

Rifleman Richard Blinkhorn[©]
Regimental number: S/13269
3rd Battalion, Rifle Brigade (Prince Consort's Own)

born: 28 May 1894—died: 17 June 1916

Richard Blinkhorn was working as a coal miner at the age of 16 and as a military miner at the age of 22 when he was killed—one of 704,803 soldiers from the British Isles who died in or because of the First World War.¹

Richard was born on 28 May 1894² in Radcliffe, Lancashire, a town in the Irwell Valley about 4 km southwest of Bury and 10 km north-northwest of Manchester. His father, Noah Blinkhorn (1873–1921),³ and his mother, née Margaret Green (1872–1943),⁴ were both born in Lancashire towns about 4 km apart. Noah, the son of Ann and Noah Blinkhorn, a colliery engineer driver, was born in Bolton.⁵ Margaret, the daughter of Ann and John Green, a carter,⁶ was born in Radcliffe. Noah and Margaret married on 11 November 1893 in St. John the Baptist Church, Gannow, Lancashire. Noah listed his occupation as a miner; Margaret listed hers as a weaver.⁷

The couple had ten children of which six survived to adulthood. Richard was the eldest, followed by Noah (1899–1899),⁸ John (1901–?),⁹ Noah (1902–?),¹⁰ David (1905–1959),¹¹ Thomas (1906–1910),¹² James (1908–1911),¹³ Fred (1911–?),¹⁴ Margaret Ann (1912–1917),¹⁵ and finally Robert Pilkington (1913–?).¹⁶ In 1901, Noah and Margaret were living at 2 Back King Street, in the parish of Stand Lane, Radcliffe. Noah was working as a coal miner. Richard might have been attending school.¹⁷

On 2 April 1911, Noah and Margaret, with five children, were living in a home with four rooms at 12 Stopes Road, Little Lever, Bolton, about 4 km from Radcliffe. Noah was still working as a coal miner and Richard had followed him into the mines, working as a haulage hand below ground.¹⁸

During the next three years, Richard continued to work as a coal miner at the Walkden Collieries¹⁹ and to live with his parents and siblings, who were now residing at 11 Stopes Road. There must have been an aura of sadness in the home, given the deaths of Thomas and James, but perhaps the birth of his only sister, Margaret Ann (aka Annie) and brother Robert Pilkington brought some happiness.

When war was declared on 4 August 1914, Richard was 20 years old; like many others at the time, he was probably caught up in the patriotic fervour that swept the country. Perhaps because of his height, he did not enlist immediately in the British Expeditionary Force (BEF). At the beginning of the war, a man joining the army had to be at least 5 ft. 6 in. (167 cm) tall with a chest expansion measurement of 35 in. (89 cm). By May 1915, as recruitment levels fell, the height restriction was lowered to 5 ft. 3 in. (160 cm).²⁰ Richard, weighing 117 pounds (53 kg), now met the requirements exactly. He enlisted in the 3rd Battalion, Rifle Brigade (Prince Consort's Own), at Bolton, Lancashire, on 26 June 1915.²¹

The Rifle Brigade (Prince Consort's Own) was an infantry rifle regiment of the British Army formed in 1800. Its name varied over time, becoming The Rifle Brigade (Prince Consort's Own) in 1862. The unit was distinguished by its use of a green uniform instead of the traditional red. At the beginning of the war, it consisted of six battalions—2 Regular, 2 Militia and 2 Territorial—and by the end, 28 battalions; over the course of the war, it lost 11,575 men. Richard's battalion was part of the 17th

Brigade of the 6th Division, which landed at Saint-Nazaire, France, on 12 September 1914²² to join the BEF. The battalion transferred to the 17th Brigade of the 24th Division on 14 October 1915.²³ At the beginning of December 1915, the battalion's 30 officers and 990 soldiers of other ranks (ORs) were stationed at Nort-Leulinghem, France.

