

# Anglian Boat Club in the Great War

Anglian Boat Club was founded in 1878 and, for many years, did not aspire to top level racing. Although it occasionally sent an eight to Henley, its more ambitious members usually went on to London or Thames, often achieving great things. However, around 1908 a group of oarsmen got together who formed the core of Anglian's success which lasted until the outbreak of the First World War.

1909 was a particularly good season when the Club won several senior eights events including Thames Cup at Molesey and also boated a junior eight at several regattas<sup>1</sup>. 1910 saw the first eight win the Thames Cup at Henley and in subsequent seasons there were victories in many other senior and Thames Cup events. In 1914 there were further triumphs for the first eight and the juniors. Four of the first eight also twice won senior fours. Their final appearance was at Reading Regatta, on the bank holiday weekend when Britain went to war with Germany, where they made their only attempt at Grand Eights.

Many Anglian men served in the Territorial Force battalions before the outbreak of war, particularly the Artist's Rifles, (which became the 28<sup>th</sup> Battalion, London Regiment), from which many were commissioned as officers into other Regiments. The club still has an Artist's Rifles Cup amongst its trophies.

When rowing commenced again after the war only a few of the pre-war oarsmen returned and the club never repeated its earlier successes. However, unlike some other less fortunate clubs, Anglian did continue although at a much less ambitious level. The *Times* of the 12th June 1919 noted:

“At Chiswick the Anglian Boat Club at Strand-on-the-Green and the Ibis Rowing Club at Grove Park are finding it difficult to raise crews of anything like the old standard, owing to the loss of a number of good oarsmen in the war. Anglian lost a particularly promising oarsman in B.L.B. Thomas, who stroked the eight in 1914.”

Listed below are the men who rowed, at some point, for Anglian Boat Club and served in the Great War of 1914 to 1918. They joined almost every branch of the services, the Royal Navy, Royal Flying Corps, (later the Royal Air Force), and many units of the Army; Infantry, Cavalry, Artillery, Medical Corps and all the service corps. 17% of them died, which is above the general average and mainly due to most of them being officers. Between them they won two Distinguished Service Orders, seven Military Crosses, (one with bar), one Meritorious Service Medal, one Order of the British Empire, (military) and three were Mentioned in Dispatches.



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<sup>1</sup> Up until the 1970s the designation of crews as “senior” and “junior” was nothing to do with the age of a crew, but its status relating to successes at open regattas.

The list is inevitably incomplete and there are a few men for whom there is no evidence of military service. This may be because they were in reserved occupations or that they didn't join up for other reasons, because the records simply no longer exist or, at least have not yet been found.

The sources consulted included, the British Army War Medal Rolls Index Cards, which give a fairly complete indication of those who served in the Army and went overseas, the Census records for 1911 and 1921, the London Gazette and other newspapers. Sometimes the military service record of privates and NCOs can be found, but records for officers are more difficult to locate. Service records for the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force seem to be more comprehensive. For their rowing careers, the Rowing Almanack and newspaper reports are invaluable.

## **Died During the War:**

### **Frederick William ARMES**

Frederick Armes rowed for Anglian between 1905 and 1908, after which he moved on to Thames RC.

He married in 1914 and enlisted, as a Private, in the 28<sup>th</sup> Battalion, London Regiment, (Artist's Rifles) in December 1915, but was not mobilised until January 1917, (probably because he was married with two children and a works manager). He went to France in March 1917 and was killed at Passchendaele in October of the same year, aged 34. With no known grave he is commemorated on the Tyne Cott Memorial and the Thames RC war memorial.

### **Harold Edward ASSER**

Rowed for Anglian in 1912 and 1913 in junior crews.

Served as a Private in the 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion, London Regiment, (Queen Victoria Rifles), went to France in January 1915 and was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the 16<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Middlesex Regiment in August of that year. He was wounded in the shoulder in October, 1915 and was killed on the first day of the Somme, aged 21. With no known grave he is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial.

### **Maurice Leigh GARDNER**



The only son of a stock broker and described in the 1911 census as living on private means. He rowed at Anglian between 1909 and 1911 and won the Thames Cup at Henley and senior eights at Walton. In 1914 he gained his aviator's certificate at the Beatty School, Hendon, on a Wright biplane, and was subsequently elected a member of the Royal Aero Club. He was Commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the Royal Flying Corps on 11 January 1915.

Maurice Gardner was killed in a mysterious flying accident on 19 January 1915. Flight Magazine reported it on 22 January:

While making a descent after a flight at Farnborough on Tuesday, a Maurice Farman biplane, piloted by Second Lieut.N.L.Gardner, caught fire, and the pilot was burnt to death before he could be extracted." In the 29 January edition, they reported the investigation into the accident and gave more details: "At the inquest held at Farnborough to enquire into the death of Lieut.N.L.Gardner, no further light was thrown on the cause of the accident, although it was stated that the cause of death was the fall and not to burns." According to the evidence, the machine was flying perfectly at a height of about 200 ft. Then it commenced to plane down normally but, when about 100ft, up, the machine dived almost vertically. On contact with the ground the engine was thrown forward onto the petrol tank and the wreck burst into flames.

