

## Crimean War Memorial

In March 1855 the Mayor of Bath, William Hunt, agreed that the city would provide a night's accommodation for 136 soldiers, wounded at the Alma, Inkerman and Balaclava, who were en route by train from the hospital ship, docked at Plymouth, to hospital at Chatham. Eighty soldiers went to hospitals in Bath and the remaining fifty six stayed in the Banqueting Room at the Guildhall. They were given a dinner, and a subscription was raised that gave each man half a guinea. There remained a surplus, which at Hunt's suggestion was put towards the raising of a memorial and with further subscriptions a total of £62-2s-6d was paid to Mr Rogers of Widcombe for the obelisk.

The memorial was unveiled on 29th May 1856, the day of national celebrations of peace, There was a civic procession 'and the impressiveness of the occasion [was] heightened by the discharge of minute guns from Beechen Cliff'; it was estimated that 15,000 to 20,000 people attended.



*Crimean War obelisk in Bath Abbey Cemetery*

The inscription reads "Erected by the citizens of Bath in honour, under God, of those heroic men, especially their fellow citizens and friends here recorded, who laid down their lives in the campaigns of 1854-5, so triumphantly achieved for the liberties of Europe. 'There is a time to die. Eccl. lii 2 v'."

Fourteen names were listed in rank from General and Major General to Private. Two of them were from the Dolemeads: Private Robert Warren and Corporal George Roberts. Another Dolemeads man, John Williams, described in a letter to his mother how Warren 'was wounded at the dreadful battle of Inkerman; he received wounds on both legs and laid in the field of battle for two days without anyone coming that way... the men found him lying in a large bush...I did all I could for him, poor fellow, but he died...'. Corporal George Roberts is recorded as having 'died in camp before Sebastopol'.

On the rear face of the obelisk, beneath the word 'Kars' is the name of General Richard De Baufre Guyon. Born in Walcot, the son of a Royal Navy officer, Guyon served first in the Surrey Militia before obtaining a commission in the Hungarian army. He led Hungarian forces against those of Austria and Russia in the rising of 1848, and after its failure went into exile in Turkey, where he served with the Turkish army. He helped to reorganise the defences of Kars in Anatolia against the Russian incursion, and returned to Constantinople hoping for a command in the Allied armies in the Crimea. He died there of cholera and is buried in the Hyderpasha Cemetery at Scutari, his grave being close to that of Lieut Colonel Ainslie who is also commemorated on the obelisk.

The northern side of the obelisk gives a list of names of battles which occurred both in Crimea and on the Baltic front. These are:

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Bomarsund | A fort in Sund on the Åland islands in the Baltic built by the Russians in 1832. It was destroyed in 1854 by a Franco-British fleet.   |
| Alma      | The battle of the Alma on 20 Sep 1854 is considered as the first battle in the Crimean War. The Russians attempted to stop a force of 26,000 British and French troops who had landed in Crimea from advancing toward Sebastopol at the Alma river.      |
| Balaklava | On 20 Oct 1854 an attack by Russian cavalry and infantry was driven back by the 93 <sup>rd</sup> Highlanders and the Heavy Brigade, the latter under the command of General Sir James Scarlett. It was also the site of the charge of the Light Brigade. |
| Inkerman  | On 5 Nov 1854 the Russians launched an attack on British and French forces east of Sebastopol. The Russian force of 42,000 men and 134 guns faced a British force  |

of 2,700 men and guns. With the help of additional guns and British and French reinforcements, the attack was repulsed.

Sweaborg A granite fortress that guarded Helsinki's inner harbour. It was bombarded on 9 and 10 Aug 1855.

Tchernaya The site of a failed Russian attack to lift the siege of Sebastopol on 16 Aug 1855. Various pictures of the battle exist.

The plinths give the names of those with connections with Bath who died in the war:

MAJOR GEN<sup>L</sup> SIR JOHN CAMPBELL BAR<sup>T</sup> K.C.B.  
 COL<sup>L</sup> W. TREVELYAN - COLD STREAM GUARDS  
 LIEUT<sup>T</sup> COL<sup>L</sup> E.S.T. SWYNY - 63<sup>RD</sup> REGIMENT  
 LIEUT<sup>T</sup> COL<sup>L</sup> L.B. TYLER - 62<sup>ND</sup> REGIMENT  
 MAJOR W. SWINTON - ROYAL ARTILLERY  
 CAPT<sup>N</sup> J.B. FORSTER - 62<sup>ND</sup> REGIMENT  
 LIEUT<sup>T</sup> T.M. GRAVES - ROYAL ENGINEERS  
 LIEUT<sup>T</sup> COL<sup>L</sup> AINSLIE - C.B. 21<sup>ST</sup> FUSILIERS

