The men named on the War Memorial

'LIVE THOU FOR ENGLAND.WE FOR ENGLAND DIED' (Inscription on the War Memorial)

Edward Bostock DUMBLETON

Stoker 1st Class, HMS Manchester, Royal Navy.

He died on 24 March 1941 age 21 whilst his ship was being refitted after its role in the Norwegian Campaign.

He lived in Clifton and he is buried in section K, grave 14.442, Preston Cemetery, Tynemouth.

Elizabeth Pinfold, who was the mother of Percival Pinfold (killed in action in 1917), was listed as Edward Dumbleton's next of kin and so she received the Letter of Condolence from King George VI which is reproduced on page 91.

Francis Beesley GARRETT

Flight Sergeant and Rear Gunner, 467 Squadron (RAAF), Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve based at RAF Bottesford.

He died on 18 August 1943 age 26 on a raid on Peenemunde in Lancaster Bomber LM342PO.

He is remembered on panel 136 of the Runnymede Memorial.

His parents were Francis B and Florence R Garrett, Home Farm, Clifton.

Additional information:

The aeroplane was lost on its first Key Operation with a total of just 42 hours flying time. LM342 was one of the two 467 Squadron Lancasters that were lost on this operation. They took off at 21.45 hours on 17 August 1943 from RAF Bottesford and the aeroplane crashed in the Baltic while approaching the target. All the crew were killed. They were:

Squadron Leader A S Raphael DFC was 'A' Flight Commander

Flight Lieutenant M H Parry was the Squadron Bombing Leader and was flying as second air bomber

Sergeant V Smith Flight Sergeant D Fielden
Pilot Officer R G Carter DFC RCAF Sergeant A C Brand

Sergeant F Grey Flight Sergeant F B Garrett

John Richard Frederick GILKES

Private, 1st Battalion, The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry. He died on 16 July 1944 shortly after the D-Day invasion of Normandy and during the Battle for Caen age 19.

He is buried in grave III E18, Brouay War Cemetery, Normandy.

He was the son of Richard and Lilian R Gilkes of Deddington.

William Reginald GREENAWAY

Sergeant (Flight Engineer), 432 (RCAF) Squadron, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve based at RAF Swale in Yorkshire.

He died on 27 January 1944 age 22 on a bombing raid on Berlin.

He is buried in grave 7 L 11, Berlin 1939-1945 War Cemetery.

He was the son of Reginald and Ethel M Greenaway of Deddington.

Additional information:

Lancaster no. LL638 of 432 Squadron was lost on its first operation. They had taken off at 17.51 hours on 27 January 1944 and the aeroplane crashed at Schmockwitz, a town 22 km SE from the centre of Berlin.

The crew were:

Pilot Officer D J Paterson RCAF
Sergeant W R Greenaway
Flight Officer F/O A D G Bell RCAF

Sergeant F W Heinen RCAF Flight Sergeant R P Wilson

Flight Sergeant C A Sherwood RCAF

Ernest Sydney G HALL

Sapper, 576 Corps Field Park Company, Royal Engineers.

He died on 13 August 1943 age 27.

The Allied Army invaded Sicily on 9 July and the island was captured on 17 August 1943, four days after he was killed.

He is buried in grave IV C27, Catania War Cemetery, Sicily.

He was the husband of Lilian M Hall of Deddington.

John H LEWIS

Private, 2nd Battalion, The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, 10 Infantry Brigade, 4th Infantry Division.

He died on 1 April 1944 age 25.

He is buried in grave XII J 9 XII, Cassino War Cemetery, Italy.

He was the son of Edwin and Charlotte Lewis of Deddington.

Lawrence Lee PYMAN

Pilot Officer, 65 Squadron, Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, previously with the Cambridge University Air Squadron.

He died on 16 August 1940 age 23.

He was a Battle of Britain fighter pilot who, on 14 August 1940, had force-landed his aircraft at RAF Manston. His aircraft was peppered with bullet holes. He was shot down and killed on 16 August 1940 in his Spitfire I (K9915) over the Channel near Deal at 17.30 hours.

He is buried in plot Q, grave 18, Calais Southern Cemetery.

He was the son of the late Ronald L Pyman (who was killed in France in 1917) and C Freyda Roberts (formerly Pyman) of Deddington House (now Deddington Manor). Freyda Roberts ran the Hospital in the Old Vicarage in Church Street.

Henry SORRELL

Driver, 18th Divisional Signals, Royal Corps of Signals.

He died on 12 September 1944 age 33.

He was captured in Thailand and was being transported in an unmarked Japanese Hell Ship, the MV Rakuyo Maru, when it was torpedoed by the USS Sealion and sank; 1,159 Allied Prisoners of War died. The Japanese transported PoWs in unmarked ships. The prisoners were usually being moved to be used as slave labour and the warships had no means of identifying which vessels were actually PoW transporters.

He is remembered on column 46 of the Singapore Memorial.

He was the son of the late H Sorrell and of Eva Sorrell who moved to Deddington after the war to join her daughters who had been evacuated to Deddington. He was the husband of Ethel M Sorrell of Islington.

Additional information:

The story of the terrible treatment that Allied PoWs received at the hands of the Japanese is recounted in *The Forgotten Highlander* by Alistair Urquhart published in paperback by Abacus (ISBN 978-0349-12257-1). It includes a full account of the sinking of *MV Rakuyo Maru* and other Hell Ships on the same day.

Ernest Arthur SYKES

Corporal, Royal Army Service Corps. He died on 24 June 1941 age 33. He was probably involved in the capture of Damascus involving the Free French, the Indian Army, the Australians and the British from the Vichy French Army. He is buried in grave N 23, Damascus Commonwealth Cemetery. He was the son of George H and Clara E Sykes and the husband of Georgina F Sykes of Deddington.