After five months' training in England, Richard joined the 3rd Battalion at Nort-Leulinghem on 8 December 1915.²⁴ He spent the rest of the month and the first four days of January 1916 in more training exercises. Besides route marches, he probably attended a gas demonstration, engaged in tactical exercises, perhaps participated in a shooting competition, and received Lewis gun team training. On 5 January 1916, the battalion marched 13 km via Nordausque to Audricq, France, and boarded a train for the 60-km journey to Poperinge, Belgium. By 6 January, the battalion was in the trenches at Hooge, east of Ypres and would remain in the Ypres Salient area for the next six months.

During that time, between 19 December 1915 and 30 June 1916 (before the Battles of the Somme), the BEF was not engaged in any major battles. Nevertheless 5,845 officers and 119,296 ORs were either killed or wounded.²⁵ Richard experienced shelling, sniper fire, endless noise, and small skirmishes followed by rest periods behind the lines.

One skirmish occurred on 13 and 14 February. Richard and the other men of the 3rd Battalion were stationed in the trenches at Hooge. The enemy bombarded their position all day and night. The front trench was completely blown in; 11 ORs were killed, 3 officers and 63 ORs were wounded and 4 ORs were missing. The bombardment continued during the next day (14 February). At 5:15 p.m., the enemy followed the bombardment with an attack on the 3rd Battalion's position. Richard and the other men stood firm, using their Lewis guns to stop the advance.

On 16 February, the battalion paraded and was congratulated by Major-General J.E. Capper, 24th Division "for the splendid way that they behaved during an intense bombardment."²⁶ On 19 February, Lieutenant Colonel C. S. Stewart, General Staff, 24th Division, wrote that the "Army Commanders appreciated their gallant conduct."²⁷ It came with a cost, however. By 29 February 1916, the battalion's strength had decreased 23% from its level on 30 November 1915: it now had 25 officers and 763 ORs. Reinforcements would fill these gaps.

The war was being fought not only on the land, on the sea, and in the air but also underground. The enemy detonated the first mine under the British front line outside the village of Festubert, France, on 20 December 1914.²⁸ The BEF responded by creating eight tunnelling companies in February 1915. A year later, mining operations were being conducted along two-thirds of the BEF's front line by 33 tunnelling companies, including some from Australia, Canada, and New Zealand. Nicknamed "the moles," the BEF tunnellers dug to a great depth to avoid the enemy's tunnels. Their objective was to destroy a strategically important enemy position on the surface by tunneling below it, excavating a chamber, charging it with explosives (ammonal and guncotton) and detonating them during an offensive.²⁹

At some point, Richard was attached to the 250th Tunnelling Company, Royal Engineers (RE).³⁰ It might have been soon after he arrived at the Front; alternatively, he might have been either one of the 55 ORs from the 3rd and 24th divisions attached to the 250th Tunnelling Company on 20 April 1916 or one of the 10 ORs from the 24th Division joining the company on 6 May 1916.

The 250th Tunnelling Company had been formed in Rouen, France, on 20 October 1915 under the command of Captain Cecil H. Cropper. By 24 October 1915, it had moved to La Clytte (a.k.a. De Klijte), Belgium.³¹ The men in the company were not all Royal Engineers. For example, on 11 June

1916, it had an establishment of 20 officers and 665 ORs. Of these, only 10 officers and 306 ORs were Royal Engineers; the rest were attached infantry.

In June 1916, the company was constructing multiple tunnels deep beneath the Messines Ridge: Hollandscheschuur, Peckham Gallery and Petit Bois. The shafts for No. 1 and No. 2 tunnels at Petit Bois descended 29 m and 30 m, respectively, below the surface. The company also was constructing shallow defensives.

