### WORLD WAR 1 [1914-1918] - VOLUNTEERS FROM CEYLON: STUDENTS, OLD BOYS AND STAFF REPRESENTING ROYAL, ST. THOMAS', KINGSWOOD AND TRINITY COLLEGES

Compiled by Gp Capt Kumar Kirinde, SLAF (Retd)







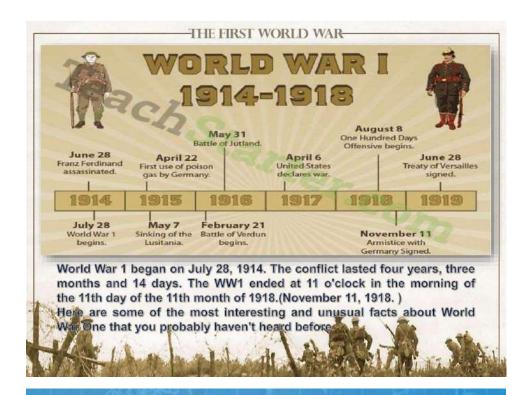




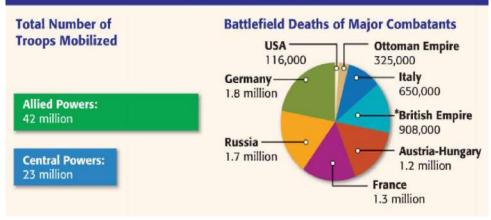
Pic: https://www.rca.ac.uk/more/special-collections/remembrance-royal-college-art-and-first-world-war/



Pics: Google Images



- · World War One included:
- 3 Continents
- 31 Countries
- · 65 Million Soldiers
- 37 Million Casualties
- 91,198 Deaths by Gas
- · 6,395 Allied and Neutral Ships Lost
- \$186.3 Billion Financial Losses



Pics: Google Images

### **PURPOSE**

It is to record the facts of history and be inspired by the volunteerism, adventure, sacrifice, courage and service to the motherland. The masters of these schools took the lead in motivating and encouraging the students to participate in the Great War (World War I) through example. This has to be nurtured by the many schools, masters and cadets of the present schools who have cadet platoons, to ensure they maintain those same ideals for the future. It is our [at least mine] fervent wish that these records are carefully preserved and due recognition and honour be bestowed on all those who served and sacrificed their lives so that we could enjoy the freedom that we take for granted.

To inscribe the names of the cadets, old boys and staff of these schools on the cenotaph, who fell in combat.

To inculcate a Sri Lankan identity devoid of ethnic, linguistic or religious bias since the Ceylonese contribution in WW 1 was a total effort by all communities living together in peace and cordiality in the island of Ceylon during the Great War.

The contribution of 330 volunteers from these 4 schools to WWI consisted of 186 Burghers, 95 British/Europeans, 41 Sinhalese, 5 Tamils, 2 Malays and 1 Colombo chetty. This indicates the Ceylonese were united and contributed their might to the great war devoid of communal or racial prejudice. 105 of them were either KIA or died due to their wounds which is almost 32% of the fatalities, whilst another 114 or 34.5% were WIA and 18 or 5% were MIA or taken as POWs. This equates to over 71% of casualties out of the 330 volunteers from these 4 schools alone. Their sacrifice, courage and volunteerism must always be remembered with gratitude, honour and utmost respect.







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#### **Sources**

## "In Defence of Empire", "Courage under Fire" and" On the Roll of Honour" by Sergei De Silva-Ranasinghe

Researcher in Sri Lanka's military history, strategic and defence studies, (Sunday Times of 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> April 2004)

### Janaka Perera

Veteran Journalist, Military History Enthusiast

"World War I: The Great War Centenary and Sri Lanka" by Charitha Ratwatte
https://www.colombotelegraph.com/index.php/world-war-i-the-great-war-centenary-and-sri-lanka/

"Thomians remember war dead" by Col Parakrama Dissanayake, SLA (Retd) http://www.dailynews.lk/2018/04/25/features/149166/thomians-remember-war-dead

### 2nd Lieutenant Basil Arthur Horsfall VC

https://www.lancashireinfantrymuseum.org.uk/2nd-lieutenant-basil-arthur-horsfall-vc/

### Cenotaph War Memorial, Colombo

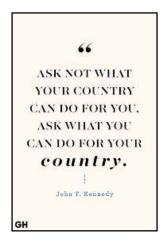
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cenotaph\_War\_Memorial,\_Colombo

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### **Acknowledgements**

Support extended by Brig Hiran Halangode, SLA (GW), Retd and Wg Cdr (Dr) Narme Wickramasinghe, SLAF (Retd) in providing the leads, direction, advice and primary information is well appreciated.

Sincere thanks to Brig J B Galgamuwa, SLA (SR), Retd and Mr. Quintus Andradi, SLN (Retd) for the support extended to gather additional information and to add more value to the document.



### **ABBREVIATIONS**

SLA (GW) – Sri Lanka Army (Gemunu Watch)

SLA (SR) – Sri Lanka Army (Sinha Regiment)

SLN - Sri Lanka Navy

SLAF - Sri Lanka Air Force

RAAC – Royal Australian Armoured Corps

Brig - Brigadier

**Gp Capt – Group Captain** 

Wg Cdr – Wing Commander

Maj – Major

Retd - Retired

KIA - Killed in Action

WIA – Wounded in Action

MIA - Missing in Action

POW - Prisoner of War

WWI - World War I

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"Please always remember those of whom that helped to save the country from external and internal threat, by extending to them your gratitude in a way that is worthy of their sacrifice. They hardly talk about it, at least not around other people. But if you find yourself near the cenotaph at Vihara Mahadevi Park or pass by any memorial in our motherland, Sri Lanka, kindly offer a silent prayer of thanks to our Veterans. I can tell you from first hand observation that they appreciate hearing that they are remembered for their sacrifice."

-- Brig Hiran Halangode, SLA (GW), Retd --



Pic: Google Images

### **INTRODUCTION**

World War I (also termed as the Great War) was a global war centered in Europe that began on 28 July 1914 and lasted until 11 November 1918. It involved all of the great powers of the world, as at that time, which were grouped into two opposing alliances: The Allies, based on the Triple Entente of the United Kingdom and the British Empire, France and Russia on the one hand and the Central Powers, originally the Triple Alliance of Germany, Austria, Hungary and Italy. But, as Austria and Hungary had taken the offensive against the agreement, Italy did not enter into the war.

Alliances later reorganised, Italy supported the Allies and more countries entered the war. The United States of America entering the war on the Allies side in 1917 was a decisive factor. Ultimately more than 70 million military personnel were mobilised in the First World War. More than nine million combatants were killed. It was the sixth deadliest conflict in world history.

The conflict opened with the Austro-Hungarian invasion of Serbia on 28 July 1914, it ended with the cease fire on 11 November 1918, known as Armistice Day.

The service of the Ceylon volunteers, both British colonists resident in the country and Ceylonese, who served in all major frontline theatres of the Great War has to be given due public recognition and therefore this document is a step taken towards this objective.

### **VOLUNTEERS FROM CEYLON**

Sri Lanka or Ceylon, as we were known then, played a role in the First Word War. By 1917 the Times of Ceylon estimated that 1,250 volunteers had enlisted for overseas service. At least 351 Ceylon volunteers signed up while in England and another 438 enlisted on their own account. In addition, the 'Times Fund' facilitated the expenses for 156 Ceylon volunteers to enlist overseas. From the various available nominal rolls of honour it appears there were minor concentrations of Ceylon volunteers in the RMAC (apart from Ceylon Sanitary Company), Kings Royal Rifle Corps (KRRC), Middlesex Regiment, Coldstream Guards, Royal Fusiliers, Royal Garrison Artillery (RGA) and the Royal Engineers, Inland Water Transport.

Sergei De Silva-Ranasinghe giving credit to the Ceylon volunteers say;

"..Unlike most other colonies of the Empire, close to 50% of Ceylon's volunteers to the Great War were commissioned as officers. Most of them tended to have previous affiliation to the Ceylon Cadet Battalion, military experience in the British Army, or were associated with a Ceylon Defence Force Formation".

Janaka Perera, shares a photo related to the Lankan volunteers who went to war, scanned from the (hardbound) two volume book මහනුවර යුගයේ අප්රකට විත්ති (A HISTORY OF THE KANDYAN ERA UP TO MODERN TIMES) by Chamikara Pilapitiya who has extracted it from a යුද්ධ පත්රිකාව, one of several wartime Sinhala pamphlets.

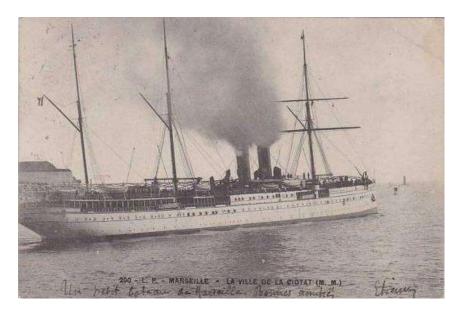


Ceylonese volunteers assembled at Torrington Square, London

In terms of the total number of Ceylon volunteers, the Times of Ceylon in 1917 estimated that of the 1,250-total, the newspaper knew of at that time, there were 105 fatalities, 84 killed in action, 21 died of wounds. 114 were wounded, and 18 were categorised as either missing or Prisoners of War. It goes on to say that of the 330 casualties from the four English medium schools (Royal, St. Thomas', Kingswood and Trinity) 30% were casualties

With regard to Ceylonese casualties, Janaka Perera says;

"This country's only major tragedy was when 14 student volunteers perished following the Germans torpedoing the troopship Ville de las Ciotat in the Mediterranean in December 1915".



Ville de las Ciotat (Pic: Google Images)

Then to give a general idea of what the volunteers of Ceylon went through and achieved in facing battle when student volunteers in general, Janaka Perera shares the following information with regards to some Trintians,

"According to facts I gathered from others sources, Aluvihare, who joined the Middlesex Regiment and saw action in the decisive Battle of Somme in France, suffered injuries to his lungs and liver but survived. Among our volunteers who figured prominently were Halangoda, P.D Pelpola and D.B. Seneviratne.

D.B. Seneviratne, from the college staff was the most decorated volunteer and hero of the French Theatre of War. He was awarded the Military Medal and served with the British Army of Occupation in Germany during 1918-1919. Later promoted to the rank of Major, Seneviratne's picture still hangs in the regimental Museum of the Ceylon Light Infantry, Sri Lanka's oldest Regiment as far as I know.

P.D. Pelpola had the honour of being a member of the Legion of Frontiersmen".

Incidentally, Sergei De Silva-Ranasinghe in his three parts article gives the following figures for the college representation and their state of casualties i.e. as related to the four English medium schools in Country at that time at which some of the volunteers were members either as students, past students or staff.

Royal - 88 enlisted (15 British / European & 73 Ceylonese) - 5 KIA, 13 WIA and 3 POWs St. Thomas' - 86 enlisted (28 British / European & 58 Ceylonese) - 14 KIA Kingswood - 84 enlisted (25 British / European & 59 Ceylonese) - 13 KIA and 15 WIA

Trinity - 72 enlisted (27 British / European & 45 Ceylonese) - 13 KIA, 18 WIA and 2 POWs

Total - 330 enlisted (95 British / European & 235 Ceylonese) - 45 KIA, 46 WIA and 5 POWs KIA=Killed in Action, WIA=Wounded in Action, POW=Prisoner of War

### Roll of Honour of Royalists who fought in the Great War (1914-1918)



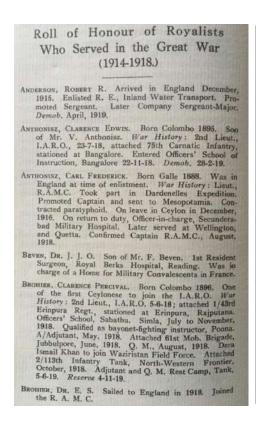




Anderson R R	Evans P E	Modder C J	Simon H D G
Anthonisz C E	Fretsz L W	Modder M	Speldewinde C G O
Anthonisz C F	Garvin H E	Modder V C	Speldewinde W E
Beven Dr. J J O	Harrop A R	Nicholas C W	Spencer S E L
Brohier C P	Jayasinghe W J V	Ohlmus Dr. W T	Stork E L
Brohier Dr. E S	Johnson C	Oorloff R H G	Todd H V H
Christoffelsz Dr. E L	Johnson G	Perera Dr. J A P	Toussaint J B
Daniel A R	La Brooy J T	Robertson D D	Van Cuylenberg V A
Daniel E M	Leembruggen A	Robertson C A	Van Cuylenberg H
Daniel R Y	Leembruggen B C F	Robertson D B	Vander Smaght J G
De Boer Dr. H E S	Leembruggen C A	Robertson E G	Vanderwert Dr J H
De Krester Dr. B	Leembruggen Dr. H U	Robertson O J	Van Dort H E
De Vos H A E	Leembruggen L F	Robertson J	Van Eyck E C E
De Vos J P	Leembruggen R	Rupersinghe H F	Van Hoff J E H
Dornhorst C	Loftus G M	Rupersinghe J V	Van Langenberg J F
Dornhorst E S	Loos E C	Sampson L H W	Van Langenberg V
Dornhorst F S	Loos H F E	Sansoni A J	Van Rooyen G J C
Dornhorst H C	Loos J	Shockman A E	Wambeek C L C
Ebert W D R B	Maartensz G	Shockman N	Wambeek W G L
Edema E F	Maartensz P S	Shockman R	Weinman A N
Ephraums A F	Marshall H T	Schrader F J	Weinman E C
Ernst Dr. A H	Meier A C	Schrader G J	Weinman Dr. L O

### Royal College, Colombo

The names and pen pictures related to the 88 volunteers from Royal who went to fight in the war are given in the book, The History of Royal College (Vijitha Yapa Publications, 2019). Also at the college, a War Memorial Panel has been unveiled for the first time in 1933, by Sir Graeme Tyrrell, Chief Secretary of Ceylon to commemorate Old Royalists who had died or were decorated during the Great War (First World War). Then in the recent past a war memorial has been unveiled to honour all Royalists who sacrificed their lives during the two world wars and the civil conflict that ended in 2009.



