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Front Cover Design by Trevor Lloyd Evans: Victoria, Queen of the British Empire and Paul Kruger, President of the Z.A.R.
Voorblad ontwerp deur Trevor Lloyd Evans: Victoria, Koningin van die Britse Koninkryk en Paul Kruger, President van die Z.A.R.



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# A Survey of Memorials to the Second Anglo-Boer War in the United Kingdom and Eire

By
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This paper derives from the work of the Anglo-Boer War Memorials Project of which the author is co-ordinator. The Project has been running for the past ten years under the auspices of the Victorian Military Society to record all memorials around the world to the Second Anglo-Boer War, 1899 - 1902. A written and visual catalogue consisting of photographs, slides, contemporary and modern postcards and even brass rubbings has been amassed with details of over 1100 memorials worldwide. Central to this work is the recording of the names listed on memorials. Over 17000 names are recorded on computer and cross-references with the official casualty rolls and other sources. The result is a unique archive with a wealth of material for military, social, family and art historians. What follows is a report on work in progress concentrating on the memorials in the United Kingdom and Eire, of which there are 97 on record.

## Introduction

The war memorials erected to the Anglo-Boer War in the UK represent the first ever mass raising of war memorials in this country. The scale was unprecedented, no previous war; even those of a similar scale such as the Crimea (1854-1857) and the Napoleonic Wars (1798-1815), resulted in such a popular and public expression. Why the Anglo-Boer War generated such a popular movement can be given to a number of reasons: Empire, wealth, communications, 'muscular chivalry' and the nature of the War itself.

In 1899 Britain was at the height of empire. An unprecedented 60 years of economic, military and material expansion resulted in a tiny nation island laying claim to three-quarters of the globe, and ruling much of that. Empire brought with it a vast increase in personal wealth. The majority of the population was better off in 1899 than in 1799 and for the few there were vast fortunes amassed from overseas ventures. Given that over 1000 memorials were erected in the United Kingdom and Eire it is clear that very many people had or earned sufficient money to give some towards a memorial fund.



Events in South Africa could be reported within days and not weeks or months. The Victorians produced a large number of newspapers and illustrated magazines that kept the public reasonably well informed of events around the Empire. It was possible to have a mass national reaction to an event and for the first time there could be a genuine 'popular mood of the country'. To borrow a recent British political phrase, there could be a 'feel good factor', and, conversely, 'Black Week', used in December 1899 to described the three British defeats at Stormberg, Magersfontein and Colenso.

'Muscular chivalry' is a phrase used by Marc Girouard to describe a movement in Victorian England that saw a rise in an interest in King Arthur and matters mediaeval.[1] This interest was shared by a wide circle of artists (e.g. William Morris, Sir Edward Burne-Jones), writers (e.g. Lord Alfred Tennyson, Col. Sir Robert Baden-Powell) and educationalists (a group who are more well known by their pupils than in their own right). In their own way, they each espoused a chivalric code of conduct that emphasised the virtues of service, courage, honour and loyalty. A gentleman was defined by such qualities. The educationalists had the most influence on the generation that fought the Anglo-Boer War. These men ran the unique English (and Scottish) public schools where they impressed 'muscular chivalry' upon their pupils. In the many memorials one can see rich traces of this legacy: King Arthur, St. George, other assorted armoured knights, inscriptions recalling the deceased's 'duty', 'honour' and epitaphs to make sense of violent death; 'dulce et decorum est pro patria mori' or 'Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends'.

## Types and Forms of Memorial

There are many types of memorials and whom the memorial commemorates. Most memorials are to one person only. Regiments and their sub units also figure prominently as to be expected. Significant is the large number of 'geographic' memorials. This is memorials to persons from a particular area, from the smallest hamlet to a country and uniquely the Welsh National Memorial in Cardiff. Wales is the largest geographic area to have raised a memorial to its dead. Eight hundred and seventy-three men and women are named, from eighty-five units

| Who is Commemorated | Number Recorded | Percentage of total recorded |
|---|---|---|
| Association | 10 | 1.03 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Borough | 7 | 0.72 |
| County | 29 | 2.99 |
| City/Town/Village | 103 | 10.61 |
| District | 23 | 2.37 |
| Family | 7 | 0.72 |
| Individual | 504 | 51.91 |
| National | 6 | 0.62 |
| Parish | 3`1 | 3.19 |
| Peace | 9 | 0.93 |
| Regiment | 204 | 21.01 |
| School | 38 | 3.91 |
| TOTALS | 971 | 100.00 |

Table 1: Breakdown of memorials recorded in the United Kingdom and Eire by who is commemorated.

