

EDWIN BETHELL

Birth: 1861

He was Baptised in St. Alfege Greenwich.

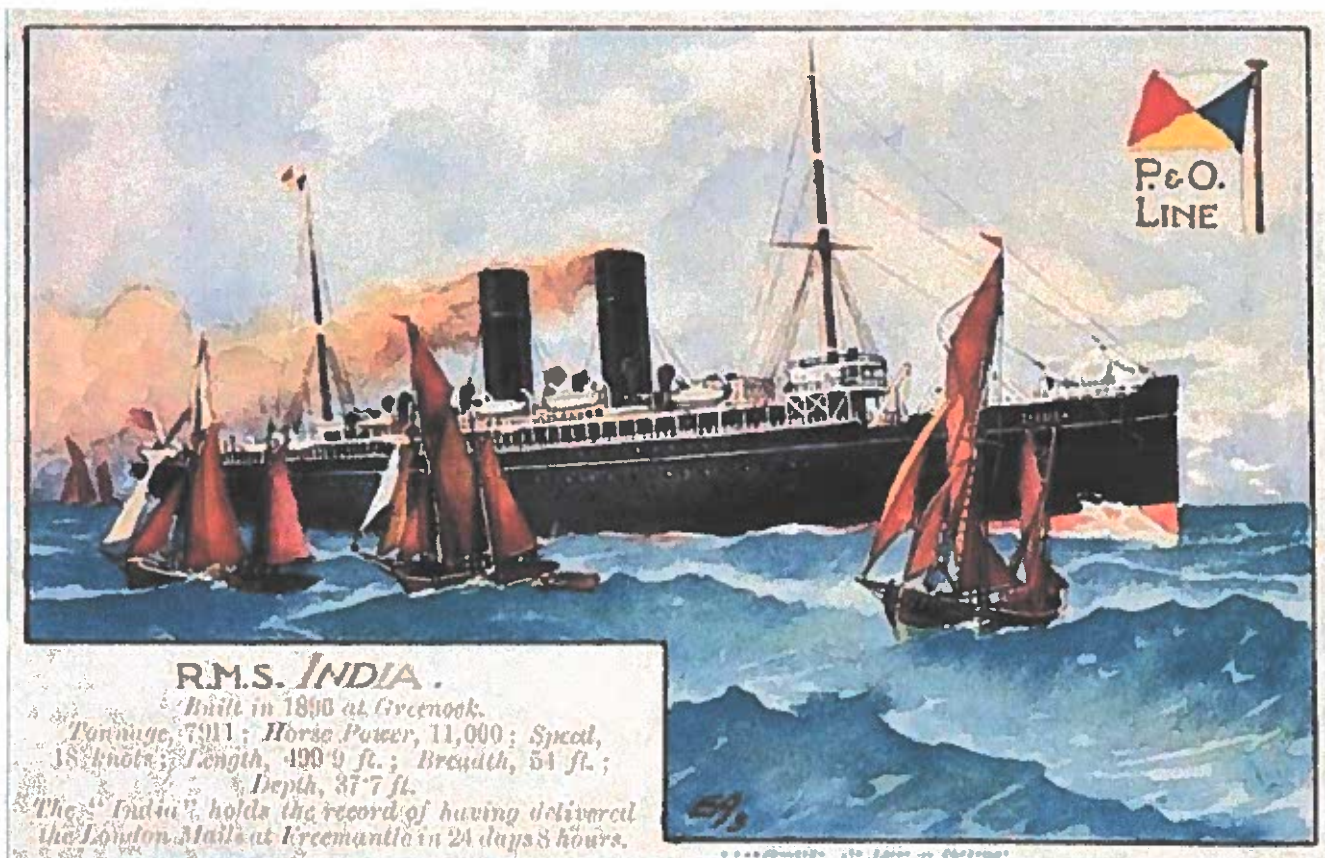
He was the husband of Elizabeth Bethell.

They had 6 children: Harold Paradise 12/1885; Winifred J. 10/1887; Katie Elizabeth about 1890.; Doris 4/12/1891; George (birth and death 1892; Freida Madge abt 1899. They lived at 70 Boyne Road.

Chief Engineer, BETHELL, EDWIN. H.M.S. "India." Royal Naval Reserve. Died 08/08/1915. Aged 54. CHATHAM NAVAL MEMORIAL [Plot 13] (France).

War Service:

Edwin Bethell Chief Engineer, Royal Naval Reserve.



His ship, RMS India became HMS India, when the former liner was commandeered by the Admiralty for use as an armed merchant cruiser.

“While on duty intercepting and inspecting neutral shipping, HMS India was torpedoed by German submarine U22 near Helligvaer, Norway, on August 8, 1915.

The ship broke in two and sank quickly.

Edwin was lost aged 54 together with 10 officers and 149 ratings.

A list of the 160 (reported numbers vary) men who died, together with a list of the survivors, can be found [here](#). .

According to information contained in The National Archives documents ADM 1/8429/227 and ADM 116/1440, some of the survivors were taken to Narvik by SS Gotaland and HMT Saxon; others went ashore at Helligvaer in the ship's boats. The men landed by SS Gotaland were allowed to return to the UK but the rest were interned.

HMT Saxon was allowed to leave the neutral port of Narvik within 24 hours. Commander Kennedy of HMS India was offered the chance to sail with her but chose to stay with his men. The dead were buried in Narvik cemetery.”

This text comes from the following webpage.

[https://www.naval-history.net/OWShips-WW1-08-HMS India.htm](https://www.naval-history.net/OWShips-WW1-08-HMS_India.htm)

Memorials

He was lost at sea and is commemorated on the Chatham Naval Memorial [Plot 13], which commemorates 8,514 sailors who lost their lives in WW1 and also on the memorial of St Margaret, Lee.

Dates: 1861 - 1915