



A Funeral Service for

**Lance Corporal John Street  
and One Unknown Soldier**

**1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment)  
Killed on 10 April 1917**

**and**

**One Unknown British Soldier**

**The Lincolnshire Regiment**

**Two Unknown British Soldiers**

**Of an Unknown Regiment**

**CWGC Point-Du-Jour Military Cemetery, Athies**

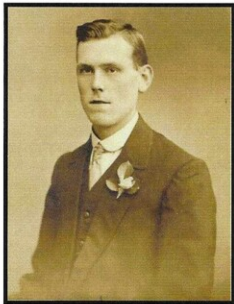
**Thursday 10 April 2025 at 10:30 hours**

**Service Conducted by**

**The Reverend Dr Karl Benson CF**

**1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment**

### **Lance Corporal John Street**



**9 September 1893 – 10 April 1917**

John Street was born in Runcorn, Cheshire in 1893 to John Street and Ellen Cheetham. John's mother passed away in 1904, leaving John and his three siblings. However, his father remarried a few years later and went on to have three more children with his new wife. John was educated at the Runcorn Parish Church School and attended Bethesda Church Sunday School. John was a popular young man who was described as having an 'exceptionally fine physique'.

John was working at Astmoor Tannery in Runcorn when war broke out. In October 1915, he signed up to join the army and left for France on Christmas evening, joining the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment) in France. The battalion had arrived in France on 23 August 1914 and spent

the entire war on the Western Front. They were involved in almost every major battle in that area. John was killed on 10 April 1917 during the Battle of Arras, but his body was not recovered, and he was recorded as missing. John's family were devastated to learn of his death and always kept his photograph on their mantelpiece.

In 2023, three sets of remains were recovered on the outskirts of the village of Fampoux. After extensive historical research and DNA testing, one of these casualties was identified as Lance Corporal John Street, meaning that he had finally been found more than 100 years after his death. Sadly, the other two casualties were unable to be identified. As well as the three casualties found in Fampoux, we are also burying one unknown soldier of the Lincolnshire Regiment and one unknown Commonwealth Soldier, whose remains found on the outskirts of Arras. Sadly, we were unable to extract a viable DNA sample from either man, so identification was not possible this time.



## **An Extract from "The British Campaign in France and Flanders 1917" by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle**

*The 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment fought as part of the 12<sup>th</sup> Brigade, 4<sup>th</sup> Division during the Battle of Arras.*

The Advance [on the 9 April 1917] had already been a splendid one, the ninth Division having 2,000 prisoners to its credit, but this movement of the fourth Division against an enemy who was already badly shaken was a very fruitful one. The 12<sup>th</sup> Brigade was nearest the Scarpe, with the 11<sup>th</sup> upon the left, while the 10<sup>th</sup> moved forward in close support. Two obstacles faced the division, the straggling village of Fampoux upon the bank of the river, and the Hyderabad Redoubt, a considerable fort to the north of the village.

The 12<sup>th</sup> Brigade moved swiftly forward in the nearest approach to open warfare that had been seen for years. The 1<sup>st</sup> Royal Lancasters were on the right of the swift flexible line, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Lancashire Fusiliers in the centre, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Essex upon the left. The brigade fought its way in the teeth of a very hot fire to the outskirts of Fampoux, where the reserve battalion, the 2<sup>nd</sup> West Ridings, passed through the King's Own and carried the village in splendid style late in the evening at the point of the bayonet. It is a remarkable fact that the wire in front of the village had not been cut by the artillery, and the infantry passed in single file through the gap in it, after disposing of the German machine-gunner who offered resistance.

The second day of the Battle of Arras, April 10, was spent partly in consolidation of the ground gained and partly in increasing the area now occupied. The troops were in high heart, for although the full extent of the victory had not yet been realised, it was already known that at least 10,000 prisoners and 100 guns had fallen into their hands, figures which showed that the battle had been the most serious military disaster which had yet befallen the enemy.

**Welcome**  
*Appel à Adoration*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ  
And the love of God  
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
Be with you all.

We are gathered here today in this place of remembrance to honour our fallen in conflicts past.

Today we remember with thanksgiving these brave men whom, alongside so many others, answered the call of their country, served with honour and gave their lives in the service of their nation.

We will shortly commit their bodies to be buried. In so doing let us commit ourselves anew to remember their courage. For by so doing, we honour their memory and we reflect upon that sacrifice.

Let us offer ourselves also to God's service, that His will may be done on earth as it is in heaven and that His kingdom of justice and peace be established everywhere.

**Bidding Prayer**  
*Prière*

Let us recall the presence of God, the Father of all mankind, maker and sustainer of all that is, whose purposes are good, whose love is never withheld and whose mercy never passes away. We call to mind His faithfulness in times of darkness and despair.

We remember before Him our brothers and sisters whose names are known only to God, and all who have served in the Armed Forces of our nation; who counted service to others greater than service of self, and who gave their lives in battle.

Merciful Father,  
hear our prayers and comfort us;  
renew our trust in your Son  
whom you raised from the dead;  
strengthen our faith  
that all who have died in the love of Christ  
will share in His resurrection;  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen**

**Scripture Reading: Ecclesiastes 3, 1 – 8 (KJV)**

*Lecture des Écritures Saintes*

**Read by Colonel Sean Cuniff, Military Attaché, British Embassy, Paris.**

To everything there is a season,  
and a time to every purpose under the heaven:  
A time to be born, and a time to die;  
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted:  
A time to kill, and a time to heal;  
a time to break down, and a time to build up:  
A time to weep, and a time to laugh;  
a time to mourn, and a time to dance:  
A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones  
together;  
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing:  
A time to get, and a time to lose;  
a time to keep, and a time to cast away:  
A time to rend, and a time to sew;  
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak:  
A time to love, and a time to hate;  
a time of war, and a time of peace.

