

**Addendum 2005****John Richard and Rachel Fountain**

*Updated: August 21, 2004, September 30, 2004, October 24, 2005*

**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.*

Memories of  
John Richard Fountain

The schools he went to were Stanley Rd. Council School and Hulme Grammar School in Oldham.  
He used to say that his parents worked very hard and that in spite of being very poor were able to send him to grammar school instead of him having to leave school at 14 to go to work.  
In 1925 he joined the Manchester and County Bank, later called District Bank, now called Westminster Bank. He worked till he retired in 1967 for health reasons.  
During WWII he was a Sergeant in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps.  
In 1936 lived at 15 Chesney Ave in Chadderton.  
Circa 1948 moved to Grotton and lived above a Hardware Shop.  
Circa 1953 lived above the bank branch at the intersection of Featherstall & Middleton Rds.  
Transferred to the Blackpool Branch of the bank and lived in Clevelys.  
At the time of his death, they lived at "Croftlands", Gisburn Rd, Blacko Nelson

(Memories of Elsie Taylor Fountain Paine, 1991)

*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 Scotland<sup>1</sup>.*

"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."

<sup>1</sup> Accessed 7/11/03, [http://www.royalbankscot.co.uk/Group\\_Information/Memory\\_Bank/Our\\_History/Group\\_Constituent\\_Histories/default.htm](http://www.royalbankscot.co.uk/Group_Information/Memory_Bank/Our_History/Group_Constituent_Histories/default.htm)

COMPLETE

*John Richard Fountain & Rachel Fountain*

*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.<sup>2</sup>*

"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.

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<sup>2</sup> 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](mailto:Philip.Winterbottom@rbs.co.uk)

COMPLETE

*John Richard Fountain & Rachel Fountain*

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)*

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

**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 &amp; COUNTY BANK, DISTRICT BANK and now WESTMINSTER BANK

**District Bank<sup>3</sup>**

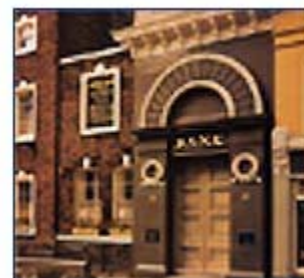
The origins of District Bank lie with the formation of the Manchester & Liverpool District Banking Co, a joint-stock bank which combined upon its establishment with the private bank of Christy, Lloyd & Co (established 1824) and opened for business in December 1829 in both Manchester and Christy, Lloyd & 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.



<sup>3</sup> accessed 7/4/03, [http://www.royalbankscot.co.uk/Group\\_Information/Memory\\_Bank/Our\\_History/Group\\_Constituent\\_Histories/district.htm](http://www.royalbankscot.co.uk/Group_Information/Memory_Bank/Our_History/Group_Constituent_Histories/district.htm)

COMPLETE

John Richard Fountain & Rachel Fountain

*Appendix B*

John Richard Fountain

Born

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

28 April 1909



(John Richard as a young boy, youth and young man ... undated. There are also photos in Appendix C showing both siblings)

School

Stanley Road Council School<sup>†</sup>

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



<sup>†</sup>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<sup>5</sup>

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  
(see Appendix C for photo)

*Date Unknown*

*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)

<sup>5</sup> accessed 7/17/03, <http://schoolsites.edex.net.uk/1610/front/frmhtml/index1.htm>



COMPLETE

John Richard Fountain & Rachel Fountain



*Hulme Grammar School has confirmed his attendance<sup>6</sup>:*



School admission Number:	1369
Date of birth:	28.4.1909
Date of admission:	14.9.1920
Date of leaving:	February 1925
Father' 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 Hulmeians 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.

<sup>6</sup> e-mail received 9/8/2003, Pauline Wild, School Secretary with information from Mr. Aldred, School Historian, P Wild [PWild@hulmegrammarschools.org.uk]

..... Here Canal crosses .....  
 Popular Picture Palace,  
 David Turner, proprietor  
 461 Barnes Ernest M.D. & C.M.  
 physician & surgeon  
 463 Mullins Wm. Crosby, draper  
 465 Manchester & County Bank  
 Ltd. (Herbert Watts Chad-  
 derton, manager)

I have checked the other magazines which were published during his years at school but I cannot find any other reference."<sup>7</sup>

## *The School's History & Location*<sup>8</sup>

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)<sup>9</sup>*

*(or 465 Oldham Road, Failsworth ... 1929 Manchester Directory)<sup>10</sup>*

<sup>7</sup> e-mail received 10/30/03, P Wild [PWild@hulmegrammarschools.org.uk]

<sup>8</sup> accessed 9/16/03, [http://www.hulme-grammar.org.uk/admin/prospectus/pro\\_historyOHGS.htm](http://www.hulme-grammar.org.uk/admin/prospectus/pro_historyOHGS.htm)

<sup>9</sup> 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](http://www.natwest.com)

<sup>10</sup> Kelly's 1929 Directory of Manchester, Salford and Suburbs ... Archive CD Books Project



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John Richard Fountain & Rachel Fountain

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<sup>1112</sup>

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, Delyh, Clerk

1 February 1938 (start)

<sup>11</sup> Location of bank from Oldham Local Studies, Christine Drummond (Local Studies Assistant) May 2004

<sup>12</sup> Photo accessed 8/21/04, <http://jmsa.courtauld.ac.uk/jmsa/MR/MR-OLD18.htm>

(The building on the left is the Royal Bank of Scotland building which was previously NatWest and prior to that the District Bank, Delph)<sup>13</sup> (see Appendix E for more on Delph)



Military Service

Royal Army Ordnance Corp

1941-1946



(right: possible crest and tie for Royal Army Ordnance Corp)<sup>14</sup>



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"<sup>15</sup>



(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.

