

COMMEMORATING THE DEATH OF

**Walter Lennox Andrews**

Private, Household Cavalry, 20<sup>th</sup> Hussars



W. ANDREWS, labourer,  
Engineering Department,  
Dawlish.

Who died in France on 23 March, 1918, aged 29



Dawlish World War One Project 1914-18 /2014-18

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Dawlish Town Council

[www.dawlishww1.org.uk](http://www.dawlishww1.org.uk)



## 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 Walter Lennox Andrews who volunteered for action but was killed on 23 March 1918 .

After the First World War, it was decided in Dawlish 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. When we remember men listed on the War Memorials in St. Mary's Cofton or St. George's Holcombe, the service is held in the appropriate village church.

There will be opportunity to talk to the leader of the service afterwards. You are invited to take a reproduction of St John's Gospel which was given to every service person during the First World War.

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

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 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death we remember  
Walter Lennox Andrews who died in action while 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 Walter Lennox Andrews  
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 Walter Lennox Andrews

**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, Walter Lennox Andrews  
**Lord, have mercy**

Today we commit Walter Lennox Andrews 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 Walter Lennox Andrews  
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,  
and 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.**

## Walter Lennox Andrews

Born Dawlish 2 April 1888  
Private, Service No: 2643

Died 23 March, 1918, aged 29  
Household Cavalry, 20<sup>th</sup> Hussars

**Walter Lennox Andrews** was the youngest son of William Henry (1847-1896) and Maria (nee Grant) Andrews (1854- ). William Henry Andrews was born in South Brent. He was the son of John Andrews (1823-1859) and Sarah Maunder (1826-1883).

William became a boot and shoe maker and was set up at 9 Brook Street, Dawlish in 1871. He had nine children from two marriages, first to Caroline Elizabeth Chown. She was born in Exminster in 1846. In 1871 Caroline was a general servant to a household at 8 Marine Parade, Dawlish. She married William H Andrews in 1872 and they had three children. Caroline Elizabeth Andrews died in the early summer of 1879.

William H Andrews married again in early 1880 to Maria Grant and in the following year's census are four children. By 1891 the remaining children had been born and the family were at 2 Princes Street, Dawlish. Their father, William Henry Andrews died in 1896.

In 1901, their mother, Maria Andrews, was a patient in Dawlish Cottage Hospital and her occupation was shown as laundress. The children were in the care of Bessie Florence Andrews, now 18, at 24 Chapel Street. The younger children, **Walter**, Lily, Olive and Ethelwyn were still at school.

**Walter Andrews** became a labourer in the Engineering Dept, Dawlish station. He is recorded on the GWR Roll of Honour War Memorial.

It is not known when **Walter Andrews** enlisted and became a Private in the Household Cavalry, 20<sup>th</sup> Hussars.

The Household Cavalry, 20<sup>th</sup> Hussars regiment was based in Colchester at the start of the First World War and landed in France as part of the 5<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Brigade in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Cavalry Division in August 1914. It went on to fight at the First Battle of Ypres in October 1914, the Battle of Arras in April 1917 and the Battle of Cambrai in November 1917. It later took part in defending the German Spring Offensive in 1918 when **Walter Andrews** lost his life.

The 1918 **Spring Offensive** , also known as the **Ludendorff Offensive**, was a series of German attacks along the Western Front, beginning on 21st March 1918, which marked the deepest advances by either side since 1914. The Germans had realised that their only remaining chance of victory was to defeat the Allies before the overwhelming human and material resources of the United States could be fully deployed. They also had the temporary advantage in numbers afforded by the nearly 50 divisions freed by the Russian surrender (the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk).

The Germans were unable to move supplies and reinforcements fast enough to maintain their advance. The German offensives petered out, in part through lack of supplies. By late April 1918, the danger of a German breakthrough had passed.

‘At 3am on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March an assessment placed some enemy in JUSSY, and some dispersal of available troops was made. At 6am infantry reported JUSSY clear of enemy after a small counter-attack. There had been, “very heavy trench mortar bombardment all night and morning and by 8am enemy reached line of railway south of JUSSY. At the same time enemy reported to have broken through on the right in direction of MENNESSIS.”

At 11.30am a small force was sent to stop troops retiring under fire and the “43rd Inf Bde H.Q. and the 5<sup>th</sup> Cav Bde H.Q. were moved back to a line south of DETROIT BLEU at 12 noon.” This lies south-west of JUSSY. The small force was about to mount a counter-attack on the right flank when the enemy “were seen pouring round the left flank.” The line of the FLAVY-LE-MARTEL to FAILLOUEL road was held for a further two hours before retiring to FAILLOUEL. About 3pm enemy were still pouring round left so retired to edge of large wood to S.W. of FAILLOUEL.’

Arrived 7pm and billeted for night behind infantry at LA NEUVILLE. There has been a thick fog up to about midday on all days since attack commenced.’

*Casualties on the 23<sup>rd</sup> were 1 Officer killed in action, 1 Officer Died of Wounds, 1 Officer Wounded in Action, 4 Other Ranks killed in action, 31 O.R. wounded, 16 O.R. Missing.*

There is no means of knowing how **Walter Andrews** lost his life on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1918.