

Military connections

A self-guided trail around the
Rosary Cemetery, Norwich



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This trail has been produced by the Thorpe Hamlet History Group and the Friends of the Rosary Cemetery. It visits memorials of interest that have military connections.

Users are asked to be aware that the cemetery is still in use as a cemetery, that dogs are not allowed and that the cemetery is closed at night. Some of the paths have uneven surfaces and there are some steps on the route. The leaflet has been funded by the Military Covenant Fund. In the description of the trail 'FRC' is used for an information panel provided by the Friends of the Rosary Cemetery: 'CWGC' for a memorial provided by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

(www.cwgc.org).

The Rosary Cemetery

The Rosary Cemetery, which celebrated its 200th anniversary recently, was the first non-denominational cemetery in England. Its historical importance is recognized by having Grade II* listing from Historic England as a nationally-important park or garden, and it also has important functions as a peaceful open space and a haven for wildlife.

Military connections

The cemetery is rich in its military connections. There are 31 Commonwealth War Graves Commission memorials, as well as numerous other tombs and memorials to those who served in the military, principally in the First and Second World Wars, but also in other conflicts. There is even a memorial to a sailor

awarded a medal for his part in a naval battle in 1794.

The cemetery has an additional military connection in that the upper part, where many of the WWII memorials are to be found, became part of the cemetery only in 1924. In WWI the land was used as a training ground in trench warfare for soldiers from the nearby barracks.

The WWII memorials are not just to those who served in the armed forces, but also include civilian casualties from the many air raids on Norwich during the war.

A Guide to the Rosary Cemetery, Norwich published by the Friends of the Rosary Cemetery contains a full listing of military burials and commemorations in the cemetery.

Maps use Ordnance Survey data Crown Copyright and database right 2021.

Location

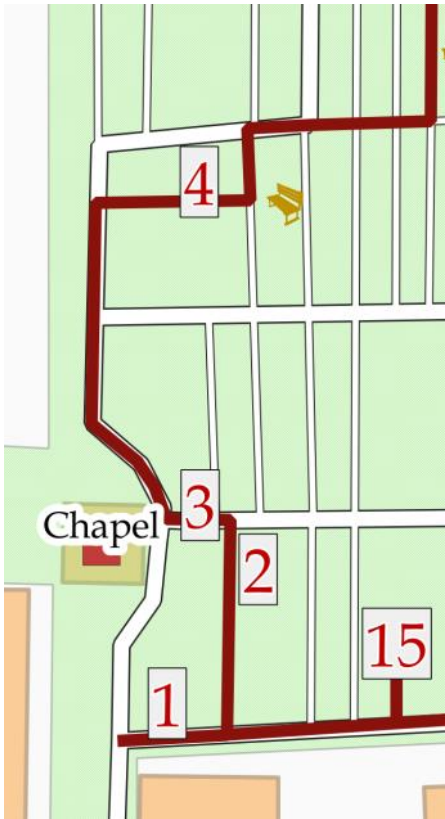
Norwich railway station is five minutes walk down Thorpe Road from the Rosary Road entrance. Buses serve the railway station and some also stop on Thorpe Road near the Rosary Road junction. Two-hour parking zones are by the Telegraph Lane East entrance and on Stracey Road. These time restrictions apply Monday to Saturday 8am to 6.30pm. Postcode for the Rosary Road entrance is NR1 4DA.





Map of the Trail





1 *Start at the top of the entrance road from Rosary Road. Facing you is a column (Beverley family) and to the right the Armes memorial.*

Born in Norwich, MICHAEL BEVERLEY MM was in the Australian Infantry when he was killed in 1918 on the Western Front. BERTRAM ARMES served in the Norfolk Regiment and died in 1917.



2 *To your right, and set back, is a marble obelisk. On its left is the Garrod memorial.*

George Garrod had served on the Western Front but was killed in an air raid on Felixstowe in 1917.

LOVING

MEMORY

P.L. GEORGE JEREMAH GARROD,

3RD BEDFORDSHIRE R.G.

THE DEARLY BELOVED HUSBAND OF

LILY AGNES GARROD.

KILLED BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT AT FELIXSTOWE

JAN 22ND 1915,

AGED 23 YEARS.

HE HAD ALSO SERVED WITH HIS BATTALION IN FRANCE.

FAREWELL TO THE DEARLY BELOVED DEAR,
LIVE SO IN LIFE, YOUR HEART TO ME TILL,
YOU IN REFINEMENT EN TO GOD'S HOLY WILL,
HERE'S STRIFE ON EARTH, IN HEAVEN HIS REST,
I AM GOD MOST, AND LOVED YOU MOST.

ALSO

LILY AGNES,

DIED APRIL 29TH 1915

ENEMY

17

3 *Continue on to the path leading to the chapel. Opposite is the Lewthwaite memorial (CWGC).*

ALEXANDER LEWTHWAITE, Corporal in the Norfolk Regiment, killed accidentally in 1916 age 20.