<sup>13</sup> accessed 8/23/03, <http://www.virtualsaddlleworth.co.uk/delph.htm> -- original reference provided by e-mail received 8/20/03 from Dave via [info@virtualsaddlleworth.co.uk](mailto:info@virtualsaddlleworth.co.uk)

<sup>14</sup> accessed 7/18/03, <http://www.regiments.org/milhist/uk/corps/RAOC.htm>

<sup>15</sup> accessed 2/1/04, <http://www.army.mod.uk/presscentre/badges/index.htm>, UK army web site

COMPLETE

*John Richard Fountain & Rachel Fountain*



*Employment* District Bank, Hollinwood Branch 3 June 1946 (start)  
(located at 306 Manchester Road, Hollinwood)<sup>16</sup>

*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 c. 1953  
at intersection of Middleton and Featherstall Rds)  
(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)



<sup>16</sup> e-mail received 8/20/03, Oldham Local Studies Library [local.studies@oldham.gov.uk]

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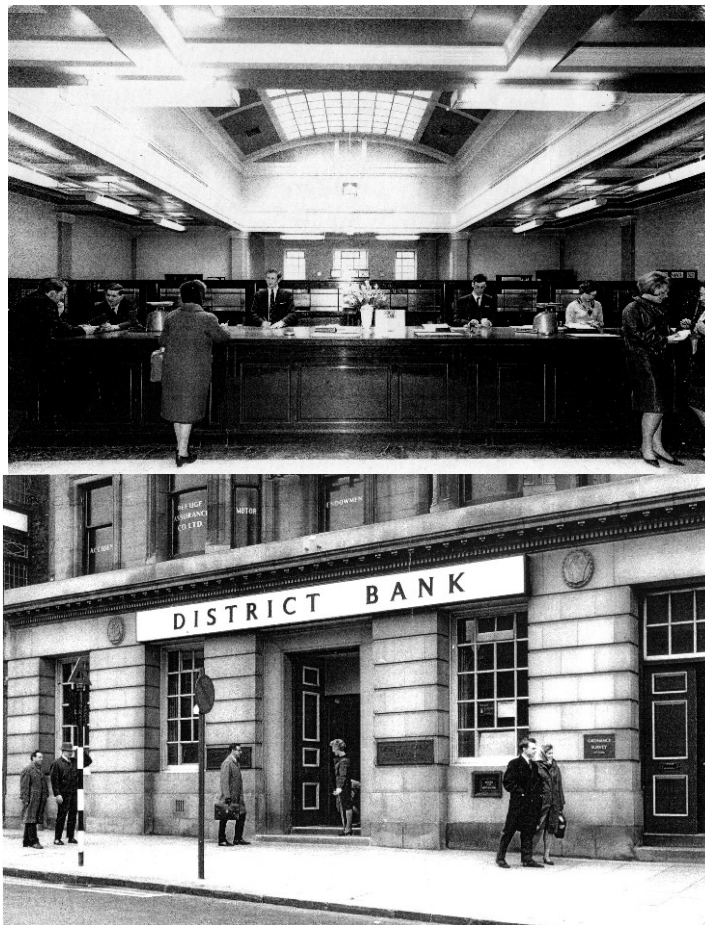
John Richard Fountain & Rachel Fountain

*This picture is what was the Cleveleys Congregational Church<sup>17</sup> 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!)



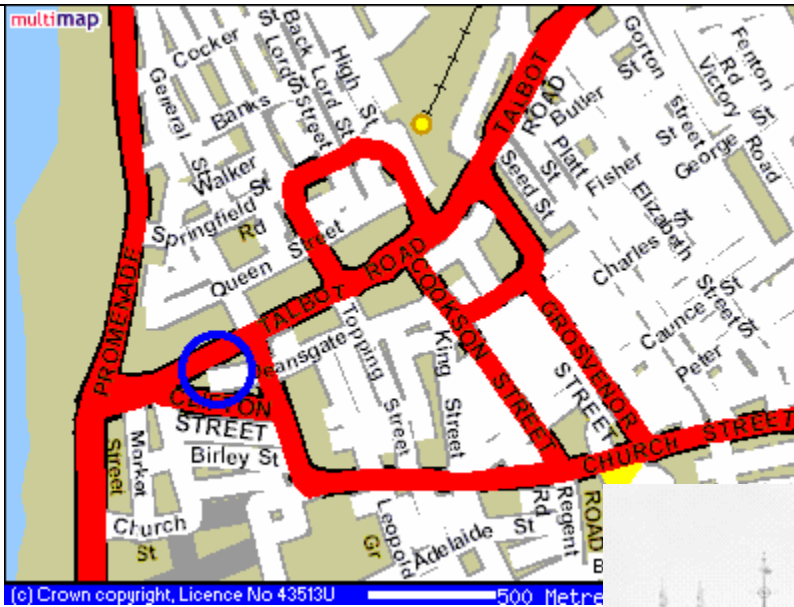
(Photos from RBS Archives, August 2003)

