

## 136: Harvey Sisson Gillanders

### Basic Information [as recorded on local memorial or by CWGC]

Name as recorded on local memorial or by CWGC: Harvey Sisson Gillanders  
 Rank: Company Serjeant Major  
 Battalion / Regiment: 10th Bn. King's (Liverpool Regiment)  
 Service Number: 85 Date of Death: 16 June 1915 Age at Death: 35  
 Buried / Commemorated at: Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial, Ypres (Ieper), West Flanders, Belgium  
 Additional information given by CWGC: Son of the late George and Anna Gillanders, of 7, Harlech Rd., Blundellsands, Liverpool

Harvey Sisson Gillanders was the sixth, and last, child of bank official George and Anna Gillanders. George, who was born in Ross-shire, married Anna Maria Williams at St Stephen The Martyr Church, Edge Hill, Liverpool, in July/September 1869. They lived in West Derby, to the north-east of the city, for some years and their first children were born there. However, their son, Alister Robert Gillanders (registered as Alexander Robert in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 1876) was born in Parkgate (there is no record of his baptism in Neston) and Harvey Sisson Gillanders (shown as *Harry* in the 1881 census) was baptised on 20 September 1879, as Harvey Sisson, at Neston Parish Church.

George Gillanders	Head	Man	44		Clerk - Bank of England	Scotland
Anna Maria J.	Wife	Woman	38		Wife	Liverpool Lancashire
Gertrude Annie	Daughter	Girl	10		Scholar	West Derby D <sup>o</sup>
Sophia MacKidd	Daughter	Girl	8		D <sup>o</sup>	D <sup>o</sup>
George Bell	Son	Boy	6		D <sup>o</sup>	D <sup>o</sup>
Alister Robert	Son	Boy	4		D <sup>o</sup>	Parkgate Cheshire
Harry Sisson	Son	Boy	1		D <sup>o</sup>	Neston D <sup>o</sup>
Charlotte A Stone	Servant	Woman	15		Domestic Serv <sup>t</sup>	Little Neston D <sup>o</sup>
Jane Woods	Servant	Woman	17		D <sup>o</sup>	Parkgate D <sup>o</sup>

### 1881 census (extract) – Parkgate Road

George Gillanders	44	clerk – Bank of England	born Scotland
Anna Maria J.	38		born Liverpool
Gertrude Annie	10		born West Derby
Sophia MacKidd	8		born West Derby
George Bell	6		born West Derby
Alister Robert	4		born Parkgate
Harry Sisson	1		born Neston
Charlotte A. Stone	15	domestic servant	born Little Neston
Jane Woods	17	domestic servant	born Parkgate

By the time of the 1891 census the family was back near Liverpool, now living at 7, Harlech Road in Blundellsands, a substantial house in a quiet residential area of the town. This remained as the family home for many years.

7 Harlech Road, Blundellsands [Source: Google StreetView]



George Gillanders	Head	No	24	Bank Cashier	Scotland
Anna M. J. do	Wife	No	24		Liverpool Lanc.
Gertrude A. do	Daughter	S	20		
Sophia M. do			18	Scholar	
George B. Gillanders	Son		16	Clerk	
Alister R. do			14	Scholar	Parkgate Cheshire
Harvey S. do			11		Neston
Catherine F. Williams	Lodger		35	Governess	Liverpool Lanc.
Sarah Davis	Dom.		20	General Servant	Cheshire

1891 census (extract) – 7, Harlech Road, Blundellsands

George Gillanders	54	bank cashier	born Scotland
Anna M. J.	48		born Liverpool
Gertrude A.	20		born Liverpool
Sophia M.	18	scholar	born Liverpool
George B.	16	clerk	born Liverpool
Alister R.	14		born Parkgate
Harvey S.	11		born Neston
Catherine F. Williams	35	lodger, governess	born Liverpool
Sarah Davis	20	general servant	born (?) Cheshire

Sophia died, aged 27, in early 1901 aged 27.

By the time of the 1901 census Harvey was working as a merchant's clerk, probably at Rathbone Brothers (21 Water Street, Liverpool). Rathbone's was founded by William Rathbone II in 1742 as a Liverpool-based timber trading business and in the 19<sup>th</sup> century it became a leading trader in cotton from the United States and, in 1841, the Liverpool agent for the East India Company. In 1907 the company was relaunched as a 'wealth manager' and by 1912 - when it moved into the newly-built Royal Liver Building - it had abandoned its trading operations and focused on financial management, initially for the Rathbone family, but subsequently for the general public.

George Gillanders	Head	M	64	Bank Cashier	Scotland
Anna M. do	Wife	M	58		Liverpool
Gertrude A. do	Daughter	S	30		do do
George B. do	Son	S	26	Merchant's Clerk	do do
Alister R. do	Son	S	24	Banker's Clerk	do do
Harvey S. do	Son	S	21	Merchant's Clerk	Neston
Ethel M. Williams	visitor	S	27		Liverpool
Elizabeth Taffin	domestic	S	20	General Servant	Ireland

1901 census (extract) – 7 Harlech Road, Blundellsands, Great Crosby

George Gillanders	64	bank cashier	born Scotland
Anna M.	58		born Liverpool
Gertrude A.	30		born Liverpool
George B.	26	merchant's clerk	born Liverpool
Alister R.	24	banker's clerk	born Neston
Harvey S.	21	merchant's clerk	born Neston
Ethel M. Williams	27	visitor	born Liverpool
Elizabeth Taffin	20	general servant, domestic	born Ireland

On 6 December 1900 Harvey enlisted as a volunteer with the 8<sup>th</sup> (Scottish) King's (Liverpool Regiment), commonly known as the Liverpool Scottish, a Territorial unit raised on 30 April 1900 as an infantry battalion and based in Fraser Street in the city.

Up to 1908, Britain had a tradition of organising local part-time military units known as the Militia and the Volunteers. These had often been created during times of national crisis but with the exception of service during the Boer War in South Africa (1899 - 1902) had generally remained at home as part-time, local defence, units. The 1908 army reforms carried out by Minister of War Richard Burdon Haldane, hotly debated and not universally agreed, essentially did away with these old units and replaced them with the Territorial Force, essentially for home defence. Men were not obliged to serve overseas, although they could agree to do so. The reforms meant that the Liverpool Scottish became the King's 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion and, by 1914, they were subordinate to the South Lancashire Brigade, West Lancashire Division.

Before the outbreak of war volunteers retained their normal civilian jobs but, as well as the regular drills prescribed by regulation, they had to attend annual training for eight to fifteen days per year (those attended by Harvey from 1910 to 1912 were for 14 days) with the Crown able to extend the period of training up to thirty days or abandon annual training altogether as necessary.

On his attestation in Liverpool on 6 December 1900 it was recorded that Harvey Gillanders was aged 21 years 4 months, was a merchant's clerk at Rathbone Bros. (21, Water Street, Liverpool), stood 5ft 7¾ins and had a 33-inch expanded chest. He remained as a Private until 31 March 1908 when he was appointed as Sergeant.

In 1911 Harvey was still a merchant's clerk living at home in Blundellsands:

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.
George Gillanders	Head	74	Married	41					Bank Clerk retired	507	0	Rosshire Rosemarkie	548
Anna Gillanders	Wife	68	Married	41	6	4	2					Lancs Liverpool	058
Gertrude Gillanders	Daughter	40	Single									Lancs Liverpool	
Alister Gillanders	Son	34	Single						Bank Clerk	507	4	Cheshire Parkgate	120
Harvey Gillanders	Son	31	Single						Merchants Clerk	050	4-91	Cheshire Neston	
Lydia (Dunwoody)	Servant	19	Single						General Servant	057	0	Lancs Liverpool	058

(To be filled up by the Enumerator.)

