

To the Glory of God and in memory of the fallen from this Parish.  
1914-1919



To the Glory of God  
and in memory of the fallen from this Parish.

MORGAN MORGAN	W. JAMES	OLIVER EVANS
J. TUCKER	NORMAN WILLIAMS	W. LEWIS
D. GOWER	GEORGE ROBERTS	A. STYLES
D. J. MORGAN	SAM. JONES	ERNEST WILD
IVOR EMANUEL	W. J. MORGAN	SIDNEY JENKINS
W. H. DAVIES	W. E. DAVIES	TUDOR JONES
D. HUGHES	IDRIS EVANS	FRANK DAVIES
W. HUGHES	DAVID EDMUNDS	F. STEPHENS
A. HUGH	A. GILASPIE	W. J. ANTHONY
OWEN L. EDWARDS	S. HUGHES	D. J. HOWELLS
WYNDHAM LEWIS	S. SULLIVAN	W. J. LOWE
F. STOKES	OLIVER JONES	T. MILES
D. M. DAVIES	MERVYN JONES	J. PARRY

"Eternal rest give unto them, O Lord."

### **Private Morgan Morgan 1883-1915**

Regiment/Service: Welsh Regiment, 9th Battalion. Morgan Morgan, Private, 13565, Welsh Regiment. Morgan was born in Kidwelly in 1883, the son of David and Amy Morgan. He lived with his wife Sarah Morgan at Bwlch Newydd, Trimaran prior to the war, and enlisted at Llanelli into the 9th Battalion, Welsh Regiment. The Battalion was attached to 58 Brigade, 19th (Western) Division, which had assembled around Bulford during September 1914. Divisional training was completed near Tidworth, from March 1915, and the Butterfly Division crossed to France between 11 to 21 July 1915, moving to positions near Loos. The Division fought during the opening assault at the Battle of Loos, which is where Morgan was killed in action on 25 September 1915. The battalion had taken part in a brave, but impossible charge across No Man's Land, in the face of well positioned German machine guns. Morgan and John Tucker of Kidwelly were killed, and Tom Lewis, Volin Jones, Sid Buist and Charlie Peck of Kidwelly were all wounded in the same charge. Morgan has no known grave and is remembered on the Loos Memorial. His nephew, David, also fell.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/15351812/morgan-morgan>

### **Private John Tucker 1890-1915**

John Tucker, Private, 13406, Welsh Regiment. John was born in Llanybri in 1890. He lived with his sister, Sarah George and her husband, at 19, Lady Street, Kidwelly prior to 1911. John enlisted at Kidwelly into the 9th Battalion, Welsh Regiment, which was attached to 58 Brigade, 19th (Western) Division. The Division assembled around Bulford during September 1914. Divisional training was completed near Tidworth, and the Division moved to France during July 1915, taking up positions near Givenchy, north of Loos. The Division fought during the opening attack of the Battle of Loos, which is where John was killed in action on 25 September 1915, alongside his friend Morgan Morgan of Kidwelly. John is buried at Brown's Road Military Cemetery, Festubert, France.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/56454449/john-tucker>

### **Private David Gower 1895-1915**

David Gower, Private, 13462, Welsh Regiment. David was the son of David and Mary Gower, of 38, Gwendraeth Town, Kidwelly. He enlisted at Llanelli into the 9th Battalion, Welsh Regiment, who were attached to 58 Brigade, 19th (Western) Division. The Division assembled around Bulford during September 1914. Divisional training was completed near Tidworth, from March 1915, and the Butterfly Division crossed to France between 11 and 21 July 1915, and remained on the Western Front throughout the war. The Division fought at the Battle of Loos, and were still in the area when David was accidentally killed on 23 November 1915, possibly through grenade training. He was 20 years old, and is buried at Chocques Military Cemetery, France.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/56567048/david-gower>

### **Lance Corporal Ivor Emanuel 1892-1915**

Lance Corporal Ivor Emanuel of the Welsh Guards died heroically in the Battle of Loos on September 27, 1915. Born in 1891, Emanuel joined the Welsh Guards, a regiment newly established in February 1915 by King George V.

The Battle of Loos, fought from September 25 to October 8, 1915, in Loos-en-Gohelle, France, marked the first British use of poison gas. Despite harsh conditions and fierce German resistance, Emanuel and his comrades advanced with remarkable courage.

Tragically, Emanuel was killed in action at the age of 24, just two days into the battle. His sacrifice underscores the profound personal losses of World War I. The Welsh Guards suffered significant casualties, but their efforts contributed to the broader war effort.

Lance Corporal Ivor Emanuel's legacy is honoured on memorials dedicated to the fallen of Loos and the Welsh Guards. His bravery and sacrifice remain a poignant reminder of the cost of war and the valour of those who served.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/246243426/ivor-emanuel>

### **Private William Howard Davies D-1918**

Private William Howard Davies, born in Llanelly, Carmarthen, was a dedicated soldier who served with distinction during World War I. Enlisting in Pembrey, Davies began his military career with the South Wales Borderers (regimental number 202062) before transferring to the Machine Gun Corps (Infantry), where he served in the 21st Company.

