

# Training Ship Mercury Roll of Honour - 1914-1918

[courtesy of A.I.White]

(Names on the Mercury War Memorial in Hamble Churchyard unless stated otherwise)

**Baggs 0988 Reginald George Baggs** – Joined Royal Navy at HMS *Impregnable* in August 1910 and was a Leading Seaman in the destroyer HMS *Ardent* sunk at the Battle of Jutland 1st June 1916. His name is on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial.

**Beavis 0842 Godfrey Horace Beavis** - In 1913 he emigrated to Canada and settled in British Columbia. During the First World War he joined the Vancouver based 72nd Battalion of the Canadian Infantry (Seaforth Highlanders of Canada) and travelled to France with the Battalion in August 1916. Godfrey was killed in action in the Canal-du-Nord area on 29th September 1918. His name is on the Vimy Memorial. (Not on the Mercury Memorial)

**Bradford 0333 John Bradford** – Probably John Bradford , a regular soldier serving as a Private with the 2nd Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment. One of the ‘Old Contemptibles’ of the BEF he was killed in action on 12th October 1914 during the retreat from Mons. Has no known grave and is commemorated on the La Ferte-Sous-Jouarre Memorial on the River Marne.

**Brooks-Ball 1107 Julian Brooks-Ball** – After leaving Mercury in 1912 he joined his father in Australia and during the First World War he became a Sergeant with the 26th Australian Infantry Battalion. He was killed in action on the 29th July 1916 during the Battle of Pozières, part of the Somme offensive. He is buried in the Pozières British Cemetery.

**Buxey 0707 Ernest George Buxey** – During the First World War Private Buxey served with the 2nd Battalion South Lancs Regiment and though his name is on the the First World War Mercury War Memorial there is no record of an Ernest Buxey being killed in action during that conflict. Furthermore, family records suggest that Ernest Buxey survived the war and lived at Warsash where he died in 1937.

Incorrectly listed on the Mercury First World War memorial

**Cane 1273 Harold Cane** – Joined the Royal Navy in 1914 at HMS *Impregnable* and was an Ordinary Seaman in the battleship HMS *Iron Duke* when he died 14th November 1917. Buried in Minehead Cemetery.

**Clark 1230 Thomas Stephen “Kruger” Clark** – Joined the Royal Navy in 1913 at HMS *Impregnable* and was a Boy 1st Class in the pre-Dreadnought battleship HMS *Formidable* sunk by a U-24 off Start Point on the Devon coast 1st January 1915. His name is on the Chatham Naval Memorial.

**Cornelius 1238 Leonard James Cornelius** – Joined the Royal Navy in 1914 at HMS *Impregnable* and was an Ordinary Seaman in the cruiser HMS *Defence* flagship of the

1st Cruiser Squadron when she was sunk at the Battle of Jutland 31st May 1916. His name is on the Plymouth Naval Memorial.

**Cox 1068 Dudley James Cox** – A Gunner with the Berks Battery of the Royal Horse Artillery. Killed in action during the Allies advance in to Palestine, probably at the Battle of Mughar Ridge, on 14th November 1917. His name is on the Jerusalem Memorial.

**Curtis 1321 James Ernest Curtis** – Royal Navy. Boy Telegraphist in the St. Vincent Class battleship HMS *Vanguard* that sank at Scapa Flow following an explosion from an unknown cause 9th July 1917. 843 men went down with the ship making it the Royal Navy's biggest single loss of life. His name is on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial.

**Curtis 1457 Edward Curtis** – Joined the Royal Navy in 1916 at HMS *Impregnable* and was a Boy 1st Class in the armed merchant cruiser HMS *Arlanza* when he died 23rd July 1918 following an explosion on the vessel. He was buried at sea and his name is on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial.

**Dale 1071 William Charles Dale** – Joined the Royal Navy in 1912 and was an Able Seaman in the battle cruiser HMS *Invincible* flagship of the 3rd Battle Cruiser Squadron when she was sunk at the Battle of Jutland 31st May 1916. His name is on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial.

**Distance 1232 Francis Distance** – Joined the Royal Navy in 1914 at HMS *Impregnable* and was an Ordinary Seaman in the cruiser HMS *Defence*, flagship of the 1st Cruiser Squadron when she was sunk at the Battle of Jutland 31st May 1916. His name is on the First World War Memorial Panel in St Mary Bishophill Church, York and the Plymouth Naval Memorial.

**Doherty 0700 Joseph Patrick Doherty** – A Platoon Sergeant with the 3rd Battalion Worcestershire Regiment who had also served in the South African campaign. Declined a field commission and was killed in France while leading his men in an attack on enemy positions 29th April 1916. Buried in the Ecoivres Military Cemetery near Arras.