He was 29 years old and his remains were cremated at Golders Green Crematorium where his name appears on a memorial wall. He was also commemorated on the ABC war memorial.

**Joseph George Airey GREEN**

In the 1911 Census he is shown as an unadmitted solicitor, living in Kensington with his sister and widowed mother. During his time at Anglian, (1908 to 1914), he won many senior open races, including the Thames Cup at Henley, the Old Barnes Cup at the Metropolitan and Thames Cup Eights at Molesey, (three times). He served as a Private in the Artist's Rifles and was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the newly formed Machine Gun, (Heavy), Corps, (which later became the Tank Corps), on 27 October 1916.



On the third day of the battle of Cambrai, 23 November 1917, he was commanding a tank of "E" Battalion which became lost, was hit by enemy artillery and burnt out. He was 30 years old.

He has no known grave and is commemorated on a panel at the Cambrai Memorial, Louverval and was shown on the ABC war memorial.

### **Ernest Hesketh HARRISON**

The son of the vicar at St. John's, Kew Road, he rowed at Anglian in 1910, in junior crews.

He was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, East Surrey Regiment in April 1915 and went to France in December 1916. He married Alice Pargeter in 1917, (she re-married in 1923). He was killed in September 1918, aged 26, whilst commanding a company, attached to the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion and was originally buried in Lieramont Cemetery before his remains were transferred to Peronne Cemetery.

Commemorated on the Purton, Wiltshire, War Memorial, (where his father was vicar after the war, but was not on the Anglian war memorial.

### **Horace Gordon HILL**

Horace was an unmarried despatch clerk in Barker's department store, Kensington High Street in 1911. Nothing is known about his rowing career, but he was on the Anglian war memorial, unveiled in 1929, so he was apparently a member before the war.

His medal index card shows that he was a Sergeant in the Middlesex Regiment before being transferred to the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion, East Surrey Regiment. He was killed in the German offensive, and subsequent Allied retreat, in March 1918, aged 31, and is one of over 14,000 men who have no known grave commemorated on the Pozieres Monument.

### **John Frederick REW**

Rowed for Anglian from 1912 until the outbreak of the war. In 1914 he was a member of the crew which won Junior Eights at Marlow, the Old Barnes Cup at the Metropolitan and Thames Cup Eights at Molesey.

He first served as Lance-corporal in the 16<sup>th</sup> Battalion, London Regiment, (Queen's Westminster Rifles), a Territorial unit, and went to France on 1<sup>st</sup> November, 1914. He was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion, the Devonshire Regiment on 14<sup>th</sup> August 1915 and killed on the first day of the Somme in 1916.

His brother, Charles, rowed for the club in 1919 before joining Thames Rowing Club, where he won the Thames Cup and Grand at Henley and rowed in the Olympic eight in 1926. His father was an early member of the club, rowed in the first crew they sent to Henley in 1887 and was captain in 1889.

He is buried in the Devonshire Cemetery, Mametz and was commemorated on the Anglian war memorial. He was 24 years old at the time of his death.

### **George William B SCHOENFELD**

Schoenfeld rowed at the club in 1914, but little else is known about him.

He enlisted in the Westminster Dragoons at the start of the war and, as a Private in the City of London Yeomanry went to Egypt in August 1915. He was shot at Gallipoli in October 1915, and died of his wounds aged 23. He is buried in Green Hill Cemetery.

He was commemorated on the Anglian War Memorial, but shown as Schofield. He is also commemorated on the memorial in Henley church

### **Percy Angel STOVOLD**

Percy rowed at Anglian, in junior crews, between 1899 and 1902. He then joined Twickenham RC.

He served as a Private in the Royal Fusiliers and in May 1915 was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Royal West Surrey Regiment. He went to France in July 1916, was killed, aged 36, in September, by which time he had been promoted to Captain. He is buried in Delville Wood Cemetery. He is commemorated on the Twickenham RC war memorial and the Farnham War Memorial Cross.

### **Basil Llewelyn THOMAS**

Commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, January 1915. He joined the Machine Gun Corps on its formation and proceeded to the front in 1916. He was second in command of the brigade machine gun company when he was killed at the battle of Arras, aged 21. He is buried at Rolincourt Valley Cemetery.



*The Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News*, 28 April 1917, published the following obituary. (A similar obituary appeared in *the Times*).

Lt. B.L.B Thomas, Machine Gun Corps, who has been killed in action, was a good oarsman. He was in the college four at Cheltenham in 1913, rowing bow in three four-oared matches, in which Cheltenham beat New College and Brasenose College, Oxford, and lost to St.Paul's School, the last race being rowed in record time. Joining the Anglian Boat Club at Chiswick in the following year, Lt.Thomas proved himself a very capable stroke in eight-oared racing. He stroked the winning eight in the Club Trials, and led the Anglian Junior eight to victory at Marlow Regatta, while at the Metropolitan Regatta he stroked the crew which won the Old Barnes Cup. At Walton Regatta, Anglian's old rivals, Marlow, beat them in the Walton Eights final by a few feet; at Molesey Anglians won the Thames Cup Eights, but at Kingston they lost the final of the Coronation Cup Eights to a Kingston crew, after beating Marlow in a heat. There were two other Marlow-Anglian duels in the last rowing season, Marlow winning at Goring by a quarter of a length, and at Reading by a canvas. In all these races Anglian were stroked by Lt.Thomas, whose career in open rowing, though so short, was remarkably successful.

