

Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
FLETCHER	Law Fns	Pt	7552
Robert			203925
Medal	Roll	Page	Remarks
VICTORY	H/11/101 ¹⁴	8969	
BRITISH			
STAR			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

NW/245586 K. 1380

Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
FLETCHER	Law Fns	Pt	445668
Robert			
Medal	Roll	Page	Remarks
VICTORY	H/11/101 ¹⁴	8972	
BRITISH			
STAR			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

K. 1380

Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
FLETCHER	Law Fns	Pt	10883
Robert	R. O. C.	Pt	56760
	Law Fns		241376
Medal	Roll	Page	Remarks
VICTORY	F/11/102 B/11	1265	
BRITISH			
15 STAR	F/11/102 B/11	564	
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

K. 1380

Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
FLETCHER	Chas. R.	Pt	445
Robert			
Medal	Roll	Page	Remarks
VICTORY	F/11/101 ¹⁴	9190	
BRITISH			
15 STAR	F/11/101 ¹⁴	1641	
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

K. 1380

Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
FLETCHER	Law Fns	Pt	25941
Robert	RAME		113844
Medal	Roll	Page	Remarks
VICTORY	RAME/1850	6053	
BRITISH			
STAR			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

K. 1380

Name	Corps	Rank	Regt. No.
FLETCHER	Chas. R.	Pt	11660
Robert			
Medal	Roll	Page	Remarks
VICTORY	F/11/101 ¹⁴	9213	Head accepted 17. 16
BRITISH			
15 STAR	F/11/101 ¹⁴	1169	
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

K. 1380



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 Telex: 950000

Catalogue Reference: WO/372/7

Image Reference: 33524

Name.	Corps.	Rank.	Regtl. No.
FLETCHER	Lan Fus	Pte	45668
Robert			

Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks.
VICTORY	4/1/101	8272	
BRITISH	do	do	
STAR			
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

K. 1380

Correspondence.

Address.

F 1995, (1246) Wt. W 2984—R.P. 6207 1,000m. 17/12/20. E. 6989.

1st Lancashire Fusiliers ...	2,028
2nd Lancashire Fusiliers ...	1,786
1st/5th Lancashire Fusiliers ...	50
1st/6th Lancashire Fusiliers ...	70
9th Lancashire Fusiliers ...	629
10th Lancashire Fusiliers ...	194
11th Lancashire Fusiliers ...	65
12th Lancashire Fusiliers ...	70
15th Lancashire Fusiliers ...	45
16th Lancashire Fusiliers ...	60
18th Lancashire Fusiliers ...	80
19th Lancashire Fusiliers ...	16
20th Lancashire Fusiliers ...	52
Royal Engineers, British Expeditionary Force	26
British Expeditionary Force (unit unknown)	2,655
Mediterranean Expeditionary Force (unit unknown) ...	492

Between 23rd August, 1916, and 7th November, 1918, it sent a total of 15,229 other ranks overseas in drafts; while between 26th May, 1917, and 14th December, 1918, it sent out in all 698 officers. These figures include many of all ranks who went overseas again after coming home wounded or sick. Throughout the greater part of the war, the battalion was commanded by Colonel The Earl of Westmorland, A.D.C., who was made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire for his valuable work in which he received loyal and much appreciated support from his Countess.

4TH BATTALION

A Special Reserve battalion, like the 3rd, the 4th Battalion moved from Bury to Barrow-in-Furness, in Lancashire, on 8th August, 1914, at a strength of 12 officers and 371 other ranks, and soon came under the command of Colonel J. Aspinall Turner, who remained with it until 11th June, 1918, when he was succeeded by Lieutenant-Colonel E. U. Bradbridge and was appointed Honorary Colonel of the unit. At first it was so fully occupied with guard duties at Vickers Armstrong's shipbuilding yards and with various garrison duties that little training was possible. Recruits arrived so fast and uniforms so slowly that out of a strength of 1,500 towards the end of August, 1914, only about 700 were in uniform. The work of the battalion staff was not made easier by the fact that parties of recruits arriving from Bury—in plain clothes, of course—often brought another 25 per cent. of "hangers-on" with them.