Memorials take many forms - cross, statue, building, plaque/tablet, book, fountain etc. Over two-thirds of memorials are indoors, mostly in churches as plaques or tablets. These are the most traditional forms of memorials and perhaps the most cost effective. Very few memorials (about 6%) can be considered of a practical nature i.e. buildings, drinking fountains and furniture. It is interesting to note that the majority of drinking fountains have been found in the northeast around Newcastle.

| Form of Memorial | Number Recorded | Percentage of Total Recorded |
|---|---|---|
| Building | 22 | 2.27 |
| Cross | 41 | 4.22 |
| Drinking fountain/trough | 9 | 0.93 |
| Furniture | 22 | 2.27 |
| Grave | 53 | 5.46 |
| Lych Gate | 3 | 0.31 |
| Monument | 31 | 3.19 |
| Obelisk | 23 | 2.37 |
| Ornamental fountain | 3 | 0.31 |
| Painting/Drawing | 1 | 0.10 |
| Plaque (metal) | 469 | 48.30 |
| Prize/Award | 1 | 0.10 |
| Reredos | 7 | 0.72 |



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Statue | 44 | 4.53 |
| Tablet (Stone) | 159 | 16.37 |
| Tablet (Wood) | 5 | 0.51 |
| Window | 78 | 8.03 |
| TOTALS | 971 | 100.00 |

Table 2: Breakdown of memorials recorded in the United Kingdom and Eire by form.

## Memorials to Individuals

There are 504 memorials for only one person, which forms nearly 52% of the total memorials, recorded. The majority of these are to men of officer rank. A simple reason why there were more memorials for individuals of commissioned rank is that their associate groups (family, work, club, and fellow officers) were richer or had easy access to the sums of money needed to create a memorial. Indeed, there may have been a tradition of erecting memorials amongst these groups. Military memorials to individuals of the early 19th century and before are almost exclusively to men (not women) of commissioned rank. On many early regimental memorials, the non-commissioned officers and men are not even named while the officers are.

Family members (36%) and then regiments (24%) erected most memorials to individuals. For a significant number (20%) of memorials to individuals, it has not been ascertained who erected the memorial. A small number of military units erected memorials to each of their dead - City of London Imperial Volunteers (CIV), 14th Hussars, 12th Lancers and the 39th (Berkshire) Company Imperial Yeomanry.

The CIV suffered 72 dead in the war and erected a large bronze plaque to each in addition to paying a grant of £100 to the next of kin. The CIV was raised in the City of London from members of the many volunteer corps and had many wealthy backers. They provided for a well equipped force and for their dead, could provide the funds and organisation to arrange the erection of memorials all over the British Isles. The memorial, measuring 78 x 86 cm. takes the form of a bronze frame around a beaten copper sheet on which the raised inscription has been hammered. Mounted on to the frame is the coat of arms for the City of London surmounted by a crown. The inscription takes a standard format naming the deceased, the unit he volunteered from, his parents and the date, place and circumstances of his death. Frederick Wheeler F.R.I.B.A designed it. Most were place in parish churches in and around London, but they can

also be found in Bath, Birmingham, Wellingborough, Colchester and Mynachlog-ddu (West Wales) amongst others. The memorial to Private 3206 M.B. Bruce was erected in his old school, Elgin Academy, in Scotland. An exception is the plaque to the six deceased of the Queen's Westminster Volunteers (13th Middlesex) who are named on one plaque in Westminster Abbey. The inscription merely names the men and their parent unit.[2]

In Farnborough (Hampshire) there is a large memorial to an individual who is not names, nor is there any clue as to who erected it. Taking a form of a drinking fountain set in front of a low, semi-circular wall, there is the simple inscription:

IN MEMORY OF ONE WHO DIED FOR HIS COUNTRY MCM

Accompanying the inscription is carved a dove holding an olive branch in its beak. This total anonymity, with regard to the subject and the donor, is unique amongst memorials to the Anglo-Boer War.