He was shown on the ABC war memorial.

### **Ainsley Burton TYTHERIDGE**

Ainsley Tytheridge was a significant member of Anglian between 1903, when he won junior fours at Marlow Regatta and 1909, when he was coach of the first eight, which won several senior races and went to Henley. In 1905 he was club captain. In between he served in the Imperial Yeomanry, probably in a medical unit, in the Boer War. In 1910 he departed for Canada.

In the Great War he served as a Regimental Sergeant-major in the Canadian Army Medical Corps and was killed in an accident, whilst still

serving, in 1919, aged 40. He is buried in Kensington Cemetery, Hanwell. He was not shown on the Anglian war memorial.

### **Joseph WHITLARK**

Joseph was a solicitor's clerk and with his brother, John, rowed for Anglian at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and was in the eight which competed in the Thames Cup at Henley in 1895. He joined London RC where he was in their Wyfold and Grand crews at Henley.

He possibly served in the Mashonaland Division of the British South African Police in the Boer War.

He died in 1916 whilst serving as a Captain with the East African Labour Corps in Kenya. He is buried in Kisumu Cemetery, near Lake Victoria.

## **Known to Have Served and Survived the War**

### **James Waters Earnscliffe AVERN**

Born in 1878, he rowed in junior crews at Anglian for three years around 1900, winning junior eights at Molesey Regatta.

In June 1915 he was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, West Surrey Regiment and was later promoted to Captain, (he was already 37 years old). In 1918 he was appointed OBE as a director in the Labour Department of the Ministry of Munitions.

He died in 1942 in Wandsworth.

### **Stuart Kingsley BAKER**

Only rowed at Anglian in 1910.

He volunteered in August 1914 with the desire to join the cavalry and was enlisted into the Dragoons. However, ten days later he was posted to the 6<sup>th</sup> Battalion, East Kent Regiment as a Private and went to France in June 1915. He was wounded in September 1915, (gun-shot wound to abdomen), and October 1916, (shrapnel wound to hand). He continued to have digestive problems due to his stomach wound, was discharged in March 1918 and awarded a silver war badge, (unfit for military service), in April of that year. He died in 1960, aged 74, in Thanet.

### **Peter Pandia, BERESFORD**

One of the renowned Beresford family, and rowed at Anglian in 1905 and 1906 before moving on to Kensington RC and later too Thames RC, where his father and brother were members.

He was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the King's Own Lancashire Regiment and went to France in October 1917. In 1918 he transferred to the Royal Air Force.

### **Edward Anneveld BOADEN**

A bank clerk, who rowed for Anglian only in 1908.

In July 1917 he enlisted in the Honourable Artillery Company, as a Gunner, aged 36. He later transferred to the Royal Field Artillery. In August 1917 he went to France, serving on a siege battery, and fought at Ypres and the Somme, where he was wounded.

He died in 1950, in Southampton.

### **Louis Gerald BOBY**

Born in 1896, his father may have been a mariner. However, he seems to have spent most of his early life, up until 1911, at boarding school. He only rowed at Anglian in 1914.

He was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Somerset Light Infantry in 1914 but resigned in 1916. The same year he was commissioned again, but into the 25<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Royal Fusiliers and served in East Africa from May 1915. Confusingly, there are two medal index cards, one in his own name and another in the name of R.G.Boby, serving as a private in the Royal Fusiliers. Both cards indicate that they are for the same person and are clearly marked "NO MEDALS, suspense list". This could suggest a criminal record.

He died in 1939.

### **William Bertram BRISCOMB**

A bank clerk, at the club from 1903 to 1908, but only rowed in club events.

In August 1917 he enlisted in the Royal Naval Air Service, at the age of 30. He served in the Eastern Mediterranean and in 1918 transferred to the RAF, as an aircraftsman.

### **Geoffrey CARR**

A coxswain, who was at Anglian from 1902 and whose first recorded win was junior fours at Marlow Regatta in 1903. He continued a very successful rowing career until 1914. Amongst other things he won Thames Cup at Henley and a silver medal in coxed fours at the Olympic Games in 1912, in which year he was club captain. He continued to be a member of the club until the mid-fifties, when he resigned, along with B.C.Fisher, over a long-forgotten dispute concerning the ownership of the club's name. He worked as an accountant.

He was a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in The Hampshire Regiment, subsequently promoted to Captain, and served at Gallipoli.



### **Cyril Anderson COCKS**

A stock broker, who rowed at Anglian from 1906 to 1908, when he joined London RC, rowing in their Grand eight at Henley in 1913.

He served in the Australian Infantry Force and went to Egypt in December 1914. In April 1915 he was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the Royal Field Artillery and in December 1915 he went to France.

In the Second World War he served in the Army Pay Corps.

