



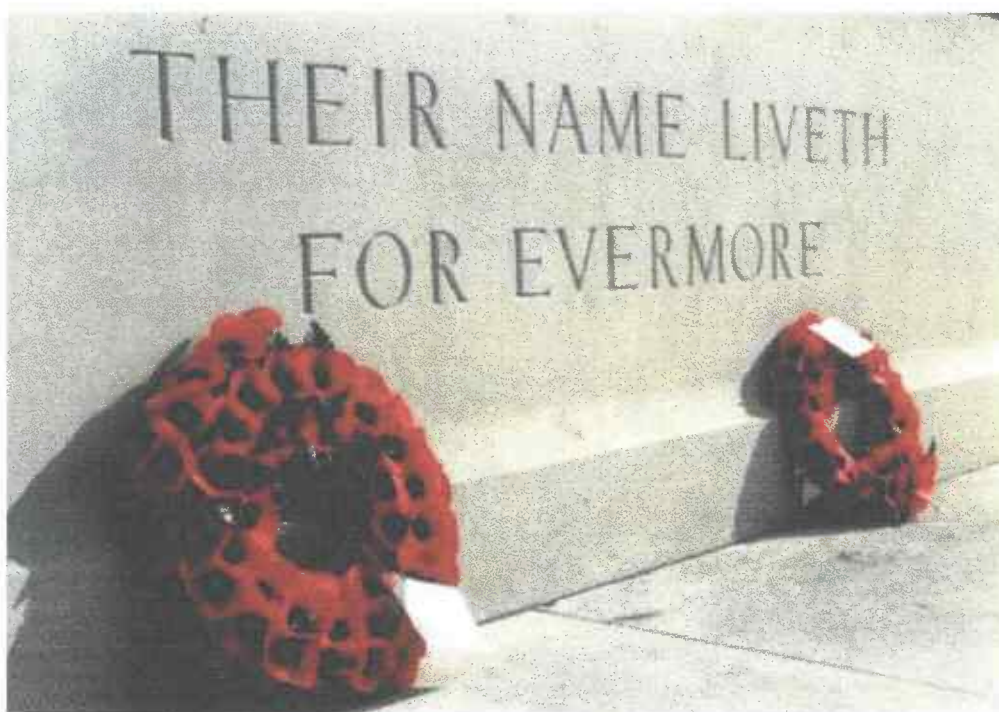
In Memory of

Lance Serjeant H W STEVENSON

*6th Bn., Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry
who died aged 24 on Friday, 18th August 1916.*

*Lance Serjeant STEVENSON, Coy. Son of Joseph and
Hannah Stevenson, of Little Cornard, Suffolk.*

*Remembered with honour
THIEPVAL MEMORIAL, Somme, France.*



*In the perpetual care of
the Commonwealth War Graves Commission*

No. 10656, L/Sgt. HAROLD WILLIAM STEVENSON

Harold William Stevenson was a son of Joseph and Hannah Stevenson, born in 1892, in Bexley Heath, Kent. The family were living in Bures Road, Little Cornard, by about 1909.

When war broke out, Harold was working for a firm in Oxford Street, London, and volunteered at once for war service, enlisting in Battersea, London. He was posted into "C" Company, 6th Battalion, Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry. The 6th Battalion was formed at Bodmin in August 1914, and were part of the 43rd Brigade, 14th (Light) Division.

The 14th Division, were delayed going to the front by a lack of ammunition and artillery, but were deemed fit for the front in May 1915. The 14th remained on the western front throughout the war.

Harold and his fellow soldiers, along with the Division would have taken part in the following battles, - Actions of Hooze, on 2nd June, 19th and 30th July and 9th August 1915, [it was during these actions that the Germans first used flamethrowers against the British Troops]. The second attack on Bellewaarde, 25th September – 19th October 1915, both on the Ypres salient. And between 15th July and 3rd September 1916, he would have taken part in the Battle of Deville Wood on the Somme.

It was during the Battle of Deville Wood that Harold was reported as missing in action. His date of death was given as 18/08/1916, aged 24 years.

Harold has no known grave and is remembered on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France, pier and face 6 B.

The following article appeared in The Suffolk Free Press, dated 6th September 1916.

"Death of Sergt. H.W. Stevenson

The appended letters refer to Sergt. Harold William Stevenson, of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, who was well known and well esteemed in this district, and the news of his death will be received by those who knew him with the keenest regret. His parents have resided in Bures Road, Little Cornard, for about seven years. Sergt. Stevenson, who was 24 years of age, was employed by a firm in Oxford Street. He was one of the first volunteers when war broke out, but it was sometime before he went to the front. He had been at Hooze and Ypres most of the time. Sergt. Stevenson will be remembered as a good swimmer and polo player. For several years he took part in the sports and competitions of the polo and Stour boat clubs, and distinguished himself in both.

23rd August 1916.

Dear Mrs Stevenson,

It is my very sad duty to have to write and acquaint you that your son was killed in action at about 3.45pm on the afternoon of the 18th August, during an attack on and capture of a German position by this regiment. I hope you won't grieve too much Madam, but remember that you are one amongst thousands who have lost a dear one.