**Doick 0987 Charles Frank Doick** – Joined the Royal Navy at HMS *Impregnable* in August 1910 and was an Able Seaman in the cruiser HMS *Black Prince* sunk at the Battle of Jutland 31st May 1916. His name is on the war memorial in Holy Trinity Churchyard, Cuckfield, Sussex and the Portsmouth Naval Memorial.

**Driver 0992 Arthur Maurice Driver** – Joined the Royal Navy at HMS *Impregnable* in October 1911 and was an Able Seaman in the cruiser HMS *Good Hope* when she was sunk with all hands at the Battle of Coronel off the coast of Chile, 1st November 1914. His name is on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial and the War Memorial at All Souls Church at Hutton in Essex.

**Dunn 1328 John Gordon Dunn** – Royal Navy. Boy 2nd Class. Died three months after leaving Mercury at the Royal Naval Hospital, Plymouth 16th February 1916 while under training at HMS *Impregnable*. Buried in Chipping Camden Churchyard.

**Dwyer 1151 Edward Dwyer** – Joined the Royal Navy in June 1914 at HMS *Impregnable*. According to contemporary Mercury magazines he was killed at the Battle of Jutland on 1st June 1916 while serving as a Boy Telegraphist in the cruiser HMS *Warrior*. However, according to his Naval Record, he was one of the 743 crew members who survived the sinking of *Warrior*, probably rescued by the seaplane carrier HMS *Engadine*, and he continued to serve in the Royal Navy until December 1919 when he was invalided out of the service in the rank of Leading Telegraphist. He later enlisted with the Royal Corps of Signals and served with them until 1934.  
Incorrectly listed on the Mercury First World War memorial

**Ennever 0898 Samuel Francis Ennever** – Left Mercury in 1909 to join the 2nd Battalion Norfolk Regiment as a Band Boy. At the end of April 1916 he was serving as a Private with the regiment when he was captured by the Turks after the siege and eventual fall of Kut. Of the 261 survivors from the Norfolks taken prisoner at Kut only 78 came home. Samuel was not one of them. He was interned at Angora and died of dysentery on 22nd February 1918 at the Maltepe Hospital. He was originally buried in the Ferikoy Protestant Cemetery in Istanbul but was later reburied with other POWs at the Haidar Pasha CWGC Cemetery in Kadikoy. He is also commemorated at the East London Cemetery, Plaistow, London.

**Gadd 1167 Victor Henry Gadd** – Joined the Royal Navy in 1913 at HMS *Impregnable* and was a Boy 1st Class in the Canopus Class pre-Dreadnought battleship HMS *Goliath* when she was sunk by a German commanded and crewed Turkish torpedo-boat destroyer off Cape Helles, Dardanelles during the Gallipoli campaign 15th May 1915. His name is on the Chatham Naval Memorial.

**Griffin 0691 Walter Griffin** – Private 3rd Battalion Worcestershire Regiment He joined the Regiment in France in April 1915 and died of wounds on 20th June 1915 after the desperate fighting at Bellewaarde and is buried at the Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension at Oise near Arras.

**Gutteridge 1311 Herbert John Gutteridge** – Joined the Royal Navy in 1915 at HMS *Impregnable* and was a Boy 1st Class in the minesweeper HMS *Dryad* when he died of an illness 28th August 1917. Buried in Hertford Cemetery.

**Head 0922 William Frederick Head** – Joined Norfolk Regiment as a Band Boy Served as a Private with the 2nd Battalion during the Mesopotamia Campaign and was another former Mercury boy to be captured by the Turks at the fall of Kut on the 29th April 1916. War office records indicate he died whilst a POW on 14th October 1916. His name is on the Basra Memorial.

**Hubie-Axe 0893 William Cecil Hubie-Axe** – Joined the Royal Navy at HMS *Ganges* in August 1906 and was an able seaman in the cruiser HMS *Hawke*, one of the oldest vessels in the fleet, when it was torpedoed 60 miles off Aberdeen by U-9 on the 15th October 1914. Over 500 men, including William, went down with the ship. His name is on the Chatham Naval Memorial.

**Jenkins 1511 David Jenkins** – Joined the Royal Navy in 1917 at HMS *Ganges*. His name is on the Mercury 1914-18 War Memorial but not in naval records. According to Mercury records he died of consumption on 14th February 1919.

**Kibblewhite 0667 Thomas Charles Kibblewhite** – Left Mercury in 1900 to join the Merchant Service. Was a Royal Naval Reserve Able Seaman in the cruiser HMS *Euryalus* when he was one of 63 of the ship's crew killed while landing the 1st Battalion of the Lancashire Fusiliers from open boats at 'W' Beach, Gallipoli on the 25th April 1915. At the storming of this well-defended open beach the Lancashires famously won their 'six VCs before breakfast'. His name is on the Chatham Naval Memorial.