The way the names and pen pictures of the 88 Royalists appear in the book 'The History of Royal College' (Vijitha Yapa Publications, 2019)

Pic courtesy: Royal College 1960 Group

Please refer Annexure at page 26 and onwards for pen pictures of all Royalists who volunteered to fight in the Great War.



**Royal College War Memorial** 

Pic: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZsjSCbtwqZE&ab\_channel=ChandimalFernando

### Roll of Honour of Thomians who fought in the Great War (1914-1918)







Arndt C E	Grenier M	Jayetileke LVS	Pereira S W
Abeysekera A	Garvin W	Jayawardena LVS	Poulier H
Andree A M U	Horsfall B, V. C.	Keyt W E, M.C.	Obeysekere F
Arndt U	Horsfall G	Keyt S H S	Ramanathan S
Alvia S	Halliley N E	Keyt E M	Reimers E
Bay G	Hunter H H	Koelmeyer S	Richards E
Bell W	Hower F	Keane R	Robertson B
Bennett W P	Hebenton H R	Leembruggen W	Staples H E W
Burke J	Hebenton J F A	Leembruggen H V	Van Rooyen G E
Burke R	Ronald W	Leembruggen R A	Weerakoon W M
de Saram R S	Silva S L	Leembruggen R C F	Welch F
de Saram H	Smith M	Leembruggen B	Winter W
Diacono H V	South T	Ludovici F, R.G.A.	Wickramaratna R F
D'Silva C	Strong B	Martensz W K	Wickramasinghe R
de Zilva F G	Sproule P St Q	Moir J	Wiggin W
de Zilva W C	Tringham H V	Magenout W	Wijewardene D C
de Zilva C L	Tennekoon P	Mac Heyzer L M	Weinman E C
de Livera C	Tennant C	Nicholas E H	Zanetti O L
Ebert, Dr J H	Todd H E H	Nicol W T	Zanetti A C
Green C M	Weinman E C	Nicol J S	Zanetti B G
Gamble F M	Ingleton J R	Nell M	
Glennie N	Jan H G	Perera S O L	

### St. Thomas' College Mt Lavinia

The names of the 86 volunteers from St. Thomas who went to fight in the war are given in a souvenir published recently by the college to commemorate its War Heroes. A Commemorative Panel has been unveiled in the hall to remember the Old Thomians who had volunteered to fight in the Great War (First World War). Then in the recent past a War Memorial Monument has also been unveiled to commemorate Old Thomians who had died in combat during the Great War (First World War), World War II and the country's Civil War that ended in 2009.

J. R. Ingleton C. E. Arndt G. W. Jayetileke A. Abeysekera A. M. Andree L. V. S. Jayawardena Capt. W. E. Keyt, M.C. U. Arndt Shelton Koelmeyer S. Alvis S. H. S. Keyt Geo. Bay E. M. Keyt J. Burke Rupert Keane R. Burke W. Leembruggen Claud D'Silva H. V. Leembruggen Lt. W. C. de Zilva R. A. Leembruggen C. de Livera E. C. F. Leembruggen Capt. C. L. de Zilva R. S. de Saram B. Leembruggen W. K. Martensz F. G. de Zilva Capt. H. V. Diacono James Moir Dr. J. H. Ebert W. Margenout C. M. Green L. M. Mac Heyzer F. M. Gamble Lieut. E. H. Nicholas N. Glennie W. T. Nicol M. Grenier M. Nell W. Garvin J. S. Nicol G. Horsfall Howard Poulier N. E. Halliley S. W. Pereira H. H. Hunter Edmund Reimers Q.M.S. and Hon. Lieut. W. Winter F. Homer Lieut. R. F. Wickrama-J. F. A. Hebenton ratna W. Ronald R. Wickremasinghe S. L. Silva F. C. Wiggin Martin Smith D. C. Wijewardene T. South O. L. Zanetti B. Strong Lt. P. St. Quentin Sproule A. C. Zanetti Lt. H. V. Tringham B. G. Zanetti P. Tennekoon E. C. Richards C. Tennant B. Robertson H. E. H. Todd Lieut. E. C. Weinman F. Welch

The way the 86 names of the Thomians who volunteered to fight in the Great War (1914-1918) appear in a souvenir published by St. College to commemorate its war heroes.