<sup>17</sup> accessed 1/28/04, <http://www.footstepphotos.co.uk/Lancashire/lanp1.htm>



COMPLETE

John Richard Fountain & Rachel Fountain



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<sup>18</sup>

Employment

Corporation Street Branch,  
Blackpool, Accountant  
16 May 1960 (start)



(undated photo)



(1962, Blackpool)

<sup>18</sup> accessed 7/19/03, <http://www.francisfrith.com/uk/search/addprod.asp?NegNumber=22893>



COMPLETE

John Richard Fountain & Rachel Fountain

Employment

Colne branch, manager

1 June 1963 (start)

(this bank was/is located on Church Street in Colne)<sup>19</sup>



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



(what the bank looked like before it's redesign in 1961)



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

<sup>19</sup> e-mail received 8/21/03, Colne Library - Reference [Colne.Reference@lcl.lancscc.gov.uk]

COMPLETE

John Richard Fountain & Rachel Fountain

Employment

Retired

31 December 1966

Address

"Croftlands", Gisburn Road, Blacko, Nelson

1963-1967



Contact with the Nelson Library revealed the following about "Croftlands"<sup>20</sup> ...

"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

<sup>20</sup> e-mail received 9/8/03, [Nelson.Reference@lcl.lancscc.gov.uk](mailto:Nelson.Reference@lcl.lancscc.gov.uk), Jane Morris, Senior Library Assistant, Nelson Reference Library



### • 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.<sup>21</sup> "

### 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 Henry G. Rae was "beloved and respected" by members of the church. He was a sidesman, and had been both treasurer and registrar of the Men's Fellowship.

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.

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"

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.

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

*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](#)



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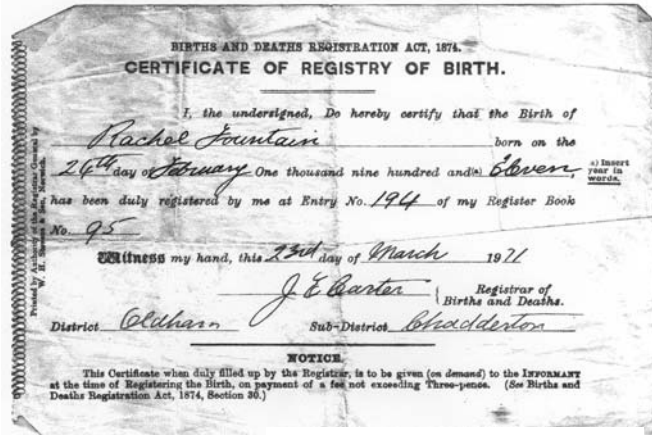
John Richard Fountain & Rachel Fountain

Appendix D

Rachel Fountain

(sister of John Richard Fountain)

Birth 37 Hardman Street,  
Chadderton  
24 February 1912

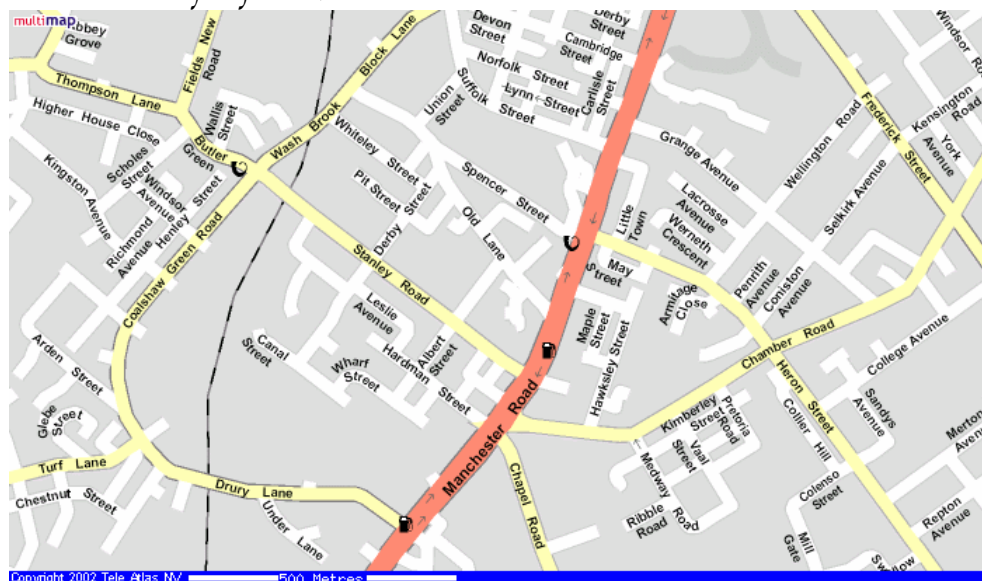


(Rachel Fountain  
holding Margaret  
Joyce Fountain c.  
1940)