His life was tragically cut short on October 15, 1918, in the fierce battles of France and Flanders, just a month before the Armistice. Davies' death in the Western European Theatre marked him as one of the many who paid the ultimate price in the brutal and relentless conflict.

Private Davies' service number, 116422, stands as a testament to his role in the war. His commitment and sacrifice are a poignant reminder of the bravery and dedication exhibited by countless soldiers. His memory endures, honouring the contributions and sacrifices made by those from his hometown of Llanelly and beyond.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/12746715/william-howard-davies>

### **Private David Hughes 1886-1916**

David Hughes, Private, 14762, South Wales Borderers. David was the son of John and Margaret Hughes, of Kidwelly. He married Mary Emily Musk at Seven Sisters in 1907, and the couple lived at 20, Bryndulais Row, Seven Sisters. David worked at the Ynisedwen Tinplate Works at Ystalyfera prior to the war, and enlisted at Ystradgynlais into the 2nd Battalion, South Wales Borderers. The battalion had begun their war in China, where they captured the German Garrison at Tientsin. The Battalion returned to England where they joined 87 Brigade, 29th Division. The Division moved to Gallipoli via Egypt, landing on 25 April 1915. They remained here until evacuation to Egypt on 11 January 1916, and then moved to the Western Front on 15 March 1916. David was killed in action soon after, during the battalions first spell in the trenches, on 6 April 1916, aged 30. He is buried at Mesnil Ridge Cemetery, Mesnil Martinsart, France. Two of his brothers also fell: Sam and Willie Hughes.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/58988842/d-hughes>

### **Private William Henry Hughes 1886-1917**

William Henry Hughes, Private, 35648, Machine Gun Corps. William was born in Kidwelly in 1886, the son of John and Margaret Hughes. He married Mary Anne Morgan in 1906, and the couple lived at 52, Water Street, Kidwelly. William enlisted at Carmarthen into the Gloucestershire Regiment. He later transferred into the 5th Battalion, Machine Gun Corps, who were attached to the 5th Division. The Machine Gun Corps had been formed prior to the 1916 Somme Offensive which opened on 1 July 1916. The 5th Division fought on the Somme at High Wood, Guillemont, Flers-Courcelette, Moral and Le Transloy. On 5 October 1916, after suffering heavy casualties, the Division moved to Festubert, where they remained until March 1917. They next saw action at the Battle of Arras, fighting at the Battle of Vimy in April 1917, which is where William was killed in action on 16 April 1917. He is buried at Bois-Carre British Cemetery, Thelus, France. His brothers David and Samuel also fell.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/56183210/william-henry-hughes>

### **Private Augustus Edward Hugh**

Augustus Edward Hugh, Private, 45307, Welsh Regiment. Augustus was the son of David James and Charlotte Hugh, of Bay View, Station Road, Kidwelly. He enlisted at Haverfordwest into the 8th Battalion, Welsh Regiment, who were attached to 40 Brigade, 13th (Western) Division. The Division concentrated at Blackdown in Hampshire, and on 13 June 1915 left Britain for Alexandria. By 4 July 1915, the Division moved to Mudros, then landed at Gallipoli between 6 and 16 July 1915, relieving the 29th Division. They left and returned to Mudros at the end of the month, and the entire Division landed at ANZAC Cove from 3 August and Hill 60, ANZAC. Soon after 1915, taking part in the Battles of Sari Bair, Russell's Top, and Hill 60, ANZAC. Soon afterwards the Division was transferred from ANZAC to Suvla Bay, and it was evacuated from Suva on the 19th of December 1915, whereupon the infantry moved after a week's rest to the Helles bridgehead, where they faced the last Turkish attacks at Helles. On 8 January 1916, the Division was evacuated from Helles, and by 31 January was concentrated at Port Said, where they held forward posts in the Suez Canal defences. On the 12th of February 1916 the Division began to move to Mesopotamia, to strengthen the force being assembled for the relief of the besieged garrison at Kut al Amara. Augustus was killed in action during the advance into Mesopotamia on 14 January 1917. He was 36 years old and is buried at Amara War Cemetery, Egypt.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/56325489/augustus-edward-hugh>

### **Private Owen Lucius Edwards 1895-1917**

Owen Lucius Edwards, Private, 54190, Welsh Regiment. Owen was the son of John and Mary Edwards, of Sea View, New Street, Kidwelly. He enlisted at Kidwelly into the 16th Battalion, the Welsh Regiment, attached to 115 Brigade, 38th (Welsh) Division. The Division had landed in France during December 1915 and had spent their first winter in the trenches near Armentieres. In June they marched south to the Somme, where they were tasked with the capture of Mametz Wood. The attack on the wood began on 7 July, but met with fierce resistance, and it took until 14 July to clear the wood. The Division suffered terrible casualties at Mametz, and were taken out of the line, and moved to Ypres to rebuild. Owen was probably wounded at Boesinghe, as he is recorded as having died of wounds at the Norwich Military Hospital on 13 March 1917. He was just 22 years old and is buried at Kidwelly (St. Mary) Churchyard.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/232516355/owen-edwards>

