



# *Lezant Parish War Memorial*



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# *Lezant Parish War Memorial...*

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# *Lezant Parish War Memorial... Introduction*

## *1. Introduction*



Lezant War Memorial in the Spring, looking towards Landue Bridge and the A388.

Just yards from the A388 by Landue Bridge, nestled in rhododendrons within its walled enclosure, stands the grey granite cross that is our parish war memorial. Unlike so many other monuments around the country our memorial does not take centre stage on the village green, or alongside the parish church, it sits in relative tranquillity, beside a country lane and a stream.



The Lowley Brook at Landue Bridge.

Although the stream, the Lowley Brook, its swirling waters snaking their way south east towards its confluence with the River Tamar near Greystone, is virtually invisible from the memorial, as it flows under the Landue Bridge, (itself a Grade II Listed structure), largely hidden by the bridge parapets and within the trees and abundant flora that line its course on either side of the bridge.

For much of the time the monument stands in solitude, visited by only those that tend it or happen to be passing by, except on Remembrance Day, when on that November morning, whatever the weather, it bustles with parishioners, some of whom, raised locally, still with family connections to those listed on the memorial, come to pay their respects and take part in the Act of Remembrance held there.



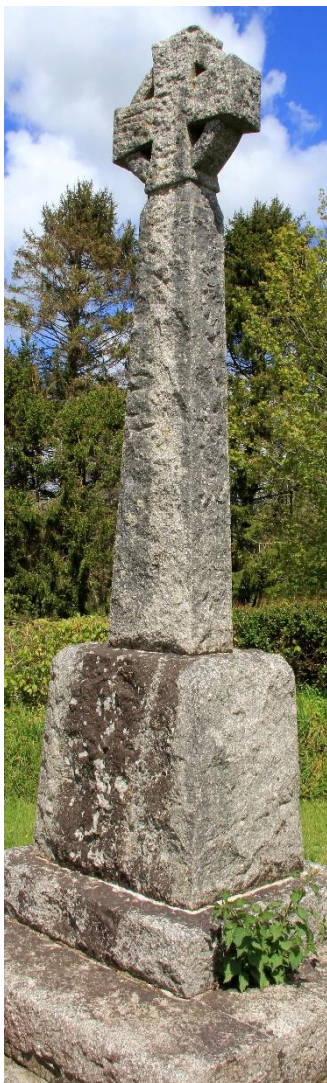
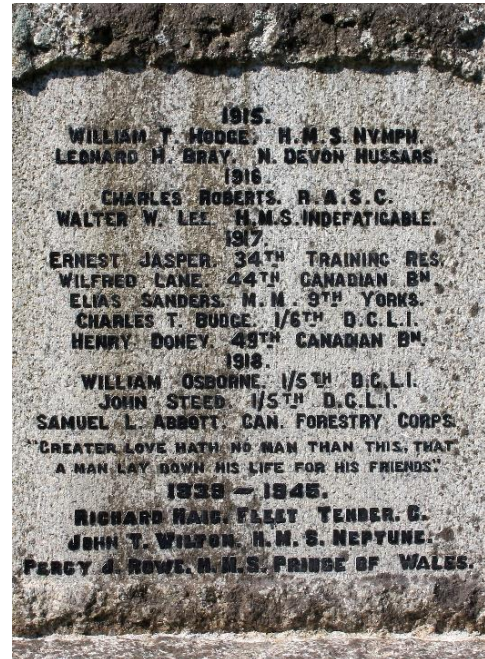
## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... Introduction*

On its plinth the names of the men of this parish, who died during the First World War;

**William T. Hodge  
Leonard H. Bray  
Charles Roberts  
Walter W. Lee  
Ernest Jasper  
Wilfred Lane  
Elias Sanders  
Charles T. Budge  
Henry Doney  
William Osborne  
John Steed  
Samuel L. Abbott**

and the Second World War;

**Richard Haig  
John T. Wilton  
Percy J. Rowe**



The memorial records 15 men and their selfless sacrifice, but reveals little else about these faceless names; where they met their end, their lives before duty beckoned, or the families they left behind.

Among the 15 some were regulars and already serving, several volunteered for service after the outbreak of war while some were conscripted.

They served in many theatres, from Europe to the Far East, enduring the mud and deprivation of the trenches of the Western Front, the extreme temperatures and rocky terrain of Turkish Thrace, and the unforgiving waters of the Atlantic, Mediterranean and Pacific.

These men were involved in some of the most notorious campaigns of both World Wars, a number killed in action at places whose names are now synonymous with some of the most brutal and savage battles in the history of warfare; Passchendaele, Gallipoli and Jutland amongst them, while others died of disease before ever reaching foreign shores.

Whatever the circumstances of their deaths, they all answered the call and met their fate while serving their country.

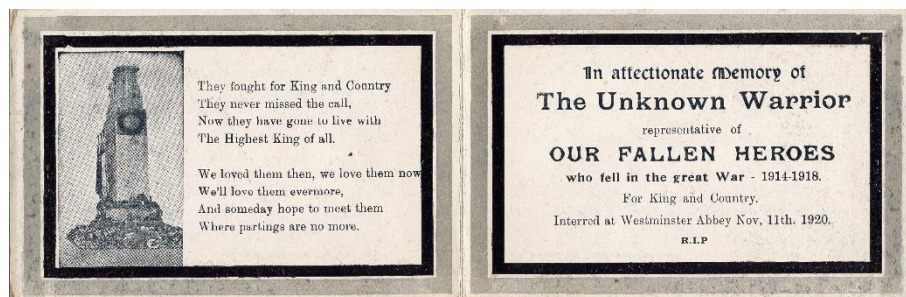


## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... History*

### **2. History**

Aside from the men that it recalls, the memorial itself has its own story; as the fighting ended, those on the home front, those who had lost loved ones, friends and neighbours, those who had witnessed the carnage, those who had served and survived, began to come to the realisation that such sacrifice, such duty, such service, must not be allowed to be forgotten.

Throughout the nation, in every town and village, there was a surge of effort to honour and enshrine the names of those who had performed these most demanding and unenviable tasks. And so, just six months after the armistice was signed, the people of the parish of Lezant thoughts, just like those of so many other parishes around the country, turned to how to commemorate those of the parish who had served.



Memorial card for the Unknown Warrior, a national symbol of loss, mourning and remembrance, interred at Westminster Abbey 11<sup>th</sup> November 1920.

Reflecting this sentiment, at a parish council meeting on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> April 1919, Parish Councillor Mr. Ernest Brawn, proposed that a parish meeting be called to discuss whether a war memorial should be erected.

The meeting was duly arranged, and held on Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> May 1919, at Trekenner School, (which would be the venue for all of the future public meetings regarding the creation of a parish war memorial), where the idea of some sort of permanent memorial was embraced.

Mr. Jennings suggested a book, listing the names of all those who served, be kept at each place of worship in the parish, he also agreed to interview all of the men who had served and the parents and relatives of the fallen, to get a sense of their wishes and views on the subject Discussions however as to exactly what form a memorial should take were limited, as it was thought that such a decision could not be made without a clearer idea of the level of funding.

As it was felt that the parish had been poorly represented at the meeting, a further public meeting was called for; and this time to improve attendance, notices of it were read at all of the places of worship prior to it.

On Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> May 1919, at the next meeting, a number of diverse ideas were put forward regarding the form of the memorial, suggestions included a Post and Telephone Office, tablets at each place of worship, a Recreation Room, and Mr. H. Spurr thought a granite cross very suitable.

A committee, comprising of Mr. J. S. Tregoning, T. Goodman, A. Fry, Mr. A. Wise and Mr. Jennings was appointed to investigate the potential costs of each of the suggestions.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... History*

Throughout the summer and autumn the information was gathered, and the findings acted on at a Public Parish meeting, on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> November 1919, where Parish Councillor Mr. William Henry Spurr, proposed the erection of a Granite Cross at Landue Bridge, and Mr. Charles P. Goodman proposed the installation of tablets at each place of worship. Both proposals were carried, and a group of nine women; Miss Gerry, Mrs. H. Spurr, Mrs. Clark, Miss Tickell, Miss Doney, Miss Tregoning, Mrs. Walters, Mrs. Jennings and Mrs. Bant, were elected as 'collectors', to collect money from the parish to fund the projects, Mrs. Jennings to act as their secretary and Mr. J. S. Tregoning as the treasurer.



Trekenner School; at the time of the meetings the wing in the foreground served as the Head Teachers home.

Within a month, on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> December 1919, a further meeting was held, when Mr. J. S. Tregoning reported on the results of the collection; and statements from the collectors and others made it clear that the proposal to place tablets within the places of worship was generally disapproved of, and it was therefore agreed that the amendment to include them be withdrawn. It was decided to adopt the plan for a granite cross, for which there were two suggestions; Miss Gerry proposed that the memorial be erected in the churchyard, this plan however was subsequently withdrawn in favour of Mr. William Henry Spurr's original proposal;

*“that a granite monument in the form of a Cornish Cross  
be erected at Landue Bridge”.*

Mr. John Simmons Tregoning confirmed that the offer he had made at a previous meeting, to provide a site at Landue Bridge, held good, and the proposal was therefore carried unanimously, (the land was officially transferred to the Lezant Parish Council on 24<sup>th</sup> April 1923, with the signing of a Deed of Gift).