(photo to right is 84  
Albert Street)



Address 84 Albert Street, Chadderton/Hollinwood  
(this address is just a road over from Hardman Street,  
see center of map below)





COMPLETE

John Richard Fountain & Rachel Fountain

(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)

COMPLETE

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)*

COMPLETE

*John Richard Fountain & Rachel Fountain*



*(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*

COMPLETE

*John Richard Fountain & Rachel Fountain*

*Chapel of Rest, Monday, Feb. 9, 11-15 a.m., prior to interment at Hollinwood Cemetery, 12 noon.  
Inquiries G. Barlow & Sons Ltd., 624 4301."*



*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*

***Appendix E******Delph*****Delph**

Delph

Denshaw

Diggle

Dobcross

Greenfield

Lydgate

Uppermill

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.

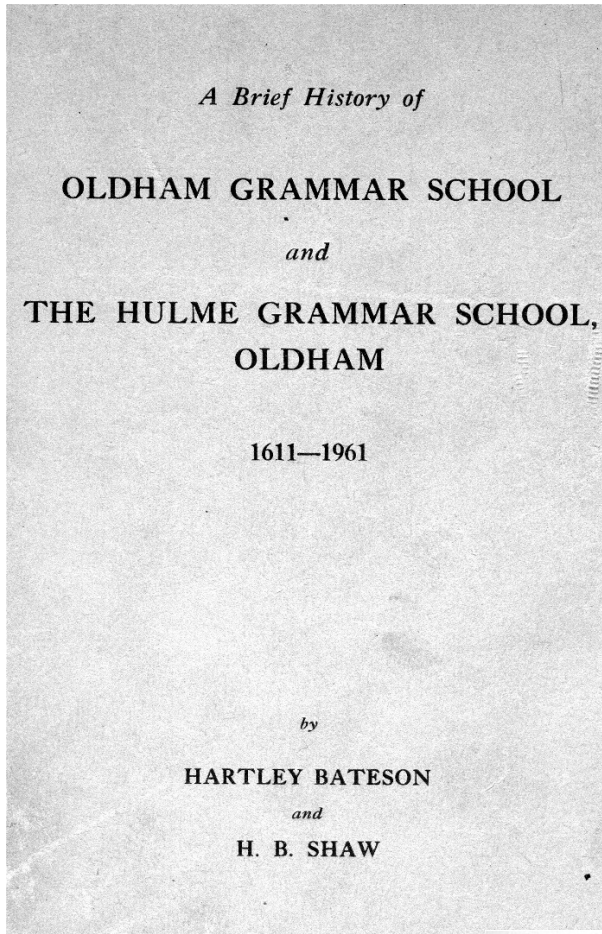
(accessed 7/19/03, <http://www.visitoldham.co.uk/villages/delph.htm>)



## Appendix F

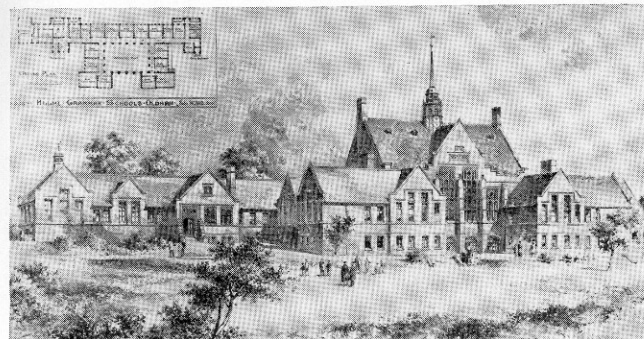
### Hulme Grammar School

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.



(Photograph : A. Halkyard.)

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.

COMPLETE

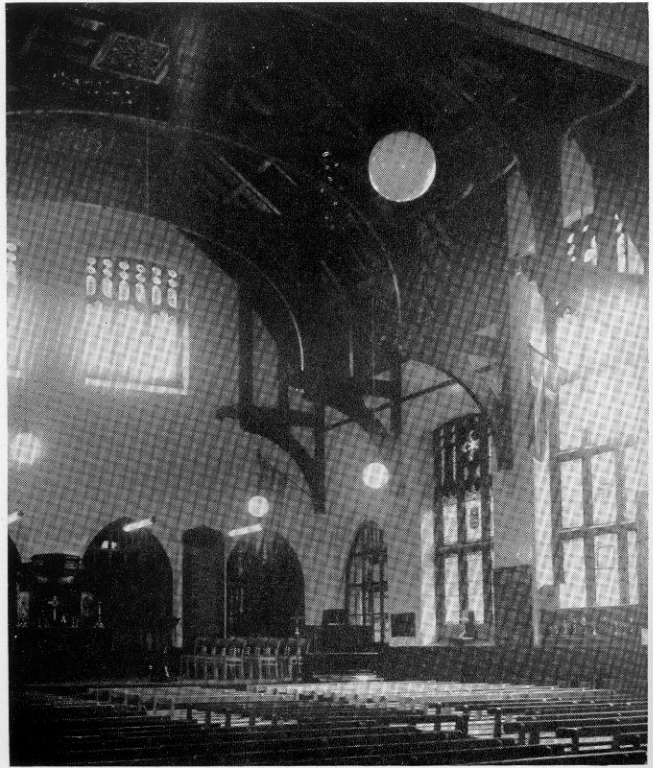
John Richard Fountain & Rachel Fountain

*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."*



(Photograph : A. Halkyard.)