### **Pioneer Charles Wyndham Lewis 1896-1917**

Charles Wyndham Lewis, Pioneer, 129892, Royal Engineers was born in Kidwelly in 1896, the son of Charles Rees Lewis and Anne Lewis (née Thomas), of 22 Lady Street, Kidwelly. He enlisted in the Royal Welsh Fusiliers at Llanelli but was later transferred to the Royal Engineers, serving with their 'P' Special Company. The Special Companies were responsible for gas warfare or chemical warfare and handled the operation of Stokes Mortars. Charles was killed in action during the Third Battle of the Scarpe on 6 May 1917 and is buried at Beaulencourt British Cemetery, Ligny-Thillois, France.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/24760827/charles-wyndham-lewis>

### **Private James Frederick Stokes 1890-1917**

James Frederick Stokes, Private, 267163, Welsh Regiment was born in Smethwick in 1890 and lived in Kidwelly prior to the war. He married Mary Anne Evans early in 1914. James enlisted at Llanelli into the 1/6th Battalion, Welsh Regiment, which served as Pioneers to the 1st Division. The Battalion landed in France at Havre on 29 October 1914, initially attached to the 28th Division before moving to the 1st Division on 23 October 1915. They participated in notable actions such as the Hohenzollern Redoubt and the early stages of the Somme Offensive, including battles at Albert, Bazentin, Pozieres, Flers-Courcelette, and Morval. The Battalion followed the German retreat to the Hindenburg Line in early 1917 and was later deployed to the Flanders Coast during the summer of 1917.

James was severely wounded on 2 July 1917 and was carried on a stretcher to a dressing station, but he succumbed to his injuries before reaching the station. He is buried at Ramscappelle Road Military Cemetery, Belgium. James left behind his widow, Mary, and two young daughters, Gladys and Violet May.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/13961703/james-fredrick-stokes>

### **Lance Corporal David Morris Davies D 1917**

David Morris Davies, Lance Corporal, 18624, Royal Welsh Fusiliers was born in Kidwelly in 1896, the son of David and Ceridwen Davies, of 29 Ferry Road. He enlisted in Llandudno into the 16th Battalion, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, which was part of the 113 Brigade, 38th (Welsh) Division. The Division landed in France in December 1915 and gained recognition for their role in the capture of Mametz Wood in July 1916. After their relief from Mametz, the Division moved through Hebuterne to Ypres, where they took up positions north of the city at Boesinghe. David was wounded during the fighting at Ypres and was sent back to Britain for hospital treatment. He died of his wounds in a hospital at Christchurch, Hampshire, on 7 August 1917. He was brought back home and is buried at Kidwelly (Siloam) Welsh Baptist Chapel yard.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/232516113/david-morris-davies>

### **Private William James 1887-1915**

William James, Private, 31684, Royal Welsh Fusiliers was born in 1887 and was the eldest son of James and Mary James, formerly of Upper Mill and later of Gwendraeth Place, Kidwelly. He enlisted at Llanelli into the 13th Battalion, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, which was part of the 113 Brigade, 38th (Welsh) Division. The Division landed in France in December 1915 and spent their first winter in the trenches near Armentières. In June 1916, they moved south to the Somme and were involved in the capture of Mametz Wood in July. The Division suffered heavy casualties during this operation and was withdrawn to Ypres to rebuild. William was killed in action during the Battle of Pilckem on 31 July 1917. He is buried at Dragoon Camp Cemetery, Belgium.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/12322577/william-james#add-to-vc>

### **Guardsman Norman Hadley Williams 1890-1916**

Norman Hadley Williams, Private, 3211, Welsh Guards was born in Cradley, Staffordshire, in 1890, the son of Frank and Fanny Williams. The family lived in Kidwelly prior to 1901. Norman married Maria Jane Evans in Kidwelly in September 1916, after enlisting in the 1st Battalion, Welsh Guards. The Welsh Guards were formed by Royal Warrant on 26 February 1915. They were stationed at White City before landing at Havre on 18 August 1915, and were attached to the 3rd Guards Brigade, Guards Division—a formation established in France in August 1915 by consolidating various Guards units. The Division remained on the Western Front for the duration of the war. Their first major engagement was the Battle of Loos on 25 September 1915, followed by the Action of Hohenzollern Redoubt. In July 1916, they moved to the Somme, where they fought in the Battle of Flers-Courcelette and the Battle of Morval, capturing Lesboeufs Village. After spending the winter in the area, they advanced with the German retreat to the Hindenburg Line in March 1917. Later that year, the Division moved to Ypres and fought at the Battle of the Pilckem Ridge. Norman was killed in action on 5 August 1917 during this battle. He is buried at Artillery Wood Cemetery, Belgium.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/56464772/norman-hadley-williams>



### **Private Thomas George Roberts D-1917**

Thomas George Roberts, Private, 13540, Welsh Regiment known as George, was born in Pembroke, and lived in Kidwelly prior to the outbreak of war, where he worked as a groom for Colonel Young. He enlisted at Llanelli into the 9th Battalion, Welsh Regiment, which was part of the 58 Brigade, 19th (Western) Division. The 19th Division, known as the "Butterfly Division," assembled around Bulford in September 1914. After completing divisional training near Tidworth from March 1915, the Division crossed to France between 11 and 21 July 1915 and took up positions near Loos. They participated in the opening attack of the Battle of Loos and subsequently moved to the Somme, where they were involved in the second wave of the attack on Ovillers-La Boisselle on 1 July 1916, capturing the village at great cost. They continued to fight through the Somme battles of Pozieres and the Ancre in 1916 before moving north to Ypres to take part in the Battle of Messines. George was killed at Messines on 23 July 1917. He is buried at Locre Hospice Cemetery, Belgium.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/12688223/thomas-george-roberts>

