

**Lambeth Tribunals – Index to MBL/30/4**

**Book 4 23 Oct 1916 – 24 January 1917**

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## Foreword

In using this index it is strongly recommended that referral should be made to the original record so that the full significance of the entry can be judged and also as a check against mistakes made by the indexer. Although the records are typewritten, the faintness of some characters renders the differentiation between some (H & N for instance) to be uncertain. Occasionally there is a handwritten addition.

In this index, certain abbreviations may appear:

C.O. Certified Occupationn.a.t. not assented to

d.t.g. deferred to Group,

M.R. or Mil' Rep' Military Representative

S.C. Special Constabulary

V.T.C. Voluntary Training Corps

Co County

LND London

+++ indicates that there is more detail in the original volume.

It is hoped that any other abbreviations are self evident.

Because of the restrictions of space, words may be abbreviated, such as Temp'Ex' for Temporary Exemption, indisp' for indispensable, Dom' & Bus' for Domestic and Business.

Thanks are due to the staff at Lambeth Archives for their assistance, in particular Len Reilly for his patience, help and advice.

## Introduction

The Groups assigned to each man refer to their ages as allocated in Lord DERBY's Scheme. Those who attested their willingness to serve were given a grey coloured arm band upon which there was a red crown.

The Group numbers given to the men may be explained simply.

Having been appointed Director General of Recruiting Lord Derby brought forward a Scheme whereby men aged 18 to 40 could continue to enlist voluntarily or attest with an obligation to join if called up later on. The War Office notified the public that voluntary enlistment would cease and that the last day of registration would be 15 December 1915.

The men who attested under the Derby Scheme were classified into married and single status and into 23 groups according to their age. The single men would be called up before those who were married.

Single men were placed in Groups 1 to 23 by year of birth as follows:

Born	1897 – G1	1896 – G2	1895 – G3	1894 – G4	1893 – G5
	1892 – G6	1891 – G7	1890 – G8	1889 – G9	1888 – G10
	1887 – G11	1886 – G12	1885 – G13	1884 – G14	1883 – G15
	1882 – G16	1881 – G17	1880 – G18	1879 – G19	1878 – G20
	1877 – G21	1876 – G22	1875 – G23		

Married men were placed in Groups 24 to 45 by year of birth as follows:

Born	1897 – G24	1896 – G25	1895 – G26	1894 – G27	1893 – G28
	1892 – G29	1891 – G30	1890 – G31	1889 – G32	1888 – G33
	1887 – G34	1886 – G35	1885 – G36	1884 – G37	1883 – G38
	1882 – G39	1881 – G40	1880 – G41	1879 – G42	1878 – G43
	1877 – G44	1876 – G45	1875 – G46		

Men attested under the Derby Scheme, who were accepted and chosen deferral, had mobilisation dates as follows (note G1 would have been too young):

G1 – 28 Mar 1916	G2 to G5 – 20 Jan 1916	G6 to G9 – 8 Feb 1916
G10 to G13 – 29 Feb 1916	G14 to G23 – 18 Mar 1916	G24 – 13 Jun 1916
G25 to G32 – 7 Apr 1916	G33 to G41 – 29 May 1916	G42 to G46 – 13 Jun 1916

A fuller description is available "on line" explaining the Group System (the Derby Scheme).

Military Tribunals were set up by local councils for men wishing to appeal for exemption against military service consequent upon conscription. In 1914 at the start of war, enlistment had been voluntary but as numbers dwindled the Derby Scheme was introduced in Autumn 1915 by which men who registered would be called for service when required. Numbers dwindled again and the scheme was abandoned. Liability for compulsory service came with the Military

Service Act from 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1916, extending liability in May 1916 and further with an upper age limit of 51 years in 1918.

It will be seen that exemption was claimed on domestic or business grounds and conscientious objectors were given non-combatant roles.

The first meeting of the Local Tribunal for the Metropolitan Borough of Lambeth was held at the Town Hall, Brixton Hill, on Thursday 30 December 1915 at five o'clock in the evening. Those present were:

His Worship the Mayor (Alderman C.H. GIBBS J.P.), Councillor F BRIANT J.P., Councillor George BRITTAIN J.P., Alderman F BUDGE, Alderman W.J. DAVEY, J.C. HATCH Esq., J.P., Alderman G. HINDS, N.W. HUBBARD Esq., J.P., T Owen JACOBSON Esq., J.P., C.F. PARTINGTON Esq., J.P., Alderman J.F. TOWNSEND. The War Office Representative was also present. Captain W Burgh TURNER had been appointed by the War Office.