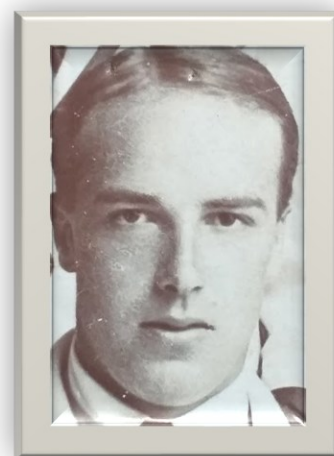
He died in 1976, aged 88.

### **John Herbert COOLING**

A fine arts dealer who joined Anglian in 1908 and was a member of the successful crews who won many top-class events, including Thames Cup at Henley in 1910. His last races were in 1913.

In 1915 he was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the Royal Sussex Regiment and went to France in March 1916. By 1917 he had been promoted to acting major in temporary command of a battalion. In 1918 he was transferred to the General List as a staff officer.

After the war he often travelled to Canada and was probably a resident there at the time of his death, (unknown, but after 1958).



### **Theodore A COOLING**

John Cooling's elder brother and rowed in a couple of club events in 1910. He served as a Private in the Army Service Corps.

### **Bryant Fitzwilliam Richard DAVIS**



Rowed at Anglian in 1909 and 1910, winning Junior Fours at Reading and the Marlow Challenge Eights.

He joined the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, East Surrey Regiment, in August 1910, aged 19, but by 1912 had transferred to the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment, with whom he went to France, as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, in August 1914. In November 1914 he was received a gun-shot wound, which broke his arm. As a captain he was awarded an OBE in 1919.

He died in Barnet in 1928

### **Leslie Brereton DAVY**

Lived with his family in East Sheen and rowed at Anglian in 1910 and 1911. In 1911 he raced in Thames Cup at Henley, the only change in the crew who won in 1910.

He was a private in the Artist's Rifles at the beginning of the war and commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the Royal Field Artillery in August 1915.

He was a mantle manufacturer and later a hotel manager in Oxfordshire. He was killed in a motor accident in 1939, aged 47.



### **Percy O'Connell FINIGAN**

Born in 1876 he was first recorded as rowing at Anglian in 1902 and lastly in 1931 as a vice-president. He coxed Twickenham R.C at Henley in 1921. He was a dental surgeon.

He was a Sergeant in the Royal Army Medical Corps, Dental Service, commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in 1916 and promoted to Captain in 1916.

He died in 1946 in Worthing.

### **Howard Wills FUSSELL**

His family, coal mine owners, came from the West Country and he attended Clifton College. He joined Anglian in 1910 and rowed in the first eight until 1914. Won Thames Cup Eights at Molesey and the Old Barnes Cup at the Metropolitan. Represented the club at Henley in 1912 and 1913. He was club captain in 1914. *The Sporting Life* recorded, in August 1914, that he was already a member of the Royal Gloucester Hussars. In November 1915 he was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment. In August 1918, by which time he had been promoted to Captain, he was awarded the Military Cross. He served in the Mesopotamia campaign.

He returned to the club in 1919 and was joint captain, with Kenneth Wilson. In 1921 he sailed to South Africa and by 1925 had settled in Southern Rhodesia as a farmer, where he married and had a family.

### **Maurice Leonard Crandon GILL**

A chartered accountant, at Anglian between 1907 and 1914. Won many first-class events including Thames Cup at Henley in 1910. He was a member of the crew which competed for the Grand Eights at Henley on the bank holiday Monday immediately preceding the outbreak of war. He was club captain in 1910.

He joined the Honourable Artillery Company in 1909, resigning in 1912. During the war he was in the Army Service Corps, first as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, rising to Captain by 1918. He went to France in April 1916. His medal index card shows that Oak Leaves were awarded, meaning that he was Mentioned in Despatches.

He died in 1957 in Bournemouth.

### **Kenneth McIver GRIERSON**

At the age of 15, Kenneth was coxing junior crews at Anglian in 1912, and continued until 1914.

He enlisted in the Artist's Rifles, as a Private, in February 1915, and went to France with them in May of that year. He was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the Manchester Regiment in 1916 and wounded in 1917. He was awarded the Military Cross in 1918 and Distinguished Service Order in 1919.

Citation for DSO:

2nd/Lt. (T./Lt. and A./Capt.), Kenneth  
Maclver Grierson, M.C., Manch.. R., attd.  
22nd Bn. (ITALY)

He was in command of one of the leading companies in the attack on the 27th October 1918. He led his men across the Piave in a magnificent manner. When the enemy bank had been reached he crawled forward and helped to cut a gap in the wire to within 15 yards of the enemy; all this time he was under observation and fire from the embankment, which was still held by the enemy. The splendid example he set to his men contributed in a large extent to the successful capture of the first objective. Later, in the taking of all objectives, he showed himself to be a fine leader both in skill and courage. All the houses and strong points were tackled under his direction in a systematic and dashing way.

In 1919 he was sent to Russia as part of the British Military Mission.

He left the army in 1926, became an insurance agent, and re-joined in 1939 as a Lieutenant-colonel, commanding an officer training unit in the Royal Army Ordinance Corps. He died in 1946, of lung cancer, whilst serving as a Colonel in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, and was cremated at Mortlake where he is commemorated on the war memorial.