Military Units

These are perhaps the most obvious memorials, erected by the comrades of the dead, who shared the same risks in combat, drank the same poisoned water in Bloemfontein, experienced the boredom of blockhouse life but were fortunate, and grateful, to return home. Almost all of the regular army units erected memorials to their dead, as did many of the volunteer units. There are 209 memorials to regiments, corps, ships and their sub-divisions (battalions, squadrons, companies, batteries etc.). These memorials take all forms and can be found in many different sites.

The notion of regimental chapels came into vogue in the Victorian era as a consequence of the proliferation of ware memorials inside churches and cathedrals. Where memorials to the dead of a regiment had been placed earlier, the regiment tended to place their Anglo-Boer War memorial. Of the 77 regimental memorials found in cathedrals, the following are included:

| CATHEDRAL | REGIMENT |
|---|---|
| Beverley | East Yorks Regiment |
| Brecon | South Wales Borderers |
| Carlisle | Border Regiment |
| Chester | Cheshire Regiment |



| | |
|---|---|
| Chester | Earl of Chester's Imperial Yeomanry |
| Canterbury | 16th (Queen's) Lancers |
| Dublin | 8th Hussars |
| Dublin | Royal Irish Regiment |
| Dublin | Leinster Regiment |
| Dublin | 5th Lancers |
| Edinburgh | Royal Scots |
| Edinburgh | Royal Scots Fusiliers |
| Edinburgh | Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders |
| Exeter | 73rd Battery Royal Field Artillery |
| Guildford | Queen's Regiment |
| Hereford | 4th Battalion King's Shropshire Light Infantry |
| Leicester | Leicestershire Regiment |
| London (St. Paul's) | Middlesex Imperial Yeomanry |
| London (St. Paul's) | St. John's Ambulance Brigade |
| London (St. Paul's) | 1st Royal Dragoons |
| London (St. Paul's) | Middlesex Regiment |
| London (St. Paul's) | Coldstream Guards |
| Southwark | East Surrey Regiment |

Table 3: Selection of units with memorials in cathedrals.

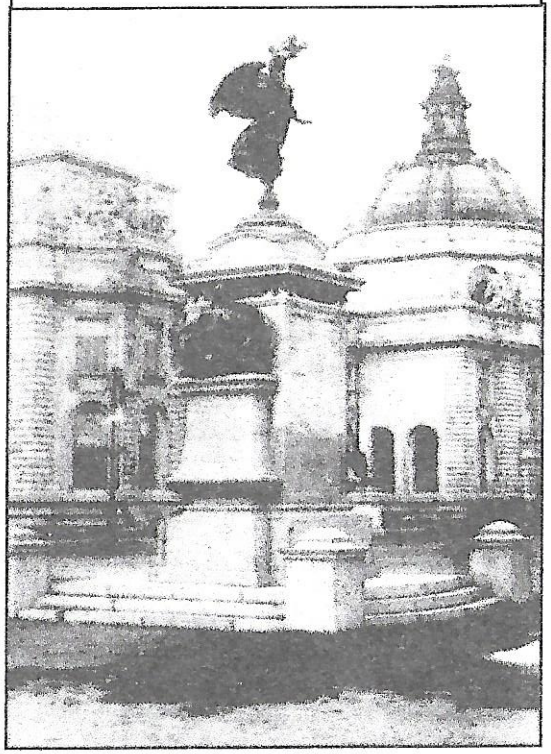
The two largest units of the British Army, the Royal Artillery and the Royal Engineers erected large outdoor memorials that contain the names of their dead - 1083 and 420 respectively. The Royal Artillery (incorporating the Horse, Field and Garrison Artillery) memorial in St. James' Park, London, is a massive structure dominated by a large bronze horse, the Spirit of War, being listed controlled by a female figure representing Peace. At either end of a 50-foot semi-circular wall is a stone pier upon which are the names and a bronze low relief plaque depicting the mounted and garrison artillery in action. The officers are listed separately from the men who are listed by battery. Other artillery formations such as ammunition columns and parks and excess numbers are shown.

