

The Middlesbrough

Roll of Honour of the Great War

Supplementary Names, - “P”

Compiled by Robert Coulson (1952 – 2008)

The names below are found on the Supplementary Panels on the Middlesbrough War Memorial. The names were received for inclusion after the official unveiling of the Memorial, and are included on the 3 supplementary panels.

In the years 1914-1918 thousands of Middlesbrough men and women served their country in a time of hardship, stress and suffering both for the troops on the battlefronts and those left at home.

After the Armistice in November of 1918 handsome memorial tablets and plaques recalling the fallen were erected in the works, shops and churches of the Middlesbrough area.

At this time a committee was formed to consider the question of a war memorial for the town as a whole to remember the citizens who had laid down their lives. In the words of the committee,

“We recognise the splendid sacrifice made by our men and we desire that our children and our children’s’ children should hear the story and share in the inspiration which such sacrifice will always give”.

The response of the townspeople resulted in the fine cenotaph of Aberdeen granite and the wall of Portland stone containing the bronze panels with the names of the fallen that we see today at the entrance to Albert Park.

The memorial works were completed at a cost of approximately £17,000 and the people of the town attended in their thousands for the dedication and unveiling ceremony which took place on November 11th 1922.

This roll of honour contains close to 3500 names of the fallen who are remembered on the memorial and also those whose names were put forward by their families after the unveiling ceremony.

I felt it fitting that as the centenary of the onset of the Great War approaches I should try and add a little information on those remembered and the actions in which they laid down their lives.

I would just add that much as I regret it, details on some of these brave people is not available due to the passage of time but their names will still appear in the text as they do on the memorial panels.

Finally just a few points to consider,

It will be noticed that on some of the entries no Middlesbrough connection may be obvious, indeed the person appears to have come from well outside the area or even the country.

It must be remembered that it was the townspeople who put the names forward for inclusion and as an example a relation who stayed with the family in the town occasionally, could well appear after his family took the trouble to forward the name.

Middlesbrough was a thriving centre of industry at the time and a person may well have been employed in the town before hostilities and had their name included by workmates.

Serving under an alias is also quite common and although sometimes used to cover criminal activity, was normally just a person keen to serve but underage and using another identity.

Also a mother who had taken another man's name might have offspring who preferred to serve using their natural father's name.

Double entries for the same name also appear quite a few times, for example, Samuel Alder and S Alder.

I believe they are one and the same person named twice as a result of a large family with different branches putting the name forward twice.

The person will appear in the listing as named on the memorial with any variations in spelling and second names being included in the text.

It will be noticed that some entries begin "I believe this to be".

These are people who to the best of my judgement are those named but can not be 100% certain. They are included with the best intentions and if a mistake is made I make my apologies in advance.

Robert Henry Coulson died on 8 November 2008. His papers were donated to the Green Howards Museum in Richmond, and the work below comes from these papers.

Pacitto, Domenico.

The only information on the military career of Domenico Pacitto is that he served and died with the Italian army during the Great War, Italy unfortunately has no equivalent of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission where individual soldiers details can be accessed.

The 1901 census shows him as being born in Derby but living at 1 Church Place in Middlesbrough with his father Vittoria Pacitto an ice cream vendor and mother Mariasevita Pacitto.

He had four brothers and one sister shown on the census all younger than him.

Pain, Isaac.

Isaac Pain was born in Grangetown and enlisted in Middlesbrough with the 15th battalion of the Durham Light Infantry.

Military Medal holder Private Pain was killed during the Battle of the Aisne on May 29th 1918 at the age of 31.

The son of the late William George Pain he has no known grave and is remembered today on the Soissons Memorial sixty miles north east of Paris.

Peacock, Edward.

Born in Middlesbrough, Edward Peacock enlisted in Richmond into the Yorkshire Regiment before transferring to the Motors Branch of the Machine Gun Corps. Gunner Peacock was killed in action during the Passchendaele offensive on October 8th 1917 aged 24 and is buried in Hoge Crater Cemetery two miles east of Ypres town centre.

The son of Mr and Mrs William Peacock he was the husband of Millicent Peacock of 69 Hunter Street in Middlesbrough.

Pennock, John Albert.

John Albert Pennock was Middlesbrough born enlisting to serve with the Yorkshire Regiment in the town and then transferring to the 10th battalion of the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry.

Private Pennock was killed in fighting close to the Gueudecourt to Le Transloy road during the Somme offensive on September 25th 1916 aged 27.

He is remembered today on the Thiepval Memorial on the Somme as he has no known grave.

Perks, John T F.

Double entry, see John Thos Frederick Perks in the main listing.

Pipe, Samuel George.

Samuel George Pipe was born in Middlesbrough and served in the Merchant Navy as 2nd Engineer on the Middlesbrough registered SS Linwood.

He lost his life on January 22nd 1917 aged 32 when the ship was lost in passage from Cartagena to Maryport with a cargo of iron ore, the cause unknown but believed to be bad weather as opposed to enemy action.

Samuel Pipe is remembered on the Tower Hill Memorial in Trinity Square in London.

Porter, J.

Middlesbrough born and enlisting in the town, John Porter served with the 10th battalion of the King's Royal Rifle Corps.

Wounded in actions on the Hindenburg Line, Rifleman Porter died of his injuries on June 21st 1917 and is remembered on the Arras Memorial at the Faubourg D'Amiens Cemetery in Arras.

Pottle, James.

James Pottle was born in Suffolk and served in the Merchant Navy as a steward on the Middlesbrough ship the SS Sixty Six.

He was 69 years old when he died, the Sixty Six being torpedoed three miles east of Scarborough on June 29th 1918.

The name of James Pottle appears on the panels of the Tower Hill Memorial to merchant seamen in London.

Prunty, Dominic.

West Hartlepool born Dominic Prunty enlisted in Middlesbrough with the 2nd battalion of the Yorkshire Regiment.

Private Prunty was killed in action at the age of 26 on March 11th 1915 during the Battle of Neuve Chapelle.

His grave can be visited today in Pony-du-Hem Military Cemetery at La Gorgue, two miles to the south west of Laventie.

Prunty, John Thomas.

John Thomas Prunty was Middlesbrough born and enlisted into the 2nd battalion of the Yorkshire Regiment in the town.

Advancing from Bernafay Wood to Trones Wood during the Battle of the Somme, Private Prunty was killed in action aged 23 on July 8th 1916.

He has no known final resting place, his name appearing on the panels of the Thiepval Memorial to the north east of Albert on the Somme.

Names on the Middlesbrough War Memorial

Purvis, John Robert.

I believe this to be Robert Purvis from Seaham Harbour who served with the Durham Field Company of the Royal Engineers.

Sapper Purvis was killed in action on January 2nd 1917 at the age of 27 and today lies in Beaumont-Hamel British Cemetery on the Somme.

He was the son of Robert and Dora Purvis of Silksworth and the husband of Ethel Purvis of 21 Candlish Terrace in Seaham Harbour.