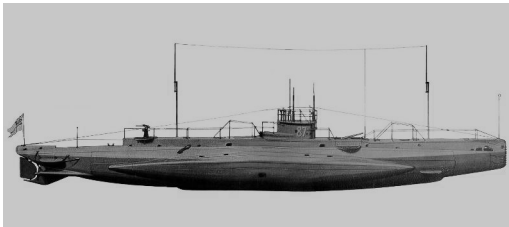


COMMEMORATING THE DEATH OF
CHARLES LAKE



Who died on 22nd August 1916
while serving aboard
H.M.Submarine E 16
in the North Sea



Dawlish World War One Project 1914-18 /2014-18
Funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and
Dawlish Town Council



Welcome to this Act of Commemoration.

Dawlish Town Council and Churches Together in Dawlish and District are commemorating the death in the service of the nation of every Dawlish person who was killed as a result of enemy action during the First World War.

Today we remember the death of Charles Lake who volunteered for action and died on 22nd August 1916.

After the First World War, it was decided that a single town War Memorial would be erected close to the parish church, and no church would have its own War Memorial. In keeping with this decision, these Acts of Commemoration take place in the town centre churches without regard to the denomination of the person they commemorate and they are led by a minister or pastor of the host church. The same Order of Service is used at each service.

There will be opportunity to talk to the leader of the service afterwards when light refreshments will be served.

Please join in the words which are in **heavy type**.

You are invited to take a reproduction of St John's Gospel which was given to every service person during the First World War.

Churches Together in Dawlish & District
28 High Street,
Dawlish, EX7 9HP

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Introduction

We have gathered today as part of our commemoration of those Dawlish people who were caught up in the courageous but tragic events of the First World War.

We remember those who were killed in action,
those who were maimed and those whose minds were disfigured
by conflict.
the bereaved and the lost and those who lived in darkness,
the families which were shattered,
and all who held in silence the unspeakable memories of warfare.

In particular today on the 100th anniversary of his death we remember Charles Lake who died in the Submarine E 16 in the service of his country.

Prayer

Almighty God, the Lord of all,
today we pause to remember with gratitude
the life and death of Charles Lake
knowing that he was, is and always will be
known and loved by you.

We thank you for his willingness to fight for our country
even if necessary to the point of death.

And today we remember his family and friends
who grieved at his death
and whose lives were never the same.

Amen.

We hear about the life and death of Charles Lake.

Reading Romans 8:31-39

What, then, shall we say? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all — how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord

please stand

A prayer of Commemoration

We remember before God Charles Lake

Lord, have mercy

Today we commit Charles Lake to the love of God

We give thanks for his life, and grieve at his death

May he rest in peace

and rise In glory.

He shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;

age shall not weary him, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning,

we will remember him.

We will remember him.

A candle may be lit or a bouquet may be placed before the pieta.

A time of silence

We remain standing

The Commitment to all those who died in the service of the nation.

Lord God, Father of all,
in thankfulness for Charles Lake
and in his memory
we pledge ourselves
to bring comfort to the sad, the lonely and the distressed;
to bring relief to all who are in need
and to serve you and to work for peace.
Keep us ever mindful of the struggles
and achievements of former generations
and so make us grateful
now and in the days to come.
Amen

O Lord, our maker and our strength,
from whose love in Christ we can never be parted
either by death or life:
Look in mercy on those for whom we pray this day,
and grant us your protection and peace,
that we may be saved in body and soul,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

As we ask for deliverance from the forces of destruction
and for peace in our time and In our lives
we pray together:

**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.**

The Blessing

God grant to the living grace,
to the departed rest,
to the Church, the Queen,
the Commonwealth and all the world
peace and concord:

The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you;
the Lord turn his face toward you
and give you peace.

Amen.

Charles Lake was the youngest child of James Lake (1836-1914), born in Sandford, who married Ann Cleave (1838-1892). James was an agricultural labourer when they lived in Crediton where Charles was born on the 25 April 1884.

Charles joined the Royal Navy as a Boy Seaman on 28th September 1899 and on reaching the age of 18 on 25 April 1902, became an Ordinary Seaman and signed on for 12 years service. He was based in Devonport. He married Mary Ann Cundy (1882-) of Dawlish in 1906, in Devonport. Mary Ann was the daughter of Richard and Hannah Cundy. Richard was a builder and they lived at 3 King Street, Dawlish.

Charles and Mary Ann had three children, all born in Dawlish; Frank (1907-), Joyce (1909-1984), and Leonard (1912-1913).

In the 1911 census Mary Ann Lake was living with her widowed mother, Hannah Cundy, at 8 King Street, with her first two children, Walter Lake, her brother-in-law, and two Cundy grandchildren of Hannah. **Charles** was recorded staying with a relative, George Thomas Trewin at 99 Victory St, Keyham, Devonport while he was on the books of H.M.S.VIVID, the Devonport Naval Barracks.

Charles was rated Leading Seaman in April 1912 and then Petty Officer in May 1913. On concluding his first 12 years service, he signed on again on 6 April 1914 .

In September 1915 he was posted to H.M.S.ARROGANT, acting as Depot ship to the 4th Submarine Flotilla at Dover, and in November 1915 he went on to H.M.S.MAIDSTONE, a submarine depot ship at Harwich. His character was shown as VG (very good) throughout his naval service.

Submarine E 16 was commissioned on 27 February 1915 and sank U-boat U6 off Stavanger, Norway on 15 September 1915. E 16 was based at Harwich and was one of 33 submarines there.

Harwich was an important naval base for control of the southern North Sea and the entrance to the English Channel. Following the Battle of Jutland, the command of approaches to the German naval base at Wilhelmshaven assumed greater importance. However, the shallow waters of the North Sea made it possible to lay minefields as a deterrent to enemy shipping and it appears likely that submarine E 16 hit a mine in an unrecorded minefield in the Heligoland Bight and sank off the German Coast. There were no survivors.

The wreck has lately been recorded and is a protected war grave.

North Sea

Dawn on the drab North Sea! -
colourless, cold and depressing,
with the sun that we long to see
refraining from his blessing.
To the westward -sombre as doom:
to the eastward – grey and foreboding.
Comes a low, vibrating boom -
the sound of a mine exploding.

Day on the drear North Sea! -
wearisome, drab and relentless.
The low clouds swiftly flee;
bitter the sky and relentless.
Nothing at all in sight
save the mast of a sunken trawler,
fighting her long, last fight
with the waves that mouth and maul her.

Gale on the bleak North Sea! -
howling a dirge in the rigging.
Slowly and toilfully
through the great, grey breakers digging,
thus we make our way,
hungry, wet and weary,
soaked with the sleet and spray,
desolate, damp and dreary.

Death on the wild North Sea! -
death from the shell that shatters
(death we will face with glee,
'tis the weary wait that matters): -
death from the guns that roar,
and the splinters weirdly shrieking.
'Tis a fight to the death: 'tis war;
and the North Sea is redly reeking.

Jeffrey Day (1896-1918) died as a pilot with the Royal Naval Air Service.