Soon after the Battle of Le Cateau, however, the strength of the 4th Battalion came down to more manageable proportions owing to the despatch overseas of a large draft, though it absorbed all its trained officers, N.C.Os. and men. Their loss as instructors was later made good by the return of officers from France; and realistic

training, including tours of several days in opposing trenches under active service conditions with raids, was soon well in hand.

In October, 1916, the battalion moved to Barry Docks in Glamorganshire, where it remained (with a detachment at Swansea during 1918) until it was "wound up" in February, 1919, being formally disembodied in June of that year, when it received an appreciative letter from Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, then Commander-in-Chief of the Forces in Great Britain, in which he said that the high standard of the drafts sent overseas by it, due to the hard work of all concerned, contributed materially to the splendid achievements of the battalions which fought under his command. One who was especially responsible for the good reputation of the battalion was Quartermaster and Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel A. W. Smith, whose forty-three years' service in the Regiment ended with twenty-one years as quartermaster of the 4th Battalion.

The drafts sent overseas by the battalion comprised the following:—

Year	Officers	Other ranks
1914-15 ...	47	1,601
1916 ...	60	1,383
1917 ...	49	1,400
1918 ...	115	1,735
Totals ...	271	6,119

5TH RESERVE BATTALION

This unit came into being when the 3rd/5th Battalion became a fighting unit in the spring of 1915. Originally intended to find drafts for the 1st/5th, 2nd/5th and 3rd/5th Battalions and at first used for that purpose, thereby being assured of continued existence as an independent unit, it later sent reinforcements to man battalions within and without the Regiment, though no figures of its "output" are available.

Its early days were spent in billets at Southport in Lancashire. It moved at the end of 1915 to Codford in Wiltshire and thence to Witley in Surrey in the spring of 1916. After a few weeks near Oswestry, it went back to Southport again in the autumn of that year, moving to Ripon in January, and to the race-course at Scarborough in April of 1917. It remained there till the end of the war.

6TH RESERVE BATTALION

This unit was the result of an amalgamation, which took place at Codford in the summer of 1916, of the 3rd/6th, 3rd/7th and 3rd/8th Battalions, these units having been formed in 1915 to find drafts for the first and second lines of the 6th, 7th and 8th Battalions. As in the case of the 5th Reserve Battalion, it eventually despatched drafts to many battalions and regiments. Like that battalion, it was stationed at Southport (where for a time it enjoyed the luxury

Robert Fletcher went to Bury September 24th 1914. Left Bury
for Barry Dock on the 25th came on leave home Dec: 24th
Left home for Barry Dock Dec: 29th 1914, came on leave
again March 21st 1918 till March 26th left again for
Barry Dock South Wales. Left Barry Dock for France
March 28th 1918 landed in France March 29th 1918.

This Certificate must be signed and carefully preserved by the person to whom it is issued.

If the place of residence of the holder of the Certificate is changed otherwise than temporarily, the Certificate must within 28 days be handed in at a Post Office or sent or delivered to the Clerk of the Council of the Borough, Urban or Rural District in which the new residence is situate (or, in Scotland, the Town or County Clerk), with the new address written in the space below. A fresh Certificate will be supplied in due course.

Space for new address.

(17142) WL 17584 3M.M. 8/15 K.C.S.



NATIONAL
REGISTRATION
ACT, 1915.

This Certificate must be signed and carefully preserved by the person to whom it is issued.

If the place of residence of the holder of the Certificate is changed otherwise than temporarily, the Certificate must within 28 days be handed in at a Post Office or sent or delivered to the Clerk of the Council of the Borough, Urban or Rural District in which the new residence is situate (or, in Scotland, the Town or County Clerk), with the new address written in the space below. A fresh Certificate will be supplied in due course.

