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Charles Albert Victor Spooner was born in Brighton on 26th.June 1897.When he was three he went to live with his grandmother and aunt in Guildford whilst his mother was in service in Albury.His father was possibly working in Eastbourne.

A few years later Charles went to live with relatives in Manningtree, Essex. He joined the Royal Navy on the 29th. August 1913 as a Boy 2nd class. He progressed to Boy 1st class on the 14th. April 1914. The next day he was posted to HMS Hawke, a British Cruiser launched in 1891.

HMS Hawke was primarily used for training and many of the crew were cadets and reservists. On the 15th. October 1914 she was off the east coast of Scotland, meeting up with HMS Endymion to transfer mail. At about 11am she was struck near a magazine by a torpedoe fired by German submarine U-9. She sank in eight minutes with the loss of 524 men, leaving only 70 survivors.

On the 1901 Census his mother was working as a cook in Northfield.In 1914 she was working at Hare Dene, Albury Heath. His father was dead. Charles is remembered on the Chatham Naval Memorial.

- 1.Memorial
- 2.1901 Census-Mother
- 3. Army and Navy Death Records
- 4.Army and Navy Death Records
- 5.De Ruvigny's Roll of Honour
- 6.Note from Mistley War Memorial

In Memory of Boy 1st Class

Charles Albert Victor Spooner

J/26754, H.M.S. "Hawke.", Royal Navy who died on 15 October 1914 Age 16

Only son of Emily Kate Spooner, of Albury, near Guildford, Surrey, and the late Ernest Spooner.

Remembered with Honour Chatham Naval Memorial





Commemorated in perpetuity by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Mistley



In Memory
Sacred for all time
Of the Mistley Men who fell during the Great
War A.D. 1914 to 1919.
'Faithfull unto Death'
Erected by Public subscription.

52. Spooner C

Born 26th June 1897 Brighton

Charles Albert Victor Spooner

Killed in action 15th October 1914 Aged 16

North Sea

Royal Navy HMS Hawke

Boy 1st Class J.26754 (Ch)

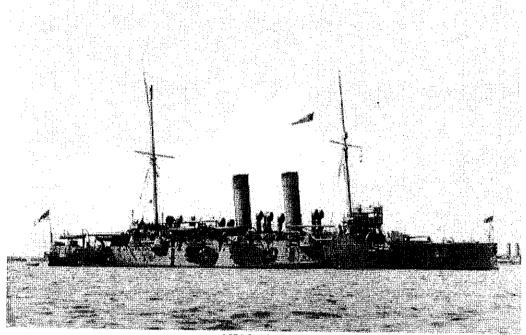
Charles Albert Victor Spooner is listed on both Manningtree and Mistley memorials, this may be due to the impact his young death early in the war had on the local population. Not much is known about his early life or his father. Charles was actually born on the south coast in Brighton on the 26th June 1897; his father was Ernest Albert Spooner and his mother Emily Kate Shotter. She was born in Heston in Hertfordshire, the couple married in Brighton in early 1897, not long before Charles was born.

At three years of age Charles moved into Park View house in Guilford, to live with this grandmother Catherine Shotter, who worked as a private nurse, and his maiden Aunt, Kate Ethel Shotter. This may have been due to the working demands on his parents, his mother working as a live-in servant a few miles away in Albury, his father perhaps also a servant at a public house in Eastbourne.

A few years later and Charles was shifted over to live with John and Elizabeth Amos who lived in South Street, Manningtree. They were both in their early sixties so may have found Charles a handful, John was working at the Xylonite factory as a 'Colour man', Having married in about 1870, they had had their own family with one surviving daughter Jessie. Having come from London to work in the late 1880's they first lived in Brantham before moving over to Lawford. It is not absolutely clear how they were related to Charles, who is however designated as their 'Nephew'.

From South Street at a young age Charles joined the Royal navy and started his training down the river at Ganges, Shotley on the 29th August 1913 as a 'Boy' 2nd class. He progressed to 'Boy' 1st class J.26754 on the 14th April 1914. The next day he was posted to HMS Hawke, a British Cruiser, joined at some stage by another local boy, Harold Ainger from Horsley Cross

HMS Hawke displaced 7,350 tons, the cruiser steamed at 20 knots when new, and was armed with two 9.2in. and ten 6in. Launched in 1891 at Chatham, she was completed two years later at a cost of £400,702. Built with protective decks and, like the Titanic, the hull for added safety was divided into 192 compartments, with 98 watertight doors.