A corner of the "Dr. Thomas Fawsitt" Memorial Library. Left to right, the portraits are those of The Rt. Hon. The Lord Emmott of Oldham, a former Chairman of Governors ; of H.M. King George V, by C. P. Driver ; and of James Platt, M.P. for Oldham, a former Trustee and the younger of the famous Platt Brothers.



(Photograph : A. Halkyard.)

PART OF THE SCHOOL HALL, SHOWING THE ALTAR PLATE AND OPEN TRIPTYCH, THE CONSOLE OF THE WAR MEMORIAL ORGAN, AND THE LOFTY HAMMER-BEAM ROOF.

COMPLETE

John Richard Fountain & Rachel Fountain

## Appendix G

*Cleveleys Congregational Church, now Cleveleys United Reformed Church*



(source: <http://www.nwysnod.org.uk/district/2b08.php>)





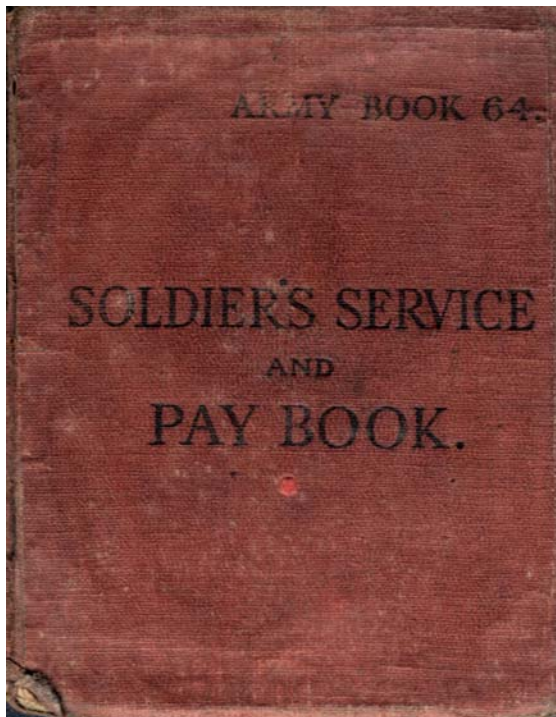
COMPLETE

John Richard Fountain & Rachel Fountain

Appendix H

John Richard Fountain Military Service

One of John Richard's children had his military pay book ... here are pages from that book



2

(1) SOLDIER'S NAME and DESCRIPTION on ATTESTATION.

Army Number 10553167

Surname (in capitals) FOUNTAIN

Christian Names (in full) John Richard

Date of Birth 28.4.09.

Place of Birth. { Parish [redacted]  
In or near the town of [redacted]  
In the county of [redacted]

Trade on Enlistment Bank Clerk

Nationality of Father at birth [redacted]

Nationality of Mother at birth [redacted]

Religious Denomination Roman Catholic

Approved Society Bankers' Guild

Membership No. 34721

Enlisted at [redacted] On 14-8-41.

For the: REGULAR ARMY FOR PERIOD OF PRESENT  
☒ Regular Army. ☒ Supplementary Reserve.  
☒ Territorial Army. ☒ Army Reserve Section D.  
☒ Strike out those inapplicable.

For 2 years with the Colours and 1 years in the Reserve.

Signature of Soldier J. R. Fountain

Date 1.10.41

3

DESCRIPTION ON ENLISTMENT.

Height 5 ft. 7 ins. Weight 115 lbs.

Maximum Chest 33.5 ins. Complexion Yellow

Eyes Brown Hair Brown

Distinctive Marks and Minor Defects [redacted]

ASA Book No. AS 635934

28.C. Platoon 3 May 41  
1st Bn. BAOR I

CONDITION ON TRANSFER TO RESERVE.