### **Frederick Charles GLEESON**

Rowed at the club, in junior crews, in 1921.

He was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the Army Service Corps, in August 1914, later being promoted to Lieutenant and then Captain. He transferred to the RAF in 1918 and went to Palestine in 1919.

In the Second World War he re-joined the army and went to France. He was invalided home and died in 1940, aged 49. He is buried, in a Commonwealth War Grave, in Acton Cemetery.

### **John Kenneth GWINNELL**

Joined Anglian in 1914, when he won Junior Eights at Marlow Regatta.

He joined the Artist's Rifles and was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the 13<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Royal Fusiliers in 1914. In 1918 he was promoted to Captain and in 1919 awarded the Military Cross.

He returned to the club after the war and was captain in 1920. At some point he went to the Far East, where he rowed at the Royal Singapore Yacht Club. At the outbreak of the Second World War, he was commanding the Singapore Army Service Corps and became a prisoner of war in 1942, working on the infamous Burma Railway.

He later lived in Ealing and died in Hammersmith in 1959, aged 64.

The Gwinells were related to the Mogfords, (see below), by marriage.

### **Bertram HARDS**

He rowed at Anglian in the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and emigrated to Canada in 1904. The Chiswick Times reported that after some club pairs racing there was a "smoking concert" and:

One pleasing feature of the evening was the "send-off" accorded to Mr. Bertram Hards, who departs from this country to Canada to-morrow. The President, in the chair, reminded the members present of the hard work Mr. Hards had done for and the interest he had shown in the club. He had been a member of the committee for two years, and had always shown that he had the welfare of the club at heart. He (the speaker) had therefore very great pleasure in handing to Mr. Hards a small token of the esteem and regard in which he was held by his fellow members. The captain also spoke of the great assistance rendered to him by Mr. Hards coaching and teaching the younger members. - Mr. Hards on receiving the presentation (a silver flask suitably engraved), expressed his great regret at leaving his friends at the Anglian Boat Club, but hoped that he would from time to time be able to pay flying visits to the old country, when one of his most pleasant visits would be to the Anglian Boat Club.

He enlisted in the Canadian Army, as a Captain, in June 1916, knocking two years off his real age; he was actually 46 at this time. He was already a member of the 58<sup>th</sup> Westmount Rifles. In 1917 he served with the 244<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, in England but was declared unfit, (displaced cartilage), for further service and discharged in November 1917.

### **Robert Brooke HARRISON**



The elder brother of Ernest, killed in 1918, and an insurance clerk. He rowed at Anglian in 1910, (winning Junior Fours and Challenge Eights at Marlow Regatta), and in 1911.

Served as a Lieutenant in the Royal Field Artillery.

### **Stanley Thomas William HENSHAW**

Rowed at Anglian in the years leading up to the war and returned after.

He fought in the Boer War as a Lance-corporal in the City of London Rifles.

He enlisted in the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, London Regiment, (London Rifle Brigade), rose to be a Sergeant and went to France in November 1914. He was 37 years old. In 1916 he was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant. In 1919 he was a Rail Traffic Officer, with temporary rank of Captain. He was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal and was Mentioned in Dispatches. (The club he used for fighting in the trenches is an exhibit in the National Army Museum, as is his collection of photographs from the Boer War Boer War).

He died in 1955, in Lewes, Sussex.

### **Francis Winter HIGGIN**

An isinglass manufacturer. He rowed for Anglian from 1913 until the outbreak of the war and was a member of the eight which raced for the Grand at Reading the weekend before war broke out. He returned to the club after the war and took part in club events until 1927, when he was a vice-president.

During the war he served as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant the Royal Engineers from September 1916 and later attained the rank of Captain.

He died in 1937, aged 57.

### **Anthony George Owen HODGSON**

Rowed in junior crews at Anglian in 1911 and 1912. He was a surveyor of taxes in the Inland Revenue.

In September 1912 he was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the Royal Garrison Artillery, (Territorial Army). He was in Africa in December 1914 and transferred, still as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the Kings African Rifles in February 1916. He ended the war as a Captain.

In 1939 he was appointed a member of the Legislative Council of Nyasaland, (now Malawi). He died in Kenya in 1960.

### **Lionel Kenneth HUGHES**

Rowed at the club from 1921 to 1927, in junior crews and club events. A bank clerk, born in 1899.

Served in the RFC from October 1917 and in February 1918 transferred to the Royal Engineers, (signals).

### **Oliver Young IMRAY**

A patent agent working for his father's firm. Rowed for Anglian from 1908 until the outbreak of war, in club events only, and returned to the club after the war. He was a vice-president in 1928. In 1913 he married Vyvienne, Pierre Miroy's sister and in 1925 was an executor of Pierre's will, which led to a legal dispute with the Miroy family.

At some point in the war, he was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the Royal Field Artillery. By 1918 he was designated a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant and interpreter. His Medal Index Card indicates that he did not serve overseas.