As the names of those members of the Tribunal changed through the course of the meetings, they have not been recorded for the purpose of this index.

There follow some examples of fuller entries for men seeking exemption from duty.

**Page 9**      23 October 1916      E ROE

Granted temporary exemption to 23 January 1917 (Domestic) in order that during this time it may be seen whether applicant's brother who has been wounded is awarded any pension, also subject to ROE's joining a recognised VTC, evidence of which must be produced to the Tribunal within 14 days.

**Page 23** 27 October 1916      Bernard ARONWYCH

He asks for after time application, stating that he did not intend to make such application if his young brother in Australia had been able to make his widowed mother and two younger brothers (one of whom is still at school) any allowance out of his Military Pay. Another brother, 17 years of age, is in the Army and all the allowance his mother is in receipt of from the Government is 16/1d a week. Mr ARONWYCH was born in Russia and brought to England at the age of 6 months. He would have endeavoured to obtain Munition Work but for the fact that only British born people are employed.      Application granted.

**Page 27** 27 October 1916 Comprehensive Claim by Messrs BEAUFOY & Co  
Number of men in Aug 1914 = 165; today = 99; Men between 18 & 41 = 15;  
No. Attested = 11; Unattested = 13; In respect of whom claim is made = 14

**Page 32** 30 October 1916      AV ROBERTS

Asks leave to make an after-time application. He enlisted in the 15<sup>th</sup> Hussars as long ago as 1895 and in September 1898 he was discharged as medically unfit, owing to heart trouble. About October 1912 he rejoined the Army in the

Mechanical Reserve (Motor Transport Section) and served for three years, the last 15 months of which were spent in France during the present war. In November 1915 he took his discharge his time being up. He has now received a Calling Up Notice for Wednesday next 1<sup>st</sup> November and has been passed for C2. He gathered from the newspapers that he need not make any application for exemption until he received his Calling Up Notice. He has dependent upon him his wife who is of a nervous disposition and three children. The after time application has been granted.

**Page 55** 3 November 1916                      Comprehensive Claim by Nuggett Polish Co Ltd

Number of Men 1 Aug 1914 = 101; Number today 90; Men between 18 & 41 = 37; Number rejected = 9; Attested = 8; Unattested = 19; Number claimed for = 10

**Page 70** 8 November 1916                      Comprehensive Claim by RE DOUBLEDAY & Co

Number of Men August 1914 = 76; Number today 39; Men between 18 & 41 = 28; Number Rejected = 9; Attested 19; Unattested = 0; Claim in respect of 10

**Page 72** 13 November 1916                      RH DE SAULLES

The Committee on Work of National Importance letter of 9 November states he has obtained employment as a Clerk with Messrs Handley Page Ltd., Aeronautical Engineers, Cricklewood Lane, NW, at a wage of 30/- per week. The Committee regard this work of National Importance and in view of the fact that the applicant has been passed for C1 only and is apparently not suitable for manual labour, and also that he is making a pecuniary sacrifice to the extent of 24/- per week, the Committee recommends the Tribunal to accept the proposed employment as satisfying the condition of applicant's exemption from Military Service. A letter from Mr De SAULLES, dated 10<sup>th</sup> November has also been received, stating that although he should have preferred some work not so closely connected with the production of War Material, yet, as he will only be engaged in clerical work and the refusal of such work meant a lapse into Non-Combatant Service, he has felt justified in taking what was offered.

**Page 78** 1916 November 13                      Comprehensive Claim for BRAN & Co Ltd  
Number of Men 1914 = 172; Number today = 165; Number between 18 & 41 = 62; Number attested = 24; Unattested 23; Claim made in respect of 12

**Page 87** 1916 November 16                      Comprehensive Claim for OSBORNE & YOUNG Ltd

Number of Men in 1914 = 106; Number today = 110; Number between 18 & 41 = 36; Number rejected = 20; Attested = 19; Unattested = 0; Claim in respect of 12

**Page 89** 1916 November 20                      A W BRIGGS

Employed by KNIGHTS Manufacturing Ltd as a Monotype Operator with at least 5 men depending upon his work. An Attested Man, he was rejected in January 1916, but in March he was examined and passed for C3. Then 15<sup>th</sup> November he was again examined and passed for C1 - he was called up Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November. The Company ask for one month's deferment to enable them to obtain a man to fill his place