Pics courtesy: Gp Capt Pulasthi Jayasinha, SLAF (Retd)

```
Lieut. Basil Horsfall, V.C. . . Killed in France
                               .. Gassed in Flanders
     Lieut. W. Bell ...
                               .. Killed in France
     Lieut. Glennie
                               .. Drowned in the
     S. O. L. Perera
                                   Mediterranean
                                            23
     F. Obeysekere
     Hal de Saram
                               22
     S. Ramanathan
                               .. Died while on Ser-
     Wm. Weerakoon
     G. E. Van Rooyen ...
                                    vice
                               .. Killed in Action,
     Lieut. H. G. Jan
                                    Tangier Line
                                .. Killed in France
     H. E. W. Staples ...
     Gunner F. Ludovici, R.G.A.
                               $100 mm
     W. P. Bennett .. -
                                    3) 1)
     H. Robert Hebenton .. ..
   To the memory of these men the present Big Club Cricket
ground was made in 1922.
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Memorial Monument of St. Thomas's College, Mt Lavinia

### First Thomian to fall in battle

March 27, 1918. Ablainzeville - Mayannaville, France. A defence line of the British during World War 1. This period was also known as the spring offensive. All was not quiet, as some thought. There was heavy fighting, with the Germans trying to take control over British positions. A young lad, leading from front was in the thick of battle. Back in Ceylon, many of his friends were in their classes, at the school by the sea, in Mount Lavinia.

As the day progressed, there was so much moaning, groaning and gnashing of teeth at the front lines. When sun went down, wounded severely, in pain, the first Thomian, 2nd Lt Basil Horsefall, made the supreme sacrifice. The sacrifice for Queen and Country, the annals of Thomian history was recorded with pride and honour. Amidst tears, anguish and sorrow for the family. He was awarded with the Victoria Cross (VC)\* the British Empire's highest gallantry medal.

\* Only two other volunteers from Ceylon were awarded the VC in World War I, 2nd Lt G.R.D. Moor and Major S.W. Loudoun-Shand.



The Victoria Cross (VC) is the highest and most prestigious award of the British honours system. It is awarded for valour "in the presence of the enemy" to members of the British Armed Forces. It may be awarded posthumously.

### Lieutenant Basil Arthur Horsfall, VC: A Thomian who fought and died



**Pics: Google Images** 

Basil Horsfall was born on 4 October 1887, the youngest son of Mr W F Horsfall, in Colombo, Ceylon (now Sri Lanka). He was educated in Ceylon and at Sir William Borlase's Grammar School, Marlow, in England, after which he returned to Ceylon where he is reported as working variously as a rubber planter, an accountant, and a civil servant in the Public Works Department.

He was a member of the Ceylon Engineers, a locally-raised force of European expatriates largely drawn from the Public Works Department which was mobilised for the duration of World War I. In July 1916, aged 28, he returned to Britain where he was gazetted as a 2nd Lieutenant in the 1st Battalion, East Lancashire Regiment, on 19 December 1916.

Basil was wounded on 11 May 1917 while serving with the 1st Battalion and after recovery and convalescence in England was attached to the 11th (Service) Battalion, East Lancashire Regiment (the Accrington Pals) on 24 October 1917.

On 27 March 1918 the Pals came under a very heavy attack as the Germans attempted to capture the village of Ayette, south of Arras. The Germans stormed the Pals' positions again and again, with each side suffering heavy casualties.

In a letter to Basil Horsfall's father, the Pals' Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Arthur Rickman, described the desperate situation:

"In the action fought between Ablainzeville and Mayannaville on 26th and 27th March 1918, my Battalion (11th East Lancs.) was holding the ridge which runs between Ablainzeville and Mayannaville. My left was on the road which runs from Courcelles Le Comte Le Ayette. The enemy attacked very heavily on the dates mentioned. Your son was commanding the left platoon of my left company. The 11th East Lancs. Prolonged the line towards Mayonnaville. The 11th East Lancs. were driven off the ridge but your son continued to hold to his position. I received a message from him saying that he had been driven back but that he was counterattacking which he most successfully did, driving the enemy back and gaining his objective. He being wounded severely (in the head) at the time. Hearing that the two other platoon commanders on the ridge were both killed and the other platoon commander

wounded he refused to leave his men. Throughout the day a very heavy fight was continued. Twice your son lost his position but each time he counterattacked, driving the enemy back. He held his ground though his Company had lost 135 out of 180 engaged. In the evening when both my flanks were driven in on to my headquarters, I sent written instructions to your son to retire on to the line of Ayette. He received the instructions and carried them out, himself remaining behind to supervise the retirement. During the retirement he was unfortunately killed close to the ridge which he had so gallantly held for two days. His body had to be left where he fell, and the ridge has been in the possession of the Germans ever since. By his splendid example and devotion to duty undoubtedly a very critical situation was saved."

Nearly 70 years later, one of his soldiers, ex-Private Arthur Cheetham, described Basil Horsfall's final moments to the Pals local newspaper, the Accrington Observer:

"The order to retire came. Before we set off, 2/Lt Horsfall shouted 'every man for himself'. Terrible words but a terrible situation to be in.

"2/Lt Horsfall was on my left as we started to cross an old airfield but 20 yards after we started he simply wasn't there. Our company lost about 25 men crossing that airfield. There were five of us in my party and two didn't make it. Of all the time I spent in France that was a day I will never forget."

Basil Horsfall's body was never found. He is commemorated on the Arras Memorial. His Victoria Cross is kept in the Museum, and is one of its proudest possessions.

### Roll of Honour of Kingswoodians who fought in the Great War (1914-1918)



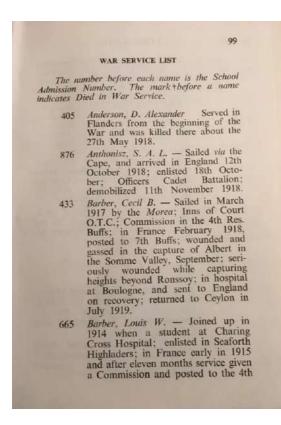




A	anderson D A	de Joodt C T	Keyt W E	Schokman C C
A	anthonisz S A L	Drieberg J F H	Krause J H A	Smith E L
В	Barber C B	Fernando H L	Lamb P O	Smith R L
В	Barber L W	Foreman T H	Leembruggen F	Smith W L
В	Barber P C	Foreman W	Leembruggen W E	Smith J W
В	Bassette G E	Forster V E	Mack O R	Smith R O A
В	Bassette C E	Guinan B L	Marshall H T	Sproule R St. Q
В	Bates S F	Guinan E A	Morel S A	Strong B H
В	Bell W	Haigh A R	Nell P M	Toussaint L G
В	Blackett G	Haigh J E	Nicholas V A	Van Cuylenberg A
В	Bowtell S	Halfhide J	Perera G D A	Vander S V
В	Burke R W	Hardy F T	Perera M S	Van Dort R
C	Casie Chitty J E	Hawke L P	Pereira S O L	Van Sanden H G
C	Chunchie K A	Helsham H G	Phillips W P	Van Sanden K D
C	Cook V C	Hermon R	Pietersz J W	Van Sanden O C
C	Crowther P F H	Hillman B	Poulier A E A	Weinman A N
C	Crowther R F H	Jansen D H	Reimers L V	Wijetunge V E
D	De Moor W	Jansen T R	Ruston B	Woutersz E S
D	De Vos B L	Jones H R	Saldin H H	
D	De Vos C W	Jonklaas St. J B	Samarasinghe LP	
D	De Vos L G	Kent C F H	Samaraweera E E	

### **Kingswood College Kandy**

The record of details of 82 Kingswoodians who volunteered to fight in the Great War is given in the book 'K. F. E. The Story of Kingswood, Kandy by L E Blaze Principal 1891-1923'. Recently the college has established a War Museum in honour of the students who have sacrificed their lives during the two world wars and the civil war that ended in 2009.



The way the 82 names appear in the book, 'K. F. E. The Story of Kingswood, Kandy by L E Blaze Principal 1891-1923' (Saravodaya Vishwalekha 1994)

Please refer Annexure at page 30 and onwards for names and pen pictures of the Kingswoodians who volunteered to fight in the Great War.

Pic courtesy: Brig J B Galgamuwa, SLA (SR), Retd



**Opening of the Kingswood College War Museum** 

Pic: https://www.facebook.com/ThelslandJournal.lk/photos/ a.185257858661168/472549016598716

### Reginald Hermon: A Kingswoodian who was awarded the Military Medal for Bravery



Reginald Hermon

His son, Maj. Richard Hermon, RAAC, (Retd) a Trintian says the following.

"My Father Reginald Hermon who served with The Coldstream Guards in WW1 was awarded a Military Medal for bravery. He was an Old Kingswoodian and travelled to England privately to join up...I wear his medals with pride on ANZAC day and on Remembrance Day! ...I am happy to share the following short Bio-data and some photos of my Father".

REGINALD (Reggie) HERMON

Service No 21688

Born 08/08/1898 in Colombo Ceylon.

Educated at Kingswood College Kandy Ceylon

Enlisted in 5th Bn Coldstream Regiment of Footguards.12/02/1917.At the age of 18 Yrs. and 7 months, stating that he was 21 Yrs. old (He was amongst the first non-white men recruited into a Guard's Regt)

Was trained at Windsor Castle.

Volunteered to be sent to France with the 2nd Bn Coldstream Guards on 16/10/2017 although he had not completed the usual term of Guards training.

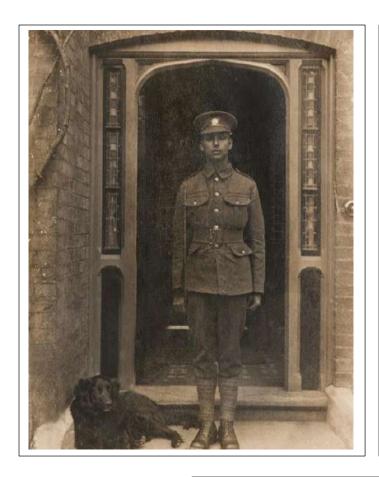
Suffered Shell shock on 28/02 1918.

Was wounded near Cambrai 09/10/1918

Was awarded Military Medal for bravery in the field

Was demobilised 06 /03 1919 after serving 2yrs and 145 days at the end of WW1.

Returned to Ceylon and took up a career as a planter





Reginald Hermon's War Medals along with Cap Badges of Coldstream Guards, The large medal on the right upper is a Ceylon Govt Medal presented to Ceylonese who served in WW 1, with the name of the recipient engraved.

Pics courtesy: Maj Richard Hermon, RAAC (Retd)

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM THE
REVEREND ARTHUR HERMON
(Reggie's Uncle)

### HOW REGGIE WON THE MILITARY MEDAL

After great difficulty I dragged the story from him. "It appears that his Platoon went over the top" and after advancing to a given position, found the Germans in force where they were not expected. Reggie's Officer called for a volunteer to take an urgent message back to his Superior Officer asking for reinforcements, it was a very dangerous piece of work, involving going back some 2000 yards through the enemy's big gun barrage. Reggie puts it this way "as no one else volunteered I did" but he had to go most of the way on his stomach with here and there a short run from Shell Hole to Shell Hole, in the end he delivered his message and got back safely without a scratch, and was recommended by both Officers for the Medal as a token of their appreciation of his brave act. He says the men have thought much more of him since he did this and well they might. "

COLD STREAM GUARDS REGIMENT
1st and later 2nd Battalion.

### Roll of Honour of Trintians who fought in the Great War (1914-1918)







Aiyadurai, R	Goonetileke A	Modder V	Saunders P
Aluwihare R	Grigson Rankine E Y	Murray K	Senaviratne D B (Staff)
Andrew J	Grigson Rankine E Y	Mulgrue G R (Staff)	Skipp R
Arndt C	Gunesekera A	Ondatje M	Selvadurai E M
Andarawewe P A	Halangode A B	Paramanathan A	Scott-Coates P
Asche H C J (Staff)	Houlder A C (Staff)	Pate W H	Squire E C
Asirivadem S	Henry J A E	Paynter A G	Stewart R
Bartholomeusz J W S	Hayden T	Paynter H S (Staff)	Thien P
Cowan J (Staff)	Holloway L E F	Pelpola P D	Thompson R D
Campbell N P (Staff)	Hill F	Perera A W	Vander Poorten A
Drieberg F	Inman H C	Perera H A	Wagiswera W K
De Vos H A E	Jansen R	Perera A G F	Wamsley A M
Duckworth B L	Jones R L	Pilapitiya C H	Weerakody T
Drieberg J F H	Kent C F H	Pilapitiya D L	Weinmann C O
Fraser A G (Principal)	Loos J	Renfrew J	Wells A E
Forster H C	Macdonald R	Roberts J	Wells A J
Gooneratne C	Macgregor L D	Roberts W H	White O
Gavin H E	Martin O	Rudra A	Young C

### **Trinity College Kandy**

The souvenir published in 1990 commemorate 100 years of Cadeting at Trinity College gives the names of 72 volunteers who went from the college to fight in the great war. It also gives pen pictures for 64 of them.

### The Fallen.

"All honour give
To those who nobly striving, nobly fell
That we might live."
"Completeness of life is not a thing of Quantity

R. Aiyadurai. — Trinity College, 1901 — 1908. Prefect, Napier House; Cricket XI.; Head Boy. Ryde Medal; Colour Sergeant in Cadets.

but of Quality.

After leaving College, Aiyadurai was employed as a clerk in the Government Stores, Colombo. When war broke out he was very keen to get to the Front and took the earliest opportunity, sailing by the "Villa de la Ciotat" which was torpedoed in the Mediterranean. On reaching England, he joined the Royal Fusiliers. He was sent to France in December, 1917. He played for his Battalion team and for his Brigade team in Soccer and Cricket in Edinburgh.

His Officer writes of him:-

