

## **Gervase William Markham**

Gervase Markham was born in November 1910 in Grimsby, where his father was Vicar and later Bishop of Grantham. Gervase was educated at Winchester School and Cambridge University, before he was ordained and became a Curate at Bishop Wearmouth in Sunderland.

In May 1940, Gervase Markham, then Chaplain to the Bishop of Durham, went to York as an Army Chaplain (4<sup>th</sup> Class) and in November 1941 was posted to the Middle East. After a number of postings, he eventually joined 124 Field Regiment Royal Artillery, part of the 50<sup>th</sup> Division, and served throughout the campaign in North Africa from El Alamein to Tunisia and later in Sicily.

Gervase Markham remained as this unit's Padre until Normandy. He did not land on D-Day but shortly afterwards and was then posted to the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion DLI, also part of the 50<sup>th</sup> Division. Gervase Markham remained with 8 DLI through Normandy and France and into Belgium and Holland. He then returned home with the battalion and continued to serve until he was demobilised in August 1945.

Gervase Markham died in December 2007.

*Gervase Markham was interviewed for the Imperial War Museum at his home in Penrith in 1996.*