**Page 91** 1916 November 20 A J PHILLIPS

In the early days of the Derby Scheme he was rejected as medically unfit but September 19<sup>th</sup> he was passed C1 but told he would not be called up for service for at least 3 months. But he has received a calling up notice for tomorrow (Tuesday). He is the only son remaining at home, his other brother serving as a Sergeant in the R.A.M.C. who is stated to be in hospital in Bombay suffering from "a fever of an undefined nature". If his brother was not to recover then his mother would be totally dependent on him – he is his mother's sole support with the exception of an allotment of 14/- pw received in respect of his brother. Mr PHILLIPS himself was in Brompton Hospital from June 1911 to May 1912, under close supervision his case being treated as a most exceptional one and since then he has been under the care of Dr HENTSCH of Hayter Road for Tachycardia. His claim for after time application was granted

**Page 92** 1916 November 20

There are 319 cases outstanding apart from the cases summoned to appear between today and Wednesday. Mr David GREIG's Comprehensive Claim to be heard on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December at 5pm

**Page 99** 1916 November 22 A H BUCHANAN

Appeals for further Exemption (from 22<sup>nd</sup> May & 15<sup>th</sup> October). Five of his brothers are serving (he is the only son remaining at home). He has a wife and child, mother almost blind. He is passed B1, served 12 months in the V.T.C., age 28. An allotment is to be made for the mother – still awaiting communication from the War Office. His appeal was granted.

**Page 104** 1916 November 22 London, Gloster & N.Hants Dairy Co Ltd  
Number of men 1914 = 203; today 193; Between 18 & 41 = 73; Rejected 45;  
Claim in respect of 15

**Page 105** 1916 November 22 John HARRISON & Co Comprehensive Claim

Number of men 1914 = 60; today 32; Between 18 & 41 = 8; Rejected = 1;  
Attested = 8; Unattested = 0; Claims in respect of 6

**Page 111** 1916 November 27

Responding to a Resolution passed by Wandsworth Local Tribunal seeking support that in the national interest one man businesses should be preserved,

asking that Government should set up a Local Committee to assist in managing the business when the proprietor is called up – Lambeth did not agree.

**Page 112** 1916 November 27 C J BAXTER

Was age 41 on 16<sup>th</sup> August last {b.1875}; he had joined the colours in 1893, discharged after 12 years service “Exemplary character”. He is the sole support of his sister and 9 year old nephew. Assists his uncle age 76; eight of his family are serving with the colours, two others have been discharged as unfit. Employed by Messrs LOVELL & CHRISTMAS Ltd., of West Smithfield, who support his application: his experience and knowledge of the business as Distributors and Suppliers of Food Stuffs to the Army is of the greatest assistance to them at the present time. All their Warehouse and Delivery Staff of Military Age are now serving.

**Page 115** 1916 November 27 Nugget Polish Co Ltd

Number of Men 1<sup>st</sup> August 1914 = 101; Today 90; Men between 18 & 41 = 37; Rejected = 9; Attested = 8; Unattested = 19; Number Claimed for = 10

**Page 211** 1916 December 20 Harry FROW

He has been passed for B1; he is engaged at HARRODS' Stores at 25/- per week. The Acting Chief Superintendent of Ordnance Factories (Woolwich Arsenal) has offered him employment on Munitions provided he is exempted from obligation to Military Service being in consideration of the man's domestic circumstances, having already done a fair share of Military Service. FROW took part in the South African Campaign and was also in the Battles of the Marne, The Aisne, Ypres, and Neuve Chapelle. The Tribunal is prepared to extend his period of exemption until 1<sup>st</sup> April 1917.

**Page 214** 1916 December 20 A H SPELLER

The enquiry carried out by the Military Representative revealed that his mother, being 51 years of age and receiving £1 per week from him, has three married sons who do not contribute to her support but she is entirely maintained by the husband of a niece, who lives with her, this man being a soldier at present serving in France. The Military Representative was requested to arrange for SPELLER to be called up at once.

**Page 223** 1916 Dec 29 J T HINTON (Case 3485)

Chimney Cleaner, Age 27, Unmarried, passed for B2. On 22 November he was granted temporary exemption until 1 January (Business grounds). He had stated that he was quite ready to join up on 1<sup>st</sup> January, but states that his case is now more serious: his father is lying seriously ill and unable to follow his occupation of Chimney Cleaner, his mother is paralysed and he is left as the sole supporter of the household. If he is called to the Colours the whole of the home will be broken up.