For the 250th Tunnelling Company, Richard's mining skills would have been an asset, and he might have received a tunneller's rate of pay of six shillings a day.³² For this, he would spend up to eight hours a day in a dimly lit, cramped, damp, isolated and silent environment, engaged in physically demanding work. Much of the excavating was done by the clay-kicking method, which created little noise; it involved the miner, while lying on a plank at a 45-degree angle, working a modified spade known as a grafting hook with his legs.³³ While underground, he faced the usual mining dangers, such as carbon monoxide gas and cave-ins, as well as enemy action.

It was not recorded when or where Richard was injured. However, on a rainy Friday, 16 June, he most likely was part of a team working in Trench No. E, a shallow defensive 4 m below the surface, reclaiming an old gallery. The team had made good progress, excavating 29 m that week. The enemy bombarded the area and released poison gas. Second Lieutenant George J. Roberts,³⁴ two ORs (RE) and one OR (attached infantry) died at the scene from gas poisoning. Four ORs (RE), two ORs (Australian Mining Corp) and two ORs (attached infantry) were injured.

Rifleman Richard Blinkhorn was taken to No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station (CCS) at Bailleul, France, which admitted 591 casualties on Saturday, 17 June. On that day, 16 soldiers died.³⁵ Richard was one of them, succumbing to the effects of the poisonous gas.³⁶

His parents were informed of the death of their oldest child. On 11 September 1916, his mother received Richard's savings of £3 8s. 1d. and his personal property: a pipe, a purse, two coins, a mirror, scissors, a letter, a package of photos, playing cards, a diary and a French language grammar book. She received a War Gratuity of £3 on 11 September 1919.³⁷

Rifleman Richard Blinkhorn was buried at Bailleul Communal Cemetery Extension, Nord (Grave/Memorial Reference II. B. 186).³⁸ Bailleul is in France, close to the Belgian border. It was occupied on 14 October 1914 and became an important railhead, air depot and hospital centre. Several CCSs, including No. 1 Canadian CCS, were quartered there. The earliest Commonwealth burials at Bailleul were made in April 1915. An extension was built and burials continued until April 1918; they occurred again in September and after the Armistice, when soldiers' remains were brought in from the neighbouring battlefields.

Richard was posthumously awarded the 1914–15 Star (for serving in a theatre of war between 5 August 1914 and 31 December 1915), the Victory Medal (for service in an operational theatre), and the British War Medal (for service overseas between 1914 and 1918).³⁹ As next of kin, his father and mother also received a memorial plaque and a parchment scroll.

Although Richard's parents and siblings must have grieved his death immensely, the social conventions of the day demanded that the bereaved accept their losses quietly and stoically. Their world continued without Richard. The following year, his four-year-old sister Margaret Ann died and later his father in 1921. Somehow his mother and brothers managed. His mother was awarded the Dependant's Pension for which she had applied on 5 March 1917.⁴⁰

There were happier times ahead. Two brothers married and started families of their own. John wed Lena Holden in 1928⁴¹ and David married Adelaide Forshaw in 1930.⁴²

On the eve of another war in 1939, the Blinkhorn family was still living in close proximity. Richard's mother Margaret was living with his brothers Fred and Robert at 7 Victory Road, Little Lever.⁴³ His brother David and wife Adelaide were living in Little Lever,⁴⁴ while John and Lena were living in Radcliffe, Lancashire.⁴⁵

Rifleman Richard Blinkhorn's sacrifice was not forgotten. In 1920, his name was inscribed on a plaque at Christ Church, Little Lever, in memory of the men of the congregation who lost their lives in the war. It was also recorded on a memorial commemorating the fallen, located on an external wall of the library in Little Lever, Lancashire.⁴⁶ His name can be found on the *Bolton Remembers* and *Bury Archives Online* websites.⁴⁷

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¹ "Some British Army Statistics of the Great War," *The Long, Long Trail* (<https://www.longlongtrail.co.uk/army/some-british-army-statistics-of-the-great-war>: accessed 3 February 2021)