HMS Hawke

By 1914 she was primarily used for training and many of the crew were cadets. She became part of the 10th Cruiser Squadron, attached to the Third Fleet, operating on blockade duties between the Shetland Islands and Norway. Under the command of Captain Hugh Williams, on the 15th October 1914 she was in the North Sea off the east coast of Scotland, meeting up with HMS Endymion to transfer mail.

At about 11.00 am she was hit by a torpedo fired by SM-U9 and sunk within only a few minutes. The torpedo appears to have hit one of the ships magazines, causing a large explosion giving little chance for the crew to escape. Nearly 500 of the 600 crew were lost or died later, some having been many hours in the water before being found. Three officers, together with 49 men of the crew, were picked up by a Norwegian steamer and landed the next day at Aberdeen by a local trawler. As was the order of the day, other Naval ships waited until it was clear the submarine had left the area before trying to pick up survivors. An account of the sinking was later given by crewmen from the submarine.

Only son of Emily Kate Spooner, of Albury, and the late Ernest Spooner.

No known grave, commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial 3.

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of Honour The Roll

SPITILE, FRANK THOMAS, Nifernan, No. 2857. A Coy., 138th Battin, (Queen Victoria's Ribits) The London Reg. (L.R.), r., s. of Augustina Alfred Spittle, of 41, Almaby Roda, Layton Road, Strafford, Essav, hybris wife, Ellen Emily, dan of George About, of Middon, Essav, is Strafford, 25 Agrill 1865 educ Downsell Road County Huit School, Leyton, and County Huit School, Leytonstone, volunteered and joined Queen Victoria's Rifts on the outhers for year. For France, 22 Jan. 1915, and was killed in action, 23 Feb. 1915. Buttied Wulfverform of a working panty Printing the parapeted for the travent during a mist, which of a working panty Printing the parapeted for action) write. "He was one suddenly Illed, and the Germans opered fire, and terward the britten before he could get under year life a few minners facer. He was very popular with his



SPITTLES, THOMAS ROBERT, Stoker, Stoker, Stoker Spittles, Of South Having, by his wife, Blizabeth Ressie, dan, of Robert Applie, joined the Royal Xavy about May, 1917, and was lost on HAMS, Jrax, p Aug, 1915, when that ship was sunk by a miner in his North Son. He may brokenouth, Miren Georgian May (Ross Portsmouth, Miren Georgian May (Ross Portsmouth, Miren Georgian May (Ross Portsmouth, Miren Georgian May Hoone,

SPOONER, ALEXANDER, Lending Stoker, K. 114. H.M.S. Pathinder; lost when that ship was sunk by a mine, about 20 miles off the East Coaste, 5 Sept. 1914.

SPOONER, CHARLES ALBERT VICTOR, Boy, 1st Gluss, J. 29754, H.M.S. Hawke; lost when that ship was torpeded in the North Sea, 15 Oct. 1914.

Thomas Robert Spittles. SPOONER, WILLIAM CHARLES, Private, R.M.L., Ch.,Rist, T. H.MS. Hawke, lose when that ship was torpeded in the North Sea, Lö Get 1914.

SPORTON, GEORGE HERBERT, A.B. (Constgnard), 206749, H.M.S. Cresy; lost in action in the North Sea, 22 Sopt. 1914. SPRINGALL, WILLIAM EGLETON, Leading Seaman (R.F.R., Ch., 1847), 178793, H.M.S. (Resy, 10st in action in the North Sea, 22 Sept. 1914,

SPRUNT, ALEXANDER DALZELL, 2nd Libut. 4th Butta. Beford-thire of 3 East. Judia Ava.12.

Regt., attd. 2nd Batta. South Stafford-side (2002, 2nd. 6. of John Dullade Sprunt, of 3 East. Judia Ava.12.

By His wife. Ann. 6 June. 4nd. 1 John Natsmitt.