There are a number of memorials to individual batteries but the most interesting is that erected by Q Battery, Royal Horse Artillery. This battery,

which was heavily involved in the action at Sanna's Post (March 31, 1900), had a plaque made listing the officers and men present at that action. The men are listed by subdivision and the killed and wounded are indicated by symbols. This memorial was to be placed in the men's dining hall wherever the battery was stationed.

The Royal Engineers chose Brompton Barracks in Chatham to place a massive Victory arch with the names of its dead and the principal battles they took part in, inscribed on it. Around this memorial were also four statures from Pretoria, each of a Boer kneeling with a rifle. Lord Kitchener, a Royal Engineer officer presented these statues, to the Corps in 1902. Kitchener had been given the statues when in South Africa. The statues were made about 1899 at the request of some prominent businessmen to be presented to Pres. S.J.P. Kruger. With the onset of war they were never erected. In 1921 all four figures were returned to Pretoria by King George V, Colonel in Chief of the Corps of Royal Engineers.

National Memorial to the Welshmen who fell in South Africa. Unveiled in Cardiff by General Sir John French, November 20, 1909.



The Royal Dublin Fusiliers also chose the Victory arch for their memorial sited at the entrance to St. Stephen's Green, Dublin. This memorial is a replica of the Arch of Titus in Rome. Amongst Republican circles in Ireland it is known as "Traitor's Gate". Ten thousand miles from the seat of the war, Irish Republicans, amongst others, saw the Anglo-Boer War as a fight between Imperialist and Republican ideals. A struggle they were trying to encourage the ordinary Irishman to take up in the new century.



Twenty-eight British cavalry regiments served in the Anglo-Boer War. Five have no known regimental memorial i.e. 2nd and 3rd Dragoon Guards; 3rd, 7th and 20th Hussars. Unlike the infantry, the cavalry regiments had larger recruiting areas, which included many different counties. This made the choice of a city in which to site a memorial harder to make. Five cavalry regiments chose Aldershot, the 'home' of the British army. The 9th, 12th and 17th Lancers and the 13th and 10th Hussars memorials can be found in the Royal Garrison Church, Aldershot. The two 'Irish' cavalry regiments, the 8th (King's Royal Irish) Hussars and the 5th (Royal Irish) Lancers erected memorials kin St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin. Of interest is a brass memorial next to the 8th Hussars regimental memorial commemorating 5 men of the 16th Lancers who served on attachment with that regiment. Members of the 8th Hussars paid for the memorial to be erected. The fact that they were on attachment is not apparent kin the official casualty rolls; they are listed under the 16th Lancers, nor on the 16th Lancers regimental memorial kin Canterbury Cathedral, on which they are named.

The 7th (Princess Royal's) Dragoon Guards are unique amongst the cavalry regiments in that they had two regimental memorials made - one permanent, the other to travel with regimental headquarters. The regiment stayed on in South Africa after the war until 1904 when they moved to Canterbury. Whilst in South Africa, a permanent memorial was organised and placed in Norwich Cathedral. This consists of two stained glass windows and two brass plaques listing the 64 fatalities. At about the time the regiment left Canterbury in 1908, a brass plaque was made also naming those who had died on active service. Included are the names of 6 soldiers and 3 children who died between 1904 and 1908. This memorial is now on display kin the regimental museum (4th/7th Dragoon Guards) in York.

The 18th Hussars initially set up three cottage homes to be used by invalided soldiers and their families. One cottage was built at Enfield, North London and two at Tidenham in Gloucestershire. However, sometime later, the regimental association decided that the cottages 'failed to fulfil their object' and they were sold. The proceeds were used to pay for a regimental memorial in York Minster, which describes this story. The balance was given to the regimental fund for 'old soldiers of the regiment in trouble or distress'. The timing was in some ways fortunate. The memorial was erected in October, 1914, barely eight weeks into the First World War.