Found fit for [redacted]

Defects or History of past illness which should be enquired into if called up for Service [redacted]

Date 10

Initials of M.O. i/c [redacted]



COMPLETE

John Richard Fountain & Rachel Fountain

RECORD OF SPECIALIST EMPLOYMENT WHILST SERVING.*			
Period.		Nature of Employment.	Remarks and Initials of Officer.
From	To		
24.10.41	14.3.43	Clerk: Progress of training to VERY GOOD	2/15/10 BN.
2.7.43	31.12.43	Contractor & access on the - do -	
Mar-May 44		Provision clerk V Good Plans main	
9. May 44			
4 SEP 44		Appointed P/A/LOC/SGT WEF 4 SEP 44	Ready.
		ACI 237/45	
4 SEP 45		Appointed Unit Educational Instructor vide ACI 237/45	Sturges
17.12.41	18.12.41	18 Days Leave without treatment	
23.12.41	7.1.42	15 Days Leave	
1.4.42	10.4.42	10 Days leave with warrant.	
4.7.42	10.7.42	10 " " " " " "	
30.12.42	10.1.43	10 Oct 42 to 19 Oct 42	
7.1.43	10.1.43	8.1.43 - 17.1.43	
20-29/4/43	9 days	10 days leave	
27.4.43	10 days	10 days leave	
21.4.43	2.5.43	2 Days Compassionate	
17-26 Dec 43	9 Days	9 Days P.W.	
21. Mar 44	9 Days	9 Days leave	

(note, the compassionate leave in September 1943 would have been for the birth of Ian)

RECORD OF EMPLOYMENT AS AN ARMY TRADESMAN.					
(For men in receipt of tradesmen's rates of pay only.)					
Trade.	Group.	Class.	Remarks, e.g., On enlistment; Re-classified; Re-mustered, etc.	Date.	Initials of Officer.
Clerk	C	IIIA	Classified wef d. 1/10/41		
Clerk	C	IIIB	Re-classified d. 19/10/41		
Clerk	C	II	Re-classified Pt. II 152, d. 26-6-42.	30-5-42	
CLERK. (Tech)	e	I	Re-classified Pt. II 10.12.42. 10.12.42. 10.12.42. 10.12.42.	13.3.43	



COMPLETE

John Richard Fountain & Rachel Fountain

4

### PARTICULARS OF TRAINING.

Courses and Schools. Specialist Qualifications. showing result.	Date.	Initials of Officer.
Fired [redacted] 2 [redacted] Range	18.9.41	} [initials]
[redacted] 2 Oadby	25.9.41	
D.M. Gas Test.	25.9.41	
H. Service Churoans	3.9.41	[initials]

### MEDICAL CLASSIFICATION.

Date.	Category or Grade.	Medical Examiner of Recruits, or other Medical Authority.	Initials of Medical Officer.
2.10.41	A.1	At B.110	[initials]
8.1.46	A.1	Medical examination prior to release report rendered a Green form, W.5149.	[initials]

### PRESCRIPTION FOR GLASSES.

Vision without Glasses.	SPH	CYL	Axis Standard Notation.	Vision with Glasses.	Optical Centre Frame No. (or Measurements).	Date of Exam.	Date of Issue.	Optician's Initials.
R. 6/36	-2.25	-1.25	180	6/6	Recenter	18.9.41	27.9.41	[initials]
L. 5/60	-3.5	-0.75	75	6/6	62/25			

Signature of M.O. [initials] [initials]

### VACCINATION.

Date Vaccinated.	Initials of Medical Officer.
7.1.42 (51) 9/12	[initials]

### PROTECTIVE INOCULATIONS.

Nature of Vaccine, "T.A.B."? Cholera, Typhus, etc.	Date.	Initials of Medical Officer.
T.T.	3.5.41	[initials]
T.A.B.	2.10.41	[initials]
2 TAB 19 9 41 HJL		
TAB & cc. TT. cc.	7.11.41	[initials]
1st TAB	6.11.43	[initials]
TYPHUS.	1.5.44	[initials]
	12.5.44	[initials]
TAB & T.T. 10/10/45	12.2.45	[initials]

### PARTICULARS OF NEW ARTIFICIAL DENTURES SUPPLIED.

Particulars.	Dental Centre.	Date.	Initials of Dental Officer.
TYPHUS 1.5.4	17.10.45		[initials]
[redacted] Typhus 20.5.46			[initials]

Article.	Size.
Greatcoat.	3
Blouses, B.D.	7
Trousers, B.D.	4
Blouses, Denim.	5
Trousers, Denim.	3
Shirts.	3
Vests, Woollen.	3
Tents, Woollen.	2
Drawers, Cellular.	2
Jerseys, Pulllover.	2
Boots.	7 m
Cap. 75	6 1/8



# COMPLETE

John Richard Fountain & Rachel Fountain

Here are the medals earned and their description ...



