

## Instead of music we had the music of the guns

In 1914 a group of miners from Dolcoath mine (all St John Ambulance men) signed up under Dr Blackwood and went straight out to the Front in the Royal Army Medical Corps. They served in France throughout the war, ending up as POWs in Germany.

Early in 1915, Camborne RFC sent out a ball to them and they organised three matches between Devon and Cornishmen.

Ernie Fletcher, who played for Camborne Band, wrote to the West Briton giving details of the teams (see below).

He wrote,

**“Instead of the music of the Bands in Camborne we had the music of the guns”**

What a sentence!

So, 100 years from the end of the War, a Band from Camborne will be going back to the Front. Camborne Youth Band will be going to Estaires, near where the matches were played. From there the Band will move on to play at the Menin Gate.

Corey Williams plays in the Youth Band. His great, great grandfather was Fred Negus, one of the Dolcoath men. Fred’s actual bugle will be played at the event.

We will be recording it and “reporting back” to Camborne with an exhibition at Heartlands from October-November 2018.

The exhibition is not only about the Youth Band's trip but also, very importantly, about the tradition of the Camborne Band and Camborne Rugby.

Susan Roberts  
Director



## The Rugby Players of 1915

I thought you might be interested to see the names of the 1915 rugby teams at the Front, just in case you spot any other Band members!

## Cornwall

Full Back: R Brown

Three-quarters: W Bosanko, R Chinn, J Soloman, R Treeby

Half-backs: E Fletcher and Paltridge

Forwards: L Pentecost, A J Williams, F Head, E Bray, W Trimm, F Negus, A Young and Dunstan

## Devon

Full Back: F Lovell

Three-quarters: G Lovell, Sergt Pike, E Curtis, F Williams

Half-backs: W Elliott and C Evans

Forwards: Mullins, Reed, Sergt Cross, Downing, Walters, Whitford, Pepperell and Sergt Patey

Referee: Sergt J Phillips (Camborne)

Linesmen: W Brookes and E Rule