"He was a very gallant man, and I was very proud to have him in my Platoon. He set a fine example to all ranks on account of his cleanliness, smartness, and cheeriness, and he was ever the same. Many times it has been said of him that he was the cleanest and smartest looking soldier in the Battalion. I have known him ever since he joined the Battalion, and I feel his loss very keenly as I had grown fond of him and looked upon him as my friend. He died the death of a brave soldier, like many more of his comrades that day."

Aiyadurai was the only Jaffna Tamil to sacrifice his life in fighting for his King and country.

N. P. Campbell (Capt.). — Joined the Staff of Trinity College in 1908, after a distinguished career at Oxford where he obtained a First Class in Natural Science. Science was hardly a school subject previous to Mr. Campbell's arrival at Trinity College, but he set to work and planned the excellent laboratories and rapidly caused the Science side of the School to develop. He also founded the Trinity College Union for Social Service and inspired the older boys with a love for social work. He was a man of rare gifts. His life, spent in the service of Christ and of his fellow men, will always remain an example and an inspiration to all who share in the life of the College.

The way the 72 names appear in the souvenir, '100 years Cadeting: Trinity College Kandy 1890-1990'

Please refer Annexure at page 30 and onwards for names and pen pictures of the Trintians who volunteered to fight in the Great War.

Image Courtesy: Brig Hiran Halangoda (Retd)

But the Roll of Honour panel displayed in the college hall indicates that 65 masters, men and boys gave their services overseas during the war. It is said that out of this number there were no fewer than 33 casualties – 13 killed, 18 wounded, and two taken prisoner by the Germans which is 50% of the number that proceeded to the battle front. Probably 7 other names were found out many years after the panel was done.



### The Roll of Honour Panel at Trinity College

Pic: Google Images

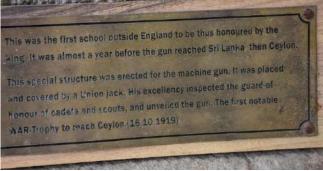
In respect of Trintians who went to war, Janaka Perera says;

"Over 300 young Sri Lankans had participated in the WW I campaigns and forty five 45 had died Sixty five (65) of the volunteers were from Trinity College. Thirteen (13) of them were killed and eighteen (18) wounded and two taken prisoner. In the college premises stands a World War I German machine gun, which the British had captured. King George had presented the weapon to the school as a mark of gratitude. Trinity became the first school outside England - on the other side of the Empire - to be thus honoured".









Pics: Google Images

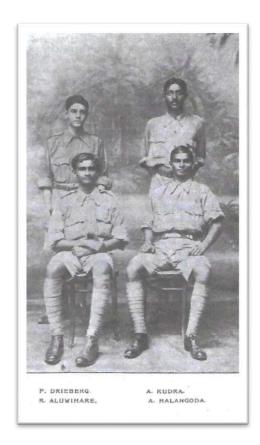


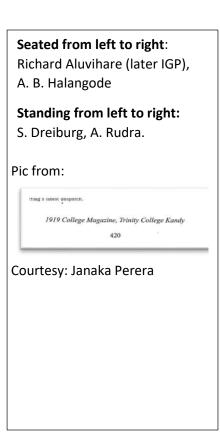


**Pics: Google Images** 

However even though the souvenir commemorating 100 years of Cadeting in the College lists 72 names, the roll of honour panel lists 67 names, the plaques fixed to the gun display structure gives the number as 65. Probably only 65 names were on record at the time when the plaques were done for the gun structure and the balance 7 names being found very much later.

The records give a group photo of four of the Trintians who volunteered i.e. for *Richard Aluwihare*, *Albert Halangode*, *Frank Drieberg*, *and Ajit (Jik) Rudra*. Aluwihare had been Senior Prefect, and had won the Cricket Lion and the Ryde Gold medal for the Best All Round Student. Halangode had won a Rugger Lion. Few months' later news has been received to say that Frank Drieberg, age 19 had been killed in the Somme battle, and that Aluwihare and Halangode had been severely wounded. Rudra had got safely through the battle of the Somme but had got severely wounded later at Ypres...





### Major General Ajit Rudra: A Trintian who fought and survived



Major General Ajit Rudra
Pic: Google Images

In 1997, Reliance Publishing House, New Delhi, published a biography of Major General Rudra. Its author was Major General D.K. Palit, its title 'Major General A.A. Rudra, His Service in Three Armies and Two World Wars'. As General Palit says in his preface: "General (Jik) Rudra, wanted his story, in my words!"

I will quote, from the book General 'Jik' Rudra's description of his first day in battle in World War I: "The seven-day bombardment stopped sometime during the night... we were made to line up along the parapet of the trench. The great battle of the Somme was about to begin — a pipedream victory of the Generals and their staffs fighting the battle at one remove from the front... We saw our officers leap up and unsheathe their swords, shouting, 'Come on chaps. Let's go and get at 'em... I felt a thrill at this old-fashioned ritual, it did not last long. As soon as we scrambled up and began our charge, we began to be mowed down by enemy machine gun fire. I saw officers fall while still brandishing their swords.

"On our right I saw an extraordinary sight, a Highland Regiment going into the attack. I could make out through the dust haze succeeding lines of burly Scots, advancing in their kilts and plaids, line after line, their pipers playing them on. It was like a parade ground drill: line followed line as the men kept falling. They marched resolutely to their deaths, in drill formation. Only one NCO and 11 men of the Scottish Battalion survived. Crawling forward into a crater I suddenly caught sight of Aluwihare lying wounded. His arm had been wounded, but not too badly. I helped him to put on his field dressing and then advised him to crawl back to our trenches: but he refused, he said he could not leave me there and go back to safety. I was still trying to talk him into going back when suddenly a shell landed close to our crater. We were all lifted up and flung a few feet away.

"Glancing around I saw Aluwihare lying in the open... his uniform covered with blood... Helped by a survivor in my section I pulled him into the crater and removed his equipment and tunic. There were two or three dead soldiers lying in the crater. We took their field dressings and patched up Aluwihare. We lay in the crater the rest of the day. Darkness came slowly... we ventured to crawl out of our crater, dragging Aluwihare with us as gently as we could. We encountered a line of our own Military Policemen lying in position behind the trenches. Their job was to prevent anyone from coming back – and to shoot them down, if they persisted. We had a wounded man with us and since our machine gun was clearly unusable, we were allowed to return.

"We later learned that our Commanding Officer, the Adjutant and all the Company Commanders had either been killed or wounded. Of the 30 or more Officers who went into battle, only three or four came back. Of the men in the Company, only about 60. Of our foursome from Trinity College, Ceylon, Drieberg had been killed: Aluwihare and Halangoda wounded and evacuated to hospital. Only I was unscathed, so far."

### SRI LANKA'S NATIONAL SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

In honour of those killed in combat during the two world wars, national services of remembrance are held annually around the world including Sri Lanka on Remembrance Sunday, the closest Sunday to 11 November (Armistice Day related to World War 1) each year.

In Sri Lanka, the national service of remembrance is held at the site of the Cenotaph War Memorial in Viharamahadevi Park, Colombo. This war memorial is dedicated to the military personnel from Ceylon killed in action during the two world wars. It comprises a towering Cenotaph and Memorial Walls.



Cenotaph War Memorial, Colombo

Pic: Google Images

The Cenotaph contains the names of those killed in the Great War (the First World War), while the Memorial Wall behind it maintains the names of those killed in the Second World War.



# The way the names of those killed in World War 1 appear on the Cenotaph

Please refer Annexure at page 24 for all the names as inscribed in the Cenotaph of those who died in battle after volunteering from Ceylon to fight in the Great War (1914-1918).

Image courtesy: Quintus Andradi, SLN (Retd)

### **CONCLUSION**

For the conclusion, the following paragraphs from the article "World War I: The Great War Centenary and Sri Lanka" by Charitha Ratwatte is hereby quoted.

In 2014 the centenary of the great sacrifice made by a whole generation of young people for our enduring freedom was completed. Nine million young men gave up their lives. Albert Marshall, the last surviving Cavalryman of the First World War, who died on 16 May 2005, described what he could never forget: "Going into no man's land a few hours after another abortive infantry advance, following an officer with a white flag, to bury the dead. There were hundreds of them: all but a handful had been killed immediately. The mud was too compacted to dig down far. As his unit marched back, he trod under his boots the corpses of the men with whom, that morning, he had eaten breakfast.

The sacrifice of these youth was whittled away by scheming politicians and by 1939; the world was at war again. This has happened over and over again, when post war or conflict diplomacy and politics are mishandled and war has to be resorted to again, throughout the history of the world. Winston Churchill warned after the First World War: "Woe betide the leaders, now perched on their pinnacles of triumph, if they cast away at the conference table, what the soldiers had won on a hundred blood-soaked battlefields."

It will help all right-thinking Sri Lankans, to focus our minds on Churchill's prophetic words, if some commemoration event is organised to honour the sacrifice of the young 'Ceylonese' who fought in the Great War, 100 years ago. Also, the sacrifice by all young enlisted men, before and since, including in

Sri Lanka's past few years. Maybe the lead can be taken by the four Colleges, Trinity, Royal, St. Thomas', and Kingswood, which sent volunteer school boys into the holocaust.

The successor to the Ceylon Defence Force, the Sri Lanka Army, and the successor to the Ceylon Cadet Battalion, the National Cadet Corps, since all four Colleges had and have Cadet Platoons, could also contribute. It is a real need of the hour. Political leaders must be guided by ordinary people, who end up making the supreme sacrifice as enlisted men, while the politicians survive, 'perched on their pinnacles of triumph,' as Churchill said.

This article will remind those in charge to fulfill their obligation of remembering those valiant volunteers by inscribing their names on the Cenotaph wall and for the present day schoolboy cadets from these 4 schools to be given an opportunity to lay wreaths in their honour and remember them at the next Armed Forces Remembrance day parade in November. 'LEST WE FORGET'.

-- Brig Hiran Halangode, SLA (GW), Retd --

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#### Note:

Annexures appear from next page (Page 29) onwards.

### Roll of Honour of Royalists Who Served in the Great War (1914-1918.)

- Anderson, Robert R. Arrived in England December, 1915. Enlisted R. E., Inland Water Transport, Pro-moted Sergeant. Later Company Sergeant-Major. Demob. April, 1919.
- Anthonisz, Clarence Edwin. Born Colombo 1895. Son of Mr. V. Anthonisz. War History: 2nd Lieut., I.A.R.O., 23-7-18, attached 75th Carnatic Infantry, stationed at Bangalore. Entered Officers' School of Instruction, Bangalore 22-11-18. Demob. 28-2-19.
- Anthonisz, Carl Frederick. Born Galle 1888. Was in Honisz, Carl Frederick. Born Galle 1888. Was in England at time of enlistment. War History: Lieut., R.A.M.C. Took part in Dardenelles Expedition. Promoted Captain and sent to Mesopotamia. Contracted paratyphoid. On leave in Ceylon in December, 1918. On return to duty, Officer-in-charge, Secunderabad Military Hospital. Later served at Wellington, and Quetta. Confirmed Captain R.A.M.C., August, 1918.
- Beven, Dr. J. J. O. Son of Mr. F. Beven. 1st Resident Surgeon, Royal Berks Hospital, Reading, Was in charge of a Home for Military Convalescents in France.
- BROHIER, CLARENCE PERCIVAL. Born Colombo 1896. One of the first Ceylonese to join the I.A.R.O. War History: 2nd Lieut, I.A.R.O. 5-6-18; attached 1/43rd History: 2nd Lieut, I.A.R.O. 5-6-18; attached 1/48rd Erinpura Regt., stationed at Erinpura, Rajputana. Officers' School, Sabathu. Simla, July to November, 1918. Qualified as bayonet-fighting instructor, Poona. A/Adjutant, May. 1918. Attached 61st Mob. Brigade, Jubbulpore, June, 1918. Q. M., August, 1918. Dera Ismail Khan to join Waziristan Field Force. Attached 2/113th Infantry Tank, North-Western Frontier, October, 1918. Adjutant and Q. M. Rest Camp, Tank, 5-6-19. Reserve 4-11-19.
- BROHIER, DR. E. S. Sailed to England in 1918. Joined the R. A. M. C.

- Christoffelisz, Dr. Edwin Lionel. Born Colombo 1887.
  Son of Mr. E. J. Christoffelss. Arrivel in England
  19-12-15. War History 18-1-16 Lieut. R.A.M.C.,
  stationed at Eastbourne; 9-2-16 attached 20th M.A.C.,
  13-3-16 Embarked for France; 25-4-16 attached 1/fst
  (West Riding) F.A.; 29-4-16 attached 1/fst (West
  Yorks; May 1916 attached 49th Division A.C., R.F.A.;
  13-1-17. Promoted Captain R.A.M.C.; March 1917,
  attached Cameron Highlanders; November 1918,
  attached 314th Brigade, R.F.A. Engagements; Somme
  1916. Nieuport and Passchendaele 1917. Ypres,