He died in 1948

### **Arthur Frederick Foy JACOB**



His family lived in Thames Ditton and, in 1910, he was at boarding school in Cheltenham. He rowed at Anglian from 1910 to 1913, in club events only.

In 1914 he was a Sub-lieutenant in the Motor Boat Reserve and in 1915 transferred, as a Flight Sub-lieutenant, to the Royal Naval Air Service. In 1916 he was promoted to Flight-lieutenant and went on to serve in Greece, (The RNAS provided officers to the Greek Naval Air Service and carried out operations on the Macedonian Front). By the end of the war, he had transferred to the RAF as a Captain, acting Major, had been Mentioned in Despatches, awarded the

Distinguished Service Order and the Michai Viteozul, 3<sup>rd</sup> class, (a Romanian military decoration).

He returned to civilian life as a company secretary and continued rowing but with Kingston RC, where he was captain in 1922. In 1939 he was a member of the RAF Volunteer Reserve, at the age of 48.

### **Geoffrey Ellis JOHNSON**

He was a bank clerk who rowed for Anglian between 1912 and 1928. He was captain in 1922, raced Thames Cup at Henley in 1923, 24 and 25 and was captain again in 1927.

In November 1914 he was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Middlesex Regiment and went to Gallipoli with them in August 1915. He was later attached, as a Lieutenant, to the 11<sup>th</sup> Battalion, London Regiment, (Finsbury Rifles).

He died in 1963 in Midlothian.

### **Kenneth Cheyne JOHNSON**

The elder brother of Geoffrey. Rowed at Anglian from 1912 to 1914, in junior crews.

He went to France, as a Private, with the 14<sup>th</sup> Battalion, London Regiment, (London Scottish), in March 1915. Awarded a silver badge and discharged January 1918, unfit for further service, aged 27 years.

He died in 1968 in Croydon.

### **Francis, (Oscar), Wilkinson LATHAM**



Christened as Francis Oscar, he was also known as Francis Wilkinson. He rowed for Anglian in 1910 and 1911, when he was an apprentice for a small arms manufacturer, probably Wilkinson's Swords. His father was a manager at Wilkinson's, assisted by John Musgrave, a founder member of Anglian. In 1910 he won Junior Fours and the Challenge Eights at Marlow Regatta.

In March 1915 he was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Lincolnshire Regiment and he went to France in October 1915. His medal index card shows that he was later a Major in the 52<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, King's Liverpool Regiment.

In 1931 he went to India as a Major in the Indian Army. In 1946 he was promoted to Colonel in the Indian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and was awarded an OBE.

He died in Thames Ditton in 1957.

The Lathams were related, by marriage to John Simpson who rowed in the 1910 Thames Cup crew.

### **William John LUCAS**

An architect's clerk who rowed for Anglian in 1913 and 1914, when he was in the crew which won the Old Barnes Cup at the Metropolitan Regatta.

He went to France in March 1915 as a Private in the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion, London Regiment. He was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the Royal Fusiliers in April 1917 and was awarded the Military Cross in 1918. The citation in the London Gazette reads:

T./2nd Lt. William James Lucas, R. Fus.  
For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty during an enemy attack. He organised the main line of resistance, rallied parties of men who had been driven back, and got forward continuous supplies of ammunition and bombs when they were most urgently needed. He set his men a splendid example, and the successful resistance of the line against determined attacks was largely due to his courage, coolness and skill.

He resigned his commission, due to ill health, in 1919.

### **Harold Edward William LUTT**

An accountant and actuary who rowed for Anglian between 1896 and 1908, after which year he joined London RC.

In 1904 he joined the Royal Naval Reserve, as an Assistant Paymaster. He served full time, as a Paymaster, from August 1914 and was demobilised in February 1917.

His obituary, by the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries reads:

HAROLD EDWARD WILLIAM LUTT died at the age of 87, on 22 September 1964. He Started his business life with the Commercial Union Assurance Company Limited in 1894, when he started studying for his actuarial examinations. After serving with that Company for seven years, he became Accountant of the Mutual Life Association of Australia, and then in 1903 he entered the service of the Northern Assurance Company Limited as Chief Clerk in the Life Department.

During the First World War he served as an Assistant Paymaster R.N.R., and saw active service in the South Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, including the Battle



of the Falkland Islands and the Dardanelles, and was afterwards appointed Secretary to the Divisional Commander of Air Stations at the Nore.

After the war he returned to the Northern to take up the appointment of Secretary to the London Board, a position which he held until 1929, when he became Actuary and Life Manager of the Company until his retirement in 1941.

Harold Lutt qualified as a Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries in 1899. In that year he shared the second Chisholm Prize with J. M. Allen for an essay on 'Discounted Bonuses' and subsequently he read a paper to the Institute on 'Extra Premiums' which, for many years formed part of the reading for the examinations. He served on the Council from 1919-22 and took part in the Institute's discussions on a number of occasions.

He was a man of great ability and all those who worked with him had the greatest possible respect for him. To those who worked under him, he was always very kindly and gave every encouragement to them in their work and studies.

#### **Moritz Richard MARTIN**

An architect and sometime next-door neighbour of Harold Lutt. He rowed at Anglian from 1902 until 1907.