I certify that—		
(1) All the names on this Schedule are entered in the proper sex column.	Total.	
(2) I have entered the males and females in Columns 3 and 4 separately, and have compared their sum with the total number of persons.	Male.	Female.
(3) After making the necessary enquiries I have completed all entries on the Schedule which appeared to be defective, and have corrected such as appeared to be erroneous.	3	3
Inclusive of Enumerator.	6	

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling.)

Write below the Number of Rooms in this Dwelling (House, Tenement, or Apartment). Count the kitchen as a room but do not count scullery, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom; nor warehouse, office, shop.

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature *Anna Gillanders on behalf of George Gillanders*  
 Postal Address *7 Harlech Road Blundellsands*

*11 rooms*

1911 census (condensed) – 7, Harlech Road, Blundellsands

George Gillanders	74	bank clerk (retired)	born Rosemarkie, Ross-shire
Anne	68		born Liverpool
Gertrude	40		born Liverpool
Alister	34	bank clerk	born Parkgate
Harvey	31	merchant's clerk	born Neston
Lydia Dunwoody	19	general servant, domestic	born Liverpool

George and Anna had been married for 41 years and four of their six children were still living.

On 1 March 1912 Harvey became a Colour Sergeant, a non-commissioned title which was introduced into the British Army during the Napoleonic Wars to reward long-serving sergeants. Following the outbreak of war army rankings at this level were reassigned and Harvey became a Company Quartermaster Sergeant on 18 December 1914 and an Acting Company Sergeant Major on 13 May 1915.

Although Harvey's Service Record has survived this gives almost no detail of his life in the army although it is known that he embarked for France on 1 November 1914 (and it is recorded elsewhere that they sailed from Southampton on the SS *Maidan*) and that he died on 16 June 1915 at The Battle of Bellewaarde (The Battle of Hooge) when almost 2000 men, British and German, lost their lives on a field approximately ½ mile square in a conflict lasting 12 hours. The 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion The King's (Liverpool) Regiment were then a component of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division of the 9<sup>th</sup> Brigade. Most of the men were never found and are only remembered on the Menin Gate. Harvey had served for a total of 7 years 77 days.

Opposing trenches at The Battle of Bellewaarde were only 150 - 300 yards apart and the operations were very congested.

*At the close of The Battles of Ypres, the German trenches between the Menin Road and the Ypres-Roulers railway formed a salient.*

*Behind their front lines lay the Bellewaarde Ridge and the lake, the former giving the enemy good observation over our lines. Hooge, at the southern point of this salient, lay battered and ruined between the opposing lines; while just south of the Ypres-Roulers railway the eastern edges of Railway Wood were held by the enemy, and the western edges by British troops of the 3rd Division. The British line from opposite Hooge ran along just south of the Menin Road to just east of Birr X Road, then turned sharply northwards skirting the eastern edges of the Cambridge Road to the angle formed by the latter and the railway, where, for some 300 yards, it followed the latter eastwards, turning again sharply north-west.*

*Early in June it was decided to attack the salient, and, if possible, gain possession of the ridge; the attack was to be carried out by the 9<sup>th</sup> Brigade of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division. Though they make interesting reading, it is impossible to give full details of the operations, orders, and indeed, from a regimental point of view, such matters as particulars concerning the attacking troops and objectives allotted to them are sufficient to place the reader au fait with the situation before the attack began. One fact, however, is clearly demonstrated in these orders, that, at this period there was a shortage of bombs, for the utility of the hand-grenade in trench fighting was only just being recognised.*

*There were three phases in the attack on Bellewaarde. In the first the objective was the eastern edge of a narrow strip of wood (Y.16 and Y.15), and the German front-line trenches as far as the north-east corner of Railway Wood; in the second the objective was the line of the road from the house 100 yards south of Y.17, through Y.17 to Bellewaarde Farm, thence through.14 and Y.11 to Y.7; the objective in the third phase was the south-western corner of Bellewaarde Lake, Y.18 - Y.12 - Y.7.*

*The attacking troops for the first phase were (from right to left) the 4th Royal Fusiliers, 1st Royal Scots Fusiliers and the 5<sup>th</sup> Fusiliers. As soon as the German front was taken the Royal Fusiliers were to bomb down the trench from Y.16 to Y.17, while the Royal Scots Fusiliers, in conjunction with the 5<sup>th</sup> Fusiliers, were to seize the hostile trench lying between Y.13 and Y.15 and the second objective, the 5<sup>th</sup> Fusiliers pushing their bombing parties on towards Y.7.*

*As soon as the first objective had been gained the guns were to bombard the second objective, i.e., from the house 100 yards south of Y.17 to Y.11; about the centre of this line lay Bellewaarde Farm. The 1<sup>st</sup> Lincolns and Liverpool Scottish (1/10<sup>th</sup> King's Regiment), who during the first phase, were to*

*move up to the front line vacated by the troops of the first phase, and were to capture the third objective. In later years this was known as "leap-frogging."*

*The 7<sup>th</sup> Brigade was to support the 9<sup>th</sup>, and the 8<sup>th</sup> was in reserve. On the right of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division troops of the 7<sup>th</sup> Division were to support the 9<sup>th</sup> Brigade by seizing the German trenches from Y.20 to Y.16, and by covering rifle and machine-gun fire from the Menin Road. On the left the 6<sup>th</sup> Division was to assist the 3<sup>rd</sup> by opening covering fire with rifles and machine guns.*

*From 2.50 a.m. with three pauses at 3.10 a.m., 3.40 a.m. and 4 a.m., until 4.15 a.m., the Divisional Artillery was to bombard the enemy trenches. At 4.15 a.m. the infantry were to advance to the assault. The attack was to take place on 16<sup>th</sup> June.*

[Extract from 'History of the King's Regiment (Liverpool) 1914-1919', E. Wyrall, 1928]

On 16 June 1915 The Liverpool Scottish, along with the 1/Lincolns attacked and advanced, but, against orders, soldiers from reserve battalions (2/Royal Irish Rifles and 1/1 HAC) also went forward. The battalions taking part in this third phase of the attack caught up with troops who had gone forward earlier, and who were waiting for the barrage to move forward. Because they had moved so quickly, they ran into their own barrage (mist and smoke prevented observation by the gunners). The trenches were now crowded with too many troops from different phases of the attack, as well as those who should not have attacked at all. Control of the battle broke down and heavy German artillery started to take its toll. Despite taking the trenches, these could not be held due to the bombardment of both British and German artillery. Counter-attacked at 7.30am, and again at 9.30am, the Liverpool Scottish and the Lincolns were forced back.

