

SAVED LIFE

In reading through the 1968 Register, it stood out that a number of people had been recognised for saving a life, usually from drowning and I thought it worth recording these here in the order they attended the College.

CHARLES SKYRMISHER RENNICK (1868)

After attending London University he went out to India and became Engineer in Chief of the Oudh & Rohilkhand Railway. As well as a notable billiards player he was awarded the Royal Humane Society's medal for saving a life. He died back in England at the age of 77.

CAPTAIN HENRY HALKETT CRICKETT (1875-78)

He qualified as a doctor and became a ship's surgeon. During WW1 he was in the Royal Army Medical Corps serving in a wide range of locations from Egypt, East Africa coast to Serbia and Salonika. He saved the life of a man from drowning in Mikra Bay, Salonika. No other details available.

FREDERICK WILLIAM MUNNINGS (1893-94)

He was the brother of **Sir Alfred Munnings KCVO PRA (1891-92)**. He saved life from drowning. No other details available.

LT COLONEL FRANCIS ROBERT BOYD HAWARD OBE (1893-94)

Was awarded OBE during WW2. Saved life from drowning, but no other details on this available. For a few further details see <http://www.oldframlinghamian.com/article.php?story=20061217120514629>

LT EDWIN GEORGE MAWBY (1889-97)

He was born in March 1879 and saved a life from drowning in the Thames. He is best remembered for the active part he played in the SOF, becoming Hon Sec from 1905 to 1909 and 1913 to 1914. He was also President in 1910 and 1911 and the editor of the first Register in 1907. He was killed during WW1 and appears on the main WW1 Memorial as well as a separate memorial erected by the SOF. For more details see <http://www.oldframlinghamian.com/images/articles/LTEDWINGEORGEMAWBY1889-97.pdf>

HENRY WALTER TAYLOR (1900-01)

He was born on 16 October 1885. He received a Royal Humane Society testimonial on vellum for saving a life from drowning off Great Yarmouth beach on 10 August 1904.

CECIL T LOTT (1901-03)

He was born on 3 November 1887 and saved life from drowning. No other details available.

PHILP S CHAPMAN (1903-06)

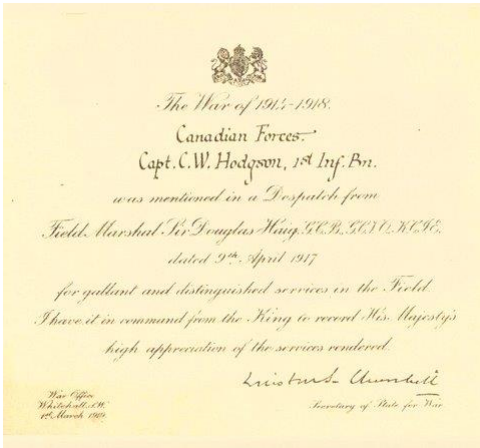
He was born on 22 August 1891. He received a Royal Humane Society testimonial on vellum for saving a life from drowning in 1908.

MAJOR CHRISTOPHER WATERHOUSE HODGSON (1899-1906)

He was born in Coston on 30th October 1888 in Norfolk England. His Father was rector of Cranworth parish and Christopher was the youngest of five children. After attending the College he went onto a military college, where he achieved the rank of lieutenant.



He immigrated to Toronto, Canada in 1912 where he worked for a bank. He was awarded a bronze medal by the Royal Humane Society, for saving a life in Clinton, Ontario, Canada. The citation reads "On 5 July 1912 a man while bathing in the river at Clinton, Ontario, sank in 9 feet of water 15 yards out from the bank. Hodgson plunged in and succeeded in saving him." At the time Hodgson was a Lieutenant in 3rd Battalion, Norfolk Regiment. He received a Royal Humane Society testimonial on vellum on the 8 October 1912.

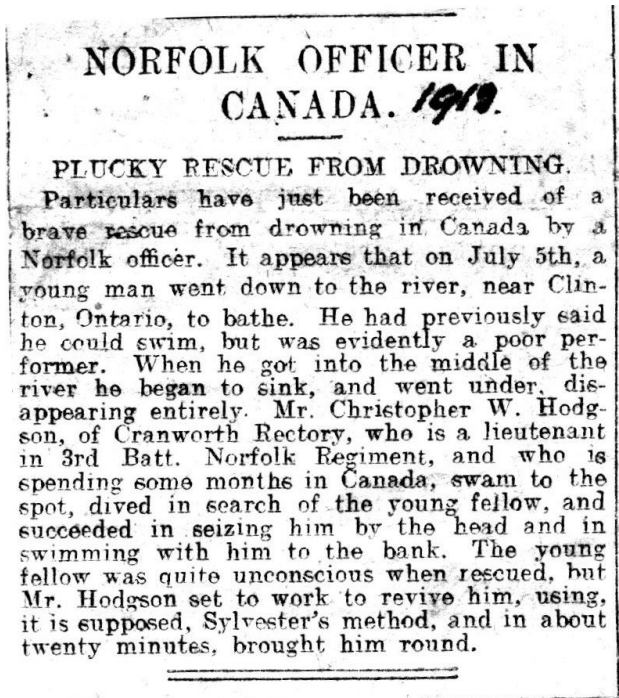
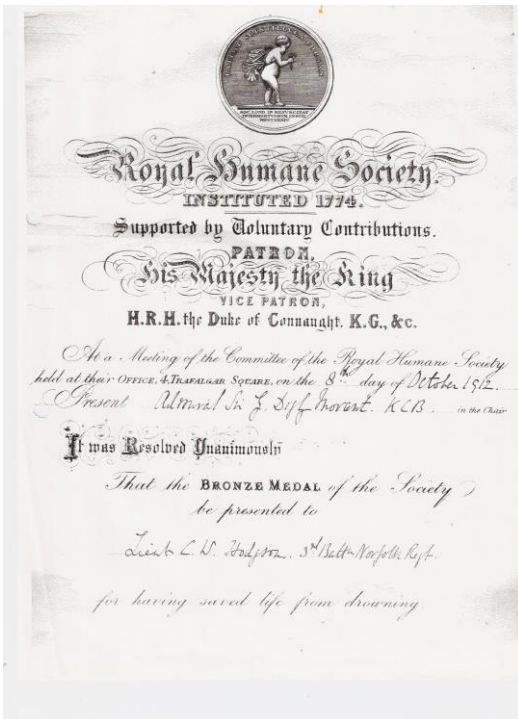


He joined the Canadian Mounted Rifles (?) and went to fight in the 1914-1918 war in France. In 1917 he was mentioned in dispatches [see right]. After the war he continued in the army as Lieutenant Colonel and helped with finding employment for demobilized officers.

In 1923 he set sail for Cape Town, South Africa and then by train to Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) where he started tobacco farming in the Marandallas area, but had to leave in 1928 due to ill health (he was gassed during WW1).

He then went to Cape Town and started work for Lever Bros and was subsequently transferred to Durban and then back to Cape Town. After he retired from Lever Brothers he bought a small farm in the Tulbagh district, which is 180 km from Cape Town, where he farmed with fruit for a short while. He died in 1969.

[I'm indebted to his son John Hodgson for the detail on this and the following pictures]



ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY BRONZE MEDALS CITATIONS

TAKEN FROM THE ANNUAL REPORT 1912

(Updated: 17/2/02 - JG Taylor clasp added, 17/01/04 - Case 39367 added, 29/2/04 - 39367 citation added)

Compiled by Peter Helmore

Hodgson, C.W. Lieutenant Norfolk Regiment. Case 39390

On the 5th July 1912, a man while bathing in the river at Clinton, Ontario, sank in 9 feet of water 15 yards out from the bank. Hodgson plunged in and succeeded in saving him.

MAJOR JOHN HOWELL STRANSOM DCM TD (R1904-11)

He was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal on 23 June 1915. In 1933 he saved a life from drowning. He was Hon Treasurer of the SOF from 1937 to 1939 and President in 1945 and 1946. For further details see <http://www.oldframlinghamian.com/images/articles/MAJORJOHNHOWELLSTRANSOMDCMTDR1904-11.pdf>

EDWARD DIGBY INSKIP (1904-12)

He was born on 13 July 1894, 2nd son of Rev OD Inskip, Headmaster of Framlingham. He saved life from drowning in 1914, shortly after leaving the College. No other details available.

THOMAS BLYFORD JENKINS (1918-22)

He was born on 11 November 1905. He received a Royal Humane Society Bronze Medal in 1923, for saving the life of a man from drowning off Southwold, Suffolk.

STEPHEN HERBERT DEEKS (22-24)

He was born on 14 March 1907. It is perhaps fitting that he was captain of swimming at the College in 1923 & 1924. He went on to be awarded the Albert Medal for saving a man's life off Worthing.

ALAN FREDERICK JOHNSTON LIMER (S56-65)

Life Saving 1 – he pulled **David Forster (S58-64)** out of the old swimming pool at Fram in the period 1963 to 1965, probably 64 or 65. David Forster was a dayboy. What happened was that Alan noticed a stream of bubbles rising to the surface (many will remember the colour was an impenetrable muddy green) and dived down and found David Forster on the bottom and brought him up to the surface and to the edge of the pool. He was unconscious. He was pulled out and laid on the grass bank where he recovered. In a sad foot note, David Forster died in 1969 at the age of just 23. 3 weeks before his death he had emigrated to Perth Australia to become an accountant, which he just qualified in England for. He was accidentally electrocuted.

Life Saving 2 - In the period 2000 – 2002, Alan was running a yacht club rally in the Beaulieu River and perched in his inflatable at the stern of a yacht, chatting to those on board. He had been running a ferry service from boat to boat. The next boat out was Major League, a 45 feet motor yacht belonging to Peter Ralls QC, and there was another boat outside them. On the stern of Major League were some young children. One of them, Jack Ralls (aged 3), fell off the back. Alan says "I rapidly entered the water and caught him as the tide started pushing him under the yacht. With a couple of breast stroke kicks I brought him back to the surface and presented him to concerned parents."

NICK CARLTON (G63-70)

In 33 years at sea Captain Nick Carlton has never heard the cry "man overboard", until August 2003. At the time he was Captain of the P&O liner Pacific Sky. When the shout was made he immediately turned the ship around and headed back to search. After nearly 3 hours of searching in 25 knot winds and rough seas, the man was remarkably found and brought back on board. See this article on the SOF website for further information and pictures <http://www.oldframlinghamian.com/article.php?story=20030918155303102>

ROGER SPARROW (Z72-79)

While still a pupil at Brandeston Hall (aged 12 or 13 at the time) he showed great initiative and competence when, during a Free Swimming session in the pool with the surface of the water considerably disturbed, he spotted a fellow pupil, unconscious, on the bottom in the deep end. He, single-handedly, managed to retrieve the unconscious lad and bring him to the surface and the side of the pool. The boy had knocked himself out on the bottom step of the ladder while attempting to access the Deep End the 'gentle' way. Responding to resuscitation and 24 hours in hospital he was, fortunately, no worse for the experience - but Roger's prompt action undoubtedly saved his life.

As a result of his initiative and retrieval skills, Roger became the very first recipient, in 1973, of the newly introduced Brandeston Hall Honours Tie.

KATY WILKS (P86-94)

She was born in 1976 and when only 19 years old saved a life from drowning at Felixstowe. The following is a summary of the full story that was included in the Spring 1996 OF Magazine :-

When Katy Wilks arranged to meet a group of OF friends in April 1995, for a day out in Felixstowe, she had no idea that by the end of the day she would become the latest in the line OFs to be honoured for lifesaving by the Royal Humane Society.

Katy, who started at Brandeston, went all through Framlingham and then on to York University. With fellow university student John Noble and OFs Adrian Leek, Mark Roderick, Sam Hayes, Edward Hanlow, Jeremy McIlveen and Antonia Key she helped save the life of a 3 year old William Cardwell.

The boy had fallen from Felixstowe Pier 100 metres from the shore and was swept underneath it. The group heard the mother's cry for help and John Noble jumped in, grabbed the boy and clung to one of the pier supports.