ERECTED BY CITIZENS OF BATH  
 IN HONOUR. UNDER GOD.  
 OF THOSE HEROIC MEN, ESPECIALLY  
 THEIR FELLOW CITIZENS AND FRIENDS HERE RECORDED  
 WHO LAID DOWN THEIR LIVES  
 IN THE CAMPAIGN OF 1854-5  
 SO TRIUMPHANTLY ACHIEVED  
 FOR THE LIBERTIES OF EUROPE

'THERE IS A TIME TO DIE' ECCL III.2.V

WILLIAM SHELL, SEAMAN FIRST WHO FELL IN THE WAR  
 GEORGE ROBERTS. - CORPORAL - 21<sup>ST</sup> FUSILIERS  
 ROBERT WARREN. - PRIVATE - 21<sup>ST</sup> FUSILIERS  
 EDWARD HARRIS. - PRIVATE - ROYAL ARTILLERY  
 GEORGE NICHOLS. - - NAVAL BRIGADE

## Indian Mutiny

### The Cawnpore Memorial, St Matthew's Church

At the western end of the Church is a memorial placed by General James Kennedy to several of his relatives who perished in the siege at Cawnpore during the Indian Mutiny. The memorial is of white marble on black by Samuel Rogers. The inscription reads:

IN AFFECTIONATE MEMORY OF  
 SUSAN BLAIR, AND HER TWO DAUGHTERS  
 ISABELLA AND SUSAN BLAIR:  
 ARTHUR NEWENHAM M.D. CHARLOTTE HIS WIFE  
 AND THEIR TWO INFANT CHILDREN:  
 AUGUSTUS HAY ALEXANDER,  
 LIEUT<sup>T</sup> 68<sup>TH</sup> REG<sup>T</sup> BENGAL INFANTRY:  
 AND GILBERT AUGUSTUS MASTER,  
 LIEUT<sup>T</sup> 53<sup>RD</sup> REG<sup>T</sup> BENGAL INFANTRY:  
 THE BELOVED CHILDREN AND GRAND-CHILDREN  
 OF GENERAL JAMES KENNEDY. C.B.  
 BENGAL CAVALRY  
 ALL OF WHOM DIED IN INDIA IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
 1857.

"I WAS DUMB. I OPENED NOT MY MOUTH BECAUSE THOU DIDST IT"

PSALM XXXIX V 9.



Memorial in St Matthew's

Tyte in his *Widcombe and Lyncombe* wrote of the memorial: 'The reason for its presence is that some of those whose names it bears resided in the parish or oft visited their relations [here]...Isabella and her sister were remarkable for their refined beauty which they inherited from their mother...They were members of the St Matthew's congregation prior to leaving England for the land where they perished

with their relations amidst horrors the memory of which can never be recalled without a shudder". Mrs Blair, a widow, lived in Macaulay Buildings. Her husband, Edward Macleod Blair "had been killed on the march of the British Army from Cabul" (memorial St Michael's) but "as no precise details of his death had ever been received, she cherished the forlorn hope that he was still living in captivity among the Affghans" (see *The Story of Cawnpore. The Indian Mutiny 1857* by Mowbray Thomson), and it was this hope that in part had caused her journey to India and her death in the massacre at Cawnpore.

## World War Memorials

### **Beechen Cliff School**

Bath City Secondary School, later The City of Bath Boys School, was amalgamated with Oldfield Boys School to form the present Beechen Cliff School.

#### Bath City Secondary School

WWI

The memorial is of oak, with four columns around three brass panels. At the head stands St George, at the base the Arms of the City of Bath. The plates record thirty four names. The Roll of Service (which is separate) shows that 247 Old Boys and 3 Old Girls served, and that awards included one DSO, five MCs, eight MMs, three MSMs, two DCMs and one Serbian Gold Medal.

The School was originally in The Guildhall and the memorial was unveiled in the Banqueting Room in 1922 by Field Marshal Lord Methuen; it was transferred to the Beechen Cliff site in 1932.

#### City of Bath Boys School

WWII

After WWII the Old Sulians Association provided a Memorial Reading Room, with two plaques listing the School's forty-eight killed. The room was converted to other uses and the plaques are now alongside the main memorial.

#### Beechen Cliff School.

A further plaque records the name of Jason Burfitt, killed in Armagh, Northern Ireland in August 1988.

### **Oldfield Boys School**

The Oldfield Boys School memorials were transferred to Beechen Cliff when the schools were amalgamated.

The WWI memorial is inscribed "In grateful memory of the Old Boys of this School who fell in the Great War 1914-1918. They counted it an honour to die for their Country. Their example should inspire us to live for it".

Twenty seven names are listed, including one master. The memorial was unveiled in 1922 by Lt Gen Sir Montague Harper KCB

The WWII memorial lists fifty one names, including one master, and three schoolboys killed in air raids.