The history of the Liverpool Scottish notes that:

*The battalion's first major engagement happened on 16 June 1915, at Hooge, 2 miles (3.2 km) east of Ypres. The 9<sup>th</sup> Brigade, with the 7<sup>th</sup> Brigade in support, was chosen to conduct a three-phased attack with the ultimate intention being to reach trenches on the south-western edge of Bellewaarde Lake. Situated behind German lines was Bellewaarde Ridge, a tactically-important feature that overlooked British positions. At 0415, the first wave of troops moved on their objective and quickly secured the first-line trenches, which continued to be shelled by British artillery. The Liverpool Scottish and 1<sup>st</sup> Lincolnshire Regiment, forming the second wave, then left their trenches to pass through the first wave of attackers and reach the German second-line. Although the advance was relatively unopposed, "V" Company encountered resistance on its front from machine-gun fire. After briefly suspending its advance, the company, reinforced by "Z", charged the opposing positions and took about forty prisoners.*

*On capturing the second-line, elements of the Liverpool Scottish decided to consolidate the shallow trenches that afforded little protection. The battle had quickly degenerated into a disorganised and chaotic affair, with British battalions losing cohesion and becoming mixed up with each other. An intensive German barrage decimated the occupants of the second-line trenches, while the 10<sup>th</sup>'s temporary commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel E.G. Thin, was wounded by gunfire. The remainder of the Liverpool Scottish continued onto the third-line with portions of the Royal Scots Fusiliers and 1<sup>st</sup> Northumberland Fusiliers.*

*Consolidating the third-line proved difficult under relentless bombardment and determined opposition from the uncaptured right of the trench system. Some of the Liverpool Scottish nevertheless impulsively carried on beyond the third-line, towards a position called Dead Man's Bottom and probable death. The battalion's left flank became compromised in the afternoon by the retreat of the surviving Northumberland Fusiliers. The Liverpool Scottish eventually retreated first to the second-line, then to the more viable entrenchments of the former German frontline. The battle persisted into the night, and abortive attempts were made by the Germans to retake the first-line trenches. For about 1,000 yards of gained territory, the Liverpool Scottish had suffered heavy casualties: 79 killed, 212 wounded, and 109 missing from a pre-battle strength of 542 officers and other ranks.*

The events leading up to, and on, the 16 June are recorded in the Battalion diary:

**The Kings (Liverpool) Regiment - Battalion Diary [Extract for 14 - 17 June 1915]**

“On the evening of the 14<sup>th</sup> June Major A.S. Anderson proceeded to RAILWAY WOOD (which is situated West of BELLEWARDE Farm and North of Hooze) from which point the 9<sup>th</sup> Brigade were to attack on the morning of the 16<sup>th</sup>. He took with him 2 men per Company to act as markers and also 2 Cyclists. At 4 pm on the afternoon of the 15<sup>th</sup> the Battalion left the camping ground near BUSSEBOOM and proceeded via YPRES to RAILWAY WOOD.

The attack was made on a frontage of about 1,000 yards, the Northumberland, Royal Scots and Royal Fusiliers were detailed to take the first line and we, in conjunction with the Lincolns, were to take the 2<sup>nd</sup> Line, the 7<sup>th</sup> Brigade being in Reserve. We were shelled rather heavily between 12 on the morning of the 16<sup>th</sup> and during this time several of our men were killed or wounded. Our artillery bombardment started at 2.10am and carried out the work of demolition so successfully that little difficulty was experienced in taking the first and second line trenches. Unfortunately however in continuing the advance we suffered many casualties as, owing to the difficulty experienced in observing signals, it was impossible to keep our shells ahead of the advancing infantry. Although the 3<sup>rd</sup> Line German Trenches were reached it was impossible to hold on to them and so the whole Brigade consolidated the 1<sup>st</sup> and part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Line German trenches, manning them until 11.30 pm on the night of the 16<sup>th</sup> at which hour they were relieved by the 8<sup>th</sup> Brigade. The casualties amongst our Officers were particularly heavy and of the 24 Officers who went up only Lieutenant Wall, 2nd Lieutenant T.G. Roddick and Lieutenant Chavasse came back unscathed. The work of all ranks throughout the day calls forth the highest praise, our bombing parties doing particularly good work. The stretcher bearers throughout a most trying day did excellent work and showed great courage in attending to so many wounded under very heavy shell fire. The following is an extract from a special Order by Major General Haldane Commanding 3<sup>rd</sup> Division published on the 17<sup>th</sup> June. "The Major General Commanding cannot adequately express his admiration for the gallant manner in which the attack was carried out yesterday. The dash and determination of all ranks was beyond praise, and that some actually reached the objective in the first rush and remained there under most trying circumstances is a proof of their superiority over the German Infantry. That the captured ground could not all be held is disappointing, more especially as the losses incurred were heavy. But these casualties have not been in vain. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Division carried out a fine piece of work and fought splendidly, and their commander is deeply proud of them". From the 17<sup>th</sup> to the end of the month the Battalion was encamped in the same field near BUSSEBOOM, Lieutenant L.G. Wall being in command, with 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant T.C. Roddick acting Adjutant, the time being devoted to Company Training and Route Marching”.

LESLIE G.WALL, Lieut.

Commanding 10<sup>th</sup> (Scottish) Bn. The King's (L'pool Rgt)

Some additional detail of the events of 15/16 June is provided by *The History of the King's Regiment (Liverpool) 1914-1919* [Everard Wyrall, 1928, Edward Arnold & Co., London] which notes that:

*'About half an hour after midnight (15<sup>th</sup>) the enemy opened heavy shell-fire on the trenches of the 9<sup>th</sup> Brigade, and several of the King's men were killed and wounded. .... Each man carried two bandoliers of rifle ammunition, one day's rations in addition to the iron ration, and two sand-bags fastened through the belt at the back. A platoon in each battalion carried shovels securely slung on the back. Wire-cutters were issued in the proportion of 50 to each of the attacking battalions in the first phase, and 25 each to the Lincolns and Liverpool Scottish.'*

The History then goes on to note:

The opposing trenches were from 150 to 300 yards apart, and as the Divisional Artillery poured shell on to the German front line, clods of earth, heads and bodies of men shot up into the air—the guns were making excellent shooting. For two hours the bombardment went on, and then, precisely at 4.15, two companies of each of the attacking battalions left their trenches and moved as quickly as possible across "No Man's Land." During the night 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup>, the wire in front of the British trenches had been removed and the "knife-rests" placed at right angles so as not to impede the advance. The attackers, therefore, got well away at Zero hour. Without much resistance the first German line was captured, though there was a certain amount of hostile rifle and machine-gun fire and heavy shelling. The enemy's wire had been well cut by the Divisional Artillery, and the troops got through without difficulty and over the parapet. There, amidst the debris, they found many dead and wounded Germans. Others, who had escaped wounds, held up their hands and surrendered, too demoralised and dazed to offer any resistance. Consolidation of the trenches was begun immediately.

For the benefit of those who do not know exactly what consolidating a trench meant it may be explained that on capture, the trench had (so to speak) to be turned round, *i.e.*, parapet became parados and parados parapet; wire had to be placed out in front of the new parapet which faced east, and gradually the ground between the enemy's front and second-line (or third according to the extent of the ground won) trenches became "No Man's Land." The old lines of trenches, the old British and German front lines, were then connected by means of communication trenches.