He enlisted, as a Private, in the Royal Army Medical Corps and went to France in September 1915. By June 1918 he was a Sapper in the Royal Engineers where he was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant.

He died, in 1956, in Croydon.

#### **Pierre Maurice MIROY**

Rowed at Anglian from 1909 until the war, winning many senior races, including the Thames Cup at Henley. After the war he lived in Staines and joined Staines BC, but remained a member of Anglian and was a vice president in 1928. He was a manufacturer's agent in the furnishing business and in 1913 married Kathleen Courtney, a well-known West End leading lady.

In 1916 he was commissioned as a Sub-lieutenant in the Royal Naval Air Service and worked on airfield construction. He was de-commissioned in 1919 as a Captain, (RAF).

His son, Nevill, also later rowed for Anglian and the Quintin, winning Wyfolds at Henley in 1947.

He died in 1929 in Kensington.

#### **Thomas Barns MOGFORD**

Usually the second eight cox, immediately before the war, but coxed the crew that raced Grand at Reading the weekend that war was declared. He returned to the club for a couple of years after the war.

He served as a Gunner in the Royal Field Artillery and was in France from October 1915.

He died in 1961, in Kent.

The Mogfords were related to the Gwinnells, by marriage.

### **George Walter Cecil PATON**

Rowed for Anglian from 1927 and was vice-captain in 1928 and a vice-president in 1931. He carved the Anglian War Memorial, which was unveiled, at the clubhouse, in 1929.

He served as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, Tank Corps and went to France in June 1918.

### **George Brooks PENFOLD**

One of the great generation of Anglian oarsmen who started rowing together in 1908. Won many senior races including Thames Cup at Henley. He was club captain in 1911. In 1912 he went to Sumatra as an estate assistant, but returned when war broke out.

He served as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, rising to acting Captain, in the Royal Field Artillery, going to France in August 1917. He was awarded the Military Cross in 1919 and resigned his commission in 1922.

In 1924 he returned to Sumatra as a planter.

He died in 1945, in a Japanese internment camp for civilians in Sumatra, aged 56.

### **Charles Frederick PIERCY**

A bank clerk who rowed at the club in the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

He enlisted as a Gunner in the Royal Garrison Artillery and went to Egypt in November 1917. He was a married man aged 35 at the time.

He died in Ewell in 1971.

### **Arthur Vincent PIGGOTT**

One of the Piggott family who were closely associated with the club for many years. He, however only rowed briefly in the very early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. His father, also Arthur was an early member of the club who became president and his younger brother was Maurice, (see below), competed at many regattas for the club.

In December 1916 he was promoted from cadet to 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the King Edwards Horse. He was later promoted to Lieutenant, attached to the Machine Gun Corps and awarded the Military Cross in 1919.

He enlisted in the Royal West Surrey Regiment in 1939 and died in 1951.

### **Maurice William PIGGOTT**

Son of Arthur Piggott, club president, and younger brother of Arthur Vincent, (see above). Went to St.Paul's School. Won many senior races between 11899 and 1914, including Thames Cup at Henley, often in the stroke seat. He returned to the club after the war and rowed in club events as well as coaching.

He was one of several club members who were in the Artist's Rifles and was promoted to 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the Middlesex Regiment in March 1917. In April 1917 he was transferred to the Labour Corps, which could imply that he was no longer fit for front line duty, and in September 1918 was promoted to Lieutenant. No medal index card has been found, which usually indicates no overseas service.

He died in 1972, in Sutton.

### **George Young RAY**

Rowed at the club, in junior crews, between 1903 and 1905.

He enlisted in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, Durham Light Infantry in July 1916, aged 37 and a married man with three children. He received a gun-shot wound to his right leg and was taken prisoner in March 1918, at Pronville, during the German Spring Offensive.

He died in 1962, aged 82.

### **Charles Harry REW**

The eldest son of Harry Rew, an early member of the club who was captain in 1892, and the younger brother of John, who was killed in 1916, (see above). He only rowed briefly for Anglian, before the war, and was secretary in 1919. After 1919 he joined Thames, for whom he won Thames Cup in 1920 and the Grand at Henley in 1923, (along with Kenneth Wilson, see below). In 1924 he rowed in the British eight at the Paris Olympics.

He served as a Gunner in the Royal Field Artillery and died in 1972, aged 74.

### **Robert Walker ROYLANCE**

One of the Roylances who rowed at Anglian in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. By 1904 he was rowing for Thames RC where he rowed in their Grand eights at Henley.

In June 1916 he was a Lieutenant on the Intelligence Staff of the War Office and in May 1917 was appointed as a Captain in the RFC. In 1918 he was promoted to Lieutenant-colonel, (staff officer), in the RAF, and was Mentioned in Despatches.

He died in 1962, aged 80.

### **Henry Mason RUDRUM**



Rowed at the club throughout the 1920s, including in the Thames Cup eights at Henley in 1923 and 1924.

In 1914 he enlisted as a Private in the City of London Yeomanry and later transferred to the Imperial Camel Corps. He ended his service in the Corps of Hussars.

In 1930 he married Muriel Sedgwick, the daughter of William Sedgwick a vice-president of the club.