### **Beechen Cliff Methodist Church.**

The marble and alabaster tablet was executed by B T Turvey and presented in 1920 by Mr G K Turvey as a thank-offering for the safe return of his only son.

Nine names are listed, and the inscription reads: "This is erected in thankfulness to God for the return of our dear ones, and to show sympathy with the bereaved and ever to remember those whose lives were sacrificed in The Great War 1914-1918".

There is no WWII memorial.

### **Prior Park College**

A wooden plaque now on the wall of the Chapel has at its head the College Arms; below, a five pointed star on either side of a Maltese Cross, and below again, crossed keys, a sword and scroll '

Deo Duce 1830'. The memorial is inscribed: "This study hall has been dedicated to the memory of the Old Boys of Prior Park College who lost their lives in the war 1939-1945. Requiescat In Pace". It has a list of 21 names.

### St Luke's Church

A stained glass window with three lights shows centre, a knight in armour (faith), left, an angel tending two children (love), right, an angel comforting a mourning woman (hope). At the foot, the Royal Arms, flanked by the Union Flag and roundels depicting a warship and an aeroplane.

Below the window is a bronze plaque containing thirty two names, including those of the two sons of Sir Harry Hatt, Mayor of Bath, who also have a memorial in the Guildhall.

The memorial cost £300 and was unveiled and dedicated by Prebendary S A Boyd, Rector of Bath, in November 1919.

There is also a separate brass "In memory of Charles E Doudney, the Vicar of St Luke's for seven years who died of wounds in Belgium on 16-10-1915 whilst acting as Chaplain to the Forces. By his zeal and interest in the parish this Church was rebuilt. A servant of Jesus Christ".

Doudney was a remarkable man who had taught and ministered in Australia, had experimented with wireless, using the Church spire to support an aerial, and who worked devotedly to support Belgian refugees who came to Bath in numbers at the beginning of the war. He is the subject of a biography, *The Best of Good Fellows* by his grandson Jonathan Horne.

### St Philip and St James, Odd Down

St Philips was part of the St Luke's parish and came under the ministry of Charles Doudney. Its memorial is a stained glass window with a central St George, whose face is said to be that of Doudney. Stone tablets list thirty four names.

Part of the memorial was the improvement of the baptistery and vestry of the Church for which 'it was indebted to our three quarry masters'. The whole was unveiled by the Marquis of Bath (the Lord Lieutenant) and dedicated by the Bishop of Bath and Wells in 1920.

After WWII the Church was rebuilt and a plaque records: "This Church was built with money from the sale of the site of St James's, Bath, destroyed in the Second World War on 26th April 1942. From the ruins the stone was used to erect the Cross on the tower and the silver was presented by St James's Parochial Church Council. The dedication St James was added to the original St Philip to commemorate these gifts."

### St Mark's Church

The WW1 memorial consists of two plaques in light oak, a Cross at the head, with incised lettering. There are seventy three names listed, seven of which are not incised but painted at the foot of the columns, presumably having been added after the memorial was made.

The inscription reads:

1914 -THE GREAT WAR - 1918

IN HONOURED MEMORY OF THE FALLEN FROM LYNCOMBE PARISH

The memorial was erected at the West end of the Church and was dedicated in July 1920 by the Vicar, the Revd R N Roe, commemorating 'sixty six members of the congregation and dwellers in the Parish'.

When St Mark's became redundant in 1972 the memorial was transferred to the Chapel of St Mary Magdalen in Holloway.



**St Matthew’s Church**

The memorial is an oak plaque divided by four Corinthian columns with brass panel. Above the central panel are the arms of the city, at the foot four supports carved in the form of leaves with, centrally, an angel.



The inscription reads: “To the Glory of God and in loving memory of the honoured dead of this Parish who nobly laid down their lives in the Great War 1914-1918 for God, King and Country. Thy Kingdom Come”.

Ninety seven WW1 names are listed, and a further twenty six names of men killed in WW2.

The *Bath Chronicle* of February 1919 reported that ‘The Bible Class at St Matthew’s had decided to revive the Widcombe Sweet Pea Show to raise money for a bronze commemorating the Parish dead’. The memorial was unveiled in May 1920.

On the inside of the main door there is a Roll of Honour of members of the church who served in WWII.

**Widcombe Parish memorial by St Thomas a Becket Church.**

**WW1**

In 1919 a public meeting in the Widcombe Institute agreed that there should be a memorial, an Ionic Cross in Cornish granite, to parishioners who had died in the Great War. At a second meeting there was disagreement as to whether the memorial should be outside the parish Church, by the toll-bridge or ‘near the shrubbery’. A third meeting decided by 111 to 51 that it should be in Church Lane.



