15/0 and 6/0 costs, or fourteen days' hard labour, and for the second 10/0 and 6/0 costs, and 14/0 damages, or fourteen days' hard labour, the sentences to run consecutively.

Reported in South Eastern Gazette 3rd October 1914.

"WHITE FEATHERS" (Folkestone and Deal)



THE WHITE FEATHER BRIGADE. Speaking at a public meeting on The Lees, Folkestone, Admiral Penrose Fitzgerald

made the suggestion that the young ladies who were spending their holidays in Folkestone should assist the young men to a sense of their duty to their country by forming a "white feather" Brigade. Every able-bodied "slacker" seen about the town (he suggested) the ladies should present with a white feather inviting him to wear it. *Reported in East Kent Gazette, 5th September 1914.*

"THE WAY TO INJURE

RECRUITING. Some foolish women at Folkestone, for the want of something better to do presumably, have this week been stalking about carrying a quantity of white feathers one of which they have presented, or tried to present, to every young fellow they met who did not happen to be in uniform. The idea appears to be that this will induce young men to join the army. Anything more calculated to do just the contrary can hardly be imagined, and it seems a pity that the recruiting efforts should be frustrated by such senseless conduct on the part of women.

Similar idiotic goings-on are reported from Deal, where they have been strongly resented by the more sober-minded inhabitants, who feel that everything should be done to encourage young men to join the Army and not to stop them from so doing, as these insults are calculated to do." *Reported in Whitstable Times and Herne Bay Herald 5th September 1914*





**“DOVER CASTLE”
RECRUITMENT RALLY - 14th
September 1914**

A recruiting rally was held on Monday evening on the Hill at Greenstreet, where an appeal was made to the young men of Teynham, Lynsted, and Norton to join the colours. The Union Jack and the French Tricolour had been mounted, and a numerous crowd assembled. Colonel J F Honeyball, JP presided, and was supported by the Rev. L Goodenough (rector of Norton), Mr. A Faunce de Laune, J (who himself has joined the East Kent Yeomanry), Mr F J Parrett, JP, Mrs Boyce, Mrs Honeyball, and others. Colonel Honeyball said they were holding these meetings as far as practicable in all the parishes, at all events in all the larger parishes, with the object of giving information, of bringing home to everyone, if there was still anyone who did not realise it, the seriousness of the crisis through which this country was now passing, and of pointing out to those who were able – the young manhood of the country – what their duty was. He hoped that this meeting at Greenstreet would not be without the desired result. He did not say that these three parishes had failed in their duty hitherto; on the contrary there was a very large number of men belonging to them who were serving the King in some capacity or other – no less than eighty from the parish of Teynham along.

Nevertheless, there were others who had not gone yet and who could go.

The Rev L Goodenough said it might hardly seem possible that at this moment we were engaged in the greatest struggle which the world had ever known. Here we were in this country going about our usual business, getting in our harvests, our fruit and our hops – really, some might ask, what difference does the war make? We might have to pay a penny more for our sugar, and here were exciting things to be read about in the newspapers, but it was difficult to realise that we were at war. We could thank God for the wonderful security of our position – a security which was due to that little strip of water which separated us from the Continent. But we must not trust too much to that security and leave everything to our magnificent Fleet and our comparatively small Army. The burden was laid upon every one of us, and we had all in some way or other to bear our part. We were fighting for the freedom, not only for our land, but for the freedom of Europe, which was threatened with a slavery the peoples did not intend to bow down to – threatened in accordance with a long designed plan on the part of Germany to impose themselves on the whole of Europe. After a reference to the history of the war, the speaker said we must not think because we had had a few successful days we were going to get to the end of the war in a minute. We had to use every single effort to subdue the barbarous German nation, for "barbarous" was not too strong a term to use in view of what the German Army had been guilty of.

Mrs. Boyce spoke especially to the women present. This war, she said, was one which concerned every woman in this country as much as it concerned every man. Women had, therefore, to do their part and not to cry and squirm if their sons wanted to enlist. If they did that she would say shame on the

womanhood. The speaker emphasised the remark of the previous speaker that we must not think that we were at the end of the war because we had had one or two glorious victories. It was "a long, long way to Tipperary," and it was a long, long way to Berlin, but to Berlin we had got to go and secure the terms we should demand. Colonel Honeyball and Mr. De Laune afterwards appealed to the young men present, who could do so, to join either Lord Kitchener's Army or one of the local Territorial units, and the proceedings concluded with cheers for the King and the Army and Navy."

TERRITORIAL EQUIPMENT.