## Campaign Stars, Clasps and Medals instituted in recognition of service in the war of 1939-45

NUMBER OF STARS, MEDALS,  
CLASPS or EMBLEMS ENCLOSED

4

Order of Wearing	Description of Ribbon	Clasp or Emblem (if awarded)
1 1939-45 Star	Dark blue, red and light blue in three equal vertical stripes. This ribbon is worn with the dark blue stripe furthest from the left shoulder.	Battle of Britain
2 Atlantic Star	Blue, white and sea green shaded and watered. This ribbon is worn with the blue edge furthest from the left shoulder.	Air Crew Europe or France and Germany
3 Air Crew Europe Star	Light blue with black edges and in addition a narrow yellow stripe on either side.	Atlantic or France and Germany
4 Africa Star	Pale buff, with a central vertical red stripe and two narrower stripes, one dark blue, and the other light blue. This ribbon is worn with the dark blue stripe furthest from the left shoulder.	8th Army or 1st Army or North Africa 1942-43
5 Pacific Star	Dark green with red edges, a central yellow stripe, and two narrow stripes, one dark blue and the other light blue. This ribbon is worn with the dark blue stripe furthest from the left shoulder.	Burma
6 Burma Star	Dark blue with a central red stripe and in addition two orange stripes.	Pacific
7 Italy Star	Five vertical stripes of equal width, one in red at either edge and one in green at the centre, the two intervening stripes being in white.	
8 France and Germany Star	Five vertical stripes of equal width, one in blue at either edge and one in red at the centre, the two intervening stripes being in white.	Atlantic
9 Defence Medal	Flame coloured with green edges, upon each of which is a narrow black stripe.	Silver laurel leaves (King's Commendation for brave conduct. Civil)
10 War Medal 1939-45	A narrow central red stripe with a narrow white stripe on either side. A broad red stripe at either edge, and two intervening stripes in blue.	Oak leaf



The Under-Secretary of State for War presents his compliments and by Command of the Army Council has the honour to transmit the enclosed Awards granted for service during the war of 1939-45.

COMPLETE

John Richard Fountain & Rachel Fountain

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 PAGE THREE

To: O.C. Military Disembarkation Camp Unit in U.K. To be completed by units overseas who are despatching men to U.K. for release.

Surname (Block letters) FOUNTAIN  
 Christian Name/s JOHN RICHARD  
 Army No. 10553164 Age and Service Group 28c  
 Present Rank Sgt Unit, Regt. or Corps. RADC LAST SERVING 12 CORPS ARMY TFS SUB PR  
 Documents attached AFB 22

PART II To be completed by unit overseas or in U.K.

(a) Trade on enlistment BANK CLERK (b) Trade courses and trade tests passed  
 (c) Service Trade CLERK (T)  
 (d) Any other qualifications for civilian employment  
 Military Conduct EXEMPLARY  
 Testimonial: As "Education Instructor" for this unit, and he has exercised a difficult task in a capable and efficient manner. He is a good supervisor, has a cheerful personality, and is very conscientious. Intelligent, honest, sober, and a very dependable N.C.O.

Place BAOR Date 20 APR 46 Officer's Signature [Signature]  
 Army Education Record (including particulars under (a), (b), (c) and (d) below).  
 This Section will not be filled in until the receipt of further War Office Instructions.—  
 (a) Type of course (b) Length (c) Total hours of instruction (d) Record of achievement.  
 (i)\* (ii)\* (iii)\* (iv)\*  
 \* Instructors will insert the letter "I" here to indicate that in their case the record refers to courses in which they have acted as instructors.  
 Signature of Unit Education Officer

PART III To: Officer in charge of Record Office, WAVERTREE RADC RATCLIFFE RD LEICESTER  
 Permanent Address (If not known, insert temporary address):  
15 CHESNEY AVENUE  
CHADDERTON OLDHAM LANCs  
 Military Disembarkation Camp Unit Stamp of Unit in U.K.  
 Surname (Block Letters) FOUNTAIN  
 Christian Name/s JOHN RICHARD  
 Army No. 10553164 Age and Service Group 28c  
 Present Rank Sgt Unit, Regt. or Corps. RADC LAST SERVING WITH 12 CORPS ARMY TFS SUB PR  
 Documents attached AFB 22

- Statement of Services – Army Form B200B – a pretty high level overview of information and does include a summary of "Length of Service"

Military History Sheet. med G.1.

Service at Home and Abroad.

Country.	Service to count as British or Indian.	From	To	Length of Service.	
				Years	Days
<u>Home</u>	<u>British</u>	<u>14.8.41</u>	<u>2.7.44</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>323</u>
<u>NWE</u>		<u>3.7.44</u>	<u>23.1.46</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>295</u>
<u>Home</u>		<u>24.1.46</u>	<u>10.7.46</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>331</u>
<u>o/s 63 Days</u>					

(Home means England and NWE refers to North West Europe)



COMPLETE

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)

65  
ME  
14-8-44

NTTE 276/11 E168  
R1/302

5704  
10.55.3167

John Richard Fountain

Army Form E 531.

**ORIGINAL**  
**DUPLICATE**

The Attesting Officer will strike out the word "Original" on the Duplicate Attestation and the word "Duplicate" on the Original Attestation.

**TERRITORIAL ARMY.**

Duration of the period of embodiment.

ATTESTATION OF

No. .... Name... **FOUNTAIN** John Richard Corps. **Royal Army Ordnance Corps**

To be filled in by O. i/c Records.