Now all that remained to be decided was the content of the memorials inscription; initially it was suggested that the names of all of those who served be placed on the monument, but Mr. Fry proposed that it bear only the names of the fallen, this amendment was duly carried, and so the details of the memorial had been finalised.

The collectors were asked to inform the parishioners of the decisions, and it was agreed that as Mr. James Hillson of Trecarrell, had suggested, upon completion the memorial be placed as a sacred trust in the hands of the parish council who would be charged to see that it was properly cared for.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... History*

By the spring of 1921, the ground work was complete; Mr. T. Gregory laid the concrete foundation, Mr. W. J. Baker, Mr. C. Maddever, Mr. W. Northcott, Mr. E. Olver and Mr. J. Folley worked on the site and Cornish hedge, the kissing gate procured from Messrs. J. T. Gillard and Company was installed, as was the memorial, a Celtic cross supplied and crafted by J. Sweet and Sons of Liskeard, hewn from granite most likely from either their Golddigging Quarry, or their then recently acquired Caradon Quarry, which had been delivered and erected on the plot of land donated by Mr. J. S. Tregoning.



Caradon, or as it was Silver Grey Quarry, July 2021. The quarry floor now flooded, the water partially concealing the half submerged remains of parts of the heavy machinery that was once so active.

Strwn around the site hundreds of large cut slabs, many of which are of a type of granite that very closely matches that used for the Lezant memorial.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... History*



Lezant War Memorial unveiling, 15<sup>th</sup> May 1921.

On Whit Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> May 1921 the memorial was publicly unveiled in the presence of a large crowd.

The Anglican Reverend William Henry Lancashire Jennings led the service with a prayer, which was followed by an address given by the Wesleyan Junior Minister, Reverend Thomas Owen Beswarick, himself a veteran, There was a bible reading by Mr. J. Hillson before Miss Tregoning pulled the cord to unveil the memorial, and Mr. Thomas Goodman, who presided, passed the war memorial to the Parish Council, Mr. W. Oke Jnr. sounded the last post.



Lezant War Memorial 100 years after its unveiling, May 2021.





## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... History*

Nearly a year after the unveiling, on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> March 1922, at a parish council meeting, the accounts for the memorial were reviewed; where it was shown how the public collection and donations had matched the cost of its erection.

An additional collector to those originally elected, Miss Maddever, was included on the list, but the details certainly establish Miss Emily Grace Tregoning as by far the most successful collector. Whether as part of one of the wealthiest families in the parish, she enhanced the amount collected with her own funds, or her social position allowed her more time pursuing donations, or afforded her access to a rather more influential and affluent circle than the others is not disclosed, but whatever the circumstances were, the figures confirm what a wonderful effort was made by all of the collectors, and just how generous and supportive the residents of the parish had been.

### Contributions

<u>Collected by</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>s</u>	<u>d</u>
Mrs. Bant	10	0	9
Mrs. Clarke	17	5	6
Miss B. Gerry	8	10	0
Mrs. Jennings	5	12	0
Miss Maddever	5	12	3
Miss Tickell	7	2	6
Mrs. W. H. Spurr	9	16	6
Miss E. G. Tregoning	83	1	6
Mrs. Walters	5	4	0
Rev. W. H. L. Jennings	17	11	9
Treasurer	8	19	5
Bank interest	5	10	3
<i>Total:</i>	184	6	5

### Payments

	<u>£</u>	<u>s</u>	<u>d</u>
J. Sweet and Sons: Granite Memorial	125	0	0
Lettering	13	1	11
Manual labour on ground and hedge:			
Mr. W. J. Baker	10	8	0
Mr. C. Maddever	2	16	0
Mr. W. Northcott	4	8	0
Mr. E. Olver	2	0	0
Mr. J. Folley		8	0
Messrs. J. T. Gillard and Co.: Iron Gate	7	17	6
Mr. T. Gregory: Work on foundations	5	15	0
Cement	9	12	0
Sand		2	6
Cornwall County Council: Gravel	1	17	6
Mr. J. Smith: Stone rubble	1	0	0
<i>Total:</i>	184	6	5



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... History*

Less than twenty years later, in 1939, the world was plunged into another global conflict, by the end of World War Two, in 1945 the toll could be counted; Lezant Parish had paid with three of its sons, who had bought at such a high price, the right for their names to be included on the war memorial. However this time, following the cessation of hostilities, there was less of a rush to honour these men. In the months following the war, efforts were made to collect money for a Parish Welcome Home Fund, and on 8<sup>th</sup> June 1946 a Victory Day Celebration was held that the parish council helped to organise & partly fund.

It was not until a meeting on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> January 1948 that it was proposed to clean the memorial and add the names of those lost in the recent war, and in response to this, two months later on Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> March 1948, the clerk presented an estimate from Piper Brothers for cleaning and repairing the memorial's iron railings, priced at £6 5s 0d, and providing letters for the new names at 12/- per dozen; it was agreed to accept the estimate, with a committee formed to supervise the work.

By the following autumn at a meeting on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> October 1948, the work still to be completed, the council had grown concerned that the new names had not yet been applied to the memorial, and called for Mr. Piper to see to this at once, in order that they be ready for the unveiling on Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> November 1948, when a united service would be held.

Sometime between the meeting and the unveiling the letters were applied, exactly who it was from Piper Brothers that carried out the work, or how much haste it was done in, does not appear to have been recorded, but the name of John T. Wilton was added to the memorial, and it was presumably at this point that his first name was misspelt, which remained the case for over half a century!



Additional inscription added by Pipers after WW2, still with John Wilton's forename misspelt in September 2007.

Whether or not this was noted at the time it does not seem to have prevented the unveiling ceremony, which appears to have gone ahead on the specified date.

On Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1949, at the parish council meeting, it was reported that, as had been the case some 30 years previously, Mr. Tregoning, true to his word, having offered to pay for the repairs and additions of new names to the memorial, had provided a cheque for £11 to match the invoice received from W. B. and C. F. Piper Ltd. for the work.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... History*

Since it's unveiling numerous people have been involved in the care and upkeep of the memorial, one of the earliest being Mr. H. Osborne, who in 1922, on having to leave the parish passed the work onto his brother.

For a number of years the parish council specifically employed someone as the caretaker, in 1945 Mr. James K. Maddever, a Cowman living at Landue Bridge, held the position, for which he received a salary of £2 10s 0d, his pay remaining the same until 21<sup>st</sup> March 1951, when it was increased to £5.

At some point in the ensuing years the council ceased employing a caretaker, and now when needed, use contractors for the grass cutting, hedge trimming, running repairs and general maintenance, although the flower displays are the creation and work of local volunteers.

Norman Budge, younger brother of the Charles T. Budge listed on the memorial, was for many years involved in the care of the memorial, and in 1984 wrote down his recollections of its history and the work he had undertaken as part of its upkeep; he believed that when first discussed J.S. Tregoning offered to enclose the site with a stone hedge and beech fence, and plant shrubs at the back of the memorial, and for several years after, the gardeners of Landue, (the Tregoning's estate), cut the hedge and grass.

In 1936 when the County Council raised the level of the slip road from the A388 to the old bridge, Norman, around that time a Roadman, living at Wooda Bridge, together with George Lane, raised the memorial's entrance gate and laid a concrete step. The gate was raised again in 1972 when the new bridge was built and the A388 realigned.



The kissing gate sitting on the concrete steps laid by Norman Budge and George Lane.

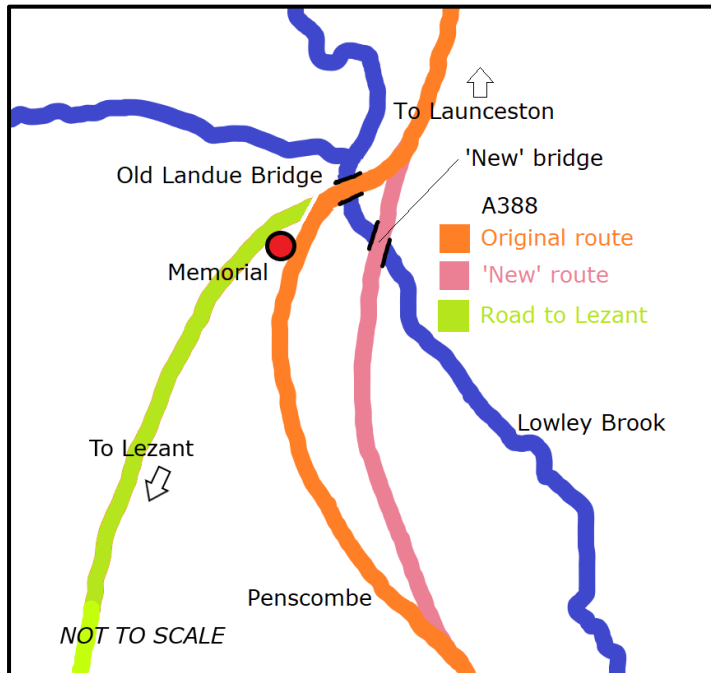
During the time after World War Two that he cared for the monument, Norman cleaned and painted the gate twice, and with George Sanders twice cleaned the granite.

He remembered in the years between the wars Armistice Day services at the memorial, (which were moved to the Parish Church if the weather was unkind), organised by the Parish Council, the parish rector taking the service, and the Methodist ministers from either Treburley or Trebulet taking it in turns on alternate years to address the congregation. These services came to an end during World War Two.



