

# William HONEY TABB

Able Seaman SS Holmtown  
Died February 6<sup>th</sup> 1918, aged 19  
Commemorated at Tower Hill Memorial, London

William was born in 1899 to William Honey and Rhoda Jane Tabb. In the 1901 census taken on the night of March 31<sup>st</sup>, William senior was listed as a 28 year old mariner, and Rhoda was 33 years old. They also had a seven month old daughter, Jessie.

William joined the Mercantile Marine, and in 1918 he was serving on the SS Holmtown, a 598 ton British Steamer built in 1907 by R Thompson & Sons, Sunderland and owned by Town Line (London) Ltd. SS Holmtown was reported missing on February 6<sup>th</sup> 1918 after sailing from Rouen on February 1<sup>st</sup> 1918 to Penarth Dock in Cardiff. The disappearance was not solved until 2006 when it was confirmed she was the steamer sunk by the German submarine UB-59, east from the Shambles light vessel (*2¼ miles SE by E from Portland Bill lighthouse*) on February 3<sup>rd</sup> 1918.

These are the crew who lost their lives that day :

Emmanuel Comby LAVERICK (64) – Master

David John DAVIES (19) – Mate

John Thomas JACKSON (49) – First Engineer

John Thomas EDWARDS (-) – Leading Seaman RNVR

George ROOKER (19) – Ordinary Seaman RNVR

Silvanus SCREECH (44) – Able Seaman

William John DAY (31) – Able Seaman

William HONEY TABB (19) – Able Seaman

Albert ALEXANDERT (23) – Donkeyman (*engineer looking after Donkey engine and other machines*)

Clifford HOY (-) – Fireman

John GARDNER (-) – Fireman

Paulo Vella (46) Steward

Able Seaman William Honey Tabb is commemorated on the Tower Hill Memorial, London.

## Sources

Wreck of SS Holmtown: <http://www.wrecksite.eu/wreck.aspx?139683>

Casualty Information: <http://www.cwgc.org/find-war-dead/casualty/2968939/TABB,%20WILLIAM%20HENRY>  
(*incorrectly listed as William Henry Tabb*)