## Cottage Homes

Cottage homes were a popular form of memorial because they were practical and could directly benefit soldiers invalided from the War. The term 'cottage home' may be somewhat misleading. Of the homes I have seen, and on one occasion was able to view the interior, they are substantial three and four bedroomed brick houses with a reasonable plot of land for a small 'cottage' garden. Most cottage home schemes were more successful than the 18trh Hussars and continue to be used to this day for the benefit of veterans. Examples of such are the group of eight cottage homes in Winchester shared by the King's Royal Rifle Corps and the Rifle Brigade. Two homes in Bath given to the Royal Artillery by the mother and sister of Capt. G.C. Fordyce-Buchan, RFA, who died at Bloemfontein on May 21, 1900. One house in Dorchester, Dorset, built by the Dorset Regiment. In the village of Manfield, County Durham, Col. J.G. Wilson (York and Lancaster Regiment) began the construction of two cottages in memory of his son, Lt. R.B. Wilson, 3rd Battalion IY, and brother, Lt.-Col. R.B. Wilson, 3rd Battalion Durham Light Infantry, who both died in the war. Col. Wilson, himself, died of wounds in March 1902 and the York and Lancaster Regiment took over the job of building and administering the cottages. The current occupants are the first civilians to live in the cottages. However, both were employees on the Wilson estate, whose grounds encompass the village.

## SCHOOLS

Public schools have already been identified as agents that imbibed the ethos of 'muscular chivalry'. Amongst the many thousands of officers of the British Army and Navy, almost every public school was represented. Schools figure prominently amongst locations where memorials can be found. Gildea lists 81 and an additional 9 have been recorded. There are memorials in the better known public schools such as Eton, Clifton College, Marlborough, Charterhouse and Winchester and a number of 'ordinary' grammar schools. The most common form of memorial is a plaque or tablet in the school chapel. The greater proportion of old boys listed on the public school memorials are officers. However, the schools patronised by the richer families of Britain erected bigger, more expensive, memorials. At Eton, five memorials were erected to the old boys. These included a library and hall, and a reredos and altar in the main chapel.

Cheltenham College created three memorials, which provide elegant examples of the 'muscular chivalry' ethic. The memorial cross is in a gothic style and an oak kneeling desk in the chapel is decorated with



statuettes of Sir Galahad of the Holy Grail and of Sir Philip Sydney (1554-1586), a soldier who died at the battle of Zutphen. His last act was to give his water bottle to a wounded soldier with the words, 'thy necessity is yet greater than mine'.[3] The third memorial is an impressive stone reredos measuring 24 feet high by 34 feet wide. Approximately 80 tons of stone were used in its construction. The reredos is intricately carved and inset with 52 statues representing religious and secular themes. Each figure was carefully chosen for the example they set in their lives and work, i.e. 'Champions of Christianity' (early missionaries such as Columba and Aidan), 'English Christian Worthies' (e.g. John Wesley and William Wilberforce), 'Art and Science' (e.g. Isaac Newton), 'Administration, Education and Leadership' (e.g. Dr. Thomas Arnold, 'architect' of the typical English public school[4]), 'literature, learning and leisure' (e.g. William Shakespeare) and various professions (e.g. David Livingstone).

In the late 20th century we may be surprised by some of the men chosen for what they represented. But the reredos tells us much of how late Victorians viewed their world. The only women amongst the statues are the Madonna[5].

## WOMEN

The second Anglo-Boer War is a milestone in the history of women's participation in the British Army. Whilst women have participated for centuries in warfare, in both combat and support roles, this has mostly been ignored in the history books and gone unnoticed. During the war British women were employed as nurses, not a new role, but their employment was on a more formal basis than ever before and received greater official and public recognition than before. Approximately 1800 women served in South Africa as nurses in military and civilian hospitals[6]. Many were members of the Army Nursing Service (ANS) and the Army Nursing Service Reserve (ANSR). Others were civilians serving in the privately funded hospitals such as the Scottish, Irish, Welsh Hospitals and the Portland Hospital. Part of the recognition given to women was in the commemoration of those who died on active service. For the first time in British history, women who had died on active service were included on memorials alongside the men[7]. Twenty-nine nurses died during the war, having succumbed to disease in one form or another. Unit memorials to the ANS and ANSR were placed in St. Michael and St. George's Church, Aldershot, and in the Royal Army Medical Corps. Headquarters in London. The memorial in London also lists civilian nurses. Of the 19 nursing dead, 7 are named on local memorials:

| *NAME* | *MEMORIAL* |
|---|---|
| **Sister F. Bell** | **Banwell, Somerset** |
| **Sister I Caldcleugh** | **Yorkshire Country Memorial, York** |
| **Sister C. Evans** | **Town Plaque, St. Helen's, Merseyside** |
| **Sister L. Fathers** | **Village Plaque, Sleaford, Lincolnshire** |
| **Matron M.A. Lloyd** | **Welsh National Memorial, Cardiff** |
| **Sister F.L. Sage** | **Welsh National Memorial, Cardiff** |
| **Sister M.J. West** | **Yorkshire Country Memorial, York** |

