

REMEMBRANCE IN MALAWI

THE GREAT WAR IN SOUTHERN AFRICA



IT ALL STARTED A LONG WAY AWAY

When Britain declared war on Germany on the 4th August 1914, few would have expected the carnage that took place over the next 4 years.

The countries and peoples of southern Africa were not exempt.



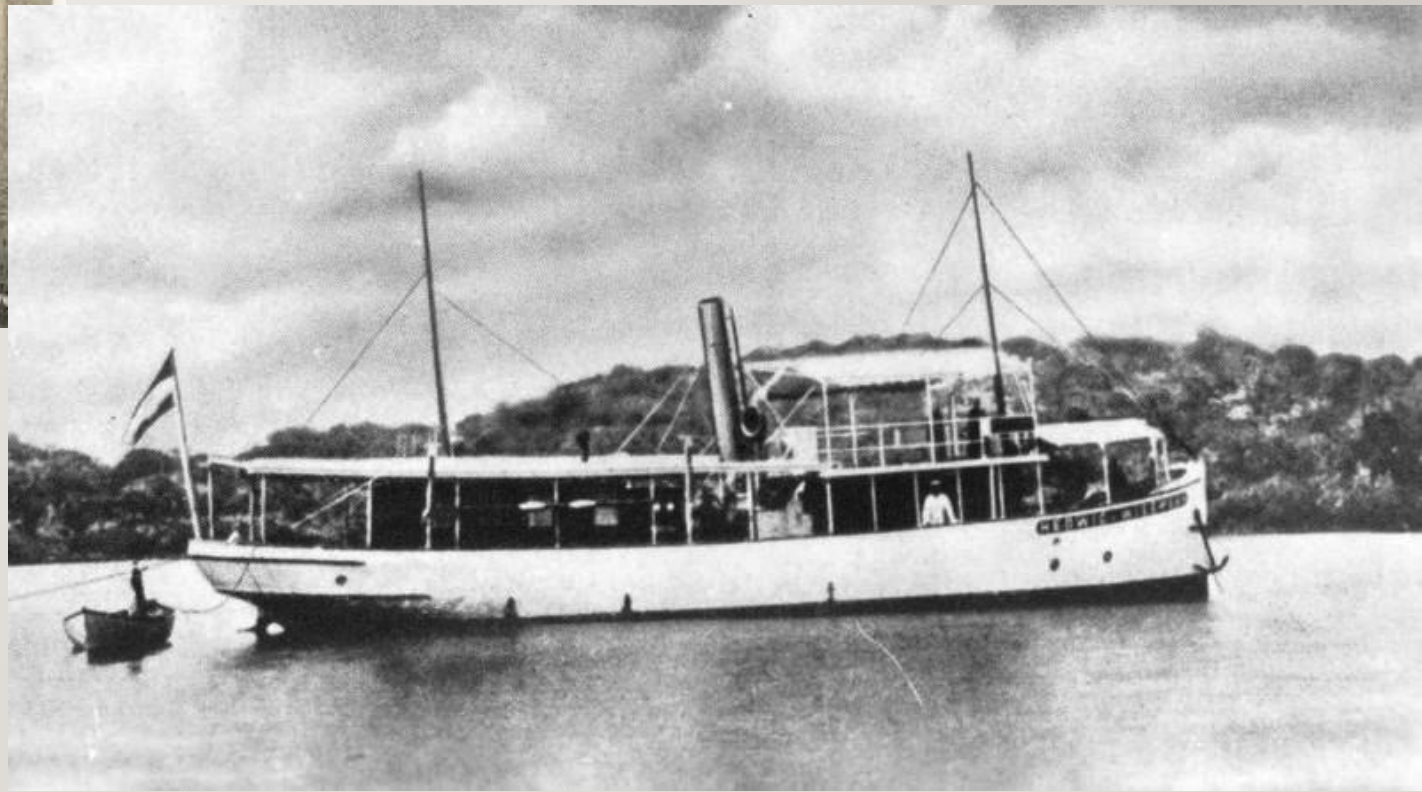
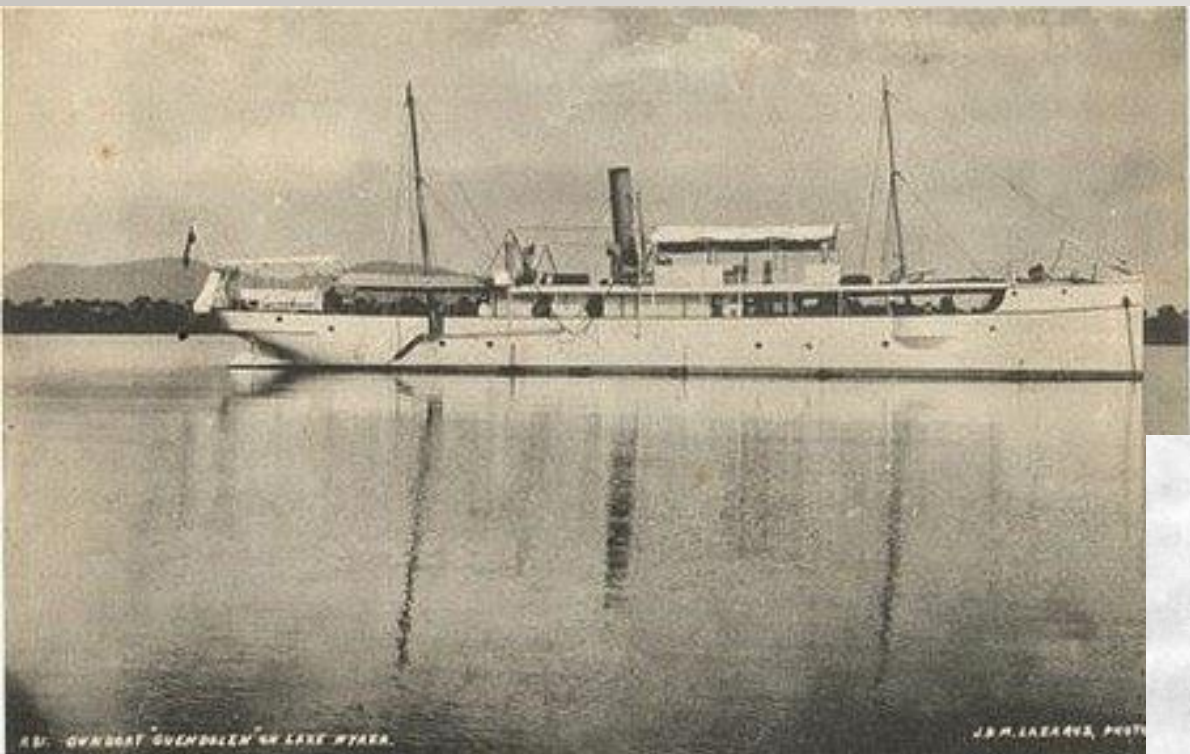
ACTION ON LAKE MALAWI