He died in 1978

### **Henry Samuel Leonard SCARLETT**

Rowed, mainly in club events, in the 1920s.

In September 1914 he was embodied into the London Rifle Brigade, as a Private. He served in various regiments until in September 1918 he was transferred to the Royal Engineers, Signals Company in Staines. There is no evidence of any overseas service.

He died in 1952, in Chelsea, aged 61.

### **Cecil John SHARPE**

A bank clerk and chartered accountant, he rowed at the club from 1906 until 1909 and was vice-captain in 1910. He was in the Thames Cup eight at Henley in 1909.

Commissioned as an Assistant Paymaster, sub-lieutenant, in the Royal Naval Reserve from February 1915 until he transferred, as a Lieutenant, to the RAF in April 1918, working in the Air Ministry.

He died in 1938, aged 50.

### **Richard James SIMPSON**



Started rowing at Anglian in 1910 and was, that year, the bow-man in the eight which won Thames Cup at Henley. He was also in the 1911 and 1913 eights at Henley.

He was a motor engineer and designer and enlisted in the Army Service Corps in September 1914. He went to France in March 1915 and was promoted to Staff-sergeant in June of that year. At the end of the war, he was serving in Italy.

### **Edward Reginald SWANN**

Another of the many bank clerks who were members of Anglian. Rowed from 1902 to 1906.

He enlisted in the 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment and went to France with them in September 1915 when he was 34 years old. He would have fought at the Battle of Loos, where the Battalion suffered heavy losses. He was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the Leicestershire Regiment in January 1916 and in June 1918 was discharged with a silver badge, indicating that he was no longer fit for military service. He finished the war as a Captain.

After the war he lived in Hove and died, in Uckfield, aged 52.

### **William Gerald SWANN**

The younger brother of Edward, and also a bank clerk. He rowed at Anglian at about the same time as his brother.

In December 1915 he enlisted, as a Private, in the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Durham Light Infantry. His military record notes that he had defective eyesight and was fit for garrison duties only.

### **Alfred William Rochelle THOMAS**

A fine arts dealer who rowed at the club from 1903 until 1914 and then returned after the war. He was a vice-president in 1928.

He enlisted as an Able Seaman in the Royal Naval Reserve in 1915 and ended the war as an acting Petty Officer.

### **Edwin William WATERFIELD**

Rowed in the crew that won the Old Barnes Cup at the Metropolitan Regatta and Thames Cup eights at Molesey in 1914. He was in the crew that raced Grand at Reading the weekend that war was declared. He returned to the club in 1919.

As a Private in the 16<sup>th</sup> Battalion, London Regiment, (Queen Victoria's Rifles), he went to France in November 1914. He was commissioned into the Royal Engineers in September 1915.

In 1919 he married Madge Miroy, Pierre's younger sister and went to Sumatra, as an engineer, the same year, with his new wife. In 1924 he went to Malaya, as a planter and in 1942 was incarcerated in a Japanese prison camp, described as "major". He returned to Malaya after the war.

He died in Salisbury in 1976.

### **Kenneth Charles WILSON**

Rowed at Anglian, in senior crews, in 1914 and 1919. In 1919 he was joint captain, with Howard Fussell. He then joined Thames RC, where he won Wyfolds, Thames Cup and Grand at Henley.

In 1914, according to an article in the *Sporting Life*, he was serving in the London Electrical Engineers. He was later commissioned into the Royal Garrison Artillery and rose to the rank of Captain. He went to France in May 1917. In the Second World War he re-enlisted into the Royal Artillery, (anti-aircraft).

He died in 1972, in Henley.

### **George Birtchnell WINTER**

He rowed at the club from 1910 to 1914, winning Thames Cup Eights at Molesey in 1912. He was the son of George Winter who was a member of the club in the 1890s and president in 1901. Like his father, he was a military outfitter.

In November 1914 he was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the Royal Field Artillery, later rising to a Lieutenant.

### **Peter YORE**

Rowed, in club events only, in 1913 and returned for a short while after the war. Yet another bank clerk.

In November 1914 he was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the Royal Field Artillery, later rising to Lieutenant and ending the war as a Captain. In August 1917 he was wounded in the right eye. In September 1917 he was awarded the Military Cross. The citation, published in the London Gazette, reads:

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty whilst acting as forward observation officer. He remained for two hours under heavy shell fire, with practically no cover, watching and reporting on the situation. His was the only information available, and was, consequently, invaluable. Although wounded, he laid out and maintained a telephone line to his post, and continued in his loo-

out until a relieving officer arrived. His fearlessness and devotion to duty were worthy of the highest praise.

In January 1919 he was awarded a bar to his MC. The citation reads:

For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. When his guns were being heavily shelled and the gunners had been withdrawn to cover, he received an S.O.S signal from the Infantry that the enemy were counter-attacking. Rallying the gunners, he fired the first round himself, then ran 400 yards across the open to start another battery firing. After this, he spent his spare time firing a captured 77mm gun. He showed consistent coolness and confidence.

He died in Hove in 1964, aged 76.

**Colin Cracknell**  
**Hadlow Down**  
**May 2023**