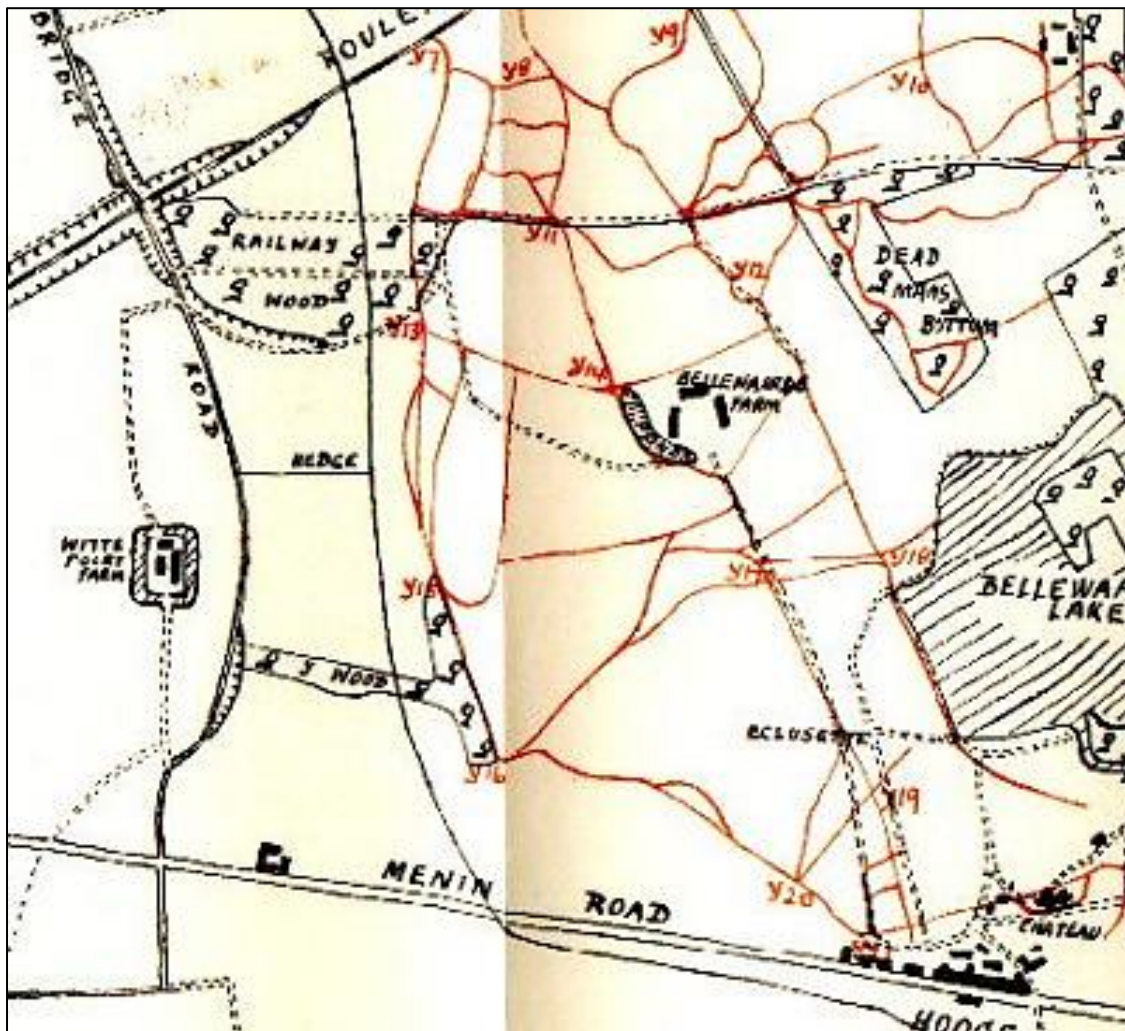
The German front line having been occupied, consolidation began, whilst troops of the 7<sup>th</sup> Brigade (who were in support) began to dig communication trenches across "No Man's Land" to the enemy's old front line.

The Lincolns and Liverpool Scottish now advanced, and crossing the first line of captured trenches, cleared the German second line without great difficulty. But now, unfortunately, the attacking troops came under the fire of their own guns.

Red and yellow screens (to be displayed on the objective lines when captured) had been supplied to the attacking troops, but they were apparently a failure, for they could not be observed by the artillery, which continued to shell the enemy positions reached by the attackers. The result was, that although the German third line was reached and troops had even got as far as the hostile trenches east of the Bellewaarde Lake, they had to withdraw, for they were losing heavily from the fire of their own guns. The whole area was also under very heavy shell-fire from the enemy's artillery, bombing attacks and counter-attacks were everywhere going on and there was a great deal of hand-to-hand fighting in which both sides lost heavily.

By about 9.30 a.m. the situation was roughly as follows: the German old front line Y.16—Y.15—Y.13 was held, and the 5<sup>th</sup> Fusiliers were still bombing their way towards Y.7 and Y.8 (part of the German second line). The Liverpool Scottish were in the captured line helping in the work of consolidation after they had to retire owing to the heavy shell-fire. And here they remained until just before midnight on 16<sup>th</sup> when they (and other units of the 9<sup>th</sup> Brigade) were relieved by troops of the 8<sup>th</sup> Brigade. The King's men then marched back to the Busseboom area.

In this affair, which resulted in the capture of about 1,000 yards of the enemy's front-line trenches, the 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion lost heavily, their casualties in officers alone being twenty-one. Of twenty-four who went into action only Lieut. Wall, Lieut. Chavasse, R.A.M.C., and Second-Lieut. Roddick came back unscathed. In other ranks the battalion had lost 379 killed, wounded and missing; the Royal Fusiliers lost a similar number. The losses in other ranks of these two battalions were the lowest in the brigade, but no battalion had lost as heavily in officers as had the King's men.<sup>1</sup>



Part of the trench map of the sector west of Bellewaarde Lake prior to 16 June 2015 – the German-held trenches are in red.

[<http://www.bellewaarde1915.co.uk/>]



Battle of Bellewaarde, 16 June 1915. The woodland, with the exploding shell, may be the northeast edge of Railway Wood and the flag (an artillery observation screen which would have been red and yellow in colour) indicates to the British Artillery the position of the front line.  
[[www.bellewaarde1915.co.uk](http://www.bellewaarde1915.co.uk)]

The role of the Liverpool Scottish at The Battle of Hooge was described also (in 1930) by Lieutenant A. M. McGilchrist, who served in the war with the Liverpool Scottish, and became the battalion's official historian:

[*The Liverpool Scottish, 1900-1919 (10<sup>th</sup> Liverpool Regiment), vol. 1*  
A.M. McGilchrist Henry Young & Sons, Ltd 1930 ]



The Battle of Hooge or, as it is now officially and more correctly named, the First Action at Bellewaarde, was a holding action to pin down enemy reserves and so assist the operations which were being carried out on the same day at Givenchy by the British and at Vimy by the French. It had as its object the capture of the enemy's system of trenches lying between the Menin Road and the Ypres-Roulers Railway. Here the German line formed a salient and their front-line trenches south from Railway Wood were on a ridge from which they had a clear view of all the country behind the British lines right down to Ypres itself. The attack, if successful, would deny to the enemy this advantage of position and would straighten out the uncomfortable re-entrant in our own line.

According to the operation orders the attack was to be in three stages. First, the Royal Fusiliers, Royal Scots Fusiliers and Northumberland Fusiliers were to assault the enemy's front line of trenches. When this line was taken the Lincolns (on the right) and the Liverpool Scottish were to go through and capture the second line from a house 100 yards south of Y 17 to Y 11, the dividing line between the battalions being a hedge 150 yards south of Railway Wood, running east from Cambridge Road, and thence the track leading to Bellewaarde Farm. Flanks during this second phase were to be secured, on the right, by the 7th Brigade, which was ordered to work up under Y 20 and the trench from that point to the second T in Eclusette and, on the left, by the Northumberland Fusiliers who were to work to Y 7 and Y 8 by bombing parties. The Royal Fusiliers and Royal Scots Fusiliers were to reorganize and support the second phase if necessary. After the capture and consolidation of the second line the three battalions which had taken the first objective were to go through again and capture the third objective, which was from the south-west corner of Bellewaarde Lake, through Y 18, Y 12 and Y 8, to Y 7.

The 7th Brigade was ordered to support the 9th Brigade closely, to occupy trenches vacated by the 9th Brigade, to dig communication-trenches linking up our trench-system with the enemy's and, after the capture of the third objective, to consolidate the line gained.

No. 3 Motor Machine-Gun Company was also to support the attack from the Menin Road.

It will be seen from the above orders that the battalions engaged were to do a double leap-frog. First the Lincolns and Liverpool Scottish were to pass through the other battalions to assault the second objective, and then the Royal Fusiliers, Royal Scots Fusiliers and Northumberland Fusiliers were to go through again and attack the third objective.

The disposition of the Liverpool Scottish for the attack was as follows:—

“X,” “Y” and “V” Companies, from right to left, attacking each with two platoons in the first wave and two in close support, and “Z” Company supporting the whole.

Every battalion drew from Brigade 400 bombs, including 150 of the Mills pattern—then a new invention—125 wire-cutters, and 10 small flags, for the bombers to indicate their positions. It was arranged that one platoon in each battalion should carry spades to help in the work of consolidation. In the Liverpool Scottish these were distributed—7 to each of the front companies and 30 to “Z,” the supporting company. The supply of bombs was hopelessly inadequate, but no more were available. The total brigade reserve amounted only to 1,200.

Each man carried 200 rounds S.A.A., an extra day's ration in addition to the emergency ration, and had two sandbags tucked through his belt. Haversacks were worn on the back, all packs being marked and stored.

A section of the 1st Cheshire Field Company, R.E., was attached to the Battalion to assist in consolidation.

The Battalion marched off from Busseboom at 4 p.m. on the 15th. The prospect of really having a go at the enemy after sitting still in the trenches for months appealed to everyone and the men were in tremendous form, singing and joking most of the way up. After a very slow march with many halts the assembly position in Cambridge Road was reached about midnight. The enemy had undoubtedly got wind of the impending attack. Indeed he could hardly have failed to notice the unusual concentration of troops in and near our trenches and also the fact that a number of new trenches had been dug behind Cambridge Road. These were to accommodate units of the 7th Brigade during the first stages of the attack. At any rate, Cambridge Road was shelled steadily with 5.9 and 8-inch shells from soon after midnight and many casualties were incurred.

Our artillery bombardment opened at 2-50 a.m. and continued until 4-15 a.m. with three pauses, at 3-10, 3-40 and 4 o'clock, to mislead the enemy as to the actual hour of the attack. After many months' experience of being shelled in trenches and knowing that our own supply of shells was so inadequate that the reply of our guns, if any, would amount to only a very small fraction of the weight of metal which the enemy was sending over it was a “sicht for sair e'en” to see the Germans for once getting the worst of the bargain. Our bombardment was very accurate and heavy enough to satisfy the most critical.

At 4-15 the three battalions detailed for the first phase got out of their trenches for the assault. Very soon there appeared at various points on the enemy's parapet screens stuck in to indicate to our gunners what portions of the position had been captured. These screens which were of canvas nailed to two poles were about six feet long by three deep and were coloured red and yellow. Each company carried six of them. They proved singularly ineffective. In the morning haze and the smoke and dust from the shelling they were not easy to see, and as, after zero hour, our artillery were not working to a time programme it happened again and again during the action that they continued to shell trenches which had been captured and not a few of the Battalion's casualties were caused by our own guns. The enemy's counter-bombardment was so heavy that the telephone lines laid by the gunner signallers who, with the Forward Observation Officers, were close up behind the attacking troops, were constantly being blown away and communication by runner was too slow and unreliable to be of much assistance. The artillery were therefore working very much in the dark—this being long before the days of creeping barrages and contact aeroplanes—and it was quite unavoidable that we should run into our own shelling.

The Lincolns and Liverpool Scottish, according to plan, as soon as they saw that the enemy's front line had been taken left their assembly position in Cambridge Road and moved forward over our front line to just short of the parapet of the enemy's front trench, where they lay down to reorganize and await the signal to go on to the second objective. In carrying out this operation “V” Company, which had to advance through Railway Wood, found that on its front the attack had been held up by machine-gun fire and that the enemy was still holding his front line. After a pause, during which they were reinforced by part of “Z” Company, the men dashed forward and carried the position, bayoneting those of the enemy who still offered resistance and taking about forty prisoners. Other parts of the front line also were still holding out and three men, Corporals W. E. Blackburne and S. Smith and Lance-Corporal A. Moir, “Y” Company, seeing a machine-gun in action bombed their way along the trench to it, capturing the gun and killing a number of the enemy. Corporal Smith for his share in this feat and for his gallant conduct throughout the day received the D.C.M.

After a wait of about 15 minutes while our artillery bombarded the second objective, the line moved on and without great difficulty, except for heavy cross machine-gun fire from the vicinity of the railway cutting at Y 6, captured the line from the pond beside Bellewaarde Farm to Y 11. This proved to be in most places a very shallow trench only two or three feet deep and was not occupied by the enemy. It would have been quite impossible to hold against a counter-attack unless there had been time to deepen and improve it considerably which, of course, there was not. Undoubtedly the best thing to do was to go straight on to the final objective, and Lieut.-Colonel E. G. Thin gave orders to this effect. He himself was wounded immediately afterwards. Most of the Battalion, with a few men of the Royal Scots Fusiliers and Northumberland Fusiliers, moved forward again, some men going over the open and some by the communication-trenches. Unfortunately a certain number of the Liverpool Scottish on reaching the second line, which they knew to be their final objective, did not go on with the rest but began to dig in where they were. These men suffered very severely from the enemy's shelling and hardly a man who remained in the second line escaped injury. In spite of lack of numbers the third line was taken and the work of consolidation started. Some men, carried away by excitement and over-keenness, went even farther and were seen pushing on towards Dead Man's Bottom but of these none got back.

For a time all went well and, as the third-line trench was a very deep and well-made one, it appeared likely that the Battalion would be able to hold what it had won, but they were a very small band who had got thus far and reinforcements were urgently needed. Messages were sent back asking for more men, and three small parties of the Liverpool Scottish managed to make their way up to the most advanced trench, followed later by a platoon of the Northumberland Fusiliers. But the enemy's shelling was very heavy, the communication-trenches

were entirely destroyed in some places and were choked with dead and wounded so that movement of troops from the rear was a matter of very great difficulty. The leap-frogging and the moving up of the supporting Brigade into trenches vacated by the 9th Brigade caused serious congestion, and units became badly mixed up with one another. Some of the Royal Irish Rifles, of the 7th Brigade—true Irishmen and unable to see a fight without joining in—actually took part in the attack and had to be collected and sent back to their correct position. In spite of this chaos, it might have been possible to hold all the third line had the section of it on the right of the Liverpool Scottish been captured but, so far as can be ascertained, the attack there had never been able to get beyond the second line and thus the Battalion's right flank was in the air.

A stubborn fight went on all morning in the network of trenches between Y 8 and Y 11. The enemy had a covered access to this part of his system from the railway-cutting, Y 5 to Y 6, and he launched counter-attack after counter-attack, sometimes over the open but mostly by bombing parties. These were all repulsed and the left flank temporarily secured. The duty of looking after this flank, as has been told, devolved upon the Northumberland Fusiliers but some of the Liverpool Scottish also took part in its defence. Two men in particular did magnificent work, Corporal Bartlett and Private W. Short, both of "V" Company. They were detailed by Captain Sandilands, of the Northumberland Fusiliers, to join one of his bombing squads which were engaged in clearing the enemy out of those parts of the trenches on the left which he was still holding. After much heavy fighting Corporal Bartlett was killed but Private Short continued to take part in alternate attack and counter-attack until well on into the afternoon. He afterwards received the D.C.M. and the French Croix de Guerre for his invaluable work.

Those of the Liverpool Scottish who had reached the final objective remained in possession for some hours. They were not seriously attacked but they broke up an attempt at a counter-attack from the northerly side of Dead Man's Bottom. They were continually under the fire of machine-guns from the railway cutting between Y 5 and Y 6, which were able to enfilade parts of the trench they were holding, and a number of men were hit. About noon, bodies of the enemy were seen emerging from the south end of Dead Man's Bottom and moving across towards the trenches about Y 18. To counter this threat to the right flank of the position Captain W. J. H. Renison organized a defensive flank in the communication-trench immediately north of Bellewaarde Farm. About the same time an enveloping movement by the enemy developed on the left flank and it was also noticed that the British troops on the right were retiring from the second German line. Threatened on both flanks, the troops in the third objective were now in an impossible position and a general retirement was ordered to the second line, where a stand was made for a short time. The enemy, however, had already re-occupied his second line of trenches south of Bellewaarde Farm and his bombing parties could be seen and heard working their way northwards. The Scottish by this time had used up every bomb they had and were forced to continue the withdrawal to the German first-line trenches.

One incident during the retirement must be recorded. Captain Dickinson, O.C. "X" Company, was lying severely wounded in the second line, just beside the small pond in front of Bellewaarde Farm, and his wounds were of such a nature that it was impossible to get him away. With him were twelve or fifteen of the Battalion, nearly all wounded. When the Germans were observed bombing up the trench these men, although they had no bombs left, determined not to leave Captain Dickinson but to fight it out where they were. It was only when directly ordered by him to retire that they did so and by that time the enemy were practically on top of them. All were hit and only one or two succeeded in getting back to the first line of trenches.

During the afternoon a fresh attack on the German second line was launched by units of the 7th Brigade but only a few men were able to reach the enemy's trenches, where they were soon overpowered, and it was then decided to consolidate the first line.

The German shelling which had been severe throughout the day reached its height between 7 and 8-30 p.m. During that time it is estimated that 100 shells per minute fell on the Brigade front. The enemy made desperate efforts to recapture his front line but all his attacks were repulsed, the Liverpool Scottish doing their full share in beating them off, and when, about 11-30 p.m., the 8th Brigade relieved the 7th and 9th Brigades the whole of the German front-line system of trenches was

handed over intact. Not a little of the credit for the successful holding of the German front-line must be given to Company-Serjeant-Major W. G. Flint who, when all the officers in his vicinity had become casualties, organized the defence of the line with great skill.

The British attack had not yielded all the results hoped for but it had none the less been of decided value, although the casualties were out of all proportion to the visible gains and were certainly far in excess of those of the enemy. The two main objects of the attack—the pinning down of the enemy's reserves and the capture of the ridge occupied by him—had been attained and the action must therefore be written down a successful one. A legitimate question is, however, was not the success too dearly won? So far as the Liverpool Scottish are concerned that question is difficult to answer. Judged by material results there is no doubt that their losses were not justified, but those who fell won for the Battalion, by their gallant conduct in the attack and their still more gallant deaths, a glorious name and established a tradition which those who came after were proud to remember and uphold. The Liverpool Scottish had fully held their own in a Brigade justly famous for its fighting qualities. They—with a few of the Royal Scots Fusiliers and Northumberland Fusiliers—were the only troops who reached the final objective and they did not withdraw from their advanced and isolated position until forced to do so by circumstances beyond their control. Of 28 officers and 519 other ranks who went into action only 2 officers—Lieutenant L. G. Wall and 2nd-Lieutenant T. G. Roddick, the latter suffering from concussion—and 140 men came through untouched and, as most of the casualties occurred in or near the second German line, the proportion of killed and missing was abnormally high.

In detail the casualties were:—4 Officers and 75 other ranks killed; 11 Officers and 201 other ranks wounded; 6 Officers and 103 other ranks missing. Of the missing all the officers and—with a very few exceptions—all the men were subsequently reported killed. The Liverpool Scottish had practically ceased to exist but they had definitely proved themselves as a fighting unit and set the seal to their previous record in the Brigade.

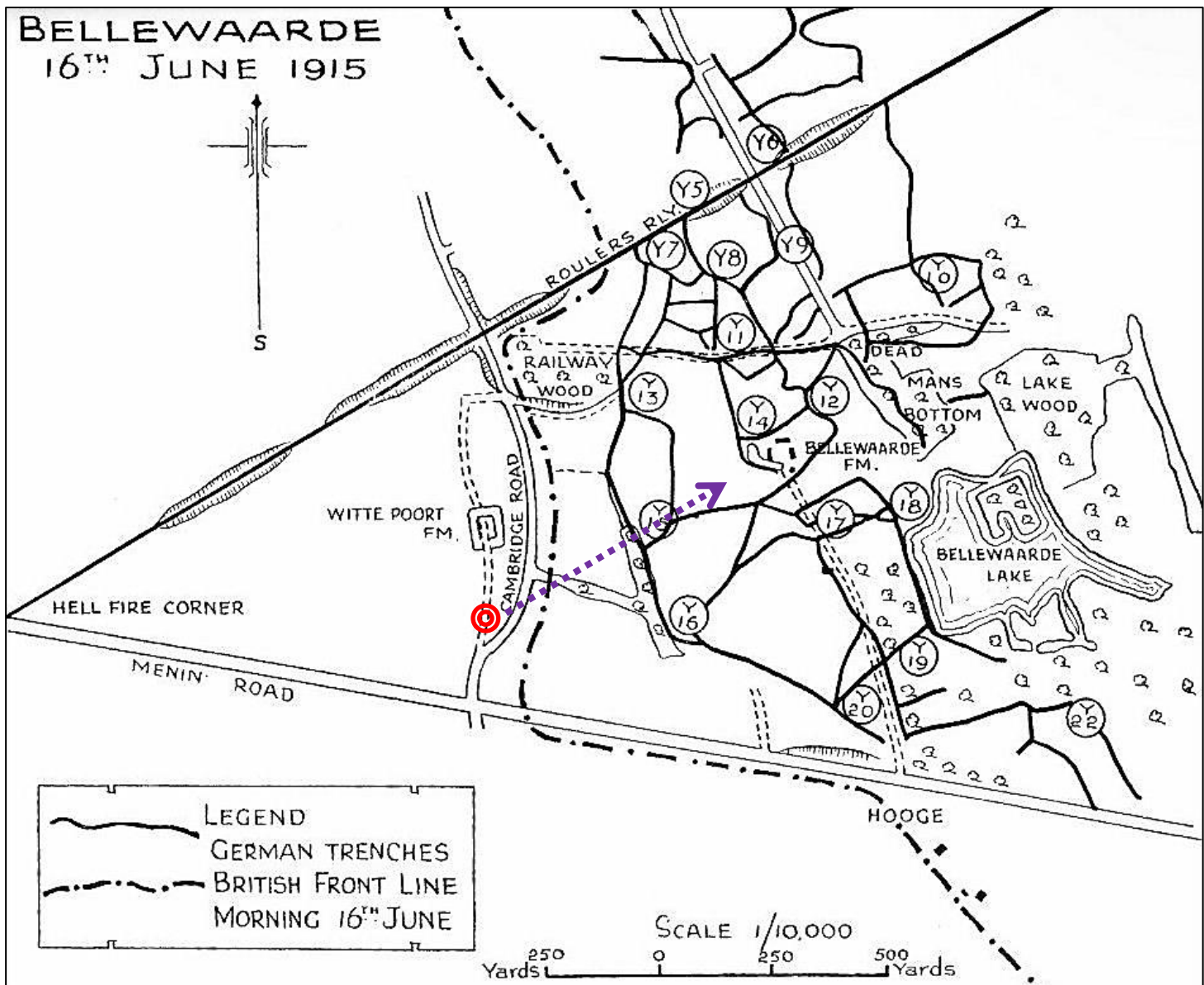
One section merits special mention for its behaviour during and after the action—the Battalion stretcher-bearers. They had done splendid work during the attack itself, they remained in the line after the Battalion was relieved, and on the night of the 16th and the succeeding night they continued to carry out their duties until they were satisfied that every wounded man had been brought in. An inspiring example was set them by the Medical Officer, Lieutenant N. G. Chavasse, to whose untiring efforts in personally searching the ground between our line and the enemy's many of the wounded owed their lives. Lieutenant Chavasse received the Military Cross, and one of the stretcher-bearers, Private F. F. Bell, the D.C.M. in recognition of their gallantry.