The first naval action of the war did not take place in the North Sea but on Lake Malawi.

Just nine days after the declaration of war, the crew of the British gunboat HMS Gwendolen seized the German gunboat Hermann Von Wissman whilst it was in for repair on a slipway at the eastern end of the lake.

The British captain had heard of the declaration of war, the German captain had not!





SHORT BUT BLOODY

The only significant meeting of British and German forces in Malawi took place in September 1914.

A force from the Nyasaland Volunteer Reserve consisting of around 500 African soldiers, British Officers and European Volunteers engaged an enemy force of around 400.

This battle took place near Karonga and some of those who died are buried in the CWGC cemetery in Karonga, including German casualties.



At this location there are

Commonwealth War Graves

www.cwgc.org



<p>W KLEIN</p> <p>Unteroffizier</p>	<p>German Army</p> <p>German</p>	<p>Died 09 September 1914</p>	<p>KARONGA WAR CEMETERY</p> <p>Grave 18.</p> <p>Malawi</p>
<p>WILHELM MAYER</p> <p>Faehnrich</p>	<p>Schutztruppe 23 Dt.-Ost-Afrika</p> <p>German Army</p> <p>German</p>	<p>Died 09 September 1914</p>	<p>KARONGA WAR CEMETERY</p> <p>Grave 16.</p> <p>Malawi</p>
<p>GRAUMANN</p> <p>Unteroffizier</p>	<p>German Army</p> <p>German</p>	<p>Died 09 September 1914</p>	<p>KARONGA WAR CEMETERY</p> <p>Grave 17.</p> <p>Malawi</p>
<p>MAX STEIN</p> <p>Unteroffizier</p>	<p>German Army</p> <p>German</p>	<p>Died 09 September 1914</p>	<p>KARONGA WAR CEMETERY</p> <p>Grave 14.</p> <p>Malawi</p>



<p>VINCENT JOHN DAWSON ASCOTT Volunteer</p>	<p>Nyasaland Volunteer Reserve United Kingdom</p>	<p>Died 09 September 1914 22 years old</p>	<p>KARONGA WAR CEMETERY Grave 6. Malawi</p>
<p>JOHN LESLIE CALDECOTT Lieutenant</p>	<p>Royal Garrison Artillery United Kingdom</p>	<p>Died 09 September 1914 28 years old</p>	<p>KARONGA WAR CEMETERY Grave 8. Malawi</p>
<p>PHILLIP NIGEL GARNETT Lieutenant</p>	<p>Royal Berkshire Regiment United Kingdom</p>	<p>Died 11 September 1914 28 years old</p>	<p>KARONGA WAR CEMETERY Grave 10. Malawi</p>
<p>GORDON MERRIMAN Volunteer</p>	<p>Nyasaland Volunteer Reserve United Kingdom</p>	<p>Died 09 September 1914 29 years old</p>	<p>KARONGA WAR CEMETERY Grave 9. Malawi</p>



JOHN CALDECOTT FROM THE CWGC ARCHIVES

Caldecott was not with the Nyasaland Volunteer Reserve but with the Royal Garrison Artillery.

He was the son of the Rev. Andrew Caldecott, M.A., and Isabel Mary Caldecott, of West Chillington Rectory, Pulborough, Sussex.

At the time of his death, he was the A.D.C. to the Governor of Nyasaland.



CALDECOTT, Lt. John Leslie. Royal Garrison Artillery. Killed in action at Kasoa 9th Sept., 1914. Age 28. Son of the Rev. Andrew Caldecott, M.A., and Isabel Mary Caldecott, of West Chillington Rectory, Pulborough, Sussex. A.D.C. to the Governor of Nyasaland.



ACROSS MALAWI



There are 7 CWGC cemeteries and memorials across Malawi.

They commemorate nearly 360 servicemen and women, including German servicemen and female civilians – from the Zomba Memorial with 125 casualties to Limbe Township Cemetery which has only 1.



ACROSS MALAWI



This does not include over 1700 native Malawians who died between 1914 and 1918 and are not commemorated in any of these cemeteries, or on any memorial.

The CWGC Historical Cases of Non-Commemoration Project is seeking to address this as they are entitled to be remembered on this day in the same way as any casualty buried in the cemeteries of more familiar areas of both World Wars.