### **Private Samuel Jones 1892-1918**

Samuel Jones, Lance Corporal, 14660, South Wales Borderers was born in Kidwelly, the son of David and Margaret Jones. The family later resided at 21 Havelock Street, Llanelli. Samuel enlisted in Llanelli into the 5th Battalion, South Wales Borderers, which was part of the 58 Brigade, 19th (Western) Division. The 19th Division, known as the "Butterfly Division," assembled around Bulford in September 1914 and crossed to France in July 1915, remaining on the Western Front for the duration of the war. The Division fought in the Battle of Loos on 25 September 1915, and later participated in the second wave of the attack on Ovillers-La Boisselle on 1 July 1916, capturing the village at significant cost. They continued to fight through the battles of Pozieres and the Ancre in 1916, before moving north to Ypres to take part in the Battle of Messines and subsequent fighting for the ridge. In the spring of 1918, the Division was caught up in the German Spring Offensive near Bapaume, suffering heavy casualties. After being withdrawn to positions near Messines to rest, they faced another German attack the following month. The Division, having endured severe losses, was relocated to the quieter French sector to rebuild, only to be engaged again in the German offensive on the Aisne. Following further rebuilding, the Division participated in the great offensive, fighting in the Battle of the Selle, Valenciennes, the Sambre, and the Passage of the Grand Honnelle. Samuel survived this prolonged and brutal fighting but was accidentally killed on 2 December 1918 while attached to a unit of the Royal Engineers for transport duties at Candas. He was 26 years old and is buried at Doullens Communal Cemetery Extension No. 2, France.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/56397051/samuel-jones>

### **Private William John Morgans 1897-1917**

William John Morgans, Private, 53503, Welsh Regiment was the son of Thomas and Ann Morgans, of 26 Ferry Road, Kidwelly. He enlisted at Llanelli into the Pembroke Yeomanry but later transferred to the 14th Battalion, Welsh Regiment, which was part of the 114 Brigade, 38th (Welsh) Division.

The 38th Division landed in France in December 1915 and spent their first winter in the trenches near Armentières. In June 1916, they moved south to the Somme, where they famously captured Mametz Wood. The Division suffered severe casualties at Mametz and was withdrawn to Ypres to rebuild. It was during this period that William joined the battalion.

At Ypres, the Division fought in the battles of Pilckem Ridge and Langemarck before moving back to the Armentières sector. William was wounded in this sector and died of his injuries on 11 November 1917, aged 20. He is buried at Estaires Communal Cemetery Extension, France.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/56142607/william-john-morgans>

### **Rifleman Willian Evan Davies D-1916**

William Evan Davies, Rifleman, 5898, London Regiment was the son of Morris and Elizabeth Davies, of Ferry Road, Kidwelly. Before the war, he worked in London and enlisted there into the 1/9th Battalion (Queen Victoria's Rifles), London Regiment. The battalion landed in France on 5 November 1914 and became part of the 13 Brigade, 5th Division. The Division had landed at Havre on 15 August 1914 and had already participated in significant battles such as the Battle of Mons and the subsequent retreat, including fighting at Le Cateau and the Marne, where the German advance was halted. They then advanced to the Aisne and moved to Flanders, engaging in the Battle of La Bassée and the Battle of Messines in October 1914. The Division fought through the First Battle of Ypres, captured Hill 60, and participated in the Second Battle of Ypres in April 1915.

On 10 February 1916, the battalion was transferred to the 169 Brigade, 56th (London) Division. The Division saw action in the diversionary attack on Gommecourt and the battles at Ginchy, Flers, and Morval, where they captured Combles. William was killed during the Battle of Le Transloy on 9 October 1916. He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, France.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/12394327/william-evan-davies>

## **Sergeant Edward Idris Evans 1890-1919**

Edward Idris Evans, Sergeant, 49945, Royal Welsh Fusiliers was born in 1890 to William and Rhoda Martha Evans (née Davies) in Penygare, Kidwelly. He enlisted in Kidwelly on 3 September 1914, joining the 9th Battalion, Welsh Regiment, which was attached to the 58 Brigade, 19th Division. The battalion deployed to France on 18 July 1915, where they saw action near Festubert and played a crucial role in the opening attack of the Battle of Loos on 25 September 1915. Recognized for his leadership during this challenging assault, Edward was promoted to Sergeant.

In 1916, the Division moved to the Somme, engaging in the second wave of the attack on Ovillers-La Boisselle on 1 July, followed by the Battles of Pozieres and the Ancre. Edward was injured on the Somme, necessitating his return home. After his recovery, he joined the Depot Battalion in Cardiff.

Edward was reassigned to the 9th Battalion, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, on 11 August 1917, re-joining his unit at Ypres in time for the Battle of Passchendaele. His valour during the Ypres battles earned him the Military Medal, published in the London Gazette on 17 December 1917. In 1918, the division faced the German Spring Offensive near St. Quentin, enduring heavy casualties during a courageous rear-guard action near Bapaume. Edward sustained wounds on 25 March 1918, prompting his evacuation and return home.