## Lezant Parish War Memorial... History

When the memorial was originally erected it sat in a narrow finger of land, sandwiched between two roads, where just after crossing the old Landue Bridge, the main Launceston to Saltash road, (which was designated the A388 within a few years of the memorial unveiling), forked to go to Lezant and Trekenner.



In the early 1970's, as mentioned by Norman Budge, the A388 was realigned, the dog-leg created by the crossing of the Lowley Brook over the old Landue bridge was eliminated by the construction of a new bridge over the Brook, allowing the A388's course to form a smooth curve, avoiding the old bridge and re-joining the original line approximately 0.28km, (306 yards), south at Penscombe, not far from what is now the main entrance to the Farm Shop and Café.

Sketch map showing how the road layout around the memorial changed after the A388 was realigned in the 1970's.

The road to Lezant and Trekenner absorbed the short section of the A388 that crossed the old bridge, to form a T-junction with the new line of the A388. The old line of the main road is now roughly echoed by the additional access road of the Farm Shop, which emerges at the gated entrance that joins the slip road that separates the memorial from the green in front it.



The 'new' A388 road bridge crossing the Lowley Brook at Landue.



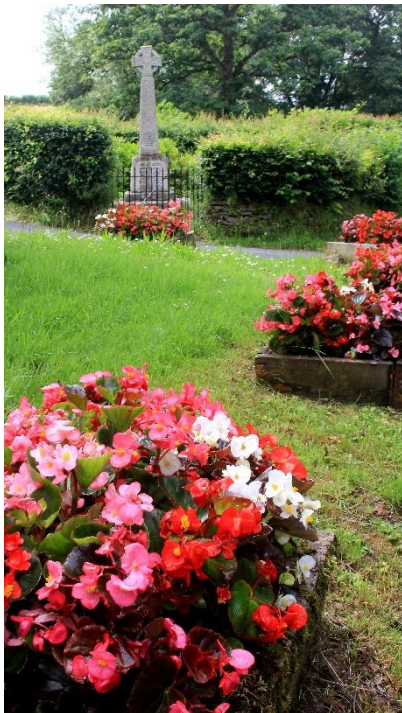
## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... History*

To Queen Elizabeth II's Silver Jubilee in 1977 an Oak tree was planted on the green next to the memorial, where today a bench is also sited, albeit at the time of writing unfortunately not in a fit state to use!

The green, despite the fact that it has for so many years now been cared for and embellished with flowers by the local community, seems to have no official designation as such, reportedly still being classed as a verge, potential decisions regarding its use and its ownership being in the hands of the County Council and their Highways department, (CORMAC), which perhaps goes some way to explain the rather overzealous use of the obtrusive signage and street furniture that seems to proliferate around the memorial.



The 'green' with the Jubilee Oak planted in 1977.



Troughs of flowers decorating the 'green', something that seems to have been started by Mrs. Ellis.

March 1984 saw Mr. Albert and Mrs. Marianne E. Ellis, (the Penscombe Cross Post Mistress), become the memorials carers, they enthusiastically embraced the task, and quickly orchestrated the repainting of the railings and gate, replanting bare areas of hedge, repairs to the plinth and significant changes to the immediate surroundings; the rough grass opposite the entrance of the memorials enclosure, was re-laid as a green, the edges of which and the memorial steps were adorned with flower boxes and tubs of marigolds, geraniums and wall flowers, although the wallflowers were not judged to be entirely successful since it appears that the sheep were rather partial to them! This work was funded in part by the sale of bedding plants that they raised, and sold during the week at the post office, (located in the right hand end as viewed from the road, of what is now 'Ivybank' at Penscombe Cross), and at the Mrs. Mary Knight's Lezant shop at weekends.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... History*

In 2009 with the aid of a £170 grant for repair and conservation from the War Memorials Trust, the memorial was cleaned, defective joints in the stonework were re-pointed, the inscription lettering was re-painted with black enamel and the misspelt name "JONH T. WILTON" was finally corrected to "JOHN T. WILTON"!

Two years later on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2011, Historic England, recognising the monuments cultural, historical and architectural significance, protected it by designating it a Grade II Listed building.



On Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> August 2014, one hundred years to the day that Britain entered World War One, the nation was asked to mark the exact time, by turning of the lights for an hour and lighting a candle until 11:00 p.m., the time when on Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> August 1914, Great Britain declared war on Germany. Although a ceremony was held at the Launceston War Memorial, no official commemoration had been organised at the Lezant War Memorial, and so feeling that the men of Lezant should be included in the first national event to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the First World War, my family and I, on that peaceful summer night, went to the dark and quiet site, where we left lighted candles on the memorial steps, gently illuminating the names of the fallen, during the hour of remembrance.

Candles for the fallen, Monday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2014.

2018/19 saw perhaps the greatest change to the landscape surrounding the memorial since the realignment of the A388, when the Red Ruby cattle, who often grazed the adjoining field were supplanted by a multi, obtuse angled, roofed, farm shop and restaurant, and its runway lit car parks. The farm gate at the access road to the field, which lies immediately next to the memorial, being replaced with a brutally industrial construction that can hardly be considered an improvement to the view.



The memorials 'new neighbours', the farm shop in the background, behind the somewhat obtrusive gate.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... History*

Despite the World being in the grip of a global pandemic in 2020, Cornwall for a good deal of the time, escaped many of the harsher measures that had been imposed to combat the spread of the virus. And while many key public activities were either cancelled or severely restricted, including the national Remembrance Service at the Cenotaph, the Act of Remembrance at the Lezant memorial went ahead largely unchanged, the wearing of face masks amongst some of those attending being the only clue to indicate that these were not normal times.

2021 marks the memorial's own 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, familiar, and I am sure often passed by without giving it much thought, it still has a powerful message and a warning to convey, that is perhaps more significant today than it was on the day of its unveiling; that every moment of our lives is a privilege bought and paid for by the names commemorated on the list and their comrades, and possibly more crucially, that failure to remember, ignorance of the past, provides those who would pervert the consciousness of nations, those greedy for power, the peddlers of hatred, of extremism, of radical ideologies and intolerance, the opportunity to add more names to its list.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... Key Figures*

### *3. Some Key Figures in the Memorials History*

#### ***Reverend Thomas Owen Beswarick,***

gave the address at the memorials unveiling.

The son of a corn merchant, born on 12<sup>th</sup> February 1886, at Tywardreath, Cornwall, where at St. Andrew's church on 28<sup>th</sup> April 1886 he was baptised by Septimus Valentine Baker, the then curate. Although born in Tywardreath, he grew up in Lostwithiel, where in his mid-teens he worked as a clerk in the business that his father had established there. This, however, was obviously not his chosen vocation, and after having attended both Shebbear College, Devon and Dunheved College in Launceston, he went on to the Wesleyan Theological College at Handsworth to train for the ministry, which he entered in 1911, and in which he would remain a minister until his death, at the age of 85, on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1971 at Exmouth in Devon.

In 1915 Thomas married Ethel Daisy Beardmore in West Bromwich, and a year later they had a son, John, born in Liskeard, the family remaining in Cornwall, when in July 1917 Thomas enlisted with the Royal Army Chaplains' Department, with whom he was deployed to France on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 1917 as a Temporary Chaplain to the Forces, 4th Class, (CF4), which was nominally equivalent to the rank of Captain.

On completion of his World War One service he returned to Cornwall, working in the Launceston area, where in 1921 his daughter Margaret was born. The same year saw him officiate as a junior Minister at the unveiling of the Lezant War Memorial, although this was not the only one that he would be involved with, as in September he would perform a similar role at the unveiling of the Egloskerry memorial.

Thomas' work would require him and his family to relocate several times over the years, and it took him to numerous locations across the country; including, by 1922 as the Methodist Minister, Whitchurch, Cardiff, before in 1925 moving to Anerley, South East London, where he stayed until 1928, Albert Road, Southsea, and Bournemouth, Hampshire.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> October 1956 his wife of over 40 years, Ethel died at St. Ives in Cornwall, the following year at the age of 71 he would re marry, spending his remaining years with his second wife, Gertrude Mary Thornburgh.

In a rather poignant footnote to his story, some forty three years after his death, in November 2014, the year that marked one hundred years since the start of the First World War, his British War and Victory medals, earned for his service during that war, were sold at an auction in Crewkerne for a few pounds!

#### ***Ernest Brawn,***

the parish councillor who first proposed a parish meeting to discuss the idea of a permanent memorial.

Born on 9<sup>th</sup> September 1881 at Trekener, where he was to spend much of his life.

He married Ethel May Bartlett at Launceston United Methodist Church on 26<sup>th</sup> June 1913, with whom he had two children, Edna Mary, born on 20<sup>th</sup> October 1916, and Richard John, born on 7<sup>th</sup> May 1920.





## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... Key Figures*

Following in his father's, Richards footsteps, he made his living as a carpenter, until on 8<sup>th</sup> December 1915, at the age of 34, he signed up for the British Army, but was immediately put on the reserve list, until being mobilized on 29<sup>th</sup> January 1917, as 232131 Sapper Brawn, with a Signal Company of the Royal Engineers, who employed him as a wheelwright, and with whom he served overseas from 14<sup>th</sup> July 1917 to 15<sup>th</sup> January 1919, when he was taken to Queen Mary's Military Hospital in Whalley, Lancashire, where he spent thirteen days being treated for influenza; a survivor of both the Great War and the Spanish Flu pandemic, he was demobbed on 25<sup>th</sup> February 1919.