A letter dated 29 December from Mrs CASTLE, of 47 Gresham Road stating that this family is intimately known to her, that the man's father is dying, his

mother is a cripple, and that the only support of the family is from a married sister, whose husband has been killed in France and who has three small children dependent upon her. The tribunal resolved that he be allowed to make a further application as to exemption from Military Service.

**Page 241** 1917 Jan 4 Claim by Bon Marche Ltd  
Number of men August 1914: 285; today: 196; men between 18 & 41: 50;  
Number of men rejected: 15; attested 5; unattested 22; claims in respect of 8

**Page 244** 1917 Jan 4 W J CORDELL  
Married with 2 children dependent upon him, passed for C1. He arrived in England from Australia in August last. Hitherto has been working at Harty Munitions Factory but has had to give that up as his health could not stand the fumes from the cordite. Previous to that he was working as an Assistant Packer on a Transport Ship conveying the troops from Australia. His request for a request to make a late application was not assented to.

**Page 244** 1917 Jan 4 M E M REDMAN  
His wife was, on Boxing Day, moved in an almost hopeless condition to the Lambeth Infirmary as she was suffering from acute Peritonitis following from severe haemorrhage and a bad miscarriage. He has four children aged from 11 to 3½ years. One of these children is in hospital as a result of an accident and will be a cripple for life when he comes out. In the meantime he is looking after the other three children as best he can and states that he has no-one to render him any assistance in this. He is age 39, passed C1 and in the service of the South Metropolitan Gas Company as a lamp lighter. His request to be allowed to make an after time application is assented to.

**Page 251** 1917 Jan 8 Claim by Messrs HAMMERTON & Co Ltd  
Number of men August 1914: 285; today 241; between 18 & 41: 70; Rejected 16; Claim in respect of 18

**Page 261** 1917 Jan 11 Claim by H R ENGLISH  
Number of men August 1914: 59; today: 25; between 18 & 41: 15; Rejected: 1;  
Attested: 6; Unattested: 9; Claim in respect of 7

**Page 266** 1917 Jan 11 G E NASH  
Turret Lathe Hand employed by Messrs SUGG & Co. He served in the R.F.A. for 13 years and 16 days; 10 years of this service was spent in India and 15 months with the B.E.F. France, having been present at the Battle of Mons, Marne and the Aisne. He was discharged from the Army as a time expired man on 9<sup>th</sup> December 1915. Single man living at home with his parents, his father being partially paralysed. He has one brother at the Front who is married and two sisters, also married. He has been passed for General {Service} His request to be allowed to make an after time application has been granted.



**Page 273** 1917 Jan 15 Comprehensive Claim by the Lion Brewery Company  
Number of men August 1914: 266; today 170; between 18 & 41: 30? Number of men rejected: 5; attested 17; unattested 13; claim made in respect of 16

**Page 280** 1917 Jan 15  
It was noted that 844 cases were outstanding as of 13 January. The considerable increase has been attributed to comprehensive claims given 6 months temporary exemption were now due for hearing.

**Page 287** 1917 Jan 18 Godfrey JEFFE  
The Military Representative reported that he, of a shop at 447 Coldharbour Lane, has a father confined to bed, mother greatly shaken by attendance upon him. His sister helps in getting orders doing what she can in the shop but is not a strong girl. The other brother is serving. It is essentially a one man business and it would undoubtedly be a serious hardship if Godfrey was taken away. He was granted temporary exemption until 18 April subject to joining a duly recognised V.T.C. evidence of which must be produced within 14 days.

**Page 287** 1917 Jan 18 A E CHALLEN  
The Military Representative reported that he visited the house of A E CHALLEN, a Motor Owner & Driver, at 5a Church Street, Clapham Road, who stated that his wife was a cripple and that his son, 17 years of age, suffered from neuritis. Mrs CHALLEN was a big, stout woman going about her household duties. She explained that she suffered from sciatica of the left leg which prevented her from bending down. Her husband, she said, was obliged to put on her stocking. The boy was out but she said she would send him over with a proper Medical Certificate. There is quite a colony living in Church Street: Mr CHALLEN's mother, a brother and a nephew live next door and Mrs CHALLEN's mother and brother a few houses lower down. His claim was not allowed.

**Page 287** 1917 Jan 18 T R RICHARDSON  
He is referred to in the hearing of CV & HC DEBUS. He is employed by them as a Baker of Bread. Lambeth communicated with Battersea Tribunal suggesting that as they were dealing with the two DEBUS men, Battersea should refer to Lambeth in RICHARDSON's application and in reply Battersea stated that he was given a Certificate of Exemption from Military Service but they have no details of his case.