**PART I.**

**Questions to be put to the Recruit before Enlistment.**

- What is your full name and permanent postal address?  
1. **John Richard**  
(Christian Names)  
(Surname) **FOUNTAIN**  
(Address) **15 Chesney Avenue**  
**Chadderton, Oldham, Lancs**
- In or near what Parish or Town were you born?  
2. In the Parish of **Chadderton**  
In or near the Town of **Oldham**  
In the County of **Lancashire**
- (a) Are you a British Subject?  
(b) Nationality of parents at their birth.  
3. (a) **Not English**  
(b) (Father) **Irish**  
(Mother) **Irish**
- What is your trade or calling?  
4. **Bank Clerk**

**YOU ARE HEREBY WARNED THAT IF AFTER ENLISTMENT IT IS FOUND THAT YOU HAVE GIVEN A WHOLLY FALSE ANSWER TO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING FOUR QUESTIONS YOU WILL BE LIABLE TO PUNISHMENT.**

- (a) What was your age (in years) last birthday?  
(b) Day, month and year of birth.  
5. (a) **32**  
(b) **28-4-1909**
- (a) Are you married?  
(b) How many children are dependent upon you?  
6. (a) **No**  
(b) **4 and ONE**
- Do you now belong to, or have you ever served in the Royal Navy, the Army, the Royal Air Force, the Royal Marines, the Militia, the Special Reserve, the Supplementary Reserve, the Territorial Force (or Army), the Imperial Yeomanry, the Volunteers, the Auxiliary Air Force, the Army Reserve, the Air Force Reserve, the Militia Reserve or any Naval Reserve Force, or any O.T.C. or Cadet Unit? If so, state particulars of all engagements.
- Have you truly stated the whole, if any, of your previous service?  
8. **Yes**
- Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated?  
9. **Yes**
- (a) Are you willing to enlist for General Service?  
(b) Are you willing to serve outside the United Kingdom?  
10. (a) **Yes**  
(b) **Yes**
- Are you willing to serve upon the following conditions until the end of the period of embodiment of the Territorial Army, provided His Majesty should so long require your services, which means that you will be required to serve for so long as His Majesty should require your services in connexion with the present emergency for which you are enlisting, and that if you are still serving at the termination of the period of embodiment you will be discharged as soon as your services can be dispensed with thereafter?  
11. **Yes**
- Are you in receipt of a disability pension?  
12. **No**
- Have you received a notice paper stating the liabilities you are incurring by enlisting and do you understand and are you willing to accept them?  
13. **Yes**

I **John Richard Fountain** do solemnly declare that the above answers made by me to the above questions are true, and that I am willing to fulfil the engagements made; also that I understand that, should my health fail or should I sustain an injury during military service, I shall not be eligible for consideration for pension or gratuity on account of disability unless the disability is directly attributable to the conditions of Military Service.

**SIGNATURE OF RECRUIT**  
**SIGNATURE OF WITNESS**

**OATH TO BE TAKEN BY RECRUIT ON ATTESTATION.**

I **John Richard Fountain** swear by Almighty God that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King George the Sixth, His Heirs, and Successors, and that I will, as in duty bound, honestly and faithfully defend His Crown, and Dignity against all enemies, and will observe and Successors, and of the Generals and Officers set over me.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAGISTRATE OR A**

I **G. G. Carmody** do hereby certify that, in my presence, all the foregoing questions were put to the Recruit above-named, that the answers written opposite to them are those which he gave to me, and that he has made and signed the Declaration and taken the oath at

APV000181309

TNT



COMPLETE

John Richard Fountain & Rachel Fountain

PART VI.

\* Certificate of Approving Officer.

I certify that this Attestation of the above-named recruit is correct and properly filled up, and that the required forms and particulars have been complied with. I accordingly approve, and appoint him to the

If enlisted by special authority, Army Form B.203 (or other authority for the enlistment) will be attached to the original and duplicate attestations.

Date 14-8-41 19 41 Place Manchester Manchester A.R.O. 87 Major, Approving Officer

\* The signature of the Approving Officer is to be affixed in the presence of the Recruit.  
† Here insert "Corps" to which the Recruit is appointed.

Statement of Services of:— Army No. 10553167 Name John Richard Fountain

No. of Part II Order or other Authority	Unit	Promotions, Reductions, Casualties, &c.	Army Rank	Dates	Service not allowed to reckon for fixing rate of pension.		Signature of Officers certifying correctness of entries
					Years	Days	
		Service towards limited engagement reckons from <u>14-8-41</u>					
		Enlisted at <u>Manchester</u> on <u>14-8-41</u>					
	<u>Royal Army Ordnance Corps</u>	<u>Posted to No 3 Trg Bn. R.A.O.C. 1st July 1942</u>					
	<u>Referred to 111 Armoured Sub Park</u>	<u>1-9-42</u>					

- 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

Corps	Unit
<u>R.A.O.C.</u>	<u>No. 3 Trg Bn. R.A.O.C.</u>
	<u>9th Bn.</u>
	<u>10th Bn.</u>
	<u>111 Armoured Sub Park</u>

Have corresponded with someone associated with The Royal Army Ordnance Corps (RAOC) Association ([http://www.army.mod.uk/rac/associations/raoc\\_association.htm](http://www.army.mod.uk/rac/associations/raoc_association.htm)), the secretary, Lt Col Dennis Irvine ([secretary.raocct@milnet.uk.net](mailto: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."