22755 CORPORAL
A. T. LEWTHWAITE
NORFOLK REGIMENT
27TH OCTOBER 1916 AGE 20



4 *Go down to the right of the chapel and then along the broad track. Just before it bends to the right, look out for three identical memorials on your right (just left of a line with the seat in the distance).*

FRANCIS BANTER, HENRY BOTTLE and HENRY HIPPER were Lancers. Banter and Bottle died in 1848 whilst stationed at barracks in Norwich: Hipper in 1850 in Afghanistan.



9

8

7

6

5



5 *Return to the wide track, but where it bears left go straight ahead, turning left at the end, by the Colman memorials (FRC), continuing along this track to the Mottram memorial at the end (FRC)*

R H MOTTRAM was a noted Norwich author. He served in the First World War and set his Spanish Farm trilogy at that period.

In
memory of
Ralph Hale
Mottram
1883 - 1971
and of his beloved wife
Margaret Allan M.A.
1892 - 1970
and of their children
Ralph McEwan
1919 - 2008
John Ernest
1923 - 2008
Ada Sophia
1929 - 20

6 *Turn left, then immediately right to where you find a FRC panel on the left for the Boardman memorial. Opposite is the Spicer memorial.*

EDWARD BOARDMAN was the architect of the cemetery chapel. RONALD SPICER served in the East Riding Yeomanry and died in 1916 age 19.



IN MEMORY OF

MARY EMMA SPICER
WIFE OF JOHN
DIED OCT 15 1878
AGED 31 YEARS

THOMAS EDWARD SPICER
DIED OCT 15 1906
AGED 70 YEARS

ALSO
L. HANNAH LALLA
BELOVED WIFE OF
ROBERT CHARLES SPICER
DIED 21 JAN 1952
AGED 75 YEARS

AND
ROBERT CHARLES
BELOVED HUSBAND
DIED 15 FEB 1956
AGED 35 YEARS

7 *Continue along the track, past the iron Hines memorial (FRC), turn right at the end, then left through the gap in the wall. Go immediately left and make your way to the wall on the left. The Smith and Haylett memorials are in the first row from the wall.*

JOSEPH HAYLETT died in 1943, age 69, and was a Captain and Quartermaster in the Army General List.

EDWARD SMITH died in 1942, age 28. He served in the Royal Military Police.



CAPTAIN
J. G. HAYLETT
GENERAL LIST
12TH NOVEMBER 1943 AGE 69



PAX VOBIS

Though
Gone
they Live

1943

1943



8 *Return to the main track, and take a path on the right immediately before the second step. The Wasley memorial is a short distance along.*

TERENCE WASLEY served in the Home Guard and was accidentally killed in 1944, age 33, when on Home Guard duty.



9 *Again return to the main track, after two more steps, there is a wide crossing track, go left a short distance to find the Fitzgerald memorial (CWGC).*

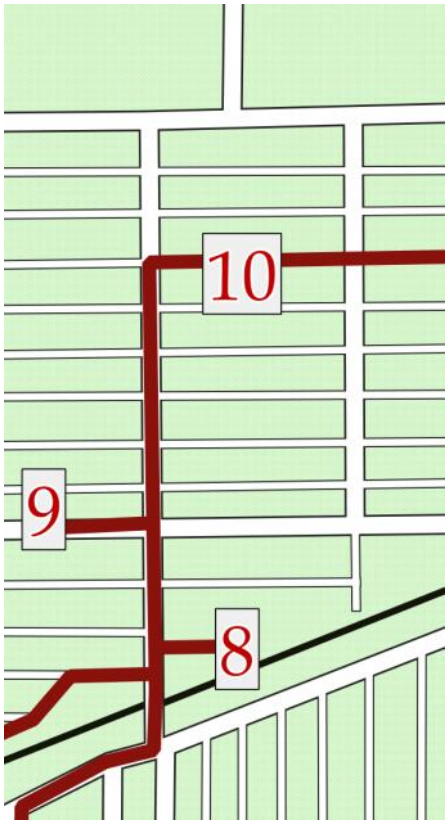
EDDIE FITZGERALD served in the RAF and died in 1940, age 21, when his plane crashed in Norfolk.