² "Manchester, England, Church of England Births and Baptisms, 1813–1915," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 11 May 2020), entry for Richard Blinkhorn, Birth date: 28 May 1894, Baptism date: 27 June 1894, Parish as it appears: Stand Lane, Father: Noah Blinkhorn, Mother: Margaret Blinkhorn, Reference number: L156/1/1/1/, Item number: 4, Archive roll: 558

³ "Manchester, England, Church of England Births and Baptisms, 1813–1915," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 11 May 2020), entry for Noah Blinkhorn, Baptism date: 13 Aug 1873, Parish as it appears: Bolton-le-Moors, Father: Noah Blinkhorn, Mother: Ann Blinkhorn, Reference number: GB127, L243/1/3/27; "England & Wales, Civil Registration Death Index 1916–2007," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 28 May 2020), entry for Noah Blinkhorn, Birth date: abt 1874, Registration date: April 1921, Registration quarter: Apr-May-Jun, Registration district: Bolton, Inferred county: Lancashire, Volume: 8c, Page: 339

⁴ "England & Wales, Civil Registration Birth Index, 1837–1915," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 13 May 2020), entry for Margaret Green, Registration district: Bury, Inferred county: Lancashire, Volume: 8c, Page: 529; "Manchester, England, Non-Conformist Death and Burials, 1758–1987," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 13 May 2020), entry for Margaret Blinkhorn, Birth date: abt 1873, Death place: Lancashire, Burial date: 21 February 1943, Burial place: Little Lever, Manchester, England, Church: United Reform Church

⁵ "1881 England Census," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 12 May 2020), entry for Noah Blinkhorn, Registration district: Bolton, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 3, Piece: 3847, Folio: 63, Page: 9
Note: Noah's mother died in 1874.

⁶ "1881 England Census," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 11 May 2020), entry for John Green, Registration district: Bury, Sub-registration district: Radcliffe, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 9, Piece: 3870, Folio: 70, Page: 22

⁷ "Lancashire, England, Church of England Marriages and Banns, 1754–1936," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 11 May 2020) entry for Noah Blinkhorn, Event date: 11 Nov 1893, Parish: Gannow, St. John, Lancashire, Spouse: Margaret Green

⁸ "GRO Indexes, 1837–1918 Births," *General Register Office* (https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp: accessed 14 May 2020), entry for Noah Blinkhorn, GRO Reference: 1899, J Quarter in Bury, Volume: 08C, Page: 641, Mother's maiden surname: Green; "Manchester, England, Church of England Deaths and Burials, 1813–1985," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 14 May 2020), entry for Noah Blenhorn [sic], Age: 3/12, Birth date: abt 1899,

Burial date: 16 August 1899, Burial place: Radcliffe, St. John, Lancashire, England, Parish as it appears: Stand Lane, Reference number: L156/1/3, Archive roll: 559

⁹ "GRO Indexes, 1837–1918 Births," *General Register Office*

(https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp: accessed 14 May 2020), entry for John Blinkhorn [sic], GRO Reference: 1901, D Quarter in Bury, Volume: 08C, Page: 635, Mother's maiden surname: Green

¹⁰ "GRO Indexes, 1837–1918 Births," *General Register Office*

(https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp: accessed 14 May 2020), entry for Noah Blinkhorn, GRO Reference: 1902, M Quarter in Bury, Volume: 08C, Page: 615, Mother's maiden surname: Green

¹¹ "GRO Indexes, 1837–1918 Births," *General Register Office*

(https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp: accessed 16 May 2020), entry for David Blinkhorn, GRO Reference: 1905, M Quarter in Bolton, Volume: 08C, Page: 381, Mother's maiden surname: Green; "England & Wales, National Probate Calendar (Index of Wills and Administrations) 1858–1995," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 10 November 2020), entry for David Blinkhorn, Death date: 6 October, 1959. **Note:** Estate was left to his wife, Adelaide Blinkhorn.

