



# RONALD GEORGE BLACK

**Lieutenant**

**H.M.S. Tyrant, Royal Navy**

**died on**

**Tuesday 4th November 1917**

**aged 22**

RONALD GEORGE BLACK  
is commemorated on the  
PORTSMOUTH NAVAL MEMORIAL

*. Additional information in the  
Commonwealth War Graves Commission Register*

- . Son of the Rev. Charles Black, M.A., (Oxon) and Emily Gertrude Black.  
Served in Senussi expedition from H.M.S. "Mallow."

After the First World War, an appropriate way had to be found of commemorating those members of the Royal Navy who had no known grave, the majority of deaths having occurred at sea where no permanent memorial could be provided. An Admiralty committee recommended that the three manning ports in Great Britain - Chatham, Plymouth and Portsmouth - should each have an identical memorial of unmistakable naval form, an obelisk, which would serve as a leading mark for shipping. Portsmouth Naval Memorial commemorates around 10,000 sailors of the First World War and almost 15,000 of the Second World War. The Memorial is situated on Southsea Common overlooking the promenade. The Memorial commemorates 26,000 war casualties. The globe which tops the column is supported by the figures of the four winds above the prow of ships.

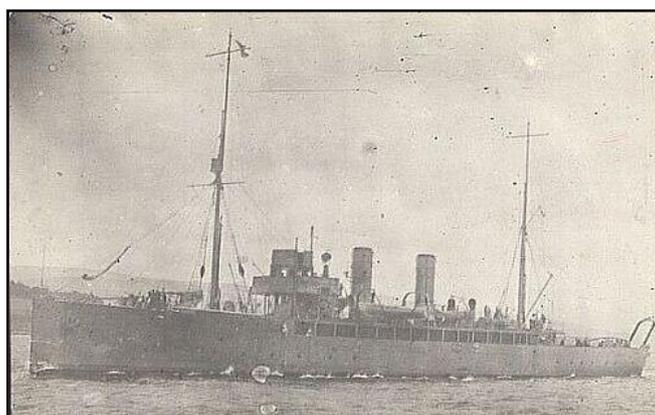
Ronald Black is commemorated on Panel 24.



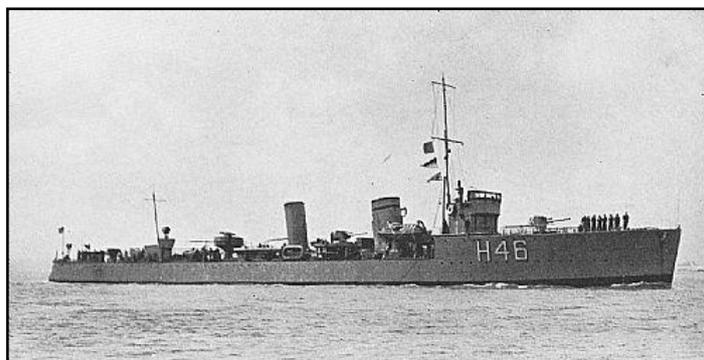
**Ledbury Reporter  
& Farmer's Gazette**  
Saturday 7th November 1917

**LOST AT SEA**

Lieutenant R G Black RN who was accidentally lost from a destroyer at sea on November 4th was the youngest son of Rev C and Mrs Black of West Hatherly, Sussex, formerly of Colwall. He was swept overboard during weather which a fellow officer described as the worst they had ever experienced.



HMS Mallow



HMS Tyrant

Ronald George Black was born in Colwall and baptised in St James on 8th December 1895. His father the Reverend Charles Black was a schoolmaster at The Elms. At the time of the 1911 census Ronald, who was a Naval Cadet, was staying with his brother-in-law Ernest Owen at the Boys Hall, Willesborough Kent. Ronald served on *HMS Mallow* during the Senussi revolt, and was an acting Lieutenant on *HMS Tyrant* when he was swept overboard in a violent storm in November 1917. He is commemorated on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial and the West Hoathly War Memorial, Sussex where his parents Charles and Emily had made their home.