While recovering from his wounds in the hospital, Edward developed a persistent cough, which was diagnosed as tuberculosis. He was discharged from the army on 30 August 1918 and succumbed to tuberculosis at 2 Priory Street, Kidwelly, on 1 November 1919, at the age of 29. Edward was laid to rest with full military honours at Capel Sul Chapel yard. His acceptance for commemoration by the CWGC was confirmed on Saturday, 5 April 2014.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/261757862/edward-idris-evans>

### **Master David Edmunds 1870-1915**

David Edmunds, Master, Mercantile Marine was born in Burry Port, the son of Joseph and Mary Edmunds. He married Elizabeth Randell in Kidwelly in 1902, and the couple lived at The Grove, Kidwelly. David served in the Mercantile Marine as the master of the SS Tangistan, a steamship built by William Gray in Hartlepool and launched in 1906. The Tangistan had a beam of 14.93 meters and a draught of 4.87 meters.

On 9 March 1915, while nine miles off Scarborough, the SS Tangistan was torpedoed and sunk by the German U-boat U-12, commanded by Arno Spindler. Tragically, David Edmunds drowned in the attack. He was 44 years old. Out of the thirty-eight people on board, only J. O'Toole survived. David Edmunds is commemorated on the Tower Hill Memorial in London.

In a photograph, David is seen standing to the right with his parents, wife, and daughter, a testament to the family he left behind.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/15228114/david-edmunds>

### **Private Alexander Gilasbie D-1917**

**Alexander Gilasbey, Private, 285143, Welsh Regiment** was born in Kidwelly, the son of Alexander and Frances Gilasbey. In 1902, he married Kate Lane, and the couple lived at 5 St. Mark's Place, Bath. He enlisted in the army at Bath and was posted to France, joining the 10th Battalion, Welsh Regiment, which was part of the 114 Brigade, 38th (Welsh) Division. The battalion had been stationed in France since December 1915.

Alexander likely joined the battalion at Boesinghe following their withdrawal from the Battle of Mametz Wood in July 1916. The 38th Division then moved via Hebuterne to Ypres, where they rested and rebuilt their strength in preparation for the Battle of Pilckem Ridge, which began on 31 July 1917.

Alexander was killed in action at Ypres on 4 September 1917, following the battles at Pilckem Ridge and Langemarck. He was 35 years old. Alexander Gilasbey is buried at Bard Cottage Cemetery, Belgium.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/11556545/alexander-gilasbey>

### **Samuel Hughes 1891-1918**

**Samuel Hughes, Private, 12535, Royal Welsh Fusiliers** was the son of John and Margaret Hughes of Kidwelly. He married Beatrice Jones in 1912, and the couple lived at 14 Gwendraeth Town, Kidwelly. Samuel enlisted at Llanelli into the 8th Battalion, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, which was part of the 40 Brigade, 13th (Western) Division. The 13th Division had seen extensive action during the war, fighting in Gallipoli, Egypt, and Mesopotamia. It was in Mesopotamia that Samuel fell ill. He was sent home for treatment but, unfortunately, he died of sickness on 12 March 1918, at the age of 27. Samuel is buried at Kidwelly (St. Mary) Churchyard. His grave was photographed by Diane Williams. Tragically, Samuel's brothers David and Willie also fell during the war.

### **Stephen Sullivan D-1917**

**Stephen Sullivan, Private, 15773, Welsh Regiment** was the son of Christopher and Margaret Sullivan of Neath. The family resided at 5 Gwendraeth Terrace prior to 1911. Stephen enlisted at Llanelli into the 10th Battalion, Welsh Regiment, which was part of the 114 Brigade, 38th (Welsh) Division. The 38th Division landed in France in December 1915 and spent their first winter in the trenches near Armentières. In June 1916, they marched south to the Somme, where they took part in the capture of Mametz Wood. The Division suffered terrible casualties at Mametz and were subsequently taken out of the line to rebuild in Ypres.

Stephen was killed in action at Ypres on 30 March 1917. He was 24 years old and is buried at Bard Cottage Cemetery, Belgium.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/11558052/stephen-sullivan>

### **Private Oliver Jones 1892-1917**

**Oliver Jones, Private, 48144, Welsh Regiment** was the son of David and Mary Ann Jones of Kidwelly. He enlisted at Llanelli into the Welsh Regiment and was posted to the 24th Battalion. This battalion had been formed from the merger of the Pembroke and Glamorgan Yeomanry Battalions and was part of 231 Brigade, 74th (Yeomanry) Division.

The 74th Division marched into Palestine at the beginning of 1917 and fought in two major battles at Gaza that year. Oliver was killed in action during the Third Battle of Gaza on 6 November 1917, at the age of 25. He is buried at Beersheba War Cemetery, Israel. Tragically, just six months later, his brother Mervyn was also killed on the Western Front.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/22729286/oliver-jones>

### **Private Mervyn Jones 1896-1918**

**Mervyn Jones, Private, 24316, Royal Welsh Fusiliers** was the son of David and Mary Ann Jones, of 33 Lady Street, Kidwelly. He enlisted at Llanelli into the 13th Battalion, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, which was part of 113 Brigade, 38th (Welsh) Division. The battalion moved to France in December 1915, initially taking up positions near Fleurbaix. They fought in the Battle of Mametz Wood during the Somme Offensive in 1916 and later moved to Ypres, participating in the Third Battle of Ypres in 1917.