**Leonard 1029 Harold Leonard** – Joined the Royal Navy in 1912 at HMS *Impregnable* and was serving as an Able Seaman in the Invincible Class battle cruiser HMS *Indomitable* when he drowned on 17th July 1915. Buried in Dalmeny and Queensferry Cemetery, Scotland.

**Leverington 1088 Philip Edward Leverington** – Joined the Royal Navy in 1913 at HMS *Impregnable* and was serving as a Signaller in the destroyer HMS *Torch* when he died of illness 31st October 1918. He is buried in Dunfermline Cemetery.

**Macfarlane 1031 George Macfarlane** – Joined the Royal Navy in 1910 at HMS *Impregnable* and was an Able Seaman in the cruiser HMS *Black Prince* when she was sunk at the Battle of Jutland 31st May 1916. His name is on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial.

**Matthews 0692 Harold Matthews** – Bandsman with the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. Killed in action in France 12th July 1915. Buried in the Military Extension to the Churchyard of the village of Erquinghem-Lys near Armentiere.

**May 1023 John Edwin May** – Drummer with 2nd Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers, 6th Division. Killed in action France 2nd November 1914. Buried in Pont du Hem Military Cemetery, La Gorge, Nord, France.

**Moore 1007 Dudley Moore** - According to Mercury records after leaving in 1909 he went to Canada and during the First World War was killed in action in France while serving with the Canadian forces. Probably the D. Moore a Private with the 4th Battalion Central Ontario Regiment killed on 19th September 1916 during an assault by the Canadian Corps that commenced on the 15th September as part of the Somme offensive. He is buried in the Warloy-Baillon Communal Cemetery Extension north-east of Amiens. However his name is not on the Mercury the First World War Memorial. Further clarification required. Needing further clarification

**Nash 1104 Frederick Barrett Nash** - A South African who after Mercury joined HMS *Worcester* to continue training for a cadetship in the Merchant Service. Went to sea as an Apprentice with Clan Line and lost his life 4th March 1918 while serving as Fourth Officer in the *Clan Macpherson* torpedoed and sunk by U-27 north of Cape Serrat on the coast of Tunisia while on passage from Malta to Colon. His name is on the Merchant Navy Memorial on Tower Hill. (Not on the Mercury Memorial).

**Odd 1504 Sidney Charles Odd** – Merchant Service. Apprentice in the British flag *ss Kut Sang* torpedoed 40 miles ESE of Cape Palos, Spain on 29th April 1918. His name is on the Merchant Navy Memorial, Tower Hill, London and the Sutton Grammar School Memorial.

**Perry 0815 Arthur Theodore Perry** - After *Mercury*, emigrated to New Zealand with his parents. At the outbreak of the First World War he joined the Medical Corp of the New Zealand Army as a Private and embarked with the New Zealand Infantry Brigade for Egypt in October 1914. With the Brigade he later went to Gallipoli with the ANZAC's where he died of wounds on 22nd May 1915. He is buried at the Beach Cemetery in Anzac Cove, Gallipoli. (Not on the *Mercury* Memorial)

**Pilcher 1108 Harry George Pilcher** – Joined the Royal Navy in 1912 at HMS *Impregnable* and was an Able Seaman in the cruiser HMS *Black Prince* when she was sunk at the Battle of Jutland 31st May 1916. His name is on the Newport IOW War Memorial and the Portsmouth Naval Memorial.

**Pitt 0554 Chesney Louis Pitt** 1894-98 - During the First World War he served as a Private with the 48th Battalion of the Australian Infantry. He was killed in the Somme region on 3rd October 1918 and is buried at the Picquigny British Cemetery near Amiens. His name is also on the Australian National War Memorial in Canberra. (Not on the *Mercury* Memorial)

**Pope 0296 Walter G.H. Pope** - Left *Mercury* in 1892 to join the Royal Navy at HMS *St Vincent*. Later transferred to the Regulating Branch and was Master-at-Arms in the cruiser HMS *Good Hope* when she was sunk with all hands at the Battle of Coronel off the coast of Chile, 1st November 1914. His name is on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial.

**Powell 1225 Victor Powell** – Joined the Royal Navy in 1914 at HMS *Impregnable* and was an Able Seaman in the cruiser HMS *Defence*, flagship of the 1st Cruiser Squadron when she was Sunk at the Battle of Jutland 31st May 1916. His name is on the Plymouth Naval Memorial.

**Rankine 1490 John Henry Rankine** – Merchant Service. 16 year old Deck Boy in the hospital ship *Glenart Castle* sunk by U-boat UC56 20 miles off Hartland Point, Devon on 26th February 1918. A memorial to the 162 crew and military personnel who were lost was dedicated at Hartland Point in February 2002. John was one of three brothers who were at *Mercury* together in 1915. His name is on the Merchant Navy Memorial, Tower Hill, London.