  Arras, Cambrai, Valenciennes and Mons-Maubeuge
  1918. Demob. 12-4-19.
- Daniel, Anneslav Rov. Born Colombo 1884. Son of Mr. A. Y. Daniel, enlisted 22-8-14. Regt. N.Z.G.A., at Fort Cantby, Auckland 22-8-14. War History: Commission I.A.R.O. attached 31st Mountain Battery, Kohat, August 1917. February and March 1918, Depôt Commander. April to July 1918, attached 33rd M. B. Quetta, Mesopotamia in September. Battles of Jubbul, Maldhul and Hanerin. Advance from Tikrit to capture of Mosul. Demob. 9-4-19.
- DANIEL, EMIL M. Son of Mr. A. Y. Daniel. Was in England at time of enlistment. 2nd-Lieut. R.F.A. War History: France November 1915. Mesopotamia August 1916. Wounded February 1917. In England August 1917. Engagements: Was in the big battle at Neuve Chapelle.
- at Neuve Chapelle.

  Daniel, Reginald Young. Born Colombo 1894. Son of Mr. A. Y. Daniel. Enlisted 9-9-14. Regit. U. P. S. Brigade. Attached to the Signalling Section D. C. 20th Battalion R. F., Lucknow Barracks, Tidworth, Hants, England. War History: France, November, 1915. Wounded at High Wood on the Somme when signalling during a period of heavy shelling by the enemy, 20-7-16. Later Commission 13th Royal Fusiliers. Engagements: Passchendaele March 1918, and last offensive. Dangerously wounded at Ligny. 9-10-18. Demob., 15-9-19.
- DE BORR, DR. HENRY E. SPELDRWINDE, M.C. Son of Mr. C. Speldewinde. Was in England at time of enlistment. War History: Commission R.A.M.C. 26-1-15; attached 1st Royal Dublin Fusiliers and took part in the landing
- and fighting at Seddel-Bahr, Gallipoli 25-4-15. Wounded and mentioned in Despatches. Went through Gallipoli Expedition. Transferred. Hospital Ras-eltin, Alexandria. Promoted Captain January, 1916 and attached to Imperial Camel Corps. Battle of Gaza. Mentioned in General Murray's Despatches. Awarded Military Cross in 1918. After Armistice transferred 12th Cavalry Brigade Field Ambulance Corps, Syria. In 1919 elected Fellow of the Royal Institute of Health, London as a recognition of War Service.
- DE KRETSER, DR. BASIL. Son of Mr. E. de Kretser. Enlisted R.A.M.C.
- De Vos, H. A. E. Son of Mr. H. W. de Vos. Sergeant 1917, Ceylon Sanitary Corps, Hinaidi, Mesopotamia. Later in Persia on special duty. Died in February 1919
- De Vos, James Percival (Jr.). Born Colombo 1889. War History: 2nd-Lieut., I.A.R.O., attached 1/97th Raj-puts, Ahmedabad, June, 1918. 1/88th Carnatics in October, 1918. July, 1919, attached Supply and Trans-port Corps, Bannu, North-Western Frontier, India.
- DORNHORST, C. Son of Mr. F. Dornhorst. Was in training at Aldershot.
- DORNHORST, ERNEST S. Son of Mr. F. Dornhorst, Served
- DORNHORST, F. S. Son of Mr. F. Dornhorst. Private 29th Battalion, Middlesex Regt. Served in France.
- DORNHORST, H. C. Son of Mr. F. Dornhorst. Lieut.; Regt: Queen Alexandra's Hussars. Served in France. Invalided to England owing to "shell-shock." Return to Ceylon in August, 1918.
- EBERT, WILLIAM EDWARD ROSS BELL, Born Badulla 1899. Son of Mr. E. F. Ebert. Arrived in India 23-7-18. War History: I.A.R.O. 13-7-18; attached 51st Sikhs at Jullundur, Punjab 3-12-18. Reserve 15-4-19.
- EDEMA, ERNEST F. Born 1883. Son of Mr. W. A. Edema.
  Joined Milward Contingent. War Histroy: Served in
  France as Rifleman in the 7th Rifle Brigade. Wounded Died of wounds 28-7-16.

- EPHRAUMS, ALFRED FRANCIS. Born Galle 1884. Arrived in England January, 1917. Enlisted 3-4-17. (Regt. R. G. A.) at Rugeley Camp, Staffs. on 4-4-17. War History: 1st Class Signaller and posted to 451st Siege Battery, Winchester. France 15-2-18; joined 6th Battery in Flanders. Engaged in Battles on retreat from Armentieres from 9th April onwards. Transferred to Champagne between Soissons and Rheims, Somme 8-8-18, and in the line of the retreating Germans till 23-10-18. In Hospital at Le Havre. Invalided to England 11-11-18. England 11-11-18,
- ERNST, DR. A. H. Son of Mr. C. H. Ernst. Captain. Commission 18-1-16; R.A.M.C. Qualified in riding and revolver shooting. Wounded at Gallipoli February,
- Evans, P. E. Then, Science Master, Royal College. Joined Munitions Department as Technical Assistant, December, 1917.
- December, 1917.

  FRETSZ, LESLIE WILLIAM. Born Negombo 1888. Arrived in England 25-4-16. Enlisted 2-5-16; Regt. R.G.A. at Dover, 10-5-16. War History: 36th Coy. 2-6-16; 54th Coy. 15-7-16; 218th Siege Battery 9-8-16. September, 1916 at Lydd. October 1916 at Woolwich Hospital till 3-1-17. Received special job as typist owing to loss of one of his fingers in a gun accident. Discharge 23-8-17. Return to Ceylon 15-1-18.
- 28-8-17. Return to Ceylon 15-1-18.

  GARVIN, HERBERT EVERAD. Born Colombo 1895. Son of Dr. T. F. Garvin. Was in England at time of enlistment. Enlisted 4-8-14; (Regt., Queen Victoria's Rifles 9th London Regt.) at Pirbright, England. War History: France, August, 1914 to March, 1915. Promoted Sergeant. Wounded and frostbitten. Commission 1st West Yorks, September, 1915. Engagements: Aisne, Marne, 1st and 2nd Battles of Ypres, Hill 60. Egypt, May, 1916 to February, 1919. Battles of Romani, Birel Abd, Rafa, Magdahba, Gaza, Jericho and capture of Jerusalem. Wounded at Gaza. Lieut. July, 1917. Staff Captain, Arabia 1918. Sheriff of Mecca's Army. Somaliland and Tunis on Missions in 1918. Mentioned in Despatches. Reserve 4-8-19.
- HARROP, A. R. A.B., R.N.
- JAYASINGHE, W. J. V. Corporal 19-7-17 to 29-11-19, Ceylon Sanitary Corps, Mesopotamia.

- Johnson, Clifford. Son of Dr. Owen Johnson. Was in England at time of enlistment. Attached Royal Marines. Took part in expedition to Antwerp. Taken prisoner, Released in January, 1919.
- JOHNSON, GLEN. Son of Dr. Owen Johnson. Was in the O.T.C. Then attached Flying Corps, Italy.
- La Broov, Justin Theodore, c.B. Brother of Mr. C. A. La Brooy. Served in Royal Ordnance Factory. Made C.B. in February, 1916.
- LEEMBRUGGEN, ANCEL. Son of Mr. G. E. Leembruggen. R.A.M.C.; Lieut.; France June, 1917. Later Captain. War History: Took part in the operations between Weincoort and Meville Getasse in March, 1918. Reported missing. Later reported Prisoner in Germany. Released in 1919.
- LEEMBRUGGEN, BYERLEY CLAUDE FRETZ. Born Galle 1896.
  2nd-Lieut., I.A.R.O. 14-8-18; attached 1/73rd Carnatic Infantry at Trichinopoly, 26-8-18. War History: Trained at Officers' School of Instruction, Bangalore, and later attached 2/80th Carnatic Infantry at Trichinopoly. Demob. 26-2-19.
- LEEMBRUGGEN, CLARENCE A. M.M. Son of Mr. C. T. Leembruggen. Sailed from Fiji, June, 1916 with 1st Fiji Reinforcements. War History: Attached as Sergeant to 5th Battalion (Field Survey) Royal Engineers (Fiji Contingent) 18-7-16. Awarded Military Medal. Discharge 26-2-19.
- Charge 26-2-19.

  LEEMBRUGGEN, DR. HENRY ULRICH. Born Matara, 1875.
  Arrived in England 13-5-15. Commission 14-6-15;
  Lieut.; Regt. R.A.M.C. 19-7-16. War History:
  Assistant Embarkation M.O., Alexandria, August,
  1915. Suvla Bay, September to November 1915.
  Invalided to England. Captain 14-6-16. Royal Herbert
  Military Hospital, Woolwich, October, 1916. M.O.
  60th. Division Train A.S.C. In France (Somme
  Valley) Oct-Nov., 1916. On Service with Mediterranean
  Expeditionary Force in Salonika, Dec. 1916. Served on
  Doiran and Vardar Fronts till August, 1917. Commandant, Refugee Camp, Salonika, 1918. M. O.
  Officers' Cadet Battalion of Guards, Household
  Brigade, September, 1918 to January, 1919. Demob.
  14-1-19.

- LEEMBRUGGEN, L. F. Left in May, 1918 for England.
- LEEMBRUGGEN, REN. Son of Mr. G. E. Leembruggen. Rifleman, Artists' Rifles.
- LOFTUS, G. M. Commission, 2nd-Lieut., I.A.R.O.
- Loos, Earc C. Son of Mr. Hermann A. Loos. Volunteered in Australia where he had gone to learn farming. Private, Australian Expeditionary Forces. Dardanelles 1915. France 1917.
- Loos, H. F. E. Son of Mr. Hermann A. Loos. Lieut., London Scottish. War History: France, October 1916. Wounded in 1918. Transferred to the R.F.A. and given a Commission. Discharge in 1919 owing to ill-health.
- LOOS, JAMES. Son of Mr. Hermann A. Loos. Trained at Salisbury. Joined Australian Imperial Expeditionary Forces; Bomber. Killed in action on 8-5-17.
- MARTENSZ, G. ANDRIES. Born 1894. Arrived in England 25-11-15. Enlisted 29-11-15. Regt., 1st City of London Royal Fusiliers 30-7-16. War History: Transferred M. G. C. Engagements: Battles of Somme, 1916; Beaumont-Hamel, Lens, Hill 70, La Bassée and Arras Sector. Demob. 14-2-18.
- MARTENSZ, PERCIVAL STEPHEN. Born 1897. Arrived in England June, 1918. Enlisted July, 1918. Regt., 7th Royal Fusiliers at Homer, Belgium 10-12-18. Served in Belgium and France, and with the Army of Occupation. Demob. April, 1919.
- Marshall, H. Tom. Enlisted September, 1914. Regt., C.P.R.C. at Diyatalawa. War History: 2nd-Lieut., September, 1914 to 1920. Commission, August, 1916; 3rd Devons. Served at Gallipoli, Suez Canal, France and the Balkans. Wounded three times. Third time (7-9-16) dangerously, and invalided out.
- Meier, Aelian C. Sergeant, Ceylon Sanitary Corps, Mesopotamia, 1917 to 1919.
- Modder, Claude J. 2nd-Lieut.; Commission 8-1-18 to 22-11-18. O.T.C.; Later attached to Labour Corps in France.
- MODDER, MONTAGUE. Attached to the Y.M.C.A. on Service.
- Modder, Vere C., M.M. Left Ceylon in January, 1915.
  Enlisted in the Rifle Brigade. Commission I.L.C.
  War History: In France 1915 to 1918. Was severely
  wounded in one of the big battles. Awarded the Miltary Medal for gallantry. "He was a fine example of
  Ceylonese manhood, . . . . . . he never drank, never
  swore, and never even smoked."
- Swore, and never even smoked."

  Nicholas, Cyrill Wace, M.C. Born Galle 1898. Son of Mr. F. R. Nicholas. Arrived in England 28-10-16.

  War History: No. 5 Officers' Cadet Battalion 8-12-16. Commission 2nd-Lieut., 6th Battalion King's Royal Rifle Corps 28-3-17; At Queensborough, Sheerness 24-4-17; France, attached 18th Battalion 6-5-17. Wounded at Hollebeke, Flanders, at Battle of Messines Ridge 14-6-17. Awarded Military Cross. Hospital 17-6-17. In England attached to 6th Battalion, 13-1-18 France, attached to 11th Battalion at Menin, Flanders. Wounded 22-3-18 while holding Vaux-Etreillers-Beauvois Line. Southern General Hospital 28-3-18. Lingholm Hospital, May, 1918. Lieut., 28-9-18. Temporary Command of P. of W. Camp at Bray. Army of Occupation 1-2-19. Discharge 7-2-20.
- OHLMUS, DR. WALTER THEODORE. Born Colombo 1863.
  Arrived in England July, 1915. Commission 23-10-15.
  Captain, Regt., R.A.M.C. at Aldershot. War History:
  Connaught Hospital, Aldershot. Later transferred
  Military Hospital, Woking, and M. O. Military Prison.
  Demob. 23-3-19.
- OORLOFF, ROY H. G. Sergeant, Ceylon Sanitary Corps, 3-7-17 to 29-11-19. Sailed in 1917 for Hinaidi, Mesopotamia, Died in Ceylon.
- Perera, Dr. J. A. P. Attached to R.A.M.C., (Voluntary Ambulance Corps, Netley Hospital).
- ROBERTSON, D. DAVID, M.M. Fourth son of Mr. J. Robertson. Was in England at time of enlistment in Highland Field Coy., R.E.; Western Front. Awarded Military Medal.
- ROBERTSON, CYRIL A., c. de G. Second son of Mr. J. Robertson, Lieut., R.E.; Western Front. Awarded French Croix de Guerre.
- ROBERTSON, DONALD B. Third son of Mr. J. Robertson. Mercantile Marine. 2nd-Lieut., 23rd County of London Regt. Was a Prisoner-of-War.

- ROBERTSON, ERIC G. Fifth son of Mr. J. Robertson. Was in England at time of enlistment. War History: Midshipman, R.N., on H.M.S. "Malaysia" and H.M.S. "Orotania".
- ROBERTSON, OLIVER J., M.C. Eldest son of Mr. J. Robertson. Was in England at time of enlistment. War History: Captain, 23rd London Regt., Western Front. Awarded the Military Cross in June, 1916 for conspicuous bravery during "a little flag-wagging sturt on the Sonime,"
- ROBERTSON, J., M.C. Enlisted September, 1914, C.P.R.C., in training at Diyatalawa. War History; Dardanelles, 2nd-Lieut., Scottish Horse. Wounded. Awarded the Military Cross.
- Rupesinghe, H. F. Private, Ceylon Sanitary Corps, Mesopotamia 3-7-17 to 29-11-19.
- Rupesinghe, J. V. Private, Ceylon Sanitary Corps, Meso-
- Sampson, Lionel Henry Wynn. Born Worcester 1880.
  Educated King's School, Worcester and Hertford College Oxford. Lecturer, Royal College 1909.
  C.M.R. 1914. C.P.R.C. 1914-1917. Arrived in England July, 1917. Steamer in which he sailed was torpedoed in the Strait of Messina. Joined A.S.C. Training Class, Aldershot 1-8-17 Commission R.A.S.C. (H.T.) at Ramleh, Palestine, November, 1917. IVar History: 925 and 928 Coys. R.A.S.C. (H.T.) 75th Division Train E.E.F., November, 1917 to November, 1918. Demob. 12-1-19.
- Sanson, Arrhur James. Born Negombo 1889. Son of Mr. Millani Sansoni. Arrived in England 1-6-15. Enlisted 30-6-15. Regt., 21st Battalion Middlesex Regt.; Machine Gunner. War History: Transferred M.G.C.—at Givenchy, France, Somme, July, 1916. Gassed. Wounded. Rouen Hospital, later sent to England. Entered Hospital and discharged in January, 1919. Discharge 13-1-19.
- SCHOKMAN, A. E., R.A.M.C., 1915. Promoted Captain, November, 1916.
- SCHOKMAN, NEIL. Son of Dr. E. N. Schokman. Sergeant, Ceylon Sanitary Corps, Mesopotamia, July, 1917 to March, 1919.

SCHOKMAN, R., Sergeant, Ceylon Sanitary Corps, Meso-