## **The Dead Heroes by Isaac Rosenberg**

### *Lecture*

1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment) died on 1 April 1918 in Fampoux.

**Read by John Grieve CBE QPM.**

Flame out, you glorious skies,  
Welcome our brave;  
Kiss their exultant eyes;  
Give what they gave.

Flash, mailed seraphim,  
Your burning spears;  
New days to outflame their dim  
Heroic years.

Thrills their baptismal tread  
The bright proud air;  
The embattled plumes outspread  
Burn upwards there.

Flame out, flame out, O Song!  
Star ring to star;  
Strong as our hurt is strong  
Our children are.

Their blood is England's heart;  
By their dead hands  
It is their noble part  
That England stands.

England – Time have them thee;  
They gave back this  
To win Eternity  
And claim God's kiss.



## **The Soldier by Rupert Brook**

*Lecture*

**Read by WO2 CSM Wayne Crowcroft, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment.**

If I should die, think only this of me:  
That there's some corner of a foreign field  
That is forever England. There shall be  
In that rich dust a richer dust concealed;  
A dust whom England bore, shaped, made aware,  
Gave, once her flowers to love, her ways to roam,  
A body of England's, breathing English air,  
Washed by the rivers, blest by the suns of home.

And think, this heart, all evil shed away,  
A pulse in the eternal mind, no less  
Gives somewhere back the thoughts by England given;  
Her sights and sounds; dreams happy as her day;  
And laughter, learnt of friends; and gentleness,  
In hearts at peace, under an English heaven.

## **Address**

*Allocution*

The Reverend Dr Karl Benson CF

## **The Committal**

### *L'Enterrement*

*Jesus said: I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me will live even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.*

Our days are like the grass;  
we flourish like a flower of the field  
when the wind goes over it; it is gone  
and its place will know it no more.  
But the merciful goodness of the Lord endures  
for ever and ever...

We have entrusted these five men into the hands of God. We therefore commit their bodies to the ground, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust having our whole trust and confidence in the mercy of our heavenly Father, and in the victory of His son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who died, was buried and rose again for us, and is alive and reigns for evermore.

**Amen**

## **Volley of Shots**

### *Salve d'Honneur*

## **The Exhortation**

### *L'Éxhortation*

**Read by WO1 RSM Michael Parry-Jones, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment.**

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old.  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.  
**We will remember them.**

**The Last Post**  
*Sonnerie aux Morts*

**Silence**

**Reveille**

**Kohima Epitaph**  
*L'Épitaphe de Kohima*

**Read by WO1 RSM Michael Parry-Jones, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment.**

When you go home tell them of us and say:  
"For your tomorrow, we gave our today".

**The Laying of the Wreaths**  
*Dépôts des Gerbes*

**Prayers**  
*Prière*

Almighty God, protect all who serve in the Forces of The King; strengthen us in danger and temptation, give us courage and loyalty, that we may remain true to the highest traditions of our profession; and keep us steadfast when faced with the perils of action in war; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

Almighty God, who has revealed your only Son as the resurrection and the life; raise us, we pray, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness that, when we depart from this life, we may rest in Him, and at the last may receive the blessing; Well done good and faithful servant; enter into the joy of your Lord. Grant this, O merciful Father, through Jesus Christ, our mediator and redeemer.

**Amen**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Prière du Seigneur*

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy Kingdom come.**

**Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread,**

**and forgive us our trespasses**

**as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory**

**For ever and ever.**

**Amen**

### **Regimental Collect of the King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment**

*Récitation du King's Own Royal Lancaster Regiment*

Lord Jesus, King of glory, who dost love thine own unto the end, grant, we pray thee, that we, the King's Own Royal Regiment, may faithfully serve our Sovereign Lord The King, whose true soldiers we are; and in all our service may ever seek thy Kingdom, who with the Father and the Holy Ghost livest and reignest for ever. **Amen.**

### **Regimental Collect of the Lincolnshire Regiment**

*Récitation du Lincolnshire Regiment*

Almighty God, whose true soldiers stand in danger every hour, grant to us, the Lincolnshire Regiment, that having passed through perils in the wilderness and perils in the sea, and having known the trials of battle we may never wander from thy commandments, nor make shipwreck of our faith, but fight the good fight, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **The Blessing**

*Séparation de Dernière Bénédiction*

Support us, O Lord,  
all the day long of this troublous life,  
until the shadows lengthen and the evening falls,  
the busy world is hushed,  
the fever of life is over and our work is done.  
Then, Lord, in Your mercy grant us a safe lodging,  
a holy rest, and peace at last;  
through Christ our Lord.

And the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
rest upon you and remain with you  
and all those you love and for whom you pray,  
this day and always.

**Amen**



# ARMY

The Ministry of Defence, through the Joint Casualty and Compassionate Centre, is responsible for the research, identification and burial of all British casualties worldwide.

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission cares for the graves, memorials, records and memory of the 1.7 million Commonwealth servicemen and women who died during the two World Wars.

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