Returning home he resumed his work as a carpenter, and in later years while continuing in this profession also acted as the Sub Postmaster, assisted by his family, of Trekenner Post Office, where they lived.

He passed away at the age of 67 at Launceston Hospital on 20<sup>th</sup> April 1949, and was buried on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1949 at Trebullet Methodist Chapel.

### ***Reverend William Henry Lancashire Jennings,***

was an active participant at the public meetings concerning the memorial, he canvassed the families of the fallen and the veterans of the parish regarding their views, raised money for the project and led the unveiling ceremony.

Born in St. Helier, Jersey, on 29<sup>th</sup> October 1883, and baptised on 14<sup>th</sup> November the same year, he spent his early life there. The family later moved to Taunton, where by 1901, his father, who originated from Somerset, had retired as a Draper, and William was acting as a Pupil Teacher at a local school, a fairly common practice, that effectively provided a teaching apprenticeship to a senior pupil, who, while continuing with their own education taught younger pupils. By 1907 he was working as a Schoolmaster at Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol, where on the Boxing Day of that year, at Holy Trinity, the parish church, he married the widow Ada Howell. For several years after that the couple shared the home of Ada's elderly father at 1, Cheriton Place, Westbury-On-Trym, while William continued with his career in teaching.

The Great War brought tragedy to Williams family, as it would for so many others, when his older brother, Reginald, himself a Schoolmaster, on 25<sup>th</sup> September 1915, serving as a Lance Corporal with the 18<sup>th</sup> Battalion, London Regiment was seriously wounded at Loos, where he died the following day. Williams story around this period is rather intriguing and a little bit of a mystery, at some point he appears to have changed tack, swapping teaching for the ministry; he is recorded in the service records of Stanley George Bray as the person who officiated at his wedding at St. Briochus, Lezant in 1919. And by his prominence at the various meetings regarding the War Memorial and its unveiling ceremony, it might be assumed that he was perhaps serving as the vicar at St. Briochus, however there does not appear to be any evidence that this was the case, indeed there doesn't seem to be any record of him at this time.

In June 1927 William and Ada travelled to Australia aboard the S.S. Balranald, where for at least part of the time he worked as a Minister residing in the small mining town of Blackbushes in Western Australia, before returning to England, via a short stay in Canada to visit Ada's brother, in 1930. Soon after, in 1931, he became the Vicar of St. Breward, near Camelford, living in the Vicarage by what is reputedly the highest church in Cornwall, for the eighteen years that he held



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... Key Figures*

the post, until 1949; although sadly Ada's time there was far shorter; she died in 1931, and was buried in the cemetery of her husband's church on 15<sup>th</sup> August 1931.

He spent his later years at Glinfield, Fernleigh Road, Wadebridge, passing away at Barncoose, Illogan, Redruth on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1962, at the age of 78; he was buried at St. Breoke Churchyard, St. Breok near Wadebridge, three days later on 26<sup>th</sup> February.

### ***William Henry Spurr,***

proposed the form of the memorial that was adopted and built.

A farmer's son born in 1887 in Lezant, and baptised on 13<sup>th</sup> November 1887 at St. Briochus Church, one of three children, he lived and worked on his father's Trekenner farm.

He was living at West Penrest, when on 1<sup>st</sup> November 1917 at Linkinhorne, he married Edith Hicks, a farmer's daughter from Trelabe, Linkinhorne, although they did not have any children, their marriage would last until William's death on 28<sup>th</sup> November 1934 at Launceston Hospital.

### ***Joseph Sweet and Sons,***

supplied the granite for, and crafted the memorial.

Granite merchants and monumental masons based in Liskeard, they occupied several sites there over the years, including premises on Russell Street, Barn Street and the Parade, where the Post Office now stands, as well as until its closure in 1969, a depot in Coburg Street, Plymouth.

At the time the memorial was supplied Joseph, the company's founder, who died on 18<sup>th</sup> February 1898, had been succeeded by his son Joseph, born in Moorswater, Liskeard on 15<sup>th</sup> August 1863, and baptised at the parish church of St. Martin's on 28<sup>th</sup> December 1864, who now ran the thriving local business that his father had established around 1873. As well as providing granite for a variety of projects including London's Victoria Station, they also offered a vast array of funerary monuments, which were made in their premises in Liskeard. They were involved in the supply of several other memorials in the county, including those of Liskeard, Egloskerry, St. Neot and Morval. The granite for the Lezant memorial was most likely quarried from either their Golddiggings Quarry, or their then recently acquired Caradon Quarry, both of which lie on the eastern edge of Bodmin Moor close to the village of Minions, and although largely dormant, are now owned by Lantoom Ltd., who still occasionally use stone from them.

On 16<sup>th</sup> March 1892, at the same church in which he was baptised, Joseph married Elizabeth Jane Hoar, with whom in 1894, he had a daughter, Florence Beatrice. Around 1908 he moved his family into a home designed for him by John Sansom, built in its own grounds on Varley Lane in Liskeard, named St. Malo, a monument to the stone from which he made his living, thought to be unique in Liskeard as the only building built entirely of granite, it still survives today!

A prominent member of the Liskeard community, he was appointed a magistrate in 1917; he was also a keen bowls player, becoming the towns club Senior Vice



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... Key Figures*

President, he at one time let them the ground they moved to on Varley Lane, for a nominal fee.

At the age of 88, still managing director and an active partner in the business that he had played such a key role in shaping, on 21<sup>st</sup> September 1951, at St. Malo, he passed away. The following Monday, on 24<sup>th</sup> September, a private funeral service was conducted at St. Malo, before his interment at Liskeard Cemetery, which was attended by, as well as his family, many of the towns people, including the Mayor and other dignitaries, and a large number of his employees, several of whom acted as bearers.

By 1973 the business had closed, the siren calling the employees to work long silent and the Liskeard yards, once ringing to the sound of dozens of workers cleaving, cutting and fashioning the granite, no more, gone to make way for car parks, road improvements and housing. The quarries, now partly flooded, still show their old industrial scars, littered with cut but unworked stones and the odd rusting mechanical remnant, the noise of workers tools and steam powered machinery replaced with bird song and occasionally music, which seems to accompany the youngsters who go to swim and tombstone there on sunny days. Ironically the quarries have now become a haven for wildlife and a picturesque place of interest for walkers to explore.

### ***Emily Grace Tregoning,***

raised a large portion of the funds needed to pay for the memorial. Younger sister of John Simmons Tregoning (III), born on 26<sup>th</sup> January 1873 at Llanelli, and where on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1873, at St. Elli's Church, she was baptised. Emily, perhaps more so than many on the home front during the First World War, would come to understand the horrendous human cost of the war, she would witness first-hand the cruel and debilitating effects suffered by many of the casualties, not just from action but the atrocious conditions in which they found themselves, between May 1916 and January 1919, she clocked up some 3200 hours work as a VAD (Voluntary Aid Detachment) with the Red Cross, with whom she would undertake a variety of duties ranging from linen repair, assistant cook, mess orderly and ward work, at a number of hospitals including Werrington, Launceston, Gold Hill, Sherborne and Highland Moors, Llandrindod Wells.

Like her brother John she was never to marry, and lived much of her life at Landue, along with several of her siblings & her widowed mother, she also owned a bungalow at Boscastle, which during the Second World War would home a family of evacuees from London, with whom she would visit and occasionally stay. She herself would move to the bungalow, Millets Meadow, in her final years, where at 92, she would pass away on 10<sup>th</sup> February 1965.

### ***John Simmons Tregoning (III),***

donated the land that the memorial was built on, and later paid for the addition of the names of the fallen of the Second World War. Born on 16<sup>th</sup> February 1868 at Highfield, Llanelli, Wales, into a wealthy family who had made their fortune as metal merchants, ship brokers but largely in the tinsplate trade, having built an ironworks, two rolling mills and a tinhouse at Llanelli.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... Key Figures*

Baptised at St. Peter's Church, Liverpool on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1868, he received an excellent education, boarding at Hanley Castle School in Worcestershire, before going to Harrow School between 1882 and 1886, prior to attending Trinity College, Cambridge, where he earned both a Bachelor of Arts and Masters Degree.

He went on to work as a director in the family business, farm and manage the estates, as well as serving as a Justice of the Peace for both Carmarthenshire and Cornwall.