On 21 March 1918, the German Spring Offensive shattered the British lines on the Somme, resulting in heavy casualties and the near destruction of many British battalions. The 38th Division was sent from their positions near Armentières to reinforce the lines on the Somme a few days after the offensive began. Mervyn was killed in action on 22 April 1918, at the age of 22. He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Pozieres Memorial, France.

Tragically, Mervyn's brother Oliver had been killed just six months earlier in Palestine.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/16080856/mervyn-jones>

### **Lance Corporal Oliver Evans 1888-1918**

**Oliver Evans, Lance Corporal, 42224, Royal Welsh Fusiliers** was the son of William and Lucy Evans, of Greyhound, Lady Street, Kidwelly. He enlisted at Llanelli into the 9th Welsh Regiment and later transferred into the 13th Battalion, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, which was attached to 113 Brigade, 38th (Welsh) Division.

The 38th Division landed in France in December 1915 and spent their first winter in the trenches near Armentières. In June 1916, they marched south to the Somme, where they famously captured Mametz Wood, suffering terrible casualties. After being taken out of the line, the Division moved to Ypres to rebuild and fought at Pilckem Ridge and Langemarck. They then moved to Armentières, where they remained from September 1917 until the launch of the German Spring Offensive in March 1918.

With the British lines overrun on the Somme, the 38th Division moved south in April 1918, taking up positions north of Albert. It was here that Oliver was killed in action on 22 April 1918, at the age of 30. He has no known grave and is commemorated on the Pozières Memorial, France.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/16080811/oliver-evans>

### **Private William Henry Lewis D-1916**

**William Henry Lewis, Private, 13848, Welsh Regiment 2Bn.** was born in Cardiff, the son of Edwin and Fanny Lewis. Before 1906, the family moved to New Town, Kidwelly. William enlisted at Llanelli into the 2nd Battalion, Welsh Regiment, which was part of 3 Brigade, 1st Division.

The 1st Division was among the first to arrive in France during World War I. They fought at the Battle of Mons and took part in the retreat to the Marne, where the German advance was halted. The Division then fought at the Aisne and at Chivy before moving north to Ypres. Here, they participated in the First Battle of Ypres, successfully stopping the German Offensive and wintering in Flanders.

In 1915, the Division saw action at the Battle of Aubers and later moved south to Loos. They fought during the Battle of Loos and the action at the Hohenzollern Redoubt. William was killed in action on 20 April 1916, at Loos. He is buried at St. Patrick's Cemetery, Loos, France. William is not commemorated locally in Kidwelly.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/24255014/william-henry-lewis>

### **Private Archie Styles 1897-1918**

**Archie Styles, Private, 45031, Welsh Regiment.** was the son of Charles and Emily Styles, of Old Shop, Mynydd y Garreg, Kidwelly. The family later moved to Crawley Down, Sussex. Archie enlisted in the army at Shoreditch and was posted to France in the summer of 1916, joining the 14th Battalion, Welsh Regiment.

The Battalion was part of 114 Brigade, 38th (Welsh) Division, which had landed in France in December 1915. They spent their first winter in the trenches near Armentieres before marching south to the Somme in June 1916, where they famously captured Mametz Wood. The Division suffered heavy casualties at Mametz and was taken out of the line to rebuild at Ypres. They fought at Pilckem and Langemarck, then moved to Armentieres, remaining there from September 1917 until the German Spring Offensive in March 1918.

As the British were overrun on the Somme, the 38th Division was moved south in April 1918, taking positions north of Albert. Archie was wounded in this area and died of his wounds on 4 May 1918, aged just 21. He is buried at Harponville Communal Cemetery, France.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/58918685/archie-styles>

### **Private Ernest Wild 1896-1918**

**Ernest Wild, Private, 108756, Machine Gun Corps** was the son of Thomas and Sarah Wild, of Angel House, Kidwelly. He enlisted at Carmarthen into the Monmouth Regiment but later transferred into the 33rd Company, Machine Gun Corps, which was attached to the 11th (Northern) Division.

On 1 July 1915, the Division sailed from Liverpool, landing at Alexandria before moving on to Mudros, completing concentration by 28 July 1915. They landed at Suvla Bay, Gallipoli on 7 August 1915 and remained there until the evacuation on 21 December 1915, when they moved to Egypt. In July 1916, the Division landed at Marseilles and then spent the remainder of the war on the Western Front.

The Division fought at the Battle of Flers-Courcelette during the Somme Offensive and spent the winter on the Ancre. In June 1917, they took part in the Battle of Messines and then fought at the Battle of Langemarck during the Third Battle of Ypres. At the end of September, they fought at the Battle of Polygon Wood, then at the Battle of Broodseinde and the Battle of Poelcapelle. After the Passchendaele Offensive had been closed down, the Division remained in Flanders for the coming months.