Space for new address.

(M 3912) WL 17584 15M.M. 8/15 H.S.



NATIONAL
REGISTRATION
ACT, 1915.

This is to Certify that

(a) *Alice Fletcher*

(b) *W. Duker (30)*

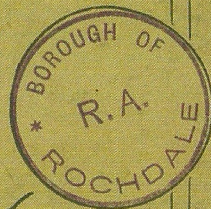
(c) of *2 Molesworth St.
Rdale.*

has been Registered under the
NATIONAL REGISTRATION
ACT, 1915.

Signature
of
Holder.

Alice Fletcher

GOD SAVE THE KING.



(a) Name.

(b) Occupation.

(c) Postal Address.

This is to Certify that

(a) *Robert Fletcher 139*

(b) *Labourer (Spring Mowers) (26)*

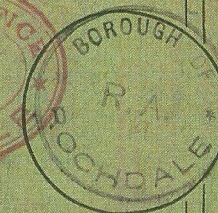
(c) of *2 Molesworth St.
Rdale.*

has been Registered under the
NATIONAL REGISTRATION
ACT, 1915.

Signature
of
Holder.

Robert Fletcher

GOD SAVE THE KING.



(a) Name.

(b) Occupation.

(c) Postal Address.

Home safely. Many thanks for your help and your hospitality. It was much appreciated. As I said my research has gone as far as possible now. Although Pieter said he may be able to help a little more. I cannot thank you enough for your help over the last few years. Let me know what happens with the documentary. Will call in next time I am in Ypres to pay my respects.

Regards Bob Fletcher

[Quoted text hidden]

R Fletcher <fletcher5@sky.com>
To: Kenniscentrum <Kenniscentrum@ioper.be>

Thu, Sep 20, 2012 at 11:36 AM

[Quoted text hidden]

Kenniscentrum <Kenniscentrum@ioper.be>
To: "fletcher5@sky.com" <fletcher5@sky.com>

Tue, Sep 25, 2012 at 3:23 PM

Dear Bob,

It's been a pleasure to meet and to help you.

Maybe you can find a little more if you check which German ambulances were engaged during the German offensive, Spring 1918.

In the Bailleul – Ypres region the following German Divisions were put into battle (and in reserve) around the 25th April 1918:

22 Reserve Infantry Division (RID)

4 Bavarian Infantry Division

Alpine Corps

56 Infantry Division (ID)

19 RID

13 RID

7 ID

236 ID

In Reserve: 36 ID, 49 RID, 233 ID, 31 ID, 214 ID, Guard Division.

You can find out more about the organisation of these Divisions here:

<http://www.vlib.us/wwi/resources/germanarmywwi.pdf>

Although I think the book is still available in the Naval & Military Press.

I did some research myself, and I think the 22RID, 4th Bavarian Division, the Alpine Korps, the 233ID, the 31 ID and 214 ID have most likely been down there. You can read the brief history of the division and then look which ambulance belonged to that particular division.

As soon as I find another indication, I'll let you know.

Best wishes,

Pieter



Kenniscentrum

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Tel: +32 (0) 57 239 450

www.ieper.be | www.inflandersfields.be

Denk aan het milieu vooraleer je dit bericht of de bijlagen afdrukt. | Disclaimer



Van: R Fletcher [mailto:r.fletcher@sky.com]

Verzonden: donderdag 20 september 2012 12:37

Aan: Kenniscentrum

Onderwerp: Re: Attn. Frederik Vandewiere

[Quoted text hidden]

REMEMBRANCE.