¹² "GRO Indexes 1837–1918 Births," *General Register Office*

(https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp: accessed 16 May 2020), entry for Thomas Blinkhorn, GRO Reference: 1906, M Quarter in Bolton, Volume: 08C, Page: 390, Mother's maiden surname: Green; "GRO Indexes 1837–1957 Deaths," *General Register Office*

(https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp: accessed 16 May 2020), entry for Thomas Blinkhorn, GRO Reference: 1910, M Quarter in Bolton, Volume: 08C, Page: 206, Age: 4

¹³ "GRO Indexes 1837–1918 Births," *General Register Office*

(https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp: accessed 16 May 2020), entry for James Blinkhorn, GRO Reference: 1911, J Quarter in Bolton, Volume: 08C, Page: 370, Mother's maiden surname: Green; "GRO Indexes 1837–1957 Deaths," *General Register Office*

(https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp: accessed 16 May 2020), entry for James Blinkhorn, GRO Reference: 1911, M Quarter in Bolton, Volume: 08C, Page: 231, Age: 4

¹⁴ "GRO Indexes 1837–1918 Births," *General Register Office*

(https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp: accessed 16 May 2020), entry for Fred Blinkhorn, GRO Reference: 1911, M Quarter in Bolton, Volume: 08C, Page: 337, Mother's maiden surname: Green

¹⁵ "GRO Indexes 1837–1918 Births," *General Register Office*

(https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp: accessed 16 May 2020), entry for Margaret Ann Blinkhorn, GRO Reference: 1912, S Quarter in Bolton, Volume: 08C, Page: 649, Mother's maiden surname: Green; "GRO Indexes 1837–1957 Deaths," *General Register Office*

(https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp: accessed 16 May 2020), entry for Margaret Ann Blinkhorn, GRO Reference: 1917, J Quarter in Bolton, Volume: 08C, Page: 355, Age: 4

¹⁶ "GRO Indexes 1837–1918 Births," *General Register Office*

(https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/certificates/indexes_search.asp: accessed 13 November 2020), entry for Robert Pilkington Blinkhorn, GRO Reference: 1913, D Quarter in Bolton, Volume: 08C, Page: 653, Mother's maiden surname: Green

¹⁷ "1901 England Census," *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: access 18 May 2020), entry for Richard Blinkhorn, Registration district: Bury, Sub-registration district: Whitefield, Enumeration district, institution, or vessel: 14, Household schedule number: 205, Piece: 3652, Folio: 235, Page: 34

¹⁸ "1911 England, Wales & Scotland Census," *Findmypast* (www.findmypast.co.uk: accessed 4 March 2020), entry for Richard Blinkhorn, Registration district: Bolton, Registration district number: 461, Sub-district: Farnworth, Sub-district number: 1, Enumeration district: 24, Piece: 23275

¹⁹ "Soldier Record," *Bury Archives Online* (<https://www.buryarchivesonline.co.uk>: accessed 13 November 2020) entry for Blinkhorn, Rifleman Richard, Service number: S/13269

²⁰ John Simkin, "Recruitment in the First World War," *Spartacus Educational* (<https://spartacus-educational.com/FWWrecruit.htm>: accessed 19 May 2020)