After the return of the Battalion to camp at Busseboom, Brigade Headquarters asked for a list of those recommended for decoration or mention and this was sent. This list is believed to have been destroyed by a fire which broke out in Brigade Headquarters. At any rate it never reached Division, and by the time its loss was discovered and a fresh list called for and sent in all the decorations allotted for the action had been apportioned to the various units. Thus no member of the Liverpool Scottish was decorated on the recommendation of his own unit. The three men who received the D.C.M. all did so on the recommendation of the Commanding-Officers of other units. Ten men were, however, awarded the Military Medal in 1916 in recognition of their conspicuous gallantry at Hooge—Serjeants J. Briggs, W. Sloss and P. J. Thomson, Lance-Corporals A. F. Foden and J. M. Tomkinson, and Privates B. G. Barnshaw, J. C. Darroch, W. Fitton, J. R. Pollock and D. Williams.

The following entirely gratuitous commentary on the Liverpool Scottish in the attack by an impartial observer is perhaps worth recording.

The present writer's father, soon after the action, happened to get into conversation with a Gordon Highlander in the train from Euston to the North. The Gordon, who was obviously just home on leave from the front, had no idea that his fellow-traveller was in any way connected with the Liverpool Scottish or even with Liverpool. On being asked from what part of the line he had come, he replied: "I've come from Wipers, Sir. My division has just been over the top at Hooge. We were in reserve close behind and I saw the finest sight I'll ever see. I saw the Liverpool Scottish make their attack and they went over just as if they were on parade."

# BELLEWAARDE 16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 1915

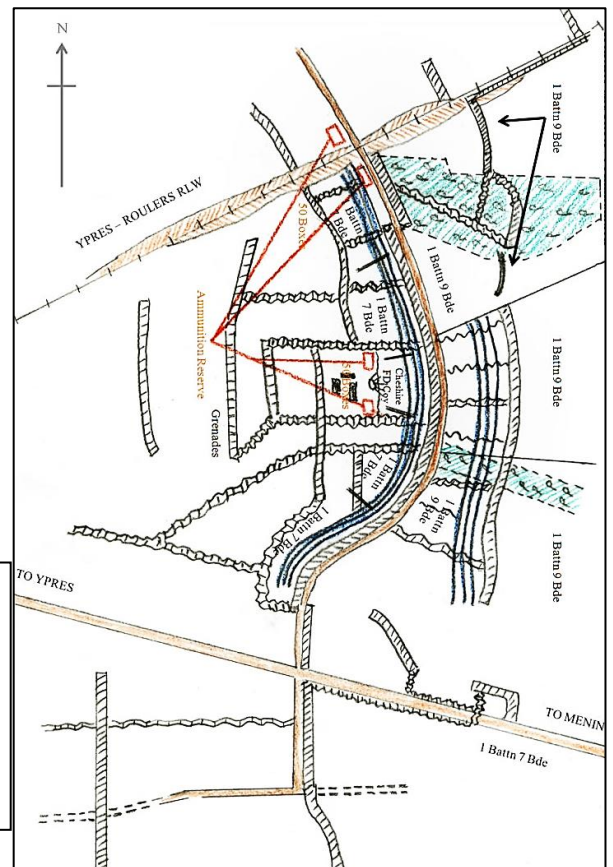


The location of the Assembly Trenches of the 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion The King's (Liverpool) Regiment immediately before The Battle of Bellewaarde is shown in red and their subsequent line of advance, uphill towards Bellewaarde Farm, is depicted in purple. Also in the vicinity of this assembly position were the locations of the Cheshire Field Company Royal Engineers and the Lincolnshire Regiment. These units formed the Second Line, the First Line units being assembled further to the east.

[<http://www.bellewaarde1915.co.uk/>]

This sketch map, showing the western sector of the larger map above, shows the allocation of Assembly Trenches and ammunition dumps (each of 50 boxes) in the vicinity of Cambridge Road.

[<http://www.bellewaarde1915.co.uk/>]





### Mr. Harvey S. Gillanders

Information was received yesterday morning at the branch office of the Bank of England in Liverpool of the death in the Scots' charge of Mr. Harvey S. Gillanders, whose father for many years held one of the senior positions at the Bank, but retired some years ago.

When the Scottish Battalion of the King's Liverpool Regiment was first formed in Liverpool, "Gilly," as he was familiarly known to his friends, was one of the earliest to be enrolled, and he was numbered in the first hundred. A native of Black Isle, near Inverness, he was a true Scot, and he assisted in the growth and progress of the Liverpool Scottish with keen enthusiasm. Soldierly in bearing and spirit he devoted his spare time willingly to the work of the battalion. He became one of the crack shots, and performed his various regimental duties with such zest that he was steadily promoted to colour-sergeant, and he was senior in this position when the battalion went to the front. Only ten days ago he was promoted to the Battalion Sergeant-Major, and, indeed, declined a commission in another regiment in order to stay with his own.

[*Evening Express* - 22 June 1917]

### GALLANT COMRADE AND FRIEND

A very sympathetic letter has been received by Mr. Gillanders, of Blundellsands, the father of Sergeant-Major Harvey S. Gillanders, of the Liverpool Scottish, who was killed in action near Ypres on June 16th. Colour-Sergeant-Major W.S. Flint writes:-

"Our battalion took four lines of German trenches with the utmost gallantry, and poor Harvey fell while he and I were examining a communication trench leading to the fourth line under machine-gun fire.

"It is perhaps some poor consolation to you in your sore bereavement to know that he died bravely in the course of his duty to his King and country. I, who have been associated with him for the past 14 years in all the work of the battalion, have to mourn the loss of a gallant comrade and a true friend in every sense of the word.