On 21 March 1918, the Germans attacked the British lines on the Somme and days later switched the attack to Flanders. Ernest was killed in action in Flanders on 13 April 1918. He was 22 years old and has no known grave, and so is remembered on the Ploegsteert Memorial, Belgium.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/12708639/ernest-wild>

### **2nd Corporal Sidney Morris Jenkins**

**Sidney Morris Jenkins, Corporal, 139015, Royal Engineers** was the son of David and Jane Jenkins, of 24, Water Street, Kidwelly. He enlisted at Llanelli into the Royal Engineers and served with their 180th Tunnelling Company. This company was tasked with the dangerous job of removing unexploded charges and mines from the battlefields.

During the desperate days following the German Spring Offensive of 1918, Sidney was wounded by shell fragments that struck him in the abdomen and left leg. Despite efforts to save him, he succumbed to his wounds on 23 July 1918, at the age of 24. Sidney is buried at Montigny Communal Cemetery, Somme, France.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/56139678/sidney-morris-jenkins>



## **2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant James Richard Tudor Jones 1894-1918**

**James Richard Tudor Jones, Second Lieutenant, Loyal North Lancashire Regiment** was the son of James and Elizabeth Tyson Jones, of Hill House, Kidwelly. He initially enlisted into the Royal Army Medical Corps and served in France from 3 October 1915. On 19 March 1918, he was commissioned into the 2nd Battalion, Loyal North Lancashire Regiment, which was attached to the 94th Brigade, 31st Division.

At the beginning of 1918, the 31st Division was stationed in the St. Quentin sector, where they faced the German Spring Offensive starting on 21 March 1918. This offensive included the Battle of St. Quentin, where the division was forced to withdraw west, fighting at the First Battle of Bapaume and the First Battle of Arras. The division suffered heavy casualties and was moved to Flanders to rest.

In April 1918, the Germans launched an offensive in Flanders, and the 31st Division was involved in the battles there, including the Battle of Estaires and the Battle of Hazebrouck, contributing to the Defence of Nieppe Forest. By August 1918, the Allies had gained the upper hand, and the division participated in the Advance in Flanders. It was during this advance that James was killed in action on 23 July 1918, at the age of 24. He is buried at Raperie British Cemetery, Villemontoire, France.

[https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/56414413/james-richard\\_tudor-jones](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/56414413/james-richard_tudor-jones)

## **Pioneer Frank Davies D-1918**

**Frank Davies, Pioneer, WR/262339, Royal Engineers** was the son of Thomas and Sarah Davies, of West End Street, Kidwelly. He married May Hughes at Kidwelly on 3 November 1908, and the couple had three children, living at Pencastle, Water Street. Frank enlisted at Carmarthen into the Liverpool Regiment but later transferred to the Royal Engineers, where he served with the Railways section in France from 23 December 1916.

The Royal Engineers Railways were responsible for operating and maintaining the rail supply networks on the Western Front, which were crucial for transporting supplies, ammunition, and troops to and from the front lines. On the morning of 10 September 1918, Frank was tragically killed on the railway line between Nuits-St. Georges and Dijon. He was given a full military burial by the French and is interred at Nuits-St. Georges New Communal Cemetery, France.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/67015619/f-davies>

### **Private Alfred (Fred) Oswald Stephens 1897-1918**

**Alfred Oswald Stephens, Private, 63510, South Wales Borderers** was the son of David and Margaret Stephens, of Kidwelly. He enlisted in September 1918 into the 3rd Battalion, South Wales Borderers. The 3rd Battalion was primarily a training unit for the regular battalions of the South Wales Borderers. Unfortunately, Alfred's time in the army was brief, as he became ill and died on 14 October 1918, just two weeks after enlisting. He is buried at Kidwelly (Siloam) Welsh Baptist Chapelyard.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/232516195/alfred-oswald-stephens>

### **Private William James Anthony 1895-1918**

**William James Anthony, Private, 54593, Welsh Regiment** was the son of John and Ann Anthony, of Llangadog, Kidwelly. He enlisted at Carmarthen into the 13th Battalion, Welsh Regiment, which was attached to 114 Brigade, 38th (Welsh) Division. The Division landed in France during December 1915 and spent their first winter in the trenches near Armentieres. In June 1916, they marched south to the Somme, where they famously captured Mametz Wood in July 1916. The Division suffered terrible casualties at Mametz, and were taken out of the line to rebuild, moving to Ypres. Here they fought at Pilckem and Langemarck in July and August 1917, then moved to Armentieres, where they remained from September 1917 until March 1918 when the German Spring Offensive was launched.

The British had been over-run on the Somme, and in April the Division was moved south, taking up positions north of Albert. They weathered the storm of the coming months until the war turned during the Battle of Amiens on 8 August 1918. The Germans had now lost the upper hand, and the British regained lost ground on the Somme with an attack that began on 21 August 1918. The 38th Division was in the midst of the attack during the Battle of Albert, then moving east to fight at the Battle of Bapaume.

The advance towards the Hindenburg Line began, and the Division continued their march east, fighting at the Battle of Havrincourt and the Battle of Épehy. After a short rest period, the Canal du Nord was breached, opening a passage through the Hindenburg Line. The Division then fought at the Battle of Beaurevoir, capturing Villers-Outreaux, before advancing to the Selle.

