

**SGT. WILLIAM JOHN FAHEY M.M.**

**22<sup>ND</sup> Battalion Royal Fusiliers 'The Kensingtons'**  
**Service no. K954**

Born:- July 1893 in Kensal Green, London N.W.10.

Occupation:- Labourer at Ladbroke Grove Gasworks, London W.10.

Married:- September 1914 in North Kensington, London W.10.

Died:- November 1957 in North Kensington, London W.10.

Enlisted in the 22<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Royal Fusiliers - September 1914 at White City, West London. Was then sent to Roffey Training Camp near Horsham, Sussex.

Left with the Battalion for France in November 1915, arriving in Boulogne.

Awarded the M.M. for bravery in the field at Miraumont, presumably for the action at Coulee Trench or Grevilliers Trench. between Feb / Mar. 1917. An entry in the 22<sup>nd</sup> Battalion War Diary dated 5<sup>th</sup> April 1917 reads: 'Capt T.H. Evans was awarded the M.C., L/Cpl F.G. Miles the D.C.M. and L/Cpl Fahey the M.M.'

He went through every battle with the 22<sup>nd</sup> until the Battalion was disbanded on 5th February 1918, at Metz-en-Couture.

After taking leave, three weeks later joined the 24th Battalion at Metz-en-Couture. But unfortunately on his first tour in the trenches he was captured at La Vacquerie, around the 27<sup>th</sup> February 1918, running a message between trenches. An entry in the 24<sup>th</sup> Battalion War Diary dated 1<sup>st</sup> March 1918 reads: 'Enemy raided front line post under heavy artillery barrage and T.M. barrage - result 1 N.C.O. missing'. He spent the rest of the War in a P.O.W. camp for N.C.O.'s at Minden, Germany.\*

Throughout WW2 he was an ARP. Warden in North Kensington.\*\*

\*( Supplied is a copy of the letter to the Mayor of Kensington explaining his plight. This was the first communication that his Wife and baby daughter had received confirming that he was alive and well.)

\*\*( Supplied is a photograph of a poster which was displayed around Kensington, asking for people to enrol in the Civil Defence.)

\*\*\* ( Supplied is a Menu from the 22<sup>nd</sup> Royal Fusiliers Old Comrades Annual Dinner, dated 1949..

\*\*\*\* ( Supplied is a photograph taken with his wife Mabel and baby daughter prior to his embarkation to France - 1915

\*\*\*\*\* ( Supplied is a photograph of his fund raising for the war effort during WW2.



(Copy)

Name: Sergt. Fahey, 24th Royal Fusilier  
Christian name: William John  
Company: Block I., Room 12.  
Number: Camp No. 74472.

June 16th, 1918.

Just a line from one of the old boys of the 22nd Battalion who is now a prisoner. My reason for writing to you is that since I have been captured I have heard the rumour that our old Colonel (Brig-General Barnett Barker) has been killed, and I am hoping it is not the truth.

Well, sir, I was with the Battalion when it was formed in 1914, and went through every engagement with it, without a day's illness, and when returning from my second leave I was informed that I had to join the 24th Royal Fusiliers, and my first tour in the trenches with them I was captured. I was very lucky with my old Battalion.

Dear sir. I am glad to say that I have got over the worst part of being a prisoner, that is the first few weeks of being a prisoner, being short of smokes while waiting to hear from the Red Cross Society, and I have been captured 15 weeks now and have not yet received a letter from home, but I am expecting one every day. I have written to the Fusiliers Care Committee asking them to send me clothes as I am greatly in need of them.

I have met a chap here from our neighbourhood (North Kensington). He has been a prisoner since 1914, so he has had his share of it, and I am glad to say that we are all merry and bright, as it is no use being otherwise until this war is finished.

Well, sir, I cannot think of any more now. Hoping to find Lady Davison and yourself in the best of health, as it leaves me the same,

I remain,  
Yours sincerely,

(Signed) W. J. FAHEY,  
Sergt., R.M.

P.S: Sir, would you be so kind as to send me one of our



**BILL FAHEY**

of N. Kensington

1<sup>st</sup> World War


in "the Kensingtons"

won the M.M.

2<sup>nd</sup> World War

a Warden



To-day after work  
he likes  and a  
game of darts but finds time  
for Civil Defence training  
— just in case —

*Why not join him?*

Enrolment Forms may be obtained from

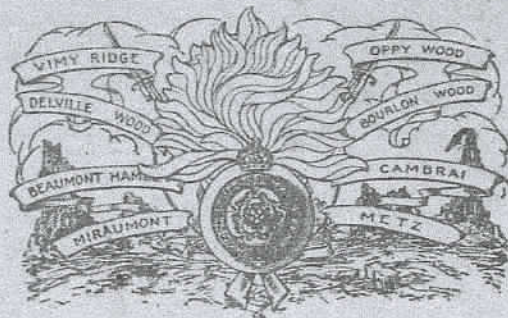
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108 Ladbroke Grove, W.11

**TOWN HALL, KENSINGTON HIGH STREET,**

**SOUTH KENSINGTON BRANCH LIBRARY,**

117 Old Brompton Road, S.W.7



22nd (Service) Battalion Royal Fusiliers  
(KENSINGTON)

OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION



## RE-UNION & DINNER

TAVISTOCK RESTAURANT

CHARING CROSS ROAD - W.C.1



CHAIRMAN :

Lieut.-Colonel the Rev. Canon W. J. PHYTHIAN-ADAMS  
(VICE-PRESIDENT) D.S.O., M.C., D.D.



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12th, 1949

7.30 p.m.



Christopher Stone  
Beckwithes to Fattay.

W. Frost 19 Sarah St. N.Y.

S. Pumphrey 26 Littlewood  
Leicester S.E. 13.

## Menu

□ □ □

Cream of Tomato Soup

□

Roast Lamb

Garden Peas Brussels Sprouts

Roast Potatoes

□

Ice Cream Trifle

□

Coffee

□

## Toasts

□ □ □

## The King

### OUR FALLEN.

"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them."

LADROCK BURTON.

## Absent Friends

### THE VISITORS

Proposed by - Captain GEORGE EVANS, M.C., D.C.M.

Reply - - - - - Councillor E. R. DINNAGIE  
(Horsesham British Legion)

□ □

### THE O.C.A.

Proposed by - - - - - V. B. BEXON, Esq.

Reply - - - - - ROBERT WRIGHT  
(Chairman of Committee)

□ □

### THE CHAIRMAN

Proposed by Major CHRISTOPHER STONE, D.S.O., M.C.  
(Vice-President)