The Tregoning family, who were originally from Cornwall, owned homes and land at several locations; Carmathenshire, Liverpool, and with the purchase of Landue, an estate containing close to 365 acres, in 1867, Cornwall once again. This was to become their main residence, and where John, who inherited it from his father in 1909, would spend much of his life, he passed away, a bachelor, at the age of 93 on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 1961.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWI)*

### ***4. The Fallen – Those Remembered on the Memorial***

Listed on the memorial, in chronological order of their deaths, are the names of twelve men who died in service during the First World War and three who died during the Second World War. For convenience their details have been included here, grouped by the war in which they served, in alphabetic order, and are:

First World War:

Samuel L. Abbott  
Charles T. Budge  
Leonard H. Bray  
Henry Doney  
William T. Hodge  
Ernest Jasper  
Wilfred Lane  
Walter W. Lee  
William Osborne  
Charles Roberts  
Elias Sanders  
John Steed

Second World War:

Richard Haig  
Percy John Rowe  
John Thomas Wilton



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWI)*

### *Samuel Lee ABBOTT*

<b>Date of birth:</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> November 1892.
<b>Place of birth:</b>	Launceston, Cornwall, England.
<b>Parents:</b>	<b>F:</b> Alfred ABBOTT <b>M:</b> Mary Jane ABBOTT (née HANCOCK).
<b>Date of baptism:</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> January 1899.
<b>Place of baptism:</b>	St. Melor Church, Linkinhorne, Cornwall, England.
<b>Marital status:</b>	Single.
<b>Position on Memorial:</b>	12 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Service No. and rank:</b>	19837, Private.
<b>Service:</b>	Canadian Expeditionary Force.
<b>Unit(s) served with:</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion, 9 <sup>th</sup> Reserve Battalion, Canadian Forestry Corp.
<b>Date of enlistment:</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> September 1914.
<b>Place of enlistment:</b>	Valcartier, Quebec, Canada.
<b>Physical appearance:</b>	<b>Height:</b> 5' 3½" <b>Chest:</b> <b>Hair:</b> Dark brown <b>Eyes:</b> Grey <b>Complexion:</b> Dark <b>Marks:</b>
<b>Date of death:</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> December 1918. (Aged 26).
<b>Place of death:</b>	Connaught Hospital, North Camp, Aldershot, Surrey, England.
<b>Cause of death:</b>	Influenza (Spanish Flu).
<b>Grave:</b>	St. Briochus Church, Lezant, Cornwall, England.-



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWI)*

### *Samuel Lee ABBOTT*

Just months after Samuel's birth in 1892, his father Alfred, a blacksmith by trade, left his wife and two children to go to Montana and South Dakota U.S.A, not returning until June 1899. In 1901 the family, now with three children were living at Rillaton, Linkinhorne, but by 1910 Alfred had once again left for North America, leaving Mary, in 1911, with six of her seven children living at Wooda Bridge, Samuel being employed as a general labourer. On 28<sup>th</sup> March 1912 Samuel, also left, sailing on Cunards's 'Ascania' from Southampton to Portland, Oregon, being recorded on the passenger list as a farmer, however by 1914 on his enlistment papers he gives his trade as a blacksmith.

While on service in France in 1915 Samuel spent a month being treated for influenza before being returned to duty, and in September 1916 received a gunshot wound to the face resulting in being transferred to Britain for several months of treatment. On 31<sup>st</sup> January 1917, after being released from the Canadian Casualty Assembly Centre, he was re-assigned to the 9<sup>th</sup> Reserve Battalion, at Bramshott Camp, Hampshire, whose purpose was to help fulfil the ever growing requirement for lumber at the front. Nine days after being admitted to hospital with influenza for the second time he died, just three weeks after the Armistice.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWI)*

### *Leonard Heywood BRAY*

<b>Date of birth:</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> April 1893.
<b>Place of birth:</b>	Landue Mill, Lezant, Cornwall, England.
<b>Parents:</b>	<b>F:</b> Thomas Henry BRAY <b>M:</b> Emma Jane BRAY (née BROMELL).
<b>Date of baptism:</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> June 1893.
<b>Place of baptism:</b>	St. Briochus Church, Lezant, Cornwall, England.
<b>Marital status:</b>	Single.
<b>Position on Memorial:</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup>
<b>Service No. and rank:</b>	930, Private.
<b>Service:</b>	British Army.
<b>Unit(s) served with:</b>	Royal North Devon Hussars.
<b>Date of enlistment:</b>	Unknown.
<b>Place of enlistment:</b>	Holsworthy, Devon, England.
<b>Date of death:</b>	29 <sup>th</sup> November 1915. (Aged 22).
<b>Place of death:</b>	Gallipoli, Turkey.
<b>Cause of death:</b>	Killed in action.
<b>Grave:</b>	Green Hill Cemetery, I. A. 19, Sulva, Gallipoli, Turkey.





## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWI)*

### *Leonard Heywood BRAY*

Leonard was one of ten children born to Thomas and Emma, he was brought up in Lezant Parish and attended Trekenner School.

In 1901 the family were still living at Landue Mill, where Leonard's father Thomas, who had once been a railway groom, was working as a cattle man on Landue Farm for J.S. Tregoning.

Leonard's father passed away in 1908, and by 1911 his mother, now a church caretaker, and six of his brothers and sisters were living at Tredown Cottages; Leonard, no longer living with the family, was working on a farm as a farm labourer, and when he enlisted was residing in Beaworthy, Devon.

At the time of his death in Gallipoli he was buried in the Chocolate Hill Cemetery, but after the armistice the Green Hill Cemetery was constructed and graves contained in several of the surrounding smaller burial grounds were moved to Green Hill, including those of Leonard and the Chocolate Hill Cemetery.

As well as the Lezant memorial Leonard is also remembered on the memorial at Ashwater, Devon.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWI)*

### *Charles Thomas BUDGE*

<b>Date of birth:</b>	1896.
<b>Place of birth:</b>	Violet Cottage, Treburley, Lezant, Cornwall, England.
<b>Parents:</b>	<b>F:</b> Harry Bluett BUDGE <b>M:</b> Jane BUDGE (née LANCELLAS).
<b>Date of baptism:</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> April 1897.
<b>Place of baptism:</b>	St. Briochus Church, Lezant, Cornwall, England.
<b>Marital status:</b>	Single.
<b>Position on Memorial:</b>	8 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Service No. and rank:</b>	20872, Private.
<b>Service:</b>	British Army.
<b>Unit(s) served with:</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> (Training & Res.) Battalion, Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry. 6 <sup>th</sup> Battalion, Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry.
<b>Date of enlistment:</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> April 1915.
<b>Place of enlistment:</b>	Launceston, Cornwall, England.
<b>Date of death:</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> October 1917. (Aged 21).
<b>Place of death:</b>	Passchendaele Ridge, Zonnebeke, Belgium. (The Battle of Passchendaele or Third Battle of Ypres).
<b>Cause of death:</b>	Killed in action.
<b>Grave:</b>	No known grave. Remembered on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 80 to 82, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWI)*

### *Charles Thomas BUDGE*

The fourth of ten children, Charles lived for most of his childhood with his family in Treburley, throughout which time his father Harry worked as a foreman of roads. He attended Trekener School and Treburley Sunday School, and later Lezant Church where he became a keen bell ringer.

On leaving school he worked and lived on a farm at Norton Barton for George Gilbard and in 1911 was living in Rezare and working as a farm labourer for John Ryall.

Charles and Elias Sanders, (also named on the war memorial), apparently walked together to Launceston, where they both volunteered for military service, Charles then reported to Bodmin before being sent for training. During 1917 his battalion was involved in numerous engagements, but by mid October they found themselves in the rain soaked mud of Passchendaele, on the 18<sup>th</sup> they took over the frontline from the Durham Light Infantry, when overnight and during the following day the forward trenches were heavily shelled and machine gunned.

Charles parents were still living in Treburley in 1939, Jane died in 1948, Harry in 1965.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWI)*

### *Henry DONEY*

<b>Date of birth:</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> July 1892.
<b>Place of birth:</b>	California, U.S.A. is given on several U.K. census returns, however on his enlistment papers Lezant, Cornwall, England is given. As there does not appear to be a birth entry recorded in the British records it seems most likely that the U.S.A. was his actual place of birth.
<b>Parents:</b>	<b>F:</b> Harry DONEY <b>M:</b> Bessie DONEY (née GRIFFIN).
<b>Date of baptism:</b>	
<b>Place of baptism:</b>	
<b>Marital status:</b>	Single.
<b>Position on Memorial:</b>	9 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Service No. and rank:</b>	432571, Sergeant.
<b>Service:</b>	Canadian Expeditionary Force.
<b>Unit(s) served with:</b>	49 <sup>th</sup> Battalion Canadian Infantry (Edmonton Regiment).
<b>Date of enlistment:</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> January 1915.
<b>Place of enlistment:</b>	Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.
<b>Physical appearance:</b>	<b>Height:</b> 5' 5½" <b>Chest:</b> <b>Hair:</b> Dark <b>Eyes:</b> Grey <b>Complexion:</b> Dark <b>Marks:</b>
<b>Date of death:</b>	30 <sup>th</sup> October 1917. (Aged 25).
<b>Place of death:</b>	In the vicinity of Passchendaele, Zonnebeke, Belgium. (The Battle of Passchendaele or Third Battle of Ypres).
<b>Cause of death:</b>	Killed in action.
<b>Grave:</b>	Poelcapelle British Cemetery, IX. E. 11, Langemark-Poelkapelle, Belgium.