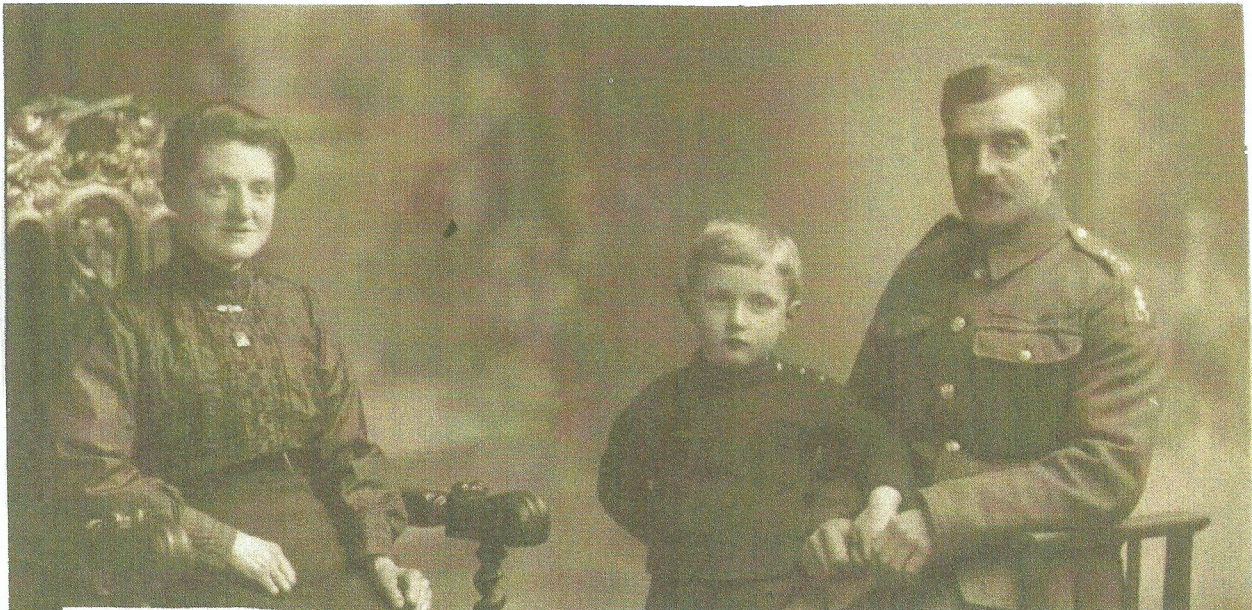
As I stood in a lonely Belgian cemetery recently, I remembered a man I loved—remembered also his gallant comrades round about him. The sun glinted on the sword of the cross of peace that towered over the white gravestones row by row; and the petals of the small rose trees growing by had fallen, and lay, blood-red, on the ground, reminders of sacrifice. The world stood still, as it were, and all was peaceful, for the men who were the seed of the Empire rested in death.

To-morrow Britain will pause and think again of those men of her soil who gave their love, their youth, their all, that we may live. Oh that we could justify their faith, and give up the world to everlasting peace! The horrors they lived through, the fire of battle, the mud and hate, and the legion of the maimed whose shattered bodies only were spared taught the utter uselessness of war; but the world is blind, and nations only pause in their creation of destructive machines to note the latest move of their neighbours. Down the ages fear has ruled, and it rules to-day with commanding power.

Is it nothing to mankind that these men died? Enemy of 1914-18 or friend suffered alike. Oh that it could be shouted from the highest hilltop to the peoples of the world that all are flesh and blood; all are children of the Creator. Let us strive with every effort in our power to prevent another such tragic blunder, and may the words of J. S. Arkwright be our inspiration:

Splendid you passed, the great surrender
made,
Into the light that nevermore shall fade.

B. D. F.



12--ROBERT DAWSON FLETCHER, with parents.
Taken on Dad's last leave 21-26 March, 1918.
Dad died on 16 April, 1918, from head wounds.