The actual weight of equipment carried by a Territorial is as Follows:-

Ammunition, 9lbs,
Tools 2lbs 9¼ ozs,
Accoutrements 8lbs 4¾ ozs;
Contents of Pack 10lbs and ¾oz;
Rations and Water 5lbs 13½ ozs;
Total 35lbs 14¼ ozs.
The rifle and bayonet 10lbs 8½ ozs;
Making in all, 46lbs 14¾ ozs"
[21.3 kilograms]

**FIVE SOLDIER BROTHERS.
SONS OF MR T.E. GOODWIN,
OF OARE.**

Mr Thomas E Goodwin, of "The Three Mariners," Oare, has now five sons serving either in the Army or the Territorials, the youngest, who is 18 years of age, having just recently joined. The following is a list of the brothers placed according to age:-

Thomas Goodwin, Bandsman in the 4th Battalion, the Buffs. [*He died in India on 12th July 1915*]

George Goodwin, Gunner in the Kent Heavy Battery.

Joseph John Goodwin, Gunner in the Kent Heavy Battery.

Jesse Rogers Goodwin, Driver in the Royal Field Artillery.

Charles Rupert Goodwin, Bugler in the Rifle Brigade.

The four elder ones – two of whom are about to go abroad –

had their photographs taken together last weekend. Unfortunately the youngest brother, who is in London, could not come down to complete the group. We hope they will come through safely should any of them be drafted to the Front.

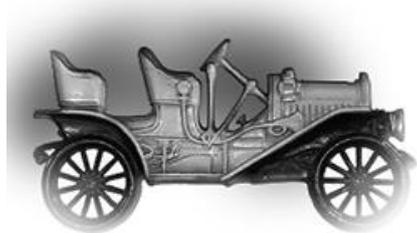
The eldest son, Thomas Goodwin, has been a well known locally as a cornet player, and also as a singer. *Reported by Faversham and North East Kent News of 24th October 1914*

WOUNDED MEN ARRIVE

"SITTINGBOURNE. WOUNDED EXPECTED. The Sittingbourne Voluntary Aid Detachment is mobilised, and wounded Belgian soldiers have been expected here for some days. Trinity Hall has been converted into a temporary hospital and twenty beds have been secured at Gore Court. A house has also been taken as a Red Cross Hospital.

WOUNDED BELGIANS AT SITTINGBOURNE. A party of 25 wounded Belgian soldiers were brought by motor ambulances from Folkestone to Sittingbourne on Sunday Night (18th October), and were installed in Trinity Hall, which has been converted into a temporary."

FAVERSHAM. BELGIAN REFUGEES. Arrangements are being made for the reception of some Belgian refugees at Faversham. Vacant houses are being lent by the owners and furnished by the townspeople." *Reported in the South Eastern Gazette 20th October 1914*



GREENSTREET. MOTOR ACCIDENTS. About ten o'clock on Monday morning [26th October] last Mrs Carrier, the wife of Mr. Frederick Carrier, was cycling to Sittingbourne to see his

Majesty the King, when she met with a nasty accident. She was leaving Greenstreet, and was cycling well on her right side of the road, when she was overtaken by a car belonging to Mr. A. Faunce de Laune, and driven by one of his chauffeurs (Foster). It is alleged that in passing the cyclist the car just caught the back wheel of the machine, and Mrs. Carrier was thrown in front of the car and rolled over and over, while the bicycle went under the wheels of the car, and was completely smashed. Mrs. Carrier was conveyed to her house by Mr. James French in his troop, where she received attention from Dr. Henderson. Although she had no bones broken she was very bruised and shaken, and she is suffering from concussion of the brain. Her face was also much damaged. We learn yesterday (Friday) morning that Mrs. Carrier is now making favourable progress.

On Tuesday a woman of the tramp class was knocked down by a car in Greenstreet. She was somewhat badly injured, and was removed to Faversham Infirmary by two members of the local division of the St. Johns Ambulance Brigade. *Reported in South Eastern Gazette 31st October 1914*



"THE COAST RAID. ALARM AT WHITSTABLE AND FAVERSHAM. TROOPS HURRIEDLY SENT FROM CANTERBURY TO WHITSTABLE.

On Tuesday afternoon [3rd November], when the news began to spread of the raid by German cruisers on the East Coast, there was intense excitement at

Faversham, Whitstable, and generally along the Kentish coast. All manner of alarming reports were put in circulation, and these had such an effect on some women at Faversham that they wept in the streets. The troops there had been ordered to stand ready, but eventually all that happened was the bringing of their field guns from the places outside the town to the Recreation Ground.

The troops billeted in Canterbury were called out and about a thousand were despatched to the neighbourhood of Whitstable. There were crowds of people in the streets of Whitstable until a late hour of the night, but nothing happened to disturb the customary equanimity of the little oyster town.

Many battleships were seen off Whitstable during the day, and great naval activity prevails at Sheerness." *Reported in the Whitstable Times and Herne Bay Herald 7th November 1914*

"THE SPY PERIL. New Order at Sheerness and Sheppey. Lieutenant Colonel H.M.A. Warde, Chief Constable of Kent, issued the following order yesterday [5th November]:

On and after November 10 all residents on the Isle of Sheppey outside (that is, east of the Sheerness Defensible Canal, are to provide themselves with a pass. These passes will be issued by the police.