*Lezant Parish War Memorial...  
The Fallen (WWI)*

*Henry DONEY*



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWI)*

### *William Thomas HODGE*

<b>Date of birth:</b>	21 <sup>st</sup> April 1878.
<b>Place of birth:</b>	Lezant, Cornwall, England.
<b>Parents:</b>	<b>F:</b> John HODGE <b>M:</b> Mary Grace HODGE (née HARRIS).
<b>Date of baptism:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> March 1879.
<b>Place of baptism:</b>	St. Briochus Church, Lezant, Cornwall, England.
<b>Marital status:</b>	Married,
<b>Spouse:</b>	Beatrice.
<b>Position on Memorial:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup>
<b>Service No. and rank:</b>	186532, Leading Seaman.
<b>Service:</b>	Royal Navy.
<b>Unit(s) served with:</b>	H.M.S. Nymph.
<b>Date of enlistment:</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> November 1895.
<b>Place of enlistment:</b>	Probably Devonport, Devon, England.
<b>Physical appearance:</b>	<b>Height:</b> 5' 4½" <b>Chest:</b> <b>Hair:</b> Brown <b>Eyes:</b> Grey <b>Complexion:</b> Dark <b>Marks:</b>
<b>Date of death:</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> October 1915. (Aged ?).
<b>Place of death:</b>	A train at Motherwell Station, North Lanarkshire, Scotland.
<b>Cause of death:</b>	Disease.
<b>Grave:</b>	Ford Park Cemetery, Plymouth, Devon, England.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWI)*

### *William Thomas HODGE*

William and his family were living at Beals Mill in 1881, but by 1891 the family had moved to Folley, although William, then aged 13, was working as a servant and horse waggoner for Edmund Lyne at Beals Farm, Beals Mill at this time. In 1895 he followed in the footsteps of his father, a naval pensioner, and joined the navy, serving on numerous ships before his death in 1915.

By 1911 his father had passed away and his mother, now working as a charwoman had moved to Wooda Bridge.

Although much of the information regarding William suggest that his final ship was the H class destroyer H.M.S. Nymphe, and it is the last ship listed on his service record, there doesn't appear to be any dates of service given for it, the listing prior to it is for H.M.S. Blake, a flotilla depot ship, where the service dates look to be 2nd December 1913 to 31st October 1915!

Around the time of his death William's wife Beatrice was living at 21 Stoke Terrace, Stoke, Devonport.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWI)*

### *Ernest Albert JASPER*

<b>Date of birth:</b>	1892.
<b>Place of birth:</b>	Ruse's Mill, Larrick, Lezant, Cornwall, England.
<b>Parents:</b>	<b>F:</b> John Barber JASPER <b>M:</b> Mary Maria JASPER (née CORNISH).
<b>Date of baptism:</b>	21 <sup>st</sup> December 1892.
<b>Place of baptism:</b>	St. Briochus Church, Lezant, Cornwall, England.
<b>Marital status:</b>	Single.
<b>Position on Memorial:</b>	5 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Service No. and rank:</b>	8/4864, Private.
<b>Service:</b>	British Army.
<b>Unit(s) served with:</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> (Service) Battalion Hampshire Regiment, 34 <sup>th</sup> Training Reserve.
<b>Date of enlistment:</b>	Probably late 1916.
<b>Place of enlistment:</b>	Probably Launceston.
<b>Physical appearance:</b>	
<b>Date of death:</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> February 1917. (Aged 24).
<b>Place of death:</b>	Red Cross Hospital, Littleham, Exmouth, Devon, England.
<b>Cause of death:</b>	Disease; broncho pneumonia aggravated by measles.
<b>Grave:</b>	Coads Green Wesleyan Chapelyard, North Hill, Cornwall,





## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWI)*

### *Ernest Albert JASPER*

Ernest, the youngest of three children, spent his life at Ruse's Mill where his father John was one of the corn millers. As a child he would have attended Trekenner School. In 1901 his father passed away, but in 1911 Ernest was still living at Ruse's Mill where he was working for his uncle Thomas, the miller, as a carter, his widowed mother had moved to Trebullett. She continued to live in the parish, in 1939 she was living with her nephew John Cornish at Broomhills, she died in 1946.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWI)*

### *Wilfred LANE*

<b>Date of birth:</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup> March 1891 (Year of birth given as 1893 on military papers).
<b>Place of birth:</b>	No.4 Round Hill Cottages, Lezant, Cornwall, England.
<b>Parents:</b>	<b>F:</b> Charles LANE <b>M:</b> Annie LANE (née SUTTON).
<b>Date of baptism:</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> May 1891.
<b>Place of baptism:</b>	St. Briochus Church, Lezant, Cornwall, England.
<b>Marital status:</b>	Single.
<b>Position on Memorial:</b>	6 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Service No. and rank:</b>	829773, Private.
<b>Service:</b>	Canadian Expeditionary Force.
<b>Unit(s) served with:</b>	44 <sup>th</sup> Battalion Canadian Infantry (New Brunswick Regiment).
<b>Date of enlistment:</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> December 1915.
<b>Place of enlistment:</b>	Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.
<b>Physical appearance:</b>	<b>Height:</b> 5' 2½" <b>Chest:</b> <b>Hair:</b> Brown <b>Eyes:</b> Blue <b>Complexion:</b> Medium <b>Marks:</b>
<b>Date of death:</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> June 1917. (Aged 24).
<b>Place of death:</b>	La Coulotte, Avion, France.
<b>Cause of death:</b>	Killed in action.
<b>Grave:</b>	La Chaudiere Military Cemetery, V.B. 13, Vimy, France.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWI)*

### *Wilfred LANE*

Wilfred and his family resided at several locations within the parish, probably as a result of the availability of work for Charles, his father, who was an agricultural labourer. In 1891 they were at Round Hill Cottages, 1901 at Lane End and 1911 at Landue Mill, although in 1911 Wilfred was living away from the family at Undertown Farm, working as a waggoner for the farmer Albert John Evans. On 2nd April 1913 Wilfred sailed on the Royal Edward to Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, where he probably worked as a farmer. After enlisting he arrived back in England on the S.S. Olympic on 25<sup>th</sup> September 1916, and on 25th April 1917 was posted to France with the 44<sup>th</sup> battalion, where he was immediately deployed on the frontline at Givenchy (les la Bassee). The battalion would be deployed on the frontline for much of the 39 days that Wilfred served in France. On the night of 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1917 the battalion attacked the village of La Coulette in an operation to occupy it, but the German garrison was much stronger than anticipated and with withering machine gun fire, by the following morning, had broken the attack. In the confusion Wilfred was initially posted as missing, before his death was confirmed. After the operation the battalion listed 251 men killed, missing or wounded.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWI)*

### *Walter William LEE*

<b>Date of birth:</b>	1896 (13 <sup>th</sup> February 1894 – date given on enlistment).
<b>Place of birth:</b>	Alwington, Bideford, Devon, England.
<b>Parents:</b>	<b>F:</b> Samuel LEE <b>M:</b> Emily LEE (née GLOVER).
<b>Date of baptism:</b>	
<b>Place of baptism:</b>	
<b>Marital status:</b>	Single.
<b>Position on Memorial:</b>	4 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Service No. and rank:</b>	K/16772, Stoker 1 <sup>st</sup> Class.
<b>Service:</b>	Royal Navy.
<b>Unit(s) served with:</b>	H.M.S. Indefatigable.
<b>Date of enlistment:</b>	21 <sup>st</sup> November 1912.
<b>Place of enlistment:</b>	Devonport, Devon, England.
<b>Physical appearance:</b>	<b>Height:</b> 5' 8" <b>Chest:</b> <b>Hair:</b> Brown <b>Eyes:</b> Brown <b>Complexion:</b> Dark <b>Marks:</b>
<b>Date of death:</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> May 1916. (Aged 20).
<b>Place of death:</b>	H.M.S. Indefatigable, North Sea, of the coast of the Jutland Peninsula. (The Battle of Jutland – H.M.S. Indefatigable was engaged by the German battlecruiser Von der Tann and hit several times, causing a large explosion and her sinking, with the loss of all but 3 of her 1,019 crew).
<b>Cause of death:</b>	Killed in action.
<b>Grave:</b>	Body not recovered. Remembered on the Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 16, Plymouth, Devon, England.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWI)*

### *Walter William LEE*

Samuel and Emily both originated in Devon and at the time of Walter's birth were residing in the Bideford area, but by 1901 had moved their family to Whitson Cottage, Bere Ferrers and by 1911 had arrived in Cornwall, living at Water Gate, St. Mellions. Throughout this period Samuel was employed as an agricultural labourer, and in 1911 Walter was also listed as a labourer working in a fruit garden. This life however obviously didn't suit Walter, and after enlisting in the Navy for twelve years service, when he appears to have lied about his age, he spent just over six months at the shore training establishment, H.M.S. Vivid, at Devonport, before on 17th June 1913 joining the crew of the battlecruiser H.M.S. Indefatigable.

At some time after 1911 Walter's family had been living at the Sportsman's Arms at Treburley, but had later moved to Lower Larrick. Both of Walter's parents remained in the parish until their deaths, in 1939 they were living at Undertown, where Samuel was a small holder. In 1942 Emily passed away, Samuel died in 1952, they are both buried in the Wesleyan Graveyard at Treburley.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWI)*

### *William OSBORNE*

<b>Date of birth:</b>	29 <sup>th</sup> December 1896.
<b>Place of birth:</b>	Lawhitton, Cornwall, England.
<b>Parents:</b>	<b>F:</b> Thomas OSBORNE <b>M:</b> Emma OSBORNE (née STACEY).
<b>Date of baptism:</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> March 1897.
<b>Place of baptism:</b>	St. Michaels Church, Lawhitton, Cornwall, England.
<b>Marital status:</b>	Single.
<b>Position on Memorial:</b>	10 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Service No. and rank:</b>	240696, Private.
<b>Service:</b>	British Army.
<b>Unit(s) served with:</b>	1/5 <sup>th</sup> Battalion, Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry.
<b>Date of enlistment:</b>	Unknown due to a change in service numbers.
<b>Place of enlistment:</b>	Bodmin, Cornwall, England.
<b>Date of death:</b>	21 <sup>st</sup> March 1918. (Aged 21).
<b>Place of death:</b>	In the vicinity of the Somme, France. (German Spring or Ludendorff Offensive).
<b>Cause of death:</b>	Killed in action.
<b>Grave:</b>	No known grave. Remembered on the Pozières Memorial, Panel 45, Ovillers-la-Boisselle, France.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWI)*

### *William OSBORNE*

By 1901 William's carpenter father had moved his family to Saffron Hill, Lezant, but by 1911 they were at Tregada, although by this time William, one of seven children, at the age of fourteen was living and working on a farm at Trelennoe, South Petherwin for John Wills.

