



Bell family
home in Farlam,
Cumberland

A brief history

Joseph Bell was born at home in Farlam House, Farlam, Cumberland on 12th March 1861. As a first child, he was named after both his grandfather and great-grandfather who had been farmers there from the 17th century.

After school in Carlisle, Joseph was apprenticed as an engine fitter at R & H Stephenson Company Shipyard In Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Having completed his apprenticeship there he entered the service of the Mercantile Marine sailing under the flag of the Liverpool & River Plate Steam Navigation Co. After two years, he began his career with the White Star Line serving on some eighteen ships beginning with RMS Oceanic and eventually the Titanic; until his death aged 51 on the sinking of Titanic on April 15th 1912.

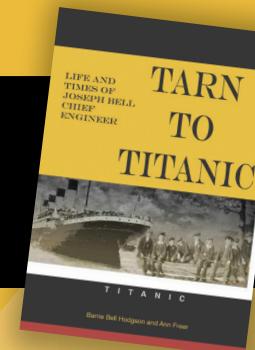
Joseph Bell Memorial

The memorial gravestone of Joseph Bell is situated in the old graveyard of St Thomas a Becket Church, Old Graveyard, Kirkhouse, Nr Brampton, Cumbria CA8 1JR and is clearly signed for visitors.

Those visiting Hadrian's Wall or nearby Brampton, might be unaware of this historical memorial nearby.



Visit the website to
download a free 81 page
eBook *Tarn to Titanic* on
the life of Joseph Bell



josephbellengineer.com

JOSEPH BELL

R.M.S. Titanic Chief Engineer



Visit the Memorial

The Engine Room Heroes

The unsung Heroes of the engine room, Joseph Bell and his fellow Engineers kept Titanic's lights burning until she went down. Knowing that the iceberg damage was fatal they stuck to their posts, and perished to the last man, together with the builders' engineers who were with them. All these were the first to know the desperate nature of the damage to Titanic and were first to note the rising of the water, the uselessness of the pumps, and the impossibility of keeping Titanic afloat.

They did however keep the dynamos going, the pumps working, and looked after the bulkhead doors. Most of them died at the last explosion, which tore the Titanic asunder as she went down.



Remembering their courage

The memorial represents a man of great courage and human endeavour, for his part in the tragedy of the sinking of RMS Titanic, on the 15th April 1912. Joseph Bell had an extraordinary role, together with his fellow Engineers, in the saving of so many lives with their heroism and bravery on that night.

After over a hundred years this remarkable figure of the 19th century should be more widely recognised.



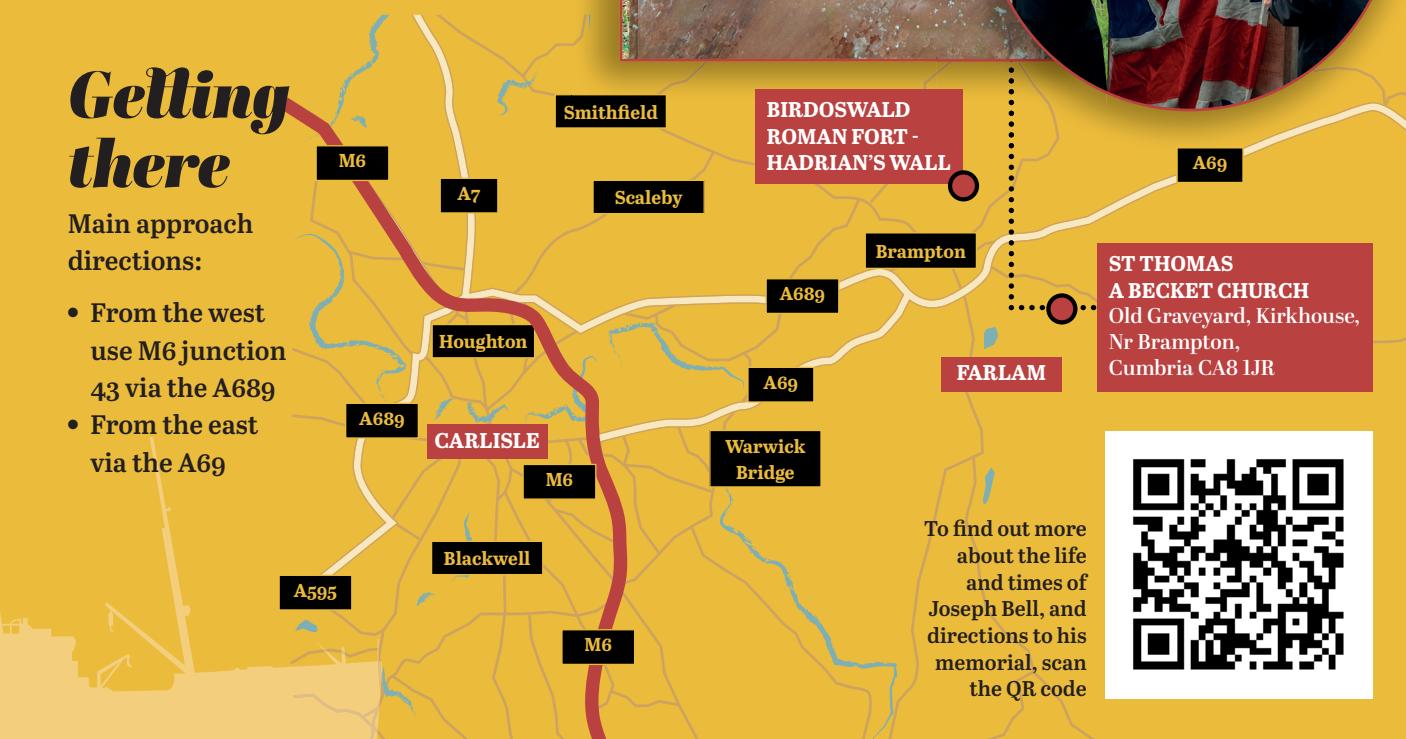
Restored memorial of Joseph Bell (left).
Unveiling of the memorial by John Lightfoot (below) and Barrie Bell Hodgson. Barrie Bell Hodgson and Anne Freer are co-authors of *Tarn to Titanic: Life and Times of Joseph Bell Chief Engineer*



Getting there

Main approach directions:

- From the west use M6 junction 43 via the A689
- From the east via the A69



Visit the restored memorial to Joseph Bell. Read the information board and discover a hidden piece of history.