MONT DE LILLE SEPT 2012



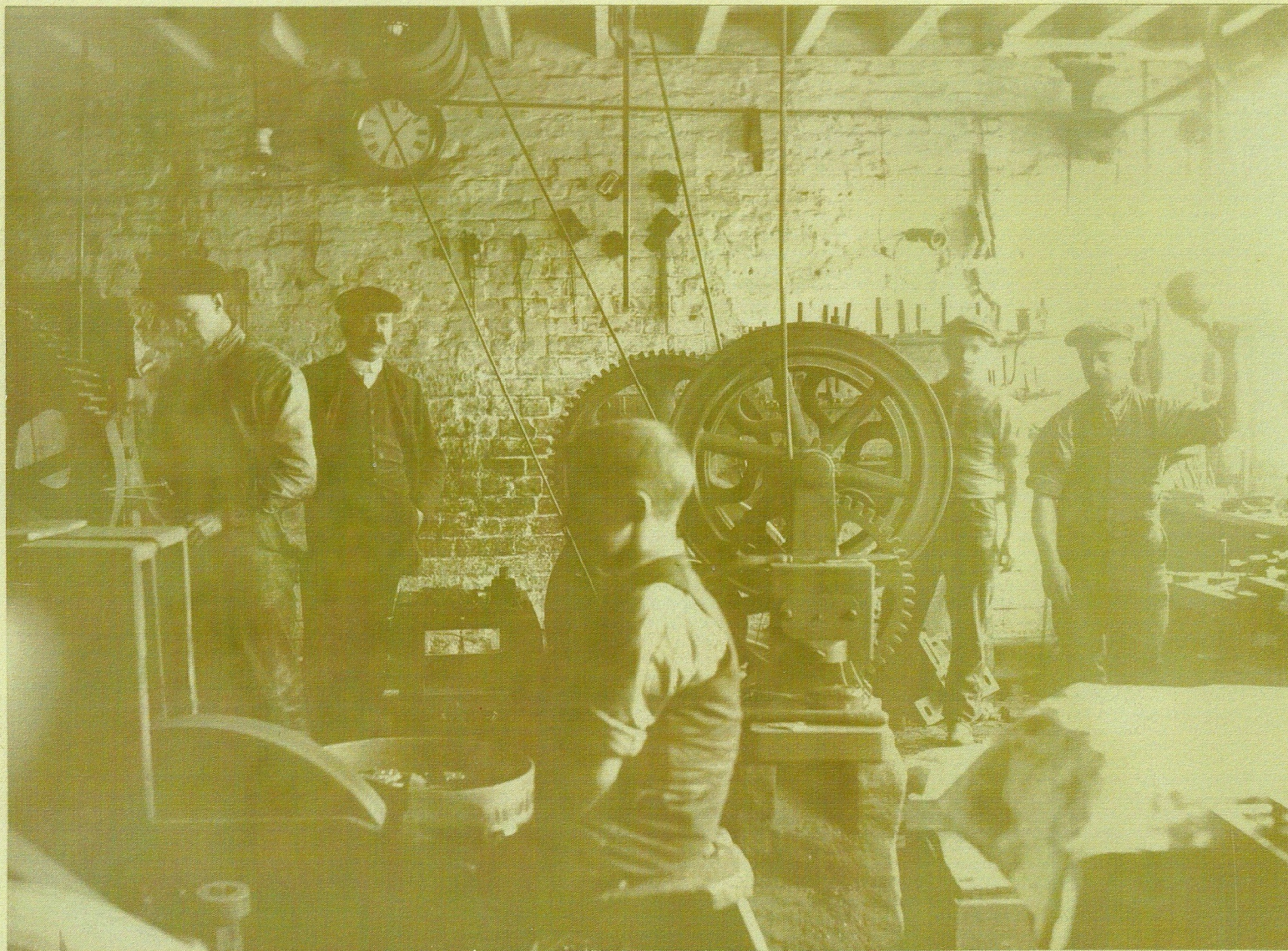


TOURNAI SEPT 2012



Jimmy Alston

Robert Fletcher



Jimmy Alston's Foundry

ⁱⁿ Guildford Street, Rochdale

Robert Fletcher Jimmy Alston



Jimmy Alston's Foundry

Second Left: Robert Fletcher

Foundry in Guildford Street,
Rochdale