

Kirby-le-Soken War Memorial

THESE MEN FROM THIS PARISH LAID DOWN THEIR LIVES IN THE GREAT WAR
THAT THOSE THEY LEFT BEHIND MIGHT LIVE IN PEACE



W.H. PROCTOR D.S.O.

Extracts from Military records

Proctor, William Howard, D.S.O.

Captain, 10th Battalion, Loyal North Lancashire Regiment. Killed in action 23rd April 1917.
Aged 23.

Awarded the Distinguished Service Order (D.S.O.)

Son of the Rev. W.G. and E.C. Proctor, of Tonwell Cottage, Bengoe, Hertford.

No known grave. Commemorated on ARRAS MEMORIAL, Pas de Calais, France. Bay 7.

9420 SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE, 26 SEPTEMBER, 1916.

Temp. Lt. William Howard Proctor, N. Lan. R.

For conspicuous gallantry in action.

He supported a bomb attack on a strongly held trench. When the attack was checked, he at once joined in with great determination and carried the whole attack forward.

Though wounded by a bullet through the jaw, he led his men on till exhausted by loss of blood.

The DSO is a high award for meritorious or distinguished service rather than an act of gallantry, although in many cases during WW1 it is not easy to discriminate between these two reasons for granting an award: in fact in some cases it appears that a DSO was awarded when perhaps a full recommendation for a VC could not be justified or corroborated.

In existence since 1886, for Officers who were not eligible for an award of the CB: however, after the establishment of the award of the Military Cross, it was unusual for a DSO to be awarded to an officer with a rank below Major.

Distinguished Service Order



Research Note:

I could find no trace of the Proctor family in the 1901 Census.

In our Church on the list of Vicars of St. Michaels is the name of William, Howard's father :-

30 Aug 1913 William George Proctor Trustee of the Elizabeth Burgess Trust.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM