John Richard Fountain

While researching the author’s mother, Margaret Joyce Fountain, the author also researched her granddad, John Richard Fountain and aunt, Rachel Fountain.

The author started with the following information and went from there:

The information below was provided by the Royal Bank of (RBS) Archives. Appendix A discusses the evolution from Manchester & County Bank to Westminster Bank (which itself subsequently became NatWest). This write-up links Westminster Bank to Royal Bank of Scotland1.

“In 2000 the Royal Bank acquired National Westminster Bank plc, in the biggest takeover in the history of British banking, to create a huge Group, with a highly diversified portfolio of services for personal, business and corporate customers. National Westminster Bank had been formed in 1968, when National Provincial Bank (established 1833), along with its subsidiary District Bank (established 1829), and Westminster Bank (established 1836), agreed to merge. The combined bank, which began trading in 1970, could, like the Royal Bank itself, trace its history back down the centuries through its own lineage of prestigious constituent banks. From the late 1970s National Westminster Bank had grown rapidly, extending its activities beyond domestic retail banking, by developing overseas and merchant banking interests. In 1995 the bank was restyled NatWest Group, to reflect the positioning of the company as a portfolio of businesses.

After the merger of the Royal Bank and NatWest the businesses of the two groups were combined, and the enormous task of integrating their IT systems began. Scheduled to be completed in 2003, it was the largest project of its kind ever attempted, and was finished in November 2002, four months ahead of target. NatWest’s retail bank continues to operate as a distinct and separate brand on the High Street.

Today The Royal Bank of Scotland Group’s importance in the banking sector is firmly reflected in its long and distinctive history.”

1 Accessed 7/11/03, http://www.royalbankscot.co.uk/Group_Information/Memory_Bank/Our_History/Group_Constituent_Histories/default.htm

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This history of these banks is important as it explains how the author was finally able to obtain information on the banking career of John Richard Fountain. An e-mail was sent to the RBS archives and upon proof of identification and relationship to JRF, the following information was obtained.¹

“The staff card for your grandfather contains the following information:

John Richard Fountain, born 28 April 1909

Entered the service of County Bank on 1 October 1925 as a junior clerk at Failsworth branch at a salary of £60 per annum. County Bank was taken over by District Bank on 25 September 1935.

He subsequently served at the following branches:

1 February 1938: Delph branch, clerk, £276 per annum
1 October 1941 joined army
3 June 1946: Hollinwood branch, clerk (on return from war service), £370 per annum
28 September 1953: Chadderton branch, clerk, £700 per annum
1 September 1958: Talbot Road, Blackpool branch, pro manager, £1,060 per annum
16 May 1960: Corporation Street, Blackpool branch, accountant, £1,275 per annum
1 June 1963: Colne branch, manager, £1,750 per annum

He retired due to ill health on 31 December 1966, when his salary was £2,205 per annum.

His salary increased steadily during each of his appointments.

He passed the Institute of Bankers examination part 2 in 1929, and the executor and trustee exams part 1 (no date) and part 2 in 1951.

A note dated 16 June 1950 states that his wife had purchased a hardware business at Grotton, but that he had no responsibilities for any losses that might be associated with the business.

A note dated 1 May 1956 states that he occupied the bank house at Chadderton (possibly above the branch) at a rental of £26 plus rates. As tenant he was responsible for the cost of fuel, electricity and gas, but was reimbursed 3 shillings a month for the electricity used in the staff room (which was presumably on the same circuit as the house). He was also responsible for internal decoration of the house. For the period up to 31 March 1957 the combined rent and rates payment was £76 per annum.

In 1961 he was absent for 85 days with coronary thrombosis, but otherwise had little absence.

¹ e-mail received 7/10/03, Philip Winterbottom, Deputy Group Archivist, The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, Group Archives, Group Purchasing and Property Operations, Regent's House, PO Box 348, Regent's House, 42 Islington High Street, LONDON N1 8XL, Tel 020 7615 6127, Fax 020 7837 7560, email Philip.Winterbottom@rbs.co.uk
The birth dates of his children (who are not named) are given as 15 October 1937 (daughter, your mother), 17 August 1943 (son) and 8 May 1846 (son).”

Appendix B is a compilation of this information matched up against known addresses and other life events.

As a point of interest, the author found a tool that will convert an amount in British pounds to its current purchasing power. Below is a chart of John Richard's known salaries and today's value (2004).

Obviously, purchasing power is a complex concept to compute and all relative. Recognize that though John Richard received salary raises, in hindsight, they didn't always increase his purchasing power. The source for this table was: Economic History Services.net (or EH.net) (see Appendix C for a note on the service)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>2002 Value (pounds)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1925</td>
<td>60 pounds/year</td>
<td>£2177.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1938</td>
<td>276 pounds/year</td>
<td>£13421.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1946</td>
<td>370 pounds/year</td>
<td>£9701.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1953</td>
<td>700 pounds/year</td>
<td>£11618.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>1060 pounds/year</td>
<td>£15015.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>1275 pounds/year</td>
<td>£17740.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1963</td>
<td>1750 pounds/year</td>
<td>£22492.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>2205 pounds/year</td>
<td>£25245.11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rachel Fountain

This was my mother's maiden aunt, sister to John Richard. See Appendix D for an overview of the scant information we have on Rachel!
Appendix A

MANCHESTER & COUNTY BANK, DISTRICT BANK and now WESTMINSTER BANK

District Bank

The origins of District Bank lie with the formation of the Manchester & Liverpool District Banking Co, a joint-stock bank which combined upon its establishment with the private bank of Christy, Lloyd & Co (established 1824) and opened for business in December 1829 in both Manchester and Christy, Lloyd & Co’s offices in Stockport. Branches were established in Oldham, Liverpool and Hanley in 1830 and by the end of 1833 it had 17 offices. Initially, the bank issued its own notes but discontinued this in 1834 to concentrate on the collection of deposits, discounting bills of exchange and granting loans. Later, substantial bad debts caused a suspension of dividend payments to shareholders. The bank survived, however, and in 1844 was able to purchase the Nantwich & South Cheshire Bank (established 1839). The private banks of Loyd, Entwisle & Co (established 1771) of Manchester and J O & G Alcock (established 1830) of Burslem were acquired in the early 1860s. The bank assumed limited liability status in 1880.

By the time a London office was opened in 1885, the bank had around 50 branches and was represented in Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, Yorkshire, Shropshire and Staffordshire. Mergers with the Lancaster Banking Co (established 1826) in 1909 and Bank of Whitehaven (established 1786) in 1916 added branches in Lancashire and Cumbria. By 1924, when the bank officially changed its name to District Bank, a title by which it had long been known, it had over 130 offices. It was not, however, large enough to compete effectively with the 'Big Five' high street banks. A merger with County Bank, originally known as Manchester & County Bank (established 1862), followed in 1935, by which time the bank had a total of 190 branches in the north-west. In 1936 District Bank was admitted to the London Clearing House and, with a paid-up capital of £3 million, continued to extend its branch network, becoming the seventh largest of the London clearing banks by the 1950s. District Bank was acquired by National Provincial Bank (established 1833) in 1962 but remained an independent subsidiary until the formation of National Westminster Bank in 1970.
Appendix B

John Richard Fountain

Born
37 Hardman St., Chadderton
(see map in Appendix C)

28 April 1909

School
Stanley Road Council School*
(see map in Appendix C ... Stanley road is right off Albert Street of which Hardman Street is just off)

*accessed 7/17/03, http://schoolsite.edex.net.uk/1610/front/front.htm/index1.htm, obviously the author can't guarantee that this is how the school looked in the early 1900s when John Richard would have attended
Stanley Road Primary School

Stanley Road Primary School is a co-educational County Primary School for Nursery, Infant and Junior pupils aged 3 to 11 years.

The school was built in 1903 and has been used as various Primary, Secondary and comprehensive schools during its history.

It claims several ex-mayors of Oldham amongst its ex-pupils including the 1991-92 Mayor, Counselor Ralph Semple.

In 1987 the building was refurbished and opened as an annex to Freehold Community School. By September 1991 the school had grown in numbers sufficiently to reopen as a new school, Butler Green Primary School. In September 1998 the Governing Body changed the name of the school back to Stanley Road Primary School.

Address                84 Albert Street, Chadderton     Date Unknown
(see Appendix C for photo)

School                  Hulme Grammar School (see Appendix F)
(Located on Chamber Road, Oldham – cross Manchester road from Hardman Street and you find yourself on Chamber street – according to Ms. Tattersall at the girls school, it is at the intersection of Chamber Road and Frederick Street)

(Related Aerial photo showing the school property follows)

\footnote{accessed 7/17/03, http://schoolsite.edex.net.uk/1610/front/fronthtm/index1.htm}
Hulme Grammar School has confirmed his attendance:

School admission Number: 1369
Date of birth: 28.4.1909
Date of admission: 14.9.1920
Date of leaving: February 1925
Father's details: J. F. Fountain
84 Albert Street
Chadderton
Skip & basket maker.

{Apparently the school publishes a magazine called "The Oldham Hulmeian" and a yearbook. Unfortunately, the Oldham Local Studies library does not have any issues covering 1920-1925 ... was able to subsequently follow-up with the school}

"Mr Aldred has been into school again and has searched through The Hulmeains published during your granddad's time at Hulme Grammar School. This is his note to you:

I have found a reference to him in the Magazine of March 1924.

In the Debating Society Report of Friday 23rd November 1923 he is reported as speaking on the motion Country Life is preferable to town life. It does not say for which side he spoke.

* e-mail received 9/8/2003, Pauline Wild, School Secretary with information from Mr. Aldred, School Historian, P Wild [pwild@hulmegrammarschools.org.uk]
The School's History & Location

The School dates back to 1606 when James Assheton gave a site and endowed a school in Oldham. In 1611 Oldham Grammar School (with just 30 pupils) opened under the aegis of a Board of Trustees. By the middle of the nineteenth century the School, which consisted of just one room, fell into a sad state of neglect and disrepair.

The Hulme Grammar Schools, Oldham, re-opened on the present site in 1895. In 1925 separate accommodation for a Girls' School was built within the School. The Hulme Grammar School for Girls still adjoins The Hulme Grammar School and shares the same Governing Body and Bursar. The present school site is located on the south-facing slope of the hill leading up to Oldham from Manchester.

It is situated in an area known as The Coppice, a residential part of town characterised by its large Victorian and Edwardian houses built in distinctive Accrington red brick.

In the heyday of the Lancashire cotton industry this is reputed to have been one of the most prosperous districts in the country. In good visibility, the School commands a view over five counties. One particularly impressive vista, to the south-west, stretches beyond the bounds of Oldham itself, right across the Manchester plain and as far as the mountains of North Wales, whose grey silhouettes can just be picked out on the far horizon.

Employment

County Bank, Failsworth Branch, Junior Clerk
1 October 1925 (start)

(looks like located at 794 Oldham Road, Failsworth)7
(or 465 Oldham Road, Failsworth ... 1929 Manchester Directory)10

---

7 e-mail received 10/30/03, P Wild [PWild@hulmegrammarschools.org.uk]
8 accessed 9/16/03, http://www.hulme-grammar.org.uk/admin/prospectus/pro_historyOHGS.htm
9 Natwest web site ... lists a bank at this address in Failsworth ... don't know if it's predecessor was the County Bank, Failsworth. www.natwest.com
10 Kelly's 1929 Directory of Manchester, Salford and Suburbs ... Archive CD Books Project
This is the listing for Oldham Road in Failsworth and we see a branch of the Manchester & County Bank at 465 Oldham Rd.

This picture of the Failsworth Pole (1958) shows what was the District Bank ... this is the building to the right of the pole

Address 15 Chesney Ave, Chadderton c. 1936
{see Rachel write-up for map location}

Wedding To Elsie Taylor @ Particular Baptist Church, Hollinwood 4 July 1936

(Pictured to right: Bethesda Particular Baptist Chapel, Hollinwood, Marriage site of John and Elsie)

Employment District Bank, Delph, Clerk 1 February 1938 (start)

---

11 Location of bank from Oldham Local Studies, Christine Drummond (Local Studies Assistant) May 2004
(The building on the left is the Royal Bank of Scotland building which was previously NatWest and prior to that the District Bank, Delph)\(^\text{13}\) (see Appendix E for more on Delph)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Military Service</th>
<th>Royal Army Ordinance Corp</th>
<th>1941-1946</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

(right: possible crest and tie for Royal Army Ordinance Corp)\(^\text{14}\)

From the photo above and the blow up of his arm insignia (to the right)… we can confirm

1. Affiliation with RAOC
2. That he was a Non-commissioned “Sergeant”\(^\text{15}\)

(see Appendix H for more information on his military service including his pay book and medals earned) -- we have not yet determined what the “palm tree” insignia means.

\(^{13}\) accessed \(8/23/03\), \(\text{http://www.virtualsaddleworth.co.uk/delph.htm}\) -- original reference provided by e-mail received \(8/20/03\) from Dave via info@virtualsaddleworth.co.uk

\(^{14}\) accessed \(7/18/03\), \(\text{http://www.regiments.org/milhist/uk/corps/RAOC.htm}\)

\(^{15}\) accessed \(2/1/04\), \(\text{http://www.army.mod.uk/presscentre/badges/index.htm}\) , UK army web site
Employment: District Bank, Hollinwood Branch 3 June 1946 (start)
(located at 306 Manchester Road, Hollinwood)\textsuperscript{16}

Address: Above Hardware Shop in Grotton c. 1948
(located at 283 Oldham Road, Grotton, Oldham)
(see Margaret Joyce Fountain write-up for more on this address)

Employment: Chadderton Branch, District Bank 28 December 1953 (start)

Address: Above Bank (Chadderton Branch, District Bank at intersection of Middleton and Featherstall Rds) c. 1953
(see Margaret Joyce Fountain write-up for more on this address)

Address: 441 North Drive, Cleveleys (letter 12 September 1962)

Church: Cleveley's Congregational Church (undated photo below)

\textsuperscript{16} e-mail received 8/20/03, Oldham Local Studies Library [local.studies@oldham.gov.uk]
This picture is what was the Cleveleys Congregational Church and is now the Cleveleys United Reformed Church – see Appendix G for a map and recent photo.

Employment

Talbot Rd Bank Branch, Blackpool, pro manager 1 September 1958 (start)
(apparently this was 26 Talbot road and is now the location of a NHS walk-in clinic!)

(accessed 1/28/04, http://www.footstepsphotos.co.uk/Lancashire/lanp1.htm)

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Apparently this area used to have quite an attractive square ... at the intersection of Talbot and Clifton Roads. The picture below is Talbot Square in 1890. 

Employment  Corporation Street Branch, Blackpool, Accountant  
16 May 1960 (start)
Employment  Colne branch, manager  1 June 1963 (start)

(this bank was/is located on Church Street in Colne)\(^9\)

(These following photos are from the Colne Library ... see earlier reference)

(what the bank looked like before its redesign in 1961)

(what the bank looks like now ... taken from opposite one as the B&W photo above)

\(^9\) e-mail received 8/21/03, Colne Library - Reference [Colne.Reference@lcl.lancscc.gov.uk]
Contact with the Nelson Library revealed the following about “Croftlands” ...

“I am delighted to tell you the image you sent of Croftlands has done the trick. Your grandparents former home is number 380, Gisburn Road, Blacko and the reason our colleagues in Barrowford struggled to identify it from its name, is that it is no longer referred to as such. Mrs. Sheila Cutler, one of the library assistants at Barrowford, has spoken to the lady who currently resides there and she has been able to give us a little more information.

The current owner of Croftlands is a Mrs. McBeath and she actually bought the property off your grandparents, whom she remembers as "a lovely couple". Sadly, it was whilst the sale of the house was going through that Mr. Fountain died. The McBeath's moved in in August 1967 and initially Mrs. McBeath kept in touch with Mrs. Fountain, who moved to St. Annes, but lost contact with her over time. Mrs. McBeath has said that if ever you should be over visiting, and in the area, you must go and visit her.

I’m afraid a second search has not uncovered an obituary or death announcement for Mr. Fountain.”

Died Burnley Hospital 27 February 1967
BURNLEY GENERAL HOSPITAL

The majority of the original buildings which date from 1887 and which remain on site today, have been upgraded in recent years, through a series of phased capital developments. Development work is underway to replace the existing accommodation that currently provides facilities for medical patients. This district general hospital, which is the primary site delivering services for the Trust, has facilities on site which include medical, surgical, care for the elderly, mental health, dermatology, chiropody, ENT, urology, gynaecology, maternity, accident & emergency, outpatients, radiological services and pathology.21

Buried Hollinwood Cemetery
Tribute Thornton Cleveleys Times 7 April 1967

“Tributes to Church Workers – In the April edition of Cleveleys Congregational Church’s magazine “Messenger,” sympathy is extended to the families of two church members who died recently… Mr John R. Fountain, of Nelson, was a member of the church when he lived in Cleveleys and served the church “with unstinted devotion and ability” as deacon and treasurer.”

Death Notice Oldham Evening Chronicle

“FOUNTAIN – On Feb 27 (suddenly in hospital), and of Croftlands Gisburn Rd., Blacko, Nelson, JOHN RICHARD, the dearly loved husband of Elsie, dear father of Margaret, Ian and Neil, and loving brother of Rachel. Service Friday March 3, Barlow’s Chapel of Rest, Union Street West, 12-45 p.m. prior to interment at Hollinwood Cemetery. 1-30 p.m. Inquiries G. Barlow & Sons Ltd., MAI 4301”

21 accessed 7/18/03, http://www.hospitalsineastlancs.nhs.uk/index1.asp -- hospital located at: Casterton Avenue, Barley, Lancashire, BB10 2PQ

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Appendix C

"How Much Is That Worth Today?"

Comparing the purchasing power of money in the Great Britain from 1264 to 2002.

You have accessed a program to calculate what an amount of money in pounds sterling from some year in the past is worth in either modern pounds or in those of some other year in the past. The calculations are based on a retail price index (RPI). The form at the site permits the entry of a value in pounds sterling for any year from 1264 to last year to be restated in its present-day equivalent, adjusted for inflation. Comparisons between any two years in the period are also possible. These computations are done in the very same way using the very same data that economists and statisticians employ regularly.

The user of these data is better prepared to understand the potential problems involved if she or he aware of them. For instance, the data used are from the English economy for almost all of the period. Only from the eighteenth century onward can they even begin to be thought of as representing the entire economy of Great Britain. Anyone who wishes to explore this and similar issues behind the construction and the use of the RPI for deriving these comparisons is encouraged to read more on the subject. One book that discusses all of this is John J. McCusker, How Much Is That in Real Money?: A Historical Price Index for Use as a Deflator of Money Values in the Economy of the United States, 2nd ed., rev. and enl. (Worcester, Massachusetts: American Antiquarian Society, 2001). There are many other works of a similar character; the more useful of them are mentioned in the notes and bibliography of that book. The series from 1264-1954 comes from the classic study by Phelps-Brown and Hopkins; the most recent values come from the the British Office of National Statistics; updates to the latter series are available on the ONS website.

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Citation: John J. McCusker, "Source Note for How Much is That Worth Today" Economic History Services, 2003, URL : http://www.eh.net/hmit/ppowerbp/poundsource.php. Please read our Note on Data Revisions
Appendix D
Rachel Fountain
(sister of John Richard Fountain)

Birth 37 Hardman Street, Chadderton
24 February 1912

Address 84 Albert Street, Chadderton/Hollinwood
(this address is just a road over from Hardman Street, see center of map below)
(We can see from the next map, that her brother John Richard and wife Elsie, lived quite close on Chesney Ave. Chesney Ave is in the left segment of the map and Hardman and Albert streets are in the NE quadrant)

(Rachel and her brother John Richard as children)
John Richard Fountain & Rachel Fountain

(Left: Rachel as a bridesmaid for someone's wedding)

(Right: Rachel as a bridesmaid for her brother, John Richard's, wedding 1936)

(holding the author in 1959)
(Since we know that Hannah Jane Butterworth Fountain, on right, died 1964, most likely this photo is from the early 1960s. Others pictured are Rachel, left, and her brother, John Richard)

(left: wedding of nephew Ian)

(right: wedding of niece Margaret, 1958)

Died 4 February 1970

Buried Hollinwood Cemetery

Death Notice Oldham Evening Chronicle

“FOUNTAIN -- ON Feb 4 (suddenly), at 84 Albert St., Chadderton, RACHEL, dearly loved daughter of the late John F. and Anna J. Fountain, and sister of the late John R. Fountain. Service Barlow’s
At her death, Rachel's estate was divided between her niece (the author's mother) and two nephews.

The solicitors involved were “Firth, Whitehead & Co.,” 115 Union Street, Oldham. Her major assets at the time of her death were:

- National Savings Certificates
- Cash at National Westminster Bank Ltd
- Money out of Mortgage
- Life Insurance with Prudential Assurance Co. Ltd & Royal London Mutual Insurance Society Limited
- Sale of 84 Albert Street, Hollinwood
The centre of this picturesque village has barely changed from its 19th century heyday, when small mills were at the heart of a thriving community. The place name of Delph is derived from the Old English word 'Delf', meaning a quarry and refers to the bakestone quarries which lay at the lower end of the Castleshaw Valley just north of the village. The bakestones were quarried as tiles up to three quarters of an inch thick and used to bake oatcakes and muffins. The industry was in existence well before 1330 and only died out in 1930: examples of bakestones are available in Saddleworth Museum. 

Delph is an ideal start for walks up the Castleshaw Valley to the Roman Fort. High on a hill above Delph sits the bleak, lonely site of Castleshaw Fort, one of a series built on the Roman military road from Chester to York. Excavations finished in 1988. The banks and ditches have been reconstructed to give visitors an artist's impression of the scale of the fort as it was.

(accessed 7/19/03, http://www.visittoldham.co.uk/villages/delph.htm)
Appendix F

Hulme Grammar School

A bit more on the school from “A Brief History of Oldham Grammar School and The Hulme Grammar School, Oldham, 1611-1961” by Hartley Bateson and H.B. Shaw.

There is little if nothing on the book covering the period when John Richard attended which was 1920-1925.

“The immediate post-war (note: World War I) were extremely difficult for the School. Education costs had risen steeply and income had not kept pace. There were shortages of essential equipment and text books, repairs and re-decoration had been impossible due to wartime restrictions and were now necessary, and there was a great increase in the number of candidates for admission. Gradually most of these problems were surmounted, but only by dint of much devotion among the Governors and a vast amount of hard work on the part of the headmaster.

Ground plan and architect’s drawing of the south side of the present buildings as they appeared at the opening in 1895. The block to the right of and behind the Hall was then occupied by the Girls’ School, which was transferred to its own premises in 1925.
Comparing the General Inspection statistics of 1914 with those of 1921, the number of boys, of whom one-half lived in Oldham and the other half elsewhere, had more than doubled. The cost per head to the Governors of £18. 4. 0 in 1914 was £26 in 1921, and by 1930 this had risen, due entirely to external circumstances beyond their control, to £30. 16.0d. Yet at each Inspection the School was commended for its efficiency, the average Leaving-age had gone up, and the work of the Sixth Forms had developed.”
Appendix G

Cleveleys Congregational Church, now Cleveleys United Reformed Church

(source: http://www.nwsynod.org.uk/district/3108.php)
Appendix H

John Richard Fountain Military Service

One of John Richard's children had his military pay book ... here are pages from that book.
(note, the compassionate leave in September 1943 would have been for the birth of Ian)
Here are the medals earned and their description ...

### Campaign Stars, Clasps and Medals

**Institution of recognition of service in the war of 1939-45**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Order of Wearing</th>
<th>Description of Ribbon</th>
<th>Class or Emblem (if awarded)</th>
<th>Date of Issue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 1939-45 Star</td>
<td>Dark blue, red and light blue in three equal vertical stripes. This ribbon is worn on the left shoulder</td>
<td>Battle of Britain</td>
<td>1939-45 Star</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Atlantic Star</td>
<td>Blue, white and one green striped and wired. This ribbon is worn on the left shoulder</td>
<td>Air Crew Europe and Germany</td>
<td>1940-45 Star</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Allied Service Star</td>
<td>Light blue with black edges and in addition a narrow yellow stripe on either side</td>
<td>Atlantic and Germany</td>
<td>1940-45 Star</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Africa Star</td>
<td>Pale blue with a central vertical red stripe and two narrow yellow stripes, one dark blue, and the other light blue. The ribbon is worn on the left shoulder</td>
<td>South Africa 1942-43</td>
<td>1940-45 Star</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Pacific Star</td>
<td>Dark blue with red edges, a central yellow stripe, and two narrow stripes, one dark blue and the other light blue. The ribbon is worn on the left shoulder</td>
<td>Bombo</td>
<td>1940-45 Star</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Burma Star</td>
<td>Dark blue with a central red stripe and two narrow yellow stripes</td>
<td>Pacific</td>
<td>1940-45 Star</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Italy Star</td>
<td>Five vertical stripes of equal width, one red at either edge and two in green at the centre, two narrow yellow stripes being in white.</td>
<td>Atlantic</td>
<td>1940-45 Star</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 France and Germany Star</td>
<td>Five vertical stripes of equal width, one in blue at either edge and one in red at the centre, two narrow yellow stripes being in white.</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1940-45 Star</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Korea Medal</td>
<td>Silver bordered with green edges, upon each of which is a narrow black stripe</td>
<td>Silver</td>
<td>1940-45 Star</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 War Medal</td>
<td>A narrow central red stripe with a narrow yellow stripe on either side. A silver on edge, and two narrow yellow stripes in blue.</td>
<td>Oak Leaf</td>
<td>1940-45 Star</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**The Under-Secretary of State for War presents his compliments and has the honour to transmit the enclosed Awards granted for service during the war of 1939-45.**
We are also in possession of his military service record ... and let me tell you, there are a lot of abbreviations and acronyms that we still don't understand! On the other-hand, much of the information duplicates that provided by his pay book.

The file received included:

- a Birth Form for when son, Ian, born in 1943
- Notification of Impending Release

### Notification of Impending Release

**Part I**

- **Name:** John Richard Fountain
- **Rank:** Private
- **Age:** 28
- **Army No.:** 1695397
- **Service Group:** 284 - ROYAL LANCASHIRE REGIMENT
- **Remarks:** LST LEAVING 72 DECKS

**Part II**

- **Trade or civilian occupation:** Clerk
- **Service Date:** 20 APR 1945

**Part III**

- **Place of birth:** England
- **Date of birth:** 20 APR 1920
- **Address:** 15 CHELNEY AVENUE, LEIGHTON BURNE

**Statement of Services – Army Form B200B – a pretty high level overview of information and does include a summary of “Length of Service”**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Service to count as British or Indian</th>
<th>From</th>
<th>To</th>
<th>Length of Service</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Home</td>
<td></td>
<td>11-8-44</td>
<td>2-2-46</td>
<td>2 yrs 10 days</td>
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<tr>
<td>NWE</td>
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<td>3-7-44</td>
<td>25-1-46</td>
<td>4 yrs 5 months</td>
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<td>NWE</td>
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<td>24-4-46</td>
<td>10-6-46</td>
<td>32 days</td>
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<td>British</td>
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<td>1-11-46</td>
<td>23-4-45</td>
<td>2 yrs 11 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>Home</td>
<td></td>
<td>6-3-46</td>
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<td>63 days</td>
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(Home means England and NWE refers to North West Europe)
John Richard Fountain & Rachel Fountain

- Original Registration – Army Form E531, 4 pages – these are pages 1 (basic information) and 3 (assignment ... notice mention of deferment for 2 weeks because of job)
PART VI.

**Certificate of Approving Officer.**

I certify that this attestation of the above-named recruit is correct and properly filled up, and

\[\underline{\text{COPG}} \underline{\text{ARMY OF BRITAIN}}\]

\[\underline{\text{R.A.O.C.}}\]

\[\underline{\text{111 Armoured Sub Park}}\]

If required, special authority, Army Form B 103, (or other authority for the enlistment) will be

\[\underline{\text{attached to the original and duplicate attestation.}}\]

Date: 10/...

Place: ... Malt

Signature: Approving Officer

* The signature of the Approving Officer is to be affixed in the presence of the Recruit.

**Statement of Services of**

**Army No. 10657168**

**Name:** John Richard Fountain

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. of Part II Order or other Authority</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &amp;c.</th>
<th>Army Rank</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Service and casualty form – Army Form B 103 – this includes the details of service and has the following overview of the units that John Richard served with</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Enlisted at Manchester, 06.1940       | R.A.O.C. | 111 Training R. B.           | 1940-1944 |       | **Have corresponded with someone associated with The Royal Army Ordnance Corps (RAOC) Association (http://www.army.mod.uk/rlc/associations/raoc_association.htm), the secretary, Lt Col Dennis Irvine (secretary.raocct@milnet.uk.net)**

Here is his description of the units that John Richard served with ... “No 3 Training Battalion was located in Hilsea Barracks Portsmouth. 9 & 10 Battalions were located at Donnington (Venning Barracks) in Shropshire and included 1 & 2 AAS (Armament Stores Section). 111 Armoured Ordnance Sub Park formed part of the Order of Battle of RAOC Units in 21 Army Group which took part in the Invasion of North West Europe following the Normandy Landings and would have moved forward as the advances were made into Belgium and beyond. 12 Corps formed part of the Second Army and Army Troops Sub Park would, I suspect have been part of this.”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. of Part II</th>
<th>Name of Unit No.</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Date of Entry</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Place of Birth</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
<th>Place of Abode on Date of Birth</th>
<th>Date of Enlistment</th>
<th>Place of Enlistment</th>
<th>Service No.</th>
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<td>Offr</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Leicester, Leicestershire</td>
<td>21/10/1878</td>
<td>Leicester, Leicestershire</td>
<td>21/10/1901</td>
<td>Leicester, Leicestershire</td>
<td>12345</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2nd Lt</td>
<td>21/10/1901</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Leicester, Leicestershire</td>
<td>21/10/1878</td>
<td>Leicester, Leicestershire</td>
<td>21/10/1901</td>
<td>Leicester, Leicestershire</td>
<td>12345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Capt</td>
<td>21/10/1901</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Leicester, Leicestershire</td>
<td>21/10/1878</td>
<td>Leicester, Leicestershire</td>
<td>21/10/1901</td>
<td>Leicester, Leicestershire</td>
<td>12345</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Continued on next page)
### SERVICE AND CASUALTY FORM

**Regiment or Corps:** R.A.O.C  
**Army Number:** 10553167  
**Surname:** Fountain  
**Christian Names:** John Richard

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. of Part II</th>
<th>Order or other Assault</th>
<th>Date of Casualty</th>
<th>Army</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Date of Invalidation and Grant of Pension</th>
<th>Signature of Officer authorising certificates of invalidity</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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**Embarked BAOR & SOS BAOR X(vh) A List Class**  
**Release**

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**Signature:**

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