"Our battalion has suffered an irreparable loss by his removal, and I wish to express on behalf of myself and the surviving members of the sergeants' mess our sincere sympathy with you in your sore trial"

[*Evening Express* – 1 July 1917]



<i>See. Henry. T. (Identical)</i>			
NAME.	Corps.	Rank.	Regt. No.
	<i>L'pool. R.</i>	<i>q/w.o. II</i>	<i>85.</i>
<b>GILLANDERS</b>			
<b>H. S.</b>			
Medal.	Roll.	Page.	Remarks. <i>K in F.</i>
VICTORY	<i>H/2/102<sup>B</sup></i>	<i>3.</i>	
BRITISH	<i>do</i>		
<i>14 STAR</i>	<i>H/2/1</i>	<i>26.</i>	
Theatre of War first served in			
Date of entry therein			

British Army WWI Medal Rolls Index Cards, 1914-1920

Harvey Sisson Gillanders [*Evening Express* - 1 July 1917]  
 See also:  
<http://www.merseysiderollofhonour.co.uk/get2.php?cwgc=930895>

The newspapers reported that Harvey spent the whole of his business life in the service of Messrs. Rathbone Brothers and Co., merchants and bankers, Liver Buildings, where he was head bookkeeper.

Harvey Sisson Gillanders is commemorated also on a brass wall plaque below the three stained glass memorial windows in St. Nicholas Church, Blundellsands.



Harvey Sissons Gillanders is commemorated also on the Crosby and Blundellsands Civic Memorial [Merseyside Roll of Honour]



**BRAVO, SCOTS!**

—

**ANOTHER TRIBUTE FROM THE FRONT.**

—

Writing to the "Football Echo" swimming correspondent, "Leander," Corporal Walter Thompson, of the R.A.M.C., says:—

"I had a walk through the town near to where the Liverpool Scottish made their famous charge. It was a veritable sight for the gods. I didn't see a single house left intact, and the only life astir were four 'regular' kilties, two military police, two stray cats, and a flight of pigeons. One of my billets has been almost destroyed by a shell. Fortunately no one was hit, as the six telephonists had just removed an old lady living there. She wouldn't be shifted, and has gone back again.

"A friend of mine in the Scottish was telling me of the famous charge, and men-

*Liverpool Echo - Tuesday 6 July 1915*

tioned that Company-Sergeant-Major Harvey Gillanders was killed. It was like a shot to me. The words rang in my ears. I could hardly believe it, and for the first time since I came out here I lay awake at night turning it over in my mind. Harvey Gillanders was a gallant Scot—a soldier and a man. We had a rare time together in the Easter tour of the Liverpool Scottish Football Club last year in the Isle of Man.

"His generosity knew no bounds. How keen he was to make himself an efficient shot, and I have recollections of pleasant times spent with him at Altcar; and how hard he worked for the welfare of his regiment. I asked him 'out here somewhere' why he didn't put in for a commission, and his answer was, 'I would rather be with the boys.' Yes, he was intensely human, and the boys knew it. I met him outside his billet at W— immediately after his return from the trenches talking to Major A. Stewart Anderson (since 16th June reported 'missing, and believed killed'). Sergeant-major Don Farmer, V.C., who is a few miles away, wrote me: 'Poor Gilie is amongst the killed—one of the best. We have lost some of the best Liverpool blood. I hear that the battalion did magnificently, and no others could possibly have done better. Everyone here says, 'Bravo! Liverpool Scottish! Liverpool will be proud of you.'"

It is believed that Harvey's father, George, died in West Derby in late 1924 aged 87 and his mother, Anna, died in early 1926 aged 83.

Gertrude Anna Gillanders, the eldest child of the family, married Alfred Edmund Parkinson at St Nicholas' Church, Blundellsands, in late 1923 when she would have been about 51.

At the time of the 1939 Register they were living at 51 Litherland Park, Litherland, north of Liverpool:

Alfred E Parkinson	born 23 May 1866	cotton salesman, retired
Gertrude A	born 29 October 1873	

Gertrude Parkinson died, aged 81, at 7 Beech Lawn, Waterloo, Crosby (possibly a Nursing Home), on 5 January 1954; her Effects of £377 14s 2d (equivalent to a purchasing power of about £9500 in 2018) were to Alfred who was described as a retired shipping clerk.

Alfred Parkinson died, aged 90, in the Crosby district on 26 July 1956. Alfred's Effects of £13,536 would be equivalent to a purchasing power of around £320,000 in 2018:

**PARKINSON** Alfred Edmund of 51 Litherland-park Litherland **Liverpool 21** died 26 July 1956 Probate **Liverpool 4** December to Francis Ludford Dudley Davis solicitor and Robert Edward Hugill solicitors cashier. Effects £13536 10s. 8d.

George Bell Gillanders emigrated to Canada and, it is believed, may have served with the Canadian military during the early part of WW1 although no service documents have been located. However, George had returned to Britain by mid-1917 when he married Catherine Vermey in the Fulham district of London. It is believed that they had no children.

In the 1939 Register George and Catherine were living at "Greenridges" Woodside Road, Hampreston, Dorset:

George B Gillanders	born 8 June 1874	retired Canadian person
Catherine	born 15 February 1888	

George died on 1 August 1940 and left £488 to Catherine; this has the equivalent of a purchasing power of approximately £25,330 in 2018.

**GILLANDERS** George Bell of Greenridges Woodside-road Ferndown **Dorsetshire** died 1 August 1940 Probate **Llandudno 23** October to Catherine Gillanders widow. Effects £488 2s. 1d.

Catherine continued to live at the same address and, when she died on 25 February 1957, left Effects to the value of £5356; this would have the purchasing power of £122,300 in 2018:

**GILLANDERS** Catherine of Green Ridges Woodside-road Ferndown **Dorsetshire** widow died 25 February 1957 Probate **London 24** April to Lloyds Bank Limited. Effects £5356 2s. 3d.

Alistair Robert Gillanders (his registered name was Alexander) worked for the Bank of England in London and he died in Crosby in early 1941 aged 64.

Alexander married Rosalie Irene Groom in the Wisbech district of Cambridgeshire in mid-1911 and it is believed that they had two children, both registered in Birkenhead: Leslie Harvey (Wallasey, registered mid-1914) and Mary Rosalie (Wallasey, registered early 1917). It is known that Leslie married Brenda Payne in the March district of Cambridgeshire in late 1948.

In the 1939 Register the family was living at 28 Harlech Road, Crosby:

Alexander R Gillanders	born 12 April 1876		bank teller
Rosalie I	born 23 July 1887		
Mary R	born 7 March 1917	single	wine & spirits
Louisa Pennington	born 2 November 1904	single	domestic servant

Mary married Reginald H B Johnston in the Crosby district on 26 June 1947.

Alexander died, aged 63, on 10 February 1941 at a Nursing Home in Waterloo, Liverpool. In his Will he left £695 to Rosalie, equivalent to a purchasing power of £31,470 in 1918:

**GILLANDERS** Alexander Robert of 28 Harlech-road Blundellsands Lancashire died 10 February 1941 at Park House Nursing Home Park House Waterloo Liverpool Probate **Liverpool** 29 April to Rosalie Irene Gillanders widow. Effects £695 12s. 7d.

Rosalie died in the Crosby district on 23 May 1972 and left £15,028, a sum equivalent to a purchasing power of about £210,000 in 2018:

**GILLANDERS** Rosalie Irene of 28 Harlech Rd Blundellsands Lancs died 23 May 1972 Probate Liverpool 14 August. £15028.

[Details of Wills and Probate from <https://probatesearch.service.gov.uk/>]

It is significant that Harvey Sisson Gillanders died on the same date, and in the same conflict, as **93: James Edward Anderson**. See this entry for additional details of The Battle of Bellewaarde.