Schrader, Frederick Justin. Born Negombo 1892. Son of Mr. R. H. Spencer Schrader. Arrived in England 8-5-17. Enlisted 1-6-17. Regt., 28th Battalion London Regt. (Artists' Rifles) O.T.C. at Hare Hall Camp, Essex 1-6-17. War History: Cadet 10th O.C.B. Gailes, Scotland, 8-10-17 to 27-2-18. Commission Devonshire Regt. 27-2-18. France and Belgium in 16th Battalion Devons, 229 Brigade, 74th Division. Special Reserve 3-8-19.

Schrader, G. J. Commission 11-10-18 to 21-2-19; I.A.R.O.; 2nd-Lieut.; Attached to 2nd/23rd Outram's Rifles, India.

SIMON, H. DON GABRIEL. Born Colombo 1897. Arrived in England 3-1-16. One of those rescued from the "Ville de la Ciotat." Enlisted 6-1-16. Regt., 16th Middlessex at Northampton. War History: France, wounded at the Battle of the Somme 1-7-16. Discharge 1-1-17.

the Battle of the Somme 1-7-16. Discharge 1-1-17.

SPELDEWINDE, CHARLES GEORGE OLIVER. Born Colombo

1896. Son of Mr. C. Speldewinde, 2nd-Lieut.,

I.A.R.O., 11-10-18; attached 40th Pathans at Campbellpore, Punjab, India, 3-11-18. Demob. 21-2-19.

SPELDEWINDE, WILMOT E. Son of Mr. E. A. Speldewinde.

Torpedoed on way to England in the "Ville de la

Ciotat" and drowned. The first Royalist to lay down
his life for King and Country.

PERCER SCHRADER, ERIC LOUIS. Born Kandy 1891.

Arrived in England 5-7-14. Commission 12-12-14.

Regt., Royal Fusiliers at Duke of York's School, Dover. War History: Captain 1-12-14. Lecturer in Economy and Military Law to Junior Officers 1915 to 1916. A/2nd in Command 15th Royal Fusiliers, March, 1915. A/C.O., April, 1916. 4th Battalion B.E.F. 11-5-16. A/2nd in Command, May to July, 1916. Ypres and Somme. Wounded 14-7-16. Returned to Duty. 1-12-16. Wounded and underwant three coerci-Ypres and Somme. Wounded 14-7-16. Returned to Duty 1-12-16. Wounded and underwent three operations to knee. Disabled and unfit for service abroad. Attached 109th T.R. Battalion, December, 1916 and appointed A/2nd in Command July, 1917. Supervising Officer London District Cadets. Officer-in-charge, Musketry London Command Depôt, December, 1917 to March, 1918. Appointed to Hounslow as Posting Officer July, 1918. Invalided 4-8-19.

Van Langenberg, Vincent. Born Kandy 1870: Arrived in England 29-4-16. Commission 1-7-16; Captain, R.A.M.C. at Aldershot 1-7-16, but on 19-8-16 relin-quished his Commission owing to ill-health. When returning to Ceylon was on board a torpedoed ship. Reserve 18-9-16.

Van Rooyen, G. J. C. Son of Dr. Van Rooyen. Was in England at time of enlistment. Attached to a Terri-torial Regiment (71st Provisional Battalion) when he was ill. Did not survive. Died in October, 1915 and was buried with full military honours.

WAMBEEK, CHRISTOPHER LEONARD. Born Colombo 1892. Son of Mr. C. L. Wambeek. Arrived in India 1-10-18. 2nd-Lieut., I.A.R.O. 13-9-18; attached 2/73rd Malabar Infantry at Cannanore, India, 1-10-18. 28-2-19. Demob. Returned to Ceylon 28-3-19.

WAMBEEK, W. G. LORENZ. Son of Mr. C. L. Wambeek. Was in England at time of enlistment. Commission, 2nd-Lieut., R.A.M.C., Salonika. War History: Went through operations in Dardanelles and Egypt. In 1916 went on leave to Ceylon. Returned to Salonika same year. In 1919 joined the 5th Royal Fusiliers, Royal Flying Corps, Egypt.

WEINMAN, AUBREY NEIL. Son of Mr. W. A. Weinman. Was Sergeant in Royal College Cadet Corps. Proceeded to England in April, 1918. Returned in November, 1918. 2nd-Lieut., I.A.R.O., attached to 4/9th Bhopal Infantry, India.

Weinmaß, E. C. Sailed in October, 1917. War History: Lieut., 22-10-17. O.T.C., Inns of Court, Herts. Later joined the Royal Flying Corps and got his "flying wing." Discharge 16-1-20.

Weinman, Dr. L. O. Son of Mr. J. R. Weinman. Was in England at time of enlistment. Commission, 2nd-Lieut., R.A.M.C. War History: Western Front. In 1916 relinquished his temporary commission and returned to Ceylon. Rejoined the R.A.M.C., in India, in September, 1917. Promoted Lieut., February, 1918. Captain, May, 1918.

STORK, E. STANLEY, D.S.O. Son of Dr. V. V. Stork and brother of Mr. C. V. Stork. Joined the R.A.M.C., Captain, Awarded the Distinguished Service Order in

Todd, Henry Vivian Hilbrand. Born Ceylon 1895. Son of Mr. H. J. Todd and grandson of Lieut.-Col. R. H. Morgan War History: I.A.R.O., 15-7-18; attached 1/33 Punjabis at Rawalpindi, India, 29-7-18. Reserve

TOUSSAINT, J. B. 2nd-Lieut.; I.A.R.O. Attached 40th Pathans.

Van Cuylenberg, V. A. Served in Indian Subordinate Medical Corps, and as Assistant Surgeon I.M.D. in various parts of India.

VAN CUYLENBERG, HERBERT. Son of Dr. Walter Van Cuylen-Western Front.

Vander Smaght, Justin Gernard. Born Colombo 27-9-83.
Arrived in England 25-7-18. Enlisted; Cadet Officers'
Training Battalion. Later posted to City of London
Royal Fusiliers at Cambridge. War History: Royal
Fusiliers 22nd G.O.C.B. at Jesus College, Cambridge,
and received Commission 8-10-18. Reserve 18-3-19.

VANDERWERT, DR. J. H. Lieut. R.A.M.C.

Van Dort, H. Eric. Served with the 6th Battalion, Canadian Rangers, Western Front,

Van Eyck, Evan C. E. Joined the R.A.M.C. in 1916. War History: Went through the Dardanelles Operations. Later appointed to the Hospital Ship "Neuralia" which sailed to British East Africa. Temporary Commission, Captain, 1-11-16.

Van Hoff, J. E. H. Private, Ceylon Sanitary Corps, Mesopotamia, 24-5-18 to 29-11-19.

VAN LANGENBERG, JAMES FREDERICK. Born Galle 1895. Son of Mr. W. Van Langenberg. Nephew of Major Jas, Van Langenberg, Lieut.-Col. V, Van Langenberg and Mr. A. V. Van Langenberg. Left Ceylon July, 1918. 2nd-Lieut., I.A.R.O., 15-7-18; attached 1/129th D. C. O. Baluchis at Quetta, India, 28-11-18. Demob. 12.4-19.

### The Fallen.

"These laid the world away; poured out the red Sweet wine of youth; gave up the years to be Of work and joy, and that unhoped serene, That men call age; and those who would have been Their sons, they gave, their immortality."

-Rubert Brooke.

DE VOS, H. A. E.
EDEMA, ERNEST, F.
LOOS, JAMES.
OORLOFF, ROY H. G.
SPELDEWINDE, WILMOT E.
VAN ROOYEN, G. J. C.

### The Honoured.

One source states that the honours won amount to 56. We have been able to trace 10 decora-

DE BOER, DR. HENRY E.

SPELDEWINDE

LA BROOV, JUSTIN THEODORE,

LA BROOV, CLARENCE A. ... MILITARY MEDAL.

METAL. LA BROOY, JUSTIN THEODOGE.
LEEMBRUGGIN, CLARENCE A. ...
MODDER, VERE C. ...
NICHOLAS, CYRIL WACE ...
ROBERTSON, CYRIL A. ...
ROBERTSON, D. DAVID,
ROBERTSON, D. LIVER J. ...
ROBERTSON, J. ...
STORK, E. STANLEY ...

MILITARY MEDAL. MILITARY CROSS, FRENCH CROIX DE GUERRE. MILITARY MEDAL, MILITARY CROSS. MILITARY CROSS. ... DISTINGUISHED SERVICE





Source: The History of Royal College (Vijitha Yapa Publications, 2019)
Courtesy: Royal College 1960 Group via Gp Capt Kumar Kirinde, SLAF (Retd)

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99

#### WAR SERVICE LIST

The number before each name is the School Admission Number. The mark thefore a name indicates Died in War Service.

- 405 Anderson, D. Alexander Served in Flanders from the beginning of the War and was killed there about the 27th May 1918.
- Anthonisz, S. A. L. Sailed via the Cape, and arrived in England 12th October; Officers Cadet Battalion; demobilized 11th November 1918.
- 433 Barber, Cecil B. Sailed in March 1917 by the Morea; Inns of Court O.T.C.; Commission in the 4th Res. Buffs; in France February 1918, posted to 7th Buffs; wounded and gassed in the capture of Albert in the Somme Valley, September; seriously wounded while capturing heights beyond Ronssoy; in hospital at Boulogne, and sent to England on recovery; returned to Ceylon in July 1919.
- 665 Barber, Louis W. Joined up in 1914 when a student at Charing Cross Hospital; enlisted in Seaforth Highladers; in France early in 1915 and after eleven months service given a Commission and posted to the 4th

100 KINGSWOOD

Res. Buffs in England; Instructor for bombing and gas, Southern Division; with 1st Buffs in 1916 and served with this Battalion throughout the War; awarded the M.B.E. (December 1916) for saving the lives of several men in a bombing accident at the risk of his own; was in the whole of the Cambrai fight and in nearly all the important actions; gained his objectives and held them against, attack, for which he was awarded the Military Cross (September 1918) promoted Captain; marched into Germany with his Regiment after the Armistice.

- 450 Barber, Percival C. Joined up in 1916 as a Medical Officer in the Navy, and served in a monitor till the end of the War.
- 472 Bassett, George E. -
- 656 Bassett, C. E. -
- 499 Bates, S. F. -
- 501 Bell, William, Sailed from Malaya in December 1914 with the F.M.S. Contingent; attached to the 1st Dorsets; gassed in Flanders, and died May 1915.

1006 Blackett, George — Sailed April 1916; Royal Fusiliers; shell-shocked in Somme offensive; invalided October 1917. WAR SERVICE

101

- 728 Bowtell, Sidney Company Sergeant Major of his Regiment; won both the Military Medal and the Distinguished Conduct Medal.
- 778 Burke, R. W. One of those rescued when the Ville de la Ciotat was torpedoed in the Mediterranean 24th December 1915; enlisted January 1916; 24th Middlesex and Machine Gun Corps; Salonika; demobilized December 1919.
- 80 Casie Chitty, J. E. Corporal, Ceylon Sanitary Corps; Mesopotamia; enlisted October 1917; demobilized June 1919.
- 52 Chunchie, K. A. Sailed February 1916; enlised March 1916; 24th and 3rd Middlesex; wounded at Salonika November 1916; Malta July
- + 709 Cook, V. Clive Enlisted October 1915; Royal Engineers April 1917; Class Z Army Reserve February 1919; during this period he served one year and 123 days with the British Expeditionary Force period of actual service in the fighting line. Re-enlisted October 1919 into the R.G.A. and served in Mesopotamia from March to 8th October 1920 when he was reported missing believed to have been killed.

104

- 414 Crowther, P. F. H. Sailed June 1917; Officers Cadet Battalion.
- 247 Crowther, R. F. H. -
- 611 De Moor, W. West Surreys; Mesopotamia.
- † 727 De Vos, Brian Leslie Son of Mr. H. W. de Vos of Kandy. Sailed 30th October 1915; Sapper, R.E., Lance-Corporal, Royal Fusiliers; wounded 28th March 1918 and died the next day.
- † 369 De Vos, Clement Walter Sailed in the Ville de la Ciotat and with his brother, L. G. de Vos, was drowned 24th December 1915, when the ship was torpedoed in the Mediterranean.

De Vos Linden, Granville — Drowned 24th December 1915 in the Ville de la Ciotat.

- 1200 Drieberg, J. F. H. Ceylon Sanitary Corps; Mesopotamia; enlisted 28th July 1917; demobilized 30th November 1919.
- 455 Fernando, Hubert Lancelot Sailed Mar. 1915; Royal Fusiliers; wounded in France 1917; served, also in Ireland; returned to Ceylon December 1919.

† 902 Foreman, Thomas Henry — Corporal R.A.M.C.; enlisted 1914; Military Medal; wounded 4th May 1917 and died 25th May.

- 903 Foreman, William -
- 314 Forster, V. E. Enlisted November 1915; Royal Fusiliers; served in France; demobilized 1920.
- 473 Guinan, B. L. Enlisted April 1917; R.A.S.C. (M.T.); served in France; demobilized August 1919.
- 372 Guinan, E. A. R.A.S.C. (Motor Transport)
- 400 Haigh, A. R. -
- 312 Haigh, J. E. -
- 901 Halfhide, J. -
- 827 Hardy, F. T. Five years service in Mesopotamia.
  - 5 Hawke, L. Paul Royal Fusiliers; served in France; Corporal M.G.C.
- 904 Helsham, H. G. Enlisted October 1915; R.G.A.; served three years in France and Flanders; wounded and gassed; demobilized 1919.
- 1149 Hermon, Reginald Sailed from Ceylon December 1916; enlisted in Coldstream Guards February 1917; to France in October 1917; awarded the Military Medal for voluntary taking a message through

KINGSWOOD

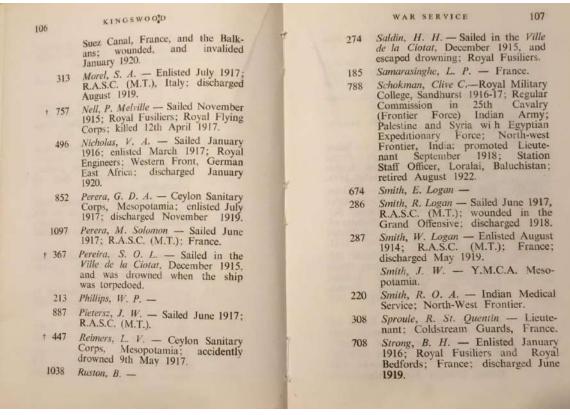
heavy gun fire at Moyenville; marched into Germany with the Army of Occupation; demobilized July

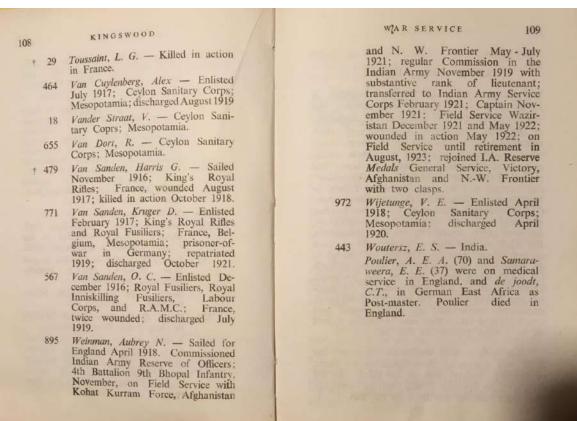
- 661 Hillman, B. Arrived in England after the Armistice was signed.
- Jansen, Donald H. Sailed June 1917; enlisted July 1917; R.A.S.C. (M.T.) and 45th Motor Ambulance Corps; France and Mesopotamia has three medals for good conduct and two for bravery; demobilized August 1919.
- 658 Jansen, T. R. Ceylon Sanitary Corps, Mesopotamia.
- 34 Jones, Herbert R. Was in Seville (Spain) when the War began; volunteered twice to be sent to England, and, failing, went on his own; joined the Royal Tank Corps; promoted Corporal, and Company Quarter-Master Sergeant.
- 13 Jonklaas, St. John B. Sailed from Ceylon in February 1916; enlisted 29th March; 14th London Scottish; France Arras Front, Somme, and third battle of Ypres; gassed in the eyes; transerred to Labour Corps; demobilized May 1919.
- + 469 Kent, C. F. Hadley Sailed from Ceylon in February 1916; 24th Middlesex; in France transferred

WAR SERVICE

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- to the 22nd Manchesters; Regimental Bomber; killed March 1917 while bombing a German trench.
- 448 Keyt, E. M. Arrived in England Aug. 1918.
- 146 Keyt, W. E. Went over to France with the Canadian Contingent; wounded in France; Military Cross 1917; promoted Captain 1918.
- 605 Krause, J. H. A. Sailed from Ceylon in February 1916; bombardier 6th Border Regiment; France; three times wounded; died of pneumonia.
- 590 Lamb, Peter O. Sailed from Ceylon in 1914; enlisted in the 8th Battalion Rifle Brigade; France, end of July 1915; severely wounded in August.
- 614 Leembruggen, Frank Sailed June 1917; Ceylon Sanitary, Corps Mesopotamia.