The inscription reads: “Erected by the people of this parish in memory of the brave men who died for Freedom, King and Country”. Ninety eight names are listed.

**WWII**

A further thirty names added after WWII were unveiled on Remembrance Day 1947 by Mrs Florence Young and dedicated by the Vicar. A number of corrections to WWI names were also made.

The names on the Widcombe memorial are:

Erected by the people of this parish in Memory of brave men who died for Freedom King and Country 1914—1918			
Pte. E.J. Ashman	Pte. F. Doman	Pte. J. Hurley	L-Cp. W. Robbins
Lt. H.P. Baggs	2nd Lt. W.H. Duckworth	, , H.C. Iles	Pte.R. Rowsen
L-Cp. P.W. Ball	Pte. W.H. Dury	, , R.W.Iles	Bomb.G.H. Russell
Ldg. Stoker J.C. Ball	, , F. Eades	, , J. Iles	Pte.G.T. Shipp
Pte. C.K. Barnes	, , C. Everard	, , H. James	Sgt.H.T. Smith
, , H. Billett	, , G. Everard	, , E.J. Jenkins	Bomb.A.G. Smith
Flt. Cadet S.F. Bladwell	, , C.G. Farmer	, , C. Keeling	Pte.G. Stone
Pte. H.S. Boulton	, , G.S. Frose	, , W.L. Kerlake	, , W.L. Stone
, , W.P. Boyce	, , A. Flower	, , F.H.G. King	, , A.W. Stoyle
Corpl. S. Bradford	, , J.B. Gibbons	Sgt. Maj. C.D. Langbridge	, , S.H. Taylor
Sergt. D. Bristow	Stoker W. Gillard	Pte. J. Leppard	, , W. Taylor
Corpl. H. Bristow	Pte. F.T. Goodson	, , W.G. Liddiard	, , E.C. Thurston
Pte. E. Brooke	, , G.T. Gould	Lt. K.V. McKean	, , J. Tiley
, , W.W. Brown	, , E.J. Grant	Pte. A.E. Millard	, , A. Tucker
, , F.E. Buck	Lt.Col. J.H.M. Hardyman,D.S.O.,M.C.	, , F. Morgan	, , F.G. Tucker
Ldg.Seaman F.H. Bull	Corpl. C. Harris, C. de Guerre	, , J. H. Odey	Corpl.C. Viles
Pte. A.H. Butt	Pte. F.G. Hobbs	, , M.G. Pearce	Pte.A.E. Waldron
Bomb. F.G.O. Charlton	L-Cp. L.C. Hole	, , E. Platt	, , A.S.E. Waldron
1st Air Mech.J.S. Chivers	Pte. W. Holland	2nd Lt. J.L.H. Richards	Sapper A. Wallace
Surg. B.F.N.W.T. Clemens	, , A.C. Holley	Driver S. Ridewood	L-Cp.A.E. Webber
Pte. C.Q. Courtney	Sgt. F.W. Holley	Stoker W. Ridewood	, , E. West
Lt. W. Dent Young	Pte. R Hooper	Pte. A.G. Rivett	Pte. W. H. Wingrove
Pte. J.H. Dent Young	, , H.J. How	, , G.M. Roberts	Lt.Col. E.de V. Wintle
, , F.C. Derrick			Pte. J.E. Woodman
, , R. Dixon			Sapper S.J. Wyatt
Dvr. E.J. Derrick			Corpl. F.Young



1939-1945		
Pte. A.J. Allen	Str. G.W. Davis	F./O. C.L. Moody
F./Sgt. D. Allen	Sgt. M.A. Drewitt	Sgt. N.W.C. Miller
Sgt. A.G. Ashman	Pte. I.T. Evans	Gdsn. E.A. Odey
L.Cpl. C. Adams	P/O. L.J.A. Graham	Wir. E.G. Rice
Dvr. L.C. Burgess	Spr. S.W. Giles	L.A.C. G.H. Riddle
F./O. R. Breakwell	L.Cpl. D.S. Hayward	Cpl. G.H. Skinner
Cpl. F.T. Cleverley	Tpr. S.T. Hayward	Gnr. J. Tiley
Capt. R.G. Cook	Spr. S.G. Hooper	Sgt. Maj. R.W. Taverner
Gnr. W.H. Clark	A.C.I. G.L.M. Jones	Cpl. H.E. Wyatt
Sgn. W.H. Combstock	Sgt. W.A. Lidiard	Pte. T. Winship

**Widcombe Baptist Church.**

The memorial is of white marble on black, with the inscription:

“In loving memory of [eight names] who gave their lives for their country in the Great War 1914-1918”

It was unveiled in November 1924 by General Sir Arthur Phayre KBE. After WWII a further six names were added, including those of two civilians, Lily Hurford and L E Blunden, killed in air raids.

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