***Table 4:*** Nurses who died that are included on local memorials.

It is interesting to note that Sr. Bell's name was added to a memorial some twenty years after her death. Presumably no men from the village died during the Anglo-Boer War and so no memorial was erected. The memorial to Sr. L. Fathers is the only known one to her - she is not on the unit memorials. Five nurses, who survived, are named on two memorials:

| *Name* | *Memorial* |
|---|---|
| **Sister G. Black** | **City Memorial, Leeds** |
| **Sister H.J. Henderson** | **City Memorial, Leeds** |
| **Sister E. Jasper** | **City Memorial, Leeds** |
| **Sister M.W. Pughe** | **Town Memorial, Towyn, Wales** |
| **Sister E. Snape** | **City Memorial, Leeds** |

***Table 5:*** Nurses who survived that are included on local memorials.

No individual memorials to women who died in the Anglo-Boer War have been found.

Of the many private volunteer hospitals that served in South Africa, only the Welsh hospital is known to have erected a memorial to its dead. The memorial is in St. David's Cathedral, Pembroke and names the six members who died, including Matron M.A. Lloyd and Sr. F.L. Sage. Despite there being nearly £4000 remaining in the Hospital's fund at the end of the war, the supervising committee solicited fresh donations for the memorial. The £4000 was distributed amongst the dependents of Welsh soldiers killed in the War[8].



## *PEACE MEMORIALS*

There are nine memorials that celebrate the peace that brought the war to an end. These are different types of war memorials in that they look forward, post-war, to peace and do not remember people and events that occurred in war. Often they also mark the death of Queen Victoria in 1901 and the coronation of King Edward VII. These memorials take many forms. In Alverstoke, Hampshire, the tower to St. Mary's Church was built in 1904 as a peace and coronation memorial. In Higher Porthpean, Cornwall, Lady Craven gave a water pump to the village. The pump no longer works but it is well kept as a support for a hanging basket. In Harrogate, Yorkshire, one 'Samson Fox ESQ$^{re}$ of Grove House' planted an oak tree to commemorate his ox roastings on common land known as the Stray. He had provided these public feasts in 1887 on the occasion of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee and in 1902 to celebrate 'The Declaration of Peace in South Africa'.

## *OTHER MEMORIALS*

Other types of memorials include books and furniture. Two examples of inscribed Bibles have been recorded. In 1902 the Bishop of Winchester presented the Old Parish of Farnham with a Bible containing six illuminated pages naming 267 men from 66 units who served in the war. Not far away, in the small Hampshire village of Chawton, a Mr.I and Mrs. Montague Knight of Chawton Manor presented suitable inscribed Old and New Testament books to the church. Twelve men are listed including three sets of brothers, or perhaps father and son. Also in the church is a litany desk presented as a 'thank offering' for the safe return of three brothers from the Stephens family. Interestingly enough none are mentioned in the bibles - perhaps there was some friction between the Stephens and the Knight families. Other known literary memorials are I.C. Hannah's guide book, '*The Sussex Coast* (T. Fisher Unwin, 1912) which is dedicated:

TO
A SUSSEX WORTHY WHO RESTS IN A DISTANT LAND;
**MY BROTHER**
WHO FELL FIGHTKING THAT SUSSEX AND South Africa
MIGHT SHARE A FLAG;
THIS WORK IS DEDICATED WITH AFFECTION AND WITH
REVERENCE

Lt. W.M.J. Hannah, 1$^{st}$ Battalion Leicestershire Regiment was killed at Glencoe on October 21, 1899. The Hannah brothers were the sons of the Rev. J.J. Hannah, Vicar of Brighton at St. Peter's Church. At the time of

Lt. Hannah's death, a new chancel was being constructed. In his memory 'his sorrowing friends' paid for a chancel pillar on which is carved a fine stone memorial with an excellent colour depiction of the Leicestershire Regiment's tiger, and, as previously mentioned, the book by Col. Sir James Gildea. The author's copy of Gildea is a double memorial. It is inscribed to the relatives of Staff Quarter-Master Sergeant 2680 G.G. Smith-Senior, 6th Dragoon Guards, who was killed at Boschbult on March 31, 1902.