William became ill around the time of the Hindenburg Line battles. He was brought back to a Base Hospital on the Channel coast near Boulogne for treatment, but sadly died on 21 October 1918. He was just 22 years old and is buried at Terlincthun British Cemetery, Wimille, France.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/55974074/william-james-anthony>

## **Private David John Howells 1886-1918**

**David John Howells, Private, 202759, Welsh Regiment** was the son of Philip and Eleanor Howells, of Maes Gwennllian, Kidwelly. He served with the 18th Battalion, Welsh Regiment, which was attached to 119 Brigade, 40th (Bantam) Division. This Division was formed between September and December 1915 and moved to France in June 1916. Late in 1916, they moved south to the Somme and fought at the Battle of the Ancre, remaining in the area over the winter. In March 1917, the Germans withdrew to their shortened line, called the Hindenburg Line, and the 40th Division was one of the divisions that followed the withdrawal. Later in the year, they took part in the Battle of Cambrai, playing an important role in the attack on Bourlon Wood. They remained in the area over the coming months but were caught here by the German Spring Offensive of 21 March 1918. They fought at the Battle of St Quentin and retreated westwards, engaging in the First Battle of Bapaume. Due to the terrible casualties suffered by the Division here, they were sent north to Flanders to rest and rebuild. However, in April, the Germans launched an offensive in Flanders, and the 40th Division was caught up in the thick of it again, fighting at the Battle of Estaires and then at the Battle of Hazebrouck. The Division was ready for front-line action again by 18 July 1918, when they took part in the Advance in Flanders and the Battle of Ypres, 1918. David was taken ill during the final months of the war and was brought to the Base Hospital near Boulogne, where he died aged 32 on 31 December 1918. He is buried at Terlincthun British Cemetery, Wimille, France.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/55975597/david-john-howells>

## **William John Lowe D-1919**

**William John Lowe, Driver, M2/0/8835, Royal Army Service Corps** was born in Lampeter in 1887, the son of William and Sarah Lowe, and later resided at 16, Lady Street, Kidwelly. He served with the Motor Transport Section of the Army Service Corps as a Driver.

While on active service in France, William developed an abscess on his left hip following a fall, which necessitated hospitalization. After recovering, he returned to service but was again admitted to hospital in August 1916 due to shell shock, spending almost two months in treatment. Following his recovery, William was posted back to France.

On 28 April 1917, during the Battle of Arras, he suffered gunshot wounds to his face and hands. He was admitted to hospital on 4 May 1917 and spent 41 days recovering from these injuries. After his treatment, he was pensioned off but continued to suffer from the effects of his wounds.

William died at home on 30 March 1919 because of his wartime injuries.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/225530361/william-john-lowe>

### **Private Thomas Miles 1862-1919**

**Thomas Miles, Private, 27433, Royal Defence Corps** was born in Carmarthen in 1862, the son of Moses and Margaret Miles. By 1891, he was employed in Cardiff, and by 1901, he was lodging with the Bish family in Merthyr Tydfil. Later, Thomas worked as a coal hewer in Kidwelly, where he lived before moving to employment at Pembrey Munitions Works.

He enlisted into the Welsh Regiment at Merthyr on 17 December 1915, giving his age as 43 and noting previous military service with the Military Police. In April 1916, he was transferred to the North Staffordshire Regiment. By November 1916, the battalion had been re-designated as the 17th Battalion, Royal Defence Corps, and Thomas was posted to Guernsey, where he remained for the rest of the war.

After the war, Thomas was discharged on 14 December 1918. He returned to Tymawr, Water Street, Kidwelly. He applied for a war pension, claiming that he had developed asthma while enduring harsh conditions at Barry Dock in the winter of 1916, where he had slept without a mattress and with only two blankets. Although the outcome of his pension application is unclear, it is evident that Thomas was suffering from health issues.

Thomas Miles passed away in Kidwelly towards the end of 1919, at the age of 57. Further research may reveal more about his post-war experiences and the circumstances of his death.

### **Private Joseph Parry 1871-1918**

Joseph Parry, Private, 15270, South Wales Borderers was born in Bedwellty, Tredegar. He married Margaret Conniff in Kidwelly in 1906, and the couple settled at 61 Priory Street, Kidwelly. A long-serving veteran, Joseph had previously served in the South African War of 1899-1901. He re-enlisted with the South Wales Borderers in 1914, joining from the reserve.

Joseph deployed to France with the 1st Battalion, South Wales Borderers, on 26 January 1915. After some time, he returned to Britain and was assigned to the Depot Battalion. Joseph tragically died of illness on 22 September 1918, at the age of 47. He is buried in Kidwelly (St. Mary) Churchyard.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/232516317/joseph-parry>

The memorials in St. Mary's Church in Kidwelly serve as poignant tributes to the courage and sacrifice of those who have given their lives in service to their country. Each name etched on these plaques reflects a story of dedication, valour, and selflessness. As we gather here, we remember and honour the legacy of these brave individuals, whose sacrifices ensure that we may live in peace and freedom. Their memory continues to inspire and remind us of the high cost of liberty and the enduring spirit of those who served. May their sacrifices never be forgotten and may their stories of bravery continue to resonate through generations.