**Reed 1317 William Thomas Reed** – Royal Navy. Ordinary Seaman at HMS *Vivid*, the Devonport Naval Barracks. Died of pneumonia 18th October 1918. Buried in All Saints Churchyard, Steep, Hampshire.

**Riley 0771 Arthur Riley** – After he left *Mercury* in 1903 he worked ashore but on the outbreak of war joined the Mercantile Marine Reserve. He was a steward in the armed merchant cruiser HMS *Alcantara* torpedoed and sunk in the Skaggarak during an

action with the German raider *Greif* on 29th February 1916. 73 of the crew were lost including Arthur Riley. His name is on the Plymouth Naval Memorial.

**Selway 0762 Upton Selway** – Joined the Royal Navy in 1903 at HMS *Impregnable* and was a Petty Officer in the battleship HMS *Neptune* when he died on 30th November 1918. Buried in the Dalmeny & Queensferry Cemetery in Scotland.

**Sheppard 0729 William James Sheppard** – Joined the Royal Navy at HMS *Impregnable* in April 1905 and was an Able Seaman in the destroyer HMS *Shark* sunk at the Battle of Jutland 31st May 1916. His name is on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial.

**Smythe 1344 Robert Robinson Smythe** – Joined the Royal Navy in 1915 at HMS *Impregnable* and was a Boy 1st Class in battle cruiser HMS *Queen Mary* when she was sunk at the Battle of Jutland 31st May 1916. His name is on the Plymouth Naval Memorial.

**Steere 1014 Archibald George Steere** – Joined the Royal Navy at HMS *Impregnable* and was an Able Seaman Torpedoman in the 'K' Class destroyer HMS *Lynx* when she struck a mine in the Moray Firth on 9th August 1915. His name is on the Portsmouth Naval War Memorial.

**Tring 0732 Edward Tring** – Joined the Royal Marines as a Bandsman in 1904 and was in the St. Vincent Class battleship HMS *Vanguard* when she sank at Scapa Flow following an explosion from an unknown cause 9th July 1917. 843 men went down with the ship making it the Royal Navy's biggest single loss of life. His name is on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial.

**Vear 0512 James Victor Vear** - Lance Corporal with the 9th Battalion East Surrey Regiment. He was taken prisoner at the Battle of Loos and died on 9th October 1915, presumably of wounds. After the end of the First World War all British POWs who had died in German hands were reburied, mostly in the Cologne Southern Cemetery, where James' remains now lie. (Not on the Mercury Memorial)

**Wall 1015 George Norman Wall** – Joined the Royal Navy at HMS *Impregnable* in 1913 and was an Able Seaman in the cruiser HMS *Black Prince* sunk at the Battle of Jutland 31st May 1916. His name is on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial.

**Wallace 1417 Donald Craig Wallace** – Joined the Royal Navy in 1917 at HMS *Impregnable* and was an Able Seaman in the battleship HMS *Revenge* when he died of an illness on 19th July 1920. He is buried in the Haidar Pasha Cemetery in a suburb of Istanbul on the Asian side of the Bosphorus. (Note: In January 1920 *Revenge* was part of the 1st Battle Squadron detached to the Mediterranean and Black Sea due to concerns about the Russian civil war and the crises in the region between the Turks and Greeks. On 19th July *Revenge* with other HM and Greek ships supported unopposed Greek landings at Mudania and she rejoined the British Atlantic Fleet shortly after). Incorrectly listed on the Mercury First World War memorial

**Wellings 0866 Henry William Wellings DCM, Cross of St George (Russia) -** While serving as an Acting Captain with the 17th Battalion of the Machine Gun Corps, he was badly wounded in the Acheux area of the Western Front on 19th October 1918 and died the following day. Henry is buried in the Gezaincourt Communal Cemetery Extension and his name is on the First World War Memorial in St Pauls Church, Cove near Wolverhampton. (Not on the Mercury Memorial)

**Willmer 0335 Charles Archibald Willmer** – Royal Marines. Took part in the Benin Expedition of 1897. He was Band Sergeant in the cruiser HMS *Monmouth* and went down with his ship at the Battle of Coronel 1st November 1914. His name is on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial.

**Woofindin 1395 Longley Evans Martin Woofindin** – Merchant Service. Left Mercury in May 1917 to join the Newcastle shipowner R. S. Dalglish & Co., as an apprentice in the vessel *Farnworth*. He died at the Royal Hamadryad Seaman's Hospital in Cardiff in August 1918 from injuries suffered when he fell down a ship's hold in the port.