

Henry Ernest Hall
Sailor in the Royal Navy
White Heart Cottage, Farm Lane, All Stretton



Ernest Hall was born in Market Drayton on 19 February 1896, the son of Harry Hall, a clockmaker, and Margaret Ann Hall. His father cycled to Church Stretton with Ernest on his bike and they took up residence in Watling Street South. He joined the Navy in January 1912.

His service record, headed Devonport, shows the following:

10 Jan -12 April 1912 HMS IMPREGNABLE as Boy 11 - Shore Establishment

13 April - 10 May 1913 HMS GANGES as Boy 11 then Boy Signaller - Shore Establishment

10 May - 11Dec 1913 HMS VIVID I - Shore Establishment

12 Dec 1913 - 31 Dec 1916 HMS ADVENTURE Scout Cruiser - rising to Leading Signalman

3 June - 8 June 1916 HMS VIVID - Shore Establishment

9 June - 30 June 1916 HMS HOLLYHOCK - Corvette

1 July 1916 - 30 Nov 1917 HMS CORMORANT - ?Submarine

1 Dec 1917 - 13 Oct 1918 HMS HOLLYHOCK - Corvette

14 Oct 1918 -1 April 1919 HMS VIVID - Shore Establishment

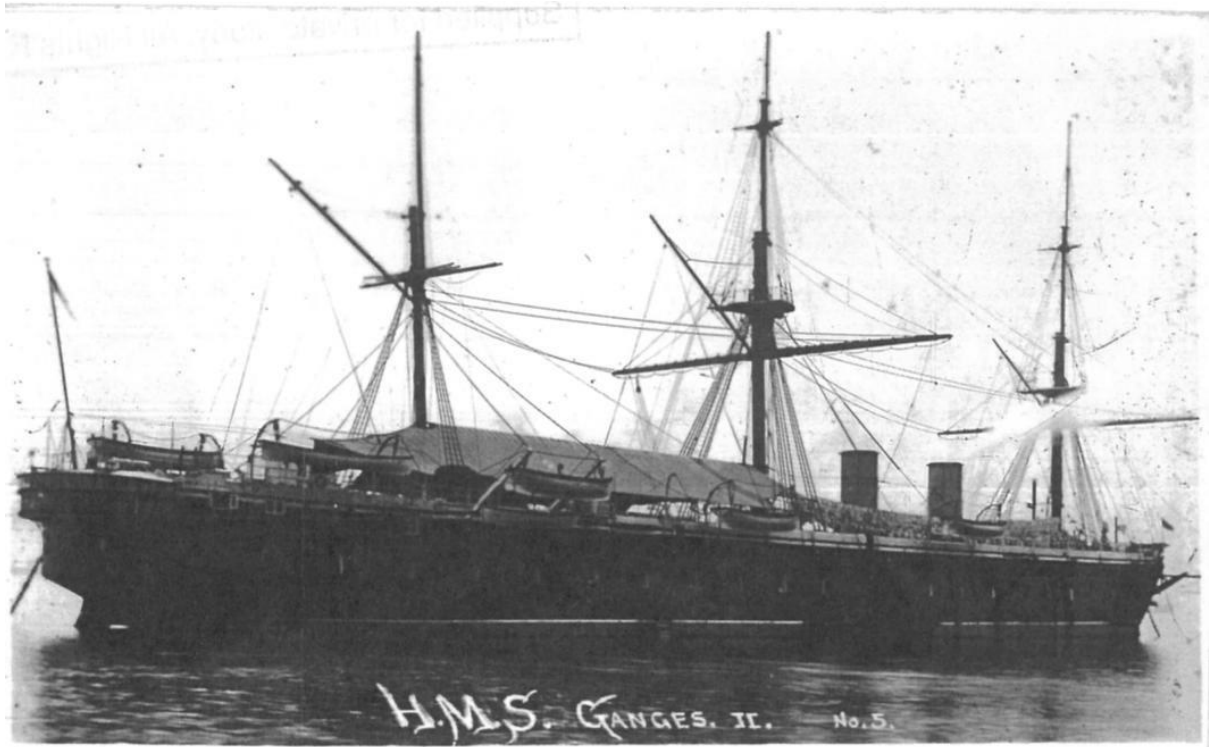
2 April 1919-19 Jan 1920 HMS VIDETTE and COLUMBINE - Destroyer

Ernest Hall achieved an approved free discharge in 1920, having signed on in 1914 for 12 years. He returned to Church Stretton and married Edith in 1927. They had one daughter, Margaret. Their first home was in a bungalow on Castle Hill. They moved to White Heart

Cottage just before 1930. Ernest took up his father's occupation as a clockmaker and watch repairer.

Later, Ernest worked at St Dunstan's as a lathe instructor for blind boys.

When the War Memorial was built in Church Stretton, Ernest Hall laid the first wreath as he was the local resident who had seen the most service in the war. He died on the 12 September 1983 and is buried in Church Stretton cemetery.



HMS Ganges