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- ²¹ “British Army Service Records 1914–1920,” *Findmypast* (www.findmypast.co.uk: accessed 10 March 2020), entry for Richard Blinkhorn, Service number: S/13269, Series: WO 363 **Note:** Very little of his service record survived the 1940 fire at the Army Records Office, Walworth London. Unless otherwise indicated, all information about Richard’s military service comes from this source.
- ²² “The Rifle Brigade (Prince Consort’s Own),” *Wikipedia* ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rifle_Brigade_\(The_Prince_Consort%27s_Own\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rifle_Brigade_(The_Prince_Consort%27s_Own)): accessed 20 May 2020)
- ²³ “UK, WW1 War Diaries (France, Belgium and Germany), 1914–1920,” *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 14 May 2020), entry for The Rifle Brigade (The Prince Consort’s Own), 24th Division, Piece: 2206/1–7: 17th Infantry Brigade, 3rd Battalion, The Rifle Brigade (1915 Nov–1919 April) **Note:** Unless otherwise identified, all information about the 3rd Battalion, Rifle Brigade (The Prince Consort’s Own)’s movements comes from this source.
- ²⁴ “British Army WW1 Medal Roll Index Cards, 1914–1920,” *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 26 May 2020), entry for Richard Blinkhorn, Regiment or corps: Rifle Brigade, Regimental number: S/13269
- ²⁵ James E. Edmonds, *Military Operations France and Belgium 1916*, vol. 1, (London: MacMillan Company, 1932) p. 243, *Internet Archive* (<https://archive.org/details/in.ernet.dli.2015.210679/page/n323/mode/2up>: accessed 21 April 2020)
- ²⁶ “UK, WW1 War Diaries (France, Belgium and Germany), 1914–1920,” op. cit., entry for 16 February 1916
- ²⁷ “UK, WW1 War Diaries (France, Belgium and Germany), 1914–1920,” op. cit., entry for 19 February 1916
- ²⁸ Johns, Robert K. *Battle Beneath the Trenches: The Cornish Miners of 251 Tunnelling Company* (Barnsley, Yorkshire: Pen & Sword Books Ltd., 2015) p. 19, *Google Books* (<https://www.google.com/search?tbm=bks&q=250+Tunnelling+Company>: accessed 21 October 2020)
- ²⁹ Leonard, Matthew. *Beneath the Filling Fields: Exploring the Subterranean Landscapes of the Western Front* (Barnsley, Yorkshire: Pen & Sword Books Ltd., 2016), Chapter 1 pp 25-45, *Google Books* (<https://www.google.com/search?tbm=bks&q=250+Tunnelling+Company>: accessed 21 October 2020)
- Finlayson, Damien. *The Lightning Keepers: The AIF’s Alphabet Company in the Great War* (Newport, NSW, Australia: Big Sky Publishing Pty Ltd., 2017), Chapter 1, Chapter 4, *Google Books* (<https://www.google.com/search?tbm=bks&q=250+tunnelling+company>: accessed 28 October 2020)
- “250th Tunnelling Company,” *Wikipedia* (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/250th_Tunnelling_Company: accessed 28 October 2020) **Note:** Information about tunnelling operations came from these sources.
- ³⁰ *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (<https://www.cwgc.org/find-war-dead/casualty/198430/blinkhorn.-/>: accessed 25 May 2020), entry for Blinkhorn, R; “No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station,” *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa* (www.bifhsgo.ca: accessed 3 November 2020), entry for R. Blinkhorn **Note:** Both sources state that he was attached to the 250th Tunnelling Company.
- ³¹ “250th Tunnelling Company, Royal Engineers, War Diaries, Oct. 1915–Dec. 1918,” *The National Archives* (www.nationalarchives.gov.uk: accessed 9 June 2020); “250th Tunnelling Company, Royal Engineers, Weekly Mining Reports, Feb. 1916–Dec. 1918,” *The National Archives* (www.nationalarchives.gov.uk: accessed 9 June 2020) **Note:** Unless otherwise identified, all information about the 250th Tunnelling Company’s movements comes from these two sources.
- ³² Robert K. Johns, op. cit., p. 21
- ³³ Barton, Peter; Doyle, Peter; Vandewalle, Johan. *Beneath Flanders Fields: The Tunnellers’ War 1914–1918* (Montreal & Kingston, Canada: McGill-Queen’s University Press, 2005), p. 59, *Google Books* (<https://www.google.com/search?tbm=bks&q=Beneath+Flanders+Fields>: accessed 28 October 2020)
- ³⁴ *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (<https://www.cwgc.org/find-records/find-war-dead/casualty-details/201322/GEORGE%20JEWELL%20ROBERTS>: accessed 14 November 2020), entry for George Jewell Roberts
- ³⁵ “War Diaries of the First World War: 1st Canadian Casualty Clearing Station 1914/08/13–19/03/31,” *Library and Archives Canada* (<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/CollectionSearch/Pages/record.aspx?app=fonandcol&IdNumber=2005082&new=-8585892206345339044>: accessed 3 February 2021), entry for 17 June 1916

