

**Morris Charles Taylor**

## **Able Seaman Morris Charles Taylor**

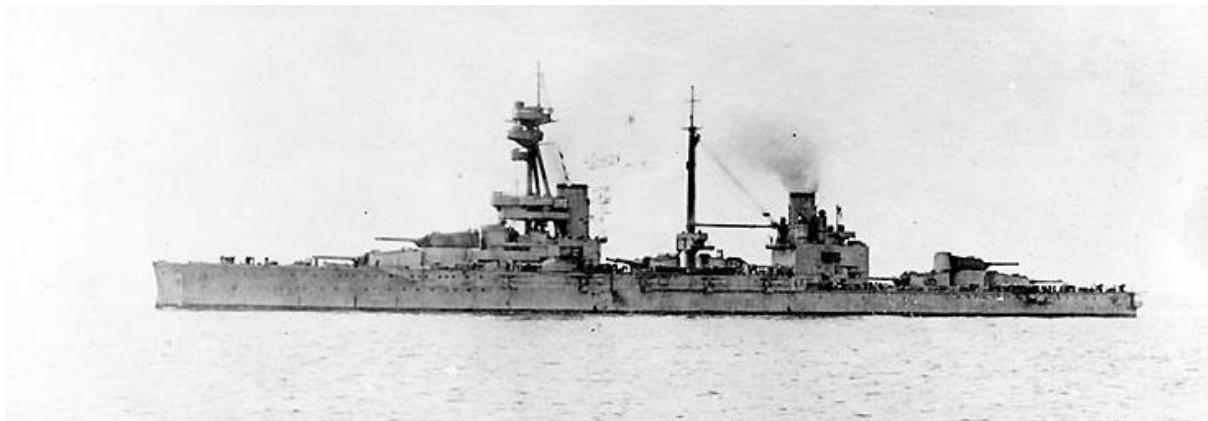
**204375 (RFR/PO1/2103) Royal Navy**



Morris Charles was born at Bitterne, Hampshire on 10<sup>th</sup> May 1882, the son of Charles and Ellen Taylor. In the 1911 census his parents were living in Red Lion Lane, Overton and Morris was a groom, living near Chesterfield.

Morris joined the Royal Navy in 1899 and served until 1907. His Naval record shows he returned to service on 12<sup>th</sup> September 1914 first on HMS Victory I, then HMS Vernon, then HMS Agincourt.

HMS Agincourt was a dreadnought battleship with the greatest firepower of any yet built.



Morris Taylor was killed on 12<sup>th</sup> March 1916. The Hants & Berks Gazette reported the circumstances:

*A very sympathetic letter giving full particulars of the death received by his father from the captain of the ship on which the deceased was serving. He met his death on night duty receiving terrible injuries caught in the electric bollard used in hoisting in a boat. He died whilst being removed to the Hospital ship and was buried on shore by the chaplain with full naval honour.*

**Morris Charles Taylor**



Morris was buried at Lyness Royal Naval Cemetery, Orkney, plot B, grave 26. Lyness Royal Naval Cemetery was begun in 1915 when Scapa Flow was the base of the Grand Fleet.

Morris was awarded the Star, Victory and British War Medals.

His ship saw action at the battle of Jutland in May 1916 but was undamaged.