By Hampstrad. Londom. 7 Jun. 1891; citte. 1891; citte. Inchanges School and New College. Oxford, where he graduated with homours in July 1914, and was monimated Assistant Professor of Natural History at disagnet Indiversity, cheming the degree the week that war was not a Natural History at disagnet University, cheming the Regt of the Bone. 19 Years in the Ciffwest Training of Cryst, he and his brother late. Alexander Dalzell, Shrint in Regt Reding to a Circulation to the Late, and the College of the Bone of the College of the College

SPRUNT, EDWARD LAWRENCE, Private No. 1510, 1st flutta Honourable Artillery Coy. (Starector-Pearen Section) 3rd of of John Daliett Sprunt, of 3 East India Avenue, London, E.C., and Mongomerie, Berkhampeld, 1by Institute, John Massified, Derkhampered, Mongomerie, Berkhampeld, 1by Berkhampered, 1stolog, and of Sassified, Derkhampered, 1stolog, and 1832; educ Nichol, and "Section College, Oxion", at which latter he held an open exhibition. The Nichol Article Mongo and the College Oxion, the Wars In the OTIC, the was offered a containistion in the Propir is spon as possible, and thinking the would

class, being peinted in gill leiters, the ocultary eard being in black letters. It reads. "Third Miviato, Kuthel Expeditionary Porce, 1510, Private E. I. Sprunk, Hon. Artillery Coy. Your commanding officer and brigade commander have informed use that you destinguished yourself by your conduct in the field on I of June, 1915. I have read their report with much pleasure, and have brought it to the notice of higher authority." Just the Assistant Military Socretary weous plants has the field on the field." "I make the Assistant Military Socretary weous plants has the field on the field." "I make express to you the King public acknowledgment may be of some consolation in heir state that the instable the field." SPRY, ERNEST JOHN, A.R. (R.F.R., B. 2224), 181820, H.M.S. Good Hope lost in action off Coronel, on the coast of Chili, I Nov. 1914.

SPURDEN, WILLIAM, Private, No. 7194, 1st Battn. Royal West Kent Regt.; served with the Expeditionary Force in France, etc.; killed in action, 17 Nov. 1744; m.

SQUIRE, ALAN RICHARD, Serge, No. 19722. Wellington Industry Barn, rides; a soft Richard Jas. Squire, of Hawera. Taranki, New Zealand, by his well Charlete Louisa, dan, of the late Josean Claridae Carpenor; b. Hawera, 12 Sept. 1862; with Elawren, N.Z., was a Painer and Signwifer; columerered on the outbreak of war and joined the New Zealand Expeditionary Force; 7 Aug. 1914; jeft for Egypt with the main body as a gumer; arrived at Gallipoli, 7 May, 1915, and served there for three mouths, taking part in the serve Eghting unity that period, was promoted Sergi, the beginning of Aug., and was killed in action there are days date; 7 Mag. 1915; arm. At the time he was killed he was temporarily. In a thang, of the, machine spuns. SQUIBB. FRED. Private. 6, 999, 1st Batta. Royal West Surrey Kegt., g. of Frederick Squibb. of West Chandon, Surrey, served with the Expeditionary Force In France etc., ided 5 Sept. 1915, of wounds received in action.



SOURES, FRANCIS CHAVASER, Capt, and Adjutant. 23rd sish Pronores, indian Army, yr. s. of the feet for themy Charles Squires. M.A. for 20 years Church Missionary Nestern India, and afterwards View of Holy Trainty, Richmond, Surrey, by this wife, Ada Martin (23, West Park, Elitam, 8, E.), dan, of Thomas Charases, of Wyler Green, 1900; Survey Brit, Elitam, 8, E.), and replace of Thomas Charases, of Wyler Green, and replace of Thomas Charases, of Wyler Green, Indian, and he place of the Right few, Paracts James Charases, D.A., Indu Bishop of Liverpool; b. West Childington Restory, co. Sussex, 22 Feb. 1885; edite, 8t. Paul's School (Foundation Scholats) and "Sandhuret; gazerted 2nd Lieut, Solud, 1905, and attached to the Eart Sikh Flonores. He breame Lieut, 5 Aug. 1907, and was appointed Adjutant, 25 Get, 1912, He served in the Zakka Kiel Expedition, 1908, for which he received a media, and on the cutternal.



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Front as soon as possible, and thinking he would probably be sent for months to a regimental depot to train recruits (as his older brother