There are a number of examples of various pieces of church furniture being given as memorials usually by parishes or individuals and not regiments. These include items such as Litany desks, altar crosses, altars, organs, organ screens, prayer desks and lecterns. Of particular note are the gas lights in the choir stalls of St. Lawrence's Church, Alton in Hampshire and a large carved oak chair in St. Andrew's, Moretonhampstead in Devon. The chair was made by Dr. F.G. Engelbach and presented to the church prior to the war. He served in the war as a civil surgeon and was killed at Nooitgedacht on December 13, 1900. On his death the parishioners affixed a plaque recording that he:

FOR TEN YEARS PRACTISED IN THE DISTRICT AND WORSHIPPED
IN THIS CHURCH
FINALLY LAYIUNG DOWN HIS LIFE IN SOUTH AFRICA WHILST
ATTENDING THE WOUNDED UNDER FIRE

## ***Horse Memorials***

The war in South Africa saw the deployment of over half a million horses and mules by Britain and an unknown quantity by the Boer Republics. Approximately 67% or 350 000 horses used by the British died during the war[9]. There are two memorials, both in England, to the horses that perished. They are in Winchester, Hampshire and near the village of Burstow in Surrey. The inscription on the Burstow memorial is damning:

IN MEMORY OF THE MUTE FIDELITY OF THE 400,000 HORSES
KILLED AND WOUNDED AT THE CALL OF THEIR HUMAN MASTERS
DURING THE SOUTH AFRICAN WAR 1899 - 1902
IN A CAUSE OF WHICH THEY KNEW NOTHIKNG
THIS FOUNTAIN IS ERECTED BY A REVERENT FELLOW CREATURE

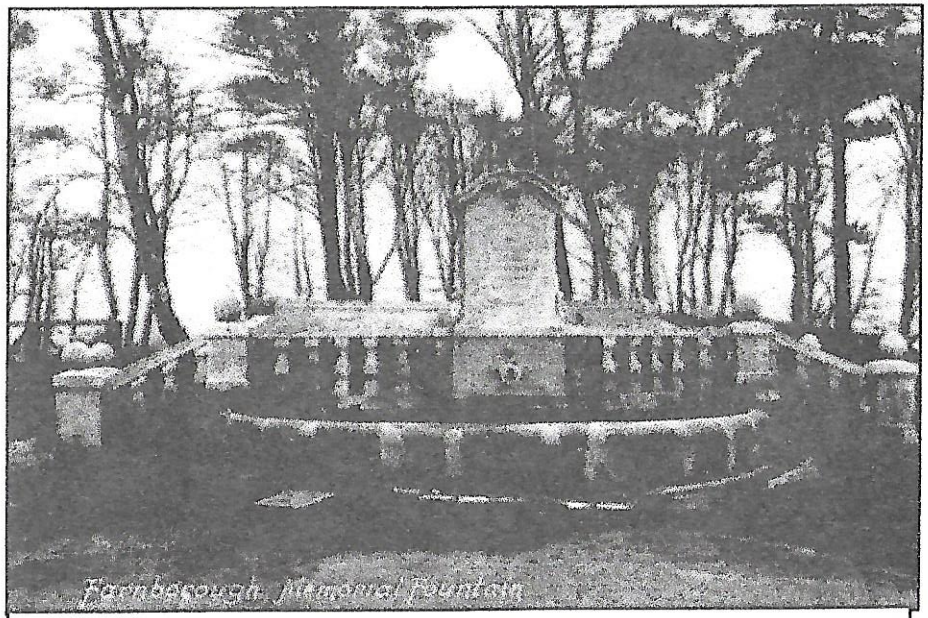
The identity of the person responsible for this memorial, a 'WT', is not known. Both memorials take the form of granite horse troughs, which would certainly have been used, for that purpose. Today, however, they are now used as flowerbeds maintained by the local authorities.