- 613 Leembruggen, W. E. Arrived in England August 1915; Royal Fusiliers; discharged June 1916.
- 618 Mack, Oswald, R. 307th Company, Flying Squadron; wounded.
- 260 Marshall, H. T. Enlisted September 1914; 2nd Lieutenant 3rd Devons August 1916; Dardanelles





Source: K.F.E. The Story of Kingswood, Kandy by L. E. Blaze (Principal 1891-1923) Courtesy: Kingswood Union via Brig J B Galgamuwa, SLA (SR), Retd

### ANNEX D - PEN PICTURES OF TRINTIANS WHO VOLUNTEERED TO FIGHT THE GREAT WAR

### PRO PACE MORTUI The Fallen.

"All honour give To those who nobly striving, nobly fell That we might live."

"Completeness of life is not a thing of Quantity but of Quality."

R. Aiyadurai. — Trinity College, 1901 — 1908. Prefect, Napier House; Cricket XI.; Head Boy. Ryde Medal; Colour Sergeant in Cadets.

After leaving College, Aiyadurai was employed as a clerk in the Government Stores, Colombo. When war broke out he was very keen to get to the Front and took the earliest opportunity, sailing by the "Villa de la Ciotat" which was torpedoed in the Mediterranean. On reaching England, he joined the Royal Fusiliers. He was sent to France in December, 1916, and was killed by a sniper in December, 1917. He played for his Battalion team and for his Brigade team in Soccer and Cricket in Edinburgh.

His Officer writes of him:-

"He was a very gallant man, and I was very proud to have him in my Platoon. He set a fine example to all ranks on account of his cleanliness, smartness, and cheeriness, and he was ever the same. Many times it has been said of him that he was the cleanest and smartest looking soldier in the Battalion. I have known him ever since he joined the Battalion, and I feel his loss very keenly as I had grown fond of him and looked upon him as my friend. He died the death of a brave soldier, like many more of his comrades that day."

Aiyadurai was the only Jaffua Tamil to sacrifice his life in fighting for his King and country.

N. P. Campbell (Capt.). — Joined the Staff of Trinity College in 1908, after a distinguished career at Oxford where he obtained a First Class in Natural Science. Science was hardly a school subject previous to Mr. Campbell's arrival at Trinity College, but he set to work and planned the excellent laboratories and rapidly caused the Science side of the School to develop. He also founded the Trinity College Union for Social Service and inspired the older boys with a love for social work. He was a man of rare gifts. His life, spent in the service of Christ and of his fellow men, will always remain an example and an inspiration to all who share in the life of the College.

Mr. Campbell sailed for England in December, 1914, and was given a Commission in the Oxford and Burks Light Infantry, and was later transfered to a special Company of the Royal Engineers. He was killed in France on May 3rd, 1917, while inspecting the ground over which he had conducted a successful gassing operation.

An Officer of the Special Companies R. E., in which Captain Campbell served, writes:—

"During this year's arduous operations he has been uniformly successful, and it is only two or three weeks since I had occasion to recommend him for a decoration, as a reward for his conspicuous ability. His work was characterised by the manner in which he never spared himself, and his personal example was therefore the greatest factor in his success.

Convinced as one is of the utter repugnance every fibre of his nature must have had for the horror and misery of war, and feeling as one does that there can have been no aspect of this dreadful work that was not utterly distasteful to him, yet we realise that he carried out all his duties with all the concentration of thought and force of action of which he was capable, because he saw that by that means, and that only, could the end he reached

Apart from his sterling qualities, his cheerry good nature and obvious sincerity gained for him a well-deserved popularity among his men, his Brother Officers, and all those with whom he worked

His death occasions us not only the loss of a valuable Officer, but to me personally it means the breaking of a great friendship."

F. Drieberg. — Trinity College, 1912 — 1915. Prefect; Garrett; Rugger XV. Drieberg was one of the most brilliant Rugger Three Quarters that we have had in the College. He led a patrol in the Riots of 1915. He left School for the Front in September, 1915, and on his arrival in England joined the Public School Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers (23rd). He refused a Commission because the others could not get one at the same time, and he decided to wait with them in the ranks. He was killed in action in the Somme Offensive, July 1st, 1916.



F. DRIEBERG

H. C. Forster. — Trinity College, 1913 — 1917, Alison. Sailed for England from School in February, 1917, and joined the Rifle Brigade, and was for some time in training in England. He was later drafted to the Royal Shropshire Light Infantry and crossed over to France on March 31st, 1918. He was killed in action on April 22nd at the age of nineteen.

Mrs. Fraser writes of him:— "He had developed into a heavy broad-shouldered tall strong man with such a bright happy face. His Christian life had developed, too, amazingly, and he was able to help others in his own Company and even further afield. Yesterday I had a letter from a Canadian Private who had been helped by him. His visits to us were a great joy to us all. Colonel Oldham (Mr. Oldham's fether) said yesterday that no young man, among the hundreds of thousands who have given their lives in this war, was more ready to face his Maker, and this was true. He told me that the day that he heard that Frank Drieberg was killed in action, he knew at once that he too was called to go and that he would not disobey the call."

C. F. H. Kent. — Trinity College, June, 1914, to January, 1916, Garrett House. Sailed for England in February, 1916, and joined the 24th Middlesex Regiment. After only ten weeks of training in England he was sent over to France where he was transferred to the 22nd Manchesters. He was a regimental bomber. On March 14th, 1917, his Company went forward at night on a bombing expedition, and Kent was last seen bombing the German trench. He was afterwards officially reported killed.

J. Loos. — Trinity College, 1912 to 1914. Prefect in Ryde House; Rugger XV. Sailed from Australia with the Australian Expeditionary Force in April, 1916. He was trained as a bomber and had gone through a special course on bombing in Dublin. He was killed on May 18, 1917, during a night raid by the Germans on the trenches.

K. Murrey. Joined the Staff of the College in 1914, but before he could sail to Ceylon the war broke out, and he volunteered for service. He was killed at Loos in 1915.

A. Paramanathan. — Trinity College, 1907. He was in England when the war broke out and enlisted in the Royal Bucks Hussars. While on active service in Egypt he contracted pleurisy, which was followed by tuberculosis of the left lung. He was invalided to England, and then sent back to Ceylon. He was hopeful of being cured and in November, 1916, he went for treatment to a sanatorium in India, but he died on July 29, 1917.

A. G. F. Perera. — Trinity College. 1905—1912. Prefect; Captain of Rugger XV. After leaving school he became an Inspector in the Excise Department. He sailed for England by the "Villa de la Ciotat" and was drowned on the torpedoing of the vessel in the Mediterranean on December 24, 1915.

#### P. Scott - Coates -

R. Skipp. — Trinity College, 1915 — 1916. Left for England in August, 1916, and entered the University at Leeds in the Tinctorial or Colour Chemistry Department in October of the same year. He joined up in June, 1917, in the 83rd Training Reserve Battalion, After three months' training he was drafted to the 3rd Prince of Wales Own West Yorkshire Regiment When joining up he wrote saying "A lot of fellows going out are married men, and it must be a sad business to have to leave wives and children, perhaps never to see them again. It makes it all the more imperative for every man, who is free.

to do his utmost and not merely join up and collar a soft job at home or abroad as many do. It is for us, who have no ties, to decline to enter any but the combatant ranks and leave the men with family ties to enter the R. A. M. C., A S. C. and the like. This letter is to a certain extent one of farewell, farewell in my capacity of student; with almost the whole of the civilized world at war is it not reasonable that I should lend a helping hand in a laudable cause? I realize fully that it means the end of my most cherished ambitions with regard to education, but that is the only thing I have to give and I give it willingly, at a time when millions are giving far more." At the end of November, 1917, he wrote from Whitley Bay, Northumberland: "You may from Whitley Bay, Northumberland: ask why I am not in France yet; it is because I am on a course of Machine Gunnery; there are only 40 odd of us left of the old Company, the departure for over the pond was pitiful to witness. wives and kiddies come up to take, perhaps, their last farewell. If single fellows in civil life thing and anywhere. I am doing my best and shall be done this week."

He left England for France on the 11th December, 1917. At the end of June, 1918, his father received the first intimation of his having been killed in the great push back of March, 1918, when our men were ordered not to give an inch of ground, no retreating, and fight to a finish.

The report is to the effect that he was killed in action on March 27, 1918.

H. A. E. de Vos. — Trinity College, 1893 — 99, Garrett House. After leaving school was employed in the Irrigation Department. When the Ceylon Sanitary Corps was formed in 1917, he joined the Corps and was given the rank of Sergeant. He was an excellent Non-Commissioned Officer, efficient, and very popular with his men. He was sent to Persia on special duty, where he died of pneumonia on January 16, 1919.

A. J. Wells. — Trinity College, January, 1911, to December, 1912; Rugger XV. After leaving school he became Superintendent of Kalkuddah Estate, Batticaloa. He sailed for England in August, 1915, and joined Lovat's Scouts. As he was keen to see active service, and as there seemed to be no immediate prospect of Lovat's Scouts being sent to the Front, he obtained a transfer to the Machine Gun Section of the 22 Manche sters. He was sent over to France on August 22nd, 1916, and was killed in action on August 21nd, 1917.

An Officer of his Company writes of him: "He was one of the most reliable and efficient of Machine Gunners in the Section, and carried out his duty up to the last showing great courage and coolness under fire, thereby setting a great example to his comrades."

### HI QUOQUE SERVIERUNT



A. G. FRASER

A. G. Fraser, Principal. — Sailed for England in September, 1916, and joined the Y. M. C. A. in France. As he was unable to get to the Front line as a Y. M. C. A. Secretary he become a Chaplain to the Forces, and was attached to the Royal Fusiliers and later to the East Yorks. Mr Fraser was in action more than once and had

narrow escapes on more than one occasion. He saw much of the fighting in Paeschendale in 1917, and was at the battle of Cambrai. He was twice gassed, and as a result of the second gassing he was invalided out of the Army in June, 1918. He has been granted the privilege of retaining his rank as Chaplain of the Forces.

- R. Aluwhare, Trinity College, 1916 1915.—
  Prefect, Alison; Cricket XI. Sailed for England from School, 1915; joined the Police School Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers; went over to France in March, 1916, and took part in the battle of the Somme, and was twice wounded on July 1st. After being in hospital for some time he was considered to be unfit for further active service, whereupon he joined the Y. M. C. A. in France. He was responsible for very important work in connection with the Indian Troops in France. Belgium, and Cologne, and his name was one of the twenty-one names of Y. M. C. A. workers singled out for special mention in Sir Douglas Haig's latest despatch.
- J. Andrew. Joined Trinity College in 1902. He took an English degree in medicine. Engaged in Hospital work during the War.
- C. Arndt. 2nd Lieut. I. A. R. O. Trinity, 1903-1912: Rugger XV. Sailed, October, 1916; was one of those saved from the Villa de la Ciotat. He served with the Machine Section of the 24th Middlesex, and was discharged from the Army brok to Ceylon he was again torpedoed. Reached Ceylon, January 15th, 1918, and the Same year obtained a commission in I. A. R. O., and was attached to the 9th Bopals.
- H. C. J. Asche of the College Staff. Sailed for England early in 1916. After several months of training in the O. T. C. he received a commission in the R. G. A. He saw much active service in France. He has now returned to Australia.
- P. A. Andarawewe. Joined Trinity College, 1894. Sailed for England in June, 1917, and joined the Motor Transport Company of the A. S. C. He was later sent out for service to Mesopotamia.