Residents in Sheerness and others who have regular business on the Isle of Sheppey must obtain passes from the police at Sheerness or Sittingbourne respectively. Residents in Sheerness wishing to proceed to places outside the Isle of Sheppey must do so by train and not by road. No persons will be permitted to cross the King's Ferry Bridge by road except those provided with passes." *Reported in the Manchester Evening News 6th November 1914*

"GREENSTREET. MEN WITH THE FORCES. It is stated that no fewer than 150 men from the parishes of Teynham and Lynsted are now serving with His Majesty's forces. Of this number about 90 men are from Teynham, and the rest hail from Lynsted." *The East Kent Gazette reported on 28th November 1914.*

LOSS OF HMS "BULWARK"

Reported in the Birmingham Daily Post on 31st December 1914. The coroner for the Sittingbourne district (Mr. C.B. Harris) yesterday resumed his enquiry into the circumstances of the loss of H.M.S. Bulwark (right) in the River Medway on **November 26**. One of the recreation rooms of the Royal Naval Hospital was used for the purpose. Thirty-nine bodies have been recovered and identified. 736 men were lost.

Verdict: Accidental Death

"OLD MAN'S THEFT AT GREENSTREET. SPECIAL CONSTABLE'S VIGILANCE: "Reuben French, an old man living at Greenstreet was charged at the Faversham Country Police Court on Wednesday (before E. Chambers, Esq), with stealing a quantity of hop poles, value 9d., the property of Mr. James French on December 1st.

Albert Ernest Ferris, of Woodthorpe, Lynsted, stated he was a special constable and was on duty at Greenstreet on Tuesday night. At about ten minutes past ten he saw the prisoner proceeding towards his home with what appeared to be a bundle of poles. A few minutes later he returned up the street and went towards Mr. James French's hop-garden in about two minutes he returned with the hop poles produced. Witness followed him and stopped him at the passage where he lived and asked him where he got the poles from. He replied "Up in the hop-garden. Witness then asked him if anyone had given him permission to take them and he said "No, I can take them back."

Witness took possession of the poles and later on handed prisoner over to P.C. Hogg.

P.C. Hogg stated that when he charged prisoner he replied "All right, that's the last place I worked."

Mr James French, Jr., of New House Farm, Greenstreet, son of the prosecutor, valued the poles produced at 9d. and stated that they had missed a fair number of poles lately from the hop-garden.

Prisoner was remanded in custody to the Petty Sessions on the following day."

..... Petty Session Report "He had no excuse to offer. All he could say, he said, was that he took the poles, but he knew nothing about what had been taken before.

In reply to the Chairman, prisoner said he was 68 years of age.

Supt Lawrence said prisoner had been living alone and seemed to have been getting his living anyhow. In June last he was before the Court for stealing coal, and was bound over for six months, which period had not yet expired.

The Chairman suggested to the old man that the best thing he could do was to go into the Workhouse where he would be properly fed and clothed, and would be able to keep out of trouble.

Prisoner expressed his readiness to go into the House, and on the understanding that he did so the Bench bound him over for a further six months." *The Faversham and North East Kent News reported on 5th December 1914*

SIGHTED OVER SHEPPEY.

At 12.45 the enemy aeroplane was sighted over Sheppey, slightly to the south of Sheerness. The machine was flying at a great height, estimated at about 9,000ft. Just when it was approaching the water, anti-aircraft guns fired upon it, but without effect, as far as could be seen, the great height of the enemy's machine apparently being out of range of the guns. Seven rounds were fired, and the

machine, obscured by the fog, continued its flight. As soon as an alarm could be given, three British aeroplanes went in pursuit. One of them made directly for the German, while the other two went in other directions for the purpose of outflanking if possible. Owing, however, to the great speed and high altitude at which it was flying, the German machine was lost in the fog.

The weather condition were certainly favourable to the German. Hidden by the fog, and with practically no wind to contend against, he was able to make his way across the Kentish marshes before he was rediscovered. Just before 1 o'clock, the German machine was seen over the West-street Pier, flying towards London.

Six rounds were fired by anti-aircraft guns while warning was immediately conveyed by telegram to the other anti-aircraft gun stations. In spite of the misty weather, it was possible to distinguish the machine, which was of the Albatross type. The shells from the aircraft guns could be seen bursting above and around the machine, which immediately made a complete half-circle and, apparently mounting to a higher altitude, turned and made its way back. *Reported in The Times on 26th December 1914.*

Remembrance

**Guy Christopher Ottley
OLDFIELD
(Doddington)**

**Charles Alfred
TOLHURST (Lynsted)**

**Walter George SMITH
(Newnham)**