

School will remember pupil who died in battle

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He was just months out of school when he found himself fighting in the greatest naval battle of the First World War.

Cuthbert Hill, pictured right, a former pupil at Gresham's, was serving as a midshipman on board the battlecruiser HMS Invincible at the Battle of Jutland.

In the thick of the fighting, she was struck by a salvo of German shells, which ignited her magazines, causing an explosion which sent her to the bottom. Of the 1,031 men on board, 1,026 were killed. Among them was Hill.

Now, 100 years on, the Old Greshamian is to be a focus of national commemorations to mark the centenary of the battle.

The Imperial War Museums, which is co-ordinating the events, has announced that Gresham's School, Holt, will mark the anniversary



sary with an illustrated talk in honour of Hill later this month, while a lantern will be lit in his memory.

The event will also commemorate the other 114 former pupils and staff killed in the conflict, but has been designated as part of the country's official national commemorations for Jutland, which

was fought in the North Sea, on May 31, 1916. Hill, a pupil at Gresham's School from 1907 to 1915, was among 8,000 British and German sailors killed in the battle, a clash to gain naval supremacy.

He had passed into the Navy by special late entry and visited the school just before Jutland. In a letter to his mother Mary just after the battle, his elder brother Laurie said they should be "proud for all time if 'Cuthie' has given his life for his country".

Weeks later, another brother, Mark, was killed at the Battle of the Somme.

Simon Kinder, Gresham's School Deputy Head, said: "Every Old Greshamian will be remembered on the centenary of their death to ensure that the memory of the sacrifice they made for our country lives on."

■ **The free commemorative event will take place on May 25**

■ **Dreadnought battleships of the Grand Fleet on patrol in the North Sea, as the 100th anniversary of the most important sea battle of the First World War is to be marked with a major exhibition.**

Pictures: PA

Location of the Battle of Jutland



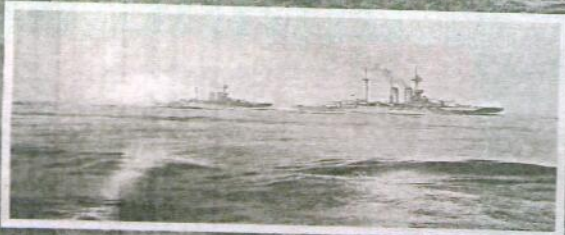
Who won?

Both sides claimed victory after the battle. The British had lost more ships and twice as many sailors, but could claim that the Germans had given up first and fled the scene.

The result ensured that Britain's naval blockade of Germany remained in place, forcing the country to fight

on in the face of hunger and raw-material shortages. Unable to mount another challenge to British naval supremacy, the German Navy turned increasingly towards submarine warfare.

Tactically inconclusive, the battle is usually seen as a strategic victory for Britain, although debate continues.



Commemorative events

The national commemorations for Jutland also include:

- A new exhibition, 36 Hours: Jutland 1916, The Battle that won the War, at the National Museum of the Royal Navy at Portsmouth
- A wreath-laying ceremony at sea on May 31, to be beamed back to TV screens in

Kirkwall, Orkney, where the British fleet was based

- A concert organised by the London Concert Choir at the Barbican Centre, London, on June 15
- The creation of a Jutland memorial woodland at Langley Vale, Surrey, by the Woodland Trust