William served with an Infantry Pioneer unit who apart from their basic infantry training were also trained to carry out field engineering such as the construction of dugouts, command post, entanglements etc., for which they received an extra 2d a day.

The date of William's death was the first day of the German Offensive which came very close to their winning the war, and for a fortnight the British Army were under severe pressure, this chaos meant that it was not until after the 5<sup>th</sup> April that records were properly kept, resulting in the death of many of the casualties of the fortnight's offensive being recorded as happening on its first day.

In 1939 William's widowed mother and younger sister were living at Penscombe Cross.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWI)*

### *Charles ROBERTS*

<b>Date of birth:</b>	1886.
<b>Place of birth:</b>	Wooda Bridge, Lezant, Cornwall, England.
<b>Parents:</b>	<i>F:</i> George Henry ROBERTS <i>M:</i> Henrietta A ROBERTS (née DAWE).
<b>Date of baptism:</b>	29 <sup>th</sup> July 1886.
<b>Place of baptism:</b>	St. Briochus Church, Lezant, Cornwall, England.
<b>Marital status:</b>	Single.
<b>Position on Memorial:</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
<b>Service No. and rank:</b>	TS/10556, Wheeler.
<b>Service:</b>	British Army.
<b>Unit(s) served with:</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Depot Company, Army Service Corps.
<b>Date of enlistment:</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> January 1916.
<b>Place of enlistment:</b>	Launceston, Cornwall, England.
<b>Physical appearance:</b>	<i>Height:</i> 5' 5" <i>Weight:</i> 145lbs <i>Chest:</i> 37½" <i>Marks:</i> None
<b>Date of death:</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> April 1916. (Aged 30).
<b>Place of death:</b>	Royal Herbert Hospital, Woolwich, London, England.
<b>Cause of death:</b>	Disease; Cerebrospinal fever (Meningitis).
<b>Grave:</b>	Greenwich Cemetery, Greenwich, London, England.





## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWI)*

### *Charles ROBERTS*

In 1911 George and Henrietta's youngest son Charles was one of just four of their surviving children out of the thirteen born to them, and the second to have been given this name, the first having died before reaching his first birthday! George, a carpenter and wheelwright, and his family were living at Wooda Bridge at the time of Charles' baptism, but in 1891 they were residing at New Bridge Inn, Carthamartha, however by 1901 they were back at Wooda Bridge, where Charles was now apprentice to his father. Still living with his parents at Wooda Bridge in 1911 Charles had become a carpenter and wheelwright, and by 1916 had work references from Rowe and Maddever, and Lewis Short, all wheelwrights from the parish.

The 'TS' (Transport Special) prefix to Charles' service number indicates that he was specifically enlisted for his civilian trade, where his skills would have been in great demand in servicing and maintaining the thousands of vehicles required for work in Horse Transport.

Despite this he lasted just 95 days in post before being admitted to hospital, where in just 9 days he died, his father passed away in August of the same year, his mother in 1918.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWI)*

### *Elias SANDERS M.M.*

<b>Date of birth:</b>	1894.
<b>Place of birth:</b>	Wooda Bridge, Lezant, Cornwall, England.
<b>Parents:</b>	<i>F:</i> George Henry SANDERS <i>M:</i> Mary Jane SANDERS (née FOLLY).
<b>Date of baptism:</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> March 1895.
<b>Place of baptism:</b>	St. Briochus Church, Lezant, Cornwall, England.
<b>Marital status:</b>	Single.
<b>Position on Memorial:</b>	7 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Service No. and rank:</b>	42460 (Formerly 164212), Private.
<b>Service:</b>	British Army.
<b>Unit(s) served with:</b>	Royal Field Artillery, Yorkshire Hussars (Alexandra, Princes of Wales' Own).
<b>Date of enlistment:</b>	
<b>Place of enlistment:</b>	
<b>Date of death:</b>	20 <sup>th</sup> September 1917. (Aged 23).
<b>Place of death:</b>	
<b>Cause of death:</b>	Killed in action.
<b>Grave:</b>	No known grave. Remembered on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Panel 52 to 54, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium.



*Lezant Parish War Memorial...  
The Fallen (WWI)*

*Elias SANDERS M.M.*

Elias was the fourth of nine children born to George and Mary.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWI)*

### *John Thomas STEED*

<b>Date of birth:</b>	1885.
<b>Place of birth:</b>	Lezant, Cornwall, England.
<b>Parents:</b>	<b>F:</b> Thomas STEED <b>M:</b> Elizabeth Ann STEED (née STACEY).
<b>Date of baptism:</b>	21 <sup>st</sup> September 1885.
<b>Place of baptism:</b>	St. Briochus Church, Lezant, Cornwall, England.
<b>Marital status:</b>	Single.
<b>Position on Memorial:</b>	11 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Service No. and rank:</b>	240943, Private.
<b>Service:</b>	British Army.
<b>Unit(s) served with:</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Battalion, Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry.
<b>Date of enlistment:</b>	Unknown due to a change in service numbers.
<b>Place of enlistment:</b>	Launceston, Cornwall, England.
<b>Physical appearance:</b>	<b>Height:</b> 5' 6½" <b>Chest:</b> 38" <b>Hair:</b> Brown <b>Eyes:</b> Brown <b>Complexion:</b> Fresh <b>Marks:</b> 2 scars side of neck
<b>Date of death:</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> September 1918. (Aged 32).
<b>Place of death:</b>	Ytes, France.
<b>Cause of death:</b>	Killed in action.
<b>Grave:</b>	No known grave. Remembered on the Vis-en-Artois Memorial, Panel 6, Haucourt, France.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWI)*

### *John Thomas STEED*

John's parents Thomas and Elizabeth lived at various places within the parish with their four sons, of whom John was the eldest. In 1891 they were living in Trekenner, where Thomas was working as an agricultural labourer, in 1901 the family were still there but John was living at Lezant Glebe, where he was working for the farmer Richard Martyn. By 1911 he was again living with the family at Penglass, where he, his father and brother were farming.

At some point after enlisting John was transferred to the 1st Battalion D.C.L.I., on 20<sup>th</sup> September they moved out of billets in Ytes and relieved the 14<sup>th</sup> Royal Warwicks in the frontline, John was killed in action on the following day, during a period from the 20<sup>th</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> described in the Regimental History as being 'quiet and uneventful'!

Shortly after this the British offensive that broke the Hindenburg Line and led to final victory began.

John's parents remained in the parish, in 1939 they were residing at Wooda Bridge, Thomas dying in 1941, Elizabeth in 1945, they are both buried at Lezant Parish Church.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWII)*

### *Richard HAIG*

<b>Date of birth:</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> August 1901.
<b>Place of birth:</b>	Lambeth, London, England.
<b>Parents:</b>	<i>F:</i> Robert HAIG? <i>M:</i> Phoebe HAIG (née ROE).
<b>Date of baptism:</b>	
<b>Place of baptism:</b>	
<b>Marital status:</b>	Married, 1938, Launceston, Cornwall, England.
<b>Spouse:</b>	Amy ROBERTS.
<b>Position on Memorial:</b>	13 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Service No. and rank:</b>	D/K 65336, Leading Stoker.
<b>Service:</b>	Royal Navy.
<b>Unit(s) served with:</b>	H.M.S. Cochrane II, H.M. Fleet Tender C.
<b>Date of enlistment:</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> November 1924.
<b>Place of enlistment:</b>	Devonport, Devon, England.
<b>Physical appearance:</b>	<i>Height:</i> 5' 6½" <i>Chest:</i> 38" <i>Hair:</i> Brown <i>Eyes:</i> Brown <i>Complexion:</i> Fresh <i>Marks:</i> 2 scars side of neck
<b>Date of death:</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> June 1941. (Aged 39).
<b>Place of death:</b>	H.M. Fleet Tender C, North Sea,.
<b>Cause of death:</b>	Killed in action.
<b>Grave:</b>	Body not recovered. Remembered on the Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 52, Column 2, Plymouth, Devon, England.