- J. W. S. Bartholomeusz. Joined Trinity College, 1893. Enlisted in the French Foreign Legion. He saw much fighting and was wounded. He was awarded the Croix de Guerre of the First Class. He was offered a commission in the French Army, but refused it as it meant sacrificing his membership in the British Empire.
- J. Cowan of the College Staff, 1913 1914

  Joined the Chinese Labour Corps in which he held a Commission in France.
- B. L. Duckworth. Joined Trinity College in 1911. Served with the Sanitary Corps in Mesopotamia.
- J. F. H. Drieberg. Joined Trinity College, 1913, Served with the Sanitary Corps in Mesopotamia.

- C. Gooserstne. Trinity, 1915 1916; Prefect, Alison. Served as a Y.M.C.A. Secretary, with the Expeditionary Porces in Mesopotamia, and several times carried comforts and refreshments to the men under fire.
- H. E. Garrin. Trinity College, 1911 1913. Prefect, Ryde; Rugger XV. Was in England when the war broke out, and enlisted in the 9th London Regiment (Queen Victoria's Rifles) on August 4, 1914. He went over to France in September, 1914, and took part in the battles of Ypres and Le Cateau. He was invalided to England suffering from a slight wound and severe frost bite. After ten months he was commissioned in the 1st Battalion West Yorks (September 21, 1915). He was later attached to the Australian Forces in Egypt and took part in the battles of Romani, El Arish, and Gaza and in the capture of Nablans, Jericho. and Jerusalem. He also saw active service in Arabia, Somaliland, Algiers, Tunis, and the Western Frontier of Egypt. He attained the rank of Staff Captain, and was transferred to the Reserve on August 4, 1919. He received the Mons Star, and was mentioned in General Allenby's despatch of May, 1919 Capt Garvin acted as R. T. O. at Kantara during the last months of the war.
- A. Goonetileke. Joined Trinity College, 1893. Served with the Y. M. C. A. in Mesopotamia,
- A. B. Halengoda. Trinity, 1906 1915. Left school for the Front in September, 1915. He school for the Front in September, 1915. He school Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers. He went over to France with his Battalion in 1916, and was wounded at the opening battle of the Somme in July, 1916. After being in hospital for some time he was considered unfit for further active service. He joined the Y.M.C.A., working with the Flying Corps at Lincoln and also in France.
- A. C. Houlder of the College Staff Sailed for England in January, 1918. He enlisted in the Artists' Rifles, but the Armistice was signed before his training was completed. He was gazetted as 2nd Lieutenant and attached to the East Surrevs.
- J. A. E. Henry. Trinity College, 1916. Sailed for England to enlist in February, 1918. He joined a Cadet Training School at Hastings and was training for the Royal Air Force. While taking his final course of practical aeronautics at Oxford the Armistice was signed.
- T. Hayden. Trinity College, 1909 1913. Sailed for England in 1916, and joined the R.G.A.. He saw much service in France.

- L. E. F. Holloway. Trinity College, 1916 1918. Sailed for England early in 1918, and joined the Artists' Rifles. He was sent over to France almost immediately and was gassed during experimental gassing operations behind the lines. He was gazetted 2nd Lieutenant in the Artists' Rifles.
- H. C. Inman. Trinity College, 1910 1916. Cricket XI., Rugger XV. Joined the I. A. R. O in 1918, and has been with his Regiment on the Afghan Frontier.
- R. Jansen. Trinity College, 1906 1913. Served in the Sanitary Corps in Mesopotamia.
- R. L. Jones Trinity College, 1906 1912. Prefect, Garrett; Rugger XV. Sailed for England in April, 1916, and became a gunner in the R. G. A.. He served with his battery in France for eighteen months, when he was invalided to England.
- R. Macdonald. Trinity College, 1909 1910.
  Served in Salonika and France.
- L. D. Macgregor. Trinity College, 1907 1911. Served in the Navy.
- O. Martin. Trinity College, 1909 1912. Rugger XV. In England, when the war broke out. Joined the A. S. C. Served in France, Egypt, Mesopotamia, and was with General Allenby in his victorious march through Palestine.



V. MODDER

V. Modder. — Trinity College, 1913 — 1915. Sailed for England in 1915. Served with the Rifle Brigade in France, and was severely wounded in April, 1918. He was awarded the Military Medal for conspicuous bravery at Paschendale. Although he was wounded himself, he carried his wounded Officer under heavy fire to a place of safety.

G. R. Mulgroe of the College Staff. Sailed for England in 1916, and served in France with the Australians. After some months in France he was invalided out of the Army.

R. Ondatje. — Trinity College, 1910 — 1915. Prefect, Napier; Captain of Cricket XI, Sailed for England in 1915, and joined the 24th Middlesex Battalion. He was in the Somme offensive in July, 1916, and was severely wounded. He lay for five days in No Man's land, and was eventually taken prisoner to Germany. After varied experiences he was sent to Switzerland, where he remained till the Armistice was signed when he was able to return to England.

W. H. Pate. — Trinity College, 1903 — 1910. Sailed with the Milward Contingent in 1914. He saw much fighting with the Machine Gun Corps in France. Was severely wounded in April. 1918.

A. G. Paynter — Trinity College, 1915 — 1916. Sailed in October, 1916 Joined the Royal Artillery. He saw much fighting in France, and was at Messines in the big push. He was severely gassed at Ypres, and was invalided out of the Army in 1918. He returned to Ceylon, but the gassing had had such a serious effect on his constitution as to leave him disabled, and on medical advice he went back to England for special treatment.

H. S. Paynter. — On the Staff, 1912 — 1915. Sailed in 1915. Joined the Air Force. While flying he met with a bad smash and was on sick leave for some time. On his recovery he was flying with the Royal Air Force on the Italian Front. He brought down the last Austrian aeroplane previous to the signing of the Armistice.



P. D. PELPOLA

P. D. Pelpola, - Trinity, 1906 - 1914. Prefect, Alison. Sailed by the Villa de la Ciotat, which was torpedoed in the Mediterranean on December 24th, 1915. He was rescued, landed at Malta, and reached London on January 3rd, 1916. He joined the Public School Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers, and received his training at Oxford and Edinburgh. He went over to France on July 7. 1916, and was in the trenches at Guillement till the end of July. For five months he saw much fighting and received shrapnel wounds in the arm and foot. The climate being very severe he volunteered for service in German East Africa and sailed to join the 25th Battalion Royal Fusiliers (Legion of Frontiersmen). He was constantly engaged with the enemy until December, 1917, when he returned with his Regiment to England. He was several months in hospital as a result of a tropical fever, and was finally discharged in November, 1918. He was elected a Member of the Legion of Frontiersmen at Head quarters, being the only Ceylonese who gained that honour

Aelian W. Perera. — Trinity College, 1910 — 1914. Prefect, Ryde; Rugger XV. In England when the war broke out, and immediately volunteered for service and received a Commission in the Durham Light Infantry. He was slightly wounded in March, 1915. In April, 1917, he was reported missing, believed killed; but was later reported as a prisoner in Germany. He was gazetted Full Lieutenant from July 1st, 1913,

H. A. Perera. — Joined Trinity College, 1904 — 1911. Saw much service, and was severely wounded.

C. H. Pilapitiya — Trinity College, 1909 — 1916.
Served in Mesopotamia with the Sanitary Corps.

D. L. Pilapitiya — Trinity College, 1909 — 1917. Sailed in October, 1918, but reached England after the Armistice was signed. He later joined the Y. M. C. A. in France.

J. Renfrew. — Trinity College, 1901. In Scotland, at the Edinburgh University, when the war broke out. Joined the O. T. C., and after nine months he was given a Commission in the 12th Scottish Rifles. He was sent to Egypt and took part in several engagements and was with the Canal Corps at the taking of El Arariah. He was in the first battle of Gaza, where he had some very narrow escapes. He then joined the Flying Corps and was engaged in operations against the Turks. Owing to engine trouble, while trying a new machine, he fell with the aeroplane on top of him. His ankle bone was crushed and

he had to be in hospital for several months and could not take part in further active service.

J. Roberts. — Trinity College, 1911 — 1917. Cricket XI. Sailed for England in October, 1918, but reached there after the Armistice was signed.

W. H. Roberts. - Late of the College Staff, Joined the American Forces which were sent to France.

A. Rudrs. — Trinity College, 1914—1915. Sailed for England from School is September, 1915. Joined the Public School Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers. He was sent to France in April, 1916, and took part in the Somme offensive. He saw much fighting and was wounded. He was later on transferred to the Indian Army, in which he was given a Commission.

P. Saunders. — Trinity College, 1909 — 1910. Served in the Royal Navy. Was on the Goliath when she was torpedoed in the Mediterranean and was 2½ hours in the water before being rescued.

D. B. Seneviratne, - College Staff, October, 1916, and enlisted in the 28th Royal Fusiliers, but was transferred to the 18th Royal Fusiliers (1st Public School Battalion) on service in France (December, 1915). He was transferred to the 13th Royal Fusiliers in July, 1916. He was wounded at Beaumont Hamel in November, 1916, and at Arras in March, 1917. In March, 1918, he was transferred to the 10th Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment. In April, 1918, he was gassed at Ypres. He was promoted Corporal (August, 1918) and mentioned for good patrol work and promoted Sergeant in September. On October 22nd he was awarded the Military Medal for conspicuous gallantry, devotion to duty, and able leadership at Knokke. In December, 1918, he was with the Army of occupation, and in January, 1919, returned to England to be repatriated.

E. C. Squrie, — Joined the staff of Trinity College in 1914, but before he could sail for Ceylon the war broke out, and he volunteered for service at the Front He held a Commission in the Rifle Brigade and saw active service in France where he was wounded. He was promoted Captain and won the Military Cross for distinguished service.

R. Stewart. — Trinity College, 1910 — 1917. Cricket XI. Joined the Indian Army in 1918, and received a Commission in the I. A. R. O., being attached to the 2/13 Sikhss. He saw active service in the Afghan War and was ordered to take part in the Waziristan Punitive Expedition.

Pe Thein. - Trinity College, 1916 - 1917. Received a Commission in the Burmese Rifles; saw active service in the Afghan War.

R. D. Thompson. — Trinity College, 1910—1912. Prefect, Alison; Rugger XV. At Cambridge when the war broke out, and at once volunteered, but was refused on medical grounds. He immediately took a few weeks holiday in Ireland to make himself more fit and was then accepted for service. He refused a Commission in order that he might the sooner get to France. He was seriously wounded in 1917 as a result of which he had to have his leg amputated.

A. Vander Poorten. — Trinity College. 1909 — 1911. Sailed for Europe in 1916, and offered his services to the Legion Etrangers. Before he could join the Training Camp he was invalided to England.

W. K. Wagiswera - Trinity College, 1908 - 1916. Served with the Y.M.C.A. in Mesopotamia.

A. M. Walmsley. — Late of College Staff. Received a Commission in the S. T. Corps in 1918, and was almost immediately sent to Mesopotamia. He was invalided out of the Army shortly afterwards.

T. Weerakody. - Trinity College, 1906-1911 Served in Mesopotamia.

C. O. Weinmann. - Trinity College, 1890. Served in France and Belgium with the Manchesters. Wounded in November, 1917.

AE. Wells. — Trinity College, 1911 — 1914. Received a Commission in the I. A. R. O. in 1918, and was attached to the 130th Baluchis

O. White. — Trinity College, 1896. Enlisted in the 12th Battalion Rifle Brigade; served in France, Wounded in 1918, and discharged from the Army.

The above List of names is an extract from the 1919 Trinity College Magazine, Vol. V1.

In addition to the above the following also served in the Great War.

S. Asirivadem

E. Y. Grigson Rankine

G. C. Grigson Rankine

A. Gunesekera F. Hill

E. M. Selvadurai

C. Young

Source: 100 YEARS CADETING-TRINITY COLLEGE KANDY 1890-1990 Courtesy: Trinity College Kandy via Brig Hiran Halangode, SLA (GW), Retd

#### ANNEXURE E - NAMES OF CEYLON VOLUNTEERS WHO DIED IN THE GREAT WAR AS INSCRIBED ON THE CENOTAPH













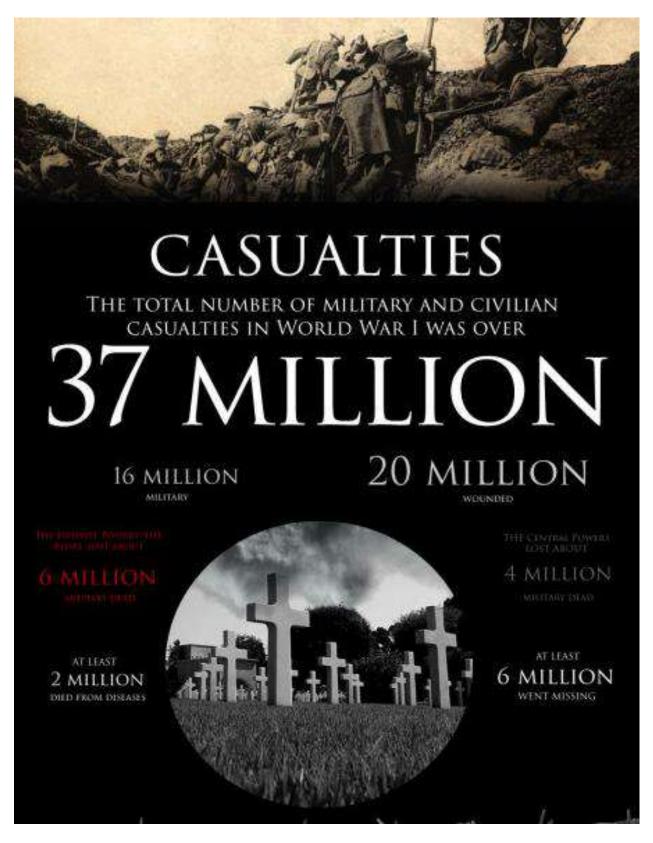








Pics Courtesy: Quintus Andradi, SLN (Retd)



Pic: Google Images

### Note:

The reader is invited to share or arrange to share information / material related to members of any other schools (students, old boys and staff) who volunteered to fight in World War I, with the compiler of this document via email (kirinde@gmail.com)

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