## ***Destroyed Memorials***

Most memorials are over 90 years old and the passage of time and petty vandalism has not been the only influences on these memorials. During the Second World War many parts of Britain were subject to aerial bombardment, much of it heavy and concentrated. A number of memorials were lost in attacks on York and Portsmouth, but most were lost in London. At least eight plaques erected by the CIV were destroyed.

In York a fine memorial in the Guildhall to the volunteers from the city who fought was unveiled in 1905 by Field-Marshall Lord Roberts. On the night of April 29, 1942 the Guildhall was hit by an incendiary bomb, which started a fire that destroyed the roof and severely damaged the interior. There were 177 men named on the plaque representing 16 units of all types who fought in South Africa; regular army, cavalry, artillery and many colonial units. In Portsmouth bombs hit the old Garrison Chapel on the seafront in



Farnborough Memorial Fountain

June 1941 which burnt out the church. Three Anglo-Boer War memorial tablets were badly damaged and a stain glass window completely destroyed. The property is now under the care of English Heritage which has restored part of the church for use, leaving the main body, where these

tablets are, open to the elements. However, they have taken steps to preserve the tablets from further deterioration. Inside the church hangs a banner of the local South African War Veterans Association branch.

Enemy action is not the only cause of memorials being destroyed. The Church of England, who perhaps has responsibility for the largest number of Anglo-Boer War memorials (not to mention memorials for other wars) has not been an exemplary guardian. In Winchester Cathedral, the King's Royal Rifle Corps and the Rifle Brigade erected plaques listing their large numbers of dead (550 and 282 respectively). Both regiments also filled in a large window each with fine stained glass.

Today neither regiment's memorial plaques exist. The exact fate of either is not known but the circumstances under which the King's Royal Rifle Corps plaques were removed is known. In 1948 the body responsible for the fabric of the cathedral and its contents, the Dean and Chapter, decreed that the plaques were in 'poor artistic taste' and had to be removed, which they were. The plaques were replaced with a book of remembrance. In both cases the spaces occupied by the plaques have been filled with tables of no great artistic merit listing distinguished officers of each regiment; Thomas Atkins has been consigned to the scrap heap.

It is not easy to understand how the decision was reached to remove these plaques or why the King's Royal Rifle Corps acceded to the request of the Dean and Chapter. The repor5t carried in the regimental Chronical of the plaques unveiling in 1910 explained by Winchester Cathedral was chosen as 'our Valhalla'. The Cathedral has many associations with the British Army, 'as the many martial records on the walls bear witness' and 'it is at Winchester that every young Rifleman begins his career as a soldier and learns to be proud of his Regiment'.[10] In the future, and 'who know what□the next great struggle may hold in store', the list of names on the plaques will serve as a reminder 'of duty and self-sacrifice' and the need for 'constant effort and determination' to win battles. By November 1918 those virtues had been fully demonstrated by the many thousands of Riflemen who perished in the First World War. It can be said that the plaques had served the aspirations of the writer, 'our brother Riflemen have not died in vain'[11]. Such lofty ideals were soon to be sacrificed on the altar of 'interior design'.

One feature of the late 20th Century Britain is that many churches are being declared redundant to falling numbers of worshippers. As these buildings are abandoned they often become targets for vandals and thieves. Some redundant churches are cared for and other de-consecrated and sold off



for conversion into homes, offices and workshop premises. Amongst the Project's archives is a fine marble memorial to Corp. 5302 R. Genge, 26th Company, Imperial Yeomanry. Originally erected in his parish church in the village of Shaftesbury, Dorset, the church was de-consecrated and sold to private developers in the 1980's. Quite by chance a project volunteer visited the church when it was being gutted. The builder's plans for Genge's memorial and other civilian memorials were to smash them up for hardcore. Fortunately the Project was able to acquire Genge's memorial free of charge. One of the 12th Lancers individual memorials, to Private 4307 H. Lloyd, was privately purchased. Where it was originally erected or how it came onto the market has not been ascertained.

The survey shown the enormous variety of Anglo-Boer War memorials in form, type and location, The memorials can provide much valuable information as to a person's military service death and family details, where they may have lived and what civilian career they may have had. War memorials, generally, are becoming part of Britain's favoured heritage. It is important that not only is a permanent record made, but also to ensure the physical structures are maintained so future generations can look upon them and draw their own conclusions.