

WEST SUSSEX COUNTY TIMES

SATURDAY 24TH JULY 1920

WEST GRINSTEAD WAR MEMORIAL

UNVEILING BY EARL WINTERTON, M.P.

Great interest was evinced on Sunday afternoon in the unveiling of the war memorial for the large parish of West Grinstead. Fortunately the weather was fine and there was a large attendance from a wide area. The memorial, which stands just off the road at Jolesfield, is 11ft. 6in. in height. The base is of stone dug locally. The pedestal, 5ft. square, tapers to a height of 6ft., and is surmounted by a cross 5ft. 6in. high. The whole is rock faced and on the base are four white stone plates. The one facing the road bears in black lettering the inscription: "This Cross was placed here by the Comrades of the Great War, West Grinstead Branch, in proud and grateful memory of fifty-four fighting men from West Grinstead, Dial post, Littleworth and Partridge Green, who died for England 1914-1918. Their memory liveth for evermore." The two side plates contain the names of the fallen and the rear one bears the lines "Lord God of Hosts be with us yet, Lest we Forget – lest we forget."

Sunday's proceedings opened with a service at 3 p.m., commencing with the hymn "O God, our help," followed by Responses and a Lesson from Wisdom iii, I, 6. The Rector of West Grinstead (Rev. Canon Irton Smith, M.A.) conducted and was assisted by the Curate-in-Charge of Partridge Green (Rev. W. H. Carpenter). The Roll of Honour was read out, and after responses and a prayer, hymn 437, "For all the Saints," was sung.

Earl Winterton, M.P. for the Horsham and Worthing Division, then unveiled the cross by removing the Union Jack. In doing so his lordship said he wished everyone to remember all who had died not only in the past war but in all previous wars on the country's behalf. The Rector then offered two dedicatory prayers: and in a short but appropriate address Earl Winterton expressed thanks to the Comrades of the West Grinstead Branch for the great honour bestowed upon him in asking him to perform the ceremony. Everyone, he said, had a feeling of tremendous gratitude towards all who died to give England peace and security. There was not another country in the world where men and women were so willing to come forward to sacrifice their all.

After the hymn, "Through the night of doubt and sorrow," the Blessing was pronounced by the Rector. The "Last Post" was sounded by two trumpeters of the R.F.A., and the National Anthem concluded an impressive ceremony.

A magnificent wreath, measuring 4ft. 6in. was placed upon the cross from the Comrades. The base of the memorial (the work of Mr Fred Scrase of 41b Brighton-road, Horsham) was shortly afterwards covered with floral tributes.

The Roll of Honour comprises the following: Bt. Lt.-Col. A.H. DuBoulay, D.S.O., Capt. H.P. Bennett., Capt. P. E. Bradney., Lt. R.J.B. Frank, Lt. L. McC. John and Lt. J. P. Hornung, M.C., 2nd Lt. H. V. Woodford, 1st Cl. P.O. H. Golds, C.S.M. E. Venn, Sgt. G. Capelin, Sgt. H. J. Tosh, Cpl. G. E. Edwards, Cpl. A. Millham, L.Cpl. W. Philpott, L.Cpl. W. H. Child, Pte. J. Barnett, Trp. W. Barnett, Privates B Cheesmen, E. Comber, C. Coote, F. Coote, E. J. Davey, O. Eade, E. C. Eldridge, J. Fairs, T. H. Fairs, T. Furnage, E. H. Haycock, 2nd A.M. C. J. Hoadley, Pte. G. Jenkins, Rfn. A. Kempshall, Privates W. B. Kensett, W. Lucas, H. May, W. R. K. Millham, M.M., F. P. Murrell, H. L. Norman, E. Ockenden, F. Ockenden, A. Patching, A. Preston, J. H. Pullen, P. Roberts, A. Sayers, D. Sayers, Grs, C. Stickles, L. Turrell, Privates A. G. Tasker, A. V. Tasker, A. P. Thorns, M. Venn, E. G. Walker, W. C. Walker, J. Warnett and F. J. Watts.