Katy meanwhile, had found a lifebelt and reached them with it. The OF team then hauled young William to safety.

On 4 January 1996 the Mayor of Felixstowe presented John Noble with the Royal Humane Society's testimonial and Katy their certificate for helping to save a life. She was also awarded some book tokens by the Vice Chancellor of York University.



Katy Wilks with John Noble (left) and William Cardwell in father's arms

William's mother said of the 2 awardees "They were just fabulous. John reacted instantly and jumped into the water ten seconds after William fell in. Katy was the calming influence on the pier. She stopped all the panic going on and we are full of admiration for these two people. We cannot thank them enough. To them it means they saved somebody's life. To us it means they saved our son."

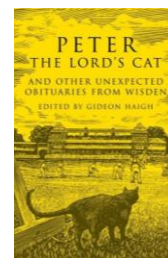
JEFFREY RICHARD TRISTAN WORNHAM GM (K89-95)

He was born in 1977 and became a Fireman. He was killed (along with a colleague) on 2 February 2005 while trying to save a trapped woman in a fire. See <http://www.oldframlinghamian.com/article.php?story=20050203095127763> for a lot more detail.



A book entitled **Peter The Lord's Cat and other Unexpected Obituaries** by Gideon Haigh and published in 2006 includes the following piece on Jeffrey :-

"Gideon has also included a rather sad tale of a 28 year old fire fighter from Stevenage who gave his life fighting a fire in a tower block when he and a fellow fire fighter were trapped. Jeffrey Richard Tristan Wornham lived and breathed cricket throughout his young life. If he wasn't playing cricket he was thinking cricket. If he wasn't thinking cricket he was dreaming cricket. Growing up he was often seen dressed in his whites on the off chance that he could get a game. That's how much he loved the great game. Soul Limbo the BBC theme tune was played at his funeral."



On 27 November 2007 it was announced in the London Gazette that he and his colleague had both been posthumously awarded the George Medal. The George Medal is 2nd only to the George Cross in terms of recognising acts of outstanding civilian bravery. The citation reads as follows :-

Jeffrey Richard Tristan Wornham (deceased), Firefighter, Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service.

Michael Liam Brady Miller (deceased), Firefighter, Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service.

For their actions in attempting to rescue people trapped in a fire.

In February 2005 in the early hours of the morning a fire was reported on the 14th floor of a block of flats in Stevenage. Reports received indicated that people may have been trapped. Firefighters Jeffrey Wornham and Michael Miller were part of the initial attendance and went aloft to assess the situation which was serious. Colleagues prepared the equipment and water needed to enter the premises but before these were ready cries for help were heard from inside the flat. The two firefighters decided to proceed even though they did not at that stage have the proper equipment with them. One man was rescued and he indicated that his girlfriend was still in the flat. Both firefighters re-entered the flat to search for the second person. By then the conditions were deteriorating rapidly with intense heat and zero visibility. While attempting the second rescue the fire intensified and Jeffrey Wornham,

Michael Miller and the occupant of the flat were engulfed by flames and as a consequence died.

In November 2008 the following Memorial Plaque was installed in the College Chapel.



The following are some photos of the bench, tree and inscription at the College, sited on the Back by the Squash courts.





The sheet below is an example of the Royal Humane Society's testimonial on vellum



Royal Humane Society

INSTITUTED 1774.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER

PATRON,

Her Majesty the Queen

PRESIDENT,

H.R.H. Princess Alexandra, the Hon. Lady Ogilvy, G.C.H.O.

At a Meeting of the Committee of the Royal Humane Society

on the 7th day of October 2003.

Present *Julian Spicer Esq., OBE* *in the Chair*

It was Resolved Unanimously that

Emma Louise Monkman

is justly entitled to the Honorary Testimonial of this Society inscribed on Vellum which is hereby awarded her for having on the 23rd April 2003 stopped a drunken passenger from operating an exit door handle on a Boeing 757 whilst the aeroplane was still taxiing at speed on the runway at Luqa Airport, Malta G.C. and thereby saved the lives of the crew and passengers.

President.

Chairman.

Secretary.
84, 586.