*Lezant Parish War Memorial...  
The Fallen (WWII)*

*Richard HAIG*



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... The Fallen (WWII)*

### *Percy John ROWE*

<b>Date of birth:</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> June 1910.
<b>Place of birth:</b>	Lezant, Cornwall, England.
<b>Parents:</b>	<b>F:</b> Edward ROWE <b>M:</b> Edith Harriet ROWE (née DAW).
<b>Date of baptism:</b>	21 <sup>st</sup> September 1885.
<b>Place of baptism:</b>	St. Briochus Church, Lezant, Cornwall, England.
<b>Marital status:</b>	Married, 1936, Chard, Somerset, England.
<b>Spouse:</b>	Joan DICKER.
<b>Position on Memorial:</b>	15 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Service No. and rank:</b>	JX 128324, Able Seaman.
<b>Service:</b>	Royal Navy.
<b>Unit(s) served with:</b>	H.M.S. Prince of Wales.
<b>Date of enlistment:</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> June 1928.
<b>Place of enlistment:</b>	Devonport, Devon, England.
<b>Physical appearance:</b>	<b>Height:</b> 5' 7" <b>Chest:</b> 36½" <b>Hair:</b> Dark brown <b>Eyes:</b> Brown <b>Complexion:</b> Fresh
<b>Date of death:</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> December 1941. (Aged 31).
<b>Place of death:</b>	H.M.S. Prince of Wales, South China Sea, 61NM east of Kuantan, Malaysia.
<b>Cause of death:</b>	Killed in action.
<b>Grave:</b>	Body not recovered. Remembered on the Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 48, Column 2, Plymouth, Devon, England.





*Lezant Parish War Memorial...  
The Fallen (WWII)*

*Percy John ROWE*



*Lezant Parish War Memorial...  
The Fallen (WWII)*

*John Thomas WILTON*

<b>Date of birth:</b>	29 <sup>th</sup> July 1919.
<b>Place of birth:</b>	Diptford, Devon, England.
<b>Parents:</b>	<b>F:</b> Unknown <b>M:</b> Letitia May HICKS (née PALMER).
<b>Date of baptism:</b>	
<b>Place of baptism:</b>	
<b>Marital status</b>	Single.
<b>Position on Memorial:</b>	14 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Service No. and rank:</b>	D/KX 92932, Leading Stoker.
<b>Service:</b>	Royal Navy.
<b>Unit(s) served with:</b>	H.M.S. Neptune.
<b>Date of enlistment:</b>	Unknown.
<b>Place of enlistment:</b>	Unknown.
<b>Date of death:</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> December 1941. (Aged 32).
<b>Place of death:</b>	H.M.S. Neptune, Mediterranean Sea of the coast of Tripoli, Libya.
<b>Cause of death:</b>	Killed in action.
<b>Grave:</b>	Body not recovered. Remembered on the Plymouth Naval Memorial, Panel 52, Column 2, Plymouth, Devon, England.



*Lezant Parish War Memorial...  
The Fallen (WWII)*

*John Thomas WILTON*



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... Roll of Honour*

### **5. Lezant Parish Roll of Honour**

This is a list of men and women who saw service during the First World War, and who were either born in the parish, or were residing in the parish around the time of their service.

#### ***Ernest BRAWN***

*(b.9<sup>th</sup> September 1881 – d.20<sup>th</sup> April 1949)*  
232131, Sapper, Signal Company, Royal Engineers.  
Born and lived in Trekenner.

#### ***Stanley George BRAY***

*(b.1896 – d.15<sup>th</sup> August 1941)*  
3781 (3365), Trooper, 1<sup>st</sup> Life Guards Battalion, Guards Machine Gun Regiment, Household Cavalry.  
Born in Lezant, lived at Roundhill and Landue Barton, Lezant.

#### ***Charles BUDGE***

*(b.20<sup>th</sup> January 1883 – d.?)*  
30572, Stoker Petty Officer, Royal Navy.  
Born in Lezant.

#### ***Charlie COLWILL***

*(b.7<sup>th</sup> May 1883 – d.31<sup>st</sup> May 1916)*  
308535, Stoker 1<sup>st</sup> Class, H.M.S. Indefatigable, Royal Navy.  
Born in Lezant.

Arthur Spurr Hugh DE ST PAER

*(b.26<sup>th</sup> August 1895 – d.27<sup>th</sup> November 1976)*

Born at Trekenner School.

#### ***William Walter EDWARDS***

*(b.15<sup>th</sup> October 1886 – d.23<sup>rd</sup> November 1942)*  
26192, Private, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry.  
Lived at Trekenner School.

#### ***James GREGORY***

*(b.1877 – d.?)*  
274057 (WR26359), Pioneer, Royal Engineers.  
Born in Lezant, lived in Landue Barton.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... Roll of Honour*

### ***Frederick JENKIN***

*(b.1880 – d.?)*

307360, Private, 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion. Tank Corps, also  
28886, Sapper, Royal Engineers.  
Lived in Trekenner.

### ***John MORRISH***

*(b.1896 - d.24<sup>th</sup> April 1917)*

15668, Private, 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Devonshire Regiment.  
Born in Lezant.

### ***Richard PEARCE***

*(b.16<sup>th</sup> November 1889 - d.?)*

230855 (40583), Sapper, 89<sup>th</sup> Field Company, Royal Engineers also  
6<sup>th</sup> East Yorkshire Regiment.  
Lived in Trebullett.

### ***Lewis George SHORT***

*(b.31<sup>st</sup> August 1895 - d.1980)*

27177, Private, Hampshire Regiment.  
Born in Lezant.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... Description*

### *6. Description of the Monument*



Lezant War Memorial within its hedged enclosure.

Situated at OS grid reference SX346797, the memorial is comprised of three main sections, the base being formed by a low, square, three stepped platform, the lower step of smoothed finished solid concrete on which sits two further steps of rough-hewn grey granite, the first being constructed of four rectangular blocks, the two larger of which form the front and back of the step, and present a single joint-less slab on those faces, the sides incorporate the two shorter blocks, which are butt joined between the blocks forming the front and back, the top step is formed by a single square slab.

Upon this sits a plinth of the same rough-hewn granite, roughly carved from a single cube, tapering slightly towards the top, where the transition between the sides and the top has been softened with a rudimentary and large radius fillet, which is more prominent on the sides.



Front face of the Memorial's base and plinth, showing the inset inscription panel.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... Description*

On the front face, framed by a rough-hewn border is an deeply inset panel worked to a smoother finish, which contains an inscription written in black-painted, raised metal lettering, all in upper case, which includes a list of the fallen, all in the same size lettering, and a phrase from the New Testament of the Bible (John 15:13), which is slightly smaller. The font is the same throughout, although the 1939-1945 additions are not quite a perfect match, being a slightly bolder type face:

1915.

WILLIAM T. HODGE. H.M.S. NYMPH.  
LEONARD H. BRAY. N. DEVON HUSSARS.

1916.

CHARLES ROBERTS. R.A.S.C.  
WALTER W. LEE. H.M.S. INDEFATIGABLE.

1917.

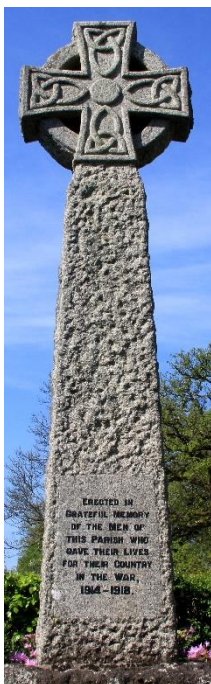
ERNEST JASPER. 34TH TRAINING RES.  
WILFRED LANE. 44TH CANADIAN BN.  
ELIAS SANDERS. M.M. 9TH YORKS.  
CHARLES T. BUDGE. 1/6TH D.C.L.I.  
HENRY DONEY. 49TH CANADIAN BN.

1918.

WILLIAM OSBORNE. 1/5TH D.C.L.I.  
JOHN STEED. 1/5TH D.C.L.I.  
SAMUEL L. ABBOTT CAN. FORESTRY CORPS.  
GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS, THAT  
A MAN LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS FRIENDS.

1939-1945.

RICHARD HAIG. FLEET TENDER. C.  
JOHN T. WILTON. H.M.S. NEPTUNE  
PERCY J. ROWE. H.M.S. PRINCE OF WALES.



On the plinth rests a Celtic cross, again hewn from a single piece of matching granite, consisting of a rectangular section shaft, on which, close to its base on the front face is a smooth worked panel displaying a dedication in uppercase lettering matching the other inscriptions:

ERECTED IN  
GRATEFUL MEMORY  
OF THE MEN OF  
THIS PARISH WHO  
GAVE THEIR LIVES  
FOR THEIR COUNTRY  
IN THE WAR,  
1914 - 1918.

The shafts wider front and back faces taper towards the top and all four sides are bevelled at the intersection with the head, a cross pattée, with gently curved flared arms, which break through, and extend beyond a nimbus, which is narrower than the arms of the cross.



## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... Description*

The cross and the nimbus are rough-hewn apart from the inner surfaces of the arms and the nimbus which are smooth, together with the front faces; the nimbus carved with a simple ovolo edge, while the cross has a border around the arms edges, each of which contain a simple Celtic trinity knot, pointing inwards to a disc at the intersection of the arms, carved in deep relief.



Celtic cross showing the carved front face and rough-hewn finished back face.

The monument, its front facing roughly north east, is centrally placed in a semi-elliptical enclosure surrounded by a low Cornish hedge topped with a beech hedge, the entrance, immediately opposite the memorial's front face,



Kissing Gate with rhododendrons in the background.

at the apex of the ellipse, is via a simple black painted, iron railing kissing gate, and two concrete steps down to the level of the grassed area that surrounds the monument. This is usually kept mown around the front and sides of the memorial, but allowed to grow longer and promote the growth of wildflowers behind it. Also lining the space at the back of the enclosure, along the base of the semi-ellipse are several pale purple flowering rhododendrons.



The memorial from Landue Bridge.





## *Lezant Parish War Memorial... Sources*

### **7. Sources**

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## *Lezant Parish War Memorial*