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- ³⁶ “No. 1 Canadian Casualty Clearing Station,” *British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa* (www.bifhsgo.ca: accessed 3 November 2020), entry for Blinkhorn, R.
- ³⁷ “UK, Army Registers of Soldiers’ Effects, 1901–1929,” *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 8 May 2020), entry for Richard Blinkhorn, Service number: S/13264
- ³⁸ *Commonwealth War Graves Commission* (<https://www.cwgc.org/find-records/find-war-dead/casualty-details/198430/R%20BLINKHORN>: accessed 3 November 2020), entry for R. Blinkhorn
- ³⁹ “British Army WW1 Medal Roll Index Cards, 1914–1920,” *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 8 November 2020), entry for Richard Blinkhorn, Regiment or Corps: Rifle Brigade, Regimental Number: S/13269
- ⁴⁰ “UK, WW1 Pension Ledgers and Index Cards, 1914–1923,” *Fold3* (www.fold3.com: accessed 22 May 2020) entry for Richard Blinkhorn, Service number: S/13264
- ⁴¹ “Manchester, England, Non-Conformist Marriages, 1758–1937,” *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 20 November 2020), entry for John Blinkhorn, Marriage date: 7 Jul 1928, Marriage place: Radcliffe, Lancashire, England, Church: Presbyterian Congregational Church, Water Street, Spouse’s name: Lena Holden
- ⁴² “Manchester, England, Church of England Marriages and Banns, 1754–1930,” *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 11 November 2020), entry for David Blinkhorn, Marriage date: 26 Jul 1930, Marriage place: Little Lever, St Matthew, Lancashire, England, Registration number: L207/1/3/4, Archive roll: 552, Spouse’s name: Adelaide Forshaw
- ⁴³ “1939 England and Wales Register,” *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 4 November 2020), entry for Margaret Blinkhorn, Line number: 31, Schedule number: 292, Sub-schedule number: 1, Enumeration district: NVWD, Borough: Little Lever, Registration district: 461 B-1
- ⁴⁴ “1939 England and Wales Register,” *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 4 November 2020), entry for David Blinkhorn, Line number: 34, Schedule number: 165, Sub-schedule number: 1, Enumeration district: NVWD, Borough: Little Lever, Registration district: 461 B-1
- ⁴⁵ “1939 England and Wales Register,” *Ancestry* (www.ancestry.com: accessed 4 November 2020), entry for John Blinkhorn, Line number: 3, Schedule number: 164, Sub-schedule number: 1, Enumeration district: NWT1, Borough: Radcliff, Registration district: 462a 3
- ⁴⁶ “Little Lever War Memorial,” *War Memorials Online* (<https://www.war memorials online.org.uk/memorial/138469>: accessed 10 November 2020)
- “Little Lever Congregational,” *Imperial War Museum* (<https://www.iwm.org.uk/memorials/item/memorial/83914>: accessed 10 November 2020)
- ⁴⁷ *Bolton Remembers* (<https://boltonremembers.org/?s=Blinkhorn&paged=2>: accessed 16 November 2020) entry for Richard Blinkhorn; “Soldiers Record,” *Bury Archives Online* (<https://www.buryarchivesonline.co.uk/soldier-records/blinkhorn-rifleman-richard>: accessed 16 November 2020), entry for Richard Blinkhorn