545600 SERGEANT
E. FITZGERALD
WIRELESS OPERATOR AIR GUNNER
ROYAL AIR FORCE
14TH AUGUST 1940 AGE 21



HE GAVE HIS TODAY
FOR OUR TOMORROW

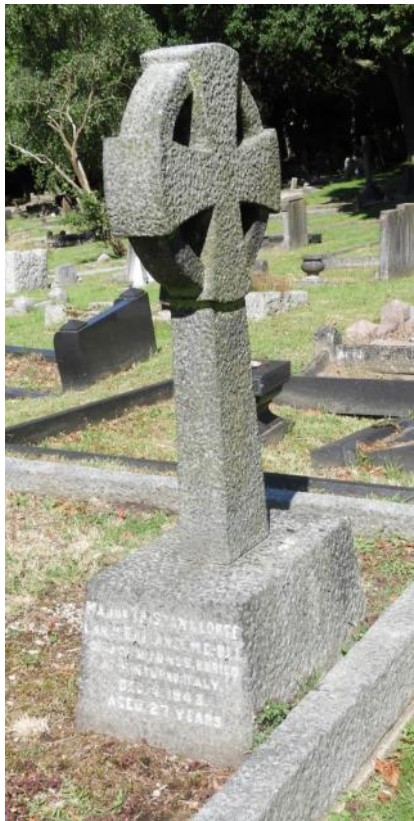


10 *Return to the main track and
continue to the top of the steps.*

*Look on the right for a memorial with a
cross in a circle.*

IVOR BALLANCE died on HMS Trinidad in
1942 age 30.

His brother TRISTAN BALLANCE MC
served in the Durham Light Infantry and
died from injuries sustained in Italy in
1943, age 27.



MAJOR J. STANLEY GEORGE
LARKFIELD AVE MC-BUI
100 JOHN WINGS, BRISTOL
ENGLAND
DIED 4 1943
AGED 27 YEARS



11 *Continue in the same direction to the road, turning right to go down past the wall and back into the old part of the cemetery. Shortly after a path on the right is the Hubbard memorial (CWGC).*

ALFRED HUBBARD served in the Norfolk Regiment. He died in 1919, having been wounded in France in 1915.



15657 SERJEANT
A. E. HUBBARD
NORFOLK REGIMENT
20TH DECEMBER 1919 AGE 30



HAVING FIGHTED A GOOD FIGHT
HE RESTS IN GOD'S CARE

12 *Return up the road, then take the path on the left in front of the wall, going immediately left again. Look for a path on left after about 100 metres. The Brighty (on right) and Miles (on left) memorials are just before the drop to the road.*

FRANK BRIGHTY served in the Royal Air Force. He died in 1919, age 28.

WILLIAM MILES also served in the Royal Air Force. He died in 1918.



Rest their son

2ND LIEUT. WILLIAM NORMAN
MILES, R.A.F.
KILLED WHILE FLYING

27 JULY 1918

13 *Take the path with the Brighty memorial on your left, then go right, then left to the Gale memorial*

BASIL GALE MM served in the Royal Engineers. He died in June 1918, age 21, and is buried in the Varennes Military Cemetery in France.

His brother WILLIAM GALE served in the Norfolk Regiment. He died in 1918, age 26.

FOUGHT
THE GOOD
FIGHT

IN
EVER
+
LOVING
+
MEMORY
OF

BAS R. LE

(SNAPPER)

LARRICK BATALION 1ST

1914-1918

JUNE 2, 1918

1ST DIVISION 1ST INFANTRY

AGED 2 YEARS

1914-1918
1918-1919

JUST WHEN THEIR LIVES WERE BRIGHTEST
JUST WHEN THEIR HEARTS WERE GLAD
THEY CAME TO THE GREAT HALL OF ALL
THEY BOTH GAVE THEMSELVES UP BY ALL
IN GOD'S HANDS AND THEY REST

Mausoleum

14

15

Go back up this path, then left and follow the path down a slope. At the end go left across a grassy area to join the road and follow it to the right. Follow the road around a bend, and then take the second path on the right to the Mausoleum.

The only mausoleum in the cemetery is the last resting place of EMANUEL COOPER.



14 *Turn left at the next junction and look out on the left for a FRC panel to Thomas Drummond, the founder of the Rosary cemetery. Immediately to its right is the Walker memorial.*

WILLIAM WALKER served on HMS Pembroke in the Royal Navy. He died in 1917, age 39.



W. W. WALKER
LEADING SEAMAN, R.N. 180943
H. M. S. "PEMBROKE"
12TH JUNE 1917



15 *Return to the track and continue to the road. Here go right, and almost immediately look to the right for a FRC panel set about three rows back. This marks the Wilde memorial.*

GEORGE WILDE served in the Army for 23 years, and fought in the Crimea and Maori wars. He died in 1887 age 62.



Continue along the road to the starting point. This is the end of the trail.

The Friends of the Rosary Cemetery aim to promote the preservation, care and improvement of the Rosary Cemetery, as a place of historic and natural interest, and as a burial ground. Further details are at <https://friendsoftherosarycemetery.simdif.com/>

The Thorpe Hamlet History Group researches and publishes on the history of this fascinating part of Norwich. Publications include Thorpe Hamlet in World War I and Thorpe Hamlet in World War II Further details are at <http://www.thorpehamlet.org.uk/history.html>.