**Page 288** 1917 Jan 18 Comprehensive Claim of Messrs H W NEVILLE LD  
Number of men Aug 1914: 105; number today 103; between 18 & 41: 36; rejected 7; Attested 23; Unattested 6; claims in respect of 28

**Page 300** 1917 Jan 22 Comprehensive Claim of South London Electricity Supply Corporation Ltd

Number of men Aug 1914: 152; today 89; between 18 & 41: 38; number rejected: 10; Attested 28; Unattested: 0; Claim in respect of 6

**Page 304** 1917 Jan 22 Robert S RUMBOLD

The Coal Co-Operative Society Ltd ask leave to be allowed to make an after time application for exemption in respect of Robert S RUMBOLD, of 117 Shakespeare Road, Herne Hill, SE; age 28, Foreman Leader at their Herne Hill Railway Station Depot. He has, up to the present time, been dealt with as being in a Certified Occupation by the Military Authorities and has now been called upon to report for Service with the Colours on 24<sup>th</sup> inst. RUMBOLD also asks that on domestic grounds he may be granted a short exemption from Military Service as his wife anticipates her confinement towards the end of February. It was resolved that the request be granted.

**Page 304** 1917 Jan 22 Sydney H KEYS

By letter dated 18<sup>th</sup> January 1917 this man, who is an electrician at the Empress Theatre, Brixton, and who is 30 years of age, married and one child, asks leave to make an after time application on Medical grounds. He was rejected as Medically Unfit at Southampton on 26 January 191(x) and upon re-examination by the Camberwell Medical Board on 16<sup>th</sup> inst., he was passed as fit for General Service.

The reason the applicant has not applied for exemption before is that he was told at Southampton that it was no use for him to try and join the Army. Medical evidence as to the applicant's health is submitted and a letter was produced to the Hon. Clerk from the Prudential Assurance Company stating that they would not accept a further insurance on the applicant's life.

It was resolved that the request be granted.

**Page 306** 1917 Jan 22 Comprehensive Claim by Messrs TRUSLOVE & BARY Ltd

Number of Men Aug 1914: 47; Today: 18; between 18 & 41: 7; Rejected: 2; Attested 5; Unattested 2; Claims in respect of 5

**Page 313** 1917 Jan 24 Comprehensive Claim by James HAYES Ltd

Number of Men Aug 1914: 82; Today 57; Between 18 & 41: 26; Rejected 12; Attested 9; Unattested 5; Claims in respect of 7

**Page 316** 1917 Jan 24 Mrs Emily PITTS, re: Sydney HARDING

By letter dated 20<sup>th</sup> January, Mrs Emily PITTS, carrying on business as C.W.PITTS & Co., Coppersmiths, Braziers and General Metal Workers, at Cornwall Works, Kennington Green, asks leave to make an after time application with regard to the exemption of S. HARDING who was apprenticed to her late husband and has been with the firm for many years. Consequently

he knows the requirements of the Firm's customers perfectly and is a man whom it will be difficult to replace, if not impossible. In fact, if he has to go, it is stated that the business which has been established since 1838, will have to be closed.

When the War broke out, Mrs PITTS was employing 5 men, but now she has only two, a Working Manager age 56, and HARDING who is an expert Tinner of culinary utensils. HARDING was rejected for Service in the Navy as he has very bad feet and is ruptured, but has now been passed for C1 by the Camberwell Medical Board.

It was resolved that the request be granted.

**Page 316** 1917 Jan 24 A.R. PAPPADAKIS

By letter dated 20<sup>th</sup> January, he asks leave to make an after time application. He attained the age of 19 years on 4<sup>th</sup> January. He has already served in The Buffs for a month, but was, at the request of his mother, released from the Army on account of his father having had a paralytic stroke (Medical Certificate as to this has been produced). The Applicant's father's business, that of a Confectioner, is situate at London Bridge. The Applicant is engaged in a Bank but supervises his father's business affairs generally after office hours. He has a sister who is also engaged in the business. The Applicant has been passed for General Service.

It was resolved that the request be not granted.

Thanks are due to the staff at Lambeth Archives in facilitating the compiling of this index, in particular to Len Reilly for hastening the completion of this work, delayed by the conditions laid down by the Coronavirus lockdown.

P R Shilham May 2020