

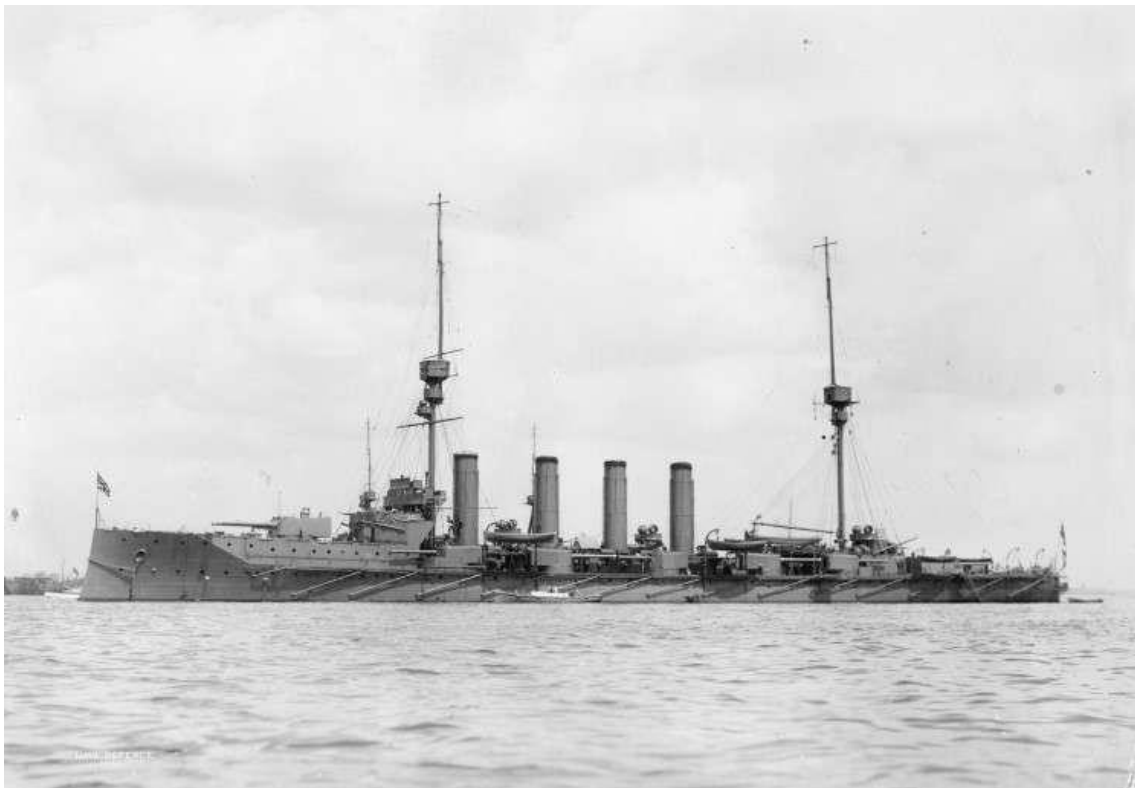
Able Seaman Victor Powell

J/30219 Royal Navy



Victor was born on 20th July 1897, the son of Walter James and Ellen Powell. In the 1911 census he is recorded as living in Southington, Overton, aged 14, and still at school.

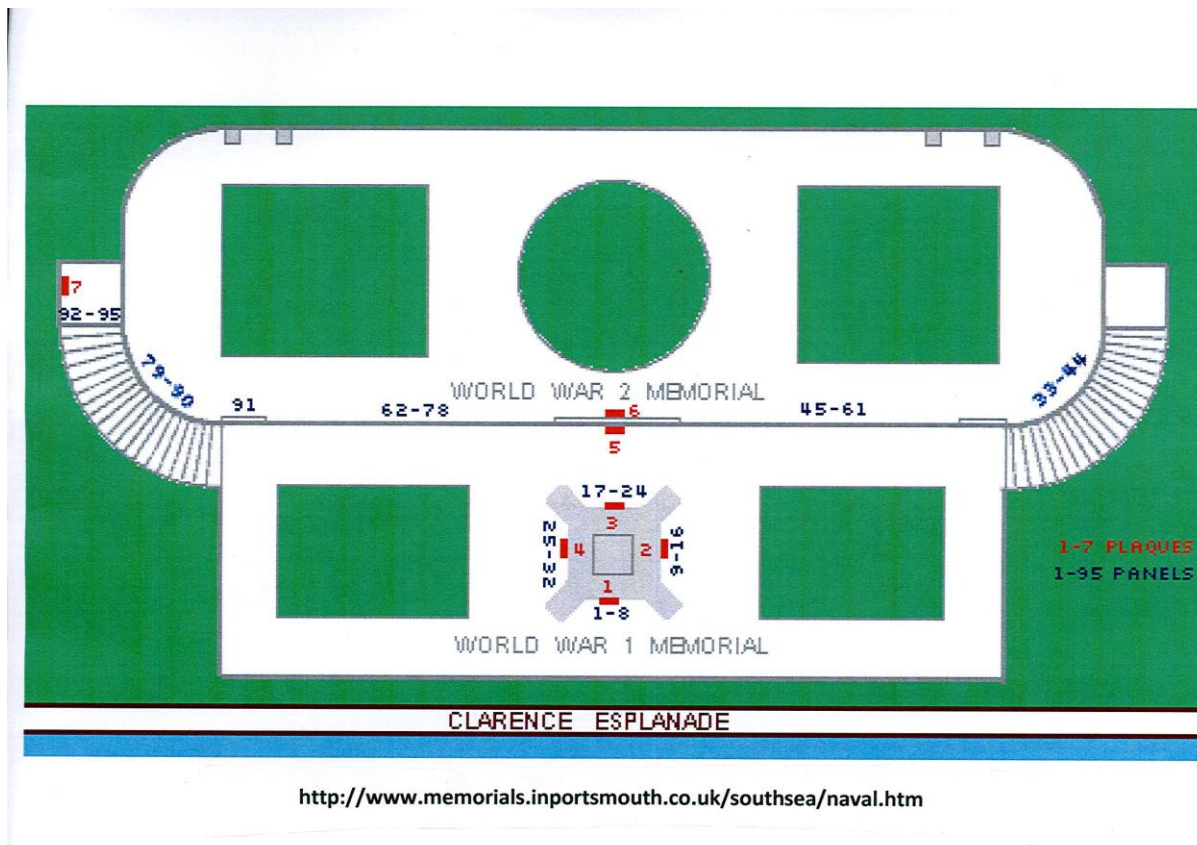
He joined HMS Impregnable as a Boy II in 1914 but at the time of his death in 1916 he was on HMS Defence. Defence was the last armoured cruiser built for the Royal Navy in 1907. Compared with the Dreadnought battleships she was relatively poorly armed.



During the Battle of Jutland on 31st May 1916, the fire from the German ships was heavy. Defence was hit by two salvos that caused the aft 9.2-inch magazine to explode. The resulting fire spread via the ammunition passages to the adjacent 7.5-inch magazines which detonated in turn. The ship exploded with the loss of all 900 men on board. Victor was nineteen.



Victor is remembered at the Plymouth Naval Memorial, panel 12.



He was awarded the Star, Victory and British War Medals.